

#WWDC19

Advances in Collection View Layout

Complex layouts made simple

Steve Breen, UIKit Framework Engineer

Troy Stephens, AppKit Framework Engineer

Dersu Abolfathi, App Store Engineer

Current state-of-the-art

A new approach

Demos

Advanced layouts

Current State-of-the-Art

UICollectionViewFlowLayout

In the beginning, there was flow

Useful for many common designs

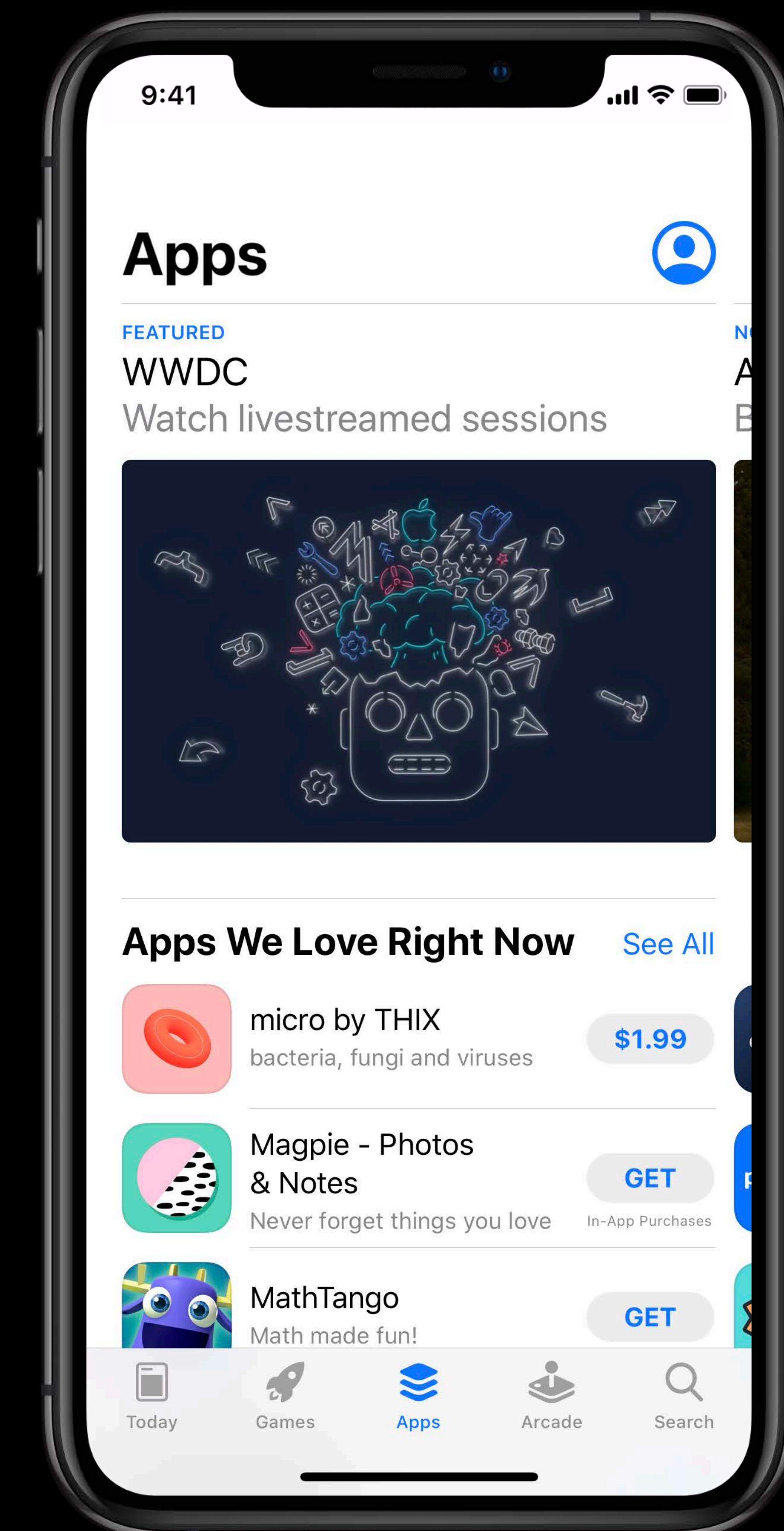
Line-based

What about today's apps?

Today's App Designs

Complex

Custom layouts



Building Custom Layouts

Boilerplate code

Performance considerations

Supplementary and decoration view challenges

Self-sizing challenges

Compositional Layout

Compositional Layout

Composable

Flexible

Fast

Compositional Layout

Composing small layout groups together

Layout groups are line-based

Composition instead of subclassing

Show me some code already!

```
// Create a List by Specifying Three Core Components: Item, Group and Section

let size = NSCollectionLayoutSize(widthDimension: .fractionalWidth(1.0),
                                  heightDimension: .absolute(44.0))

let item = NSCollectionLayoutItem(layoutSize: size)

let group = NSCollectionLayoutGroup.horizontal(layoutSize: size, subitems: [item])

let section = NSCollectionLayoutSection(group: group)

let layout = UICollectionViewCompositionalLayout(section: section)
```

