Adopting Handoff on iOS and OS X

Session 219
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Engineering

Vince Spader
Cocoa Frameworks Engineer

Keith Stattenfield
CoreFrameworks Engineer


iOS

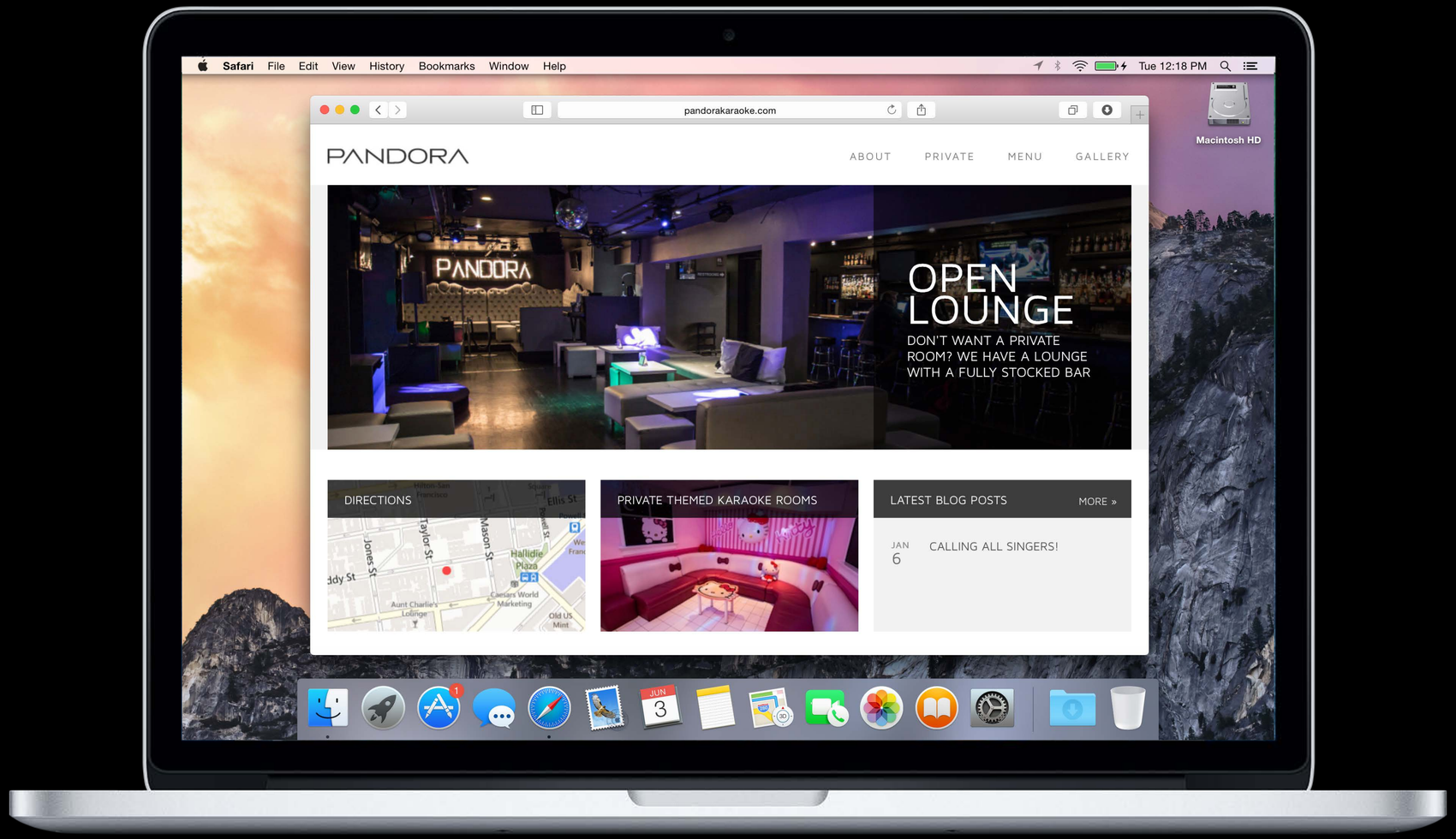
What You Will Learn

What is Handoff

Adopting Handoff in your app

In-depth Handoff adoption

What is Handoff?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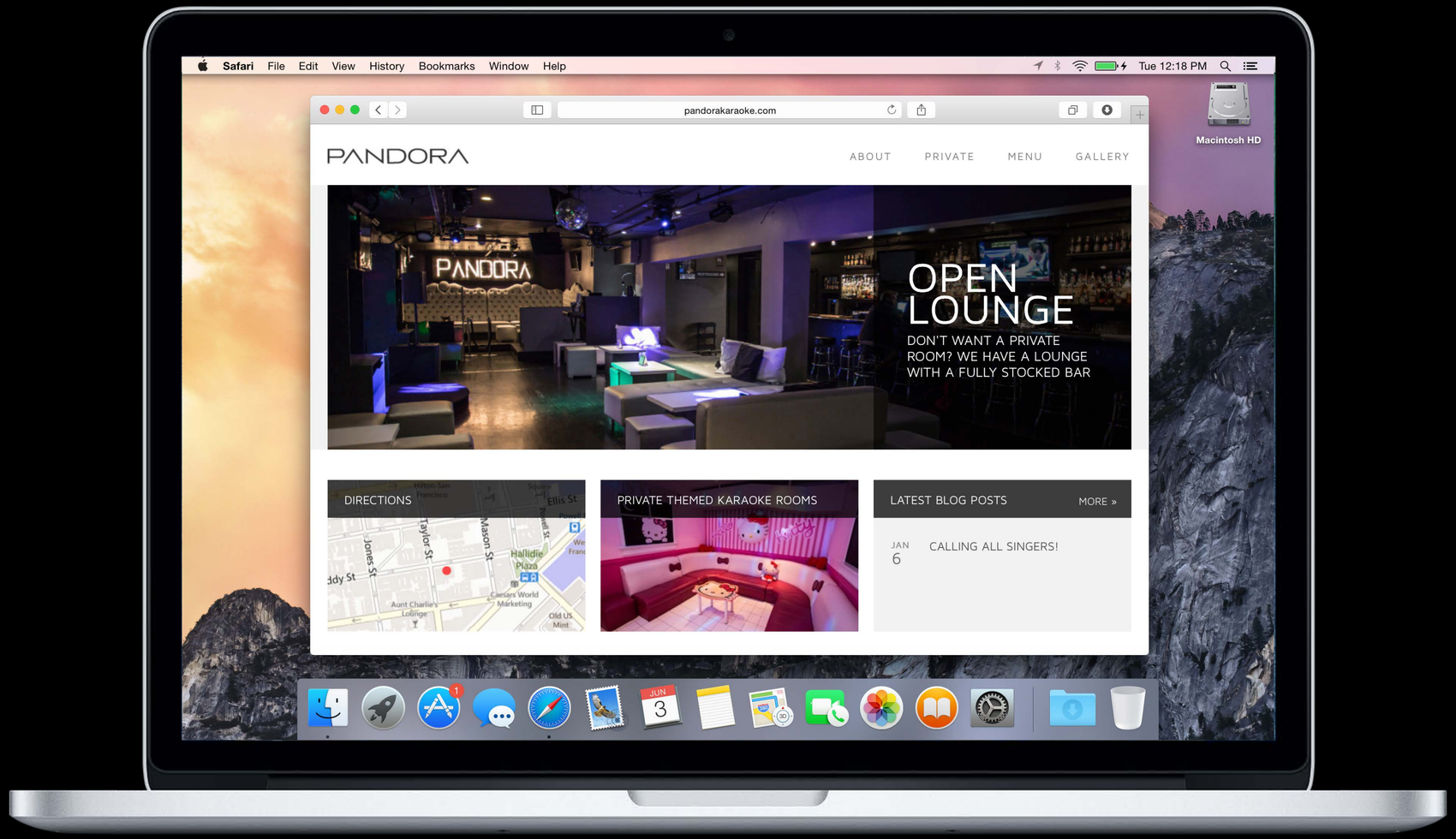
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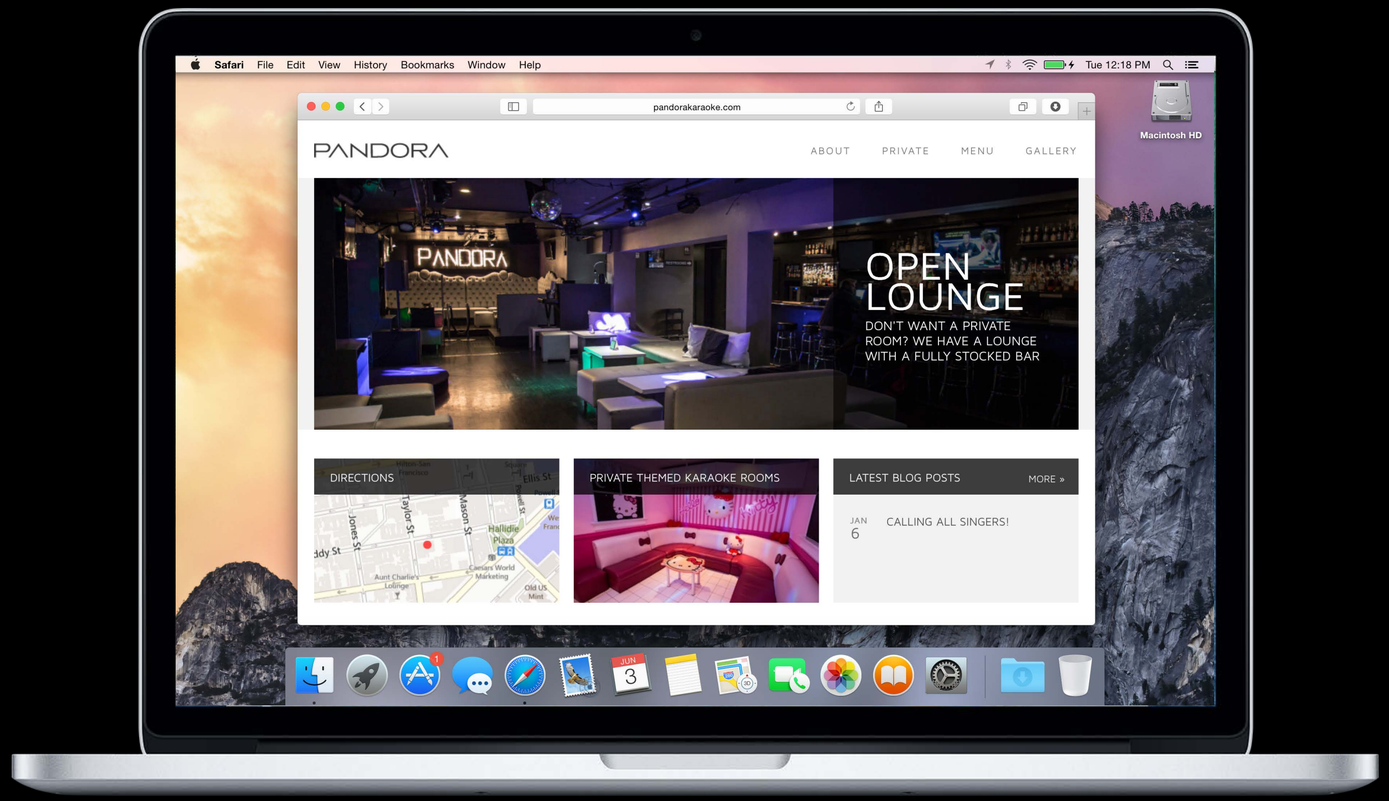
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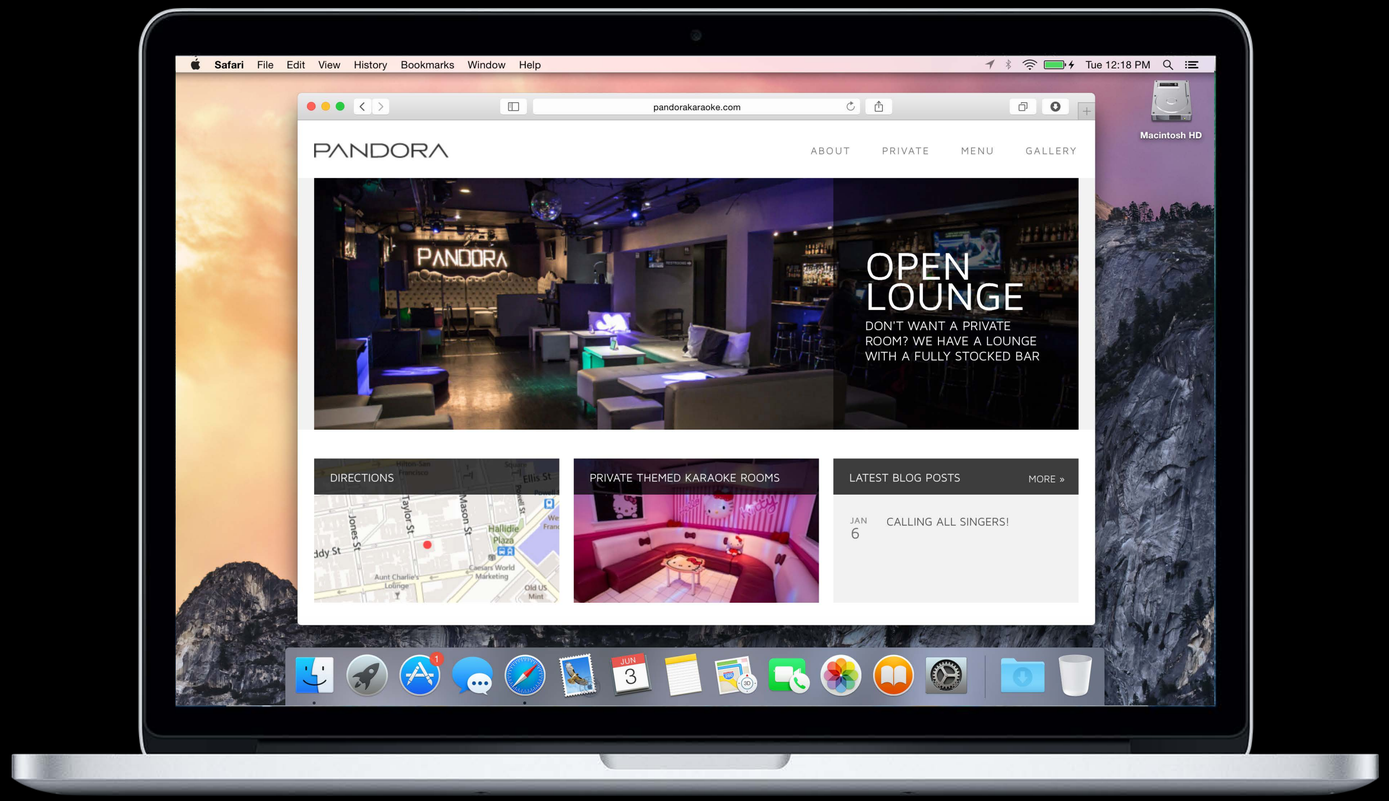
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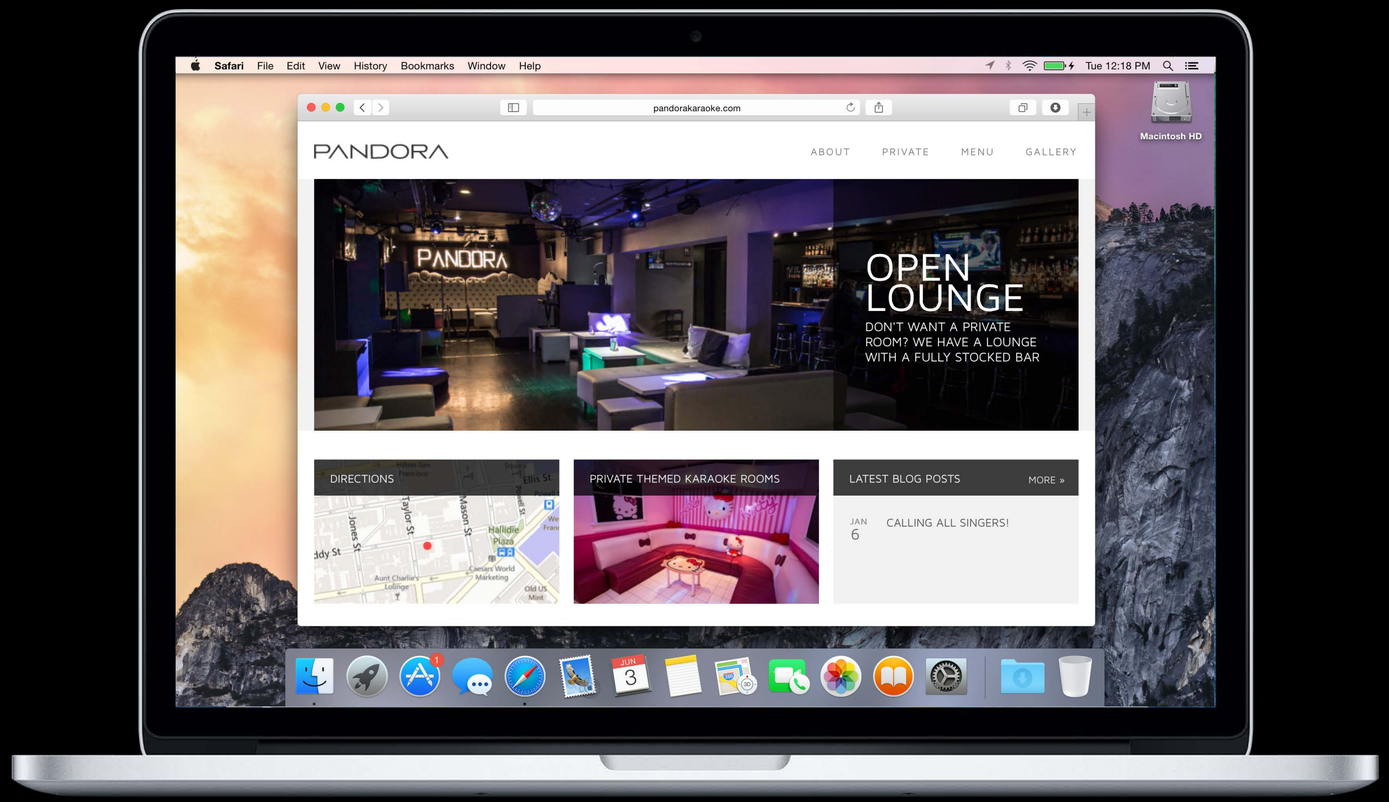
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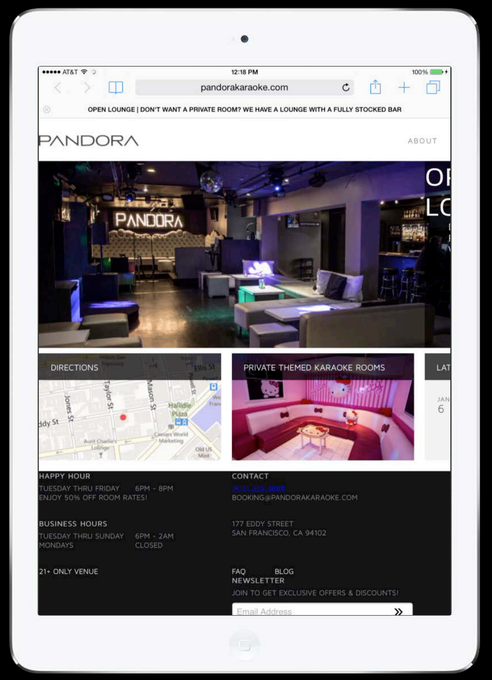
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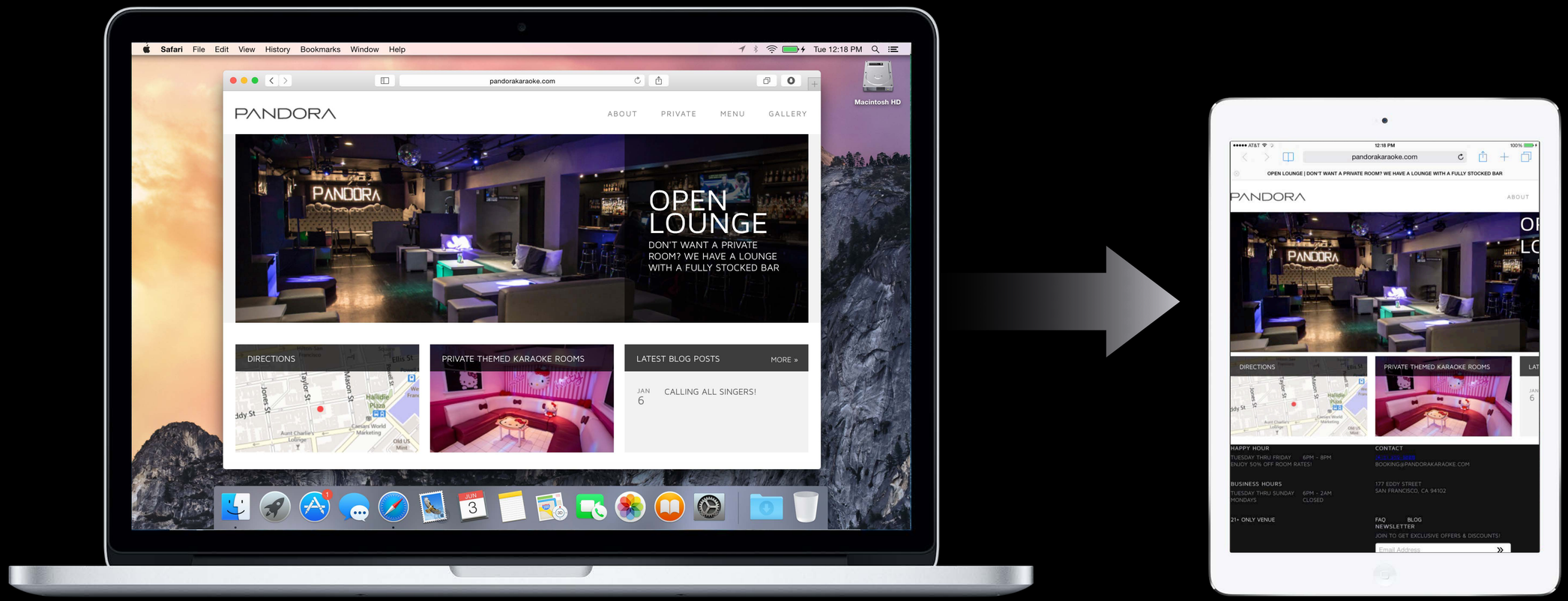
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Mail from Jury's iPad

