



Angular Advanced Module – Advanced Routing




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1. Multiple (named) router outlets
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But wait! There's (also) more!






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Advanced Router Configuration In Angular


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QUICK SUMMARY ↗ Throughout this tutorial, Ahmed Bouchefra introduces Angular Router and how you can use it to create client-side apps and Single Page Apps with routing and navigation.

In case you're still not quite familiar with Angular 7, I'd like to bring you closer to everything this impressive front-end framework has to offer. I'll walk you through an Angular demo app that shows different concepts related to the Router, such as:

- The router outlet,



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ahmed is a technical author and web developer living in Morocco with a Master's degree in software development. He authors technical content about ... [More about Ahmed](#) ↗

Email Newsletter

<https://www.smashingmagazine.com/2018/11/a-complete-guide-to-routing-in-angular/>

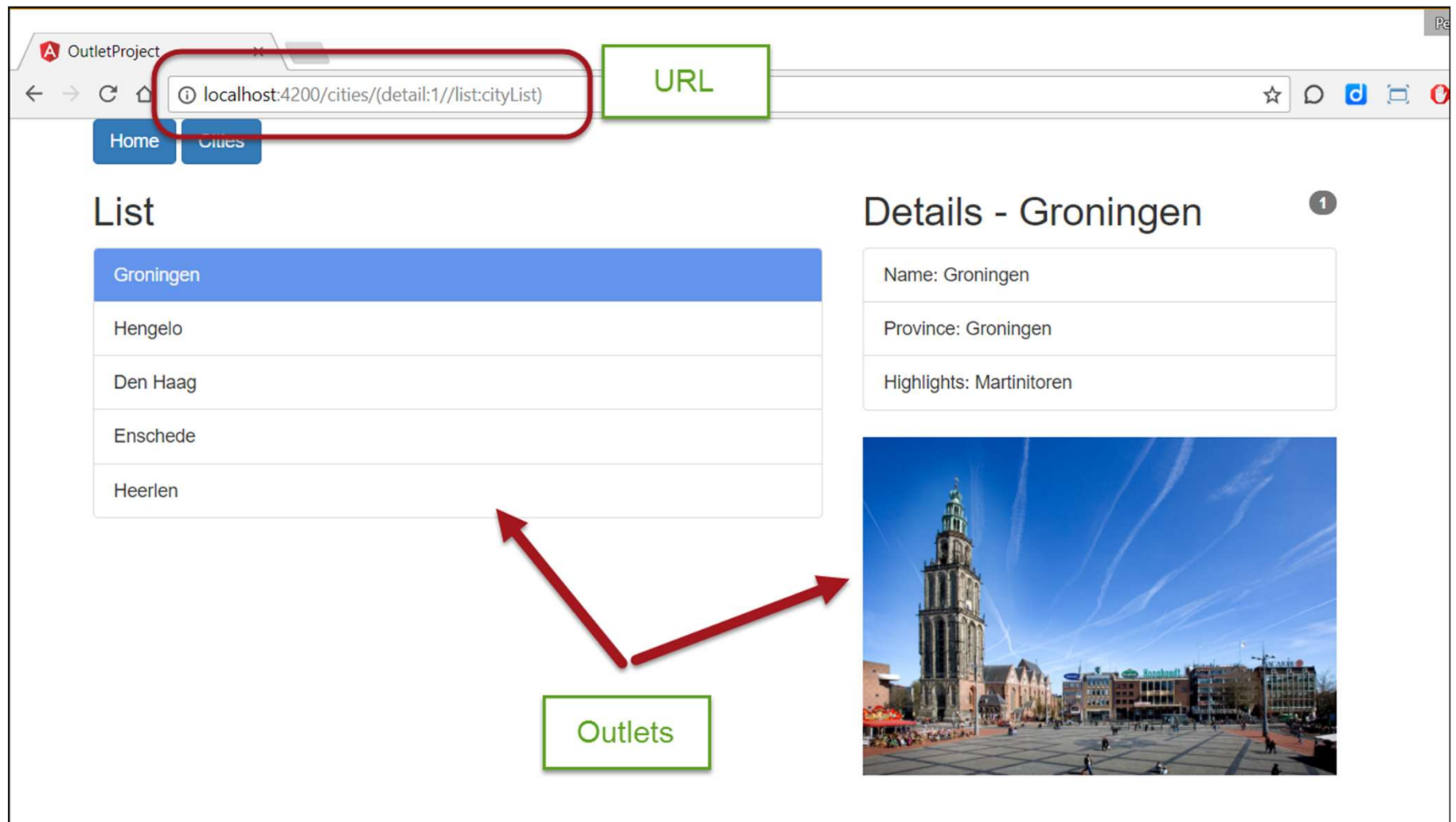


Named Router Outlets

Displaying multiple components in one view and updating the route

Named router outlets

- Multiple `<router-outlet>`'s in one component.
- Project different components in named outlets
 - `<router-outlet name="list">...</router-outlet>`
 - `<router-outlet name="detail">...</router-outlet>`
- State is reflected in URL
- Also known as *auxiliary routes*




../140-named-router-outlets

Preparation – set up routing module

- We use a simple setup:
 - One route pointing to the home route, `HomeComponent`
 - One route pointing to cities route, `CityComponent`
- `CityComponent` has two child routes
 - `CityListComponent`
 - `CityDetailComponent`


```
const routes: Routes = [  
  {path: '', redirectTo: 'home', pathMatch: 'full'},  
  {path: 'home', component: HomeComponent},  
  {  
    path: 'cities', component: CityComponent,  
    children: [  
      {path: 'cityList', component: CityListComponent, outlet: 'list'},  
