

#WWDC19

# Optimizing App Launch

Spencer Lewson, Performance Engineer

Dan Sawada, Performance Engineer

What is launch

How to properly measure your launch

Use Instruments to profile your launch

Track your launch over time

App launch is a user  
experience interruption.



0.000



0.000

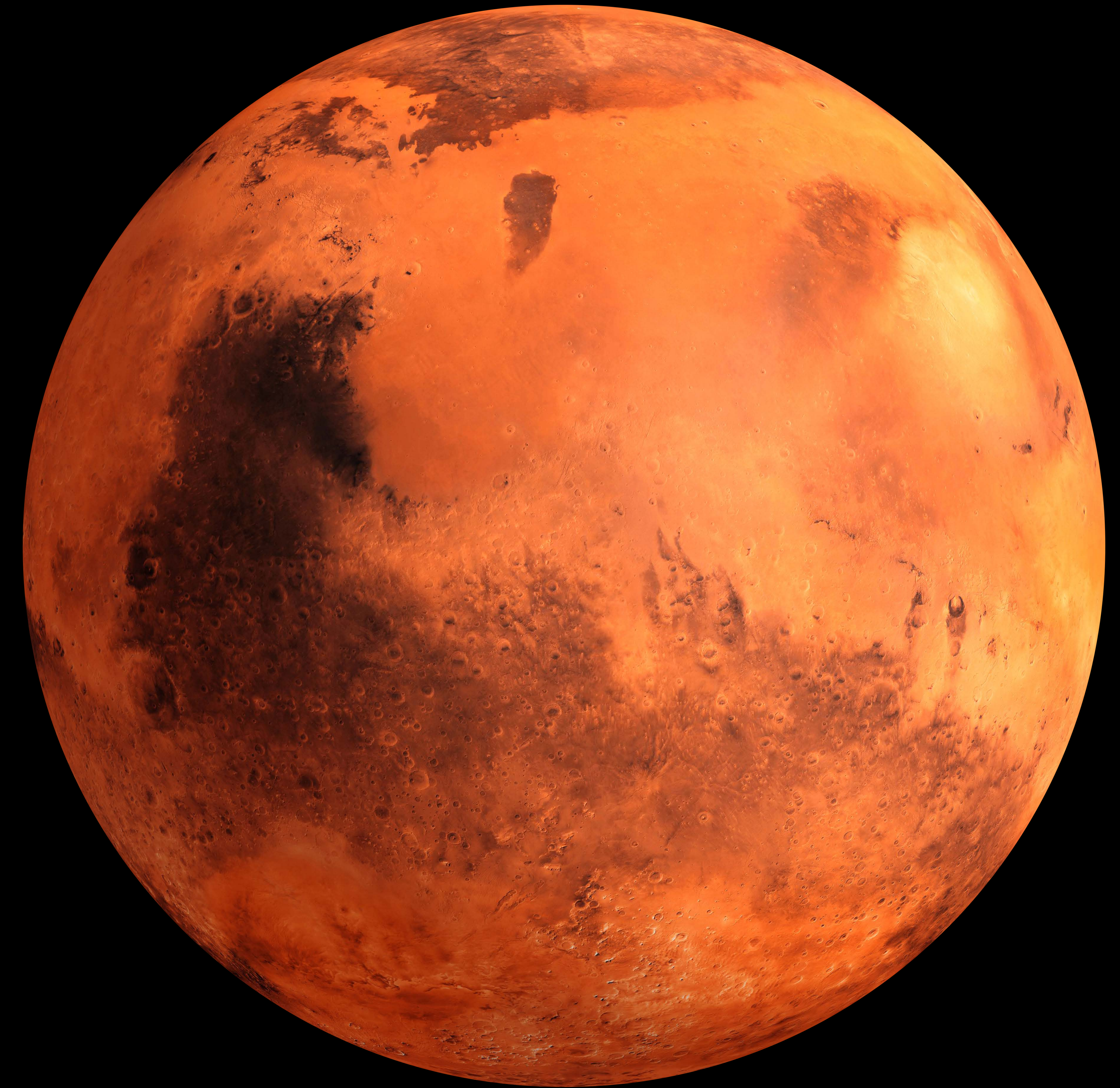
If we saved 1 millisecond per launch...

# 162 days

For each millisecond saved

# 162 days

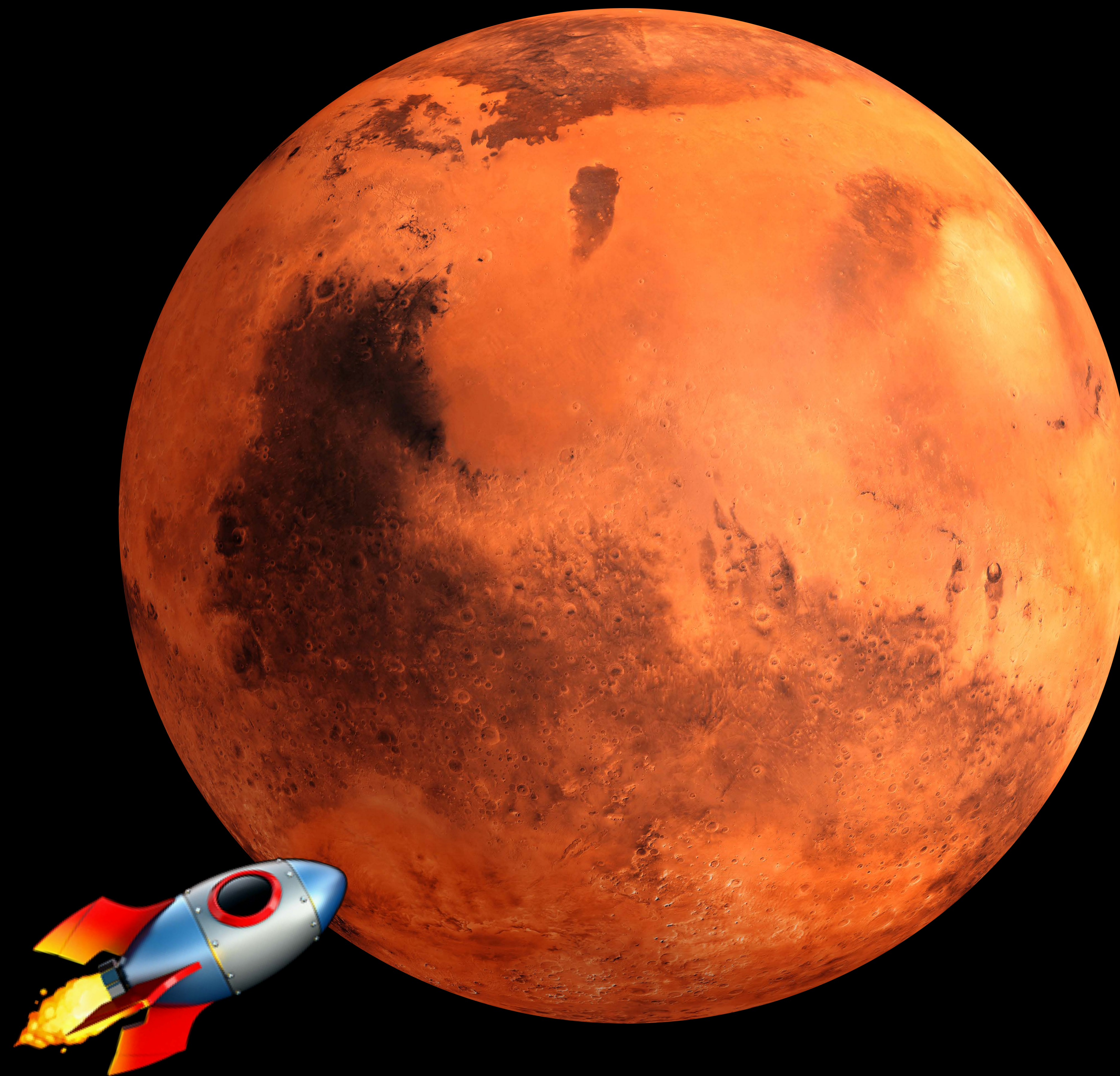
For each millisecond saved





# 162 days

For each millisecond saved



# Why Launch Is Important

# Why Launch Is Important

First experience with your app should be delightful

# Why Launch Is Important

First experience with your app should be delightful

Indicative of your code's overall performance

# Why Launch Is Important

First experience with your app should be delightful

Indicative of your code's overall performance

Impacts the system performance and battery

# Launch Types

Cold



Warm



Resume



# Launch Types

## Cold

After reboot

App is not in memory

No process exists


## Warm



## Resume



# Launch Types

Cold	Warm	Resume
After reboot	Recently terminated	
App is not in memory	App is partially in memory	
No process exists	No process exists	

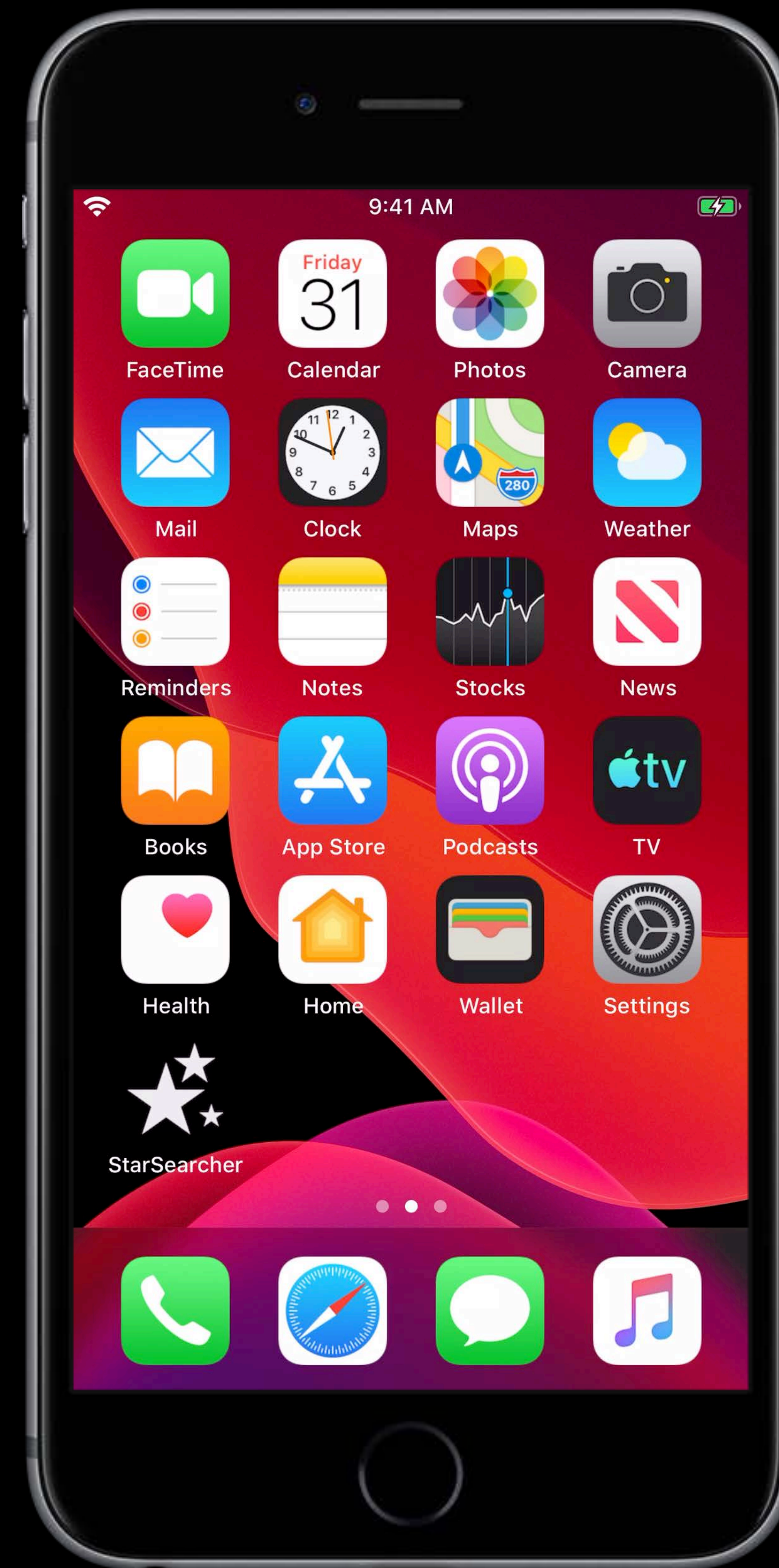


# Launch Types

Cold	Warm	Resume
After reboot	Recently terminated	App is suspended
App is not in memory	App is partially in memory	App is fully in memory
No process exists	No process exists	Process exists



