VideoKit SDK



for iOS & tvOS

Play Video without boundaries

email website Elma DIGIT@L support@iosvideokit.com www.iosvideokit.com

last updated: Nov 30, 2015

INTRODUCTION

Apple's video playing and streaming solution is very limited, it supports only playing specific video file formats, http streaming & h264 video codec and its source is closed rendering the task of streaming and playing video a very hard one.

If you need a custom video player that play divx, mkv, flv, etc... or uses other popular streaming protocols such as MMS, RTSP, RTMP, secure protocols or if you play video files/stream from an http server but using different audio/video codecs or you play video files/stream from a server which you can use also the apple API (MPMoviePlayerController or AVPlayerItem), but need to modify the video player, like buffering duration, audio or video raw data and so on then that means you will need **VideoKit**

FEATURES

- iOS and tvOS support
- Bitcode support
- Xcode 7 and iOS9 support
- Play most popular media files locally that Apple doesn't support
- Stream from popular protocols (http, mms, rtsp & rtmp)
- Supports secure streams with openSSL support (https, rtmps, rtmpe, rtmpte, rtsps & tls)
- Supports all popular audio & video codecs
- Supports mjpeg streams mostly for ipcams
- Supports recording functionality (No transcoding, record as it is)
- Supports animated GIF files with full transparency
- Supports real time video effects with using pixel shaders
- Successful Audio & video syncing
- Very easy to use (very similar to Apple's MPMoviePlayerViewController API & MPMoviePlayerController)
- Look & feel like Apple's MPMoviePlayerViewController & MPMoviePlayerController
- Works with Wifi & 3G
- Shows detailed information about stream (audio & video codecs,total streamed data in bytes, connection type)
- Works on these iOS devices (iPhone 4/4S, 5, 6, 6+, 6s, 6s+, and all iPad minis, iPad 2, 3, 4, air) devices & supports all screen types and rotations
- Works on new AppleTV
- Supports pausing stream
- Supports streaming in background
- Robust error handling
- Supports audio resampling
- Supports seeking in local & remote file streams
- Airplay
- Showing files/streams both in fullscreen and embedded
- Supports multiple players on same view
- Player is an NSObject instance, so can be used without UI
- Supports transition from embedded/fullscreen to fullscreen/embedded
- Supports fullscreen, embedded and non UI control modes

- Supports initial playback time for files
- Supports looping for files
- Supports adjusting volume level for each player
- Supports changing audio streams in realtime
- Supports disabling audio stream in file/stream

REQUIREMENTS

iOS **7.x SDK** or above is needed to compile VideoKit however, if you need under 7.x, VideoKit can be built with small modifications.

The VideoKit frameworks for iOS requires the following Apple frameworks: (Note: for the tvOS version you do not need to add these)

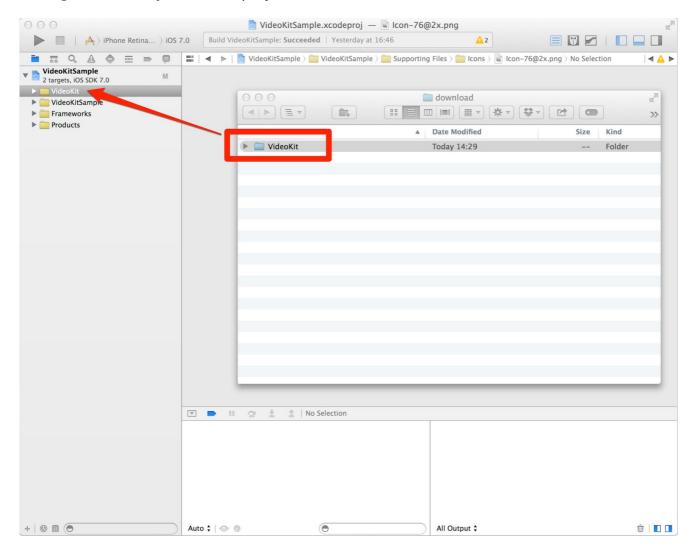
- SystemConfiguration (used in **Reachability** framework by Apple)
- MediaPlayer (needed by MPVolumeView)
- AudioToolbox (needed by AudioUnit)
- AVFoundation (needed by **AVAudioSession**)
- OpenGLES (using when **rendering** pictures to screen)
- QuartzCore (using to draw StreamInfo view)

and VideoKit also needs to these frameworks (for connecting to stream, decoding Audio&Video packets, etc...):