Adopting Handoff

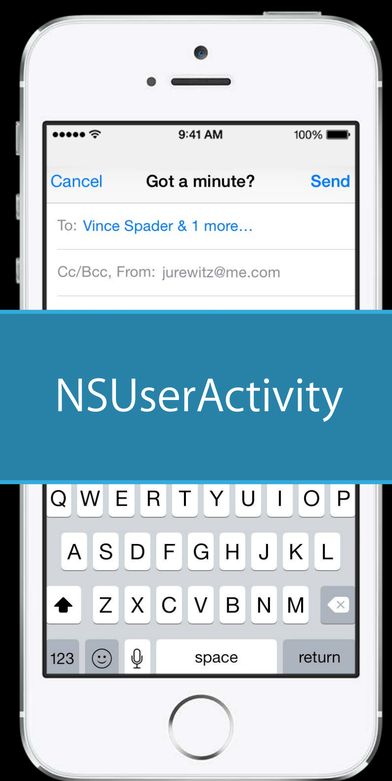
Decide which activities to support in your app

Create activities in specific parts of your app

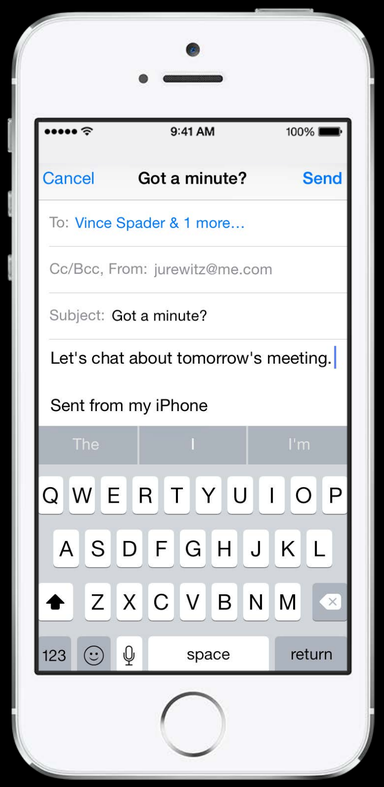
Handle continuing incoming activities in your app

Activity

NSUserActivity



NSUserActivity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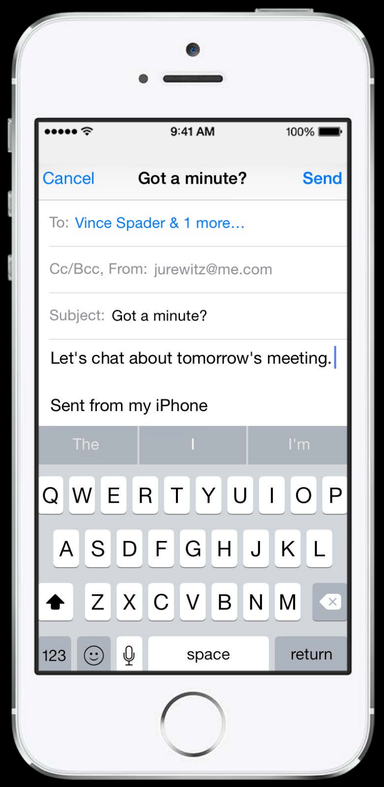
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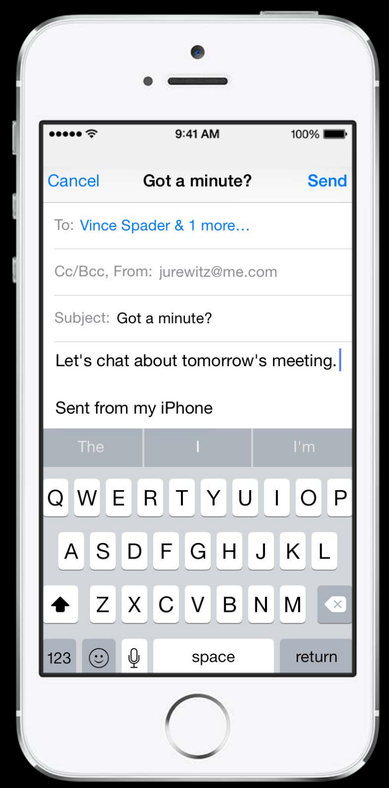
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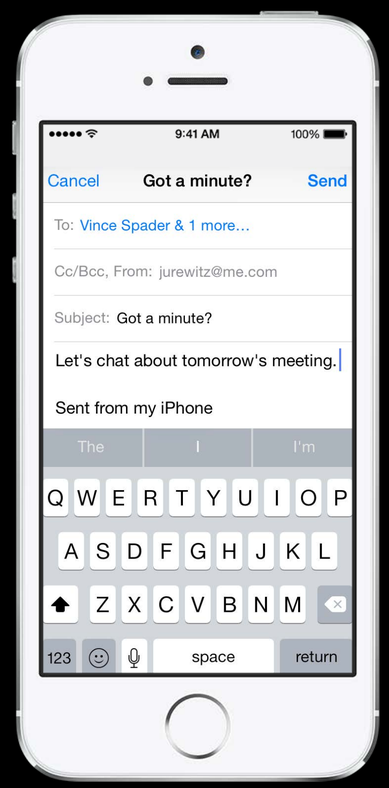
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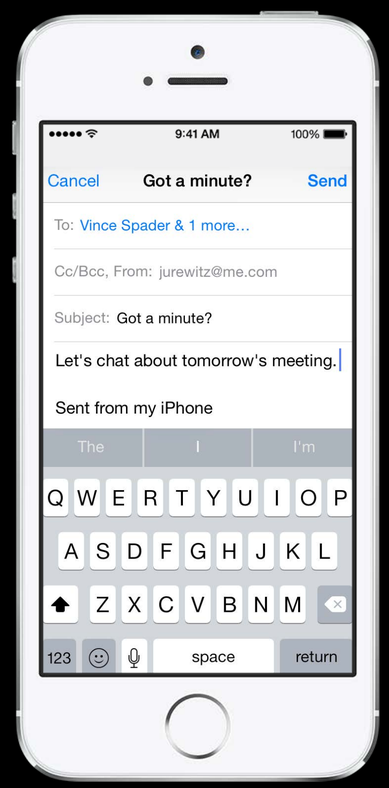
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Additional Handoff Support

