Angular Forms and Validation

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Deborah Kurata

- Independent Consultant | Developer | Mentor
  - Web (Angular), .NET
- Pluralsight Author
  - AngularJS Line of Business Applications
  - Angular Front to Back with Web API
  - Object-Oriented Programming Fundamentals in C#
- Microsoft MVP

Session Materials & Sample Code

https://github.com/DeborahK/ab2015

Rate Yourself on Forms and Validation

- New to Angular - no proficiency
- Just starting out - limited proficiency
- Doing it but not fully understanding it - working proficiency
- Been there, done that, can help others - full proficiency

Overview

- Building a data entry form
- Basic validation
- Validation messages
- Data Binding Options
- Custom validators
- Asynchronous validators
- Peek at Angular 2 Forms

Demo: Angular in Action

```
<form name="movieForm">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Edit Movie Information</legend>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

Creating a Form

It's just HTML

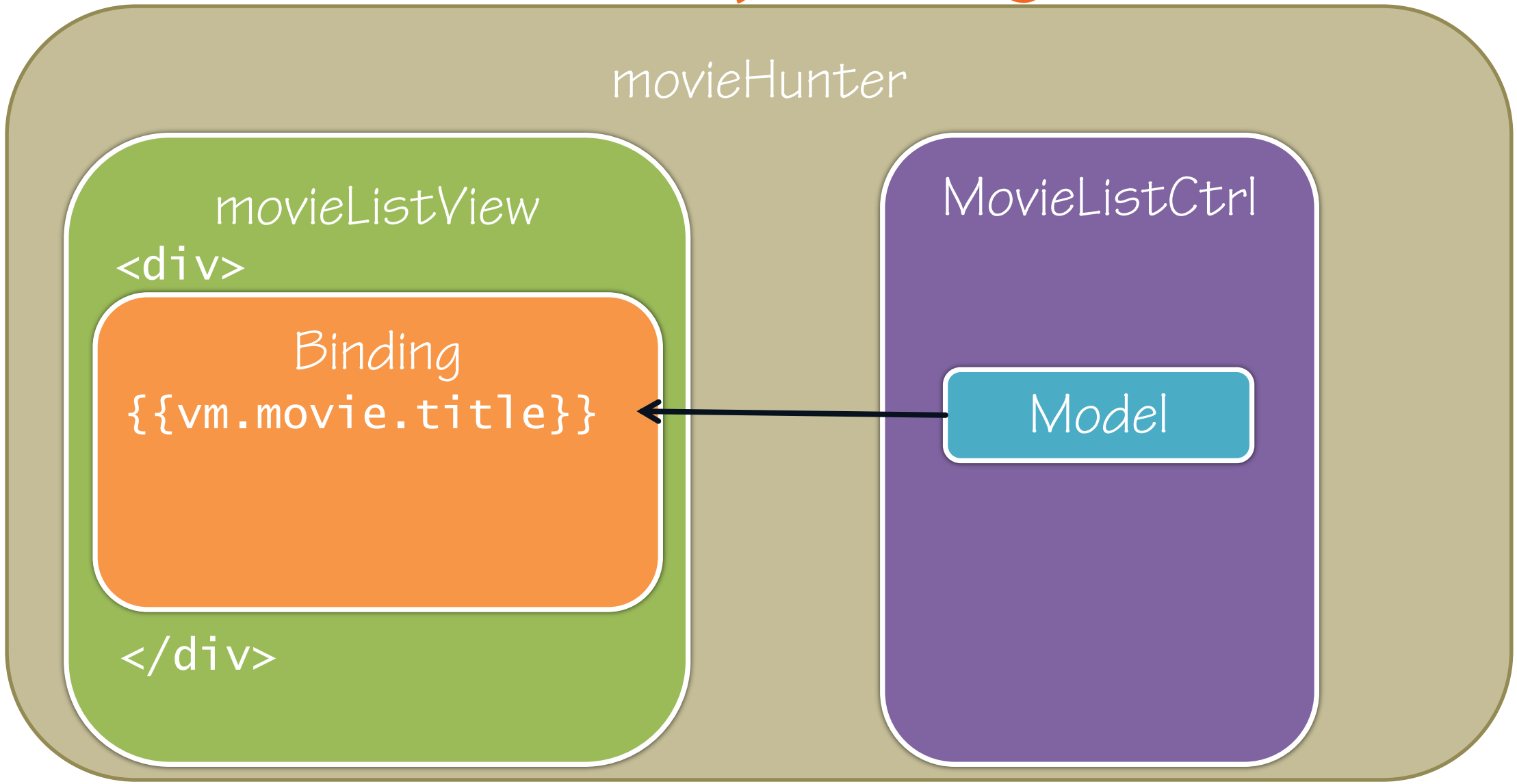
Adding Controls to a Form

