

# Core Data

iOS App Development  
Fall 2010 — Lecture 12

Questions?

# Announcements

- Assignment #3 out earlier today
  - Due Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> by 11:59pm
- Select order of presenters for next week

# Today's Topics

- SQLite
- What is Core Data?
- Core Data stack
- Xcode modeling tool
- Implementing CRUD operations...
  - Create
  - Read
  - Update
  - Delete
- Odds & Ends

# Notes

- I'm showing the relevant portions of the view controller interfaces and implementations in these notes
- Remember to release relevant memory in the `-dealloc` methods — they are not shown here
- You will also need to wire up outlets and actions in IB
- Where delegates or data sources are used, they too require wiring in IB

SQLite

# What is SQLite?

- “SQLite is a in-process library that implements a self-contained, serverless, zero-configuration, transactional SQL database engine”
- See the SQLite website for additional details...
  - <http://www.sqlite.org/>

# SQLite on the iPhone

- Prior to the iPhone 3.0 SDK, SQLite was the route that many developers took for more complex, transactional storage of data
- However, the 3.0 SDK brought Core Data support to iOS,
  - You may want to consider Core Data — especially if you have complex relationships
- But, if you'd rather go the SQL route over Core Data it is still a viable option
  - Just be aware that the APIs are fairly low-level C



What is Core Data?

# What is Core Data?

- Core Data is a schema-driven object graph management and persistence framework
- Core Data helps you to save model objects (in the sense of the MVC design pattern) to a file and get them back again
- Typically store data into a database SQLite, but you can also use other backends or even provide your own

# Core Data Features

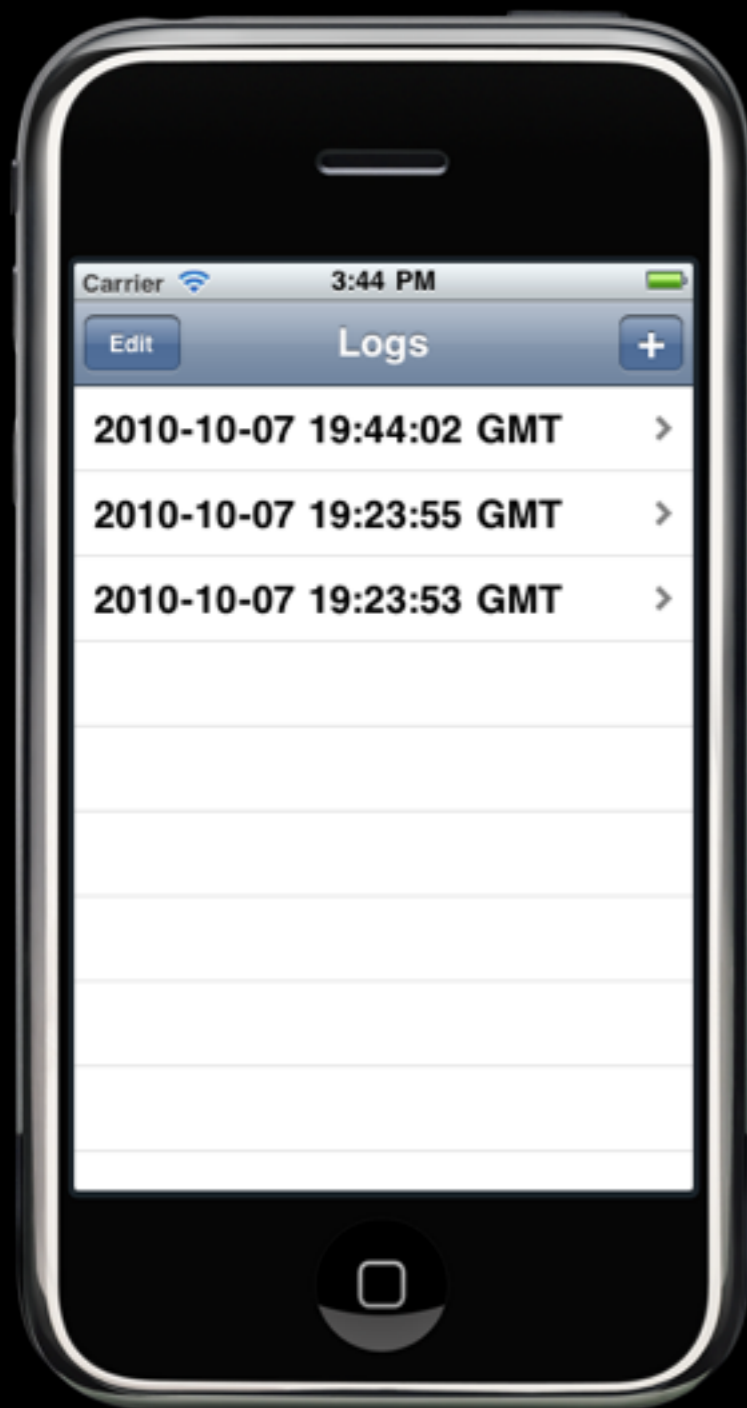
- Infrastructure for managing changes to your model objects
- Support for undo and redo
- Support for maintaining relationships between objects
- Allows you to keep a subset of your objects in memory
  - Important on iOS where conserving memory is critical
- Schema to describe model, defined using a GUI-based editor
- Infrastructure for data store versioning and migration
  - Allows easy upgrades from an old to the current version

Example

# What We're Going to Build

- A simple app that allows us to create a running list of logs
- The user will be able to...
  - Add a log (automatically recording the timestamp) to the logs
  - Edit a log (be able to add or change a note) within the log
  - Delete a specific log from a collection of logs
  - Be able to view the list of existing logs

# What We're Going to Build



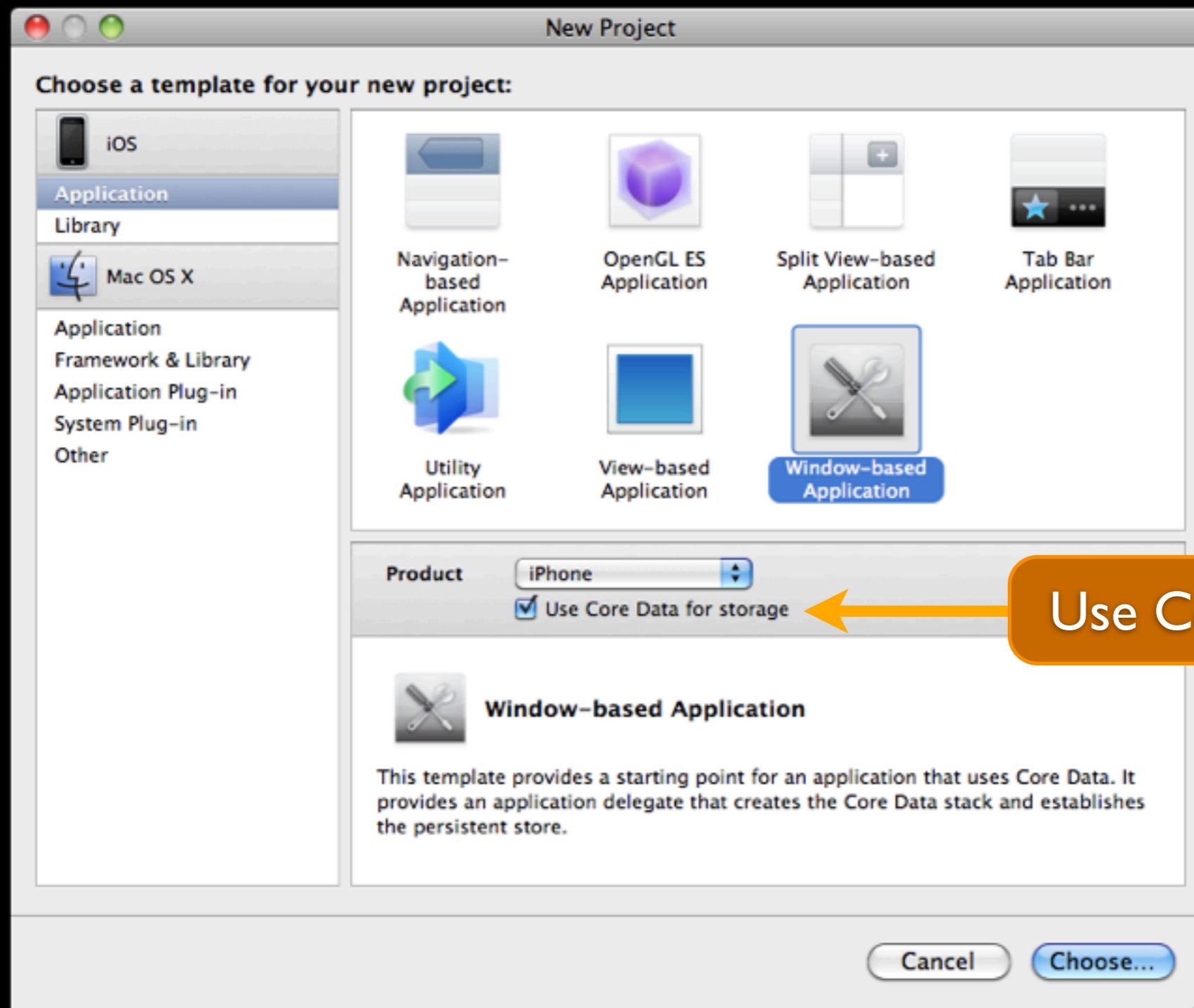
# Getting Started

# Window-Based Application

- For this example, we're going to use a Window-based application that utilized Core Data
- Why a window-based app?
  - Gives us a chance to look at another project template
  - It's one of the templates that you can choose to use Core Data with by simply checking a box on the new project template screen



# New Window-based App using Core Data



# LogsAppDelegate.h

```
#import <UIKit/UIKit.h>
#import <CoreData/CoreData.h>

@interface LogsAppDelegate : NSObject <UIApplicationDelegate> {

    UIWindow *window;

private
    NSManagedObjectContext *managedObjectContext_;
    NSManagedObjectModel *managedObjectModel_;
    NSPersistentStoreCoordinator *persistentStoreCoordinator_;
}

@property (nonatomic, retain) IBOutlet UIWindow *window;

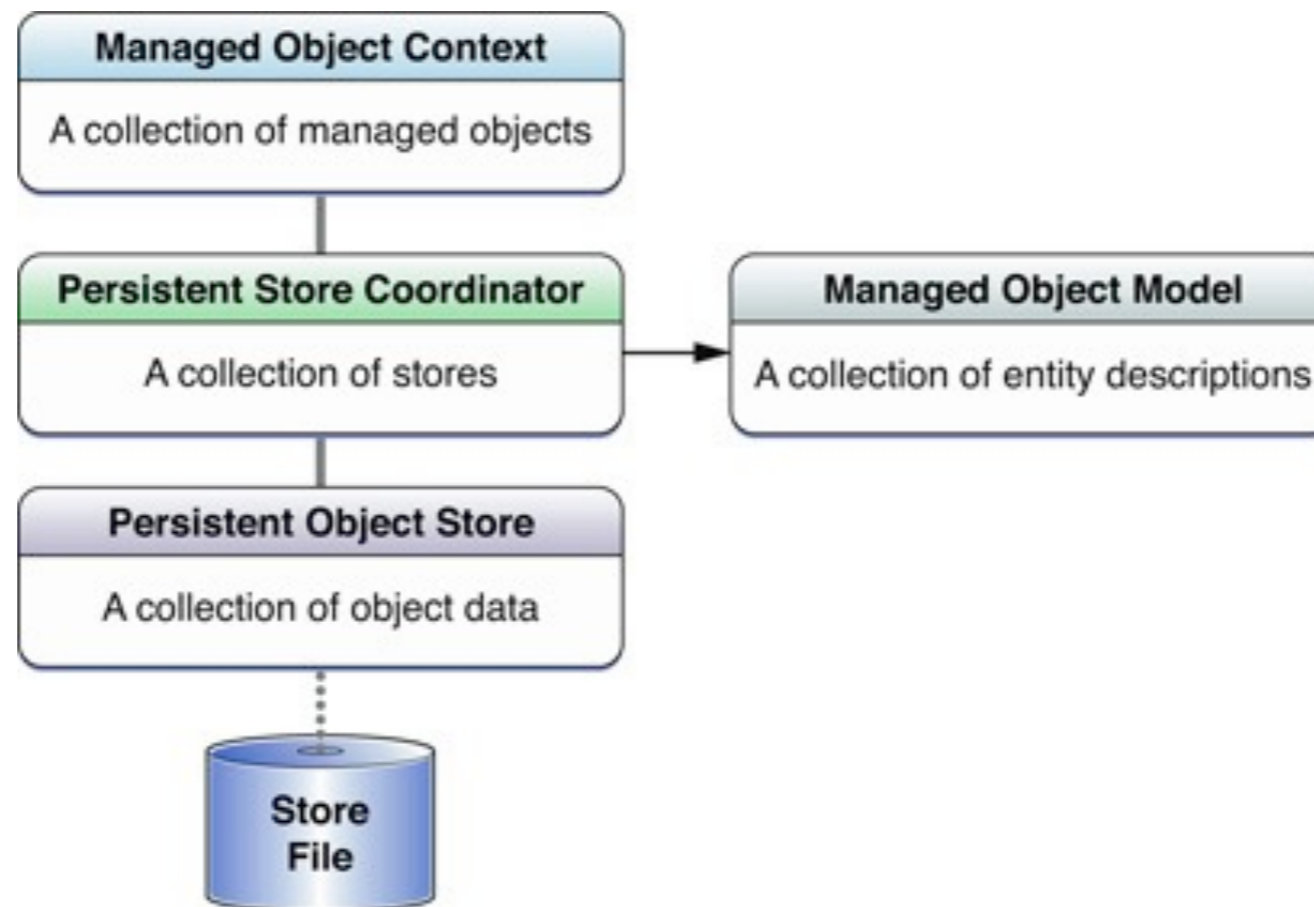
@property (nonatomic, retain, readonly) NSManagedObjectContext *managedObjectContext;
@property (nonatomic, retain, readonly) NSManagedObjectModel *managedObjectModel;
@property (nonatomic, retain, readonly) NSPersistentStoreCoordinator
*persistentStoreCoordinator;

- (NSString *)applicationDocumentsDirectory;
- (void)saveContext;

@end
```