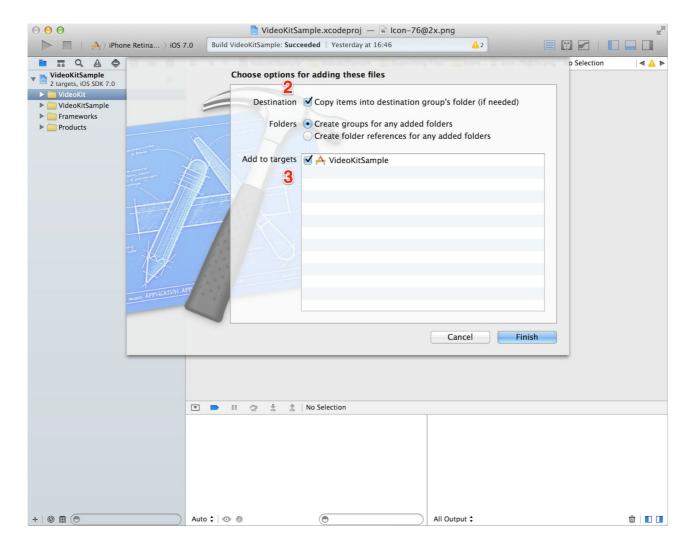
- libz
- libiconv
- libavcodec
- libavformat
- libavutil
- libswscale
- libswresample
- libssl
- libcrypto

INTEGRATION for iOS version

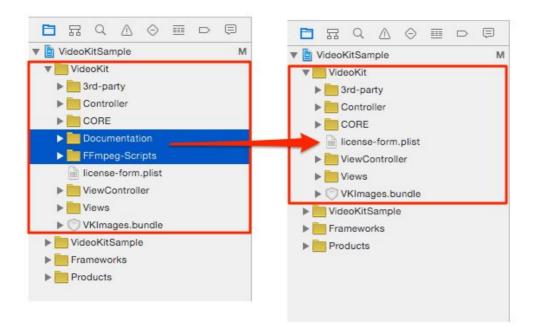
Adding VideoKit to your Xcode project



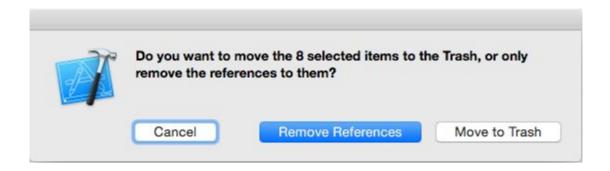
1. Go to VideoKit folder, and move VideoKit folder to your Xcode project. (Please note that, VideoKit folder must be added to **root** not under any folder)

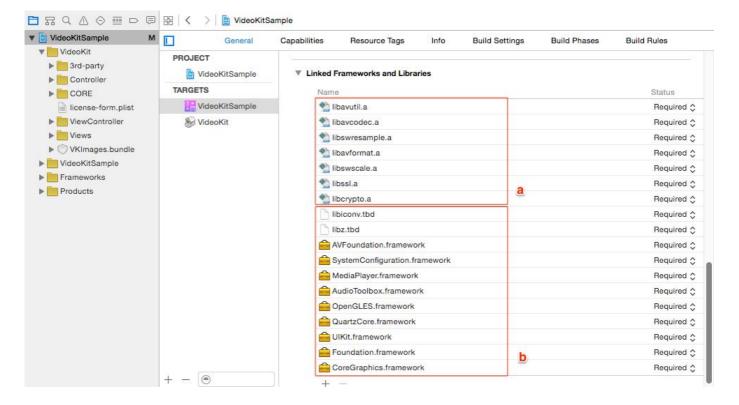


- 2. Be sure that 'Copy items into destination group's folder' is checked
- 3. Be sure that 'VideoKitSample' target is checked

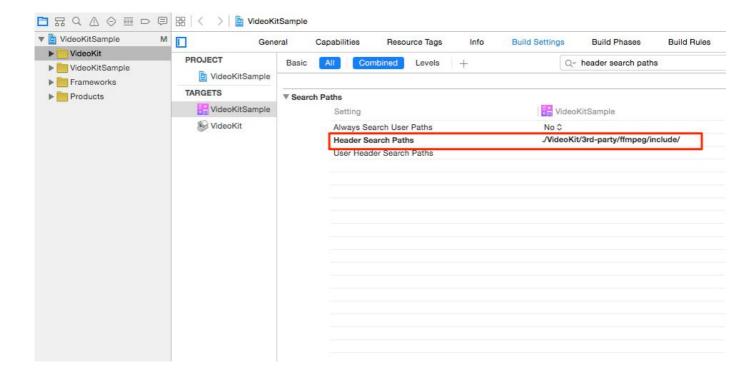


4. Remove selected unnecessary folders (Documentation, FFmpeg-Scripts). When asking about remove process, select 'Remove References'. After doing this, our VideoKit folder is seen like above (at right).