      {path: ':id', component: CityDetailComponent, outlet: 'detail'}  
    ]  
  }  
];
```



Set up router outlets

app.component.html – 1 unnamed <router-outlet>

```
<div class="container">
  <!--Main menu-->
  ...
  <router-outlet></router-outlet>
</div>
```

city.component.html – 2 named <router-outlet>'s

```
<div class="row">
  <div class="col-md-6">
    <router-outlet name="list"></router-outlet>
  </div>
  <div class="col-md-4">
    <router-outlet name="detail"></router-outlet>
  </div>
</div>
```

Router navigate

Home button – static route (`app.component.html`)

```
<a class="btn btn-primary" routerLink="home">Home</a>
```

Cities button – dynamic route. Pass in the `outlets` object, and map the `list` outlet to `cityList` component and `detail` to `-1` for the moment.

```
<a class="btn btn-primary"
  [routerLink]="['/cities',
    {outlets: {'list': ['cityList'], 'detail': ['-1']}}]">
  Cities
</a>
```

Display CityList

- Default way of displaying data
 - Fetch cities via `cityService`.
 - We use the `async` pipe here

```
// city-list.component.ts
constructor(private router: Router,
             private cityService: CityService) { }

ngOnInit(){
  this.cities=this.cityService.getCities();
}
```

```
<ul class="list-group">
  <li class="list-group-item"
      [class.selected]="city === currentCity"
      (click)="selectCity(city)"
      *ngFor="let city of cities | async">
    {{ city.name }}
  </li>
</ul>
```

Navigate to detail route


- Use `router` to show detail in the outlet:

```
selectCity(city: City) {  
  console.log('navigate to: ', city.name);  
  this.currentCity = city;  
  this.router.navigate(['/cities', {outlets: {'detail': [city.id]} }])  
}
```



Set up detail outlet using RouteParams

```
constructor(private route: ActivatedRoute,  
            private cityService: CityService) {  
}  
  
ngOnInit() {  
    this.route.params.subscribe((params: { id: string }) => {  
        this.id = +params.id;  
        if (this.id === -1) {  
            // Default: navigate to first city (or leave empty)  
            this.id = 1;  
        }  
        this.city = this.cityService.getCity(this.id);  
    })  
}
```



