Form-based authentication in native iOS applications

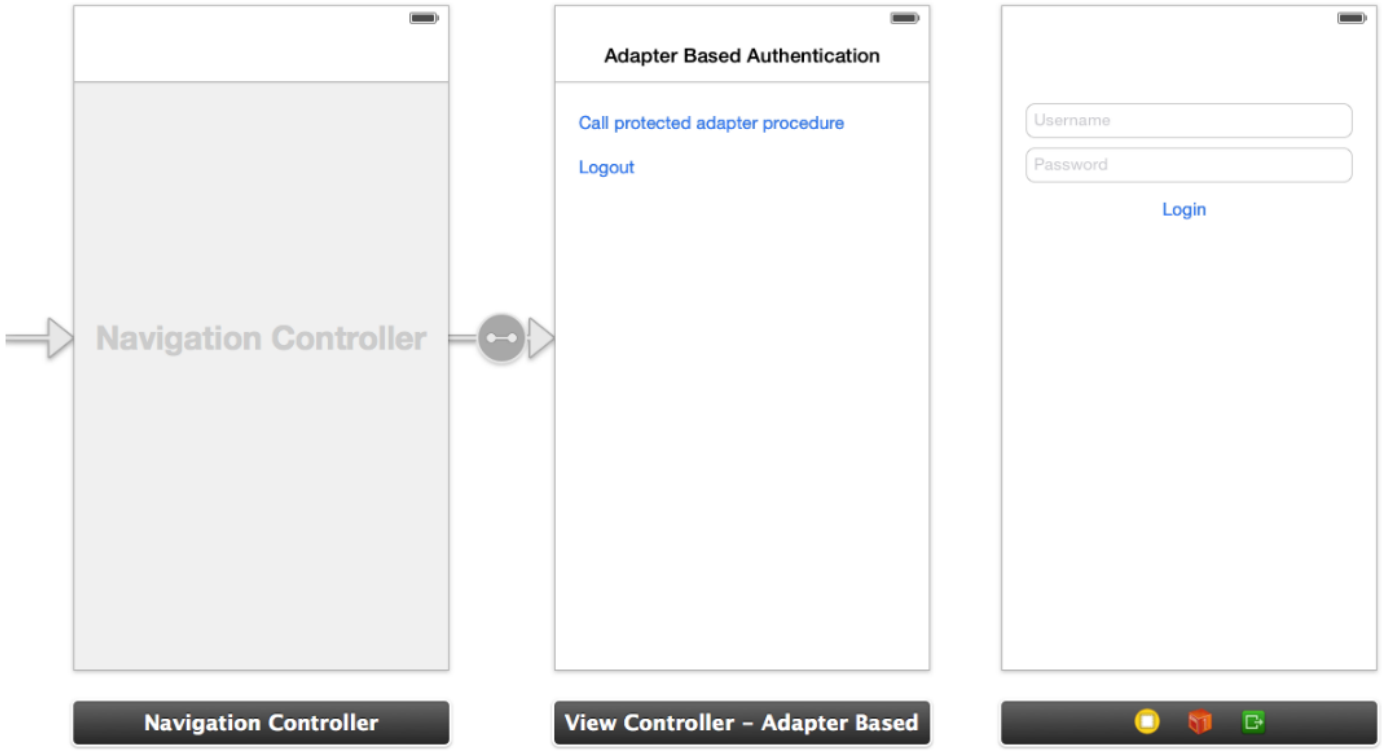
This tutorial explains how to implement the client-side of form-based authentication in native iOS.
Prerequisite: Make sure that you read Form-based authentication (../) first.

Implementing the client-side authentication

Create a native iOS application and add the MobileFirst native APIs as explained in Configuring a native iOS application with the MobileFirst Platform SDK (../../../hello-world/configuring-a-native-ios-with-the-mfp-sdk/).

Storyboard

In your storyboard, add a View Controller containing a login form.



