System Frameworks #WWDC17

Modernizing GCD Usage How to stay on core

Session 706

Daniel Chimene, Core Darwin Daniel A. Steffen, Core Darwin Pierre Habouzit, Core Darwin









dispatch_async

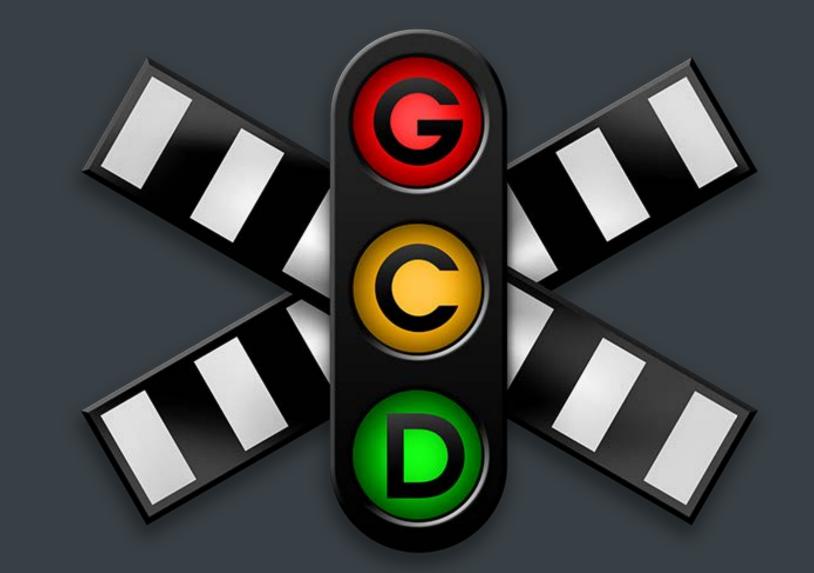
dispatch_queue_create

DispatchQueue.concurrentPerform

dispatch_after

dispatch_sync

dispatch_activate



DispatchQueue.async

DispatchQueue.sync

DispatchSource.activate

dispatch_source_create

DispatchSource.setEventHandler

dispatch_once

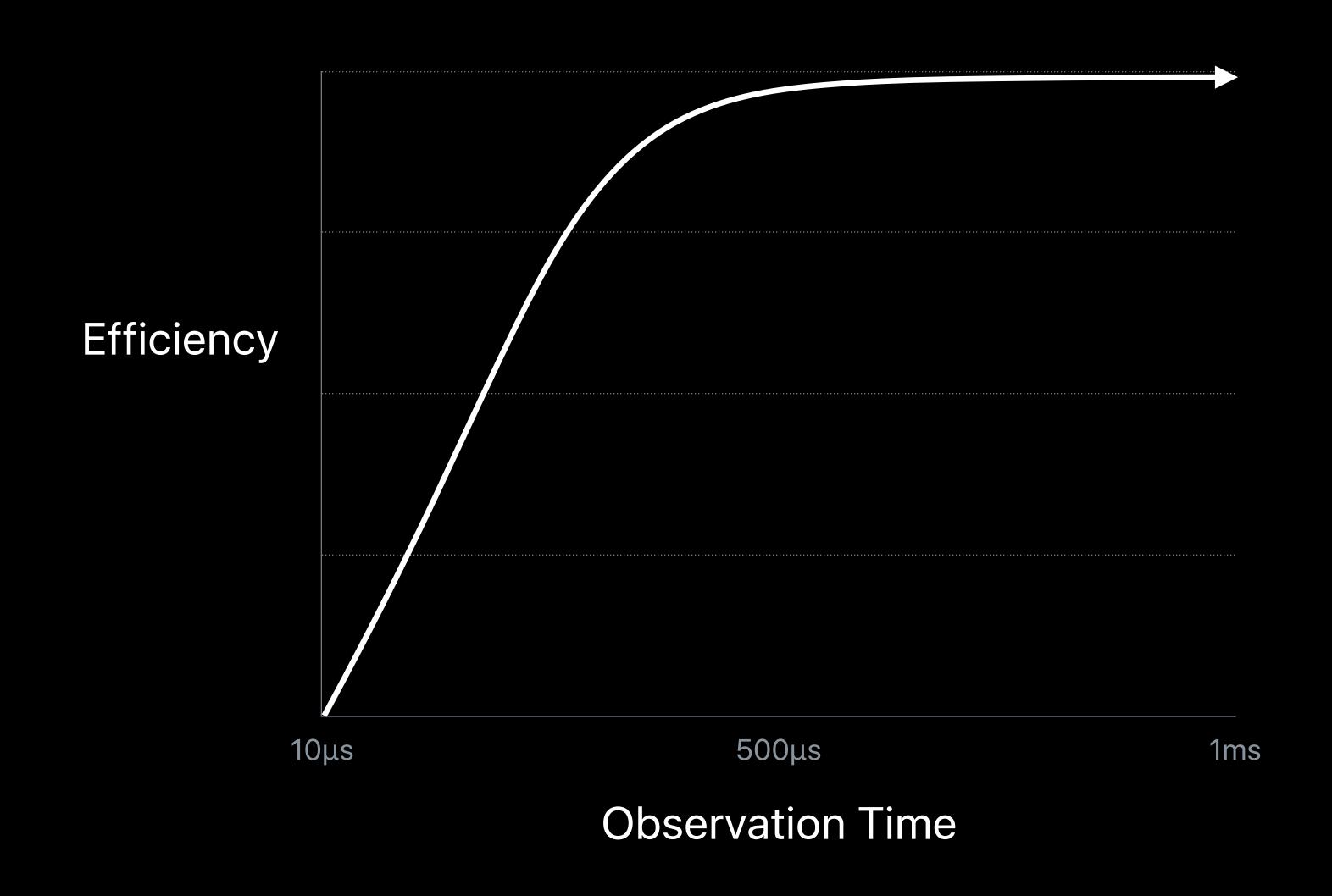
dispatch_apply

DispatchWorkItem.notify



Efficiency Through Observation

Going off core during an operation reduces efficiency



faster after combining queue hierarchies

Parallelism and concurrency

Parallelism and concurrency
Using GCD for concurrency

Parallelism and concurrency