Streams between applications in two devices

Handoff between native app and website you own

Agenda

AppKit and UIKit support for adopting Handoff

Working with NSUserActivity directly

Native app to website Handoff

Using continuation streams between apps

Adopting Handoff in Your App

Vince Spader
Cocoa Frameworks Engineer

Adopting Handoff in Your App

AppKit/UIKit support for Handoff

Creating

Updating

Continuing

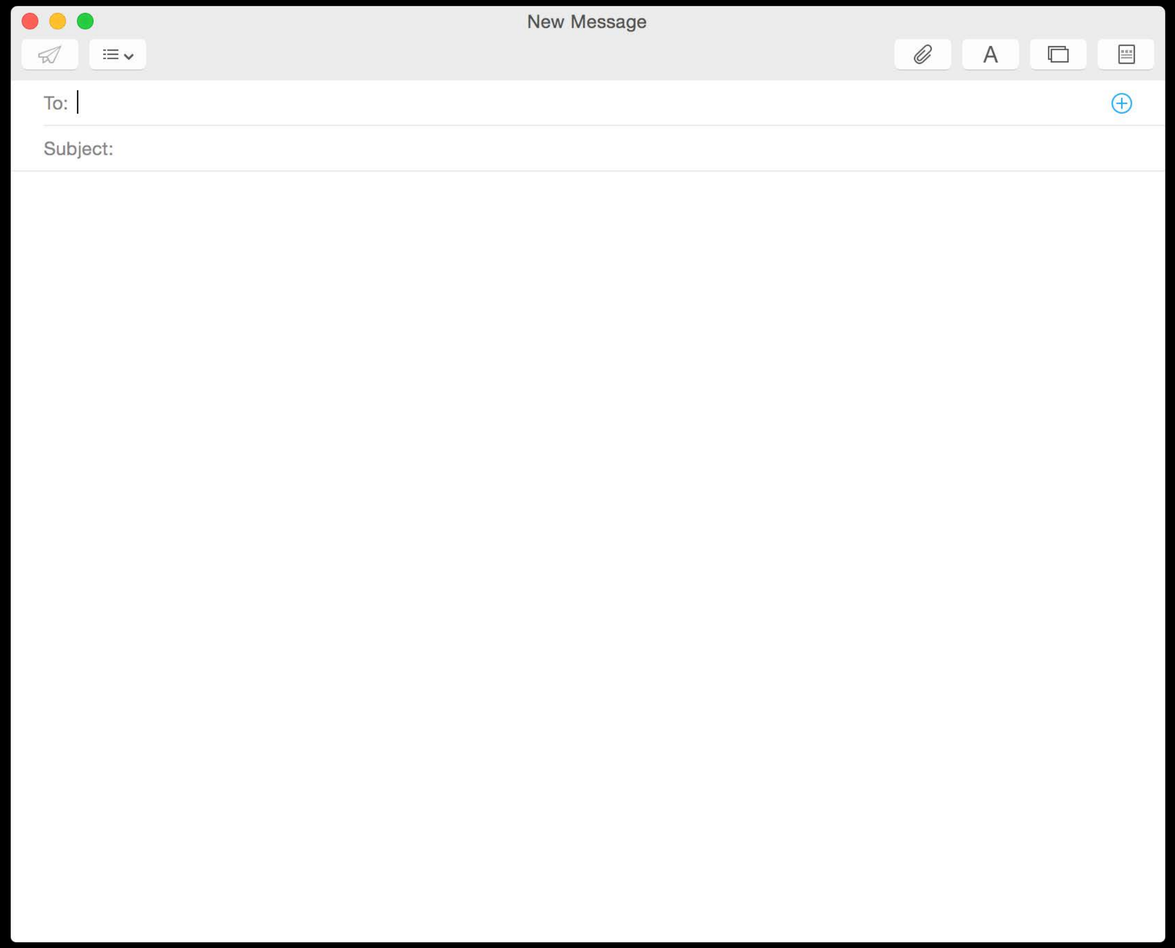
Creating User Activities

Creating User Activities

What do users do in your app?

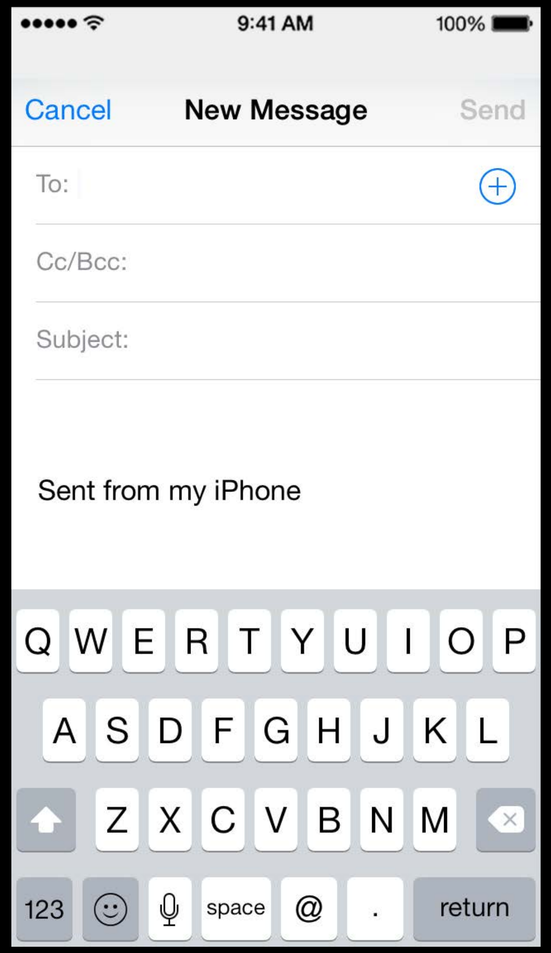
Creating User Activities

What do users do in your app?



Creating User Activities

What do users do in your app?



Creating User Activities

What do users do in your app?

Reading messages

Picking an item from a list

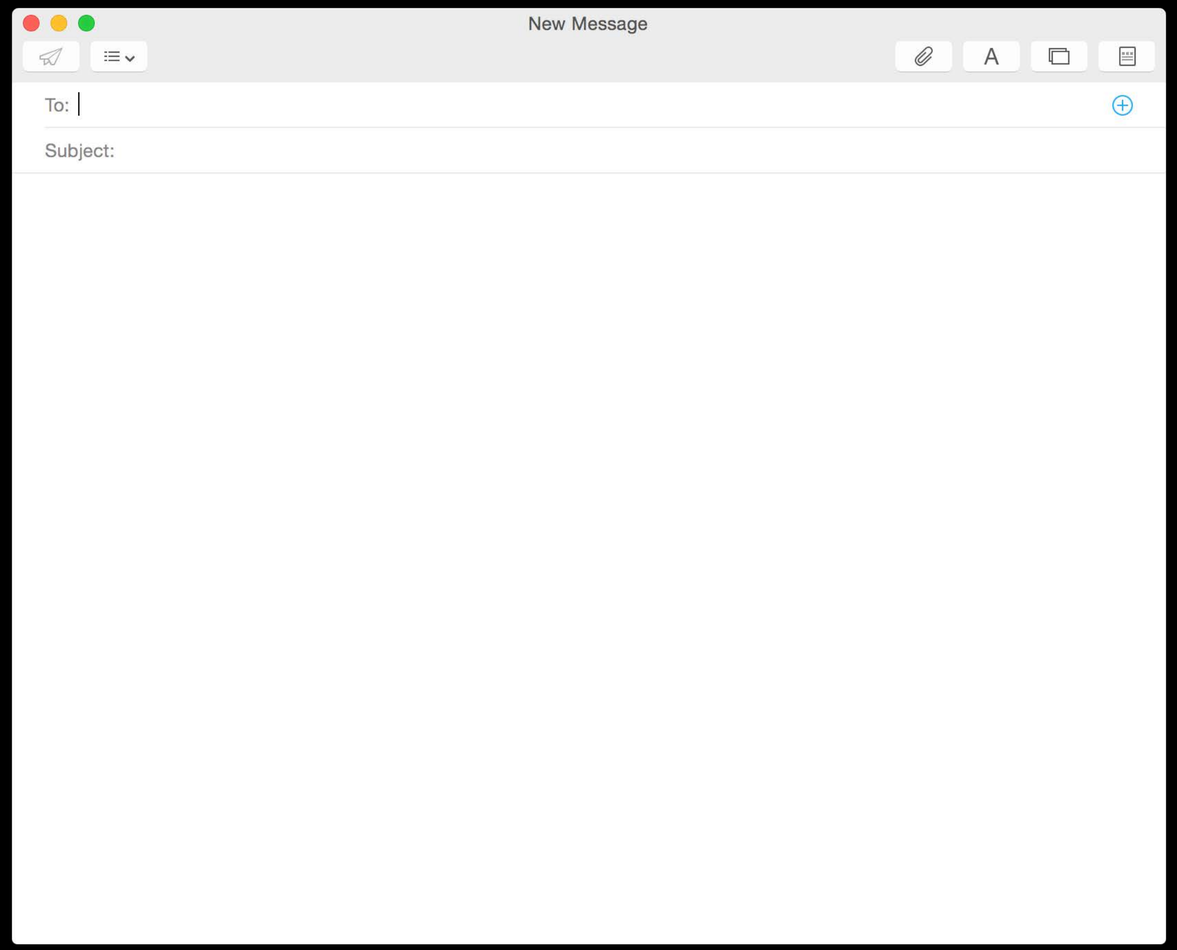
Editing a document

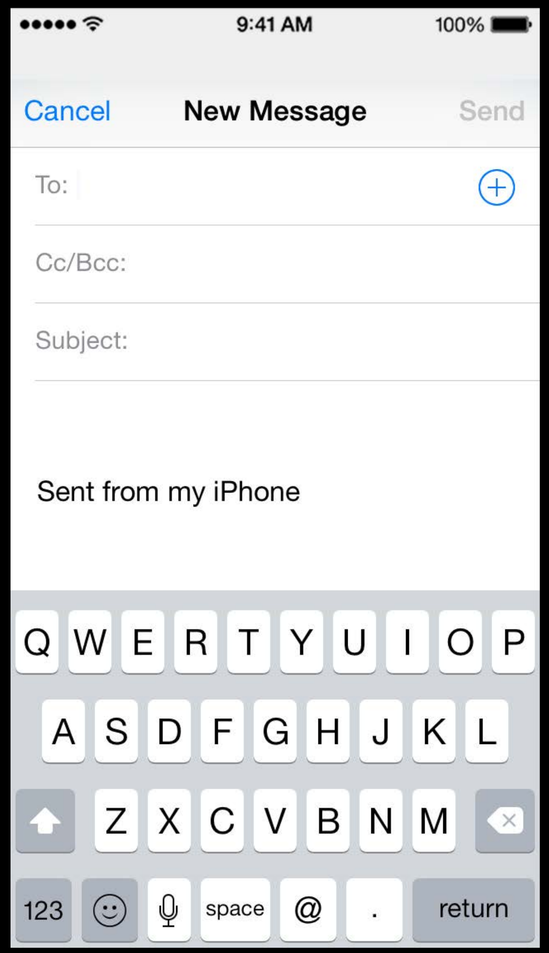
Creating User Activities

What do users do in your app?

Creating User Activities

What do users do in your app?





Creating User Activities

Documents and Responders

Creating User Activities

Documents and Responders

NSDocument, UIDocument, NSResponder and UIResponder now have:

```
@property (strong) NSUserActivity *userActivity;
```

Creating User Activities

Documents and Responders

NSDocument, UIDocument, NSResponder and UIResponder now have:

```
@property (strong) NSUserActivity *userActivity;
```

You can set it like this:

```
NSUserActivity *userActivity = [[NSUserActivity alloc]
  initWithActivityType:@“com.company.viewing-message”];
userActivity.title = @“Viewing Message”;
document.userActivity = userActivity;
```

Creating User Activities

Document-based apps

Creating User Activities

Document-based apps

Add `NSUbiquitousDocumentUserActivityType` to each `CFBundleDocumentTypes` entry

Key	Type	Value
Information Property List	Dictionary	(15 items)
Localization native development region	String	en
Document types	Array	(1 item)
Item 0 (DocumentType)	Dictionary	(7 items)
CFBundleTypeExtensions	Array	(1 item)
Icon File Name	String	
Document Type Name	String	DocumentType
Document OS Types	Array	(1 item)
Role	String	Editor
Cocoa NSDocument Class	String	Document
NSUbiquitousDocumentUserActivityType	String	com.company.editing-mydoc

Creating User Activities

Document-based apps

Creating User Activities

Document-based apps

We set `userActivity` automatically when the document is in iCloud

Creating User Activities

Document-based apps

We set `userActivity` automatically when the document is in iCloud

- On OS X, you can KVO

Creating User Activities

Other apps

Creating User Activities

Other apps

`NSUserActivityTypes` in Info.plist

Key	Type	Value
Information Property List	Dictionary	(15 items)
Localization native development r...	String	en
Executable file	String	${EXECUTABLE_NAME}
Bundle identifier	String	com.company.${PRODUCT_NAME:rfc1034identifier}
InfoDictionary version	String	6.0
NSUserActivityTypes	Array	(2 items)
Item 0	String	com.company.viewing-message
Item 1	String	com.company.composing-message
Bundle name	String	${PRODUCT_NAME}

