

Advanced Mobile Application Development

Week 4: Navigation Controllers

Navigation Controllers

Navigation controllers manage the navigation of hierarchical content by providing a drill-down interface for hierarchical data.

- often in table views

On the iPhone and iPod hierarchical data is best shown using a succession of table views.

On the iPhone Plus and iPad a split view is used.

The UINavigationController class has two main components

- Stack of controllers
- Navigation bar

The root controller is the initial view controller a navigation controller displays.

Subsequent view controllers are subcontrollers

The UINavigationController class enables the navigation bar to manage navigation between different views in a navigation controller <https://developer.apple.com/reference/uikit/uINavigationController>

Navigation bar buttons (defaults)

- Left: Back
- Middle: Navigation item's title
- Right: Empty; editing or custom buttons

You can also customize the appearance of a navigation bar

Table View Cell Accessories

Table view cells can include accessories that help indicate to the user what can be done by that cell. (image)

<https://developer.apple.com/reference/uikit/UITableViewCellAccessoryType>

- Disclosure indicator: use when selecting a cell results in the display of another view reflecting the next level in the data-model hierarchy.
- Detail button reveals additional details or functionality related the item
- Detail disclosure button when there are 2 different options for that row: one action when the user taps the row and another when they tap the detail button.
- Checkmark when a touch on a row results in the selection of that item. This kind of table view is known as a selection list, and it is analogous to a pop-up list. Selection lists can limit selections to one row, or they can allow multiple rows with checkmarks.

Table View Cell Types

Dynamic prototype cells let you design one cell and use it as a template for other cells in the table.

Static cells enable you to design a table with a fixed number of rows

- use when you know what the table looks like at design time
- these are static in the sense that they will exist every time the app is run
- less code than dynamic prototype cells
- the content of static cells can still change but the number does not (ex: Settings)

Countries

File | New Project
Single View app
iPhone
countries

Root view controller

Go into the MainStoryboard document outline and delete the view.

Drag a Table View out into the controller.

Go into the connections inspector and connect the dataSource and delegate to the View Controller icon.

Drag out a table view cell onto the view.

Select the Table View Cell and in the attributes inspector make the identifier “CellIdentifier”.

Select the View Controller and go into the identity inspector and make sure the class is our ViewController class.

(Or you can do the same thing we did last time, replace the view controller with a table view controller.)

Now for this table view controller to be controlled by a navigation controller, with the controller selected go to Editor | Embed in | Navigation Controller.

This creates a navigation controller as the root view controller.

It also created a relationship segue from the navigation controller to the table view controller.

We want our class to be the controller so go into ViewController.swift and change its super class to `UITableViewController`.

Run it and you should see an empty table (and space for a navigation bar at the top). Although this looks the same as last time, we’re going to be able to navigate from the cells to another view controller (once we add that).

Drag continents.plist into your app and make sure you have Copy items if needed checked.

It’s a Dictionary of [String : [String]]

Before we get our table set up we’re going to create a class for our data model.

File | New File

iOS Source

Swift File

Continents

Make sure it’s saving to your project folder and the target is checked.

Create a class for our data model.

```
class Continents {  
    var continentData = [String : [String]]()  
    var continents = [String]()  
}
```

In ViewController.swift create an instance of the Continents class to store our data

```
var continentList=Continents()
```

Now let’s get our table set up. This process will be similar to our last app.

Now let’s load our plist of countries into our app. This is the same code as last time.

```

func getDataFile() -> String? {
    //use a Bundle object of the directory for our application to
    retrieve the pathname of continents.plist
    guard let pathString = Bundle.main.path(forResource: "continents",
ofType: "plist") else {
        return nil
    }
    return pathString
}

override func viewDidLoad() {
    super.viewDidLoad()
    guard let path = getDataFile() else{
        print("Error loading file")
        return
    }
    //load the data of the plist file into the dictionary
    continentList.continentData = NSDictionary(contentsOfFile: path) as!
[String : [String]]
    //puts all the continents in an array
    continentList.continents = Array(continentList.continentData.keys)
}

```

Now we'll implement the two required methods for the UITableViewDataSource protocol.

```

//Number of rows in the section
override func tableView(_ tableView: UITableView, numberOfRowsInSectionSection:
Int) -> Int {
    return continentList.continentData.count
}

// Displays table view cells
override func tableView(_ tableView: UITableView, cellForRowAt
indexPath: IndexPath) -> UITableViewCell {
    //configure the cell
    let cell = tableView.dequeueReusableCell(withIdentifier:
"CellIdentifier", for: indexPath)
    cell.textLabel?.text = continentList.continents[indexPath.row]
    return cell
}

```

Run it and you should see the continent data listed in the table view.

