

Improving Your App with Instruments

Session 418

Daniel Delwood

Software Radiologist

Agenda



What's new in Instruments

Memory management

Time profiling

Performance counters

DTrace improvements

What's in Instruments

What's  in Instruments

Instruments1

WWDC2014 > All Processes Run 2 of 2 00:00:29

All Cores 2 Processes / 81 Threads

Instruments

Time Profiler

Time Profiler Call Tree Call Tree Process

Running Time	Self	Symbol Name
6480.0ms	68.4%	0.0 Eyemazing-Mac (905)
4216.0ms	44.5%	7.0 start_wqthread libsystem_pthread.dylib
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Sample Perspective

Call Tree

Call Tree Constraints

Data Mining

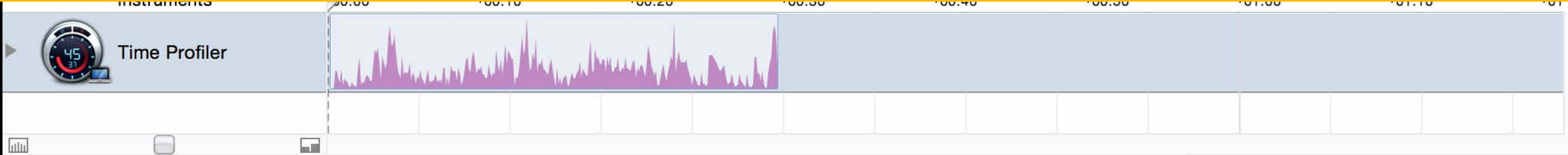
Symbol Library Restore

Instruments1

WWDC2014 > All Processes

Run 2 of 2 00:00:29

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Time Profiler > Call Tree > Call Tree

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All Sample Counts

Running Sample Times

Call Tree

Separate by Thread

Invert Call Tree

Hide Missing Symbols

Hide System Libraries

Flatten Recursion

Top Functions

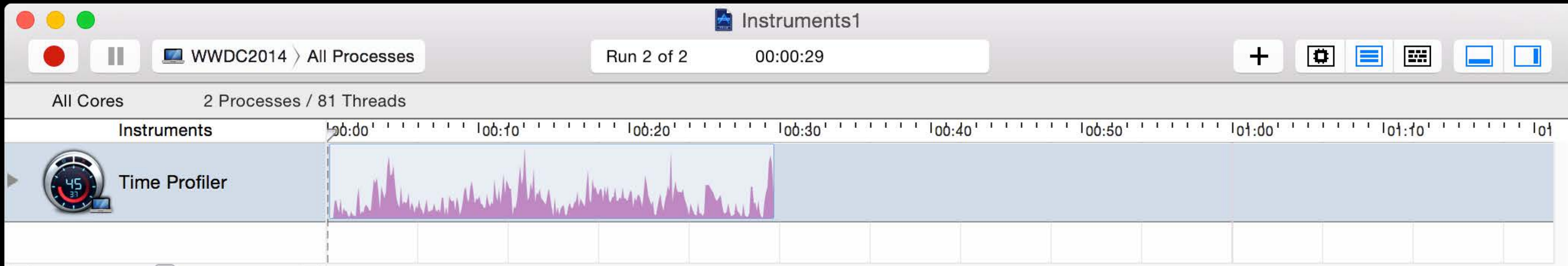
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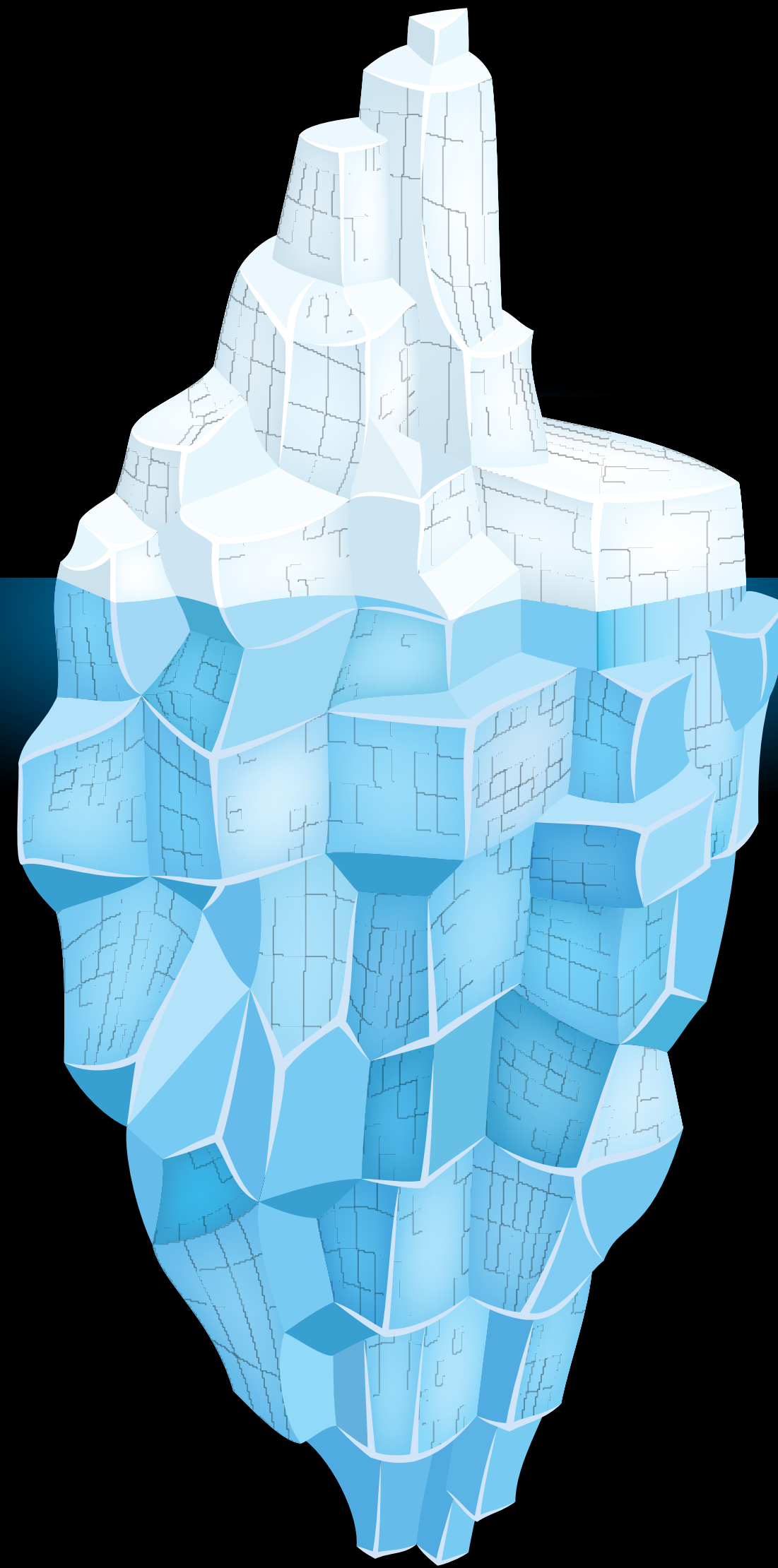


Memory Management



Heap Memory

Everything Else



Objective-C's Ownership Model

Retain/Release

Reference counting ownership model based on retain, release

When the count drops to zero, object is freed

Retain/release/autorelease rules established and easy to learn

- *Advanced Memory Management Programming Guide*

Deterministic, simple, and fast

Objective-C's Ownership Model

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Automated Reference Counting (ARC)

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Deterministic, simple, and fast

Automated Reference Counting (ARC)

- Still have to manage autorelease pools

```
@autoreleasepool { /* code */ }
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Swift's Ownership Model

Managed Retain/Release

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Swift's Ownership Model

Managed Retain/Release

Reference counting ownership model based on retain, release

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Deterministic, simple, and fast

Automated Reference Counting (ARC)

- Working with Objective-C? Still have to manage autorelease pools

