

Reactive Programming Patterns with RxSwift

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Agenda

- Introduction to Rx
- Creating observable sequences
- Basic patterns
- User interface patterns
- Architecture patterns

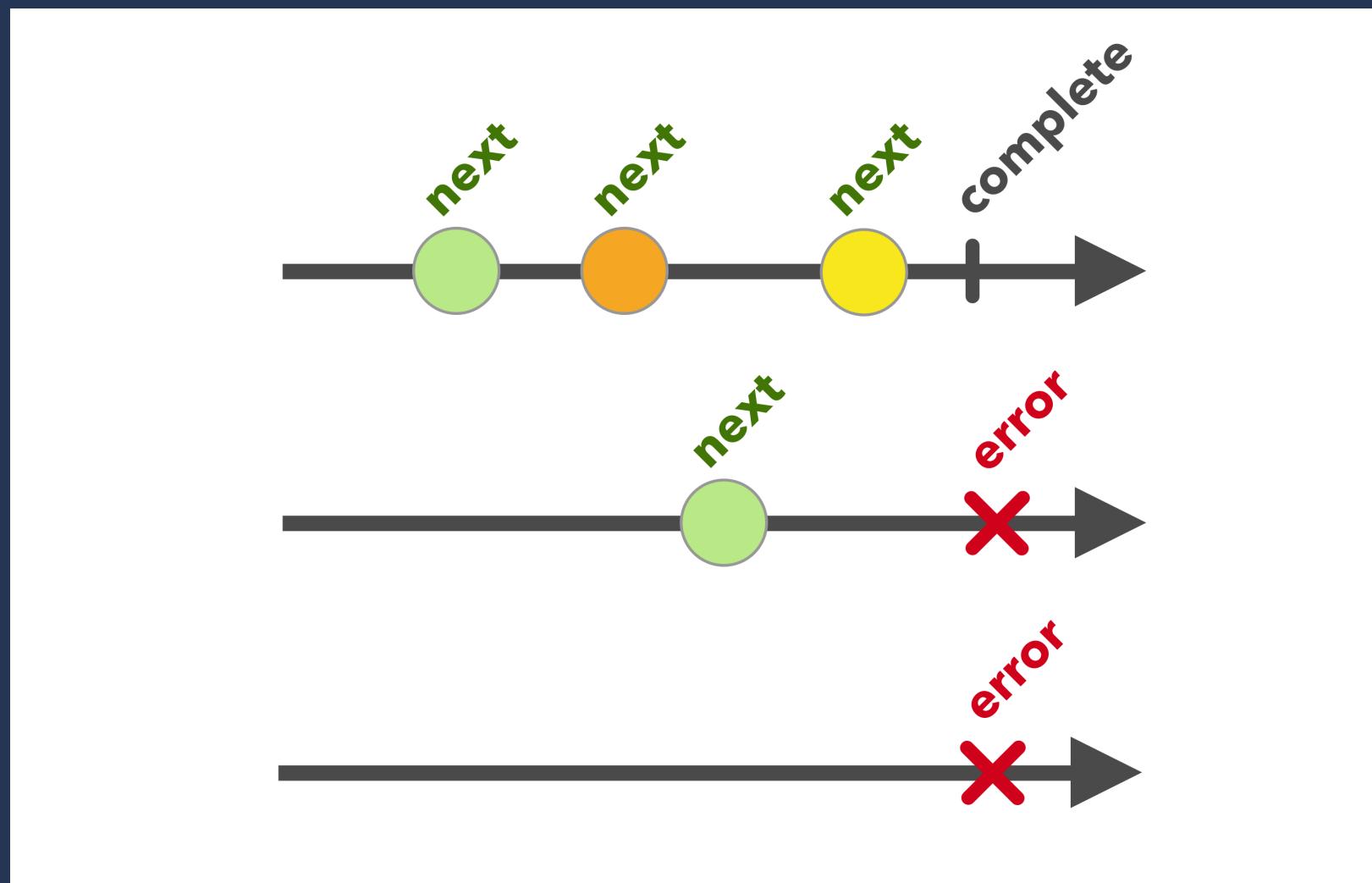
About Rx

- Microsoft Reactive Extensions (Rx.NET) - 2009
- [ReactiveX.io](#) defines a common API for Rx implementations
- RxSwift 2015
- Shares concepts and API with other implementations
- Heavily tested framework



