

What's New in Core Data?

Persisting since 2004

Session 210

Melissa Turner, Core Data Engineer

Rishi Verma, Core Data Engineer

Roadmap

Core Spotlight integration

New indexing APIs

Persistent history tracking

Alphonse Says "Hi"



CoreSpotlight

What is Spotlight

Original search API on macOS

Document-centric

- Search results identify document
- Not location in document

Not ideal for databases

What is Core Spotlight

Original search tool on iOS

Database-friendly Spotlight API

Search for content in apps

Allows deep linking

What is Core Spotlight



NEW

Original search tool on iOS

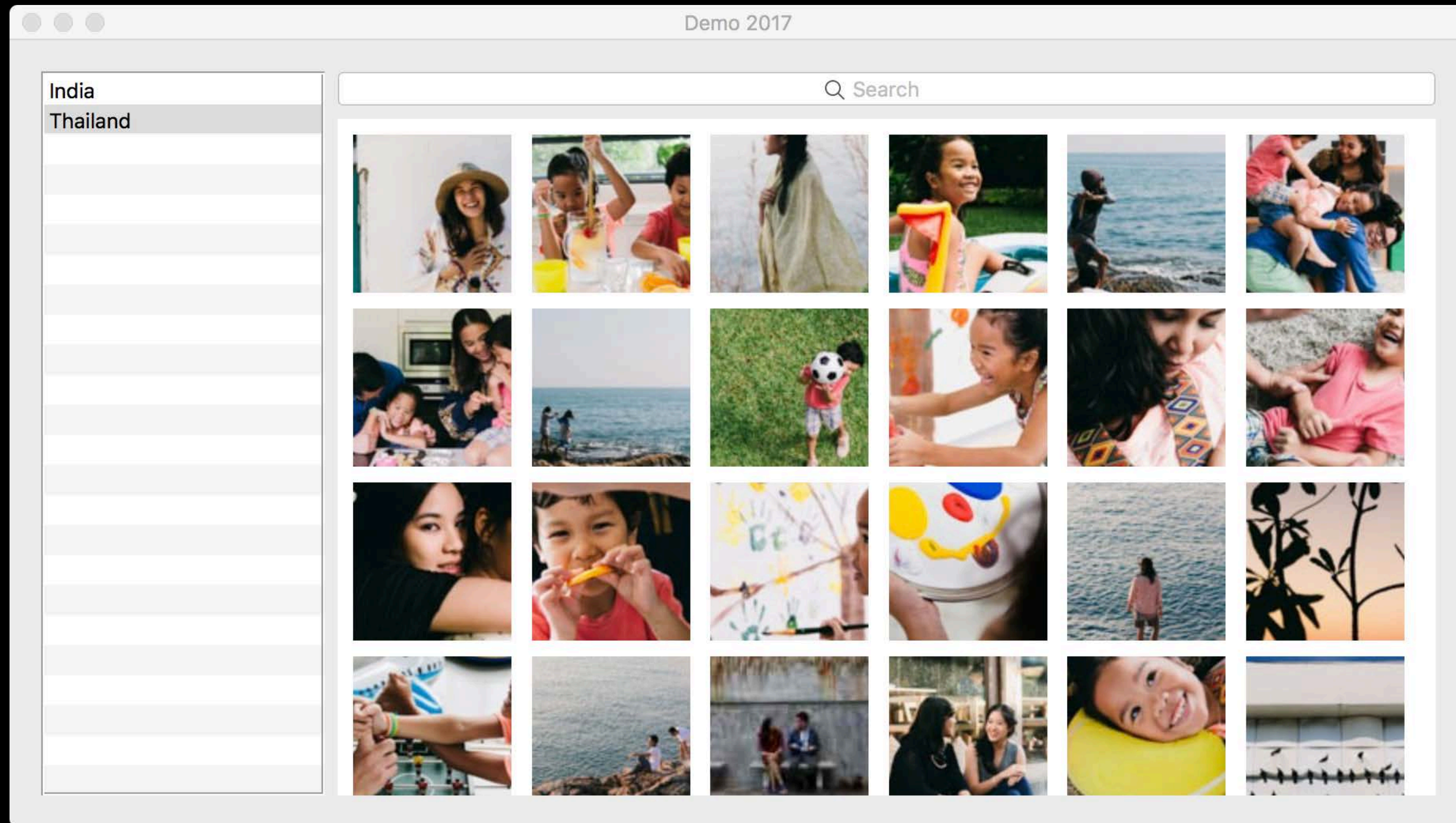
Database-friendly Spotlight API

Search for content in apps

Allows deep linking

Ships on Mac OS and iOS

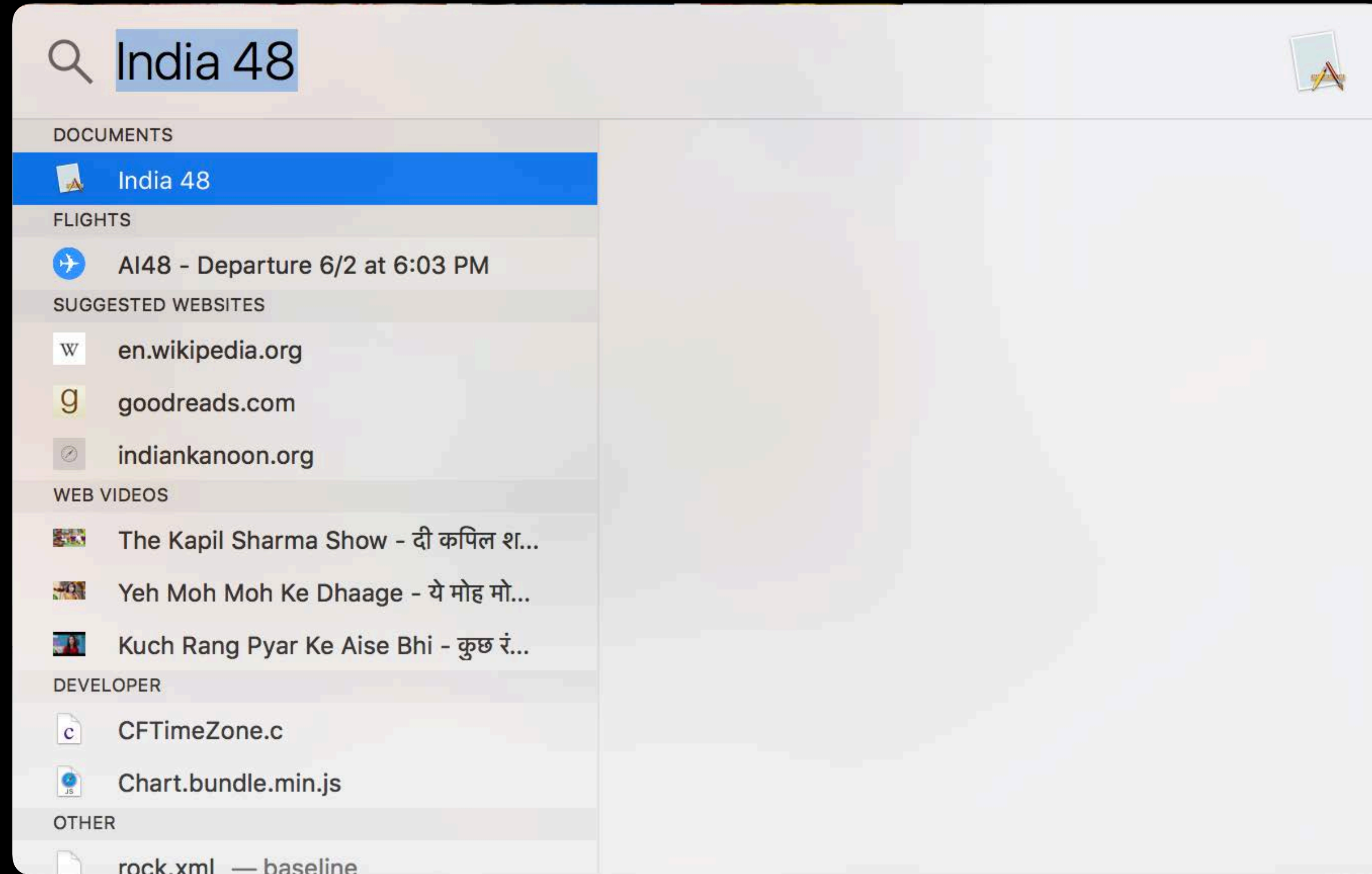
Core Spotlight



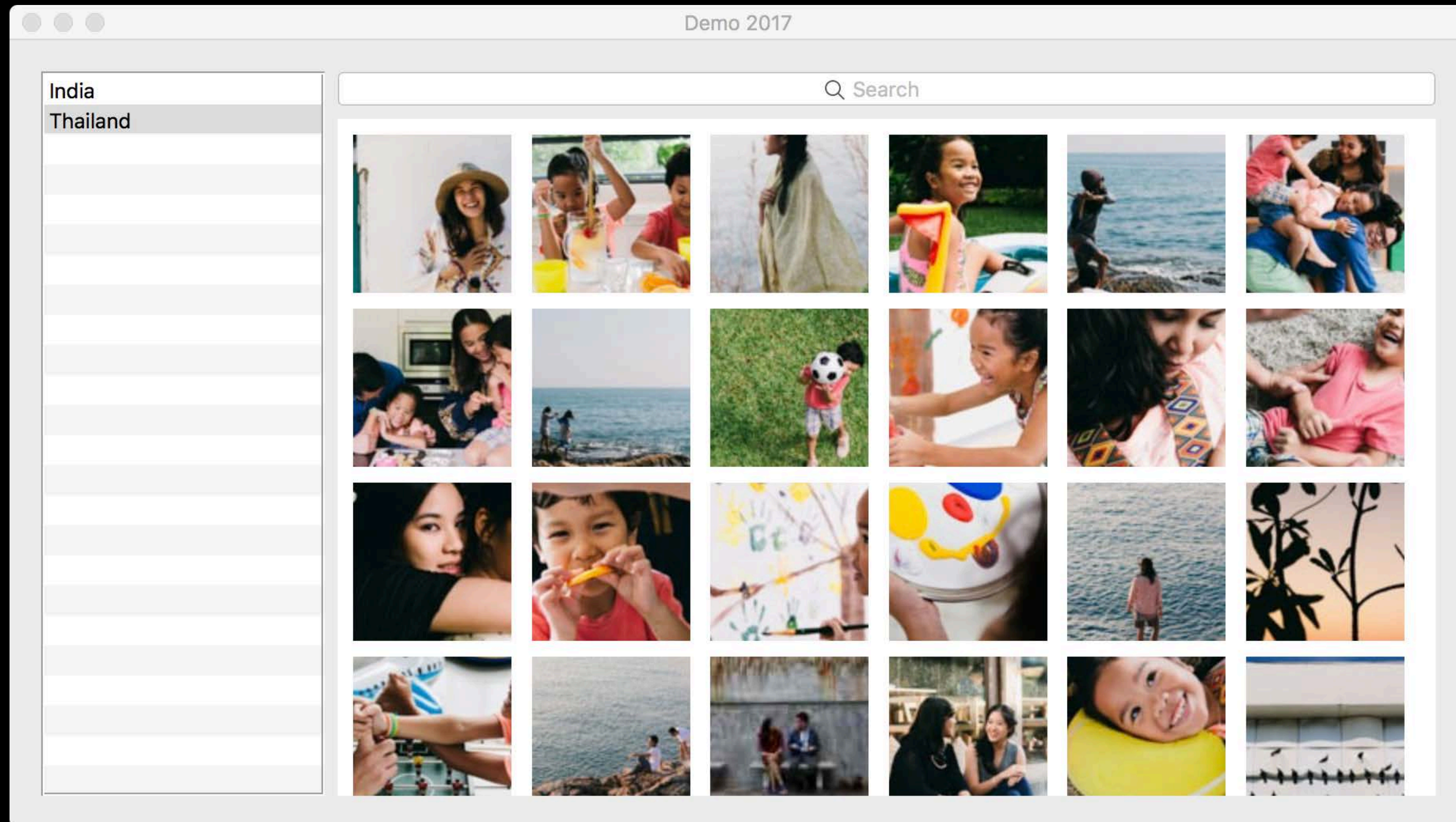
Core Spotlight

🔍 Spotlight Search

Core Spotlight



Core Spotlight

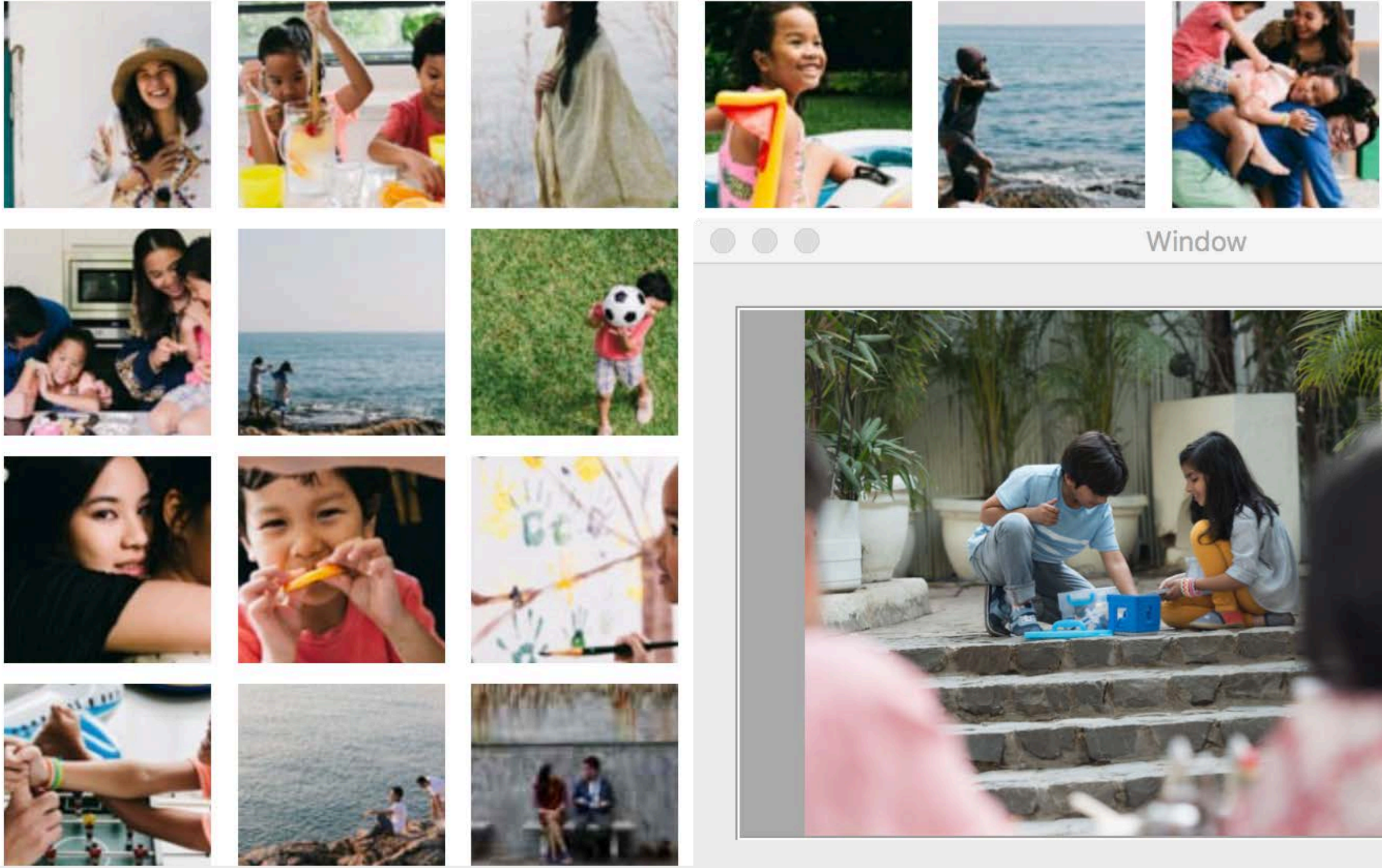


Core Spotlight


Demo 2017

India
Thailand

Search



Window



Label India 48

Tags india, building, kids

What is Core Spotlight

Original search tool on iOS

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Ships on Mac OS and iOS

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Access CoreSpotlight search data from your app

What is Core Spotlight

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Ships on Mac OS and iOS

Access CoreSpotlight search data from your app

No zero-length files

Three Pieces

Way to indicate property participation

```
NSPropertyDescription.indexedBySpotlight
```

Way to specify display name

```
NSEntityDescription.coreSpotlightDisplayNameExpression
```

Exporter

coreSpotlightDisplayNameExpression

NSExpression

Evaluated during Core Spotlight update

`object` parameter will be an instance of `NSManagedObject`

Can return anything Core Spotlight can accept

- `CSLocalizedString`

coreSpotlightDisplayNameExpression

Keypath

- Property name

Function

```
lowercase:(displayName)
```

```
FUNCTION:(castTo:(@"Class", @"MyUtilityClass"), @"displayNameFor:", self))
```

NSCoreDataCoreSpotlightDelegate

Implements `CSSearchableIndexDelegate`

- Default implementations of all methods

Uses a separate store on a background thread

- Initialize with `NSPersistentStoreDescription` + model

Override point is `NSCDCSD.attributeSet(for object:)`

```
override func attributeSet(for object: NSManagedObject) -> CSSearchableItemAttributeSet? {  
  
    guard let attributeSet = super.attributeSet(for: object) else { return nil }  
  
    if "Photo" == object.entity.name {  
        let photo = object as! Photo  
        let tags = photo.tags  
        let localizedString = localizedTagString(photo)  
        attributeSet.setValue(localizedString, forKey: attributeKey!)  
    }  
  
    return attributeSet;  
  
}
```

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}
```

Demo

Non-Sharp Corners

Will automatically export to Core Spotlight on first launch

Uses Persistent History Tracking to ensure all data is pushed

Sharpish Corners

Core Spotlight and Spotlight integration mutually exclusive

`entity.coreSpotlightDisplayNameExpression` OR

`property.storedInExternalRecord`

Doesn't track results of batch operations

Sharpish Corners

Entitlement to talk to Core Spotlight

- com.apple.application-identifier

You need to handle the search result

```
public func application(_ application: UIApplication, continue userActivity:
NSUserActivity, restorationHandler: @escaping ([Any] -> Void) -> Bool
```

```
public func application(_ application: UIApplication, continue userActivity: NSUserActivity,
restorationHandler: @escaping ([Any]) -> Void) -> Bool {

    let userInfo = userActivity.userInfo as! NSDictionary

    let identifier = userInfo.value(forKey: "kCSSearchableItemActivityIdentifier")

    let uri = URL(string: identifier as! String)
    let coordinator = self.persistentContainer.persistentStoreCoordinator
    let managedObjectID = managedObjectID(forURIRepresentation: uri!)

    // insert your code here
}
```

```
public func application(_ application: UIApplication, continue userActivity: NSUserActivity,
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```

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    let userInfo = userActivity.userInfo as! NSDictionary
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    let managedObjectID = managedObjectID(forURIRepresentation: uri!)
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```
    // insert your code here
```

```
}
```

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    // insert your code here
}
```