```
<div>
  <label for="inputMovieTitle">
         Movie Title</label>
  <input id ="inputMovieTitle“
         type="text"
         placeholder="Movie Title" />
</div>
<div>
  <label for="inputDescription">
         Description</label>
  <textarea id="inputDescription“
            placeholder="Description"
            rows="3" />
</div>
```

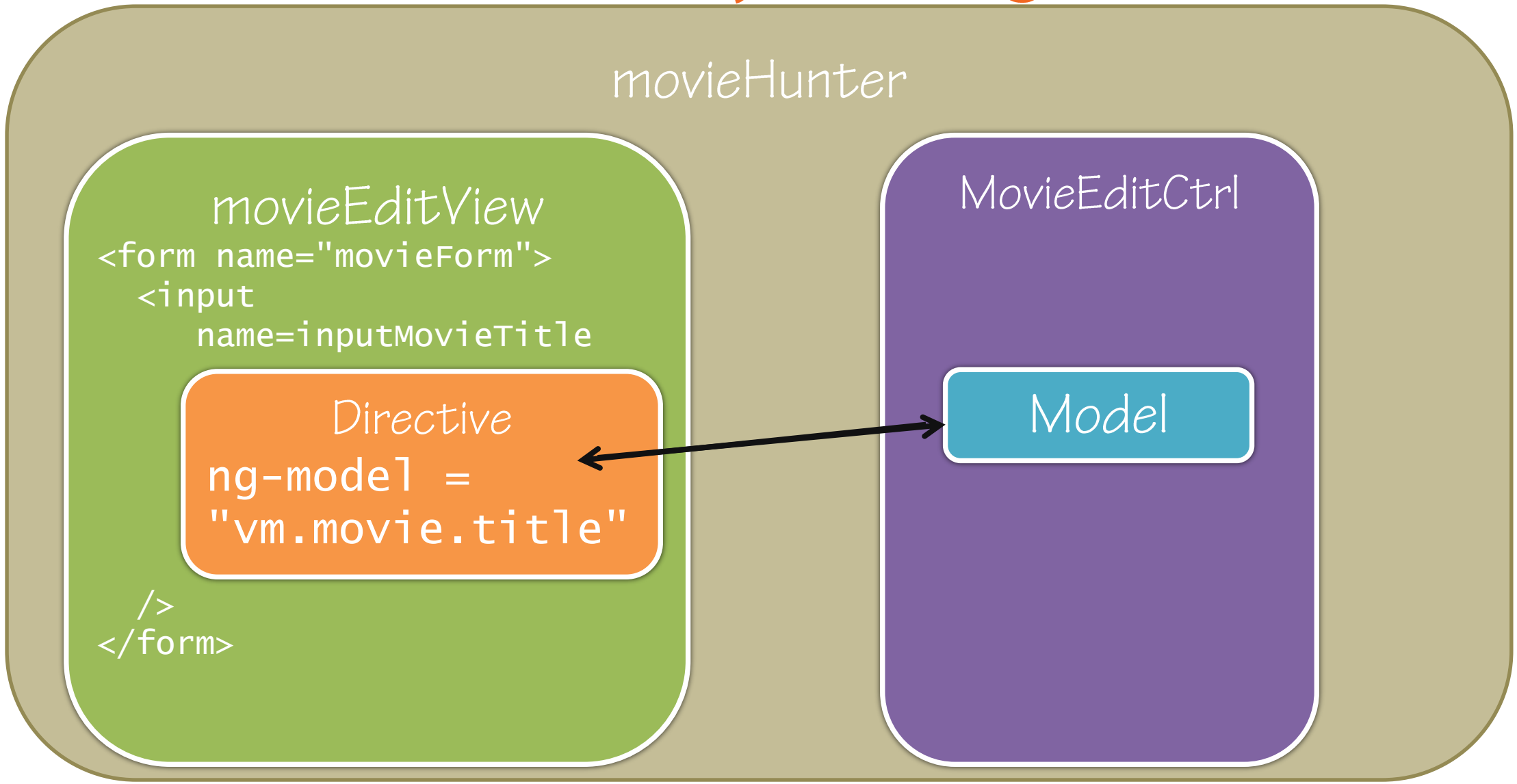
Data Binding

- One-Way Binding
  - View is the projection of the model
  - When the model changes, the view reflects the change
- Two-Way Binding
  - View and model data are synchronized
  - Changes to the model are reflected in the view
  - Changes in the view are reflected in the model

One-Way Binding



Two-Way Binding



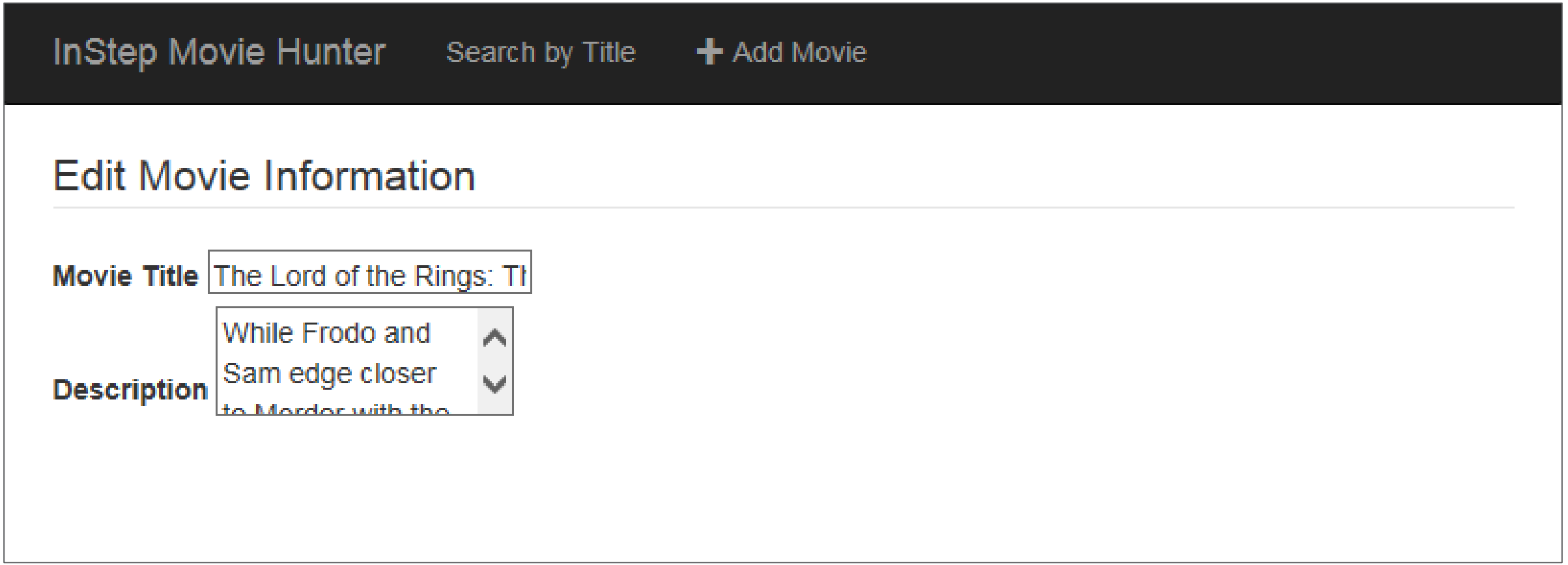
Two-Way Binding