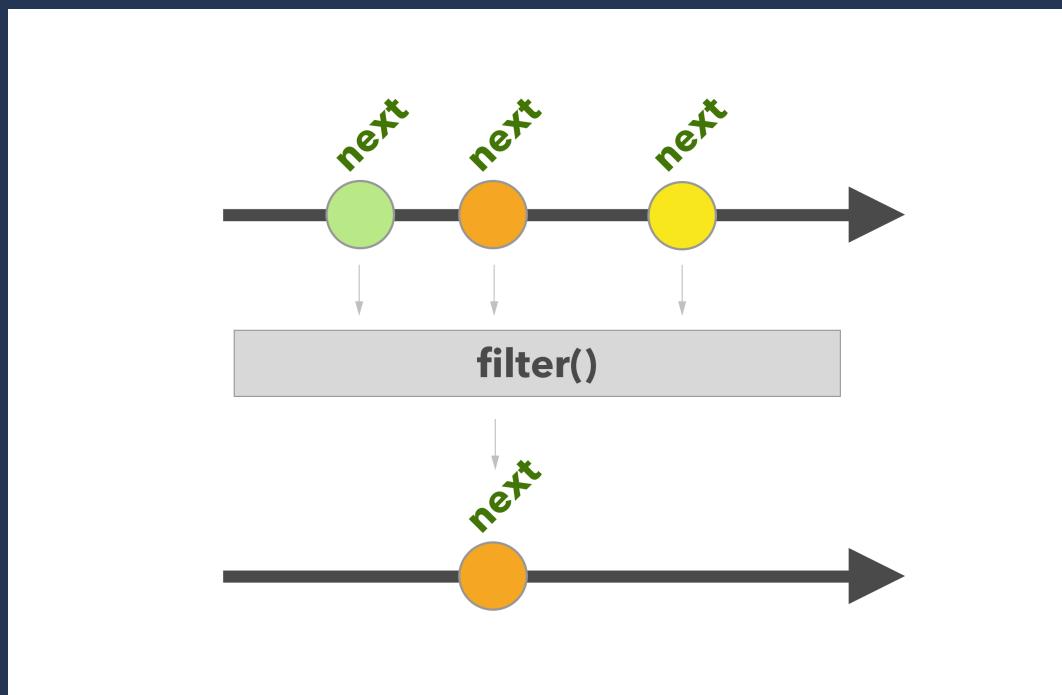
Base concepts

Asynchronous observable **sequences**



Base concepts

- Compose and transform observable sequences using **operators**
- Rx models the **asynchronous propagation of change**



```
let urlString = "http://api.openweathermap.org/data/2.5/weather?  
    units=metric&APPID=\(API_KEY)&q=Paris"  
let urlRequest = URLRequest(URL: NSURL(string: urlString)!)  
  
NSURLSession.sharedSession()  
    .rx_JSON(urlRequest)|  
    .map {  
        let root = $0 as! [String:AnyObject]  
        let main = root["main"] as! [String:AnyObject]  
        return main["temp"] as! Float  
    }  
    .subscribeNext { (temp: Float) in  
        print("Temperature in Paris is now \(temp)")  
    }
```