Item > Group > Section > Layout

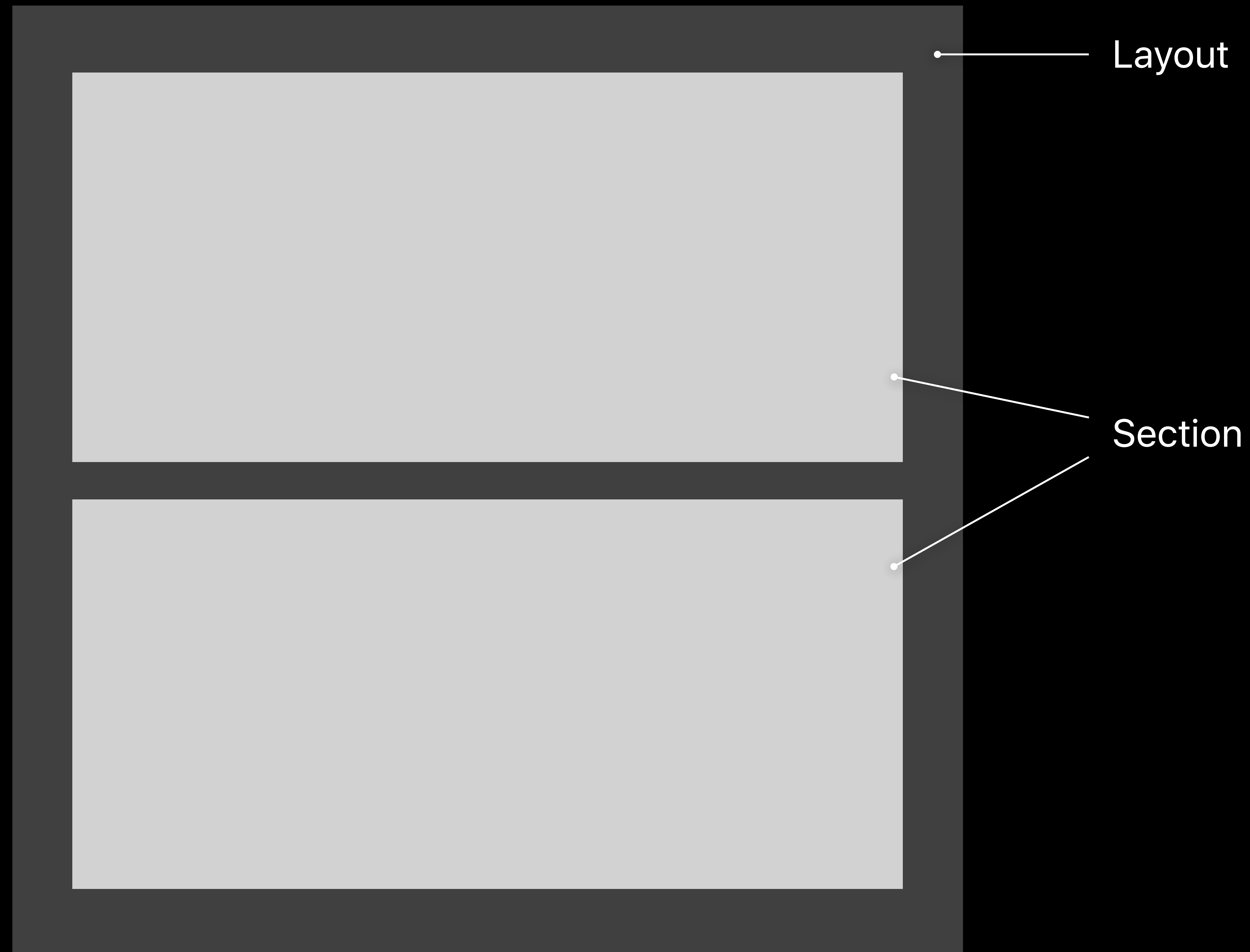


Item > Group > Section > Layout

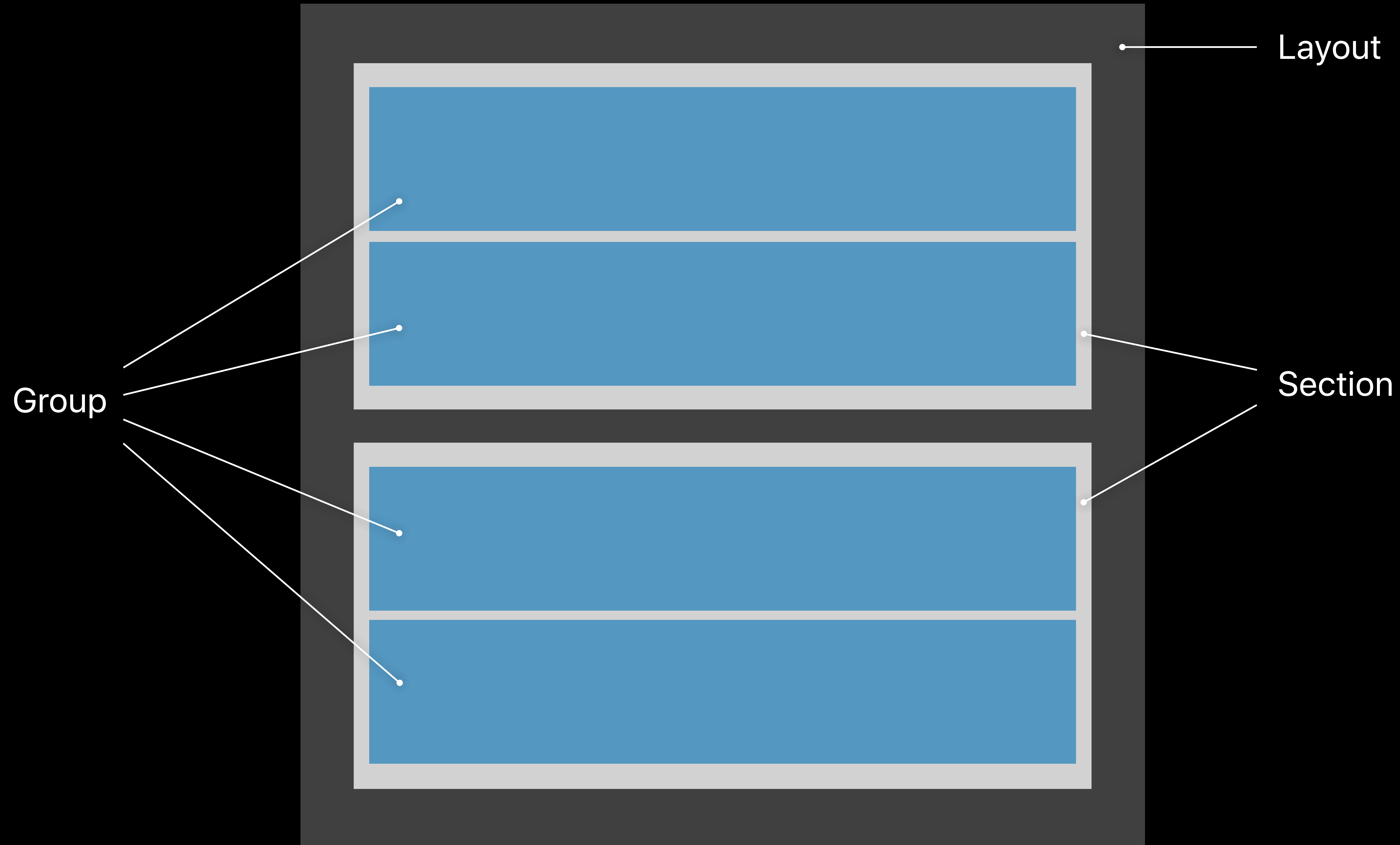


Layout

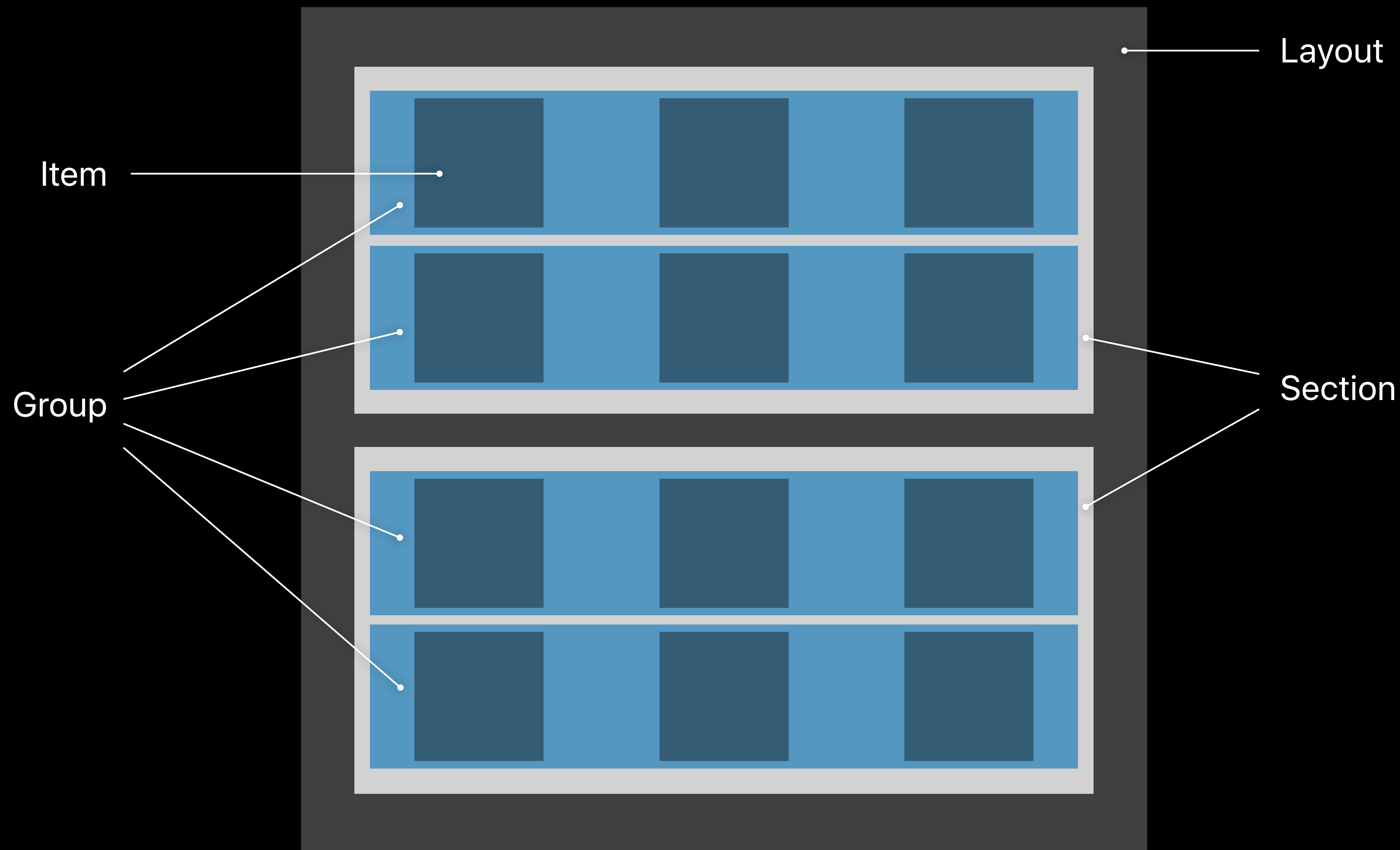
Item > Group > Section > Layout



Item > Group > Section > Layout



Item > Group > Section > Layout



Core Concepts

NSCollectionLayoutSize

NSCollectionLayoutItem

NSCollectionLayoutGroup

NSCollectionLayoutSection

NSCollectionLayoutSize

Everything has an explicit size

Size = Width + Height dimension

```
class NSCollectionLayoutSize {  
    init(widthDimension: NSCollectionLayoutDimension,  
         heightDimension: NSCollectionLayoutDimension)  
}
```

NSCollectionLayoutDimension

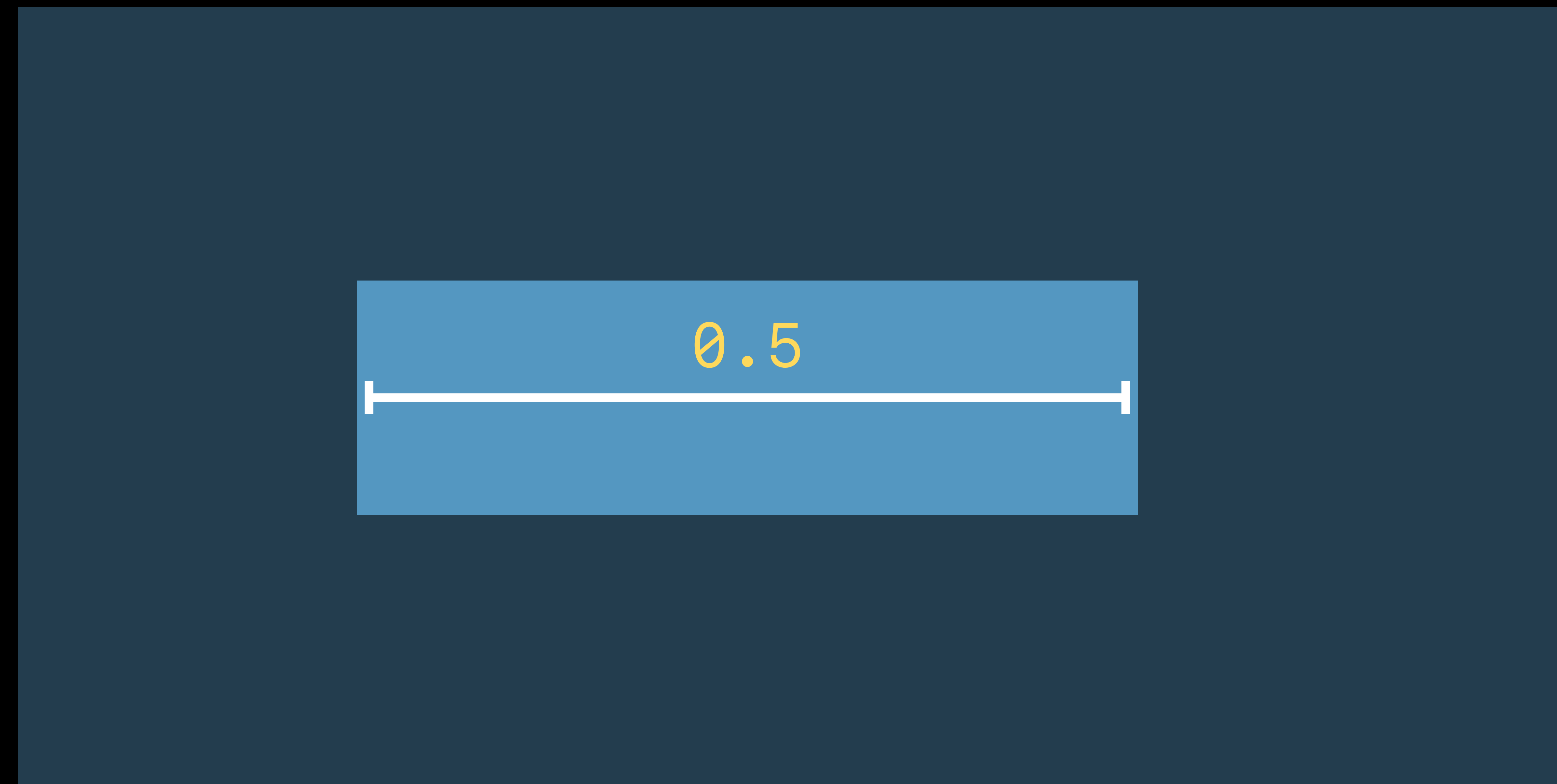
Axis independent

Four ways to define

```
class NSCollectionLayoutDimension {  
    class func fractionalWidth(_ fractionalWidth: CGFloat) -> Self  
    class func fractionalHeight(_ fractionalHeight: CGFloat) -> Self  
    class func absolute(_ absoluteDimension: CGFloat) -> Self  
    class func estimated(_ estimatedDimension: CGFloat) -> Self  
}
```