```
<div>
  <label for="inputMovieTitle">
         Movie Title</label>
  <input id ="inputMovieTitle“
         type="text"
         placeholder="Movie Title" />
</div>
<div>
  <label for="inputDescription">
         Description</label>
  <textarea id="inputDescription“
            placeholder="Description"
            rows="3" />
</div>
```

Two-Way Binding

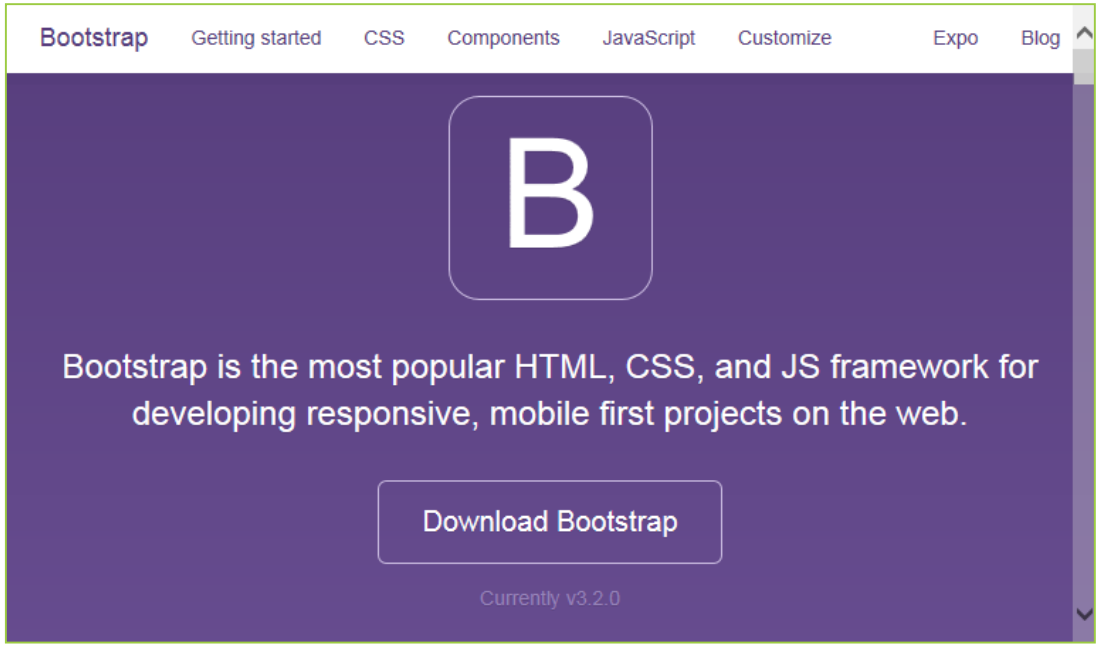
```
<div>
  <label for="inputMovieTitle">
         Movie Title</label>
  <input id ="inputMovieTitle“
         type="text"
         placeholder="Movie Title"
         ng-model="vm.movie.title" />
</div>
<div>
  <label for="inputDescription">
         Description</label>
  <textarea id="inputDescription“
            placeholder="Description"
