Assignment III: Graphing Calculator

Objective

You will enhance your Calculator to create a graph of the "program" the user has entered which can be zoomed in on and panned around. Your app will now work not only on iPhones, but on iPads as well.

Materials

- You will need to have successfully completed Assignment 2. This assignment builds on that. You can try to modify your existing program or create a new project (and reuse the classes you wrote by dragging them into the new project). In any case, be sure to save a copy of last week's work before you start.
- This AxesDrawer class will likely be very useful!

Required Tasks

- 1. You must begin this assignment with your Assignment 2 code, not with any in-class demo code that has been posted. Learning to create new MVCs and segues requires experiencing it, not copy/pasting it or editing an existing storyboard that already has segues in it.
- 2. Rename the ViewController class you've been working on in Assignments 1 and 2 to be CalculatorViewController.
- 3.—Add a new button to your calculator's user-interface which, when touched, segues to a new MVC (that you will have to write) which graphs the program in the CalculatorBrain at the time the button was touched using the memory location M as the independent variable. For example, if the CalculatorBrain contains sin(M), you'd draw a sine wave. Subsequent input to the Calculator must have no effect on the graph (until the graphing button is touched again).
- 4. Neither of your MVCs in this assignment is allowed to have CalculatorBrain appear anywhere in its non-private API.
- 5. On iPad and in landscape on iPhone 6+ devices, the graph must be (or be able to be) on screen at the same time as your existing Calculator's user-interface (i.e. in a split view). On other iPhones the graph should "push" onto the screen via a navigation controller.
- 6. Anytime a graph is on screen, a description of what it is being drawn should also be shown on screen somewhere sensible, e.g., if sin(M) is what is being graphed, then the string "sin(M)" should be on screen somewhere.
- 7.—As part of your implementation, you are required write a *generic* x vs. y graphing UIView. In other words, the UIView that does the graphing should be designed in such a way that it is completely independent of the Calculator (and could be reused in some other completely different application that wanted to draw an x vs. y graph).
- 8. The graphing view must not own (i.e. store) the data it is graphing. It must use delegation to obtain the data as it needs it.
- 9. Your graphing calculator must be able to graph discontinuous functions properly (i.e. it must only draw lines to or from points which, for a given value of M, the program being graphed evaluates to a Double (i.e. not nil) that .isNormal or .isZero).
- 10. Your graphing view must be @IBDesignable and its scale must be @IBInspectable. The graphing view's axes should appear in the storyboard at the inspected scale.
- 11. Your graphing view must support the following three gestures:
 - a. Pinching (zooms the entire graph, including the axes, in or out on the graph)
 - b. Panning (moves the entire graph, including the axes, to follow the touch around)
 - c. Double-tapping (moves the origin of the graph to the point of the double tap)

Hints

- 1. Forgetting to set the class of a UIViewController or a custom UIView in the Identity Inspector in Xcode is a common error. You'll need to do this when you rename ViewController to CalculatorViewController and for both the new UIViewController and the new UIView that you are creating in this assignment.
- 2. To make the drawing of the graph much easier, a class which can draw a graph's axes in the current drawing context is provided (AxesDrawer). Notice that this class's drawing method (drawAxesInRect) takes the bounds to draw in and two other arguments: origin and pointsPerUnit (this is essentially the "scale" of the graph). You will very likely want to mimic this (i.e. having vars for origin and scale) in your generic graphing view.
- 3. Other than the program var from lecture 5, your CalculatorBrain should not need to be touched for this assignment. Of course, you will need to enhance the program var to catch up to your Assignment 2's requirements.
- 4. Here's a suggested order of attack ... Get your existing CalculatorViewController working inside a split view controller and navigation controller structure with a graph button that segues to a new, blank MVC (at first) with an appropriate UIViewController subclass. Add your generic graphing view to this new MVC. Get the graphing view at least drawing the axes. Add gestures. Finally, get your new MVC to graph the program that is in your main MVC at the time the graph button is touched. You don't have to do it in this order by any means, but it might help you organize your work.
- 5. The UIViewController subclass for your new MVC (the one that graphs what is in the Calculator) and the generic graphing UIView subclass are the only new classes you should have to write from scratch for this assignment. If you think you need to be writing other classes, you might be overdoing it.
- 6. Make sure you think clearly about what your new MVC's Model should be.
- 7. Don't freak out when you drag out a Split View Controller and it brings along all kinds of other view controllers along with it. It's just Xcode trying to be helpful. You can safely delete those and use ctrl-drag to wire up your MVC's (inside navigation controllers) in their places.
- 8. It'd be nice for the origin of your graph to default to the center of the UIView. But be careful where/when you calculate this because your UIView's bounds are not set until it is laid out for the device it is on. You can be certain your bounds are set in your drawRect: of course, but be careful not to re-set the origin if it's already been set by someone.
- 9. A good place for your MVC to set itself as your graphing view's data source delegate is in the property observer for your outlet to the graphing view.

