

# Swift and Objective-C Interoperability

Session 401

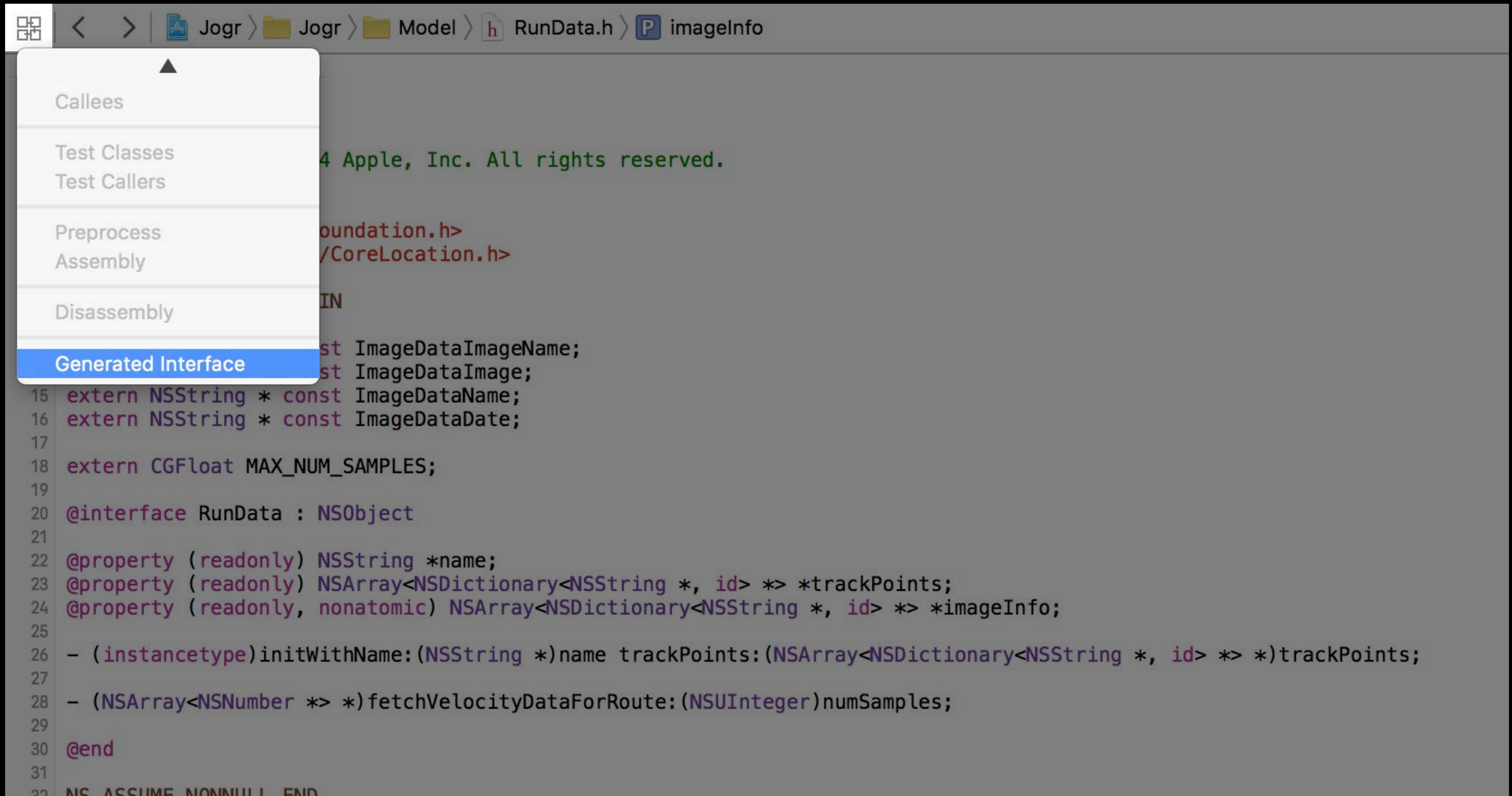
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Doug Gregor Compiler Engineer