Creating User Activities

Documents and Responders

Creating User Activities

Documents and Responders

We manage it for you

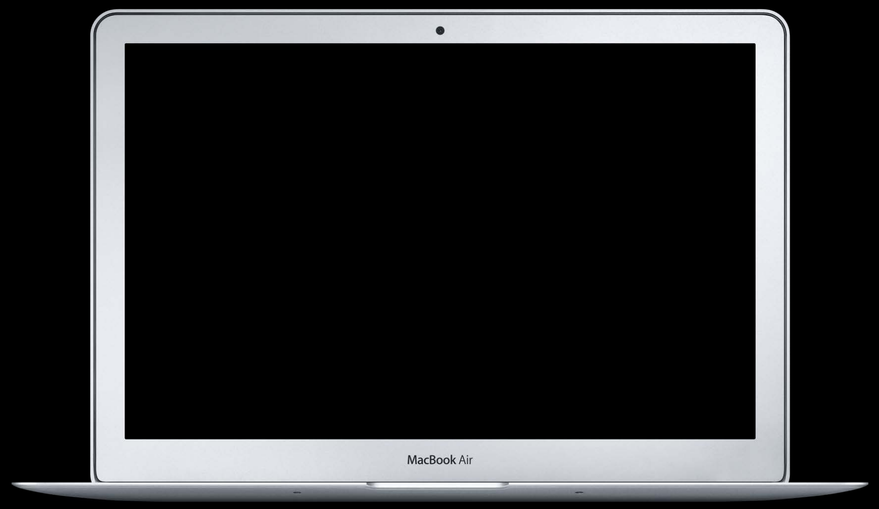
Creating User Activities

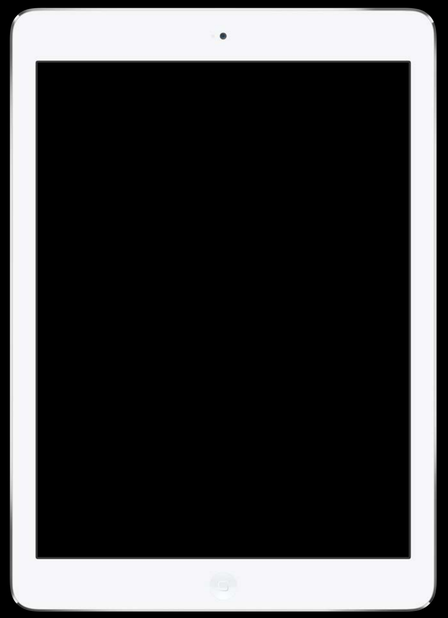
Documents and Responders

We manage it for you

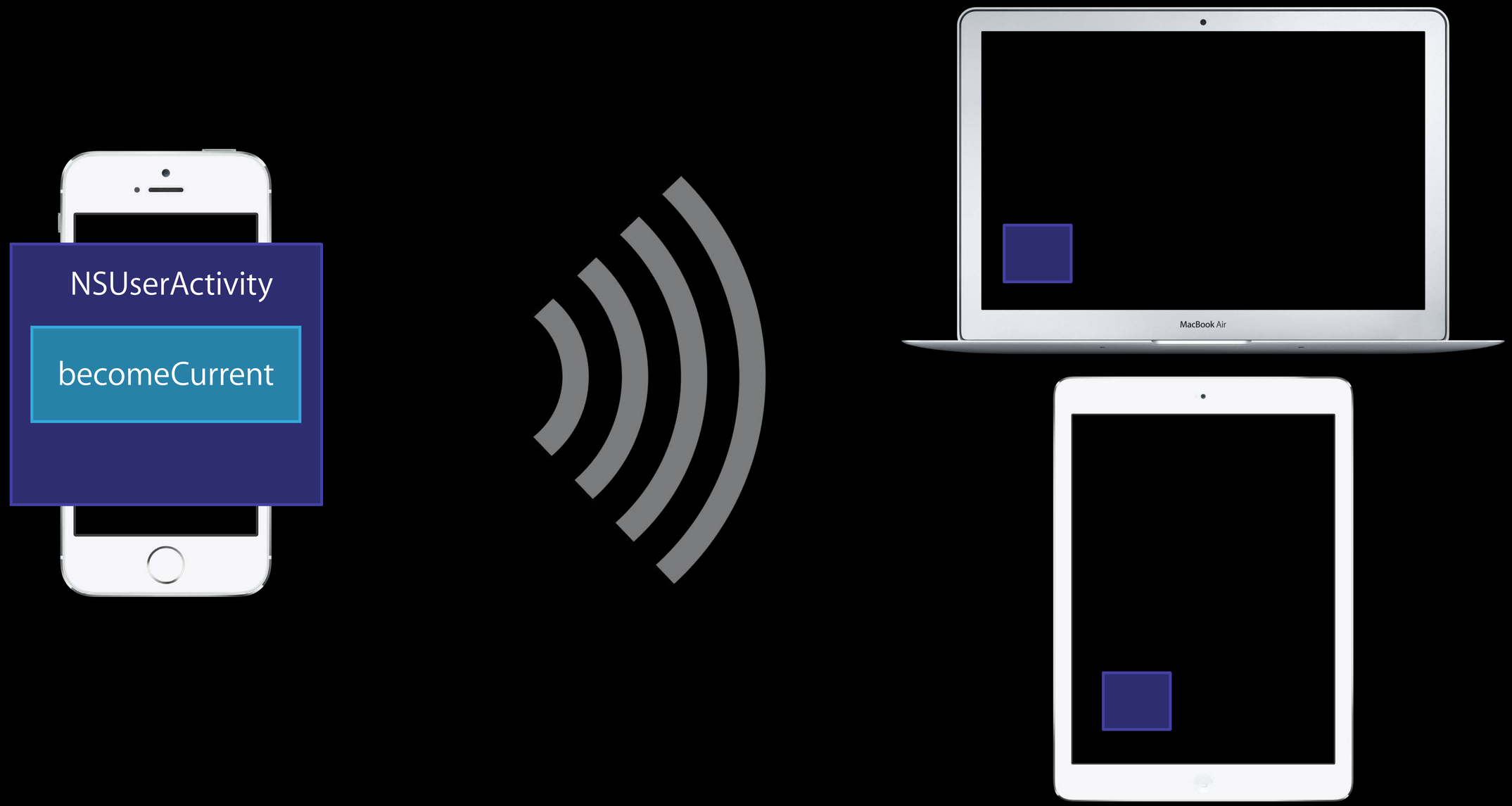
- We call `becomeCurrent`

Creating User Activities





Creating User Activities



Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on iOS

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on iOS

When the app is launched, comes into the foreground, or tabs are switched:

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on iOS

When the app is launched, comes into the foreground, or tabs are switched:

- UIKit walks the view controller hierarchy

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on iOS

When the app is launched, comes into the foreground, or tabs are switched:

- UIKit walks the view controller hierarchy
  - Including presented view controllers

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on iOS

When the app is launched, comes into the foreground, or tabs are switched:

- UIKit walks the view controller hierarchy
  - Including presented view controllers
  - The view controller's view must be in the view hierarchy

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on iOS

When the app is launched, comes into the foreground, or tabs are switched:

- UIKit walks the view controller hierarchy
  - Including presented view controllers
  - The view controller's view must be in the view hierarchy

When userActivity is set:

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on iOS

When the app is launched, comes into the foreground, or tabs are switched:

- UIKit walks the view controller hierarchy
  - Including presented view controllers
  - The view controller's view must be in the view hierarchy

When userActivity is set:

- If the view controller is in a transition, we wait until after it's done

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on iOS

When the app is launched, comes into the foreground, or tabs are switched:

- UIKit walks the view controller hierarchy
  - Including presented view controllers
  - The view controller's view must be in the view hierarchy

When userActivity is set:

- If the view controller is in a transition, we wait until after it's done
- If the view controller's view is in the window hierarchy

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on iOS

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on iOS

UIDocument will not `becomeCurrent` automatically.

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on iOS

UIDocument will not `becomeCurrent` automatically.

Share the userActivity:

```
[document openWithCompletionHandler:^(BOOL success) {
    viewController.userActivity = document.userActivity;
    …
}];
```

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on OS X

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on OS X

AppKit looks for a `userActivity`:

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on OS X

AppKit looks for a `userActivity`:

- Main window's responder chain

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on OS X

AppKit looks for a `userActivity`:

- Main window's responder chain
- Main window controller's document

Creating User Activities

becomeCurrent on OS X

AppKit looks for a `userActivity`:

- Main window's responder chain
- Main window controller's document

We'll reevaluate when appropriate

Creating User Activities

Documents and Responders

Creating User Activities

Documents and Responders

We manage it for you

- We call `becomeCurrent`

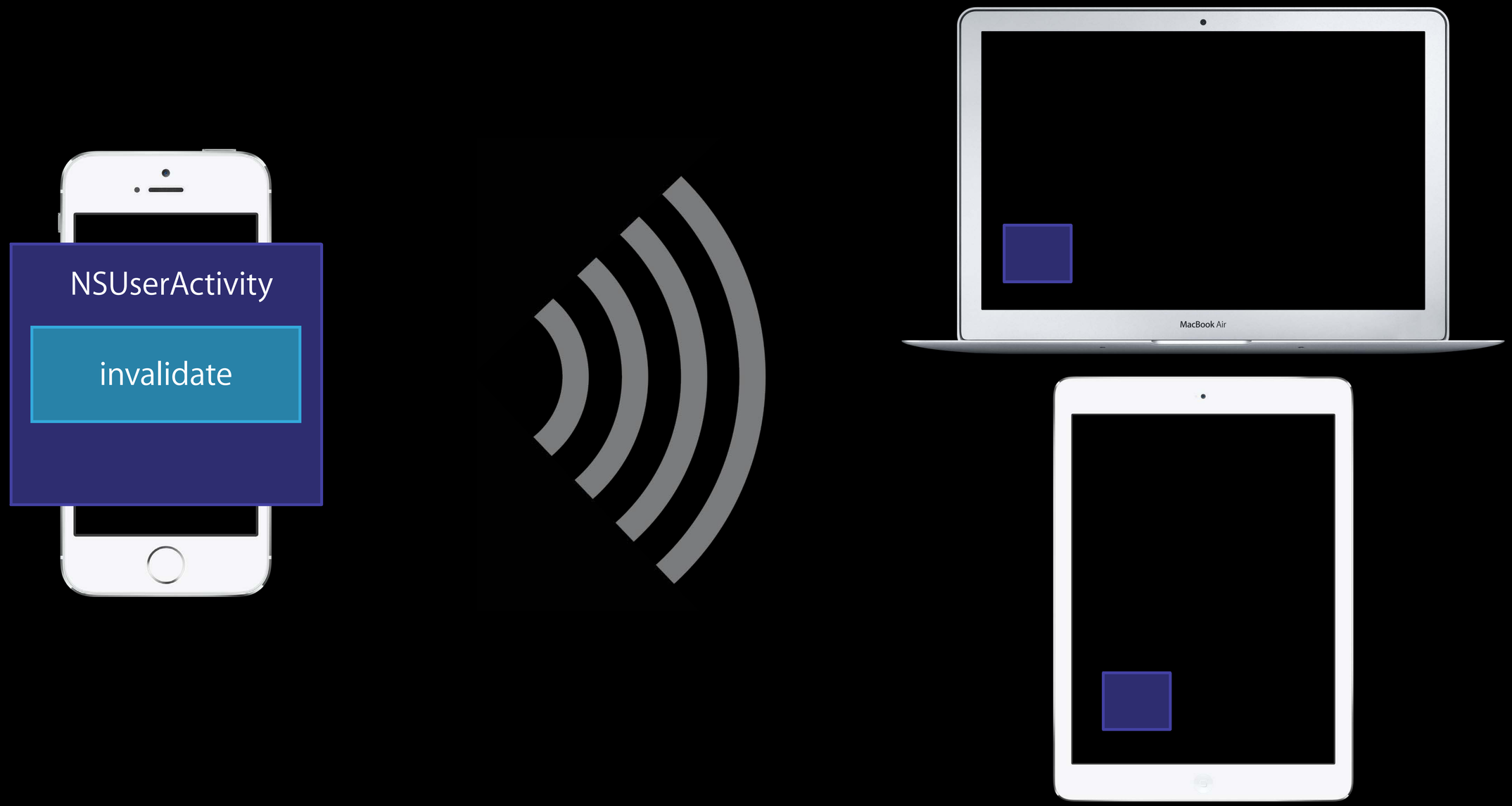
Creating User Activities

Documents and Responders

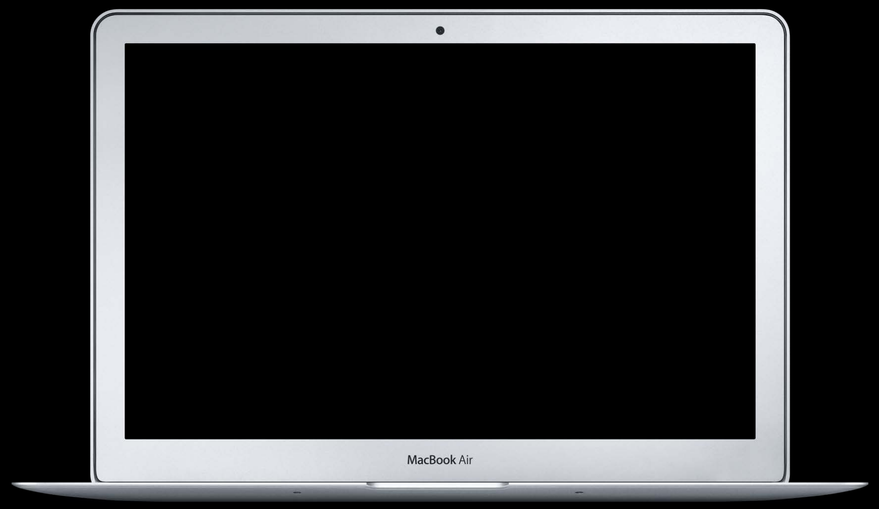
We manage it for you

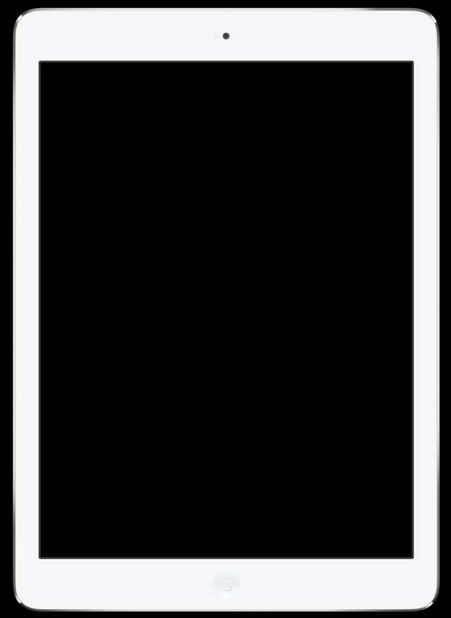
- We call `becomeCurrent`
- We call `invalidate`

Creating User Activities



Creating User Activities





Updating User Activities

Updating User Activities

Documents and Responders

Updating User Activities

Documents and Responders

NSUserActivity has a `userInfo` dictionary

Updating User Activities

Documents and Responders

NSUserActivity has a `userInfo` dictionary

Override:

```
- (void)updateUserActivityState:(NSUserActivity *)userActivity
```

Updating User Activities

Documents and Responders

NSUserActivity has a `userInfo` dictionary

Override:

```
- (void)updateUserActivityState:(NSUserActivity *)userActivity
```

