

# RXSwift - Observable

Ref Link:

<https://www.raywenderlich.com/books/rxswift-reactive-programming-with-swift/v4.0/chapters/2-observables>

<https://fxstudio.dev/rxswift-observables/>

## ✓ Definition

- An *observable sequence* can emit “**things**” known as events. It can emit 0 or more events

## ✓ Observable life cycle :

- + Value : value or collection of values that is emitted
  - + Error
  - + Complete
- When a value or collection of values (called elements) is added to or put onto a sequence, it will send **a next event containing that value or collection to its observers - emitting process.**
    - ◆ If there's an error, a sequence can **emit an error event** containing an error type; this will terminate the sequence.
    - ◆ A sequence can also terminate normally, it'll emit a **completed event**.
  - To stop observing a sequence, you can cancel the subscription by calling **dispose()**
    - ◆ OR add subscriptions to an instance of **DisposeBag**, which will take care of properly canceling subscriptions on **deinit()**.

## ✓ To create an observable, we use operators : just, of , from

### ○ just:

- ◆ Create an observable sequence with **ONLY 1 element.**
  - ◆ The observable sequence emits ONLY 1 value, and then terminate

- ◆ Have to declare its value type

```
let observable1 = Observable<Int>.just(iOS)
```

- **of:**

- ◆ No need to declare its value type. It will automatically identify the value type of the data inside of(...)
- ◆ **of** operator has a **variadic** parameter

**Declaration**

```
static func of(_ elements: Int..., scheduler:
ImmediateSchedulerType = CurrentThreadScheduler.instance) ->
Observable<Int>
```

- ◆ Ex1: observable 2 's value type : Observable<Int> :  
Single int values will be emitted one by one

```
let observable2 = Observable.of(iOS, android, flutter)
```

- ◆ Ex2: observable 3 's value type Observable<[Int]>.  
Taking an array as its single element; each emitted value is an array of integers:

```
let observable3 = Observable.of([iOS, android, flutter])
```

- **from**

- ◆ Creates an observable of individual elements from an array of typed elements.
- ◆ ONLY take array type
- ◆ EX: observable4 is an Observable of Int, not [Int]

```
let observable4 = Observable.from([one, two, three])
```

just	of	from
an observable sequence with <b>ONLY 1 element</b>	an observable sequence with <b>single elements will be emitted one by one</b>	observable of <u>individual elements from an array</u> of typed elements.

if we put an array as parameter, whole array will be considered as 1 single element

## ✓ To subscribe an observable :

**Summary**  
Subscribes an event handler to an observable sequence.

**Declaration**

```
func subscribe(_ on: @escaping (Event<Int>) -> Void) -> Disposable
```

**Parameters**  
on Action to invoke for each event in the observable sequence.  
take a closure parameter that receives an Event of Int & return nothing

**Returns**  
Subscription object used to unsubscribe from the observable sequence.

return Disposable

We do:

```
let one = 1
let two = 2
let three = 3

let observable = Observable.of(one, two, three)
```

```
observable.subscribe { event in
    print(event)
}
```

This subscription will print out each event emitted by observable:

```
next(1)  
next(2)  
next(3)  
completed
```

- There's a subscribe operator for each type of event an observable emits: **next**, **error** and **completed**.
  - ◆ The observable emits a next event for each element, then emits a completed event and is terminated (if does me
- To access the elements directly, we can do:

```
observable.subscribe { event in  
    if let element = event.element {  
        print(element)  
    }  
}
```

only next() have property 'element'  
=> that's why we use binding  
optional to unwrap element  
if it's NOT NIL

↑  
output : 1 2 3

\*\* Event has an **element property**. It's an optional value, because only next events have an element

- To handle specifically with next event , and ignore other stuff we do:

```
observable.subscribe(onNext: { element in  
    print(element)  
})
```

The onNext closure receives the next event's element as an argument, so you don't have to manually extract it from the event like you did before.

✓ Use **create** operator to create observable:

- This is another way to specify all the events an observable will emit to subscribers.

**Summary**  
Creates an observable sequence from a specified subscribe method implementation.

**Declaration**

```
static func create(_ subscribe: @escaping (AnyObserver<String>) -> Disposable) -> Observable<String>
```

**Parameters**

subscribe Implementation of the resulting observable sequence's subscribe method.