# Core Data Stack

# Core Data Stack



# Managed Objects

- A managed object is an instance of `NSManagedObject`
- It's typically an object representation of a record in a table of a database
- Managed objects represent the data you operate on in your application
- A managed object is always associated with a managed object context

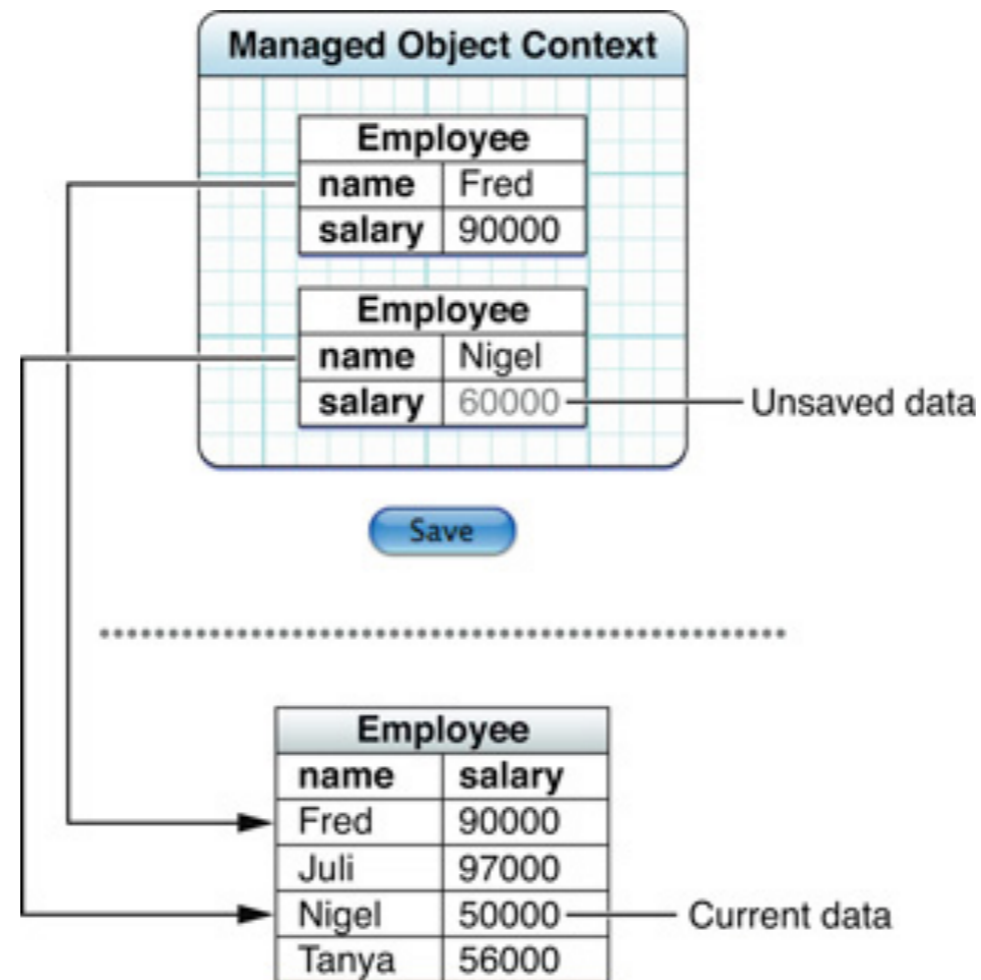
# NSManagedObjectContext

- The managed object context is an instance of NSManagedObjectContext
- Think of this context as a scratch pad for an application
- Its primary responsibility is to manage a collection of managed model objects
- These objects form a group of related model objects that represent an internally consistent view of one or more persistent stores
- The context is a powerful object with a central role in your application, with responsibilities from life-cycle management to validation, relationship maintenance, and undo/redo

# Using Contexts

- Newly created managed objects are inserted into a context
- Records are fetched from a database into a context as managed objects
- All changes you make (inserts, deletes, updates) are kept in memory
- You must save the context to commit the managed objects to the underlying datastore

# Context to Database Mapping





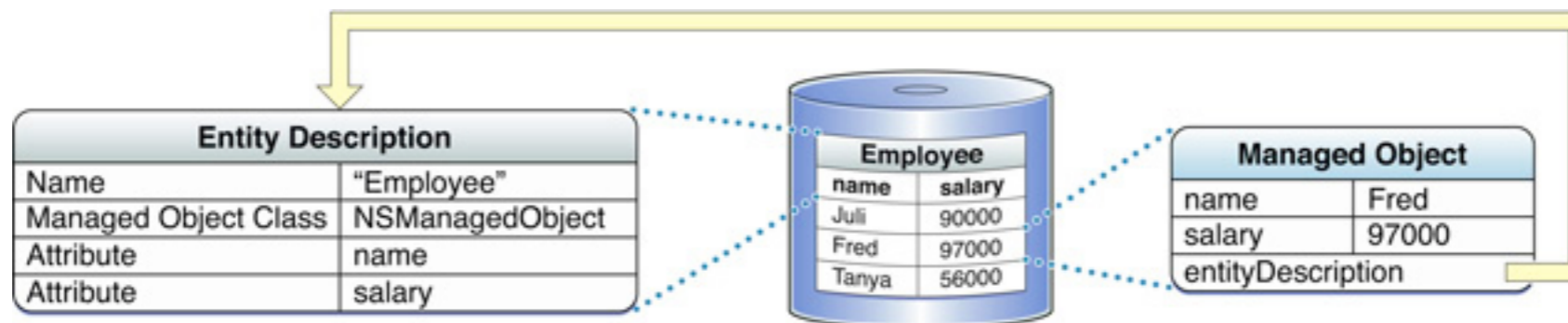
# NSManagedObjectModel

- A managed object model is an instance of NSManagedObjectModel
- Object representation of a schema that describes your database, and the managed objects you use in your app
- A model is a collection of entity description objects (instances of NSEntityDescription)

# NSEntityDescription

- An entity description describes an entity consisting of the following...
  - The name of a table in a database where instances of your object will be persisted
  - The name of the class used to represent the entity in your application
  - The properties (attributes and relationships) an object has

# Entity Description Mapping



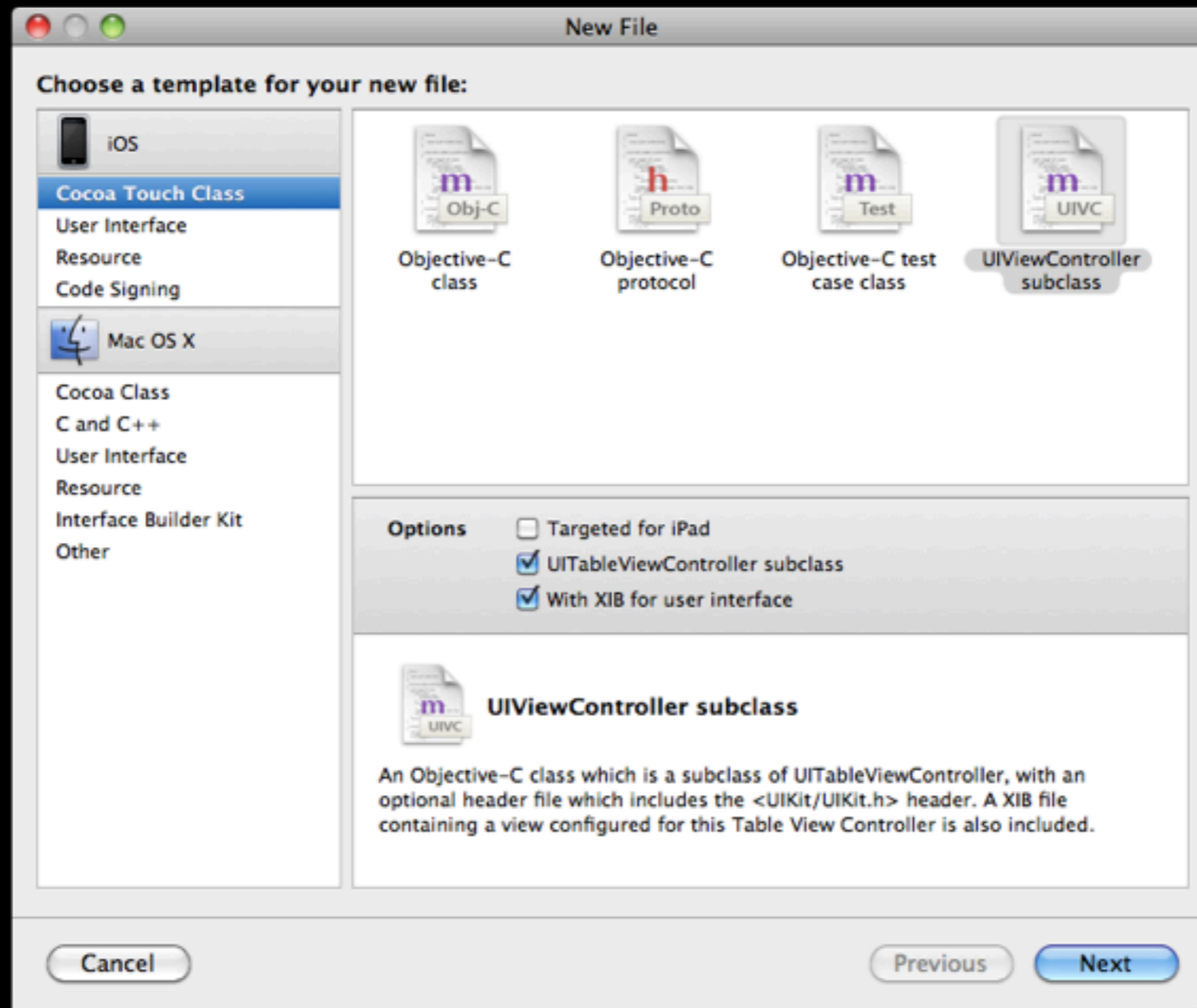
# NSPersistentStoreCoordinator

- The persistent store coordinator plays a central role in how Core Data manages data
  - However, you don't often interact with it directly
- It manages a collection of persistent object stores
  - Though, on iOS we typically use a single store
- A persistent object store represents an external store (file) of persisted data
- It's the object that actually maps between objects in your application and records in the database

# Creating the Root Controller

# Creating the Root View Controller

- Right click Classes → Add → New File...



# Designing our Root View Controller

- We'll create properties to store the following in this class...
  - An array of logs — used to back the table view
  - A `managedObjectContext` — used for persistence

# RootViewController.h

```
#import <UIKit/UIKit.h>

@interface RootViewController : UITableViewController {

}

@property (nonatomic, retain) NSMutableArray *logs;
@property (nonatomic, retain) NSManagedObjectContext *managedObjectContext;

@end
```



# RootViewController.m

```
#import "RootViewController.h"

@implementation RootViewController

@synthesize logs;
@synthesize managedObjectContext;

/* ... */

@end
```

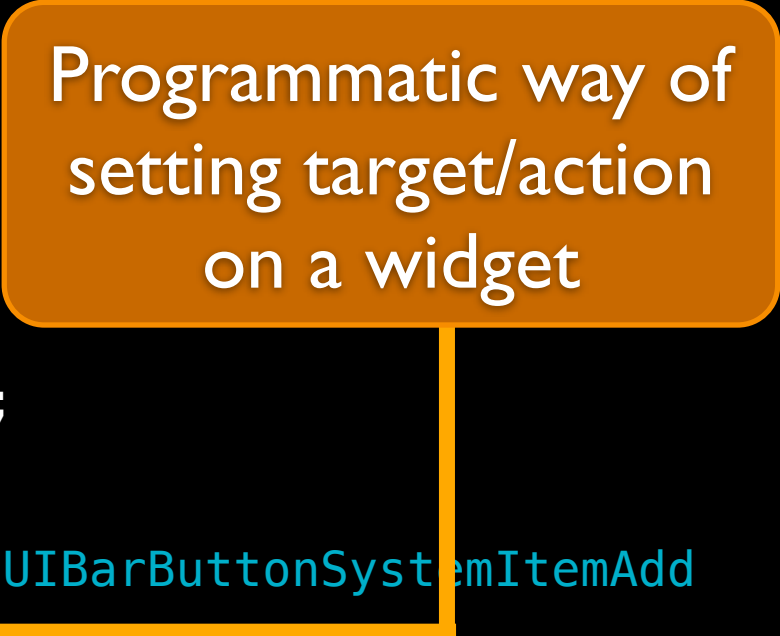
# Configuring the Root View Controller

- We need to add code to...
  - Set the title on the view
  - Add an edit button
    - We can leverage the built in edit behaviors
  - Add an add button
    - We'll need to eventually provide our own add action

# RootViewController.m

```
/* ... */  
- (void)viewDidLoad {  
    [super viewDidLoad];  
    self.title = @"Logs";  
    self.navigationItem.leftBarButtonItem = self.editButtonItem;  
  
    UIBarButtonItem *addButton = [[[UIBarButtonItem alloc]  
                                   initWithBarButtonSystemItem:UIBarButtonSystemItemAdd  
                                   target:self  
                                   action:@selector(addLog)] autorelease];  
    self.navigationItem.rightBarButtonItem = addButton;  
}  
  
- (NSInteger)numberOfSectionsInTableView:(UITableView *)tableView {  
    return 1;  
}  
  
- (NSInteger)tableView:(UITableView *)tableView  
    numberOfRowsInSection:(NSInteger)section {  
    return 0;  
}  
  
/* ... */
```

Programmatic way of  
setting target/action  
on a widget



# Telling the App Delegate to Load the Root VC

- Next, we need to configure the app's delegate to load and configure the root controller as the initial view for the app
- We'll need to do the following in the app delegate...
  - Create a property to store a navigation view controller (which will house our Root VC)
  - Create an actual instance for the navigation VC
  - Instantiate an instance of the Root VC
  - Add the Root VC to the navigation VC
  - Set the Root VC's instance of `NSManagedObjectContext`