Sharp Corners

Up to you to delete old reference files

x86_64 only

New Indexing API

Indexing

Configure database for faster search

One or more columns per index

One or more indexes per column

Database will choose most efficient index based on query

Digression: Indexing

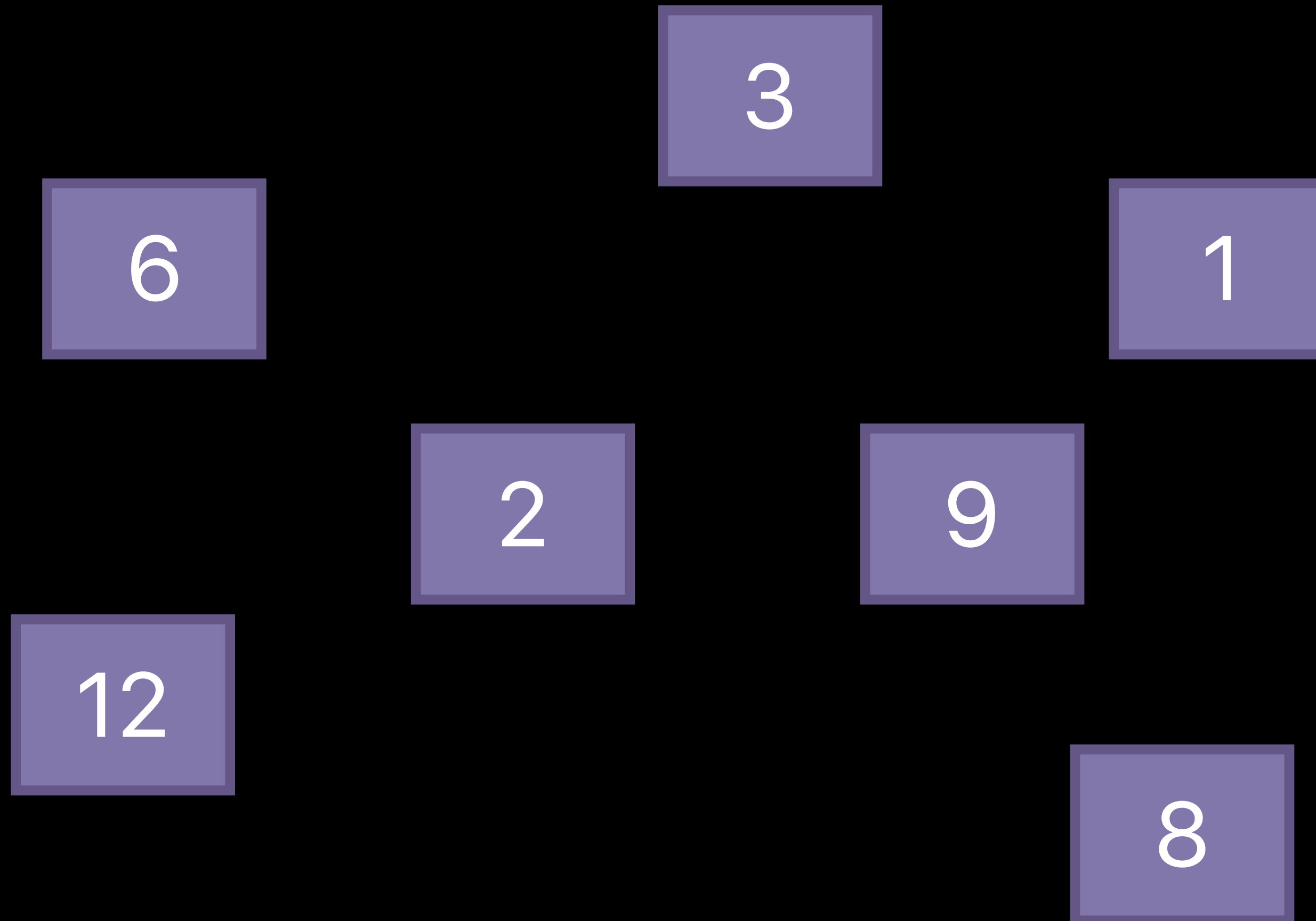
Binary indexes

- Basic form
- Strict comparison only

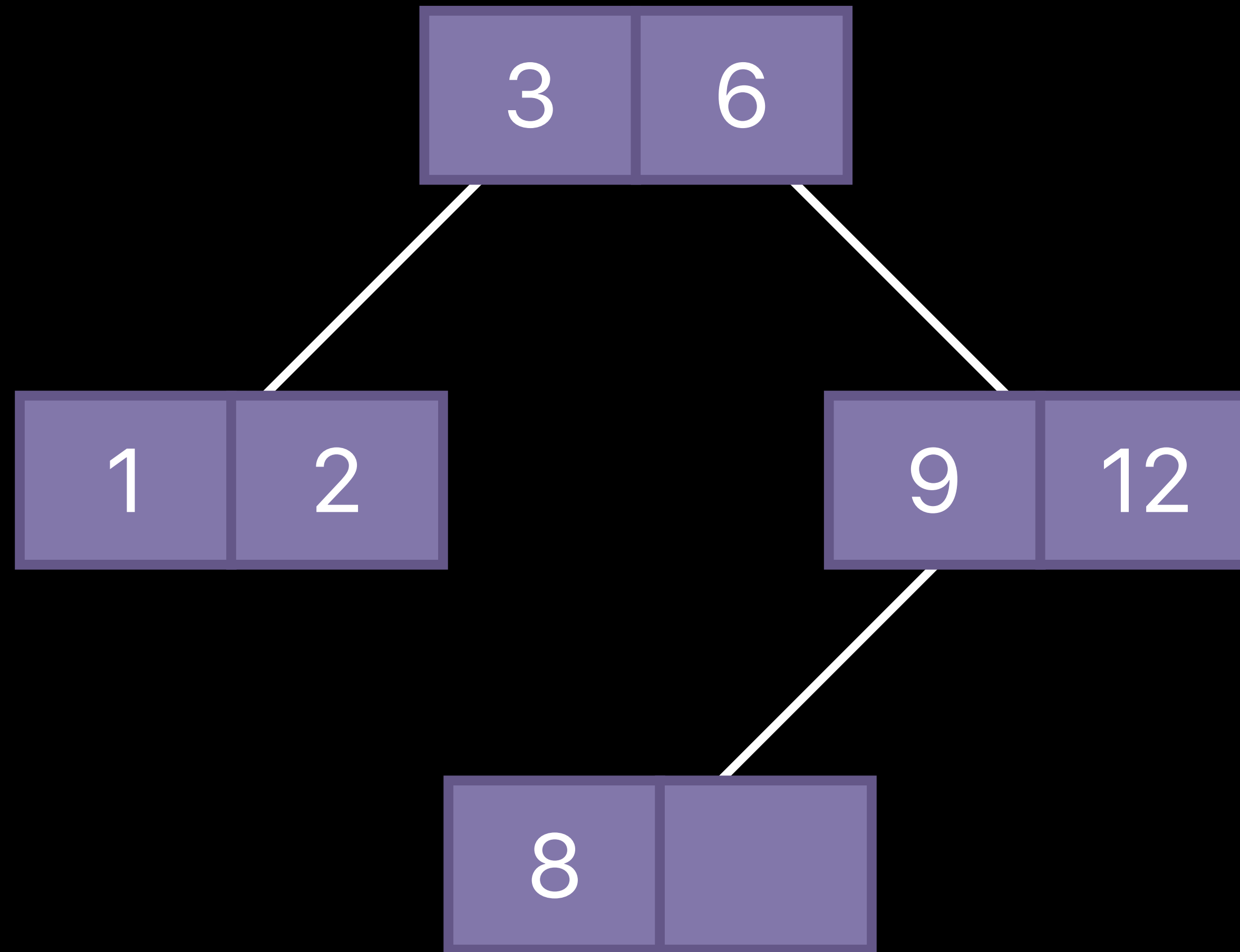
RTree indexes

- Optimized for ranged based searching

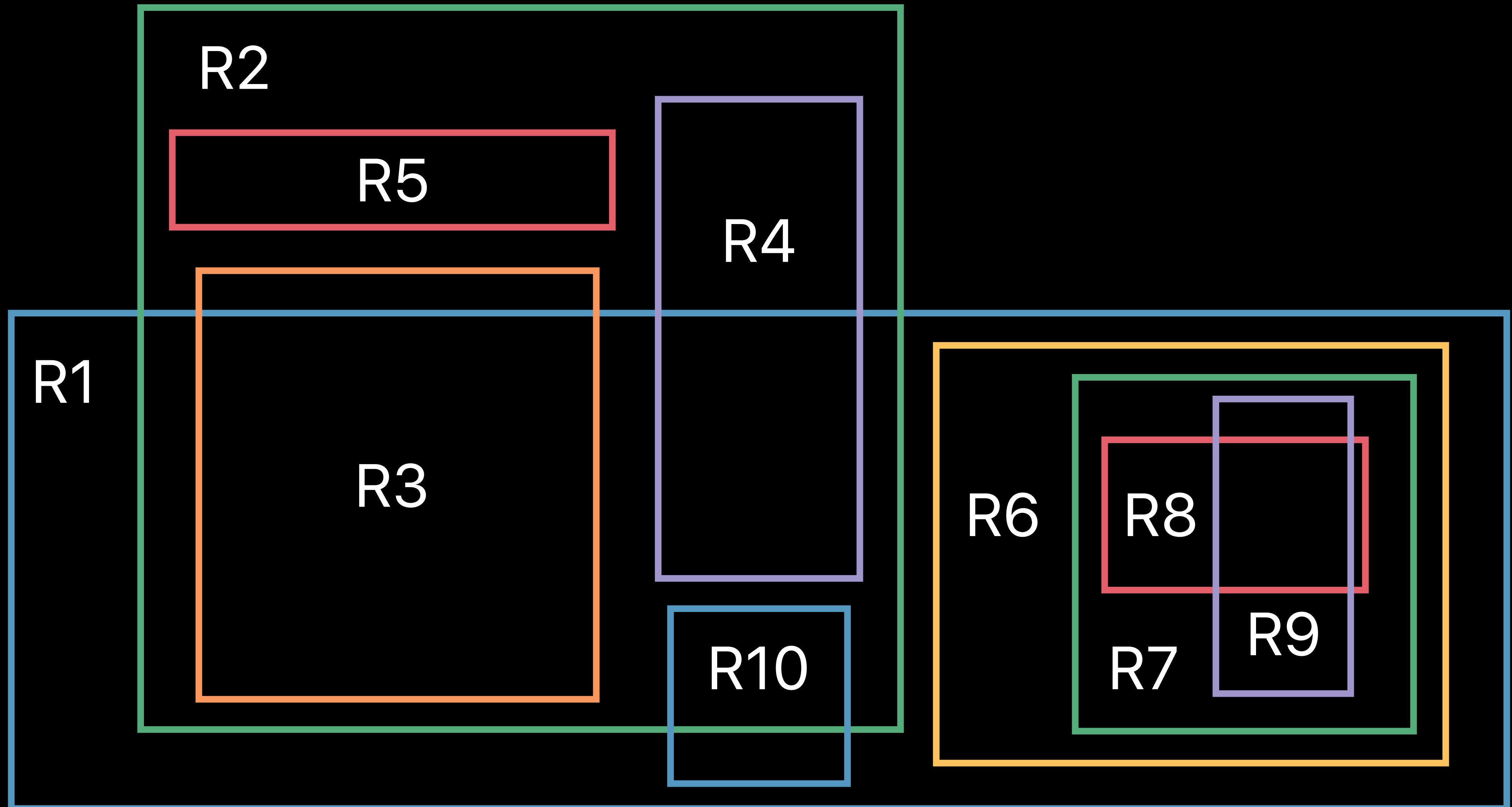
BTree Data



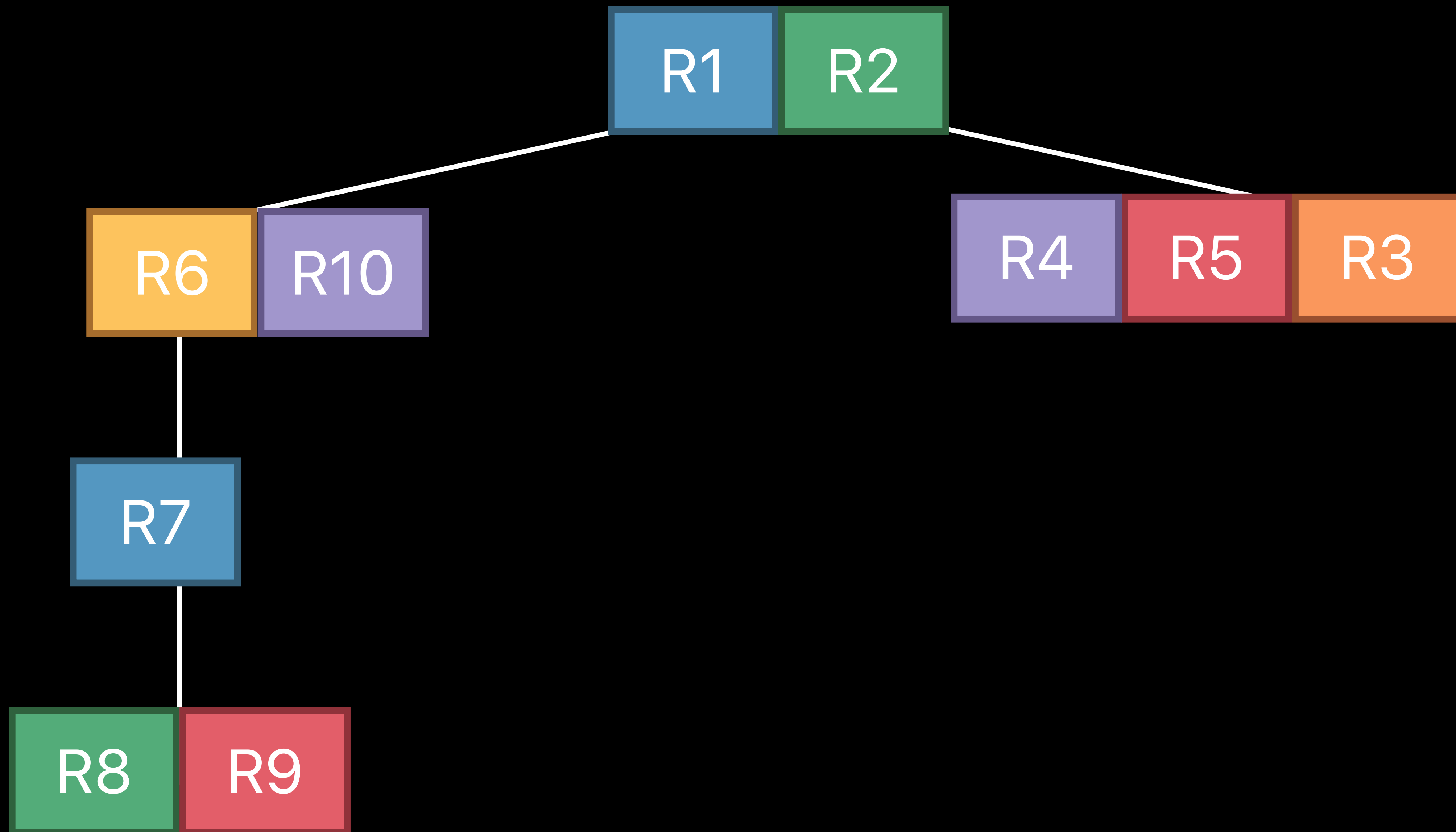
BTree Index



RTree Data



RTree Index



Current Indexing APIs

Single property index

```
NSAttributeDescription.isIndexed
```

Multiple column index

```
NSEntityDescription.compoundIndexes
```

Evolving Core Data Indexing

Ability to support more index types

More configurable indexing

More Powerful API

NSFetchIndexDescription

NSFetchIndexElementDescription

NSEntityDescription.indexes

Functions to control index use

```
indexed:by:(indexName, propertyName)
```

```
noindex:(propertyName)
```

NSFetchIndexElementDescription

Property

Type

- Binary
- RTree

Direction

NSFetchIndexDescription

Specify a single index

- Name
- Elements
- Predicate

Validates index composition

Sharp Corners

Can't mix and match element types

Range indexes require numeric properties ≤ 32 -bit

- Which can't be optional

Create indexes last

- Changing entity hierarchy structurally drops indexes

Maybe Sharp Corners?

Doesn't affect version hash

- Won't cause migration (with perf hit)
- Won't cause migration (user won't get updated indexes)

Update model's `versionHashModifier` to trigger migration

SQL store will ignore unsupported indexes

Demo

Miscellaneous

New Attribute Types

NSUUIDAttributeType

- NSUUID

NSURIAttributeType

- NSURL

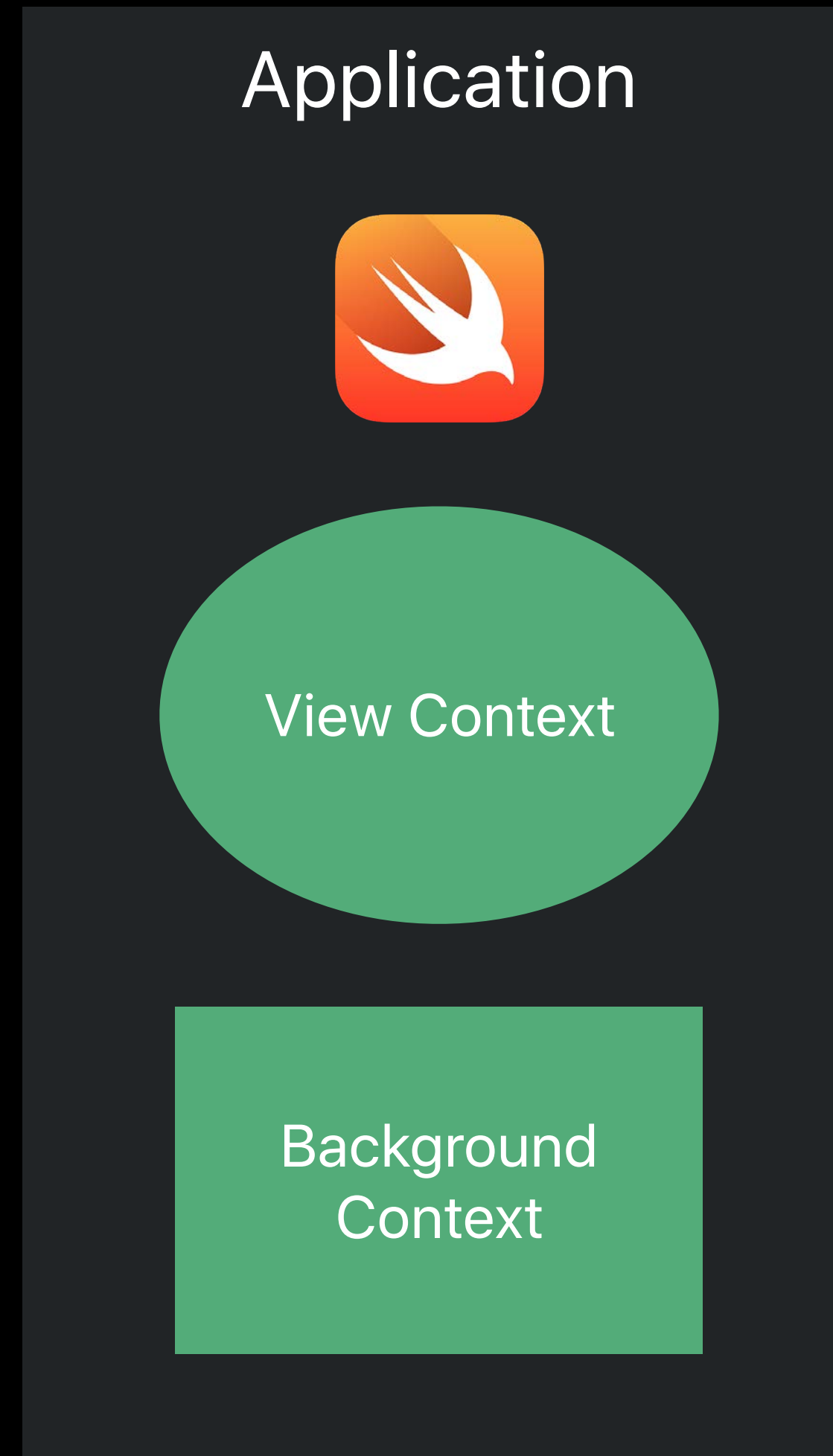
Persistent History Tracking

History 201

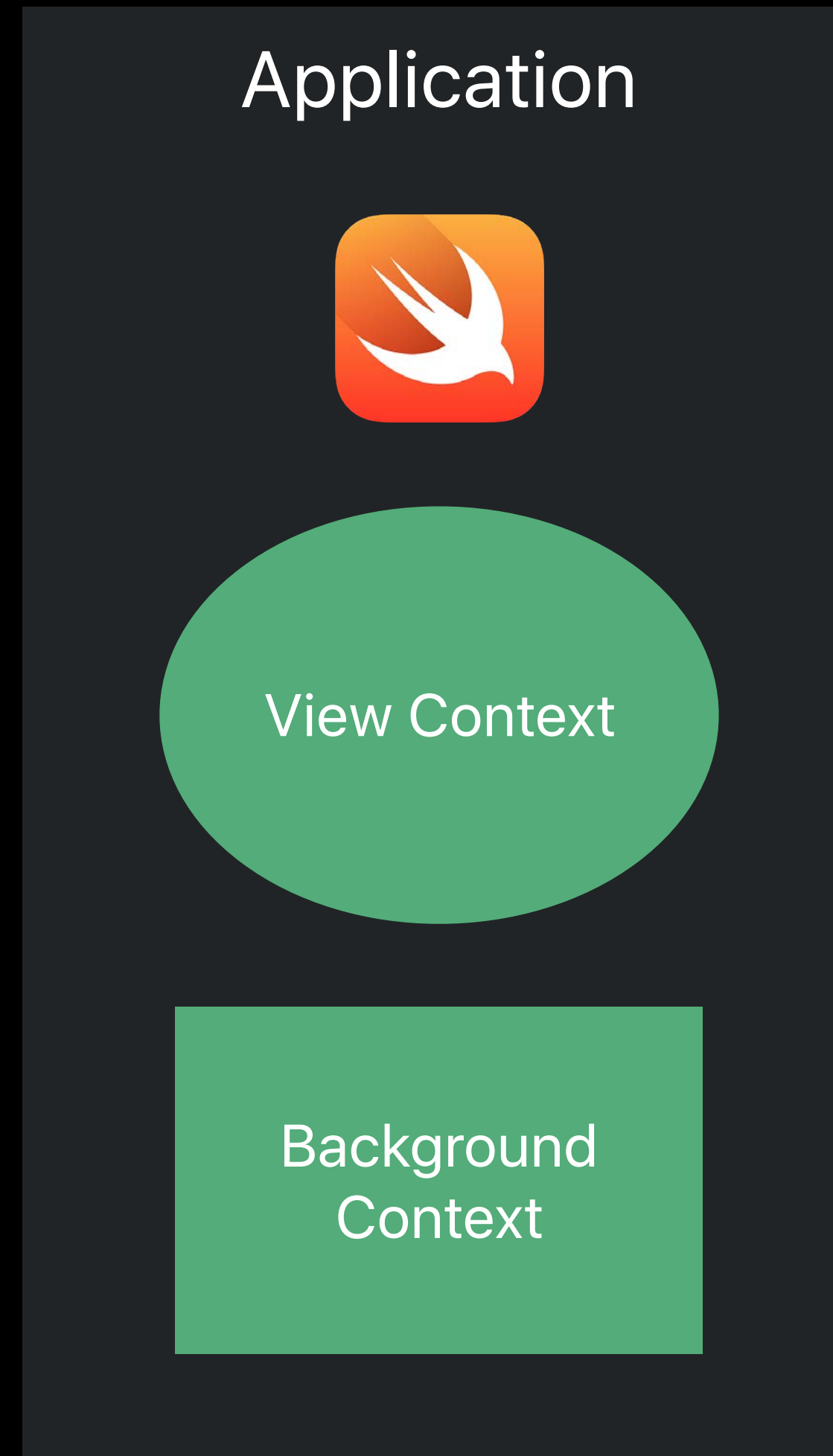
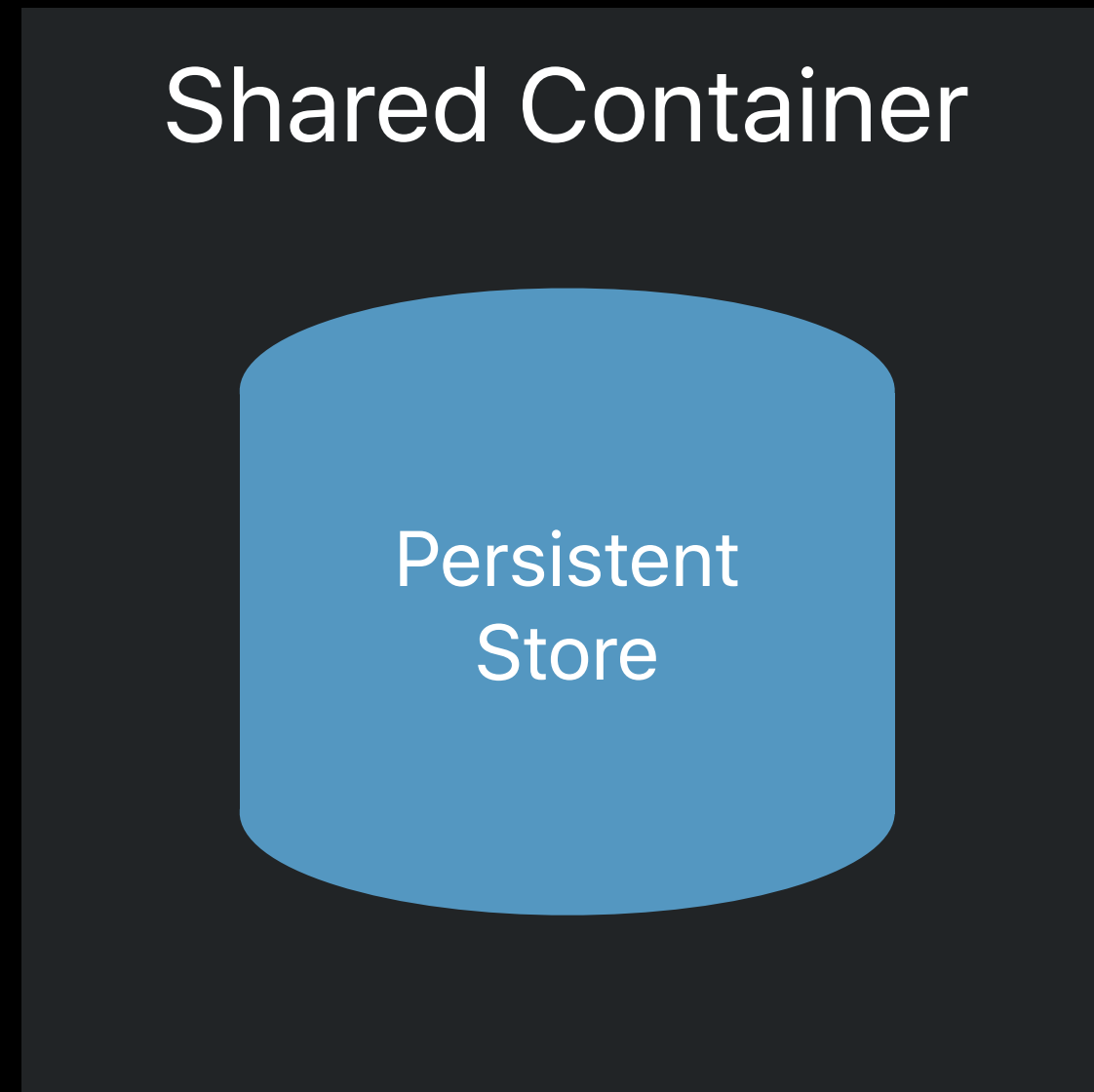
Rishi Verma, Core Data Engineer