# Objective-C APIs Are Available in Swift

```
Jogr > Jogr > Model > RunData.h > imageInfo
1 //
2 // RunData.h
3 // RoadRunner
4 //
5 // Copyright (c) 2014 Apple, Inc. All rights reserved.
6 //
7
8 #import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
9 #import <CoreLocation/CoreLocation.h>
10
11 NS_ASSUME_NONNULL_BEGIN
12
13 extern NSString * const ImageDataImageName;
14 extern NSString * const ImageDataImage;
15 extern NSString * const ImageDataName;
16 extern NSString * const ImageDataDate;
17
18 extern CGFloat MAX_NUM_SAMPLES;
19
20 @interface RunData : NSObject
21
22 @property (readonly) NSString *name;
23 @property (readonly) NSArray<NSDictionary<NSString *, id> *> *trackPoints;
24 @property (readonly, nonatomic) NSArray<NSDictionary<NSString *, id> *> *imageInfo;
25
26 - (instancetype)initWithName:(NSString *)name trackPoints:(NSArray<NSDictionary<NSString *, id> *> *)trackPoints;
27
28 - (NSArray<NSNumber *> *)fetchVelocityDataForRoute:(NSUInteger)numSamples;
29
30 @end
31
32 NS_ASSUME_NONNULL_END
```

# Objective-C APIs Are Available in Swift



The screenshot shows the Xcode IDE with a context menu open over a header file named `RunData.h`. The menu options are:

- Callees
- Test Classes
- Test Callers
- Preprocess
- Assembly
- Disassembly
- Generated Interface** (highlighted)

The background code in `RunData.h` includes a copyright notice and an Objective-C interface definition:

```
4 Apple, Inc. All rights reserved.  
  
oundation.h>  
/CoreLocation.h>  
  
IN  
  
st ImageDataImageName;  
st ImageDataImage;  
15 extern NSString * const ImageDataName;  
16 extern NSString * const ImageDataDate;  
17  
18 extern CGFloat MAX_NUM_SAMPLES;  
19  
20 @interface RunData : NSObject  
21  
22 @property (readonly) NSString *name;  
23 @property (readonly) NSArray<NSDictionary<NSString *, id> *> *trackPoints;  
24 @property (readonly, nonatomic) NSArray<NSDictionary<NSString *, id> *> *imageInfo;  
25  
26 - (instancetype)initWithName:(NSString *)name trackPoints:(NSArray<NSDictionary<NSString *, id> *> *)trackPoints;  
27  
28 - (NSArray<NSNumber *> *)fetchVelocityDataForRoute:(NSUInteger)numSamples;  
29  
30 @end  
31  
32 NS_ASSUME_NONNULL_END
```

# Objective-C APIs Are Available in Swift

The screenshot shows the Xcode IDE with a project named 'Jogr'. The current file is 'RunData.h' in the 'Model' folder. A menu is open over the file, with 'Generated Interface' selected. The main editor displays the Swift code generated from the Objective-C header. The Objective-C code defines constants for image data and a class 'RunData' that inherits from 'NSObject'. The Swift code mirrors this, using 'let' for constants and 'class' for the 'RunData' class, which has properties for 'name', 'trackPoints', and 'imageInfo', and a method 'fetchVelocityDataForRoute'.

```
1 //
2 // RunData.h
3 // RoadRunner
4 //
5 // Copyright (c) 2014 Apple, Inc. All rights reserved.
6 //
7
8 import Foundation
9 import CoreLocation
10
11 let ImageDataImageName: String
12 let ImageDataImage: String
13 let ImageDataName: String
14 let ImageDataDate: String
15
16 var MAX_NUM_SAMPLES: CGFloat
17
18 class RunData : NSObject {
19
20     var name: String { get }
21     var trackPoints: [[String : AnyObject]] { get }
22     var imageInfo: [[String : AnyObject]] { get }
23
24     init(name: String, trackPoints: [[String : AnyObject]])
25
26     func fetchVelocityDataForRoute(numSamples: UInt) -> [NSNumber]
27 }
28
```

Generated Swift code (visible in the background):

```
15 extern NSString * const
16 extern NSString * const
17
18 extern CGFloat MAX_NUM_
19
20 @interface RunData : NS
21
22 @property (readonly) NS
23 @property (readonly) NS
24 @property (readonly, no
25
26 - (instancetype)initWit
27
28 - (NSArray<NSNumber *>
29
30 @end
31
32 NS_ASSUME_NONNULL_END
```