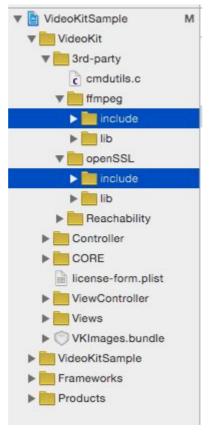
- 5. Select your target, and go to the General tab.
- a. Those libraries (located in rectangle labelled as "a" in above picture) are **automatically added** when you add VideoKit folder to your xcode project.
 - b. Also add these frameworks/libraries
 - 1. libz
 - 2. libiconv
 - 2. QuartzCore
 - 3. SystemConfiguration
 - 4. MediaPlayer
 - 5. OpenGLES
 - 6. AudioToolbox
 - 7. AVFoundation



6. Select your target again, and go to Build Settings tab

Find "Header Search Paths", set it as below

./VideoKit/3rd-party/ffmpeg/include

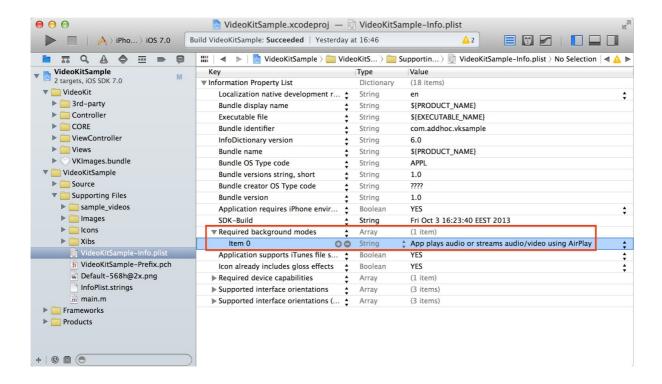


7. Delete include folders of 3rd party libraries from Project Explorer:

Select 3rd-party/ffmpeg/include & 3rd-party/openSSL/include and then remove reference to these folders.



When dialog appears, select Remove References option.

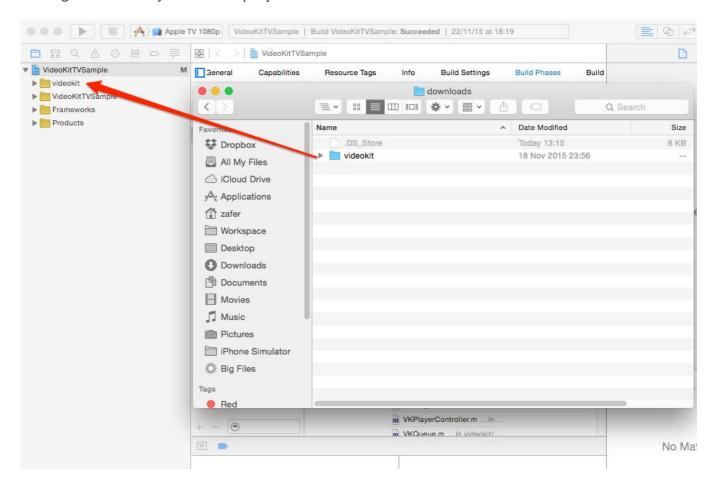


8. Now, add the 'Required Background Modes' key to your plist file and set item 0's value to "**App plays audio**"

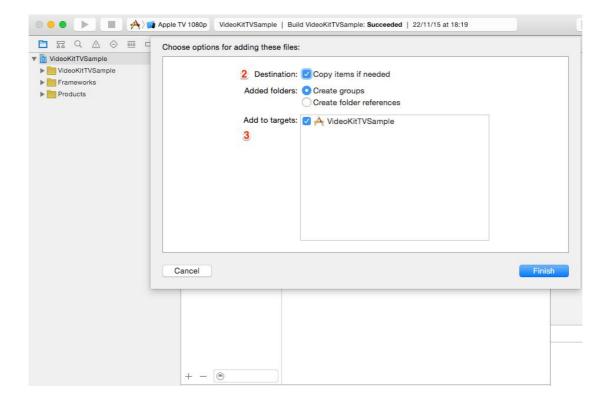
Integration is done, your project should be compiled without any error now. (If your project is ARC enabled, then please see section 4 (ARC Supported Projects) in below)