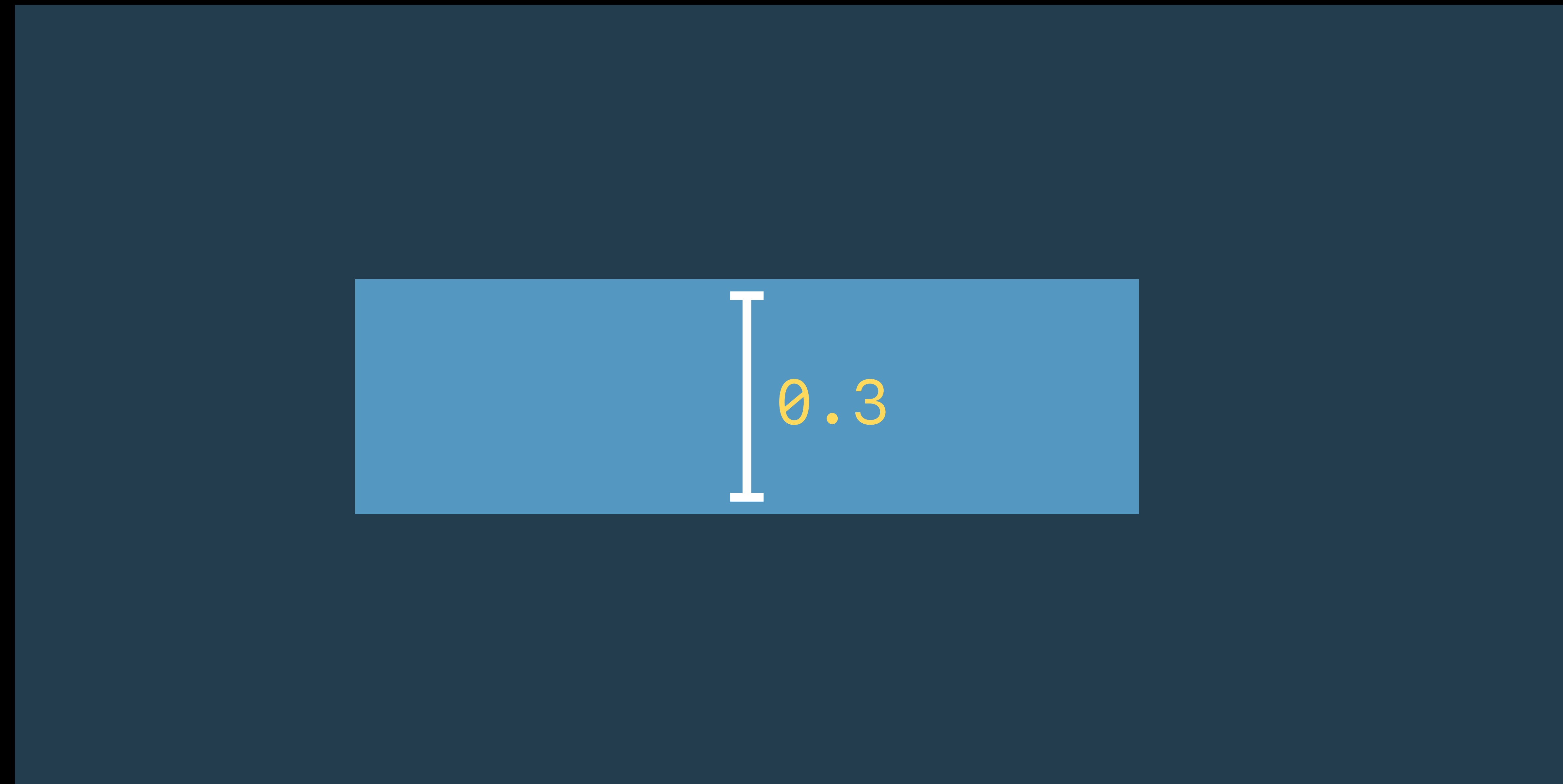
NSCollectionLayoutDimension

```
let widthDimension = NSCollectionLayoutDimension.fractionalWidth(0.5)
```



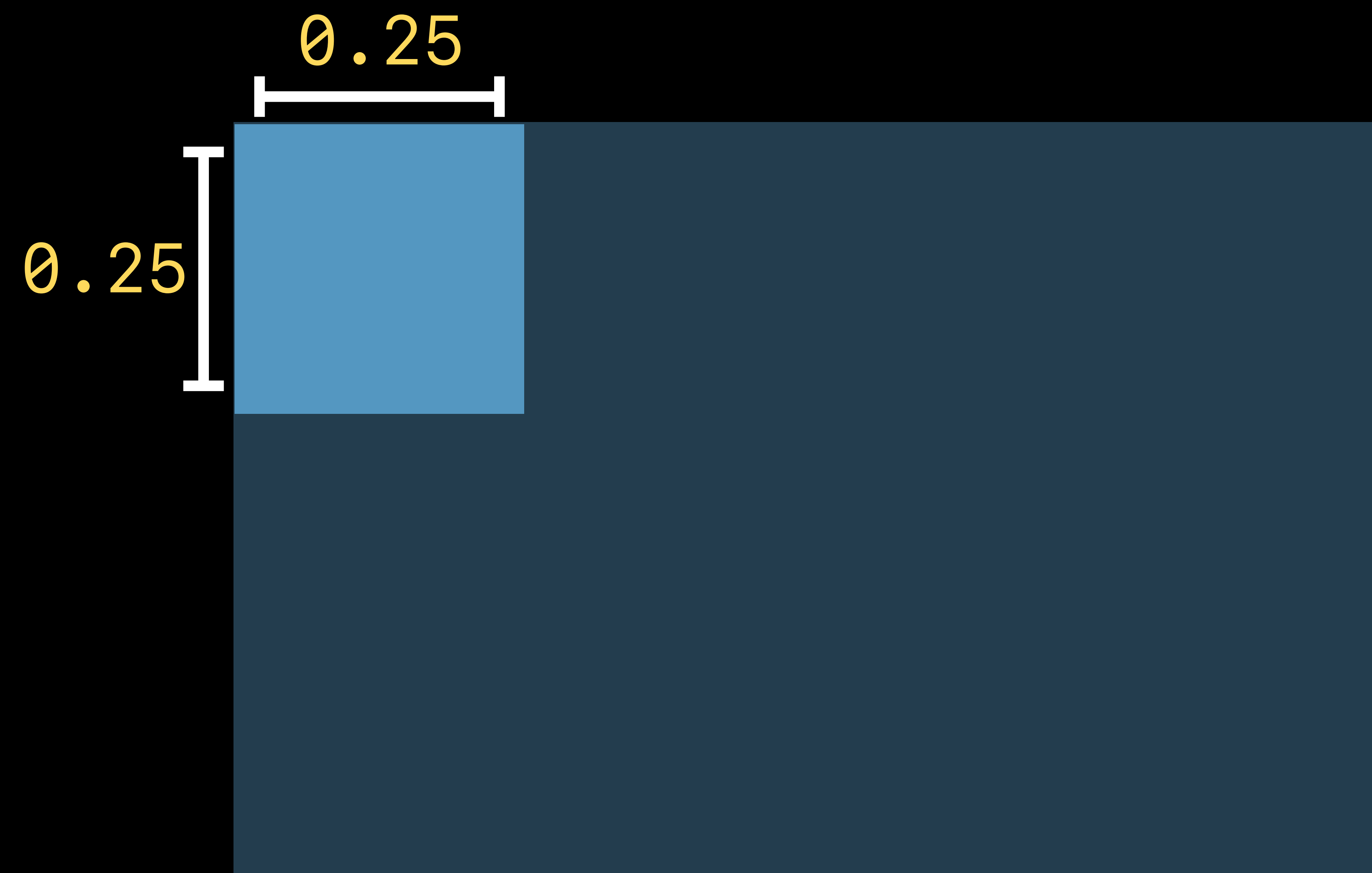
NSCollectionLayoutDimension

```
let heightDimension = NSCollectionLayoutDimension.fractionalHeight(0.3)
```



UICollectionViewLayoutDimension

```
let size = UICollectionViewLayoutDimension(widthDimension: .fractionalWidth(0.25),  
                                          heightDimension: .fractionalWidth(0.25))
```



NSCollectionLayoutDimension

```
let heightDimension = NSCollectionLayoutDimension.absolute(200)
```



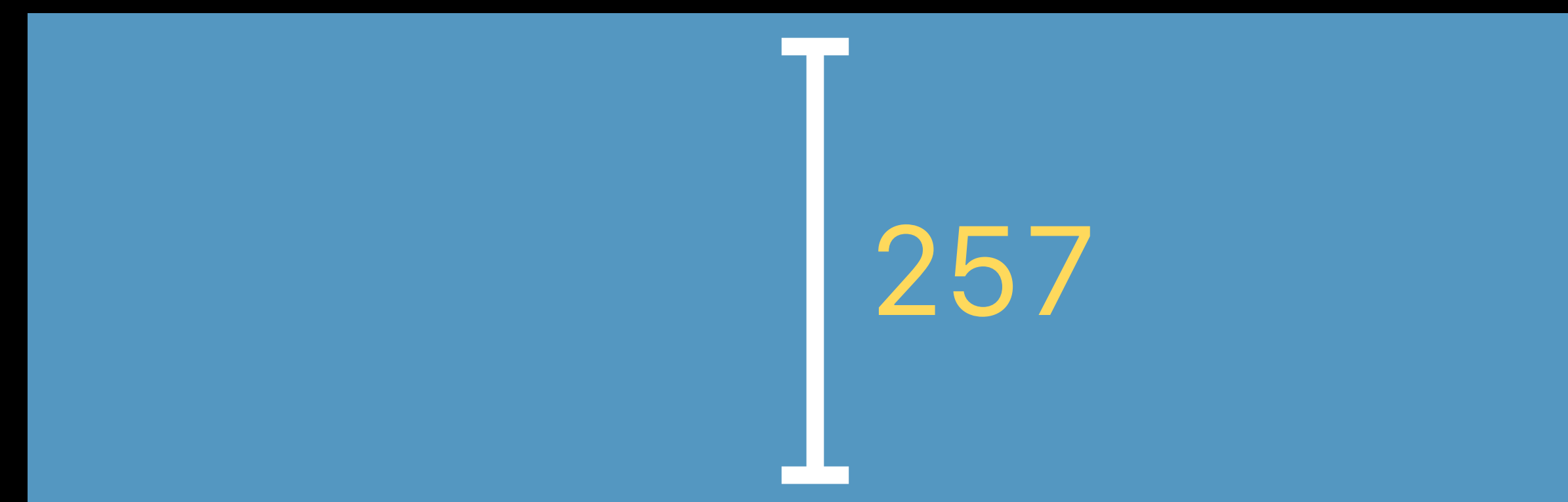
UICollectionViewLayoutDimension

```
let heightDimension = UICollectionViewLayoutDimension.estimated(200)
```