```
autoreleasepool { /* code */ }
```

Allocations

What does it report?



Heap allocations

- Class names — e.g. NSMutableArray, **MyApp.MainViewController**
- Reference types only (**class**, not **struct**)
- Retain/Release histories

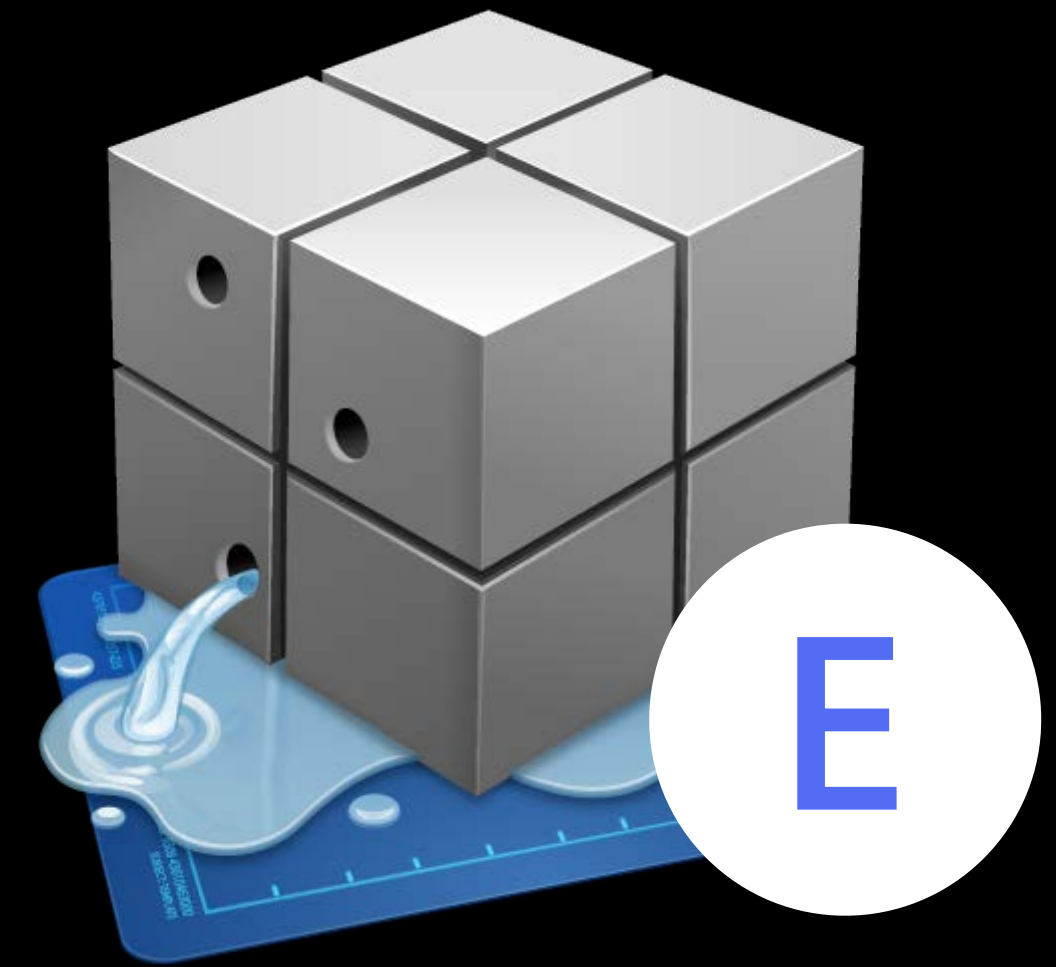
Virtual Memory (VM) allocations

- Paths for mapped files

Stack traces for all

Demo

Allocations + App Extension



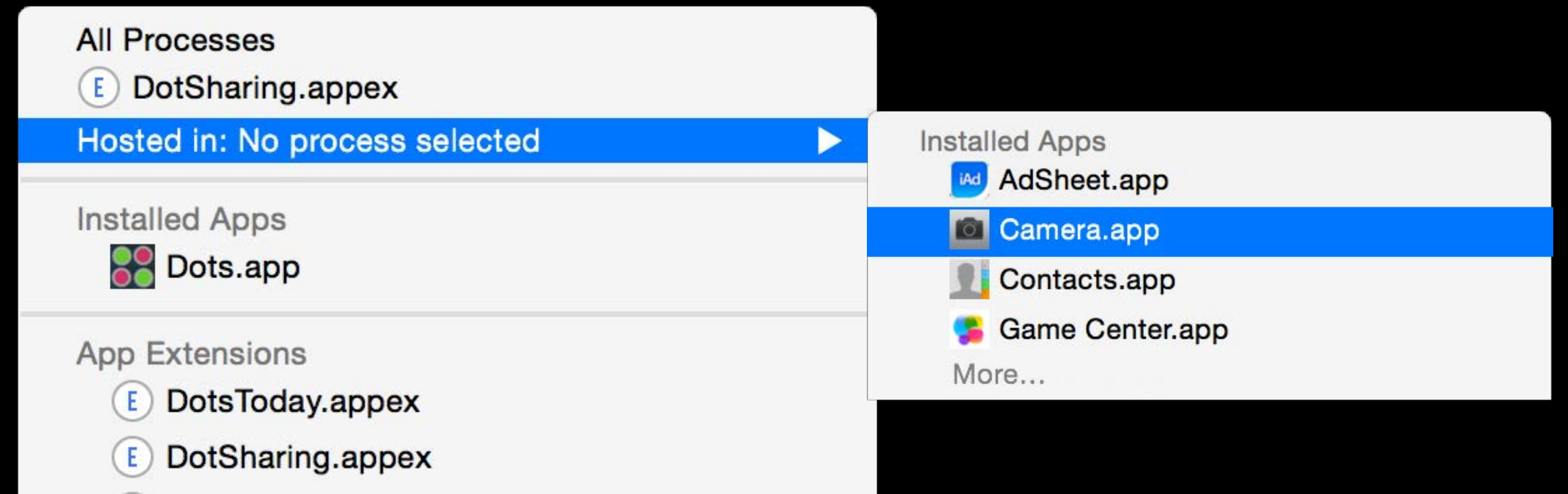
App Extensions

Profiling with Instruments

Specify host App

- When profiling Xcode scheme
- In Instruments

Transient, but memory matters



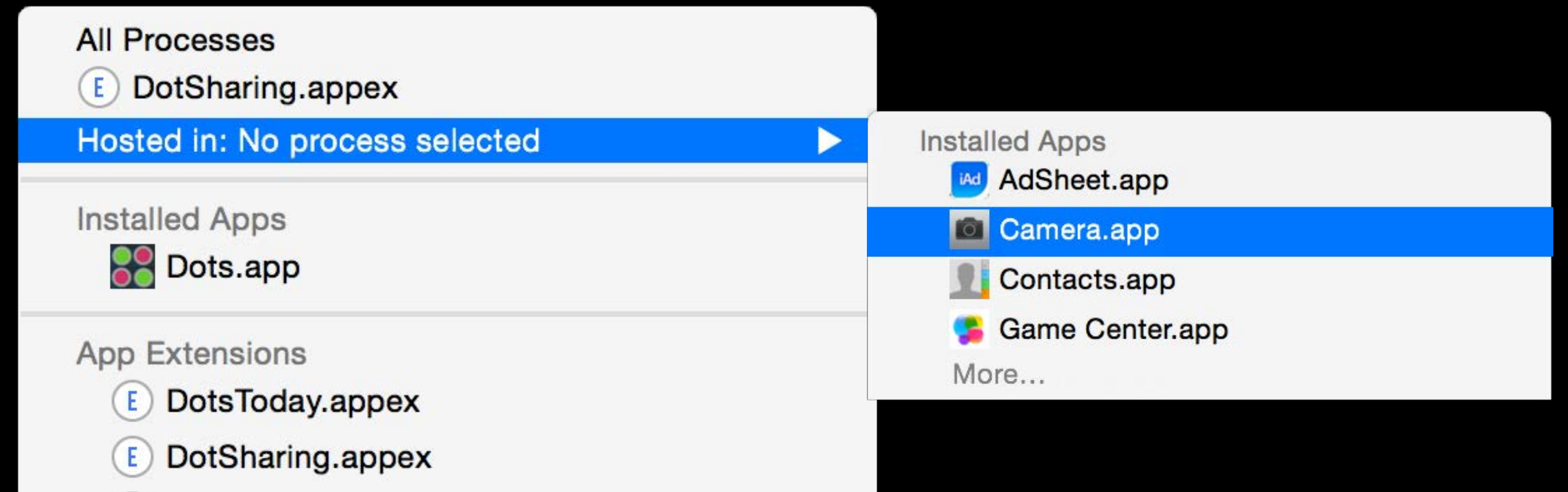
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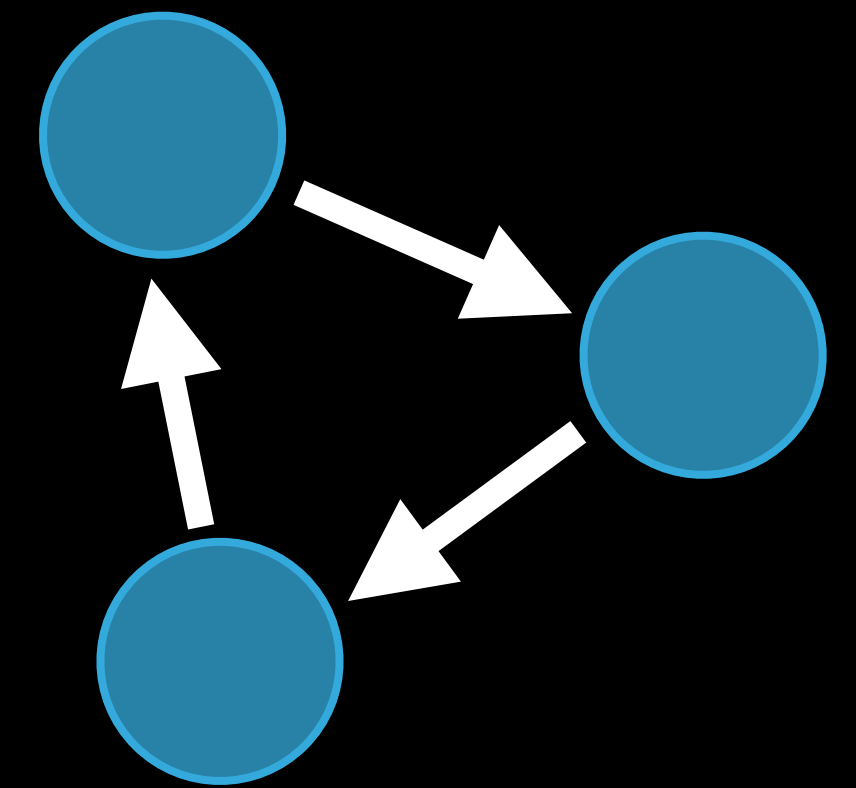
-
- [Creating Extensions for iOS and OS X, Part 1](#) Mission Tuesday 2:00PM
 - [Creating Extensions for iOS and OS X, Part 2](#) Mission Wednesday 11:30AM
-

Memory Management with Swift

Language tools

Obj-C code can still mismatch Retain/Release

Can still form cycles in Swift



Memory Management with Swift

Language tools

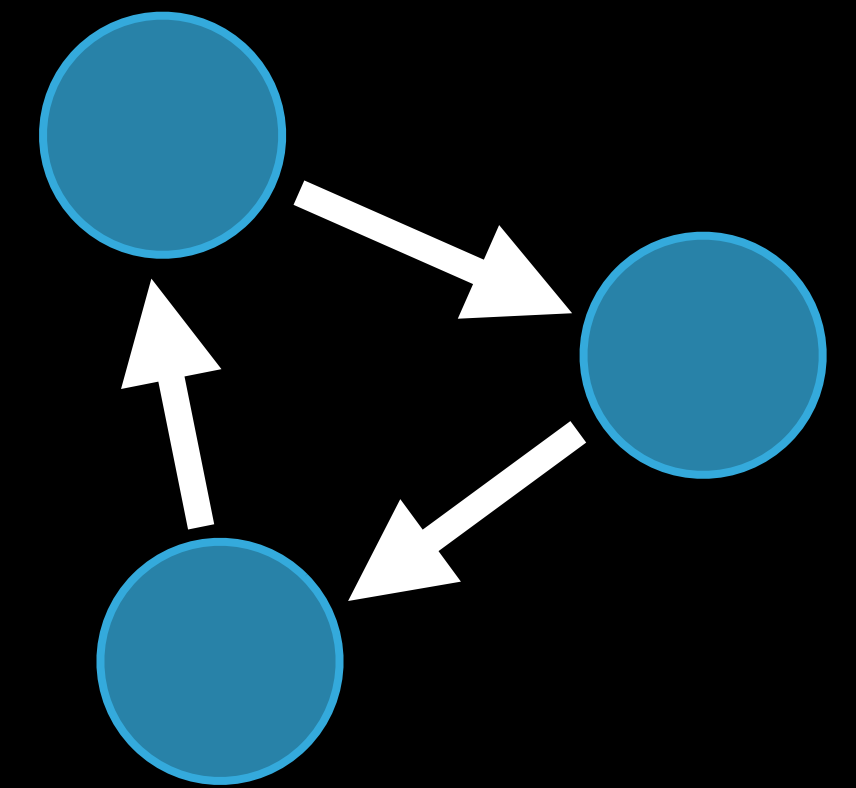
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Manage graph, not retain/release

weak

unowned



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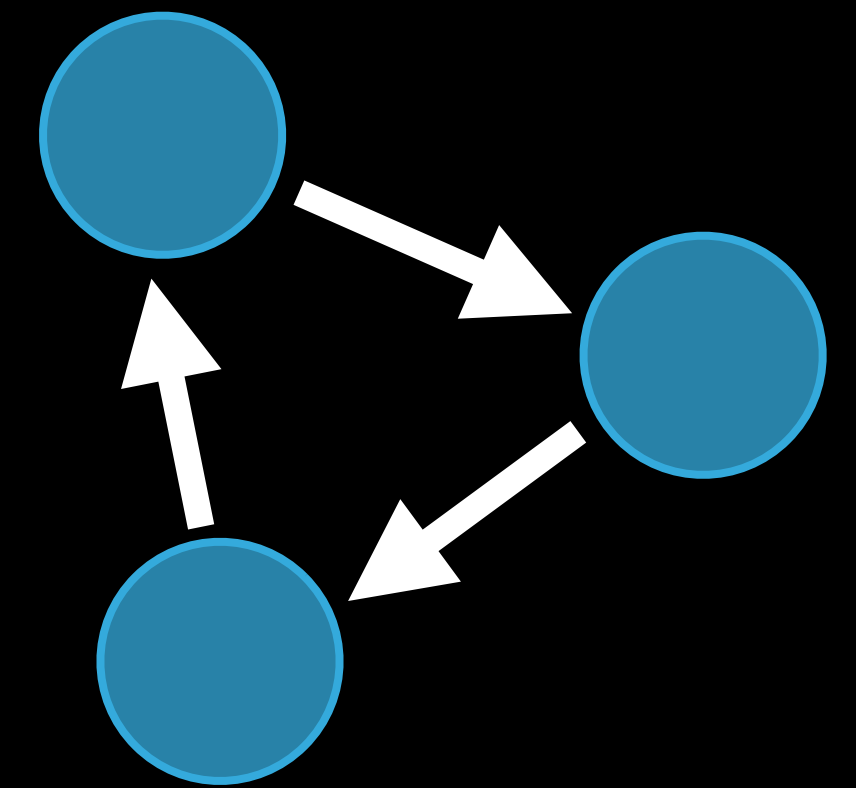
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Manage graph, not retain/release

weak var x : Optional<T> / T? = object

Returns **T** or **nil** when accessed, based on existence of object

unowned



Memory Management with Swift

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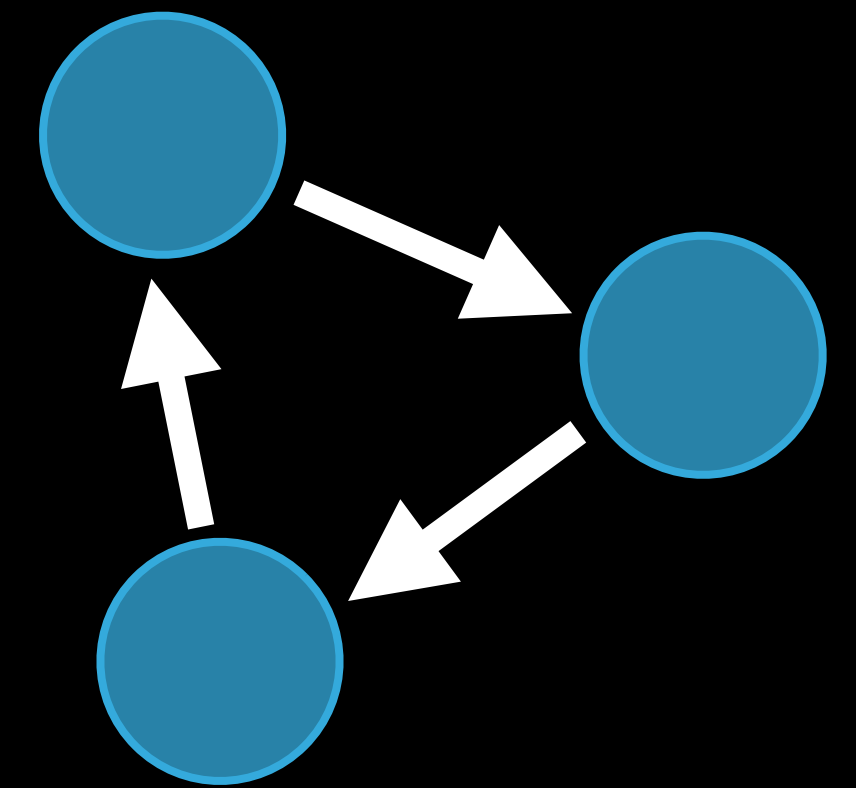
Manage graph, not retain/release

weak var x : Optional<T> / T? = object

Returns **T** or **nil** when accessed, based on existence of object

unowned let / var x : T = object

Returns **T** always, but if object doesn't exist... deterministic 💣



^block Captures

Here be dragons