INTEGRATION for tvOS version

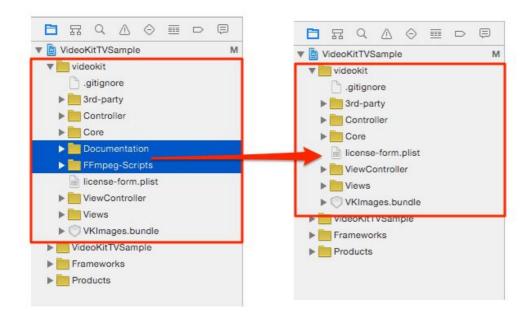
Adding VideoKit to your Xcode project

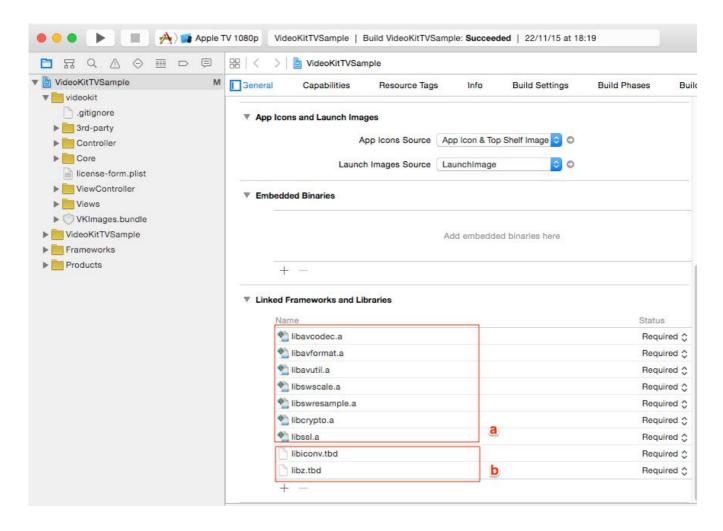


1. Go to videokit folder, and move videokit folder to your Xcode project. (Please note that, videokit folder must be added to **root** not under any folder)

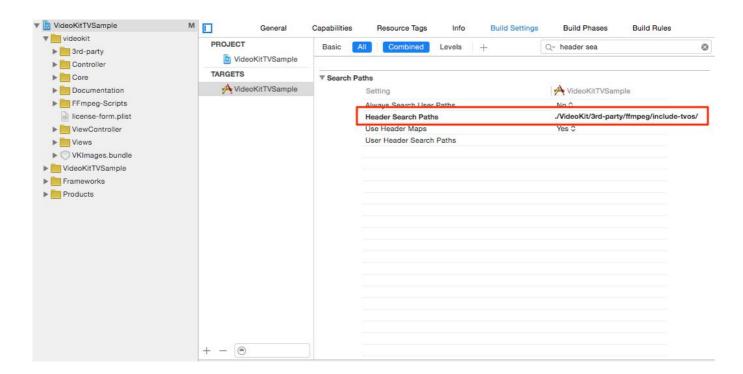


- 2. Be sure that 'Copy items into destination group's folder' is checked
- 3. Be sure that 'VideoKitTVSample' target is checked
- 4. Remove selected unnecessary folders (Documentation, FFmpeg-Scripts). When asking about remove process, select 'Remove References'. After doing this, our videokit folder is seen like above (at right).





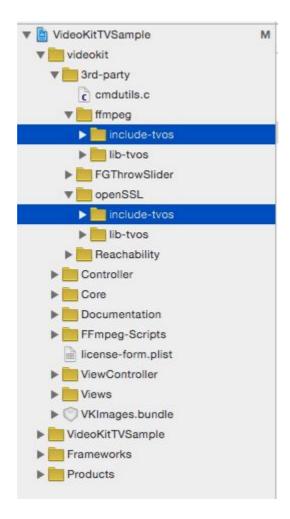
- 5. Select your target, and go to the **General** tab.
- a. Those libraries (located in rectangle labelled as "a" in above picture) are **automatically added** when you add videokit folder to your xcode project.
 - b. Also add these libraries
 - 1. libz
 - 2. libiconv



6. Select your target again, and go to Build Settings tab

Find "Header Search Paths", set it as below

./VideoKit/3rd-party/ffmpeg/include-tvos



7. Delete include folders of 3rd party libraries from Project Explorer:

Select 3rd-party/ffmpeg/include-tvos & 3rd-party/openSSL/include-tvos and then remove reference to these folders.



When dialog appears, select Remove References option.

Integration is done, your project should be compiled without any error now. (If your project is ARC enabled, then please see section 4 (ARC Supported Projects) in below)

HOW TO USE

Using VideoKit is a very easy task, it's similar to Apple's MPMoviePlayerViewController (Apple's native fullscreen player) & MPMoviePlayerController (Apple's native embedded player) API.

- **A.** Using **VKPlayerViewController** (Full screen player like Apple's MPMoviePlayerViewController)
- **1.** First of all, add **include file (#import "VKPlayerViewController.h")** to your ViewController.h file,

For iOS & tvOS

#import <UIKit/UIKit.h>
#import "VKPlayerViewController.h"

2. Then, create and call VKPlayerViewController with a valid URL as below in your ViewController.m file

For iOS & tvOS

//Call below code, for example when pressed a button

NSString *urlString = @"http://xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx";

VKPlayerViewController *playerVc = [[[VKPlayerViewController alloc] initWithURLString:urlString decoderOptions:NULL] autorelease];

[self presentViewController:playerVc animated:YES completion:NULL];

- **B.** Using **VKPlayerController** (Embedded player like Apple's MPMoviePlayerController)
- 1. First of all, add include file (#import "VKPlayerController.h") & VKPlayerController object property to your ViewController.h file,

For iOS

```
#import <UIKit/UIKit.h>
#import "VKPlayerController.h"

@interface MyViewController : UIViewController

@property (nanotomic, retain) VKPlayerController *player;
```

For tvOS

```
#import <UIKit/UIKit.h>
#import "VKPlayerControllerTV.h"

@interface MyViewController : UIViewController

@property (nanotomic, retain) VKPlayerControllerTV *player;
```

2. Then, synthesize the property and call VKPlayerController with a valid URL as below in your ViewController.m file

For iOS

For tvOS

VKDecoder supports some options for some specific protocols and formats, the options can be passed to VKDecoder via VKPlayerViewController during initialization and via options property which is settable for VKPlayerController.

