

CS 4530: Fundamentals of Software Engineering

Module 06: React Hook Patterns

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Learning Objectives for this Module

- By the end of this module, you should be able to:
 - Explain the basic use cases for useEffect
 - Explain when a useEffect is executed, and when its return value is executed
 - Construct simple custom hooks and explain why they are useful.
 - Be able to explain the three core steps of a test (assemble, act, assess) can map to UI component testing

Lesson 6.1 useEffect

useEffect is a mechanism for synchronizing a component with an external system

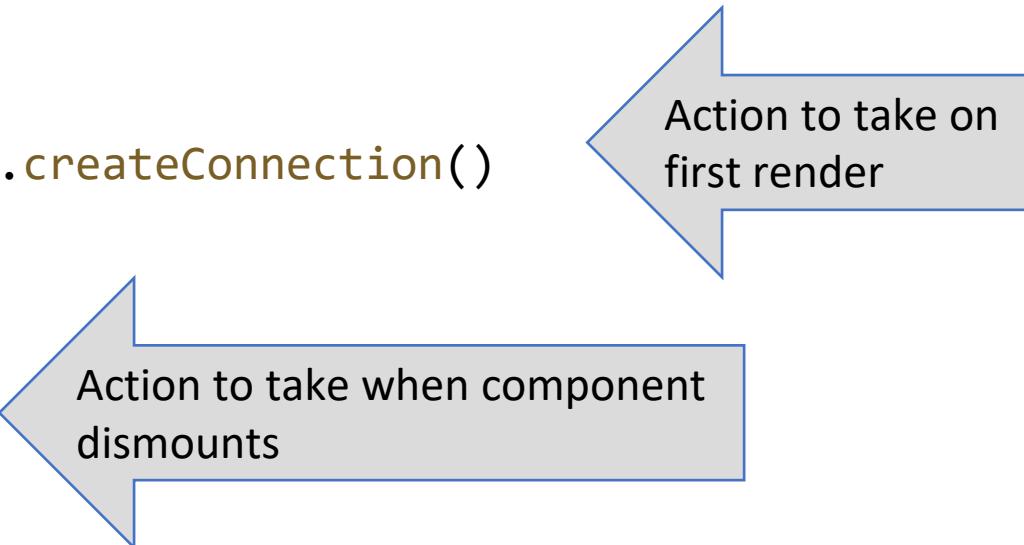
```
import { clockServer } from './clock.js';

function ClockClient() {

  useEffect(() => {
    const connection = clockServer.createConnection()
    connection.connect();

    return () => {
      connection.disconnect();
    };
  }, []);
// ...
}
```

Empty array says: do this on first render only



<https://react.dev/reference/react/useEffect>

An external system means any piece of code that's not inside your React component

- An event in the lifecycle of a component, like redisplay.
- A timer managed with `setInterval` and `clearInterval`
- An event subscription like a chat server (sockets?)
- A call to fetch data from an external API or web site
- An external animation library
- A piece of business logic in an app that is external to your component

A real example: a display that connects to a self-ticking clock

src/app/Components/SimpleClockDisplay.tsx

```
export default function ClockDisplay(props: {  
    name: string, key: number,  
    clock:IClock,  
    handleDelete: () => void,  
    handleAdd: () => void,  
})  
{  
    const [localTime, setLocalTime] = useState(0)  
    const incrementLocalTime = () => setLocalTime(localTime => localTime + 1)  
    const clock = props.clock  
  
    useEffect(() => {  
        const listener1 = () => { incrementLocalTime() }  
        clock.addListener(listener1)  
        return () => {  
            clock.removeListener(listener1)  
        }  
    }, [])
```

The parent provides the clock

On first render, add this listener to the clock

On dismount, remove the listener.

Display logic will come later...