# LogsAppDelegate.h

```
#import <UIKit/UIKit.h>
#import <CoreData/CoreData.h>

@interface LogsAppDelegate : NSObject <UIApplicationDelegate> {

    UIWindow *window;

private
    NSManagedObjectContext *managedObjectContext_;
    NSManagedObjectModel *managedObjectModel_;
    NSPersistentStoreCoordinator *persistentStoreCoordinator_;
}

@property (nonatomic, retain) IBOutlet UIWindow *window;

@property (nonatomic, retain, readonly) NSManagedObjectContext *managedObjectContext;
@property (nonatomic, retain, readonly) NSManagedObjectModel *managedObjectModel;
@property (nonatomic, retain, readonly) NSPersistentStoreCoordinator
*persistentStoreCoordinator;

@property (nonatomic, retain) UINavigationController *navigationController;

- (NSString *)applicationDocumentsDirectory;
- (void)saveContext;

@end
```

# LogsAppDelegate.m

```
#import "LogsAppDelegate.h"  
#import "RootViewController.h"  
  
@implementation LogsAppDelegate  
  
@synthesize window;  
@synthesize navigationController;  
  
/* ... */
```

# LogsAppDelegate.m

```
/* ... */
- (BOOL)application:(UIApplication *)application
    didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:(NSDictionary *)launchOptions {

    RootViewController *rootViewController = [[RootViewController alloc]
        initWithNibName:@"RootViewController" bundle:nil];

    NSManagedObjectContext *context = [self managedObjectContext];
    if (!context) { NSLog(@"Major Error"); }

    rootViewController.managedObjectContext = context;
    UINavigationController *aNavigationController = [[UINavigationController alloc]
        initWithRootViewController:rootViewController];

    self.navigationController = aNavigationController;

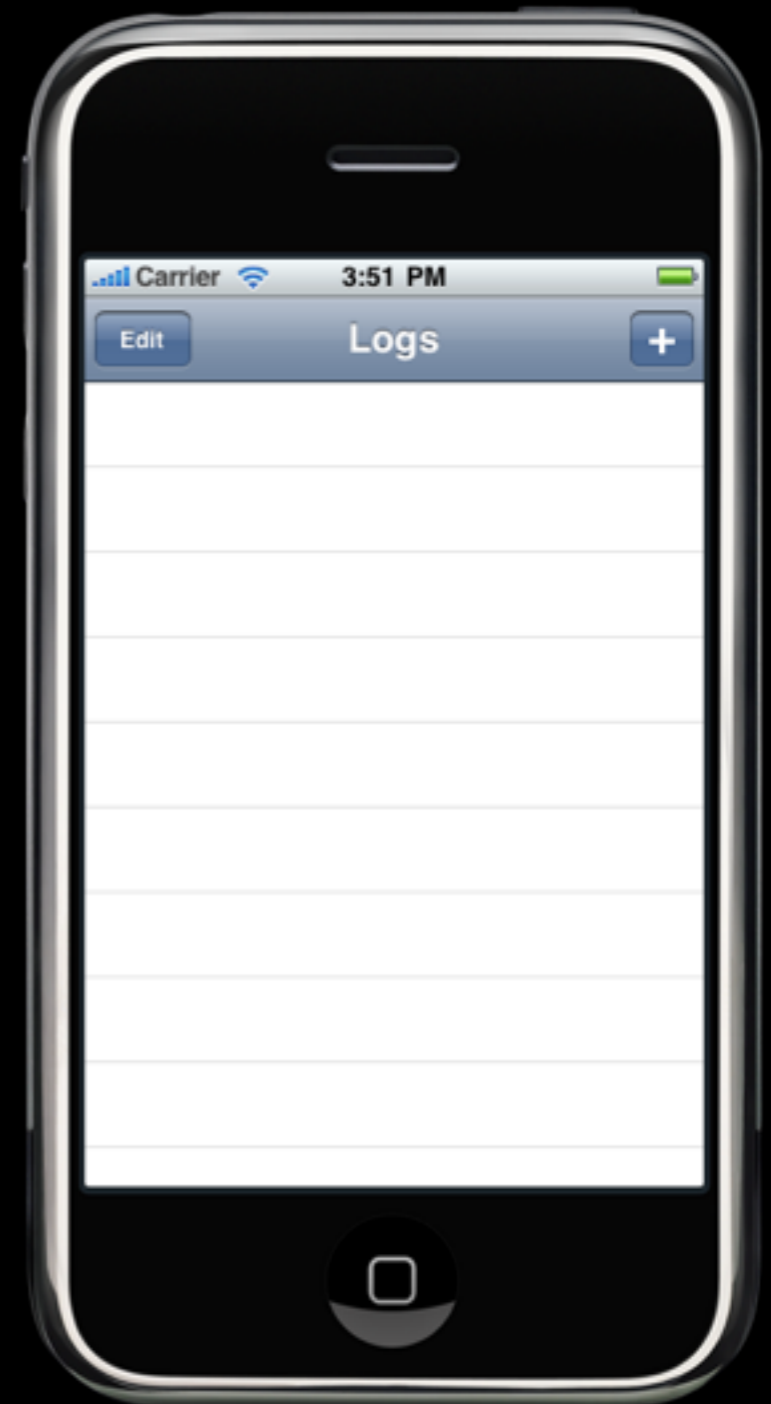
    [window addSubview:[navigationController view]];
    [window makeKeyAndVisible];

    [rootViewController release];
    [aNavigationController release];

    return YES;
}
/* ... */
```

# Our App Thus Far

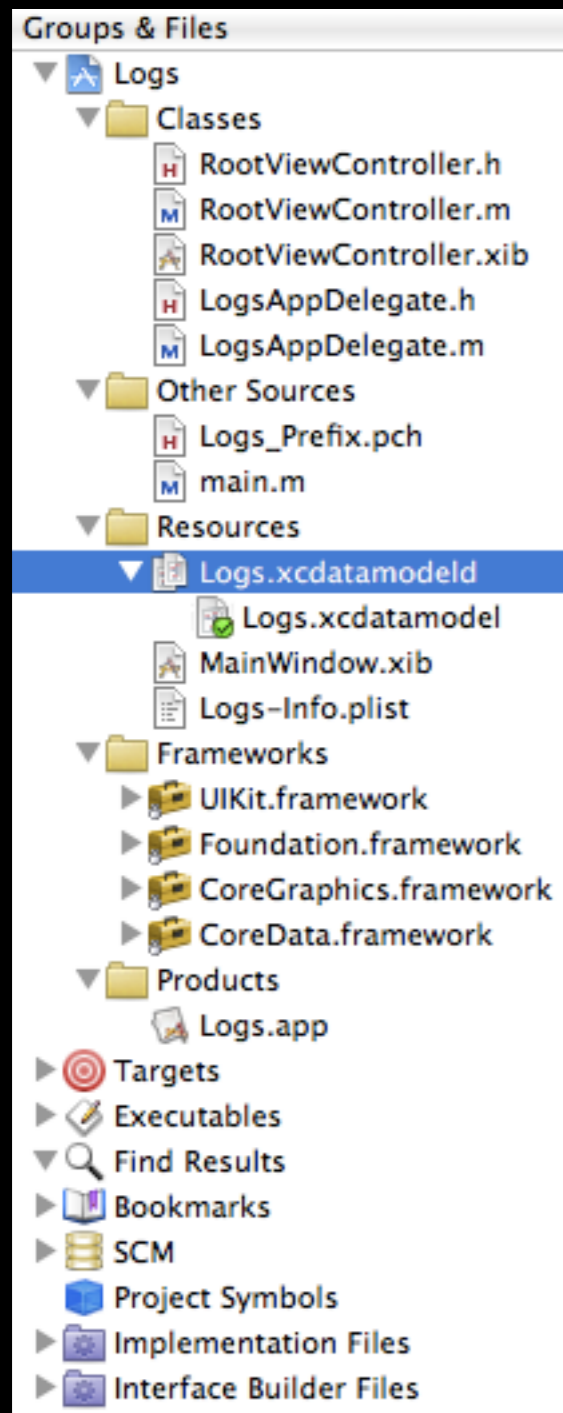
- At this point we have a basic navigation based app that we created ourselves
- We have a root VC that has a managed object context that will be used for persistence
- We have an add button that will currently crash the app, as there's no -addLog method ...yet





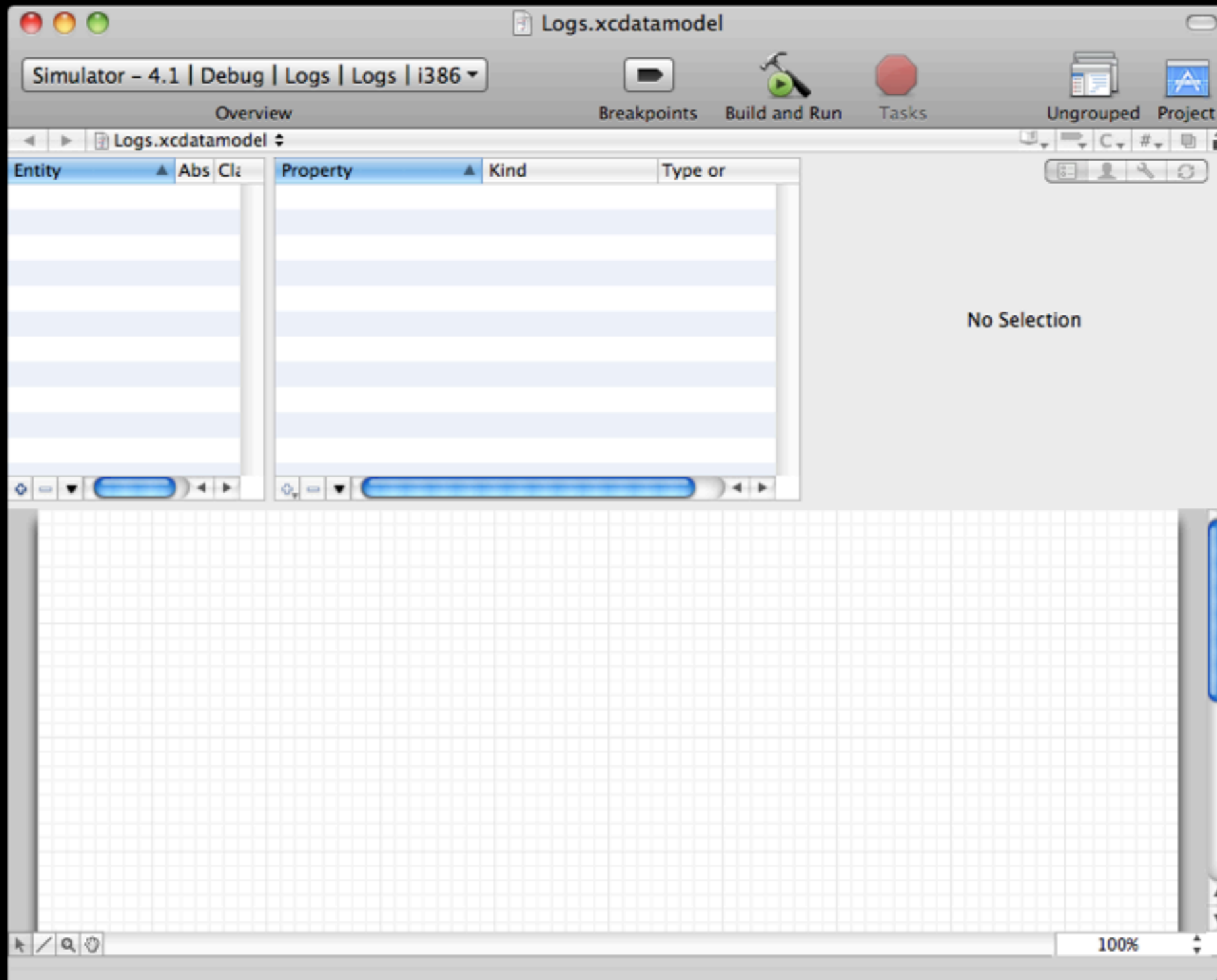
# Modeling Our Data

# Modeling Our Data



- The next step in the process is to use Xcode's modeling tool to design our managed objects
- If you look under Groups & Files, you'll notice some additional things...
  - CoreData has been added to the list of Frameworks for this project
  - There's also a Logs.xcdatamodel file under resources — opening this file brings up Xcode's data modeling tool

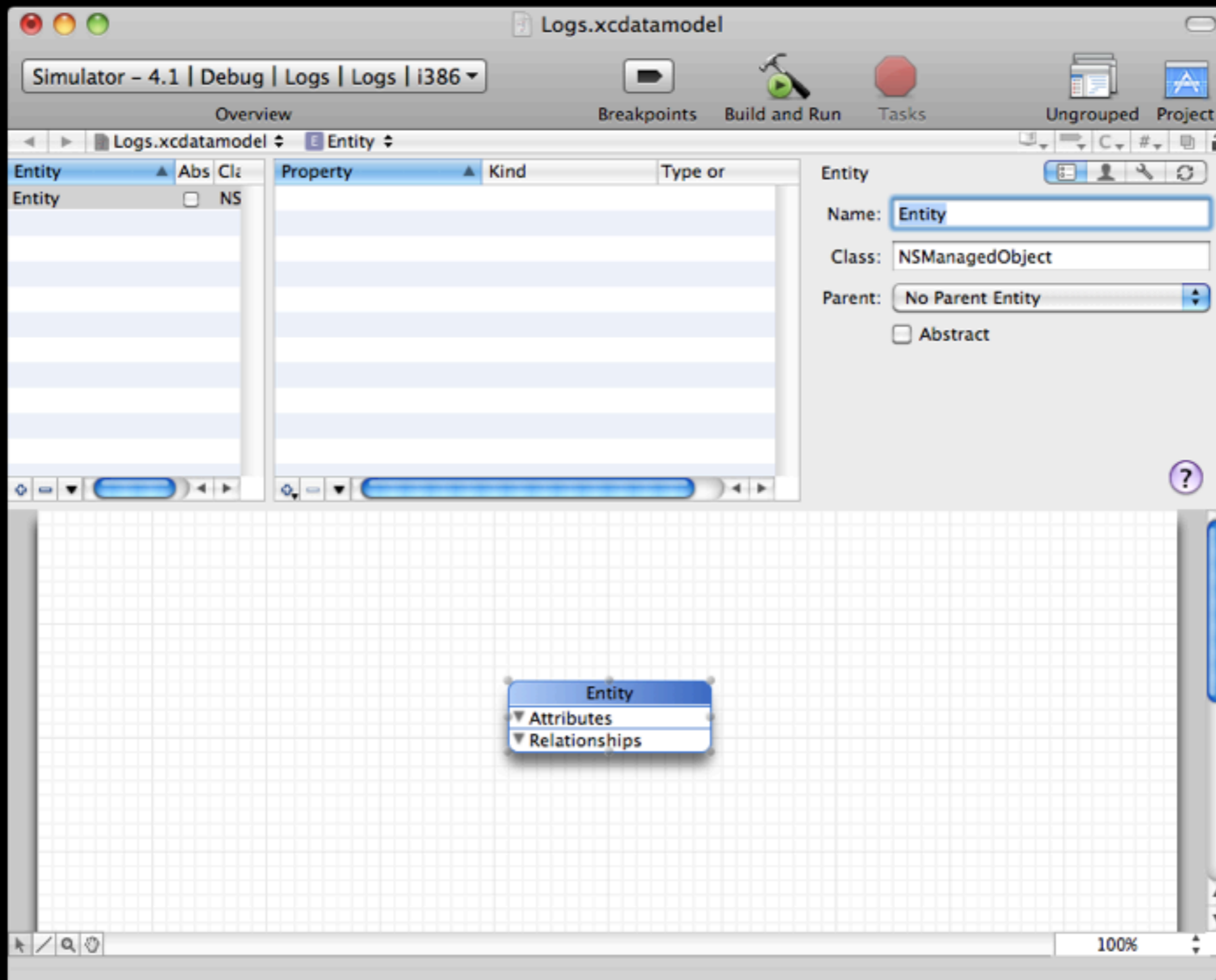
# The Xcode Data Modeling Tool



# Adding an Entity

- Entities represent the managed objects of our model and typically correspond to...
  - Classes in ObjC
  - Tables in a database
- To add a new Entity, right click on the bottom section and select Add Entity