Using options and other protocol related infos are shown below,

A. RTSP

A1. RTSP Transport Options

RTSP is not technically a protocol handler in libavformat, so it must use a lower transport protocol to connect to streaming server, The following options are supported:

udp

Use UDP as lower transport protocol.

tcp

Use TCP (interleaving within the RTSP control channel) as lower transport protocol.

udp_multicast

Use UDP multicast as lower transport protocol.

http

Use HTTP tunneling as lower transport protocol, which is useful for passing proxies.

//a sample option for rtsp - setting transport layer as TCP
NSDictionary *option = [NSDictionary
dictionaryWithObject:VKDECODER_OPT_VALUE_RTSP_TRANSPORT_TCP
forKey:VKDECODER_OPT_KEY_RTSP_TRANSPORT];

NSString *urlString = @"rtsp://xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx";
VKPlayerViewController *playerVc = [[[VKPlayerViewController alloc] initWithURLString:urlString
decoderOptions:option] autorelease];
[self presentViewController:playerVc animated:YES completion:NULL];
...

A2. RTSP Secured Streams & Authentication

VideoKit supports RTSP streams with username and password authentication. Username and your password must be provided as below (general format is rtsp://USERNAME:PASSWORD@IPADDRESS:PORT/...) and must set the RTSP transport layer(transport layer can be "UDP" or "TCP", "UDP" is used in below sample).

//a sample for secure stream

NSDictionary *option = [NSDictionary
dictionaryWithObject:VKDECODER_OPT_VALUE_RTSP_TRANSPORT_UDP
forKey:VKDECODER_OPT_KEY_RTSP_TRANSPORT];

NSString *urlString = @"rtsp://username:password@192.168.1.5:554/11";
VKPlayerViewController *playerVc = [[[VKPlayerViewController alloc] initWithURLString:urlString
decoderOptions:option] autorelease];
[self presentViewController:playerVc animated:YES completion:NULL];
...

B. MJPFG Streams

//for mjpeg streams, below option is a must

NSDictionary *option = [NSDictionary dictionaryWithObject:[NSNumber numberWithBool:YES] forKey:VKDECODER_OPT_KEY_FORCE_MJPEG];

NSString *urlString = @"http://xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx";

VKPlayerViewController *playerVc = [[[VKPlayerViewController alloc] initWithURLString:urlString decoderOptions:option] autorelease];

[self presentViewController:playerVc animated:YES completion:NULL];

•••

C. RTMP

VideoKit supports rtmp streaming, ffmpeg has many server configuration parameters for rtmp streaming protocol. These parameters can be passed through ffmpeg by using VKDECODER_OPT_KEY_PASS_THROUGH as below,

An example of rtmp streaming url, rtmp://95.211.148.203/live/aflam4youddd?id=152675 -rtmp_swfurl http://mips.tv/content/scripts/eplayer.swf -rtmp_live live -rtmp_pageurl http://mips.tv/embedplayer/aflam4youddd/1/600/380 -rtmp_conn S:OK

//Add sample channel to channel list with using VKDECODER_OPT_KEY_PASS_THROUGH Channel *c14 = [Channel channelWithName:@"Aflam Live TV" addr:@"rtmp://95.211.148.203/live/aflam4youddd?id=152675 -rtmp_swfurl http://mips.tv/content/scripts/eplayer.swf -rtmp_live live -rtmp_pageurl http://mips.tv/embedplayer/aflam4youddd/1/600/380 -rtmp_conn S:OK" description:@"Pass through params - ffplay style" localFile:NO options:[NSDictionary dictionaryWithObject:@"1" forKey:VKDECODER_OPT_KEY_PASS_THROUGH]]; [_streamList addObject:c14];

For more information, please see our blog post about rtmp streaming in here

D. OTHERS

D1. Multiple Audio Supported Streams

//for multiple audio streams, a default one can be set before playing by stream index OR by language string

// If both is set, index option is high priority to other.

