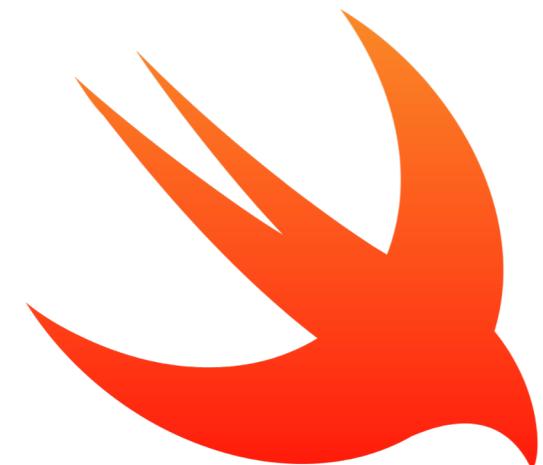


Reusable UI Components in



@ray_deck

element⁵⁵

github.com/rhdeck/rnboston-ui

Why Would I Ever Do This?

Why Build a UI Component?

1. Deep Cut

Specific need in an otherwise-available component (visionkit)

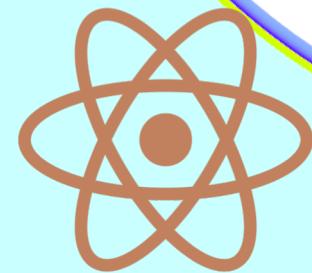
2. Native Capabilities

Access to previously-unavailable or new subsystems (AR, VR)

3. Third Party Integration

External functionality to orchestrate through RN (CocoaPods)

