

JAROKUSZOZO

Are Web Components the Betamax of web development?

> Horacio Gonzalez @LostInBrittany





Who are we?

Introducing myself and introducing OVH OVH Cloud







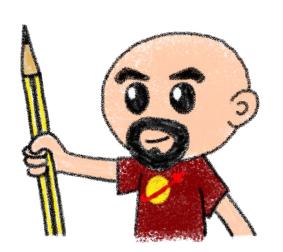
Horacio Gonzalez



@LostInBrittany

Spaniard lost in Brittany, developer, dreamer and all-around geek











OVHcloud: A Global Leader



200k Private cloud VMs running

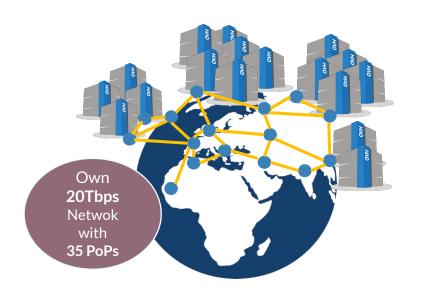


Dedicated IaaS Europe

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Hosting capacity: **1.3M** Physical
Servers

360k Servers already deployed



30 Datacenters

> 1.3M Customers in 138 Countries







OVHcloud: Our solutions





VPS

Public Cloud

Private Cloud

Serveur dédié

Cloud Desktop

Hybrid Cloud

Mobile Hosting

Containers

Compute

Database

Object Storage

Securities

Messaging



Web Hosting

Domain names

Email

CDN

Web hosting

MS Office

MS solutions



Telecom

VolP

SMS/Fax

Virtual desktop

Cloud Storage

Over the Box









Sometimes I feel a bit grumpy

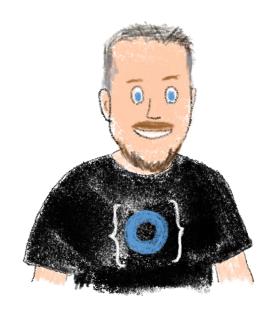
The stories of the grumpy old speaker...





The one to blame...





Matt Raible - @mraible

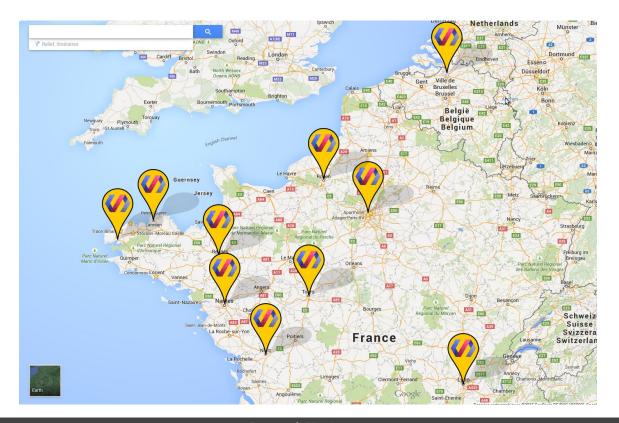
The guy who made me want to become a speaker... and to dare to give talks about frontend





On Web Components tour since 2014







Web components == Revolution





Image: bu.edu

ages: BitRebels & Brickset

Building a world brick by brick









Is the promise unfulfilled?



It's 2019 now, where is your revolution, dude?

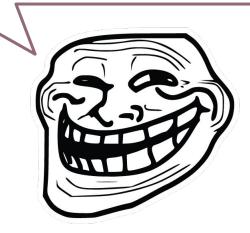




And, even worse, several months ago



Hey, dude, your Web Components thing is like Betamax Even if it was a better solution, market has already chosen, React has won, as VHS did...