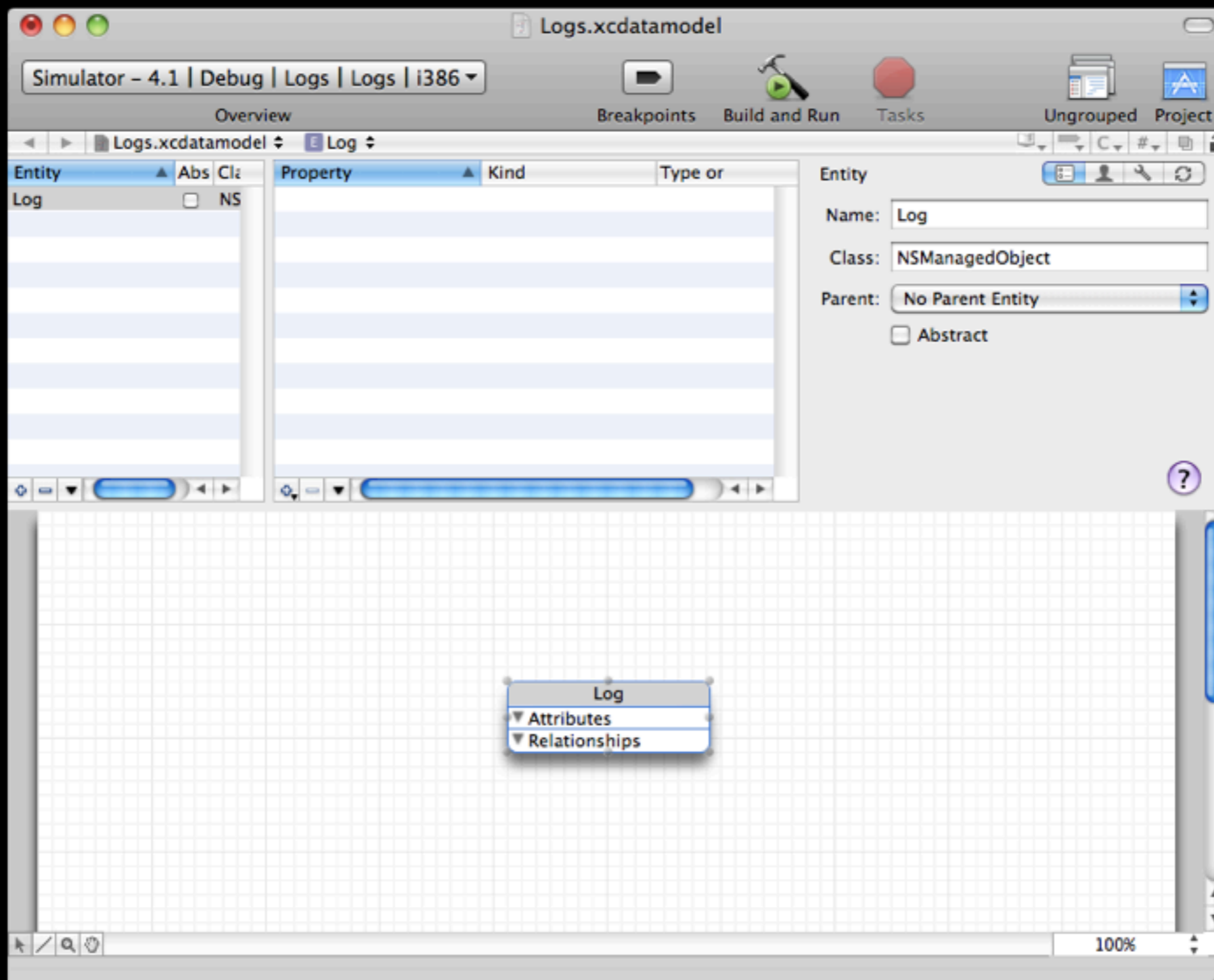
# The Added Entity



# Renaming the Entity

- Once added, change the name of the entity to Log
- Note that the class backing this object is an instance of `NSManagedObject`

# The Renamed Entity



# Adding Attributes

- Attributes represent the fields of the managed objects of our model and typically correspond to...
  - Properties of classes in ObjC
  - Columns of a table in a database
- To add a new Attribute, select the entity object (in the bottom section), then right click on it and select Add Attribute



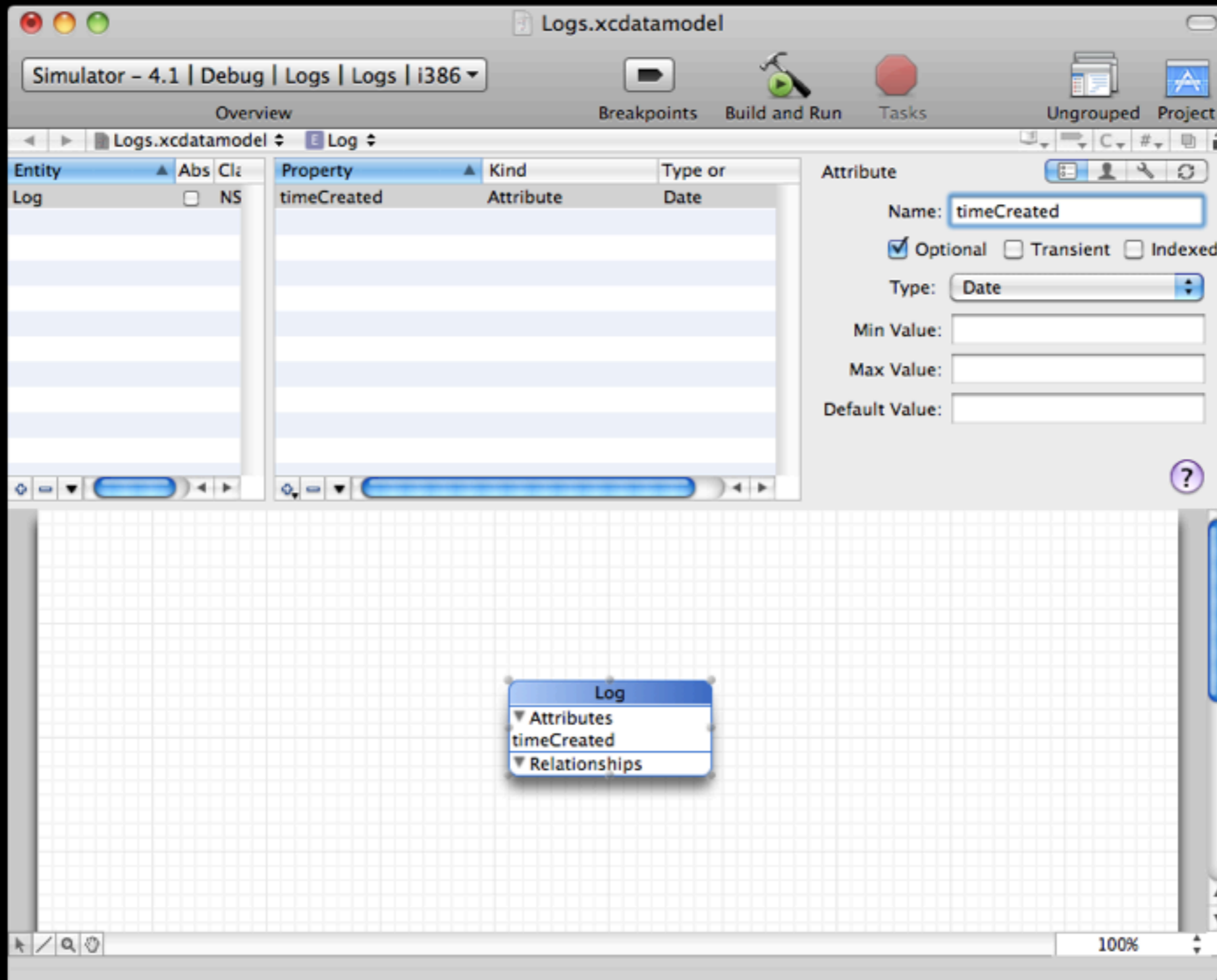
# Attributes

- When we add an attribute there are values that we'll always set...
  - Name — the name of the attribute (field) in the model
  - Type — the type of the attribute in the abstract
- Once you set the type there are additional constraints that can be set based on the type, such as...
  - A required matching regex for strings
  - Minimum and maximum values for most numerical types

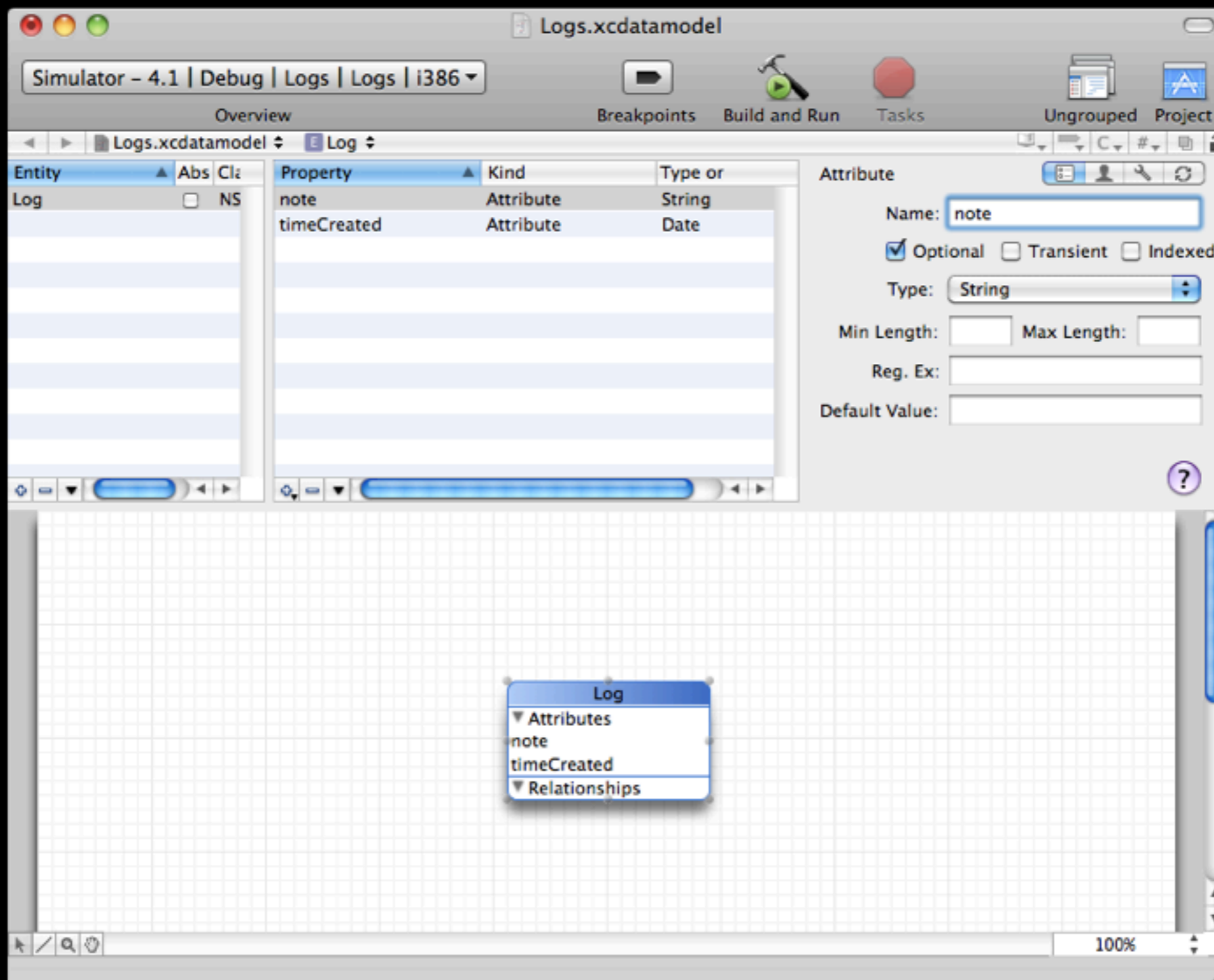
# Adding Our Attributes

- For our application, we'll add the following attributes...
  - timeCreated of type Date
  - note of type String