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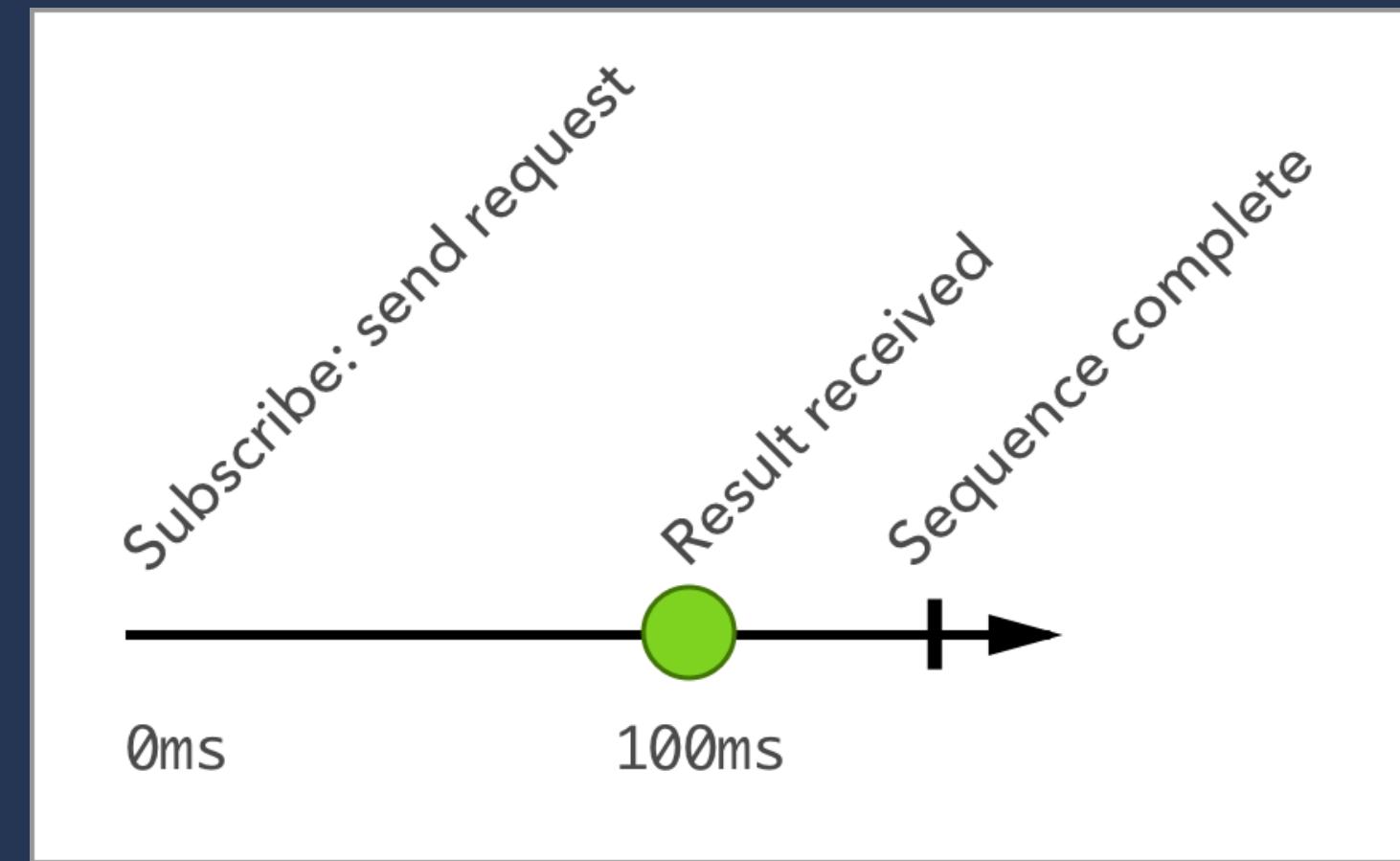
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    print("Temperature in Paris is now \(temp)")  
}
```

What did we just see?

- a **sequence** emitted one item then completed,
- the map operator **transformed** a sequence of JSON objects into a sequence of Floats,
- similar to Swift sequence mapping but **asynchronous**.

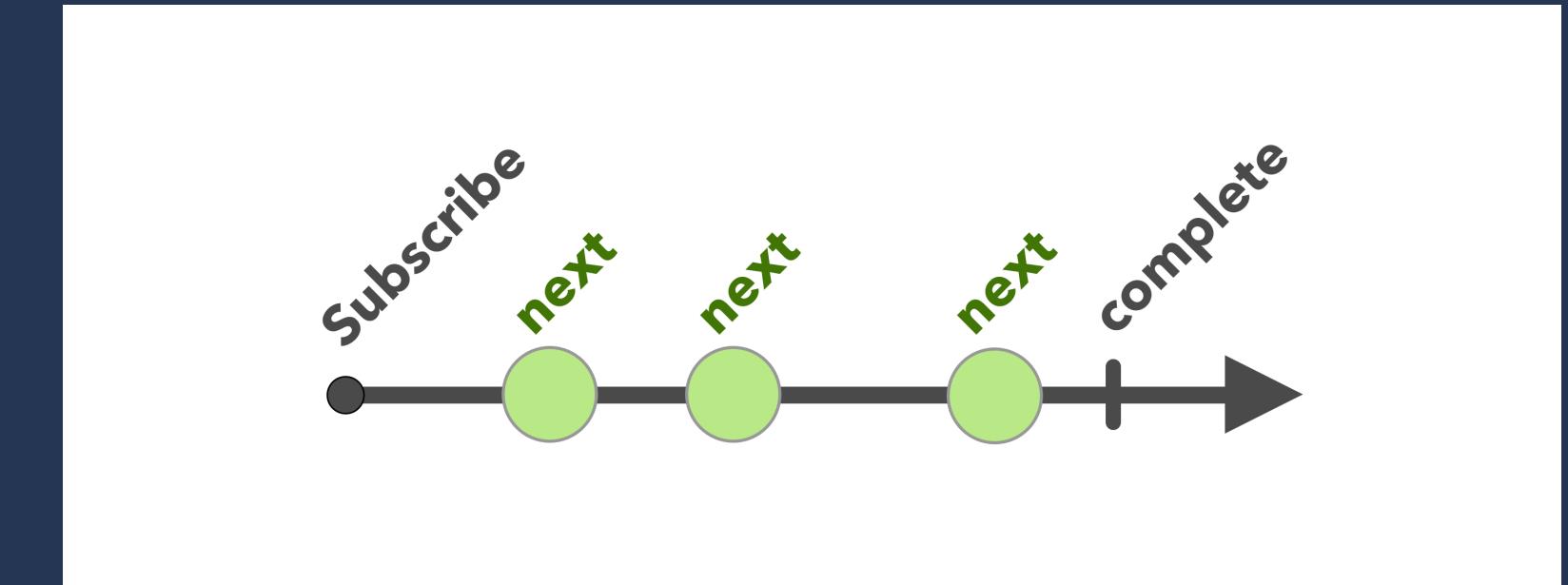
What did we just see?



Experiment with interactive marble diagrams
at rxmarbles.com

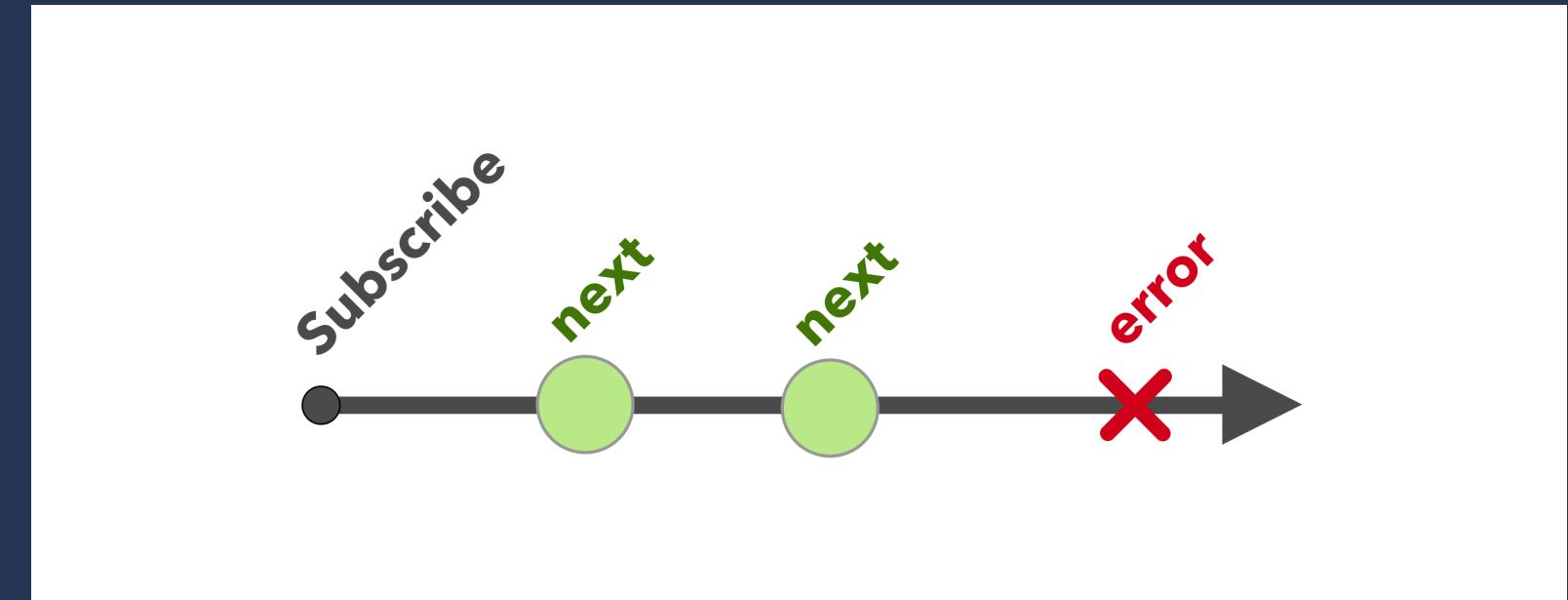
Observable sequence lifecycle

