Streams, Streams Everywhere!

An Introduction to Rx

Andrzej Sitek



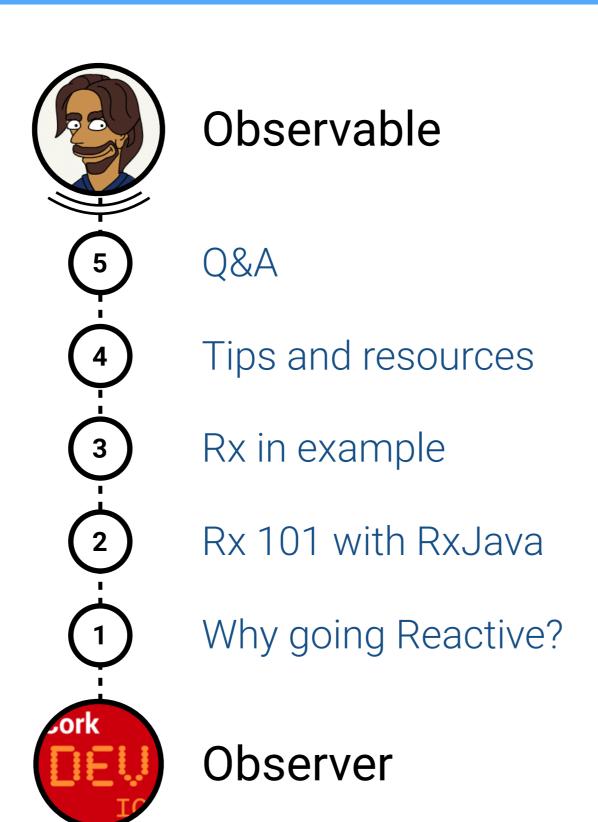


Let me introduce myself



```
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    <twitter>@andrzej_sitek</twitter>
    <google-plus>+AndrzejSitek</google-plus>
</author>
```

"Reactive" presentation plan *stream





Some driving factors:

- Users expect real time data
- No-one wants to be blocked waiting for results
- When working with results sets it is better to start processing individual results when they are ready
- The world has moved to push data model
- Async programming is very important but at the same time it's often difficult and error-prone





Reactive:

- A buzz word
- Pronunciation: /rɪ'aktɪv/
- "Showing a response to a stimulus."
- "Acting in response to a situation rather than creating or controlling it."





Reactive manifesto:

Responsive:

The system responds in a timely manner if at all possible

Resilient:

The system stays responsive in the face of failure

Elastic:

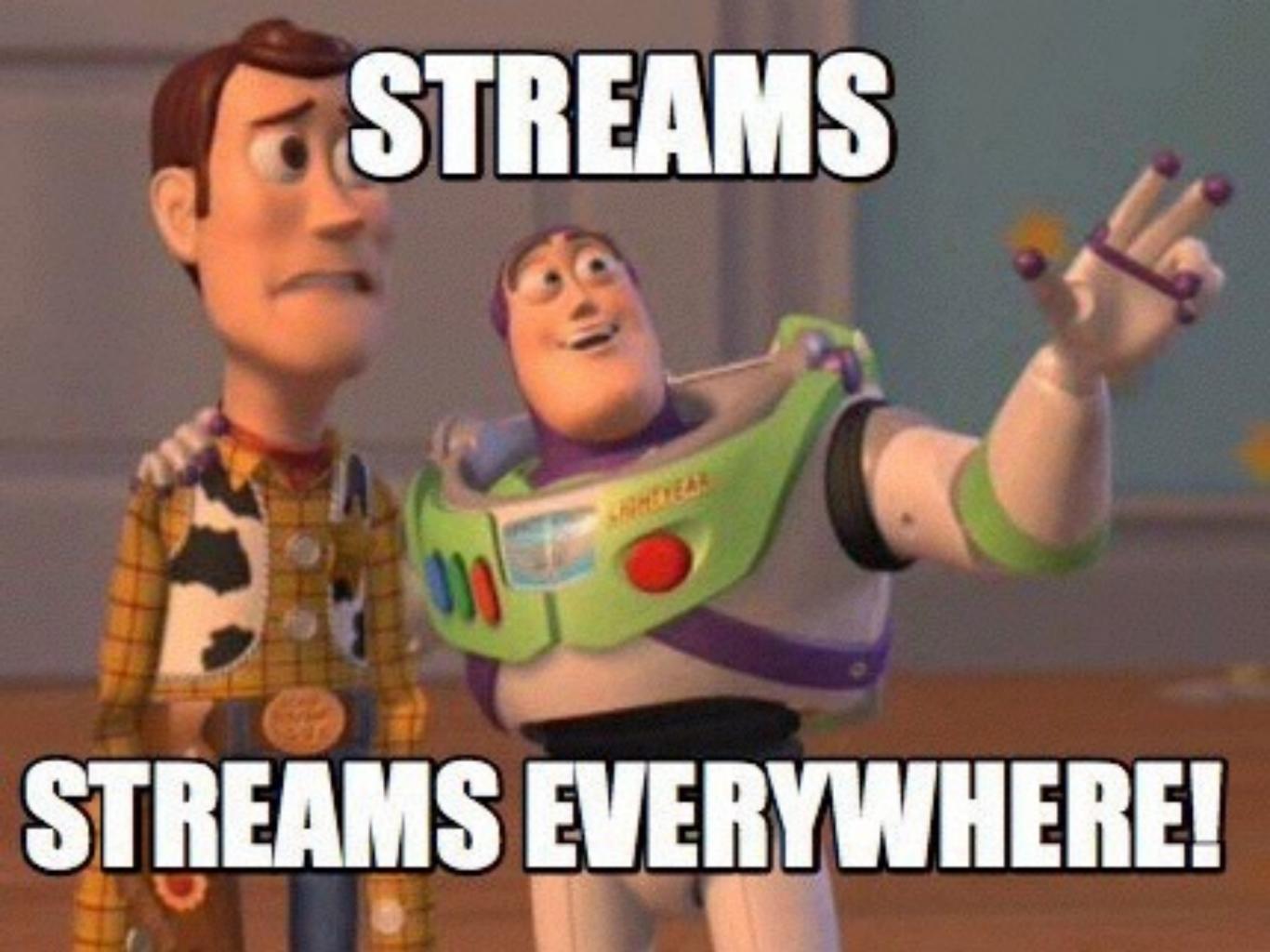
The system stays responsive under varying workload

Message Driven:

Reactive Systems rely on asynchronous message-passing



www.reactivemanifesto.org





Streams, streams everywhere!

Mouse clicks

WebSockets

Keyboard events

Order status

- Tweets
- RSS feed
- A/V streams
- Stocks







Reactive Programming:

- RP: a paradigm oriented around asynchronous data flows and the propagation of change
- Basically:
 - Reactive model is Push rather than Pull
 - Programming with async data sequences
 - Discrete values emitted over time
 - It's not "Functional Reactive Programming"!





ReactiveX:



- Rx stands for Reactive Extensions
- "A library for composing asynchronous and eventbased programs by using observable sequences."
- Created by Erik Meijer (Microsoft) for the .NET
 - Version 1.0 released 17/11/2009
 - Version 2.0 released 15/08/2012
- Ported to different languages thereafter





ReactiveX:



- Provides a collection of operators
- Observer pattern "on steroids":
 - Support sequences of data and/or events
 - Compose sequences using declarative way
 - Abstract away concerns about low-level stuff
 - Concurrent data structures and non-blocking I/O
 - Threading and Thread Safety





Accessing sequences of data:

	single items	multiple items
sync	T getData()	Iterable <t> getData()</t>
async	Future <t> getData()</t>	THE STATE OF THE S



Accessing sequences of data:

	single items	multiple items
sync	T getData()	Iterable <t> getData()</t>
async	Future <t> getData()</t>	Observable <t> getData()</t>



Accessing sequences of data:

	single items	multiple items
sync	Reactive X is Reactive X is a contraction of the co	about servables: servable <t> getData()</t>
async	Future <t> getData()</t>	Observable <t> getData()</t>





Observables are:

Composable:

They are intended for composing flows and sequences of asynchronous data unlike i.e. Java Futures

Flexible:

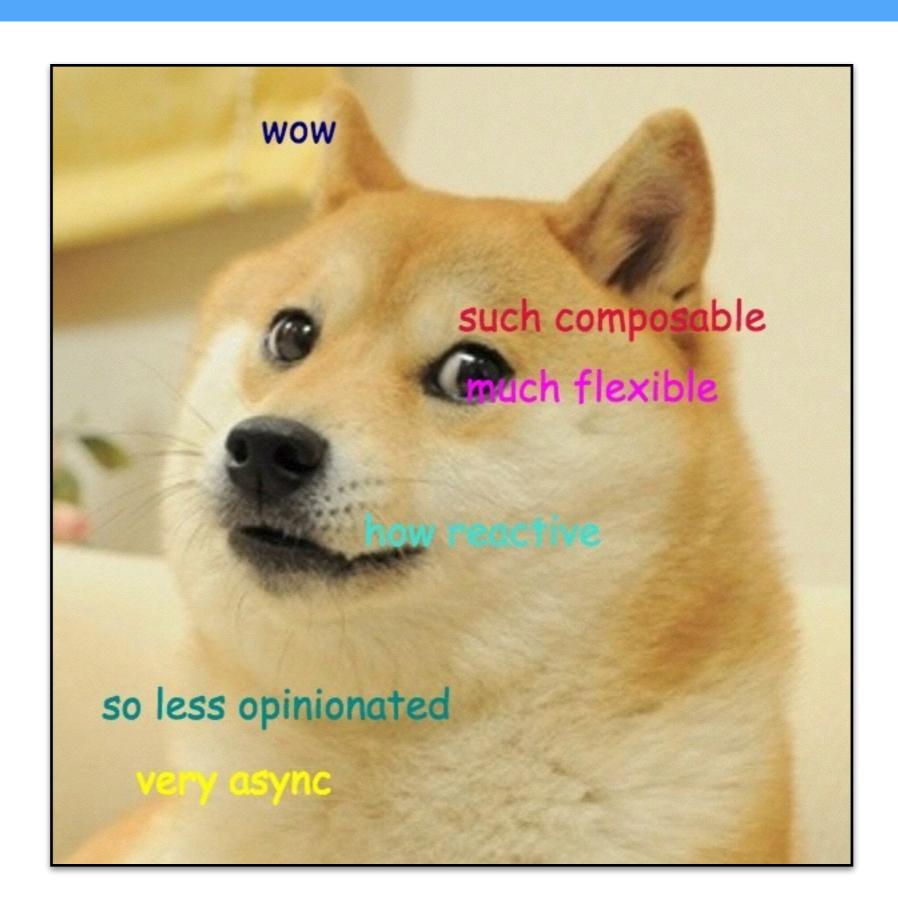
They support emission of single scalar value, but also of sequences of values or even infinite streams. They have the flexibility and elegance of their Iterable cousins

