HOW TO AVOID THE SPAGHETTI CODE MONSTER?

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@seb_morel december 11,2012

FUNDAMENTAL LAWS OF SPAGHETTI CODE

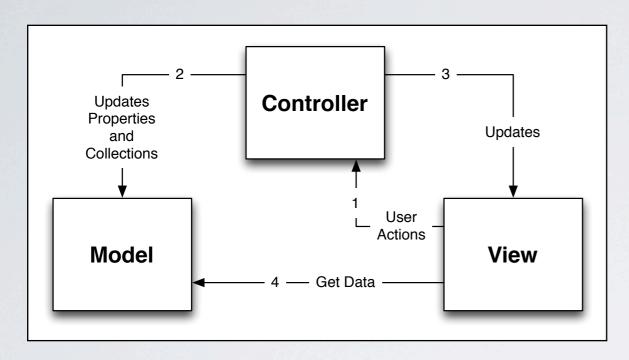
- I. You can't understand it by looking at it.
- 2. Repetitive code will always fall out of synchronization.
- 3. The work will always gets harder and slower as it progresses.
- 4. Fixing **bugs** creates much more others.
- 5. You can't enhanced the code if you're spending your time fixing the bugs.
- 6. You have less time to drink beers with your friends and to see your kids!
- 7. You start loosing your hairs!

FREQUENTLY ENCOUNTERED PROBLEMS

- I. Data Management.
- 2. Asynchronous Data Updates and Views Synchronization.
- 3. **Synchronization** Between Multiple Views representing the same data.
- 4. Flow Management

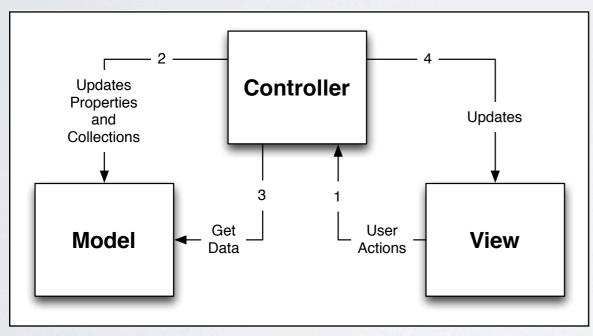
SEPARATION OF CONCERNS

TWO SAMPLES OF BAD MVC



Lack of Reusability

View is dependent of the model!