```
let disposable = someObservable.subscribe(  
    onNext: { print("value: $0") },  
    onCompleted: { print("completed") }  
)
```



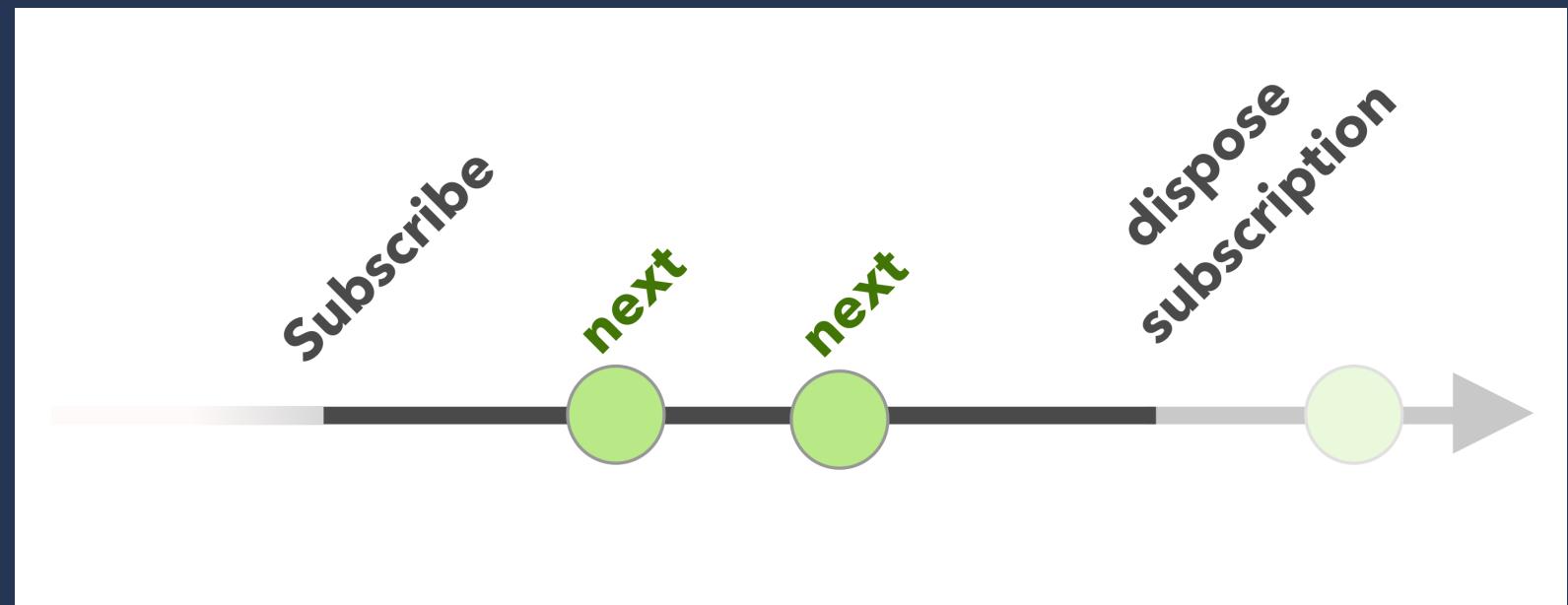
Observable sequence lifecycle

