

Managing State in Angular with NGXS

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Angular



- https://github.com/ngxs/store
- https://ngxs.gitbook.io/ngxs/getting-started
- https://alligator.io/angular/ngxs/
- Comparison :

https://ordina-jworks.github.io/angular/2018/10/08/angular-state-management-comparison.html



Features	NGRX	NGXS	Akita	Plain RxJS
Async actions	Yes, through effects	Yes	No	No
(Memoized) selectors	Yes	Yes	Yes, as queries	No
Cross-state selectors	Yes	Yes	No	No
Offline persistence	3rd party package	1st party package	Main package	No
Snapshot selection without first()	No	Yes	Yes	No
Forms synchronization	3rd party packages	1st party package	Main package	No
Router synchronization	1st party package	1st party package	No	No
WebSocket	3rd party package	1st party package	No	No
Angular ErrorHandler	No	Yes	No	No
Meta Reducers	Yes	Yes	No	No
Lazy loading	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Cancellation	No	Yes	No	No
Side effects	Yes	Yes	No	No
Web workers	No	No	Yes	No
Transactions	No	No	Yes	No



State Framework showdown

Boilerplate

SUMMARY			
Boilerplate	Files generated	Total files (*)	Boilerplate code
NGRX	9	12	Heavy
NGXS	3	7	Medium
Akita	4	6	Low
Plain RxJS	0	6	Medium



State Framework showdown

Boilerplate for TODO-CRUD

- NgRx
 - crud.action.ts 53 lines
 - crud.effect.ts 35 lines
 - crud.reducer.ts (includes crud.state.ts) 52
 - crud.selector.ts 19 lines
 - TaskService.ts 65
- NGXS
 - crud.actions.ts 42 lines
 - crud.reducer.ts 75
 - crud.state.ts 12
 - TaskService.ts 34
- AKITA
 - crud.store.ts 43 lines
 - crud.query.ts 19
 - TaskService.ts 41
- BehaviorSubject
 - TaskService.ts 50 lines

224 lines

163 lines

103 lines

50 lines



Installation



Angular NGXS setup

February 2019: V3.3.4

• May 2019 : V3.4.3

• Nov 2020 : V3.7.0

npm install @ngxs/store --save

```
npm install @ngxs/store@dev --save
npm install @ngxs/logger-plugin@dev --save
```

npm install @ngxs/devtools-plugin --save-dev



Angular

NGXS setup

- To get @SelectSnapshot()
 - https://github.com/ngxs-labs/select-snapshot

npm install @ngxs-labs/select-snapshot



Angular NGXS setup

- Extension to test
 - https://www.npmjs.com/package/ngxs-entity





Angular NGXS setup

- Switching to development mode will freeze your store using deep-freeze-strict module.
- NO install needed, its' all included, AND IT WORKS! You can't modify a received state.