Using GCD for concurrency

Unified Queue Identity

Parallelism and concurrency

Using GCD for concurrency

Unified Queue Identity

Finding problem spots

Simultaneous execution of closely related computations

Concurrency

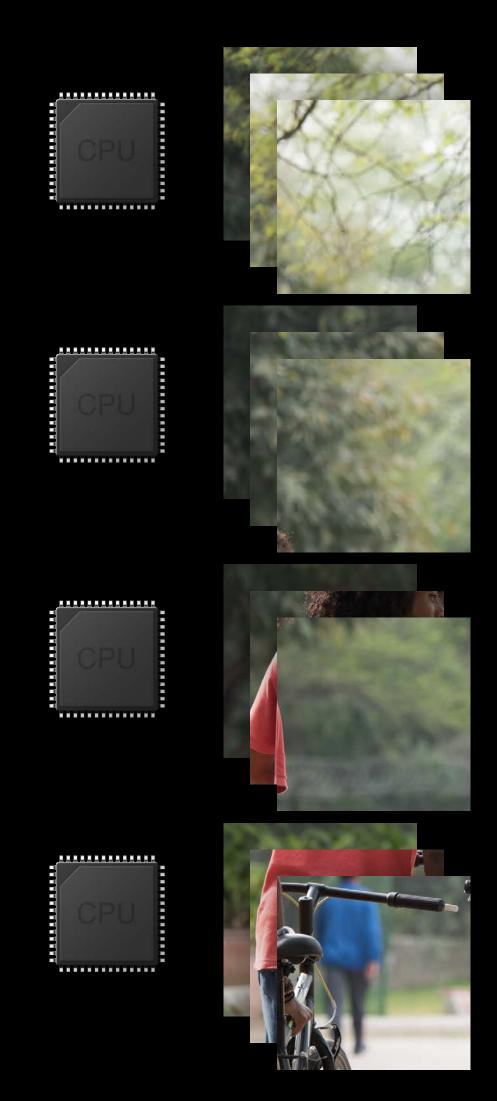
Simultaneous execution of closely related computations



Simultaneous execution of closely related computations

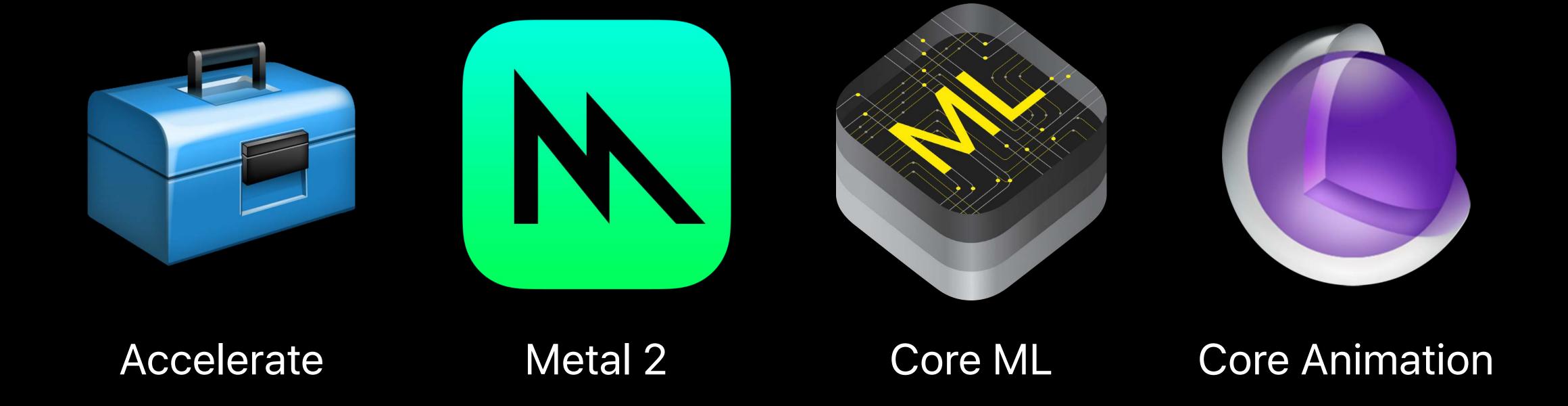


Simultaneous execution of closely related computations





Take Advantage of System Frameworks



Parallelism with GCD

Express explicit parallelism with DispatchQueue.concurrentPerform

Parallel for-loop—calling thread participates in the computation

More efficient than many asyncs to a concurrent queue

```
DispatchQueue.concurrentPerform(1000) { i in /* iteration i */ }
```