Our app will have three displays of the clock

```
import * as React from 'react'; import { useState } from 'react';
import ClockDisplay from '../../Components/ClockDisplay'
import SingletonClock from '../../Classes/SingletonClockFactory'
function doNothing() { }

export default function App() {
  const [clock, _] = useState(SingletonClock.getInstance(1000));

  return (
    <VStack>
      <ClockDisplay key={1} name={"Clock A"} clock={clock}
        handleAdd={doNothing} handleDelete={doNothing}
      />
      <ClockDisplay key={2} name={"Clock B"} clock={clock}
        handleAdd={doNothing} handleDelete={doNothing}
      />
      <ClockDisplay key={3} name={"Clock C"} clock={clock}
        handleAdd={doNothing} handleDelete={doNothing}
      />
    </VStack>
  );
}
```

Next, let's look at the clock

```

type Listener = () => void

class Clock implements IClock{
    private _listeners: Listener[] = []
    private _notifyAll() {this._listeners
        .forEach(eachListener => {eachListener()})}

    public addListener(listener: Listener) {---}
    public removeListener(listener: Listener) {---}

    get nListeners () {return this._listeners.length}

    private _timer : NodeJS.Timeout
    private _interval : number
    public id : string

    public constructor(interval: number) {
        this.id = nanoid(4)
        this._interval = interval;
        this.start()
    }

    public start() {
        console.log(`Clock ${this.id} starting`)
        this._timer = setInterval(() => {
            this._tick();
        }, this._interval);
    }

    private _tick() {
        this._notifyAll();
    }

    public stop() {
        console.log(`Clock ${this.id} stopping`)
        clearInterval(this._timer);
    }
}

```

We'll make the clock a singleton in the usual way

src/Classes/SingletonClockFactory.ts

```
export default class SingletonClockFactory {  
  
    private static theClock: Clock | undefined = undefined  
  
    private constructor () {SingletonClockFactory.theClock = undefined}  
  
    public static instance (interval:number) : Clock {  
        if (SingletonClockFactory.theClock === undefined) {  
            SingletonClockFactory.theClock = new Clock(interval)  
        }  
        return SingletonClockFactory.theClock  
    }  
  
}
```

Let's look at <ClockDisplay> again

```
export default function ClockDisplay(props: {  
    name: string; key: number; clock: IClock;  
    handleDelete: () => void; handleAdd: () => void;  
}): JSX.Element {  
    const [localTime, setLocalTime] = useState(0);  
    const incrementLocalTime = () => { setLocalTime((localTime) => localTime + 1); };  
  
    const listener1 = () => { incrementLocalTime(); };  
    const clock = props.clock;  
  
    useEffect(() => {  
        clock.addListener(listener1);  
        console.log(`ClockDisplay ${props.name} is mounting`);  
        return () => {  
            console.log("ClockDisplay " + props.name + " is unmounting");  
            clock.removeListener(listener1);  
        };  
    }, []);
```



business logic

ClockDisplay, part 2: the display logic

```
function handleStop() { clock.stop(); }
function handleStart() { clock.start(); }

return (
  <HStack>
    <Box>Clock: {props.name}</Box>
    <Box>Clock ID: {clock.id} </Box>
    <Box>Time = {localTime}</Box>
    <Box>nlisteners = {clock.nListeners}</Box>
    <Button aria-label={"start"} onClick={handleStart}>Start</Button>
    <Button aria-label={"stop"} onClick={handleStop}>Stop</Button>
    <IconButton aria-label={"delete"} onClick={props.handleDelete}>
      icon={<AiOutlineDelete />}
    />
    <IconButton aria-label={"add"} onClick={props.handleAdd}>
      icon={<AiOutlinePlus />}
    />
  </HStack>
);
```



display logic

Clock: Clock A Time = 11 nlisteners = 3

1

+

Clock: Clock B Time = 11 nlisteners = 3

+

Clock: Clock C Time = 11 nlisteners = 3

1

+

The screenshot shows the Chrome DevTools interface. At the top, there are several tabs: Elements, Console (which is highlighted in blue), Sources, and Network. Below the tabs, there's a toolbar with icons for play, stop, and refresh, followed by a dropdown menu set to 'top', a filter input field, and dropdown menus for 'All levels' and 'Filter'.