Story of the App

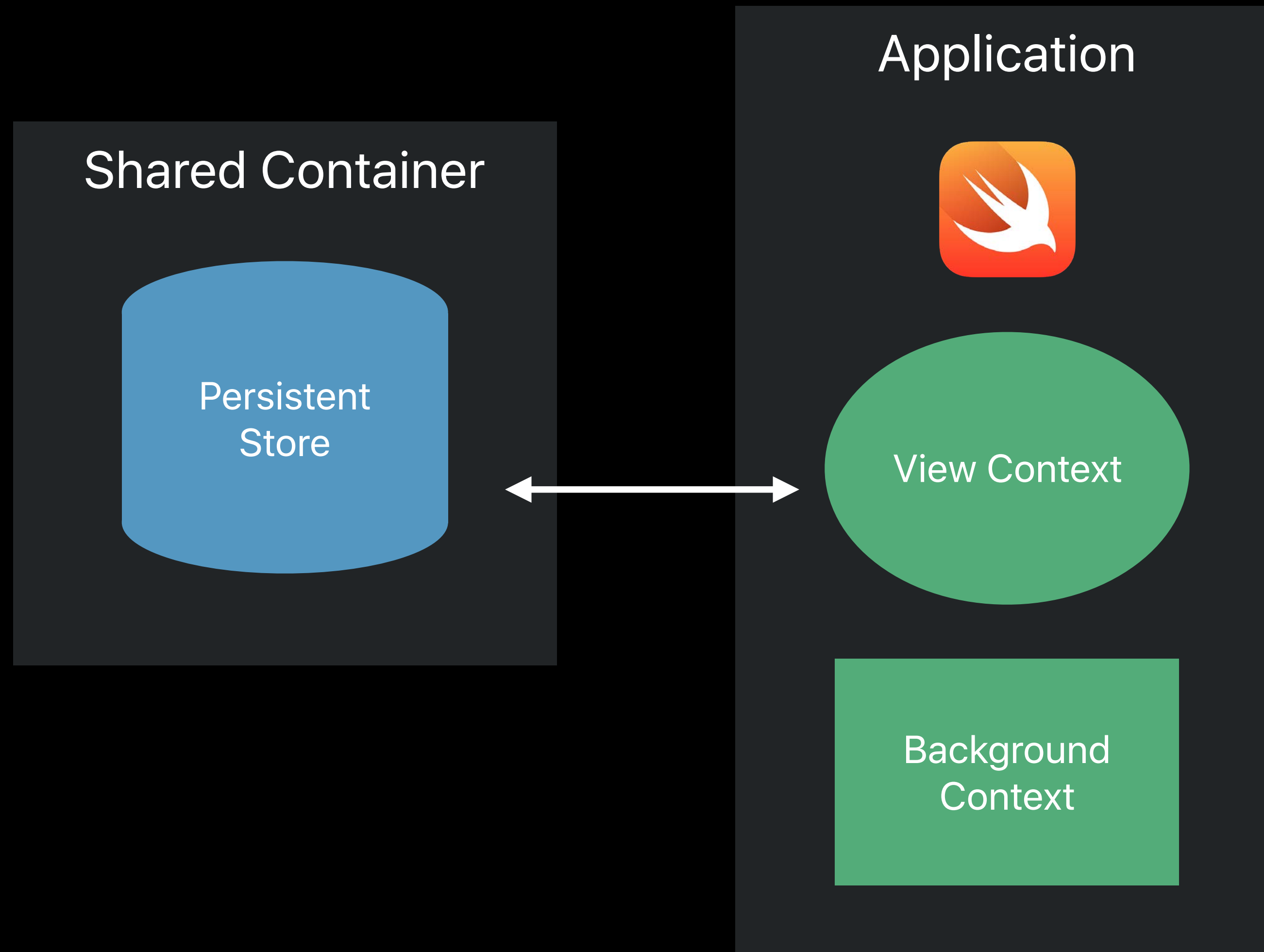
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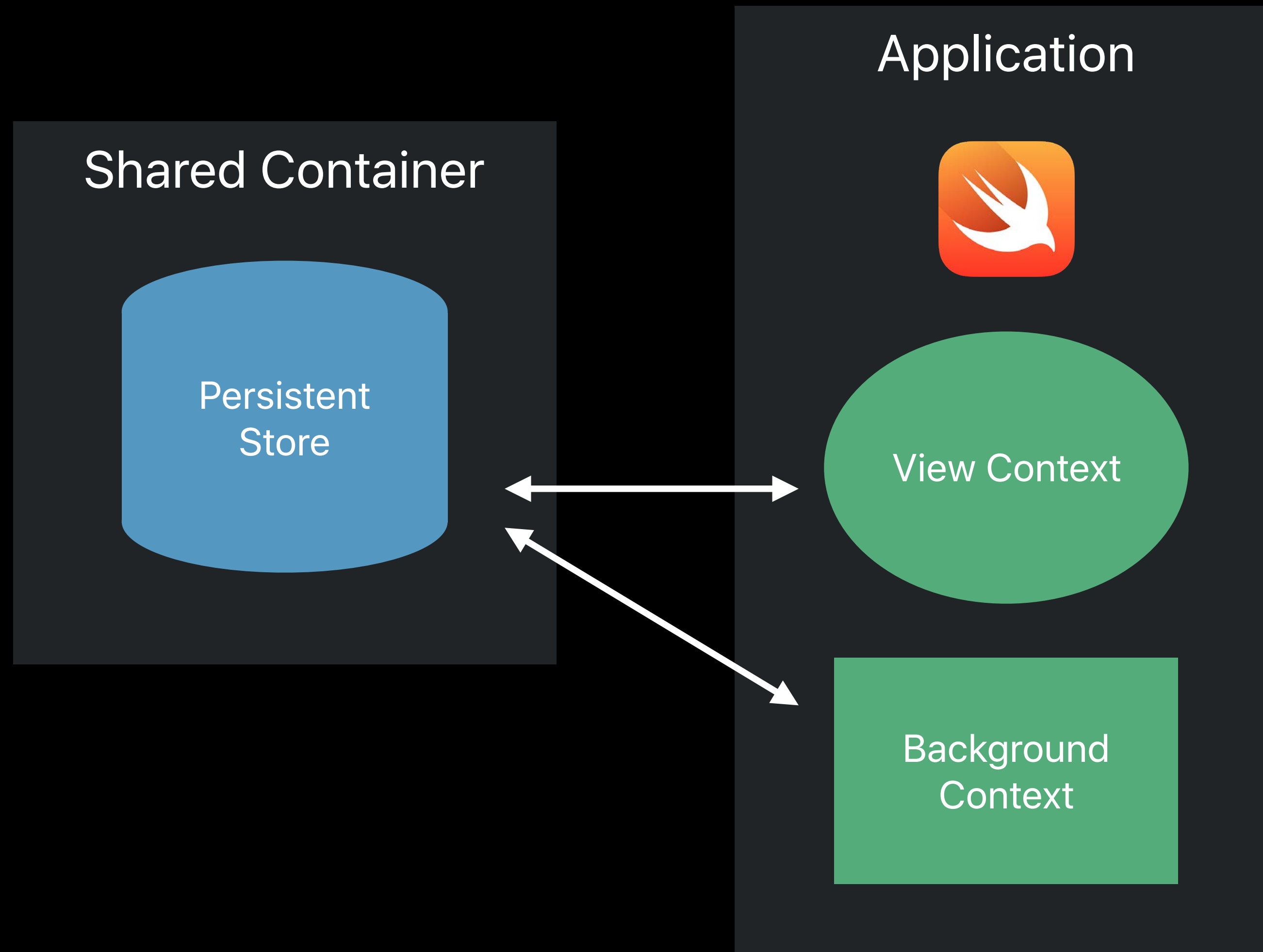
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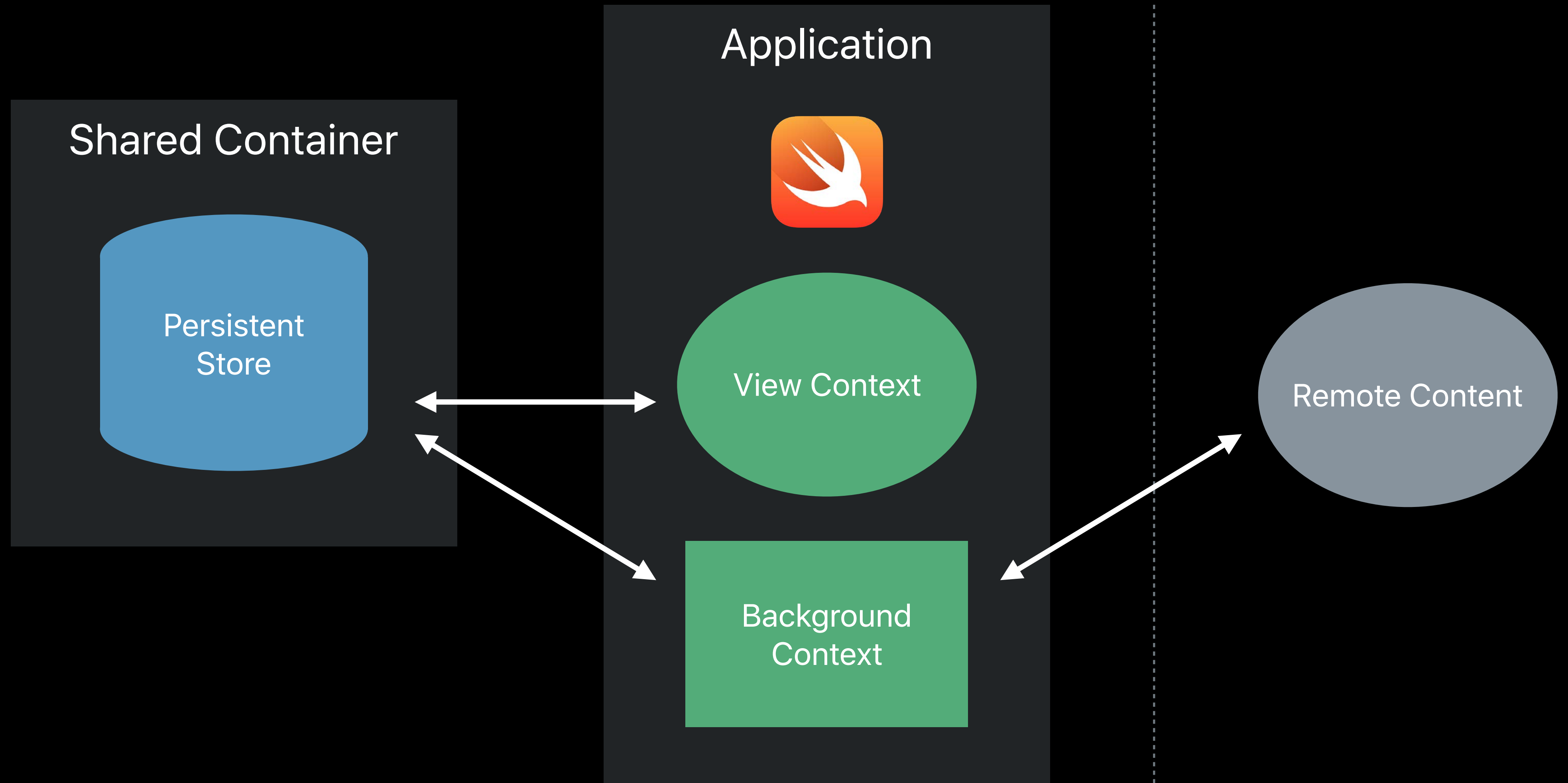
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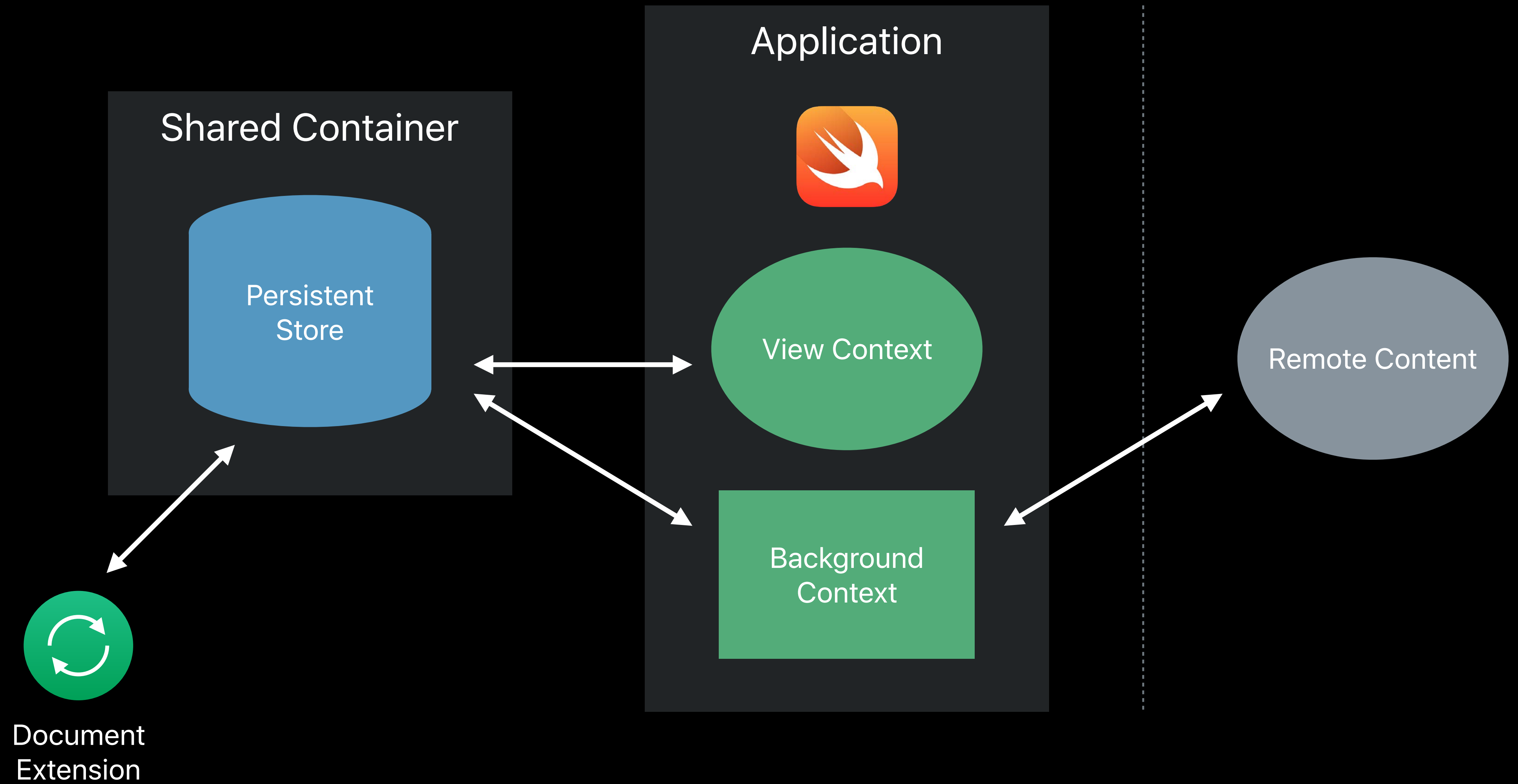
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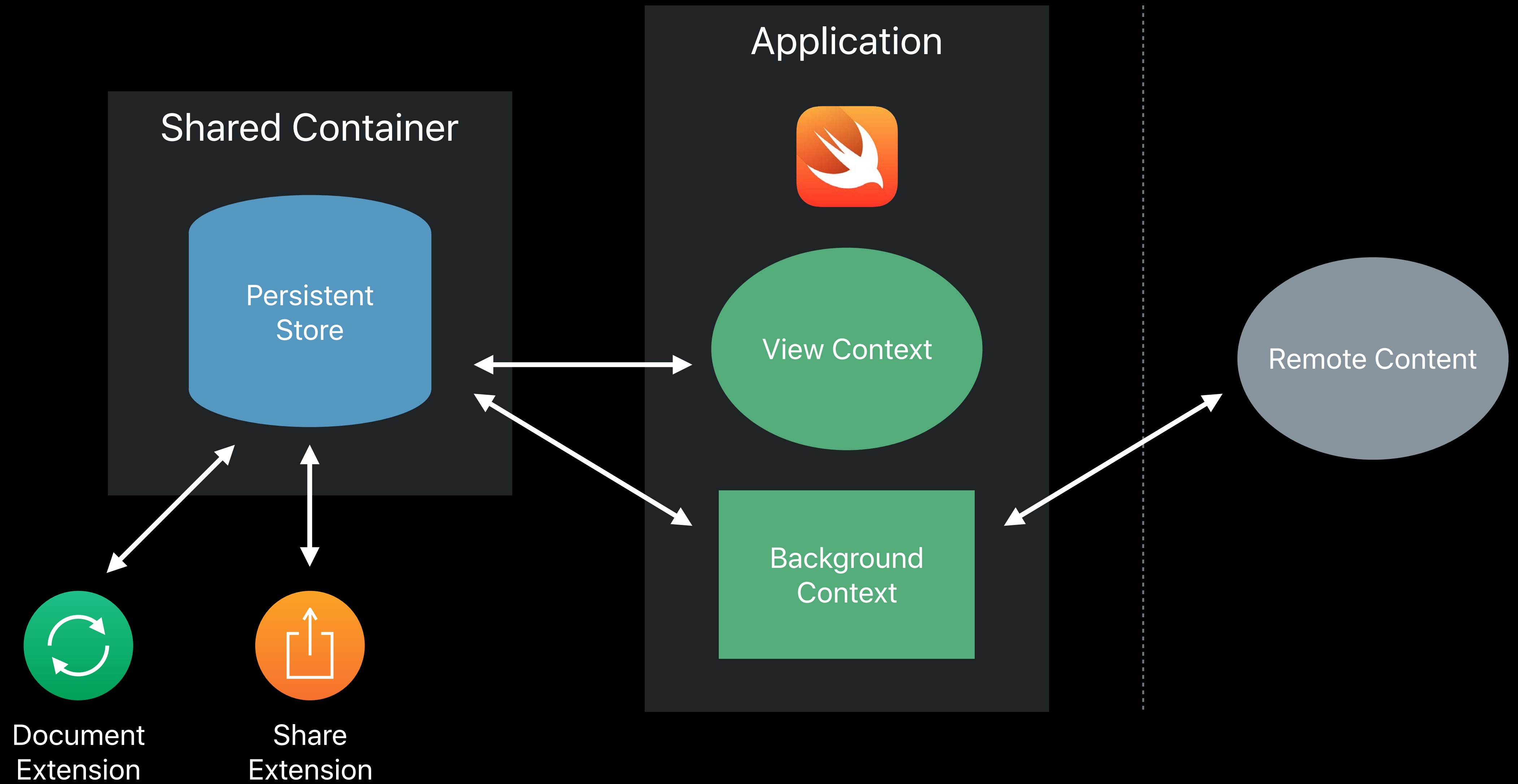
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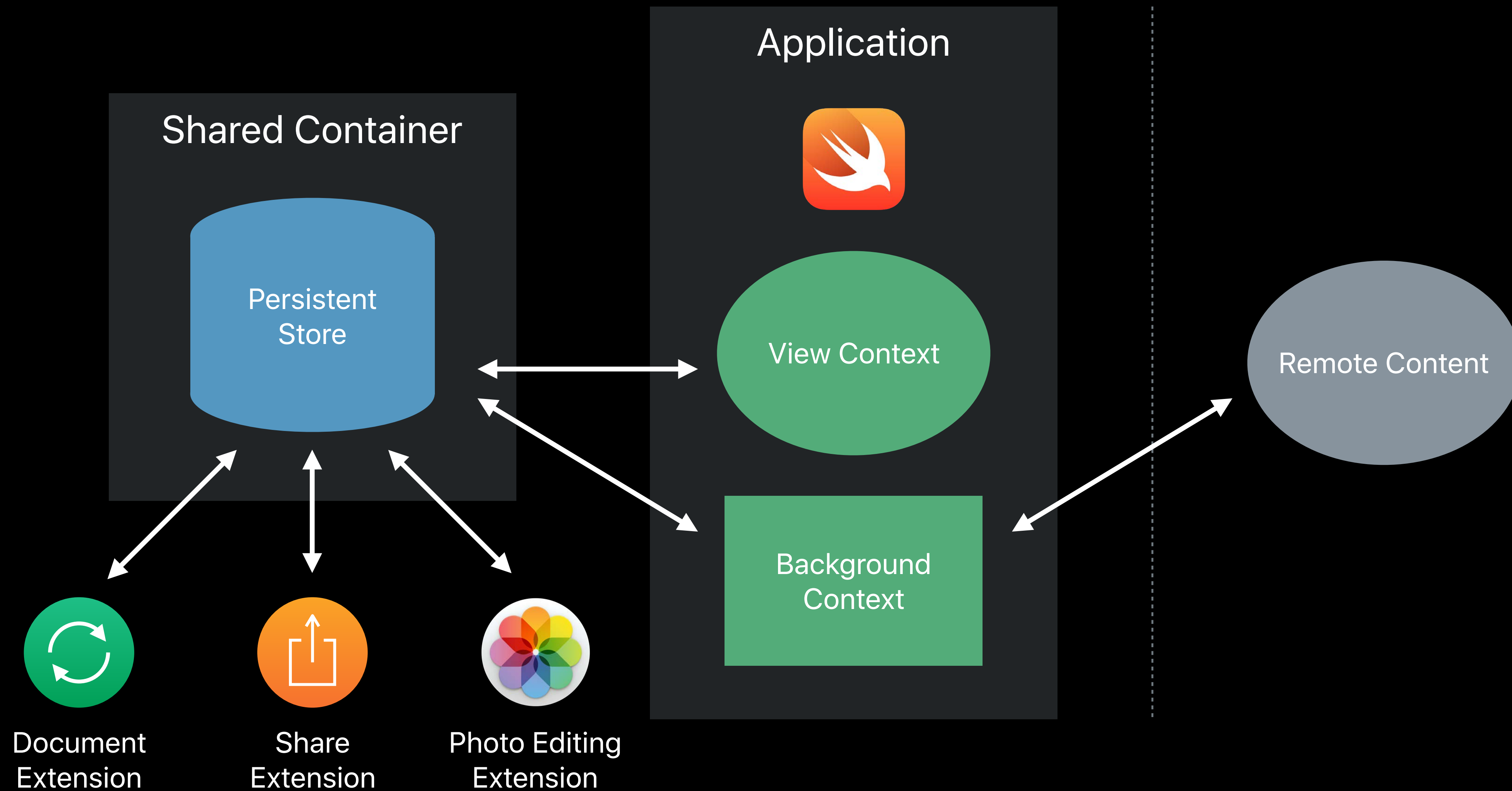
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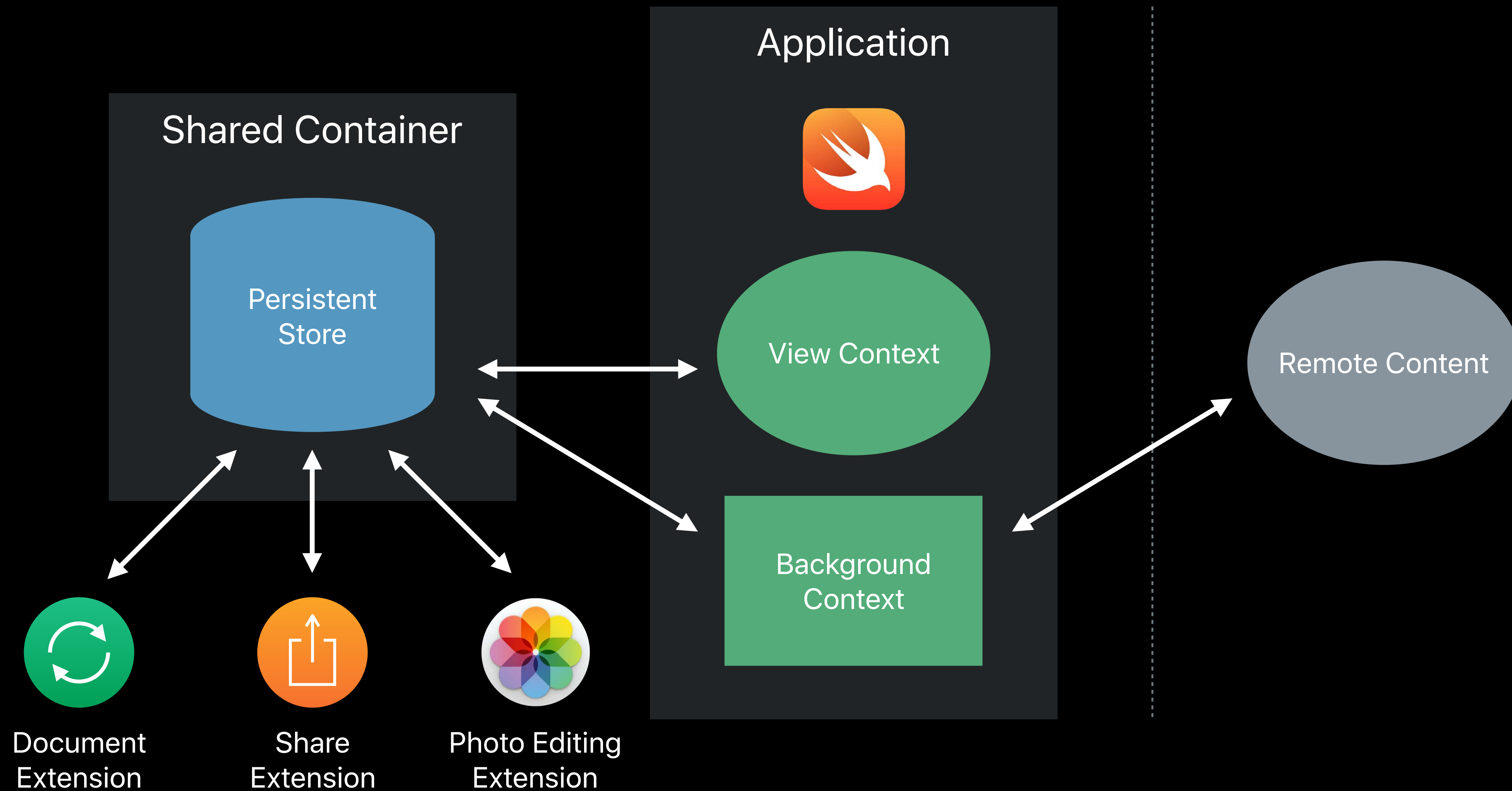
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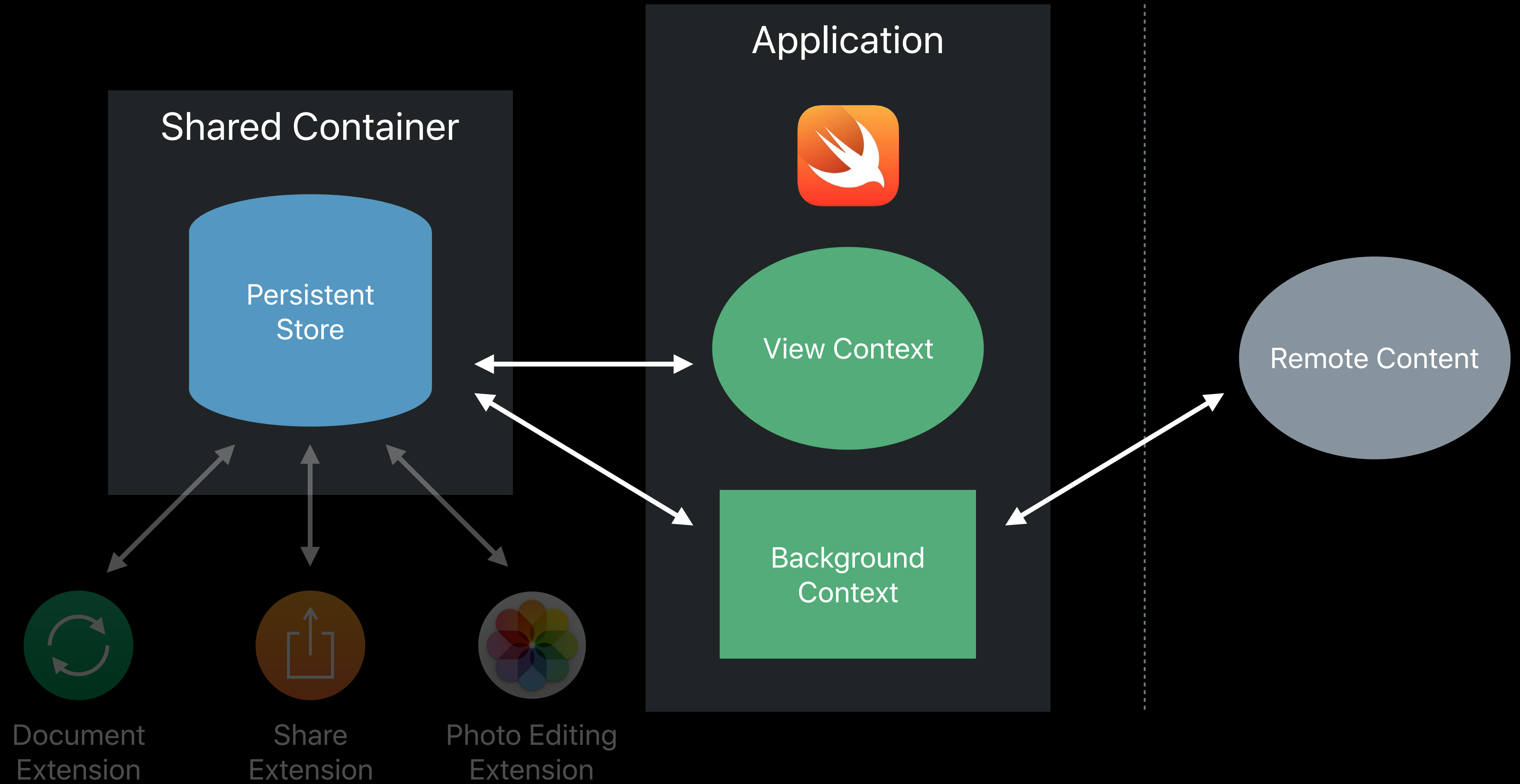
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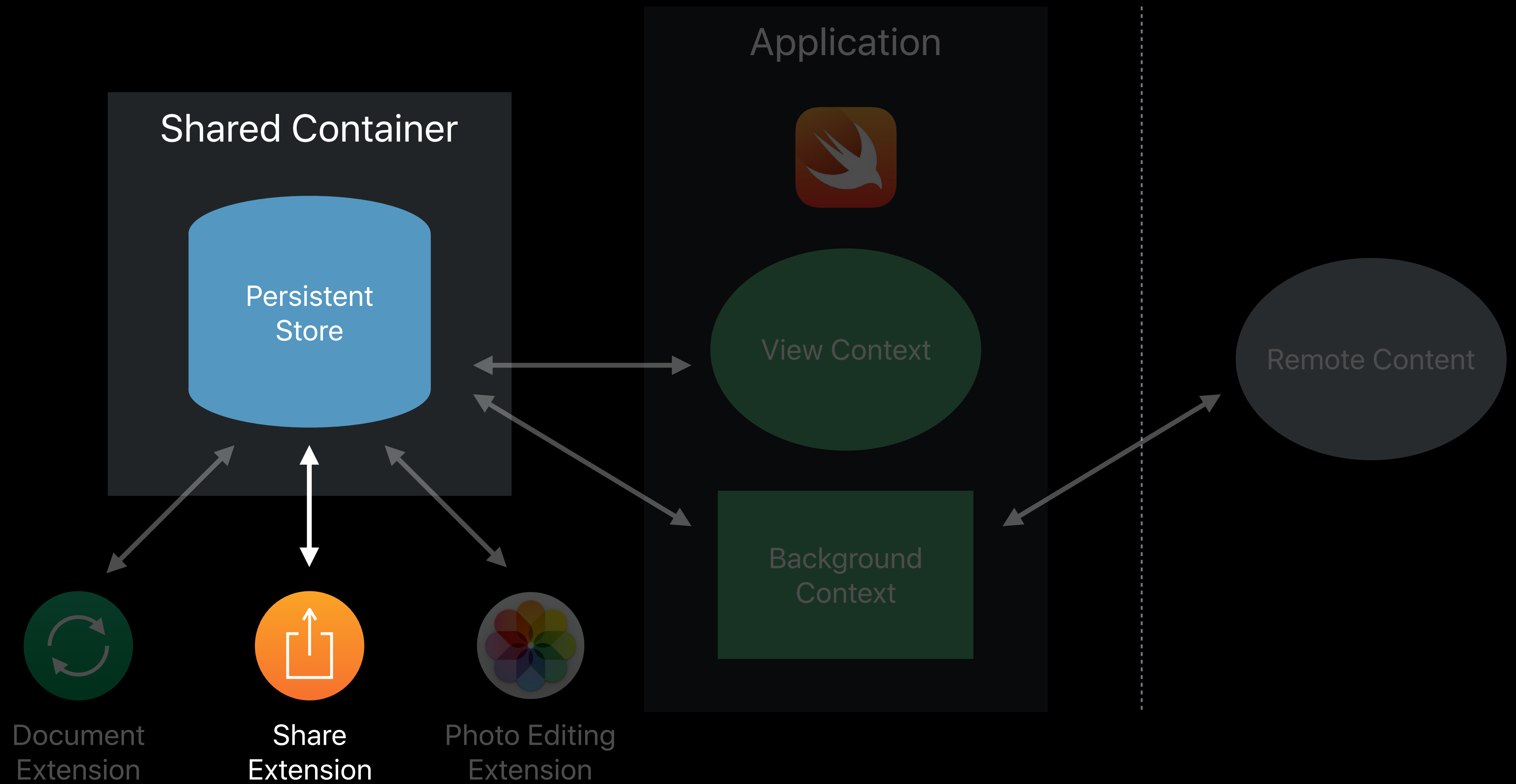
Trains in the Night



