

Erica Sadun



# The Gourmet iOS Developer's Cookbook

Even More Recipes for Better  
iOS App Development



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# The Gourmet iOS Developer's Cookbook

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Even More Recipes for Better  
iOS App Development

Erica Sadun

◆ Addison-Wesley

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Library of Congress Control Number: 2015935369

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ISBN-13: 978-0-13-408622-4

ISBN-10: 0-13-408622-8

Text printed in the United States on recycled paper at RR Donnelley in Crawfordsville, Indiana.

First printing: May 2015

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*Dedicated with great affection to Chris Zahn:  
editor, enabler, and wonderful person.*



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## Preface

Developers can never have too many useful ideas to draw from, and this latest entry in the bestselling *Cookbook* series is filled with delicious possibilities. *The Gourmet iOS Developer's Cookbook* offers a curated selection of programming recipes to inspire your everyday iOS programming efforts. This volume serves up a new banquet of turnkey solutions for projects big and small. It offers a fresh collection of versatile solutions that promise to add spice to your code.

The goal here is simple. Each chapter should enable you to walk away with fresh ideas and master techniques off the beaten track. Whether you're reading about new takes on old technologies or completely fresh APIs, here's hoping you'll say, "Hey, I didn't know you could do that!" or "That's really cool."

*The Gourmet iOS Developer's Cookbook* offers a deep dive into the nonobvious. Its chapters cover techniques and technologies that skew away from the common and enable you to explore new development cuisines. It's not a book for those just learning how to cook apps. It offers tasty recipes for the iOS enthusiast who wants to build fragrant, delicious, and exotic routines.

## How This Book Is Organized

This book offers practical iOS development recipes. Here's a rundown of what you'll find in this book's chapters:

- **Chapter 1, "Media"**—This chapter explores advances that have made their way into AVFoundation over the past few years and shows how you can integrate these features into your own applications. In this chapter, you'll read about speech generation, barcode recognition (which enables you to leverage the device camera to recognize a wide range of barcode styles), and application of modern language features to AVFoundation movie creation.
- **Chapter 2, "Dynamic Typography"**—iOS's overhauled interface has shifted emphasis away from buttons and bars to a sparser and more text-centered experience, where text components have become even more critical parts of UI design. This chapter introduces ways your text can update itself automatically to match user preferences and expectations and discusses some critical lessons to be learned along the way.
- **Chapter 3, "Text Kit"**—Flexible text presentation is one of the most exciting and developing areas of iOS. With every new iOS release, these APIs have grown, matured, and expanded. Most UIKit interface classes now support rich text features. In the most modern iOS releases, that support has expanded to a suite of layout classes that continue to add mature type and frame settings to create flexible presentations.
- **Chapter 4, "Attributed Strings and Document Containers"**—Over the past few years, attributed strings have grown enormously in power and potential, and they now provide support for HTML and RTF rich text documents. Attributed strings provide seamless polymorphism between text presentation and representation. Text design now better migrates to the iOS screen and from iOS to other destinations. This chapter explores those expanded possibilities.

- **Chapter 5, “Animation”**—Of the technologies updated in the past couple years, iOS animation is one of the ones that has been most enhanced by new APIs. New dynamic styles enable your interfaces to integrate real-world physics for better and more exciting presentations and interactions. This chapter begins the discussion of animation features, introducing some of the profound updates that you’ll use in your apps.
- **Chapter 6, “Dynamic Animators”**—Dynamic animators are some of the most exciting elements of iOS. Their physics-based view behaviors create lively and curious interfaces. At the same time, they can be difficult to work with. In this chapter, you’ll learn how to incorporate these classes into your iOS apps for the best possible results and the fewest headaches.
- **Chapter 7, “Presentations”**—In the latest versions of iOS, user alerts are fully re-imagined and popovers are now universally available. Special effects highlight presentations to provide the greatest visual impact when you overlay content for modal interaction. This chapter gets you up to speed on these modern techniques.
- **Chapter 8, “Shape Magic”**—Non-rectangular views enable your apps to expand possibilities with fun and clever effects. For example, you might draw attention to a view by animating a halo behind it. Or you might use shapes to better stack buttons together for visual seamlessness. This chapter covers many advanced shape techniques you can use to add pizzazz to your user interfaces.
- **Chapter 9, “Adaptive Deployment”**—As the iOS family continues to grow, apps should automatically support all new displays, orientations, and screens. Although iOS targets are not nearly as splintered as Android’s multitude, interfaces face numerous configurations for universal deployment. A truly adaptive app gracefully responds with a well-designed and engaging interface, ready for the user at any size. This chapter explores the basics of these new technologies and the APIs you need to learn for moving your apps forward.
- **Chapter 10, “Development Helpers”**—At times, it helps to have methods, functions, and techniques to help you through the development process. Together, the solutions in this chapter support you when building apps. They enable you to speed through your development day to better arrive at the app you’re working on.
- **Chapter 11, “A Taste of Swift”**—Apple introduced the Swift programming language at the June 2014 WWDC Keynote. Swift offers a performance-tuned type-safe modern programming language. Today, many development fundamentals have coalesced, although the language and toolset have continued to evolve. This chapter surveys the base essentials of Swift development, providing a taste of this new technology. You won’t learn the language in this chapter. Instead, you’ll explore concepts and development issues that affect you as an iOS developer to get a sense of where this important technology is going.

## About the Sample Code

This book follows the trend I started in my *iOS Developer’s Cookbook* series. This book’s sample code always starts off from a single `main.m` file, where you’ll find the heart of the application

powering the example. This is not how people normally develop iOS or Cocoa applications—nor how they should be developing them. It’s hard to tell a story when readers must search through many files and try to find out what is relevant and what is not. Offering a single launching point concentrates the story, allowing access to an idea from a coherent starting point.

### **Getting the Sample Code**

You’ll find the source code for this book at <https://github.com/erica/iOS-Gourmet-Cookbook> on the open-source GitHub hosting site. There, you’ll find a chapter-by-chapter collection of source code that provides examples of the material covered in this book.

Retrieve sample code either by using git tools to clone the repository or by clicking GitHub’s Download button, which was at the right center of the page when I wrote this book. It enables you to retrieve the entire repository as a ZIP archive or tarball.

### **Contribute!**

Sample code is never a fixed target. It continues to evolve as Apple updates its SDK and the Cocoa Touch libraries. Get involved. Pitch in by suggesting bug fixes and corrections and by expanding the code that’s on offer. GitHub allows you to fork repositories and grow them with your own tweaks and features and then share them back to the main repository. If you come up with a new idea or approach, let me know.

### **Getting GitHub**

GitHub (<http://github.com>) is the largest git-hosting site, with more than 150,000 public repositories. It provides both free hosting for public projects and paid options for private projects. With a custom web interface that includes wiki hosting, issue tracking, and an emphasis on social networking among project developers, it’s a great place to find new code or collaborate on existing libraries. Sign up for a free account at the GitHub website, where you can then copy and modify this repository or create your own open-source iOS projects to share with others.

### **Contacting the Author**

If you have any comments or questions about this book, please drop me an e-mail message at [erica@ericasadun.com](mailto:erica@ericasadun.com) or stop by the GitHub repository and contact me there.



## Acknowledgments

My sincere thanks go out to Trina MacDonald, Chris Zahn, and Olivia Basegio, along with the entire Addison-Wesley/Pearson production team—specifically Kristy Hart, Betsy Gratner, Kitty Wilson, Nonie Ratcliff, and Chuti Prasertsith—and my technical editors Rich Wardwell, Mark Granoff, and Mike Greiner.

My gratitude extends to everyone who helped read through early drafts and provide feedback. Specific thanks go out to Oliver Drobnik, Hamish Allan, Sebastian Celis, Maurice Sharp, Wess Cope, Jeremy Tregunna, Ken Lindsay, Cameron Banga, John Grosvenor, Matthias Neeracher, Chris Woodard, David Green, Alexander Kempgen, Chris Flesner, Remy “psy” Demarest, Ken Ferry, Mike Ash, Kevin Ballard, Phil Holland, August Joki, and everyone else who contributed to this effort. If I have omitted your name here, please accept my apologies.