# The Added timeCreate Attribute



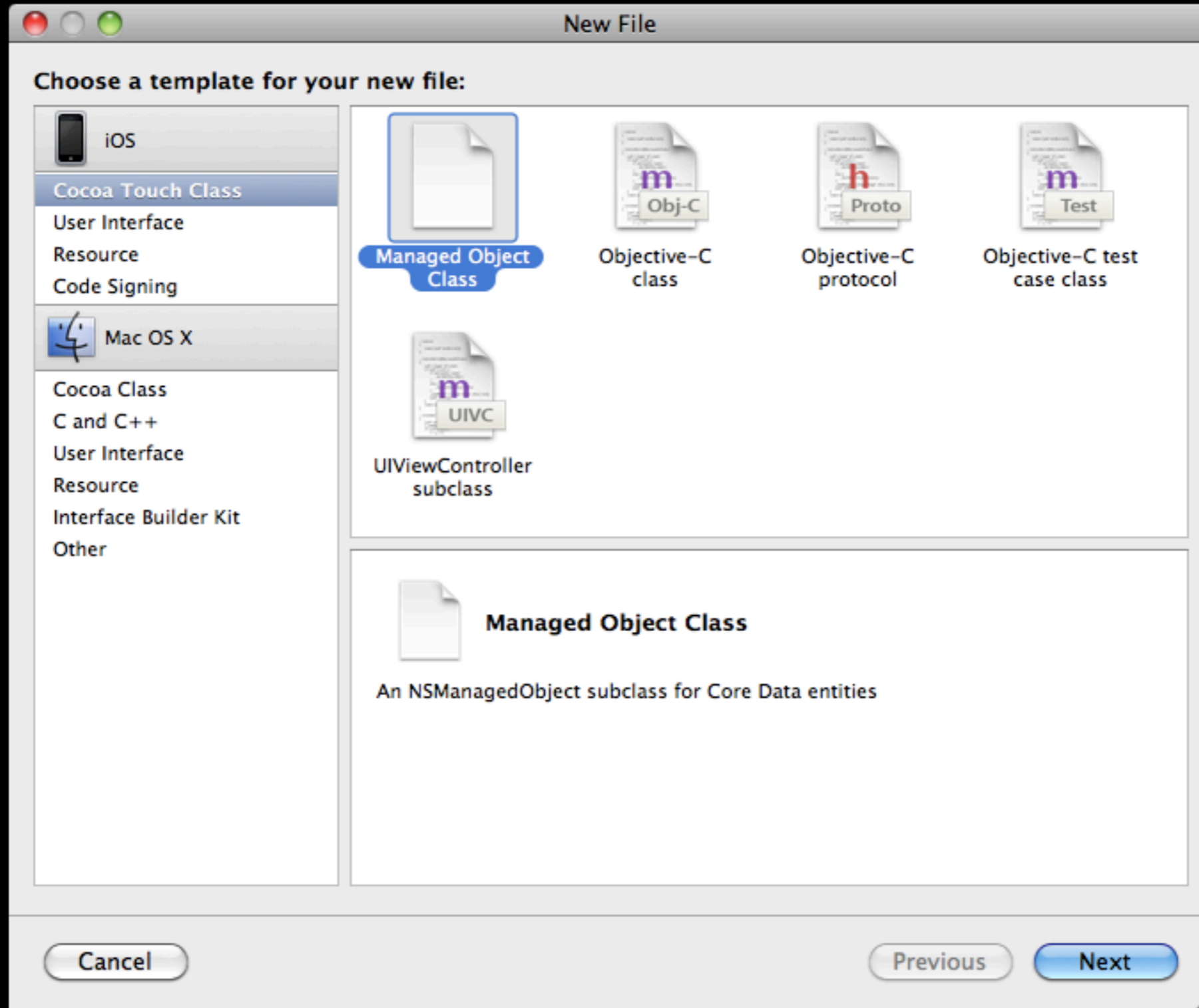
# The Added note Attribute



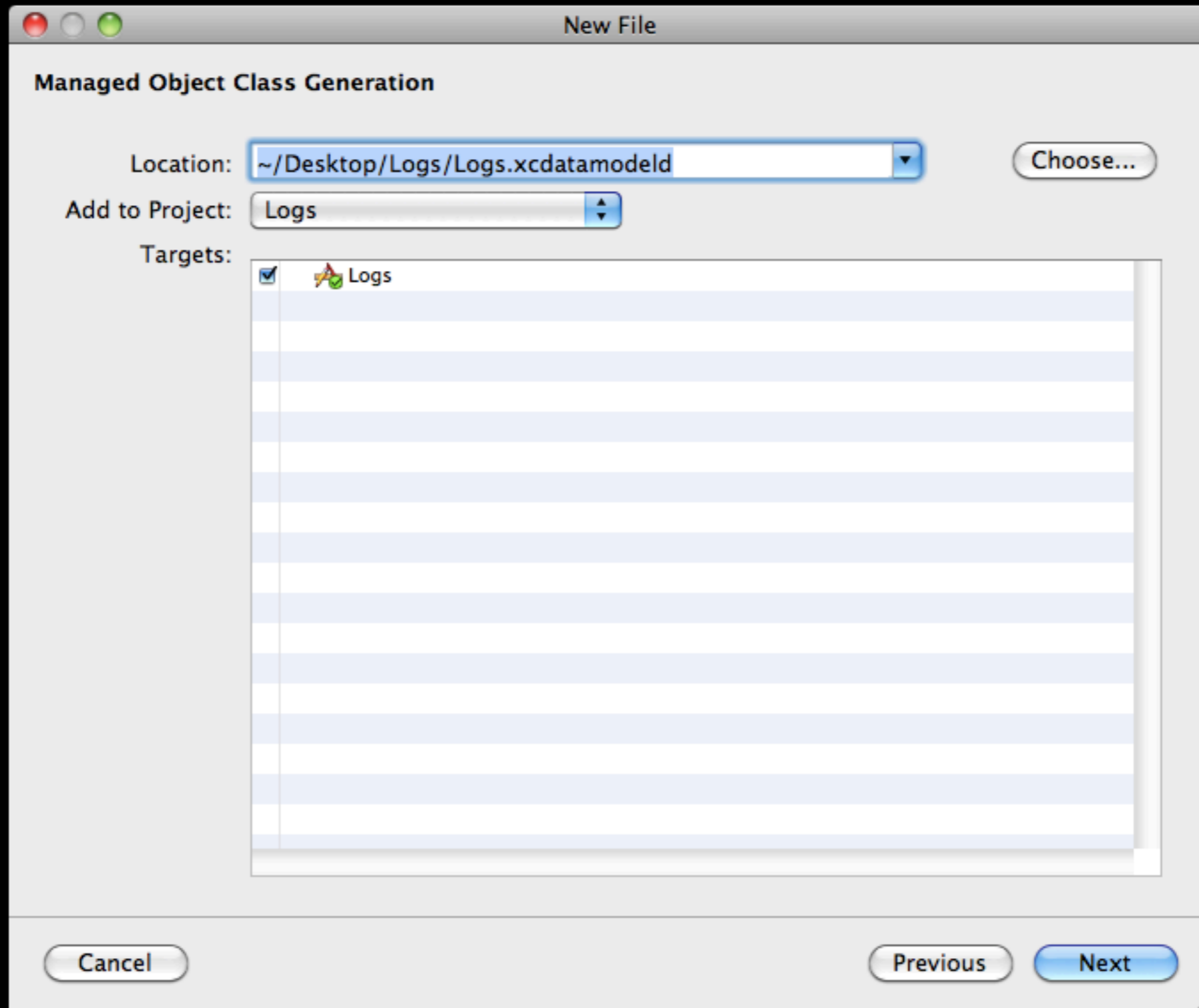
# Generating the Model Objects

- The next step in our process is going to be to create the actual classes we'll use in ObjC to represent these objects
- Xcode can actually create these managed classes for us
- From the File menu, select New File...
  - Then select new Managed Object Class

# Creating a New Managed Object Class



# Choose a Location



# Selecting Entities

- Next, we tell Xcode what entities we want classes for
- In our simple app, we only have a single entity, so we'll make sure that it is checked
- Also, Xcode gives us the option to generate accessors and properties for the object — verify they are checked





# Log.h

```
#import <CoreData/CoreData.h>
```

```
@interface Log : NSManagedObject  
{  
}
```

```
@property (nonatomic, retain) NSString * note;  
@property (nonatomic, retain) NSDate * timeCreated;
```

```
@end
```

# Log.m

```
#import "Log.h"
```

```
@implementation Log
```

```
@dynamic note;
```

```
@dynamic timeCreated;
```

```
@end
```

# Observations

- The Log class is an instance of NSManagedObject and not NSObject
  - This means that Core Data is going to manage instances of this class
- Our attributes make up the properties of the class
- Properties are specified as @dynamic
  - Core Data generates the accessors at runtime, not compile time
- No -dealloc to release properties
  - Not an oversight, CoreData manages all aspects of this object's lifecycle

# Adding Logs

# Adding Logs

- There's a couple of things we need to add to the `RootViewController` to add logs...
  - First, we need to import `Log.h`
  - Implement the `-addLog` method
    - Create a new Log through Core Data
    - Configure the new Log
    - Save the new Log through Core Data
    - Insert log into logs array
    - Update the table

# Adding Logs

- To create a record we tell the managed object context to create a new Log instance using the following `NSEntityDescription` method...

```
+ (id)insertNewObjectForEntityForName:(NSString *)entityName  
    inManagedObjectContext:(NSManagedObjectContext *)context;
```

- Then to actually persist the record, you commit the action using the following `NSManagedObjectContext` method...

```
- (BOOL)save:(NSError **)error;
```

# RootViewController.m

```
#import "RootViewController.h"
#import "Log.h"

/* ... */

- (void)addLog {
    Log *log = [NSEntityDescription insertNewObjectForEntityForName:@"Log"
                                                inManagedObjectContext:self.managedObjectContext];

    log.timeCreated = [NSDate date];

    NSError *error;
    if (![self.managedObjectContext save:&error]) { NSLog(@"Major Error"); }

    [self.logs insertObject:log atIndex:0];

    NSIndexPath *indexPath = [NSIndexPath indexPathForRow:0 inSection:0];
    [self.tableView insertRowsAtIndexPaths:[NSArray arrayWithObject:indexPath]
                            withRowAnimation:UITableViewRowAnimationFade];
    [self.tableView scrollToRowAtIndexPath:[NSIndexPath indexPathForRow:0 inSection:0]
                    atScrollPosition:UITableViewScrollPositionTop animated:YES];
}

/* ... */
```



# Implementing the Table Data Source Methods

- We need to change `-tableView:numberOfRowsInSection:` to return the number of items in the array
- We need to change `-tableView:cellForRowAtIndexPath:` to return an appropriately created cell

# RootViewController.m

```
/* ... */
- (NSInteger)tableView:(UITableView *)tableView
    numberOfRowsInSection:(NSInteger)section {
    return [self.logs count];
}

- (UITableViewCell *)tableView:(UITableView *)tableView
    cellForRowAtIndexPath:(NSIndexPath *)indexPath {

    static NSString *CellIdentifier = @"Cell";
    UITableViewCell *cell = [tableView dequeueReusableCellWithIdentifier:CellIdentifier];
    if (cell == nil) {
        cell = [[[UITableViewCell alloc] initWithStyle:UITableViewCellStyleDefault
            reuseIdentifier:CellIdentifier] autorelease];
    }

    // Configure the cell...
    Log *log = [self.logs objectAtIndex:indexPath.row];
    cell.textLabel.text = [NSString stringWithFormat:@"%s", log.timeCreated];
    cell.accessoryType = UITableViewCellAccessoryDisclosureIndicator;

    return cell;
}
/* ... */
```

# One Last Thing...

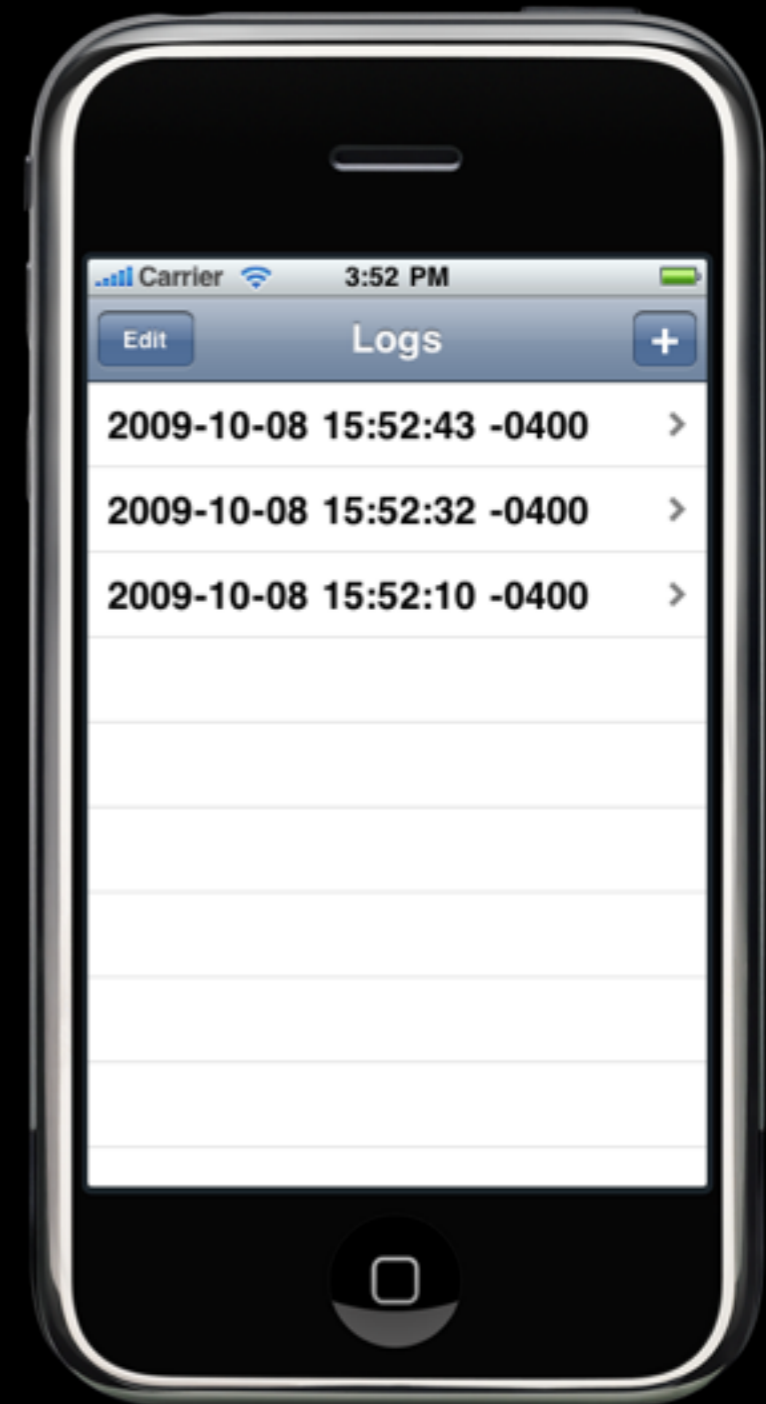
- We haven't yet initialized the logs instance variable on the RootVC
- For the time being, we'll simply add the following line to the end of -viewDidLoad in RootViewController.m

```
self.logs = [NSMutableArray array];
```