            rows="3"
            ng-model="vm.movie.description" />
</div>
```

The Result


InStep Movie Hunter
Search by Title
+ Add Movie
Edit Movie Information
Movie Title
The Lord of the Rings: Tl
Description
While Frodo and
Sam edge closer

Bootstrap

- Framework for prettifying Web pages
- Developed by Twitter
  - http://getbootstrap.com/
- Large third party community



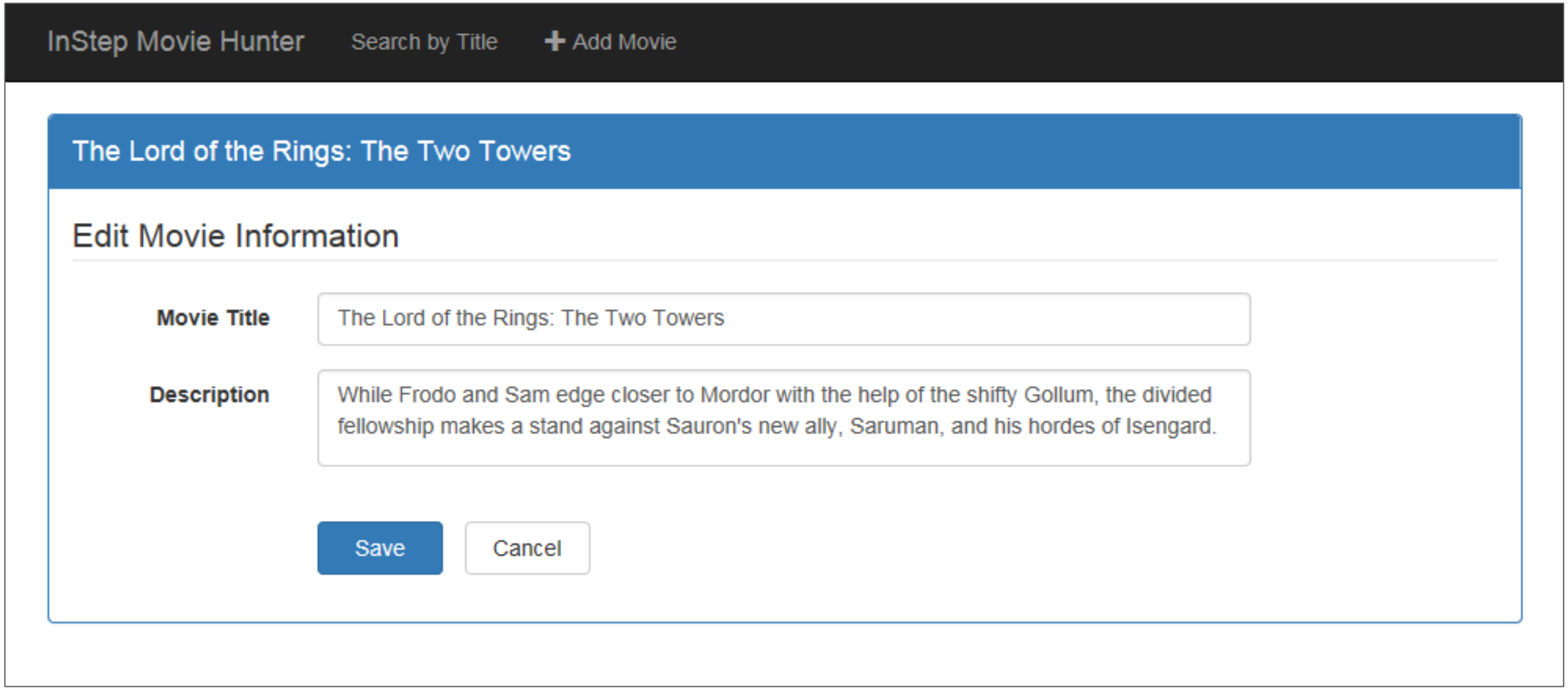
Bootstrap Grid System

.col-md-1	.col-md-1	.col-md-1	.col-md-1	.col-md-1	.col-md-1	.col-md-1	.col-md-1	.col-md-1	.col-md-1	.col-md-1	.col-md-1
.col-md-8								.col-md-4			
.col-md-4				.col-md-4				.col-md-4			
.col-md-6						.col-md-6					

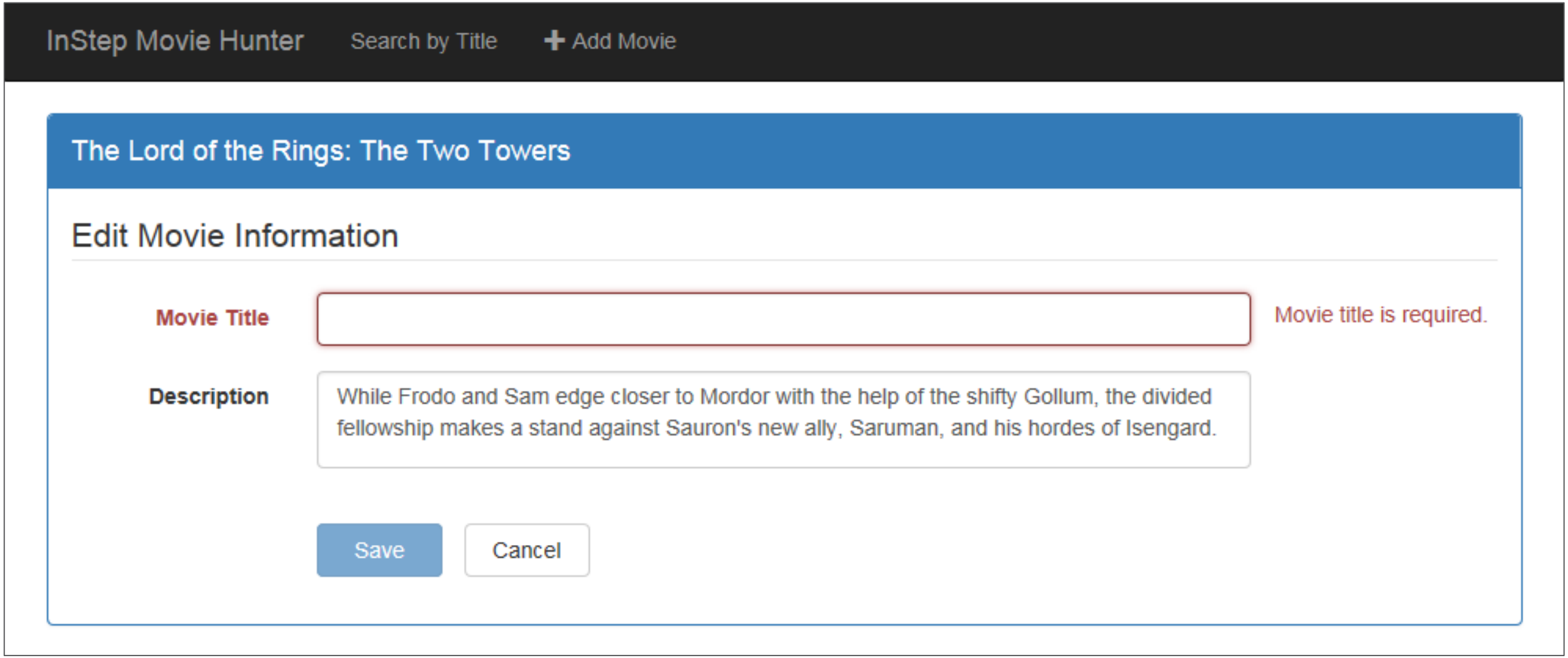
Bootstrap Styles

