

CSC 581: Mobile App Development

Spring 2019

Unit 4: navigation & data persistence

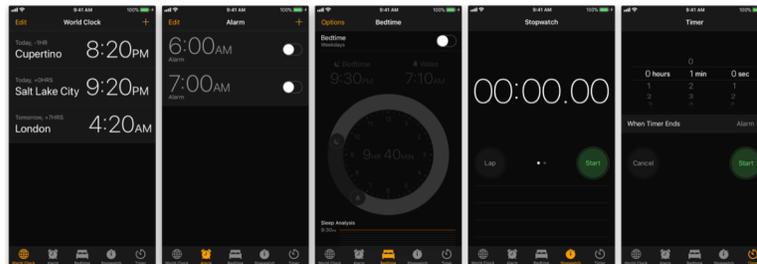
- navigation design
 - tab bar view, design guidelines
 - viewDidLoad and other event-based methods
- reading text from a file
 - String.split, String.components
- reading/writing data
 - Info.plist, UserDefaults
- other (potentially useful) features
 - picker view, scroll view, table view
 - protocols, reading/writing objects

1

Tab bar view

a tab bar allows you to arrange your app into distinct sections

- e.g., Apple Clock app: World Clock, Alarm, Bedtime, Stopwatch, Timer



a tab bar is defined using a Tab Bar View

- shows tabs (icons) across the bottom of the screen
- each tab has its own navigation hierarchy
- the tab bar controller coordinates the navigation

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Adding a tab bar

first, create the main View for your project

- select that View, then choose Editor > Embed in > Tab Bar Controller
- this adds a Tab Bar Controller to the canvas as well as adding a UITabBarItem to the bottom of the View

to add another tab bar item

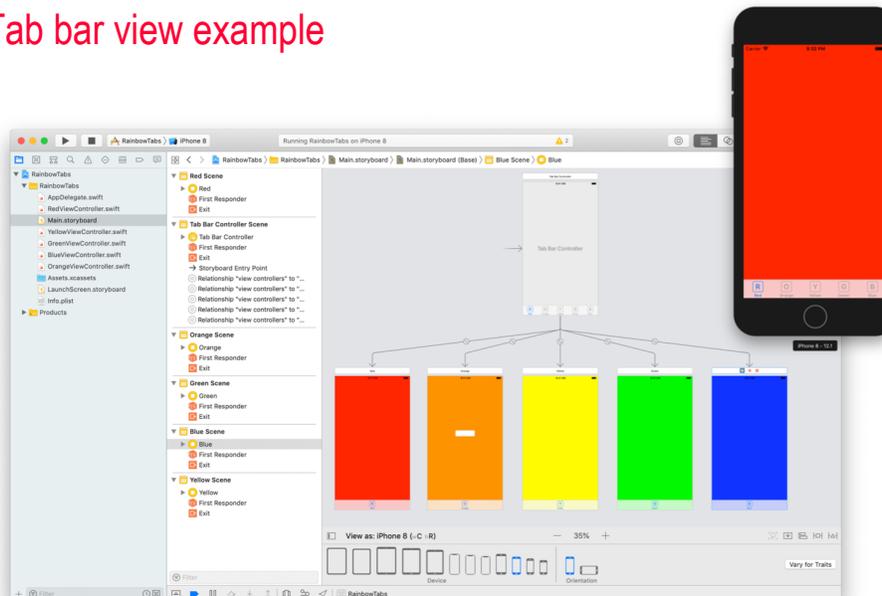
- drag a View Controller from the Object Library to the canvas
- connect it by control-dragging from the Tab Bar Controller to the new View Controller, and choosing "view controllers" under Relationship Segue
- this adds a second tab bar item to the Tab Bar Controller
- if desired, create a ViewController class to define the behavior of the new view

customize the tab bar item

- select the desired tab bar item in a View
- in the Attributes Inspector, select the desired icon under System Item
e.g., Favorites, Features, Search, Downloads, ...
- you can change the title under Bar Item > Title
- you can select a custom icon image under Bar Item > Image

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Tab bar view example



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Navigation design guidelines

Design an information structure that makes it fast and easy to get to content.

- Organize your information in a way that requires a minimum number of taps, swipes, and screens.