# Roadmap

Working with Objective-C

Error Handling

Nullability Annotations

Lightweight Generics

“Kindof” Types

# Working with Objective-C

When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Subclasses of NSObject

```
class MyController : UIViewController {  
    func refresh() {  
        // ...  
        // ...  
    }  
}
```



# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Subclasses of NSObject

- **Not private**

```
class MyController : UIViewController {  
    private func refresh() {  
        // ...  
        // ...  
    }  
}
```

# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Subclasses of NSObject

- **Not private**
- **Not** using Swift features

```
class MyController : UIViewController {  
    func refresh() -> (Int, String)? {  
        // ...  
        return (status, response)  
    }  
}
```

# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Subclasses of NSObject

- **Not private**
- **Not** using Swift features

**Not** for @objc protocols

```
class MyController : UIWebViewDelegate {  
    func webViewDidStartLoad(v: UIWebView) {  
        // ...  
        // ...  
    }  
}
```

# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Subclasses of NSObject

- **Not** private
- **Not** using Swift features

**Not** for @objc protocols

```
class MyController : UIWebViewDelegate {  
    func webViewDidStartLoad(v: UIWebView) {  
        warning: non-@objc method 'webViewDidStartLoad'  
        cannot satisfy optional requirement of @objc  
        protocol 'UIWebViewDelegate'  
    }  
}
```

# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Being explicit

# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Being explicit

```
class MyController : UIViewController {  
    private func refresh() {  
        // ...  
        // ...  
    }  
}
```

# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Being explicit

```
@IBOutlet, @IBAction,  
@NSManaged
```

```
class MyController : UIViewController {  
    @IBAction private func refresh() {  
        // ...  
        // ...  
    }  
}
```

# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Being explicit

```
@IBOutlet,@IBAction,  
    @NSManaged  
dynamic
```

```
class MyController : UIViewController {  
    dynamic private var title: String? {  
        get { /* ... */ }  
        set { /* ... */ }  
    }  
}
```



# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Being explicit

```
@IBOutlet, @IBAction,  
    @NSManaged  
  
dynamic  
  
@objc
```

```
class MyController : UIViewController {  
    @objc private func refresh() {  
        // ...  
        // ...  
    }  
}
```

# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Being explicit

```
@IBOutlet, @IBAction,  
    @NSManaged  
  
dynamic  
  
@objc
```

```
class MyController : UIViewController {  
    @objc func refresh() -> (Int, String)? {  
        // ...  
        // ...  
    }  
}
```

# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Being explicit

```
@IBOutlet, @IBAction,  
    @NSManaged  
  
dynamic  
  
@objc
```

```
class MyController : UIViewController {  
    @objc func refresh() -> (Int, String)? {  
    },  
}
```

error: method cannot be marked @objc because its result type cannot be represented in Objective-C

# When Are Methods Exposed to Objective-C?

Being explicit

```
@IBOutlet, @IBAction,  
    @NSManaged  
  
dynamic  
  
@objc
```

```
class MyController : UIViewController {  
    @objc func refresh() -> (Int, String)? {  
    },  
}
```

error: method cannot be marked @objc because its result type cannot be represented in Objective-C

# Selector Conflicts

```
class CalculatorController : UIViewController {  
    func performOperation(op: (Double) -> Double) {  
        // ...  
    }  
  
    func performOperation(op: (Double, Double) -> Double) {  
        // ...  
    }  
}
```

# Selector Conflicts

```
class CalculatorController : UIViewController {  
    func performOperation(op: (Double) -> Double) {  
        // ...  
    }  
  
    func performOperation(op: (Double, Double) -> Double) {  
        //  
    }  
}
```

error: method 'performOperation' with Objective-C selector 'performOperation:' conflicts with previous declaration with the same Objective-C selector

# Selector Conflicts

```
class CalculatorController : UIViewController {  
    func performOperation(op: (Double) -> Double) {  
        // ...  
    }  
  
    @objc(performBinaryOperation:)  
    func performOperation(op: (Double, Double) -> Double) {  
        // ...  
    }  
}
```

# Selector Conflicts

NEW

```
class CalculatorController : UIViewController {  
    func performOperation(op: (Double) -> Double) {  
        // ...  
    }  
  
    @nonobjc  
    func performOperation(op: (Double, Double) -> Double) {  
        // ...  
    }  
}
```