- Eventually, we'll load this from our model, but this will let us test what we have thus far

# Our App Thus Far

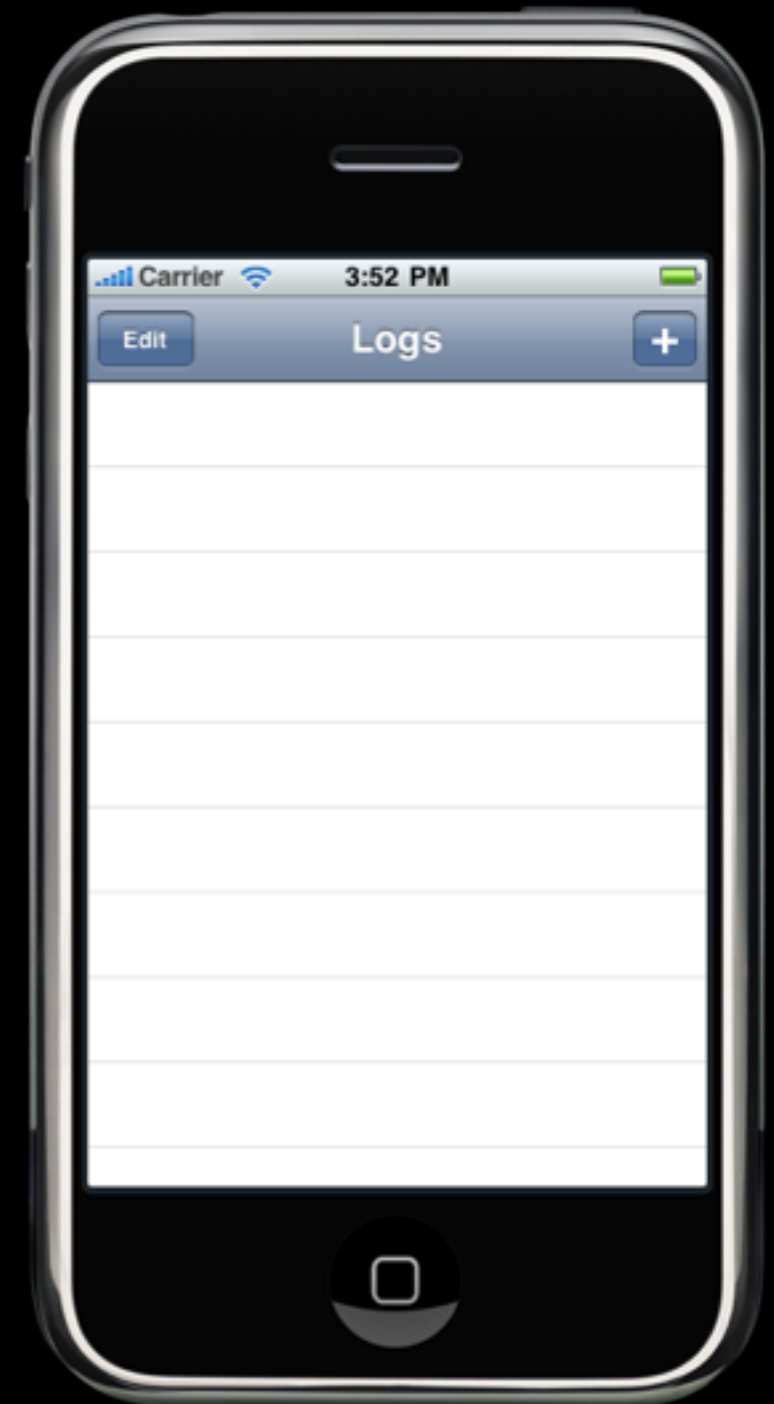
- At this point we are able to create Log instances through Core Data using our add button
- We are successfully populating the table view with the created instances



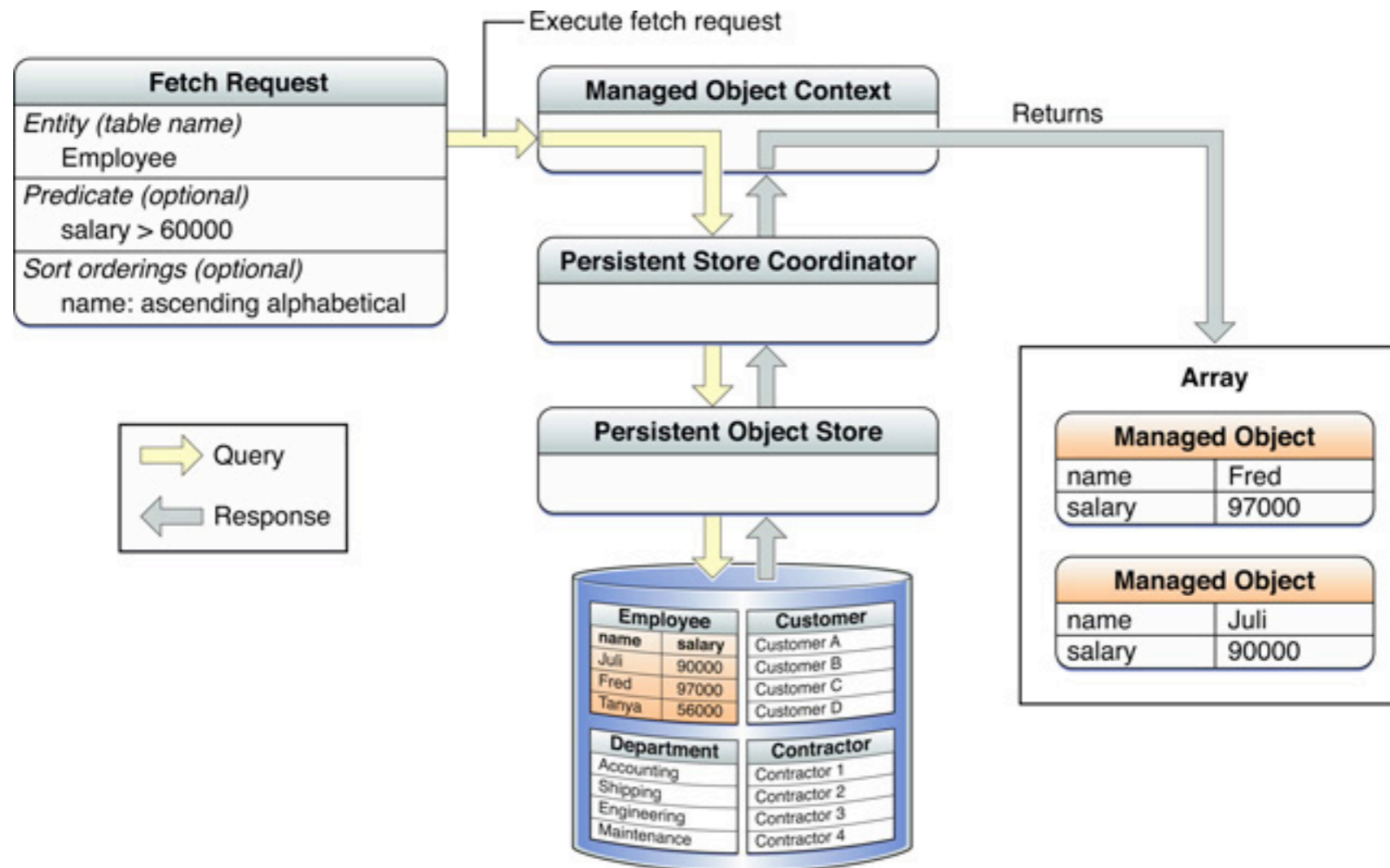
# Fetching Logs

# Fetching Logs

- The last thing we did to be able to make our app run was to create an empty array when the list was first displayed in `-viewDidLoad`
- Thus, when we first display that view, the table is always empty
- What we need to do instead, is to ask our model for all of the managed instances of `Log...`



# Fetching Managed Objects



# NSFetchRequest

- To fetch objects from a persistent store, you need a managed object context and a fetch request
- At a minimum it specifies the entity you're interested in
- It may also specify...
  - Constraints on the values that the objects should have
  - The order you want them back
- The constraints are represented by a predicate — an instance of NSPredicate
- The sort order is represented by an array of NSSortOrdering objects



# Setting the Entity

- We create an `NSEntityDescription` using the following method...

```
+ (NSEntityDescription *)entityForName:(NSString *)entityName  
    inManagedObjectContext:(NSManagedObjectContext *)context;
```

- Then we set the entity using the following `NSFetchRequest` method...

```
- (void)setEntity:(NSEntityDescription *)entity;
```

# Setting a Sort Descriptor

- We create a sort descriptor specifying the field and ordering of the field we're interested in using the following `NSSortDescriptor` method..

- `(id)initWithKey:(NSString *)key ascending:(BOOL)ascending;`

- This descriptor then gets wrapped in an array which allows us to specify multiple fall-back descriptors in case of a tie on the primary field
- Then we set the descriptor using the following method of `NSFetchRequest`...

- `(void)setSortDescriptors:(NSArray *)sortDescriptors;`

# RootViewController.m

```
- (void)viewDidLoad {
    /* ... */
    // Replace self.logs = [NSMutableArray array]; with the following...
    // The rest of -viewDidLoad should remain the same...
    NSFetchRequest *request = [[NSFetchRequest alloc] init];
    NSEntityDescription *entity = [NSEntityDescription entityForName:@"Log"
                                   inManagedObjectContext:self.managedObjectContext];
    [request setEntity:entity];

    NSSortDescriptor *sortDescriptor = [[NSSortDescriptor alloc]
                                         initWithKey:@"timeCreated" ascending:NO];
    NSArray *sortDescriptors = [NSArray arrayWithObjects:sortDescriptor, nil];
    [request setSortDescriptors:sortDescriptors];
    [sortDescriptor release];

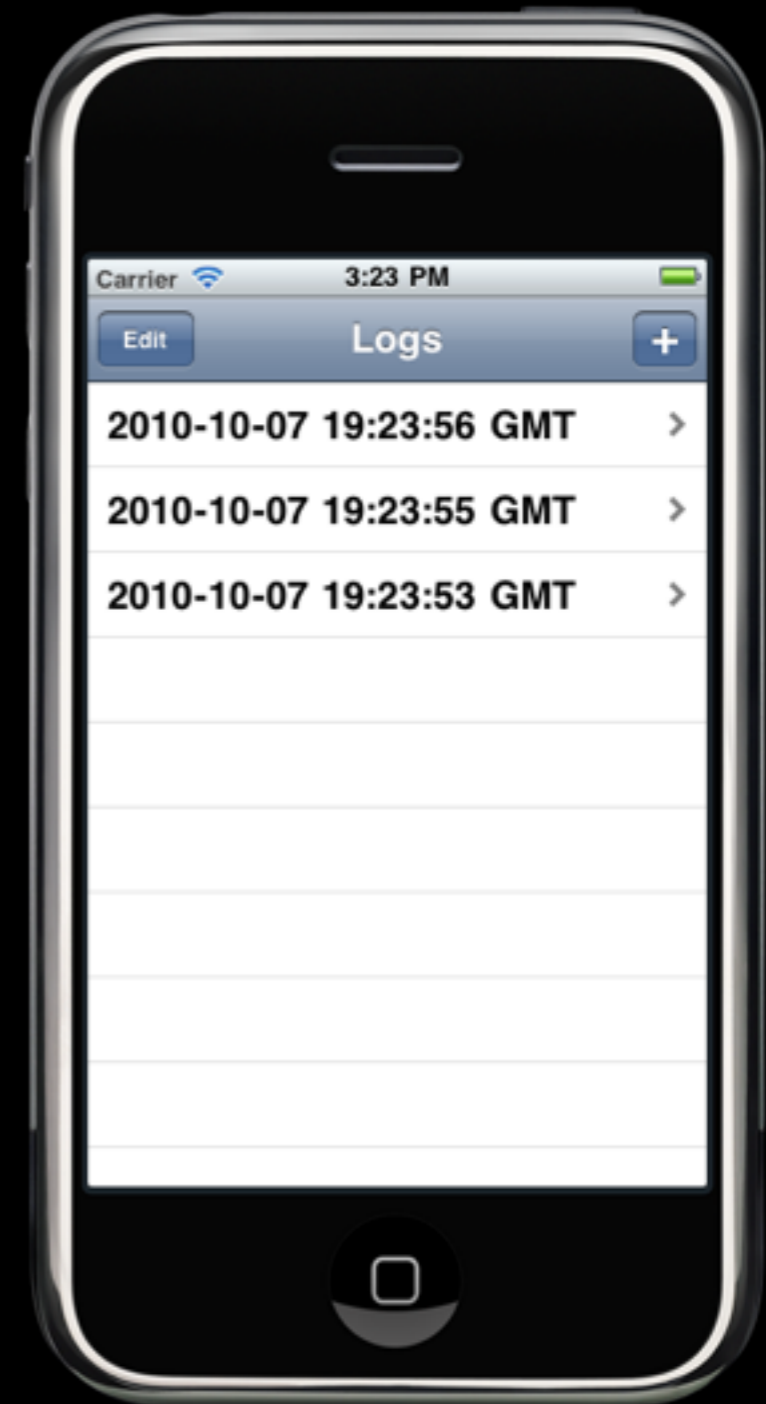
    NSError *error;
    NSMutableArray *mutableFetchResults = [[self.managedObjectContext
                                             executeFetchRequest:request error:&error] mutableCopy];
    if (mutableFetchResults == nil) { NSLog(@"Major Error"); }

    self.logs = mutableFetchResults;
    [mutableFetchResults release];
    [request release];

    /* ... */
}
```