Use standard navigation components.

- Whenever possible, use standard navigation controls, such as tab bars, segmented controls, table views, collection views, and split views. Users are already familiar with these controls and will intuitively know how to get around in your app.

Use a navigation bar to traverse a hierarchy of data.

- The navigation bar's title can display the user's current position in the hierarchy, and the Back button makes it easy to return to the previous position.

Use a tab bar to present peer categories of content or functionality.

- A tab bar lets people quickly and easily switch between categories or modes of operation, regardless of their current location.

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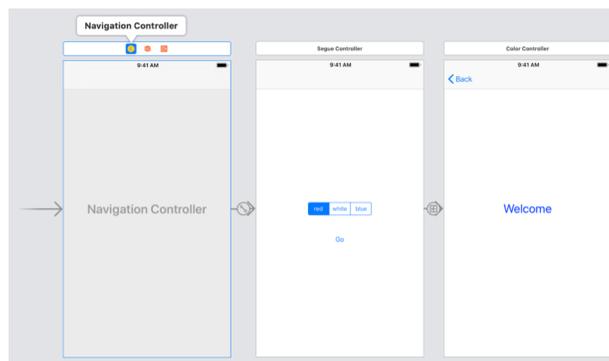
View event management

recall that a `ViewController` has a default `viewDidLoad`

- this method is automatically called after the view loads
- useful if you need to set properties of the view, especially after a segue

e.g., suppose we wanted to select a color theme on the welcome screen

- then segue to a new screen that utilizes the selected color theme



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Color theme segue

```
1 //
2 // SegueController.swift
3 // ColorSegue
4 //
5 // Created by David Reed on 3/26/19.
6 // Copyright © 2019 David Reed. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 import UIKit
10
11 class SegueController: UIViewController {
12     @IBOutlet weak var colorSelector: UISegmentedControl!
13
14     override func prepare(for segue: UIStoryboardSegue, sender: Any?) {
15         let dest = segue.destination as! ColorController
16         dest.colorTheme = colorSelector.titleForSegment(at:
17             colorSelector.selectedSegmentIndex!)
18     }
19 }
```

```
1 //
2 // ViewController.swift
3 // ColorSegue
4 //
5 // Created by David Reed on 3/26/19.
6 // Copyright © 2019 David Reed. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 import UIKit
10
11 class ColorController: UIViewController {
12     var colorTheme = "white"
13
14     @IBOutlet weak var welcomeLabel: UILabel!
15
16     override func viewDidLoad() {
17         if self.colorTheme == "red" {
18             self.view.backgroundColor = UIColor.red
19             self.welcomeLabel.textColor = UIColor.blue
20         }
21         else if self.colorTheme == "blue" {
22             self.view.backgroundColor = UIColor.blue
23             self.welcomeLabel.textColor = UIColor.white
24         }
25         else {
26             self.view.backgroundColor = UIColor.white
27             self.welcomeLabel.textColor = UIColor.red
28         }
29     }
30 }
```



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Other view event methods

in addition to `viewDidLoad`, there are other event-based methods

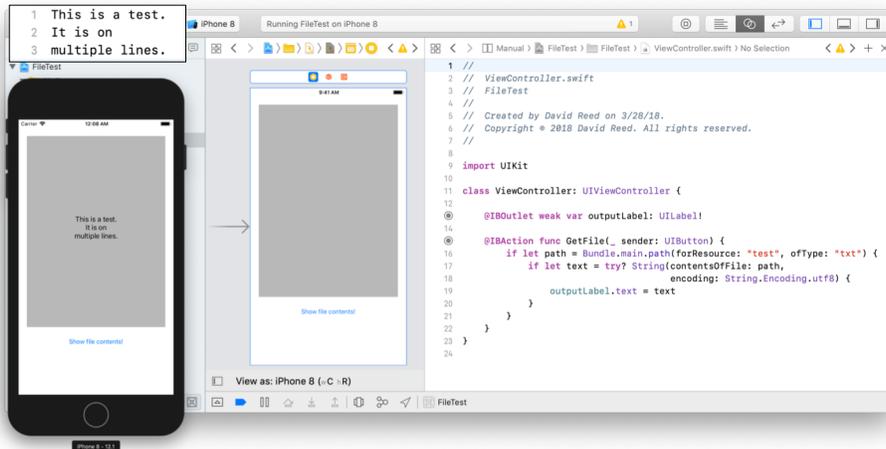
- `viewWillAppear()`
performs tasks that need to be done each time the view is to appear on the screen
e.g., refreshing views, adjusting to new orientation, accessing location
- `viewDidAppear()`
waits until the view is fully loaded – better for complex or slow tasks
e.g., starting an animation, fetching data
- `viewWillDisappear()`
performs tasks that need to be done when the user navigates away from the screen
e.g., refreshing views, adjusting to new orientation, accessing location
- `viewDidDisappear()`
waits until the user has navigated to a new view
e.g., stop services related to the old view (such as background audio)