```
<div class="form-group">
  <label class="col-md-2 control-label"
         for="inputMovieTitle">
         Movie Title</label>
  <div class="col-md-6">
      <input class="form-control"
         id ="inputMovieTitle"
         type="text"
         placeholder="Movie Title"
         ng-model="vm.movie.title" />
  </div>
</div>
```

The Result


InStep Movie Hunter
Search by Title
+ Add Movie
The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers
Edit Movie Information
Movie Title
The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers
Description
While Frodo and Sam edge closer to Mordor with the help of the shifty Gollum, the divided fellowship makes a stand against Sauron's new ally, Saruman, and his hordes of Isengard.
Save
Cancel

Validation


InStep Movie Hunter
Search by Title
+ Add Movie
The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers
Edit Movie Information
Movie Title
Movie title is required.
Description
While Frodo and Sam edge closer to Mordor with the help of the shifty Gollum, the divided fellowship makes a stand against Sauron's new ally, Saruman, and his hordes of Isengard.
Save
Cancel

Prepare the form

Ensure the form has a name

Set the novalidate attribute

```
<form class="form-horizontal"
      name="movieForm">
      novalidate>
```

Angular Validation Techniques

Type Attribute	`type="email"`
Required Attribute	`required`
HTML Validation Attributes	`min = "1"`
Angular Validation Attributes	`ng-minlength = "3"`
Custom Angular Directive	`my-directive=""`

Validation Attributes

```
<div class="col-md-8">
    <input class="form-control"
           id="inputMovieTitle"
           name="inputMovieTitle"
           type="text"
           placeholder="Title (required)"
           ng-model="vm.movie.title"
           required
           ng-minlength="3"
           ng-maxlength="50" />
</div>
```

Marking Invalid Elements

ngClass Directive

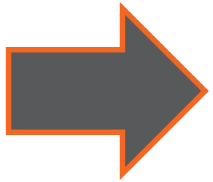
Bootstrap Style

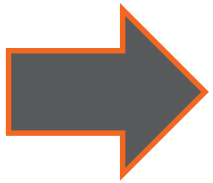
Angular Validation States

```
<div class="form-group"
     ng-class="{'has-error':
                movieForm.inputMovieTitle.$invalid &&
                movieForm.inputMovieTitle.$dirty}">

</div>
```

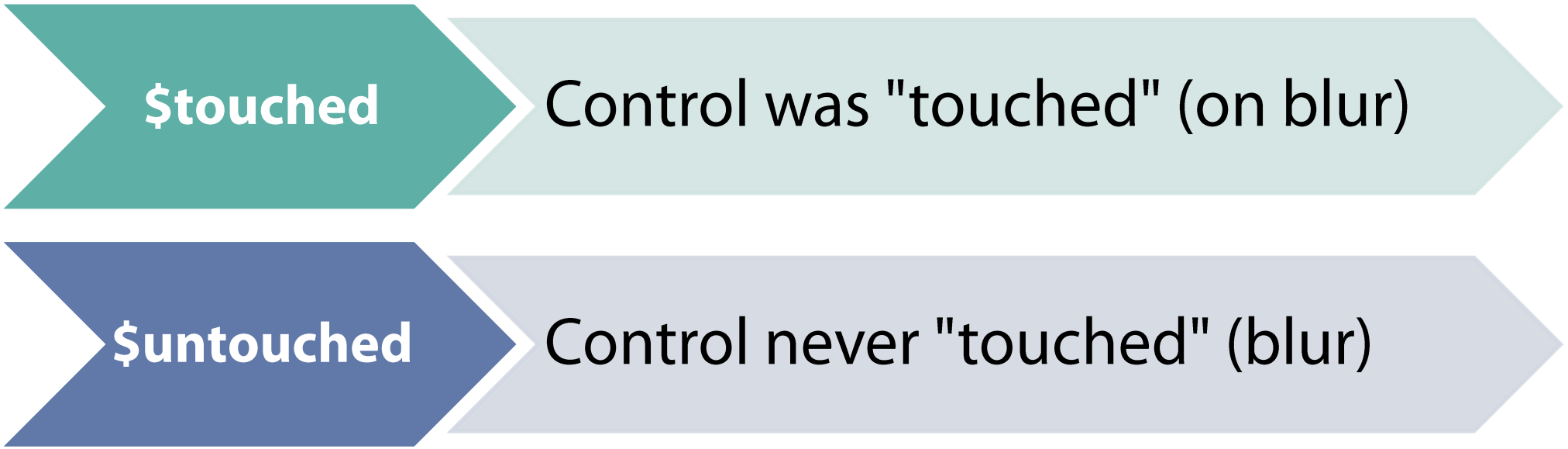
Angular Validation States



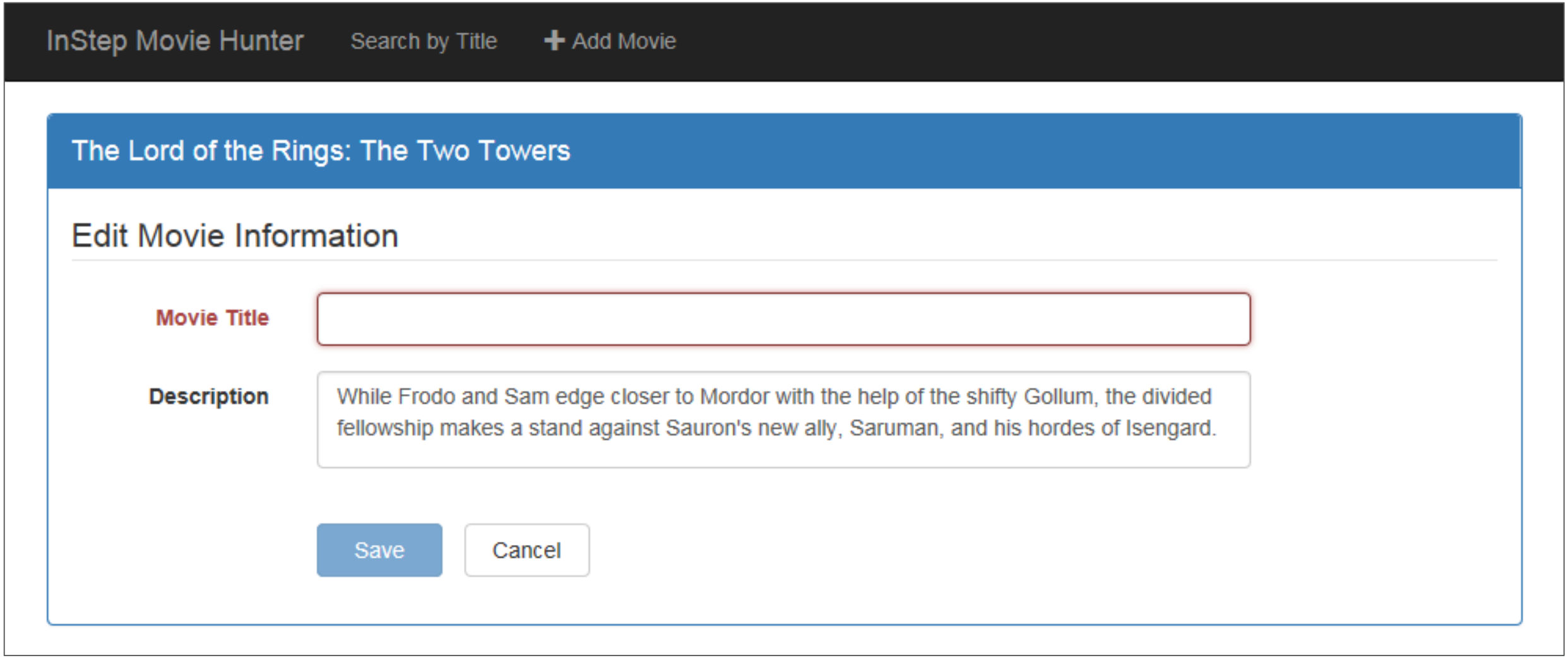


$pristine	Value has not been changed
$dirty	Value has been changed
$valid	Value is valid
$invalid	Value is invalid
$error	All validations and whether they are valid or invalid

Angular Validation States: New in 1.3



Validation States



ngMessages: New in 1.3

Requires	ng-Messages	ng-Message
• angular-messages • ngMessages	• Shows or hides messages • Similar to a switch or case statement	• Defines specific cases

