Extensions: Sharing Code and Data

CS193W - Spring 2016 - Lecture 6

Sandboxing



Malicious apps cannot access resources outside their sandbox.

Sandboxed Content



App Extensions

- App Extensions (e.g. Apple Watch applications) allow an app to extend the functionality of other apps
- They do this while keeping apps sandboxed. Communication occurs via an Extension Context.

Today Widgets



Share Extensions



Action Extensions



Photo Editors



Document Providers



Custom Keyboards



Extensions are not Apps

- Do not have application lifecycle events.
- They do not have application delegates or application lifecycle events.

Some APIs are unavailable to App Extensions

- There is no sharedApplication object (i.e. no App Delegate)
- Cannot access the camera or microphone of the iOS device
- Cannot perform long-running background tasks
- Cannot access APIs marked NS_EXTENSION_UNAVAILABLE (HealthKit, EventKit, etc.)

Application Structure



Sharing Data (Extensions that run on the iPhone)

- You can share data via NSUserDefaults
- Instead of NSUserDefaults.standardUserDefaults(), use:

NSUserDefaults(suiteName: "group.com.mycompany.myapp"]

aka

[NSUserDefauts initWithSuiteName: @"group.com.mycompany.myapp"]

where group.com.mycompany.myapp is the id of an App Group

Setting up App Groups

- Go to <u>developer.apple.com</u> -> Certificates, Identifiers & Profiles
- Create App IDs for the containing app and the extensions and enable App Groups services for them:
 - com.mycompany.myapp
 - com.mycompany.myapp.myextension
- Then create an app group:
 - group.com.mycompany.myapp

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Certificates, Identifiers	& Profiles Michael Kassoff *	
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 Certificates All Pending Development Production 	ID Registering an App ID	
 Identifiers App IDs Pass Type IDs Website Push IDs iCloud Containers 	The App ID string contains two parts separated by a period (.)—an App ID Prefix that is defined as your Team ID by default and an App ID Suffix that is defined as a Bundle ID search string. Each part of an App ID has different and important uses for your app. Learn More	
 App Groups Merchant IDs Devices All 	App ID Description Name: My App ID You cannot use special characters such as @, &, *, *, *	
 Provisioning Profiles All Development Distribution 	App ID Prefix Value: VS88UM9Z3U (Team ID)	
	App ID Suffix	

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 App ID Suffix Explicit App ID If you plan to incorporate app services such as Game Center, In-App Purchase, Data Protection, and iCloud, or want a provisioning profile unique to a single app, you must register an explicit App ID for your app. To create an explicit App ID, enter a unique string in the Bundle ID field. This string should match the Bundle ID of your app. Bundle ID: com.mycompany.myapp We recommend using a reverse-domain name style string (i.e., com.domainname.appname). It cannot contain an asterisk (*). Wildcard App ID This allows you to use a single App ID to match multiple apps. To create a wildcard App ID, enter an asterisk (*) as the last digit in the Bundle ID field. Bundle ID: Example: com.domainname.*	
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Certificates, Identifiers &	& Profiles Michael Kassoff	•
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Devices All	You cannot use special characters such as @, &, *, ', *	
 Provisioning Profiles All Development Distribution 	Identifier Enter a unique identifier for your App Group, starting with the string 'group'. ID: group.com.mycompany.myapp We recommend using a reverse-domain name style string (i.e., com.domainname.appname).	
	Cancel	

Associating App IDs with App Groups

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Setting up App Groups (cont'd)

 In Xcode, enable App Groups for each target for that will be sharing data between via the app group

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Sharing Code

• To share code and resources between targets, you can either:

Include the source file or resource in each target you want it in

-()R-

Create an embedded framework that contains a single copy of your code or resource



Creating a new framework

 File -> New Target -> Framework & Library -> Cocoa Touch Framework

|--|

Choose options for your new target:

Pro	oduct Name:	SampleKit		
Organiz	ation Name:	Michael Kassoff		
Organizati	on Identifier:	com.dragosaurus.lister		
Bund	lle Identifier:	com.dragosaurus.lister.SampleKit		
	Language:	Swift	\$	
	Project:	A CS193P	\$	
Embed in	Application:	A CS193P	\$	

Using your Framework

- 1. Add classes to your framework
- 2. Mark classes, methods and enumerations that you want to expose as public
- 3. Add framework as Linked Framework to your target (see next slide)
- 4. Import your framework with an import statement:

```
import SampleKit
```

Adding Framework to a Target

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Adding a File to Your Framework

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Access Control in Swift: Terminology

- Module A framework or application. Each build target corresponds to a module.
- Source File A single file of code in a module. Note that a single file can contain multiple class definitions etc.

Access Levels

- Public An entity that can be accessed from outside and inside a module
- Internal An entity that can be accessed only inside a module
- Private An entity that can be accessed only within its own source file

Access control: Syntax

public class SomePublicClass {}
internal class SomeInternalClass {}
private class SomePrivateClass {}

public var somePublicVariable = 0
internal let someInternalConstant = 0
private func somePrivateFunction() {}

Example

```
public class Sample {
    public func doSomething() {
        print("something")
    }
}
```

But: Frameworks are Tied to an OS

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So...