```
[self.currentGame registerForStateChanges:^(  
    if (self.currentGame == newGame) {  
        [self.tableView reloadData];  
    }  
)];
```

'self' and 'newGame' captured strongly

^block Captures

Here be dragons

```
__weak typeof(newGame) weakGame = newGame;
__weak typeof(self) weakSelf = self;
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```

Swift Closures

Behold, the power of capture lists

```
currentGame.registerForStateChanges() {  
    if self.currentGame == newGame {  
        self.tableView!.reloadData()  
    }  
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```

Swift Closures

Behold, the power of capture lists

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currentGame.registerForStateChanges() {[weak self, newGame] in
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-
- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| ● Swift Interoperability In-Depth | Presidio | Wednesday 3:15PM |
| ● Advanced Swift | Presidio | Thursday 11:30AM |
| ● Fixing Memory Issues | Session 410 | WWDC13 Videos |
-

Time Profiling

Kris Markel

Performance Tools Engineer



Why?

Why?

To provide a great user experience

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To provide a great user experience

- Faster app launch times

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To provide a great user experience

- Faster app launch times
- Keep the frame rate at 60fps

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- Buttery-smooth scrolling

Why?

To provide a great user experience

- Faster app launch times
- Keep the frame rate at 60fps
- Buttery-smooth scrolling
- Responsive UI

What?

An instrument that samples stack trace information at prescribed intervals