Special thanks also go to my husband and kids. You are wonderful.

## About the Author

**Erica Sadun** is the bestselling author, coauthor, and contributor to several dozen books on programming, digital video and photography, and web design, including the widely popular *The Core iOS 6 Developer's Cookbook*, fourth edition. She has blogged at TUAW.com, O'Reilly's Mac Devcenter, Lifehacker, and Ars Technica. In addition to being the author of dozens of iOS-native applications, Erica holds a Ph.D. in computer science from Georgia Tech's Graphics, Visualization and Usability Center. A geek, a programmer, and an author, she's never met a gadget she didn't love. When not writing, she and her geek husband parent three geeks-in-training, who regard their parents with restrained bemusement when they're not busy rewiring the house or plotting global domination.

## **Editor's Note: We Want to Hear from You!**

As the reader of this book, you are our most important critic and commentator. We value your opinion and want to know what we're doing right, what we could do better, what areas you'd like to see us publish in, and any other words of wisdom you're willing to pass our way.

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# Dynamic Animators

Dynamic animators are some of the most exciting elements of iOS, even if they are among the least practical. Their physics-based view behaviors create lively and curious interfaces. At the same time, they can be fussy to work with. They don't happily coexist with Auto Layout because they directly update frame values and can rotate views. That said, dynamic animators are tremendously fun. They help make your UIs pop and are well worth exploring to discover what features they can provide your users.

## Physics-Based Behaviors

The `UIDynamicAnimator` class emulates interface “physics.” It coalesces this functionality into distinct behaviors like snapping, pushing, attachment, and collision. Here's a quick overview of the primitive UIKit dynamic behaviors:

- **Attachments**—`UIAttachmentBehavior` instances tie a view either to a position or to another view. It's basically a virtual string with a set length, although you can make it act more like a spring by updating damping and frequency properties.
- **Collisions**—`UICollisionBehavior` instances allow views to collide with each other or with path-based boundaries. In a collision, energy can be passed from one item to another, and a view's trajectory can be changed.
- **Gravity**—`UIGravityBehavior` instances apply acceleration to views. You set where “down” is and allow the gravity vector to act on velocities over time.
- **Pushes**—`UIPushBehavior` instances add an impulse force to views, adding new energy to the system.
- **Snap**s—`UISnapBehavior` instances act as magnets, drawing views to attachment points.
- **Dynamic items**—`UIDynamicItemBehavior` is the odd man out in this list. Instead of acting as a force, dynamic items are objects affected by forces. These behaviors enable your views to participate in the other behaviors listed here. You can attach, collide, push,

snap, and weigh down views by treating them as having physical properties. The dynamic item behavior defines density, elasticity, friction, and resistance and manages linear and angular item velocities.

You can best explore how these items work by running Apple’s UIKit Dynamic Catalog sample code (<https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/samplecode/DynamicsCatalog>). This sample code illustrates available dynamic behaviors, presenting a wide range of effects you can create in your own apps. Most importantly, it lets you see, interact with, and explore each behavior on its own.

## Building Dynamics

Once you’ve finished exploring Apple’s dynamics catalog, start building your own examples. To begin, you need to create a dynamic animator, like this:

```
self.animator = [[UIDynamicAnimator alloc]
    initWithReferenceView:self.view];
```

This top-level class acts as an intermediary between your views and any dynamic behaviors you add to the system. The animator provides context for the animations, establishing either a reference view to create a coordinate system or a reference layout when working with collection views.

Typically, you use a view controller’s primary view as a reference, although you are not limited to this. Use any view backdrop that’s large enough to contain the actors in your drama. And, as you’ll see, you can extend animated views beyond the parent view, if needed.

## Dynamics Delegation

Delegation enables you to know when an animator pauses, an important tool for tracking the end of an animation sequence. An animator delegate declares the `UIDynamicAnimatorDelegate` protocol and conforms to that protocol by implementing the optional `dynamicAnimatorDidPause:` and `dynamicAnimatorWillResume:` methods. Assign a delegate like this:

```
self.animator.delegate = self;
```

When you implement a delegate, you know when animation sequences coalesce, which enables you to clean up your simulation after the physics have come to a static resting point. Be aware that some animations may never “stop,” especially those that do not employ energy-lowering strategies like friction and resistance.

## Creating and Adding Behaviors

Each dynamic animator can coordinate many behaviors at once. For example, you might want to create a dynamic system where views “fall” in the direction of gravity but bounce off each

other and remain within the boundaries of the view controller's view. Or you might create a snapping behavior that involves collision detection, bumping some views out of the way.

Add each behavior to the animator with the `addBehavior:` method. This method applies the behavior to the current state. If the animator is active, the behavior will immediately start. The following snippet creates a new snapping behavior and adds it to an animator:

```
UISnapBehavior *snapBehavior = [[UISnapBehavior alloc]
    initWithItem:testView snapToPoint:point];
[self.animator addBehavior:snapBehavior];
```

The standard behavior-creation pattern is to allocate an instance and initialize it with one or more items. This example uses a single item (`testView`) and sets a single parameter, a snap-to point. When this is added to the animator, the view moves until its center co-aligns with the snap point.

Each dynamic behavior is distinct in terms of the details associated with the class's API. Gravity behavior initializers accept an array of child items, although you can add and remove items at later times. Attachment behaviors include a suite of initializers that supply anchor points, dynamic items, and offsets away from the anchors. Each behavior class is a new adventure, and it's well worth your time to read through their APIs as they are all quite different from each other.

## Detecting Pauses

Behavior lifetimes vary. After adding a behavior to an animator, you leave it in place for varying degrees of time: until some application state has changed, until the animation has come to a stopping point (or has reasonably coalesced to the point where the user perceives it as having stopped), or until the application ends. The lifetime you select depends on the kind of behavior you define. For example, a collision behavior that keeps views inside a parent view controller may persist indefinitely. You might remove a snap behavior as soon as the view has moved to the newly requested position or a push behavior as soon as the impulse has finished.

The problem is, however, that the built-in dynamic animator can take a long time to detect that the views it manages have stopped moving. Consider the following list of times and frames for a snapped view:

```
[0.03] NSRect: {{121.55639, 217.55638}, {66.88723, 66.88723}}
[0.07] NSRect: {{91.418655, 206.41866}, {81.162689, 81.162689}}
[0.10] NSRect: {{60.333874, 201.33388}, {83.332253, 83.332253}}
[0.13] NSRect: {{44.293236, 204.29323}, {79.413528, 79.413528}}
[0.17] NSRect: {{42.394054, 213.39406}, {68.211891, 68.211891}}
[0.20] NSRect: {{44.46402, 221.46402}, {60.071957, 60.071957}}
[0.23] NSRect: {{44.94722, 222.94722}, {61.105556, 61.105556}}
[0.27] NSRect: {{47.207447, 223.70744}, {60.58511, 60.58511}}
[0.30] NSRect: {{49.458027, 223.45802}, {60.083942, 60.083942}}
[0.33] NSRect: {{50.481998, 222.48199}, {60.035999, 60.035999}}
```

```

[0.37] NSRect: {{50.987999, 221.98801}, {60.023998, 60.023998}}
[0.40] NSRect: {{51, 221.5}, {60, 60}}
[0.43] NSRect: {{50.5, 221.5}, {60, 60}}
[0.47] NSRect: {{50, 221.5}, {60, 60}}
[0.50] NSRect: {{50, 222}, {60, 60}}
[0.53] NSRect: {{50, 222}, {60, 60}}
[0.57] NSRect: {{50, 222}, {60, 60}}
... [snipped 0.60 to 1.10] ...
[1.13] NSRect: {{50, 222}, {60, 60}}
[1.17] NSRect: {{50, 222}, {60, 60}}
Elapsed time: 1.167326

```

This view reaches its final position after half a second has passed. The dynamic animator does not pause until 1.17 seconds—more than double the required time. In user experience terms, those extra 0.67 seconds can feel like forever.

