Controller Patterns

John Papa http://johnpapa.net Twitter: @john_papa





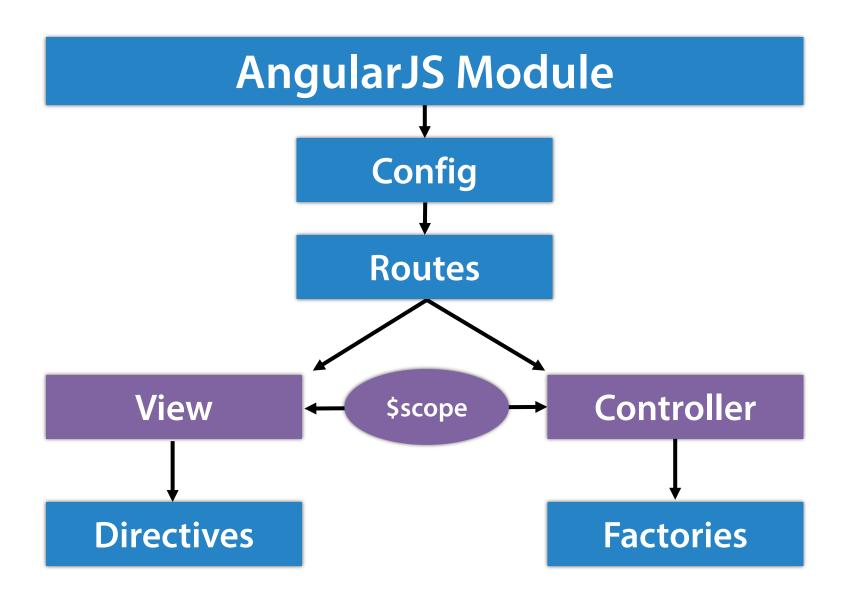
Controllers Drive AngularJS

Role of a Linking Controller Classic vs New \$scope Resolvers Why Dots Matter **Testing Nesting**

What Does the Controller Do?



Controller Drives the Presentation



JavaScript Constructors

```
// JavaScript Constructor
function Avenger() {
    this.name = 'Captain America';
    this.prop = 'shield';
}
```

Creates a new instance of Avenger

```
var capt = new Avenger();
```

Controllers and Constructors

```
angular
    .module('app.avengers')
    .controller('Avenger', Avenger);

// "Classic" $scope syntax
function Avenger($scope) {
    $scope.name = 'Captain America';
    $scope.prop = 'shield';
}
```

```
// "Controller As" syntax
function Avenger() {
    var vm = this;
    vm.name = 'Captain America';
    vm.prop = 'shield';
}
```

Beyond Binding

\$apply \$evalAsync

\$digest \$id

\$watch \$new

\$broadcast \$on

\$destroy \$parent

\$emit \$root

\$eval \$watchCollection

Additional Controller \$scope features

Which Name Takes Precedence?

Dots Provide Context

Considerations

Dots provide clarity

Easier to reach the parent scope with \$parent.\$parent chaining

Remove unexpected behavior

Controller As and Testing



Classic \$scope or Controller As



Controller Patterns

Syntactical Sugar

Dots help avoid pitfalls in bindings

Use \$scope members wisely (consider a factory)

Capture "this" to avoid context issues

var vm = this;

Define Controller

in a View using ng-controller

In a Route

Resolve functions in the routes work with both

Resolve can be injected into Controller only when using Controller As