The userInfo is emptied each time

Updating User Activities

Documents and Responders

Updating User Activities

Documents and Responders

Something like this:

```
- (void)updateUserActivityState:(NSUserActivity *)userActivity {
    [super updateUserActivityState:userActivity];

    [userActivity addUserInfoEntriesFromDictionary:@{
       @“messageID”: self.messageID,
    }];
}
```

Updating User Activities

Documents and Responders

Something like this:

```
- (void)updateUserActivityState:(NSUserActivity *)userActivity {
    [super updateUserActivityState:userActivity];

    [userActivity addUserInfoEntriesFromDictionary:@{
       @“messageID”: self.messageID,
    }];
}
```

When your info is stale:
userActivity.needsSave = YES;

Updating User Activities

What to include

Updating User Activities

What to include

Can store NSArray, NSData, NSDate, NSDictionary, NSNull, NSNumber, NSSet, NSString, NSUUID, or NSURL

Updating User Activities

What to include

Can store NSArray, NSData, NSDate, NSDictionary, NSNull, NSNumber, NSSet, NSString, NSUUID, or NSURL

File URLs in iCloud or from a document provider are OK

Updating User Activities

What to include

Updating User Activities

What to include

Keep the minimal amount of information in the userInfo

Updating User Activities

What to include

Keep the minimal amount of information in the userInfo

- Just the state

Updating User Activities

What to include

Keep the minimal amount of information in the userInfo

- Just the state
- Avoid platform specifics

Updating User Activities

What to include

Keep the minimal amount of information in the userInfo

- Just the state
- Avoid platform specifics
- NS/UIDocument will add its `fileURL` with `NSUserActivityDocumentURLKey`

Updating User Activities

What to include

Updating User Activities

What to include

Think about versioning

Updating User Activities

What to include

Think about versioning

Maybe something like:

```
- (void)application:(NS/UIApplication *)application
        didUpdateUserActivity:(NSUserActivity *)userActivity {
    [userActivity addUserInfoEntriesFromDictionary:@{
       @“handoffVersion”: @“2.0”,
    }];
}
```

Continuing User Activities

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

We start fetching it from the other device:

```
- (BOOL)application:(NS/UIApplication *)application
        willContinueUserActivityWithType:(NSString *)activityType;
```

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

We start fetching it from the other device:

```
- (BOOL)application:(NS/UIApplication *)application
        willContinueUserActivityWithType:(NSString *)activityType;
```

Use this to show the user what's being continued

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

```
- (BOOL)application:(NS/UIApplication *)application
      willContinueUserActivityWithType:(NSString *)activityType {
   if ([activityType isEqual:@“com.company.viewing-message”]) {

      id vc = [[MessageViewController alloc] init];
      vc.showLoadingIndicator = YES;
      [self showMessageViewController:vc];

      return YES;
   }

   return NO;
}
```

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

We got the activity:

```
- (BOOL)application:(NS/UIApplication *)application
  continueUserActivity:(NSUserActivity *)userActivity
  restorationHandler:
    (void(^)(NSArray *restorableObjects))restorationHandler;
```

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

We got the activity:

```
- (BOOL)application:(NS/UIApplication *)application
  continueUserActivity:(NSUserActivity *)userActivity
  restorationHandler:
    (void(^)(NSArray *restorableObjects))restorationHandler;
```

Reconstruct the user's activity

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

We got the activity:

```
- (BOOL)application:(NS/UIApplication *)application
  continueUserActivity:(NSUserActivity *)userActivity
  restorationHandler:
    (void(^)(NSArray *restorableObjects))restorationHandler;
```

Reconstruct the user's activity

Call the restorationHandler, passing it an array of documents or responders that present the user activity

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

Here's an example:

```
- (BOOL)application:continueUserActivity:restorationHandler: {
   NSString *activityType = activity.activityType;
   if ([activityType isEqual:@"com.company.viewing-message"]) {
      id vc = [[MessageViewController alloc] init];
      …
      restorationHandler(@[vc]);

      return YES;
   }
   return NO;
}
```

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

Here's an example:

```
- (BOOL)application:continueUserActivity:restorationHandler: {
   NSString *activityType = activity.activityType;
   if ([activityType isEqual:@"com.company.viewing-message"]) {
      id vc = [[MessageViewController alloc] init];
      …
      restorationHandler(@[vc]);

      return YES;
   }
   return NO;
}
```

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

```
@implementation MessageViewController
…
- (void)restoreUserActivityState:(NSUserActivity *)activity {
    [super restoreUserActivityState:activity];

    [self setMessageID:activity.userInfo[@“messageID”]];
    …
    id cvc = [[ConversationViewController alloc] init];
    …
    [cvc restoreUserActivityState:activity];
}
…
@end
```

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

```
@implementation ConversationViewController
…
- (void)restoreUserActivityState:(NSUserActivity *)activity {
   [super restoreUserActivityState:activity];

   NSString *version = activity.userInfo[@“handoffVersion”]
   BOOL isOldVersion = [self isOldVersion:version];

   NSString *recipientKey = isOldVersion ? @“to” : @“rcptID”;
   self.recipient = activity.userInfo[recipientKey];
   [self updateRecipientImage];
}
…
```

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

If there was an error:

```
- (void)application:(NS/UIApplication *)application
    didFailToContinueUserActivityWithType:(NSString *)activityType
    error:(NSError *)error;
```

Continuing User Activity

App Delegate

If there was an error:

```
- (void)application:(NS/UIApplication *)application
    didFailToContinueUserActivityWithType:(NSString *)activityType
    error:(NSError *)error;
```

Can be `NSUserCancelledError`!

Continuing User Activity

Document-based app

Continuing User Activity

Document-based app

On iOS, you continue the user activity:

```
- (BOOL)application:continueUserActivity:restorationHandler: {
…
   NSURL *url = activity.userInfo[NSUserActivityDocumentURLKey];
   MyDocument *doc = [[MyDocument alloc] initWithFileURL:url];

   restorationHandler(@[doc]);

   return YES;
…
```

Continuing User Activity

Document-based app

Continuing User Activity

Document-based app

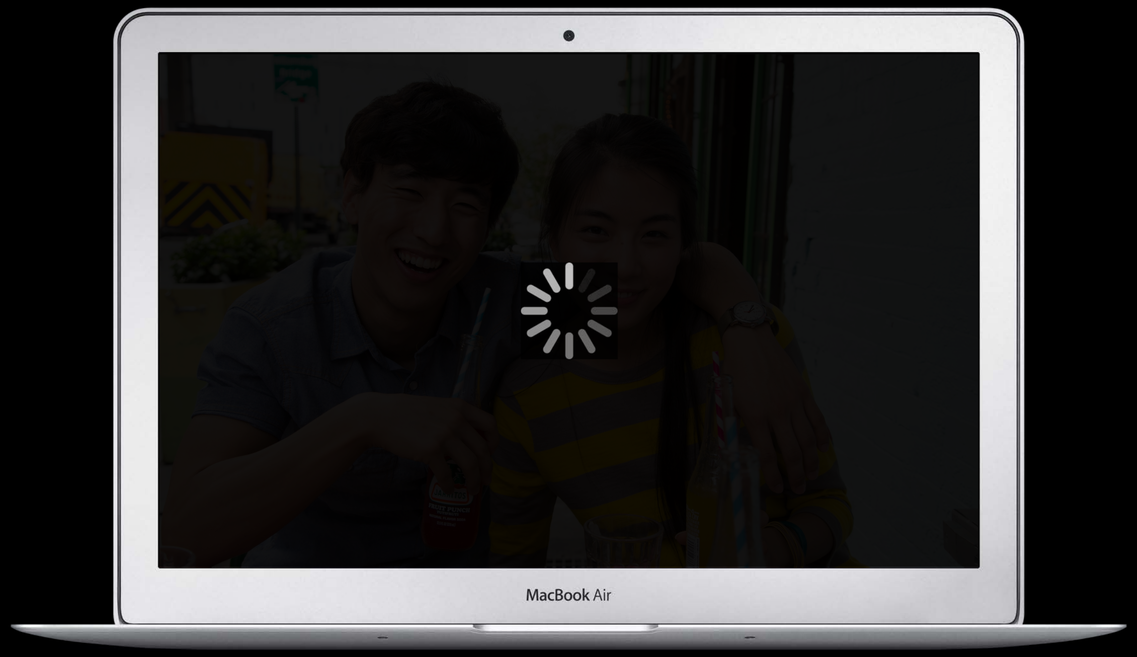
On OS X, AppKit can use NSDocumentController
`restoreUserActivityState:`

Continuing User Activity

Continuing User Activity

application:willContinueUserActivityWithType:

Continuing User Activity



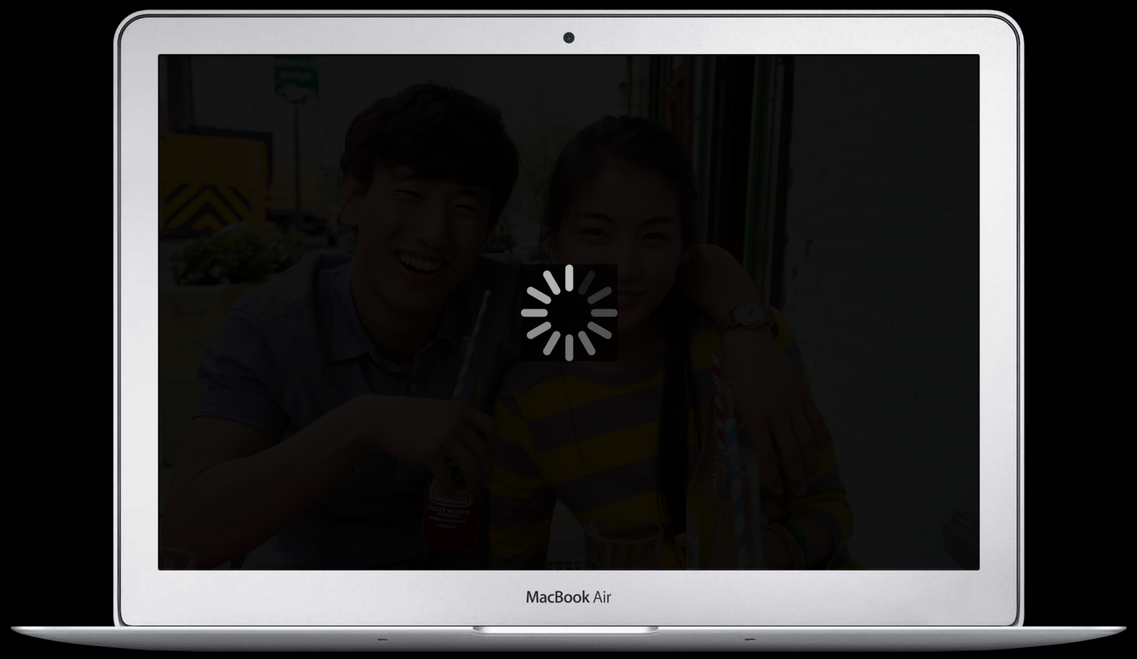
application:willContinueUserActivityWithType:

Continuing User Activity

application:willContinueUserActivityWithType:

Continuing User Activity

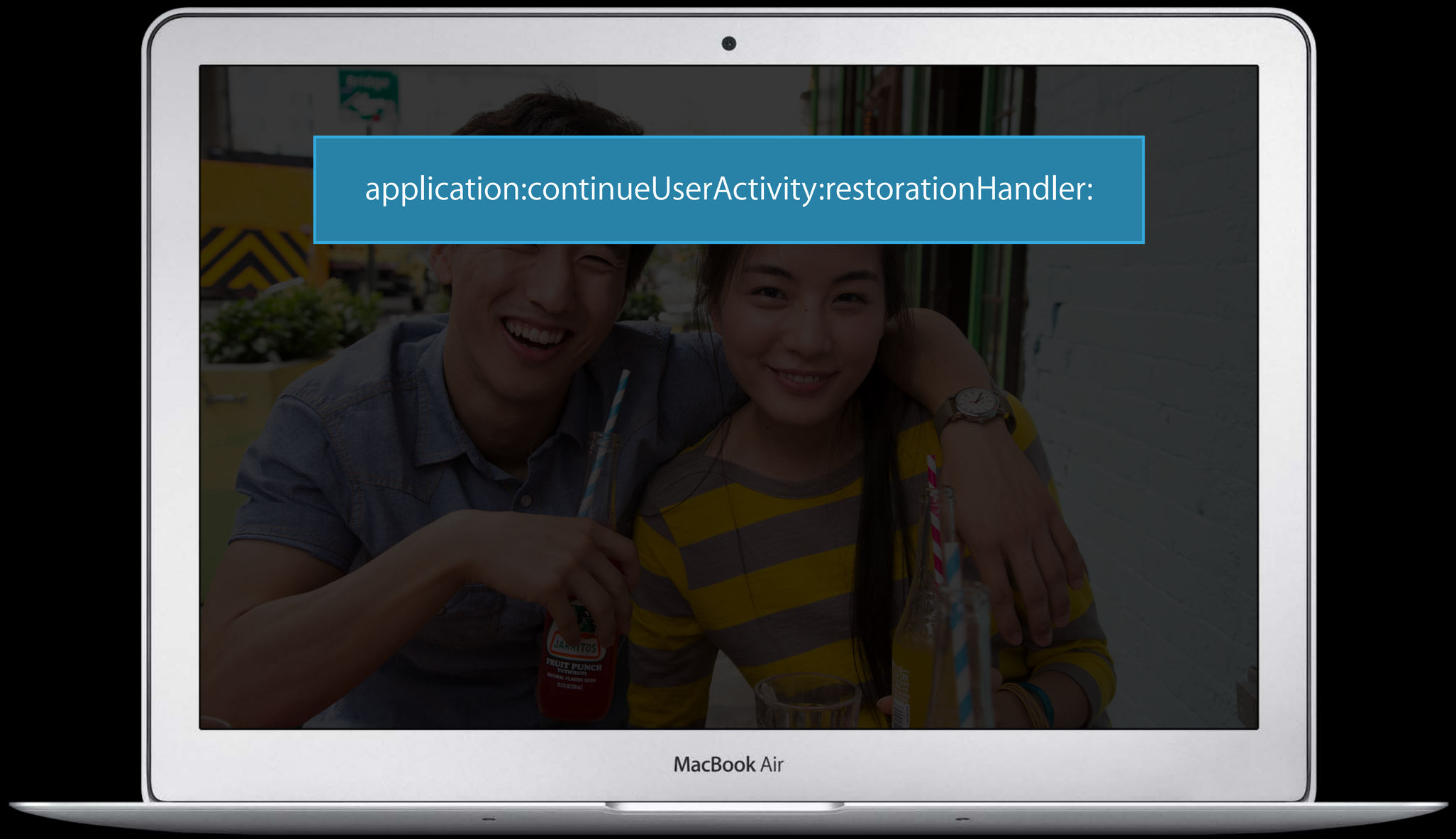
Continuing User Activity



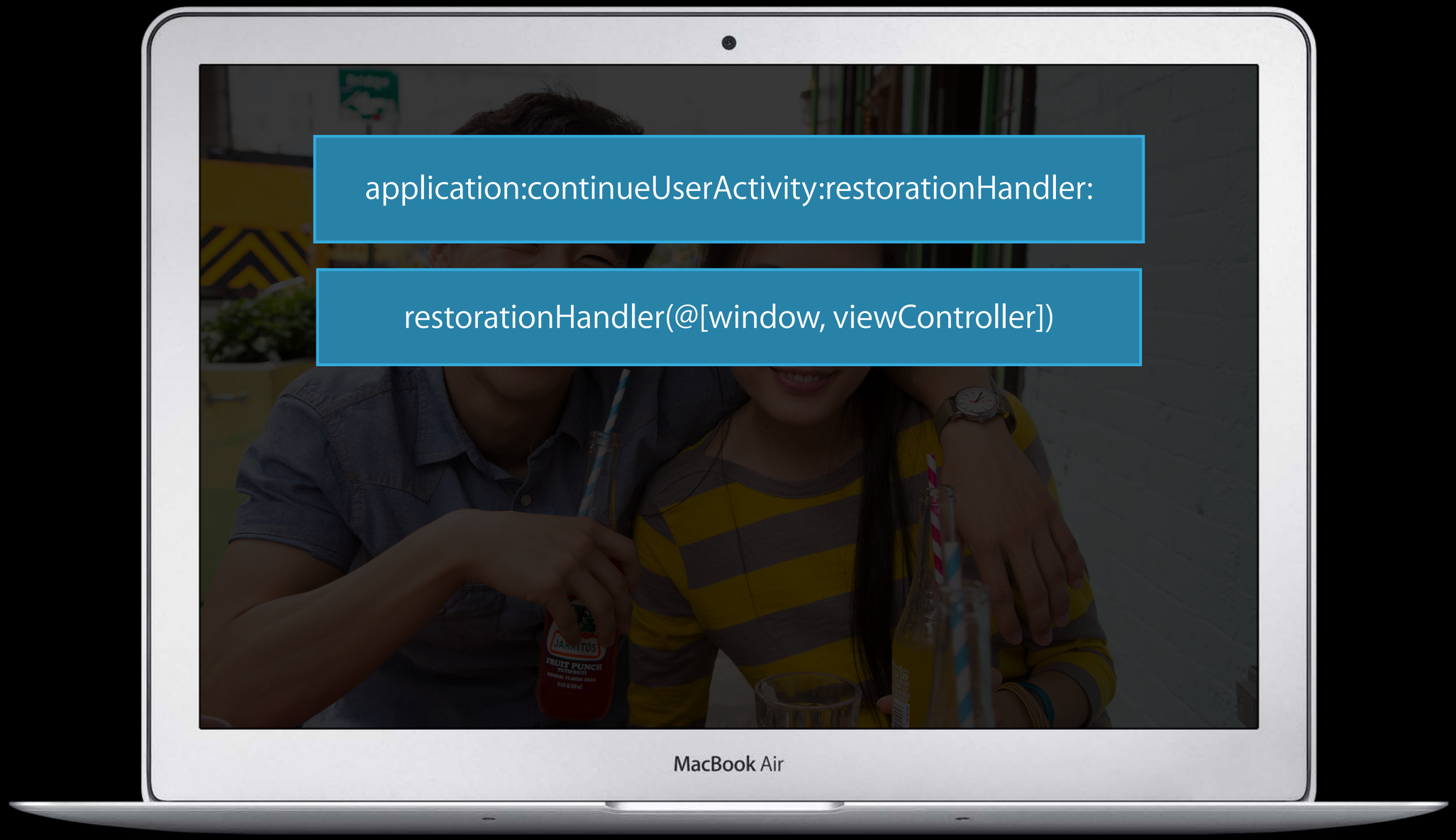
application:continueUserActivity:restorationHandler:

Continuing User Activity

Continuing User Activity



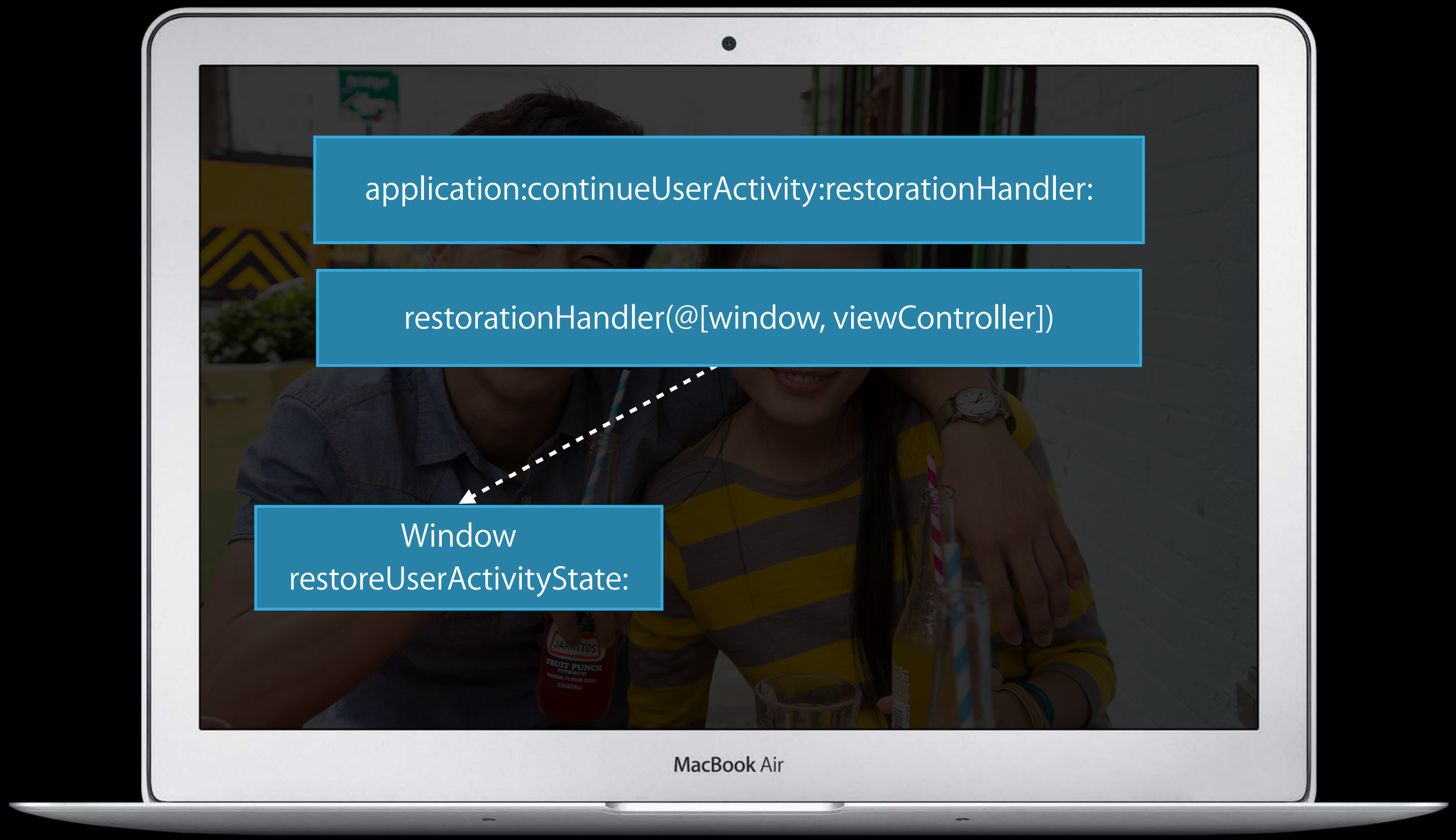
Continuing User Activity



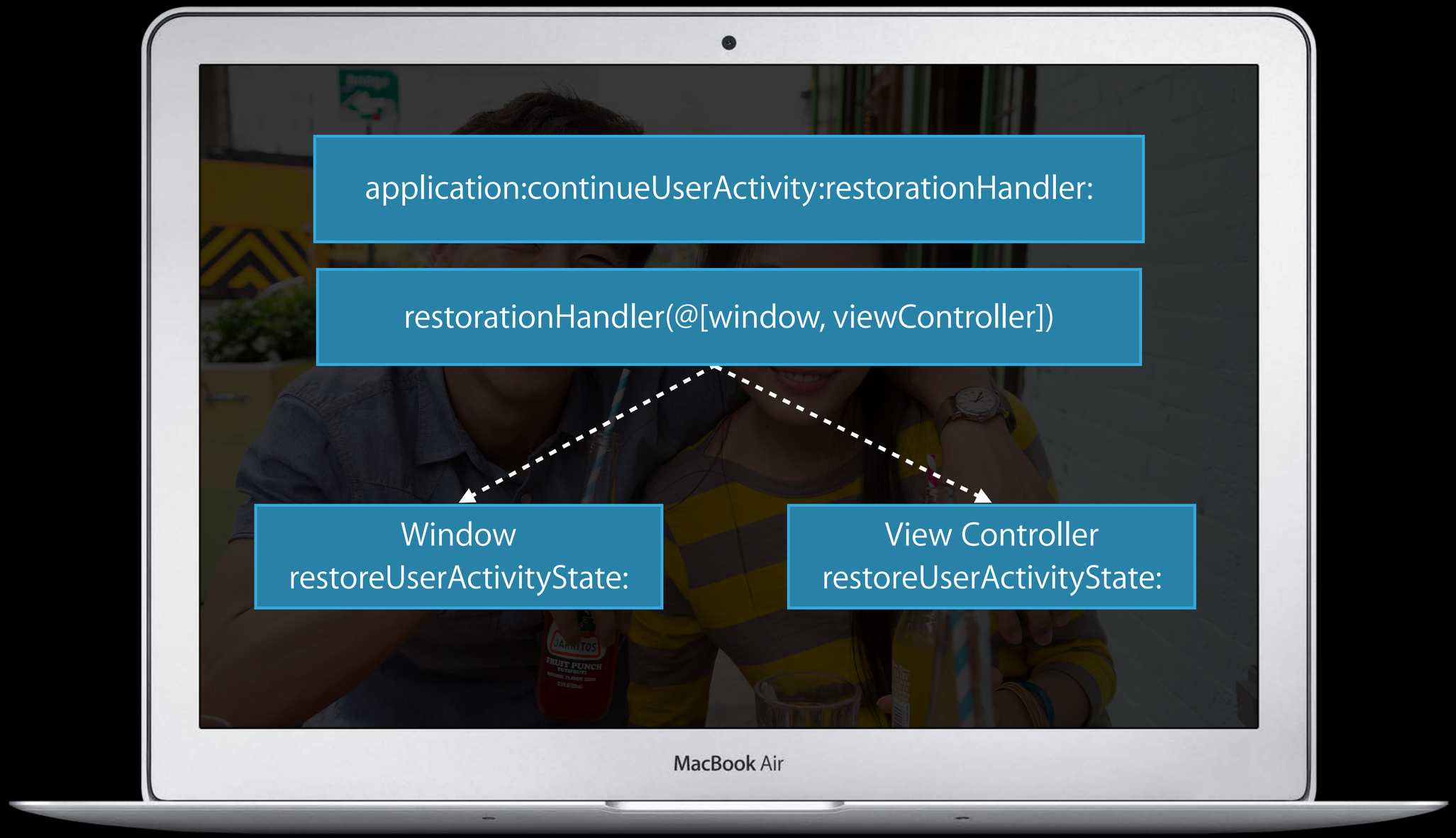
application:continueUserActivity:restorationHandler:

restorationHandler(@[window, viewController])

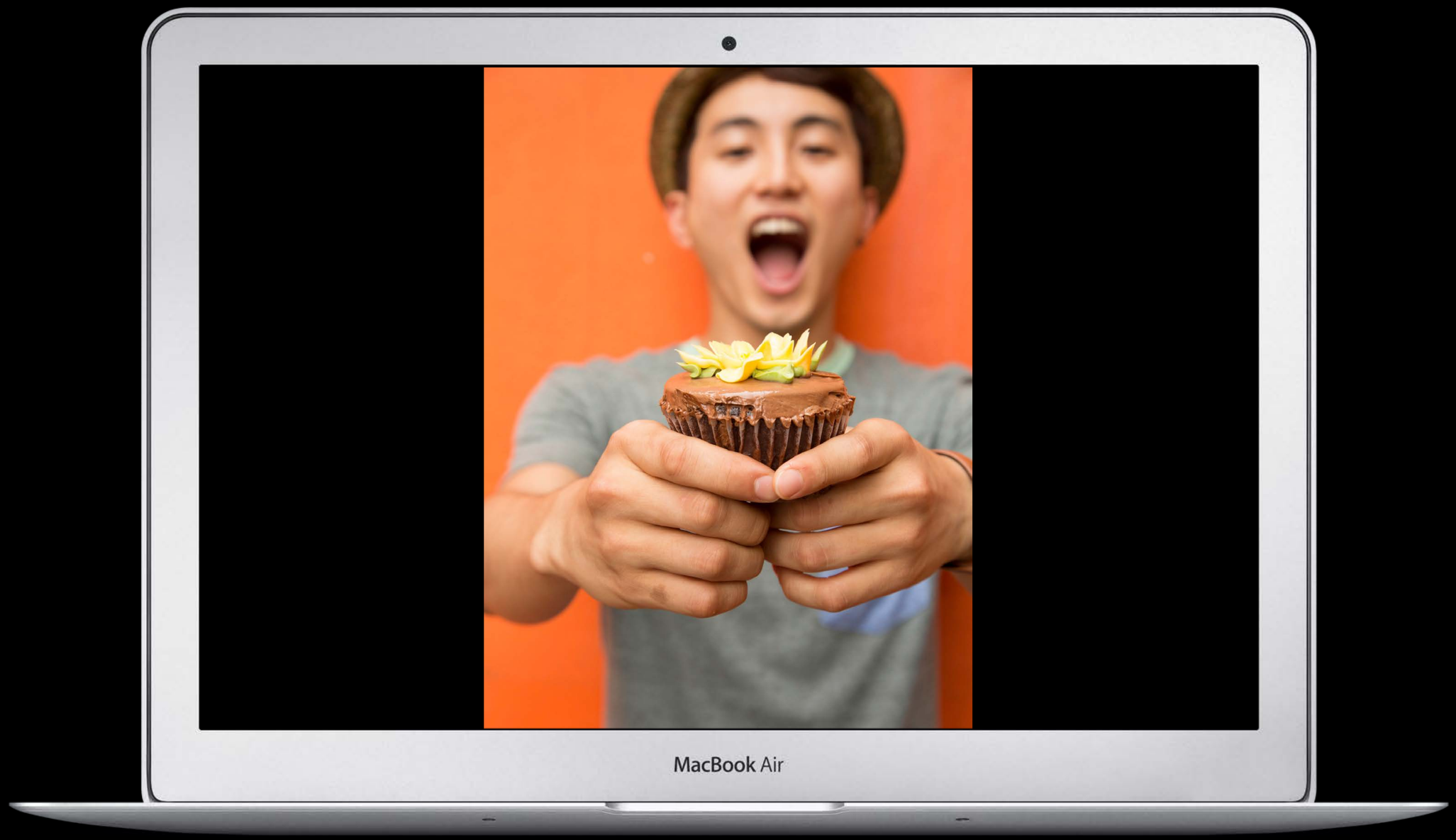
Continuing User Activity



Continuing User Activity



Continuing User Activity



Continuing User Activity

NSUserActivity In-depth

Keith Stattenfield
CoreFrameworks Engineer

Non AppKit/UIKit uses

NSUserActivity

Non AppKit/UIKit uses

NSUserActivity

Your application creates an activity with an activity type string

```
[[NSUserActivity alloc] initWithActivityType:@"com.company.edit.foo"];
```