# Our App Thus Far

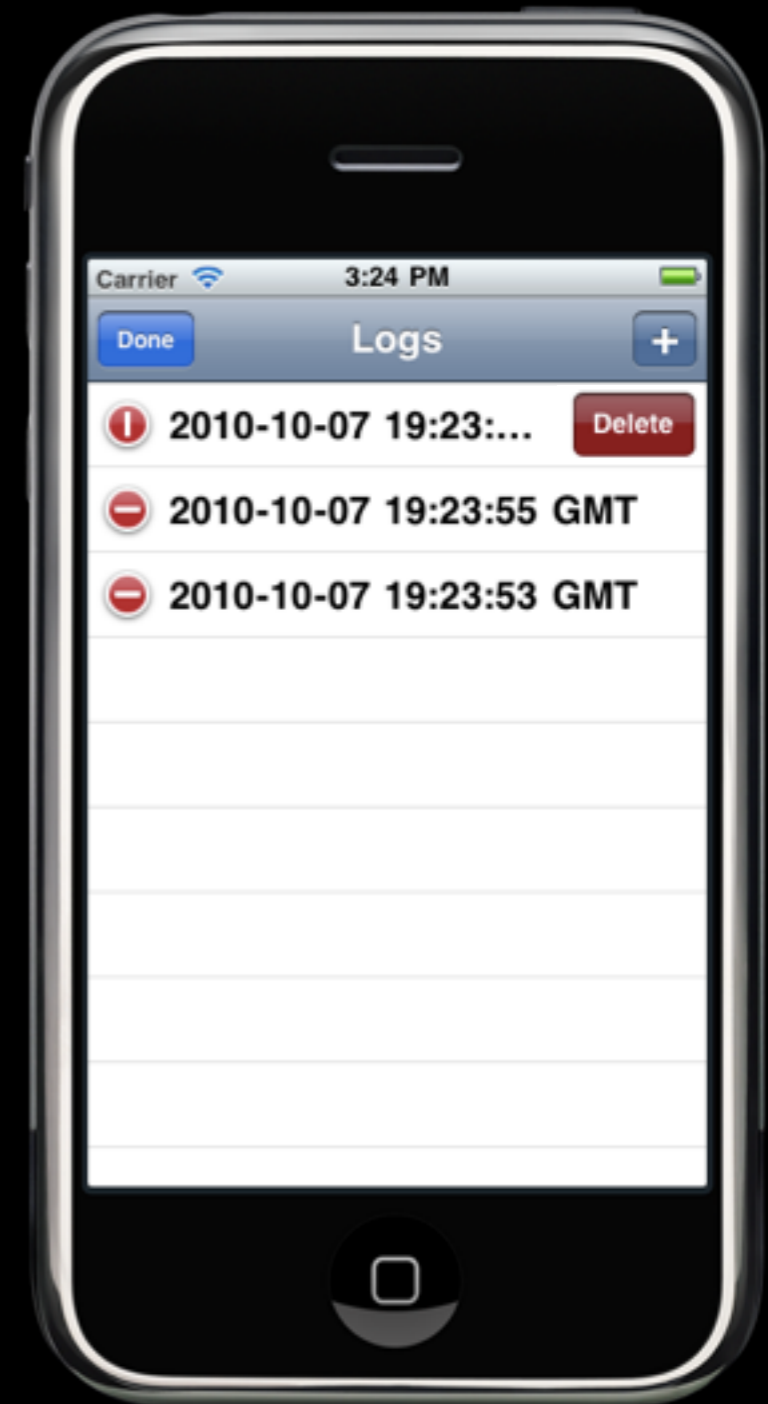
- At this point we are able now load all of the Log instances using Core Data when the app loads



# Deleting Logs

# Deleting Logs

- Right now our table view doesn't actually delete any Logs
- When when click Edit, then try to delete a row it refuses to go away
- Let's look at how to delete items through Core Data...



# Deleting Logs

- We need to implement the following method on the `RootViewController` to remove logs...

```
- (void)tableView:(UITableView *)tableView  
commitEditingStyle:(UITableViewCellEditingStyle)editingStyle  
forRowAtIndexPath:(NSIndexPath *)indexPath;
```

- In that method we'll need to
  - Tell the managed object context to delete the Log in question
  - Persist the change
  - Remove the Log from the array of logs
  - Update the table view

# Deleting Logs

- To delete a record we tell the managed object context to delete the given object using the following method...

```
- (void)deleteObject:(NSManagedObject *)object;
```

- Then to actually persist the delete, you need to commit the action using the following NSManagedObjectContext method...

```
- (BOOL)save:(NSError **)error;
```



# RootViewController.m

```
/* ... */
- (BOOL)tableView:(UITableView *)tableView
    canEditRowAtIndexPath:(NSIndexPath *)indexPath {
    return YES;
}

- (void)tableView:(UITableView *)tableView commitEditingStyle:
    (UITableViewCellEditingStyle)editingStyle forRowAtIndexPath:(NSIndexPath *)indexPath {

    if (editingStyle == UITableViewCellEditingStyleDelete) {

        NSMutableArray *logToDelete = [self.logs objectAtIndex:indexPath.row];
        [self.managedObjectContext deleteObject:logToDelete];

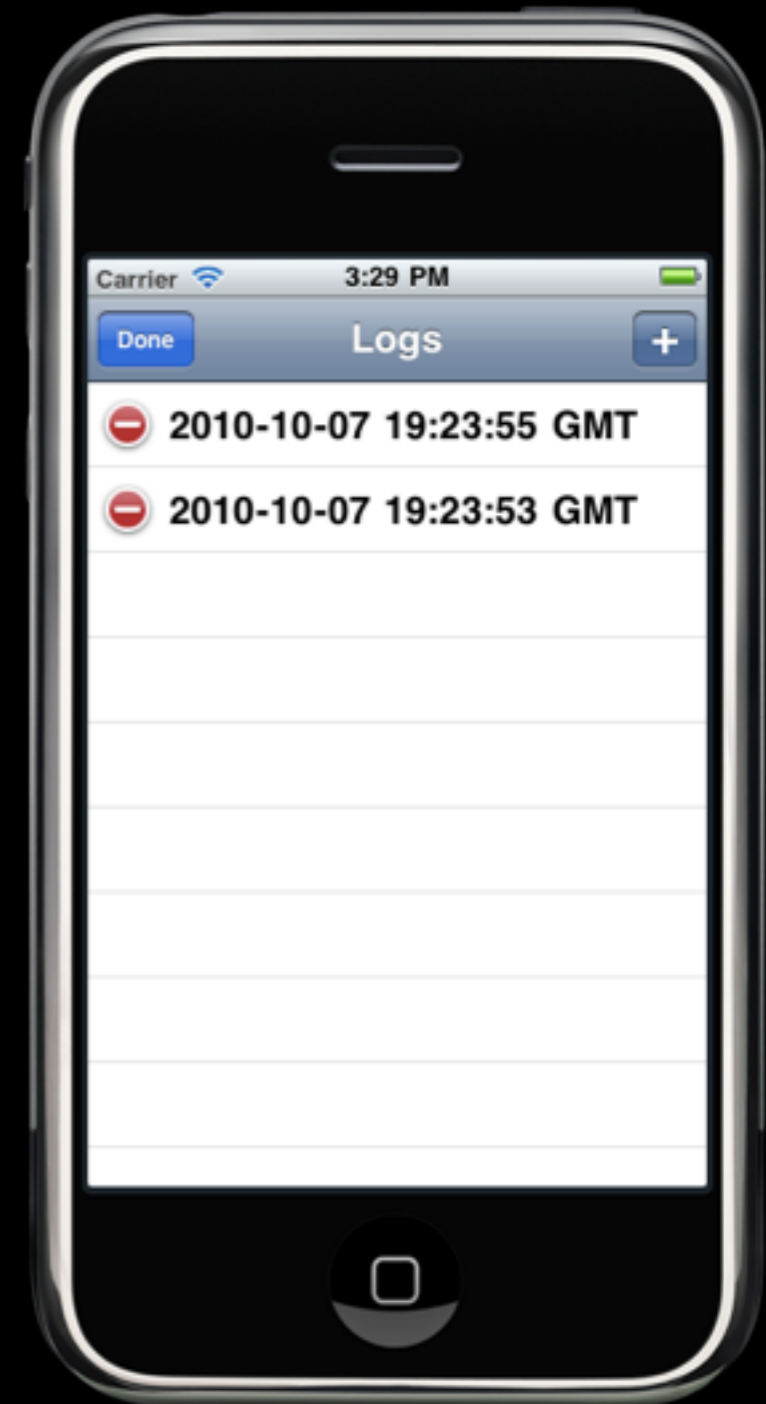
        NSError *error;
        if (![self.managedObjectContext save:&error]) {
            NSLog(@"Major Error");
        }

        [self.logs removeObjectAtIndex:indexPath.row];
        [tableView deleteRowsAtIndexPaths:[NSArray arrayWithObject:indexPath]
            withRowAnimation:YES];
    }
}

/* ... */
```

# Our App Thus Far

- Now we are able to successfully remove logs from our list
- We're also able to persist this change across launches of the app



# Editing Logs

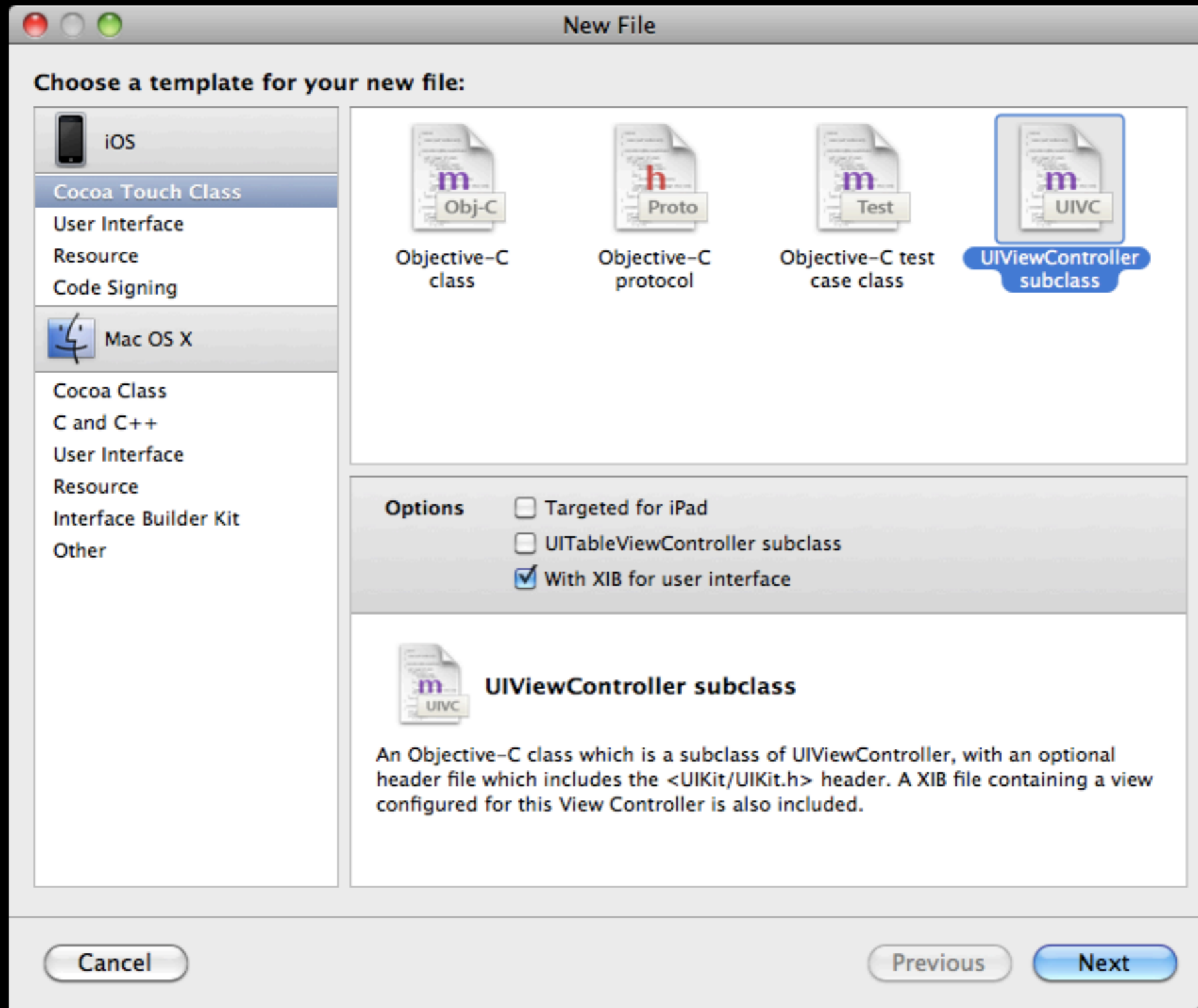
# Editing Logs

- At this point our app is pretty lame — we can only record timestamps for our Logs, but can't yet add a note for that entry
- Let's fix that...