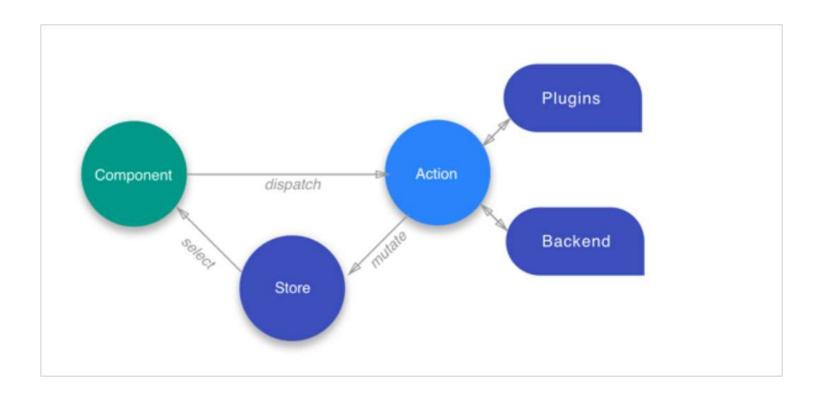


Architecture



Architecture

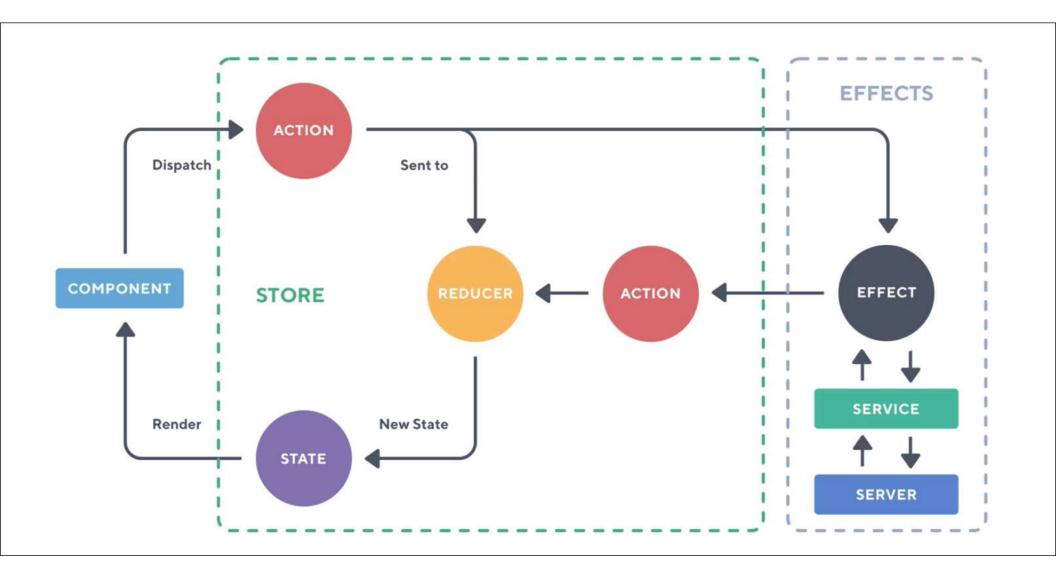
CQRS => Command Query Responsibility Segregation



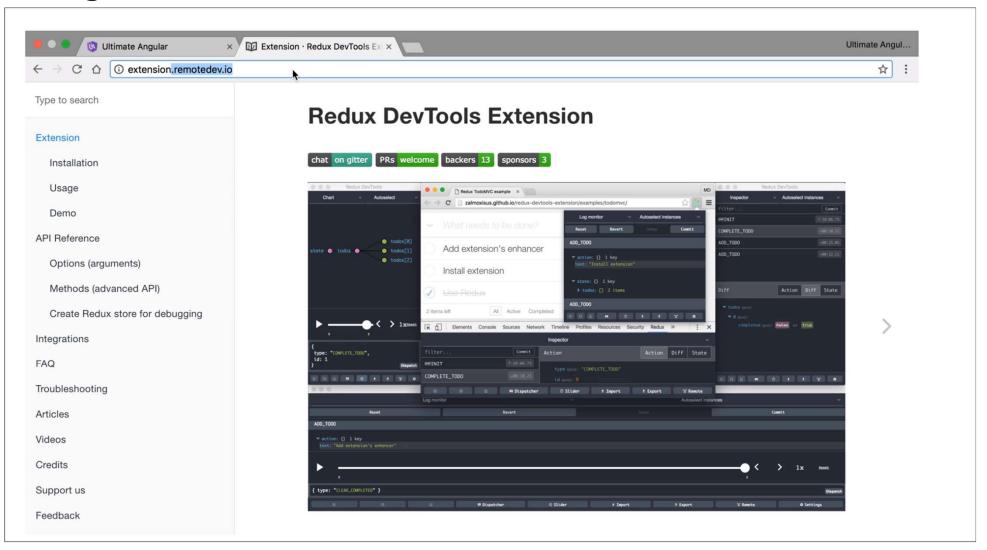


Angular NgRx

Comparison NgRx vs NGXS









Redux DevTools explained

https://codeburst.io/redux-devtools-for-dummies-74566c597d7

https://egghead.io/lessons/javascript-getting-started-with-redux-dev-tools

When you click on an individual action it displays two options (Jump and skip). This is the first introduction to time traveling and changing the application view. Jump will take your application to the state of the app at the time this action fired. The skip will cross out the action and show you your app without that action.