Use Cases



Be Different



User Experiences



Familiar

Terse

Type-Safe



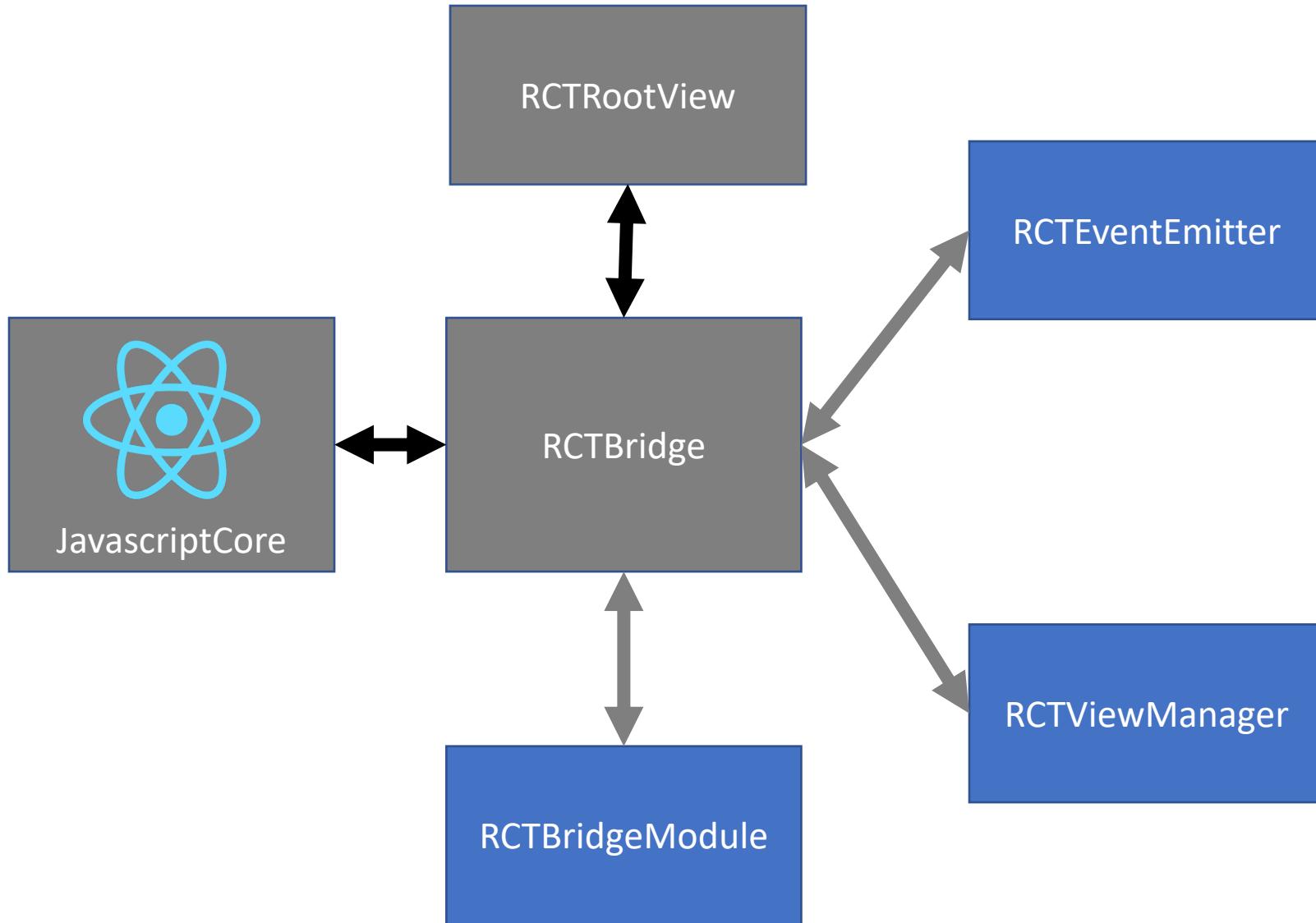
First-Class Support from Apple

Mature (v4.0)

Static Library Support (Xcode 9.0)

react-native-swift

yarn add react-native-swift



```
#import <React/RCTViewManager.h>
#import <React/RCTEventEmitter.h>
#import <React/RCTBridgeModule.h>

@interface RCT_EXTERN_MODULE(RNSBoston, RCTEventEmitter)
RCT_EXTERN_METHOD(demo:(NSString *)message
success:(RCTPromiseResolveBlock)success
reject:(RCTPromiseRejectBlock)reject);
RCT_EXTERN_METHOD(delayedSend:(NSString *)message
ms:(NSInteger)ms);

@end

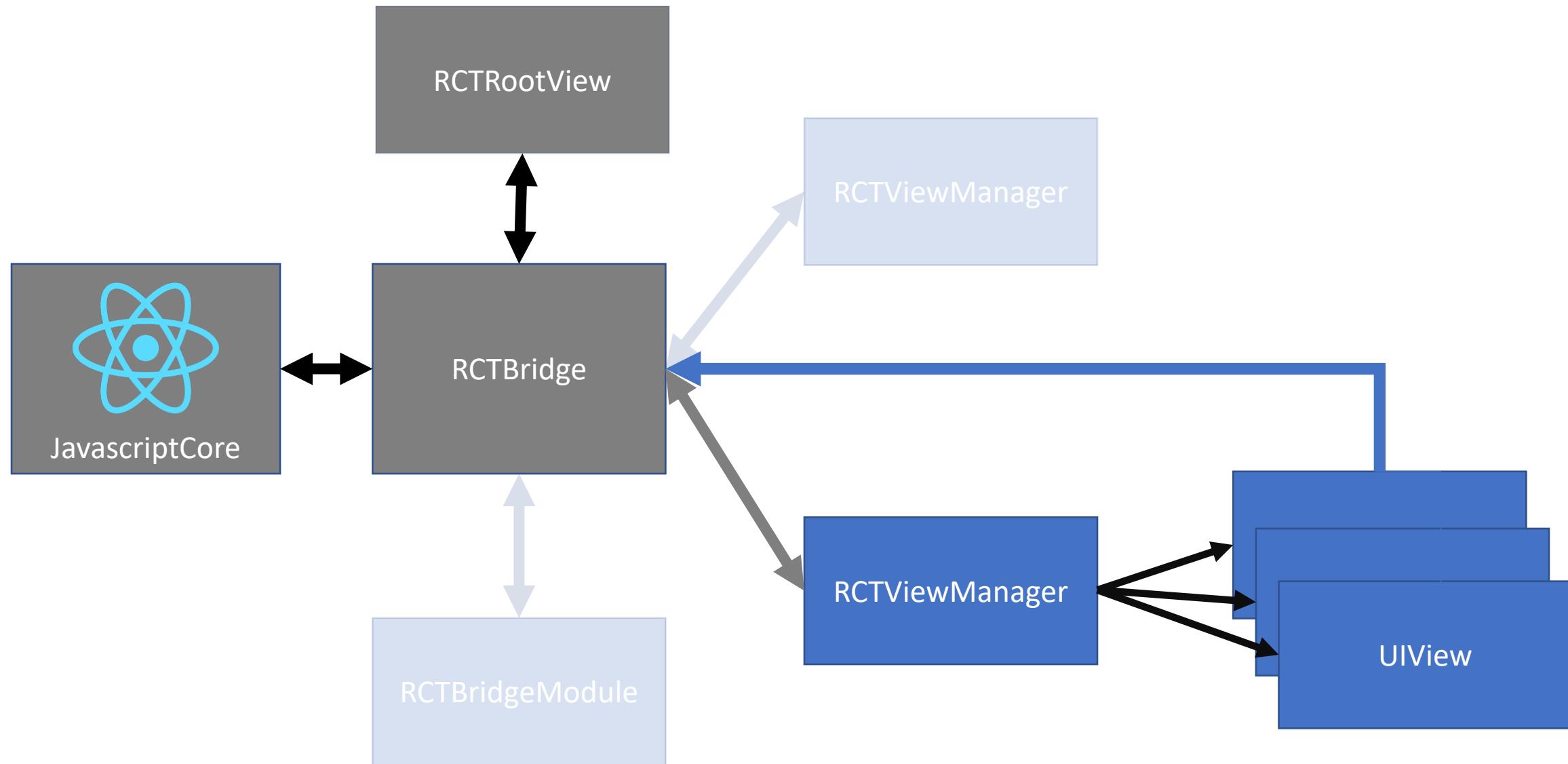
@interface RCT_EXTERN_MODULE(RNSBostonBasicViewManager,
RCTViewManager)

@end

@interface RCT_EXTERN_MODULE(RNSBostonViewManager,
RCTViewManager)
```