```
let disposable = someObservable.subscribe(  
    onNext: { print("value: $(0)") },  
    onError: { print("error $(0)") },  
    onCompleted: { print("completed") }  
)
```



Observable sequence lifecycle

```
let disposable = someObservable.subscribe(  
    onNext: { print("value: $0") },  
    onError: { print("error $0") },  
    onCompleted: { print("completed") },  
    onDisposed: { print("disposed") }  
)  
  
// at any point, cancel your subscription  
// by calling dispose()  
  
disposable.dispose()
```



The mysterious genesis of the Observable

The mysterious genesis of the Observable

RxCocoa

```
import RxCocoa

let disposable = NSNotificationCenter.defaultCenter()
    .rx_notification(UIApplicationSignificantTimeChangeNotification)
    .subscribeNext {
    (notification: UILocalNotification) in
    print("Date changed: time to update!")
}
```

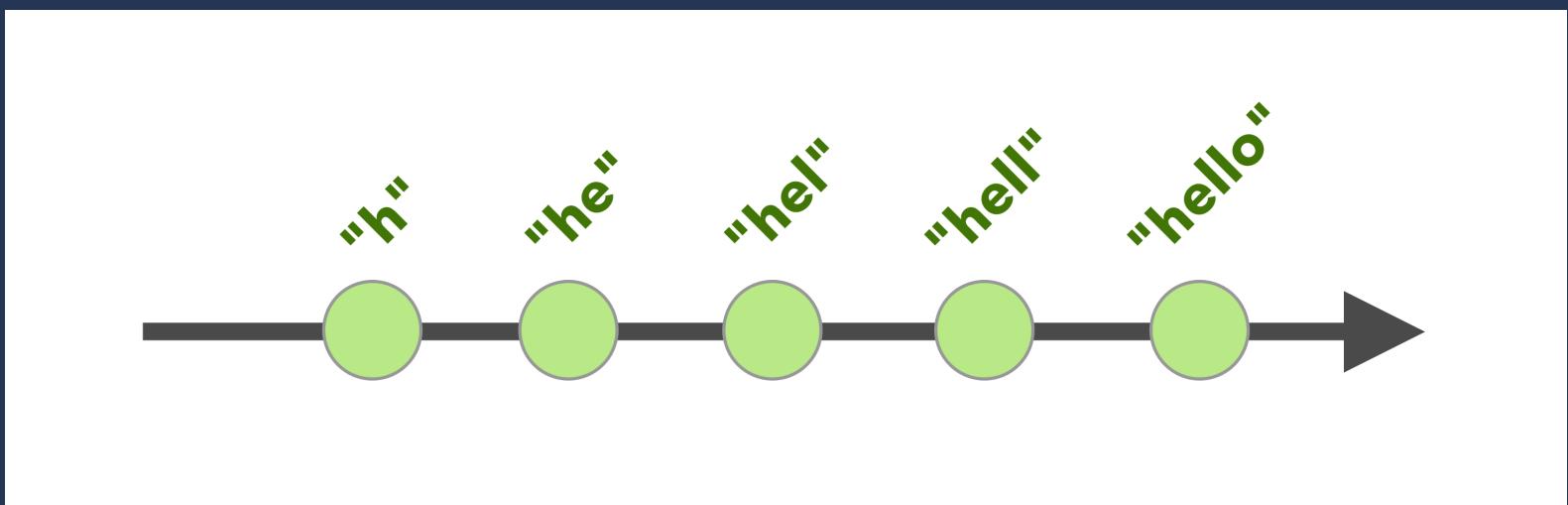
The mysterious genesis of the Observable

RxCocoa

```
import RxCocoa

@IBOutlet var textField : UITextField!