Activity Type Strings

NSUserActivity

Activity Type Strings

NSUserActivity

Applications which want to receive activities claim them in their Info.plist

- Either in NSUserActivityTypes or in CFBundleDocumentTypes

Bundle version	String	1
▼ NSUserActivityTypes	Array	(3 items)
Item 0	String	com.company.edit.foo
Item 1	String	com.company.viewing.foo
Item 2	String	com.company.viewing.bar
Application requires iPhone envir...	Boolean	YES

▼ Document types	Array	(13 items)
▼ Item 0 (NSRTFPboardType)	Dictionary	(8 items)
Icon File Name	String	rtf.icns
NSUbiquitousDocumentUserActivit...	String	com.apple.TextEdit.Editing
Document Type Name	String	NSRTFPboardType
▶ Document Content Type UTIs	Array	(1 item)

Activity Type Strings

NSUserActivity

Activity Type Strings

NSUserActivity

All applications from the same developer can exchange activities

Activity Type Strings

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All applications from the same developer can exchange activities

Applications don’t have to claim the same activity types they create

Applications don’t have to claim any activity types, but can still create them

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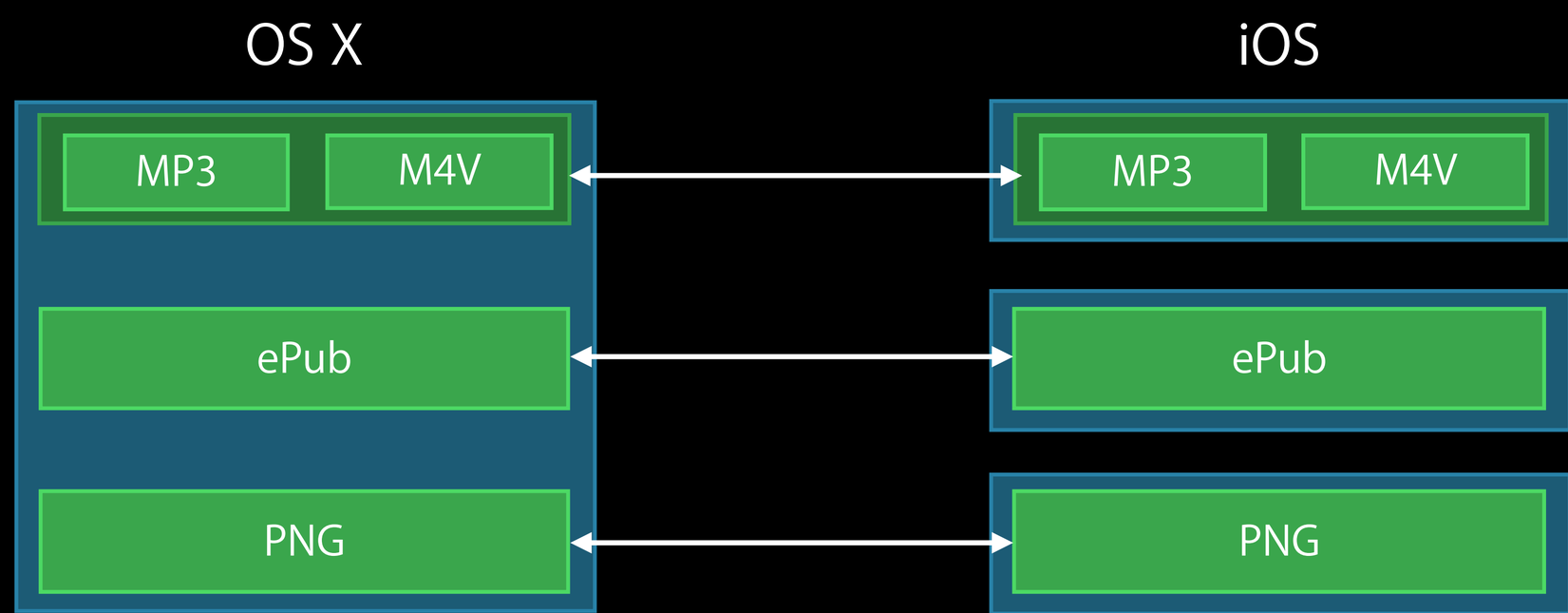


Advanced NSUserActivity

Setting the activity information

Advanced NSUserActivity

Setting the activity information

```
activity.title = @" … "
activity.userInfo = @{ … }
    [activity addUserInfoEntriesFromDictionary: @{ … }]
[activity becomeCurrent]
[activity invalidate]
```

Advanced NSUserActivity

NSUserActivityDelegate

Advanced NSUserActivity

NSUserActivityDelegate

activity.delegate = self;

…

activity.needsSave = YES;

Then, when the system needs information from your activity

```
- (void)userActivityWillSave:(NSUserActivity *)userActivity
```

Advanced NSUserActivity

NSUserActivityDelegate

Advanced NSUserActivity

NSUserActivityDelegate

When continued from another device:

```
- (void)userActivityWasContinued:(NSUserActivity *)userActivity
```

Called when this activity was successfully continued on another device

Most applications won’t need this at all

Website Handoff

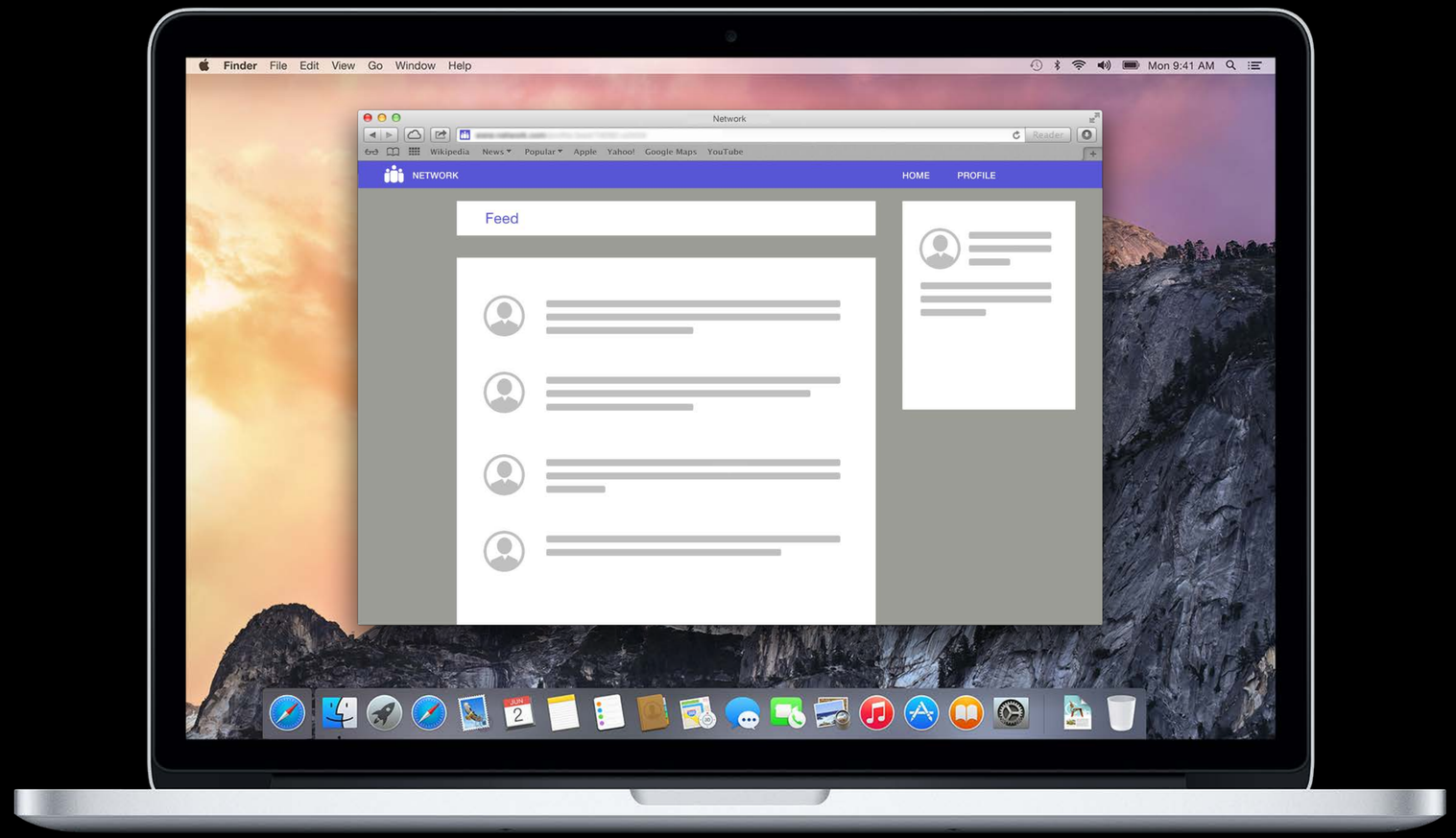
Native application to web browser

Website Handoff

Native application to web browser

Website Handoff

Native application to web browser



Website Handoff

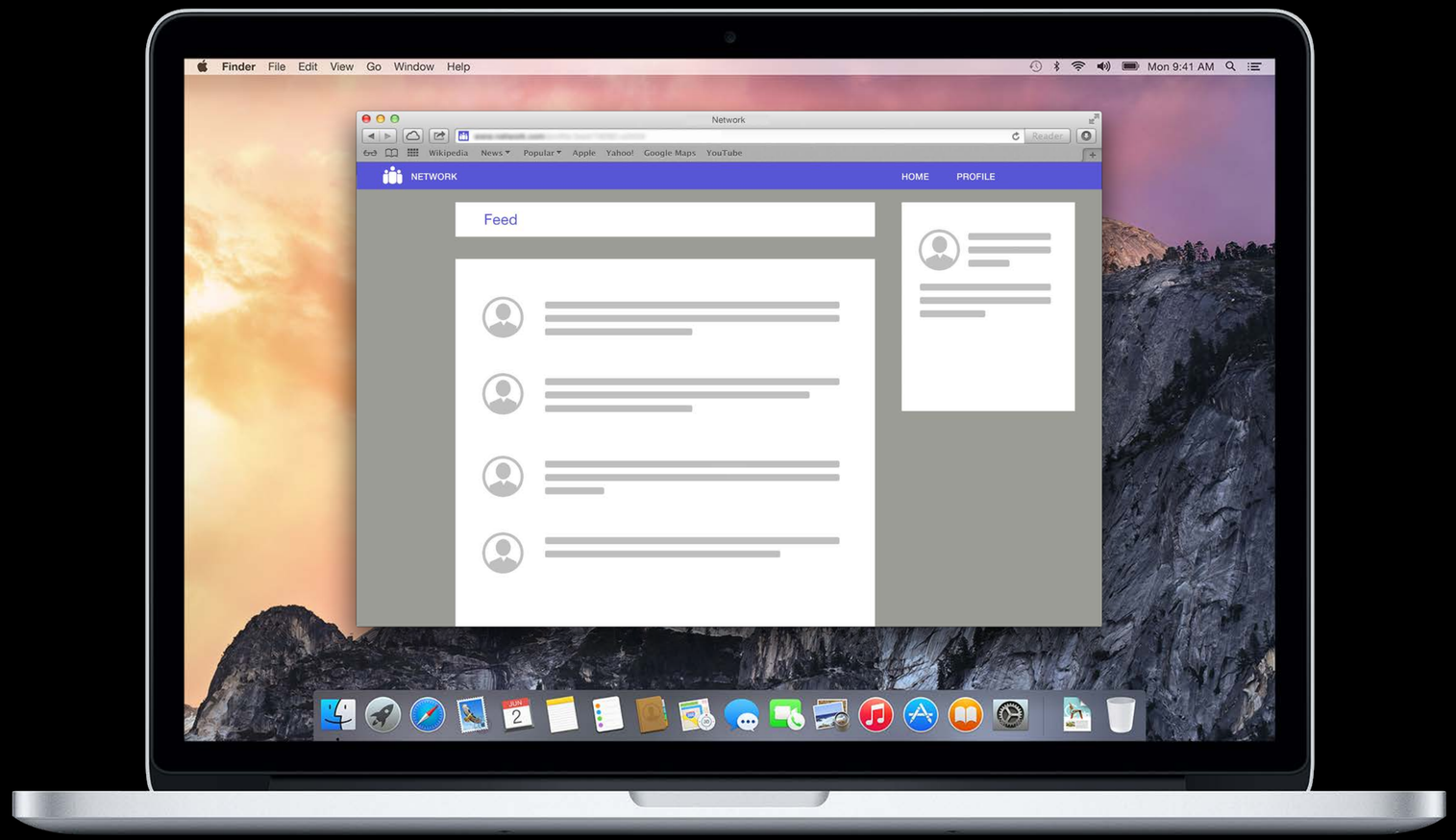
Native application to web browser

```
NSUserActivity* activity = [[NSUserActivity alloc]
initWithActivityType:…];

activity.userInfo = @{ … }
activity.webpageURL = [NSURL URLWithString: …];
```