Challenge Handler

- Create a `MyChallengeHandler` class as a subclass of `ChallengeHandler`.

```
@interface MyChallengeHandler : ChallengeHandler
```

- Call the `initWithRealm` method:

```
@implementation MyChallengeHandler
//...
-(id)init:{
    self = [self initWithRealm:@"SampleAppRealm"];
    return self;
}
```

- Add implementation of the following `ChallengeHandler` methods to handle the form-based challenge:

1. **`isCustomResponse` method:**

   The `isCustomResponse` method is invoked each time a response is received from the MobileFirst Server. It is used to detect whether the response contains data that is related to this challenge handler. It must return either `true` or `false`.

   The default login form that returns from the MobileFirst Server contains the `j_security_check` string. If the response contains the string, the challenge handler returns `true`.

```
1  @implementation MyChallengeHandler
2  //...
3  -(BOOL) isCustomResponse:(WLResponse *)response {
4      if(response && response.responseText){
5          if ([response.responseText rangeOfString:@"j_security_check" options:NSCaseInsensitiveSearch].loc
6              NSLog(@"Detected j_security_check string - returns true");
7              return true;
8          }
9      }
10     return false;
11 }
12 @end
```

2. **`handleChallenge` method:**

   If `isCustomResponse` returns `true`, the framework calls the `handleChallenge` method. This function is used to perform required actions, such as hiding the application screen and showing the login screen.

```
1  @implementation MyChallengeHandler
2  //...
3  -(void) handleChallenge:(WLResponse *)response {
4      NSLog(@"A login form should appear");
5      LoginViewController* loginController = [self.vc.storyboard instantiateViewControllerWithIdentifier:@"Log
6      loginController.challengeHandler = self;
7      [self.vc.navigationController pushViewController:loginController animated:YES];
8  }
9  @end
```

3. **`onSuccess` and `onFailure` methods:**

   At the end of the authentication flow, `onSuccess` or `onFailure` will be triggered

   Call the `submitSuccess` method in order to inform the framework that the authentication process completed successfully and for the `onSuccess` handler of the invocation to be called.

   Call the `submitFailure` method in order to inform the framework that the authentication process failed and for the `onFailure` handler of the invocation to be called.

```
1  @implementation MyChallengeHandler
2  //...
3  -(void) onSuccess:(WLResponse *)response {
4      NSLog(@"Challenge succeeded");
5      [self.vc.navigationController popViewControllerAnimated:YES];
6      [self submitSuccess:response];
7  }
8  -(void) onFailure:(WLFailResponse *)response {
9      NSLog(@"Challenge failed");
10     [self submitFailure:response];
11 }
12 @end
```

submitLoginForm

In your login View Controller, when the user taps to submit the credentials, call the `submitLoginForm` method to send the `j_security_check` string and the credentials to the MobileFirst Server.

```
@implementation LoginViewController
//...
- (IBAction)login:(id)sender {
    [self.challengeHandler submitLoginForm:@"j_security_check"
        requestParameters:@{@"j_username": self.username.text, @"j_password": self.password.text}
        requestHeaders:nil
        requestTimeoutInMilliSeconds:0
        requestMethod:@"POST"];
}
@end
```