Provides an idea of how much time is spent in each method

When?

When?

Investigate specific problems

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- If you see stuttering or frame rate slowdowns

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- Some part of your app is taking too long

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Identify and fix hotspots before they become problems

When?

Investigate specific problems

- If you see stuttering or frame rate slowdowns
- Some part of your app is taking too long

Identify and fix hotspots before they become problems

- Keep an eye on the CPU gauge in Xcode

Demo

Time Profiler in action

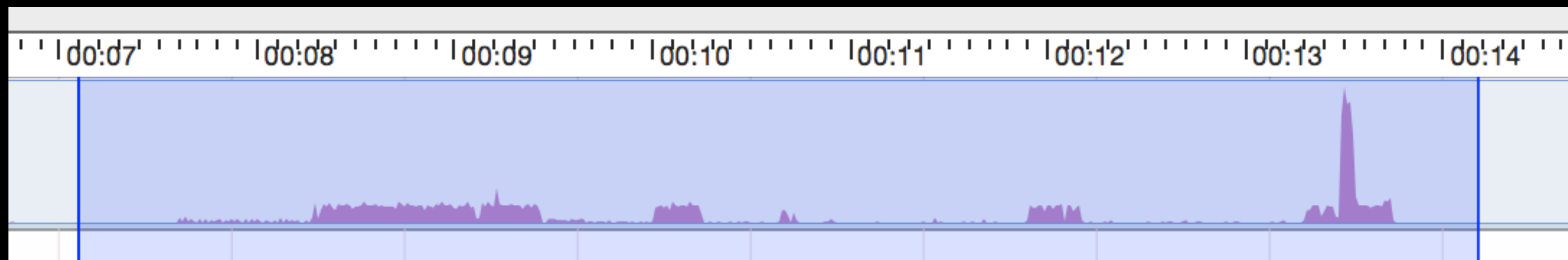


Review

Track view

Identify and zoom into problem areas

- Drag to apply a time range filter
- Shift+drag to zoom in
- Control+drag to zoom out



Review

New Inspector panes

Use keyboard shortcuts to quickly move between panes

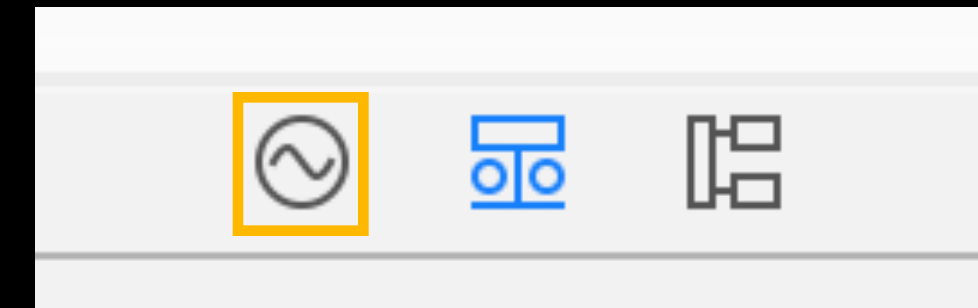


Review

New Inspector panes

Use keyboard shortcuts to quickly move between panes

- ⌘ 1 — Record settings

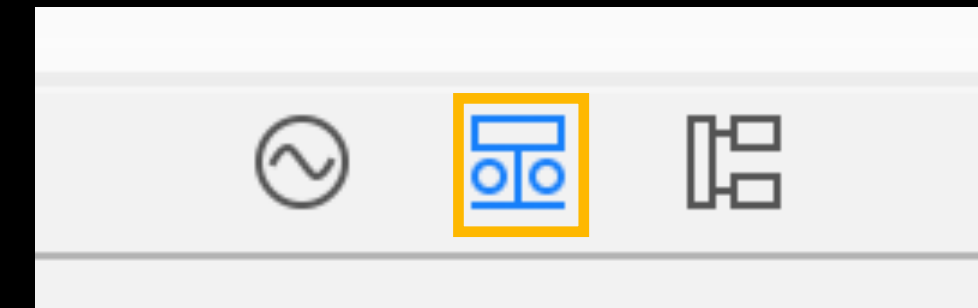


Review

New Inspector panes

Use keyboard shortcuts to quickly move between panes

- ⌘1 — Record settings
- ⌘2 — Display settings



Review

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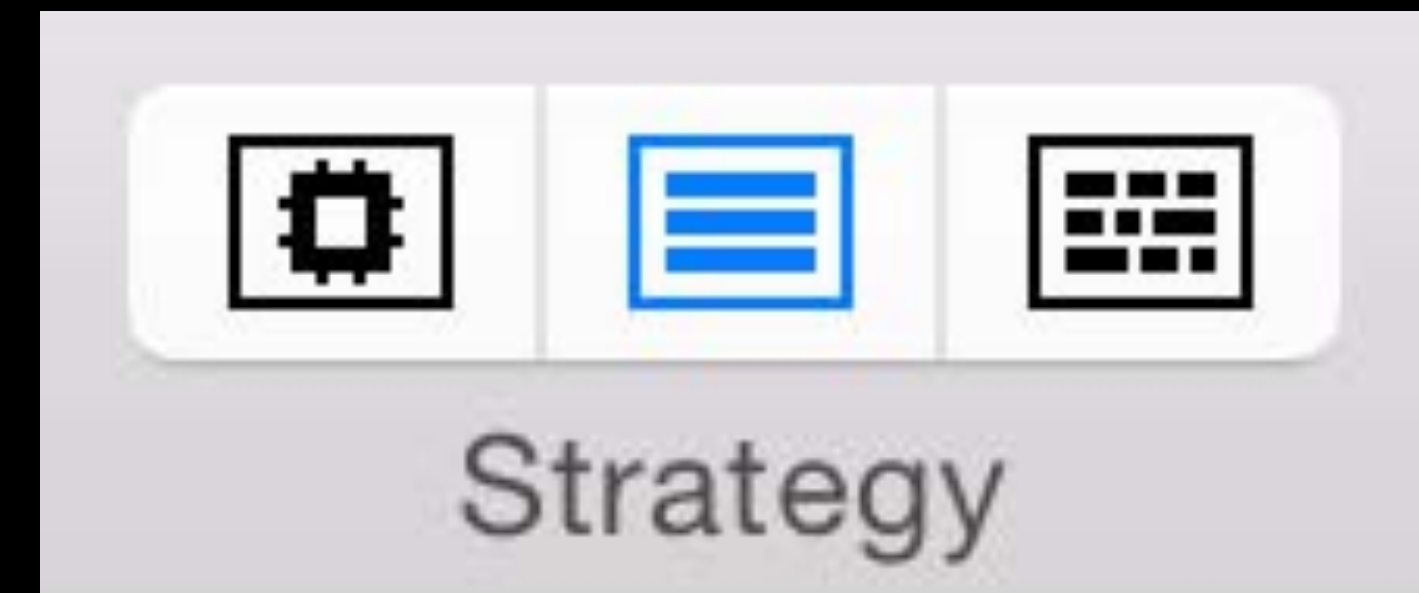
Use keyboard shortcuts to quickly move between panes

- ⌘1 — Record settings
- ⌘2 — Display settings
- ⌘3 — Extended detail



Review

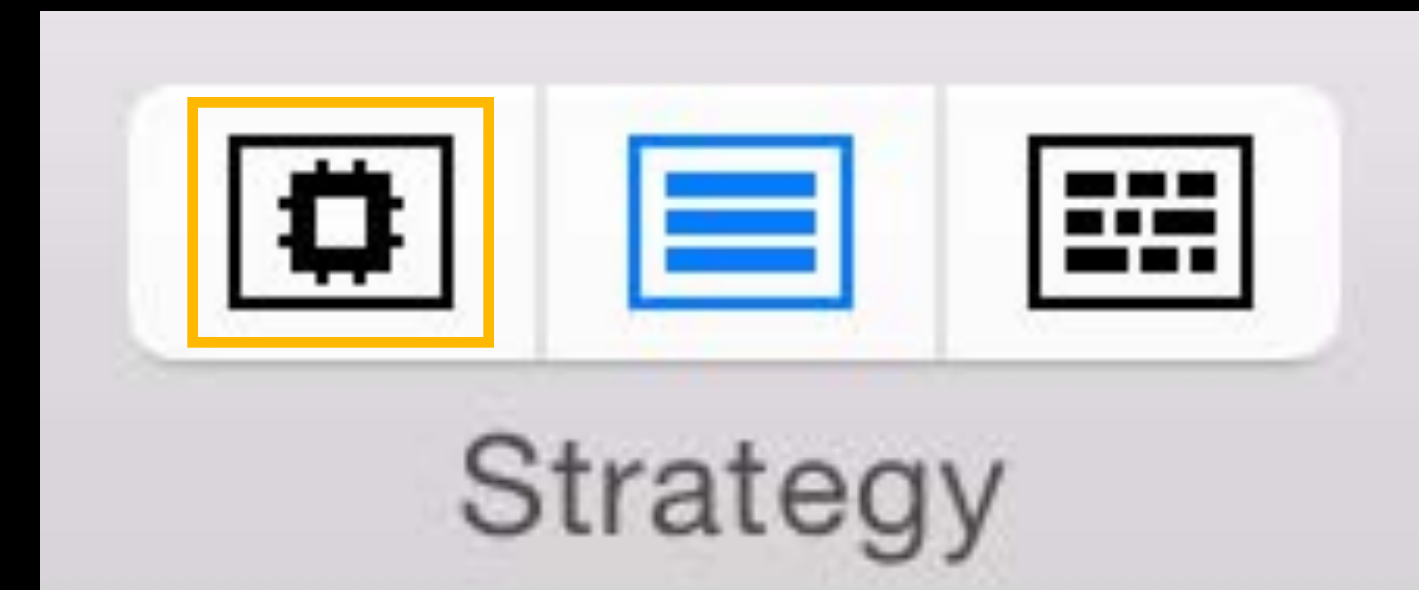
Strategy views



Review

Strategy views

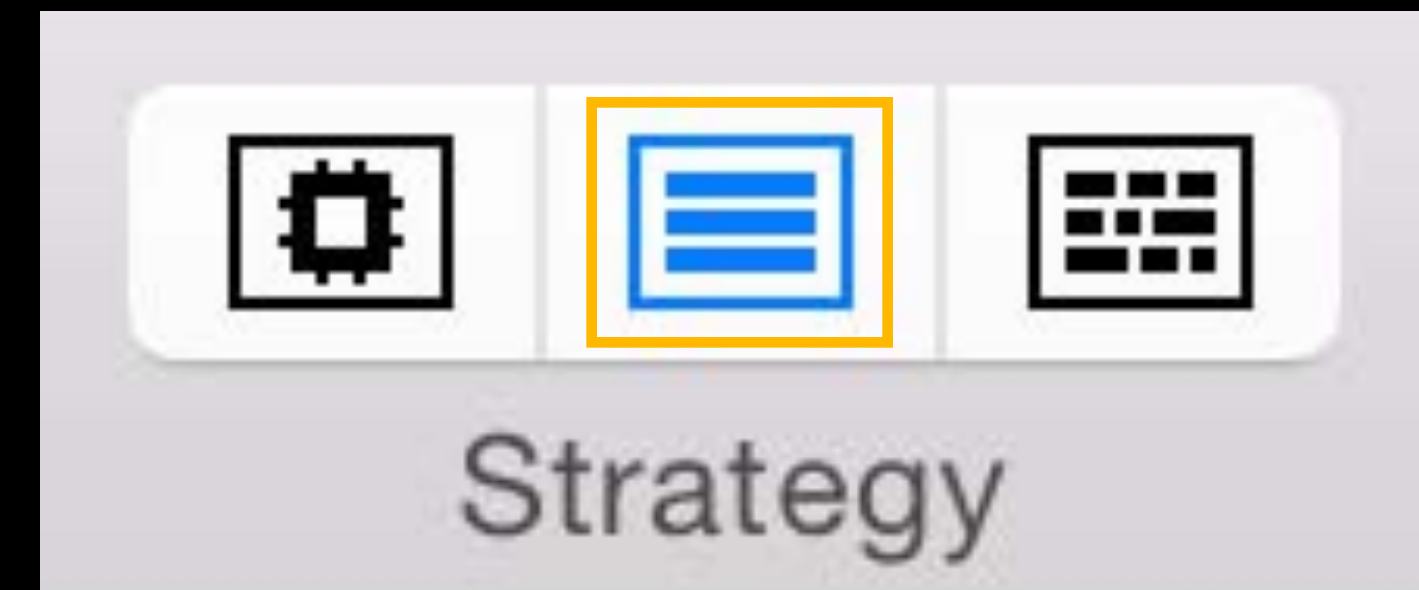
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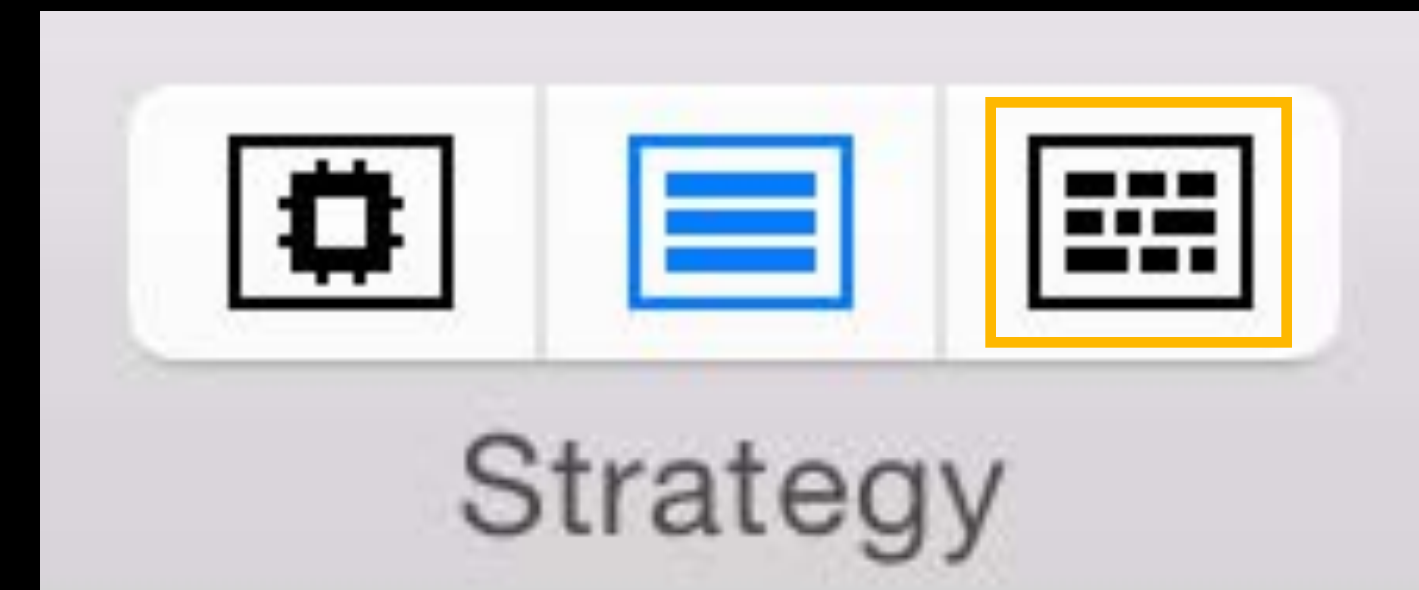
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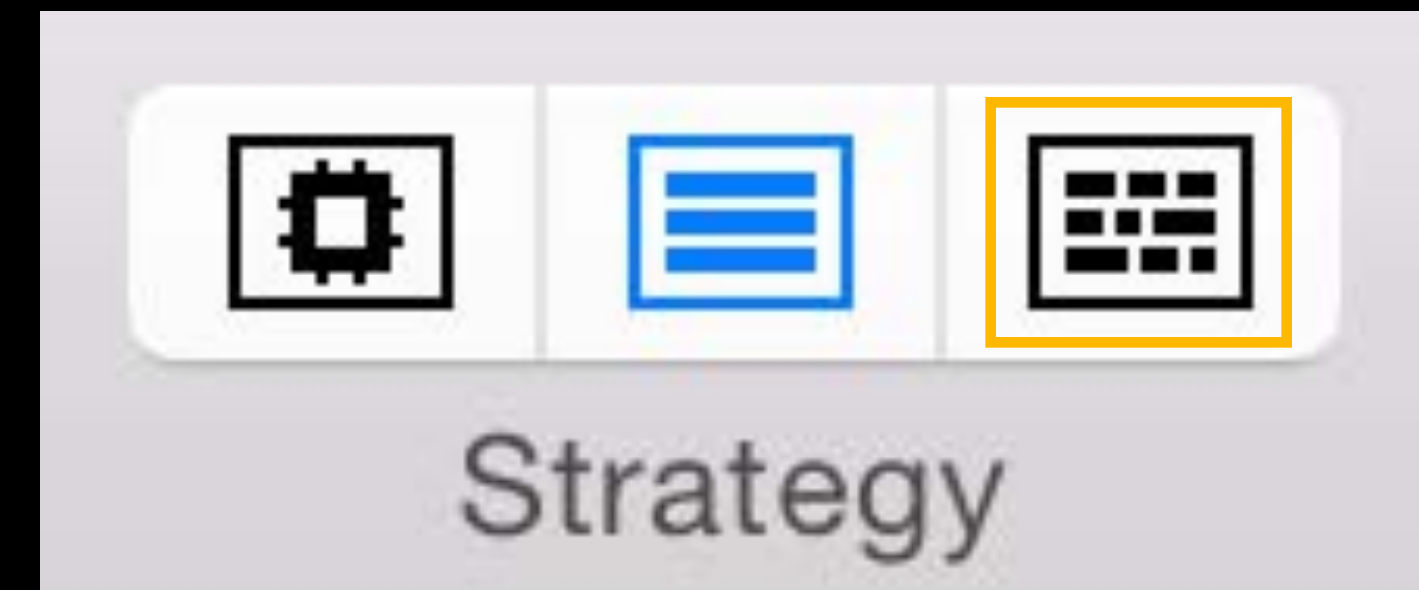