The reason for the delay becomes clear when you sneak down into the animator and look up the view's linear and angular velocity:

```

[0.60] NSRect: {{50, 222}, {60, 60}}
      Linear Velocity: NSPoint: {1.8314272, 1.0867469}
      Angular Velocity: 0.000001

```

Those values do not drop to 0 until that extra time has passed:

```

[1.17] NSRect: {{50, 222}, {60, 60}}
      Linear Velocity: NSPoint: {0, 0}
      Angular Velocity: 0.000000

```

In a practical sense, the velocities are meaningless once the view frame stops changing. When you know in advance that no outside forces will impel a view to start moving again after it's reached a resting point, leverage this information. Trim down your waiting time by tracking a view's frame.

Listing 6-1 defines a watcher class that monitors views until they stop changing. After a view has remained fixed for a certain period of time (here for at least 0.1 seconds), this class contacts a delegate and lets it know that the view has stopped moving. That callback enables you to update your dynamic animator and remove the behavior so the animator can more quickly come to a pause.

When run with the same snap animation as the previous example, the new watcher detects the final frame at 0.50. By 0.60, the delegate knows to stop the animation, and the entire sequence stops nearly 0.55 seconds earlier:

```

[0.47] NSRect: {{50, 221.5}, {60, 60}}
[0.50] NSRect: {{50, 222}, {60, 60}}
[0.53] NSRect: {{50, 222}, {60, 60}}
[0.57] NSRect: {{50, 222}, {60, 60}}
[0.60] NSRect: {{50, 222}, {60, 60}}
Elapsed time: 0.617352

```

Use this kind of short-cutting approach to re-enable GUI items that might otherwise be inaccessible to users once you know that the animation has come to a usable end point. While this example implements a pixel-level test, you might vary this approach to detect low angular velocities and other “close enough” tests to help end the animation effects within a reasonable amount of time.

#### Listing 6-1 Watching Views

---

```
// Info stores the most recent frame, count, delegate
@interface WatchedViewInfo : NSObject
@property (nonatomic) CGRect frame;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger count;
@property (nonatomic) CGFloat pointLaxity;
@property (nonatomic) id <ViewWatcherDelegate> delegate;
@end

@implementation WatchedViewInfo
@end

// Watcher class
@implementation ViewWatcher
{
    NSMutableDictionary *dict;
}

- (instancetype) init
{
    if (!(self = [super init])) return self;
    dict = [NSMutableDictionary dictionary];
    _pointLaxity = 10;
    return self;
}

// Determine whether two frames are "close enough"
BOOL CompareFrames(CGRect frame1, CGRect frame2, CGFloat laxity)
{
    if (CGRectEqualToRect(frame1, frame2)) return YES;
    CGRect intersection = CGRectIntersection(frame1, frame2);
    CGFloat testArea =
        intersection.size.width * intersection.size.height;
    CGFloat area1 = frame1.size.width * frame1.size.height;
    CGFloat area2 = frame2.size.width * frame2.size.height;
    return ((fabs(testArea - area1) < laxity) &&
        (fabs(testArea - area2) < laxity));
}
```



```

// See whether the view has stopped moving
- (void) checkInOnView: (NSTimer *) timer
{
    int kThreshold = 3; // must remain for 0.3 secs

    // Fetch the view and the info
    UIView *view = (UIView *) timer.userInfo;
    NSNumber *key = @(int)view;
    WatchedViewInfo *watchedViewInfo = dict[key];

    // Matching frame? If so update count
    BOOL steadyFrame = CompareFrames(watchedViewInfo.frame,
        view.frame, _pointLaxity);
    if (steadyFrame) watchedViewInfo.count++;

    // Threshold met
    if (steadyFrame && (watchedViewInfo.count > kThreshold))
    {
        [timer invalidate];
        [dict removeObjectForKey:key];
        [watchedViewInfo.delegate viewDidPause:view];
        return;
    }

    if (steadyFrame) return;

    // Replace frame with new frame
    watchedViewInfo.frame = view.frame;
    watchedViewInfo.count = 0;
}

- (void) startWatchingView: (UIView *) view
withDelegate: (id <ViewWatcherDelegate>) delegate
{
    NSNumber *key = @(int)view;
    WatchedViewInfo *watchedViewInfo = [[WatchedViewInfo alloc] init];
    watchedViewInfo.frame = view.frame;
    watchedViewInfo.count = 1;
    watchedViewInfo.delegate = delegate;
    dict[key] = watchedViewInfo;

    [NSTimer scheduledTimerWithTimeInterval:0.03 target:self
        selector:@selector(checkInOnView:) userInfo:view repeats:YES];
}
@end

```

---

## Creating a Frame-Watching Dynamic Behavior

While the solution in Listing 6-1 provides general view oversight, you can implement the frame checker in a much more intriguing form: as the custom dynamic behavior you see in Listing 6-2. This approach that adapts Listing 6-1 to a new form requires just a couple adjustments to work as a behavior:

- The behavior from the `checkInView:` method is now implemented in the behavior's `action` property. This block is called directly by the animator, using its own timing system, so the threshold is slightly higher in this implementation than in Listing 6-1.
- Instead of calling back to a delegate, this approach unloads both the watcher and the client behavior directly in the `action` block. This may be problematic if the behavior controls additional items, but for `snap` behaviors and their single items, it is a pretty safe approach.

To enable the watcher, you must add it to the animator as a separate behavior. Here's how you allocate it and initialize it with a client view and an affected behavior:

```
UISnapBehavior *snapBehavior = [[UISnapBehavior alloc]
    initWithItem:testView snapToPoint:p];
[self.animator addBehavior:snapBehavior];
WatcherBehavior *watcher = [[WatcherBehavior alloc]
    initWithView:testView behavior:snapBehavior];
[self.animator addBehavior:watcher];
```

Once it is added, it works just like Listing 6-1, iteratively checking the view's frame to wait for a steady state.

### Listing 6-2 Watching Views with a Dynamic Behavior

---

```
// Create custom frame watcher
@interface WatcherBehavior : UIDynamicBehavior
- (instancetype) initWithView: (UIView *) view
    behavior: (UIDynamicBehavior *) behavior;
@property (nonatomic) CGFloat pointLaxity; // defaults to 10
@end

// Store the view, its most recent frame, and a count
@interface WatcherBehavior ()
@property (nonatomic) UIView *view;
@property (nonatomic) CGRect mostRecentFrame;
@property (nonatomic) NSInteger count;
@property (nonatomic) UIDynamicBehavior *customBehavior;
@end
```

```

@implementation WatcherBehavior
- (instancetype) initWithView: (UIView *) view
  behavior: (UIDynamicBehavior *) behavior
{
    if (!(self = [super init])) return self;

    // Initialize instance
    _view = view;
    _mostRecentFrame = _view.frame;
    _count = 0;
    _pointLaxity = 10;
    _customBehavior = behavior;

    // Create custom action for the behavior
    __weak typeof(self) weakSelf = self;
    self.action = ^{
        __strong typeof(self) strongSelf = weakSelf;
        UIView *view = strongSelf.view;

        CGRect currentFrame = view.frame;
        CGRect recentFrame = strongSelf.mostRecentFrame;
        BOOL steadyFrame = CompareFrames(currentFrame,
            recentFrame, strongSelf.pointLaxity);
        if (steadyFrame) strongSelf.count++;

        NSInteger kThreshold = 5;
        if (steadyFrame && (strongSelf.count > kThreshold))
        {
            [strongSelf.dynamicAnimator
                removeBehavior:strongSelf.customBehavior];
            [strongSelf.dynamicAnimator removeBehavior:strongSelf];
            return;
        }

        if (!steadyFrame)
        {
            strongSelf.mostRecentFrame = currentFrame;
            strongSelf.count = 0;
        }
    };

    return self;
}
@end

```

---

## Implementing Snap Zones

One of my favorite dynamic animator tricks involves creating snap zones—areas of your interface that pull in dragged items once they overlap a particular region. This approach allows you to collect items into well-managed zones and offer a pleasing “snap-into-place” animation. In the general form shown in Listing 6-3, there’s no further test beyond whether a dragged view has strayed into a zone. However, you might want to expand the approach to limit blue items to blue zones or red items to red zones, and so forth.

Listing 6-3 assumes that users will have access to multiple zones and even that a view might move from one zone directly to another. It uses a tagging scheme to keep track of this potential reparenting. A free view has no current parent and can move freely about. When a free view overlaps a snap zone, however, it suspends dragging by disabling the view’s gesture recognizer and adds a snap-to-parent behavior. The view slides into place into its new parent. Once it arrives, as the dynamic animator pauses, the recognizer is re-enabled.