```
<span class="help-block">
  <span ng-messages="movieForm.inputMovieTitle.$error">
    <span ng-message="required">Movie title is required</span>
    <span ng-message="minlength">Must be at least 3 characters</span>
    <span ng-message="maxlength">Cannot exceed 50 characters</span>
  </span>
</span>
```

Demo: Forms & Validation

Creating a Messages File

validationMessages.html

```
<span ng-message="required">Value is required</span>
<span ng-message="minlength">Value is too small</span>
<span ng-message="maxlength">Value is too long</span>
```

movieEditView.html

```
<span ng-messages="movieForm.inputMovieTitle.$error"
      ng-messages-include="app/validationMessages.html">
</span>
```

Demo: Messages File

Data Binding Options

- By default, validation occurs as the user types
- Use ng-model-options to change when the binding occurs
  - {updateOn: 'blur'}
  - {debounce: 1500}
  - {updateOn: 'submit'}

Demo: Binding Options

Rolling Back Changes to a Field

- If using ng-model-options, the model is not changed as the user types
- Changes to a field can be rolled back.
- Use ng-model-options to change when the binding occurs
  - ng-keyup="vm.cancelEntry(movieForm. inputMovieTitle, $event)"
  - vm.cancelEntry = **function** (control, event) {
    if (event.keyCode == 27) {
    control.$rollbackViewValue();
    }
    };

Demo: Rolling Back Changes

Custom Validator

- Developed as a directive
- ngModel.$validators
  - Collection of validators
  - Returns true/false
- Used as an attribute

```
directorMinRatingValidator.js

function directorMinRatingValidator() {
  . . .
}
```

```
movieEditView.html
<input  id="inputStarRating"
        type="number"
        ng-model="vm.movie.starRating"
        required
        director-min-rating-validator="vm.movie.director"
        min="1"
        max="5"/>
```

Demo: Custom Validators

Asynchronous Validator

- Developed as a directive
- ngModel.$asyncValidators
  - Collection of validators
  - Returns promise
- Used as an attribute