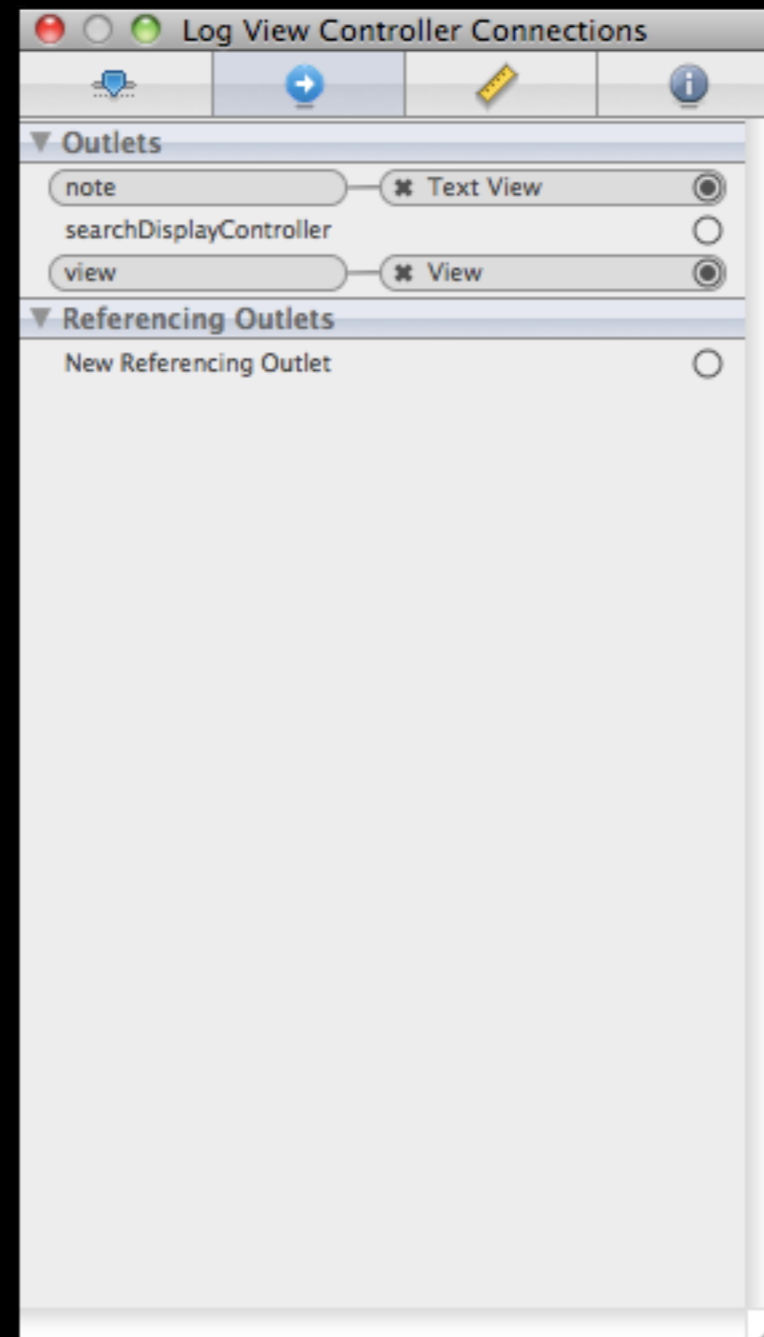
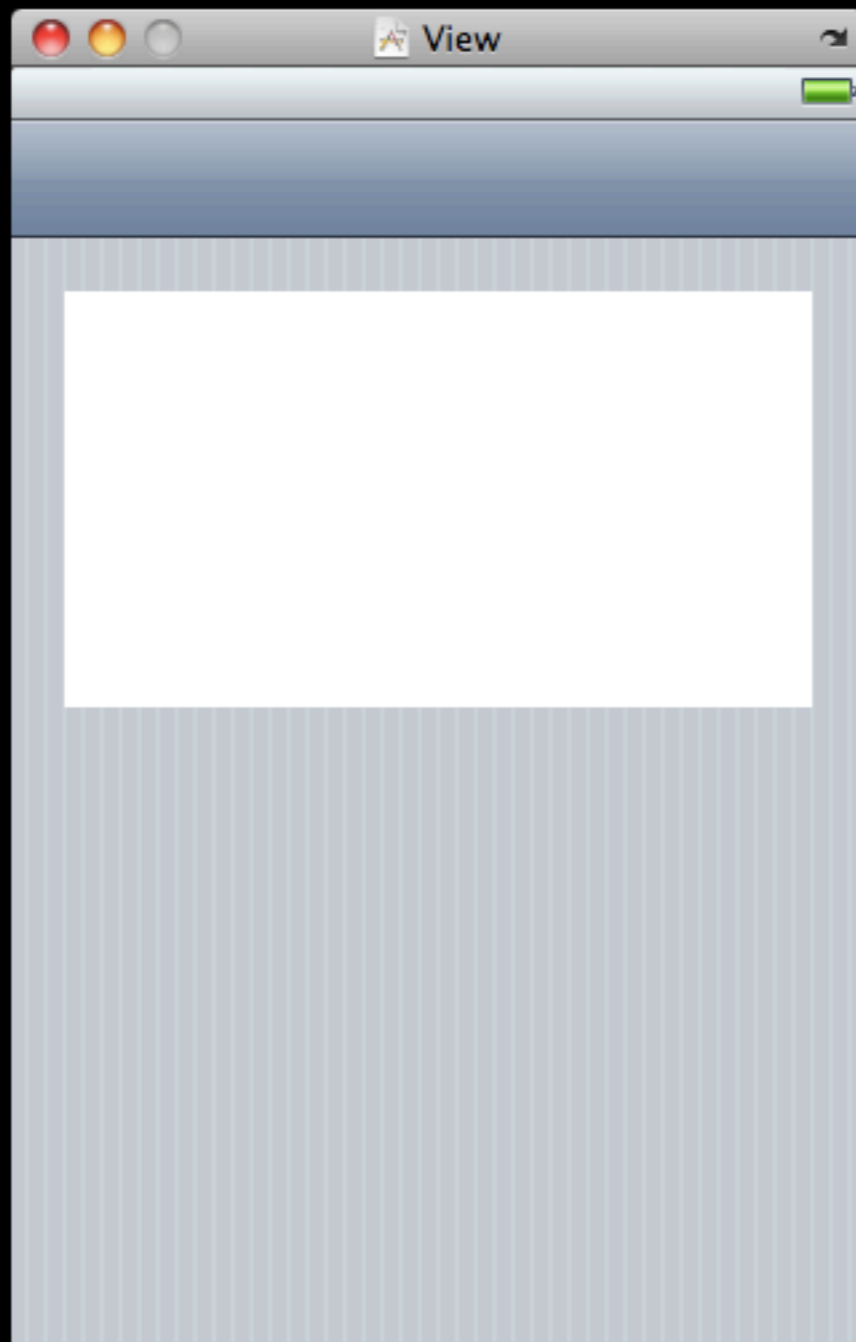
# LogViewController

- Let's create a LogViewController that can be used for editing a given Log
- We'll need to...
  - Create the view controller & NIB
  - Add a Log property for the Log being viewed
  - Design the UI in IB
  - Wire up the outlet
  - Load the UI with the value of the Log
- We'll also need to add the relevant Core Data code

# Creating the LogViewController



# LogViewController NIB



# LogViewController.h

```
#import <UIKit/UIKit.h>

@class Log;
@interface LogViewController : UIViewController {

}

@property (nonatomic, retain) Log *log;
@property (nonatomic, retain) IBOutlet UITextView *note;

@end
```



# LogViewController.m

```
#import "LogViewController.h"  
#import "Log.h"  
  
@implementation LogViewController  
  
@synthesize log, note;  
  
/* ... */  
  
@end
```

# Editing Logs

- To edit a record we'll simply make the changes on our managed object
- Then in order to save the changes, we'll need to get a handle back to the managed context — we can do this by asking the `NSManagedObject` for its context...

```
– (NSManagedObjectContext *)managedObjectContext;
```

- Then to actually persist the changes, we'll again commit the action using the following `NSManagedObjectContext` method...

```
– (BOOL)save:(NSError **)error;
```

# LogViewController.m

```
/* ... */

- (void)viewWillAppear:(BOOL)animated {
    [super viewWillAppear:animated];
    self.note.text = self.log.note;
}

- (void)viewWillDisappear:(BOOL)animated {
    [super viewWillDisappear:animated];
    self.log.note = self.note.text;
    NSManagedObjectContext *context = self.log.managedObjectContext;
    NSError *error;
    if (![context save:&error]) {
        NSLog(@"Major Error");
    }
}

/* ... */
```

# Changes to RootViewController

- We need to tell the Root VC about our Log VC
  - Property (with outlet)
  - Synthesize
  - Instantiate via IB
- Implement row selection code such that it...
  - Sets the selected row as the Log VC's Log
  - Push the Log VC onto the view stack

# RootViewController.h

```
#import <UIKit/UIKit.h>

@class LogViewController;

@interface RootViewController : UITableViewController {

}

@property (nonatomic, retain) NSMutableArray *logs;
@property (nonatomic, retain) NSManagedObjectContext *managedObjectContext;

@property (nonatomic, retain) IBOutlet LogViewController *logView;

@end
```

# RootViewController.m

```
#import "RootViewController.h"
#import "LogViewController.h"
#import "Log.h"

@implementation RootViewController

@synthesize logs;
@synthesize managedObjectContext;

@synthesize logView;

/* ... */

@end
```

# Modifying the RootViewController NIB

The image shows the Xcode interface for editing a Root View Controller. The interface is divided into three main panels:

- Root View Controller Connections:** Shows outlets for 'logView' (connected to Log View Controller), 'searchDisplayController', and 'view' (connected to Table View). It also shows referencing outlets for 'dataSource' and 'delegate' (both connected to Table View).
- Log View Controller Identity:** Shows the class identity as 'LogViewController' and the interface builder identity with fields for Name, Object ID (8), Lock (Nothing (Inherited)), Label, and Notes (Show With Selection).
- Log View Controller Attributes:** Shows simulated user interface elements like Orientation (Portrait), Status Bar (Gray), Top Bar (Unspecified), and Bottom Bar (Unspecified). It also shows view controller settings like Title, Layout (Wants Full Screen), NIB Name (LogViewController), and a checked 'Resize View From NIB' option.

In the foreground, a window titled 'RootViewController.xib' is open, displaying a list of objects in the nib:

Name	Type
File's Owner	RootViewController
First Responder	UIResponder
Table View	UITableView
Log View Controller	LogViewController

The status bar at the bottom indicates the project is 'Logs.xcodeproj'.

# RootViewController.m

```
- (void)tableView:(UITableView *)tableView
    didSelectRowAtIndexPath:(NSIndexPath *)indexPath {

    self.logView.log = [self.logs objectAtIndex:indexPath.row];
    [self.navigationController pushViewController:self.logView animated:YES];

}
```



# Our Finished App

- We're now can perform all CRUD operations on Logs...
  - Create
  - Read
  - Update
  - Delete
- Persisted across runs of the app



Odds & Ends

# A Note on Handling Errors

- In our simple app, if the data can't be saved it's likely to be indicative of some sort of catastrophic failure from which recovery might be difficult or impossible
  - Might present an alert telling the user to restart the app
- In a more complex app, the user might have changed managed objects in such they are in inconsistent state
  - Meaning they failed to meet the model's constraints
- If we had multiple managed object contexts, it's possible that the persistent store was updated and objects got out of sync between stores
- In general, you can interrogate the error object to find out what went wrong and decide what to do from there

# Accessing the SQLite Database

- Sometimes it may be useful to interact with the underlying SQLite database directory when developing your app
  - Populate initial data
  - Manipulate data that's not (yet) accessible via UI
  - Debug what's going on
- The app's SQLite database resides under Documents/

```
bash-3.2$ cd ~/Library/Application\ Support/iPhone\ Simulator/4.1/Applications/
```

```
bash-3.2$ cd `ls -1 -t | head -n 1`/Documents
```

```
bash-3.2$ ls
```

```
Logs.sqlite
```

```
bash-3.2$
```

# Connecting to the SQLite Database

- To connect to a SQLite database you simply issue the `sqlite3` command, followed by the name of the database file
- I tend to set the `.headers` and `.mode` options as shown below — this tends to make the output more readable

```
bash-3.2$ sqlite3 Logs.sqlite
SQLite version 3.6.12
Enter ".help" for instructions
Enter SQL statements terminated with a ";"
sqlite> .headers ON
sqlite> .mode column
sqlite>
```

# Querying the SQLite Database

- You can use the `.tables` command to get a listing of all tables in the database
- Below I'm querying the `ZLOG` table which contains our managed Log objects

```
sqlite> .tables
```

```
ZLOG          Z_METADATA    Z_PRIMARYKEY
```

```
sqlite> select * from ZLOG;
```

Z_PK	Z_ENT	Z_OPT	ZTIMECREATED	ZNOTE
1	1	5	308172233.159379	Got Done Go
2	1	4	308172235.064852	Blah blah b
4	1	2	308173442.860356	Finish TPS

```
sqlite>
```

# Modifying the SQLite Database

- You can also update data here using normal SQL statements
- It's probably best to exit out of your app while making changes unless you understand how the persistence stores will be affected

```
sqlite> update ZLOG set ZNOTE = 'Finished Diligently Working' where Z_PK = 2;
```

```
sqlite> select * from ZLOG;
```

Z_PK	Z_ENT	Z_OPT	ZTIMECREATED	ZNOTE
1	1	5	308172233.159379	Foo bar Baz
2	1	4	308172235.064852	Finished Di
4	1	2	308173442.860356	Finish TPS

```
sqlite>
```

# Changes to Our App's Data

- After re-launching the app, we see the changes we made manually in SQLite reflected in the UI





# Complex Object Graphs

- We only looked at persisting a single object into a one table
- Core Data is very powerful and can manage persisting an entire object graph where there are several types of objects mapping to many tables
- Core Data can also manage the relationships between these objects for you and work the connections in both directions
- For example, if we had student and course objects we can model the relationship (many-to-many in this case) and ask questions such as...
  - What all courses are this student in?
  - What students are in this course?

# Additional Resources

- Introduction to Core Data Programming Guide
  - <http://developer.apple.com/library/ios/#documentation/Cocoa/Conceptual/CoreData/>
- Getting Started with Core Data
  - <http://developer.apple.com/library/ios/#referencelibrary/GettingStarted/GettingStartedWithCoreData/>
- Core Data Tutorial for iOS
  - <http://developer.apple.com/library/ios/#documentation/DataManagement/Conceptual/iPhoneCoreData01/>

# For Next Class

- Prep for your Final Project Initial Presentation
  - Slides due Monday, October 11th by 11:59pm