

# In-App authentication

Fabrice.Kordon@lip6.fr



# As an introduction...

## Authentication mechanisms in iOS

- Numeric (long, short) or alphanumeric code
- Biometrics
  - ▶ TouchID, FaceID, maybe some more later

## In-App usage?

- Validate some critical transaction
  - ▶ Payment, access to secure data, etc...

## Associated Framework

- LocalAuthentication

# As an introduction...

## Authentication mechanisms in iOS

- Numeric (long, short) or alphanumeric code
- Biometrics
  - ▶ TouchID, FaceID, maybe some more later

## In-App use

- Validate some data
  - ▶ Payment, account



**Really safe?**

Strong confinement of encoded fingerprints, face data & code

## Associated Framework

- LocalAuthentication

# LAContext

3

## 📱 Handling authentication

### 👤 LAPolicy

- ▶ `deviceOwnerAuthentication`, `deviceOwnerAuthenticationWithBiometrics`

### 👤 LAError

- ▶ For authentication errors

## 📱 Useful attributes

### 👤 Property `biometryType`

- ▶ `none`, `touchID`, `faceID`

### 👤 Property `localizedReason`

## 📱 Some methods

```
func canEvaluatePolicy(_ policy: LAPolicy,  
                        error: NSErrorPointer) -> Bool
```

```
func evaluatePolicy(_ policy: LAPolicy,  
                    localizedReason: String,  
                    reply: @escaping (Bool, Error?) -> Void)
```

# LAContext

## 📱 Handling authentication

### 👤 LAPolicy

- ▶ deviceOwnerAuthentication, deviceOwnerAuthenticationWithBiometrics

### 👤 LAError

- ▶ For authentication errors



**Does not work on the simulator**

But does not crash;-)

## 📱 Useful attributes

### 👤 Property biometryType

- ▶ none, touchID

### 👤 Property localizedReason

## 📱 Some methods

```
func canEvaluatePolicy(_ policy: LAPolicy,  
                      error: NSErrorPointer) -> Bool
```

```
func evaluatePolicy(_ policy: LAPolicy,  
                  localizedReason: String,  
                  reply: @escaping (Bool, Error?) -> Void)
```

# Privacy concerns

4



## Since iOS11

- Something to put in the .plist
  - ▶ Deals with the use of Face ID
- NSFaceIDUsageDescription
  - ▶ Do not forget a usage description
  - ▶ Otherwise, it does not activate (revert to code)



# As a conclusion...

## Useful to prevent «critical actions»

- Grant the device's owner is there
- The application must run in foreground
- Authentication must be operated in the main thread
- Nice alternative to Keychain in many cases

## An alternative to ApplePay in your Apps?

- No, ApplePay is also available in a framework
- Involved classes
  - ▶ PKPayment, PKPaymentAuthorizationController, PKPaymentAuthorizationViewController, PKPaymentButton, PKPaymentRequest, PKPaymentAuthorizationResult