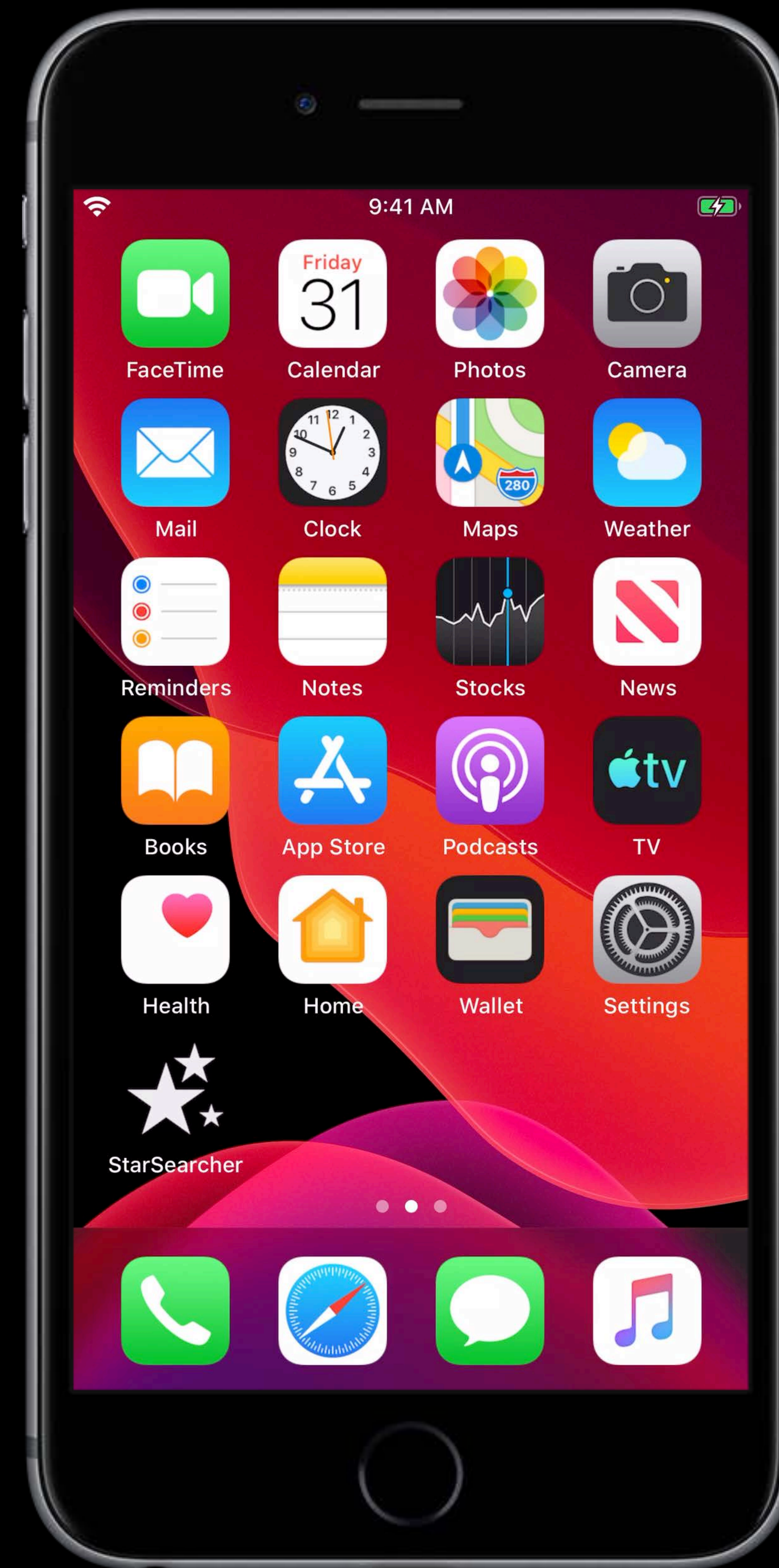
Launch



Resume



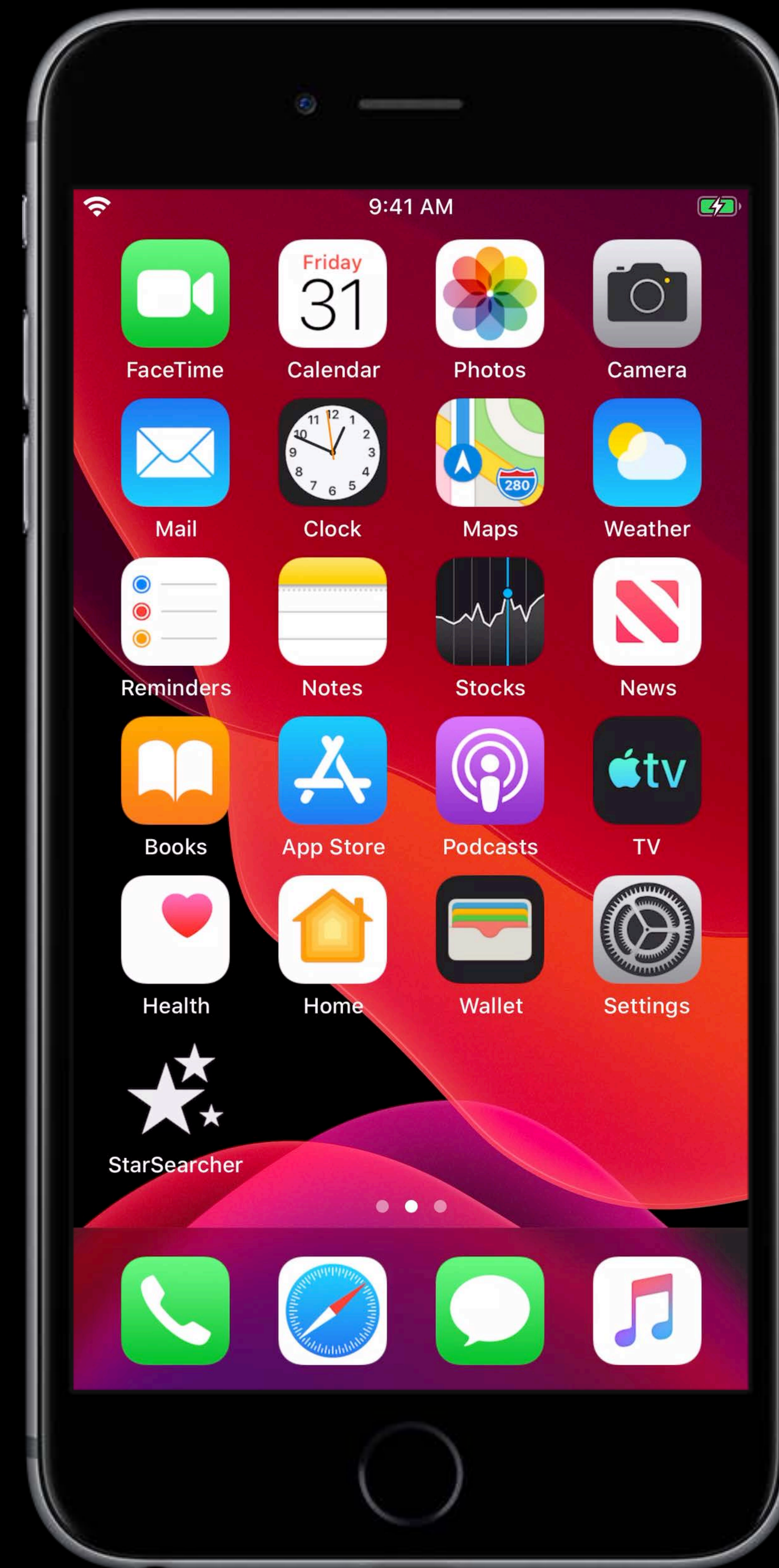
Launch



Resume



Launch

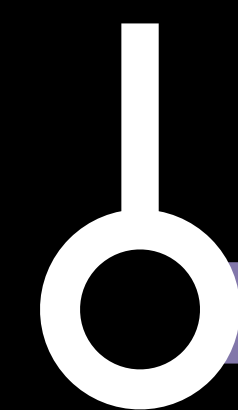


Resume

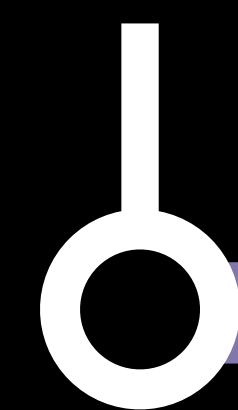
**400 ms**

To render first frame

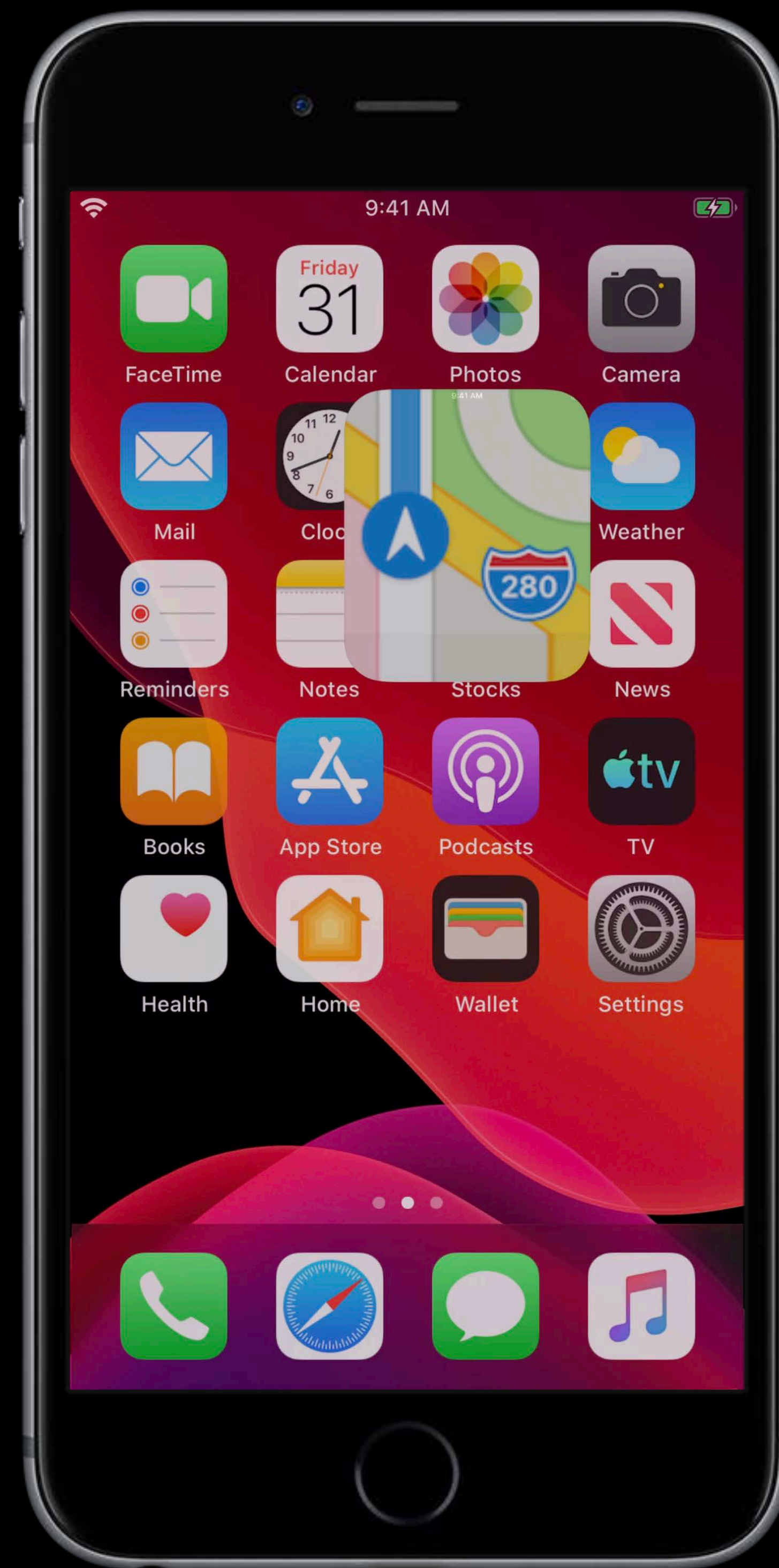
# Phases of App Launch



# Phases of App Launch

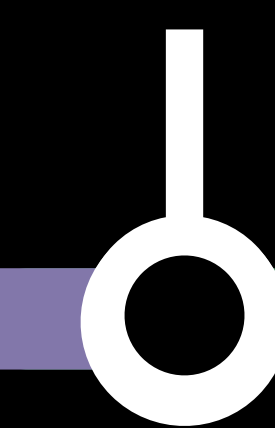
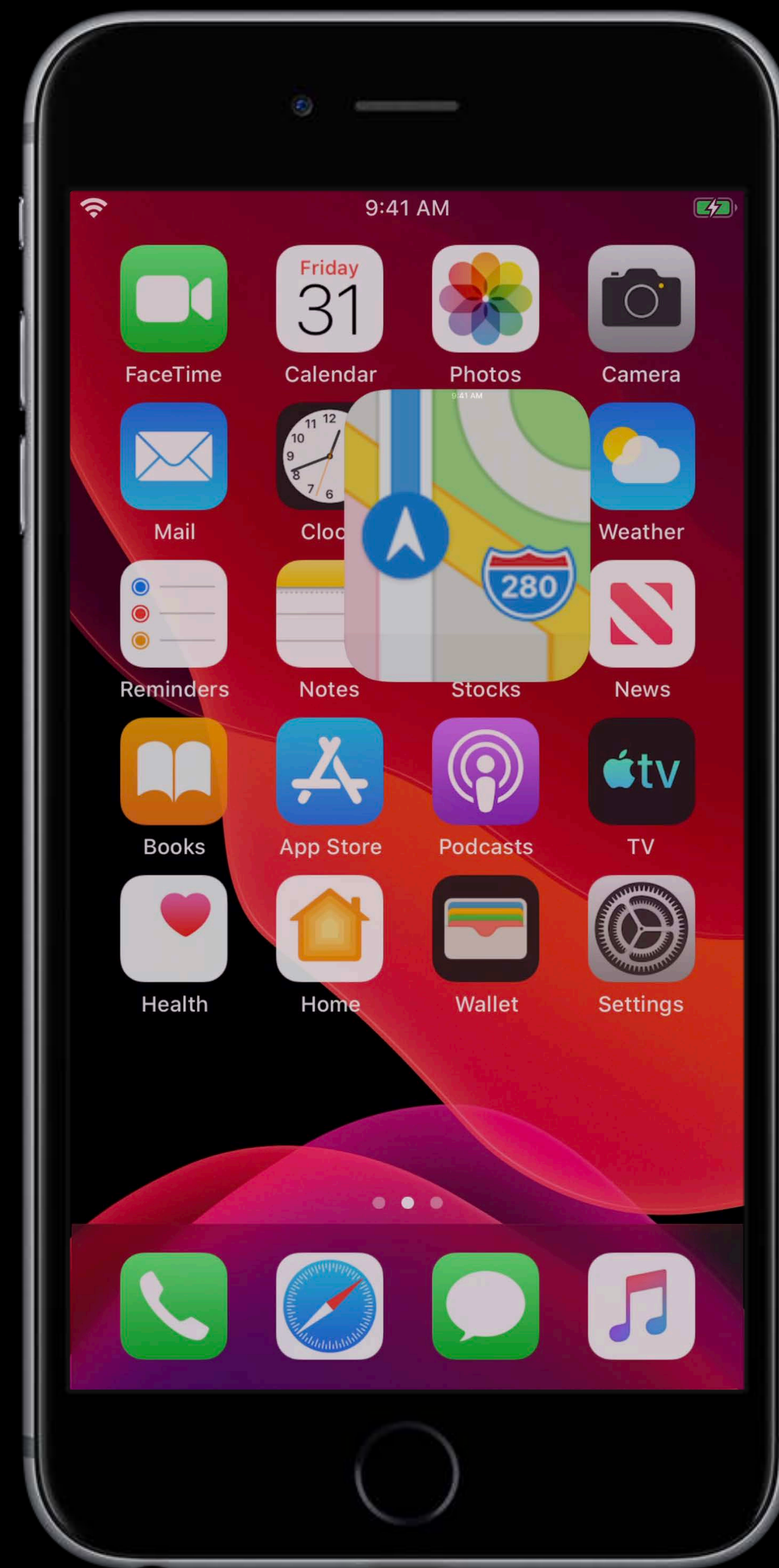