# Function Pointers

# Function Pointers

Used in C for callbacks

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Used in C for callbacks

Like closures, but can't carry state

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Used in C for callbacks

Like closures, but can't carry state

```
let fd = funopen(nil, nil, {  
  [weak self] ctx, data, length in  
  self?.appendData(data, length)  
  return length  
}, nil, nil)
```

# Function Pointers

Used in C for callbacks

Like closures, but can't carry state

```
let fd = funopen(nil, nil, {  
  [weak self] ctx, data, length in  
  self?.appendData(data, length)  
  return length  
}, nil, nil)
```

error: C function pointer cannot be formed from a closure that captures context

# Function Pointers

In Swift 1.2

```
| typedef void (*dispatch_function_t)(void *);
```

```
| typealias dispatch_function_t =  
|     CFunctionPointer<(UnsafeMutablePointer<Void>) -> Void>
```

# Function Pointers

In Swift 2.0

NEW

```
| typedef void (*dispatch_function_t)(void *);
```

```
| typealias dispatch_function_t =  
|     @convention(c) (UnsafeMutablePointer<Void>) -> Void
```

# Error Handling



# Error Handling

Objective-C

```
- (id)contentsForType:(NSString *)typeName  
    error:(NSError **)outError;
```

Swift

```
func contentsForType(typeName: String) throws -> AnyObject
```

# Error Handling

Objective-C

```
- (id)contentsForType:(NSString *)typeName  
    error:(NSError **)outError;
```

Swift

```
func contentsForType(typeName: String) throws -> AnyObject
```

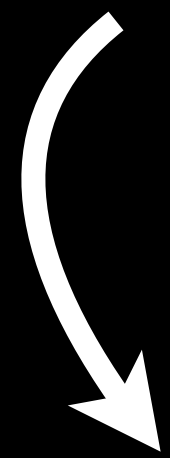
# Error Handling

Objective-C

```
- (id)contentsForType:(NSString *)typeName  
    error:(NSError **)outError;
```

Swift

```
func contentsForType(typeName: String) throws -> AnyObject
```



# Error Handling

Objective-C

```
- (id)contentsForType:(NSString *)typeName  
    error:(NSError **)outError;
```

Swift

```
func contentsForType(typeName: String) throws -> AnyObject
```

# Error Handling

## Return types

### Objective-C

```
- (id) contentsForType:(NSString *)typeName  
                    error:(NSError **)outError;
```

### Swift

```
func contentsForType(typeName: String) throws -> AnyObject
```

# Error Handling

## Return types

### Objective-C

```
- (BOOL)readFromURL:(NSURL *)url  
                error:(NSError **)outError;
```

### Swift

```
func readFromURL(url: NSURL) throws -> Void
```

# Error Handling

"AndReturnError"

Objective-C

```
| - (BOOL)checkResourceIsReachableAndReturnError:(NSError **)error;
```

Swift

```
| func checkResourceIsReachable() throws -> Void
```

# Error Handling

## Callbacks?

### Objective-C

```
- (void)moveToURL:(NSURL *)url  
completionHandler:(void (^)(NSError *))handler;
```

### Swift

```
func moveToURL(url: NSURL,  
               completionHandler handler: (NSError?) -> Void)
```



“What if I call a Swift method from Objective-C and it throws an error?”

# Error Handling

## The secret life of ErrorType

```
@objc enum RequestError : Int, ErrorType {  
    case Incomplete = 9001  
}
```

# Error Handling

## The secret life of ErrorType

```
@objc enum RequestError : Int, ErrorType {
    case Incomplete = 9001
}

func sendRequest(request: Request) throws {
    if !request.isComplete {
        throw RequestError.Incomplete
    }
    // ...
}
```

# Error Handling

## The secret life of ErrorType

```
@objc enum RequestError : Int, ErrorType {  
    case Incomplete = 9001  
}
```

```
NSError *error;  
id result = [controller sendRequest:request error:&error];
```

# Error Handling

## The secret life of ErrorType

```
@objc enum RequestError : Int, ErrorType {  
    case Incomplete = 9001  
}
```

```
NSError *error;  
id result = [controller sendRequest:request error:&error];
```