DEVTOOLS IN NGXS

Although NGXS is also modeled after CQRS, it behaves a bit differently. It provides @ngxs/devtools-plugin for DevTools. It does, however, not support all functionalities. The latest actions can be viewed with their impact and resulting state. But while it's possible to jump to specific actions, it's not possible to skip actions or dispatch new ones using the DevTools. Implementing the tools is just as easy as with NGRX, importing the following line to the **AppModule**:

NgxsReduxDevtoolsPluginModule.forRoot()





Configuration as Module



Angular Router in the NGXS State

```
npm install @ngxs/router-plugin --save
```

https://ngxs.gitbook.io/ngxs/plugins/router

```
import { NgxsModule } from '@ngxs/store';
import { NgxsRouterPluginModule } from '@ngxs/router-plugin';

@NgModule({
   imports: [
       NgxsModule.forRoot([]),
       NgxsRouterPluginModule.forRoot()
   ]
})
export class AppModule {}
```



Angular NGXS: BETTER CONFIG

```
@NgModule({
  imports: [
   // tek one shot
   BrowserModule,
   // tek partagé
   SharedModule,
   // NGXS
   // NgxsModule.forRoot([], {developmentMode: false}),
   // NgxsModule.forRoot([], {developmentMode: true}),
   NgxsModule.forRoot([], {developmentMode: !environment.production}),
   // WARNING in prod mode SHOULD NOT BE INSTALLED
   // Hard-coded import of Module
   NgxsReduxDevtoolsPluginModule.forRoot(),
   NgxsLoggerPluginModule.forRoot(),
   // better config importing the Module ONLY if in DEV Mode
   environment.production ? [] :
      [NgxsReduxDevtoolsPluginModule.forRoot(), NgxsLoggerPluginModule.forRoot()],
   // fonctionnel
   CrudModule
 declarations: [
   AppComponent,
```

Angular Router in the NGXS State

Redux tab

```
Tree Chart Raw

▼ router (pin)

▼ state (pin)

url (pin): "/p3p/00-select"

params (pin): { }

queryParams (pin): { }

navigationId (pin): 1
```





Coding ..



Getting Started

• Step1: Define you Model for the State (file crud.state.ts)

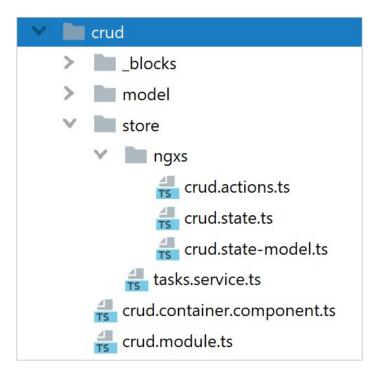
```
export interface CrudStateModel {
   tasks: Task[];
}

export const initialCrudStateModel: CrudStateModel = {
   tasks: [
     new Task('Aller boire des bières'),
     new Task('Dormir', true),
     new Task('Faire du sport (non je rigole)')]
};
```



Getting Started

• Step1 bis: folder structure





Getting Started

The goal is to dispatch actions to the store:

```
addTask(task: Task) {
   return this.store.dispatch(new CreateTask(task));
}
```

So we define specific classes to encapsulate the data to execute this action

```
export class CreateTask {
   static readonly type = '[Crud] Task Create';
   constructor(public task: Task) {}
}
```



Getting Started

Step2: Create and organize Actions to make access easy.
 There is NO standard way, everyone tries to find a good way of doing it (file crud.action.ts)

```
enum CRUD_ACTION_NAMES {
    CREATE_TASK = '[Crud] Task Create',
    UPDATE_TASK = '[Crud] Task Update',
    DELETE_TASK = '[Crud] Task Delete',
    TOGGLE_ALL_TASK = '[Crud] Task Toggle All',
}

export class CreateTask {
    static readonly type = CRUD_ACTION_NAMES.CREATE_TASK;
    constructor(public task: Task) {}
}
```

```
CreateTask,
   UpdateTask,
   DeleteTask,
   ToggleAllTask,
```