Allowing a view to escape from its new parent’s bounds is the tricky bit—and the motivating reason for the view tagging. You do not want a view to recapture its child unless the dragging gesture has ended, which is why this method keeps track of the gesture state. With new parents, however, the snap behavior is added (and the gesture is suspended) as soon as a view strays over the line. Balancing the escapes and the captures ensures that the user experience is snappy and responsive and does not thwart the user’s desires to remove a view from a parent.

---

### Listing 6-3 Handling Multiple Snap Zones

```
- (void) draggableViewDidMove: (NSNotification *) note
{
    // Check for view participation
    UIView *draggedView = note.object;
    UIView *nca = [draggedView nearestCommonAncestorWithView:
        _animator.referenceView];
    if (!nca) return;

    // Retrieve state
    UIGestureRecognizer *recognizer = (UIGestureRecognizer *)
        draggedView.gestureRecognizers.lastObject;
    UIGestureRecognizerState state = [recognizer state];

    // View frame and current attachment
    CGRect draggedFrame = draggedView.frame;
    BOOL free = draggedView.tag == 0;

    for (UIView *dropZone in _dropZones)
    {
        // Make sure all drop zones are views
```

```

if (![dropZone isKindOfClass:[UIView class]])
    continue;

// Overlap?
CGRect dropFrame = dropZone.frame;
BOOL overlap = CGRectIntersectsRect(draggedFrame, dropFrame);

// Free moving
if (!overlap && free)
{
    continue;
}

// Newly captured
if (overlap && free)
{
    if (suspendedRecognizer)
    {
        NSLog(@"Error: attempting to suspend second recognizer");
        break;
    }

    // New parent.
    // CAPTURED is an integer offset for tagging
    suspendedRecognizer = recognizer;
    suspendedRecognizer.enabled = NO; // stop!
    draggedView.tag = CAPTURED + dropZone.tag; // mark as captured
    UISnapBehavior *behavior = [[UISnapBehavior alloc]
        initWithItem:draggedView
        snapToPoint:RectGetCenter(dropFrame)];
    [_animator addBehavior:behavior];
    break;
}

// Is this the current parent drop zone?
BOOL isParent = (dropZone.tag + CAPTURED == draggedView.tag);

// Current parent
if (overlap && isParent)
{
    switch (state)
    {
        case UIGestureRecognizerStateEnded:
        {
            // Recapture
            UISnapBehavior *behavior = [[UISnapBehavior alloc]
                initWithItem:draggedView

```

```

        snapToPoint:RectGetCenter(dropFrame)];
        [_animator addBehavior:behavior];
        break;
    }
    default:
    {
        // Still captured but no op
        break;
    }
}
break;
}

// New parent
if (overlap)
{
    suspendedRecognizer = recognizer;
    suspendedRecognizer.enabled = NO; // stop!
    draggedView.tag = CAPTURED + dropZone.tag;
    UISnapBehavior *behavior = [[UISnapBehavior alloc]
        initWithItem:draggedView
        snapToPoint:RectGetCenter(dropFrame)];
    [_animator addBehavior:behavior];
    break;
}
}
}
}

```

---

## Leveraging Real-World Physics

The built-in gravity dynamic animator consists of a downward force. You can adjust the force's vector to point gravity in other directions, but it's a static system. You can, however, integrate the gravity behavior with Core Motion to produce a much more satisfying effect. Apple's Core Motion framework enables your apps to receive motion-based data from device hardware, including the onboard accelerometer and gyroscope. The framework converts motion data into a form of input that your device can use to coordinate application changes with the way your user's device is held and moved over time.

Listing 6-4 builds a motion manager singleton. It uses Core Motion to listen for accelerometer updates, and when it receives them, it calculates a working vector and posts notifications with that information. You may be curious about that extra 0.5 added to the y component; it produces a more natural vector for holding a device in your hand.

## Listing 6-4 Broadcasting Motion Updates

---

```

#define VALUE(struct) ({ __typeof__(struct) __struct = struct; \
    [NSValue valueWithBytes:&__struct \
    objcType:@encode(__typeof__(__struct))]; })

NSString *const MotionManagerUpdate = @"MotionManagerUpdate";
NSString *const MotionVectorKey = @"MotionVectorKey";

static MotionManager *sharedInstance = nil;

@interface MotionManager ()
@property (nonatomic, strong) CMMotionManager *motionManager;
@end

@implementation MotionManager
+ (instancetype) sharedInstance
{
    if (!sharedInstance)
        sharedInstance = [[self alloc] init];

    return sharedInstance;
}

- (void) shutDownMotionManager
{
    NSLog(@"Shutting down motion manager");
    [_motionManager stopAccelerometerUpdates];
    _motionManager = nil;
}

- (void) establishMotionManager
{
    if (!_motionManager)
        [self shutDownMotionManager];

    // Establish the motion manager
    NSLog(@"Establishing motion manager");
    _motionManager = [[CMMotionManager alloc] init];
}

- (void) startMotionUpdates
{
    if (!_motionManager)
        [self establishMotionManager];
}

```

```

if (_motionManager.accelerometerAvailable)
    [_motionManager
     startAccelerometerUpdatesToQueue:[[NSOperationQueue alloc] init]
     withHandler:^(CMAccelerometerData *data, NSError *error)
     {
         CGVector vector = CGVectorMake(data.acceleration.x, -
                                         (data.acceleration.y + 0.5));
         NSDictionary *dict = @{@"MotionVectorKey":VALUE(vector)};
         [[NSNotificationCenter defaultCenter]
          postNotificationName:MotionManagerUpdate
          object:self userInfo:dict];
     }];
}
@end

```

---

## Connecting a Gravity Behavior to Device Acceleration

On the other end of things, create an observer for motion updates. The following snippet builds a gravity behavior and updates its `gravityDirection` property whenever the physical device moves:

```

// Build device gravity behavior
_deviceGravityBehavior = [[UIGravityBehavior alloc] initWithItems:@[]];

// Add observer
__weak typeof(self) weakSelf = self;
id observer = [[NSNotificationCenter defaultCenter]
               addObserverForName:MotionManagerUpdate object:nil
               queue:[NSOperationQueue mainQueue]
               usingBlock:^(NSNotification *note) {
    __strong typeof(self) strongSelf = weakSelf;

    // Retrieve vector
    NSDictionary *dict = note.userInfo;
    NSValue *value = dict[MotionVectorKey];
    CGVector vector;
    [value getValue:&vector];

    // Set gravity direction to that vector
    strongSelf.deviceGravityBehavior.gravityDirection = vector;
}];
[_observers addObject:observer];

```

As the `gravityDirection` property updates, any child items (none are yet added in this code) respond to the new force, moving in the appropriate direction.



## Creating Boundaries

One of the biggest annoyances about gravity is that it never stops. When you apply a gravity behavior to a view, it will accelerate off the screen and keep going on essentially forever. Bye-bye, view. To avoid this, add a boundary. The `UICollisionBehavior` has a built-in solution for enclosures. Enable its `translatesReferenceBoundsIntoBoundary` property, and it sets the animator's reference view as a default boundary for its items:

```
_boundaryBehavior = [[UICollisionBehavior alloc] initWithItems:@[]];
_boundaryBehavior.translatesReferenceBoundsIntoBoundary = YES;
```

When building behaviors like this, it's important to spot-check your key steps. Remember that animators own behaviors, and behaviors own items, which are typically views. Don't forget to add items to each behavior that affects them. For this example of device-based gravity, add views to both the gravity behavior *and* the boundary behavior. Also, make sure to add the behaviors to the animator. Always make sure your views fall fully within the collision boundaries *before* adding a behavior to the animator. Views that cross the boundary or lie outside the boundary will not respond properly to the “keep items within the reference bounds” rule.