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Reading text from a file

it is fairly straightforward to add a data file to a Project & read from it

- add the file to the project Bundle by dragging into the Project Navigator
- utilize `Bundle.main.path` to specify the file name (here, `test.txt`)
- call `String` method to get the file contents (note use of `try?` since may not find it)



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Extracting content from text

- to split a `String` into components based on a separator

```
String.split(separator: Character)
```

or

```
String.components(separatedBy: CharacterSet)
```

```
let text = "apple banana casaba"
```

```
text.split(separator: " ")
```

```
→ ["apple", "banana", "casaba"]
```

```
text.components(separatedBy: " ")
```

```
→ ["apple", "banana", "casaba"]
```

```
text.components(separatedBy: .whitespaces)
```

```
→ ["apple", "banana", "casaba"]
```

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Extracting content from text (cont.)

- what if there are an arbitrary number of spaces between?
 - ✓ split handles it automatically; components does not

```
let spaced = "apple  banana  casaba"
```

```
spaced.split(separator: " ")
```

```
→ ["apple", "banana", "casaba"]
```

```
spaced.components(separatedBy: " ")
```

```
→ ["apple", "", "banana", "", "", "casaba"]
```

```
spaced.components(separatedBy: .whitespaces)
```

```
→ ["apple", "", "banana", "", "", "casaba"]
```

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Extracting content from text (cont.)

- but, can filter out empty Strings from the components array

```
let spaced = "apple  banana  casaba"
```

```
spaced.split(separator: " ")
```

```
→ ["apple", "banana", "casaba"]
```

```
spaced.components(separatedBy: " ").filter { $0 != "" }
```

```
→ ["apple", "banana", "casaba"]
```

```
spaced.components(separatedBy: .whitespaces).filter { $0 != "" }
```

```
→ ["apple", "banana", "casaba"]
```

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Extracting content from text (cont.)

- components also allows you to split based on newlines

```
let multi = """"
    apple banana
    casaba
    """"
```

```
multi.components(separatedBy: .newlines)
    → ["apple banana", "casaba"]
```

```
multi.components(separatedBy: .whitespacesAndNewlines)
    → ["apple", "", "banana", "casaba"]
```

```
multi.components(separatedBy: .whitespacesAndNewlines).filter
    { $0 != "" }
    → ["apple", "banana", "casaba"]
```

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App example

suppose you have a text file that

- can create an app that picks a

per
lays

```
1 //
2 // QuoteGenerator.swift
3 // Quotes
4 //
5 // Created by David Reed on 1/4/19.
6 // Copyright © 2019 David Reed. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 import Foundation
10
11 struct QuoteGenerator {
12     private var quotes: [String]
13
14     init(using quotes: [String]) {
15         self.quotes = quotes
16     }
17
18     func randomQuote() -> String {
19         if quotes.count > 0 {
20             return quotes[Int.random(in: 0..