Parallelism with GCD

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Parallelism with GCD



Express explicit parallelism with DispatchQueue.concurrentPerform

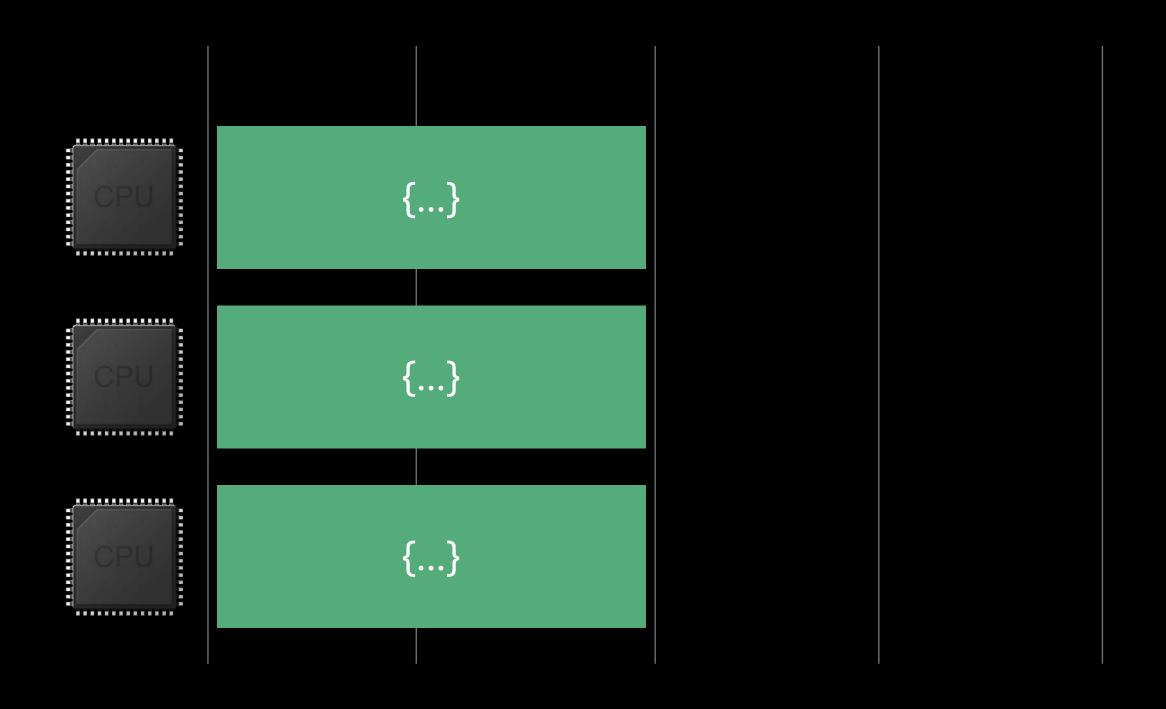
Parallel for-loop—calling thread participates in the computation

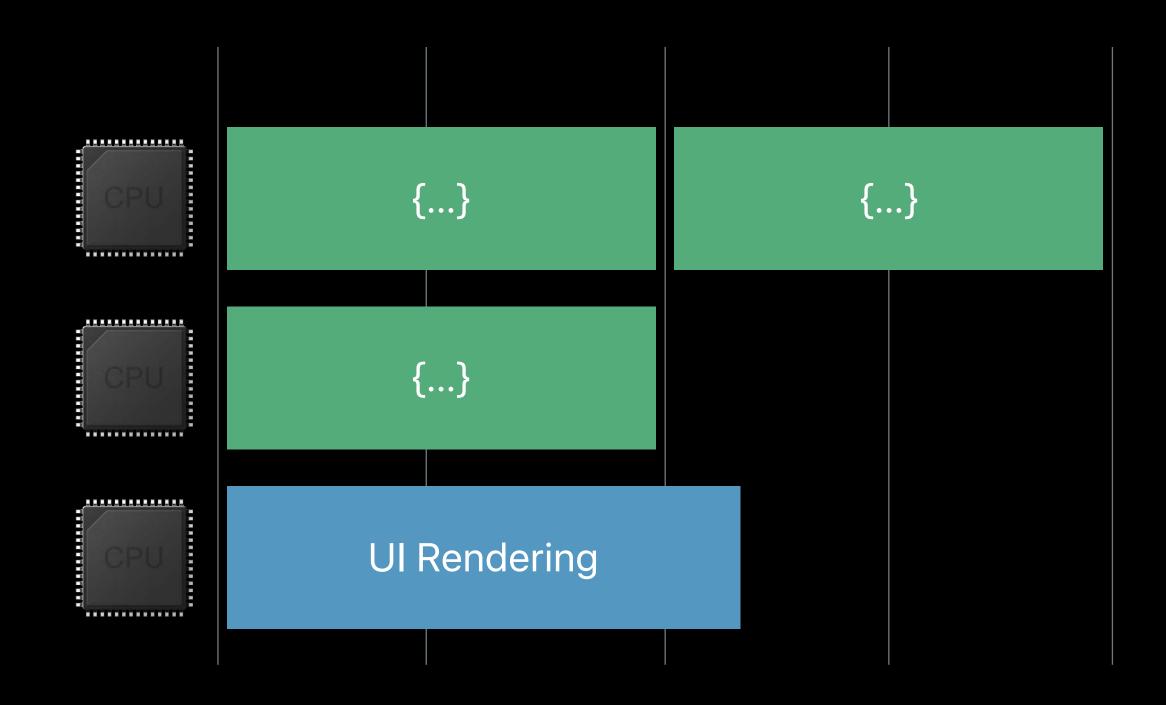
More efficient than many asyncs to a concurrent queue