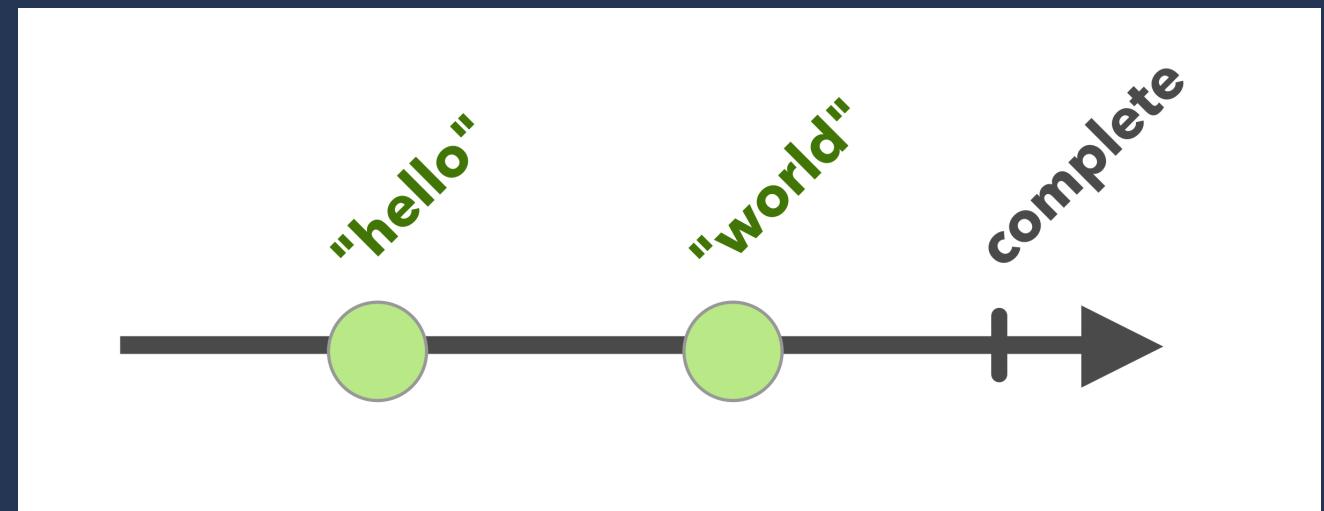
override func viewDidLoad() {
    super.viewDidLoad()
    let _ = textField.rx_text.subscribeNext {
        (text: String) in
        print("text field changed to \(text)")
    }
}
```



The mysterious genesis of the Observable

Manual creation

```
let strings : Observable<Int> =  
    Observable.create { observer in  
  
        observer.onNext("Hello")  
        observer.onNext("World")  
        observer.onCompleted()  
  
        // we don't need to release any  
        // resource on dispose()  
        return NopDisposable.instance  
    }
```



The mysterious genesis of the Observable

Manual creation

```
let asyncComputation : Observable<Data> =
  Observable.create { observer in
    let task = someAsyncTask()
    task.run(
      success: {
        (result: Data) in
        observer.onNext(result)
        observer.onCompleted()
      }
      error: {
        (error: ErrorType) in
        observer.onError(error)
      }
    )
    return AnonymousDisposable {
      task.cancel()
    }
  }
```

The mysterious genesis of the Observable

More ways to obtain observables:

- Items from an array or collection
- DelegateProxy
- rx_observe(type, keypath, options)
- rx_sentMessage(#selector)
- Subject (*stateless*) and Variable (*stateful*)

Basic Patterns

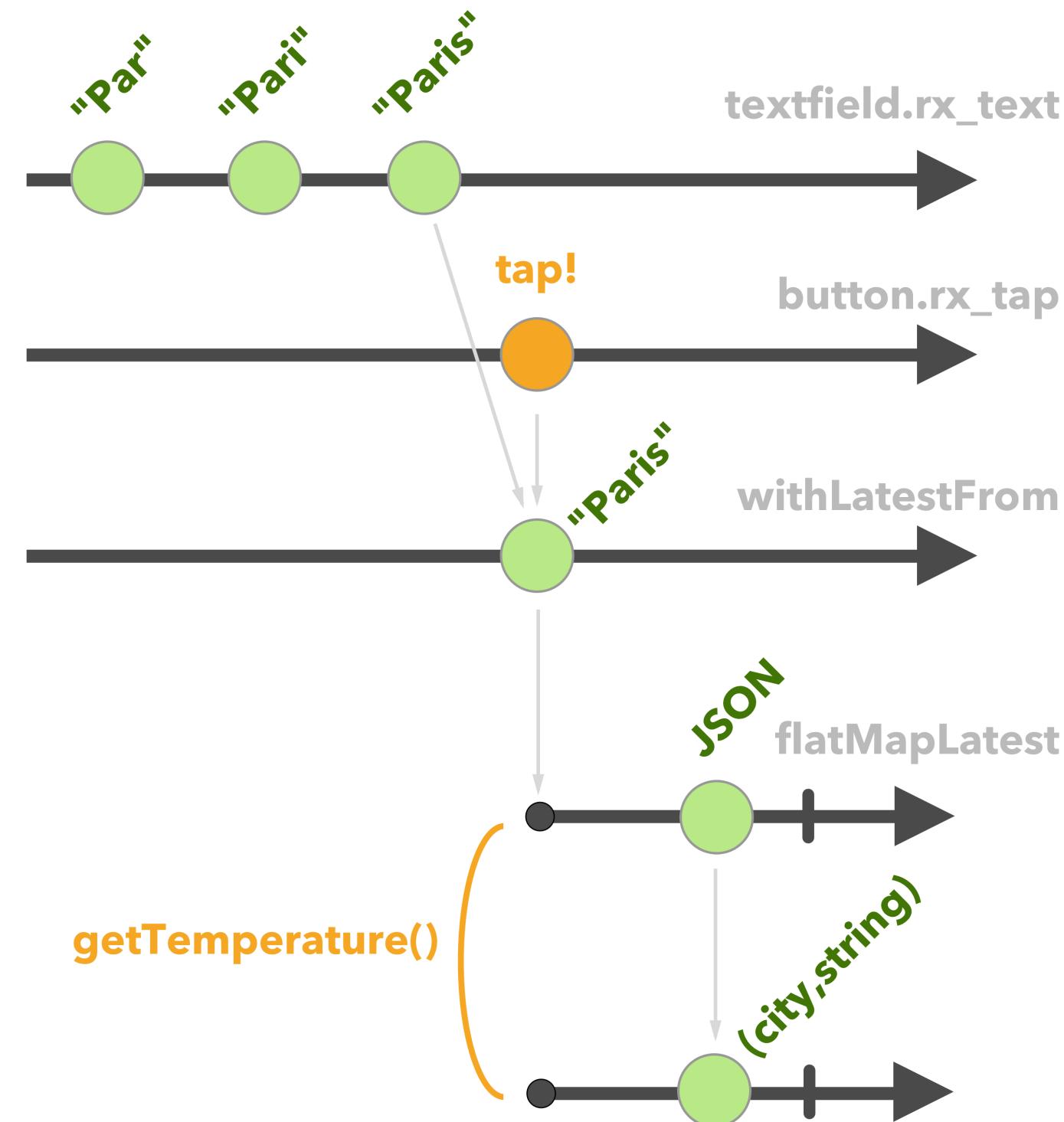
Composition

Task: update temperature label when button tapped

