

AngularJS and your new project



Disclaimer

- Only looking at relevant basic concepts.
- Not going into Angular 2.0 changes.
- There are many viable alternatives to Angular these days, find what best suits your team and needs!

Angular's goals

- to decouple DOM manipulation from application logic.
- to decouple the client side of an application from the server side.
- to provide structure for the journey of building an application.

General criticism

- Very opinionated (and getting more so)
- Locks you in
- Steep learning curve
- MVC
- Leaky abstraction

Two-way data binding



Angular structure

- MVC to separate presentation data and logic
 - Controllers - business logic behind view
 - Directives - Extend HTML
 - Providers (services & factories) - Sharable logic/models
 - HTML templates - view

More concepts

- Modules - containers for parts of our app
- \$ - Angular namespace
- scope - glue between models and views
- Injector - builds all the parts of the app and resolves dependencies

```
1 var demoApp = angular.module('demoApp', []);
2
3 demoApp.controller('TestCtrl', function ($scope, toolService) {
4     $scope.tools = toolService.getTools();
5 });
6
7
```

```
1 demoApp.service('toolService', function () {
2     var tools = [
3         {'name': 'Ionic',|
4         'snippet': 'Hybrid app framework based on Angular',
5         'foo': 'bar'},
6         {'name': 'Auriela',
7         'snippet': 'Kinda like Angular but with much simpler conventions',
8         'foo': 'foo'},
9         {'name': 'React.js',
10        'snippet': 'Library for building UI with components in a simpler, virtual DOM',
11        'foo': 'foo'},
12        {'name': 'Polymer.js',
13        'snippet': 'Easy way to create your own elements',
14        'foo': 'foo'}
15    ];
16
17    this.getTools = function () {
18        return tools;
19    };
20 });
21
22
```



```
1 <html ng-app="demoApp">
2   <head>
3     ...
4   </head>
5   <body ng-controller="TestCtrl">
6     <ul>
7       <li ng-repeat="tool in tools" ng-class='{ "current": tool.foo == "bar" }'>
8         {{tool.name}}: {{tool.snippet}}
9       </li>
10    </ul>
11    <my-first-directive></my-first-directive>
12  </body>
13 </html>
14
```

Common Mistakes

Bloat the controller

- Directives should manipulate the DOM
- Try to put business logic in services
- Don't use controller \$scope as a model

Use JQuery/manipulate DOM in controller

- Should always be in a directive
- Try to forget JQuery exists - it leads to hard to maintain, non-reusable code in Angular land
- Remember to reach for directives like ng-class and ng-click

Over-use \$watch

- \$watch can be a go-to shortcut at the beginning
- It's powerful and easy to abuse
- Too many watchers will give you hard-to-follow, hard-to-test code

```
<input type="text" ng-model="foo"/>
```

```
$scope.$watch('foo', function (val) {  
  switch(val) {  
    if(val === 'test') {  
      $scope.bar = 'foo is test';  
    } else {  
      $scope.bar = 'I do not understand';  
    }  
  }  
});
```

```
<input type="text" ng-model="foo" ng-change="updateBar(foo)"/>
```

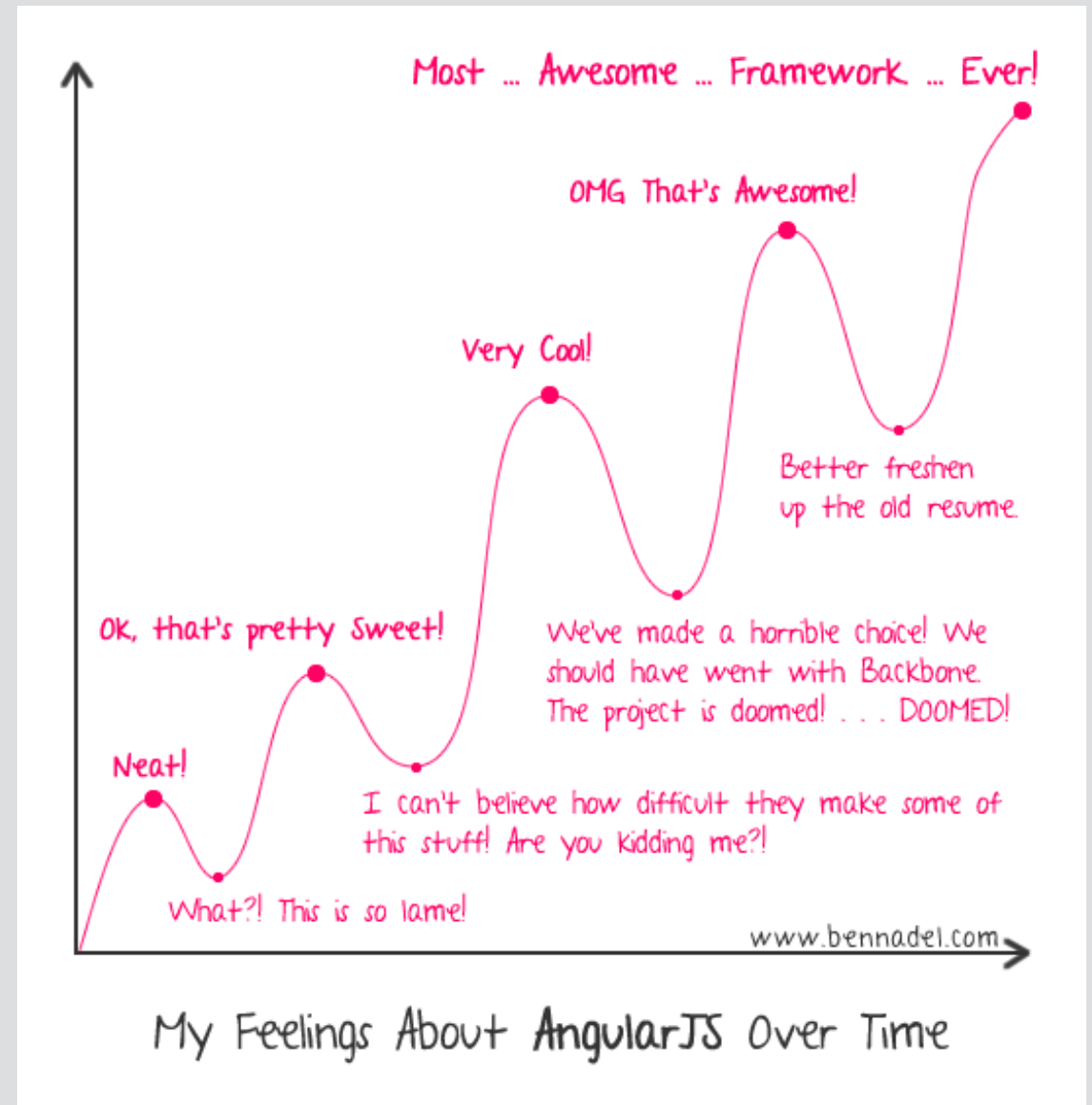
```
$scope.updateBar = function(foo) {  
  if(val === 'test') {  
    scope.bar = 'foo is testing me';  
  } else {  
    $scope.bar = 'I do not understand foo';  
  }  
};
```

\$scope-ception

- Scopes can be tricky, especially directive scopes
- Take the time to understand:
 - scope declarations in directives
 - inheritance between parent and child scopes in Angular
 - isolated scopes

<http://nathanleclaire.com/blog/2014/04/19/5-angularjs-antipatterns-and-pitfalls/>

Mastering
Angular takes
time, and that's
ok



Thanks :)