UICollectionViewLayoutDimension

```
let heightDimension = UICollectionViewLayoutDimension.estimated(200)
```



UICollectionViewLayoutItem

Cell or Supplementary

```
class UICollectionViewLayoutItem {  
    convenience init(layoutSize: UICollectionViewLayoutSize)  
    var contentInsets: NSDirectionalEdgeInsets  
}
```

NSCollectionLayoutGroup

Basic unit of layout

Three forms: Horizontal, vertical, and custom

```
class NSCollectionLayoutGroup: NSCollectionLayoutItem {
    class func horizontal(layoutSize: NSCollectionLayoutSize,
                        subitems: [NSCollectionLayoutItem]) -> Self
    class func vertical(layoutSize: NSCollectionLayoutSize,
                      subitems: [NSCollectionLayoutItem]) -> Self
    class func custom(layoutSize: NSCollectionLayoutSize,
                    itemProvider: NSCollectionLayoutGroupCustomItemProvider) -> Self
}
```

UICollectionViewLayoutSection

Section's layout

Additional cool features

```
class UICollectionViewLayoutSection {  
    convenience init(layoutGroup: UICollectionViewLayoutGroup)  
    var contentInsets: NSDirectionalEdgeInsets  
}
```

UICollectionViewCompositionalLayout

NSCollectionViewCompositionalLayout

Same API for iOS, tvOS, and macOS

Repeating

Per-section

```
class UICollectionViewCompositionalLayout: UICollectionViewLayout {  
    init(section: NSCollectionViewLayoutSection)  
    init(sectionProvider: @escaping SectionProvider)  
}
```

Demo

Show me some more code already!

Advanced Layouts

NSCollectionLayoutSupplementaryItem

Badges

Headers

Footers

NSCollectionLayoutSupplementaryItem

Simplifies using supplementaries

Anchored to item or group

NSCollectionLayoutAnchor

`[.trailing, .top]`



`[.top]`



`[.bottom]`



Defines position relative to the host geometry

```
// NSCollectionLayoutAnchor

let badgeAnchor = NSCollectionLayoutAnchor(edges: [.top, .trailing],
                                           fractionalOffset: CGPoint(x: 0.3, y: -0.3))

let badgeSize = NSCollectionLayoutSize(widthDimension: .absolute(20),
                                       heightDimension: .absolute(20))

let badge = NSCollectionLayoutSupplementaryItem(layoutSize: badgeSize,
                                                elementKind: "badge",
                                                containerAnchor: badgeAnchor)

let item = NSCollectionLayoutItem(layoutSize: itemSize, supplementaryItems: [badge])
```

What About Headers and Footers?

Boundary supplementary item

Section or entire layout

Pinning

```
// NSCollectionLayoutBoundarySupplementaryItem

let header = NSCollectionLayoutBoundarySupplementaryItem(layoutSize: headerSize,
                                                         elementKind: "header",
                                                         alignment: .top)

let footer = NSCollectionLayoutBoundarySupplementaryItem(layoutSize: footerSize,
                                                         elementKind: "footer",
                                                         alignment: .bottom)

header.pinToVisibleBounds = true
section.boundarySupplementaryItems = [header, footer]
```

```
// Section Background Decoration Views

let background = NSCollectionViewLayoutDecorationItem.background(elementKind: "background")
section.decorationItems = [background]

// Register Our Decoration View with the Layout
layout.register(MyCoolDecorationView.self, forDecorationViewOfKind: "background")
```

Estimated Self-Sizing

Fast

Per-axis

Supplementary items

Dynamic text

```
// Estimated Self-Sizing

let headerSize = NSCollectionLayoutSize(widthDimension: .fractionalWidth(1.0),
                                       heightDimension: .estimated(44.0))

let header = NSCollectionLayoutBoundarySupplementaryItem(layoutSize: headerSize,
                                                         elementKind: "header",
                                                         alignment: .top)

header.pinToVisibleBounds = true
section.boundarySupplementaryItems = [header, footer]
```


Nested NSCollectionLayoutGroup

NSCollectionLayoutGroup is-a NSCollectionLayoutItem

No limit to nesting depth

Unlocks new designs

```
// Nested NSCollectionLayoutGroup

let leadingItem = NSCollectionLayoutItem(layoutSize: leadingItemSize)

let trailingItem = NSCollectionLayoutItem(layoutSize: trailingItemSize)

let trailingGroup = NSCollectionLayoutGroup.vertical(layoutSize: trailingGroupSize)
                subitem: trailingItem,
                count: 2)

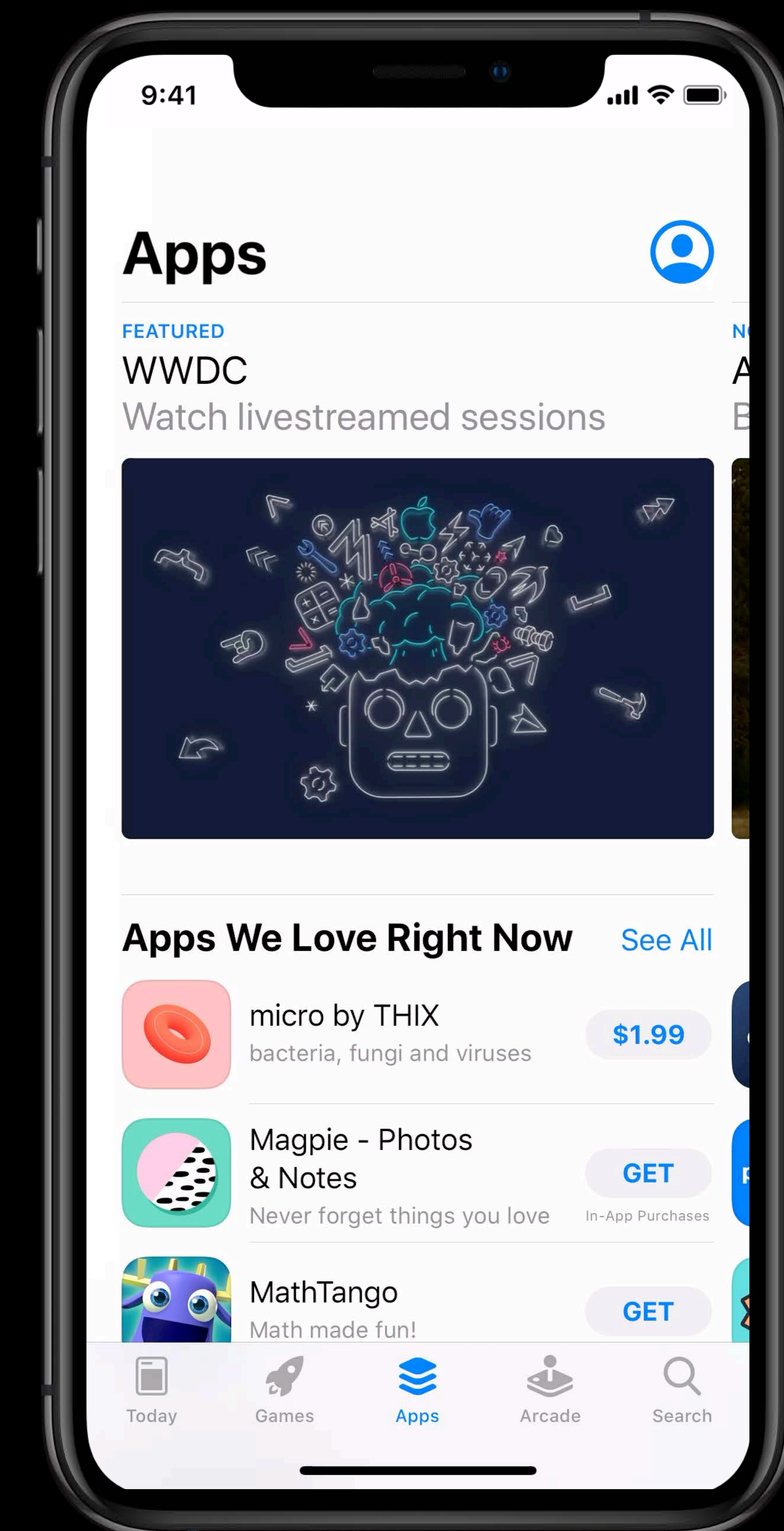
let containerGroup = NSCollectionLayoutGroup.horizontal(layoutSize: containerGroupSize,
                subitems: [leadingItem,
                trailingGroup])
```