Collision behaviors also enable views to bounce off each other. By default, any view added to a collision behavior will participate not only in view-to-boundary collisions but also in view-to-view collisions. If for any reason you don't want this to happen, you can update the behavior's `collisionMode` property to exclude item-to-item collisions:

```
_boundaryBehavior = [[UICollisionBehavior alloc] initWithItems:@[]];
_boundaryBehavior.translatesReferenceBoundsIntoBoundary = YES;
_boundaryBehavior.collisionMode = UICollisionBehaviorModeBoundaries;
```

## Enhancing View Dynamics

Dynamic item behaviors customize view traits—making them springier or duller, heavier or lighter, smoother or stickier, and so forth. Unlike the other built-in behaviors, dynamic item behaviors focus less on external forces and more on individual view properties. For example, say you have views that you want to add bounce to. Create a dynamic item behavior and adjust its `elasticity` property:

```
_elasticityBehavior = [[UIDynamicItemBehavior alloc] initWithItems:items];
_elasticityBehavior.elasticity = 0.8; // Higher values are more elastic
[_animator addBehavior:_elasticityBehavior];
```

Dynamic item properties include the following:

- **Rotation (`allowsRotation`)**—This property allows or disallows view rotation as the view participates in the dynamic system. When it is enabled (the default), views may rotate as they collide with other items.
- **Angular resistance (`angularResistance`)**—Angular resistance creates a damping effect on rotation. As the value of this property rises from 0 to 1, views stop tumbling more quickly.

- **Resistance (`resistance`)**—Also ranging from 0 to 1, the linear resistance property is analogous to angular resistance. Instead of damping rotation, it limits linear velocity. You can think of this as a natural viscosity in the view’s “atmosphere,” where 0 is close to operating in a vacuum, and 1 is like moving through thick syrup.
- **Density (`density`)**—An item’s `density` property controls its virtual mass. Any dynamic behavior that uses mass as a factor (such as collisions and friction) responds to the current value of this property, which defaults to 1. Because items have density, a view that’s twice the size of another along each dimension will contribute four times the effective mass when set to the same density or equal mass when set to a quarter of the density.
- **Elasticity (`elasticity`)**—Ranging from 0 to 1, this property establishes how elastic a view’s collisions will be. At 0, collisions are lifeless, with no bounce at all. A setting of 1 creates completely elastic collisions with wildly bouncy items.
- **Friction (`friction`)**—The `friction` property creates linear resistance, producing a kind of “stickiness” for when items slide across each other. As the `friction` setting rises from 0 (friction-free) to 1 (the strongest possible friction), views tend to disperse energy on contact and connect more strongly to each other and to boundaries.

## Custom Behaviors

Apple provides a library of default behaviors that includes forces (attachments, collisions, gravity, pushes, and snaps) and “dynamic items” that describe how a physics body reacts to forces. You can also create your own behaviors that operate with dynamic animators. This section discusses how you might do this in your own projects.

You choose from two approaches when creating custom dynamic behaviors. First, you can hook your changes onto an existing behavior and transform its updates to some new style. That’s the approach Apple uses in the Dynamic Catalog example that converts an attachment point animator to a boundary animation. It transforms an elastic attachment to view morphing. Second, you can create a new behavior and establish your own rules for coalescing its results over time. This approach enables you create any kind of behavior you can imagine, as long as you express it with regard to the animator’s timeline. Both have advantages and drawbacks.

## Creating Custom Dynamic Items

Before jumping into custom behaviors, you need to understand dynamic items more fully. Dynamic items are the focal point of the dynamic animation process. Until this point, I have used views as dynamic items—after all, they provide the `bounds`, `center`, and `transform` properties required to act in this role—but dynamic items are not necessarily views. They are merely objects that conform to the `UIDynamicItem` protocol. This protocol ensures that these properties are available from conforming objects. Because of this abstraction, you can dynamically animate custom objects as easily as you animate views.

Consider the following class. It consists of nothing more than three properties, ensuring that it conforms to the `UIDynamicItem` protocol:

```
@interface CustomDynamicItem : NSObject <UIDynamicItem>
@property (nonatomic) CGRect bounds;
@property (nonatomic) CGPoint center;
@property (nonatomic) CGAffineTransform transform;
@end
@implementation CustomDynamicItem
@end
```

After adding this class to your project, you can instantiate and set properties however you like. For example, you might use the following lines of code to create a new custom item:

```
item = [[CustomDynamicItem alloc] init];
item.bounds = CGRectMake(0, 0, 100, 100);
item.center = CGPointMake(50, 50);
item.transform = CGAffineTransformIdentity;
```

Once you have established a dynamic item, you may pass it to a behavior and add that behavior to an animator, just as you would with a view:

```
animator = [[UIDynamicAnimator alloc] init];
UIPushBehavior *push = [[UIPushBehavior alloc]
initWithItems:@[item] mode:UIPushBehaviorModeContinuous];
push.angle = M_PI_4;
push.magnitude = 1.0;
[animator addBehavior:push];
push.active = YES;
```

What happens next, however, may surprise you. If you monitor the item, you'll find that its center property updates, but its bounds and transform remain untouched:

```
2014-12-01 13:33:08.177 Hello World[55151:60b] Bounds: [0, 0, 100, 100], Center:
(86 86), Transform: Theta: {0.000000 radians, 0.000000°} Scale: {1.000000,
1.000000} Translation: {0.000000, 0.000000}
2014-12-01 13:33:09.176 Hello World[55151:60b] Bounds: [0, 0, 100, 100], Center:
(188 188), Transform: Theta: {0.000000 radians, 0.000000°} Scale: {1.000000,
1.000000} Translation: {0.000000, 0.000000}
2014-12-01 13:33:10.175 Hello World[55151:60b] Bounds: [0, 0, 100, 100], Center:
(351 351), Transform: Theta: {0.000000 radians, 0.000000°} Scale: {1.000000,
1.000000} Translation: {0.000000, 0.000000}
2014-12-01 13:33:11.176 Hello World[55151:60b] Bounds: [0, 0, 100, 100], Center:
(568 568), Transform: Theta: {0.000000 radians, 0.000000°} Scale: {1.000000,
1.000000} Translation: {0.000000, 0.000000}
```

This curious state of affair happens because the dynamic animator remains completely agnostic as to the kind of underlying object it serves. This abstract `CustomDynamicItem` class provides no links between its center property and its bounds property the way a view would. If you

want these items to update synchronously, you must add corresponding methods. For example, you might implement a solution like this:

```
- (void) setCenter:(CGPoint)center
{
    _center = center;
    _bounds = RectAroundCenter(_center, _bounds.size);
}

- (void) setBounds:(CGRect)bounds
{
    _bounds = bounds;
    _center = RectGetCenter(bounds);
}
```

I'm not going to present a full implementation that allows the item to respond to transform changes—for two reasons. First, in real life, you almost never want to create custom items in this fashion. Second, when you actually do need this, you'll be far better off using an actual view as an underlying model. Allowing a `UIView` instance to do the math for you will save you a lot of grief, especially since you're trying to emulate a view in the first place.

#### Note

I am unaware of any workaround that will allow you to create non-rectangular dynamic items at this time.

## Subverting Dynamic Behaviors

As mentioned earlier, Apple created a Dynamic Catalog example that redirects the results of an attachment behavior to create a bounds animation. It accomplishes this by building an abstract dynamic item class. This class redirects all changes applied to the item's center to a client view's width and height. This means that while the physics engine thinks it's bouncing around a view in space, the actual expressions of those dynamics are producing bounds shifts. The following code performs this mapping:

```
// Map bounds to center
- (CGPoint)center
{
    return CGPointMake(_item.bounds.size.width, _item.bounds.size.height);
}

// Map center to bounds
- (void)setCenter:(CGPoint)center
{
    _item.bounds = CGRectMake(0, 0, center.x, center.y);
}
```

I dislike this approach for the following reasons:

- The animator isn't animating the view's center at the point you think it is. You must establish an anchor point within the view's own coordinate system so the center values make any sense to use.
- All you're getting back from this exercise is a damped sinusoid, as in Listing 5-2. Just use a damped sinusoid to begin with, and you'll avoid any unintentional side effects.
- How often are you just sitting around in your development job, thinking, "Hey, I'll just take the output of a physics emulation system and map its results into another dimension so I can create an overly complex sample application that has no general reuse value?" Right, me either.