Takeaways

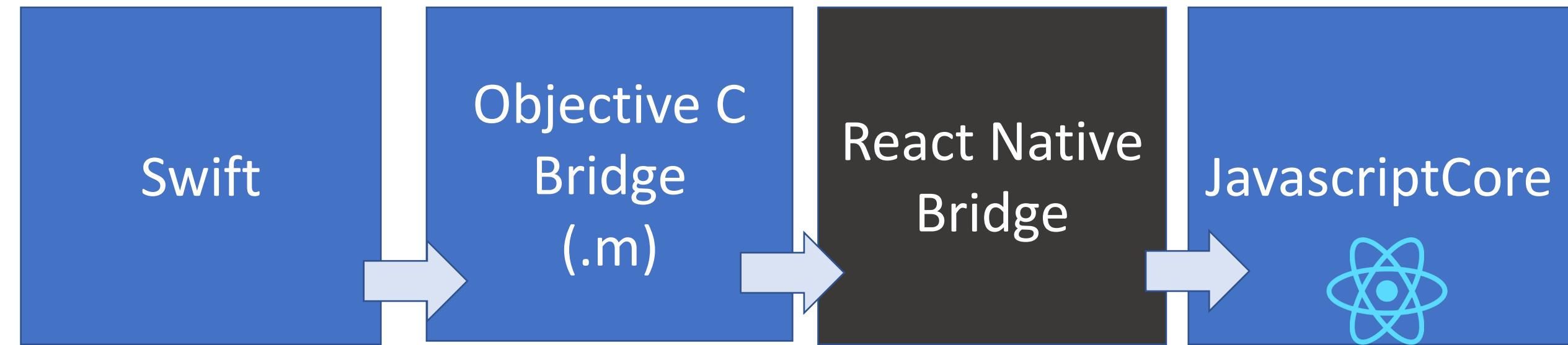
1. The RCTBridge is the core.
2. There is one bridge module instance per class per bridge
3. Modules are exposed to the bridge using objective-C macros (`RCT_EXPORT_MODULE`, `RCT_EXTERN_MODULE`, etc)