Detail view controller

Now we want to be able to select a continent and see a list of countries.

Go into MainStoryboard and drag a table view controller onto the canvas to the right to be the detail view controller.

Now we need a class to control it.

File | New | File

iOS | Cocoa touch class

DetailViewController subclass of UITableViewController

Once created double check that DetailViewController is a subclass of UITableViewController.

Also look to see that it's added methods stubs for all the table view methods we'll need.

Go back into the storyboard and make that the class for your new table view controller. Before we forget, select the table view cell in the detail view controller and give it the identifier CellIdentifier.

Now let's make the segue from the master to detail view controller.

Cntrl-click from the master prototype cell and drag to the detail view controller.

When you release the mouse you will get a popup and must choose a Selection Segue Show.

Select your new segue and in the attributes inspector give it the identifier countrysegue.

In the master view controller select the table view cell and in the attributes inspector change accessory to disclosure indicator. This indicates that selecting that row will bring up related data.

We're not going to set the title for this view in the storyboard but we're going to do it programmatically so it will say whatever continents' countries we're looking at.

If you run it at this point the controller will navigate, we just have to load the data.

In DetailViewController.swift create the array that will hold the countries and a variable to hold the selected continent.

```
var countries = [String]()
var selectedContinent = 0
```

Create an instance of our data model

```
var continentListDetail = Continents()
```

Now we need to set up the countries for the selected continent. We're going to do this in viewWillAppear instead of viewDidLoad because we need to do this every time the view appears. viewDidLoad will only be called the first time the view is loaded.

```
override func viewWillAppear(_ animated: Bool) {
    continentListDetail.continents =
Array(continentListDetail.continentData.keys)
    let chosenContinent =
continentListDetail.continents[selectedContinent]
    countries = continentListDetail.continentData[chosenContinent]! as
[String]
}
```

Now let's update the delegate protocol methods. These should look familiar.

```
override func numberOfSections(in tableView: UITableView) -> Int {
    // #warning Incomplete implementation, return the number of sections
    return 1
}

override func tableView(_ tableView: UITableView, numberOfRowsInSectionSection
section: Int) -> Int {
    // #warning Incomplete implementation, return the number of rows
    return countries.count
}
```

Uncomment this method

```
override func tableView(_ tableView: UITableView, cellForRowAt  
indexPath: IndexPath) -> UITableViewCell
```

In the first line replace 'reuseIdentifier' with 'CellIdentifier'.

Where it says Configure cell replace it with:

```
cell.textLabel?.text = countries[indexPath.row]
```

The last part is for the master view controller to send to the detail view controller which row was selected and which countries to show.

Go into ViewController.swift

We need it to tell the detail view controller which continents' countries it should show. The place to do this is prepareForSegue, as it's about to transition to the detail view controller.

```
override func prepare(for segue: UIStoryboardSegue, sender: Any?) {  
    if segue.identifier == "countrysegue" {  
        let detailVC = segue.destination as! DetailViewController  
        let indexPath = tableView.indexPath(for: sender as!  
UITableViewCell)!  
        //sets the data for the destination controller  
        detailVC.title = continentList.continents[indexPath.row]  
        detailVC.continentListDetail=continentList  
        detailVC.selectedContinent = indexPath.row  
    }  
}
```

Delete rows

Now let's add the ability to delete countries.

In DetailViewController.swift in viewDidLoad uncomment the following line

```
self.navigationItem.rightBarButtonItem = self.editButtonItem
```

(although you can add a bar button item called Edit in the storyboard, it will not automatically call the methods needed, so you should do it programmatically.)