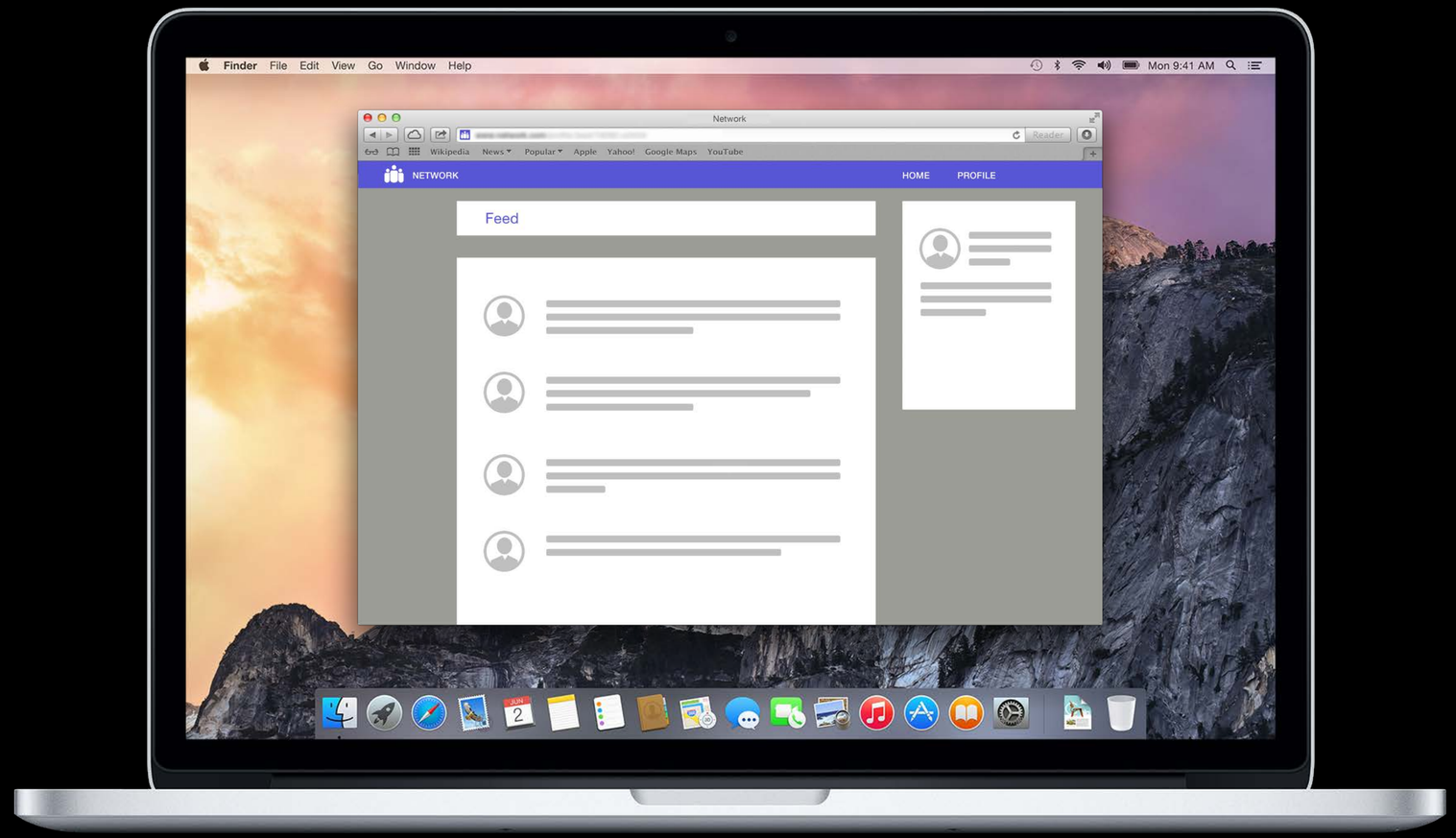
Website Handoff

Web browser to native application



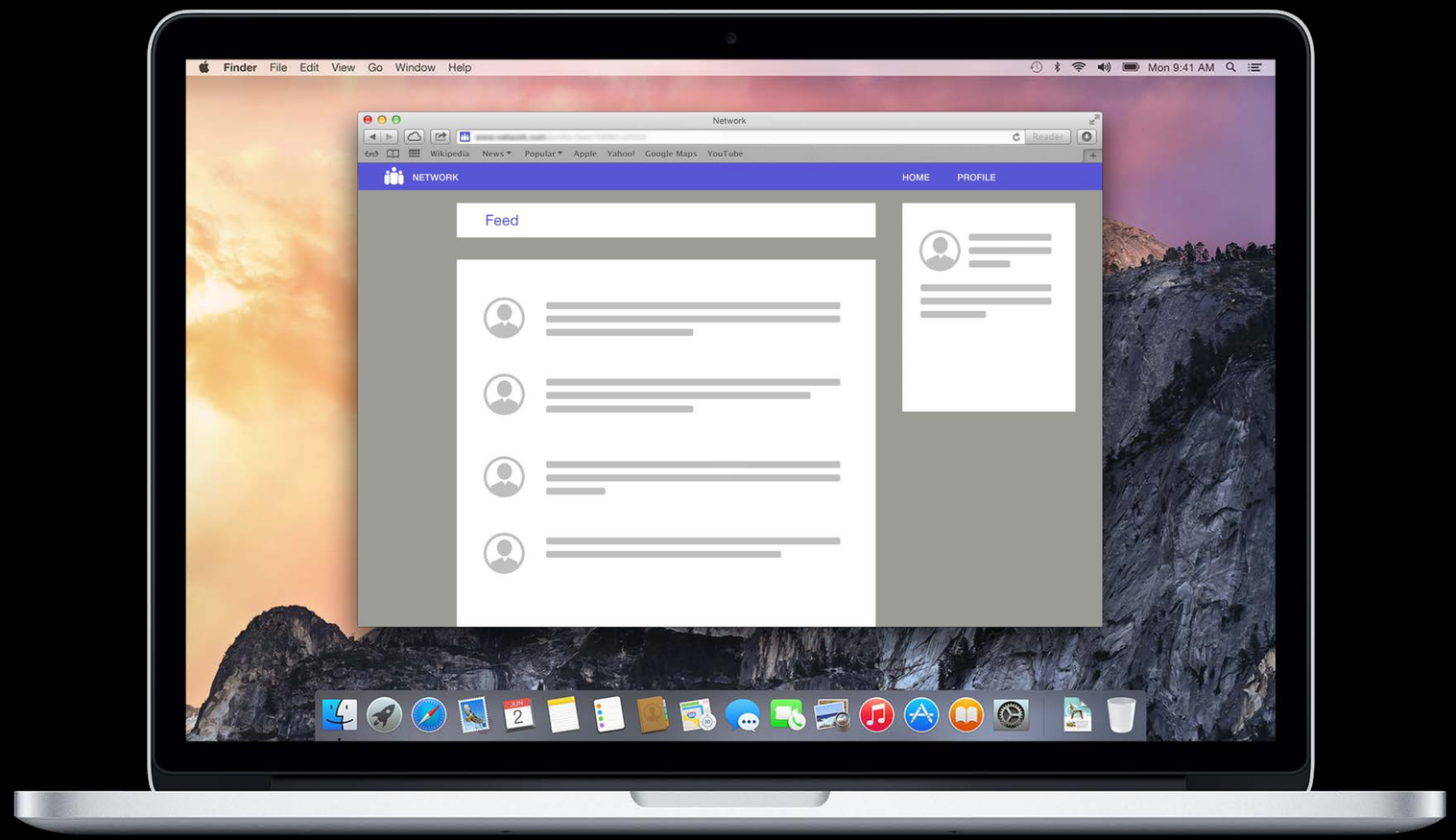
Website Handoff

Web browser to native application



Website Handoff

Web browser to native application



Website Handoff

Web browser to native application

▼ Root	Dictionary	(1 item)
▼ com.apple.developer.associated-domains	Array	(2 items)
Item 0	String	AVeryLongSampleDomainName.com
Item 1	String	AVeryLongSampleDomainName.co.uk

Website Handoff

Web browser to native application

```
application:continueUserActivity:(NSUserActivity*)userActivity
restorationHandler:(void(^)(NSArray
*restorableObjects))restorationHandler {
   if ([userActivity.activityType
      isEqual:NSUserActivityTypeContinuingFromWebBrowser]) {
   /* resume an activity based on the webpageURL */
   …
} else if ([userActivity isEqual:@“com.company.type12”]) {
   …
}
```

Continuation Streams

Need more than a one-way, one time exchange of data from creator to receiver

Establishes a bidirectional stream for some kind of interactive purposes

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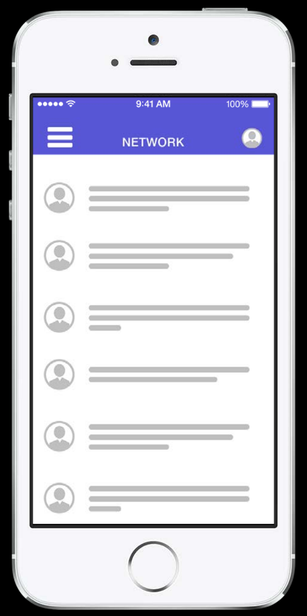
Establishes a bidirectional stream for some kind of interactive purposes



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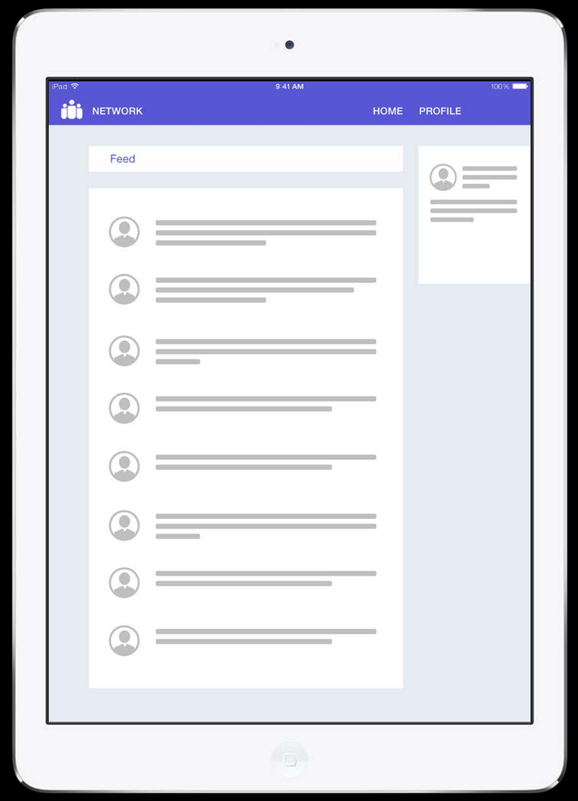
Establishes a bidirectional stream for some kind of interactive purposes



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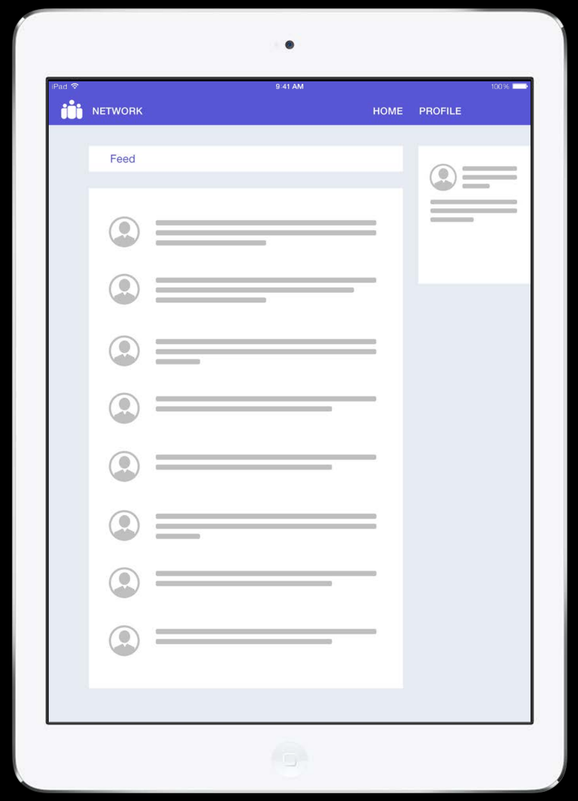

Continuation Streams

NSUserActivity

```
NSUserActivity* activity = [[NSUserActivity alloc] initWithActivityType:
@"com.company.interact" ];
activity.userInfo = @{ … }
activity.delegate = self;
activity.supportsContinuationStreams = YES;
[activity becomeCurrent ];
```

Continuation Streams

NSUserActivity, on the receiving device

```
- application:(NS/UIApplication*) continueUserActivity:
(NSUserActivity*)activity restorationHandler:…
{
   if (activity.supportsContinuationStreams ) {
      [activity getContinuationStreamsWithCompletionHandler:
         ^(NSInputStream* inputstream,NSOutputStream*
            outputstream, NSError* error) {
            if (!error) {
               /* You can send and receive over these streams! */
            }
```

ConnectBack

NSUserActivity, back on the initiating device

Lastly, this delegate method is called with the streams

```
-(void) userActivity:(NSUserActivity *)userActivity
didReceiveInputStream:(NSInputStream *)inputStream outputStream:
(NSOutputStream *)outputStream {
    …
}
```

So, you've learned

AppKit/UIKit support

NS/UIDocument support

Continuation streams

Website interoperability

More Information

Jake Behrens
Frameworks Evangelist
behrens@apple.com

Documentation
Handoff Programming Guide
http://apple.com

Apple Developer Forums
http://devforums.apple.com

Related Sessions

Cloud Documents	Marina	Thursday 11:30AM
Your App, Your Website, and Safari	Nob Hill	Tuesday 4:30PM

Labs

• Handoff Lab	Frameworks Lab B	Thursday 9:00AM
• Cocoa Touch Lab	Frameworks Lab A	Thursday 2:00PM
• Cocoa Lab	Frameworks Lab B	Thursday 4:30PM

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