```
duplicateTitleValidator.js

function duplicateTitleValidator () {
   . . .
}
```

```
movieEditView.html
<input  id="inputMovieTitle"
        type="text"
        ng-model="vm.movie.title"
        required
        duplicate-title-validator="vm.movie.movieId"
        ng-minlength="3"
        ng-maxlength="50"/>
```

Demo: Async Validators

Angular 2 Forms

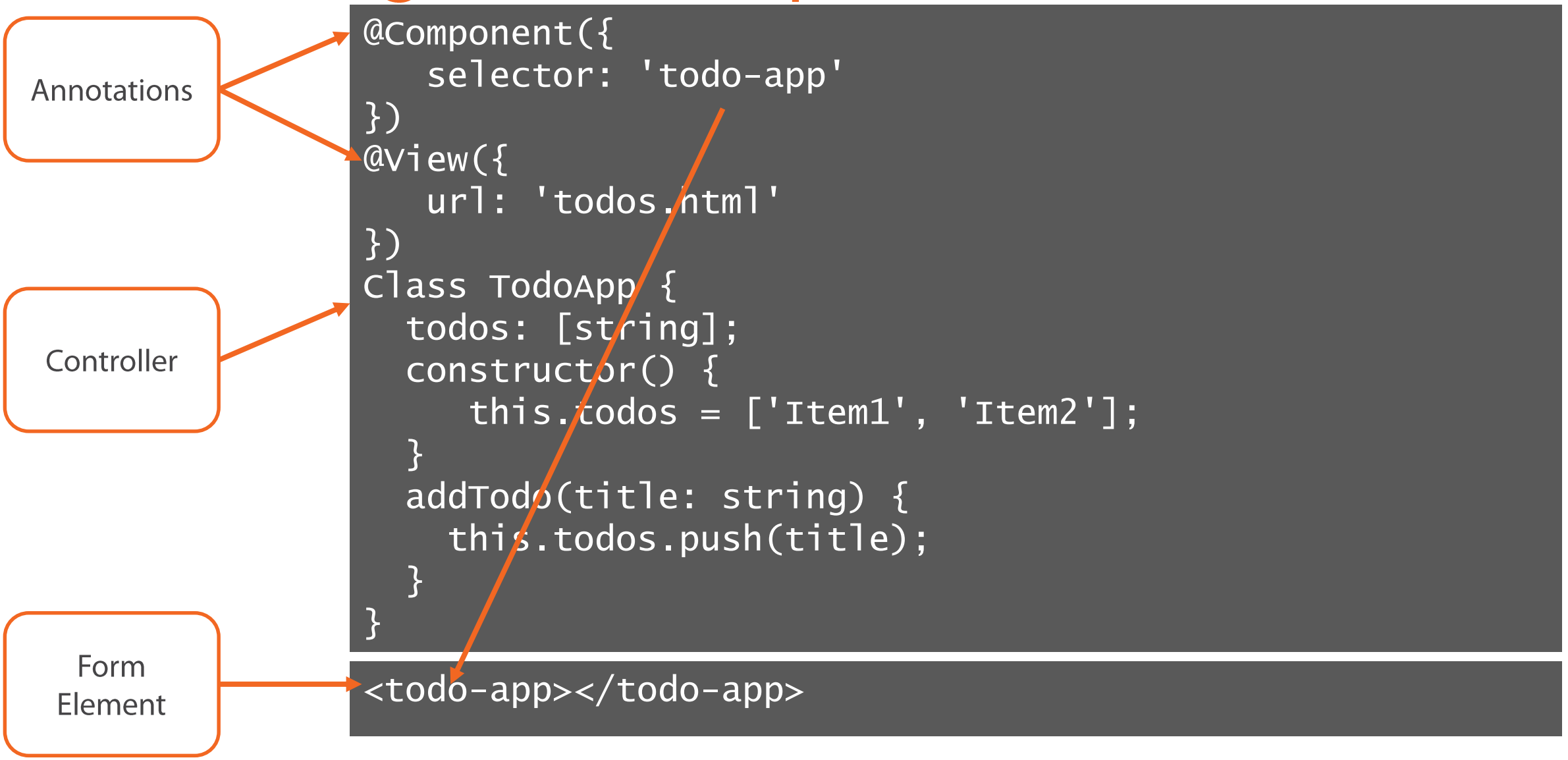
https://angular.io/

Angular 2 Forms

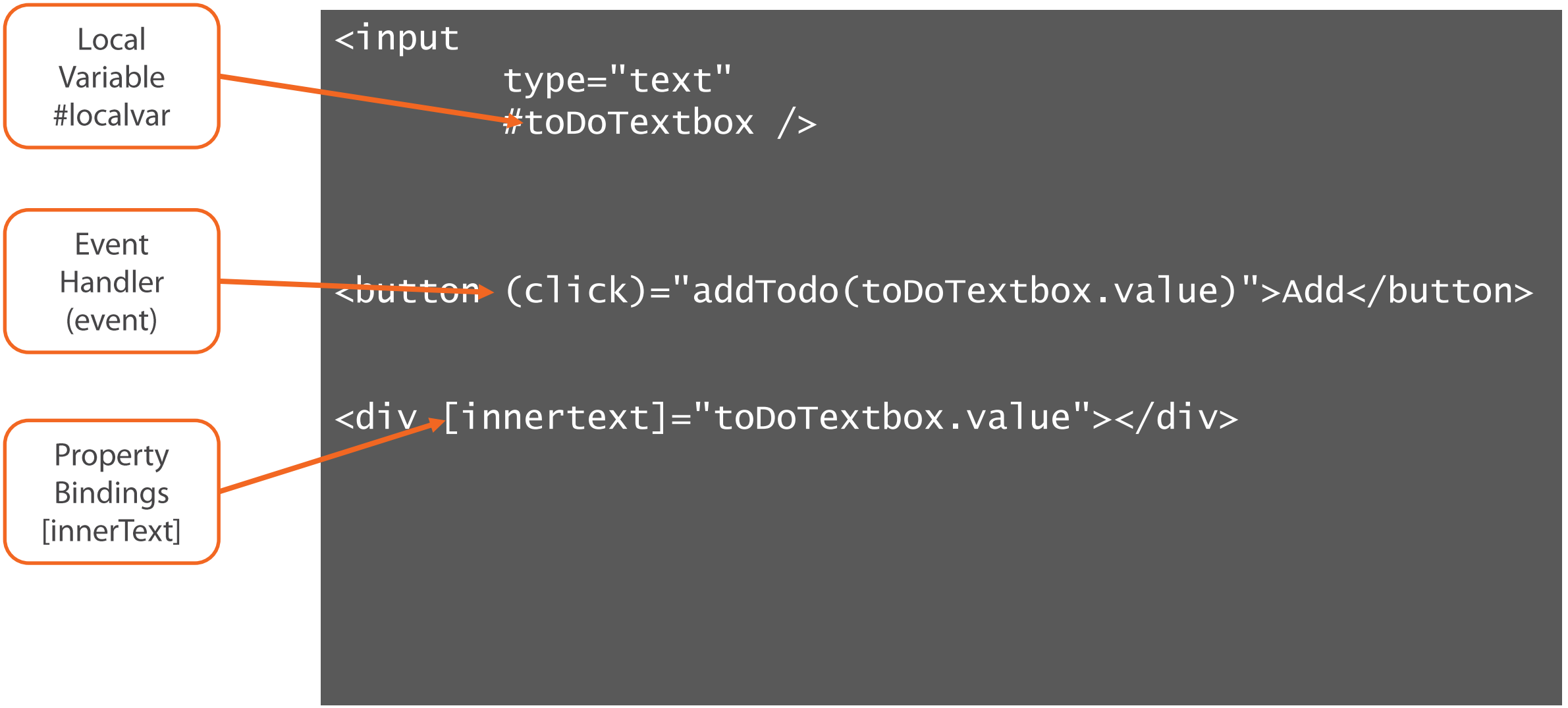
- Will be an external module
  - Like ngMessage and ngResource
- Three techniques

Imperative Driven	Data Driven	Template Driven
Built w/Code	Automatic	Similar to 1.x

Angular 2: Component Definition



Angular 2: View



Imperative Driven: Controls & Validators