Less Opinionated:

They just don't care about the source of concurrency or asynchronicity. The underlying nature of their implementation might be changed without breaking the consumers









Observables vs Iterables:

	Iterable (pull)	Observable (push)
receive data	T next()	onNext(T)
discover error	throws Exception	onError(Exception)
complete	!hasNext()	onCompleted()



Observables vs Iterables:

- Iterable is synchronous and pull
- Iterable: the consumer pulls the values from the producer (blocking the thread until they arrives)
- Observable is asynchronous and push
- Observable: the producer pushes values to the consumer whenever they are available
- Observable adds the ability for the producer to say:
 - "There is no more data available!"
 - "An error has occurred!"











Languages:

Java: RxJava

Ruby: <u>Rx.rb</u>

JavaScript: <u>RxJS</u>

Python: RxPY

• C#: <u>Rx.NET</u>

Groovy: <u>RxGroovy</u>

• C#(Unity): <u>UniRx</u>

JRuby: <u>RxJRuby</u>

Scala: RxScala

Kotlin: RxKotlin

Clojure: <u>RxClojure</u>

Swift: RxSwift



• C++: <u>RxCpp</u>



Languages:

Java: RxJava

Ruby: Rx.rb

JavaScript: RxJS

• C#: **Rx.NET**

Understand it once - reuse

C#(Unity): Unity is in different languages

the concepts in different languages

Scala: RxScala

Kotlin: RxKotlin

Clojure: RxClojure

Swift: RxSwift



C++: RxCpp







RxJava:





- Ported by Netflix
- Reached stable (1.0.0) version in November 2014
- Polyglot implementation to Scala, Groovy, Clojure and Kotlin
- Seems like just a library... but it's also the concept in the way you code



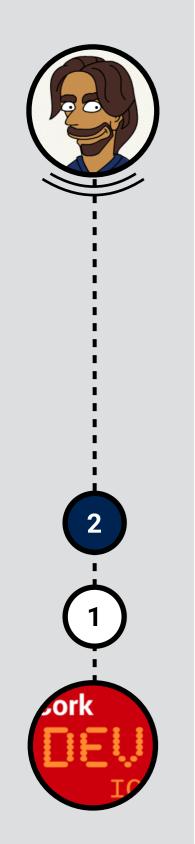






RxJava:

- Lightweight (Zero Dependencies and < 800KB Jar)
- Java 6+ & Android 2.3+
- Java 8 lambda support
- Non-opinionated about source of concurrency
- Async or synchronous execution
- Virtual time and schedulers for parameterised concurrency



RxJava:

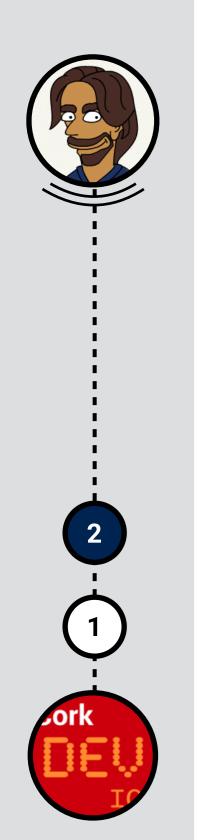


https://github.com/ReactiveX/RxJava/



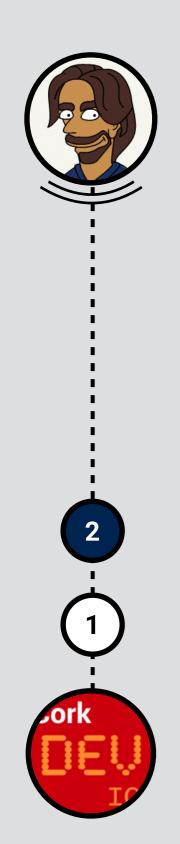
compile 'io.reactivex:rxjava:x.y.z'

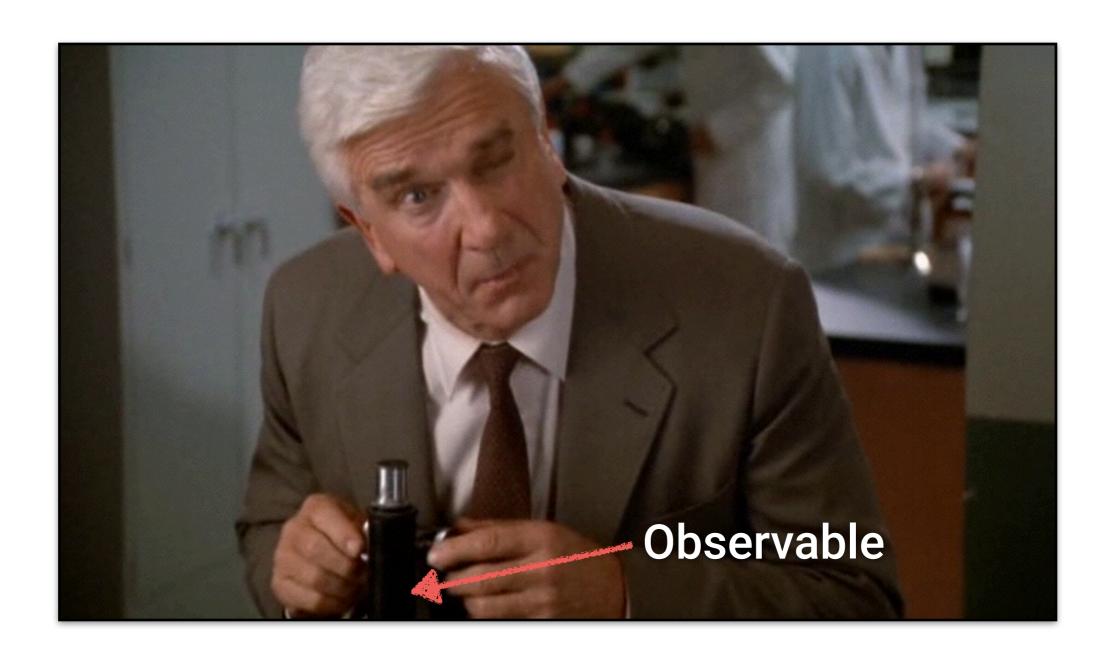
Current version: 1.1.0 released on 02/12/2015



Rx 101 topics:

- Observable
- Observer
- Subscription
- Marble diagrams
- Operators
- Schedulers*







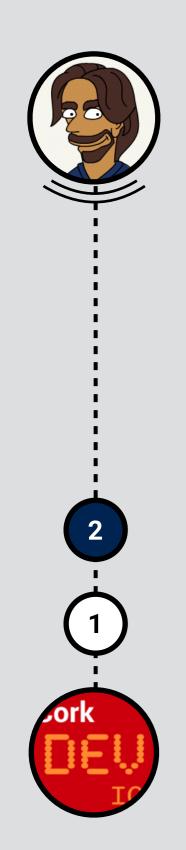
Observable:

- Emits zero or more items (values)
- Notifies the Observer using onNext(T data)
 method when the item is ready to be pushed
- Calls Observer's onCompleted() method when the sequence is finished
- Calls Observer's onError(Throwable t) method when a serious error happened
- It's either onCompleted() or onError(Throwable t)



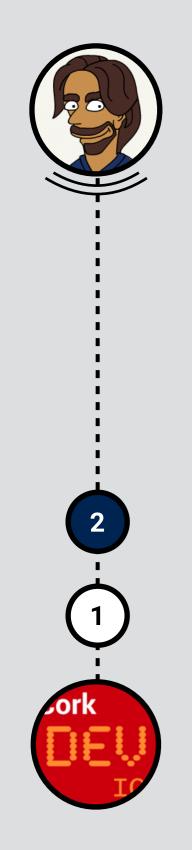






Observable creation:

- Convert objects, lists, or arrays of objects into Observables that emit those objects:
 - Observable.just(...);
 For converting a single object
 - Observable.from(...);
 For converting lists, or arrays of objects
- Design your own Observable implementing:
 - Observable.create(...);
 For async i/o, computational operations, streams of data...