```
1 The internet could be a very
2 positive step towards
3 education, organisation and
4 participation in a meaningful
5 society. (Noam Chomsky)
6
7 I think computer viruses should
8 count as life. I think it says
9 something about human nature
10 that the only form of life we
11 have created so far is purely
12 destructive. We've created life
13 in our own image. (Stephen
14 Hawking)
15
16 Never trust a computer you can't
17 throw out a window. (Steve
18 Wozniak)
19
20 Computer science is no more about
21 computers than astronomy is
22 about telescopes. (Edsger
23 Dijkstra)
24
25 A computer once beat me at chess,
26 but it was no match for me at
27
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96
97
98
99
100
```



```
import UIKit
class ViewController: UIViewController {
 let FILENAME = "quotes.txt"
 var generator = QuoteGenerator(using: [])
 override func viewDidLoad() {
 let parts = FILENAME.components(separatedBy: ".")
 if let path = Bundle.main.path(forResource: parts[0], ofType: parts[1]) {
 if let text = try? String(contentsOfFile: path, encoding:
 String.Encoding.utf8) {
 let quotes = text.components(separatedBy: .newlines).filter { $0 != "" }
 generator = QuoteGenerator(using: quotes)
 }
 }
 @IBOutlet weak var outputLabel: UILabel!
 @IBAction func getQuote(_ sender: UIButton) {
 outputLabel.text = generator.randomQuote()
 }
 }
}
```


```

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Storing/accessing data

`Bundle.main.path` enables you to read from existing files

- unfortunately, it does not allow you to write to files

Swift provides a different mechanism for storing and subsequently retrieving data values

- every app has an associated Info.plist (property list) file associated with it, which stores information about the project
- it also provides storage where the app can write data & access it
- you can create and initialize multiple data storage areas if desired, but `UserDefaults.standard` is provided as a default storage area

```
UserDefaults.standard.set("foo", forKey: "word")
```

stores "foo" under the access key "word"

```
UserDefaults.standard.string(forKey: "word")
```

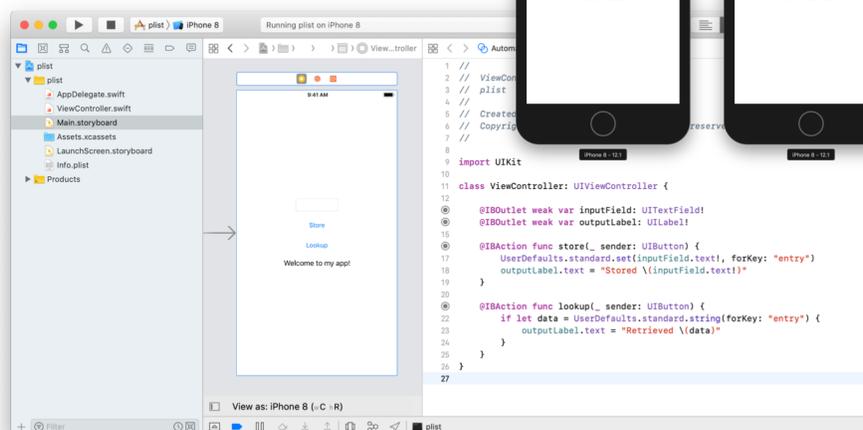
retrieves "foo" using the access key

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Example app

here, the user can enter a word in a field

- click the Store button to store it
- click the Retrieve button to retrieve it



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Storing/accessing data

can store data of any built-in type, including arrays

```
UserDefaults.standard.set("Chris", forKey: "name")

UserDefaults.standard.set(21, forKey: "age")

UserDefaults.standard.set(["Pat", "Alex"], forKey: "friends")

.
.
.

var who = UserDefaults.standard.string(forKey: "name")

var howOld = UserDefaults.standard.integer(forKey: "age")

var peeps = UserDefaults.standard.array(forKey: "friends") as! [String]?
```

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High score example

consider a game in which you want to store

- this simple app shows how an array of Ints can be used to store high scores

The image shows a screenshot of the Xcode IDE. On the left is the storyboard for the 'HighScores' app, showing a single view controller with a text field and a button. In the center is the Swift code for the view controller. The code defines a class `ViewController` that inherits from `UIViewController`. It has two outlets: `outputLabel` (a `UILabel`) and `scoreLabel` (a `UITextField`). The code sets `NUM_TOP` to 5 and initializes `highScores` as an empty array. The `viewDidLoad` method loads scores from `UserDefaults` and updates the display. The `textFieldEntered` method is triggered when the user enters a score, adds it to the array, sorts it, and updates the display. The `updateDisplay` method formats the scores into a string and updates the `outputLabel`. The storyboard shows the app running on an iPhone 8 simulator, displaying a list of high scores: 1.101, 2.100, 3.90, 4.92, and 5.88.