Nested CollectionViews

Challenging

Lots of bookkeeping

Common pattern

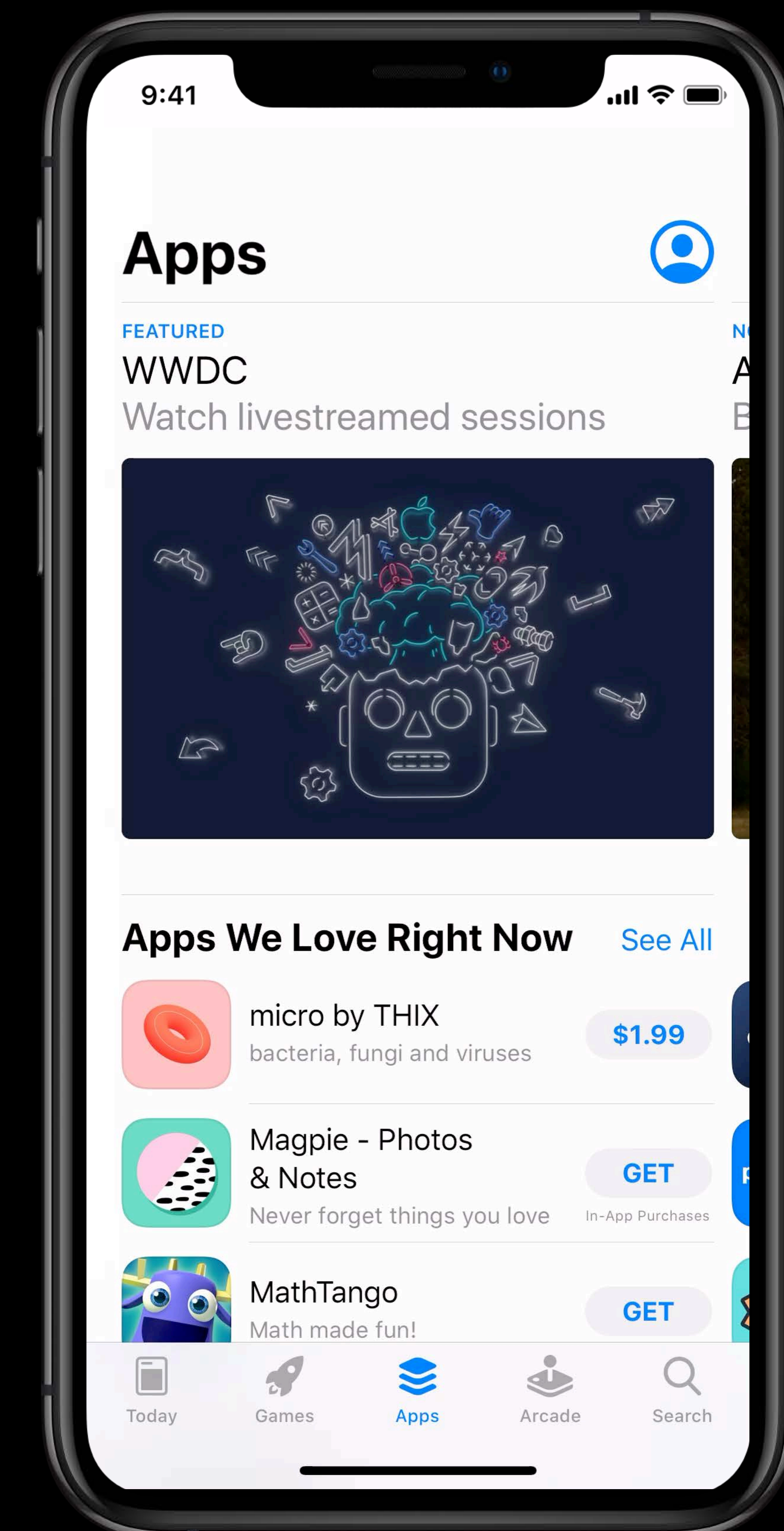


Nested CollectionViews

Challenging

Lots of bookkeeping

Common pattern




```
// Orthogonal Scrolling Sections

enum UICollectionViewSectionOrthogonalScrollingBehavior: Int {
    case none
    case continuous
    case continuousGroupLeadingBoundary
    case paging
    case groupPaging
    case groupPagingCentered
}
```

Case Study

App Store adoption

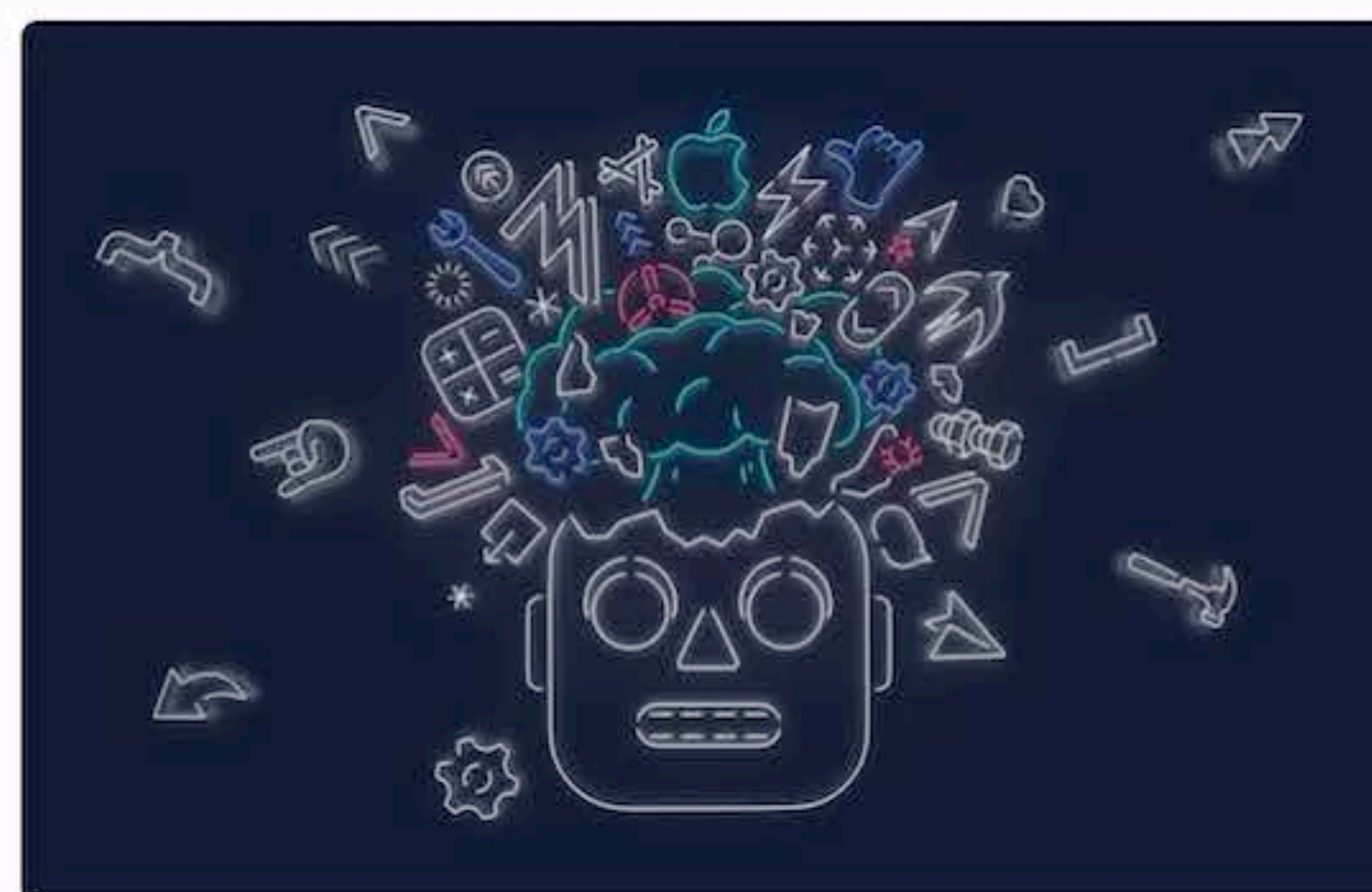
Apps



FEATURED

WWDC

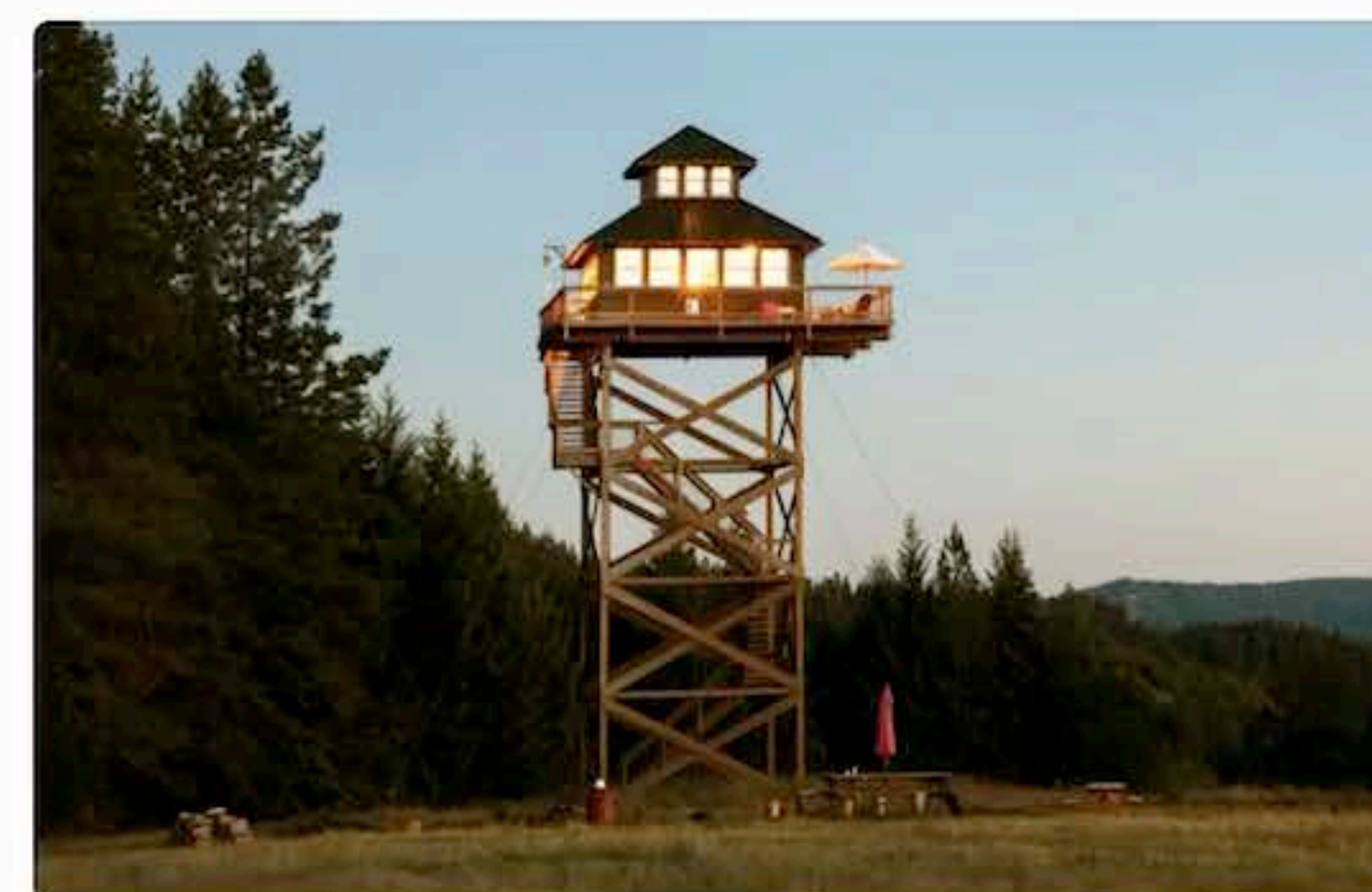
Watch livestreamed sessions



NOW WITH SIRI SHORTCUTS

Airbnb

Book your next adventure



Apps We Love Right Now

[See All](#)



micro by THIX
bacteria, fungi and viruses

\$1.99



NBC News
News, Latest News, Breaking

GET



Magpie - Photos & Notes
Never forget things you love

GET

In-App Purchases



Priceline Hotel & Travel Deals
Cheap Hotels, Flights, Cars

GET



MathTango
Math made fun!

GET

In-App Purchases



Hello Weather
Super useful forecasts & radar

GET

In-App Purchases

Let's Code!

[See All](#)



Khan Academy
You can learn anything

GET



Mimo: Learn to Code
Coding & programming made easy

GET

In-App Purchases



Learn HTML
Learn anytime, anywhere!

GET



Learn to Code with C++
Learn anytime, anywhere!