Observable creation:

 There are many more practical ways of creating Observables:

https://github.com/ReactiveX/RxJava/wiki/Creating-Observables

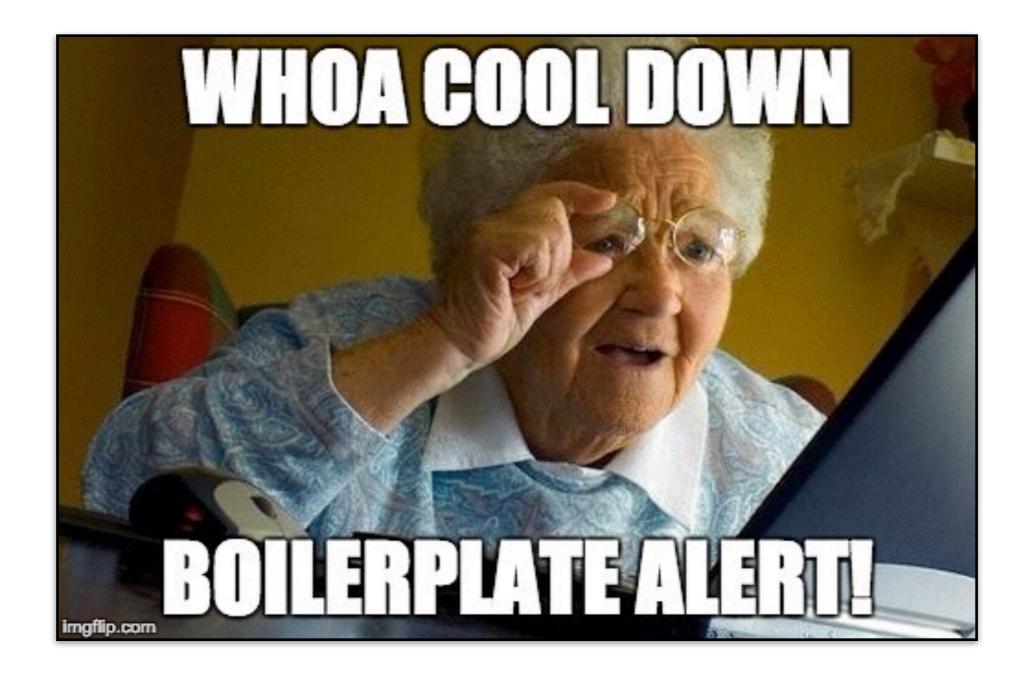


Observable.create():

```
Observable<Integer> observable = Observable.create(
    new Observable.OnSubscribe<Integer>() {
      @Override
      public void call(Subscriber<? super Integer> subscriber) {
          for (int i = 0; i < 10 && !subscriber.isUnsubscribed(); i++) {
                subscriber.onNext(i);
          }
          if (!subscriber.isUnsubscribed()) {
                subscriber.onCompleted();
          }
     }
});</pre>
```



Observable.create():





Using lambda expressions:

```
Observable<Integer> observable = Observable.create(new Observable.OnSubscribe<Integer>() {
    @Override
    public void call(Subscriber<? super Integer> subscriber) {
        for (int i = 0; i < 10 && !subscriber.isUnsubscribed(); i++) {
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    }
});</pre>
```

```
Observable<Integer> observable = Observable.create(subscriber -> {
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    }
    if (!subscriber.isUnsubscribed()) {
        subscriber.onCompleted();
    }
});</pre>
```



Using lambda expressions:

```
Observable<Integer> observable = Observable.create(new Observable.OnSubscribe<Integer>() {
           public void call(Subscriber<? super Integer> subscriber) {
if (!subscriber.isUnsubscribeth) {Java 5, 6 or 7?

subscriber.onChrolyWith {Java 5, 6 or 7?

Stuck With a enjoy lambda

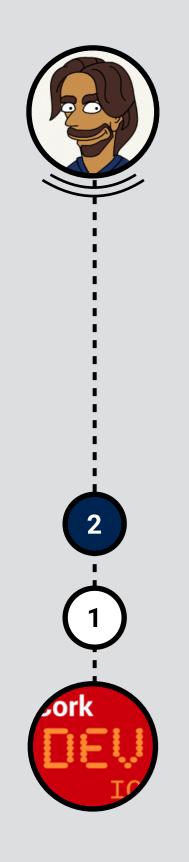
} Stuck From Java 8!

Use Retrolambda from Java 8!

Observable<Intege expressions

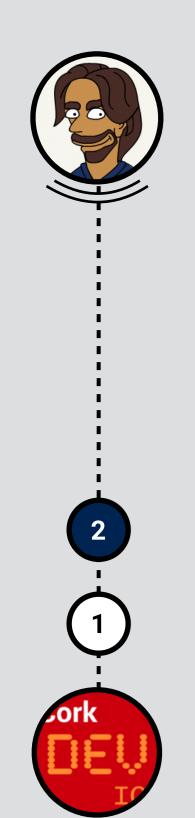
Observable<Intege expressions

Observable (int i = 0.1 < 1.0 cc.)
                 for (int i = 0; i < 10 \&\& !subscriber.isUnsubscribed(); i++) {
                  subscriber.onNext(i):
            if (!subscriber.isUnsubscribed()) {
                  subscriber.onCompleted();
      });
```



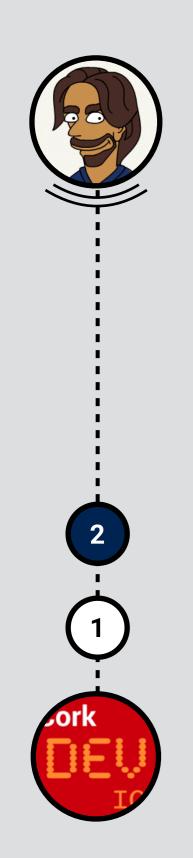
"Hot" vs "Cold" Observables:





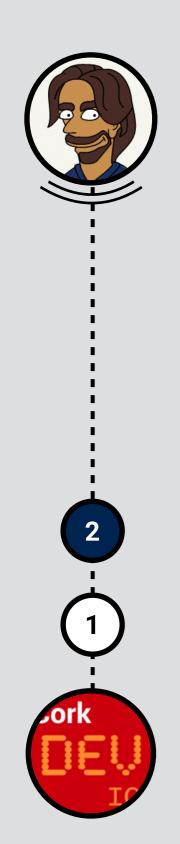
"Hot" vs "Cold" Observables:

- "Hot" Observables:
 - May begin emitting items as soon as is is created
 - Observer who later subscribes may start observing the sequence somewhere in the middle
- "Cold" Observables:
 - Waits until an observer subscribes to it before it emits items
 - An observer is guaranteed to see the whole sequence from the beginning

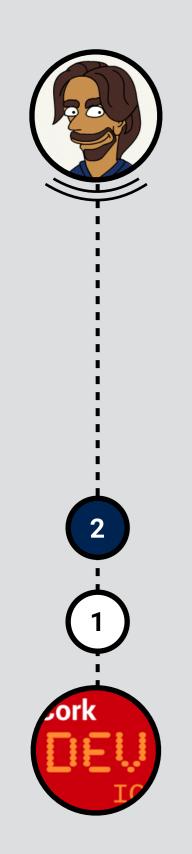


"Hot" vs "Cold" Observables:

- "Hot" Examples:
 - Stream of mouse click events
 - Tweets
- "Cold" Examples:
 - Network request
 - A/V Stream







Observer<T> - the interface:

- Interface methods:
 - onNext(T data);
 - onCompleted();
 - onError(Throwable t);
- Receives zero or more items
- You can override all of the interface methods (recommended for beginners) or just a single one



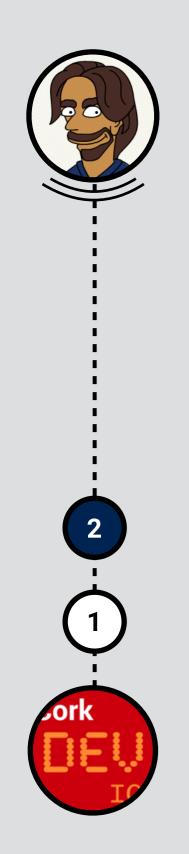
Subscriber - the implementation:

- "A Subscriber is an Observer that can also unsubscribe from that data source."
- Subscriber class is the implementation of two interfaces: Observer and Subscriber
- It's a common practice to pass the implementation rather then the interface
- It reduces the learning curve for developers new to Rx



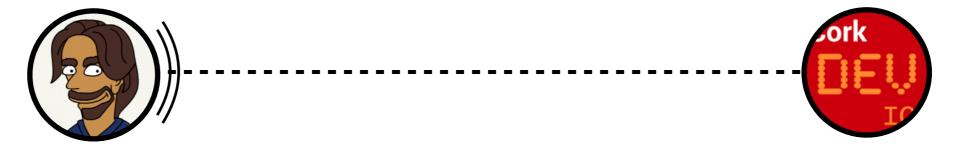
Creating a Subscriber:

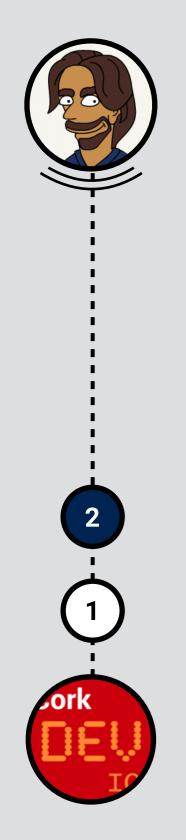
```
Subscriber<Integer> subscriber = new Subscriber<Integer>() {
    @Override
    public void onCompleted() {
        Log.i(TAG, "Sequence is complete!");
    }
    @Override
    public void onError(Throwable e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    }
    @Override
    public void onNext(Integer i) {
        Log.i(TAG, "Item: " + i);
};
```



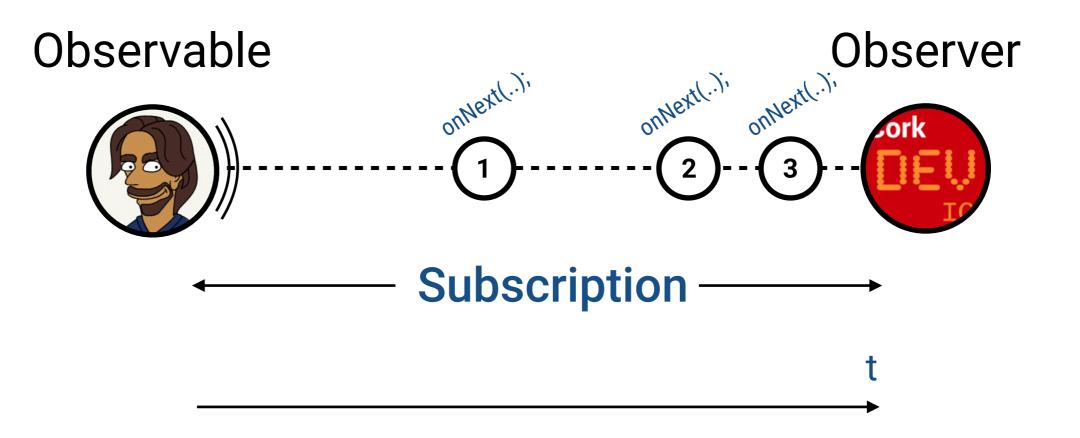
Subscription:

Observable Observer





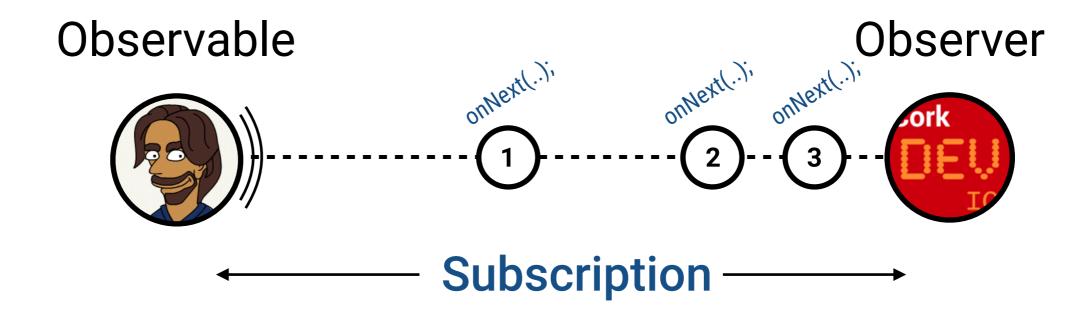
Subscription:





Subscription:

// Subscribing to the Observable
observable.subscribe(subscriber);



// Unsubscribing the Observer/Subscriber
subscriber.unsubscribe();

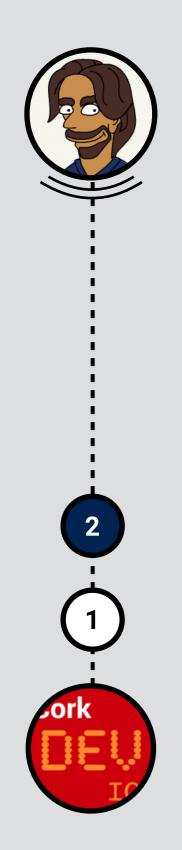






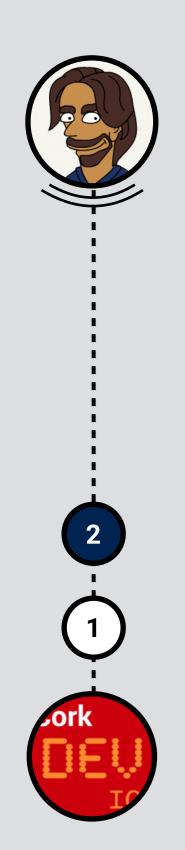
```
// Simplified using lambda expression
Observable.just("Hello world!")
.subscribe(s -> Log.i(TAG, "Greeting: " + s));
```



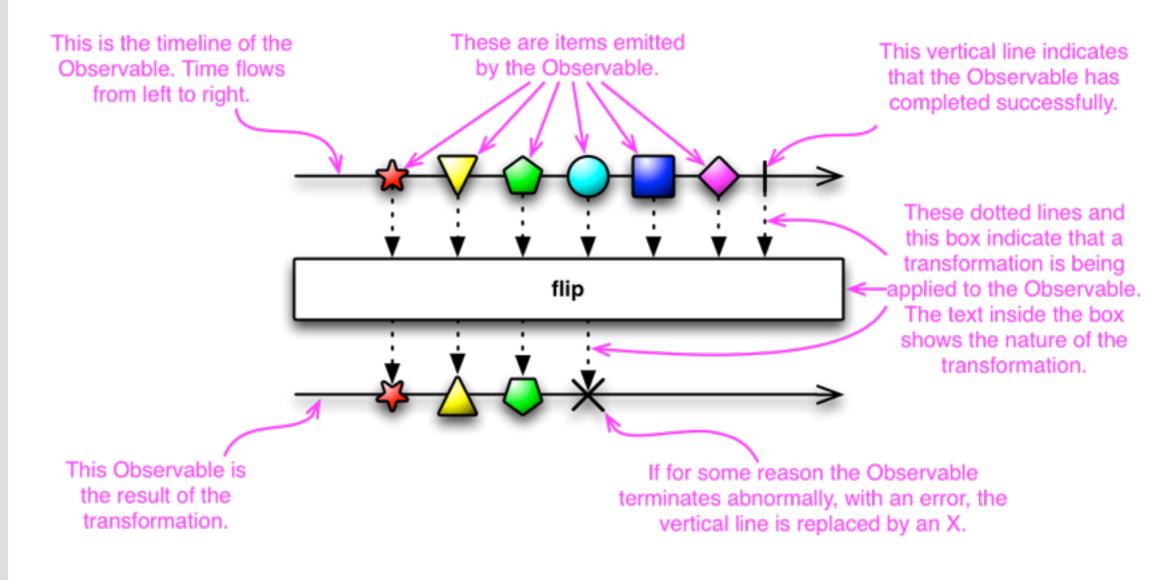


Marble diagrams:

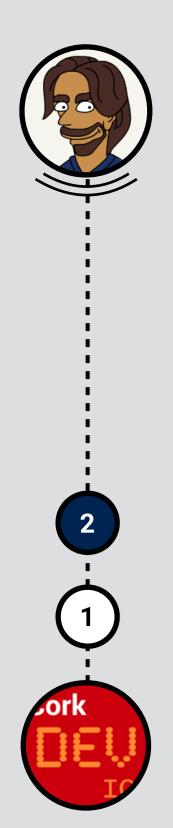




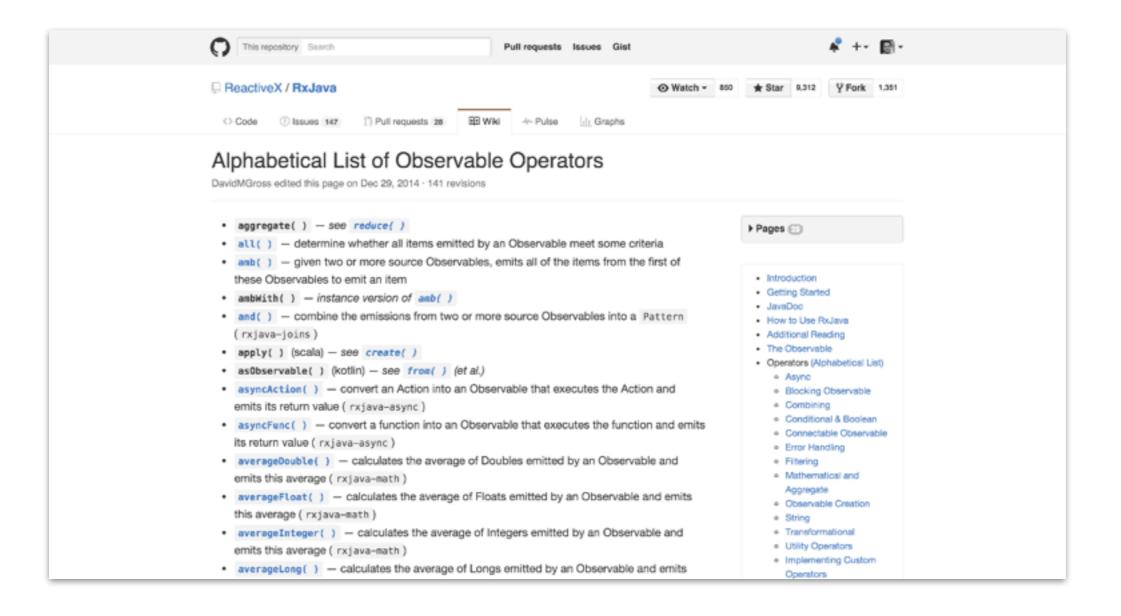
Marble diagrams:

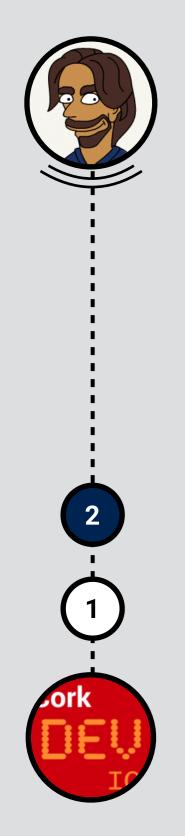


Source: http://reactivex.io/documentation



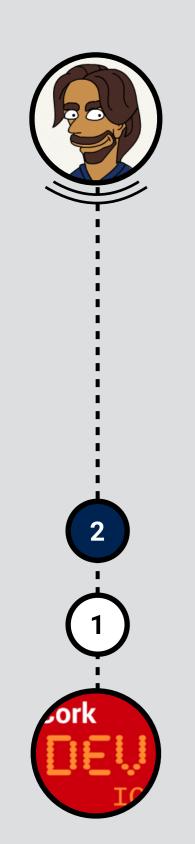
Operators:





Operators:





Operator categories:

- Creating Observables
- Transforming
 Observables
- Filtering Observables
- Combining Observables
- Error Handling Operators
- Observable Utility
 Operators

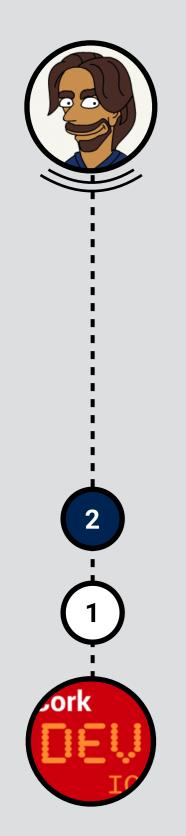
- Conditional and Boolean Operators
- Mathematical and Aggregate Operators
- Backpressure Operators
- Connectable Observable Operators
- Operators to Convert Observables



Operator categories:

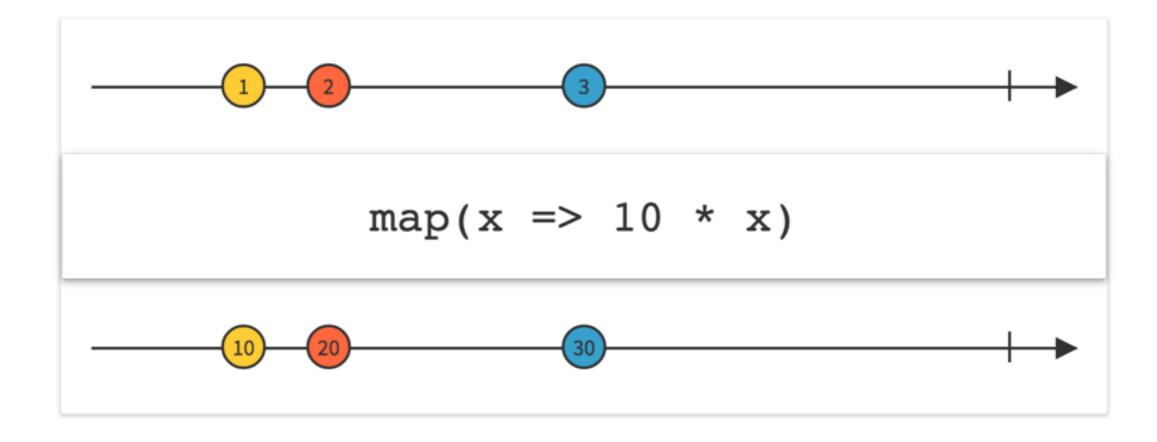
- Creating Observables
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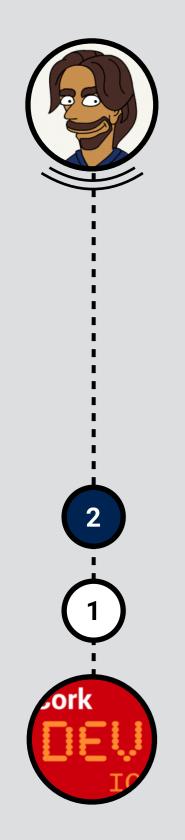


Transforming - map:

Transform the items emitted by an Observable by applying a function to each item

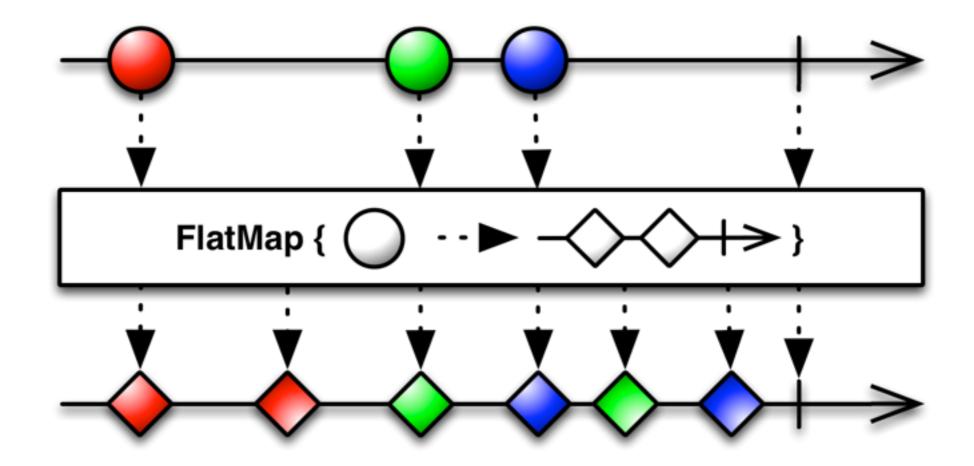


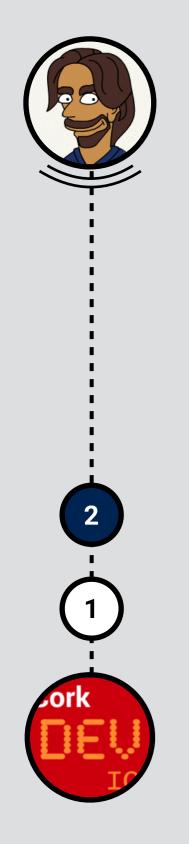
Source: http://rxmarbles.com



Transforming - flatMap:

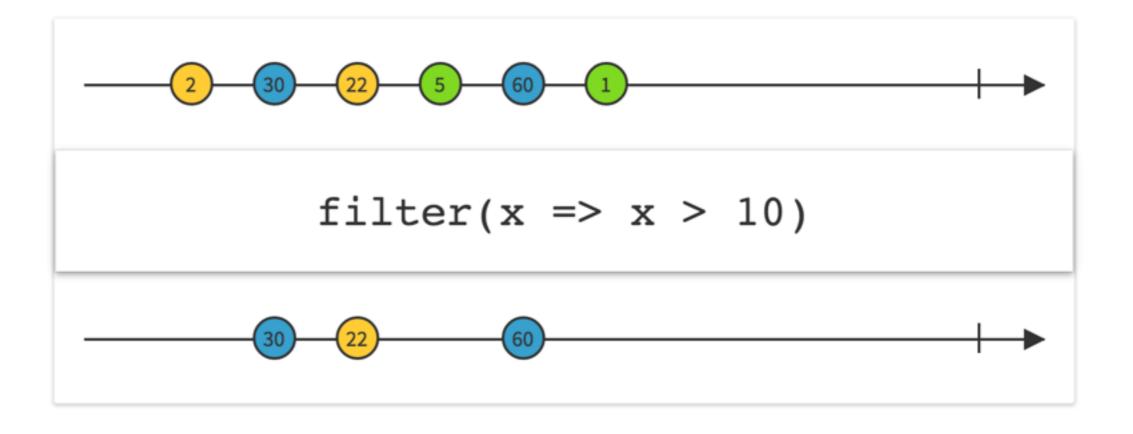
Transform the items emitted by an Observable into Observables, then flatten the emissions from those into a single Observable

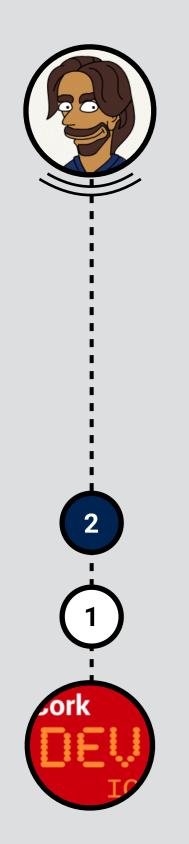




Filtering - filter:

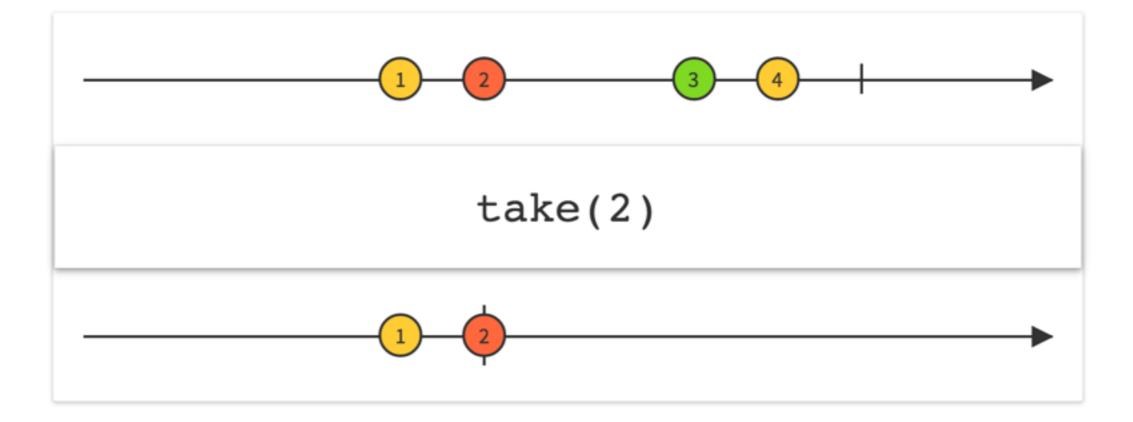
Emit only those items from an Observable that pass a predicate test

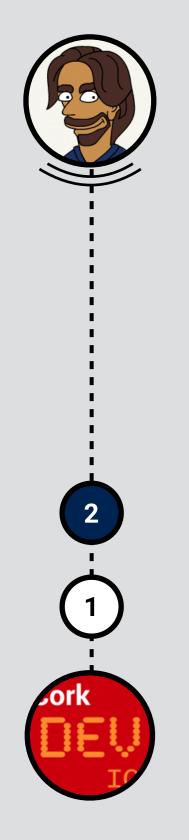




Filtering - take:

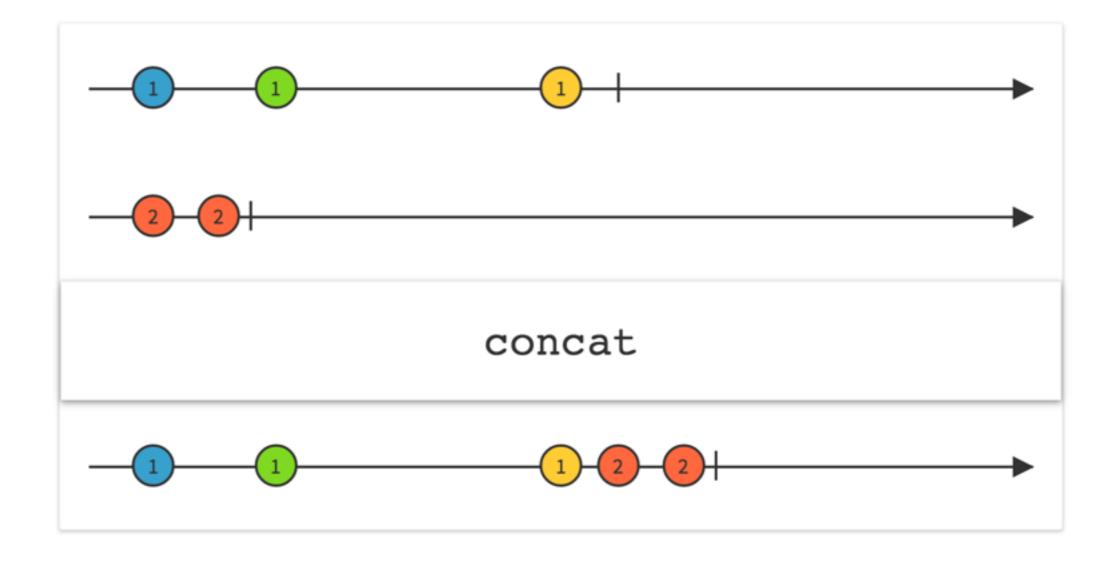
Emit only the first *n* items emitted by an Observable

