

Week 4 FAQ (Lectures + Assignment)

[Help](#)

General

Where can I find some sample code to try out Rx?

Some code examples in the lectures do not compile with the latest version of the RxJava/RxScala library. The up to date source code of these examples is in [this repository](#). You can also access the code as a zip file from [here](#). You can use `sbt` inside the folder to run tests and play with the code. More instructions (for getting it to work in Eclipse) are available on the home page of the repository.

Where can I find some documentation on Rx?

Before you start with the assignment make sure to consult the documentation for [RxScala](#).

Help! I have a question!

First, read this FAQ, then, use the "search" field in the forums to see if someone else already had the same question. If all that didn't help, you're allowed to post on the forum ;-)

Lectures

The code from the slides does not compile / There's a typo in the slides!

Yes we know that this week's slides contain typos, no need to report them all. It's because the samples in the slides were never compiled. You can find working samples from the slides [here](#) (github) or [here](#) (zip).

Observable.create, where is it?

Note that in the slides, there are quotes around "Observable.create". Erik says "Observable.create" whenever he means "the Observable(Observer => Subscription) apply method on the Observable companion object".

What does a gap between two events on a marble diagram mean?

Most often, it means that there's a certain delay between the two events. But watch out, sometimes, the gap is just there for readability, and one event directly follows the other.

What's really going on in the "flatten nested streams" example with concat? ("Basic Combinators on Observable Collections", 06:12)

Note that marble diagram for `yss` is wrong, but final output is the same. If you're interested in the details, have a look at [this test](#).

In the quiz, Erik says that Subscription.isUnsubscribed gives a compilation error, but in my code, it doesn't. ("Subscriptions", 11:37)

Yes, that was changed. All `Subscription`s now have an `isUnsubscribed` method.

Is implementing Observable.map really that easy? ("Creating Rx Streams", 07:10)

No ;-)

In the real implementation, you have to catch exceptions thrown by the user-defined mapping function. [Here's](#) the "real" `map` in RxJava, if you're interested.

Getting started with RxScala

Are there any working RxScala Hello World examples?

Some Hello World examples:

- [Erik's code snippets from the lectures](#)
- [Some examples ported to Scala from C#](#)
- [RxScalaDemo in the Netflix repo](#)

What import statements are needed to use Observables & Co?

Some import statements are already in the assignment template, but you will have to add some which start with `import rx.lang.scala.`. Make sure you only import stuff in `rx.lang.scala`, because the other classes in package `rx` are written in Java and not easily usable from Scala.

How can I make a simple Observable which ends with an error?

```
val example: Observable[Int] = Observable(1, 2, 3) ++ Observable(new Exception("oops"))
```

Why does PublishSubject.apply take a parameter?

That's a bug in rxjava-scala-0.15.0. It's fixed in 0.15.1, but note that you have to use 0.15.0 for the assignment, so just pass in any dummy value, or don't use PublishSubject at all (that's possible).

How do I create a Subscription?

```
Subscription {  
  // code to be executed when unsubscribe is called  
}
```

Again, a bug in rxjava-scala-0.15.0 makes it a bit trickier: To make the above work, you need to import the *companion object* `rx.lang.scala.subscriptions.Subscription`, whereas the *type* Subscription is in a different package (`rx.lang.scala.Subscription`).

WikipediaSuggestions Assignment

Why does suggestionList.selection.items return a list of selected items and not just one single item?

In the general case, the suggestionList UI component could have several selected items at the same time. But here, selections are always of length 1.

The error message of the grader did not adequately describe the mistake in my code!

Yes this can happen. But if you really want to learn something in this course, you should test your code yourself, and try to get full score at the first or second submission. The grader is not meant to be a debugging tool ;-)

Why do I have to use rxjava-scala-0.15.0 for the assignment? I'd like to use a more recent version!

When the assignment was put online, 0.15.0 was the most recent version, and we don't want to change version now to avoid complications and confusion.

