UnitConverter

Lesson 6



Description

Extract the controller's unit conversion code into a UnitConverter model.

Learning Outcomes

- Describe the model-view-controller pattern and distinguish the responsibilities of the model and controller.
- Construct a model by creating a Swift class.
- Practice declaring properties and writing method definitions.
- Reorganize code in model and controller implementations.
- Integrate a model, view and controller to complete an app feature.



Vocabulary

| Model-View-Controller | model | separation of concerns |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| encapsulation | class definition | property |
| access control modifier | private | method |
| parameter | return type | string interpolation |

Materials

- UnitConverter Lesson 6 Xcode project
- Model-View-Controller presentation

Opening

What should the responsibilities of the controller be?

Agenda

- Discuss the existing controller code, and indicate how it seems to be concerned with displaying temperature values and converting temperature.
- Present the concept of Model-View-Controller.
- Discuss how models are Swift classes that encapsulate something in the problem domain, such as unit conversion.
- Add a new Swift class (\(\mathbb{R} \n \)) to the project for a UnitConverter model.

```
import Foundation
class UnitConverter {
}
```

- Discuss why the temperature conversion code in the controller pickerView:didSelectRow:inComponent: method belongs in the model.
- Add a degreesFahrenheit: method to the UnitConverter class.

```
func degreesFahrenheit(degreesCelsius: Int) -> Int {
   return Int(1.8 * Float(degreesCelsius) + 32.0)
}
```

- Explain the components of the method signature, including the method name, return type, parameter name and parameter type.
- In the ViewController class, declare a new private property for a UnitConverter object.

```
private let converter = UnitConverter()
```

- Discuss the choice to declare the property private and how the default property value is assigned during controller initialization.
- Update the pickerView:didSelectRow:inComponent: method to use the UnitConverter degreesFahrenheit: method.

```
func pickerView(pickerView: UIPickerView, didSelectRow row: Int,
   inComponent component: Int) {
   let degreesCelsius = temperatureValues[row]
   temperatureLabel.text =
        "\(converter.degreesFahrenheit(degreesCelsius))°F"
}
```

- Discuss how the degreesFahrenheit: method call is used within the string interpolation.
- Run the app (%R), select a temperature, and observe the converted value.
- Discuss how the model now encapsulates the temperature conversion; and how the controller is now concerned with obtaining a temperature value from the picker view, obtaining a converted temperature from the model, and updating the view.

Closing

Should the controller be concerned with being the picker view dataSource? Should the UnitConverter model handle this? Why or why not?

Modifications And Extensions

- Refactor the body of pickerView: didSelectRow: inComponent: into a single statement. Consider long lines of code and decide whether or not the code has become more or less readable.
- Add a degreesCelsius property to the UnitConverter, and replace the degreesFahrenheit: method with a computed property.

Resources

Start Developing iOS Apps Today: Using Design Patterns https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/referencelibrary/GettingStarted/RoadMapiOS/DesignPatterns.html

Cocoa Core Competencies: Model-View-Controller https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/documentation/General/Conceptual/DevPedia-CocoaCore/MVC.html

Cocoa Core Competencies: Model Object https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/documentation/General/Conceptual/DevPedia-CocoaCore/ModelObject.html

The Swift Programming Language: Properties https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/documentation/Swift/Conceptual/Swift_Programming_Language/Properties.html

The Swift Programming Language: Access Control https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/documentation/Swift/Conceptual/Swift_Programming_Language/AccessControl.html

The Swift Programming Language: Classes and Structures https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/documentation/Swift/Conceptual/Swift_Programming_Language/ClassesAndStructures.html

The Swift Programming Language: Methods https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/documentation/Swift/Conceptual/Swift_Programming_Language/Methods.html