- Cores strategy
- Instruments strategy
- Threads strategy



Review

Strategy views

- Cores strategy
- Instruments strategy
- Threads strategy
 - Enable Record Waiting Threads to expose blocked threads



Time Profiling

Record Waiting Threads

Review

Call Tree settings

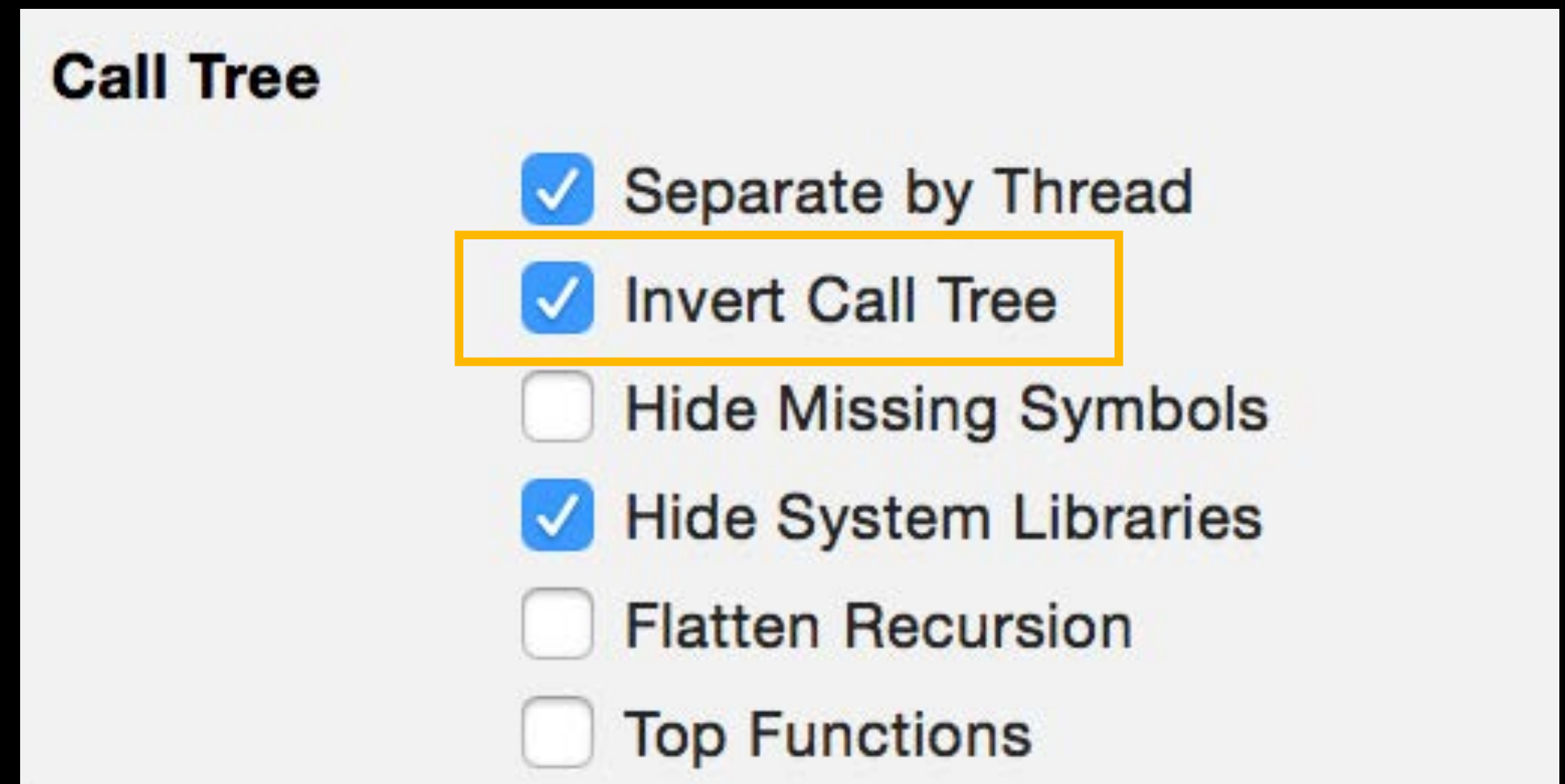
Call Tree

- Separate by Thread
- Invert Call Tree
- Hide Missing Symbols
- Hide System Libraries
- Flatten Recursion
- Top Functions

Review

Call Tree settings

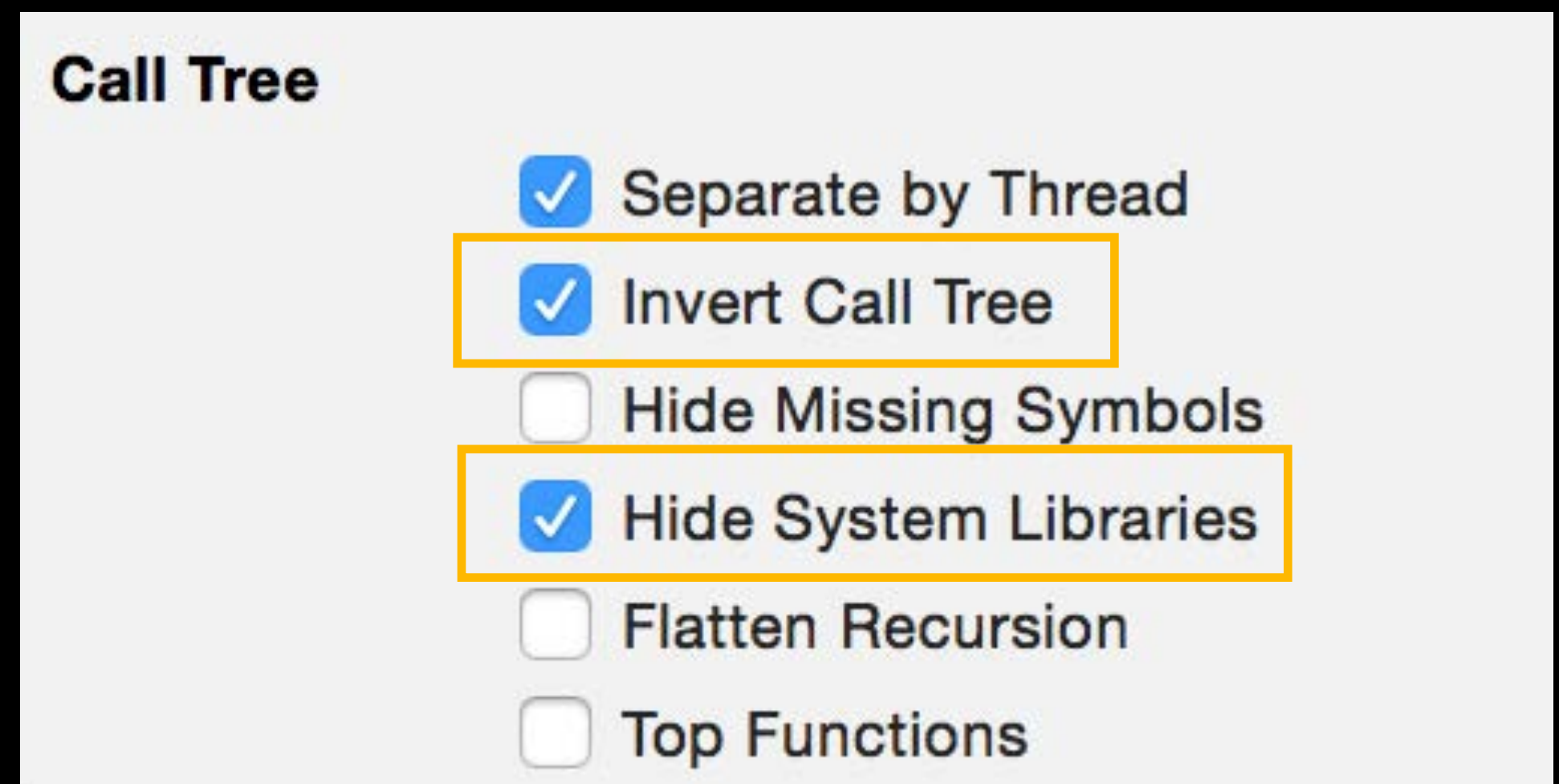
- Expensive calls are frequently near the end of the call stack



Review

Call Tree settings

- Expensive calls are frequently near the end of the call stack
- Focus on your own code

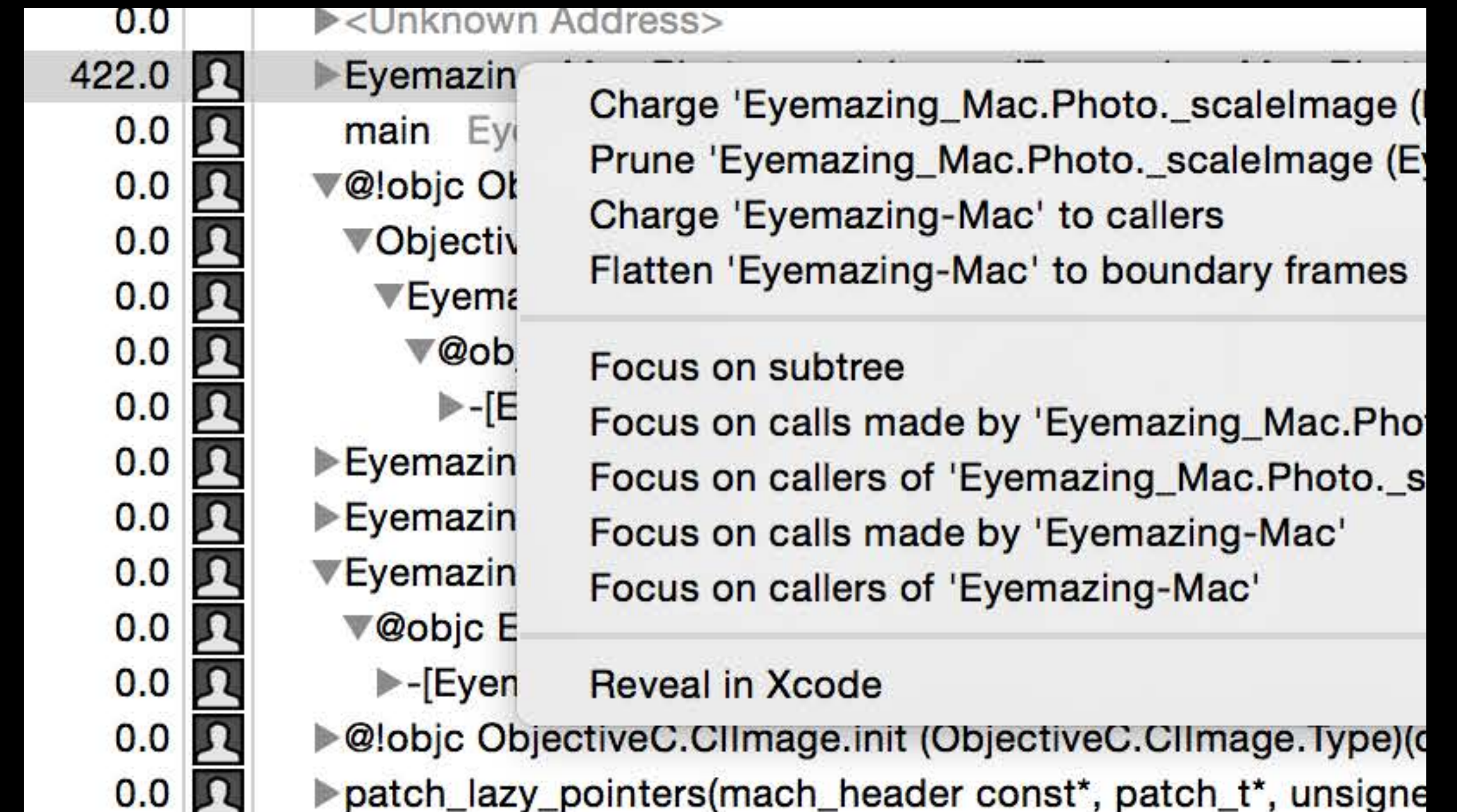


Tips

Focus and Prune

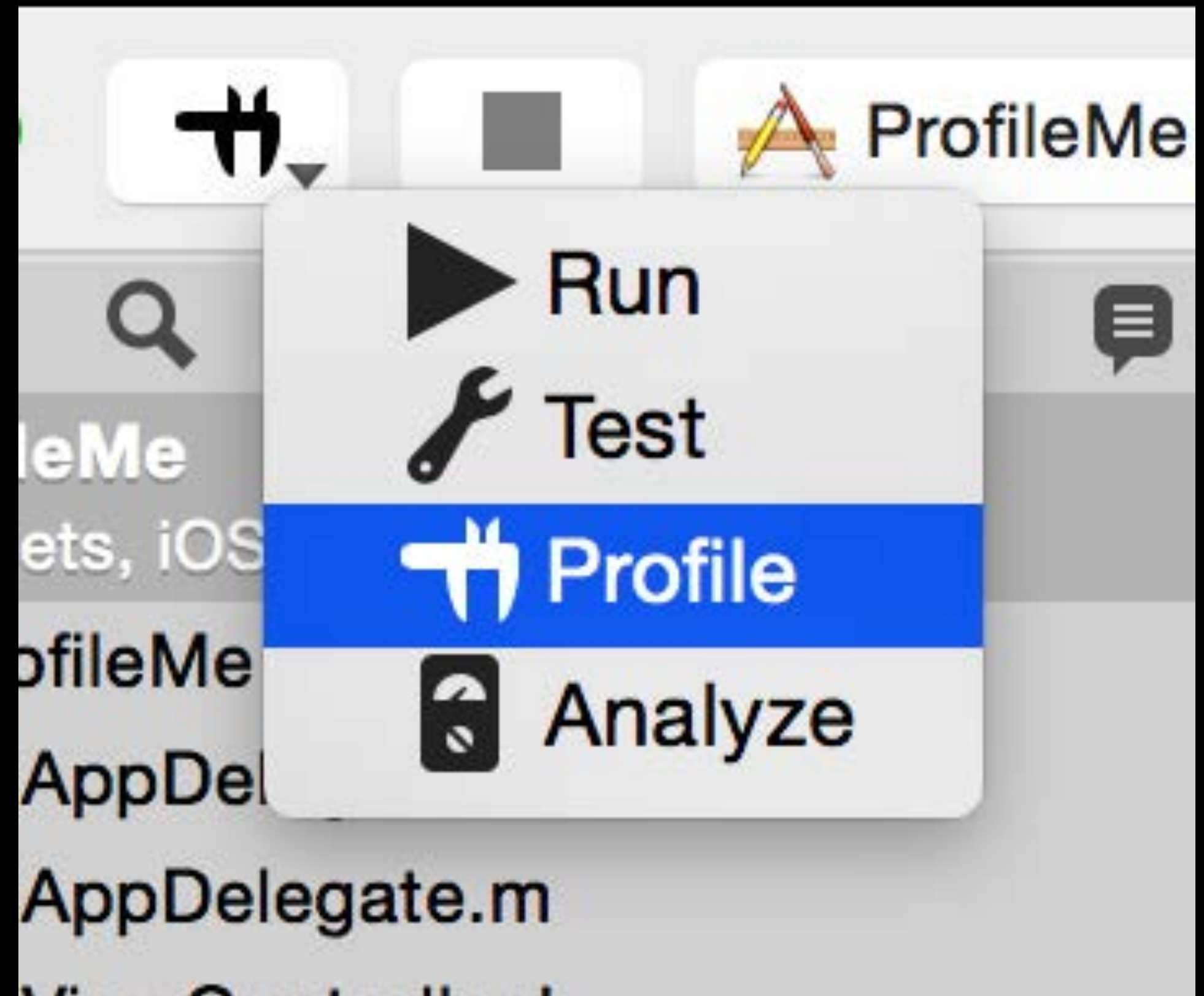
Ignore unwanted data

- Charge moves the associated cost
- Prune removes the associated cost
- Focus is “prune everything but”



Two More Guidelines

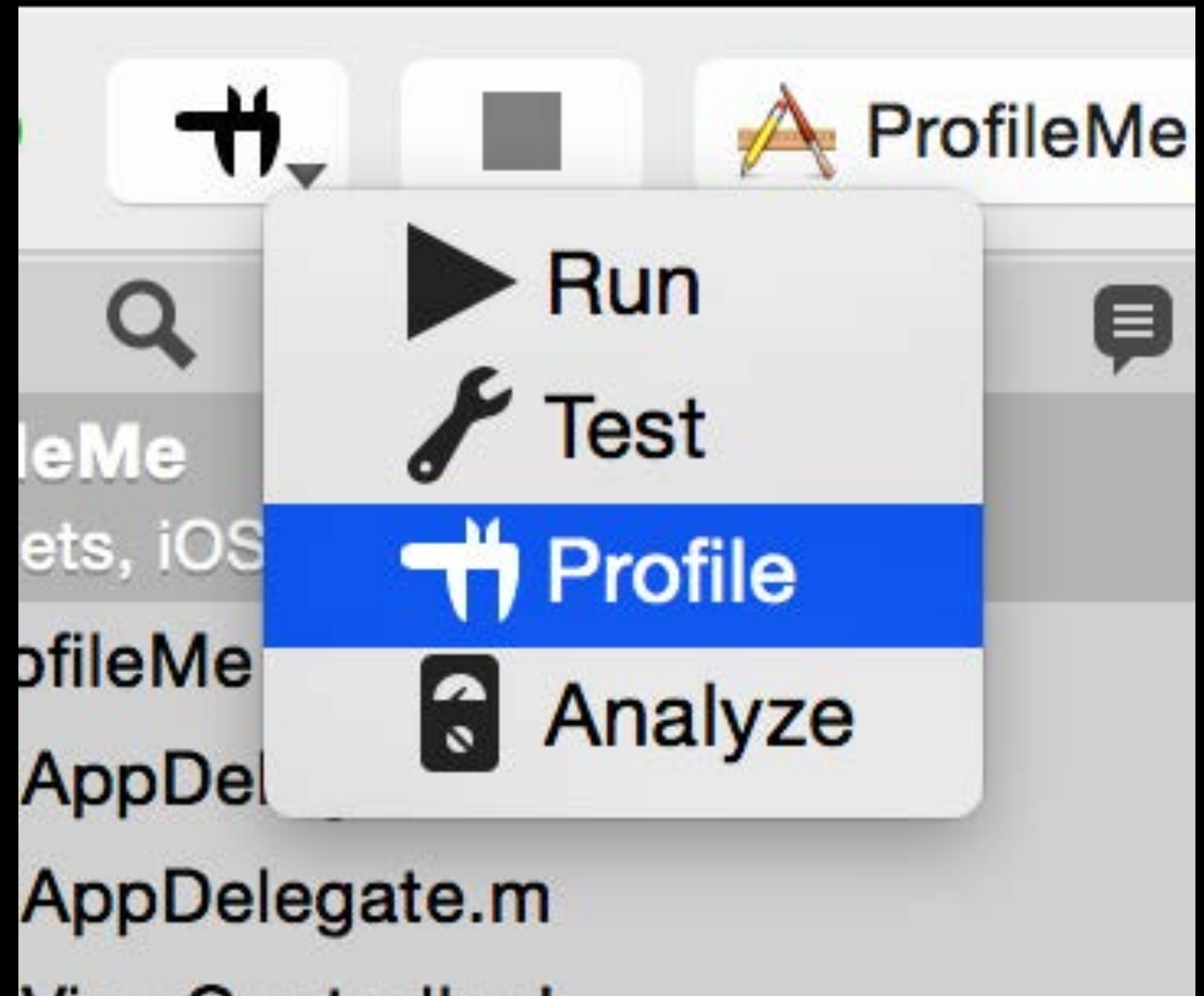
When using Time Profiler



Two More Guidelines

When using Time Profiler

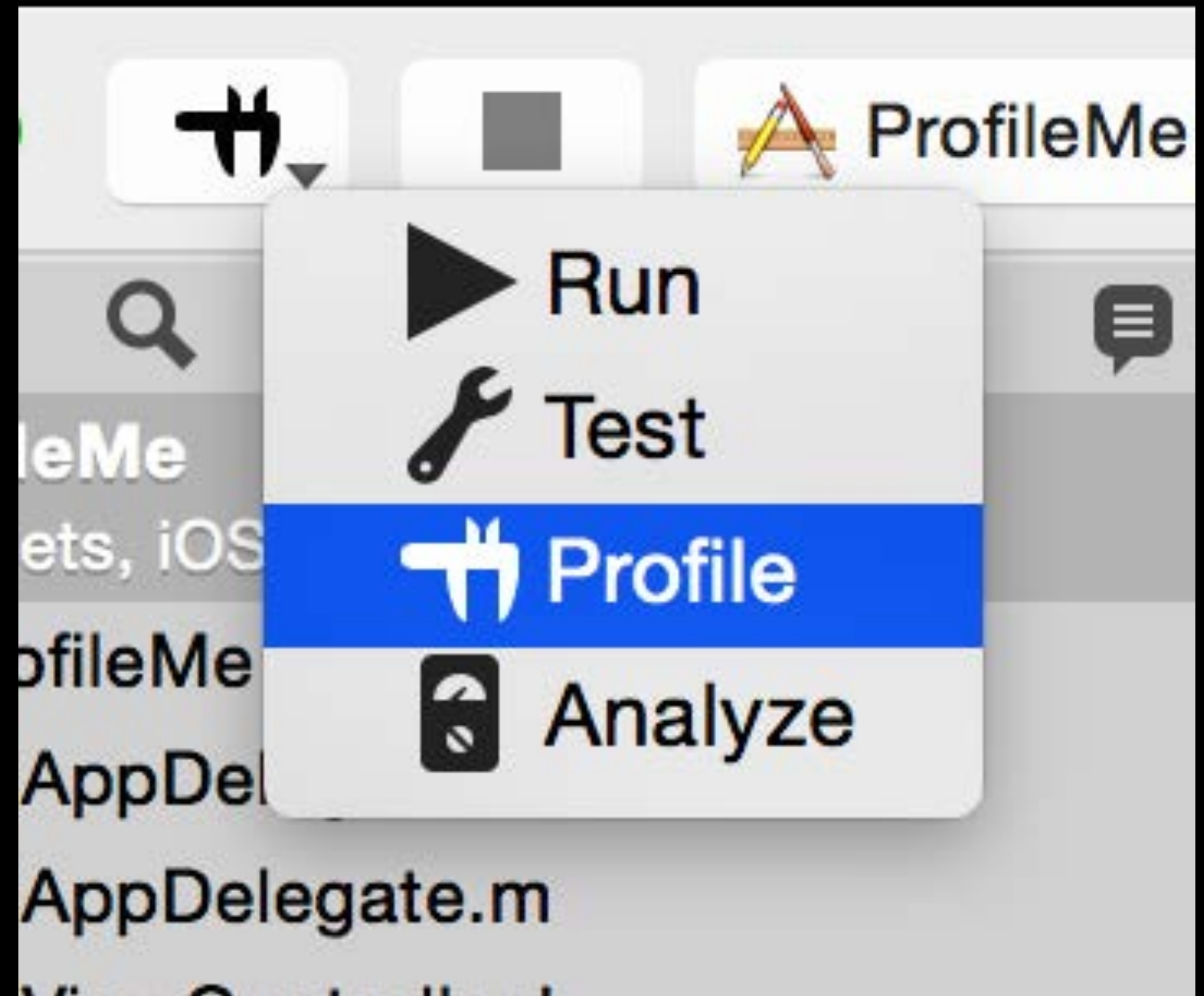
- Profile Release builds



Two More Guidelines

When using Time Profiler

- Profile Release builds
- For iOS, profile on the device



Performance Counters



Joe Grzywacz
Performance Tools Engineer

What Are Counters?

Each processor core contains a small number of 64-bit hardware registers

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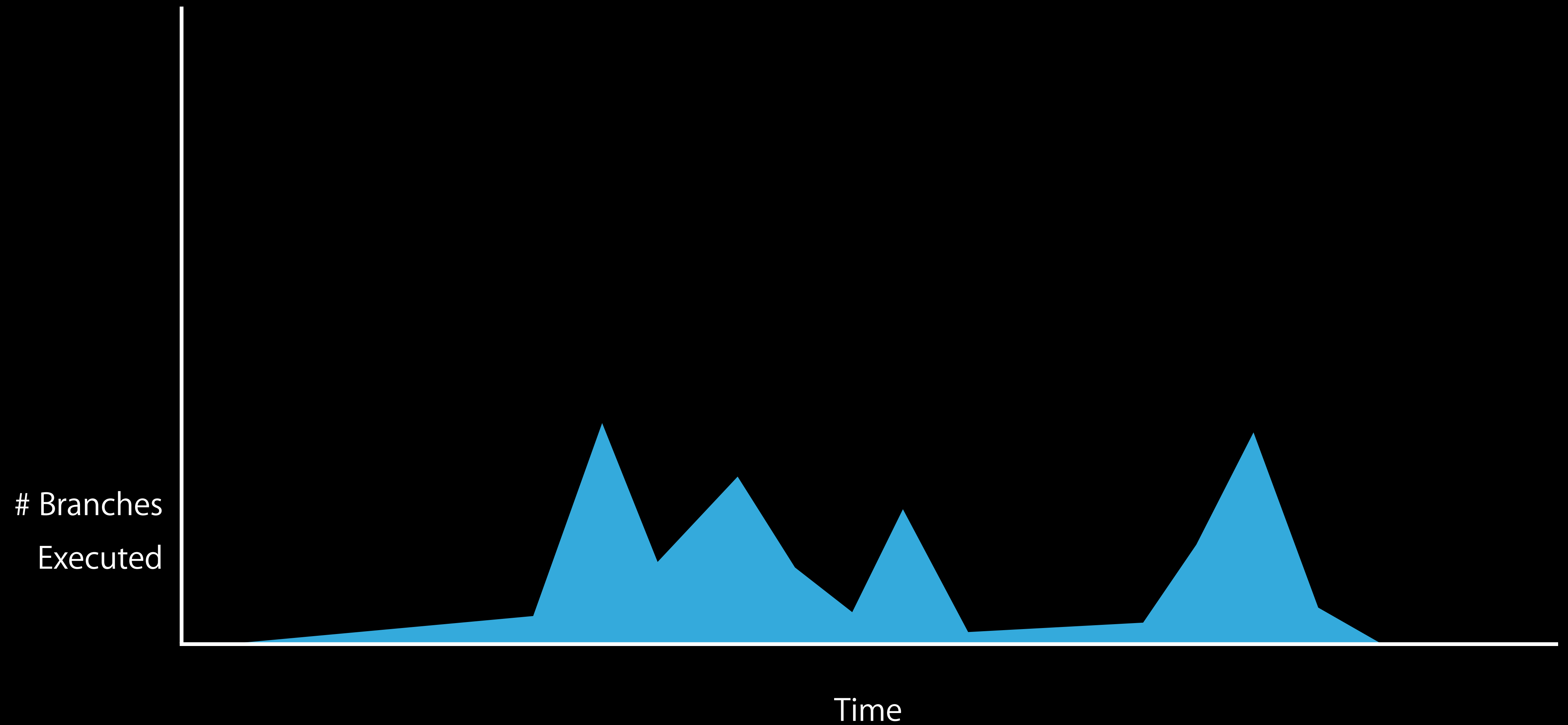
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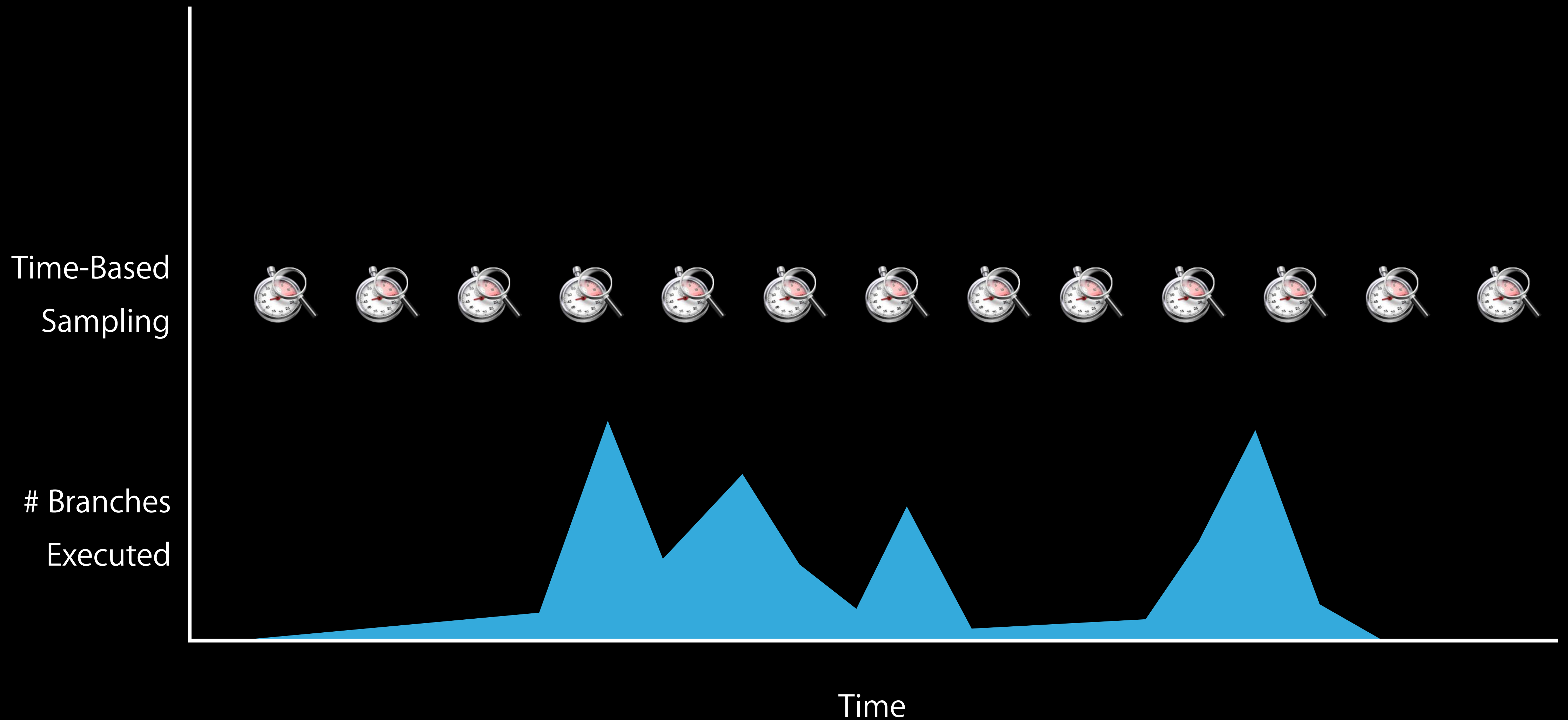
- Count one of a small number of events
 - Instructions executed, L2 Cache Misses, Branches Taken, ...
- Take a callstack every time a predetermined number of events occurs