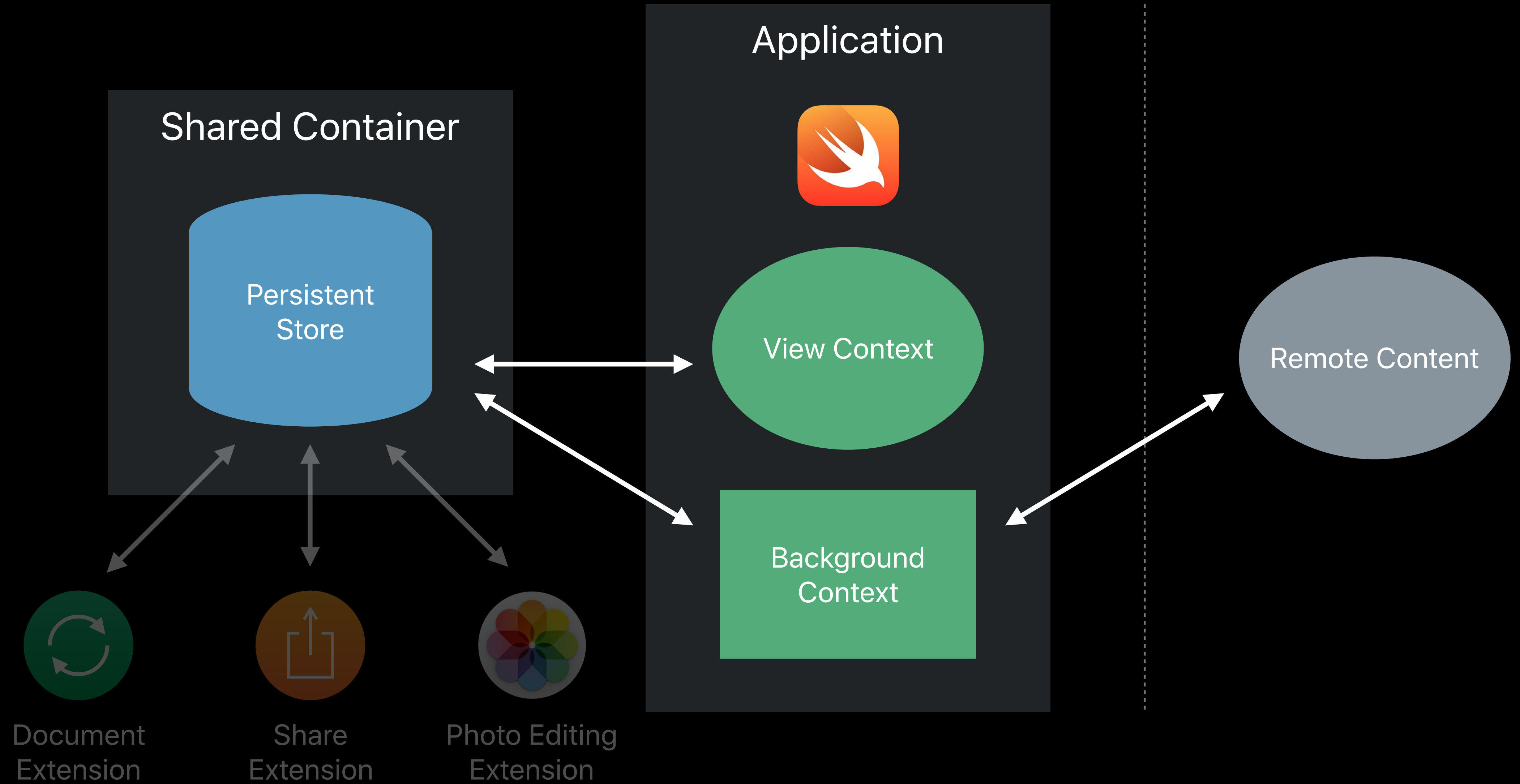
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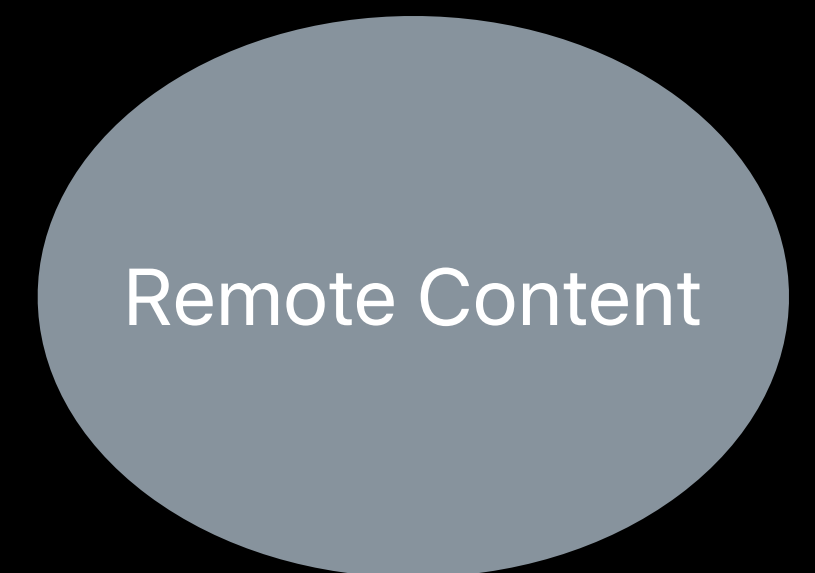
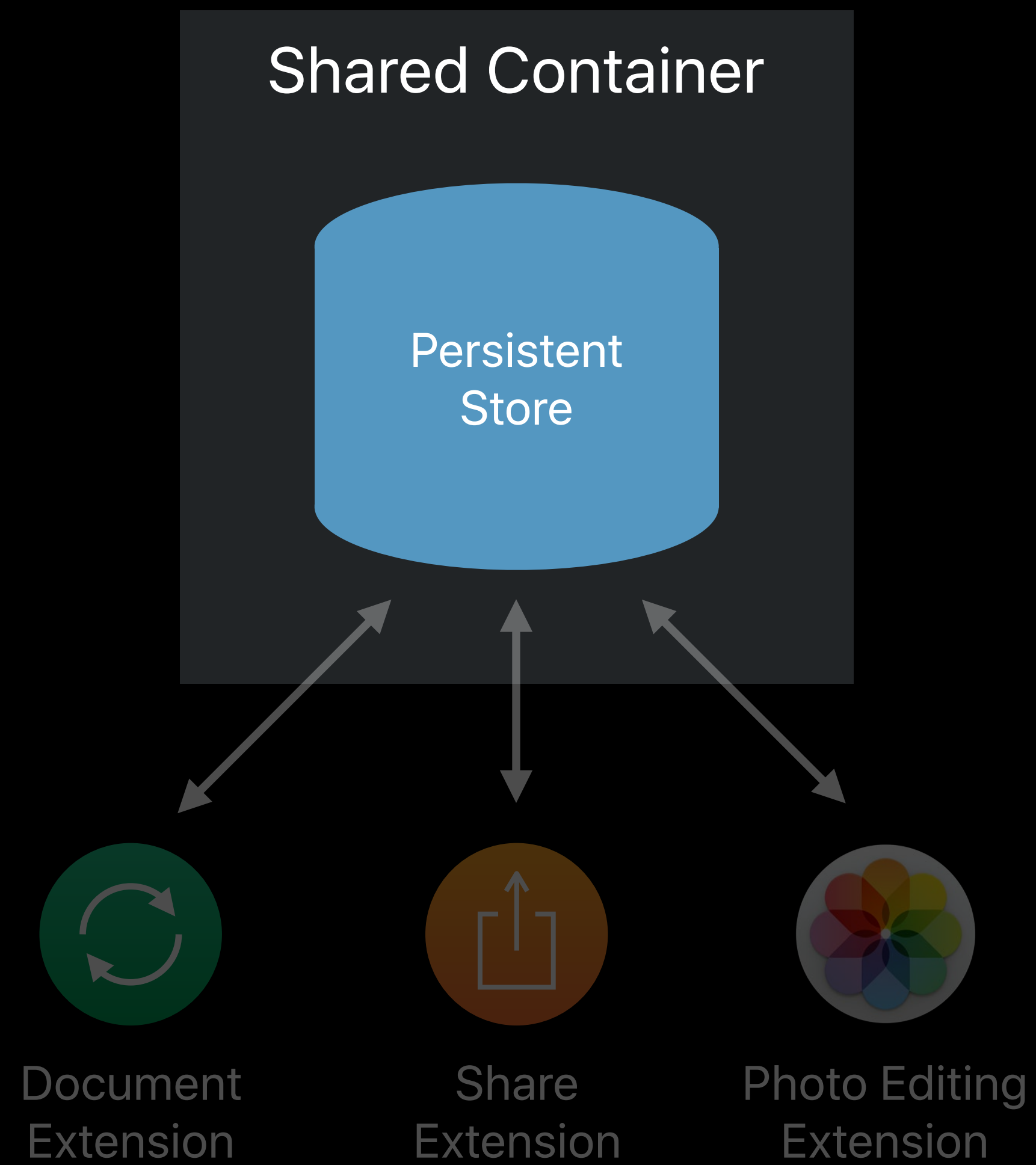
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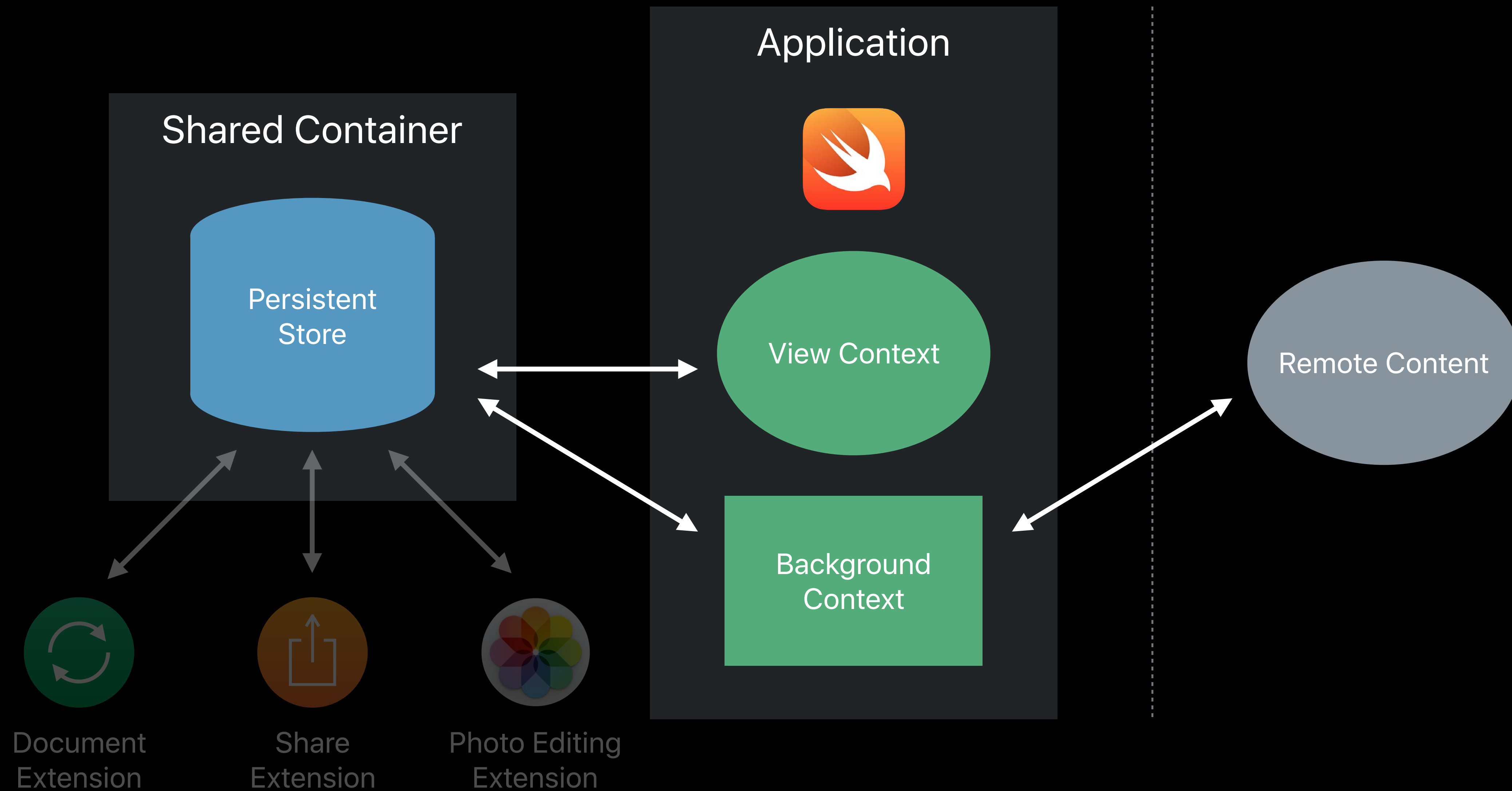
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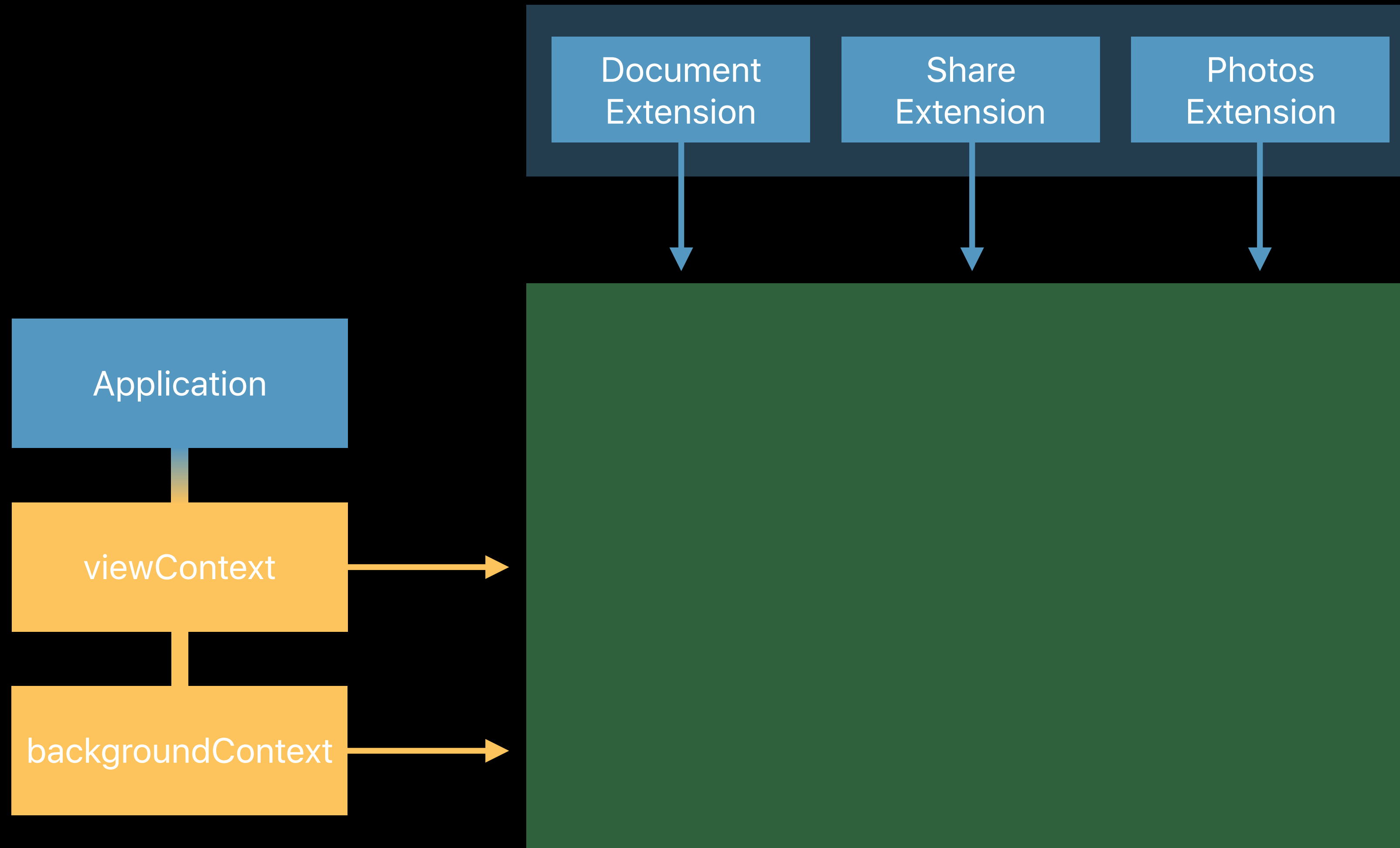
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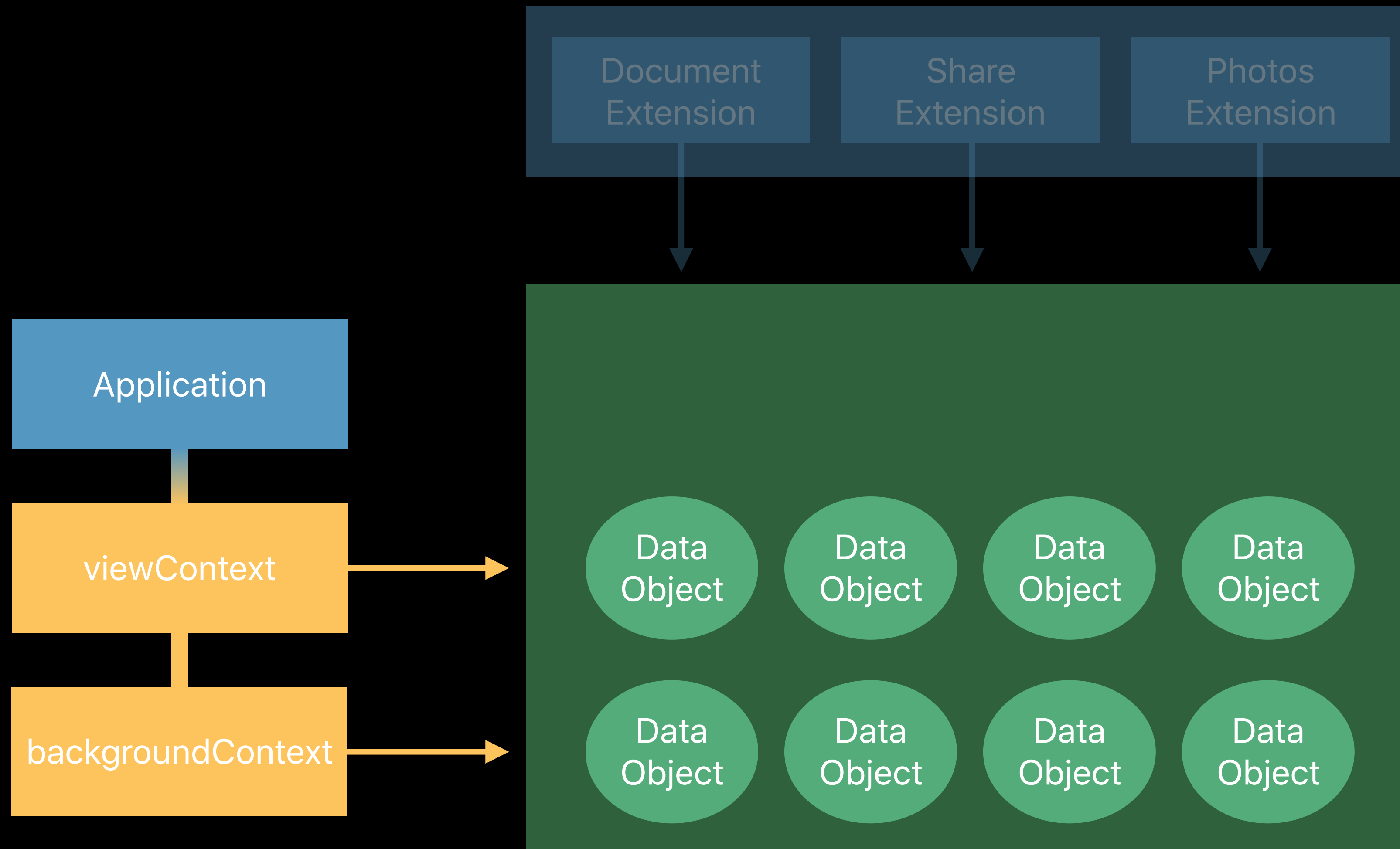
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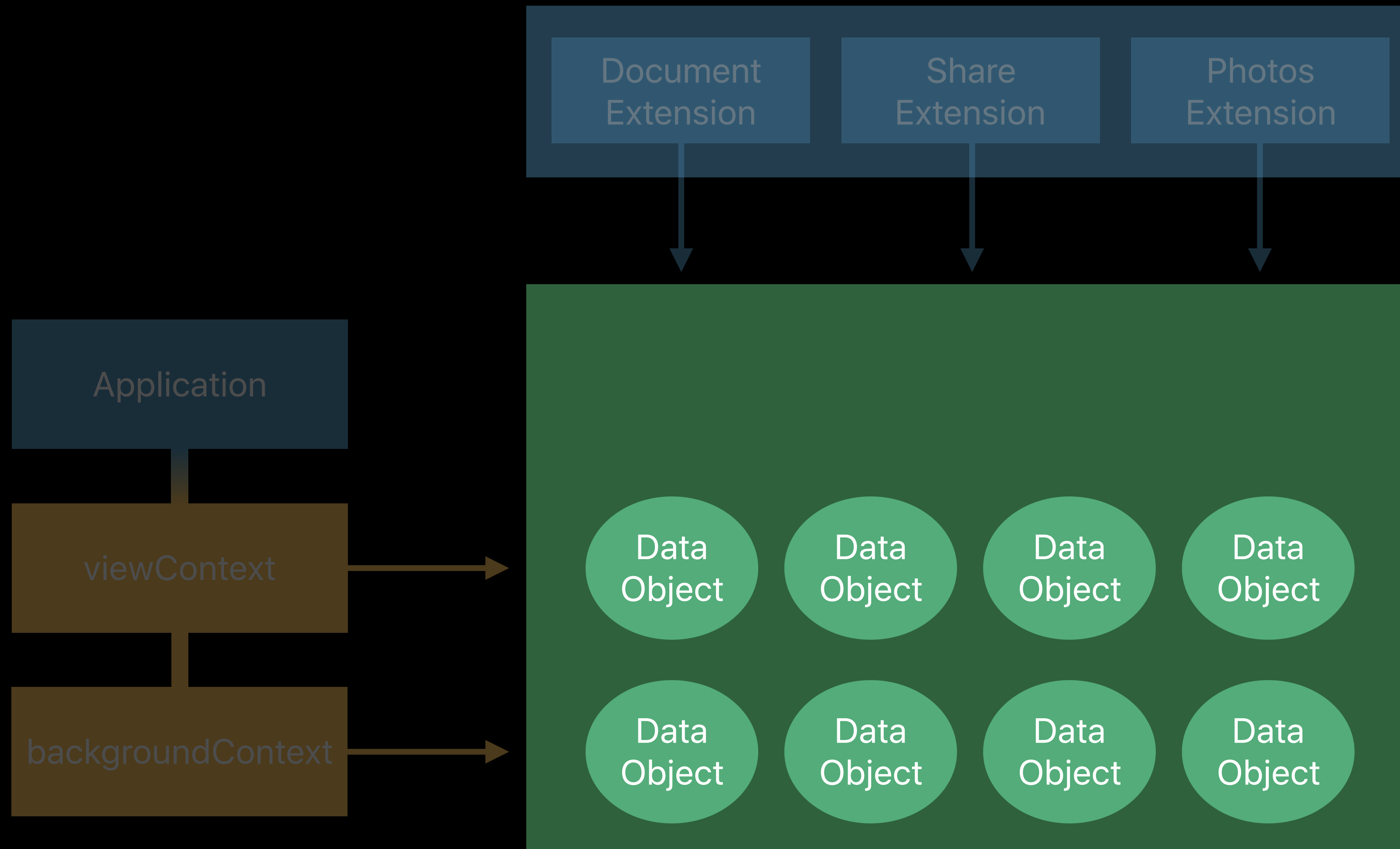
Ghost in the Database