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OTHER FEATURES

YOU MAY (OR MAY NOT)

FIND USEFUL

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PickerView

note that `PickerView` is a view element, not a control element (like `UIButton`)

- more complex to integrate into the screen
1. add a `PickerView` to the scene
 - ✓ drag a `PickerView` from the Object Library into Interface Builder
 - ✓ position and size as desired
 2. connect the `PickerView` to the `ViewController`
 - ✓ control-click from the `PickerView` to the View Controller icon  and select Outlet: `dataSource`
 - ✓ repeat the process and select delegate
 - ✓ add `UIPickerViewDataSource`, `UIPickerViewDelegate`
 3. add the protocol names to the `ViewController` class

```
class _viewController: UIViewController,
    UIPickerViewDataSource,
    UIPickerViewDelegate {
```

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PickerView (cont.)

4. finally, add methods to complete the protocol implementation

```
func numberOfComponents(in pickerView: UIPickerView) -> Int {
    // returns # of columns (usually 1)
}

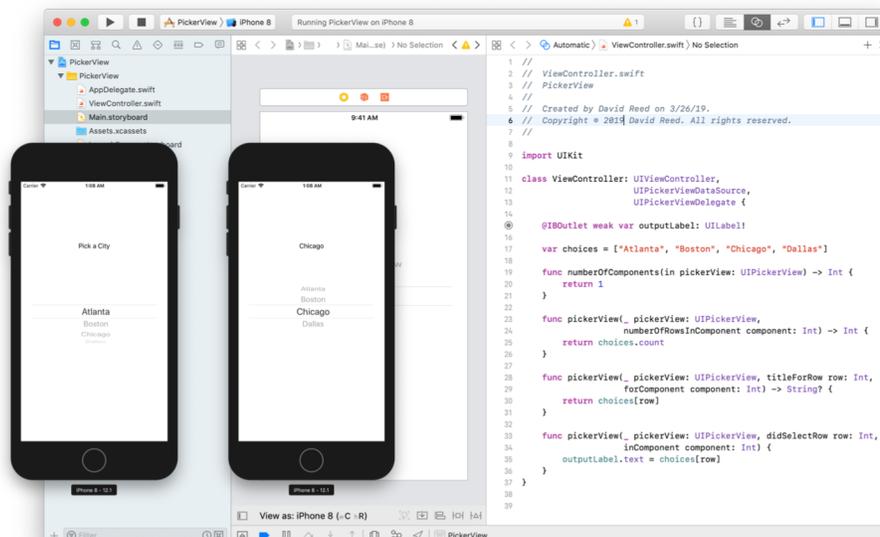
func pickerView(_ pickerView: UIPickerView,
                numberOfRowsInComponent component: Int) -> Int {
    // returns the number of options to select from
}

func pickerView(_ pickerView: UIPickerView, titleForRow row: Int,
                forComponent component: Int) -> String? {
    // returns String representation of entry at the selected row
}

func pickerView(_ pickerView: UIPickerView, didSelectRow row: Int,
                inComponent component: Int) {
    // specifies action to be taken when user selects a row
}
```

