Typescript Decorators

Angular 2.0 syntax inside your 1.5 application

Background

- Angular 1.x directives were designed for Javascript
- Typescript implementations were good, but didn't reduce complexity
- Can Angular 2 syntax be applied to an Angular 1.5 application?
- Ng-forward (tried to do too much, never gained support)

What are Typescript Decorators?

- Similar to C# Attributes and Java Annotations
- Allows you to observe, modify, or replace Typescript entities

```
@Sealed
class Dog extends Animal {
    @ReadOnly
    sound = 'Woof';

    @Override
    speak() { ... }
}
```

Example

```
Before:
$inject: string[] = ['$log', '$window', '$state'];
constructor(
      $log: ng.ILogService,
      $window: ng.IWindowService,
      $state: ng.ui.IStateService) {
After:
constructor(
      @Inject('$log') $log: ng.ILogService,
      @Inject('$window') $window: ng.IWindowService,
      @Inject('$state') $state: ng.ui.IStateService) {
```

Implementation

- Create a factory function with the desired inputs
- Return a decorator that manipulates the target

```
function Inject(provider: string): ParameterDecorator {
    return (target: any, name: string, index: number) => {
        target.$inject = target.$inject || [];
        target.$inject.unshift(provider);
    }
}
```

Conversion Demo

Benefits

- Code is cleaner and more declarative
- Syntax is more inline with Angular 2
- Pattern is consistent across components, directives, and services
- Class-based architecture

Component Inheritance

- Leverage Typescript classes to easily extend components
- Dependencies, bindings, properties, and methods are inherited
- Ability to override/extend methods
- Access to base class implementations through super

Inheritance Demo

Thank You

https://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/decorators.html

https://github.com/MikeRyan52/angular-decorators

https://github.com/ngUpgraders/ng-forward

https://github.com/brechtbilliet/angular-typescript-webpack