React Native Navigation

CS571 – Mobile Application Development

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What is a Navigator?

A Navigator is how we move between screens in an application.

Web navigation is usually tied to URLs in the browser.

Mobile apps do not use URLs for navigating within the application.

The native navigation APIs completely different between iOS and Android. But several React Native libraries provide agnostic alternative, we will be using React Navigation.

Linking into a mobile app with a URL is known as deep linking: https://reactnavigation.org/docs/deep-linking/

Install React Navigation

Follow the React Navigation Docs for full instructions.

Navigation Container

Navigators and Screen components

A Navigator is a component that implements a navigation pattern (stack, drawer, tabs ..etc)

Each Navigator must have one or more Screens. A Screen is a child of a Navigator. Each **Screen** must have a **name** and a **component**. The **name** is usually unique across the app.

The screen component is a React component that is rendered when the route is active.

The screen component can also be another navigator.

Navigator Installation

When you use a navigator (such as stack navigator), you'll need to follow the installation instructions of that navigator for any additional dependencies.

Stack Navigator

Display one screen at a time.

Screens are stacked on top of each other.

The state of inactive screens is **maintained**, and they remain mounted.

Platform-specific layout, animations, and gestures

Users can **push** and **pop** items from the stack, **replace** the current item.



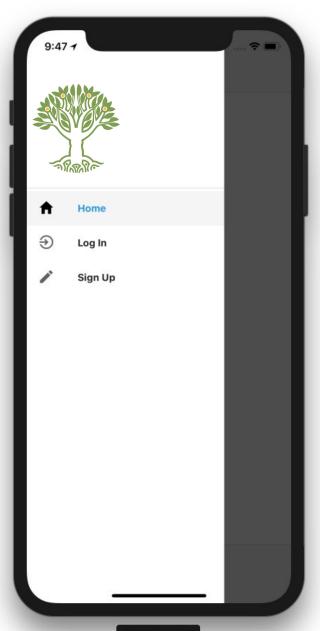
Higher order components

create*Navigator() is a Higher Order Component, it is a function that
returns a React component.

A higher-order component (HOC) is an advanced technique in React for reusing component logic. It is similar to higher order functions, which are functions that either take functions as arguments or return a function as a result.

Creating a Stack Navigator

Drawer Navigator



Navigating to Another Route

```
<Button
  title="Go to About"
  onPress={() => this.props.navigation.navigate('about')} />
```

The **navigation** prop is passed into the screen component for each route. It is passed via **NavigationContainer** only to the screens tree. If you have a sub-component that is not a screen, it will not receive the prop.

Returning to the Previous Active Route

```
<Button
  title="Go Back"
  onPress={() => this.props.navigation.goBack()} />
```

Navigation prop

navigation

- .navigate() go to another screen
- .reset() wipe the navigator state
- .goBack() close active screen and move back in the stack

Stack Specific navigation Actions

navigation

- .replace() replace the current route with a new one
- .push() push a new route onto the stack
- .pop() go back in the stack
- .popToTop() go to the top of the stack

Passing Params to Another Route

Reading Params

```
function ProfileScreen({ route: {params}}) {
   const { names } = params;
}
```

The **route** prop is passed into the screen component for each route

Break

```
// It's time for us to take a 10 mins break
this.props.navigation.navigate('breaktime');

// Break time is over
this.props.navigation.goBack();
```

Configuring Screens Options

1. Sharing Common options Across Screens

```
<Stack.Navigator screenOptions={{ headerStyle: { backgroundColor: '#f4511e'},
headerTintColor: '#fff',}}> ..Screens.. </Stack.Navigator>
```

2. Screen Specific options

```
<Stack.Screen name="home" component={homeScreen} options={{title: 'Home'}}/>
```

3. Updating options with setOptions

```
const homeScreen = ({ navigation }) => {
   navigation.setOptions({
       title: 'Home',
   });
}
```

Tab navigators

Display one screen at a time.

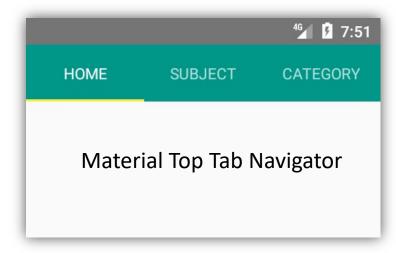
The state of inactive screens is maintained.

Platform-specific layout, animations, and gestures.

createMaterialTopTabNavigator

createMaterialBottomTabNavigator

createBottomTabNavigator



The navigate() action is used to switch to different tabs. goBack() can be called to go back to the first tab. The tab navigator goBack behavior is configurable.

Creating a Tab Navigator

```
import { createBottomTabNavigator } from '@react-
navigation/bottom-tabs';
const Tab = createBottomTabNavigator();
function MyTabs() {
 return (
    <Tab.Navigator>
        <Tab.Screen name="Home" component={HomeScreen} />
       <Tab.Screen name="Settings" component={SettingsScreen} />
    </Tab.Navigator>
```



Creating a Material Tab Navigator

Configure Tab icons

Use Common Icon Packs

```
import Ionicons from "react-native-vector-icons/Ionicons";
<Ionicons name="ios-book" size={25} color="#000" />
```

Resources:

https://oblador.github.io/react-native-vector-icons/

https://github.com/oblador/react-native-vector-icons

Expo Vector Icons

```
import { Ionicons, AntDesign } from '@expo/vector-icons';

<Ionicons name="md-checkmark-circle" size={32} color="green" />
<AntDesign name="book" size={100} color="#0066CC" />
```

Resources:

https://expo.github.io/vector-icons/

https://github.com/expo/vector-icons

Composing Navigators

Navigators can be composed when one type of navigation visually appears to be inside another navigator.

A navigator can be the Screen Component of another navigator.

The app should only contain one top-level navigator.

You can navigate() to any route in the app. Also, goBack() works for the whole app.

Composing Navigators

```
function Home() {
    return (
        <Tab.Navigator>
           <Tab.Screen name="Feed" component={Feed} />
           <Tab.Screen name="Messages" component={Messages} />
        </Tab.Navigator>
function App() {
    return (
        <NavigationContainer>
                <Stack.Navigator>
                         <Stack.Screen name="Home" component={Home} />
                         <Stack.Screen name="Profile" component={Profile} />
                         <Stack.Screen name="Settings" component={Settings} />
                </Stack.Navigator>
        </NavigationContainer>
    );
```

Passing params to Nested Navigators

If you have nested navigators, you need to pass params as following:

useNavigation()

If a component is not part of the NavigationContainer, we can grab a reference to the navigation object using useNavigation() hook.

```
import { useNavigation, useRoute } from '@react-navigation/native';

const Details = (props) => {
    const navigation = useNavigation();
    const route = useRoute();
    ...
}
```

React Navigation Resources

React Navigation Documentation https://reactnavigation.org/