# Phases of App Launch





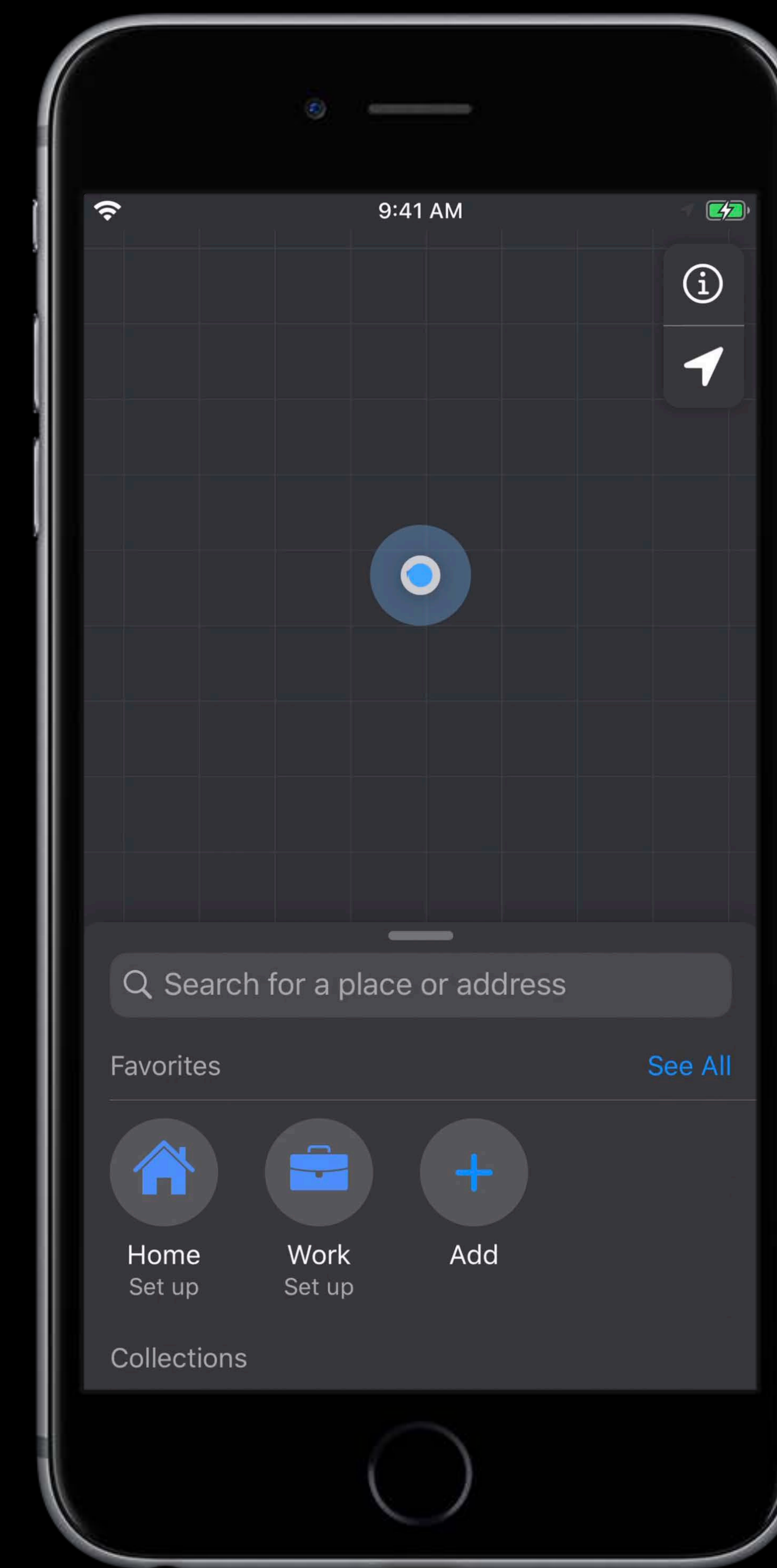
# Phases of App Launch



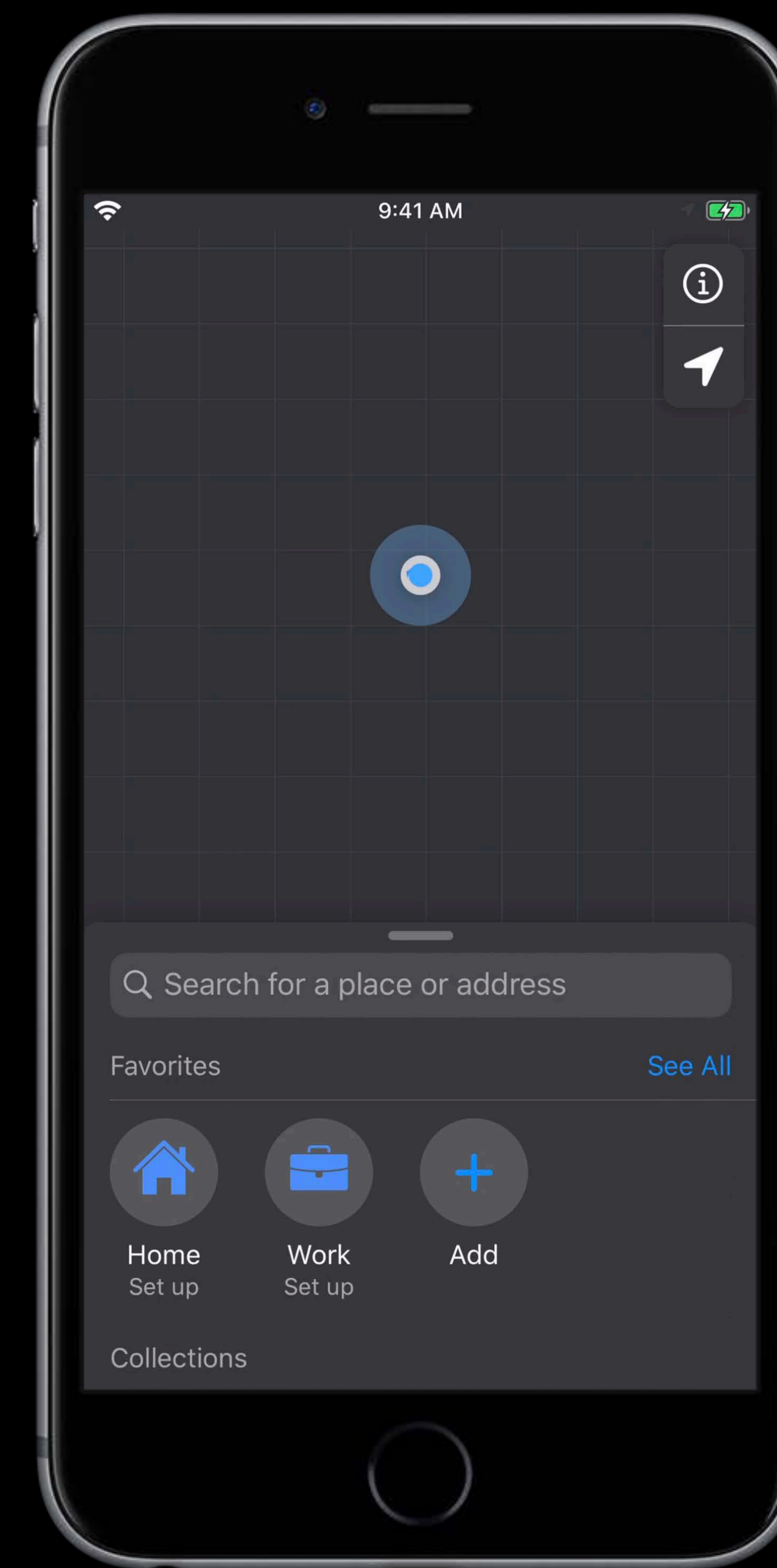
100



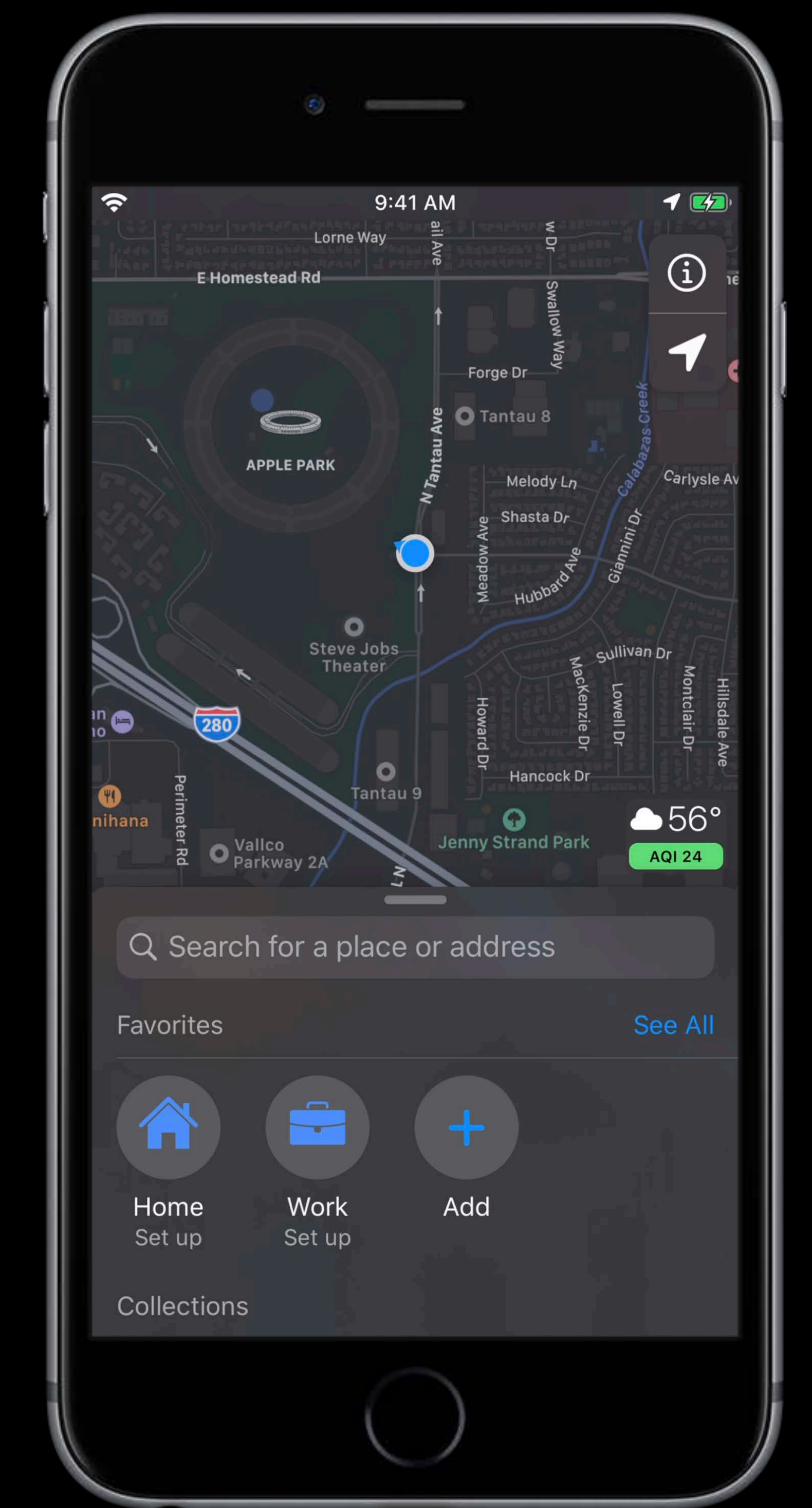
# Phases of App Launch



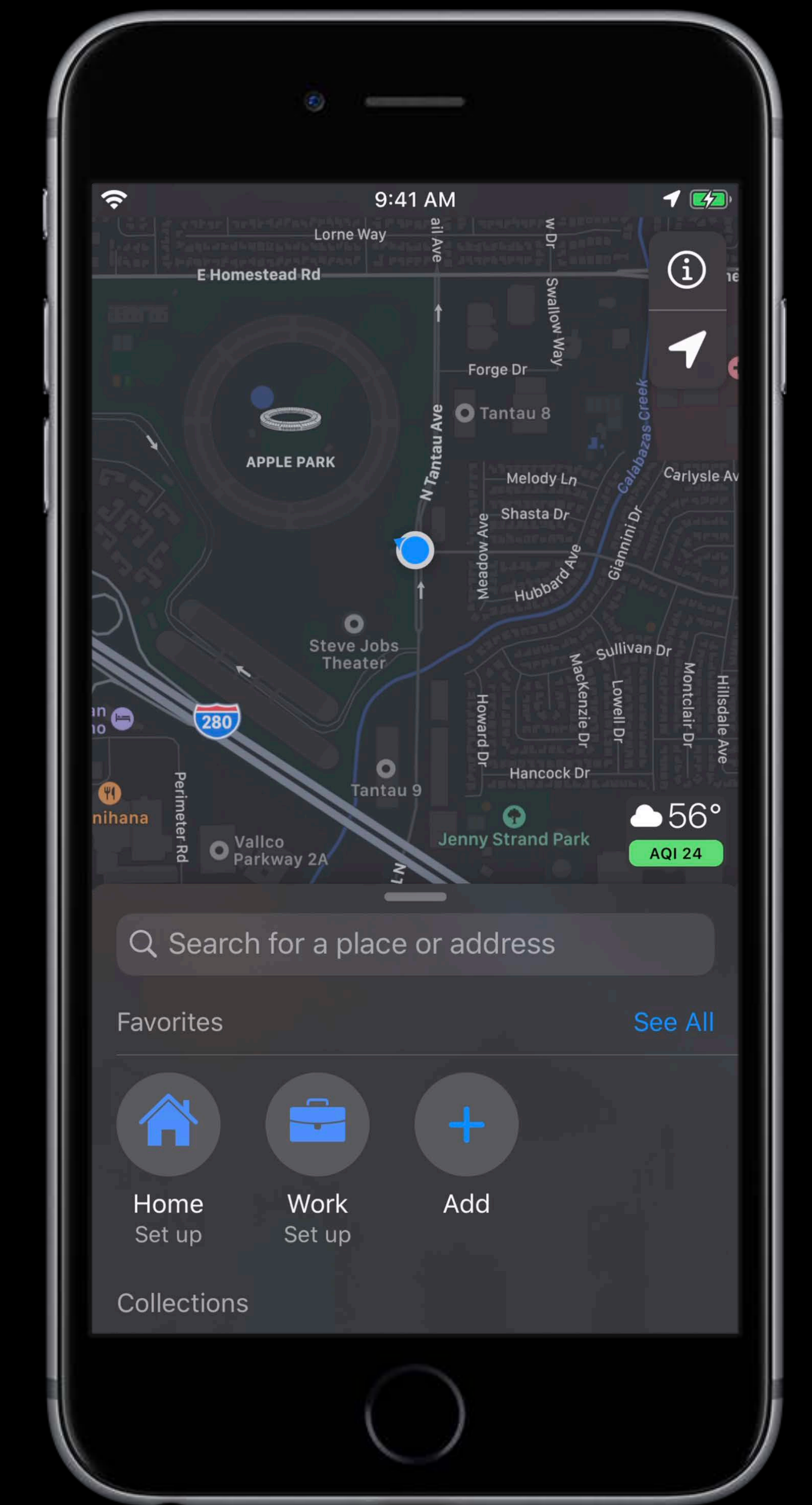
# Phases of App Launch



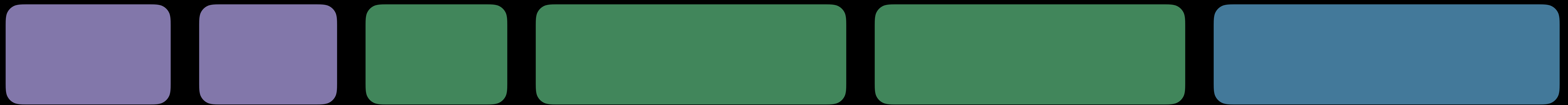
# Phases of App Launch



# Phases of App Launch



# Phases of App Launch



# Phases of App Launch



# System Interface

DYLD3

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended



# System Interface

DYLD3

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# System Interface

DYLD3

Dynamic Linker loads shared libraries and frameworks

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# System Interface

DYLD3

NEW

Dynamic Linker loads shared libraries and frameworks

Introduces caching of runtime dependencies to improve warm launch

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App Startup Time: Past, Present, and Future

WWDC 2017

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System  
Interface

Runtime  
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# System Interface

DYLD3

NEW

System  
Interface

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Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# System Interface

DYLD3

NEW

- ✓ Avoid linking unused frameworks

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

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Extended

# System Interface

DYLD3

NEW

- ✓ Avoid linking unused frameworks
- ✓ Avoid dynamic library loading during launch

System  
Interface

Runtime  
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Application Init

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Extended

# System Interface

DYLD3

NEW

- ✓ Avoid linking unused frameworks
- ✓ Avoid dynamic library loading during launch
- ✓ Hard link all your dependencies

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# System Interface

libSystem Init

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended



# System Interface

libSystem Init

Initializes the interfaces with low level system components

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# System Interface

libSystem Init

Initializes the interfaces with low level system components

System side work with a fixed cost

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Static Runtime Initialization

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Static Runtime Initialization

Initializes the language runtime

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Static Runtime Initialization

Initializes the language runtime

Invokes all class static load methods

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Static Runtime Initialization