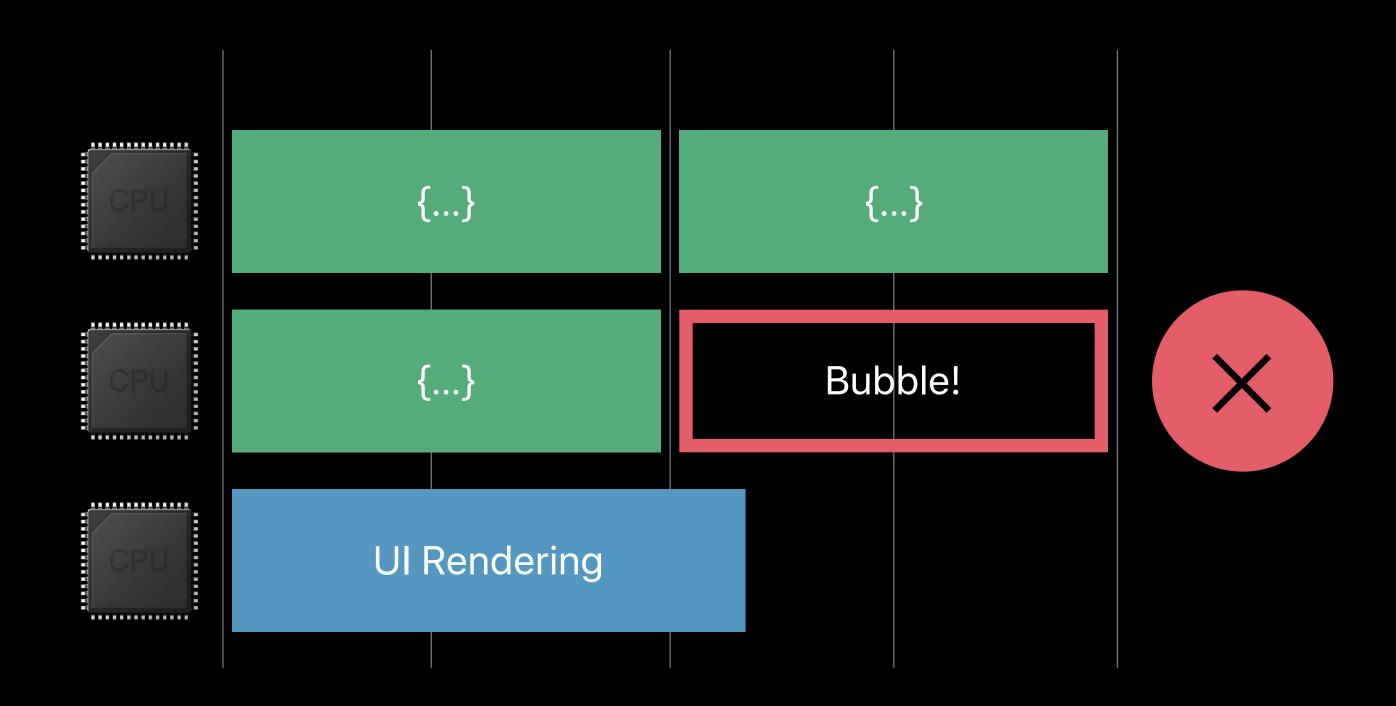
```
DispatchQueue.concurrentPerform(1000) { i in /* iteration i */ }

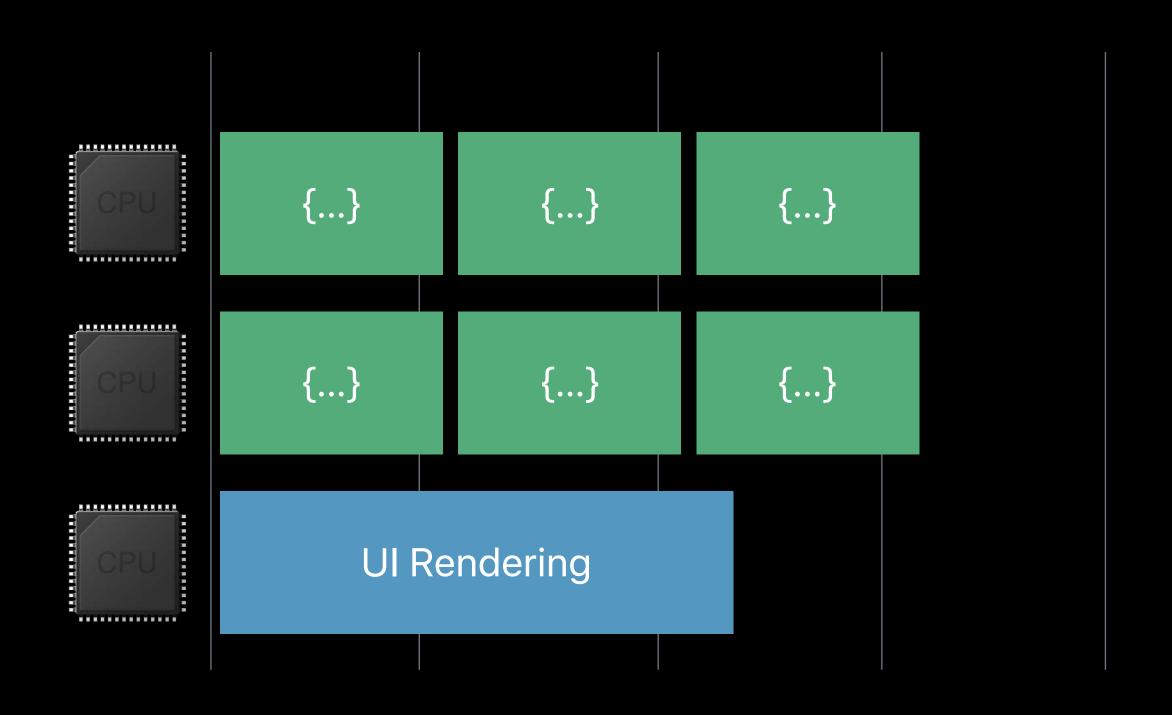
dispatch_apply(DISPATCH_APPLY_AUTO, 1000, ^(size_t i){ /* iteration i */ })
```