No Issues

ClockDisplay Clock A is [SimpleClockDisplay.tsx:24](#)
mounting

ClockDisplay Clock B is [SimpleClockDisplay.tsx:24](#)
mounting

ClockDisplay Clock C is [SimpleClockDisplay.tsx:24](#)
mounting

>

useEffect's Dependencies Control Its Execution

- useEffect takes an optional array of dependencies
- The effect is only executed if one or more of the values in the dependency change (e.g. by a setter)
- Special Cases:
 - [] means run only on first render
 - No argument means run on every render

Example (Part 1)

```
export default function App() {
  const [n, setN] = useState(0)
  const [m, setM] = useState(0)

  // runs only on first render.
  useEffect(() => {
    console.log('useEffect #1 is run only on first render'), []
  })

  useEffect(() => {
    console.log('useEffect #2N is run only when n changes'), [n])
  })

  useEffect(() => {
    console.log('useEffect #2M is run when m changes'), [m])
  })

  useEffect(() => {
    console.log('useEffect #2MN is run when m or n changes')
  }, [m,n])

  // runs on every render
  useEffect(() => {
    console.log('useEffect #3 is called on every render'))
  })

  // observe that effects run in order of definition
```

Example (part 2)

```
function onClickN() {
    console.log('Clicked n!');
    setN(n => n + 1);
}

function onClickM() {
    console.log('Clicked m!');
    setM(m => m + 1);
}

return (
    <VStack>
        <Heading>useEffect demo #1</Heading>
        <Text> n is {n} </Text>
        <Button onClick={onClickN}>Increment n</Button>
        <Text> m is {m} </Text>
        <Button onClick={onClickM}>Increment m</Button>
    </VStack>
}
```

Demo

useEffect demo #1

n is 1

Increment n

m is 0

Increment m

The screenshot shows a browser's developer tools console with the 'Logs' tab selected. The log output displays the execution of three different useEffect hooks based on the state variables n and m.

Log Message	File	Line Number
useEffect #1 is run only on first render	useEffect-demo.tsx	16:16
useEffect #2N is run when n changes	useEffect-demo.tsx	25:16
useEffect #2M is run when m changes	useEffect-demo.tsx	29:16
useEffect #2MN is called on every render	useEffect-demo.tsx	33:16
useEffect #3 is called on every render	useEffect-demo.tsx	38:16
Clicked n!	useEffect-demo.tsx	54:16
useEffect #2N is run when n changes	useEffect-demo.tsx	25:16
useEffect #2MN is called on every render	useEffect-demo.tsx	33:16
useEffect #3 is called on every render	useEffect-demo.tsx	38:16

When is the cleanup function executed?

- In general, the cleanup function is executed sometime before the next time the hook is run.
- For the first-time-only case, this means when the component is dismounted.
- Let's look at `useEffect` demo again, this time with noisy cleanups.

src/Apps/useEffect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx

```
function cleanup(message: string) {return () => {console.log('cleanup: ' + message)}}

export default function App() {
  const [n, setN] = useState(0)
  const [m, setM] = useState(0)

  useEffect(() => {
    console.log('useEffect #1 is run only on first render')
    return cleanup('useEffect #1')
  }, [])

  useEffect(() => {
    console.log('useEffect #2N is run only when n changes')
    return cleanup('useEffect #2N')
  }, [n])

  ... // other effects
```