Displaying the detail data

For your reference. This is easy:

```
<div *ngIf="city | async; else loading; let city">
  <ul class="list-group">
    <li class="list-group-item">Name: {{ city.name }}</li>
    <li class="list-group-item">Province: {{ city.province }}</li>
    <li class="list-group-item">Highlights: {{ city.highlights }}</li>
  </ul>
  
</div>

<ng-template #loading>
  <div>
    <h3>Fetching city...</h3>
    
  </div>
</ng-template>
```

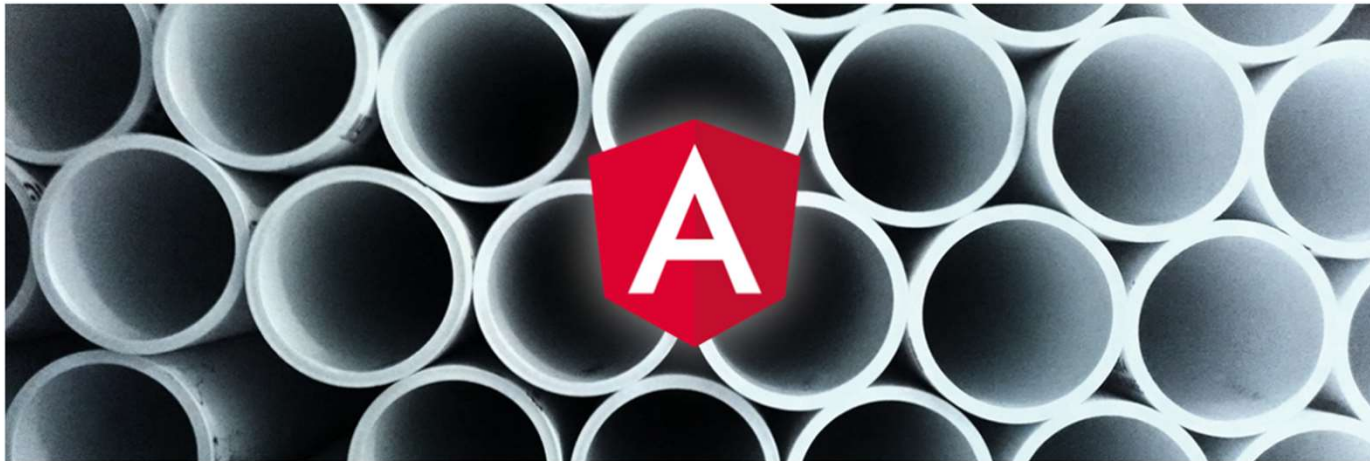
More info on named router outlets



ABOUT

Dreams Do Come True! Named Router Outlets in Angular 2

 Lukas Ruebbelke



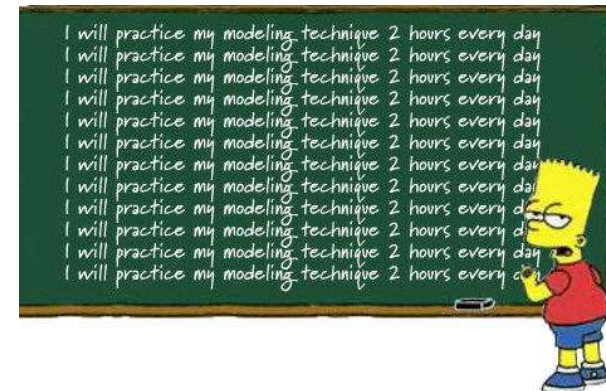
Intro

I am generally a positive person that endeavors to say nice things about people and frameworks. In the broadest sense, I love Angular, and it has been an amazing tool to build some really cool things. Angular 2 has exceeded my expectations in a lot of ways.

