

# Creating Forms: connecting user inputs to data

**Vaadin Flow** 



#### Vaadin training set

#### **Vaadin Foundation**

- Introduction
- Layouting
- Creating Forms
- Data Lists with Grid
- Routing and Navigation
- Theming and Styling Applications



## Agenda

- Part 1:
  - Data Binding in Flow
- Part 2:
  - Validation
  - Conversion
- Part 3:
  - Custom Field



## Forms and Data Binding, Part 1

Data binding in Flow



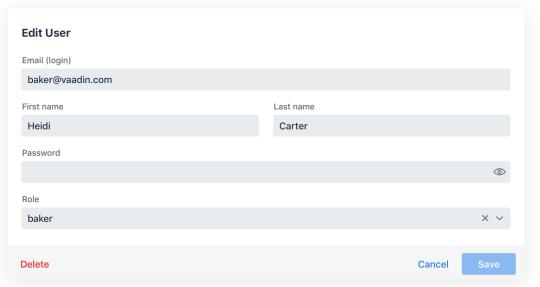
#### This is a form

#### **Edit User**



#### How to connect data to the form?

```
public class User extends AbstractEntity {
  private String email;
  private String passwordHash;
  private String firstName;
  private String lastName;
  private String role;
  ...
  // Properties need getters and setter
}
```



#### Vocabulary

#### **Fields**

A **Field** is a Vaadin component that holds a **value**, for example the TextField:

class TextField extends Component implements HasValue

First Name

Heidi

#### Vocabulary

#### **Properties**

A JavaBean **Property**, like **email** for the User class this example, is a named attribute that can be accessed by a public getter and a setter.

The naming of the methods must follow the JavaBean specification:

- "get" + property name and "set" + property name
- Special case for getters of boolean type properties: "is" + name, like "boolean isRunning()"

```
public class User extends AbstractEntity {
  private String email;
  public String getEmail() {
    return email;
  }
  public void setEmail(String email) {
    this.email = email;
  }
  ...
```

#### All Fields implement HasValue<E, V>

V specifies the type of the data Value La V es la más importante de las dos

• String for TextField, Integer for IntegerField...

**E** specifies the type of the value change Event

More about this soon

#### HasValue < E, V > has 3 methods:

```
V getValue()
void setValue(V value)

Registration addValueChangeListener(ValueChangeListener<? super E> listener)
```

#### Value change events

Es la E de HasValue<E, V>

A Field's value can change in two different ways:

- Calling setValue() in Java code directly or indirectly
- The user changes the value on the client side

You can react to the changing value using a **value change listener**:

```
TextField textField = new TextField();

textField.addValueChangeListener(event -> {
   if(event.isFromClient()) {
        System.out.println(event.getValue());
   }
});
```

Truco para saber si ha sido el usuario el que ha cambiado el valor

# **Data Binding**

#### Data Binding with Binder

Vaadin's data binding system is designed for **reading and writing application data** from UI components

Data can be bound to individual fields or forms containing multiple fields, and to listing components. Listing components are discussed separately, as they have their own API. (como grids)

At the core of the form data binding is a helper class called **Binder**, which takes care of reading values from the business object(s) and showing them in field Components

#### **Binder**

Binder binds the business data to field components (anything that implements HasValue)

- Handles data conversion and validation
- Like HasValue, the Binder is always typed to the backing bean:

Binder<Person> binds fields to a Person object

## **Initializing Binder**

You can instantiate Binder with or without class parameter

```
//Option 1: Doesn't support binding with property names.
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>();

//Option 2: Scan class for properties so you can bind by String property name.
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>(Person.class)
```

# Creating Bindings with Binder

#### **Creating Bindings**

A **Binding** describes how to move data between a Field and a data object's Property

A shared Binder is used to create bindings between each Property in a bean class and its corresponding Field:

There are multiple ways to create Bindings, both manual and automatic.