Getting Started

Step3: the Reducer is where the job of modifying the state is done.
 NGXS calls the class <Something>State

```
@State<CrudStateModel>({
    name: 'crud',
    defaults: initialCrudStateModel
})
export class CrudState {

@Action(CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTask)
    createTask(ctx: StateContext<CrudStateModel>, action: CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTask) {
    Plog.state('ACTION!!!! CREATE_TASK', action);
    const task: Task = action.task;
    const crudState: CrudStateModel = ctx.getState();
    ctx.setState({...crudState, tasks: [...crudState.tasks, task]});
}
```

Getting Started • Step5: Module declaration

```
@NgModule({
  imports: [
    SharedModule,
    // NGXS
   NgxsModule.forFeature([CrudState]),
  declarations: [...],
  exports: [...],
  providers: [...]
})
export class CrudModule {
```



Getting Started

Step: Dispatching Actions

```
import * as CRUD_ACTIONS from './crud/crud.actions';
import {CrudState} from './crud/crud.state';
import {Store} from '@ngxs/store';
@Injectable()
export class TasksService {
  constructor(private store: Store) {
  addTask(task: Task): Observable<any> {
    return this.store.dispatch(new CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTask(task));
```



Getting Started

Step: Getting data by directly receiving the FULL State

```
@Component({selector: 'todo-crud-container'...})
export class CrudContainerComponent {
    @Select(state) => state.crud.tasks) tasks$: Observable<Task[]>;
```



Getting Started

Step: Getting data by directly receiving the FULL root State

```
import {Store} from '@ngxs/store';

@Component({selector: 'todo-crud-container'...})

export class CrudContainerComponent {

   tasks$: Observable<Task[]>;

constructor(store: Store) {
   this.tasks$ = store.select(state => state.crud.tasks);
}
```



Getting Started

Step: Getting data by directly receiving the FULL root State using @Select()

```
@Component({selector: 'todo-crud-container'...})
export class CrudContainerComponent {
    @Select(state) => state.crud.tasks) tasks$: Observable<Task[]>;
```

For memo, previous page was:

```
constructor(store: Store) {
   this.tasks$ = store.select(state => state.crud.tasks);
}
```



Getting Started

Step: Getting data with factorized Selectors

```
@State<CrudStateModel>({
    name: 'crud',
    defaults: initialCrudStateModel
})
export class CrudState {
    constructor(private store: Store) {}

    @Selector()
    static tasks(crudStateModel: CrudStateModel) {
        return crudStateModel.tasks;
    }
}
```

```
export class CrudContainerComponent {
    @Select(CrudState.tasks) tasks$: Observable<Task[]>;
```



Getting Started

Step Summary

```
@Component({selector: 'todo-crud-container'...})
export class CrudContainerComponent {
    @Select(state => state.crud.tasks) tasks$: Observable<Task[]>;
```

```
constructor(store: Store) {
  this.tasks$ = store.select(state => state.crud.tasks);
}
```

```
export class CrudContainerComponent {

nemoized @Select(CrudReducer.tasks) tasks$: Observable<Task[]>;
```



Getting Started

Step6 details : select, selectOnce, selectSnapshot

```
@Injectable()

export class TasksService {

   constructor(private store: Store) {}

   getTask$(): Observable<Task[]> {

    return this.store.select(state => state.crud.tasks);
}

    select<T>(selector: (state: any, ...states: any[]) => T) Observable<T>
    selectSnapshot<T>(selector: (state: any, ...states: any[]) => T) T

    Press Enter to insert, Tab to replace
```