NSDictionary *opt1 = [NSDictionary dictionaryWithObject:[NSNumber numberWithInt:2] forKey:VKDECODER_OPT_KEY_AUD_STRM_DEF_IDX];

NSDictionary *opt2 = [NSDictionary dictionaryWithObject:@"eng" forKey:VKDECODER_OPT_KEY_AUD_STRM_DEF_STR];

NSString *urlString = @"rtsp://xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx";

VKPlayerViewController *playerVc = [[[VKPlayerViewController alloc] initWithURLString:urlString decoderOptions:opt1] autorelease];

. . .

D2. Logs

VideoKit supports advanced & configurable log mechanism. As Kit consists of some layers, each related logs can be enabled or disabled by setting log level..

To set/change log level, find below lines in **play** method in **VKPlayerControllerBase.m** file, and set the log level as below

//to set log level

_decodeManager = [[VKDecodeManager alloc] init];

_decodeManager.delegate = self;

[_decodeManager setLogLevel:kVKLogLevelStateChanges];

E. Secure links

Since version 2.0, secure streams are supported by VideoKit, https, rtmps, rtmpe, rtmpte, rtmpte & tls (and with 2.4, rtsps protocol is also supported) protocols are playable with the support of **openSSL** library. If you are using ffmpeg libraries that are different from ones found in sample project, and want to play secure streams, please check the build scripts ...

F. Recording functionality

Since version 2.1, recording functionality is added to VideoKit (please note that, this feature is not available for some license types), by default this functionality is disabled, it can be enabled as below,

when VKPlayerViewController is used, then

```
NSString *urlString = @"http://xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx";
```

VKPlayerViewController *playerVc = [[[VKPlayerViewController alloc] initWithURLString:urlString decoderOptions:NULL] autorelease];

playerVc.recordingEnabled = YES;

[self presentViewController:playerVc animated:YES completion:NULL];

when VKPlayerController is used, then

For iOS

```
NSString *urlString = @"http://xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx";
self.player = [[[VKPlayerController alloc] initWithURLString:urlString] autorelease];
player.view.frame = CGRectMake(28.0, 38.0, 264.0, 167.0);
[self.view addSubview:player.view];
player.recordingEnabled = YES;
[player play];
```

For tvOS

```
NSString *urlString = @"http://xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx";
self.player = [[[VKPlayerControllerTV alloc] initWithURLString:urlString] autorelease];
player.view.frame = CGRectMake(28.0, 38.0, 264.0, 167.0);
[self.view addSubview:player.view];
player.recordingEnabled = YES;
[player play];
```

iOS only,

Beginning with the version 2.4, even the stream has codecs which are compatible with iOS (see the whole list of compatible video formats by iOS in here), the video can not be recorded in a mp4 container. Thus, recorded video can not be saved to iOS camera roll and can not be played with iOS native video layer. VideoKit version 2.4 supports ffmpeg's **aac_adtstoasc** bitstream filter and this filter let VideoKit record supported codecs in mp4 container. If you want to save the recorded video to camera roll, below sample code may be helpful,

3. Also, you can get notifications from VKPlayerViewController & VKPlayerController or VKPlayerControllerTV about state changes, error handling & recording status. (This is optional, if you do not need to handle state change events or error handling or recording status, then **skip this step**)

```
NSString *urlString = @"http://xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx";
VKPlayerViewController *playerVc = [[[VKPlayerViewController alloc] initWithURLString:urlString decoderOptions:NULL] autorelease];
playerVc.delegate = self;
```

Then implement below method to handle state change events and/or errors

```
- (void)onPlayerViewControllerStateChanged:(VKDecoderState)state errorCode:(VKError)errCode {
  if (state == kVKDecoderStateInitialized) {
  } else if (state == kVKDecoderStateConnecting) {
  } else if (state == kVKDecoderStateConnected) {
  } else if (state == kVKDecoderStateInitialLoading) {
  } else if (state == kVKDecoderStateReadyToPlay) {
  } else if (state == kVKDecoderStateBuffering) {
  } else if (state == kVKDecoderStatePlaying) {
  } else if (state == kVKDecoderStatePaused) {
  } else if (state == kVKDecoderStateStoppedByUser) {
  } else if (state == kVKDecoderStateConnectionFailed) {
  } else if (state == kVKDecoderStateStoppedWithError) {
    if (errCode == kVKErrorStreamReadError) {
    }
  }
}
```

About recording callbacks,

There is no a different delegate property for recording, thus, when the VKPlayerController or VKPlayerControllerTV instance's delegate is set, then if below optional callbacks are implemented, they will be called,