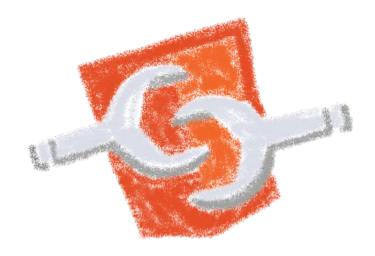






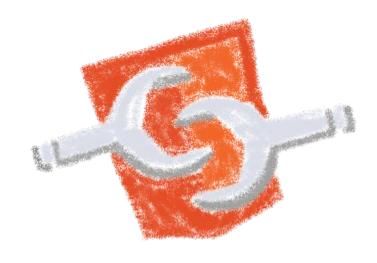
The 3 minutes context

What the heck are web component?







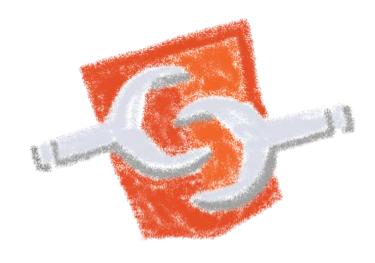


Web standard W3C







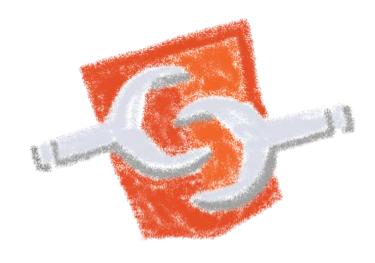


Available in all modern browsers: Firefox, Safari, Chrome





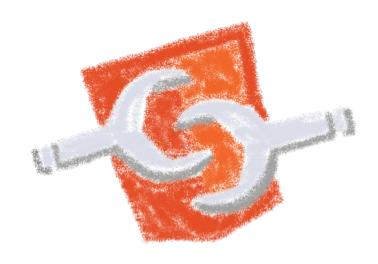




Create your own HTML tags Encapsulating look and behavior







Fully interoperable
With other web components, with any framework







Custom Element





To define your own HTML tag

```
<body>
  <script>
   window.customElements.define('my-element',
        class extends HTMLElement {...});
  </script>
  <my-element></my-element>
</body>
```



Shadow DOM





To encapsulate subtree and style in an element

Hello, world!



こんにちは、影の世界!

```
<button>Hello, world!</button>
<script>
var host = document.querySelector('button');
const shadowRoot = host.attachShadow({mode:'open'});
shadowRoot.textContent = 'こんにちは、影の世界!';
</script>
```

Template





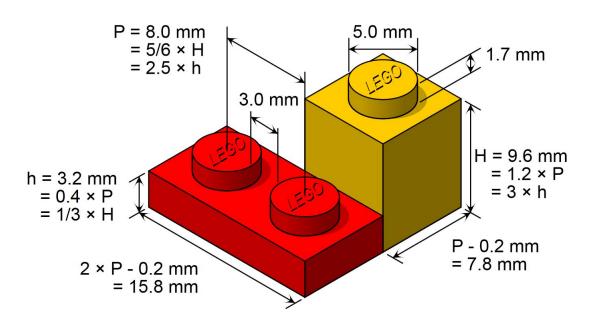
To have clonable document template

```
<template id="mytemplate">
  <img src="" alt="great image">
  <div class="comment"></div>
</template>
var t = document.querySelector('#mytemplate');
// Populate the src at runtime.
t.content.querySelector('img').src = 'logo.png';
var clone = document.importNode(t.content, true);
document.body.appendChild(clone);
```

But in fact, it's just an element...



- Attributes
- Properties
- Methods
- Events





Hey, old man, WTF is a Betamax?

A videocassette guide for Millenials





At the beginning there was the TV





And public saw it was good...



But how to keep your favorite show forever?





Sony VTR CV-2000 - Image credit LabGuy's World

The VTR was born, somewhere in the 1960s





From videotape to videocassette...







Sony U-matic - Image credit MKH Electronics

U-matic cassette - Image credit PSAP

And then to mass market, sometime in the 1970s

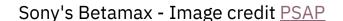




Each vendor proposed their solution









JVC's VHS - Image credit PSAP

Cassettes aren't so different from JS frameworks after all...