## Better Custom Dynamic Behaviors

As you read this section, remember that *better* is a relative term. The biggest problem when it comes to custom dynamic behaviors is that Apple has not released a public API that keeps a completely custom item animating until it reaches a coalesced state. This means that while Listing 6-5 offers a more satisfying solution than Apple's solution, it's still a hack.

The main reason for this is that while built-in dynamic behaviors can tell the animator "Hey, I'm done now" by using private APIs that allow the animator to stop, you and I cannot tickle the animator to make sure it keeps on ticking. Enter this class's "clock mandate." It's a gravity behavior added to the `ResizableDynamicBehavior` as a child.

The gravity behavior works on an invisible view, which is itself added to the animated view so that it belongs to the right hierarchy. (This is an important step so you don't generate exceptions.) Once it is added, the gravity behavior works forever. When you're ready for the dynamic behavior to end, simply remove it from its parent. Without this extra trick, the animation ends on its own about a half second after you start it.

I developed the damped equation used in the `action` block after playing with graphing. As Figure 6-1 shows, I was looking for a curve that ended after about one and a half cycles. You cannot depend on the animator's elapsed time, which doesn't reset between behaviors. To power my curve, I made sure to create a clock for each behavior and use that in the action block.



Figure 6-1 A fast-decaying sin curve provides a nice match to the view animation.

A few final notes on this one:

- You need to attach some sort of built-in animator like gravity, or your `action` property will not be called. Gravity offers the simple advantage of never ending.
- You must establish the `bounds` as is done here, or your view immediately collapses to a 0 size.
- The `identity` transform in the last step isn't strictly necessary, but I wanted to ensure that I cleaned up after myself as carefully as possible.
- To slow down the effect, reduce the number of degrees traveled per second. In this case, it goes  $2 * \pi$  every second.
- To increase or decrease the animation magnitude, adjust the multiplier. Here it is  $1 + 0.5 * \textit{the scale}$ . The 1 is the identity scale, and you should keep it as is. Tweak the 0.5 value up to expand the scaling or down to diminish it.
- You can bring the animation to coalescence faster or slower by adjusting the final multiplier in the exponentiation. Here it is set to 2.0, which produces fairly rapid damping. Higher values produce stronger damping; lower values allow the animation to continue longer.

#### Listing 6-5 Extending a Custom Behavior's Lifetime

---

```
@interface ResizableDynamicBehavior ()
@property (nonatomic, strong) UIView *view;
@property (nonatomic) NSDate *startingTime;
@property (nonatomic) CGRect frame;
@property (nonatomic) UIGravityBehavior *clockMandate;
@property (nonatomic) UIView *fakeView;
@end

@implementation ResizableDynamicBehavior
- (instancetype) initWithView: (UIView *) view
{
    if (!view) return nil;
    if (!(self = [super init])) return self;
    _view = view;
    _frame = view.frame;

    // Establish a falling view to keep the timer going
    _fakeView = [[UIView alloc] initWithFrame:CGRectMake(0, 0, 10, 10)];
    [view addSubview: _fakeView];
    _clockMandate = [[UIGravityBehavior alloc] initWithItems:@[_fakeView]];
    [self addChildBehavior:_clockMandate];

    // The action block is called at every animation cycle
    __weak typeof(self) weakSelf = self;
```

```

self.action = ^{
    __strong typeof(self) strongSelf = weakSelf;

    // Start or update the clock
    if (!strongSelf.startingTime)
        strongSelf.startingTime = [NSDate date];
    CGFloat time = [[NSDate date]
        timeIntervalSinceDate:strongSelf.startingTime];

    // Calculate the current change
    CGFloat scale = 1 + 0.5 * sin(time * M_PI * 2) *
        exp(-1.0 * time * 2.0);

    // Apply the bounds and transform
    CGAffineTransform transform =
        CGAffineTransformMakeScale(scale, scale);
    strongSelf.view.bounds = (CGRect){.size = strongSelf.frame.size};
    strongSelf.view.transform = transform;
    [strongSelf.dynamicAnimator
        updateItemUsingCurrentState:strongSelf.view];

    // Stop after 3 * Pi
    if (time > 1.5)
    {
        [strongSelf removeChildBehavior:strongSelf.clockMandate];
        [strongSelf.fakeView removeFromSuperview];
        strongSelf.view.transform = CGAffineTransformIdentity;
    }
};

return self;
}
@end

```

---

## Custom Secondary Behaviors

You do far less work when your custom behavior acts side-by-side with a known system-supplied one. You don't have to establish an overall animation end point, the way Listing 6-5 does. Consider Listing 6-6, which creates a behavior that modifies a view transformation over time. This class is duration agnostic. Its only customizable feature is an acceleration property, which establishes how fast the changes accelerate to an end point.

With custom behaviors, it's really important that you not tie yourself to a set timeline. While a system-supplied snap behavior might end after 80 updates or so, you should never rely on knowing that information in advance. In contrast, with keyframes, you are free to interpolate a function over time. With dynamics, you establish a system that *coalesces*, reaching a natural stopping point on its own.

For example, Listing 6-6 uses velocity and acceleration to drive its changes from 0% to 100%, applying an easing function to that transit to produce a smooth animated result. At no point does the behavior reference elapsed time. Instead, all updates are driven by the dynamic animation’s heartbeat and applied whenever the `action` method is called.

Figure 6-2 shows the animation in action, with the two behaviors acting in parallel. As the views draw near to their snap points, they apply the requested transforms to finish with a coordinated pile of views.



Figure 6-2 In this animation, a snap behavior draws the views together, and a transformation behavior angles each item to form a tight nest.

#### Listing 6-6 Building a Transform-Updating Behavior

```
- (instancetype) initWithItem: (id <UIDynamicItem>) item
    transform: (CGAffineTransform) transform;
{
    if (!(self = [super init])) return self;

    // Store the passed information
    _item = item;
    _originalTransform = item.transform;
    _targetTransform = transform;

    // Initialize velocity and acceleration
    _velocity = 0;
    _acceleration = 0.0025;

    // The weak and strong workarounds used here avoid retain cycles
    // when using blocks.
    ESTABLISH_WEAK_SELF;
    self.action = ^(){
        ESTABLISH_STRONG_SELF;
```



```

// Pull out the original and destination transforms
CGAffineTransform t1 = strongSelf.originalTransform;
CGAffineTransform t2 = strongSelf.targetTransform;

// Original
CGFloat xScale1 = sqrt(t1.a * t1.a + t1.c * t1.c);
CGFloat yScale1 = sqrt(t1.b * t1.b + t1.d * t1.d);
CGFloat rotation1 = atan2f(t1.b, t1.a);

// Target
CGFloat xScale2 = sqrt(t2.a * t2.a + t2.c * t2.c);
CGFloat yScale2 = sqrt(t2.b * t2.b + t2.d * t2.d);
CGFloat rotation2 = atan2f(t2.b, t2.a);

// Calculate the animation acceleration progress
strongSelf.velocity = velocity + strongSelf.acceleration;
strongSelf.percent = strongSelf.percent + strongSelf.velocity;
CGFloat percent = MIN(1.0, MAX(strongSelf.percent, 0.0));
percent = EaseOut(percent, 3);

// Calculated items
CGFloat targetTx = Tween(t1.tx, t2.tx, percent);
CGFloat targetTy = Tween(t1.ty, t2.ty, percent);
CGFloat targetXScale = Tween(xScale1, xScale2, percent);
CGFloat targetYScale = Tween(yScale1, yScale2, percent);
CGFloat targetRotation = Tween(rotation1, rotation2, percent);

// Create transforms
CGAffineTransform scaleTransform =
    CGAffineTransformMakeScale(targetXScale, targetYScale);
CGAffineTransform rotateTransform =
    CGAffineTransformMakeRotation(targetRotation);
CGAffineTransform translateTransform =
    CGAffineTransformMakeTranslation(targetTx, targetTy);

// Combine and apply transforms
CGAffineTransform t = CGAffineTransformIdentity;
t = CGAffineTransformConcat(t, rotateTransform);
t = CGAffineTransformConcat(t, scaleTransform);
t = CGAffineTransformConcat(t, translateTransform);
strongSelf.item.transform = t;
};

return self;
}

```

---

## Collection Views and Dynamic Animators

Leveraging the power of dynamic animators in collection views is possible courtesy of a few UIKit extensions. Dynamic animators add liveliness to your presentations during scrolling and when views enter and leave the system. The dynamic behavior set is identical to that used for normal view animation, but the collection view approach requires a bit more overhead and bookkeeping as views may keep appearing and disappearing during scrolls.