# Error Handling

## The secret life of NSError

```
@objc enum RequestError : Int, NSError {
    case Incomplete = 9001
}
```

```
NSError *error;
id result = [controller sendRequest:request error:&error];
if (!result) {
    NSLog(@"failure %@: %ld", error.domain, error.code);
    return nil;
}
```

# Error Handling

## The secret life of NSError

```
@objc enum RequestError : Int, NSError {  
    case Incomplete = 9001  
}
```

```
NSError *error;  
id result = [controller sendRequest:request error:&error];  
if (!result) {  
    NSLog(@"failure %@: %ld", error.domain, error.code);  
    return nil;  
}
```

```
failure MyApp.RequestError: 9001
```

# Error Handling

## The secret life of NSError

```
@objc enum RequestError : Int, NSError {  
    case Incomplete = 9001  
}
```

```
// Generated by Swift 2.0.  
typedef NS_ENUM(NSUInteger, RequestError) {  
    RequestErrorIncomplete = 9001  
};
```



# Error Handling

## The secret life of NSError

```
@objc enum RequestError : Int, NSError {  
    case Incomplete = 9001  
}
```

```
// Generated by Swift 2.0.  
typedef NS_ENUM(NSUInteger, RequestError) {  
    RequestErrorIncomplete = 9001  
};  
static NSString * const RequestErrorDomain = @"...";
```

# Handling Cocoa Errors

# Handling Cocoa Errors

```
func preflight() -> Bool {
  do {
    try url.checkResourceIsReachable()
    resetState()
    return true
  } catch NSError.FileDoesNotExist {
    return true // still okay
  } catch {
    return false
  }
}
```

# Handling Cocoa Errors

```
func preflight() -> Bool {
  do {
    try url.checkResourceIsReachable()
    resetState()
    return true
  } catch NSError.FileDoesNotExist {
    return true // still okay
  } catch {
    return false
  }
}
```

# Handling Cocoa Errors

```
func preflight() -> Bool {  
    do {  
        try url.checkResourceIsReachable()  
        resetState()  
        return true  
    } catch NSError.FileDoesNotExist {  
        return true // still okay  
    } catch {  
        return false  
    }  
}
```

NSCocoaError

NSError

AVError

CKErrorCode

CLError

GKErrorCode

HMErrorCode

POSIXError

WKErrorCode

WatchKitErrorCode

Nullability for Objective-C

# Which Pointers Can Be `nil`?

Objective-C

```
@interface UIView
@property(nonatomic, readonly) UIView *superview;
@property(nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray *subviews;
- (UIView *)hitTest:(CGPoint)point withEvent:(UIEvent *)event;
@end
```

# Which Pointers Can Be `nil`?

Objective-C

```
@interface UIView
@property(nonatomic, readonly) UIView *superview;
@property(nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray *subviews;
- (UIView *)hitTest:(CGPoint)point withEvent:(UIEvent *)event;
@end
```

Swift 1.0

```
class UIView {
    var superview: UIView!
    var subviews: [AnyObject]!
    func hitTest(point: CGPoint, withEvent: UIEvent!) -> UIView!
}
```



# Nullability Audit

## Objective-C

```
@interface UIView
@property(nonatomic, readonly) UIView *superview;
@property(nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray *subviews;
- (UIView *)hitTest:(CGPoint)point withEvent:(UIEvent *)event;
@end
```

## Swift 1.1

```
class UIView {
    var superview: UIView?
    var subviews: [AnyObject]
    func hitTest(point: CGPoint, withEvent: UIEvent?) -> UIView?
}
```

# Nullability Qualifiers for Objective-C

Indicate whether Objective-C/C pointers can be `nil`

- Better communicates the intent of APIs
- Allows improved static checking
- Improves usability of APIs in Swift

# Nullability Qualifiers

Qualifier	Usage	Swift
<code>nullable</code>	Pointer may be <code>nil</code>	<code>UIView?</code>
<code>nonnull</code>	<code>nil</code> is not a meaningful value	<code>UIView</code>
<code>null_unspecified</code>	Neither <code>nullable</code> nor <code>nonnull</code> applies	<code>UIView!</code>