<http://onehungrymind.com/named-router-outlets-in-angular-2/>

Workshop

- Open `../140-named-router-outlets` and work from there
- OR: start a new project using routing and set it up using the previous slides.
- Add a new, named router outlet to `city.component.html`
- Create a new component to be shown in this outlet
- Create a link, navigating to this new outlet, showing the component
 - Place the link inside `city-list.component.html`.
 - Look at the `[routerLink]` notation!





Router Guards

Securing parts of your route

Guard Types

- Four types of guards:
 - `CanActivate` – decides if a route can be activated
 - `CanActivateChild` – decides if children of a route can be activated
 - `CanDeactivate` – decides if a route can be deactivated
 - `CanLoad` – decides if a module can be loaded lazily


Defining Guards

- Multiple ways (as functions or as classes)
- Regardless, it needs to return a
 - `Observable<boolean>`,
 - `Promise<boolean>` or
 - `boolean`.
- Defined in `@NgModule`, or as a separate class

Guards as a function

- Define a token and a guard function. For example in `app.module.ts`.

```
@NgModule({  
  ...  
  providers: [  
    CityService,  
    AuthService,  
    {  
      provide: 'CanAlwaysActivateGuard', // Guard as a function  
      useValue: guardFunction  
    },  
    CanActivateViaAuthGuard,  
    CanDeactivateGuard  
  ],  
  bootstrap: [MainComponent]  
})  
export class AppModule {}
```



```
export function guardFunction() {  
  console.log('Route requested');  
  return true; // do validation or other stuff here  
}
```

Use the guard token in app.routes

// app.routes.ts

```
...  
export const AppRoutes: Routes = [  
  ...  
  {  
    path: 'home',  
    component: AppComponent,  
    canActivate: ['CanAlwaysActivateGuard'] // Defined in app.module.ts  
  },  
  ...  
];
```



**(re)use of string
token**

You *can* have multiple tokens/functions, guarding your route

Guards as a class – *most used*

- Used: when the guard needs Dependency Injection
- Common use: with some kind of Authentication Service.
- All about Implementing interfaces!
 - `canActivate()`
 - `canActivateChild()`
 - `canDeActivate()`

canActivateViaAuthGuard.ts

```
// canActivateViaAuthGuard.ts
```

```
import { Injectable } from '@angular/core';  
import { CanActivate } from '@angular/router';  
import { AuthService } from '../auth.service';
```

```
@Injectable()
```

```
export class CanActivateViaAuthGuard implements CanActivate {
```

```
  constructor(private authService: AuthService) {}
```

```
  canActivate() {  
    return this.authService.isLoggedIn();  
  }
```

```
}
```

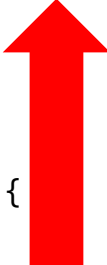
Class/Guard name

Auth Service

**Interface
implementation**

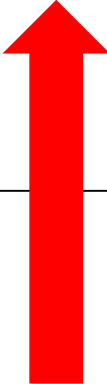
Register Guard class on module and routes

```
// app.module.ts
...
@NgModule({
  ...
  providers : [
    ...,
    AuthService,
    CanActivateViaAuthGuard
  ],
  ...
})
export class AppModule {
}
```



```
// app.routes.ts
...
import {CanActivateViaAuthGuard} from "./canActivateViaAuthGuard";

export const AppRoutes: Routes = [
  ...
  {
    path      : 'add',
    component : CityAddComponent,
    canActivate: [CanActivateViaAuthGuard]
  },
  ...
];
```




Deactivating routes

- Called when navigating *away* from a route
- Same approach as `CanActivate` route

```
// canDeactivateGuard.ts
import {Injectable} from '@angular/core';
import {CanDeactivate} from '@angular/router';
import {CanDeactivateComponent} from './canDeactivate.component';

@Injectable()
export class CanDeactivateGuard implements CanDeactivate<CanDeactivateComponent> {

  canDeactivate(target: CanDeactivateComponent) {
    // Can the user deactivate the route? Test for changes here!
    // For now, return Yes/Nope from the browser confirm dialog.
    if (target.hasChanges()) {
      return window.confirm('Do you really want to cancel? There might be unsaved changes');
    }
    return true;
  }
}
```