Takeaways

1. RCTViewManagers are bridge modules, and follow these rules
2. Views are generated from the ViewManagers
3. RN will control layout and lifecycle of views emitted from ViewManagers

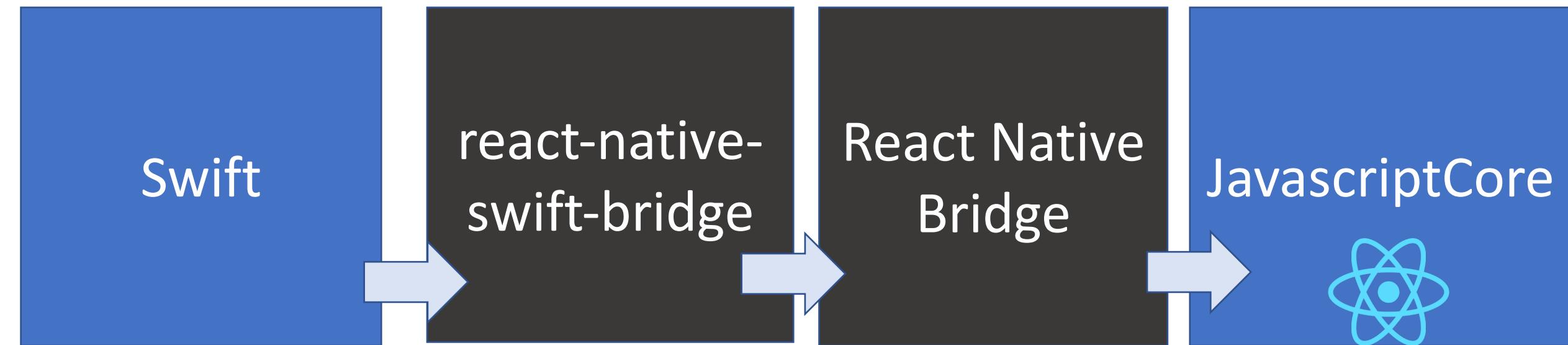
A Winding Road



react-native-swift-bridge

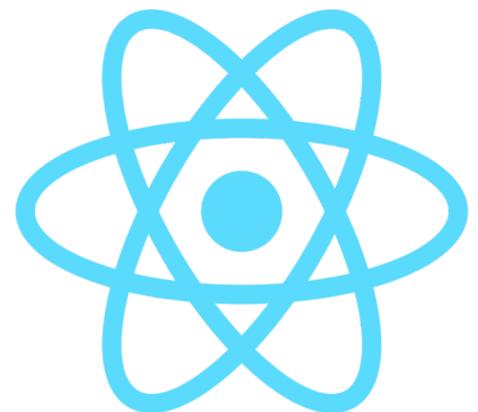
react-native-swift-bridge --watch

A Less-Winding Road



react-native-swift-cli

yarn global add react-native-swift-cli



1. Start with templates from **react-native-swift-cli**
2. Open your app as project for editing
3. Edit or add files in your static library – not the app proper
4. Use **yarn watch** to have your bridge keep up

>

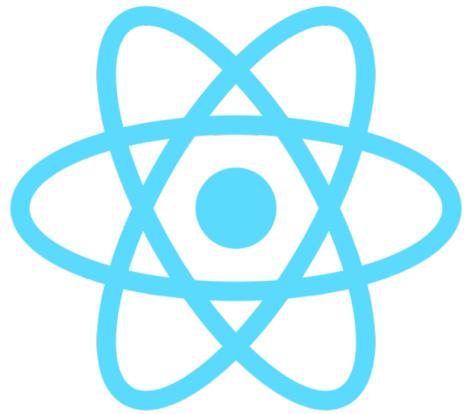
```
yarn global add react-native-swift-cli  
rns init RNBoston ; rns makeapp RNBostonApp RNBoston  
cd RNBoston; code .  
cd .../RNBostonApp; code . ; react-native xcode
```



```
import Foundation
@objc(RNBostonBasicViewManager)
class RNBostonBasicViewManager: RCTViewManager {
    //MARK: RCTViewManager key methods
    override func view() -> UIView {
        let newView = UIView()
        newView.backgroundColor = UIColor.green
        return newView
    }
    override class func requiresMainQueueSetup() -> Bool {
        return false;
    }
}
```