# Nullability in the SDK

Nullability qualifiers used throughout the SDKs

New warnings for misuses of APIs with non-null parameters

```
| [tableView deselectRowAtIndexPath: nil animated: false];
```

# Nullability in the SDK

Nullability qualifiers used throughout the SDKs

New warnings for misuses of APIs with non-null parameters

```
| [tableView deselectRowAtIndexPath: nil animated: false];
```

warning: null passed to a callee  
that requires a non-null argument

# Audited Regions

Objective-C

```
NS_ASSUME_NONNULL_BEGIN
```

```
@interface UIView
```

```
@property(nonatomic, readonly) UIView *superview;
```

```
@property(nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray *subviews;
```

```
- (UIView *)hitTest:(CGPoint)point withEvent:(UIEvent *)event;
```

```
@end
```

```
NS_ASSUME_NONNULL_END
```

Audited regions make default assumptions about some pointers:

- Single-level pointers are assumed to be `nonnull`
- `NSError**` parameters are assumed to be nullable for both levels

# Audited Regions

Objective-C

```
NS_ASSUME_NONNULL_BEGIN
```

```
@interface UIView
```

```
@property(n nonatomic, readonly, nullable) UIView *superview;
```

```
@property(n nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray *subviews;
```

```
- (nullable UIView *)hitTest:(CGPoint)point withEvent:(nullable UIEvent *)event;
```

```
@end
```

```
NS_ASSUME_NONNULL_END
```

Audited regions make default assumptions about some pointers:

- Single-level pointers are assumed to be `nonnull`
- `NSError**` parameters are assumed to be nullable for both levels

Only annotate the `nullable` or `null_unspecified` cases

# C Pointers

Double-underscored variants of nullability qualifiers can be used anywhere

Write the nullability qualifier *after* the pointer

```
CFArrayRef __nonnull CFArrayCreate(  
    CFAllocatorRef __nullable allocator,  
    const void * __nonnull * __nullable values,  
    CFIndex numValues,  
    const CFArrayCallBacks * __nullable callBacks);
```



# C Pointers

Double-underscored variants of nullability qualifiers can be used anywhere

Write the nullability qualifier *after* the pointer

```
CFArrayRef __nonnull CFArrayCreate(  
    CFAllocatorRef __nullable allocator,  
    const void * __nonnull * __nullable values,  
    CFIndex numValues,  
    const CFArrayCallBacks * __nullable callbacks);
```

# C Pointers

Double-underscored variants of nullability qualifiers can be used anywhere

Write the nullability qualifier *after* the pointer

```
CFArrayRef __nonnull CFArrayCreate(  
    CFAllocatorRef __nullable allocator,  
    const void * __nonnull * __nullable values,  
    CFIndex numValues,  
    const CFArrayCallBacks * __nullable callBacks);
```

# Nullability for Objective-C

Used throughout the SDKs

Use it to improve your Objective-C APIs

# Lightweight Generics for Objective-C

# Collections

Objective-C

```
@interface UIView  
@property(n nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray *subviews;  
@end
```

# Collections

Objective-C

```
@interface UIView  
@property(n nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray *subviews;  
@end
```

Swift

```
class UIView {  
    var subviews: [AnyObject] { get }  
}
```

# Typed Collections

Allow collections to be parameterized by element type

- “An array of views”
- “A dictionary mapping strings to images”

# Typed Collections

Allow collections to be parameterized by element type

- “An array of views”
- “A dictionary mapping strings to images”

Lightweight generics for Objective-C

- Improve expressivity of APIs
- Make collections easier to use
- Enable better static type checking



# Typed Collections

Objective-C

```
@interface UIView  
@property(nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray *subviews;  
@end
```

# Typed Collections

Objective-C

```
@interface UIView  
@property(n nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray<UIView *> *subviews;  
@end
```

# Typed Collections

NEW

Objective-C

```
@interface UIView  
@property(n nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray<UIView *> *subviews;  
@end
```

# Typed Collections

NEW

Objective-C

```
@interface UIView
@property(n nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray<UIView *> *subviews;
@end
```

Swift

```
class UIView {
    var subviews: [UIView] { get }
}
```

# Type Safety for Typed Collections

```
NSURL *url = ...;  
NSArray<NSURL *> *components = url.pathComponents;
```

# Type Safety for Typed Collections

```
NSURL *url = ...;  
NSArray<NSURL *> *components = url.pathComponents;
```

warning: incompatible pointer types initializing  
'NSArray<NSURL \*> \*' with 'NSArray<NSString \*> \*'