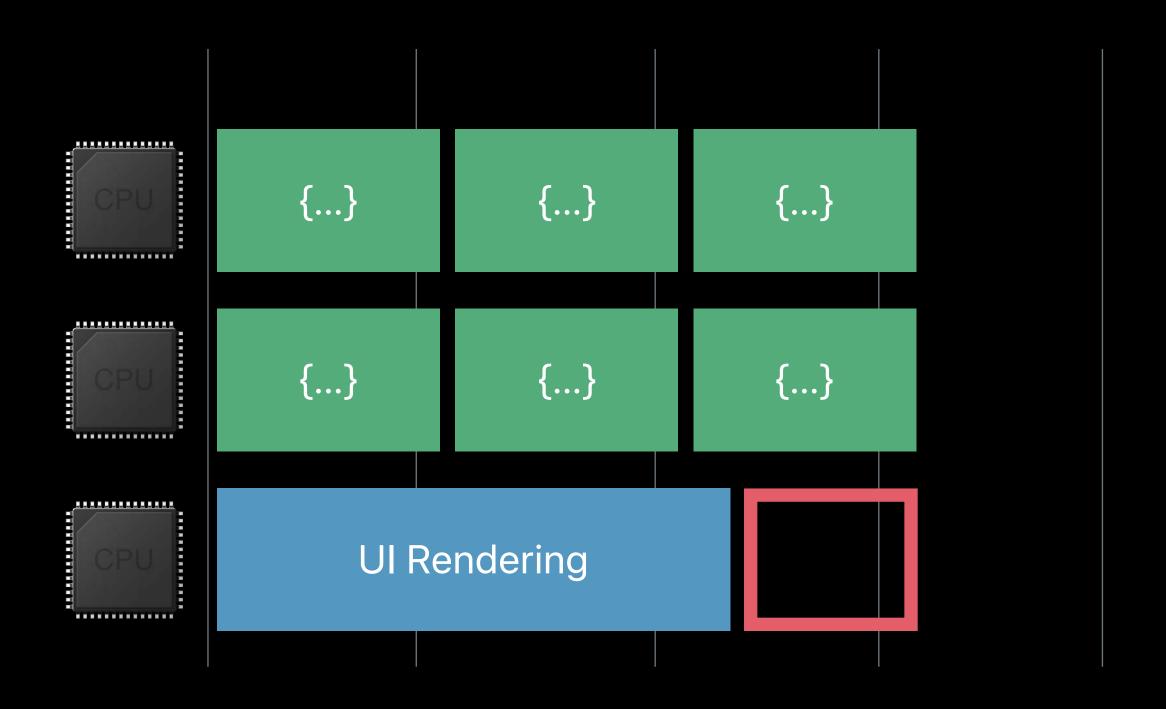
DISPATCH_APPLY_AUTO deploys back to macOS 10.9, iOS 7.0