The core of the dynamic animator system is the `UIDynamicItem` protocol. The `UICollectionViewLayoutAttributes` class, which represents items in the collection view, conforms to this protocol. Each instance provides the required `bounds`, `center`, and `transform` properties you need to work with dynamic animators. So although you don't work directly with views, you're still well set to introduce dynamics.

### Custom Flow Layouts

The key to using dynamic animation classes with collection views is to build your own custom `UICollectionViewFlowLayout` subclass. Flow layouts create organized presentations in your application. Their properties and instance methods specify how the flow sets itself up to place items onscreen. In the most basic form, the layout properties provide you with a geometric vocabulary, where you talk about row spacing, indentation, and item-to-item margins. With custom subclasses, you can extend the class to produce eye-catching and nuanced results.

To support dynamic animation, your custom class must coordinate with an animator instance. You typically set it up in your flow layout initializer by using the `UIDynamicAnimator` collection view-specific initializer. This prepares the animator for use with your collection view and enables it to take control of reporting item attributes on your behalf. As you'll see, the dynamic animator takes charge of many methods you normally would have to implement by hand.

The following `init` method allocates an animator and adds a custom “spinner” behavior. The `UIDynamicItemBehavior` class enables you to add angular velocity to views, creating a spinning effect, which you see in action in Figure 6-3:

```
- (instancetype) initWithItemSize: (CGSize) size
{
    if (!(self = [super init])) return self;
    _animator = [[UIDynamicAnimator alloc]
                 initWithCollectionViewLayout:self];
    _spinner = [[UIDynamicItemBehavior alloc] init];
    _spinner.allowsRotation = YES;
    [_animator addBehavior:_spinner];
    self.scrollDirection = UICollectionViewScrollDirectionHorizontal;
    self.itemSize = size;
    return self;
}
```

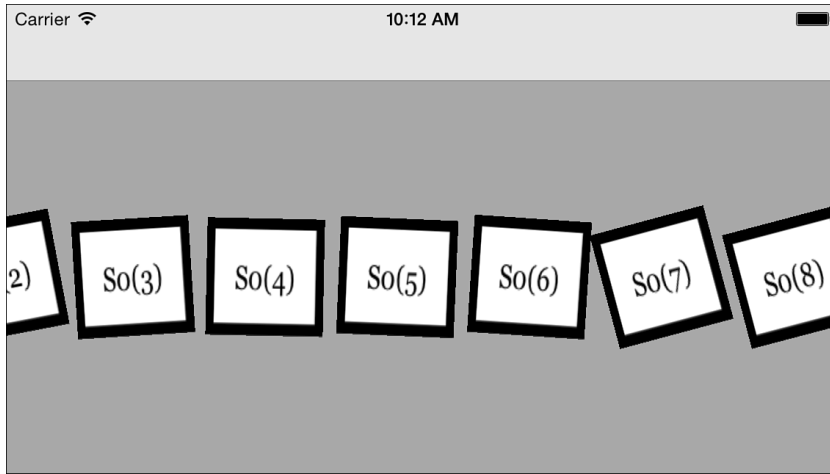


Figure 6-3 Allowing dynamic items to rotate enables you to add angular velocities, causing views to tilt and spin.

## Returning Layout Attributes

As mentioned earlier, a dynamic animator can take charge of reporting layout attributes. The following methods do all the work, redirecting the normal geometry through the animator:

```
- (NSArray *)layoutAttributesForElementsInRect: (CGRect) rect
{
    return [_animator itemsInRect:rect];
}

- (UICollectionViewLayoutAttributes *)layoutAttributesForItemAtIndexPath:
(NSIndexPath *)indexPath
{
    UICollectionViewLayoutAttributes *dynamicLayoutAttributes =
        [_animator layoutAttributesForCellAtIndexPath:indexPath];

    // Check whether the attributes were properly generated
    return dynamicLayoutAttributes ?
        [_animator layoutAttributesForCellAtIndexPath:indexPath] :
        [super layoutAttributesForItemAtIndexPath:indexPath];
}

- (BOOL)shouldInvalidateLayoutForBoundsChange: (CGRect) newBounds
{
    return YES;
}
```

For safety, the second method checks that the animator properly reports attributes. If it fails, the method falls back to the default implementation.

## Updating Behaviors

With collection views, the hardest work involves coordinating items with behaviors. Although you can allow behaviors to control items that are no longer onscreen, as a general rule, you probably want to weed out any items that have left the display and add any items that have moved into place. Listing 6-7 demonstrates this approach.

You start by calculating the onscreen rectangle and request the array of items that appear in that space. Use each item's index path to compare it to items owned by a behavior. If a behavior item does not appear in the onscreen list, remove it. If an onscreen item isn't yet owned by the behavior, add it.

Although you mostly just add physics behaviors and let them run, I decided to tie Listing 6-7 to user interaction. The speed and direction of the backing scroll view add "impulses" to each view, nudging their angular velocity in one direction or the other.

---

### Listing 6-7 Adding Physics-Based Animation to Collection Views

```
// Scroll view delegate method establishes the current speed
- (void)scrollViewDidScroll:(UIScrollView *)scrollView
{
    scrollSpeed = scrollView.contentOffset.x - previousScrollViewXOffset;
    previousScrollViewXOffset = scrollView.contentOffset.x;
}

// Prepare the flow layout
- (void) prepareLayout
{
    [super prepareLayout];

    // The collection view isn't established in init, catch it here.
    if (!setupDelegate)
    {
        setupDelegate = YES;
        self.collectionView.delegate = self;
    }

    // Retrieve onscreen items
    CGRect currentRect = self.collectionView.bounds;
    currentRect.size = self.collectionView.frame.size;
    NSArray *items = [super layoutAttributesForElementsInRect:currentRect];

    // Clean up any item that's now offscreen
    NSArray *itemPaths = [items valueForKey:@"indexPath"];
```

```

for (UICollectionViewLayoutAttributes *item in _spinner.items)
{
    if (![itemPaths containsObject:item.indexPath])
        [_spinner removeItem:item];
}

// Add all onscreen items
NSArray *spinnerPaths = [_spinner.items valueForKey:@"indexPath"];
for (UICollectionViewLayoutAttributes *item in items)
{
    if (![spinnerPaths containsObject:item.indexPath])
        [_spinner addItem:item];
}

// Add impulses
CGFloat impulse = (scrollSpeed /
    self.collectionView.frame.size.width) * M_PI_4 / 4;
for (UICollectionViewLayoutAttributes *item in _spinner.items)
{
    CGAffineTransform t = item.transform;
    CGFloat rotation = atan2f(t.b, t.a);
    if (fabs(rotation) > M_PI / 32) impulse = - rotation * 0.01;
    [_spinner addAngularVelocity:impulse forItem:item];
}
}

```

---

## Building a Dynamic Alert View

I stumbled across developer Victor Baro's dynamic iOS "jelly view" (<http://victorbaro.com/2014/07/vbfjellyview-tutorial/>), which instantly caught my eye. This clever hack uses dynamic attachment behaviors that wiggle in harmony, enabling you to create views that emulate Jell-O. Although its utility is limited in practical deployment, it provides a superb example of how traditional iOS elements like alerts can be re-imagined using modern APIs. Figure 6-4 shows a jelly view alert in motion, squashing and stretching as it bounces off an invisible center ledge within the main UI.

### Connecting Up the Jelly

The secret to the jelly effect lies in an underlying 3×3 grid of tiny views, all attached to each other and to the main view's center using `UIAttachmentBehavior` instances (see Figure 6-5). These views and their attachments create a semi-rigid backbone that provides the view physics. Listing 6-8 details how these views and attachments are made and installed. The elasticity of the connections allows the views to move toward and away from each other, creating a deformed skeleton for the view presentation.