Takeaways

1. **@objc** attribute for code we want to expose to React native
2. **view()** is the only method that really matters
3. **requiresMainQueueSetup()** should return **false**



```
import { requireNativeComponent } from "react-native";
import React, { Component } from "react";

const NativeComponent = requireNativeComponent(
  "RNBasicView",
  BasicView
);

class BasicView extends Component {
  render() {
    return <NativeComponent {...this.props} />;
  }
}

export default BasicView;
```

```
import { BasicView } from "RNBoston"
...
<View style={{height: 90,...}} >
  <View style={{ height: 40 }}>
    <Text>
      Starting with a basic native view. That's the green
      thing. Pretty boring.
    </Text>
  </View>
  <BasicView style={{ height: 50, width: "50%" }} />
</View>
```

Starting with a basic native view. That's the green
thing. Pretty boring.

Takeaways

1. **requireNativeComponent** exposes the native view for a React component wrapper
2. You must create a React component that has the specific job of wrapping the native view
3. React is kind of awesome

we can do better



```
import Foundation
@objc(RNBostonViewManager)
class RNBostonViewManager: RCTViewManager {

    var currentView:RNBostonView?

    //MARK: RCTViewManager key methods
    override func view() -> RNBostonView {
        let newView = RNBostonView()
        currentView = newView
        return newView
    }
    override class func requiresMainQueueSetup() -> Bool {
        return false;
    }
}
```

Takeaways

1. Using a custom view class to expose props and manage a nontrivial UX
2. Connect your view to the view manager through a reference at creation time
3. Use Caution!

```
import UIKit
import AVKit
@objc(RNBostonView)
class RNBostonView: UIView {
    //MARK: Private (non-RN-managed) properties
    var thisSession = AVCaptureSession?
    var previewLayer = AVCaptureVideoPreviewLayer?
    var isFront:Bool = false
    //MARK: React-native exposed props
    @objc var onStart:RCTBubblingEventBlock?
    @objc var cameraFront:Bool {
        get { return isFront }
        set(b) {
            isFront = b
            AVCaptureDevice.requestAccess(forMediaType: AVMediaTypeVideo) { success in
                guard success else { return }
                guard
                    let device = AVCaptureDevice.defaultDevice(withDeviceType: .builtInWideAngleCamera, mediaType:
AVMediaTypeVideo, position: b ? AVCaptureDevice.Position.front : AVCaptureDevice.Position.back),
                    let input = try? AVCaptureDeviceInput(device: device)
                    else { return }
                let s = AVCaptureSession()
                s.addInput(input)
                s.startRunning()
                guard let pl = AVCaptureVideoPreviewLayer(session: s) else { return }
                DispatchQueue.main.async(){
                    pl.frame = self.bounds
                    pl.videoGravity = AVLayerVideoGravityResizeAspectFill
                    self.layer.addSublayer(pl)
                    self.previewLayer = pl
                    if let o = self.onStart { o([:]) }
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

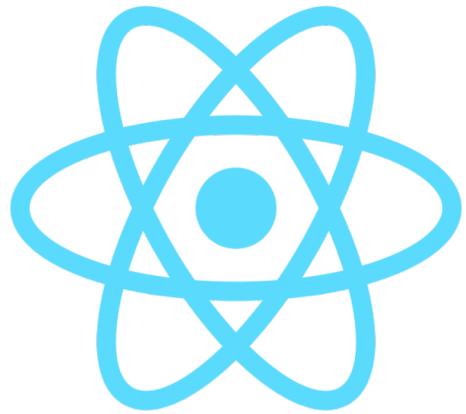
```
@objc(RNBostonView)
class RNBostonView: UIView {

    //MARK: Private (non-RN-managed) properties
    var thisSession = AVCaptureSession?
    var previewLayer = AVCaptureVideoPreviewLayer?
    var isFront:Bool = false

    //MARK: React-native exposed props
    @objc var onStart:RCTBubblingEventBlock?
    @objc var cameraFront:Bool {
        get { return isFront }
        set(b) {
            isFront = b
            AVCaptureDevice.requestAccess...
        }
    }
}
```

Takeaways

1. Properties, not methods, are exposed.
2. Properties can be simple “var” declarations or use get/set pattern
3. Cheat lifecycle events with prop setters
4. Function props are RCTBubblingEventBlocks
5. Declare RCTBubblingEventBlocks as optional (using ?)