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Static Runtime Initialization

- ✓ Expose dedicated initialization API in frameworks

System  
Interface

Runtime  
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UIKit Init

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Extended

# Static Runtime Initialization

- ✓ Expose dedicated initialization API in frameworks
- ✓ Reduce impact to launch by avoiding `+[Class load]`

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended



# Static Runtime Initialization

- ✓ Expose dedicated initialization API in frameworks
- ✓ Reduce impact to launch by avoiding `+[Class load]`
- ✓ Use `+[Class initialize]` to lazily conduct static initialization

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# UIKit Initialization

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# UIKit Initialization

Instantiates the `UIApplication` and `UIApplicationDelegate`

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# UIKit Initialization

Instantiates the `UIApplication` and `UIApplicationDelegate`

Begins event processing and integration with the system

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# UIKit Initialization

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# UIKit Initialization

- ✓ Minimize work in `UIApplication` subclass

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# UIKit Initialization

- ✓ Minimize work in `UIApplication` subclass
- ✓ Minimize work in `UIApplicationDelegate` initialization

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Application Initialization

## Lifecycle Callbacks

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended



# Application Initialization

## Lifecycle Callbacks

Invokes UIApplicationDelegate app lifecycle callbacks

```
application:willFinishLaunchingWithOptions:  
application:didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:
```

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Application Initialization

## Lifecycle Callbacks

Invokes UIApplicationDelegate app lifecycle callbacks

```
application:willFinishLaunchingWithOptions:  
application:didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:
```

Invokes UIApplicationDelegate UI  
lifecycle callbacks

```
applicationDidBecomeActive:
```

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

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# Application Initialization

## Lifecycle Callbacks

Invokes UIApplicationDelegate app lifecycle callbacks

```
application:willFinishLaunchingWithOptions:  
application:didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:
```

Invokes UIApplicationDelegate UI  
lifecycle callbacks

```
applicationDidBecomeActive:
```

System  
Interface

Runtime  
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# Application Initialization

## Lifecycle Callbacks

NEW

Invokes UIApplicationDelegate app lifecycle callbacks

```
application:willFinishLaunchingWithOptions:  
application:didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:
```

Invokes UIApplicationDelegate UI lifecycle callbacks

```
applicationDidBecomeActive:
```

Invokes UISceneDelegate UI lifecycle callbacks for each scene

```
scene:willConnectToSession:options:  
sceneWillEnterForeground:  
sceneDidBecomeActive:
```

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

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Extended

# Application Initialization

## Lifecycle Callbacks

NEW

Invokes UIApplicationDelegate app lifecycle callbacks

```
application:willFinishLaunchingWithOptions:  
application:didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:
```

Invokes UIApplicationDelegate UI lifecycle callbacks

```
applicationDidBecomeActive:
```

Invokes UISceneDelegate UI lifecycle callbacks for each scene

```
scene:willConnectToSession:options:  
sceneWillEnterForeground:  
sceneDidBecomeActive:
```

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Application Initialization

## Lifecycle Callbacks

NEW

```
application:willFinishLaunchingWithOptions:  
application:didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:
```

```
applicationDidBecomeActive:
```

```
scene:willConnectToSession:options:  
sceneWillEnterForeground:  
sceneDidBecomeActive:
```

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Application Initialization

## Lifecycle Callbacks

NEW

- ✓ Defer unrelated work

```
application:willFinishLaunchingWithOptions:  
application:didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:
```

```
applicationDidBecomeActive:
```

```
scene:willConnectToSession:options:  
sceneWillEnterForeground:  
sceneDidBecomeActive:
```

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Application Initialization

## Lifecycle Callbacks

NEW

- ✓ Defer unrelated work
- ✓ Share resources between scenes

```
application:willFinishLaunchingWithOptions:  
application:didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:
```

```
applicationDidBecomeActive:
```

```
scene:willConnectToSession:options:  
sceneWillEnterForeground:  
sceneDidBecomeActive:
```

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

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Extended



# Application Initialization

## Lifecycle Callbacks

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Multitasking and the Application Lifecycle

WWDC 2019

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Getting the Most out of Multitasking

WWDC 2019

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System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# First Frame Render

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# First Frame Render

Creates, performs layout for, and draws views

```
loadView  
viewDidLoad  
layoutSubviews
```

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# First Frame Render

Creates, performs layout for, and draws views

Commits and renders first frame

```
loadView  
viewDidLoad  
layoutSubviews
```

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# First Frame Render

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# First Frame Render

- ✓ Flatten view hierarchies and lazily load views

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# First Frame Render

- ✓ Flatten view hierarchies and lazily load views
- ✓ Optimize auto layout usage

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High Performance Auto Layout

WWDC 2018

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System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Extended

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended



# Extended

App-specific period after first frame

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Extended

App-specific period after first frame

Displays asynchronously loaded data

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Extended

App-specific period after first frame

Displays asynchronously loaded data

App should be interactive and responsive

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Extended

System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

UIKit Init

Application Init

Initial Frame Render

Extended

# Extended

- ✓ Leverage `os_signpost` to measure work

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Measuring Performance Using Logging

WWDC 2018

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System  
Interface

Runtime  
Init

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Initial Frame Render

Extended

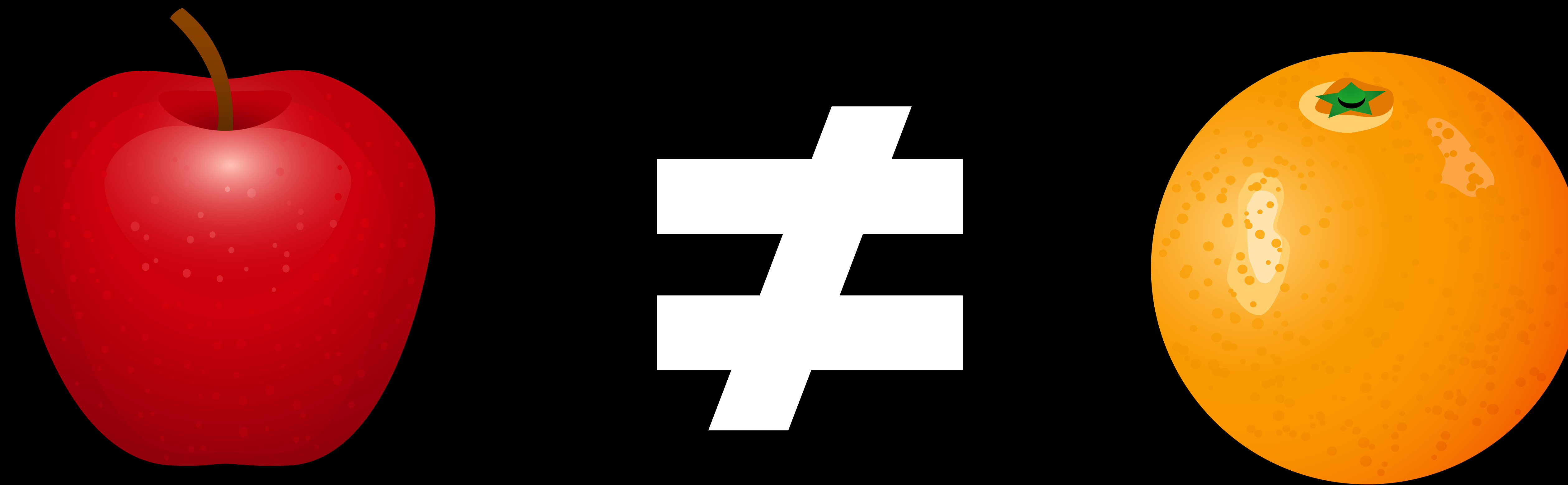
What is launch

How to properly measure your launch

Use Instruments to profile your launch

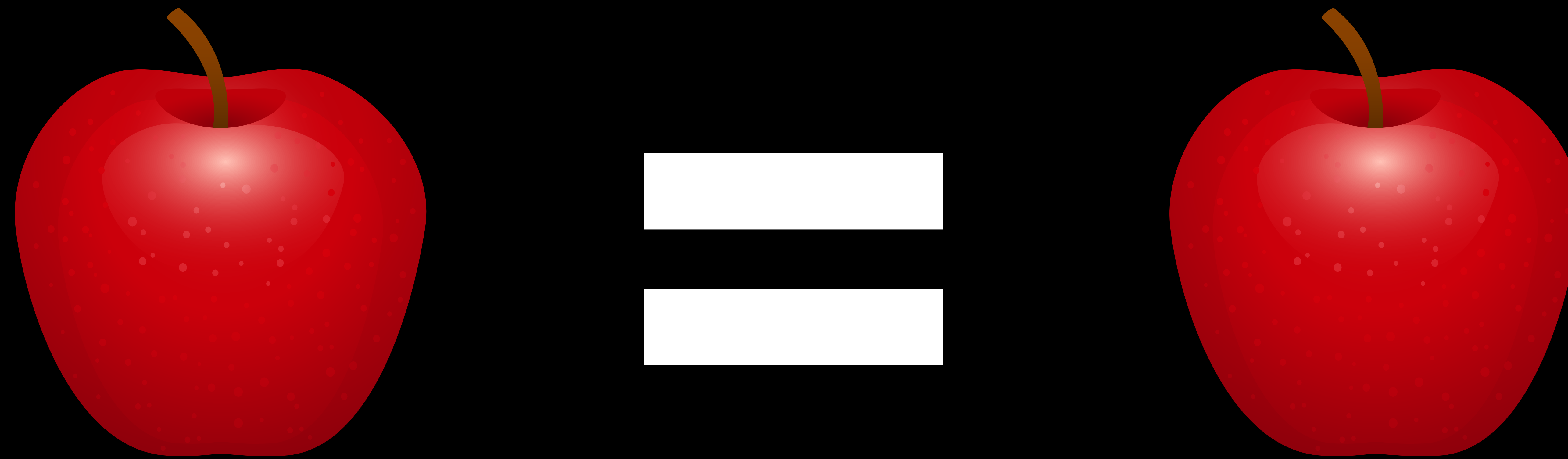
Track your launch over time

# Trading Representativeness for Consistency



Comparison requires controlled variables

# Trading Representativeness for Consistency



Comparison requires controlled variables



# Trading Representativeness for Consistency

# Trading Representativeness for Consistency

Remove sources of variance to produce more consistent results

# Trading Representativeness for Consistency

Remove sources of variance to produce more consistent results

May result in launch times that are not representative

# Trading Representativeness for Consistency

Remove sources of variance to produce more consistent results

May result in launch times that are not representative

Use consistent results to evaluate progress

**Test in a Clean and Consistent Environment**

# Test in a Clean and Consistent Environment

- ✔ Reboot then let system quiesce for 2–3 minutes

# Test in a Clean and Consistent Environment

- ✓ Reboot then let system quiesce for 2–3 minutes
- ✓ Enable Airplane Mode or mock the network

# Test in a Clean and Consistent Environment

- ✓ Reboot then let system quiesce for 2–3 minutes
- ✓ Enable Airplane Mode or mock the network
- ✓ Use unchanging or no iCloud Account