**Returns**  
The observable sequence with the specified implementation for the subscribe method.

106  
107 Observable<String>.create { observer in

- '**subscribe**' parameter => Its job is to provide the implementation of calling subscribe on the observable.
  - ◆ '**subscribe**' parameter is an escaping closure that takes an AnyObserver and returns a Disposable.
    - ◆ It defines all the events that will be emitted to subscribers.
  - ◆ *AnyObserver* is a generic type that facilitates adding values onto an observable sequence, which will then be emitted to subscribers.

EX1 : Use create to create observable

```
Observable<String>.create { observer in
    // 1 Add a next event onto the observer.
    --> onNext(_) is a convenience method for on(.next(_)).
    observer.onNext("1") create observable
                        the value type when adding new value  
MUST matched with declared type - String
    // 2 Add a completed event onto the observer.
    --> onCompleted is a convenience method for on(.completed).
    observer.onCompleted()

    // 3 Add another next event onto the observer.
    observer.onNext("?")
                    Return a disposable, defining what happens when your observable is  
terminated or disposed of;
    // 4 In this case, no cleanup is needed so you return an empty disposable.
    return Disposables.create()
}

} NOTE: Remember that 'subscribe' MUST return a disposable representing the  
subscription (check create(...) definition above).  
=> Therefore, we use Disposables.create() to create a disposable.
```

```
// 5. subscribe to the observable
.subscribe(
    onNext: { print($0) }, implement all handlers
    onError: { print($0) },
    onCompleted: { print("Completed") },
    onDisposed: { print("Disposed") }
)
.disposed(by: disposeBag) ← add subscription to Dispose bag
```

---- Example of: create ----

1

Completed  
Disposed

NOTE : The second next event is not printed because the observable emitted a completed event and terminated before it is added.

EX2: Observable emit Error Event

```
14 let disposeBag = DisposeBag()
15
16 enum MyError: Error {
17     case anError
18 }
19
20 Observable<String>.create { observer in
21     //1. Add a next event onto the observer
22     observer.onNext("1")
23
24     /// Emit error here!
25     /// Observable will emit error event & terminate
26     observer.onError(MyError.anError)
27
28     //2. Add a complete event onto the observer
29     observer.onCompleted()
30
31     //3. Add another next event onto the observer
32     // This will not be printed out because the observable emitted a Completed event and terminated
33     // above
34     observer.onNext("2")
35
36     //4. Return a disposable, defining what happens when your observable is terminated or disposed of;
37     // In this case, no cleanup is needed so you return an empty disposable.
38     return Disposables.create()
39 }.subscribe(
40     onNext: {print($0)},
41     onError: {print($0)},
42     onCompleted: {print("Completed!")},
43     onDisposed: {print("Disposed!"})
44 )
45     .disposed(by: disposeBag)
```

---- Example of: create ----

1

anError ←———— Observable emitted Error event & terminate  
Disposed

EX3: Memory leak case when not adding DisposeBag or call Dispose()

```

19 Observable<String>.create { observer in
20     //1. Add a next event onto the observer
21     observer.onNext("1")
22
23     /// Emit error here!
24     /// Observable will emit error event & terminate
25     // observer.onError(MyError.anError) ← commented out
26
27     // //2. Add a complete event onto the observer
28     // observer.onCompleted() ← commented out
29
30     //3. Add another next event onto the observer
31     // This will not be printed out because the observable emitted a Completed event and terminated
32     // above
33     observer.onNext("?")
34
35     //4. Return a disposable, defining what happens when your observable is terminated or disposed of;
36     // In this case, no cleanup is needed so you return an empty disposable.
37     return Disposables.create()
38 }.subscribe(
39     onNext: {print($0)},
40     onError: {print($0)},
41     onCompleted: {print("Completed!")},
42     onDisposed: {print("Disposed!")})
43 )
44 // .disposed(by: disposeBag) ← commented out
45

```

=> This will leak memory! The observable will never finish, and the disposable will never be disposed.

## ✓ Observables Special Types:

- **empty:**

The empty operator creates an **empty observable sequence with zero elements**; it will **only emit a completed event.**

Example (S1. Empty) ↴

```
let observable = Observable<Void>.empty()
```

```
observable.subscribe(  
    // 1  
    onNext: { element in  
        print(element)  
    },  
  
    // 2  
    onCompleted: {  
        print("Completed")  
    }  
)
```

← Output: 'Completed'

### Q: Why to use empty?

A: They're handy when you want to return an observable that immediately terminates or intentionally has zero values.

