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How to get the active tab In Angular Material2

Asked 2 years, 8 months ago Active 1 month ago Viewed 39k times



I want to get which [tab](#) is active. I tried to use a `@ViewChild` decorator and accessing the element properties that way, but it returns `null`.

22

Component:



7

```
import {Component, OnInit, ViewChild} from '@angular/core';

@Component({
  selector: 'material-app',
  template: `
    <md-tab-group #tabGroup>
      <md-tab label="Tab 1">Content 1</md-tab>
      <md-tab label="Tab 2">Content 2</md-tab>
    </md-tab-group>
  `
})
export class AppComponent implements OnInit {

  @ViewChild('tabGroup') tabGroup;

  constructor() {
  }

  ngOnInit() {
    console.log(this.tabGroup); // MdTabGroup Object
    console.log(this.tabGroup.selectedIndex); // null
  }
}
```

[Plunker Preview](#)



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3 Answers



43



Well, I'm not sure if I understood well your question because, by default the index always starts counting from zero **unless** you set manually the **[selectedIndex]** property .

Anyway, if you really want to see which tab is selected on *initialization* you could implement the `AfterViewInit` interface and do the following:

```
export class AppComponent implements AfterViewInit, OnInit {  
  
  ...  
  
  ngAfterViewInit() {  
    console.log('afterViewInit => ', this.tabGroup.selectedIndex);  
  }  
}
```

On other hand, if you want to check which tab is selected based on **changes** (what makes more sense), here you go:

HTML:

```
<mat-tab-group #tabGroup (selectedTabChange)="tabChanged($event)">  
  <mat-tab label="Tab 1">Content 1</mat-tab>  
  <mat-tab label="Tab 2">Content 2</mat-tab>  
</mat-tab-group>
```

Component:

```
tabChanged(tabChangeEvent: MatTabChangeEvent): void {  
  console.log('tabChangeEvent => ', tabChangeEvent);  
  console.log('index => ', tabChangeEvent.index);  
}
```

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edited Jul 26 at 0:43

answered Jan 14 '17 at 23:55



developer033

15.8k 5 45 73

1 The second case is what I was looking for, but the first one is useful to know too. Thank you @developer033! – Gabriel Jan 15 '17 at 9:28 ✎

Hi! I used this code and I've got a error that "this.tabGroup" is undefined. Only after onSelectChange Angular "see" this dom element. It's like ngAfterViewInit() doesn't work for me. Do you know what's going on? – Roberto Jul 26 '17 at 17:27

For the first option, how would you get the *name* (instead of the index) of the tab that is automatically selected on initialization? – FiringBlanks Oct 21 '17 at 6:47

@FiringBlanks you mean the *label*? If so, you can just access `tabChangeEvent.textLabel` . – developer033 Oct 22 '17 at 0:50

1 Yes, the label, but I want to get it when the tab-group is first initialized, not listen for when the tabs are changed by the user. I need to know the label of the tab that the tab-group starts with. – FiringBlanks Oct 22 '17 at 2:38 ✎

According to Material documentation Angular Material tabs output an event on tab change @Output() selectedTabChange: EventEmitter<MatTabChangeEvent>

9

Your Template:

```
<mat-tab-group (selectedTabChange)="tabChanged($event)">
  <mat-tab>
    <ng-template mat-tab-label>Tab 1</ng-template>
    Tab Content
  </mat-tab>
  <mat-tab>
    <ng-template mat-tab-label>Tab 2</ng-template>
    Tab Content
  </mat-tab>
</mat-tab-group>
```

Your Typescript:

```
import { MatTabChangeEvent } from '@angular/material';
```

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edited Apr 6 '18 at 7:01



xsami

1,153 13 30

answered Nov 21 '17 at 14:59



Uliana Pavelko

1,425 18 20

how can you know the tab index when the page loads?. Currently when the page load, your method does not log the index. Any help with this is highly appreciated as I have been stuck for a while. Thank you for the help. – [Maddy](#) Jun 21 '18 at 0:11

Thats right selectedTabChange only emits tabChangeEvent only on click when tub is changed. Not sure if there is a way that will work out of the box. You could try `<mat-tab-group #tabGroup> @ViewChild('tabGroup') tabGroup; ngAfterViewInit() { console.log(this.tabGroup.selectedIndex); }` – [Uliana Pavelko](#) Jun 21 '18 at 13:28



"@angular/material": "^6.2.1". The way to get selected tab index **on-load** (after template has loaded) and when the **tab is focused**.

5

my.component.ts

```
export class MyComponent implements OnInit, AfterViewInit {
  @ViewChild('tabGroup') tabGroup;

  ngAfterViewInit() {
    console.log(this.tabGroup.selectedIndex);
  }

  public tabChanged(tabChangeEvent: MatTabChangeEvent): void {
    console.log(tabChangeEvent);
  }
}
```

my.component.html

```
<mat-tab-group #tabGroup (focusChange)="tabChanged($event)" [selectedIndex]="1">
  <mat-tab>
    <ng-template mat-tab-label>Tab 1</ng-template>
    Tab Content
  </mat-tab>
  <mat-tab>
    <ng-template mat-tab-label>Tab 2</ng-template>
    Tab Content
  </mat-tab>
</mat-tab-group>
```

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edited Nov 13 '18 at 21:59



[Matt Rowles](#)

2,532 15 45 74

answered Jun 21 '18 at 13:38



[Uliana Pavelko](#)

1,425 18 20