Add guard to routes

```
// app.routes.ts
```

```
...
```

```
import {CanDeactivateComponent} from "./canDeactivate.component";
```

```
import {CanDeactivateGuard} from "./canDeactivateGuard";
```

```
export const AppRoutes: Routes = [
```

```
...
```

```
{
```

```
  path      : 'deactivate',
```

```
  component : CanDeactivateComponent,
```

```
  canDeactivate: [CanDeactivateGuard]
```

```
},
```

```
...
```

```
];
```




Create DeactivateComponent

- Add implementation of `.hasChanges()`!

```
// ...
export class CanDeactivateComponent implements OnInit {
  // Properties voor de component/class
  myForm: FormGroup = new FormGroup({
    txtInput: new FormControl()
  });

  constructor(private route: Router) { }
  ngOnInit() {}

  moveAway() {
    this.route.navigate(['/home']);
  }
  hasChanges(){
    return this.myForm.dirty; // return state of the form
  }
}
```

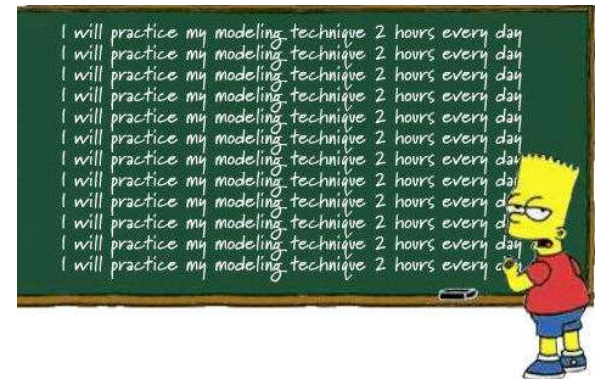


Workshop

- Use the example `../150-router-guards`
- Check the example code and make yourself familiar with the code flow through the application

OR:

- Work with your own example from this morning and implement a `CanActivateGuard` class





Route Resolvers

Fetching data *before* a component is loaded

What are route resolvers

- Default way of doing things
 - Navigate to a specific route/component
 - Show a loading indicator of some kind
 - Fetch data inside the component in `ngOnInit()` or `constructor()`.
- With a route resolver
 - First fetch the data
 - Then show the component
 - No need to add the safe navigation operator (aka Elvis operator) like
`{{ user?.firstname }}`

How do resolvers work – SimpleResolver

Step 1 - Create a separate class (or rather: a Service) for the resolver

```
// app.resolver.service.ts
import {Injectable} from '@angular/core';
import {Resolve} from '@angular/router';
...
@Injectable({
  providedIn: 'root'
})
export class SimpleResolverService implements Resolve<Observable<string>> {

  // Creating a resolver is all about implementing
  // the Resolve interface with a specific type
  resolve() {
    return of('Hello World').pipe(
      delay(2000)
    );
  }
}
```

Interface

Simple
implementation

Step 2 – set up route configuration

Add the `resolve` key to the configuration and call the provide service.

Here, the resolved data will be available under the `message` key.

```
const routes: Routes = [  
  ...,  
  {  
    path: 'simple',  
    component: SimpleResolverComponent,  
    resolve: { message: SimpleResolverService}  
  }  
];
```

Step 3 – use resolved data in the component

Use the `data` property on the `ActivatedRoute`'s `snapshot` object

The component is showed after a 2 sec. delay.

```
...
@Component({
  selector: 'app-simple-resolver',
  template: `
    ...
    {{ data.message }}
  `
})
export class SimpleResolverComponent implements OnInit {

  data: any;
  constructor(private route: ActivatedRoute) { }

  ngOnInit() {
    this.data = this.route.snapshot.data;
  }
}
```