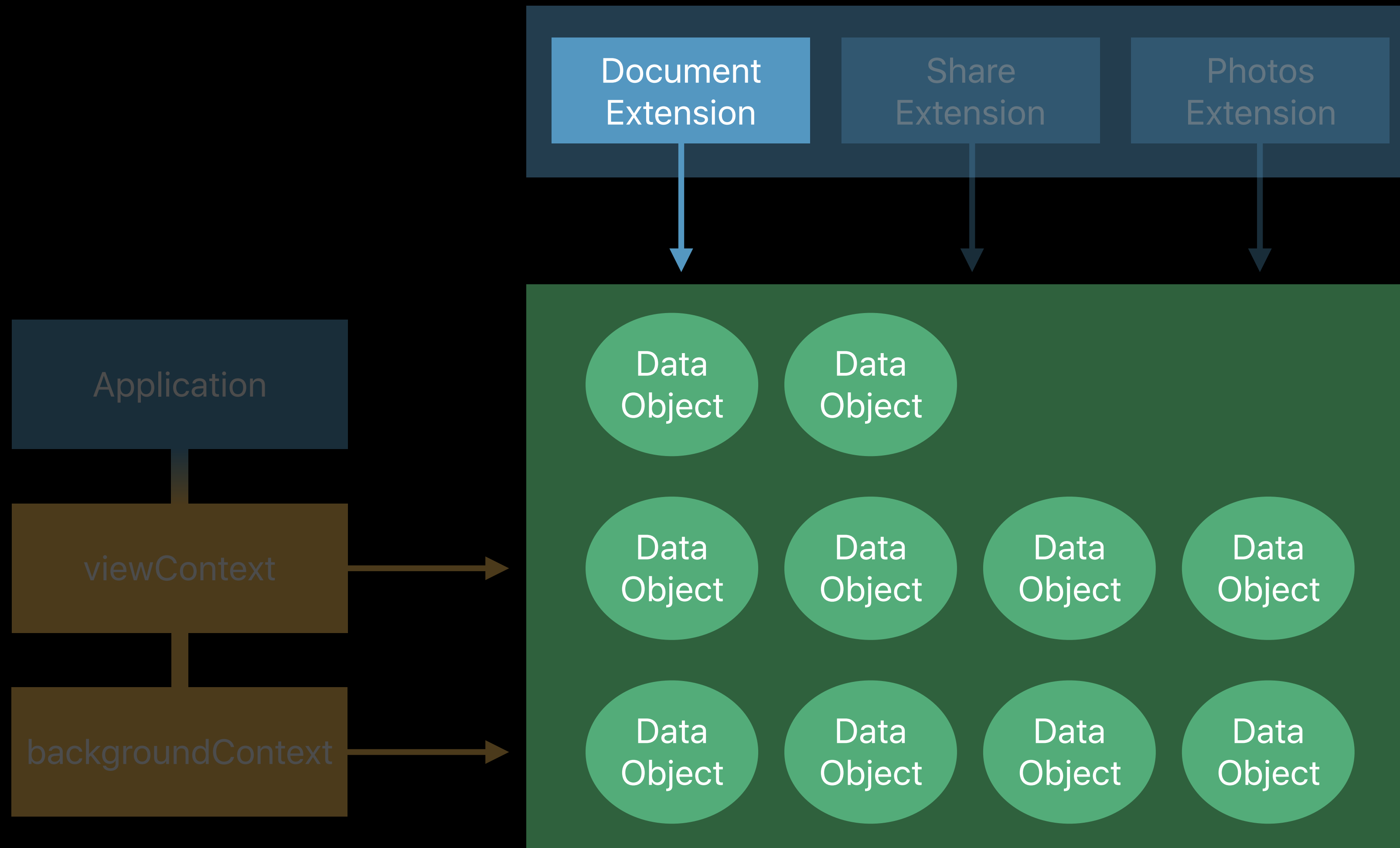
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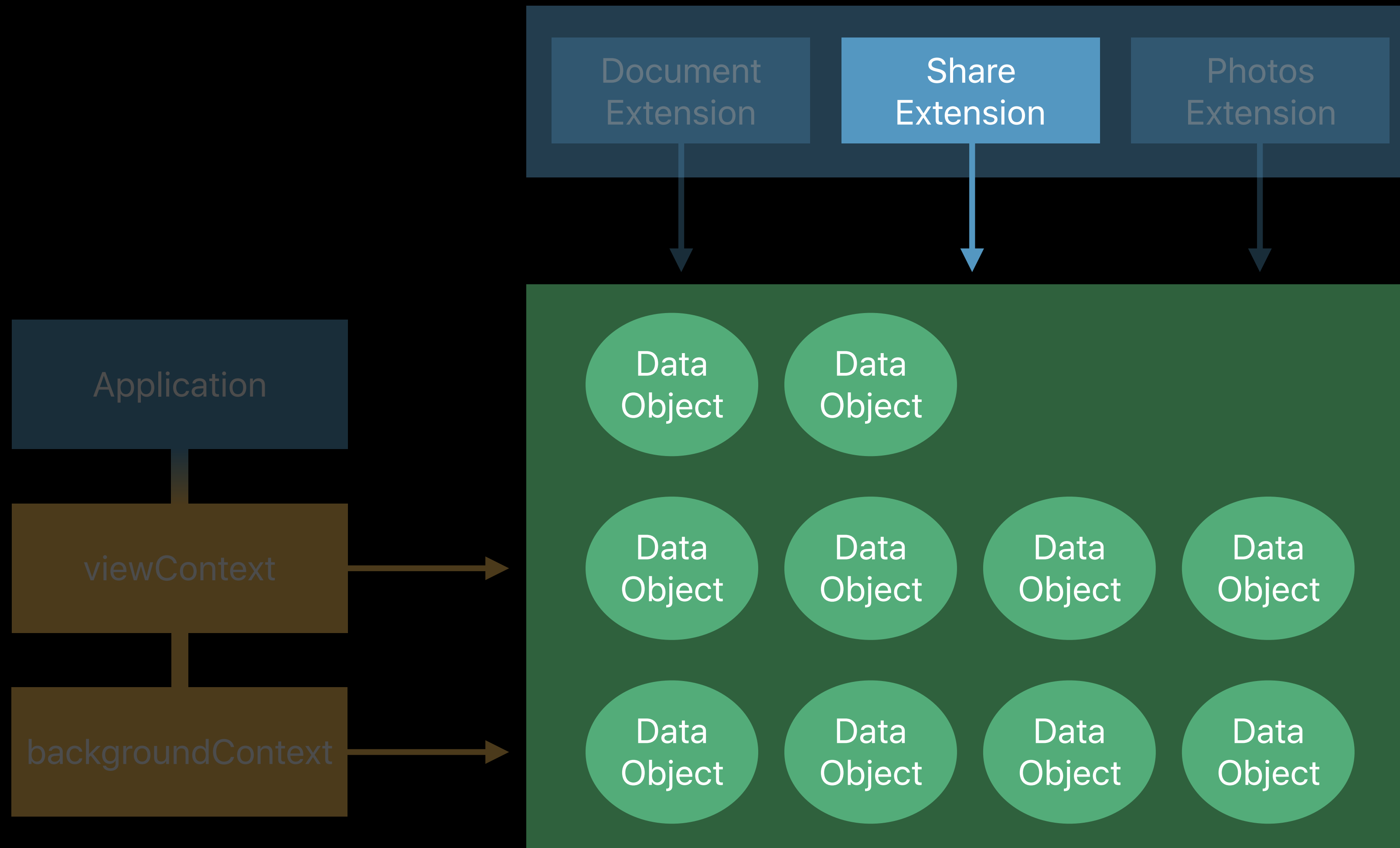
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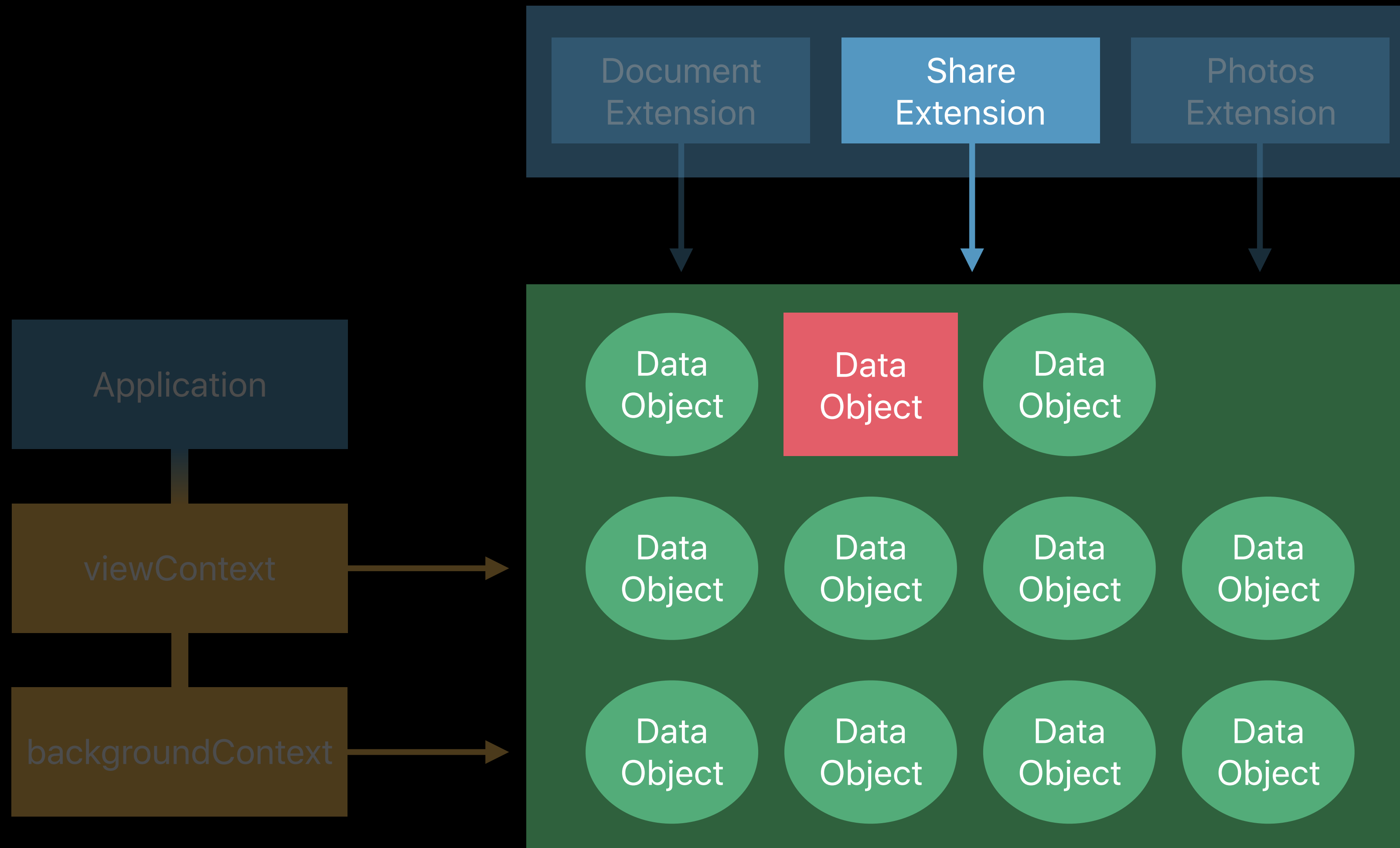
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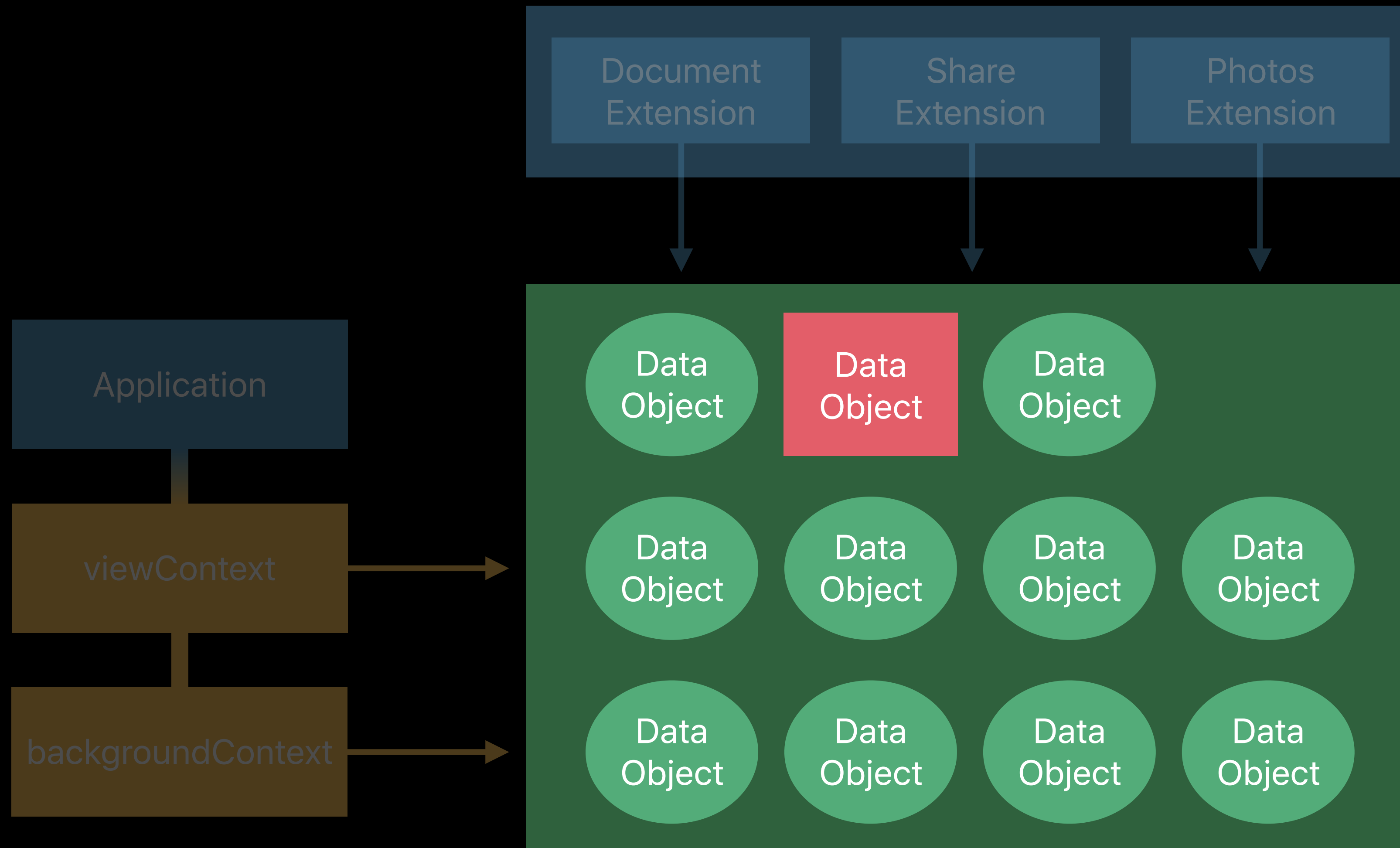
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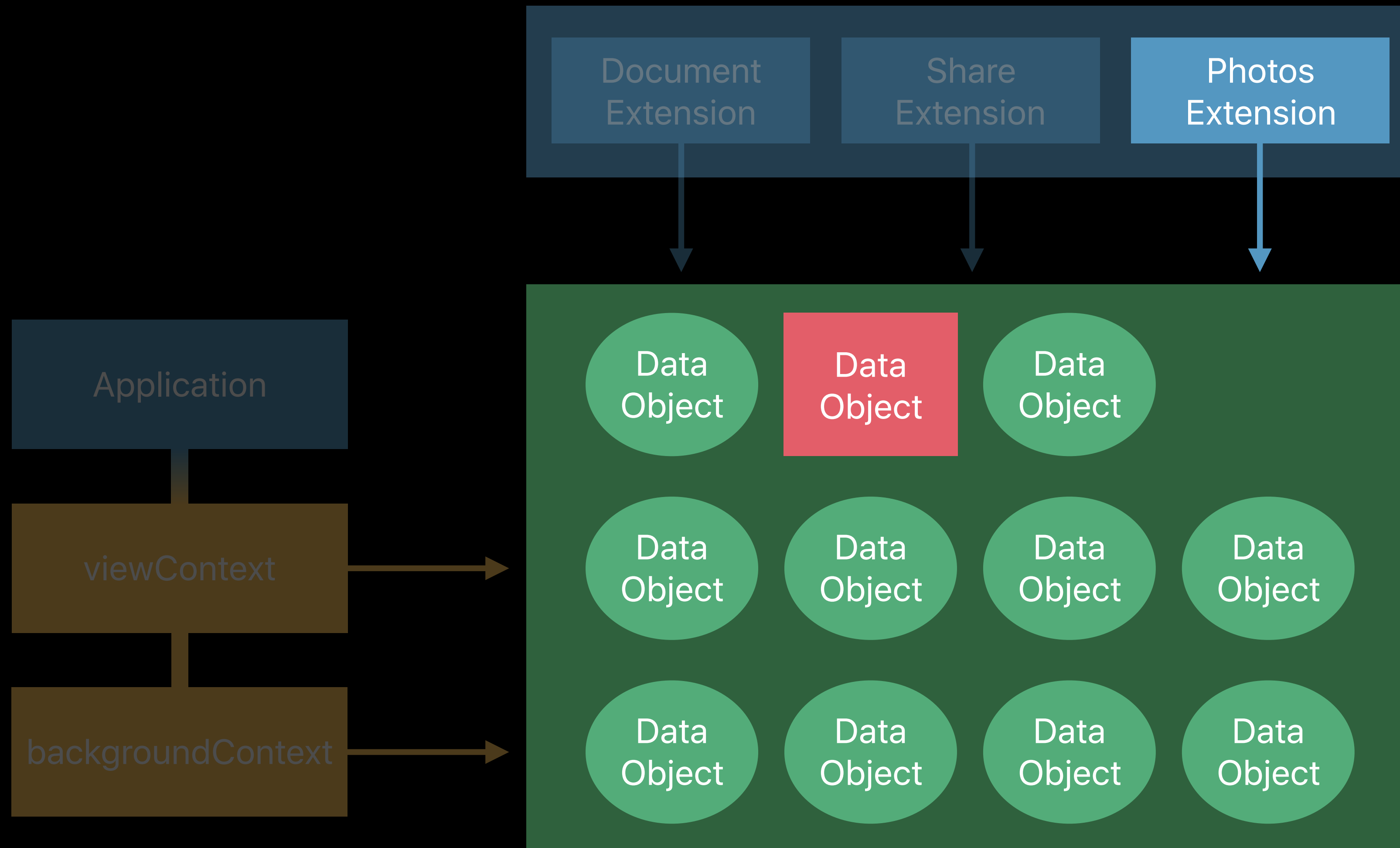
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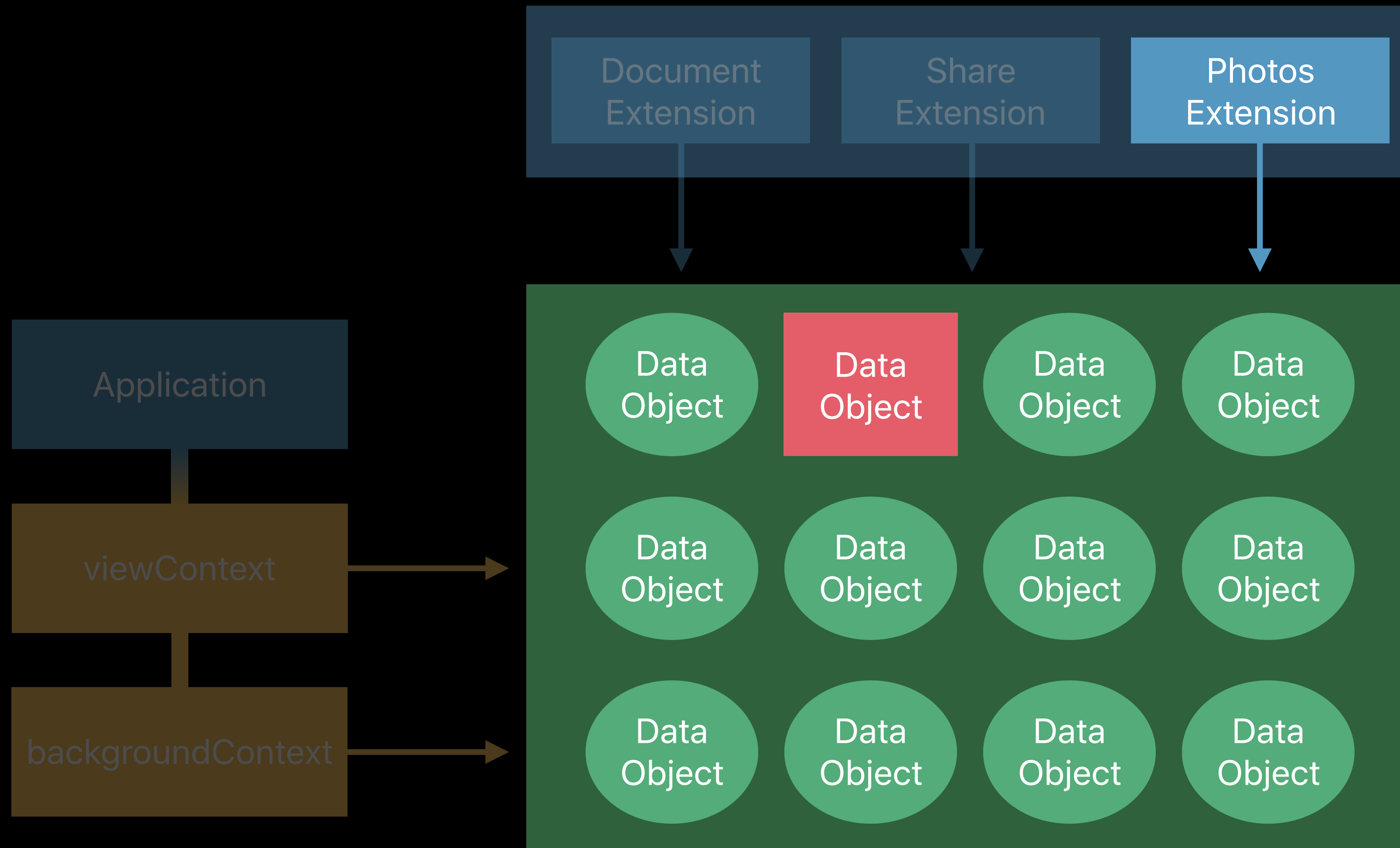
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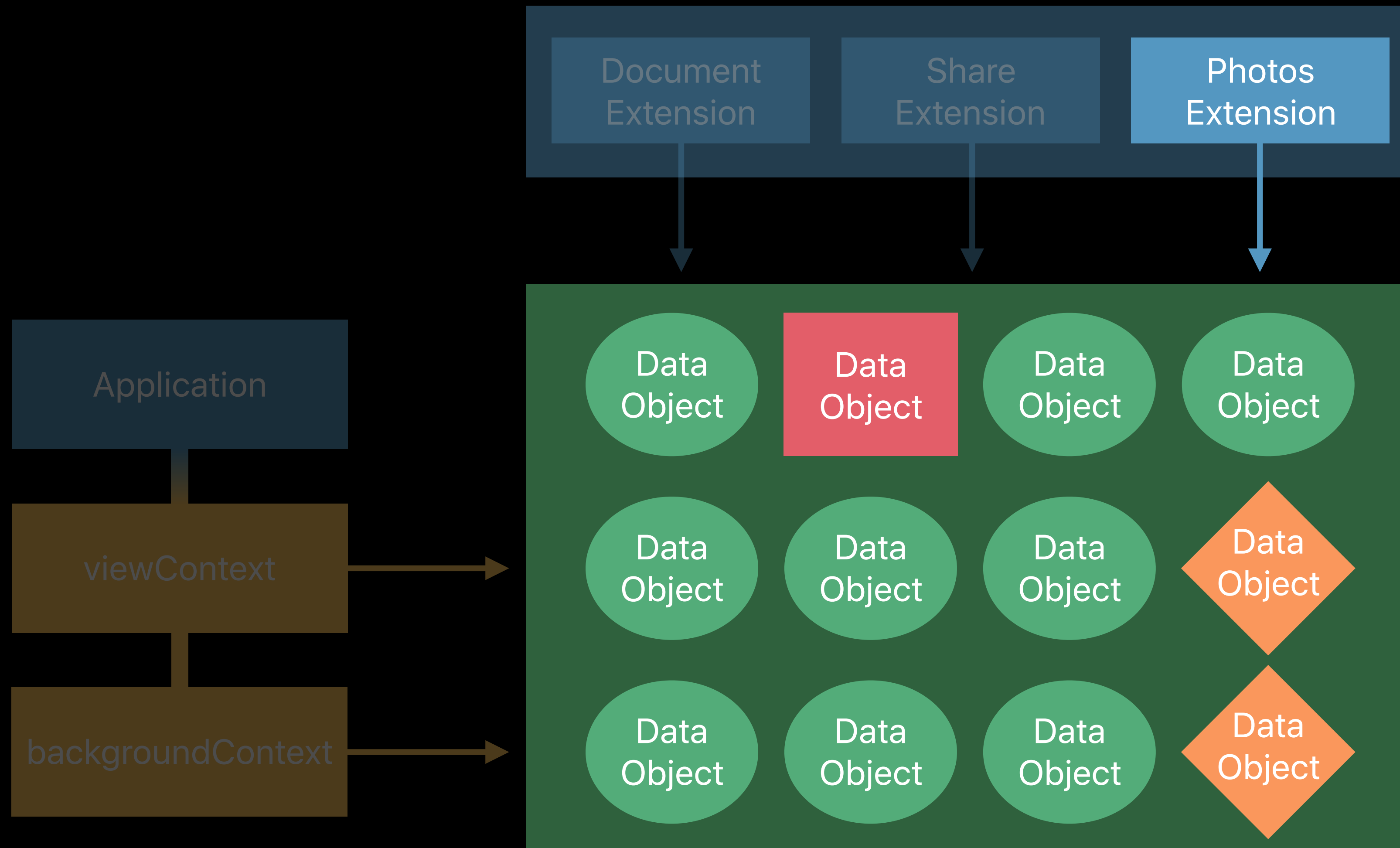
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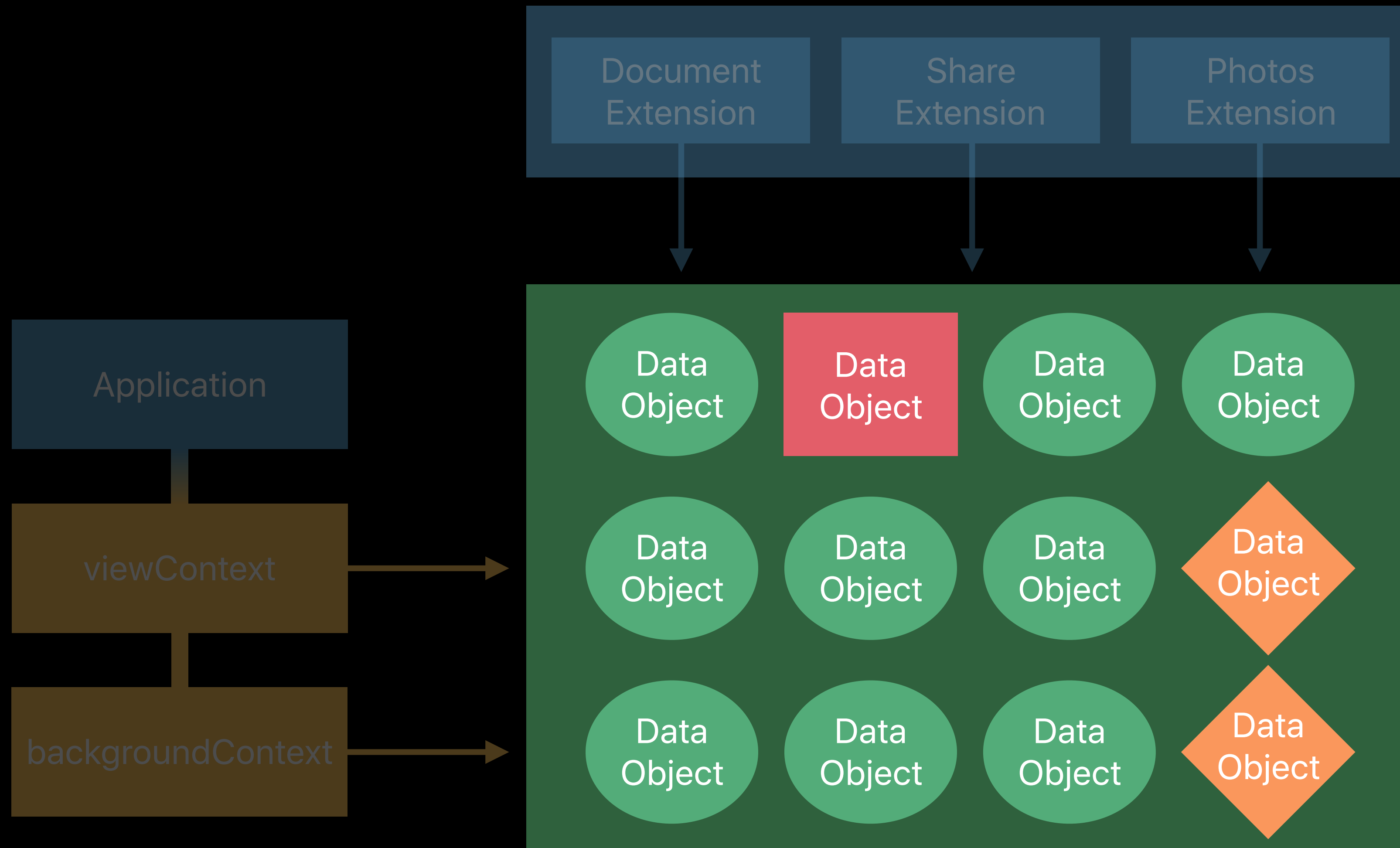
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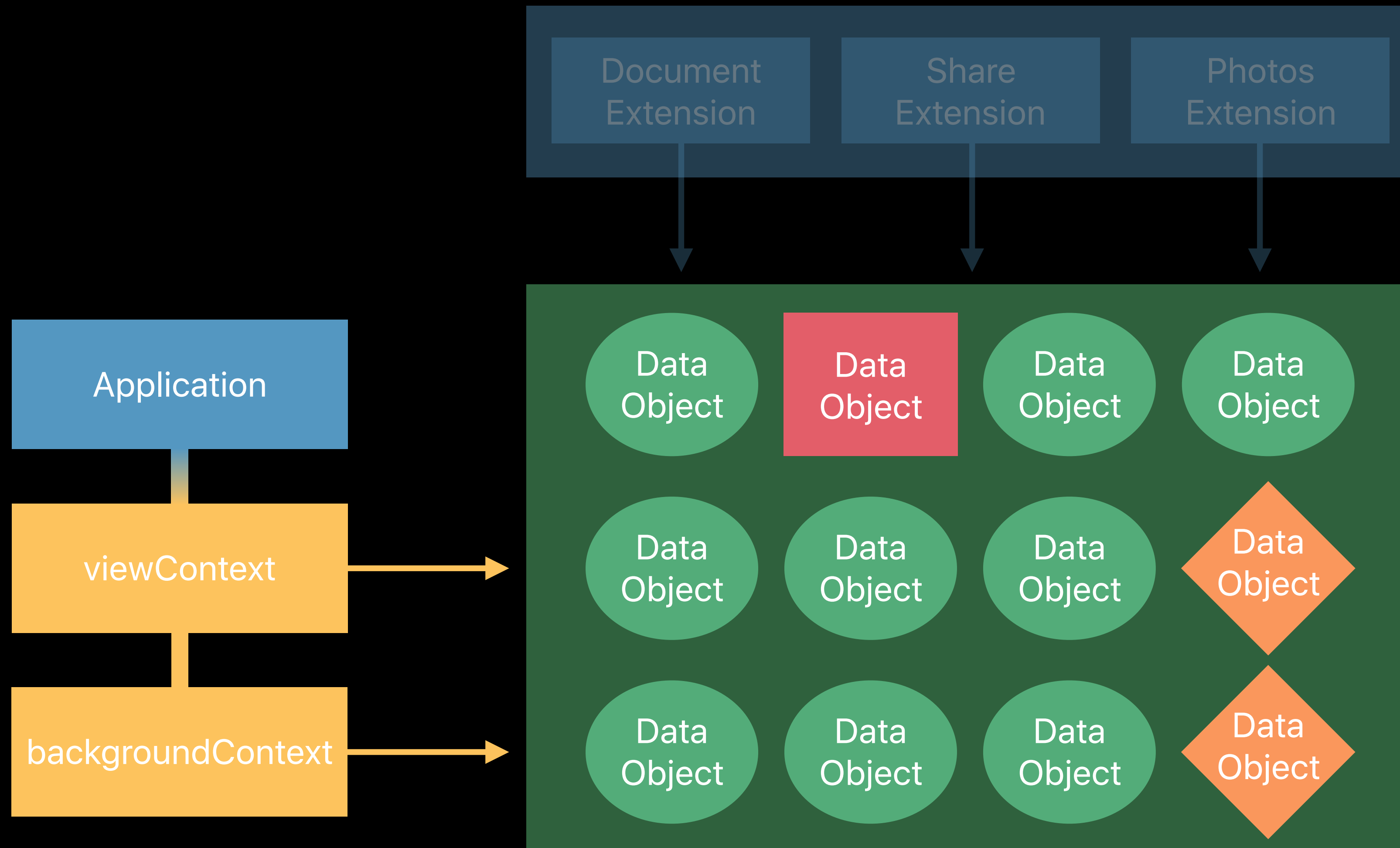
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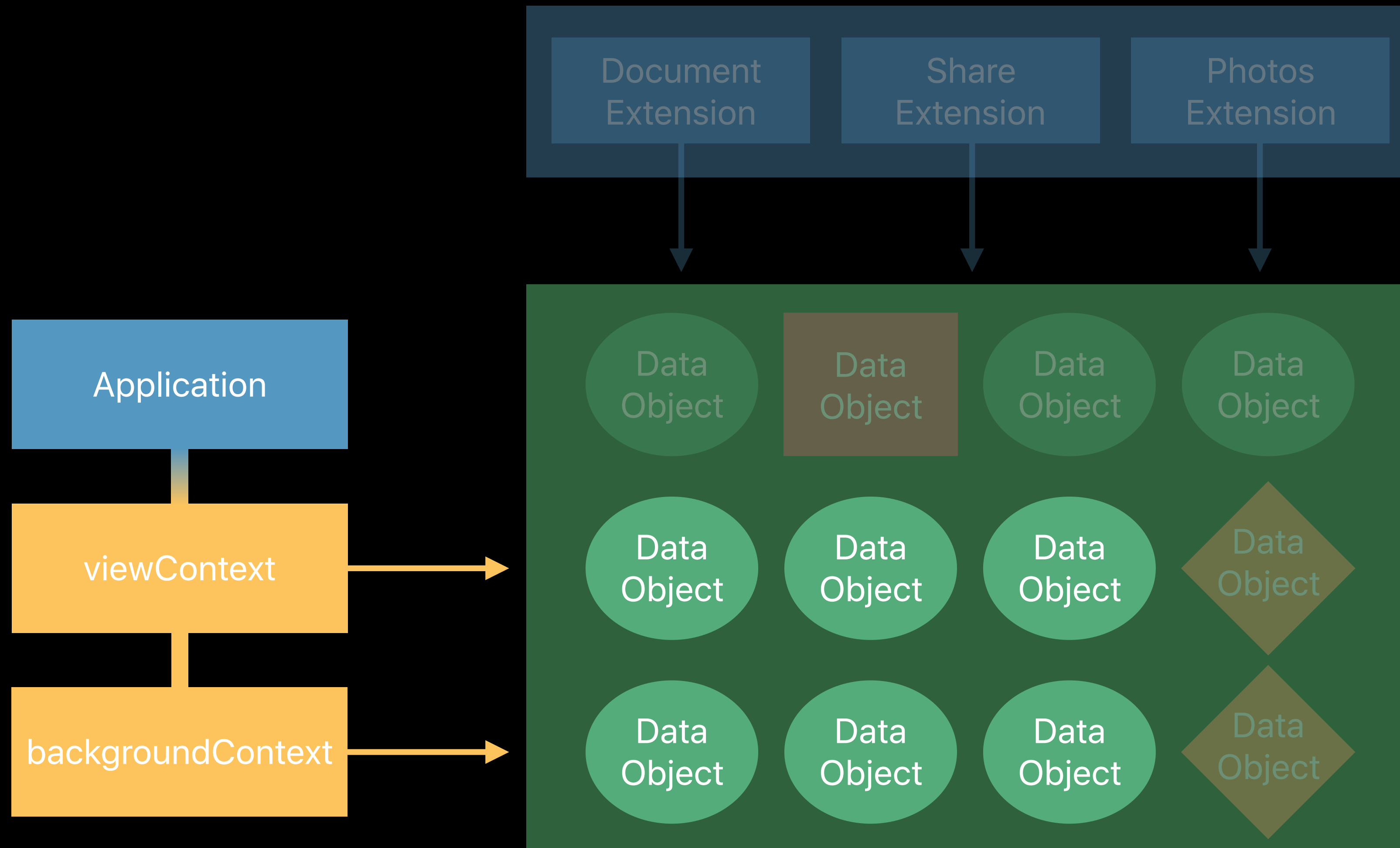
Ghost in the Database