```
func getTemperature(city: String)
    -> Observable<(String,Float)>

func formattedTemperature(temp: Float)
    -> String

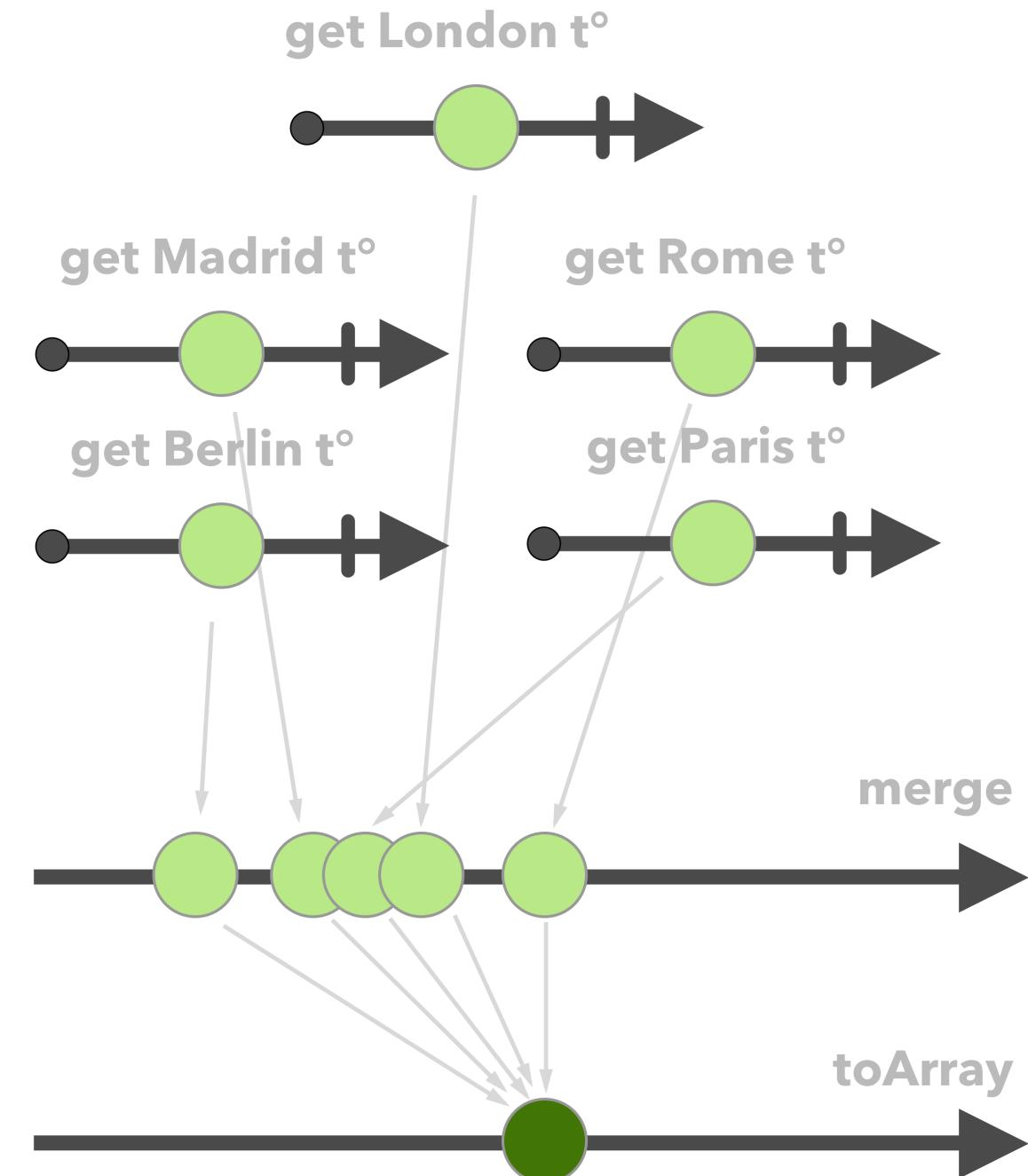
let disposable = button.rx_tap
    .withLatestFrom(textField.rx_text)
    .flatMapLatest {
        (city: String) -> Observable<(String,Float)> in
        return getTemperature(city)
    }
    .subscribeNext {
        (temp: (String,Float)) in
        let degrees = formattedTemperature(temp.1)
        label.text = "It's \(degrees) in \(temp.0)"
    }
}
```



Aggregation

Task: obtain the current temperature in multiple cities