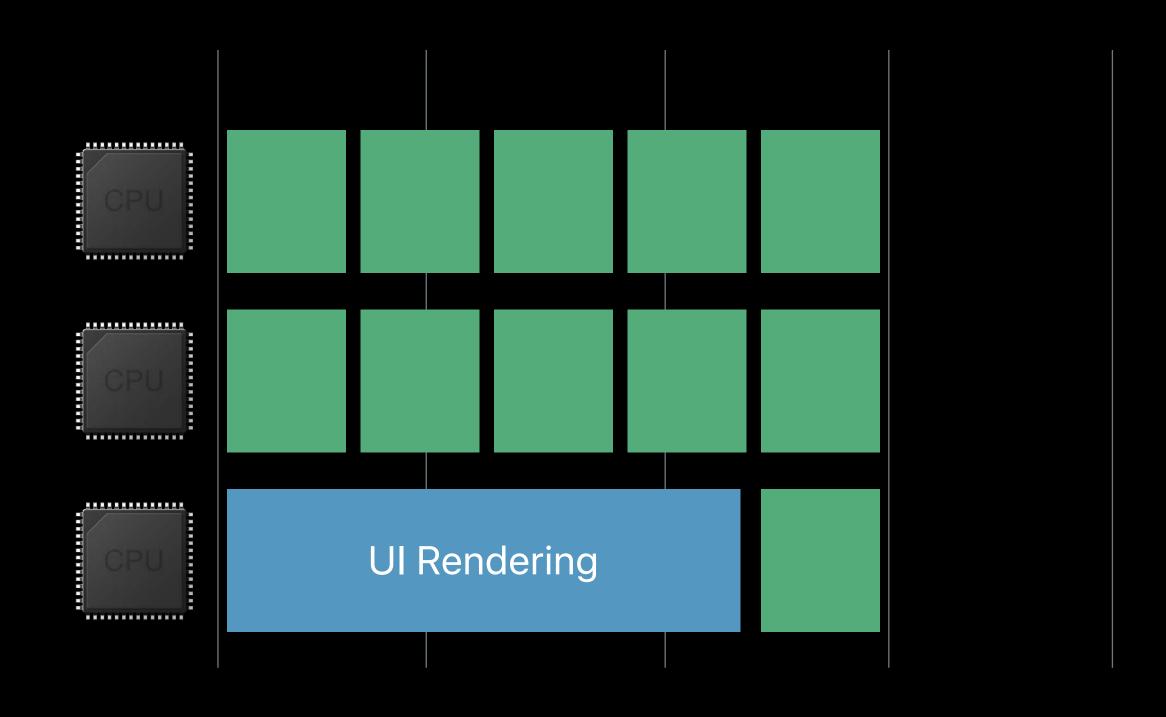


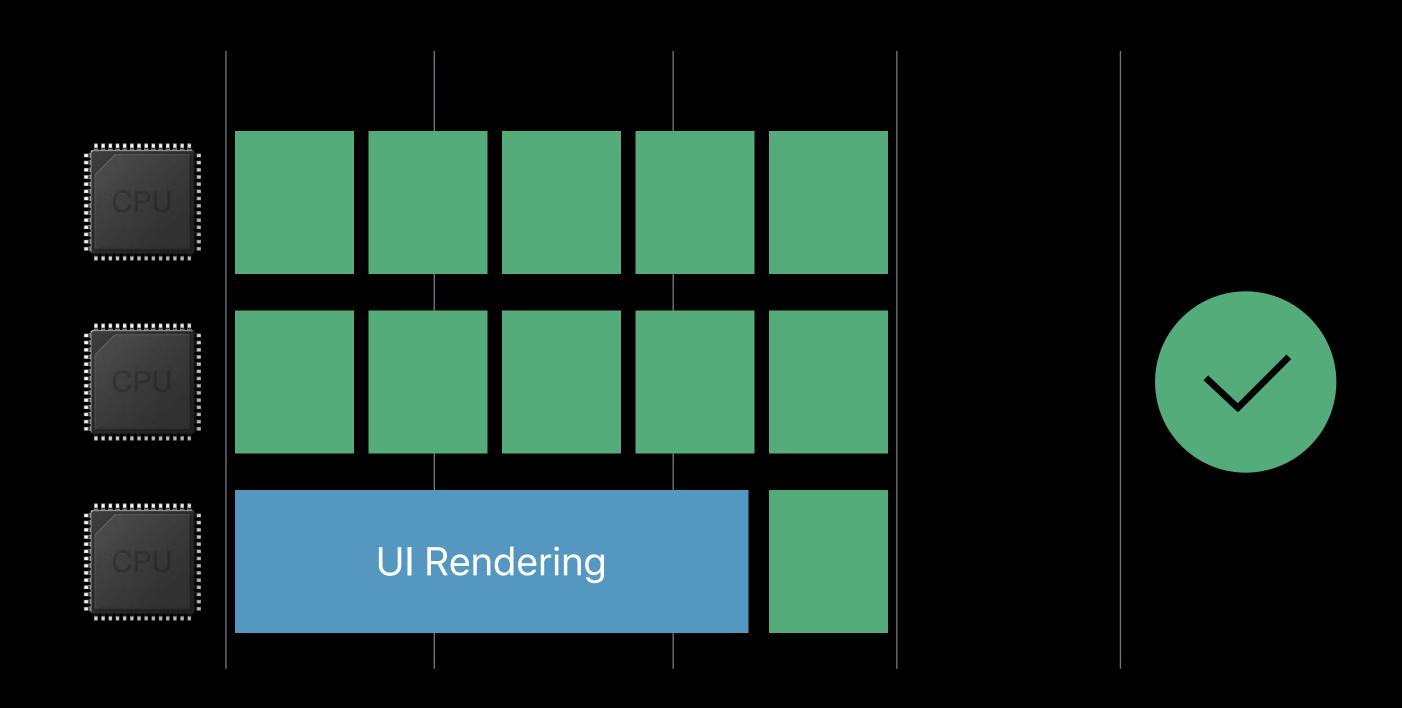


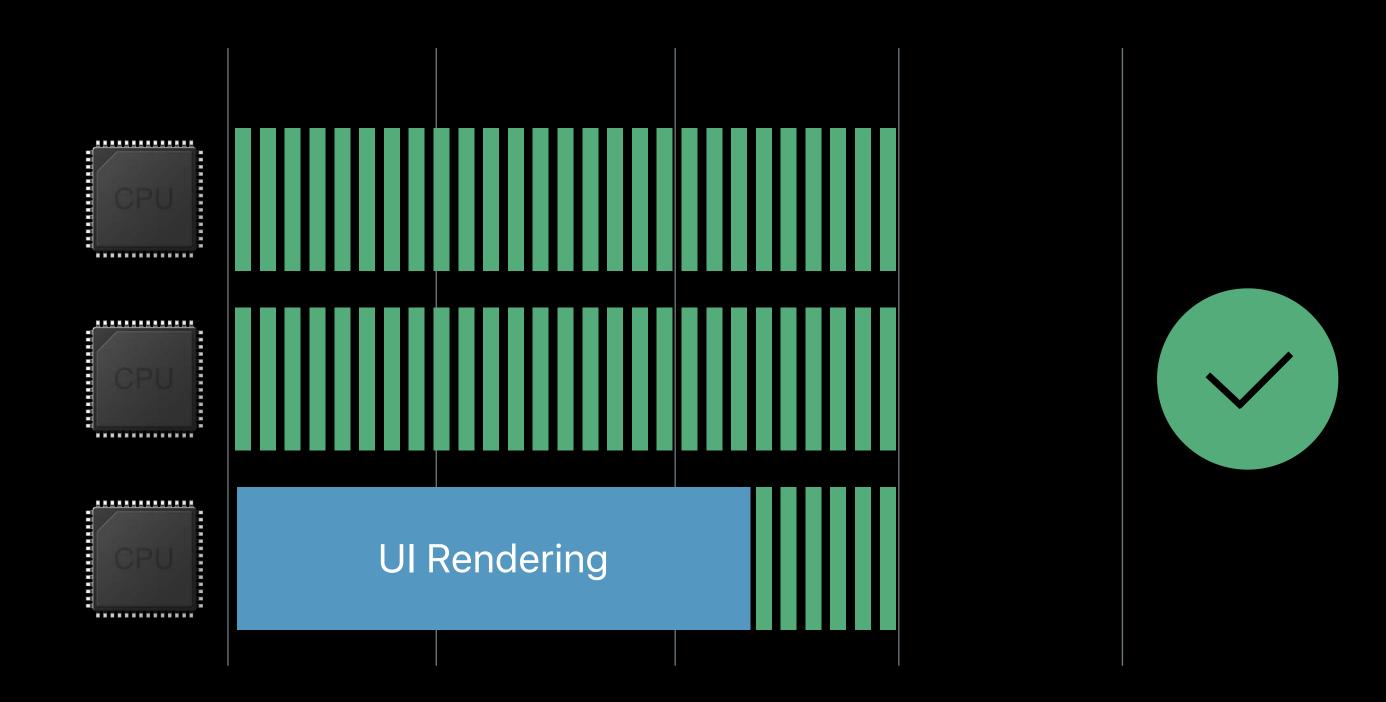