- You can use Frameworks to share code between a Today Extension and an iOS app
- But you can't use Frameworks to share code between an iOS app and a Watch App
- You can still use Frameworks to share code across apps

Watch Connectivity

Watch App, iPhone App

- Your iPhone app and your Apple Watch app often need to share data and talk to one another
- In particular, this is important for apps or data that are not saved in the cloud

WatchConnectivity Framework

- Both iOS and WatchOS share the WatchConnectivity framework
- Requires iOS 9 and WatchOS 2
- The majority of methods in the framework are found on both iOS and WatchOS
- Some functionality has changed / been added in iOS 9.3 / WatchOS 2.2 to allow multiple watches to be paired with the same iPhone

2 Types of Transfers

Interactive messaging

- For when you need the transfer to happen right away
- Requires both the phone and watch to be reachable

Background transfers

- For when you can afford to wait
- WatchConnectivity batches transfers to save battery life

WCSession

- Most of the functionality of the WatchConnectivity framework is found in the WCSession class
- Both the iOS app and WatchOS app must maintain their own WCSession object

Getting the Session

- Call WCSession.isSupported() on iPhone to make sure that the iPhone is a model that can pair with an Apple Watch. This method will always return true on an Apple Watch.
- If so, you can access the session by calling
 WCSession.defaultSession()

Activating the Session

- Before activating your session you must assign a delegate that conforms to WCSessionDelegate
- Then you can call session.activateSession()
- After calling activateSession, your delegate will get a callback on:

optional func session(_ session: WCSession, activationDidCompleteWithState activationState: WCSessionActivationState, error error: NSError?)

 activationState can be one of .NotActivated, .Inactive and .Activated

Paired Device Information (iOS only)

Once you have an activated session, you can call:

paired - true if the iPhone is currently paired with an Apple Watch

watchAppInstalled - true if the app is installed on the Apple Watch

complicationEnabled – **true** if the user has the watch app's complication enabled

true if the app's complication is installed on the active watch face

Reachability

reachable

true when other device is paired, in-range and has an active session. iOS apps do not need to be in the foreground but WatchOS apps do.

iOSDeviceNeedsUnlockAfterRebootForReachability

true if the user's iPhone has not been unlocked yet since rebooting. (WatchOS only)

Interactive Messaging

- The devices must be reachable
- One side sends with WCSession
 sendMessage(_:replyHandler:errorHandler:)
- The other side receives with WCSessionDelegate session(_:didReceiveMessage:)

Sending a Message

func sendMessage(_ message: [String : AnyObject],
 replyHandler replyHandler: (([String : AnyObject]) -> Void)?,
 errorHandler errorHandler: ((NSError) -> Void)?)

message and the reply are dictionaries of property list values.

Set the *replyHandler* to **nil** if you don't want a reply.

The error handler is invoked if the device you are sending to is unreachable.

Messages are queued in order sent and sent asynchronously. Reply callbacks occur serially on a background thread.

Sending to iOS wakes up the iOS app in the background, but sending to WatchOS requires that the WatchOS app is in the foreground already.

Receiving a Message

If no reply is requested

If a reply is requested

In this case, you must call replyHandler at some point.

Messages are received serially on an background thread.

Sending and Receiving Data

Same idea, but send **NSData** instead of a **Dictionary**.

optional func session(_ session: WCSession, didReceiveMessageData messageData: NSData)

optional func session(_ session: WCSession, didReceiveMessageData messageData: NSData, replyHandler replyHandler: (NSData) -> Void)

Types of Background Transfers

Updating Application Context

Only the latest context is received by the receiver; previous contexts are overridden. Good for getting a head start on updating your interface with frequently updated data.

e.g. Show 5 most current emails or news stories

Transferring Property Lists

Messages are queued in the order received.

e.g. change a setting

Transferring Files

Messages are queued in the order received.

e.g. transfer a voice message

Updating Application Context

```
Sender(WCSession)
do {
    try session.updateApplicationContext(applicationContext)
    } catch let error {
    throw error
    }
}
```

Receiver (WCSessionDelegate)

optional func session(_ session: WCSession, didReceiveApplicationContext applicationContext: [String : AnyObject])

Application Context Properties (WCSession)

applicationContext The latest application context sent

receivedApplicationContext The latest application context received

Sending Property List Data

WCSession

func transferUserInfo(_ userInfo: [String : AnyObject]) -> WCSessionUserInfoTransfer

var outstandingUserInfoTransfers: [WCSessionUserInfoTransfer] { get }

WCSessionDelegate

Transfers happen in the background and continue even if the app is suspended.

Receiving Property List Data

WCSessionDelegate

Monitoring User Info Transfers with WCSessionUserInfoTransfer

userInfo The dictionary being sent

transferring true if the data has yet to be transferred completely. false if the transfer is complete.

cancel()
cancels the transfer

Sending Complication Data

func transferCurrentComplicationUserInfo(_ userInfo: [String : AnyObject]) ->
WCSessionUserInfoTransfer

works like transferUserInfo except:

- Only used for transferring from iPhone to Apple Watch
- High priority, is sent right away
- Only one of these can be sent at a time; initiating a new one cancels the old one.

Sending Files

WCSession

var outstandingFileTransfers: [WCSessionFileTransfer] { get }

WCSessionDelegate

File URLs must be local to the sending device.

Transfers happen in the background and continue even if the app is suspended.

Receiving Files

WCSessionDelegate

WCSessionFile

fileURL: NSURL

The temporary URL of the file has been transferred. You must transfer the file to a permanent directory before **session:didReceiveFile:** returns.

metadata: [String : AnyObject]?

The optional dictionary of property list values sent with the file

Monitoring User Info Transfers with WCSessionFileTransfer

file
The WCSessionFile being sent

transferring true if the data has yet to be transferred completely. false if the transfer is complete.

cancel()
cancels the transfer