GET

Coding for Kids

Today

Games

Apps

Arcade

Search

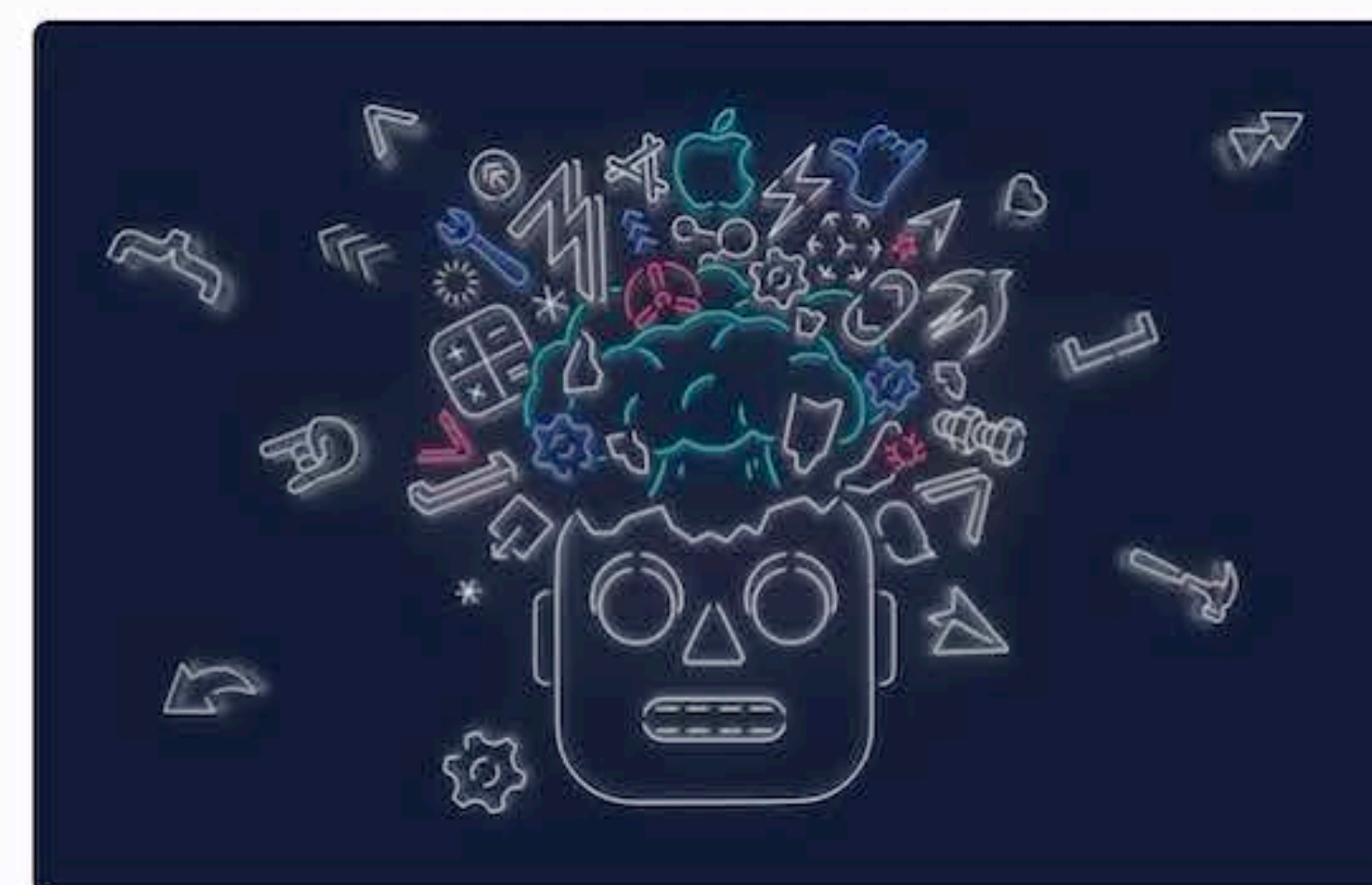
Apps



FEATURED

WWDC

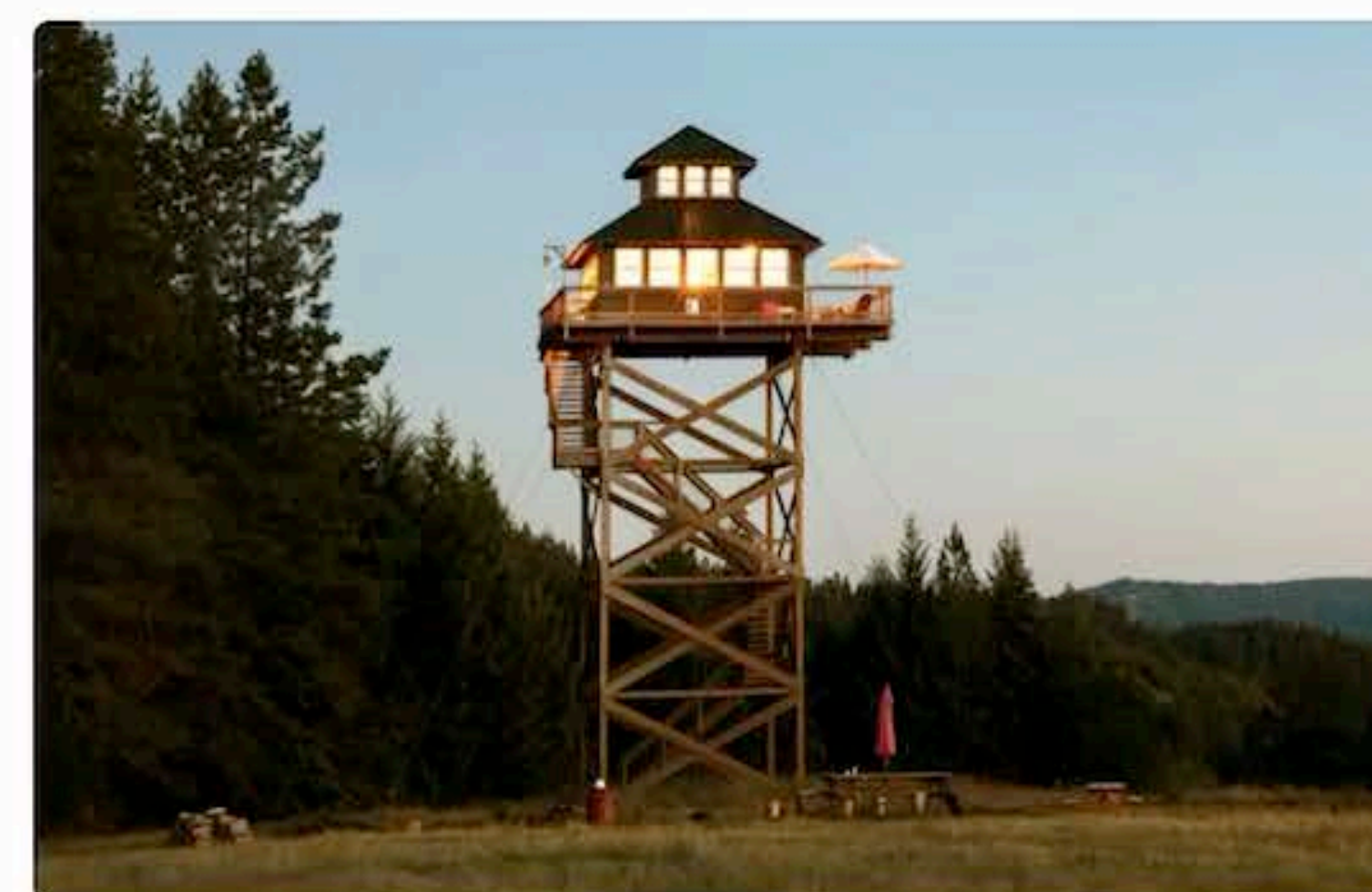
Watch livestreamed sessions



NOW WITH SIRI SHORTCUTS

Airbnb

Book your next adventure



Apps We Love Right Now

[See All](#)



micro by THIX
bacteria, fungi and viruses

\$1.99



NBC News
News, Latest News, Breaking

GET



Magpie - Photos & Notes
Never forget things you love

GET

In-App Purchases



Priceline Hotel & Travel Deals
Cheap Hotels, Flights, Cars

GET



MathTango
Math made fun!

GET

In-App Purchases



Hello Weather
Super useful forecasts & radar

GET

In-App Purchases

Let's Code!

[See All](#)



Khan Academy
You can learn anything

GET



Mimo: Learn to Code
Coding & programming made easy

GET

In-App Purchases



Learn HTML
Learn anytime, anywhere!

GET



Learn to Code with C++
Learn anytime, anywhere!

GET

Coding for Kids

Today

Games

Apps

Arcade

Search

Apps



FEATURED

WWDC

Watch livestreamed sessions



NOW WITH SIRI SHORTCUTS

Airbnb

Book your next adventure



Apps We Love Right Now

[See All](#)



micro by THIX
bacteria, fungi and viruses

\$1.99



NBC News
News, Latest News, Breaking

GET



Magpie - Photos & Notes
Never forget things you love

GET

In-App Purchases



Priceline Hotel & Travel Deals
Cheap Hotels, Flights, Cars

GET



MathTango
Math made fun!

GET

In-App Purchases



Hello Weather
Super useful forecasts & radar

GET

In-App Purchases

Let's Code!

[See All](#)



Khan Academy
You can learn anything

GET



Mimo: Learn to Code
Coding & programming made easy

GET

In-App Purchases



Learn HTML
Learn anytime, anywhere!

GET



Learn to Code with C++
Learn anytime, anywhere!