Inject and use
`ActivatedRoute`

Resolving real data from an API

Same process. Only talk to an external API


```
// app.resolver.service.ts
import {Injectable} from '@angular/core';
import {Resolve} from '@angular/router';
import {Observable} from 'rxjs';
import {HttpClient} from '@angular/common/http';

@Injectable({
  providedIn: 'root'
})
export class ApiResolverService implements Resolve<Observable<any>> {

  // Talk to external API
  url = 'https://randomuser.me/api/?results=10';

  constructor(private http: HttpClient) {
  }

  resolve() {
    return this.http.get<any>(this.url);
  }
}
```



2. Update routing

```
import {ApiResolverComponent} from './api-resolver/api-resolver.component';
...
const routes: Routes = [
  ...
  {
    path: 'api',
    component: ApiResolverComponent,
    resolve: {data: ApiResolverService}
  }
];
...
export class AppRoutingModule {
}
```

3. Use the provided data

- You *know* it's available in the component, b/c of the resolver
- No need for `async` binding or using `{{ user?.name }}`
- Inspect and optionally model the `data` you get back from the API (recommended)

```
<ul class="list-group">
  <li *ngFor="let user of data" class="list-group-item">
    <h4>{{ user.name.title}} {{ user.name.first }} {{ user.name.last}}</h4>
    ({{ user.email}})
  </li>
</ul>
```

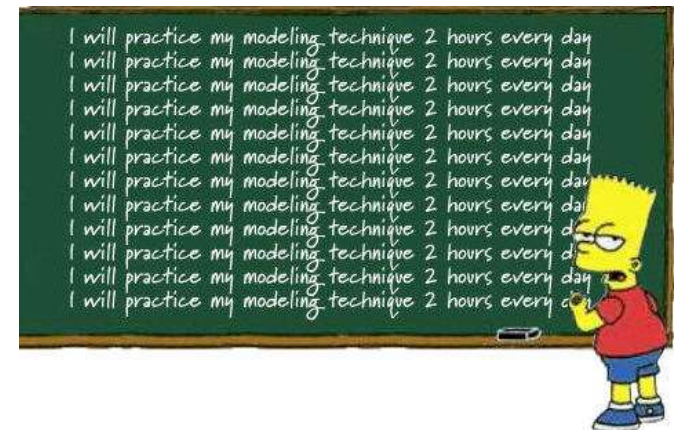
```
export class ApiResolverComponent implements OnInit {
  data: any;

  constructor(private route: ActivatedRoute) {}

  ngOnInit() {
    // inspect the object that the API returns!
    this.data = this.route.snapshot.data.data.results;
  }
}
```