Ghost in the Database



Ghost in the Database



```
//Uncovering The Mystery – Made Easy, as simple as ABC

let container = NSPersistentContainer(name: "WWCDemo")
let storeDescription = container.persistentStoreDescriptions.first

storeDescription?.setOption(true as NSNumber forKey:NSPersistentHistoryTrackingKey)

container.loadPersistentStores { storeDescription, error in
    ...
}
```



```
//Uncovering The Mystery – Made Easy, as simple as ABC
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```
    ...
```

```
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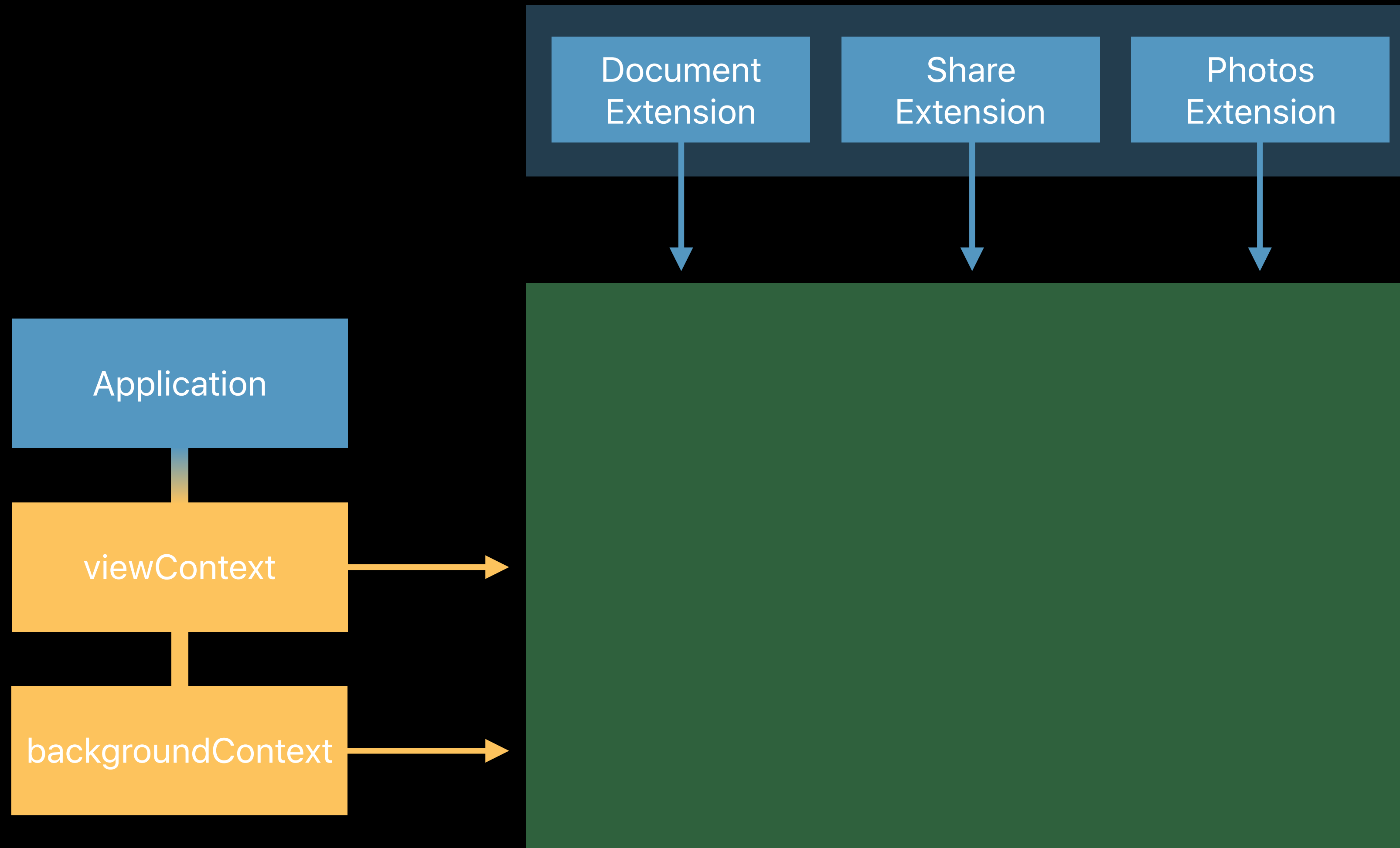
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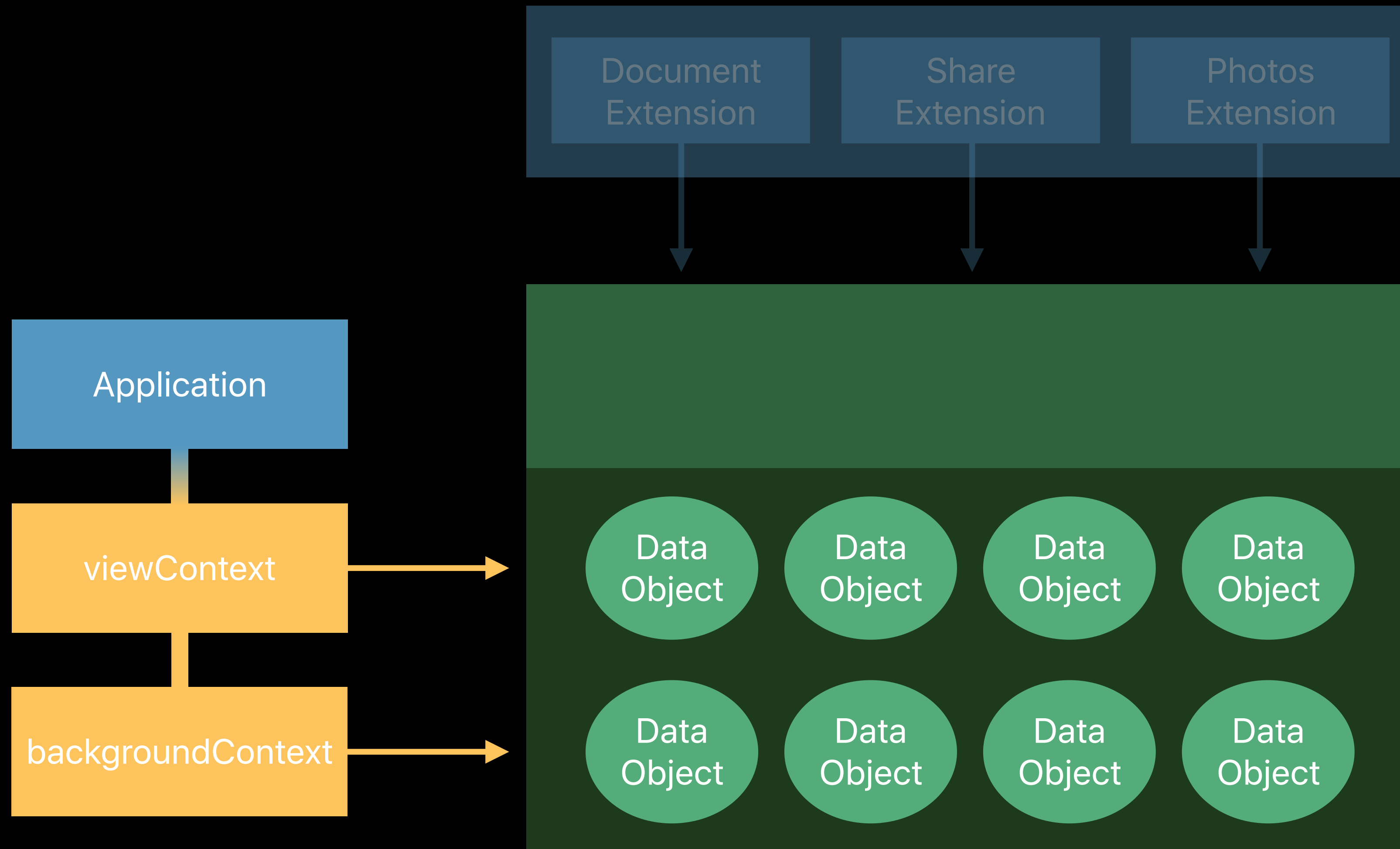
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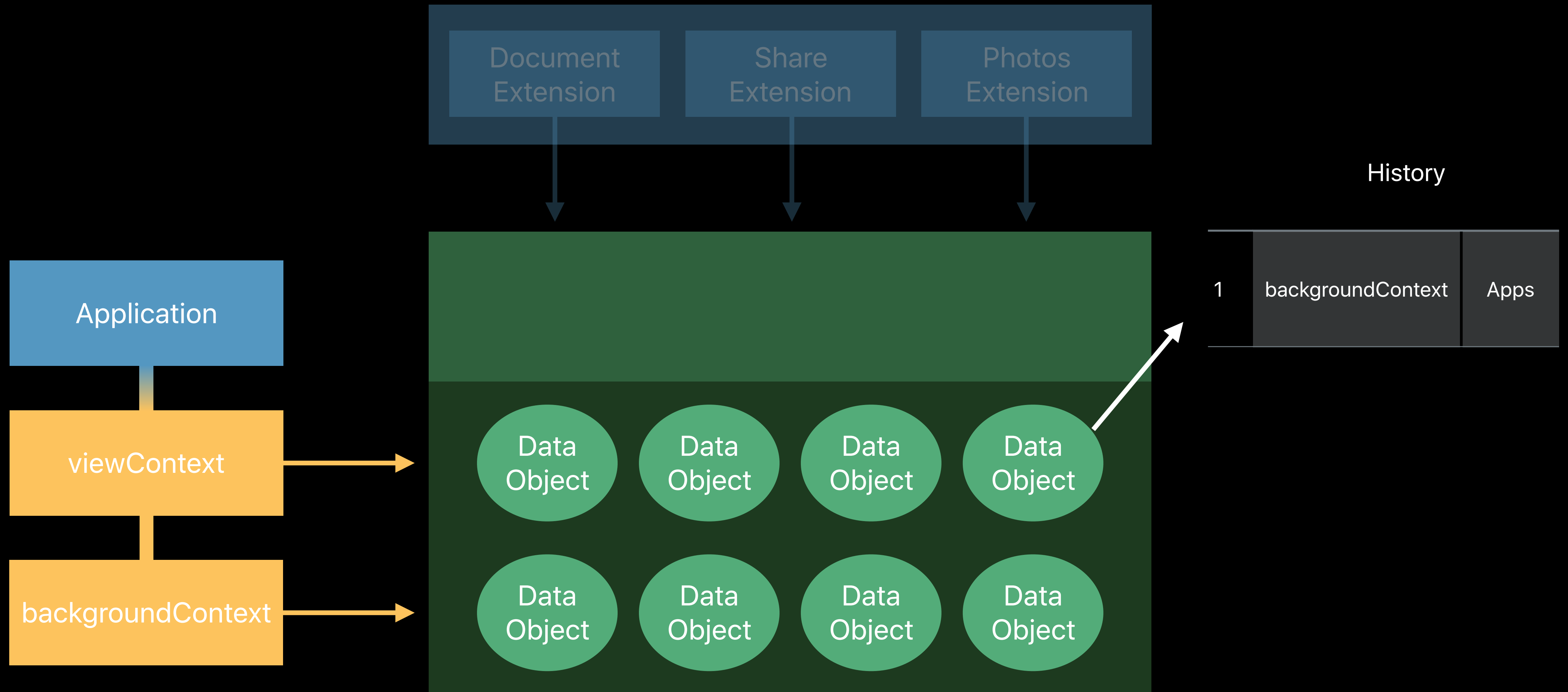
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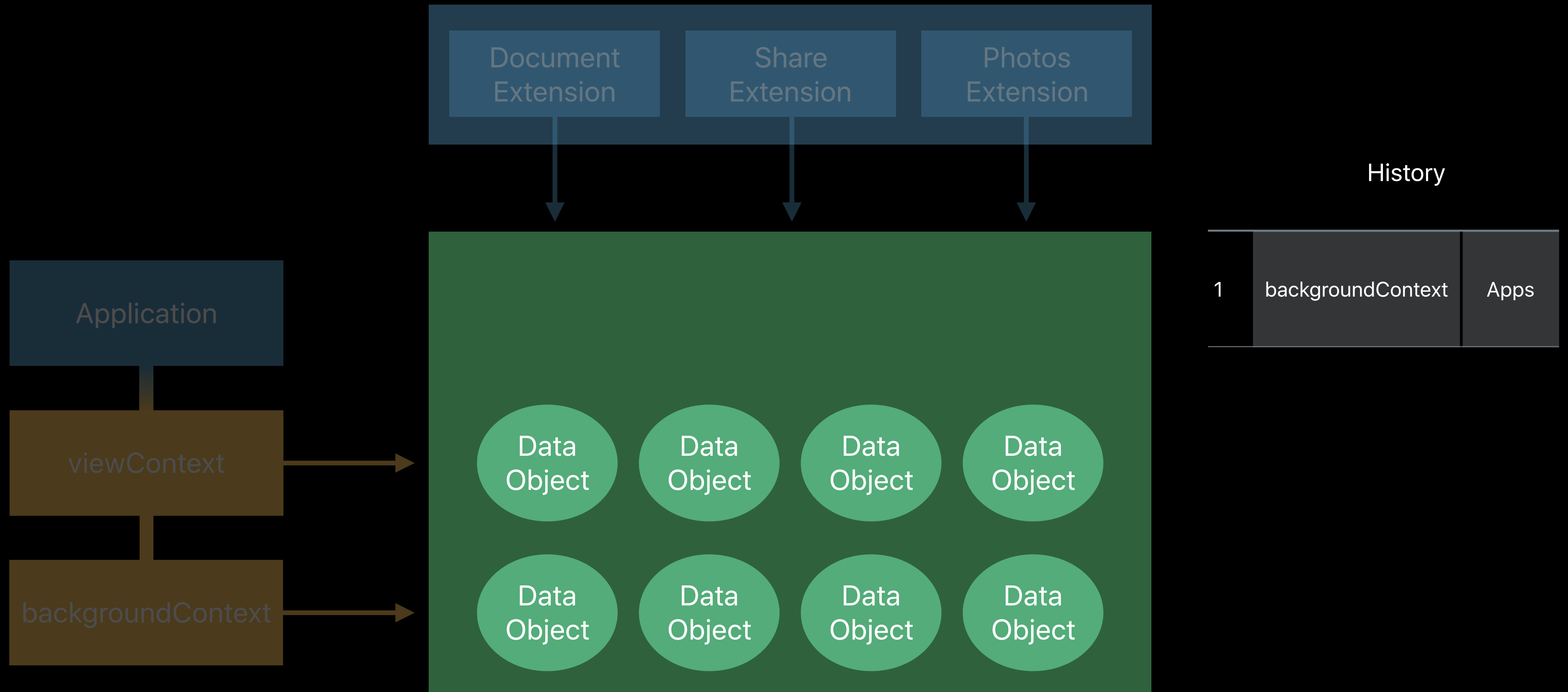
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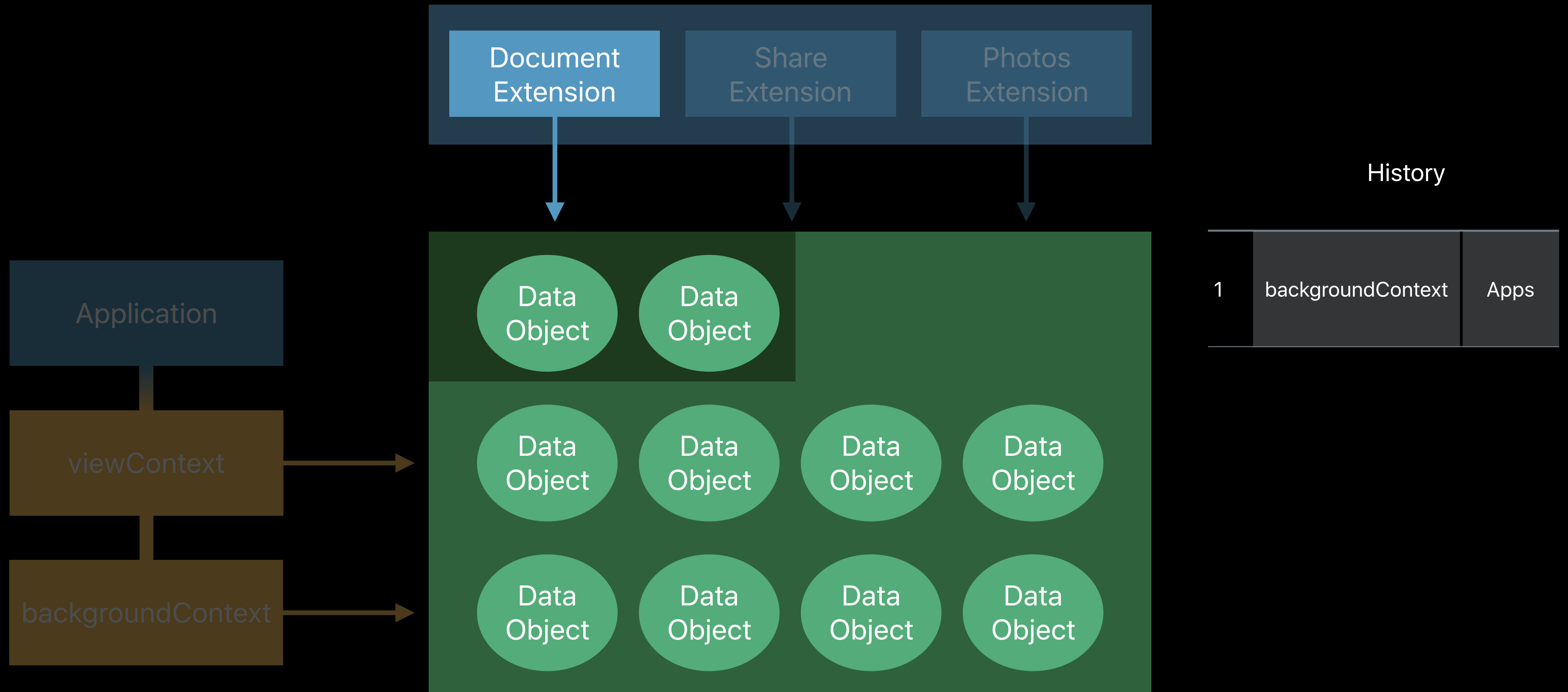
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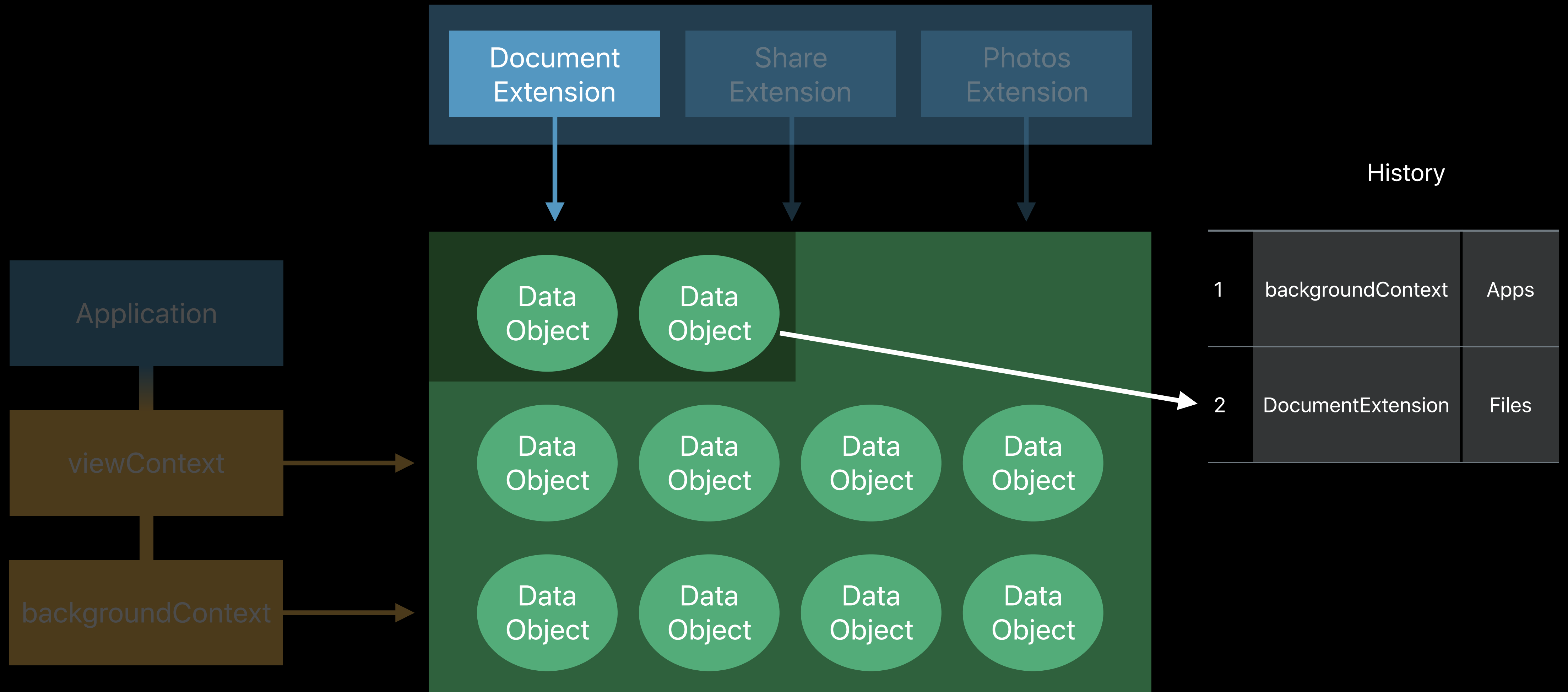