Uncomment the following:

```
override func tableView(_ tableView: UITableView, canEditRowAt  
indexPath: IndexPath) -> Bool {  
    // Return false if you do not want the specified item to be  
    editable.  
    return true  
}
```

Uncomment and implement

```
override func tableView(_ tableView: UITableView, commit editingStyle:  
UITableViewCellEditingStyle, forRowAt indexPath: IndexPath) {  
    if editingStyle == .delete {  
        //Delete the country from the array  
        countries.remove(at: indexPath.row)  
        let chosenContinent =  
continentListDetail.continents[selectedContinent]  
        //Delete from the data model
```

```

        continentListDetail.continentData[chosenContinent]?.remove(at:
indexPath.row)
        // Delete the row from the table
        tableView.deleteRows(at: [indexPath], with: .fade)
    } else if editingStyle == .insert {
        // Create a new instance of the appropriate class, insert it
        into the array, and add a new row to the table view
    }
}

```

Move Rows

Now let's make the rows moveable. In DetailViewController.swift find the stub for this method and un-comment it.

```

    override func tableView(_ tableView: UITableView, canMoveRowAt
indexPath: IndexPath) -> Bool {
        // Return false if you do not want the item to be re-orderable.
        return true
    }

```

Now un-comment and implement the movement of the rows.

```

    override func tableView(_ tableView: UITableView, moveRowAt
fromIndexPath: IndexPath, to toIndexPath: IndexPath) {
        let fromRow = fromIndexPath.row //row being moved from
        let toRow = toIndexPath.row //row being moved to
        let moveCountry = countries[fromRow] //country being moved
        //move in array
        countries.remove(at: fromRow)
        countries.insert(moveCountry, at: toRow)
        //move in data model
        let chosenContinent =
continentListDetail.continents[selectedContinent]
        continentListDetail.continentData[chosenContinent]?.remove(at:
fromRow)

        continentListDetail.continentData[chosenContinent]?.insert(moveCountry, at:
toRow)
    }

```

To move rows in the simulator click on the Edit button and then grab the 3 lines to move a row.

Add countries

Let's build on countries so we can add countries as well. (countries data)

Go into Main.storyboard and add a new view controller.

Add a label and a textfield to the view so the user can enter a new country.

Create a new Cocoa Touch class to be its controller called AddCountryViewController, subclass of UIViewController.

Back in the storyboard make the AddCountryViewController class the controller for the new view controller.

Now let's make an outlet connection for the textfield called countryTextfield. Remember you must make this connection to AddCountryViewController.swift.

Back in the storyboard go into the Detail view and add a navigation item. Remove its title. Add a bar button item to the navigation item and change its System Item to Add.

Go into DetailViewController.swift and in ViewDidLoad comment out

```
self.navigationItem.rightBarButtonItem=self.editButtonItem()
```

Go back into the storyboard and create a segue from the Detail to AddCountry view controllers. Control click from the add button and drag to the country view controller and choose a Present Modally segue. We don't want push navigation because that's designed for a drill-down interface, where you're providing more information about whatever the user selected. Adding an item is a modal operation—the user performs some action that's complete and self-contained, and then returns from that scene to the main navigation.

If you run it now the add button will bring up the country view controller, but you'll notice there's no way for it to go back. Because a modal view controller doesn't get added to the navigation stack, it doesn't get a navigation bar from the table view controller's navigation controller. However, you want to keep the navigation bar to provide the user with visual continuity. To give the country view controller a navigation bar when presented modally, embed it in its own navigation controller.

With the AddCountry view controller selected, choose Editor > Embed In > Navigation Controller.

Along with adding a navigation controller, it gave the addcountry view controller a nav bar. Make its title Add New Country and add two bar button items. Put one on the right and change it to Done, and the other on the left and change it to Cancel.

If you run it at this point you should see the nav bar with the buttons but they don't do anything yet. You'll also need to fix the constraints for the addcountry view.

Let's implement the Cancel button by setting up an unwind segue to undo the modal segue back to the detail view controller.