#### Bindings with method references

La forma más simple

#### Bindings with the property name

```
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>(Person.class);
TextField titleField = new TextField();
binder.forField(titleField).bind("title"); // Alternative bind method for Java beans
```

Requiere pasar la clase del objeto como parámetro al constructor del Binder

## Shorthands for creating bindings

```
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>(Person.class);
TextField titleField = new TextField();

// Shorthand for cases without extra configuration
binder.bind(titleField, Person::getTitle, Person::setTitle); Esta forma es type safe

// or with property name
binder.bind(titleField, "title"); En tiempo de compilación no sabemos si la propiedad "title" existe. No es type safe
```

No siempre es posible usar la forma corta. Usando esta forma no pueden añadirse validadores ni conversores

#### Binding with a lambda expression

Otra forma de crear bindings

## Bindings with an anonymous class

```
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>(Person.class);
TextField titleField = new TextField();
// With explicit callback interface instances (Java 7 style)
binder.bind(titleField,
       new ValueProvider<Person, String>() {
           @Override
           public String apply(Person person) {
               return person.getTitle();
       new Setter<Person, String>() {
           @Override
           public void accept(Person person, String title) {
               person.setTitle(title);
       });
```

Otra forma más compleja (más explícita) de crear bindings

#### Automatic binding: bindInstanceFields

Automatic binding uses the field variable name or the @Propertyld annotation

Necesario pasar el nombre de la clase como parámetro al constructor. Muy útil para formularios muy grandes

#### Bindings for nested properties

What if we have a complex object with other beans as its Properties?

```
public class Person {
    private String name;
    private Address address;
    ...
}

public class Address {
    private String street;
    ...
}
```

#### Bind nested properties with Strings

Bind nested properties with the "property.subproperty" syntax

```
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>(Person.class);

TextField streetField = new TextField();

private String name;
private Address address;

// this works if you can guarantee "address" is not null
binder.forField(streetField).bind("address.street");

...
}

public class Person {

private String name;
private Address address;

...
}
```

private String street;

Necesario pasar el nombre de la clase como parámetro al constructor. Si address es null, obtenemos el error NullPointerException

#### Bind nested properties with a lambda

```
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>(Person.class);

TextField streetField = new TextField();

binder.forField(streetField).bind(
    person -> person.getAddress().getStreet(),
        (person, street) -> person.getAddress().setStreet(street));

// Still not safe if getAddress() can return null

public class Person {
    private String name;
    private Address address;
    ...
}
```

#### Bind nested properties with a lambda

Bind nested properties with the a lambda expression and a null check

```
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>(Person.class);
                                                                             public class Person {
TextField streetField = new TextField();
                                                                                private String name;
                                                                                private Address address;
binder.forField(streetField).bind(
       person -> {
           if(person.getAddress()==null){
               return null;
           }else{
                                                                              public class Address {
                return person.getAddress().getStreet();
                                                                               private String street;
       (person, street) -> {
           if(person.getAddress()!=null){
               person.getAddress().setStreet(street);
           // should we create a new Address object otherwise?
                                                                   Dependerá de la lógica de negocio
       });
```

# Reading and writing with Binder

**Buffered or immediate** 

Cómo ocurre la lectura y la escritura con Binder: immediate y buffered



## Immediate reading and writing values

You can use *unbuffered* binding by calling binder.setBean. This means changes to the fields are updating the bound properties immediately. Fields are also updated with initial values when **setBean** is called.

No se usa mucho

## Buffered reading and writing values

Using a binder's **readBean** reads the values once and does not hold a reference to the bean. Field values are only committed back to the properties when a binder. **writeBean** call is made.

```
person = getPerson();
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>();

// Buffered binding.
binder.readBean(person); // Reads values from the Person instance to the binder and updates fields
Button saveButton = new Button("Save", event -> {
    try {
        binder.writeBean(person); // Writes values from the binder to the person object
        // After successful writeBean, binder.hasChanges() == false
    } catch (ValidationException e) {
        // Could not save the values; check exceptions for each bound field
    }
});
```

La forma más normal de usarlo, con interacción del usuario, por ejemplo al pulsar un botón...

#### Writing as draft

Binder.writeBeanAsDraft(bean) allows you to write out changes despite some fields not passing validation - this is useful when you want to allow saving of an incomplete form ("save and resume later"). We'll return to writing as draft after discussing validation and conversion later.