Performance Monitoring Interrupts

(PMIs)



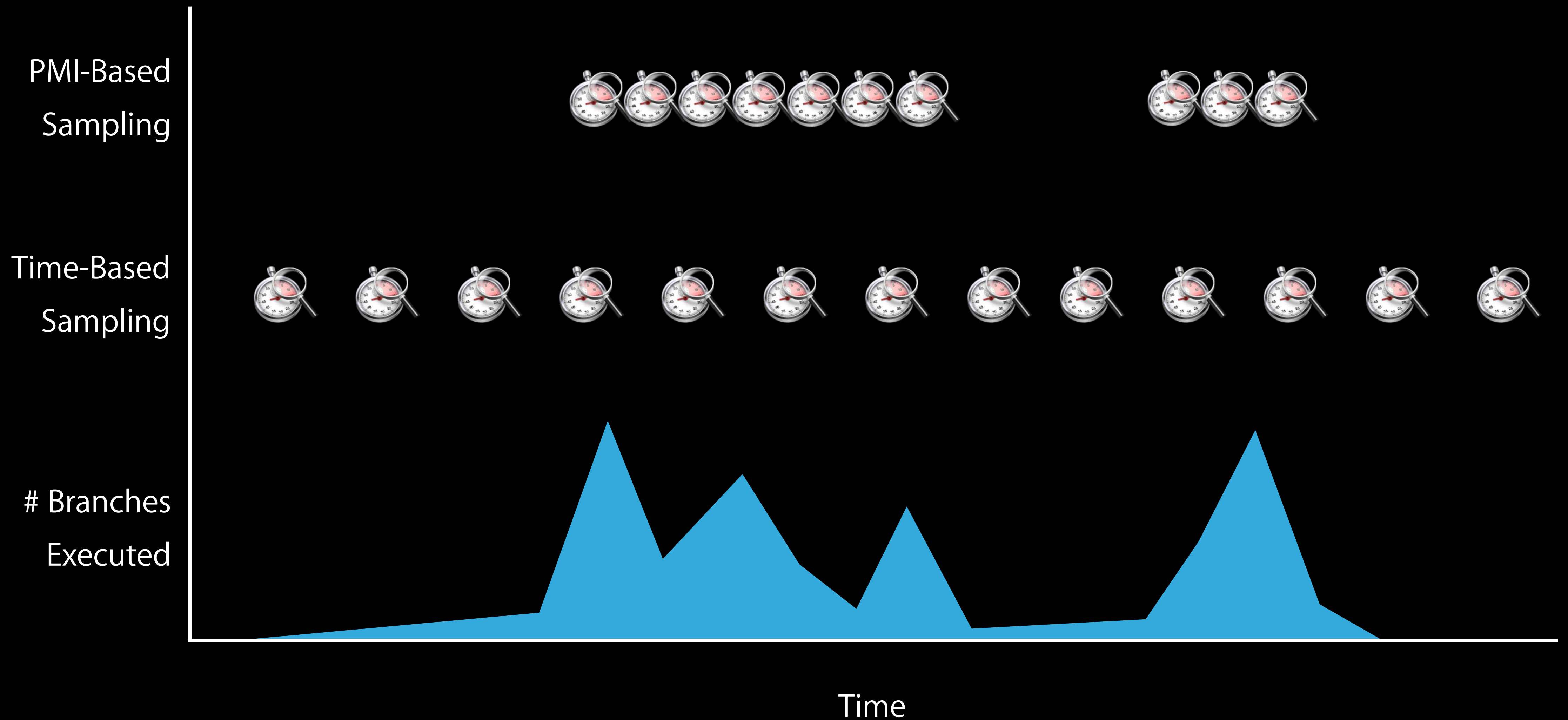
Performance Monitoring Interrupts (PMIs)



Performance Monitoring Interrupts



(PMIs)



Performance Counters

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Provide a deeper understanding of your app's performance beyond just time

- How well CPU resources are being used
 - Caches, execution units, TLBs, ...
- Runtime process traits
 - Branch frequency, instruction mix, ...

What's New with Counters



Formulas support

$$\text{IPC} = \frac{\text{Instructions}}{\text{Cycles}}$$

$$\text{Branch Mispredict Rate} = \frac{\text{BranchesMispredicted}}{\text{BranchesExecuted}}$$

$$\text{L1 Cache Miss \%} = 100 \times \frac{(\text{L1CacheLoadMisses} + \text{L1CacheStoreMisses})}{(\text{L1CacheLoads} + \text{L1CacheStores})}$$

What's New with Counters



iOS 8 support

- 64-bit ARM devices only

What's New with Counters



iOS 8 support

- 64-bit ARM devices only

Event Profiler instrument is deprecated

- Same PMI functionality is available within the Counters instrument

Demo

iOS Performance Counters



Counters Summary

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Collects data in a similar manner to Time Profiler

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Formulas allow you to combine raw event counts in custom ways

- Be sure to save your common formulas in a template

What's New with DTrace



What's New with DTrace



Dynamic tracemem



Dynamic tracemem, provides a way to trace dynamically sized arrays

- `tracemem(address, nbytes_max, nbytes)`
 - `nbytes_max`: maximum size of the array, must be known at compile time
 - `nbytes`: the actual size of the array you want to copy
 - Example:

```
void CGContextFillRects(CGContextRef c, const CGRect rects[], size_t count);
```

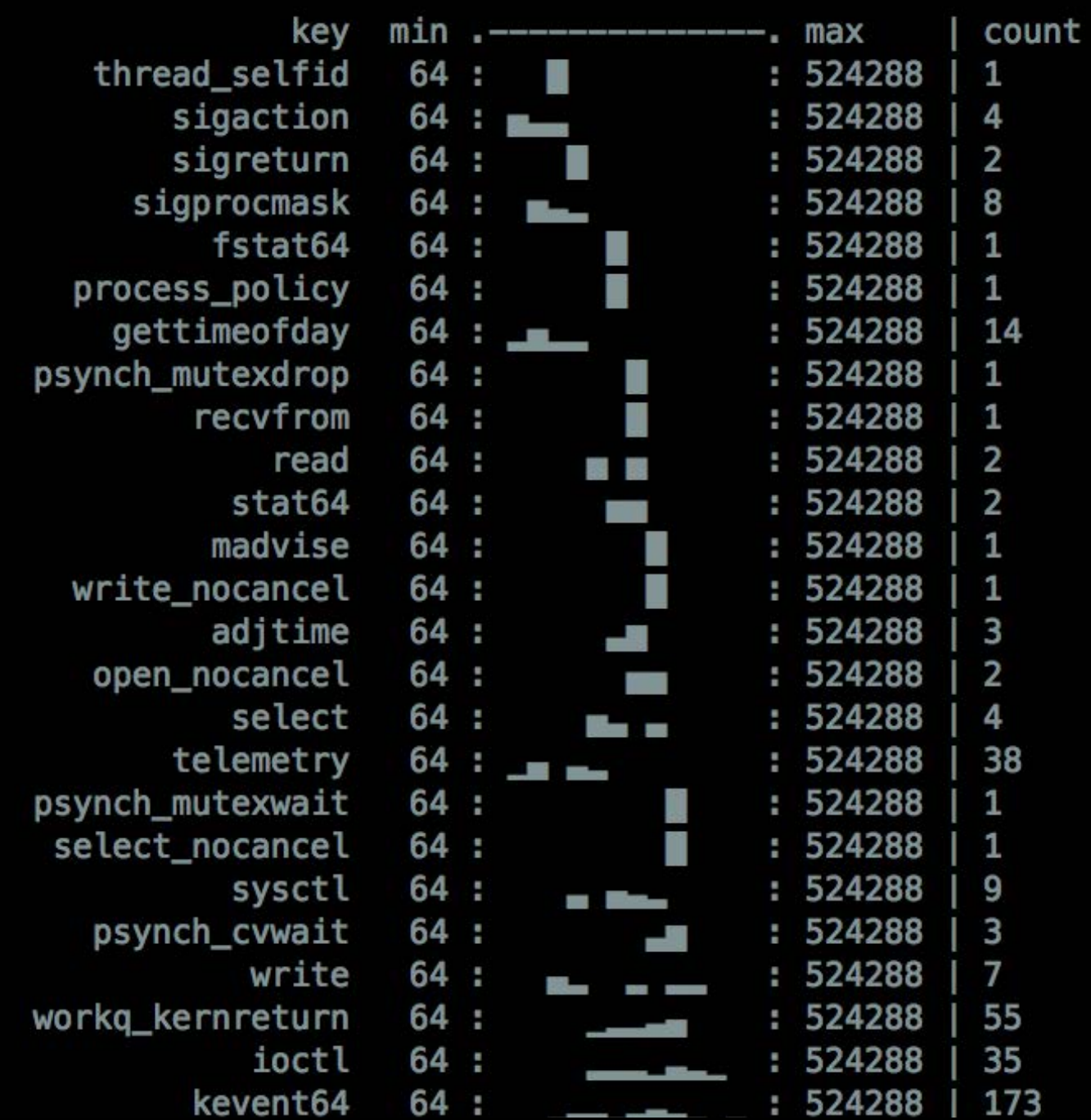
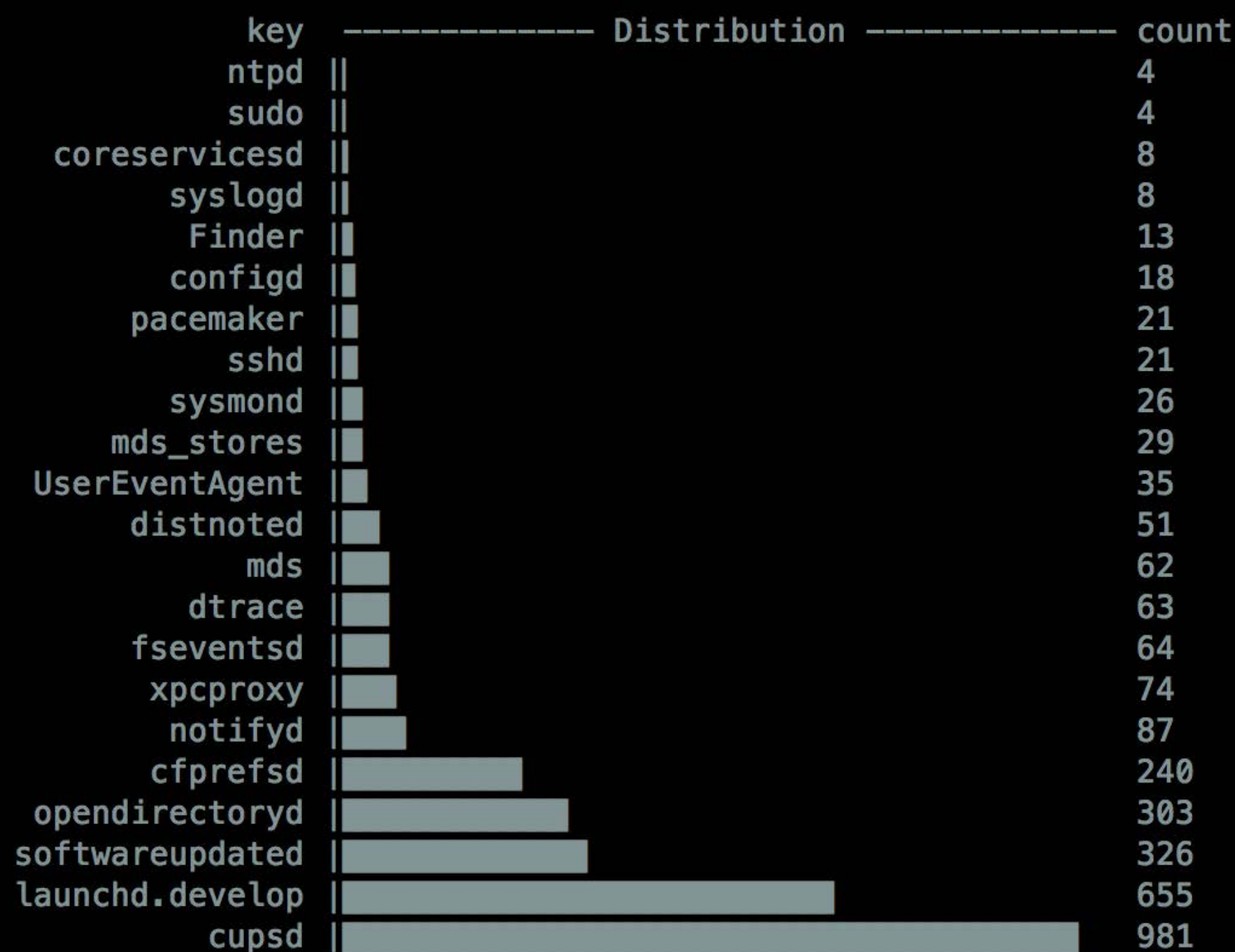
```
pid$pid_MyAppName::CGContextFillRects:entry  
{  
    this->array = copyin(arg1, sizeof(struct CGRect) * arg2);  
    tracemem(this->array, 512, sizeof(struct CGRect) * arg2);  
}
```

Improved Histograms



Histogram improvements: **agghist**, **aggzoom**, **aggpack**

<http://dtrace.org/blogs/bmc/2013/11/10/agghist-aggzoom-and-aggpack/>



Other New Features



Wait for process to start with `-W`