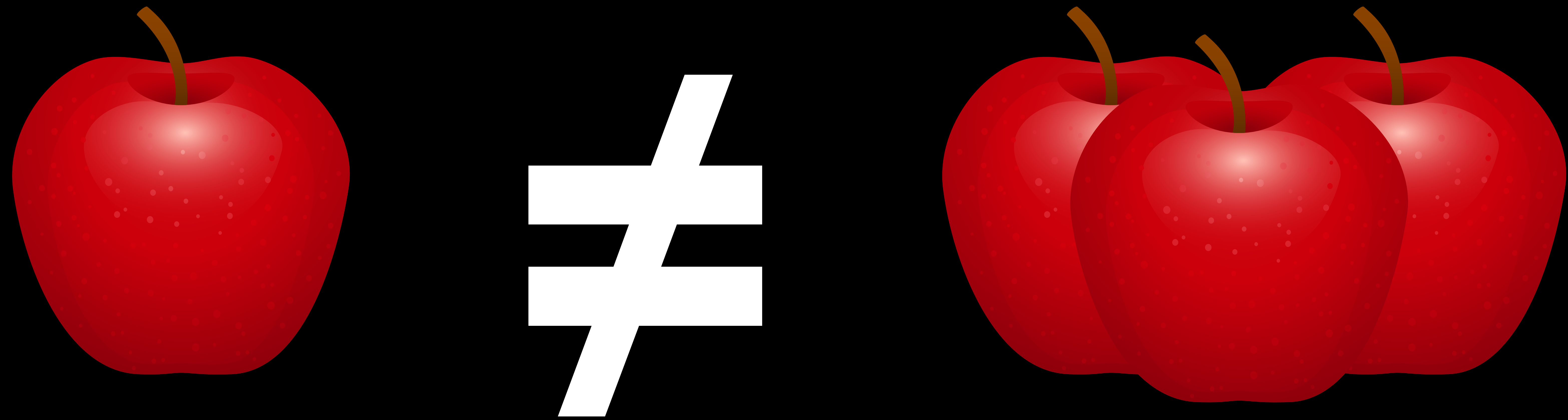
# Test in a Clean and Consistent Environment

- ✓ Reboot then let system quiesce for 2–3 minutes
- ✓ Enable Airplane Mode or mock the network
- ✓ Use unchanging or no iCloud Account
- ✓ Use release build of your app

# Test in a Clean and Consistent Environment

- ✓ Reboot then let system quiesce for 2–3 minutes
- ✓ Enable Airplane Mode or mock the network
- ✓ Use unchanging or no iCloud Account
- ✓ Use release build of your app
- ✓ Measure warm launches

# Test with Representative Data



Small versus Large Datasets

# Target Older **and** Newer Devices



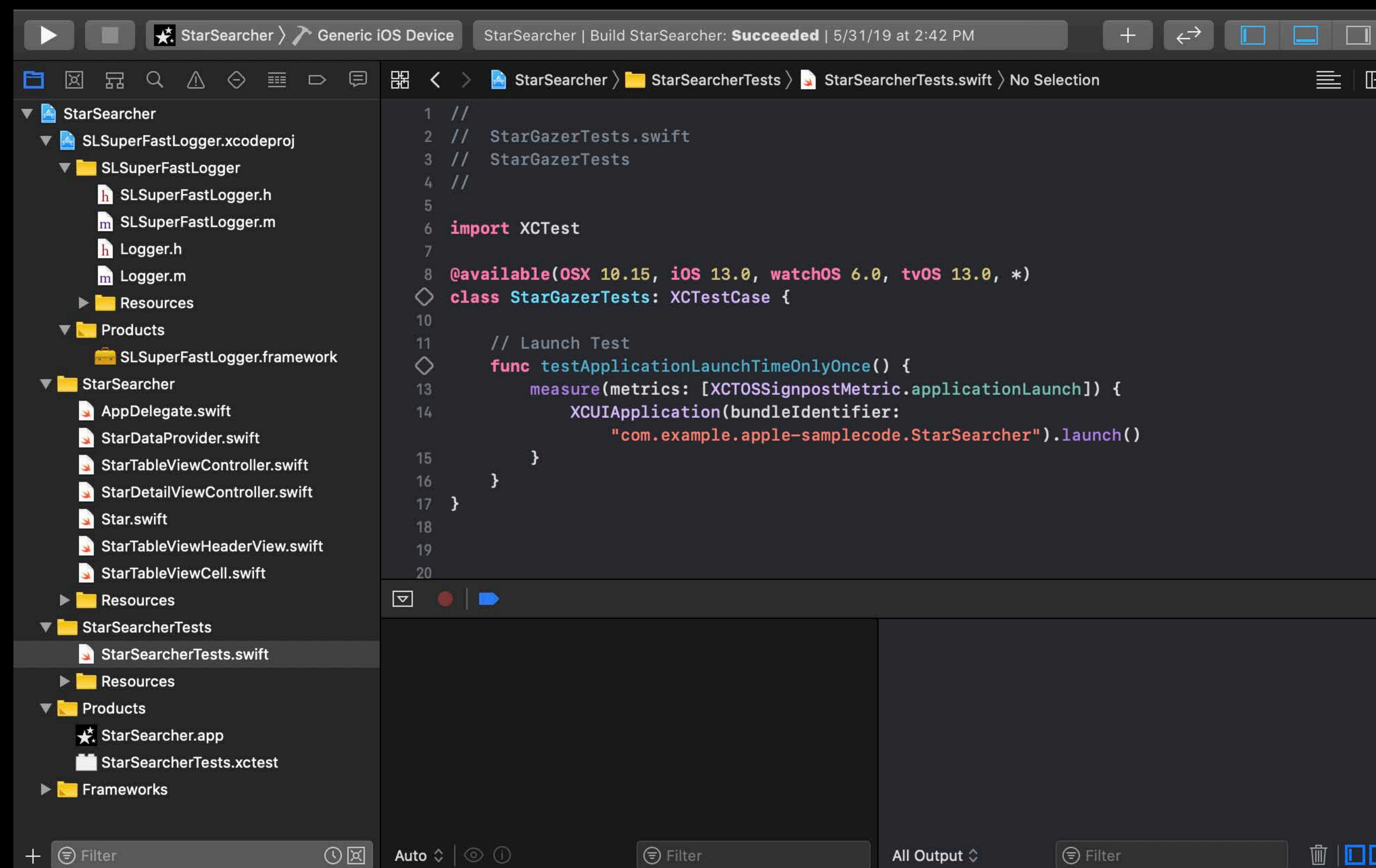
Older devices



Newer devices

# Measuring Launch with XCTest

NEW



The screenshot shows the Xcode IDE with a Swift test file named `StarSearcherTests.swift` open. The file contains the following code:

```
1 //
2 // StarGazerTests.swift
3 // StarGazerTests
4 //
5
6 import XCTest
7
8 @available(OSX 10.15, iOS 13.0, watchOS 6.0, tvOS 13.0, *)
9 class StarGazerTests: XCTestCase {
10
11     // Launch Test
12     func testApplicationLaunchTimeOnlyOnce() {
13         measure(metrics: [XCTOSSignpostMetric.applicationLaunch]) {
14             XCUIApplication(bundleIdentifier:
15                 "com.example.apple-samplecode.StarSearcher").launch()
16         }
17     }
18 }
19
20
```

What is launch

How to properly measure your launch

**Use Instruments to profile your launch**

Track your launch over time

# Tips and Tricks

①

Minimize

②

Prioritize

③

Optimize

# 1. Minimize Work



# 1. Minimize Work

- ✓ Defer work unrelated to first frame

# 1. Minimize Work

- ✓ Defer work unrelated to first frame
- ✓ Move blocking work off main thread

# 1. Minimize Work

- ✓ Defer work unrelated to first frame
- ✓ Move blocking work off main thread
- ✓ Reduce memory usage

## 2. Prioritize Work

## 2. Prioritize Work

- ✔ Identify the right QoS for your task

## 2. Prioritize Work

- ✓ Identify the right QoS for your task
- ✓ Utilize scheduler optimizations for app launch

## 2. Prioritize Work

- ✓ Identify the right QoS for your task
- ✓ Utilize scheduler optimizations for app launch
- ✓ Preserve the priority with the right primitives

# 3. Optimize Work



# 3. Optimize Work

- ✔ Simplify or limit existing work

# 3. Optimize Work

- ✓ Simplify or limit existing work
- ✓ Optimize algorithms and data structures

# 3. Optimize Work

- ✓ Simplify or limit existing work
- ✓ Optimize algorithms and data structures
- ✓ Cache resources and computations

***Demo***

Using the App Launch Template

Dan Sawada, Performance Engineer



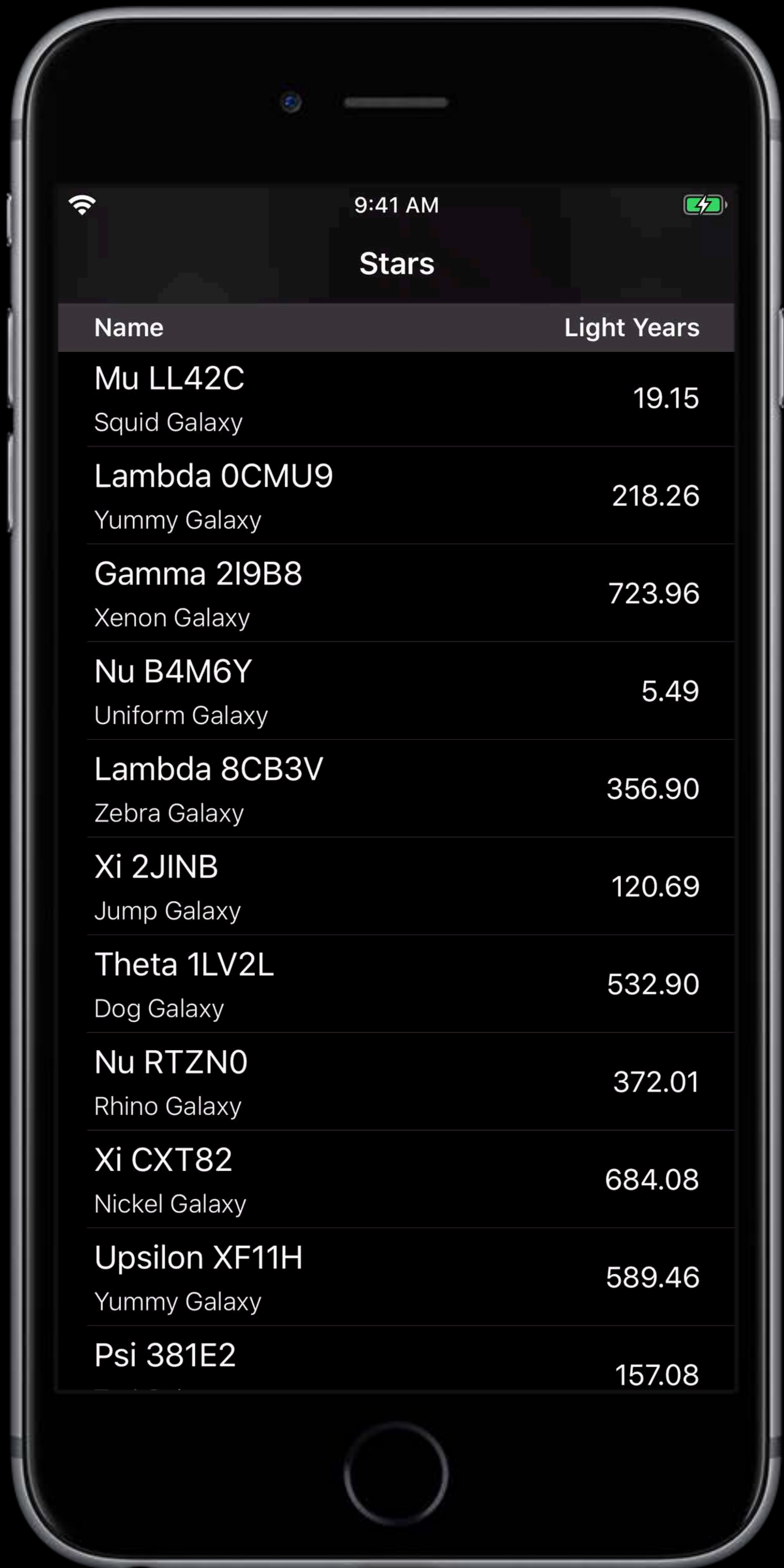
## Stars

Name	Light Years
<b>Theta HXHG8</b> Squid Galaxy	731.21
<b>Mu HOS4P</b> Rhino Galaxy	285.53
<b>Zeta QESH8</b> Happy Galaxy	188.62
<b>Tau Q85IC</b> Nickel Galaxy	821.52
<b>Psi G2E1P</b> King Galaxy	251.39
<b>Tau SJ9RZ</b> Yummy Galaxy	284.66
<b>Gamma V08E4</b> Zebra Galaxy	625.31
<b>Beta M998V</b> Rhino Galaxy	110.63
<b>Theta B15R2</b> Love Galaxy	326.23
<b>Chi 9HSV4</b>	385.22



