

Timers

Fabrice.Kordon@lip6.fr



As an introduction...

Timers are very useful

- Clock interrupt in OS
- When one needs to take-over the execution
 - ▶ Like in a game
 - ▶ To update something regularly
 - ▶ etc.

Need for a method to be called-back

- Within some time interval
- At a given date & time (alarm-clock)
- Etc.



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In iOS

Timer / NSTimer

Need for a method to be called-back

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- Etc.



Principle

Trigger of a method at a given date

Unique

- ▶ Activation + trigger and automated invalidation

Repeated

- ▶ Activation + periodic trigger
- ▶ Explicit invalidation

What to do when the event triggers?

Invoke a method having the following format

- ▶ (Timer) -> Void

Invoke a target

- ▶ No format required

Caution

Timers stop when the App is in background

- ▶ Might be a few events left in background



Timer, how does it work?

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Start a timer

- 🕒 Insertion in the «run loop» of the current thread

```
class func scheduledTimer(timeInterval ti: TimeInterval,  
                           target aTarget: Any,  
                           selector aSelector: Selector,  
                           userInfo: Any?,  
                           repeats yesOrNo: Bool) -> Timer
```

```
class func scheduledTimer(withTimeInterval interval: TimeInterval,  
                           repeats: Bool,  
                           block: @escaping (Timer) -> Void) -> Timer
```

Stop a timer

- 🕒 Mandatory for repeated events
 - ▶ `invalidate()`
 - ▶ Usually followed by an assign to nil
- 🕒 Remind, automated for unique events
 - ▶ Once they fired

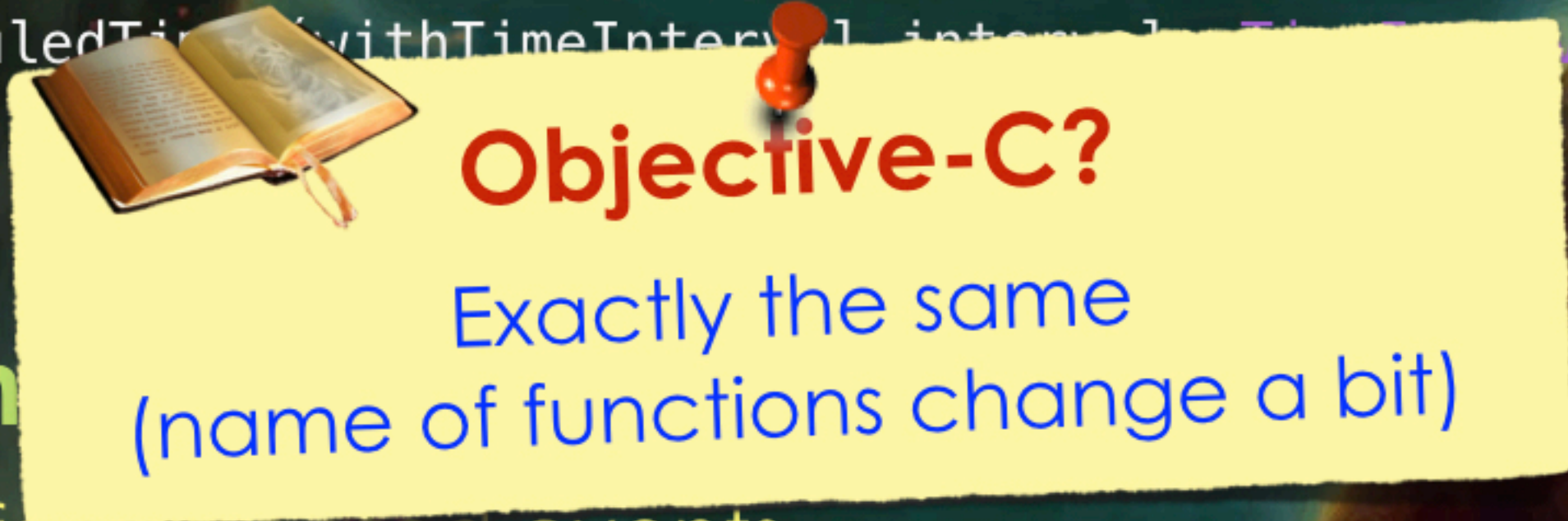
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Objective-C?
Exactly the same
(name of functions change a bit)

Stop a timer

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 - ▶ invalidate()
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As a conclusion...

Many more usages

- Only the more useful mentioned here
 - ▶ You will need it for your next exercise



But...

- You have the