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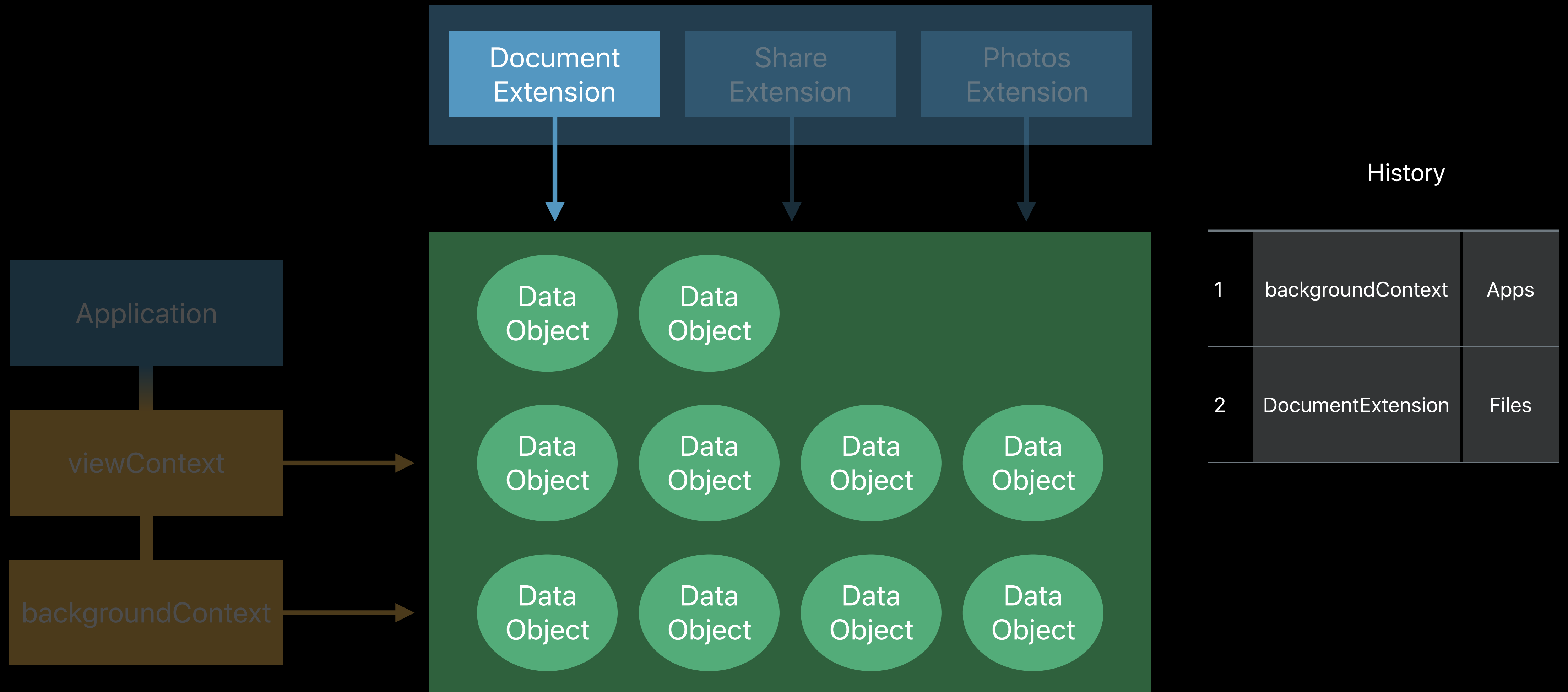
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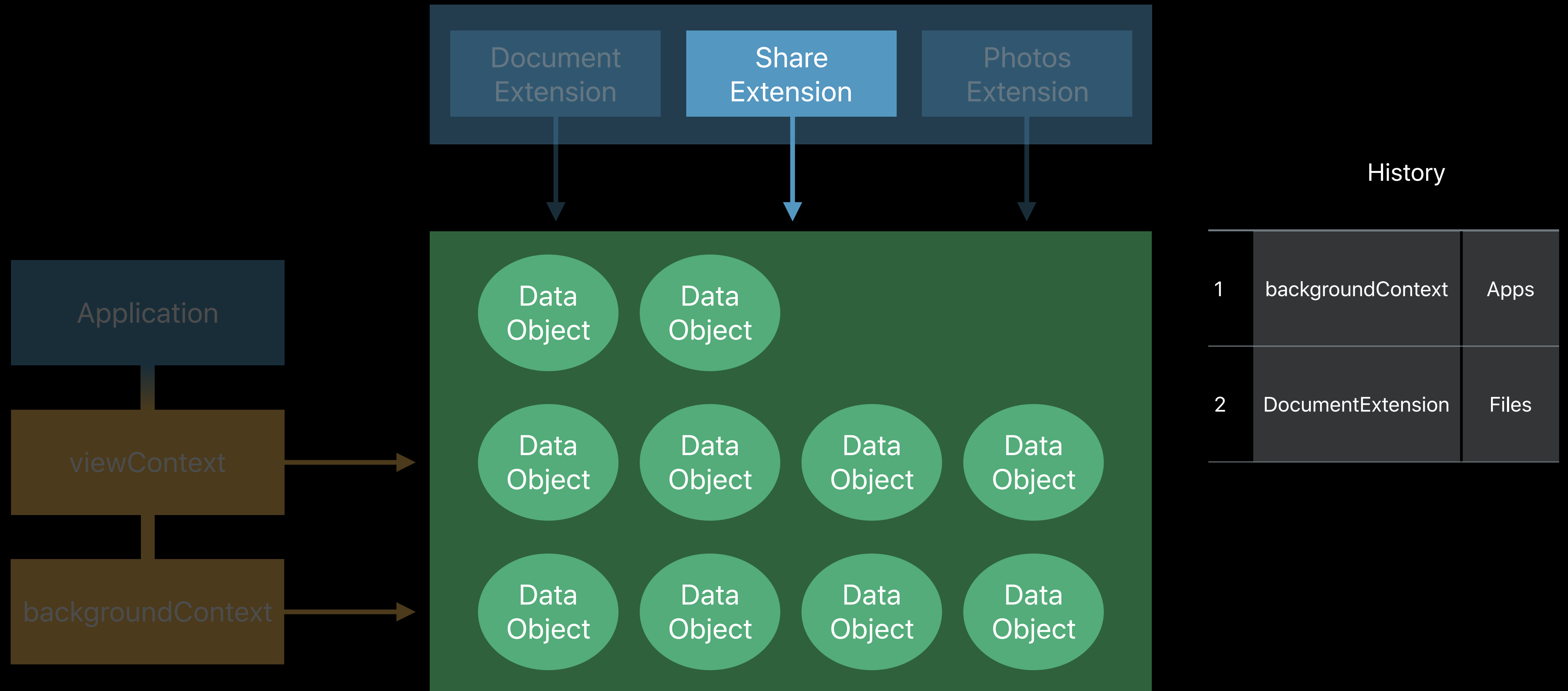
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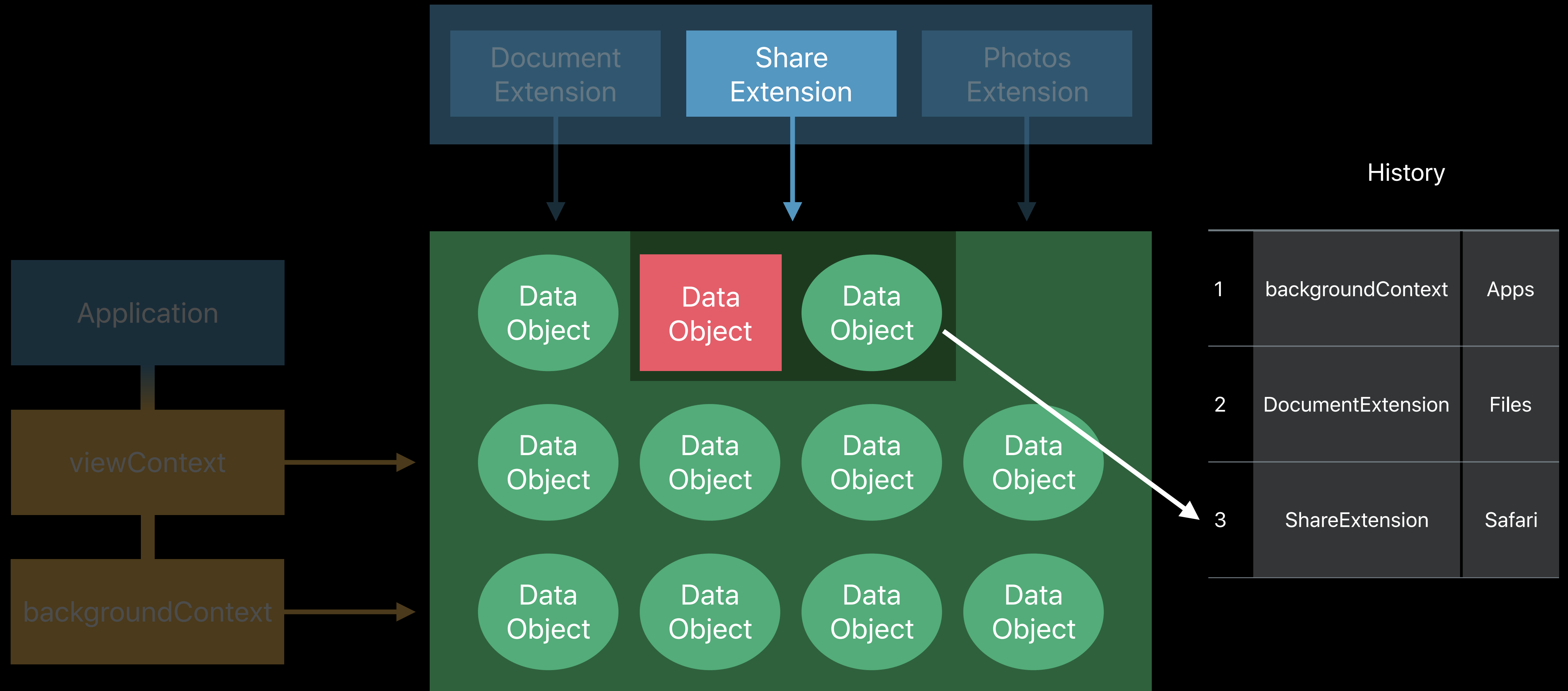
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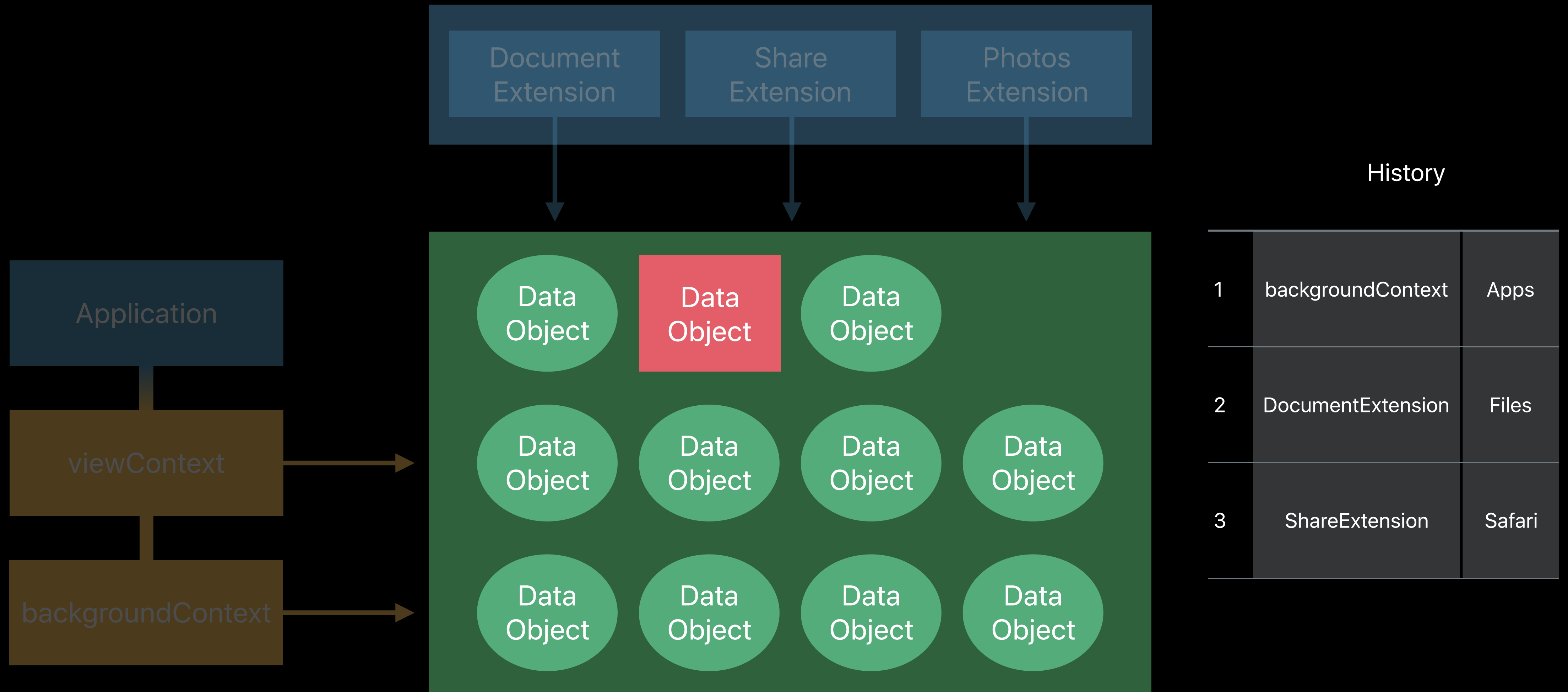
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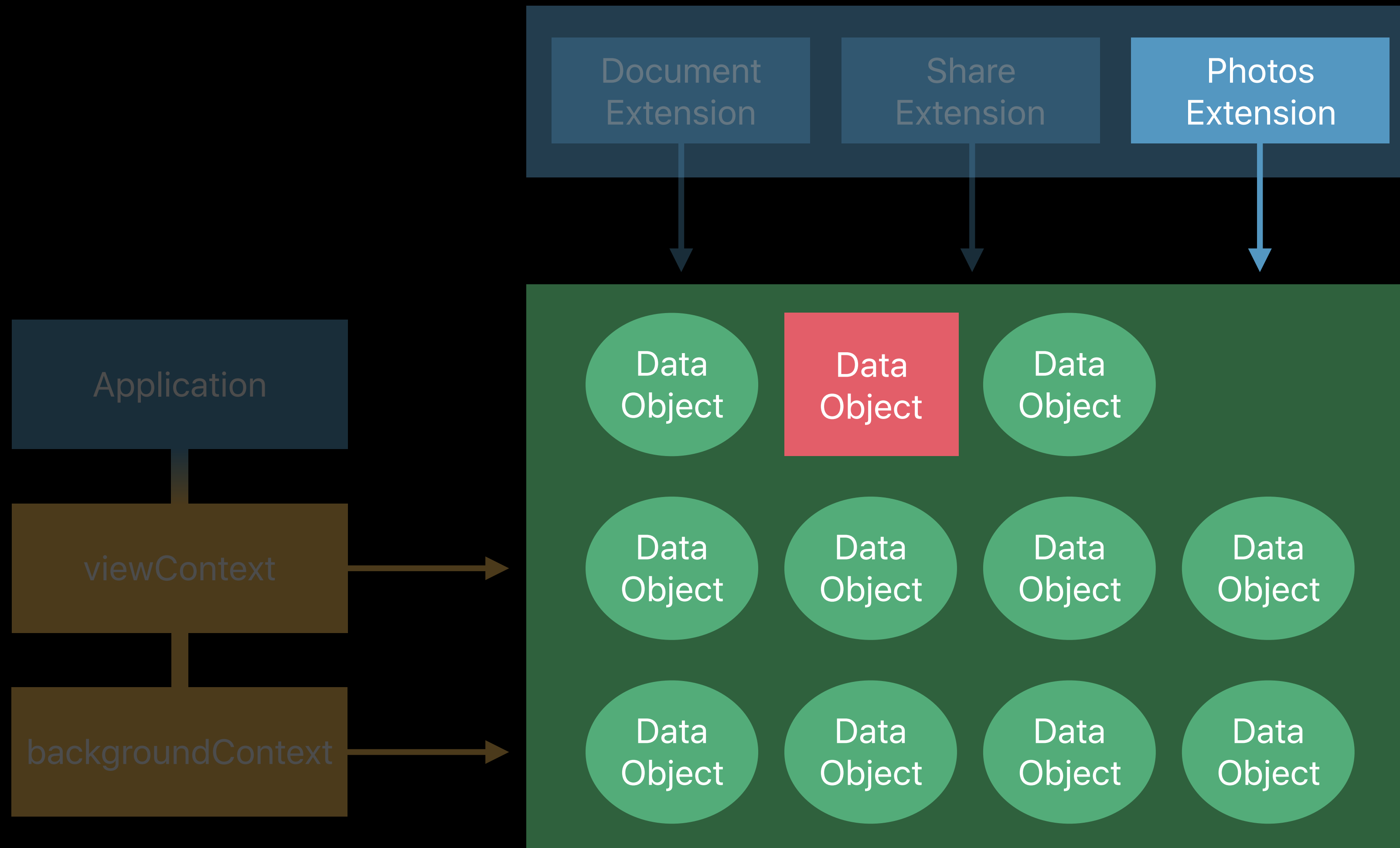
Ghost in the Database



Ghost in the Database



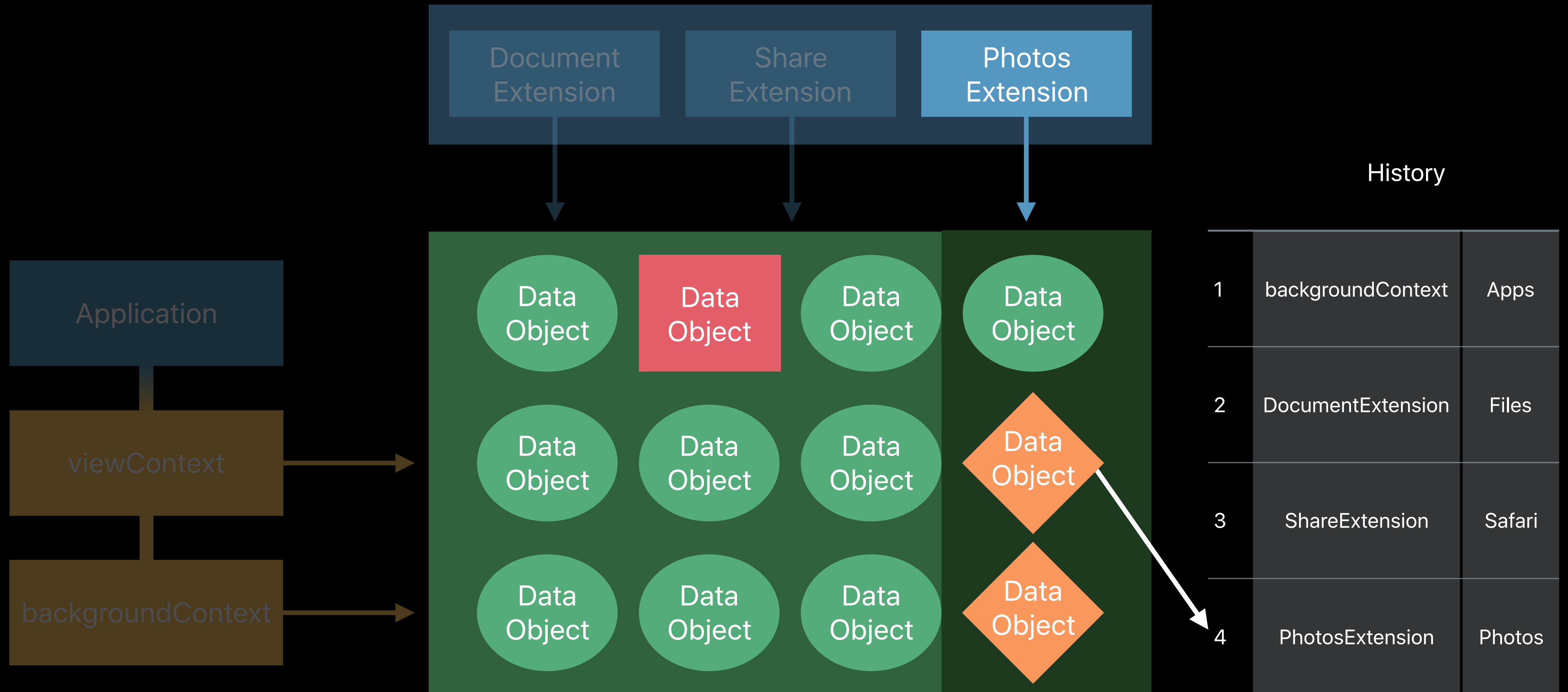
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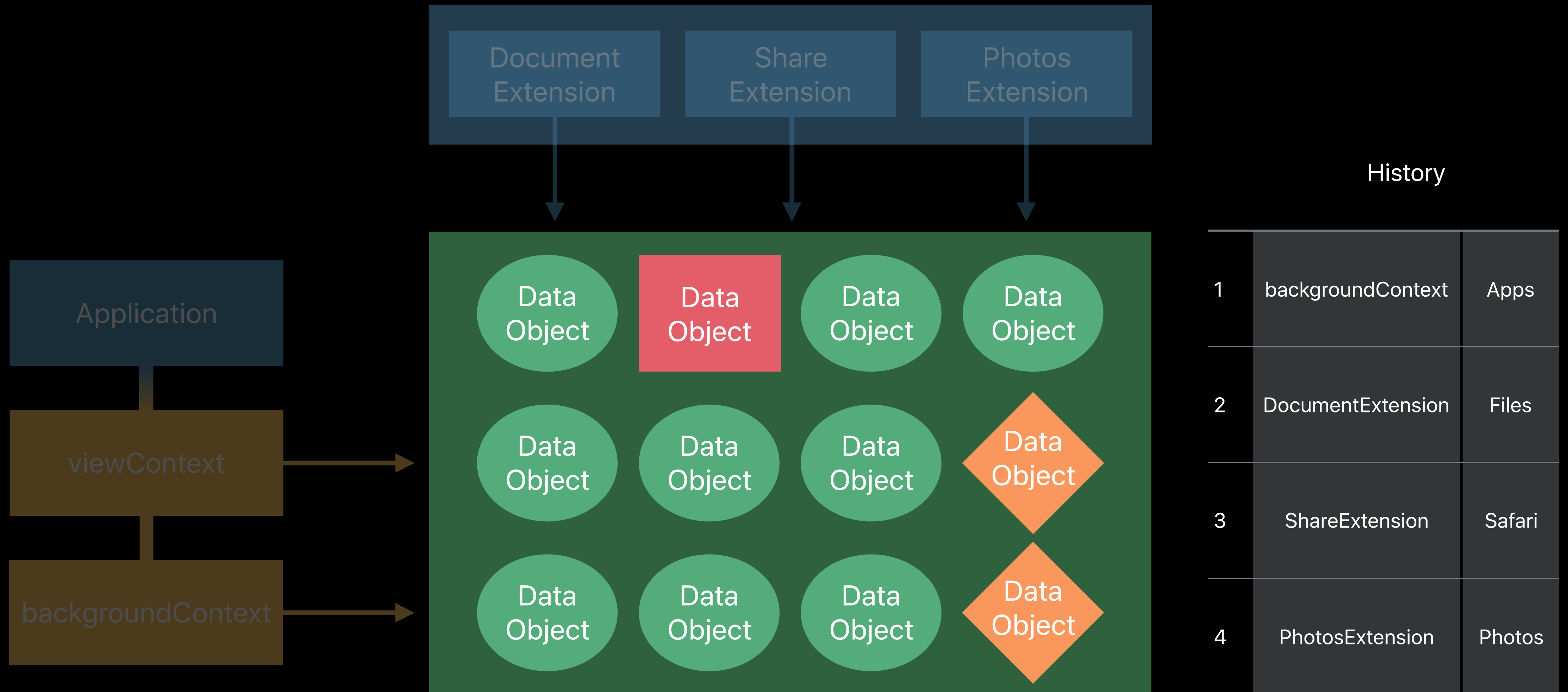
History

1	backgroundContext	Apps
2	DocumentExtension	Files
3	ShareExtension	Safari

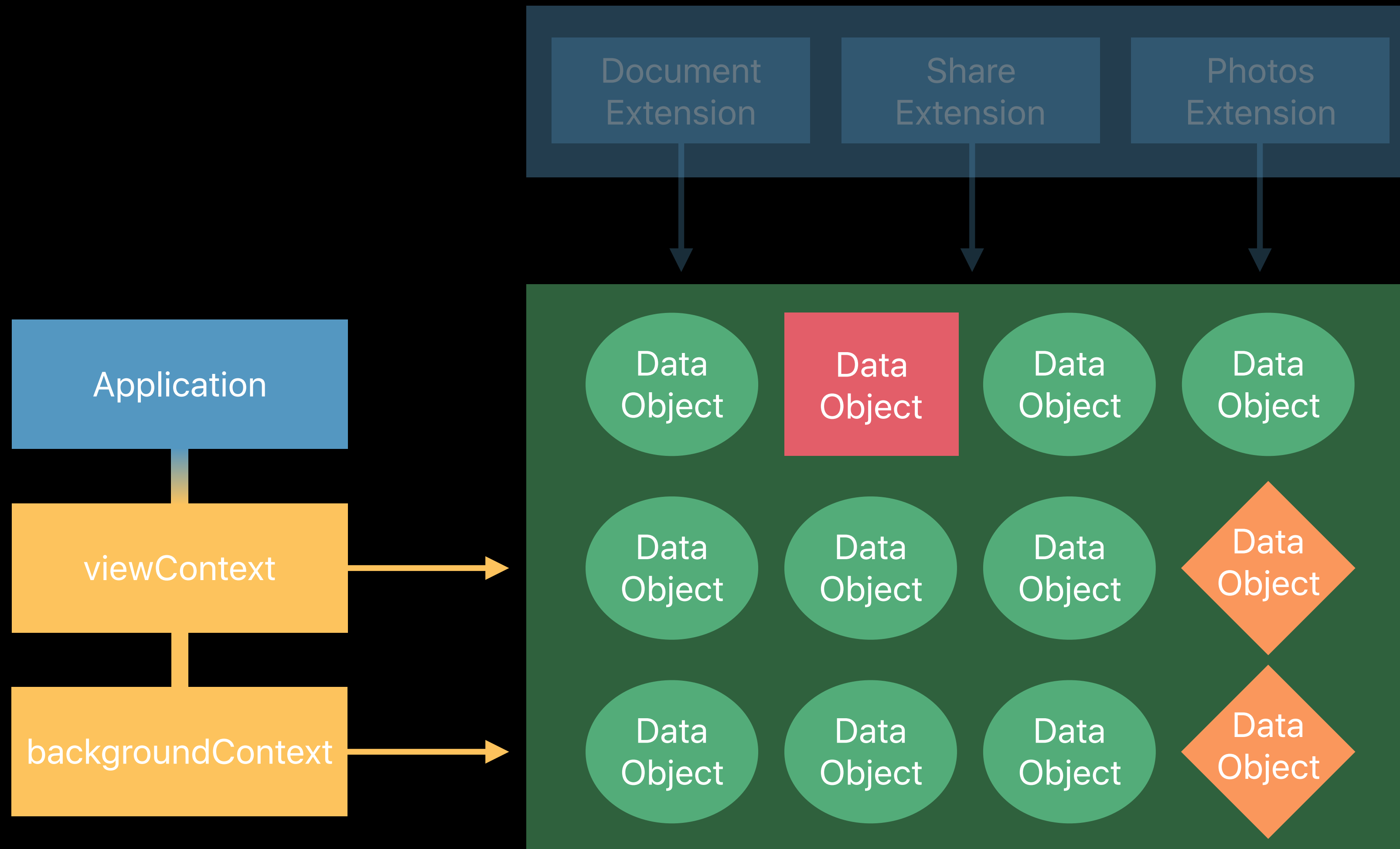
Ghost in the Database



Ghost in the Database



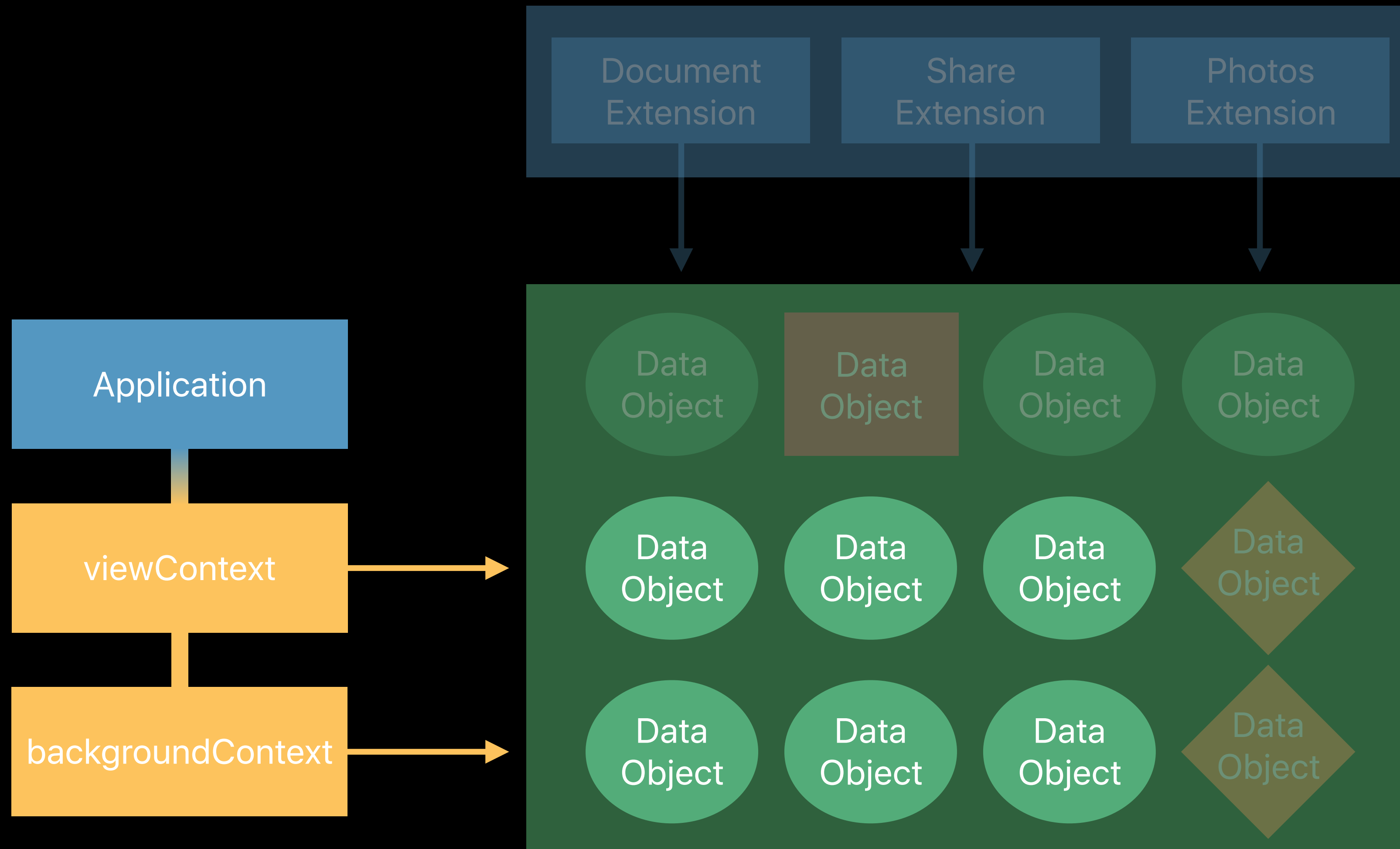
Ghost in the Database



History

1	backgroundContext	Apps
2	DocumentExtension	Files
3	ShareExtension	Safari
4	PhotosExtension	Photos

Ghost in the Database



History

1	backgroundContext	Apps
2	DocumentExtension	Files
3	ShareExtension	Safari
4	PhotosExtension	Photos



NEW