```
var builder = new FormBuilder();

// create a control group
var group = builder.group({
   firstName: ["Chris", Validators.required],
   lastName: ["Smith", Validators.required],
   address: [""]
});


// check states
Var isValid = group.valid;
Var isChanged = group.dirty;
Var numErrors = group.errors.length;
```

Example: Component

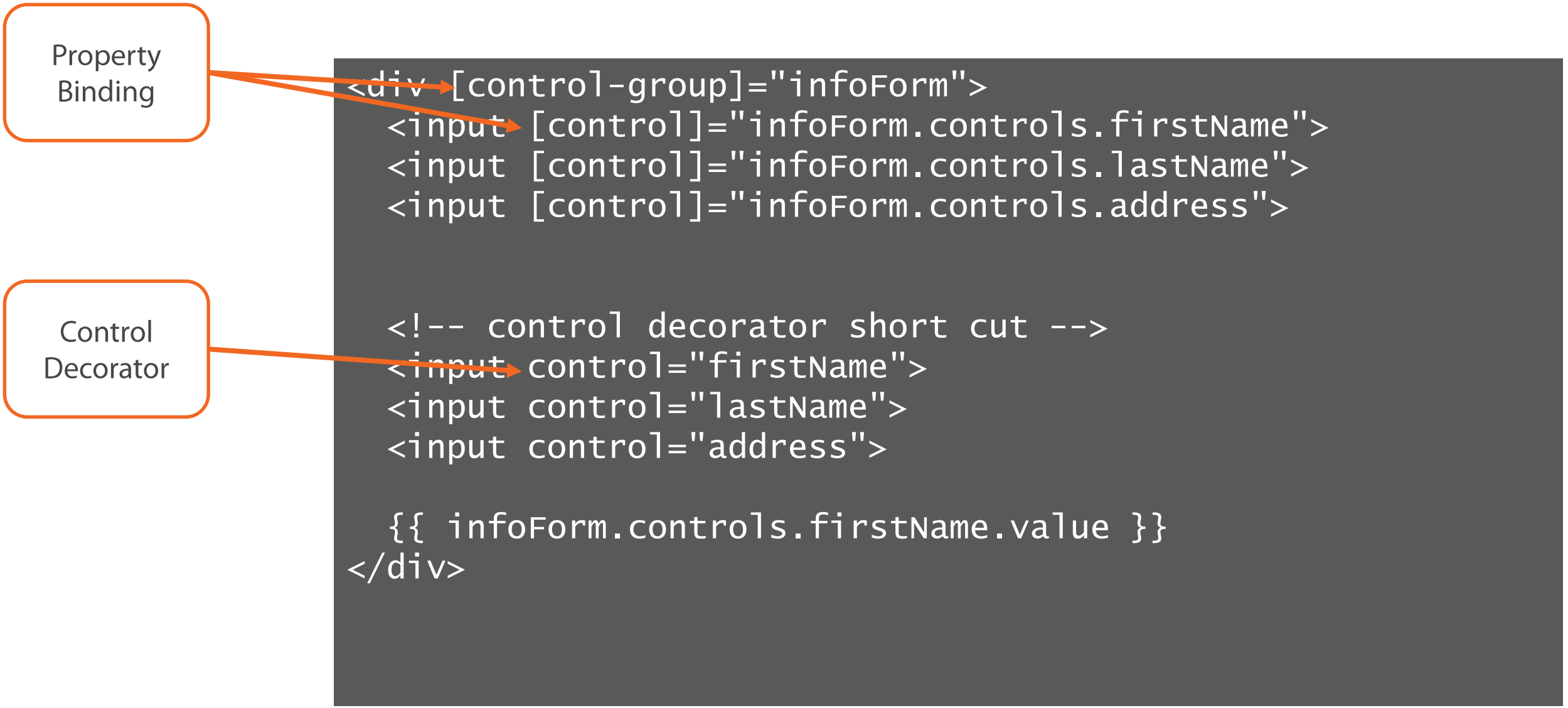
```
import {bootstrap, Component, View} from 'angular2/angular2';
import {FormBuilder, Validators, FormDirectives, ControlGroup} from 'angular2/forms';

@Component({ selector: 'form-app', injectables: [FormBuilder]})
@View({ url: 'form-app.html', directives: [FormDirectives]})

class FormApp {
   infoForm: ControlGroup;

   constructor(builder: FormBuilder) {
     this.infoForm = builder.group({
        firstName: ["", Validators.required],
        lastName: ["", Validators.required],
        address: [""]
     });
   }
}
```

Example: View



Take Away

- Use client-side validation where possible
- Display friendly and helpful messages
- Use directives to create custom & async validation
- Keep an eye on Angular 2 progress

Thank You!

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- https://github.com/DeborahK/ab2015