```
let disposable = ["Berlin", "London",  
                 "Madrid", "Paris",  
                 "Rome"]  
    .map {  
        (city: String) -> Observable<(String,Float)> in  
        return getTemperature(city)  
    }  
    .toObservable()  
    .merge()  
    .toArray()  
    .subscribeNext {  
        (temperatures: [(String,Float)]) in  
        // we get the result of the five requests  
        // at once in a nice array!  
    }
```



Cancellation

Task: update temperature every second until VC disappears

```
var timerDisposable : Disposable!

override func viewDidAppear(animated: Bool) {
    super.viewDidAppear(animated)
    timerDisposable = Observable
        .timer(0.0, period: 60.0, scheduler: MainScheduler.instance)
        .flatMap { _ -> Observable<String> in
            getTemperature("Paris").map {
                (temp: (String,Float)) -> String in
                return String(temp.1)
            }
        }
        .bindTo(label.rx_text)
}

override func viewWillDisappear(animated: Bool) {
    timerDisposable.dispose()
    super.viewWillDisappear(animated)
}
```

Error handling

Task: if a temperature network request fails, display "--"

```
func getTemperatureAsString(city: String) -> Observable<(String, String)> {
    return getTemperature(city)
        .map {
            (temp: (String, Float)) -> String in
            return (city, formattedTemperature(temp.1))
        }
        .catchErrorJustReturn((city, "--"))
}
```

Error handling

Task: if a temperature network request fails, display "--"

```
let disposable = button.rx_tap
    .withLatestFrom(textField.rx_text)
    .flatMapLatest {
        (city: String) -> Observable<(String, String)> in
        return getTemperatureAsString(city)
    }
    .map {
        (temp: (String, String)) -> String in
        return "It's \"\$(temp.1) in \$(temp.0)"
    }
    .bindTo(label.rx_text)
```

User interface patterns

Driver

```
let disposable = button.rx_tap
    .withLatestFrom(textField.rx_text)
    .flatMapLatest {
        (city: String) -> Driver<String> in
        return getTemperature(city)
            .map { formattedTemperature($0.1) }
            .asDriver(onErrorJustReturn: "--")
    }
    .drive(label.rx_text)
```

Action

- not technically part of RxSwift
- an important pattern for binding the UI
- pod Action
- a very useful pattern for MVVM

Action

```
import Action

lazy var getTemperatureAction : CocoaAction = CocoaAction {
    [unowned self] in
    return self.getTemperatureAsString(self.textfield.text)
}

button.rx_action = getTemperatureAction
getTemperatureAction.elements.bindTo(label.rx_text)
```

Architecture patterns

Architecture patterns

- Expose all data to display as Observable sequences
- Use Action to wire up the UI whenever possible
- MVVM is a perfect fit for Rx

Architecture patterns

- Decouple application logic from application *infrastructure*
- Storage, geolocation, network requests, image cache etc.
are a good fit for insulation
- Makes replacing whole parts of the app easier
- Testing and mocking are easier too

Summary

Reactive programming

- Powerful way to express program logic
- Model the asynchronous propagation of change
- Eliminate state from your code
- Code is more testable
- RxSwift is a solid foundation
- Fast growing pool of users, add-ons and contributors
(RxSwiftCommunity!)

Links

- RxSwift source [github.com/reactivex/rxswift](https://github.com/ReactiveX/RxSwift)
- Community projects github.com/RxSwiftCommunity
- Artsy's Eidolon app github.com/artsy/eidolon
- ReactiveX website reactivex.io
- RxMarbles rxmarbles.com

Q & A