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Example: picking cities



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Scroll Views

The screenshot shows the Xcode interface. On the left is a storyboard for a 'View Controller' with a form containing fields for: First Name, Last Name, Address Line 1, Address Line 2, City, State, Zip Code, and Phone Number. On the right is the Swift code for 'ViewController.swift'. The code implements a scroll view with keyboard handling and insets.

```

1  import UIKit
2
3  class ViewController: UIViewController {
4
5      @IBOutlet weak var scrollView: UIScrollView!
6
7      override func viewDidLoad() {
8          super.viewDidLoad()
9          // Do any additional setup after loading the view, typically from a nib.
10         registerForKeyboardNotifications()
11     }
12
13
14     override func didReceiveMemoryWarning() {
15         super.didReceiveMemoryWarning()
16         // Dispose of any resources that can be recreated.
17     }
18
19     func registerForKeyboardNotifications() {
20         NotificationCenter.default.addObserver(self, selector: #selector(keyboardWasShown(_:)), name: .UIKeyboardDidShow, object: nil)
21         NotificationCenter.default.addObserver(self, selector: #selector(keyboardWillBeHidden(_:)), name: .UIKeyboardWillHide, object: nil)
22     }
23
24
25     @objc func keyboardWasShown(_ notification: NSNotification) {
26         guard let info = notification.userInfo,
27               let keyboardFrameValue = info[UIKeyboardFrameBeginUserInfoKey] as? NSValue else { return }
28
29         let keyboardFrame = keyboardFrameValue.cgRectValue
30         let keyboardSize = keyboardFrame.size
31
32
33         let contentInsets = UIEdgeInsetsMake(0.0, 0.0, keyboardSize.height, 0.0)
34         scrollView.contentInset = contentInsets
35         scrollView.scrollIndicatorInsets = contentInsets
36     }
37
38     @objc func keyboardWillBeHidden(_ notification: NSNotification) {
39         let contentInsets = UIEdgeInsetsZero
40         scrollView.contentInset = contentInsets
41         scrollView.scrollIndicatorInsets = contentInsets
42     }
43
44
45 }
46
47

```

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Table views

The screenshot shows the Xcode interface. On the left is a storyboard showing a 'Navigation Controller' containing a 'Table View'. On the right is the Swift code for 'FoodTableViewController.swift'. The code defines a list of meals and implements the UITableViewDataSource and UITableViewDelegate protocols.

```

1  import UIKit
2
3  class FoodTableViewController: UITableViewController {
4
5      var meals: [Meal] {
6
7
8          let firstBreakfastFood = Food(name: "Eggs", description: "Scrambled with bacon in a frying pan.")
9          let secondBreakfastFood = Food(name: "Hashbrowns", description: "Cut potatoes then fry in oil until brown")
10         let thirdBreakfastFood = Food(name: "Bacon", description: "Key food in all breakfast meals.")
11         let breakfast = Meal(name: "Breakfast", food: [firstBreakfastFood, secondBreakfastFood, thirdBreakfastFood])
12
13         let firstLunchFood = Food(name: "Sandwich", description: "Easy to fix. Always delicious")
14         let secondLunchFood = Food(name: "Chips", description: "Put a few in the sandwich for enhanced flavor")
15         let thirdLunchFood = Food(name: "Ketchup", description: "An ounce a day keeps the doctor away.")
16         let lunch = Meal(name: "Lunch", food: [firstLunchFood, secondLunchFood, thirdLunchFood])
17
18         let firstDinnerFood = Food(name: "Steak", description: "Everyone needs some good protein.")
19         let secondDinnerFood = Food(name: "Potatoes", description: "Great addition to go along with steak.")
20         let thirdDinnerFood = Food(name: "Broccoli", description: "Always finish out the food pyramid.")
21         let dinner = Meal(name: "Dinner", food: [firstDinnerFood, secondDinnerFood, thirdDinnerFood])
22
23         return [breakfast, lunch, dinner]
24     }
25
26     // MARK: - Table view data source
27
28     override func numberOfSections(in tableView: UITableView) -> Int {
29         return meals.count
30     }
31
32     override func tableView(_ tableView: UITableView, numberOfRowsInSection section: Int) -> Int {
33         return meals[section].food.count
34     }
35
36
37     override func tableView(_ tableView: UITableView, cellForRowAt indexPath: IndexPath) -> UITableViewCell {
38
39         let cell = tableView.dequeueReusableCell(withIdentifier: "FoodCell", for: indexPath)
40
41         let meal = meals[indexPath.section]
42         let food = meal.food[indexPath.row]
43
44         cell.textLabel?.text = food.name
45         cell.detailTextLabel?.text = food.description
46
47         return cell
48     }
49
50     override func tableView(_ tableView: UITableView, titleForHeaderInSection section: Int) -> String? {
51         return meals[section].name
52     }
53 }

```

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Protocols

a *protocol* defines the properties or methods that an object must have in order to complete a task

- corresponds to a Java interface; used to define the behavior of a family of classes
- e.g., CustomStringConvertible
built-in protocol, specifies a computed property/field named `description`

```
protocol CustomStringConvertible {  
    var description: String { get }  
}
```