# Type Safety for Typed Collections

```
NSURL *url = ...;  
NSArray<NSURL *> *components = url.pathComponents;
```

warning: incompatible pointer types initializing  
'NSArray<NSURL \*> \*' with 'NSArray<NSString \*> \*'

```
NSMutableArray<NSString *> *results = ...;  
[results addObject: @17];
```

# Type Safety for Typed Collections

```
NSURL *url = ...;  
NSArray<NSURL *> *components = url.pathComponents;
```

warning: incompatible pointer types initializing  
'NSArray<NSURL \*> \*' with 'NSArray<NSString \*> \*'

```
NSMutableArray<NSString *> *results = ...;  
[results addObject: @17];
```

warning: incompatible pointer types sending  
'NSNumber \*' to parameter of type 'NSString \*'



# Type Safety for Typed Collections

```
NSArray<UIView *> *views;  
NSArray<UIResponder *> *responders = views;
```

# Type Safety for Typed Collections

```
NSArray<UIView *> *views;  
NSArray<UIResponder *> *responders = views;
```

```
NSMutableArray<UIView *> *storedViews;  
NSMutableArray<UIResponder *> *storedResponders = storedViews;
```

# Type Safety for Typed Collections

```
NSArray<UIView *> *views;  
NSArray<UIResponder *> *responders = views;
```

```
NSMutableArray<UIView *> *storedViews;  
NSMutableArray<UIResponder *> *storedResponders = storedViews;  
[storedResponders addObject: myViewController];
```

# Type Safety for Typed Collections

```
NSArray<UIView *> *views;  
NSArray<UIResponder *> *responders = views;
```

```
NSMutableArray<UIView *> *storedViews;  
NSMutableArray<UIResponder *> *storedResponders = storedViews;  
[storedResponders addObject: myViewController];
```

warning: incompatible pointer types initializing  
'NSMutableArray<UIResponder \*> \*' with  
'NSMutableArray<UIView \*> \*'

# Defining Lightweight Generics

```
@interface NSArray : NSObject
```

```
@end
```

# Defining Lightweight Generics

```
@interface NSArray<ObjectType> : NSObject
```

```
@end
```

# Defining Lightweight Generics

NEW

```
@interface NSArray<ObjectType> : NSObject
```

```
@end
```

- Type parameters specified in <...>

# Parameterized Classes

NEW

```
@interface NSArray<ObjectType> : NSObject
- (ObjectType)objectAtIndex:(NSUInteger)index;
```

```
@end
```

- Type parameters specified in <...>
- Type parameters can be used throughout that interface



# Parameterized Classes

NEW

```
@interface NSArray<ObjectType> : NSObject
- (ObjectType)objectAtIndex:(NSUInteger)index;
- (instancetype)initWithObjects:(const ObjectType [])objects
                           count:(NSUInteger)cnt;
- (NSArray<ObjectType> *)arrayByAddingObject:(ObjectType)anObject;
@end
```

- Type parameters specified in <...>
- Type parameters can be used throughout that interface

# Categories and Extensions

NEW

```
@interface NSDictionary<KeyType, ObjectType> (Lookup)
- (nullable ObjectType)objectForKey:(KeyType)aKey;
@end
```

```
@interface NSDictionary (Counting)
@property (readonly) NSUInteger count;
@end
```

# Backward Compatibility

Type erasure model provides binary compatibility

- No changes to the Objective-C runtime
- Zero impact on code generation

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Implicit conversions provide source compatibility:

```
NSArray<NSString *> *strings = ...;  
NSArray *array = ...;  
array = strings; // okay, drops type arguments  
strings = array; // okay, adds type arguments
```

“Kindof”Types for Objective-C

# A Problem of Evolution

```
@interface UIView  
@property(n nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray *subviews;  
@end
```

```
[view.subviews[0] setTitle:@"Yes" forState:UIControlStateNormal];
```

# A Problem of Evolution

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```
[view.subviews[0] setTitle:@"Yes" forState:UIControlStateNormal];
```

warning: 'UIView' may not respond to 'setTitle:forState:'



# `id` is a Weak API Contract

Many `id`-producing APIs mean “some subclass of `NSFoo`”:

