# Initial Experiences with Progressive Web Apps

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### **Native App**

- Single Platform App
- No common code base
- Platform specific SDK
- App deployment / installation through platform – specific App Store (e.g. Google Play Store)



## **Hybrid App**

- Native, multi-platform App
- Common code base
- Web technologies
- Platform specific WebView component / native device wrapper (e.g. Cordova)
- App deployment / installation through platform – specific App Store (e.g. Google Play Store)



## **Progressive Web App**

- Multi-platform Web App
- Common code base
- Most recent Web technologies

   (i.e. pure HTML5, no platform /
   browser specific dependencies),
- Apps runs in browser engine
- App deployment / installation through enterprise web server / browser

- App look and feels like a native app
- App includes offline storage and access to native features
- App works with all form factors (large / medium / small / portrait / landscape)
- App loads fast / works offline
- App is easily discovered through a simple web search and can be installed on the user's home screen

#### **Ionic Framework**

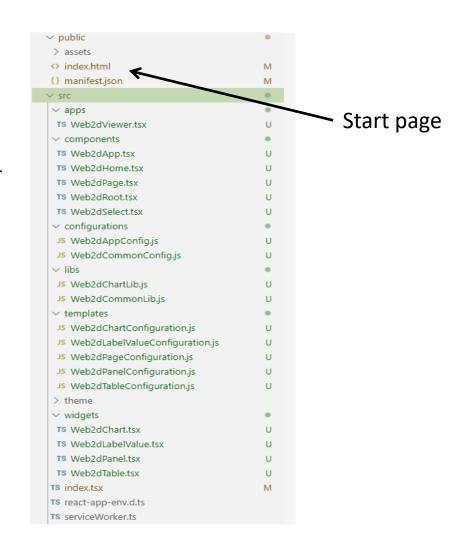
- Free to use and open source
- Platform agnostic (by using crossplatform app runtime <u>Capacitor</u>)
- SDK agnostic, including:
  - Angular
  - React
  - Vue.js
  - No SDK at all, just using plain Javascript
- Common code base
- Provides GUI toolkit
- Provides ready-to-use build workflows, including:
  - Native / Hybrid Apps
  - Progressive Web Apps



https://ionicframework.com/

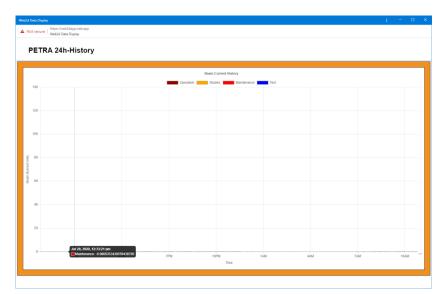
## **Project: Web Data Display**

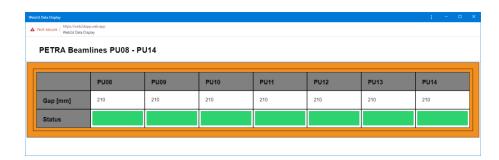
- Progressive Web App
- Implemented with Ionic / React
- Conceptual design is similar to jddd or Web2cToolkit
- Provides generic, customizable GUI widgets (e.g. Web2dPage, Web2dChart, Web2dTable, Web2dLabelValue, ...)
- Provides a run-time environment executing user – customizable GUI setups



#### A Simple Example: PETRA Overview







https://web2dapp.web.app

## **Preliminary Findings**

- Easy app coding (in particular for JAVA programmers)
- Easy app deployment
- Responsivity is a fundamental app design feature (i.e. size / position of widgets adapts flexibly to app size / aspect ratio)
  - → How to deal with detailed, fixed size / position operation panels without losing benefit of app responsivity?
- PWA approach definitely applicable for
  - Dashboard-like applications (e.g. status panels, archive data viewer, ...)
  - Logbook applications

**–** ...