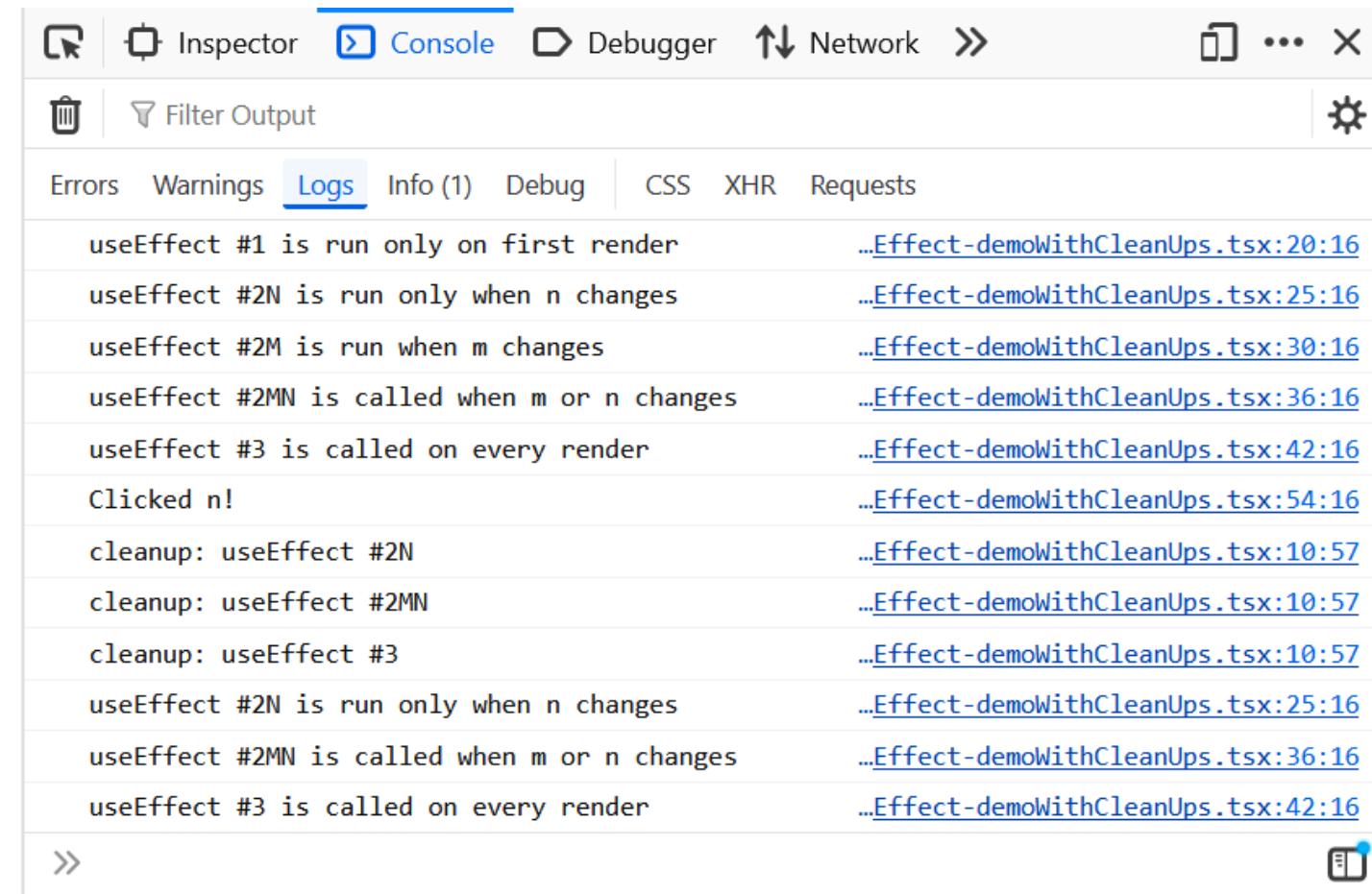
useEffect demo with CleanUps

n is 1

Increment n

m is 0

Increment m



The screenshot shows the Chrome DevTools Console tab open. The tabs at the top are Inspector, Console (which is selected), Debugger, Network, and more. Below the tabs, there are buttons for Clear, Filter Output, and a gear icon. The main area displays a list of logs categorized by type: Errors, Warnings, Logs (which is selected), Info (1), Debug, CSS, XHR, and Requests. The logs are as follows:

Log Type	Message	File
Logs	useEffect #1 is run only on first render	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:20:16
Logs	useEffect #2N is run only when n changes	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:25:16
Logs	useEffect #2M is run when m changes	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:30:16
Logs	useEffect #2MN is called when m or n changes	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:36:16
Logs	useEffect #3 is called on every render	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:42:16
Logs	Clicked n!	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:54:16
Logs	cleanup: useEffect #2N	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:10:57
Logs	cleanup: useEffect #2MN	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:10:57
Logs	cleanup: useEffect #3	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:10:57
Logs	useEffect #2N is run only when n changes	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:25:16
Logs	useEffect #2MN is called when m or n changes	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:36:16
Logs	useEffect #3 is called on every render	...Effect-demoWithCleanUps.tsx:42:16