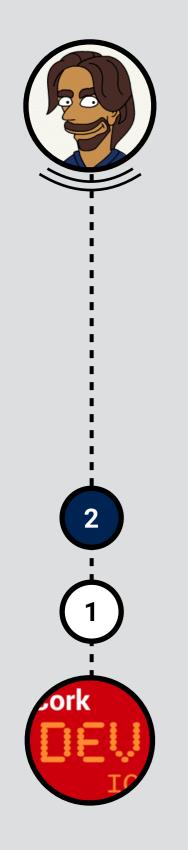




Aggregating - concat:

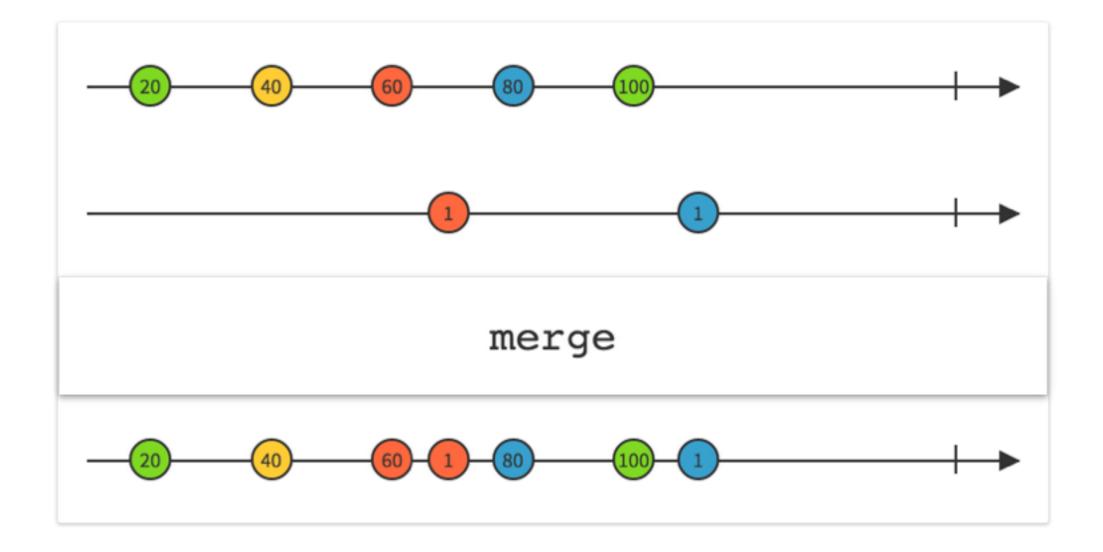
Emit the emissions from two or more Observables without interleaving them

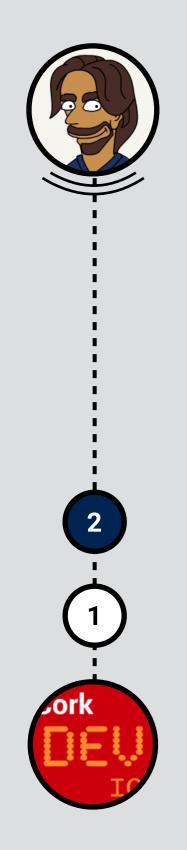




Combining - merge:

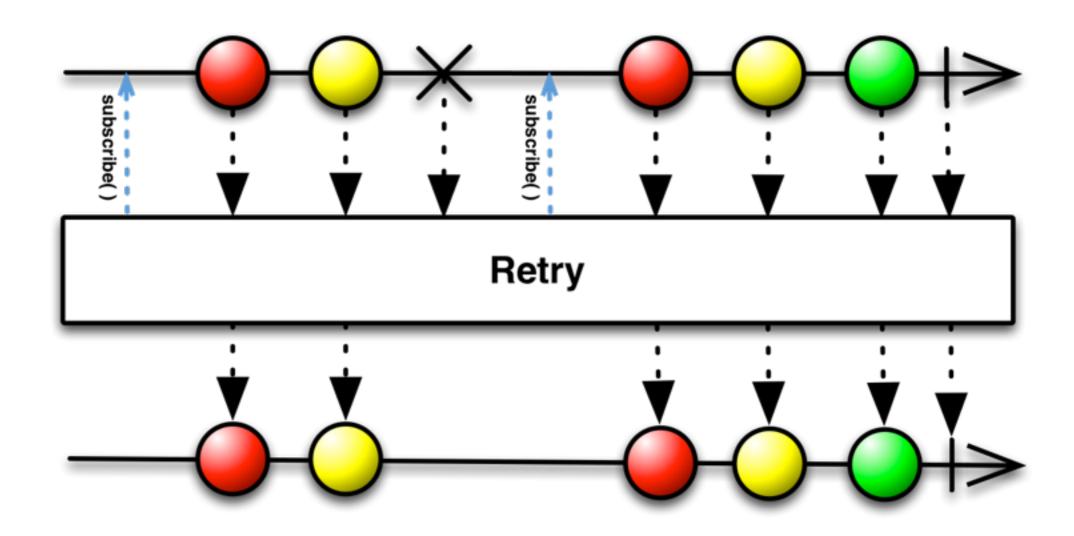
Combine multiple Observables into one by merging their emissions





Error handling - retry:

If a source Observable emits an error, resubscribe to it in the hopes that it will complete without error





Operators - example:

```
String[] strings = {"Andrzej", "Sitek", "Rx", "101"};
Observable.from(strings)
        .flatMap(new Func1<String, Observable<Integer>>() {
            @Override
            public Observable<Integer> call(String s) {
                return Observable.just(s.length());
        })
        .take(3)
        .filter(new Func1<Integer, Boolean>() {
            @Override
            public Boolean call(Integer i) {
                return i > 5;
        })
        .map(new Func1<Integer, Integer>() {
            @Override
            public Integer call(Integer i) {
                return i * 10;
        })
        .subscribe(new Action1<Integer>() {
            @Override
            public void call(Integer i) {
                Log. i(TAG, "After few operations: " + i);
        });
```



Operators - example:

```
String[] strings = {"Andrzej", "Sitek", "Rx", "101"};
Observable from (strings)
      .flatMap(new Func1<String, Observable<Integer>>() {
     return i * 10;
      subscribe(new Action1<Integer>() {
         public void call(Integer i) {
            Log. i(TAG, "After few operations: " + i);
      });
```



Operators - example simplified:

```
I/MainActivity: After few operations: 70
```





Schedulers:

- They provide concurrency for Observables
- Utility operators associated:
 - Observable.observeOn(Scheduler s);
 "perform work on that specific Scheduler"
 - Observable.subscribeOn(Scheduler s);
 "observe the results on that Scheduler"
- Provide different processing strategies such as Thread Pools, Event Loops, Handlers, etc.



Schedulers in RxJava:

Scheduler	Description
Schedulers.computation()	meant for computational work such as event-loops and callback processing
Schedulers.from(executor)	uses the specified Executor as a Scheduler
Schedulers.immediate()	schedules work to begin immediately in the current thread
Schedulers.io()	meant for I/O-bound work such as asynchronous performance of blocking I/O
Schedulers.newThread()	creates a new thread for each unit of work
Schedulers.trampoline()	queues work to begin on the current thread after any already-queued work



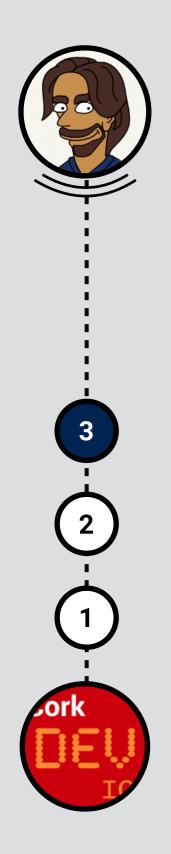
Schedulers - example:

```
Observable<String> observable = Observable.create(subscriber -> {
    Log.d(TAG, "Executing on: " + Thread.currentThread());
    subscriber.onNext("Schedulers Example");
    subscriber.onCompleted();
});

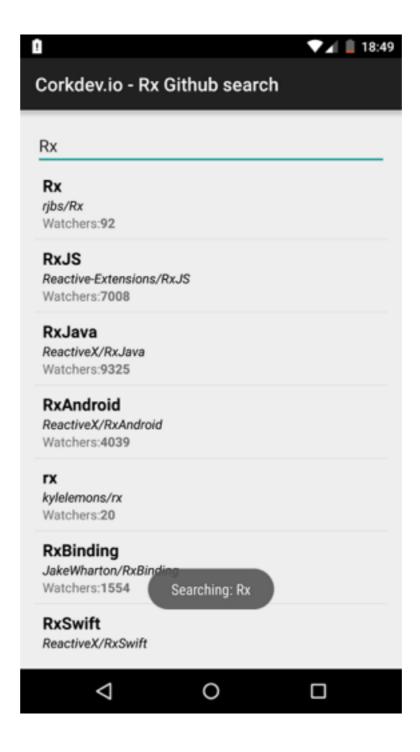
observable.subscribeOn(Schedulers.newThread())
    .observeOn(Schedulers.io())
    .subscribe(s -> {
        Log.i(TAG, "Observing on: " + Thread.currentThread());
        Log.i(TAG, s);
});
```

```
D/MainActivity: Executing on: Thread[RxNewThreadScheduler-1,5,main] I/MainActivity: Observing on: Thread[RxCachedThreadScheduler-1,5,main] I/MainActivity: Schedulers Example
```