Workshop

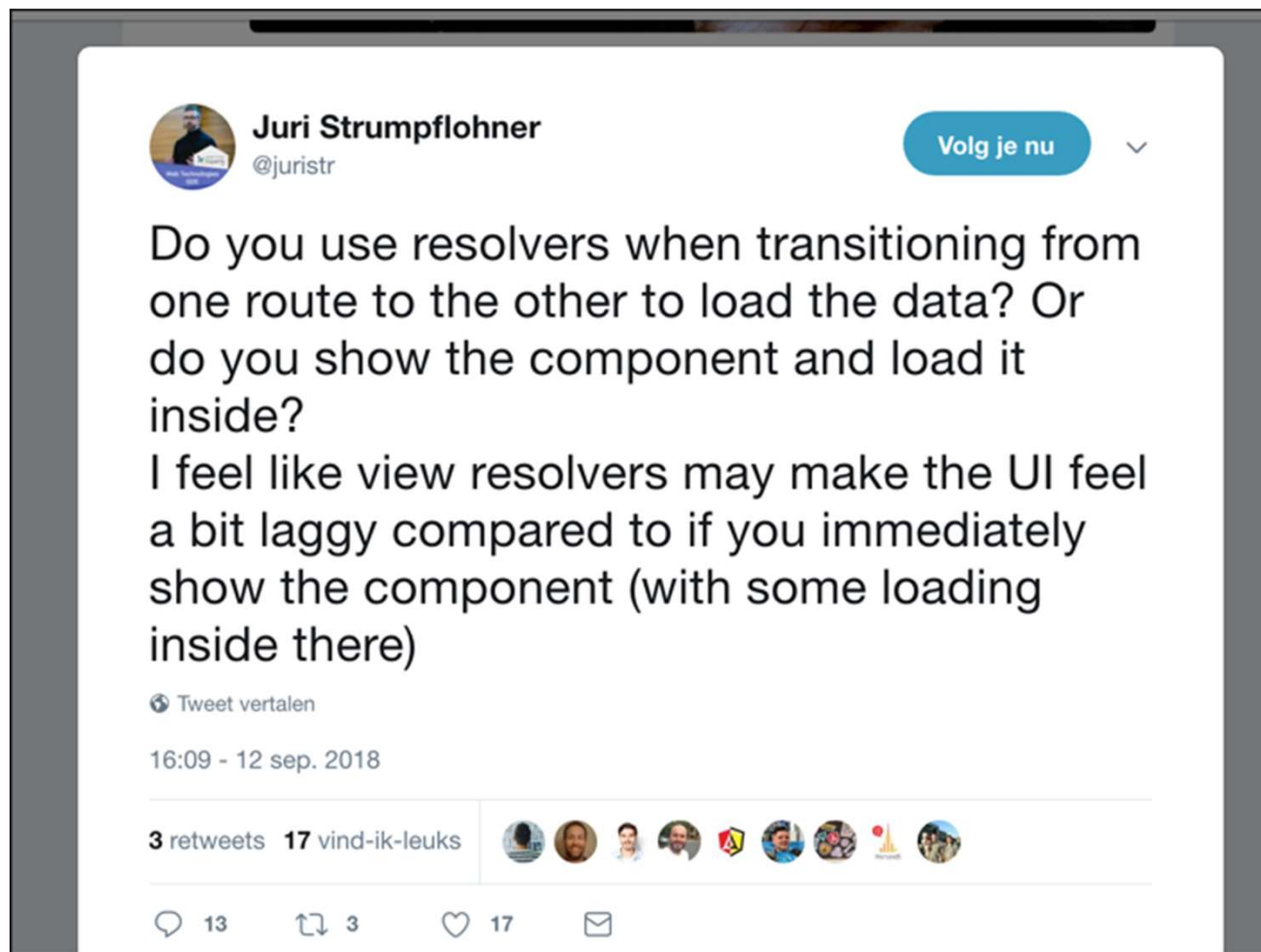
- Use the example `../160-route-resolvers`
- TBD..



Resolvers - yep or nope?

- Discussion – it might not give the best possible UX
- **Yep** – if you *don't* use resolver and data fails to load, you're stuck on the 'wrong' view.
- **Nope** – Adds lag to application, just load component w/ spinner to show something is happening.
 - Application can seem to freeze while waiting for the response.

- Read the replies/discussion on <https://twitter.com/juristr/status/1039878711468810245>