Writing as draft doesn't reset the changed bindings list - binder.hasChanges() still returns "true" if changes occurred before writing.

#### Reset buffered value

Buffered writing allows you to cancel edits by calling binder.readBean again instead of writeBean

```
person = getPerson(); // person is defined as a class member variable
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>();
// Buffered binding.
binder.readBean(person); // Reads values from the Person instance to the binder
Button saveButton = new Button("Save", event -> {
  try {
       binder.writeBean(person); // Writes values from the binder to the person object
  } catch (ValidationException e) {
       // Could not save the values; check exceptions for each bound field
});
Button cancelButton = new Button("Cancel", event ->
       binder.readBean(person)
      // person has not been updated before writeBean -> revert changes in Fields back
);
```

## Binding to a non-Field

Sometimes you might need to bind data to a non-field Component, like a Span or a Paragraph, to make the data read-only.

Name

Testproduct

Price

100.00

Available

2019-06-05

## Binding with ReadOnlyHasValue

The method bindReadOnly also works for normal Fields.

```
Div nameText = new Div();
ReadOnlyHasValue<String> name = new ReadOnlyHasValue<>(text -> nameText.setText(text));
binder.forField(name).bindReadOnly(Person::getName);
// or the same thing:
binder.forField(name).bind(Person::getName, null); setter a null
```

#### Summary, Part 1

- Fields and Properties
- Binder
- Creating Bindings
- Reading and writing values with Bunder
  - Buffered (immediate)
  - Unbuffered



# Creating Forms, Part 2

**Validation and Conversion** 



### Recap, part 1

- Fields and Properties
- Creating Bindings to Components with Binder
- Reading and writing data

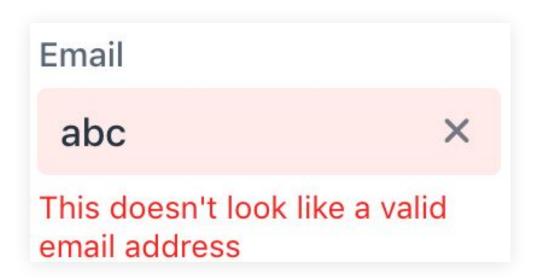


# Validation

#### Validation

Validation is used to check that a field's value satisfies defined formats and other input criteria.

When validation fails, a field will turn red and display an error message next to it.



#### Validation with a Validator

Use .withValidator to configure a Validator for the binding you start with binder.forField

Validator es el interface que Vaadin proporciona, y .withValidator() el método

#### Validation with a Validator

Use .withValidator to configure a Validator for the binding you start with binder.forField

#### Notes:

- The binder.forField method call starts a **builder** where the field definition is followed by any number of configuration calls and the .bind call finalizes the chain.
  - You can specify multiple validators by chaining them!
- The shorthand method binder.bind(emailField, Person::getEmail, Person::setEmail) doesn't allow setting Validators

#### Validation with a lambda

You can specify your custom inline implementation for a validator easily with a lambda expression and a String error message:

### The asRequired shorthand

The asRequired shorthand binding method allows for a convenient "not null / empty" validation check, and it also enables the Field's required indicator

```
binder.forField(titleField)
    // Shorthand for requiring the field to be non-empty
    .asRequired("Every employee must have a title")
    .bind(Person::getTitle, Person::setTitle);
```

#### The Validator API

The Validator interface works with two helper interfaces: ValueContext and ValidationResult

```
public interface Validator<T>{
    @Override
    ValidationResult apply(T value, ValueContext context);
}
```

#### ValidationResult

ValidationResult is an interface; you can implement your own subclass if you want to pass additional information. The ValidationResult's "isError" method determines whether the validation passes or fails.

```
public class MyValidator implements Validator<String> {
    @Override
    public ValidationResult apply(String value, ValueContext context){
        if(value == null || value.length() < 3) {
            return ValidationResult.error("String is too short");
        } else {
            return ValidationResult.ok();
        }
    }
}</pre>
```

Los valores por defecto son ValidationResult.ok() y ValidationResult.error(), pero se puede implementar como lo necesitemos