Event of Action Stream



Actions stream

```
import { Actions, ofActionSuccessful } from '@ngxs/store';
   import { RouterDataResolved } from '@ngxs/router-plugin';
   import { Subject } from 'rxjs';
   import { takeUntil } from 'rxjs/operators';
   @Component({ ... })
   export class AppComponent {
     private destroy$ = new Subject<void>();
     constructor(actions$: Actions) {
       actions$.pipe(
         ofActionSuccessful(RouterDataResolved),
         takeUntil(this.destroy$)
       ).subscribe((action: RouterDataResolved) => {
         console.log(action.routerState.root.firstChild.data);
       });
     }
     ngOnDestroy(): void {
       this.destroy$.next();
       this.destroy$.complete();
     }
26
```

Actions stream





How to code good state reducers



Writing Good Reducers

```
{ ...state, loading: true }
```

And Anti-Pattern to code good spread/rest/destructuring code
 https://redux.js.org/recipes/structuring-reducers/immutable-update-patterns

Common Mistake #1: New variables that point to the same objects

Defining a new variable does *not* create a new actual object - it only creates another reference to the same object. An example of this error would be:

```
function updateNestedState(state, action) {
   const nestedState = state.nestedState;
   // ERROR: this directly modifies the existing object reference - don't do this!
   nestedState.nestedField = action.data;

return {
    ...state,
    nestedState
   };
}
```

Writing Good Reducers

{ ...state, loading: true }

- NGXS introduced State Operators to manipulate the State
- https://ngxs.gitbook.io/ngxs/advanced/operators
- https://medium.com/ngxs/ngxs-state-operators-8b339641b220



NGXS State Operators

Better reducer code

NGXS State Operators example

```
// Initial Version
     const state = ctx.getState();
     ctx.setState({ ...state, loading: true });
 4
     // Refactoring 1 - use the operator syntax
 5
     ctx.setState((state) => ({ ...state, loading: true }));
 6
     // Refactoring 2 - extract the state operator code into a function:
     function setLoading(newValue: boolean) {
9
       return (state) => ({ ...state, loading: newValue });
10
11
     // The code would now be expressed as:
12
     ctx.setState(setLoading(true));
13
14
     // Refactoring 3 - the extracted function could then be used to represent a higher level concept
15
16
    function startLoading() { return setLoading(true); }
    // The code would now be expressed as:
17
    ctx.setState(startLoading());
18
```



NGXS State Operators

Better reducer code

- NGXS provided State Operators are: patch,
- For arrays: updateItem, removeItem, insertItem, append
- Others: compose, iif

```
// Before
                                       addCity
     const city = payload.city;
     const state = ctx.getState();
     ctx.setState({
 5
       ...state,
 6
       entities: { ...state.entities, [city.id]: city },
       ids: [ ...state.ids, city.id ]
    });
 8
 9
    // Refactoring 1 - leverage the provided state operators
10
    const city = payload.city;
11
    ctx.setState( patch<CitiesStateModel>{
12
       entities: patch( { [city.id]: city } ),
13
       ids: append( [ city.id ] )
14
15
    } );
16
     // Refactoring 2 - extract a general purpose addEntity State Operator
17
    interface EntitiesStateModel<T extends { id: number }> {
18
       entities: { [id: number]: T };
19
20
       ids: number[];
21
    function addEntity<T extends { id: number }>(entity: T) {
22
23
       return patch<EntitiesStateModel<T>>({
24
         entities: patch( { [entity.id]: entity } ),
         ids: append( [ entity.id ] )
25
       });
26
27
    // Our code would now be expressed as:
28
    const city = payload.city;
29
    ctx.setState( addEntity(city) );
```

```
NG
Bett
```

```
// Initial Version
     const state = ctx.getState();
     ctx.setState({ ...state, loading: true });
     // Refactoring 1 - use the operator syntax
 5
     ctx.setState((state) => ({ ...state, loading: true }));
 7
     // Refactoring 2 - extract the state operator code into a function:
8
     function setLoading(newValue: boolean) {
       return (state) => ({ ...state, loading: newValue });
10
11
     // The code would now be expressed as:
12
     ctx.setState(setLoading(true));
13
14
     // Refactoring 3 - the extracted function could then be used to represent a higher level concept
15
     function startLoading() { return setLoading(true); }
16
     // The code would now be expressed as:
17
     ctx.setState(startLoading());
```

 NGXS State Operators new options: patchState. Meaning only the properties appearing in the Partial<T> are to be updated.

```
Here <T> is WizardState = { processStarted: ..., step: ..., stepInfos: ...}
```

```
@Action([WIZARD_ACTIONS.StartProcess])
startProcess(ctx: StateContext<WizardStateModel>, action: WIZARD_ACTIONS.StartProcess) {
   ctx.patchState({processStarted: true});
}
```





Deciding what to put in the Store



Angular NGXS

Which data in the Store?