GET

Coding for Kids

Today

Games

Apps

Arcade

Search

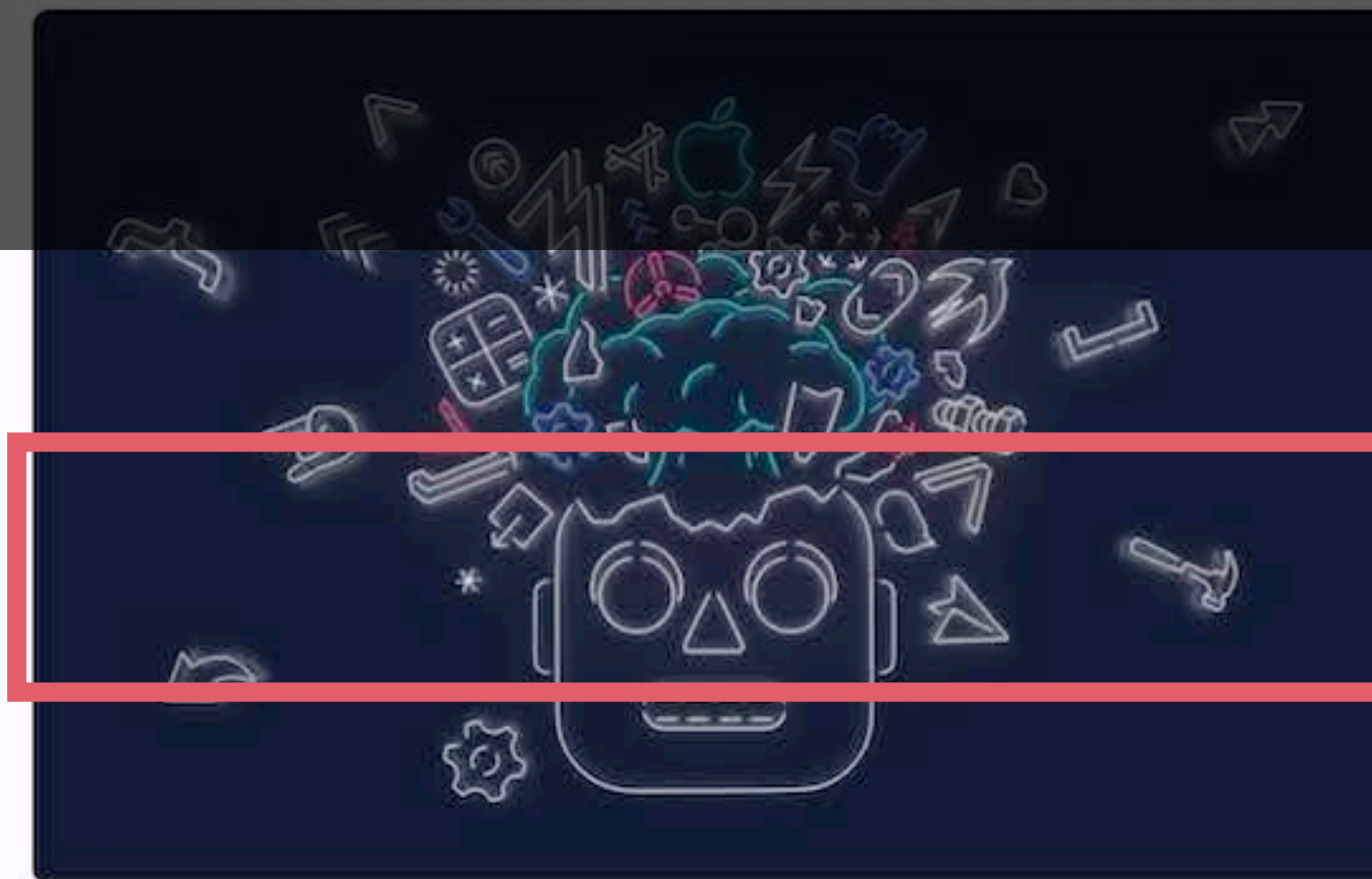
Apps



FEATURED

WWDC

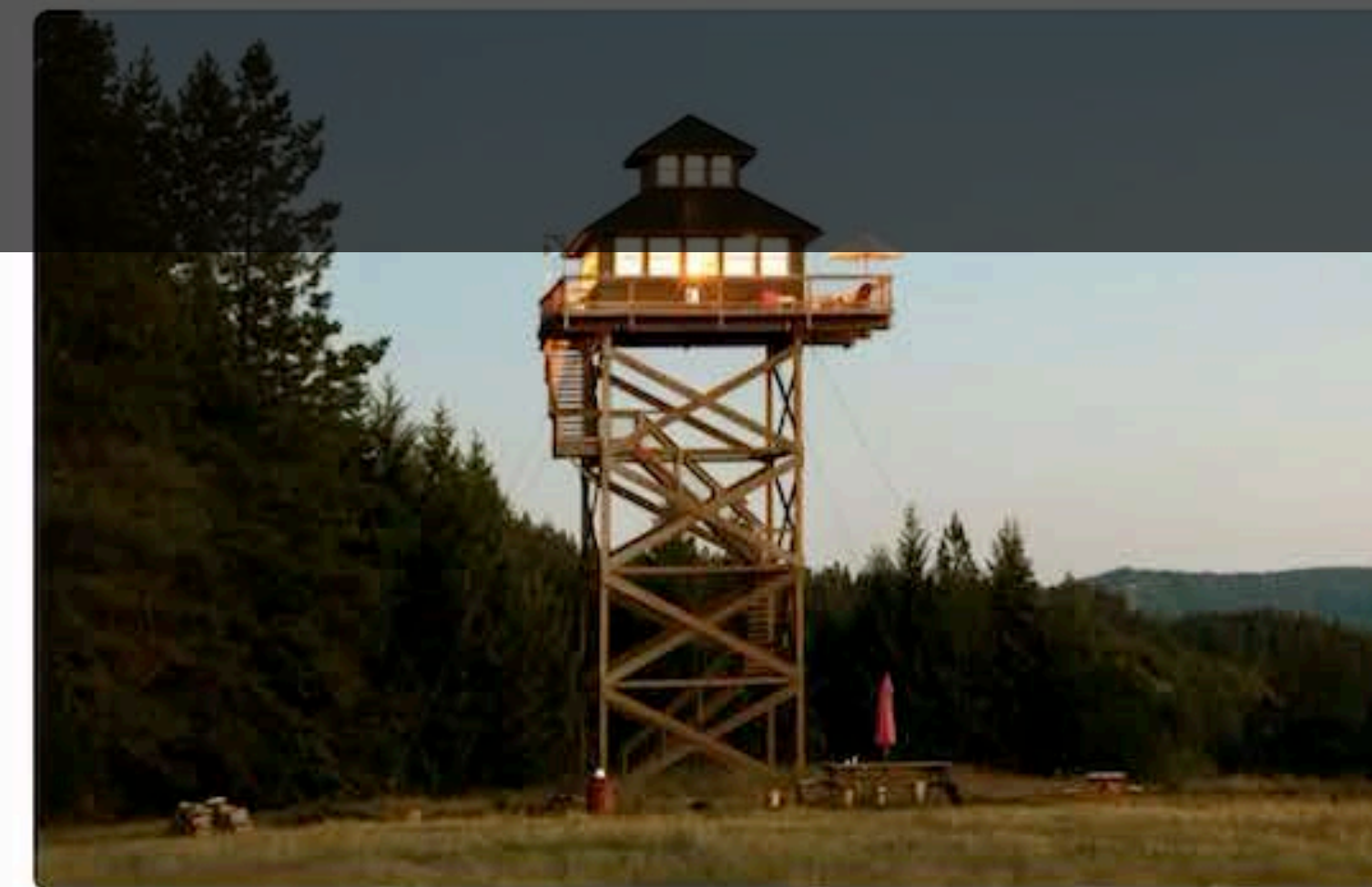
Watch livestreamed sessions



NOW WITH SIRI SHORTCUTS

Airbnb

Book your next adventure



Apps We Love Right Now

[See All](#)



micro by THIX
bacteria, fungi and viruses

\$1.99



NBC News
News, Latest News, Breaking

GET



Magpie - Photos & Notes
Never forget things you love

GET



Priceline Hotel & Travel Deals
Cheap Hotels, Flights, Cars

GET



MathTango
Math made fun!

GET



Hello Weather
Super useful forecasts & radar

GET

Let's Code!

[See All](#)



Khan Academy
You can learn anything

GET



Mimo: Learn to Code
Coding & programming made easy

GET



Learn HTML
Learn anytime, anywhere!

GET



Learn to Code with C++
Learn anytime, anywhere!

GET

Coding for Kids

Today

Games

Apps

Arcade

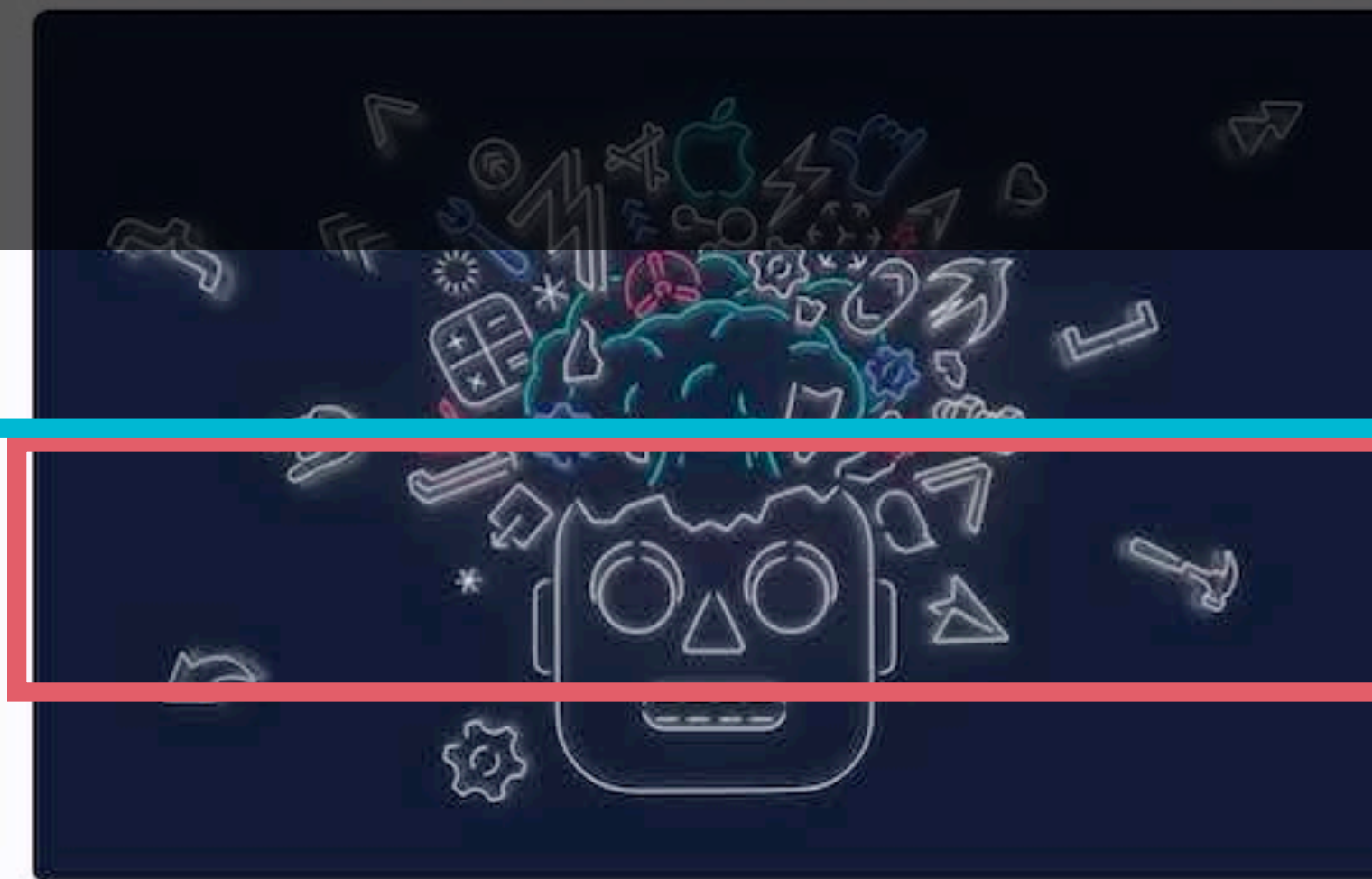
Search

Apps



FEATURED

WWDC
Watch livestreamed sessions



NOW WITH SIRI SHORTCUTS

Airbnb
Book your next adventure




Apps We Love Right Now


[See All](#)


 **micro by THIX**
bacteria, fungi and viruses **\$1.99**

 **NBC News**
News, Latest News, Breaking **GET**

 **Magpie - Photos & Notes**
Never forget things you love **GET**
In-App Purchases


 **Priceline Hotel & Travel Deals**
Cheap Hotels, Flights, Cars **GET**


 **MathTango**
Math made fun! **GET**
In-App Purchases


 **Hello Weather**
Super useful forecasts & radar **GET**
In-App Purchases


Let's Code!