VHS

Size: 7 3/8" x 4 1/8"

Length: SP: 2 hours, LP: 4 hours, EP: 6 hours



Betamax*

Size: 6 1/8" x 3 3/4"

Length: SP: 2 hours, LP: 4 hours, EP: 6 hours



8mm / Hi-8

Size: 3 3/4" x 2 3/8"

Length: SP: 2 hours, LP: 4 hours



VHS-C

Size: 3 5/8" x 2 1/4"

Length: SP: 30 minutes, LP: 90 minutes, EP: 120 minutes



Mini DV

Size: 2 5/8" x 1 7/8"

Length: SP: 60 minutes, LP: 90 minutes

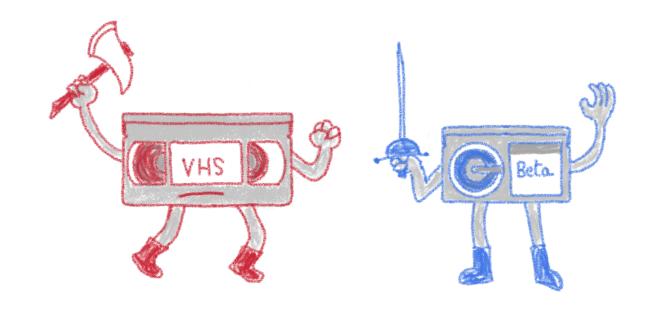






There was a format war





So fierce that it has its own Wikipedia page





Betamax was a superior format

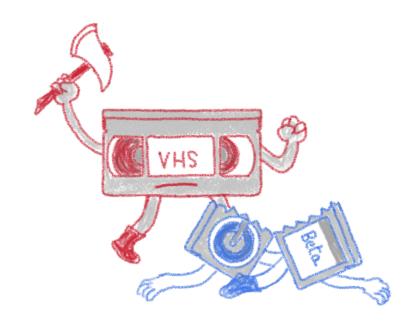




Higher quality recorders, better resolution, slightly superior sound, and more stable image

But the market decided otherwise





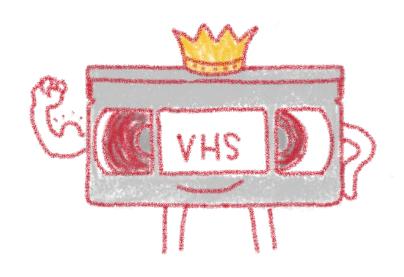
And Betamax, even if superior, failed...

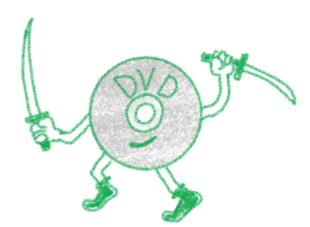




As usual, the winner took it all







Until a new arrival entered in scene, the DVD...
But that's another story for another talk





Why did Betamax failed?

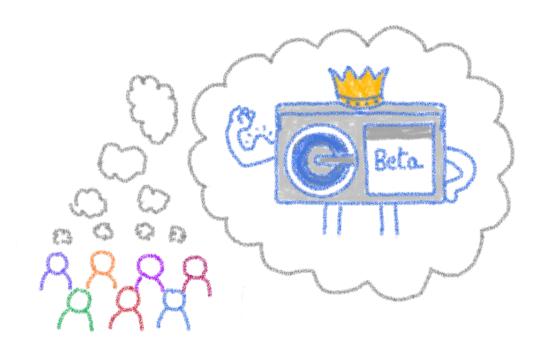
Spoiler: it isn't so simple...





