Lecture 6





Java[™] Education and Technology Services



Invest In Yourself,
Develop Your Career



Agenda

- Networking using URLSession
- NetworkActivityIndicator



Networking using URLSession



URLSession

- URLSession is a replacement for NSURLConnection, and similarly it is both a distinct class and also a group of related APIs.
- The URLSession class and related classes provide an API for downloading content.
- It able to do everything NSURLConnection could do but also adds improvements on top.



URLSession Cont.





URLSession Vs NSURLConnection

- URLSession and NSURLConnection have a lot in common in terms of how they work, at a fundamental level, they are quite different
- Apple created URLSession to resemble the general concepts of NSURLConnection



Why Use URLSession?

- Background uploads and downloads
 - ✓ You can start a download of a large image or file, close the app and the download will continue until it completes.
- Ability to pause and resume networking operations.
- Uploads and downloads through the file system.
- Improved authentication handling.



Why Use URLSession? Cont.

- Configurable container
 - ✓ URLSessionConfiguration is the first class you'll probably work with in the URLSession API.
 - ✓ It is a class that allows you to do exactly what its name suggests: configure your URLSession with connection/HTTP policies, caching behavior, maximum number of connections, custom headers, etc.

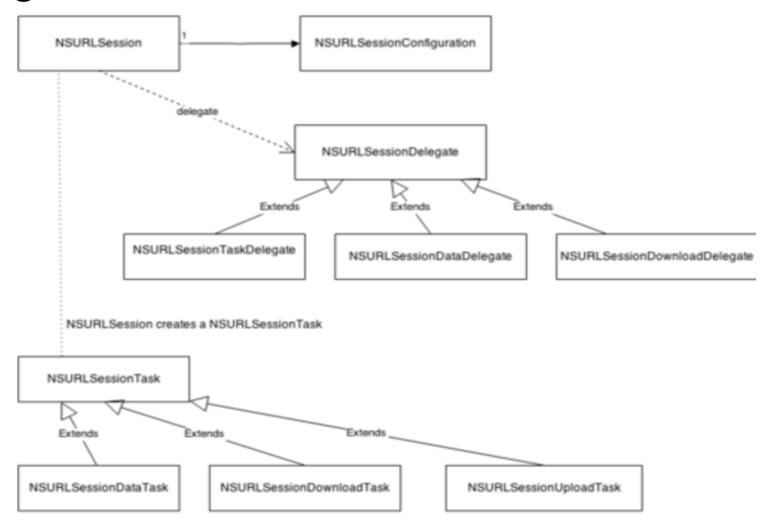


Networking with URLSession API

- URLSession is the key component sending requests and receiving responses.
- The configuration of the session object, is handled by an instance of the URLSessionConfiguration class
- The basic unit of work when working with NSURLSession is the task an instance of URLSessionTask



Networking with URLSession API Cont.





Networking with URLSession API Cont.

- The basic unit of work when working with URLSession is the task.
- There are three types of tasks
 - ✓ URLSessionDataTask
 - ✓ URLSessionUploadTask
 - ✓ URLSessionDownloadTask



Networking with URLSession API Cont.

- URLSessionDataTask: Use this task for HTTP GET requests to retrieve data from servers to memory.
- URLSessionUploadTask: Use this task to upload a file from disk to a web service, typically via a HTTP POST or PUT method.
- URLSessionDownloadTask: Use this task to download a file from a remote service to a temporary file location.



Data task example

```
let url = URL(string: "http://api.androidhive.info/
    json/movies.json")
let request = URLRequest(url: url!)
let session = URLSession(configuration:
    URLSessionConfiguration.default)
let task = session.dataTask(with: request) { (data,
    response , error) in
    do{
        var json = try JSONSerialization.jsonObject
            (with: data!, options: .allowFragments) as!
            Dictionary<String , String>
        // Manipulate your JSON
    }catch{
        print("Error")
task.resume(
```



Data task example Cont.

Note:

You can't do UI things inside your task because you are in a different thread





Data task example Cont.

You can simply dispatch back to the main queue

```
DispatchQueue.main.async {
    //update your GUI here
}
```

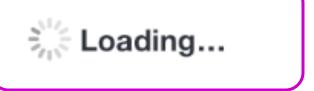


NetworkActivityIndicator



Display Activity Indicator

• The Activity Indicator can be displayed in the status bar to inform the user that some kind of network activity is in progress.

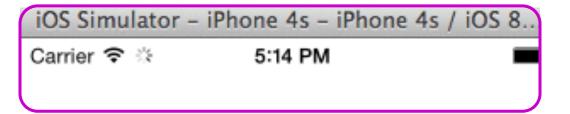




Display Activity Indicator Cont.

You can simply activate the indicator by single line of code

```
UIApplication.sharedApplication().networkActivityIndicatorVisible = true
```



To stop the indicator just change the boolean value to false



Display Activity Indicator Cont.

You can customize coloring, positioning, style of the indicator

```
var networkIndicator = UIActivityIndicatorView
  (activityIndicatorStyle: UIActivityIndicatorViewStyle.Gray)
  networkIndicator.center = view.center
  networkIndicator.startAnimating()
  view.addSubview(networkIndicator)
```

• To stop the activity indicator

networkIndicator.stopAnimating()

Assignments



1. Movie List

• Update your Movie list app to get movies from the following webservice:

https://imdb-api.com/en/API/BoxOffice/[YourKey]

Display the movie detail in another view controller when select it in the table view.