#### ValueContext

The ValueContext object that comes as an input to the apply method of the Validator interface is populated by the framework. It contains information about the binding target and current Locale.

```
public class ValueContext implements Serializable {
   private final Component component;
   private final HasValue<?, ?> hasValue;
   private final Locale locale; Nos puede servir para saber si los decimales son puntos o comas...
   ...
```

#### **Built-in validators**

BeanValidator

BigDecimalRangeValidator

BigIntegerRangeValidator

ByteRangeValidator

DateRangeValidator

DateTimeRangeValidator

DoubleRangeValidator

EmailValidator

FloatRangeValidator

IntegerRangeValidator

LongRangeValidator

RangeValidator

RegexpValidator

ShortRangeValidator

StringLengthValidator

### Custom validation result handling

You can direct Binder to use a specific component to display any error messages. By default, the error message is displayed next to the Field.

```
Paragraph errorHolder = new Paragraph();
binder.forField(nameField).asRequired().withStatusLabel(errorHolder).bind("name");
binder.forField(emailField).asRequired().withStatusLabel(errorHolder).bind("email");
```

### Fully customized validation error handler

You can have even more control over the validation error handling by using .withValidationStatusHandler

Cuando withStatusLabel no es suficiente. Se pueden hacer error handlers más complejos, como notificaciones, o limpiar el mensaje de error cuando la validación es correcta

### Binder-level validation result handling

Instead of adding status label or status handler to each field, you can also add one to the Binder

```
binder.setStatusLabel(errMsg);
binder.setValidationStatusHandler(status -> {
     // do something for every validation status change
});
```

#### Binder-level validator

Add validator to binder directly to do cross-field validation. Binder-level validation will only run if field level validation has passed.

## Bean Validation (JSR-303)

Use the BeanValidationBinder for Bean validation. Validation messages are read from ValidationMessages.properties resource bundle file

```
public class Product {
    @NotBlank(message = "{bakery.name.required}")
    @Size(max = 255, message = "{bakery.field.max.length}")
    private String name;
}

TextField name = new TextField();
BeanValidationBinder<Product> binder = new BeanValidationBinder<>(Product.class);
binder.bind(nameField, "name");

Hay que pasar la clase
```

No puede usarse method reference ni lambda expressions. Hay que usar el nombre de la propiedad

### **Bean Validation**

To use Bean Validation, you can ONLY do the data binding with property name.

#### **Bean Validation**

Bean validation needs the validation API and an implementation in your dependencies

```
<!-- APT -->
<dependency>
   <groupId>jakarta.validation
   <artifactId>jakarta.validation-api</artifactId>
   <version>3.0.2
</dependency>
<!-- One possible implementation -->
<dependency>
  <groupId>org.hibernate.validator</groupId>
  <artifactId>hibernate-validator</artifactId>
  <version>6.0.2.Final</version>
</dependency>
```

#### Client-side validation

Components allow you to set validations directly on the field, not through a binder.

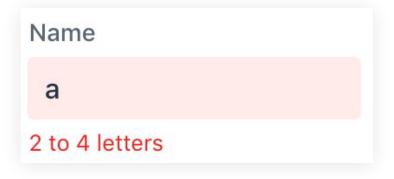
```
TextField name = new TextField("Name");
name.setRequired(true);
name.setMinLength(2);
name.setMaxLength(4);
name.setErrorMessage("2 to 4 letters");
```

```
Name
a
2 to 4 letters
```

Estas validaciones ocurren en el navegador, no en el servidor

#### Client-side validation

Client-side validations <u>aren't secure</u> against tampering and shouldn't be relied on alone.



#### Client-side constraints

Every field component provides its own set of **constraints**, such as **required**, **minlength**, **pattern**, etc. Component constraints are integrated into Binder validation. Binder checks the value against constraints before custom validators.

The only exception is the **required** constraint, which is checked with the **asRequired** validator in Binder.

Phone number •

a1

Format: +(123)456-7890

### Client-side to server validation sync

Certain components, such as IntegerField or DatePicker, only accept input that can be parsed as a suitable **type** (Integer, LocalDate, etc.). Otherwise, the value on the server falls back to null.