Betamax was believed to be superior





In the minds of the public and press





But consumers wanted an affordable VCR











Betamax costed hundreds of dollars more

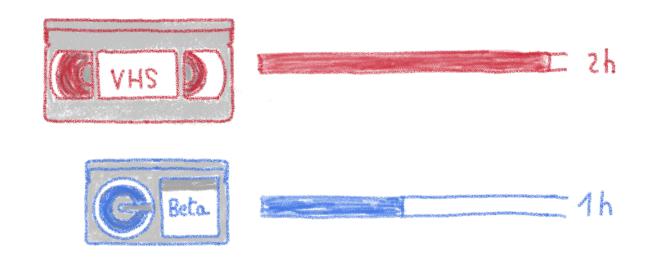






They also wanted to record a full movie





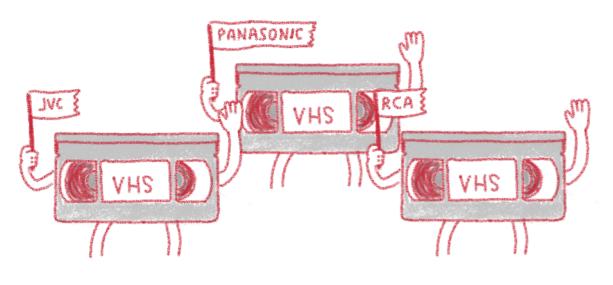
Originally Betamax cassettes only recorded 1 hour





And compatibility weighted on VHS side







Many licencees offered VHS VCRs







Are Web Components like Betamax?

A perceived superior alternative destined to fail?





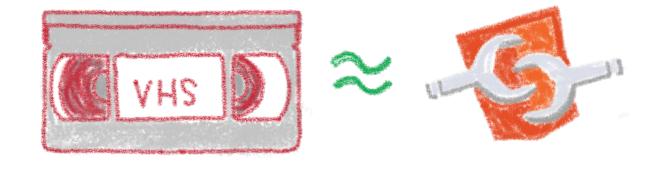






It could be even the opposite...





Web components are maybe the VHS of JS

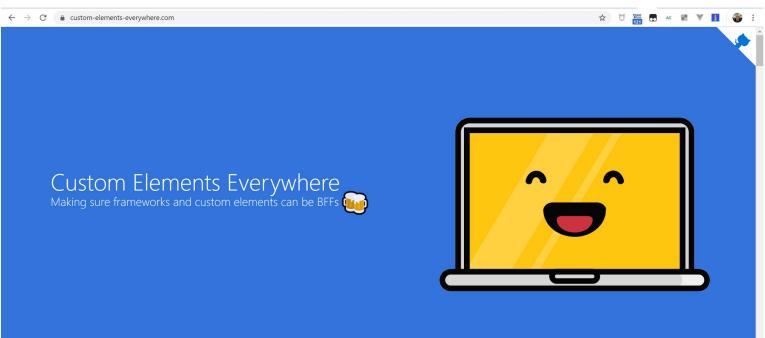




Compatibility is on Web Components



side



Web Components everywhere, baby!

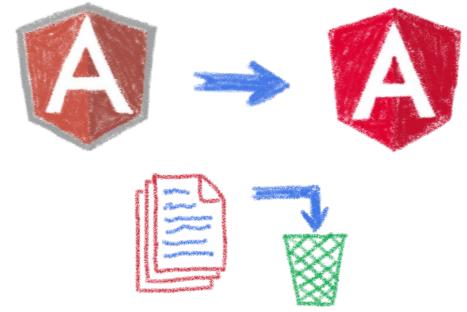






Do you remember AngularJS?



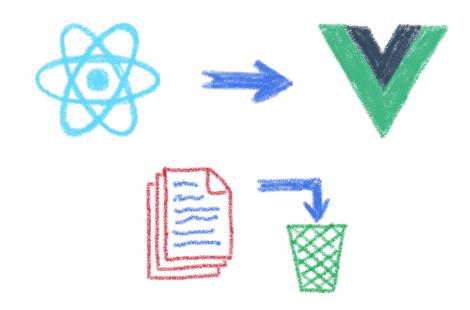


And all the code put in the trash bin when Angular arrived...



The pain of switching frameworks?





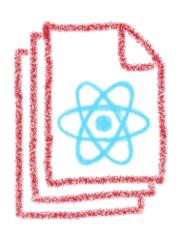
Rewriting once again your code...





The impossibility of sharing UI code?