[See All](#)

 **Khan Academy**
You can learn anything **GET**

 **Mimo: Learn to Code**
Coding & programming made easy **GET**
In-App Purchases

 **Learn HTML**
Learn anytime, anywhere! **GET**

 **Learn to Code with C++**
Learn anytime, anywhere! **GET**

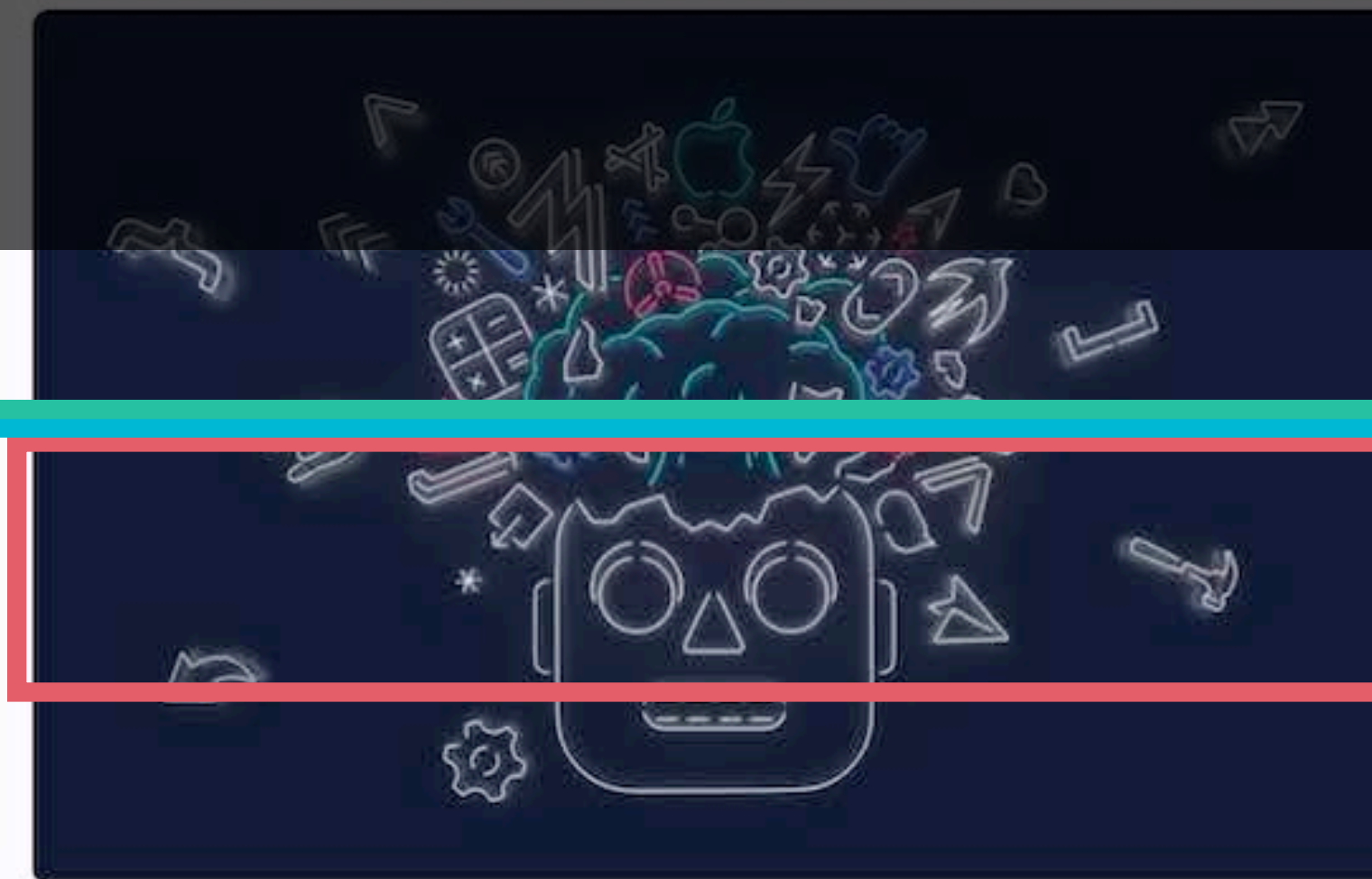
Coding for Kids

Apps



FEATURED

WWDC
Watch livestreamed sessions



NOW WITH SIRI SHORTCUTS

Airbnb
Book your next adventure




Apps We Love Right Now


[See All](#)

 **micro by THIX**
bacteria, fungi and viruses **\$1.99**

 **NBC News**
News, Latest News, Breaking **GET**

 **Magpie - Photos & Notes**
Never forget things you love **GET**
In-App Purchases


 **Priceline Hotel & Travel Deals**
Cheap Hotels, Flights, Cars **GET**


 **MathTango**
Math made fun! **GET**
In-App Purchases


 **Hello Weather**
Super useful forecasts & radar **GET**
In-App Purchases


Let's Code!

[See All](#)

 **Khan Academy**
You can learn anything **GET**

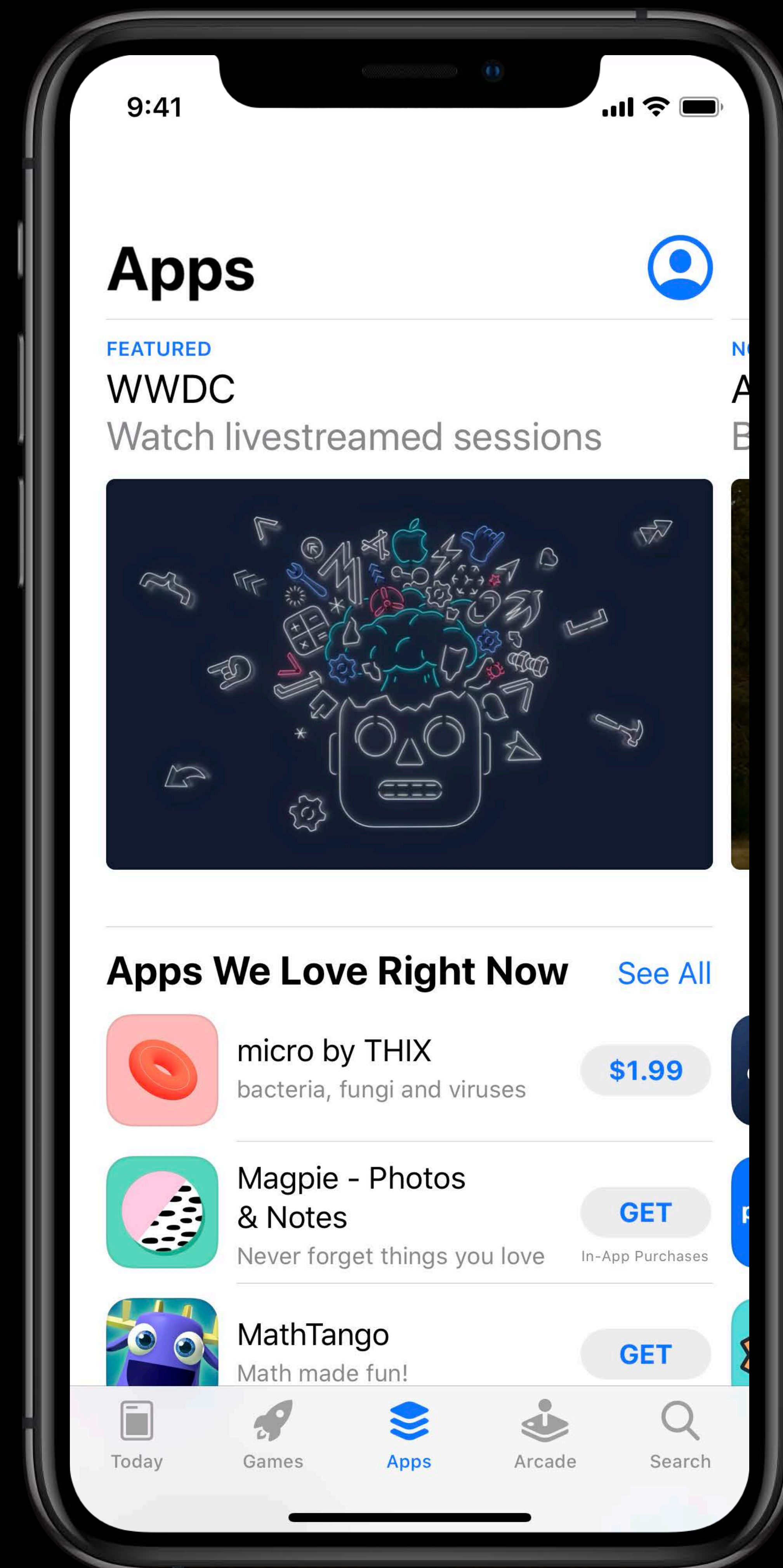
 **Mimo: Learn to Code**
Coding & programming made easy **GET**
In-App Purchases

 **Learn HTML**
Learn anytime, anywhere! **GET**

 **Learn to Code with C++**
Learn anytime, anywhere! **GET**

Coding for Kids

RTL Support for Free



Compositional Layout on the App Store

No more horizontal collection views

Less code, easy to reason about

Demo

Compositional layout on macOS

Compositional Layout Has It All

iOS, tvOS, and macOS

Custom `CollectionView` layouts for a fraction of the work

Makes `CollectionView` much more versatile

Tighter UI iteration

More Information

developer.apple.com/wwdc19/215

Advances in UI Data Sources

Wednesday, 2:00

UIKit and Collection Lab

Thursday, 9:00

 WWDC19