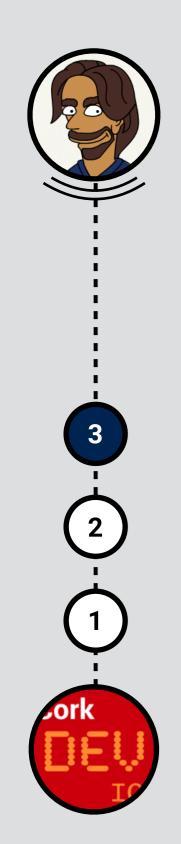
Rx in example



Throttled text search:



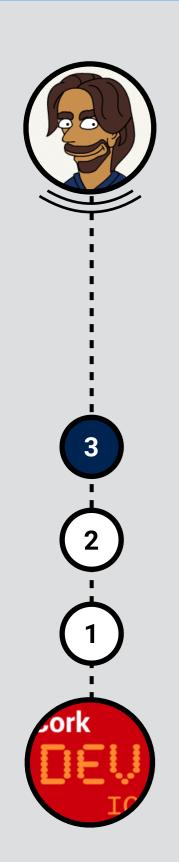
Rx in example



Throttled text search:

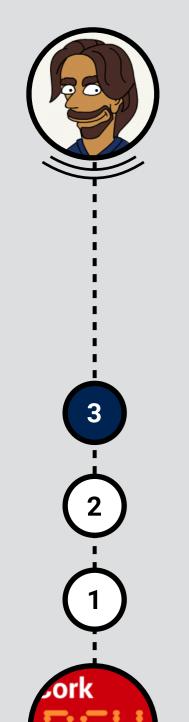
- Search Github repositories using a simple app
- Throttle the text input so it doesn't send the requests each time you type a character
- Don't perform the search if the input is empty
- Perform network request for search query
- Filter the list of repositories to leave only those with more than 10 watchers
- Show the results in the list

Rx in examples



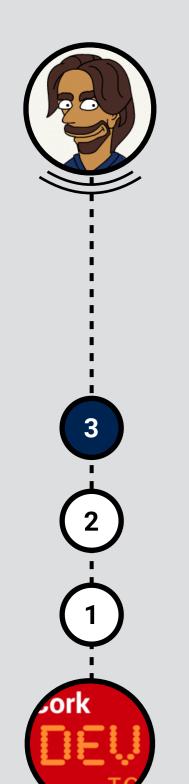


Rx in example



Simplified version - walkthrough:

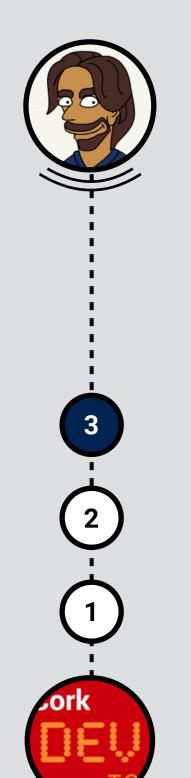
```
mSubscription = RxTextView.textChanges(mSearchQuery)
        debounce(400, TimeUnit.MILLISECONDS)
        map(query -> query toString() trim())
        filter(query -> query.length() > 0)
        •doOnNext(query -> clearListAdapter())
        switchMap(query -> getRepositories(query))
        .flatMap(list -> Observable.from(list.getItems()))
        filter(item -> item_getWatchersCount() > 10)
        .observeOn(AndroidSchedulers.mainThread())
        subscribe(item -> {
            mAdapter.add(item);
            mAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
        });
```



Simplified version - walkthrough:

```
mSubscription = RxTextView.textChanges(mSearchQuery)
        .debounce(400, TimeUnit.MILLISECONDS)
        map(query -> query toString() trim())
        filter(query -> query length() > 0)
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        switchMap(query -> getRepositories(query))
        .flatMap(list -> Observable.from(list.getItems()))
        filter(item -> item_getWatchersCount() > 10)
        .observeOn(AndroidSchedulers.mainThread())
        subscribe(item -> {
            mAdapter.add(item);
            mAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
        });
```

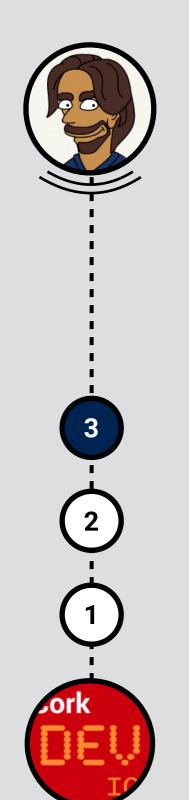
Android specific way of creating Observable from EditText



Simplified version - walkthrough:

```
mSubscription = RxTextView.textChanges(mSearchQuery)
        .debounce(400, TimeUnit.MILLISECONDS)
        map(query -> query toString() trim())
        filter(query -> query length() > 0)
        •doOnNext(query -> clearListAdapter())
        switchMap(query -> getRepositories(query))
        .flatMap(list -> Observable.from(list.getItems()))
        filter(item -> item_getWatchersCount() > 10)
        .observeOn(AndroidSchedulers.mainThread())
        subscribe(item -> {
            mAdapter.add(item);
            mAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
        });
```

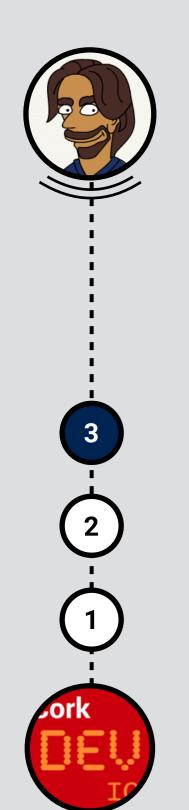
Throttle the emission of the events with 400 ms window



Simplified version - walkthrough:

```
mSubscription = RxTextView.textChanges(mSearchQuery)
        debounce(400, TimeUnit.MILLISECONDS)
        map(query -> query.toString().trim())
        .filter(query -> query.length() > 0)
        •doOnNext(query -> clearListAdapter())
        switchMap(query -> getRepositories(query))
        .flatMap(list -> Observable.from(list.getItems()))
        filter(item -> item_getWatchersCount() > 10)
        .observeOn(AndroidSchedulers.mainThread())
        subscribe(item -> {
            mAdapter.add(item);
            mAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
        });
```

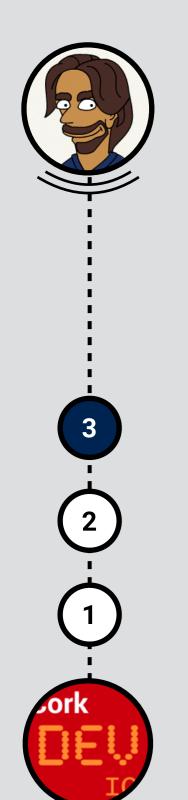
Trim the leading and trailing spaces



Simplified version - walkthrough:

```
mSubscription = RxTextView.textChanges(mSearchQuery)
        debounce(400, TimeUnit.MILLISECONDS)
        map(query -> query toString() trim())
        filter(query -> query.length() > 0)
        •doOnNext(query -> clearListAdapter())
        switchMap(query -> getRepositories(query))
        .flatMap(list -> Observable.from(list.getItems()))
        filter(item -> item_getWatchersCount() > 10)
        .observeOn(AndroidSchedulers.mainThread())
        subscribe(item -> {
            mAdapter.add(item);
            mAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
        });
```

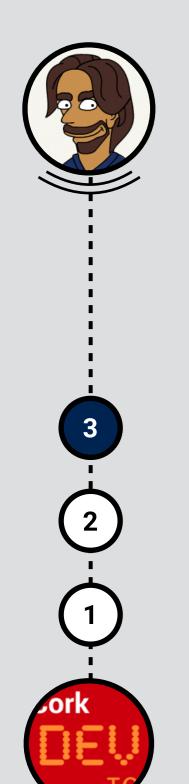
Emit the item only if the trimmed query is not empty



Simplified version - walkthrough:

```
mSubscription = RxTextView.textChanges(mSearchQuery)
        debounce(400, TimeUnit.MILLISECONDS)
        map(query -> query toString() trim())
        filter(query -> query length() > 0)
        doOnNext(query -> clearListAdapter())
        switchMap(query -> getRepositories(query))
        .flatMap(list -> Observable.from(list.getItems()))
        filter(item -> item_getWatchersCount() > 10)
        .observeOn(AndroidSchedulers.mainThread())
        subscribe(item -> {
            mAdapter.add(item);
            mAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
        });
```

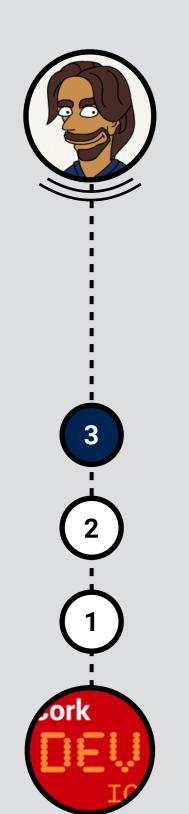
Clear the list view each time a query changes



Simplified version - walkthrough:

```
mSubscription = RxTextView.textChanges(mSearchQuery)
        debounce(400, TimeUnit.MILLISECONDS)
        map(query -> query toString() trim())
        filter(query -> query length() > 0)
        •doOnNext(query -> clearListAdapter())
        switchMap(query -> getRepositories(query))
        .flatMap(list -> Observable.from(list.getItems()))
        filter(item -> item_getWatchersCount() > 10)
        .observeOn(AndroidSchedulers.mainThread())
        subscribe(item -> {
            mAdapter.add(item);
            mAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
        });
```

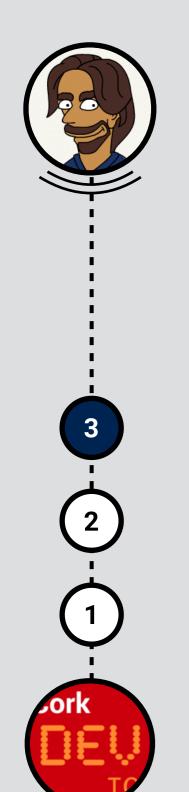
Perform network request based on the query