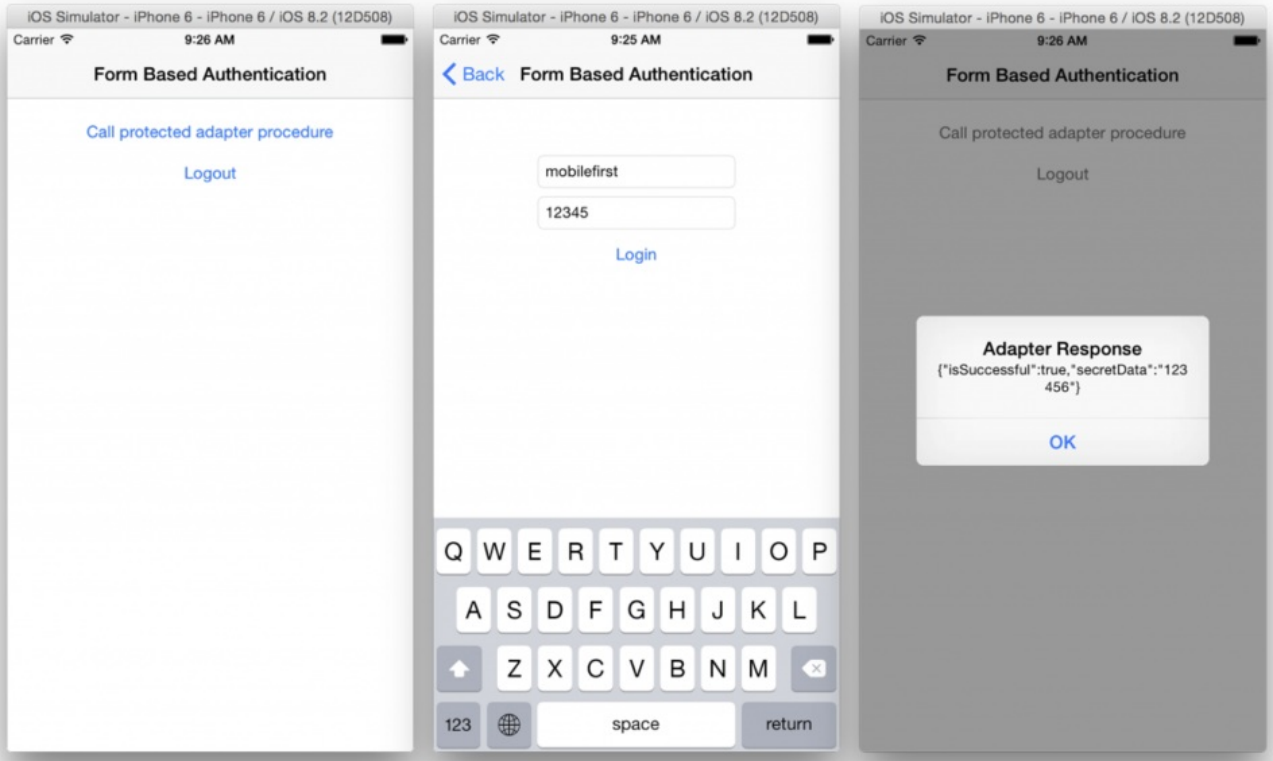
Registering the challenge handler

Before calling the protected adapter, in order to listen to incoming challenges, make sure to register the challenge handler by using the `registerChallengeHandler` method of the `WLClient` class.

```
[[WLClient sharedInstance] registerChallengeHandler:[[MyChallengeHandler alloc] initWithViewController:self] ];
```

Sample application

Click to download (http://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/products/en/MobileFirstPlatform/docs/v700/NativeFormBasedAuthProject.zip) the Studio project.
Click to download (http://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/products/en/MobileFirstPlatform/docs/v700/iOSNativeFormBasedAuthProject.zip) the Obj-C project.
Click to download (http://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/products/en/MobileFirstPlatform/docs/v700/SwiftNativeFormBasedAuthProject.zip) the Swift project.


iOS Simulator - iPhone 6 - iPhone 6 / iOS 8.2 (12D508)
Carrier
9:26 AM
Form Based Authentication
Call protected adapter procedure
Logout
iOS Simulator - iPhone 6 - iPhone 6 / iOS 8.2 (12D508)
Carrier
9:25 AM
Back
Form Based Authentication
mobilefirst
12345
Login
Q W E R T Y U I O P
A S D F G H J K L
Z X C V B N M
123
space
return
iOS Simulator - iPhone 6 - iPhone 6 / iOS 8.2 (12D508)
Carrier
9:26 AM
Form Based Authentication
Call protected adapter procedure
Logout
Adapter Response
{"isSuccessful":true,"secretData":"123456"}
OK