## Stars

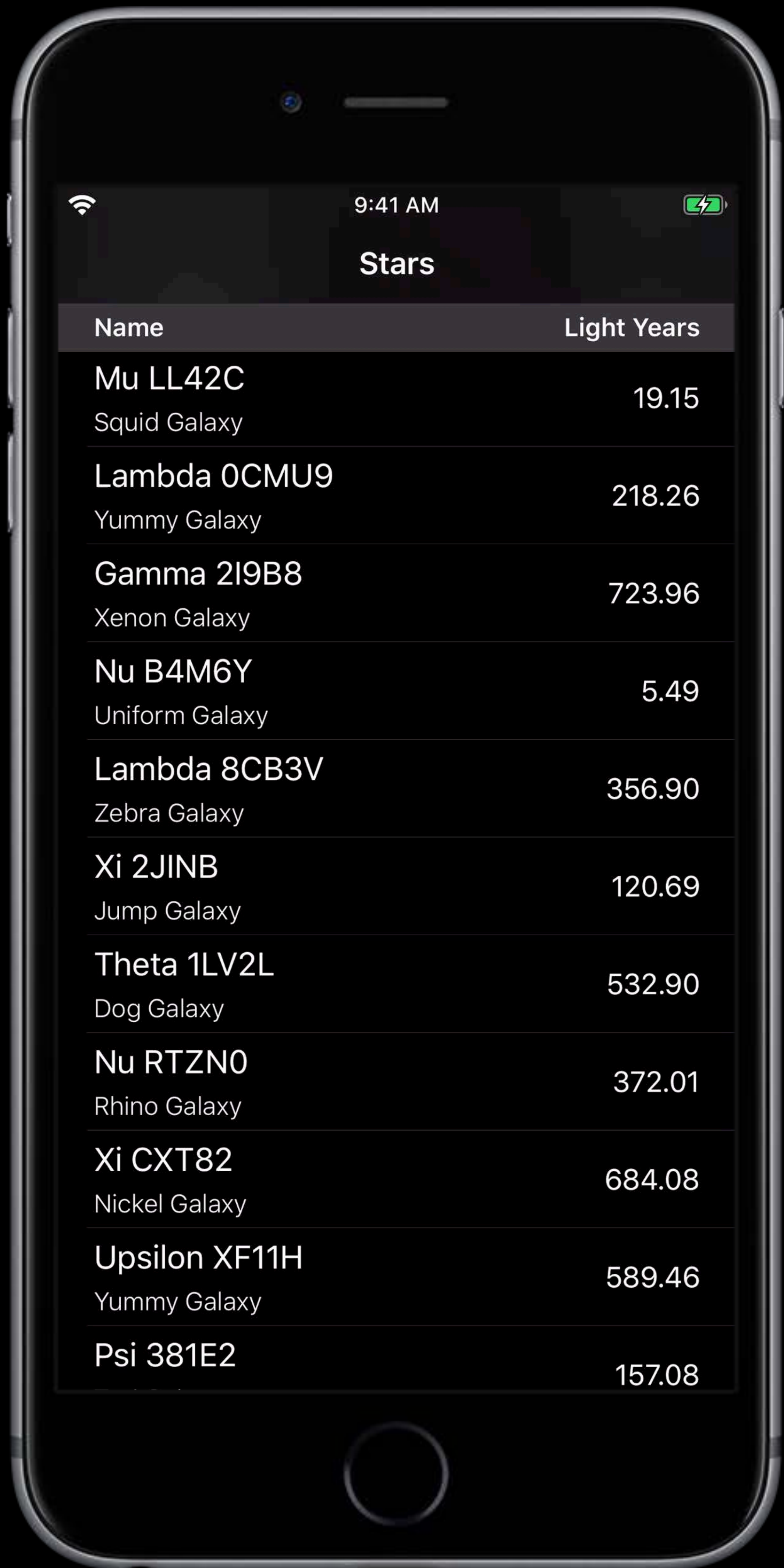
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<b>Beta M998V</b> Rhino Galaxy	110.63
<b>Theta B15R2</b> Love Galaxy	326.23
<b>Chi 9HSV4</b>	385.22



9:41 AM

### Stars

Name	Light Years
<b>Mu LL42C</b> Squid Galaxy	19.15
<b>Lambda 0CMU9</b> Yummy Galaxy	218.26
<b>Gamma 2I9B8</b> Xenon Galaxy	723.96
<b>Nu B4M6Y</b> Uniform Galaxy	5.49
<b>Lambda 8CB3V</b> Zebra Galaxy	356.90
<b>Xi 2JINB</b> Jump Galaxy	120.69
<b>Theta 1LV2L</b> Dog Galaxy	532.90
<b>Nu RTZNO</b> Rhino Galaxy	372.01
<b>Xi CXT82</b> Nickel Galaxy	684.08
<b>Upsilon XF11H</b> Yummy Galaxy	589.46
<b>Psi 381E2</b>	157.08



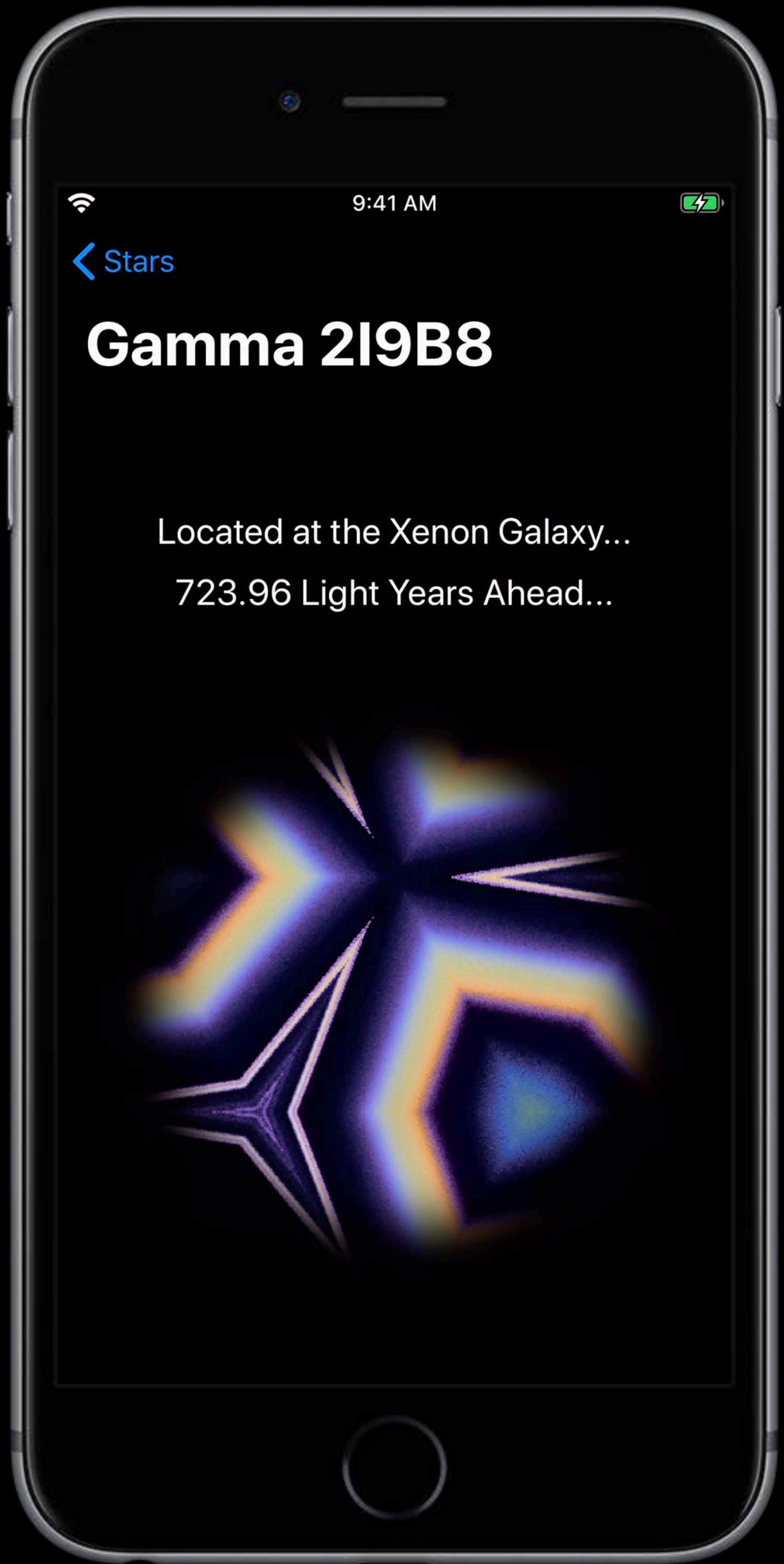
9:41 AM

### Stars

Name	Light Years
<b>Mu LL42C</b> Squid Galaxy	19.15
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<b>Nu B4M6Y</b> Uniform Galaxy	5.49
<b>Lambda 8CB3V</b> Zebra Galaxy	356.90
<b>Xi 2JINB</b> Jump Galaxy	120.69
<b>Theta 1LV2L</b> Dog Galaxy	532.90
<b>Nu RTZNO</b> Rhino Galaxy	372.01
<b>Xi CXT82</b> Nickel Galaxy	684.08
<b>Upsilon XF11H</b> Yummy Galaxy	589.46
<b>Psi 381E2</b>	157.08