```
import { requireNativeComponent } from "react-native";
import React, { Component } from "react";

const NativeVision = requireNativeComponent("RNBostonView",
CameraView);

class CameraView extends Component {
  render() {
    return <NativeVision {...this.props} />;
  }
}
CameraView.defaultProps = {
  onStart: () => {
    console.log("I am starting for reals");
  },
  cameraFront: true
};

export default CameraView;
```

Takeaways

1. Still Easy
2. Default props make your life easier
3. React – still awesome

One More Thing

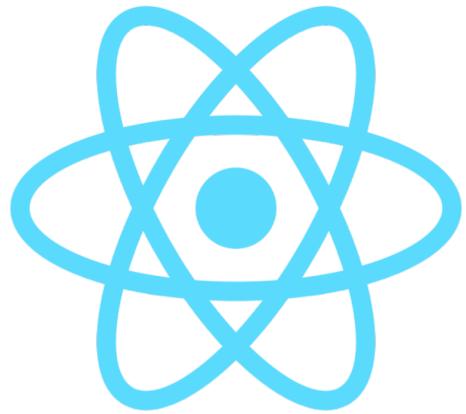
```
import Foundation
@objc(RNBostonViewManager)
class RNBostonViewManager: RCTViewManager {
    var currentView:RNBostonView?
    //MARK: RCTViewManager key methods
    override func view() -> RNBostonView {
        let newView = RNBostonView()
        currentView = newView
        return newView
    }
    override class func requiresMainQueueSetup() -> Bool {
        return false;
    }
}
```

```
@objc(RNBostonViewManager)
class RNBostonViewManager: RCTViewManager,
AVCapturePhotoCaptureDelegate {

...
    @objc func takePicture(_ resolve:@escaping
RCTPromiseResolveBlock, reject:RCTPromiseRejectBlock) {
        guard let view = currentView else { reject("no_view",
"No view loaded", nil); return }
        guard let session = view.thisSession else {
reject("no_session", "No AV capture session running", nil);
return }
        if let p = self.photoOutput {
            session.removeOutput(p)
            self.photoOutput = nil
        }
    }
}
```

Takeaways

1. The ViewManager is a Native Module!
2. Add native module methods to add imperative logic to your view
3. Use promises (`RCTPromiseResolveBlock` and `RCTPromiseRejectBlock`) to return data
4. Give your app superpowers!



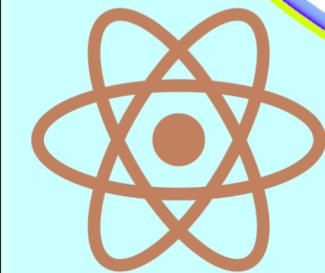
```
import { requiresNativeComponent, NativeModules } from "react-native";
import React, { Component } from "react";
const NativeView = requiresNativeComponent("RNBostonView", CameraView);
class CameraView extends Component {
...
CameraView.takePicture = async () => {
  try {
    return await NativeModules.RNBostonViewManager.takePicture();
  } catch (e) {
    return null;
  }
};
export default CameraView;
```

```
<TouchableOpacity
  onPress={async () => {
    const result = await CameraView.takePicture();
    const newText = result
      ? "Took a picture!"
      : "Error taking picture";
    this.setState({ cameraText: newText, imageURL: result.url })
  }}
>
<CameraView
  style={{ width: "100%", height: "100%" }}
  cameraFront={this.state.cameraFront}
/>
</TouchableOpacity>
```

Takeaways

1. Add imperative functions as class methods for easy access
2. Return data via `async/await` for brevity
3. Superpowers.

Use Cases



Up, Up and Away



User Experiences



github.com/rhdeck/rnboston-ui

@ray_deck