For whom uses VKPlayerController or VKPlayerControllerTV,

For whom uses VKPlayerViewController,

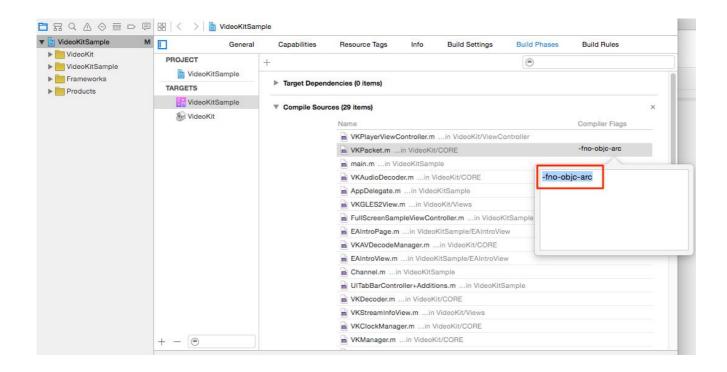
```
- (void)onPlayerViewControllerDidStartRecordingWithPath:(NSString *)recordPath {
    NSLog(@"Recording started with path = %@", recordPath);
}
- (void)onPlayerViewControllerDidStopRecordingWithPath:(NSString *)recordPath
error:(VKErrorRecorder)error {
    if (error == kVKErrorNone) {
        NSLog(@"Recording is ended with success");
    } else {
        NSLog(@"Recording is ended with error = %lu", error);
    }
}
```

4. ARC Supported Projects

VideoKit is a non ARC library but it can used any ARC or non-ARC projects. Kit can be added to non-ARC project without doing anything. For ARC enabled projects, after adding VideoKit to project,

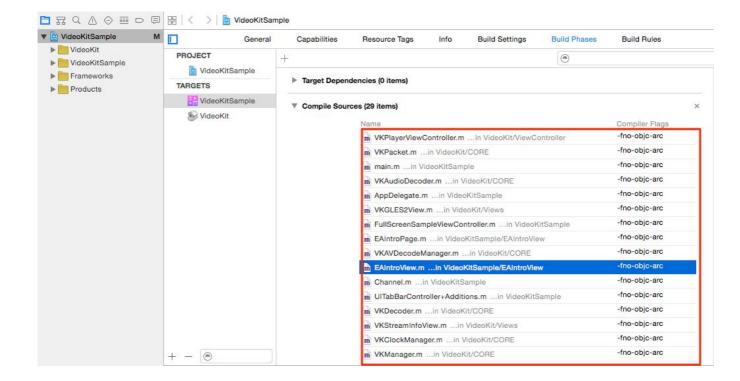
Go to Targets -> Build Phases -> Compile Sources

double click on the right column of the row under Compiler Flags (It can also be added it to multiple files by holding the cmd button to select the files and then pressing enter to bring up the flag edit box.)



-fno-objc-arc

Write above compiler flag into the box



Do this for all VideoKit source files.

5. How to use Airplay feature

AirPlay is the term Apple uses for the protocol that lets you stream your Apple devices to your Apple TV

But, Apple has, bafflingly, not given developers any way to add a Dual Screen AirPlay button inside their apps – users must (themselves) open the multi-tasking tray(<= iOS 6)/control center(iOS 7 & above), swipe to/find the AirPlay icon, select the Apple TV and turn on Mirroring.

(more info at apple site - iOS: How to use AirPlay Mirroring - http://support.apple.com/kb/HT5209)

After enabling mirroring, when player starts playing, dual screen is automatically detected and video plays on Apple TV screen If allowAirPlay property of VKPlayerController/VKPlayerViewController class is set to YES. (default value is NO)

For tvOS version of VideoKit, there is no need to support Airplay as video already shows on television screen.

CHANGELOG

Version: 2.4 - Release Date: 11/30/2015

- Added tvOS support to VideoKit, applying new concepts for tvOS such as
 Focus Management and controlling all features from the remote controller
 - play/pause video,
 - fast forwarding or rewinding,
 - start/stop recording,
 - zoom in/out.
 - mute/unmute.
 - show/hide information view
 - enter/exit fullscreen mode in embedded view.
- Added 'aac_adtstoasc' bitstream filter support to be able to record supported codecs by iOS into mp4 container
- Added AUGraph support
- Added Audio panning feature to route audio left or right channel
- rtmpt & rtsps protocols are added to supported protocol list
- ffmpeg libraries are updated to latest 2.8.1 stable version
- Build scripts are updated for Xcode 7 and iOS9 (bitcode support)
- Updated gas-preprocessor.pl file
- VideoKit deployment target is set to 7.x
- Code is cleaned from iOS 6 SDK checks
- Suppress all warnings in cmdutils.c file
- Streams that has more than 2 audio channels are now downgraded to 2 channels
- Player crashes when double tap is received after embed to full screen transition - FIXED
- Non-monotonous DTS in output stream error got during recording -FIXED
- If one player is stopped when multiple players are playing, all playing players are muted FIXED
- player view is rotated left and back to normal again in iOS 7 when player is transiting from embed to fullscreen FIXED
- Crash on stopping player because of the slider FIXED
- Audio Video synchronization is lost when network is not reachable for a time - FIXED