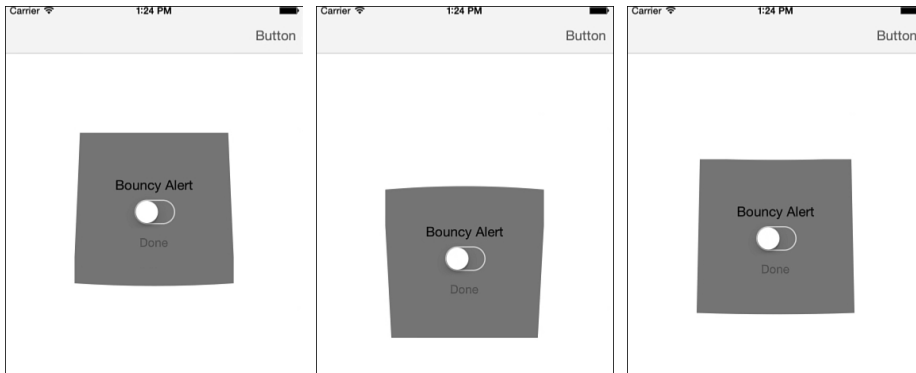


Figure 6-4 This “jelly view” distorts its shape as it uses UIKit dynamics to emulate a view built onto a blob of Jell-O.

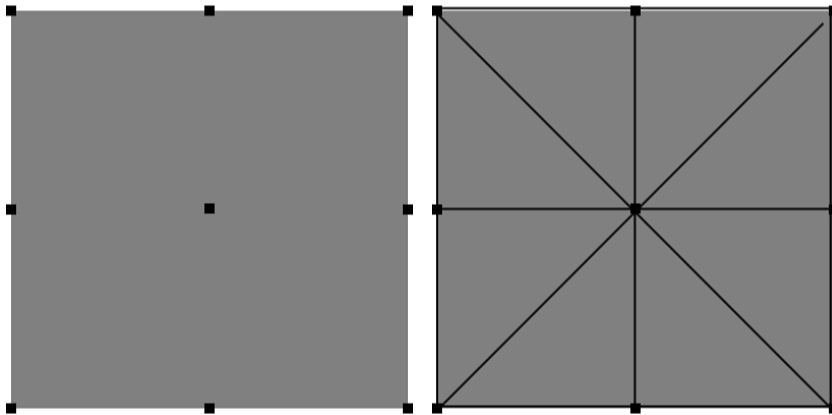


Figure 6-5 The nine connected points form a spring-based skeleton for the Jell-O animation.

#### Listing 6-8 Establishing Jelly Dynamics

```
- (void) establishDynamics : (UIDynamicAnimator *) animator
{
    if (animator) _animator = animator;

    // Create baseline dynamics for primary view
    UIDynamicItemBehavior *dynamic =
        [[UIDynamicItemBehavior alloc] initWithItems:@[self]];
    dynamic.allowsRotation = NO;
    dynamic.elasticity = _elasticity / 2;
}
```

```

dynamic.density = _density;
dynamic.resistance = 0.9;
[_animator addBehavior:dynamic];

// Establish jelly grid
for (int i = 0; i < 9; i++)
{
    // Add dynamics
    UIView *view = [self viewWithTag:(i + 1)];
    UIDynamicItemBehavior *behavior =
        [[UIDynamicItemBehavior alloc] initWithItems:@[view]];
    behavior.elasticity = _elasticity * 2;
    behavior.density = _density;
    behavior.resistance = 0.2;
    [_animator addBehavior:behavior];

    // Attach each grid view to main jelly view center
    UIAttachmentBehavior *attachment =
        [[UIAttachmentBehavior alloc] initWithItem:view attachedToItem:self];
    attachment.damping = _damping;
    attachment.frequency = _frequency;
    [_animator addBehavior:attachment];

    // Attach views to each other
    if ((i + 1) != 5) // skip center
    {
        NSInteger xTag = [@[@(1), @(2), @(5), @(0), @(4), @(8),
            @(3), @(6), @(7)] [i] integerValue] + 1;
        UIView *nextView = [self viewWithTag:xTag];
        attachment = [[UIAttachmentBehavior alloc]
            initWithItem:view attachedToItem:nextView];
        attachment.damping = _damping;
        attachment.frequency = _frequency;
        [_animator addBehavior:attachment];
    }
}
}

```

---

## Drawing the View

`UIView` instances are rectangular, not gelatinous. To create a view that *looks* as if it deforms, even if the underlying view remains rectangular, you must hide each of the underlying views from Figure 6-5 and draw a unified shape that represents the adjusted skeleton. You do this by observing changes on each of the component views. When they move, which you detect by observing the `center` property, the jelly view needs a redraw. Listing 6-9 shows the redrawing code.

This code works by building a Bezier path from corner point to corner point to corner point. It uses the center views along each edge as control points to produce its inflected curves. Once the curved path is calculated, a standard `drawRect:` method fills in the curve to present the view.

#### Listing 6-9 Drawing the Jelly View

---

```

- (void) observeValueForKeyPath:(NSString *)keyPath
    ofObject:(id)object
    change:(NSDictionary *)change
    context:(void *)context
{
    // Update whenever a child view center changes
    [self setNeedsDisplay];
}

- (UIBezierPath *) cornerCurve
{
    // Build a series of quad curve elements from point to point to point
    UIBezierPath *path = [UIBezierPath bezierPath];
    UIView *v0 = [self viewWithTag:1];
    [path moveToPoint:v0.center];

    // The corner points are view destinations.
    // The centers act as control points.
    NSArray *destinations = @[@(2), @(8), @(6), @(0)];
    NSArray *controlPoints = @[@(1), @(5), @(7), @(3)];

    for (int i = 0; i < 4; i++)
    {
        NSInteger dTag = [destinations[i] integerValue] + 1;
        NSInteger cTag = [controlPoints[i] integerValue] + 1;
        UIView *vd = [self viewWithTag:dTag];
        UIView *vc = [self viewWithTag:cTag];
        [path addQuadCurveToPoint:vd.center controlPoint:vc.center];
    }
    return path;
}

- (void) drawRect:(CGRect)rect
{
    // Build the curves and draw the shape
    [_color set];
    [[self cornerCurve] fill];
}

```

---



## Deploying Jelly

While the jelly view is fun to create, deploy with care. Most users have a fixed limit of patience. Any dynamic elements will tend to run longer in presentation and dismissal than standard system-supplied UI elements. They have more complicated visual stories to tell. Because of this, you might need to trade off the cool visual flourishes that excite a developer if you want to put the user experience first. A jelly-based alert may be exciting to develop, but an overly long alert that takes precious seconds to settle may add one-star reviews to your product.

A user will not be able to tell if your app was developed using UIKit, OpenGL, Cocos2D, or SpriteKit. Just because you can now do exciting dynamics in UIKit is not sufficient reason to include those solutions. Your apps must defer to and serve the needs of your users rather than pad your resume and augment your portfolio. Keep this in mind and use dynamic animators sparingly.

## Wrap-up

Here are final points to wrap up what you've read in this chapter:

- Dynamic animators and behaviors are like a UI building toy set. They are enormously fun to work with and produce a really great range of results. I best like interactions that direct the user to natural results like the snap zones shown in Listing 6-3 and ones that provide a user-based experience like the device gravity that coordinates with a motion manager in Listing 6-4.
- Although it's easy to get super-flashy with all the built-in physics, some of the best effects are the subtlest. It's the little flourishes—such as bounces when views enter and leave a screen, or collisions when collection items interact with each other—that produce the best results.
- Layering and coordinating behaviors can stylize and customize the otherwise default animations. The scaling, stacking, and rotation I added for Figure 6-2 help send the message that these items have been “put away.”
- Some things you might not initially think of as behaviors can turn out to be super-handly. You saw this with the “watcher” behavior in Listing 6-2. Although this custom behavior doesn't introduce any view changes, it helps tune the dynamic system to produce greater responsiveness.
- Always consider behavior lifetimes. You should clean up after your behaviors if they're short lived and retain them if they persist.
- Sometimes it's simpler to create basic and keyframe animations like the ones you saw in Chapter 5, “Animation,” than to implement dynamic behaviors with the associated overhead.

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