```
| extern id NSApp; // NSApplication instance
```

# `id` is a Weak API Contract

NEW

“Kindof” types express “some kind of X”

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| extern __kindof NSApplication *NSApp; // NSApplication instance
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“Kindof” types express “some kind of X”

Many `id`-producing APIs mean “some subclass of `NSFoo`”:

```
| extern __kindof NSApplication *NSApp; // NSApplication instance
```

`__kindof` types implicit convert to superclasses and subclasses:

```
| NSObject *object = NSApp; // convert to superclass  
| MyApplication *myApp = NSApp; // convert to subclass  
| NSString *string = NSApp;
```

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```

```
warning: incompatible pointer types initializing  
'NSString *' from '__kindof NSApplication *'
```

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| NSObject *object = NSApp; // convert to superclass  
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| NSString *string = NSApp;
```

Allows messaging subclass methods:

```
| [NSApp praiseUser]; // invokes -[MyApplication praiseUser]
```

# “Kindof” Types Are a More Useful `id`

Objective-C

```
@interface NSTableView : NSControl
-(nullable id)viewAtColumn:(NSInteger)column
                        row:(NSInteger)row
                        makeIfNecessary:(BOOL)makeIfNecessary;
@end
```

Swift

```
class NSTableView : NSControl {
    func viewAtColumn(column: Int, row: Int, makeIfNecessary: Bool)
        -> AnyObject?
}
```

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        -> NSView?
}
```

# “Kindof” Types with Lightweight Generics

Objective-C

```
@interface UIView
@property(n nonatomic, readonly, copy) NSArray<UIView *> *subviews;
@end
```

```
[view.subviews[0] setTitle:@"Yes" forState:UIControlStateNormal];
UIButton *button = view.subviews[0];
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# “Kindof” Types with Lightweight Generics

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[view.subviews[0] setTitle:@"Yes" forState:UIControlStateNormal];
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# Should I Use `id` in an API?

Most idiomatic uses of `id` can be replaced with a more precise type

- `instancetype` for methods that return `self`
- Typed collections for most collections
- `__kindof X *` for "some subclass of `X`"
- `id<SomeProtocol>` for any type that conforms to `SomeProtocol`

# Should I Use `id` in an API?

Most idiomatic uses of `id` can be replaced with a more precise type

- `instancetype` for methods that return “`self`”
- Typed collections for most collections
- `__kindof X *` for “some subclass of `X`”
- `id<SomeProtocol>` for any type that conforms to `SomeProtocol`

Use `id` when you truly mean “an object of any type”:

```
| @property (nullable, copy) NSDictionary<NSString *, id> *userInfo;
```

# Summary

Swift and Objective-C are co-designed to work together

- Xcode helps you move between the two languages

Modernize your Objective-C!

- New Objective-C language features improve API expressiveness
- Find problems faster with better type safety in Objective-C
- Makes your Objective-C interfaces beautiful in Swift

# More Information

Swift Language Documentation

<http://developer.apple.com/swift>

Apple Developer Forums

<http://developer.apple.com/forums>

Stefan Lesser

Swift Evangelist

[slesser@apple.com](mailto:slesser@apple.com)

# Related Sessions

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What's New in Swift	Presidio	Tuesday 11:00AM
What's New in Cocoa	Presidio	Tuesday 1:30PM
Improving Your Existing Apps with Swift	Pacific Heights	Tuesday 3:30PM
Swift in Practice	Presidio	Thursday 2:30PM
Building Better Apps with Value Types in Swift	Mission	Friday 2:30PM

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# Labs

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Swift Lab

Developer Tools Lab A

Tuesday 1:30PM

---

Cocoa Lab

Frameworks Lab B

Tuesday 2:30PM

---

Swift Lab

Developer Tools Lab A

Wednesday 9:00AM

---

Foundation Lab

Frameworks Lab A

Wednesday 9:00AM

---

Swift Lab

Developer Tools Lab A

Wednesday 1:30PM

---

Swift Lab

Developer Tools Lab A

Thursday 9:00AM

---

Swift Lab

Developer Tools Lab A

Thursday 1:30PM

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