Version: 2.3 - Release Date: 05/06/2015

- Added disableInnerBuffer setting to have more control on the management of buffers (useful feature for fixing latency issues)
- If the license-form.plist file is not reachable in a way in the project, then username and secret properties of player classes can be set to fill license-form as well.
- The frame rate of video stream can be decreased A useful feature to play multiple local videos more than 4
- Playable streams are now including language information
- Commenting out TRIAL definition does not remove developer you are using .. warning message in single binary version FIXED
- If multiple players are working in the same time, play/stop actions cause a crash FIXED
- If there needs extra space to decode packet, then av_decode_video2 crashes FIXED
- If a network stream is stopped in early states of playing, and then If the play action immediately fired, the action is not taken FIXED
- If audioDecoder is not ready then changing volume is not effective -FIXED
- FIX_FOR_RTSP_TEARDOWN_MESSAGE define check is removed from core because of lack of ability to activate for binary license holders
- Status bar is covering the toolbar if it's not hidden FIXED
- Done button on toolbar looks very tiny FIXED
- Volume controls (Mute & volumeLevel) can not be set before decodemanager is initialized - FIXED
- Buffering event is not fired the exact time that the buffering begins -FIXED
- When the video stream is paused, the zoom action is not taken till replay -FIXED

Version: 2.2 - Release Date: 12/04/2014

- If the stream includes data-type stream, VideoKit crashes during recording - FIXED
- If the stream includes multiple audio streams, VideoKit fails on recording this stream - FIXED
- FFmpeg does not send RTSP-TEARDOWN message to server when the connection is closed FIXED
- After the seeking slider is set to a position, it jumps back to old position for a short moment - FIXED
- Quotes and '\$' character in arguments are not handled when VKDECODER_OPT_KEY_PASS_THROUGH is used - FIXED
- Embedded player's title can not be set with a custom text FIXED
- Multiple Players can not be started at the same time FIXED
- SetStatusBarHidden for Container of VKPlayerController is not updated for iOS 7 & above - FIXED
- If player view is added to a subview not directly to viewcontroller's view, then grow/shrink animation doesn't work well FIXED
- License checking code has a bug that logs a message even though the credentials are valid FIXED
- VideoKit Sample project supports iPhone 6 & iPhone 6 plus native resolutions now.
- Connection errors now give more details about the problem
- Added missed methods declerations in VKPlayerController class

Version: 2.1 - Release Date: 10/03/2014

- Recording functionality is added (No transcoding, record as it is)
- Player UI is updated for iOS 7 and above (iOS 6 UI is already supported)
- ffmpeg & openssl scripts are updated for XCode 6.0 cmdline tools
- Code is cleaned from iOS 5 SDK checks
- VideoKit deployment target is set to 6.x
- ffmpeg libraries are updated to latest 2.4.2 stable version
- Some APIs are depreciated, those are replaced with new ones in 2.4.2

Version: 2.0 - Release Date: 08/23/2014

- Added support for secure streams with openSSL (now https, rtmps, rtmpe, rtmpte, rtmpte & tls protocols are supported)
- Added new feature: VideoKit shows the first picture immediately without waiting to fetch all frames to start
- TCP & UDP protocols are supported (tcp://xxx & udp://xxx streams can be playable)
- Seek in RTMP file streams can be possible
- ffmpeg libraries are updated to latest 2.x stable version
- Build script is updated for building & supporting openSSL & ffmpeg version 2.x
- Some APIs are depreciated, those are replaced with new ones in 2.x
- When using multiple players, the owner of the post notification can not be determined in delegate method FIXED
- 1 KB is not 1024 Bytes in file system FIXED
- Some log types are changed in play and stop methods
- In some local files, restarting from the beginning of the movie causes no sound, FIXED
- In some videos, frame timer is updated so late, this causes black screen on the start of video. FIXED
- NEON support is broken in Xcode 5.x, new scripts are added for Xcode 4.6.3 to build with neon & asm support
- Remote license activating & controlling mechanism

Version: 1.11 - Release Date: 02/20/2014

• VideoKit crashes when try reaching not thread safe ffmpeg methods by multiple players at the same time, FIXED

Version: 1.10 - Release Date: 01/31/2014

- RTP protocol is supported
- Color formats other than YUV are supported (like RGB, BGR ...)
- Animated GIF files are supported with full transparency
- New decoder parameter, which is

VKDECODER_OPT_KEY_PASS_THROUGH, is added to support passing different server parameters to ffmpeg.

• ffmpeg build script is updated for supporting arm64 arch

Version: 1.02 - Release Date: 01/05/2014

• Removed unnecessary header files

Version: 1.01 - Release Date: 12/10/2013

- VideoKit crashes on iOS 5.x devices on runtime, FIXED
- Removed Right Swipe Gesture recognizer which is unused
- Detecting file stream algorithm is broken, FIXED

Version: 1.0 - Release Date: 12/01/2013

• First initial release