The input type check, as well as all other validations, happen on **blur** - when the field loses focus

Start date

not a date



# Conversion

### Conversion

Both Fields and Bindings are typed.

When types don't match, you need a converter.

#### No conversion?

- When you're binding with a String property name, you may get a runtime exception if the type of the Field and the type of the Property do not match.
- If you create the Binding with lambdas, method references or classes, your binding code will not compile.
  - You will catch type errors earlier

```
public class Person {
   private LocalDate birthDate;
TextField birthDateField = new TextField("Birth date");
Binder<Person> binder =
       new Binder<>(Person.class);
binder.bind(birthDateField, "birthDate");
Caused by: java.lang.ClassCastException:
java.base/java.lang.String cannot be cast to
java.base/java.time.LocalDate
      at
com.vaadin.flow.component.textfield.TextField.setValue(Tex
tField.java:32)
      at
com.vaadin.flow.data.binder.Binder$BindingImpl.initFieldVa
lue(Binder.java:1130)
      at ...
```

#### Converter

Add a Converter before binding:

```
TextField age = new TextField("Age");
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>(Person.class);
binder.forField(age)
    .withConverter(new StringToIntegerConverter("Must enter a number"))
    .bind("age");
```

#### **Converter API**

The Converter interface uses the ValueContext and Result helpers. Conversion is done between a **presentation** type (what the Field uses) and a **model** type (what the Property has).

```
public class MyStringToDoubleConverter implements Converter<String, Double> {
  @Override
  public String convertToPresentation(Double value, ValueContext context) {
       return String.format(context.getLocale().get(), "%1$.2f", value);
  @Override
  public Result<Double> convertToModel(String value, ValueContext context) {
      try {
           return Result.ok(Double.parseDouble(value));
      catch (NumberFormatException ex) {
           return Result.error(ex.getMessage());
```

#### **Built-in converters**

DateToLongConverter

DateToSqlDateConverter

LocalDateTimeToDateConverter

LocalDateToDateConverter

StringToBigDecimalConverter

StringToBigIntegerConverter

StringToBooleanConverter

StringToDateConverter

StringToDoubleConverter

StringToFloatConverter

StringToIntegerConverter

StringToLongConverter

StringToUuidConverter

#### **Automatic conversion**

If a Converter isn't specified, and the types between the Field and the Property do not match, there's a call to the default converter factory that attempts to find a mapping using the built-in converters.

You can also provide your own implementation of the ConverterFactory interface by extending Binder and overriding getConverterFactory.

#### **Converters and Validators**

You can combine multiple validators and converters. They will be executed in the same order as they are defined.

```
binder.forField(age)
    .withValidator(value -> validateIsNumber(value), "You can only enter numbers!")
    .withConverter(new StringToIntegerConverter("Not a valid integer!"))
    .withValidator(integer -> isAdult(integer), "Must be 18 or older!")
    .bind("age");
```

## Writing as draft

Binder.writeBeanAsDraft(bean) allows you to write out changes despite some fields not passing validation - this is useful when you want to allow saving of an incomplete form ("save and resume later")

```
Person person = getPerson();
Binder<Person> binder = new Binder<>();
binder.forField(field1).withValidator(...
binder.forField(field2).withValidator(...
Button saveButton = new Button("Save draft", event -> {
                                                                 Opción 1
       // Write the changes that are valid
       binder.writeBeanAsDraft(person);
       // Note: binder.hasChanges is still true, Binder's list of changed bindings is not reset
});
Button saveEvenInvalidButton = new Button("Resume later", event -> {
                                                                              Opción 2
        // Write all changes that pass conversion - skips validation!
        // Note: If the conversion fails, the value written to the bean will be null.
       binder.writeBeanAsDraft(person, true);
});
```

# **Exercise 1**

### Summary, Part 2

- Validation
- The Validator API
- Validation result handling
- Bean validation
- Exercise 1
- Conversion
- The Converter API
- Writing as draft