```
//Reading History, the journey of a historian
```

```
open class NSPersistentHistoryChangeRequest : NSPersistentStoreRequest {  
    open class func fetchHistory(after date: Date) -> Self  
    open class func fetchHistory(after token: NSPersistentHistoryToken?) -> Self  
    open class func fetchHistory(after transaction: NSPersistentHistoryTransaction?) -> Self  
    open var resultType: NSPersistentHistoryResultType  
}
```

//Reading History, the journey of a historian

NEW

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NEW

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    open class func fetchHistory(after date: Date) -> Self  
    open class func fetchHistory(after token: NSPersistentHistoryToken?) -> Self  
    open class func fetchHistory(after transaction: NSPersistentHistoryTransaction?) -> Self  
    open var resultType: NSPersistentHistoryResultType  
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NEW

```
//NSPersistentHistoryTransaction

open class NSPersistentHistoryTransaction : NSObject, NSCopying {
    open var timestamp: Date { get }
    open var changes: [NSPersistentHistoryChange]? { get }
    open var transactionNumber: Int64 { get }
    open var storeID: String { get }
    open var bundleID: String { get }
    open var processID: String { get }
    open var contextName: String? { get }
    open var author: String? { get }
    open var token: NSPersistentHistoryToken { get }

    // Get a notification that can be consumed by a NSManagedObjectContext
    open func objectIDNotification() -> Notification
}
```

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```
//NSManagedObjectContext
```

```
/* Set the author for the context, this will be used as an identifier in  
the Persistent History Transactions (NSPersistentHistoryTransaction) */
```

```
open var transactionAuthor: String?
```



NEW

NEW

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//NSPersistentHistoryChange
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public enum NSPersistentHistoryChangeType : Int {  
    case insert  
    case update  
    case delete  
}
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open class NSPersistentHistoryChange : NSObject, NSCopying {  
    open var changeID: Int64 { get }  
    @NSCopying open var changedObjectID: NSManagedObjectID { get }  
    open var changeType: NSPersistentHistoryChangeType { get }  
    open var tombstone: [AnyHashable : Any]? { get }  
    open var transaction: NSPersistentHistoryTransaction? { get }  
    open var updatedProperties: Set<NSPropertyDescription>? { get }  
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Model Editor

WWDCPersistentHistoryDemo > WWD...yDemo > WWD...odeld > WWD...model > E Event >|uniqueidentifier

ENTITIES
E Event

FETCH REQUESTS

CONFIGURATIONS
C Default

Attributes

Attribute ^	Type
uniqueidentifier	UUID
D timestamp	Date

+ -

Relationships

Relationship ^	Destination	Inverse
----------------	-------------	---------

+ -

Fetches Properties

Fetches Property ^	Predicate
--------------------	-----------

+ -

Attribute

Name:

Properties: Transient Optional

Attribute Type:

Default Value:

Use Scalar Type

Advanced: Index in Spotlight Preserve After Deletion

Deprecated: Spotlight Store in External Record File

User Info

Key: ^ Value

+ -

Versioning

Hash Modifier:

Renaming ID:

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Demo

History In Action!

Recap

History is fun!



Recap

History is fun!

Simple to enable Persistent History



Recap

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Simple to enable Persistent History

Uncover missing changes



Recap

History is fun!

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Uncover missing changes

Never be in the dark again!



Migration

Easy as pie

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We preserve as much history as possible

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Except when removing:

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Except when removing:

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We preserve as much history as possible

Except when removing:

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We will preserve the history until the last transaction that is complete

Performance

Everything has consequences

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Slight impact on save-and-batch operations

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An increase in memory during such operations

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Small storage overhead, but history can be purged

Summary

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CoreSpotlight—easily share your app data with Spotlight

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New Indexing API—faster searches, faster apps

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New Indexing API—faster searches, faster apps

Persistent History—always know “who dun it”

<https://bugreport.apple.com>

More Information

<https://developer.apple.com/wwdc17/210>

Related Sessions

What's New in Cocoa

Video

Online

What's New in Foundation

Hall 2

Wednesday 11:00 AM

Build Better Apps with CloudKit Dashboard

Grand Ballroom B

Thursday 10:00 AM

What's New in Core Spotlight for iOS and macOS

Grand Ballroom B

Thursday 4:10 PM

Cocoa Development Tips

Grand Ballroom B

Friday 9:00 AM

Labs

Cocoa Lab

Technology Lab C

Wed 11:00AM-1:00PM

Foundation Lab

Technology Lab C

Wed 1:00PM-3:30PM

Core Data Lab

Technology Lab C

Wed 3:10PM-6:00PM

CloudKit and iCloud Lab

Technology Lab C

Thu 11:00AM-1:00PM

Core Data Lab

Technology Lab H

Thu 4:10PM-6:00PM

CoreSpotlight and Search Lab

Technology Lab H

Fri 9:00AM-11:00AM

Cocoa Lab

Technology Lab B

Fri 1:50PM-3:20PM