Simplified version - walkthrough:

```
mSubscription = RxTextView.textChanges(mSearchQuery)
        debounce(400, TimeUnit.MILLISECONDS)
        map(query -> query toString() trim())
        filter(query -> query length() > 0)
        •doOnNext(query -> clearListAdapter())
        switchMap(query -> getRepositories(query))
        flatMap(list -> Observable from(list getItems()))
        filter(item -> item_getWatchersCount() > 10)
        .observeOn(AndroidSchedulers.mainThread())
        subscribe(item -> {
            mAdapter.add(item);
            mAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
        });
```

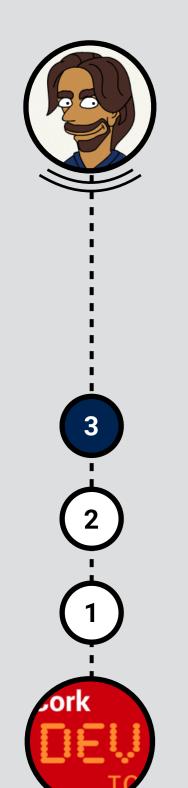
Emit single items from the list received in the previous call



Simplified version - walkthrough:

```
mSubscription = RxTextView.textChanges(mSearchQuery)
        debounce(400, TimeUnit.MILLISECONDS)
        map(query -> query toString() trim())
        filter(query -> query length() > 0)
        •doOnNext(query -> clearListAdapter())
        switchMap(query -> getRepositories(query))
        .flatMap(list -> Observable.from(list.getItems()))
        filter(item -> item_getWatchersCount() > 10)
        .observeOn(AndroidSchedulers.mainThread())
        subscribe(item -> {
            mAdapter.add(item);
            mAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
        });
```

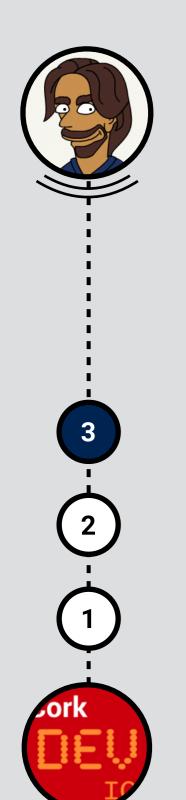
Filter the items with more than 10 watchers



Simplified version - walkthrough:

```
mSubscription = RxTextView.textChanges(mSearchQuery)
        debounce(400, TimeUnit.MILLISECONDS)
        map(query -> query toString() trim())
        filter(query -> query length() > 0)
        •doOnNext(query -> clearListAdapter())
        switchMap(query -> getRepositories(query))
        .flatMap(list -> Observable.from(list.getItems()))
        filter(item -> item_getWatchersCount() > 10)
        .observeOn(AndroidSchedulers.mainThread())
        subscribe(item -> {
            mAdapter.add(item);
            mAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
        });
```

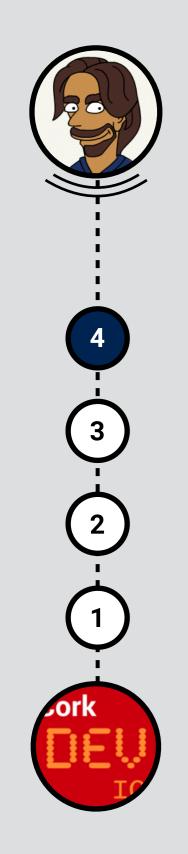
Handle the results on Android's UI Thread



Simplified version - walkthrough:

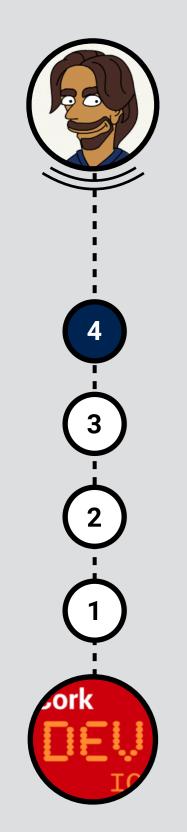
```
mSubscription = RxTextView.textChanges(mSearchQuery)
        .debounce(400, TimeUnit.MILLISECONDS)
        map(query -> query toString() trim())
        filter(query -> query length() > 0)
        •doOnNext(query -> clearListAdapter())
        switchMap(query -> getRepositories(query))
        .flatMap(list -> Observable.from(list.getItems()))
        filter(item -> item_getWatchersCount() > 10)
        .observeOn(AndroidSchedulers.mainThread())
        subscribe(item -> {
            mAdapter.add(item);
            mAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
        });
```

Create the Subscription and add item by item to the list

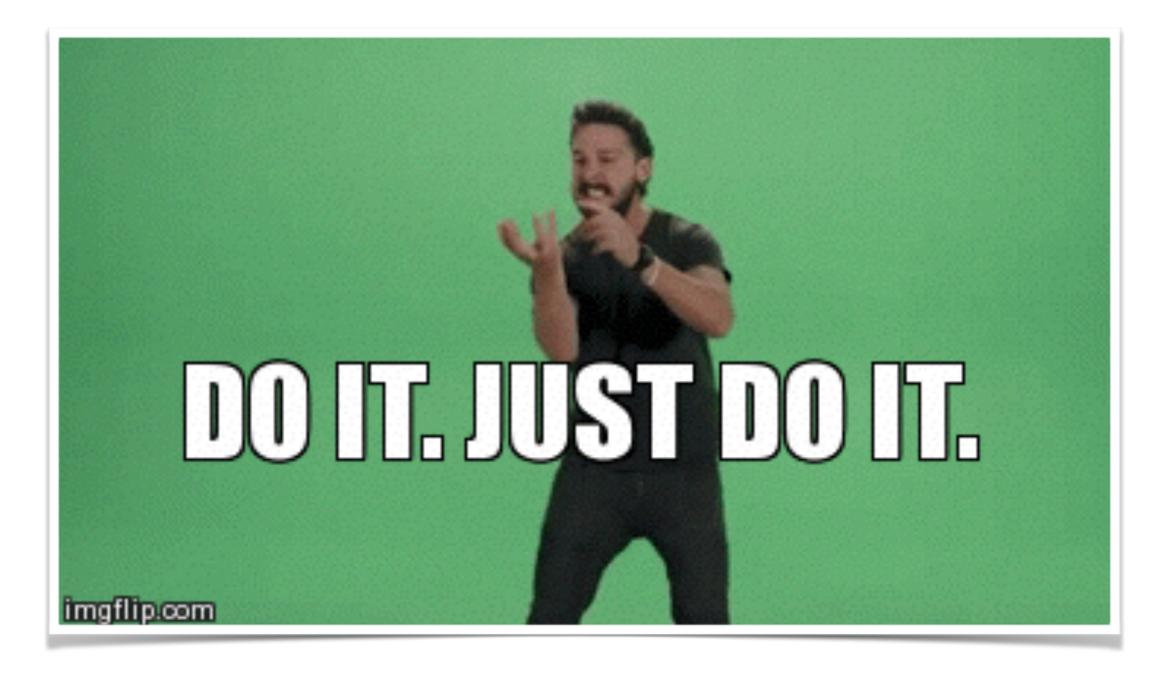


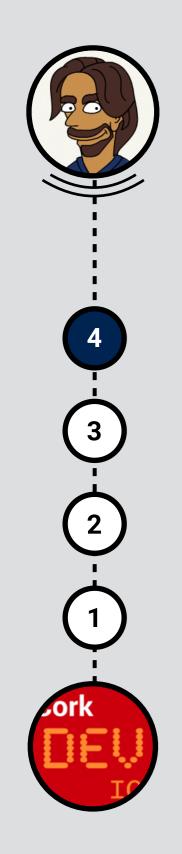
Useful tips:

- First, master the rules and then go beyond them!
- Rx is single-threaded by default!
- Use it only when it makes sense it's very tempting to use Rx everywhere..
- Side effect methods doOnNext, doOnError are very useful for debugging.
- Lots of operators are too hard to learn by heart explore them with docs and marble diagrams.



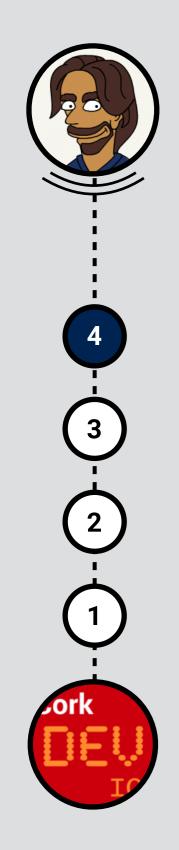
And the most important one:





Useful resources:

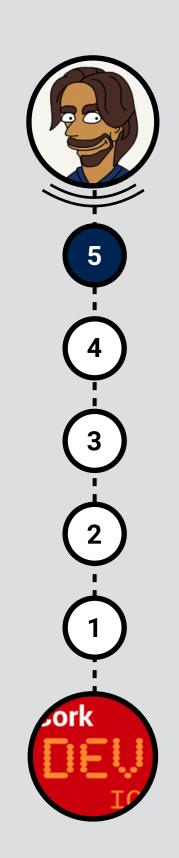
- ReactiveX: http://reactiveX.io/
- Grokking with RxJava: http://blog.danlew.net/2014/09/15/grokking-rxjava-part-1/
- The intro to Rx you've been missing: https://gist.github.com/staltz/868e7e9bc2a7b8c1f754
- RxMarbles: http://rxmarbles.com/



Useful resources:

- RxJava plugins: https://github.com/ReactiveX/RxJava/wiki/Plugins
- Async JavaScript at Netflix: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XRYN2xt11Ek
- Intro to Rx (website): <u>http://introtorx.com/</u>
- A Playful Introduction to Rx: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WKore-AkisY

A&Q





onComplete((s) -> Log.i("Thank you!"));

Thanks for your attention!

I'd really appreciate your feedback!

Stay in touch!





@andrzej_sitek



+AndrzejSitek