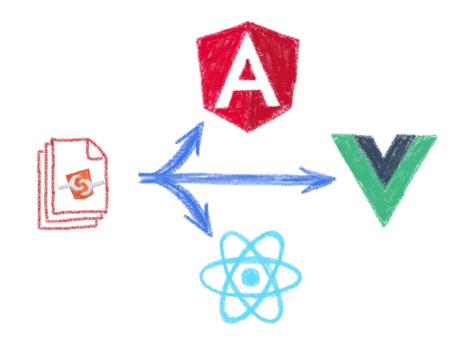


Between apps written with different frameworks



Web Components change that





In a clean and standard way





They are indeed a revolution





But it's a silent one...





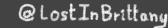
They are there, in everyday sites





More than you can imagine



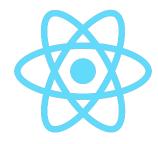


The components architecture won









Components, components everywhere

Web components ARE platform





Truly part of the platform...







Aren't the multiple Web Components libs a sign of failure?

If the standard worked, people would use Vanilla, wouldn't them?





Web component standard is low level





At it should be!





Standard == basic bricks



Standard exposes an API to:

- Define elements
- Encapsulate DOM



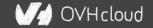


Libraries are helpers





They give you higher-level primitives



Different high-level primitives





Each one tailored to a use



Sharing the same base





High-performant, low-level, in-the-platform web components standard



Libraries aren't a failure of standard





They happen by design





Stencil

Powering Ionic 4+

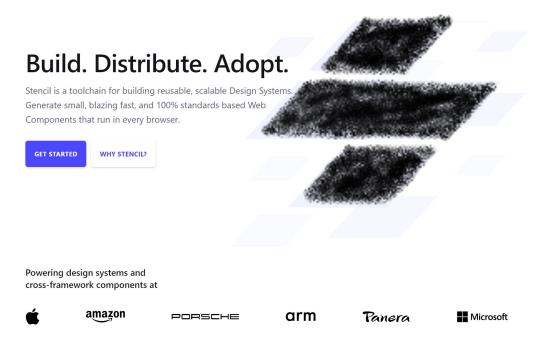




Not another library







A Web Component toolchain

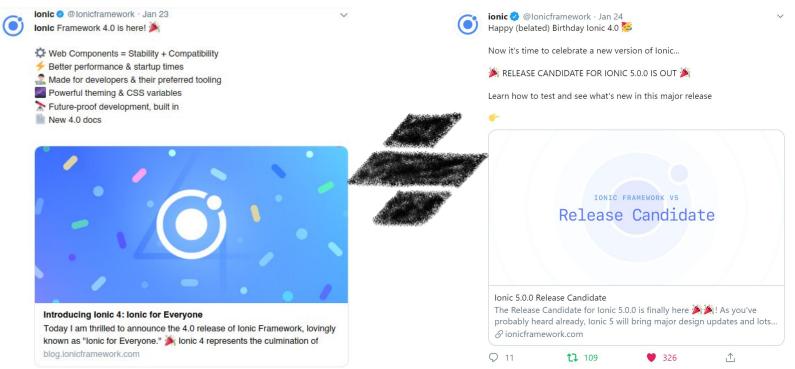




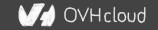


A mature technology



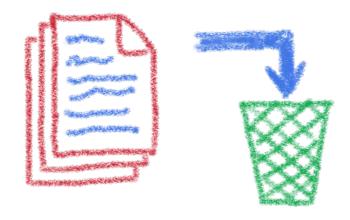


Ionic 4 released on year ago, powered by Stencil!



Built by the Ionic team





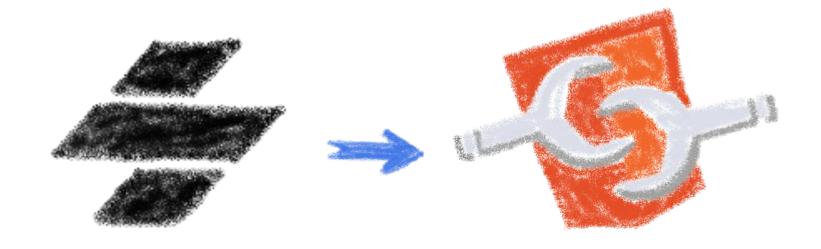
Tired of putting good code in the trash bin...