# Creating Forms, Part 3

**Custom Field** 



### Recap, parts 1-2

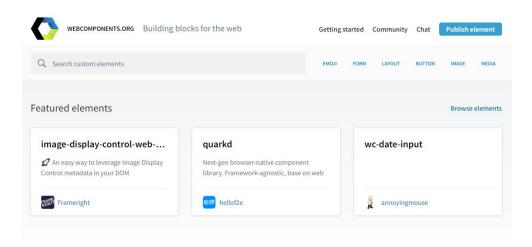
- Fields and Properties
- Creating Bindings to Components with Binder
- Reading and writing data
- Validation
- Conversion



### **Custom Field**

#### **Custom Fields**

You are not limited to use only Vaadin components as Fields, you can use a custom web component as well.







#### Install

Run npm install on the project's root directory

npm install --save @polymer/paper-toggle-button



### Web Component as a Field

Many field-type web components usually have a property which holds the value. You can extend AbstractSinglePropertyField in a custom class to turn such a web component into a Vaadin-compatible Field.

AbstractSinglePropertyField takes two generic parameters. The first one is the Component type and the second one is the value type.

Usually only a super constructor call with 3 parameters is needed. The first is the property name which holds the value, the second one is the default value, and the third one defines if null is allowed.

```
@JsModule("@polymer/paper-toggle-button/paper-toggle-button.js")
@Tag("paper-toggle-button")
public class ToggleButton extends AbstractSinglePropertyField<ToggleButton, Boolean> {
    public ToggleButton() {
        // property name, default value, accept null values
        super("checked", false, false);
    }
}
```

# Limitation of AbstractSinglePropertyField

AbstractSinglePropertyField holds the value properly, but it doesn't have validation error message or required indicator.

#### CustomField

CustomField is a wrapper of component(s) to be used as a regular field.

CustomField has a validation error message and a required indicator.

# Making a CustomField

Extend from CustomField which takes a generic parameter for the data type

```
public class MyCustomField extends CustomField<Boolean> {
```

### Set up the content of the CustomField

Here we'll use the web component field as the inside implementation

```
public class MyCustomField extends CustomField<Boolean> {
    private ToggleButton toggleButton = new ToggleButton();
    public MyCustomField(){
        add(toggleButton);
    }
```

### Implement value methods

Next, implement the generateModelValue() and setPresentationValue() methods

```
public class MyCustomField extends CustomField<Boolean> {
  private ToggleButton toggleButton = new ToggleButton();
  public MyCustomField(){
      add(toggleButton);
  @Override
  protected Boolean generateModelValue() {
       return toggleButton.getValue();
  @Override
  protected void setPresentationValue(Boolean newPresentationValue) {
      toggleButton.setValue(newPresentationValue);
```

### Combine multiple components

You can also combine server-side Field components into a single CustomField public class MyCustomField extends CustomField

```
private DatePicker datePicker = new DatePicker();
private TimePicker timePicker = new TimePicker();
public MyCustomField(){
    add(datePicker, timePicker);
@Override
protected LocalDateTime generateModelValue() {
    return LocalDateTime.of(datePicker.getValue(), timePicker.getValue());
@Override
protected void setPresentationValue(LocalDateTime newPresentationValue) {
    datePicker.setValue(newPresentationValue.toLocalDate());
    timePicker.setValue(newPresentationValue.toLocalTime());
```

### Upload as a Field

The Upload component doesn't implement HasValue, so it can't be used with Binder directly. You can get around this by implementing a CustomField that wraps Upload and handle the file data there:

```
public class UploadField extends CustomField<InputStream> {
 InputStream is;
 FileBuffer buffer = new FileBuffer(); // You might want to customize this
 public UploadField() {
   Upload upload = new Upload(buffer);
    upload.setMaxFiles(1);
    upload.addSucceededListener(event -> {
      is = buffer.getInputStream();
    });
    add(upload);
 @Override
 protected InputStream generateModelValue() {
    return is;
 @Override
 protected void setPresentationValue(InputStream newPresentationValue) {
```

# **Exercise 2**

### Summary, Part 3

- Custom Fields
- Web Component as a Field
- AbstractSinglePropertyField
- CustomField
- Exercise 2



#### Thank you!