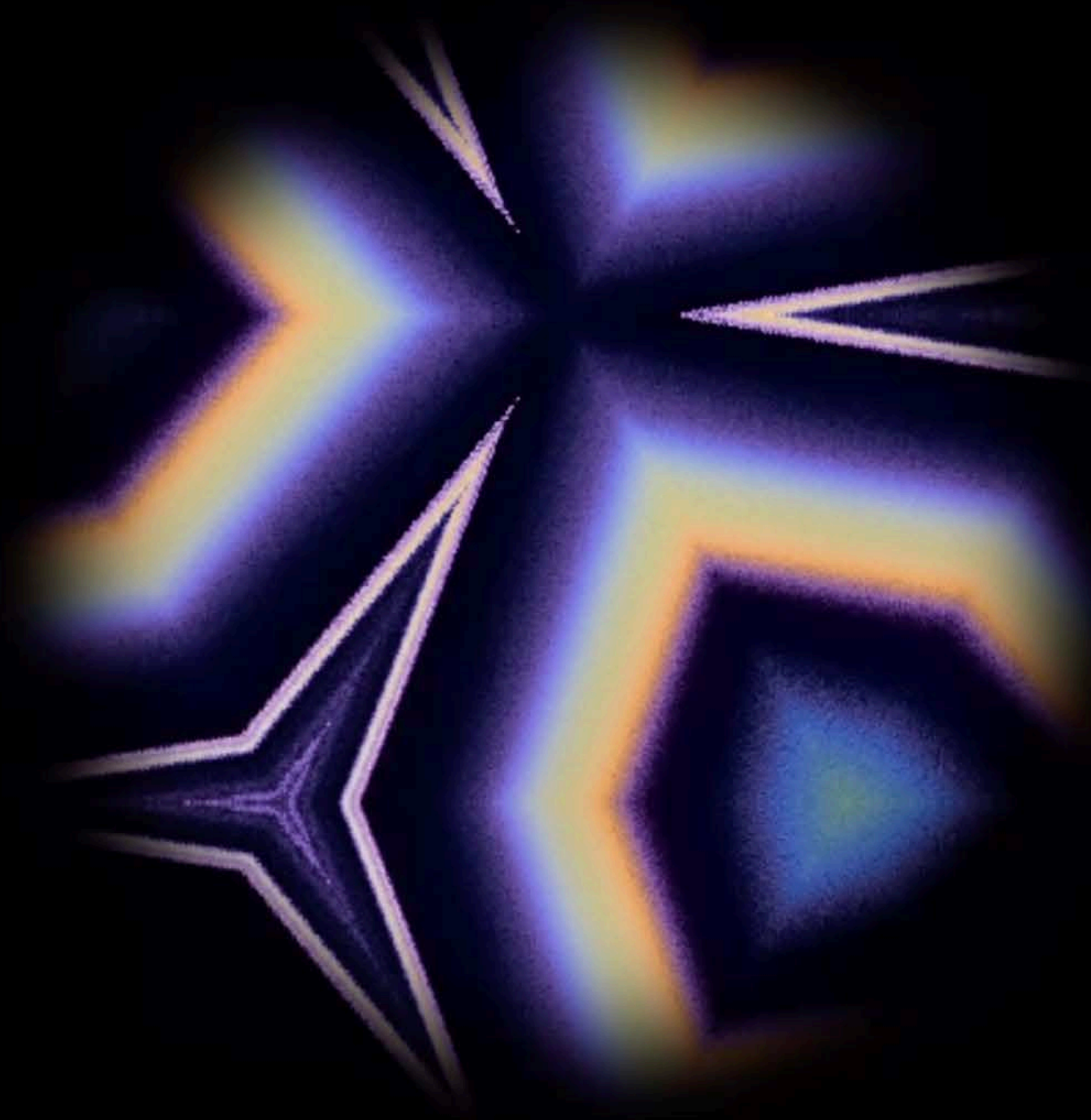




< Stars

# Gamma 219B8

Located at the Xenon Galaxy...  
723.96 Light Years Ahead...





0.000



0.000

***Demo***

# System Improvements

GCD thread policy tunings

Sandbox improvements

Constant classes

Improved scheduler

Reduced ARC overhead

Runtime syscall elimination

Trampoline-less launch

App Packaging

Hot/cold code splitting

Elimination of priority inversions

Cached runtime dependencies

Auto Layout optimizations

kevent improvements

Static initializer reduction

Darwin notification optimizations

Adaptive spinning for contended runtime locks

# System Improvements

GCD thread policy tunings

Sandbox improvements

Constant classes

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How to properly measure your launch

Use Instruments to profile your launch

Track your launch over time



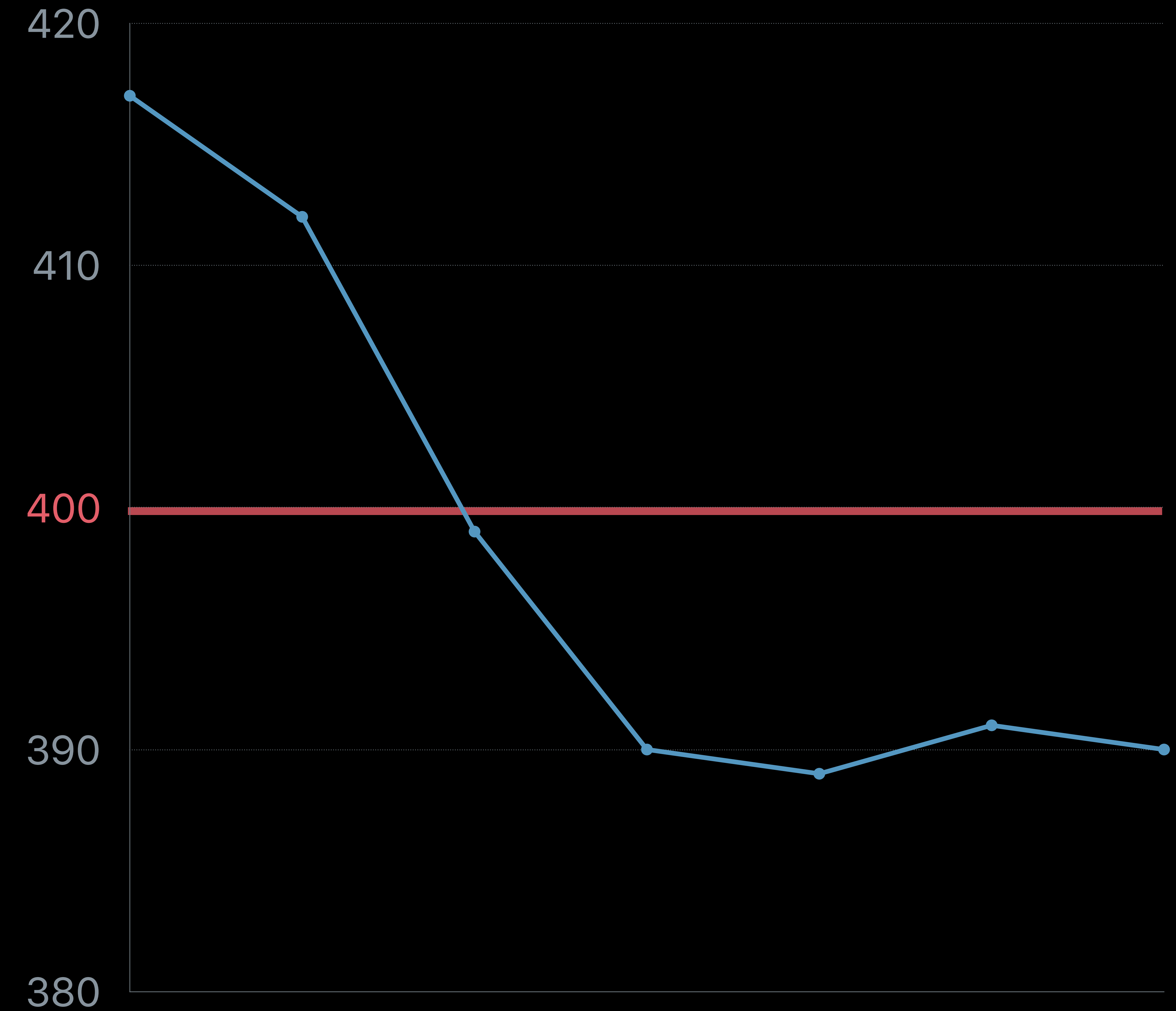
# Track Your Launch Over Time

# Track Your Launch Over Time

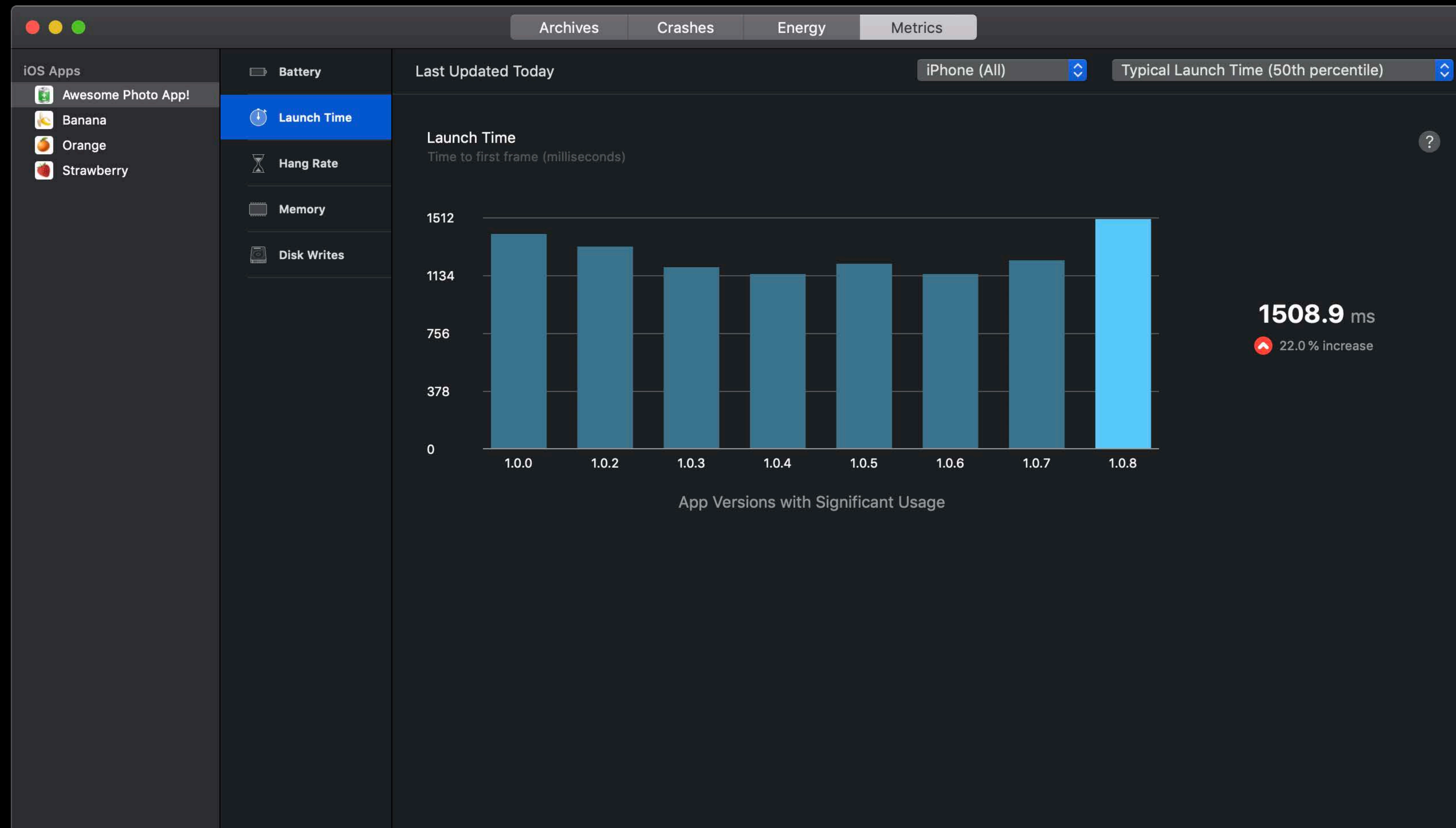
- ✓ Make performance a development-time priority

# Track Your Launch Over Time

- ✓ Make performance a development-time priority
- ✓ Plot it and have a target



# Monitor Customer Launches with Xcode Organizer



# Adopt MetricKit for More Statistics



# Adopt MetricKit for More Statistics

Collect custom power and performance metrics



# Adopt MetricKit for More Statistics

Collect custom power and performance metrics

Aggregated results delivered every 24 hours



# Adopt MetricKit for More Statistics

Collect custom power and performance metrics

Aggregated results delivered every 24 hours





# Summary

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- ✔ Start understanding your launch today

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- ✓ Measure — don't estimate — performance

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- ✓ Start understanding your launch today
- ✓ Measure — don't estimate — performance
- ✓ Track performance in all phases of development

# More Information

[developer.apple.com/wwdc19/423](https://developer.apple.com/wwdc19/423)

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Improving Battery Life and Performance

WWDC 2019

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High Performance Auto Layout

WWDC 2018

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Modernizing Grand Central Dispatch Usage

WWDC 2017

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 WWDC19