A build time tool





To generate standard web components



Fully featured



- Web Component-based
- Asynchronous rendering pipeline
- TypeScript support
- One-way Data Binding

- Component pre-rendering
- Simple component lazy-loading
- JSX support
- Dependency-free components





And the cherry on the cake





Server-Side Rendering







Stencil leverages the web platform



Stencil doesn't fight the web platform. It embraces it.



Simple

With intentionally small tooling, a tiny API, and zero configuration, Stencil gets out of the way and lets you focus on your work.



Lightweight

A tiny runtime, pre-rendering, and the raw power of native Web Components make Stencil one of the fastest compilers around.



Future proof

Build cross-framework components and design systems on open web standards, and break free of Framework Churn.

Working with the web, not against it











Polymer

Is the old player still alive?





Polymer evolved again in 2018





Image: © Nintendo

Polymer 3 was here!





What's Polymer status today?



Relationship Status:	
Interested in: Looking for:	Single In a Relationship
	Engaged Married
	It's Complicated
	In an Open Relationship Widowed

Well, how could I say... it's complicated

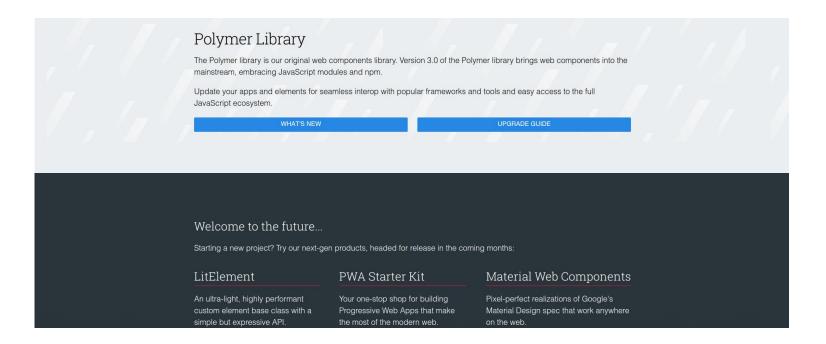






It seems it's going to be deprecated...





Technically yes... and that means good news!







Let's try to see clearer





Let's dive into Polymer history...



A tool built for another paradigm





No web component support on browsers No React, Angular or Vue innovations

No so well suited for the current one





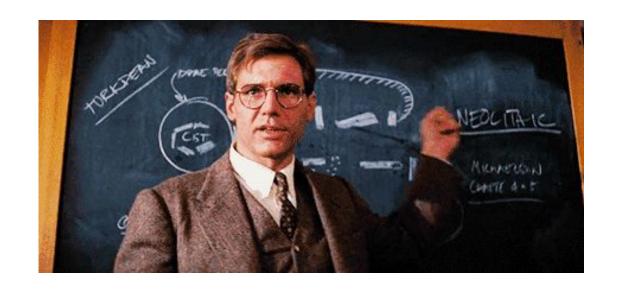
The current platform is way more powerful

The state of art has evolved



Let's learn from its lessons





The current platform is way more powerful

The state of art has evolved



And let it rest....



OVHcloud



There will have no Polymer 4...



So Polymer as we know it is dead...





But the Polymer Project is indeed alive!

But I have invested so much on it!





What to do?



That's why web components are top





You can keep using all your Polymer components and create the new ones with a new library... And it simply works!

And without metaphors?



About the Polymer Project

As front-end engineers in the Chrome team, our mission is to make the web better.

We work on libraries & tools

to help developers unlock the web's full potential, taking advantage of cutting-edge features like Web Components, Service Workers and HTTP/2. We experiment with new patterns

for building faster and smaller web applications.

We advocate for standards

helping ensure that web developers have a strong voice in the process.