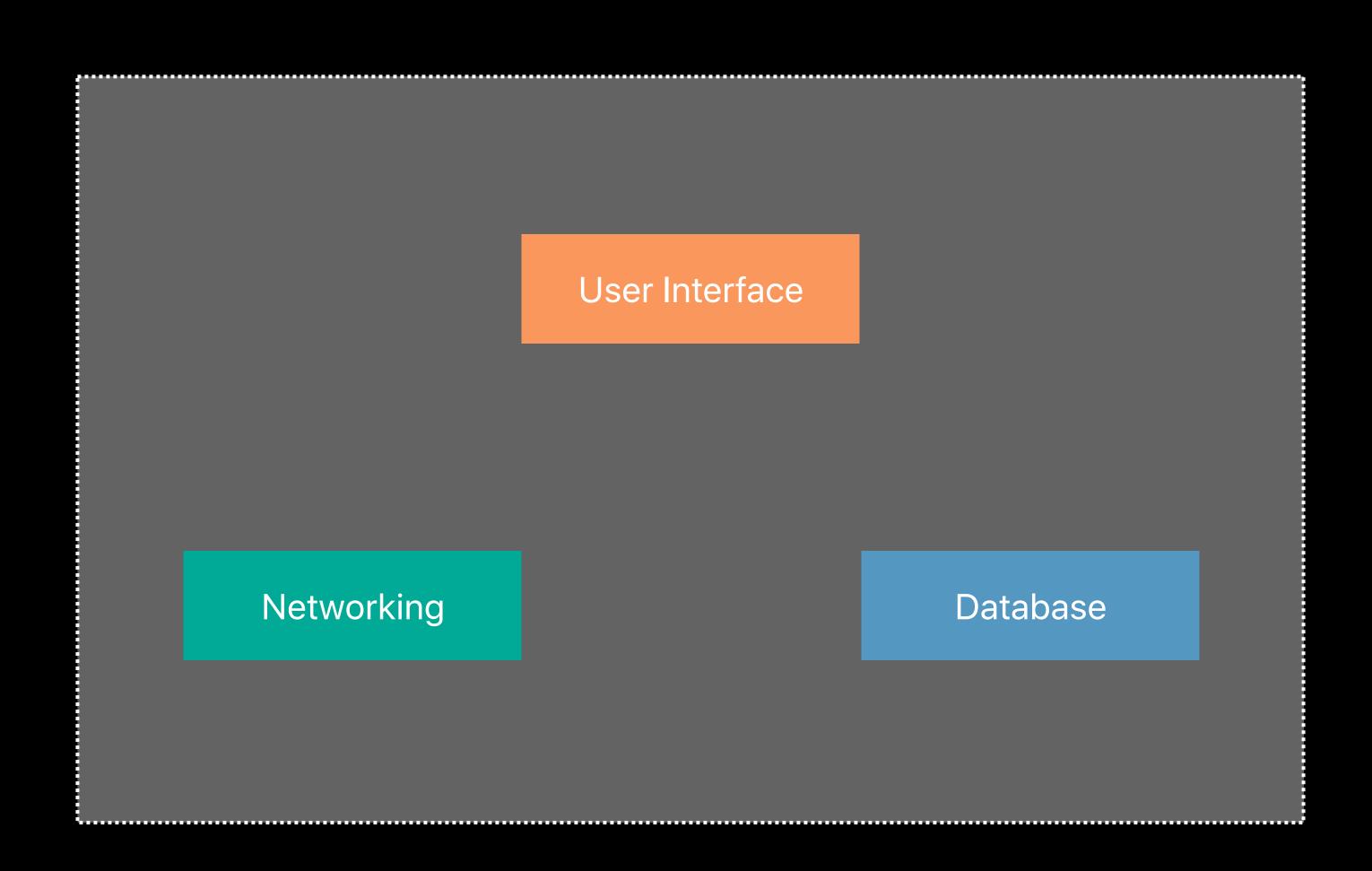


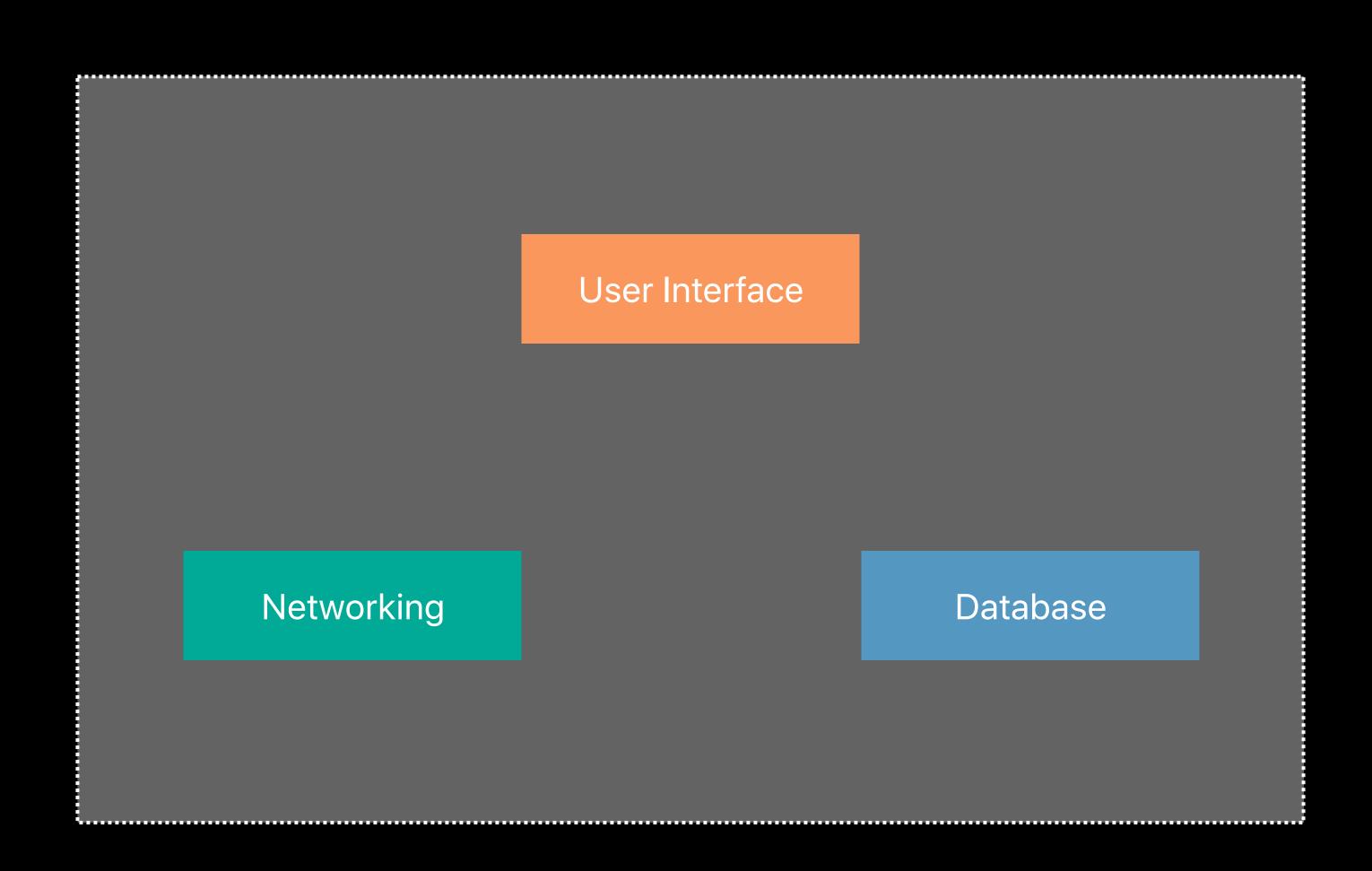