Communication with an (Actual) External System

- In the previous example, everything was present in the one codebase, including the clock.
- More common situation is that the user interface components need to communicate with a remote system, not necessarily in the same codebase.

useEffect and fetch working together

```
// the value of globalCount will be passed to the children
const [globalCount, setGlobalCount] = useState(0);
const [sumLocalCounts, setSumLocalCounts] = useState(0);
const [localCountA, setLocalCountA] = useState(0);
const [localCountB, setLocalCountB] = useState(0);

// when either local count changes, recalculate the sum
useEffect(() => {
  recalculateGlobalCount();
}, [localCountA, localCountB]);

async function recalculateGlobalCount() {
  console.log("recalculating");
  const response = await fetch(`/sum/${localCountA}/${localCountB}`);
  const sum = await response.json();
  console.log("sum", sum);
  setGlobalCount(sum.sum);
  setSumLocalCounts(localCountA + localCountB);
  return;
}
```

Lesson 6.2 Custom Hooks

Custom Hooks

- REACT lets us combine useState and useEffect to build custom hooks.
- Custom Hooks let us separate business logic from display logic

Example: useClock

```
export function useClock (listener1: () => void) : IClock {  
    const clock = SingletonClockFactory.getInstance(1000)  
    useEffect(() => {  
        clock.addListener(listener1)  
        return () => {  
            clock.removeListener(listener1)  
        }  
    }, []);  
    return clock  
}
```

Using useClock

```
import { useClock } from '../Hooks/useClock';

export function ClockDisplay(props: {
    name: string, key: number,
    handleDelete: () => void, handleAdd: () => void,
    noisyDelete?: boolean
}) {
    const [localTime, setLocalTime] = useState(0)
    const incrementLocalTime = () => setLocalTime(localTime => localTime + 1)
    const clock:IClock = useClock(incrementLocalTime)

    return (
        <HStack>
            <Box>Clock: {props.name}</Box>
            <Box>Time = {localTime}</Box>
            <Box>nlisteners = {clock.nListeners}</Box>
            <IconButton aria-label='delete' onClick={props.handleDelete} icon={<AiOutlineDelete />} />
            <IconButton aria-label='add' onClick={props.handleAdd} icon={<AiOutlinePlus />} />
        </HStack>
    )
}
```

A somewhat larger example: ToDoList

```
export default function ToDoApp () {
  const [todoList, setTodolist] = useState<ToDoItem[]>([])
  const [itemKey, setItemKey] = useState<number>(0) // first unused key

  function handleAdd (title:string, priority:string) {
    if (title === '') {return} // ignore blank button presses
    setTodolist(todoList.concat({title: title, priority: priority, key: itemKey}))
    setItemKey(itemKey + 1)
  }

  function handleDelete(targetKey:number) {
    const newList = todoList.filter(item => item.key != targetKey)
    setTodolist(newList)
  }

  return (
    <VStack>
      <Heading>TODO List</Heading>
      <ToDoItemEntryForm onAdd={handleAdd}>
      <ToDoListDisplay items={todoList} onDelete={handleDelete}>
    </VStack>
  )
}
```

business logic

display logic

Refactoring ToDoList

```
export default function ToDoApp () {  
  const {todoList, handleAdd, handleDelete} = useToDoItemList()  
  
  return (  
    <VStack>  
      <Heading>TODO List</Heading>  
      <ToDoItemEntryForm onAdd={handleAdd}>/>  
      <ToDoListDisplay items={todoList} onDelete={handleDelete}>/>  
    </VStack>  
  )  
}
```

business logic
is encapsulated

The hook encapsulates the business logic

```
export default function useToDoItemList () {
  const [todoList, setTodolist] = useState<ToDoItem[]>([])
  const [itemKey, setItemKey] = useState<number>(0) // first unused key

  function handleAdd (title:string, priority:string) {
    if (title === '') {return} // ignore blank button presses
    setTodolist(todoList.concat({title: title, priority: priority, key: itemKey}))
    setItemKey(itemKey + 1)
  }

  function handleDelete(targetKey:number) {
    const newList = todoList.filter(item => item.key != targetKey)
    setTodolist(newList)
  }

  return {todoList: todoList, handleAdd: handleAdd, handleDelete: handleDelete}
}
```