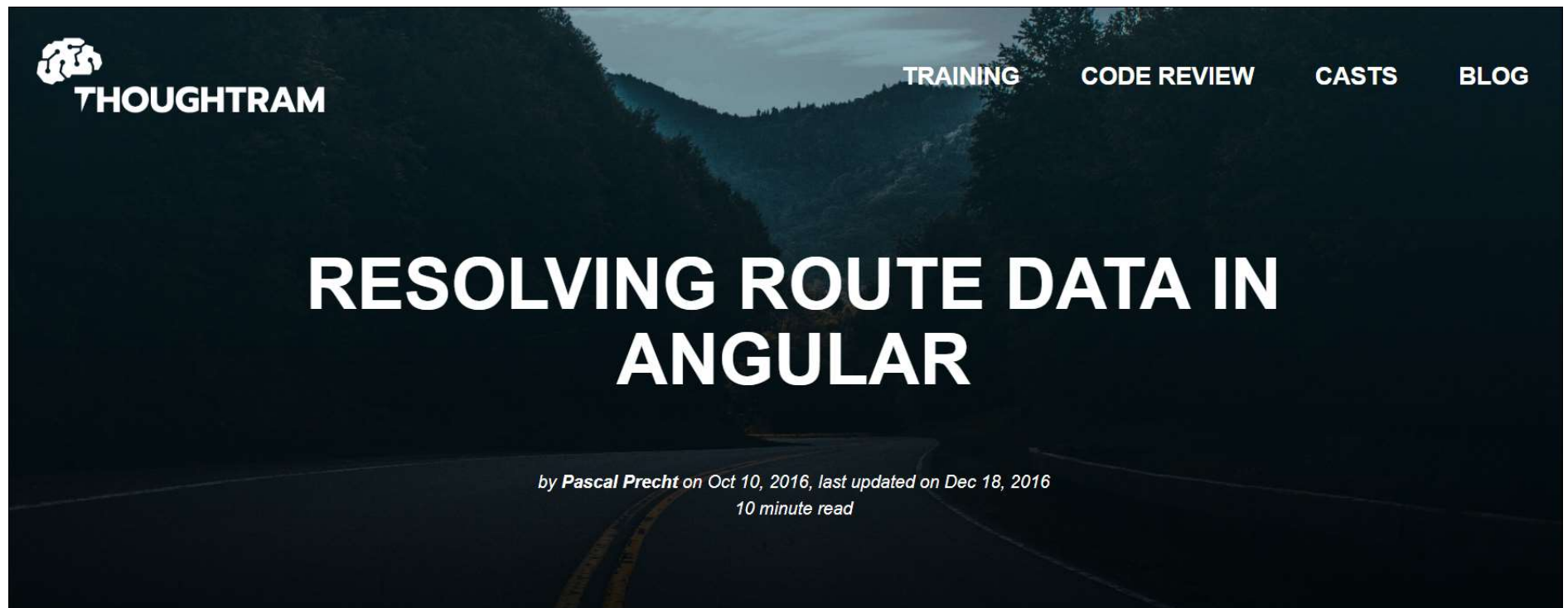
- <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/49054232/why-would-you-use-a-resolver-with-angular>



The screenshot shows the Stack Overflow website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and a 'NEW' button. The left sidebar contains navigation links: Home, PUBLIC, Stack Overflow (selected), Tags, Users, Jobs, and Teams (Q&A for work). The main content area displays a question titled 'Why would you use a resolver with Angular'. The question has 13 votes and 4 answers. The first answer, marked with an upvote triangle, reads: 'I like the idea of `resolver s`. You can say that: - for a given route you expect some data to be loaded first - you can just have a really simple component with no observable (as retrieving data from `this.route.snapshot.data`)'. The second answer, marked with a downvote triangle, reads: 'So resolvers makes a lot of sense.' Below the answers, there is a 'BUT:' section with a paragraph: '- You're not changing the URL and displaying your requested component until you receive the actual response. So you can't (simply) show the user that something is happening by rendering your component and showing as much as you can (just like it's advised to, for the shell app with PWA). Which means that when having a bad connection, your user may have to just wait without visual indication of what's happening for a long time'.

More info on Resolvers

- <https://blog.thoughtram.io/angular/2016/10/10/resolving-route-data-in-angular-2.html>



More info on resolvers

- <https://angular.io/guide/router#resolve-guard>
- <https://alligator.io/angular/route-resolvers/>
- <https://codeburst.io/understanding-resolvers-in-angular-736e9db71267>