Lack of Synchronization

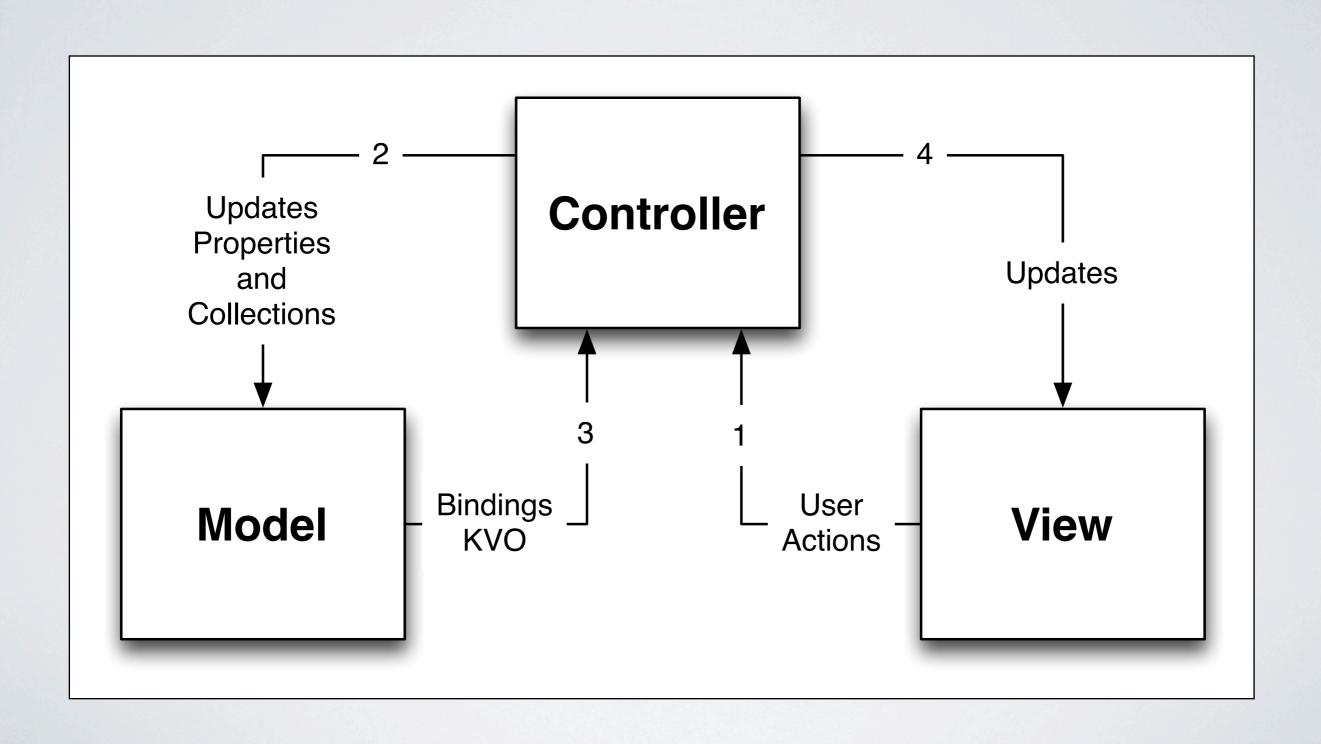
Do not refresh the views directly following user events!

Something is missing ...

THE APPLE GUIDELINES

- 1. Views and Models are independent
- 2. View Controller is the Mediator
- 3. Synchronization between multiple MVC
- External Controllers Dependencies : **NEVER!**
- Notification: NOT PERFECT!
 We need a context associated to the changes to take the right decisions!
- Observers / Bindings : YES!

DOCUMENT ORIENTED APPLICATIONS



OBSERVERS IN COCOA

Key Value Observing (KVO)

NSKeyValueObserving Protocol

To-One relationships

Observing property changes

To-Many relationships

Observing Collection changes

BINDINGS

Not Available on iOS! Available in AppCoreKit!

To-One Relationships

@interface NSObject (CKBindings)

```
- (void)bind:(NSString *)keyPath toObject:(id)object withKeyPath:(NSString *)keyPath;
- (void)bind:(NSString *)keyPath withBlock:(void (^)(id value))block;
@end
@interface UIControl (CKBindings)
- (void)bindEvent:(UIControlEvents)controlEvents withBlock:(void (^)())block;
@end
To-Many Relationships
@interface CKCollection (CKBindings)
- (void)bindEvent:(CKCollectionBindingEvents)events
        withBlock:(void(^)(CKCollectionBindingEvents event, NSArray* objects,
NSIndexSet* indexes))block;
@end
```