- 2 main strategies
 - Strictly Data in the Store
 - And strictly data handling Actions.

- Almost everything in the Store
 - Typically splitting ACTIONs in 3 parts:

```
GET_HERO_LOADING
GET_HERO_ERROR
GET_HERO_SUCCESS
```

- Adding more transient information like
 - loading boolean when an HTTP request is ongoing,
 - UI local state
 - Form transient state
 - Navigation Action



Storing only Stable DATA

- Storing Only Stable Data
 - Less work
 - Entity State
 - Routing State
 - Some UI State
 - Action : CREATE / UPDATE / DELETE / FIND
 - You should consider that the HTTP methods calls are outside the State/Action process. They could have been executed before the @Action() method, but for simpler code, coding inside an @Action() method is much cleaner thanks to NGXS concepts.
 - No Routing Actions (no Spring-Flow like Action/Nav configuration)



Angular NGXS

Storing a wide range of information in the Store

- Almost everything in the Store
 - Data
 - UI State
 - UI local state
 - Transient information like
 - loading State when an HTTP request is ongoing,
 - ACTIONs are like :

```
GET_HERO (meaning we start an HTTP Request)
GET_HERO_ERROR
GET_HERO_SUCCESS
```

(Optional) All Navigation in Action (Spring-Flow like)





Only Stable Data in Store



Storing only Stable DATA

Coding async work inside an @Action()

The caller gets feedback on error and on success of the last Action.



NGXS Storing only Stable DATA

Coding async work inside an @Action()

The caller gets feedback on error and on success of the last Action.

```
updateTask(taskToBeUpdated: Task) {
   return this.store.dispatch(new CRUD_ACTIONS.UpdateTask(taskToBeUpdated));
}
tasks.service.ts
```

```
onUpdate(task: Task) {
    this.tasksService.updateTask(task)
    .subscribe(
        () => Plog.debug('RECEIVING ASYNC event on SUCCESS'),
        e => Plog.state('RECEIVING ASYNC event on ERROR ', e)
        // I WILL receive any Error coming from Async Actions :
        // first or re-dispatched action if it is the focused data in the Observable xxxMap
    );
}
```



FULL Data ACTION (HTTP, SUCCESS, ERROR) in Store



FULL Data in Store

- Action CREATE_TASK could be split into 3 @Action(s)
 - CREATE_TASK => kicks in an HTTP Request
 - => on success dispatch CREATE_TASK_SUCCESS
 - => on error dispatch CREATE_TASK_ERROR

```
CREATE_TASK = '[Crud] Task Create Http',
CREATE_TASK_SUCCESS = '[Crud] Task Create Http SUCCESS',
CREATE_TASK_ERROR = '[Crud] Task Create Http ERROR',
```

- CREATE_TASK_SUCCESS
 - Modifies the State to add the createdTask into the local Store when the server says ok.
 - We could add SnackBack calls here (with still a new dispatched Action, or by code)
- CREATE_TASK_ERROR
 - We could add SnackBack calls here (with still a new dispatched Action, or by code)