```
dtrace -Z -W MyAppName 'pid$target::*CALayer*:entry'
```


Other New Features



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dtrace -Z -W MyAppName 'pid$target::*CALayer*:entry'
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Tunable internal DTrace variables

```
# List the tunable variables
```

```
sysctl kern.dtrace
```

Other New Features



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dtrace -Z -W MyAppName 'pid$target::*CALayer*:entry'
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Tunable internal DTrace variables

```
# List the tunable variables
```

```
sysctl kern.dtrace
```

Updated documentation

```
man dtrace
```

Summary

Profile Swift and Objective-C alike

Be proactive

Don't assume—profile, change, and iterate

More Information

Dave DeLong

Developer Tools Evangelist

delong@apple.com

Instruments Documentation

Instruments User Guide

Instruments User Reference

<http://developer.apple.com>

Apple Developer Forums

<http://devforums.apple.com>

Related Sessions

● Creating Extensions for iOS and OS X, Part 1	Mission	Tuesday 2:00PM
● Integrating Swift with Objective-C	Presidio	Wednesday 9:00AM
● Creating Extensions for iOS and OS X, Part 2	Mission	Wednesday 11:30AM
● Swift Interoperability In-Depth	Presidio	Wednesday 3:15PM
● Advanced Swift Debugging in LLDB	Mission	Friday 9:00AM

Labs

● Swift Lab	Tools Lab A	All Week
● Instruments Lab	Tools Lab B	Wednesday 9:00AM
● Power and Performance Lab	Core OS Lab B	Wednesday 2:00PM
● Instruments Lab	Tools Lab B	Thursday 9:00AM
● Power and Performance Lab	Core OS Lab A	Thursday 3:15PM

 WWDC14