- if a class/struct implements the CustomStringConvertible protocol
 - ✓ can use the computed property/field to convert to a string
 - ✓ will automatically be called when you print an object (similar to `toString` in Java)

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CustomStringConvertible

e.g., a Name struct that can be printed

```
struct Name: CustomStringConvertible {  
    var first: String  
    var middle: Character  
    var last: String  
  
    var description: String {  
        return "\(self.first) \(self.middle). \(self.last)"  
    }  
}
```

```
let me = Name(first: "Dave", middle: "W", last: "Reed")
```

```
me.description          → "Dave W. Reed"
```

```
print(me)
```

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Object equality

by default, user-defined objects cannot be tested for equality

```
var me = Name(first: "Dave", middle: "W", last: "Reed")
var notMe = Name(first: "Dale", middle: "F", last: "Reed")

if me == notMe {
    . . .
}                                     → ERROR
```

the Equatable protocol specifies a static == operator for comparisons

- operators are implemented as static methods
- defined like a method, but called like an operator: `me == notMe`

```
protocol Equatable {
    static func ==(lhs: TYPE, rhs: TYPE) -> Bool
}
```

- note: when you define ==, Swift will automatically infer !=

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Equatable

e.g., Names with == and !=

```
class Name: CustomStringConvertible, Equatable {
    . . .

    static func ==(lhs: Name, rhs: Name) -> Bool {
        return lhs.first == rhs.first &&
            lhs.middle == rhs.middle &&
            lhs.last == rhs.last
    }
}

var me = Name(first: "Dave", middle: "W", last: "Reed")
var notMe = Name(first: "Dale", middle: "F", last: "Reed")

if me == notMe {
    print("\(me) is the same as \(notMe)")
}

if me != notMe {
    print("\(me) is different from \(notMe)")
}
```

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Object comparisons

by default, user-defined objects cannot be compared

```
var me = Name(first: "Dave", middle: "W", last: "Reed")
var notMe = Name(first: "Dale", middle: "F", last: "Reed")

if me < you {
    . . .
}                                     → ERROR
```

the Comparable protocol specifies a static < operator for comparisons

- as with ==, the < operator is implemented as a static method

```
protocol Comparable {
    static func <(lhs: TYPE, rhs: TYPE) -> Bool
}
```

- a class/struct that implements Comparable MUST also implement Equatable
- note: from < and ==, Swift will automatically infer >, <= and >=

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Comparable

e.g., Names with <, >, <=, >=

```
class Name: CustomStringConvertible, Equatable {
    . . .

    static func <(lhs: Name, rhs: Name) -> Bool {
        return lhs.last < rhs.last ||
            (lhs.last == rhs.last && lhs.first < rhs.first) ||
            (lhs.last == rhs.last && lhs.first == rhs.first
             && lhs.middle < rhs.middle)
    }
}

var me = Name(first: "Dave", middle: "W", last: "Reed")
var notMe = Name(first: "Dale", middle: "F", last: "Reed")

if me < notMe {
    print("\(me) comes before \(notMe)")
}

if me > notMe {
    print("\(me) comes after \(notMe)")
}
```

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User-defined protocols

user-defined protocols can contain

- ✓ functions/methods (so really more like Java abstract classes)
- ✓ computed properties/fields, which must be identified as get and/or set

```
protocol Shape {
    var coord: [Int] { get }

    mutating func shift(byX: Int, byY: Int)
}

struct Square: Shape {
    var x: Int
    var y: Int

    var coord: [Int] { return [self.x, self.y] }

    mutating func shift(byX: Int, byY: Int) {
        self.x += byX
        self.y += byY
    }
}
```

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Storing/accessing objects

UserDefaults.standard can be used to read/write primitive values & arrays/dictionaries of primitive values

- however, it can't be used to read/write complex objects

it is possible to encode an object so that it can be stored, then retrieve and extract the object

- the object must implement the Codable protocol, which includes a method on how to encode the object
- then utilize a PropertyListEncoder to encode the object and store it
- subsequently, can retrieve the encode object and utilize a PropertyListDecoder

- SEE UNIT 4 IF YOU WANT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS FEATURE

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