The hook is like a class managing a piece of state

```
export default function useToDoItemList () {
  const [todoList, setTodolist] = useState<ToDoItem[]>([])
  const [itemKey, setItemKey] = useState<number>(0) // first unused key

  function handleAdd (title:string, priority:string) {
    if (title === '') {return} // ignore blank button presses
    setTodolist(todoList.concat({title: title, priority: priority, key: itemKey}))
    setItemKey(itemKey + 1)
  }

  function handleDelete(targetKey:number) {
    const newList = todoList.filter(item => item.key != targetkey)
    setTodolist(newList)
  }

  return {todoList: todoList, handleAdd: handleAdd, handleDelete: handleDelete}
}
```

handleAdd and handleDelete
are the only methods for
manipulating the state

The hook's state becomes part of its user's state.

```
export default function useToDoItemList () {
  const [todoList, setTodolist] = useState<ToDoItem[]>([])
  const [itemKey, setItemKey] = useState<number>(0) // first unused key

  function handleAdd (title:string, priority:string) {
    if (title === '') {return} // ignore blank button presses
    setTodolist(todoList.concat({title: title, priority: priority, key: itemKey}))
    setItemKey(itemKey + 1)
  }

  function handleDelete(targetKey:number) {
    const newList = todoList.filter(item => item.key != targetKey)
    setTodolist(newList)
  }

  return {todoList: todoList, handleAdd: handleAdd, handleDelete: handleDelete}
}
```

calling these setters redisplays
the whole component

The Rules of Hooks

1. Only call hooks at the top level

- Not within loops, inside conditions, or nested functions
- Rationale: The order of hooks called must always be the same each time a component renders

2. Only call hooks from React Components or Custom Hooks

- Not from any other helper methods or classes
- Rationale: React must know the component that the call to the hook is associated with

```
export function LikeButton() {  
  const [isLiked, setIsLiked] = useState(false);  
  const [count, setCount] = useState(0);  
  ...  
}
```

React knows which useState is which by tracking calls to them from components in the render tree

We Use Two ESLint Rules for React Hooks

- You should not violate the rules of hooks. These linter plugins help detect violations
- React-hooks/rules-of-hooks
 - Enforces that hooks are only called from React functional components or custom hooks
- React-hooks/exhaustive-deps
 - Enforces that all variables used in useEffects are included as dependencies

Putting it All Together

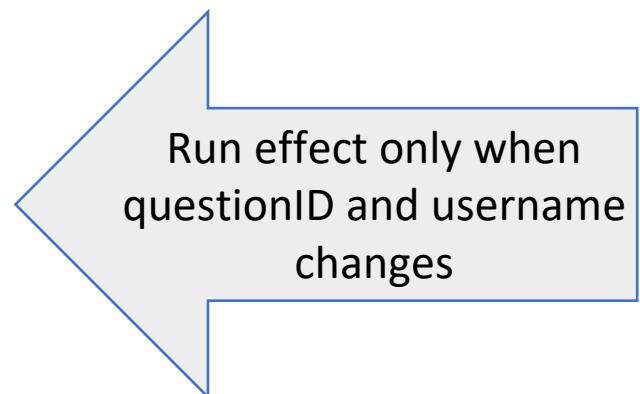
- In the previous examples, we learned
 - how to introduce side effects
 - how to create our own hooks
- We can use these concepts to make React components interact with a remote system (e.g., REST services).

Interacting With a REST-based Server

```
/**  
 * Custom hook for managing the answer page's state, navigation, and real-time updates.  
 *  
 */  
const useAnswerPage = () => {  
  const { qid } = useParams();  
  const navigate = useNavigate();  
  
  const { user, socket } = useUserContext();  
  const [questionID, setQuestionID] = useState<string>(qid || '');  
  const [question, setQuestion] = useState<PopulatedDatabaseQuestion |  
    null>(null);
```

Interacting With a REST-based Server

```
useEffect(() => {
  /**
   * Function to fetch the question data based on the question ID.
   */
  const fetchData = async () => {
    try {
      const res = await getQuestionById(questionID, user.username);
      setQuestion(res || null);
    } catch (error) {
      console.error('Error fetching question:', error);
    }
  };
  fetchData().catch(e => console.log(e));
}, [questionID, user.username]);
```