- **never:**

The never operator creates an observable that doesn't emit anything and never terminates

It can be used to represent an infinite duration.

```
let observable = Observable<Void>.never()
```

```
observable.subscribe(  
    onNext: { element in  
        print(element)  
    },  
    onCompleted: {  
        print("Completed")  
    }  
)  
}
```

=> Nothing is printed. Not even "Completed"

- **range:** to generate an observable from a range of values.

EX:

1. Create an observable using the range operator, which takes a start integer value and a count of sequential integers to generate.
2. Calculate and print the **nth** Fibonacci number for each emitted element.

```

// 1
let observable = Observable<Int>.range(start: 1, count: 10

observable
    .subscribe(onNext: { i in
        // 2
        let n = Double(i)

        let fibonacci = Int(
            ((pow(1.61803, n) - pow(0.61803, n)) /
            2.23606).rounded()
        )

        print(fibonacci)
    })
}

```

\*\*NOTE: Except for the never() example, up to this point we've worked with observables that automatically emit a completed event and naturally terminate.

## Disposing and terminating

- Subscription is what triggers an observable's work, causing it to emit new events until an error or completed event terminates the observable.
- You can also manually cause an observable to terminate by canceling a subscription to it (dispose it)
  - ◆ After you cancel the subscription, or **dispose** of it, the observable will stop emitting events.

EX:

```

// 1 Create an observable of strings.
let observable = Observable.of("A", "B", "C")

// 2 Subscribe to the observable, this time saving the returned Disposable
// as a local constant called 'subscription'
let subscription = observable.subscribe { event in
    // 3 Print each emitted event in the handler.
    print(event)
}

```

```

// explicitly cancel a subscription
subscription.dispose()

```

- **DisposeBag:**

A dispose bag holds **Disposable**s — typically added using the ***disposed(by:)*** method — and this will call ***dispose()*** on each one when the dispose bag is about to be deallocated

EX:

```

// 1 Create Dispose Bag
let disposeBag = DisposeBag()

// 2 Create an observable
Observable.of("A", "B", "C")
    .subscribe { // 3 Subscribe to the observable
        & print($0)           // & print out the emitted events using
                            // the default argument name $0
    } Add the returned Disposable from subscribe to the dispose bag
    .disposed(by: disposeBag) // 4

```

=> This is the pattern you'll use most frequently:

creating and subscribing to an observable, and immediately adding the subscription to a dispose bag.

## Q: Why we need to dispose?

A:

If we not add subscription to dispose bag or manually call dispose() when we're done with the subscription, we will experience memory leak.

## ✓ Create observable factories (Using deferred)

- Create observable factories that vend a new observable to each subscriber.
- Sometimes you want to **defer** some slow calculations until an Observable has an active subscription. In such cases, you may use **Observable.deferred**.
  - **Observable.deferred** create an observable (observable factories), but defers reading of the value(emit) until a subscription.

### Summary

Returns an observable sequence that invokes the specified factory function whenever a new observer subscribes.

### Declaration

```
static func deferred(_ observableFactory: @escaping () throws -> Observable<Int>) -> Observable<Int>
```

### Parameters

`observableFactory` Observable factory function to invoke for each observer that subscribes to the resulting sequence.

### Returns

An observable sequence whose observers trigger an invocation of the given observable factory function.

EX1:

```

54 let disposeBag = DisposeBag()
55
56 // 1. Create a Bool flag to flip which observable to return.
57 var flip = false
58
59 // 2. Create an observable of Int factory using the deferred operator.
60 let factory: Observable<Int> = Observable.deferred {
61
62     //3. Toggle flip, which happens each time factory is subscribed to.
63     flip.toggle()
64
65     //4. Return different observables based on whether flip is true or false.
66     if flip {
67         return Observable.of(1,2,3)
68     }
69     else {
70         return Observable.of(4,5,6)
71     }
72 }
73
74 // 5. To subscribe to 'factory' four times
75 // Each time you subscribe to factory, you get the opposite observable.
76 for _ in 0...3 {
77     factory.subscribe(onNext: {
78         print($0, terminator: "")
79     })
80     .disposed(by: disposeBag)
81
82     print() // print next output to next line
83 }