First we have to create an unwind method in the destination view controller, DetailViewController. A method that can be unwound to must return an IBAction and take in a UIStoryboardSegue as a parameter.

```
@IBAction func unwindSegue (_ segue:UIStoryboardSegue){ }
```

We will implement it later.

Now go back into the storyboard and from the cancel button in the add country scene, control click and connect to the Exit icon in the dock and choose this unwind method.

Choose this segue and give it the identifier cancelSegue.

Do the same thing for the Done button and give it the identifier doneSegue.

Both will call the same method, we'll distinguish between the two different cases when we write the code to handle the segue.

If you run it now the done and cancel buttons will both take you back to the detail view controller, but your data is not saved yet.

Add Data

Go into AddCountryViewController.swift

We are defining a string to store the new country.

```
var addedCountry = String()

override func prepare(for segue: UIStoryboardSegue, sender: Any?) {
    if segue.identifier == "doneSegue" {
        //only add a country if there is text in the textfield
        if ((countryTextField.text?.isEmpty) == false) {
            addedCountry = countryTextField.text!
        }
    }
}
```

If the user leaves the textfield empty and hits Done an empty row will be added. You can tell it adds an empty row because if you swipe that row you get the delete option (which you don't get on a row that doesn't exist). We add the .isEmpty test to avoid adding empty rows.

In DetailViewController we implement the unwind method

```
@IBAction func unwindSegue(_ segue: UIStoryboardSegue) {
    if segue.identifier == "doneSegue" {
        let source = segue.source as! AddCountryViewController
        //only add a country if there is text in the textfield
        if ((source.addedCountry.isEmpty) == false) {
            countries.append(source.addedCountry)
            tableView.reloadData()
            let chosenContinent =
continentListDetail.continents[selectedContinent]

continentListDetail.continentData[chosenContinent]?.append(source.addedCountry)
        }
    }
}
```

Run your app and you should be able to add new countries. Try to add an empty row. When you swipe you don't get the Delete icon which means it wasn't added.

Continent Info

Now let's add another table view this time using static cells.

Drag a table view controller onto the storyboard. Create a new class(Cocoa Touch) for it called ContinentInfoTableViewController. Make sure you make its superclass UITableViewController. Back in the storyboard set the class for the new scene to be ContinentInfoTableViewController.

Create a segue from the continents scene(master) cell to the new country info view controller and choose Accessory Action show segue. Give it the identifier continentsegue.

In the continents scene(master) change the accessory to a detail disclosure in the table view cell. This is so selecting a row will still drill down to the countries, but tapping on the accessory will bring us to a new table view with static cells.

Now when you run it selecting the detail disclosure indicator brings you to the new detail view.

Static cells

Now let's get our static cells set up in the continent info scene.

Select the table view in the new continent info scene and in the Attributes Inspector change Content to Static Cells and Style to Grouped.

Select the Table View Section(document hierarchy) and change Rows to 2 and header to Continent Info.

Select the first cell and use the attributes inspector to set its Style to Right Detail. Double-click to select the text of the label on the left and change it to Continent. Repeat the same steps for the second cell, changing its text to Number of countries.

Now we're going to create outlets for the detail labels called continentName and countryNumber. Make sure you're making the connections to ContinentInfoTableViewController.swift and that you are making them from the detail labels(use the document hierarchy to check).

Go into ContinentInfoViewController and add two variables

```
var name = String()
var number = String()
```

Now delete the 2 dataSource methods as static cells don't use them.

```
override func numberOfSections(in tableView: UITableView) -> Int
```

Now if you run it you can see your static cells.

Now let's populate them with data.

```
override func viewWillAppear(_ animated: Bool) {
    continentName.text=name
    countryNumber.text=number
}
```

In ViewController.swift we have to update prepareForSegue to work with the detail disclosure accessory button by adding the following after the if statement:

```
//for detail disclosure
else if segue.identifier == "continentsegue"{
    let infoVC = segue.destination as!
ContinentInfoTableViewController
    let editingCell = sender as! UITableViewCell
    let indexPath = tableView.indexPath(for: editingCell)
    infoVC.name = continentList.continents[indexPath!.row]
    let countries = continentList.continentData[infoVC.name]! as
[String]
    infoVC.number = String(countries.count)
}
```