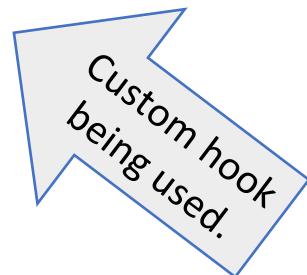


Interacting With a REST-based Server

```
/**  
 * Function to get a question by its ID.  
 *  
 * @param qid - The ID of the question to retrieve.  
 * @param username - The username of the user requesting the question.  
 * @throws Error if there is an issue fetching the question by ID.  
 */  
const getQuestionById = async (  
  qid: string,  
  username: string,  
): Promise<PopulatedDatabaseQuestion> => {  
  const res = await api.get(` ${QUESTION_API_URL}/getQuestionById/${qid}?username=${username}`);  
  if (res.status !== 200) {  
    throw new Error('Error when fetching question by id');  
  }  
  return res.data;  
};
```

Interacting With a REST-based Server

```
/**  
 * AnswerPage component that displays the full content of a question along with its answers.  
 * It also includes the functionality to vote, ask a new question, and post a new answer.  
 */  
const AnswerPage = () => {  
  const { questionID, question, handleNewComment, handleNewAnswer } = useAnswerPage();  
  
  if (!question) {  
    return null;  
  }  
  
  return (  
<>  
  <VoteComponent question={question} />  
  <AnswerHeader ansCount={question.answers.length} title={question.title} />
```



Lesson 6.3 Testing your REACT components

Testing React components

- The AAA pattern ("Assemble/Act/Assess") still applies
- Need a test double for the React system
 - render components into a "virtual dom" or into a captive web browser
- The FakeStackOverflow codebase uses Cypress, a popular tool for end-to-end testing.

“Testing Library” <https://testing-library.com> is another test system for React. It is compatible with many UI libraries and many testing frameworks

<https://docs.cypress.io/guides/end-to-end-testing/writing-your-first-end-to-end-test>

Cypress commands work on a "virtual DOM"

.visit()	Visit a remote URL. Many tests begin with this command.
.contains()	Select a DOM element by text content.
.get()	Find DOM elements by selector
.click()	Click a DOM element.
.type()	Type into a DOM element.

These will fail if the specified element does not exist

Recall: Most tests are in AAA form: Assemble/Act/Assess

```
test('addStudent should add a student to the database')
  // const db = new DataBase()
  expect(db.nameToIDs('blair')).toEqual([])

  const id1 = db.addStudent('blair');

  expect(db.nameToIDs('blair')).toEqual([id1])
});
```

The diagram illustrates the AAA test pattern. It consists of three green rounded rectangles stacked vertically. The top rectangle contains the text "Assemble (and check that you've assembled it)". The middle rectangle contains the text "Act (do the action that you are trying to test)". The bottom rectangle contains the text "Assess: check to see that the response is correct". Three blue arrows point from the corresponding parts of the test code above to each respective section of the diagram.

A typical cypress test

```
it("5.1 | Created new answer should be displayed at the top of the answers page",
() => {
  const answers = [
    "Test Answer 1",
    A1_TXT,
    A2_TXT,
  ];
  cy.visit("http://localhost:3000");
  cy.contains(Q1_DESC).click();
  cy.contains("Answer Question").click();
  cy.get("#answerUsernameInput").type("joym");
  cy.get("#answerTextInput").type(answers[0]);
  cy.contains("Post Answer").click();
  cy.get(".answerText").each(($el, index) => {
    cy.contains(answers[index]);
  });
  cy.contains("joym");
  cy.contains("0 seconds ago");
});
```

Assemble (and check that you've assembled it correctly)

Act (do the action that you are trying to test)

Assess: check to see that the response is correct

run with: npx cypress run

Learning Objectives for this Lesson

- By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:
 - Explain the basic use cases for useEffect
 - Explain when a useEffect is executed, and when its return value is executed
 - Construct simple custom hooks and explain why they are useful.
 - Be able to explain the three core steps of a test (assemble, act, assess) can map to UI component testing