Polymer Project != Polymer library
Polymer Project well alive
Polymer library was only one library







LitElement

New kid on the block





Born from the Polymer team





For the new web paradigm



Modern lightweight web components



LitElement

A simple base class for creating fast, lightweight web components

→ GET STARTED

About

Fast, lightweight web components

LitElement is a simple base class for creating fast, lightweight web components that work in any web page with any framework.

Using lit-html

For rendering, LitElement uses lit-html—a fast HTML templating library. To build an app out of LitElement components, check out PWA Starter Kit.

Who are we?

LitElement is brought to you by developers on the Google Chrome team with the input of web developers at organizations big and small around the world

For the new web paradigm







Based on lit-html



Next-generation HTML Templates in JavaScript

lit-html lets you write HTML templates in JavaScript, then efficiently render and *re-render* those templates together with data to create and update DOM:

```
import {html, render} from 'lit-html';

// A lit-html template uses the 'html' template tag:
let sayHello = (name) => html'<h1>Hello ${name}</h1>';

// It's rendered with the 'render()' function:
render(sayHello('World'), document.body);

// And re-renders only update the data that changed, without
// VDOM diffing!
render(sayHello('Everyone'), document.body);
```

An efficient, expressive, extensible HTML templating library for JavaScript





Do you know tagged templates?

```
R
```

```
function uppercaseExpression(strings, ...expressionValues) {
 var finalString =
 for ( let i = 0; i < strings.length; i++ ) {</pre>
  if (i > 0) {
     finalString += expressionValues[i - 1].toUpperCase()
   finalString += strings[i]
return finalString
const expressions = [ 'Milan', 'Codemotion Milan', 'Thank you'];
console.log(
uppercaseExpression`
   I am so happy to be in ${expressions[0]} for ${expressions[1]} !
   ${expressions[2]}, ${expressions[1]}!
```

Little known functionality of template literals







lit-html Templates



```
let myTemplate = (data) => html`
    <h1>${data.title}</h1>
    ${data.body}
`;
```

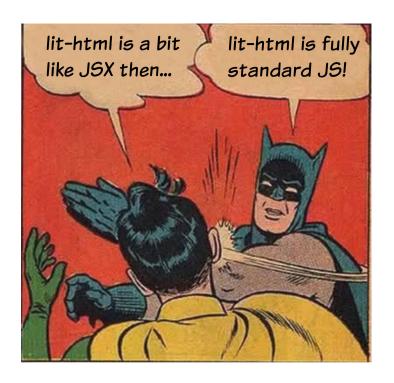
Lazily rendered
Generates a TemplateResult





It's a bit like JSX, isn't it?





The good sides of JSX... but in the standard!



LitElement



```
import { LitElement, html } from 'lit-element';
// Create your custom component
class CustomGreeting extends LitElement {
// Declare properties
static get properties() {
  return {
    name: { type: String }
// Initialize properties
constructor() {
  super();
  this.name = 'World';
// Define a template
render() {
  return html`Hello, ${this.name}!`;
// Register the element with the browser
customElements.define('custom-greeting', CustomGreeting);
```

Lightweight web-components using lit-html









One more thing...*

Let's copy from the master





Polymer is not important





WebComponents ARE



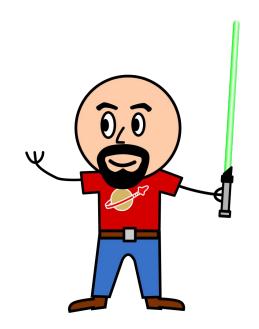




Use the Platform, Luke...







WebComponents ARE native







Do you love your framework?





Oh yeah, we all do





Would you marry your framework?





Like until death...





How much does cost the divorce?





Do you remember when you dropped AngularJS for Angular?



Why recode everything again?





Reuse the bricks in your new framework



Lots of web components libraries





LitElement













For different need and sensibilities

And some good news







Frameworks begin to understand it

So for your next app



Choose a framework, no problem...

But please, help your future self

Use Web Components!









Conclusion

That's all, folks!