FULL Data in Store

Code example

```
@Action(CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTask)
             createTask(ctx: StateContext<CrudStateModel>, action: CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTask) {
               Plog.state('ACTION!!!! starting CREATE_TASK', action);
               return this.taskHttpService.add(action.taskToCreated)
                  .pipe(
                   mergeMap(\underline{t} => \{
                       Plog.state('CallBack from HTTP Create, cascading refresh to CreateTaskSuccess');
                       return ctx.dispatch(new CRUD ACTIONS.CreateTaskSuccess(t));
                   catchError(err => ctx.dispatch(new CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTaskError(err)))
                 );
             @Action(CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTaskSuccess)
             createTaskSuccess(ctx: StateContext<CrudStateModel>, action: CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTaskSuccess) {
               Plog.state('ACTION!!!! starting CREATE_TASK_SUCCESS', action);
               ctx.setState(patch({tasks: [...ctx.getState().tasks, action.createdTask]}));
Here
             @Action(CRUD ACTIONS.CreateTaskError)
             createTaskError(ctx: StateContext<CrudStateModel>, action: CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTaskError) {
               Plog.state('ACTION!!!! starting CREATE_TASK_ERROR', action);
Here
```

We could insert UI code to show a SnackBar ...



More Data in Store, too much?

- Where to decide to show a SnackBar ?
 - State-Strict Approach
 - In the @Component Callback

- More-Data Approach
 - In the @Action() SUCCESS and ERROR

```
@Action(CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTaskSuccess)
createTaskSuccess(ctx: StateContext<CrudStateModel>, action: CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTaskSuccess) {
    Plog.state('ACTION!!!! starting CREATE_TASK_SUCCESS', action);
    ctx.setState(patch({tasks: [...ctx.getState().tasks, action.createdTask]}));
}

@Action(CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTaskError)
createTaskError(ctx: StateContext<CrudStateModel>, action: CRUD_ACTIONS.CreateTaskError) {
    Plog.state('ACTION!!!! starting CREATE_TASK_ERROR', action);
}
```

More Data in Store, too much?

- Where to decide to show a SnackBar ?
 - State-Strict Approach
 - In the @Component Callbacks
 - Then you decide if you Navigate somewhere depending on Success/Error. That is typical UI decision.

- More-Data Approach
 - In the @Action() SUCCESS and ERROR
 - Then you could add Navigation decision if you want. With that strategy all app flow is in the Store.



Inner knowledge: in the end NGXS Actions are strings!



NGXS events

Action class vs Action String Type

NGXS seems to introduce good tying to identify the Action

```
export interface ZooStateModel {
  animals: string[];
}
export class AddAnimal {
  static readonly type = '[Zoo] Add Animal';
 constructor(public name: string) {}
}
@State<ZooStateModel>({
  name: 'zoo',
  defaults: {
    animals: []
})
export class ZooState {
  @Action(AddAnimal)
  addAnimals(ctx: StateContext<ZooStateModel>, action: AddAnimal) {
    const state = ctx.getState();
    ctx.setState({
      ...state,
      animals: [...state.animals, action.name]
    });
```

NGXS events

Action class vs Action String Type

When we dispatch an action we use the Class AddAnimal,
 but the in the Reducer the class type is un-important, only the String Action.type
 will be used to execute the right methods, ex: '[Zoo] Add Animal'

```
addAnimal(name: string) {
  this.store.dispatch(new AddAnimal(name));
}
```

Identification is done only on the type String, not because the Class is AddAnimal

```
@State<ZooStateModel>({name: 'zoo'...})
export class ZooState {
     @Action(AddAnimal)
     addAnimals(ctx: StateContext<ZooStateModel>, action: AddAnimal) {
     const state = ctx.getState();
     ctx.setState({
          ...state,
          animals: [...state.animals, action.name]
     });
    }
}
```

So if you define twice the same String both Actions would be executed on same dispatch



NGXS events

Action class vs Action String Type

NGXS seems to introduce good tying to identify the Action, but only string-type matters

```
export class Start {
   static readonly type = '[P4P] Start';
}
export class Start2 {
   static readonly type = '[P4P] Start';
}
```

```
@Action(Start2)
start2(ctx: StateContext<P4pState>, action: Start2) {
   MyLogger.violet('PPPPPPP Start2 action even though Start was emit');
}

@Action(Start)
start(ctx: StateContext<P4pState>, action: Start) {
   ctx.setState(P4P_INITIAL_STATE);
}
```

```
startService() {
  this.store.dispatch(new Start());
}
```

Both action will be fired

So it is similar to real Redux or NgRx in that respect, the class API is just relooking