THE PROBLEM IT SOLVES

Synchronizing models and views

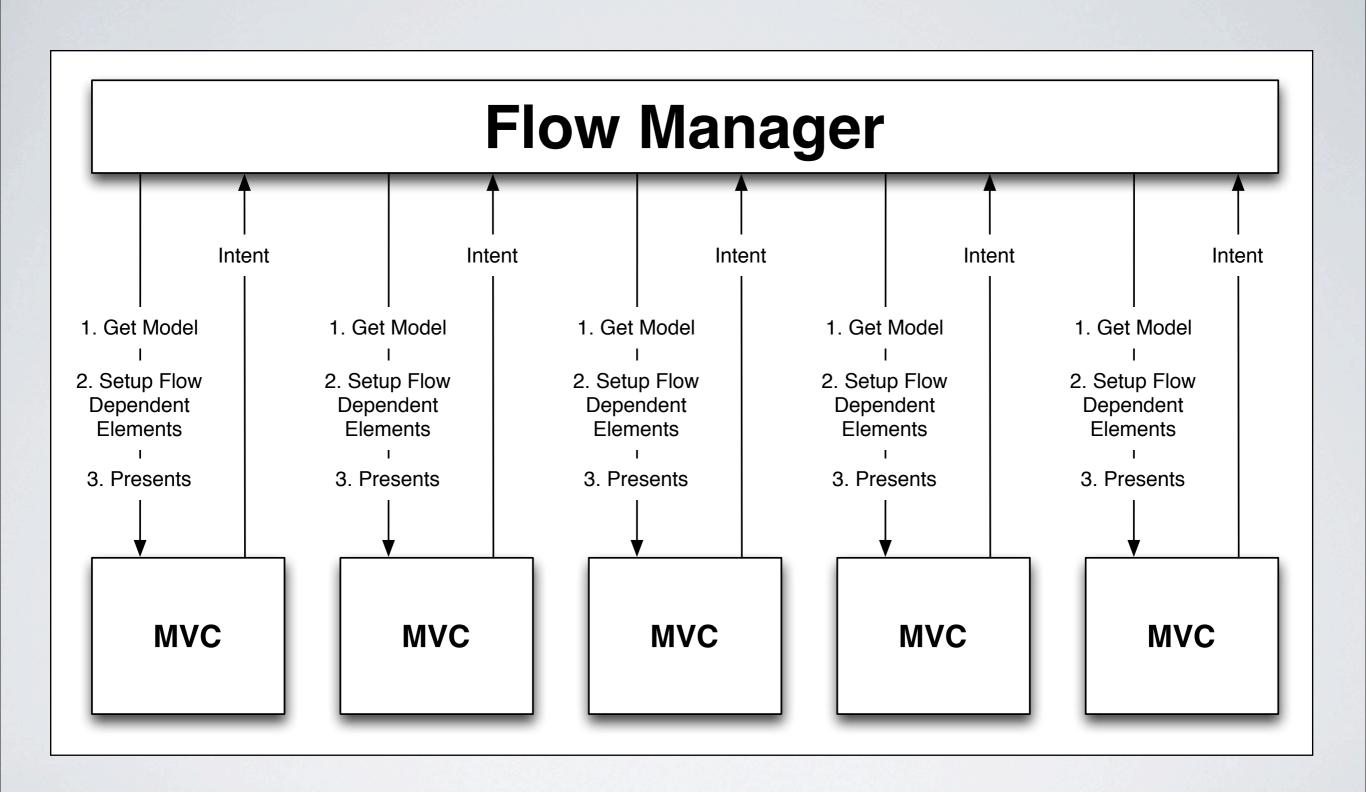
THE PROBLEMS IT DOESN'T SOLVES

Maximizing Reusability: Phone vs. Pad

Decoupling Flow Management, Data sources and Data Representation

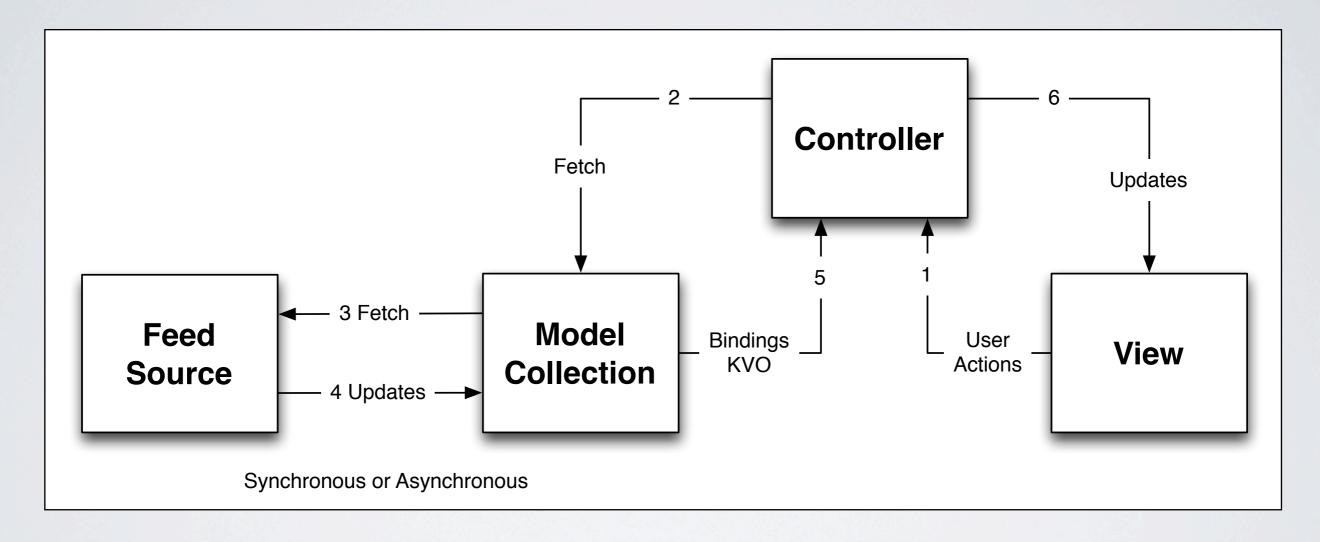
=> Controllers MUST NOT embed flow dependent logic <= (Navigation Items, View Controllers Presentation, etc)

We need another Mediator Flow Manager



WORKING WITH REMOTE DATA

1. Representing a remote collection of model objects



Do not pollute the view controller with data requests and transforms!

```
In The Flow Manager
```

@end

```
//Get/Create or/and setup The Model
CKFeedSource* myPurposeFeedSource = [WebService feedSourceForMyPurpose];
CKArrayCollection* myCollection = [CKArrayCollection collectionWithFeedSource:myPurposeFeedSource];
//Creates the controller
CKViewController* controller = [ViewControllerFactory viewControllerForMyPurpose:myCollection
                                                                          intent:^(Intent* intent) {
    switch([intent.event intValue]){
        case PurposeSelectionIntent:{
            [self presentsViewControllerForDetails:intent.object fromViewController:intent.source];
       //...
}];
//Setup the Flow dependent features of the controller
//Presents the controller
In The WebService
@implementation WebService
+ (CKFeedSource*) feedSourceForMyPurpose{
    CKFeedSource* feedSource = [CKFeedSource feedSource];
    feedSource.fetchBlock = ^(CKFeedSource* feedSource, NSRange range){
       //Request the remote data in range Synchronously or Asynchronously
       //On Completion
       // => Transforms the results to a collection of model objects
             => [feedSource insertItems:TheModelObjects];
    return feedSource;
```

WORKING WITH REMOTE DATA

2. Requesting more details for an object

```
@implementation WebService
```

Controllers are binded to this object's properties

They will refresh automatically when mapping the
results

SAMPLE TWITTER CLIENT

https://github.com/smorel/CocoaHeads-Avoiding-Spaghetti-Code



Made with APPCOREKIT

http://appcorekit.net/

CONCLUSION

Do Not forget to:

- Focus on decoupling.
- Always build with reuse, synchronization and separation of concerns in mind.
- Organizes your models to help you represent it (Presentation Models vs. Business Models).
- Mock your data with fake data sources waiting for API's to be ready.

Multiple Advantages:

- Reduces side effects of "minor changes".
- Team Work & Productivity.
- Code is Simple, Readable, Comprehensible, Homogenous.

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