- 10. Don't overcomplicate your drawRect:. Simply iterate over every pixel (not point) across the width of your view and draw a line to (or just move to if the last datapoint was not valid) the next valid datapoint you get from your data source delegate.
- 11. The coordinate system you are drawing in inside your drawRect is not the same as the coordinates your data source is providing the data in (because of the origin and scale). Be clear in your mind as you write your code which of these two coordinate systems a var or an argument to a function is (and should be) in.
- 12. The AxesDrawer also knows how to draw on pixel (not point) boundaries (like your drawRect should), but only if you tell it the contentScaleFactor of the drawing context you are drawing into.
- 13. Don't forget to use property observing (didSet) to cause your view to note that it needs to redisplay itself when a property that affects how it looks gets changed.
- 14. Make sure you set your UIViewContentMode properly (this can be done in the storyboard).
- 15. Your gestures will probably be *handled* by the graphing view, but will probably want to be "turned on" by your Controller. For this reason, the methods that handle the gestures shouldn't be private in your graphing view.
- 16. Remember that when specifying the action that is going to handle a gesture as part of creating a gesture recognizer, if that handler takes an argument it must have a colon the end of its name.
- 17. Your description var in CalculatorBrain gives a description of the *entire stack of operands*, but you are only actually graphing the last expression entered into the brain, so you'll need to do something about that if you want the title of what you are graphing to be strictly correct.

Things to Learn

Here is a partial list of concepts this assignment is intended to let you gain practice with or otherwise demonstrate your knowledge of.

- 1. Understanding MVC boundaries
- 2. Creating a new subclass of UIViewController
- 3. Universal Application (i.e. different UIs on iPad and iPhone in the same application)
- 4. Split View Controller
- 5. Navigation Controller
- 6. Segues
- 7. Property List
- 8. Subclassing UIView
- 9. UIViewContentMode.Redraw
- 10. Delegation
- 11. Drawing with UIBezierPath and/or Core Graphics
- 12. CGFloat/CGPoint/CGSize/CGRect
- 13. Gestures
- 14. contentScaleFactor (pixels vs. points)

Evaluation

In all of the assignments this quarter, writing quality code that builds without warnings or errors, and then testing the resulting application and iterating until it functions properly is the goal.

Here are the most common reasons assignments are marked down:

- Project does not build.
- Project does not build without warnings.
- One or more items in the Required Tasks section was not satisfied.
- A fundamental concept was not understood.
- Code is visually sloppy and hard to read (e.g. indentation is not consistent, etc.).
- Your solution is difficult (or impossible) for someone reading the code to understand due to lack of comments, poor variable/method names, poor solution structure, long methods, etc.
- UI is a mess. Things should be lined up and appropriately spaced to "look nice."
- Public and private API is not properly delineated.

Often students ask "how much commenting of my code do I need to do?" The answer is that your code must be easily and completely understandable by anyone reading it. You can assume that the reader knows the SDK, but should <u>not</u> assume that they already know the (or a) solution to the problem.

Extra Credit

We try to make Extra Credit be opportunities to expand on what you've learned this week. Attempting at least some of these each week is highly recommended to get the most out of this course.

- 1. Figure out how to use Instruments to analyze the performance of panning and pinching in your graphing view. What makes dragging the graph around so sluggish? Explain in comments in your code what you found and what you might do about it.
- 2. Use the information you found above to improve panning performance. Do NOT turn your code into a mess to do this. Your solution should be simple and elegant. There is a strong temptation when optimizing to sacrifice readability or to violate MVC boundaries, but you are NOT allowed to do that for this Extra Credit!
- 3. Preserve origin and scale between launchings of the application. Where should this be done to best respect MVC, do you think?
- 4. Upon rotation (or any bounds change), maintain the origin of your graph with respect to the center of your graphing view rather than with respect to the upper left corner.
- 5. Add a popover to your new MVC that reports the minimum and maximum y-value (and other stats if you wish) in the region of the graph currently being shown. This will require you to create yet another new MVC and segue to it using a popover segue. It will also require some new public API in your generic graph view to report stats about the region of the graph it has drawn.
- 6. Have your Calculator react to size class changes by laying out the user-interface differently in different size class environments (i.e. buttons in a different grid layout or even add more operations in one arrangement or the other). Doing this must not break anything else!