```

--- Example of: deferred ---

123

456

123

456

## EX2: IOS Permission Defer Until Response

Sometimes you should read a value after the subscription. Take any iOS permission as the example:

```

1 func permissionObservable() -> Observable<PHAuthorizationStatus> {
2     return .just(PHPPhotoLibrary.authorizationStatus())
3 }

```

- Here, you read the authorizationStatus while creating the Observable not when an observer subscribes to it.
- Imagine a user changes the permission in iOS settings before an observer subscribes for the permissionObservable. The

observer will receive **the old value** of the permission  
=> Therefore, we can use **deferred** in this case:

```
func permissionObservable() -> Observable<PHAuthorizationStatus> {
    return Observable.deferred {
        return .just(PHPPhotoLibrary.authorizationStatus())
    }
}
```

**Deferred** defers reading of the value until a subscription => This means the observer will have a fresh permission status and your calculation will be calculated when the result is indeed needed.

### ✓ Using Traits : <https://github.com/ReactiveX/RxSwift/blob/main/Documentation/Traits.md>

- Traits are **observables with a narrower set of behaviors** than regular observables.
- Their use is optional
- Type of Traits:
  1. **Single**:
    - o A **Single** is a variation of Observable that, instead of emitting a series of elements, is always guaranteed to emit either a single element or an error.
      - ◆ **Single** will emit either a success(value) or failure(error) event.
    - o **success(value)** is a combination of the next and completed events.
      - ◆ It's useful for one-time processes that will either succeed and yield a value or fail. Such as when downloading data or loading it from disk.
      - ◆ One common use case for using Single is for performing HTTP Requests that could only return a response or an error, but a Single can be used to model any case where you only care for a single element, and not for an infinite stream of elements.

## EX: LoadText file function using Single

```
94 // 1. Create a dispose bag to use later
95 let disposeBAG = DisposeBag()
96
97 // 2. Define an Error enum to model some possible errors that can occur in
//      reading data from a file on disk.
98
99 enum FileReadError : Error {
100     case fileNotFound, unreadable, encodingFailed
101 }
102
103 // 3. Implement a function to load text from a file on disk that returns a
104 //      Single.
105 func loadText(from name : String) -> Single<String> {
106     // 4. Create and return a Single.
107     return Single.create { single in
108
109         // a. Create a Disposable, because the subscribe closure of create
110         //      expects it as its return type
111         let disposable = Disposables.create()
112
113         // b. Get the path for the filename, or else add a file not found error
114         //      onto the Single and return the disposable you created.
115         guard let path = Bundle.main.path(forResource: name, ofType: "txt")
116             else {
117                 single(.failure(FileReadError.fileNotFound))
118                 return disposable
119             }
120
121         // c. Get the data from the file at that path, or add an unreadable
122         //      error onto the Single and return the disposable.
123         guard let data = FileManager.default.contents(atPath: path) else {
124             single(.failure(FileReadError.unreadable))
125             return disposable
126         }
127
128         // d. Convert the data to a string; otherwise, add an encoding failed
129         //      error onto the Single and return the disposable.
130         guard let contents = String(data: data, encoding: .utf8) else {
131             single(.failure(FileReadError.encodingFailed))
132             return disposable
133         }
134 }
```

```
135 // 5. Call loadText(from:) and pass the root name of the text file.  
136 loadText(from: "Copyright")  
137 // 6. Subscribe to the Single it returns.  
138 .subscribe {  
139     // Switch on the event and print the string if it was successful, or print  
     // the error if not.  
140     switch $0 {  
141         case .success(let string):  
142             print(string)  
143         case .failure(let error):  
144             print(error)  
145     }  
146 }  
147 .disposed(by: disposeBag)
```

## 2. Maybe:

- Maybe is a mashup of a Single and Completable.
- It can either emit  
 a success(value), completed or error(error). I
- Usage: if you need to implement an operation that could  
either succeed or fail, and optionally return a value on  
success

## 3. Completable:

- Completable will only emit  
 a completed or error(error) event. It will not emit any  
 values.
- We could use a completable when we only care that an  
operation completed successfully or failed, such as a file  
 write.