Leverage system frameworks

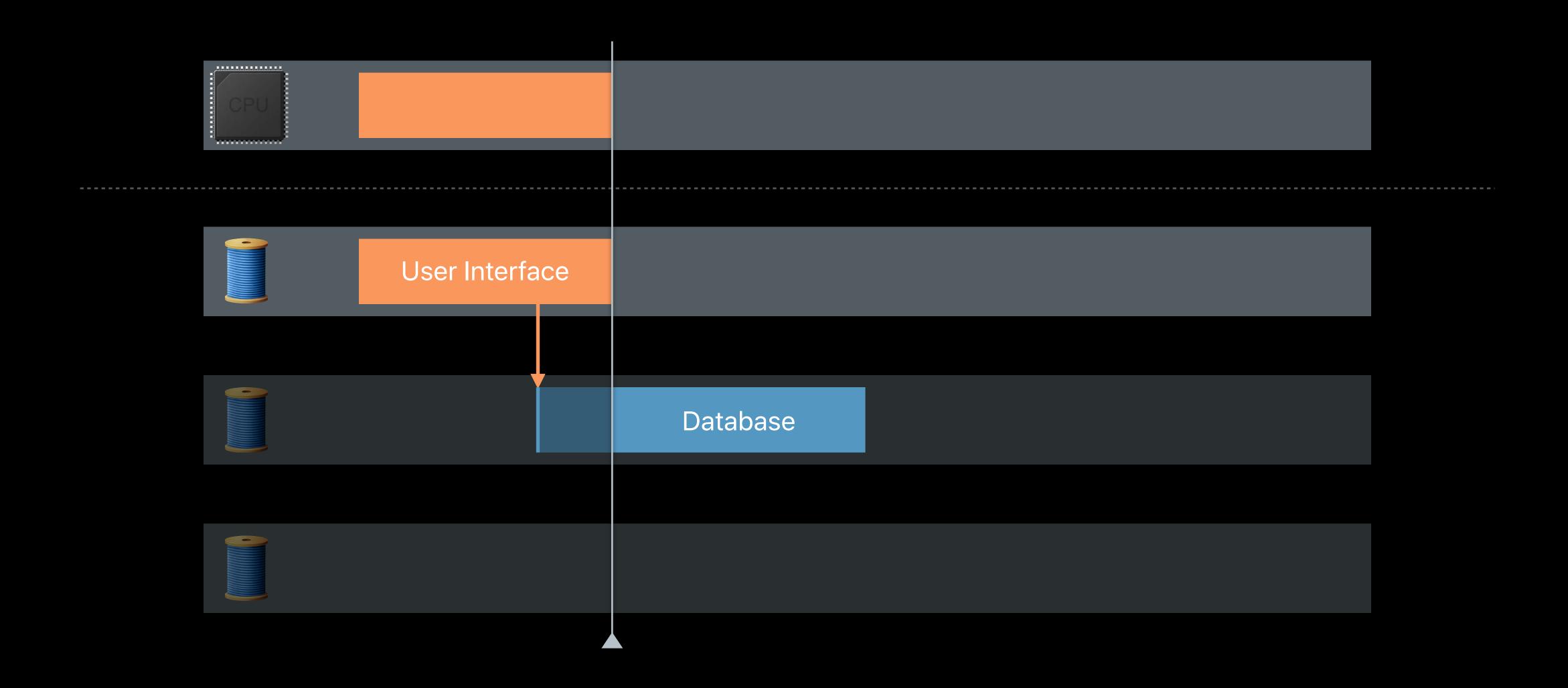
Use DispatchQueue.concurrentPerform

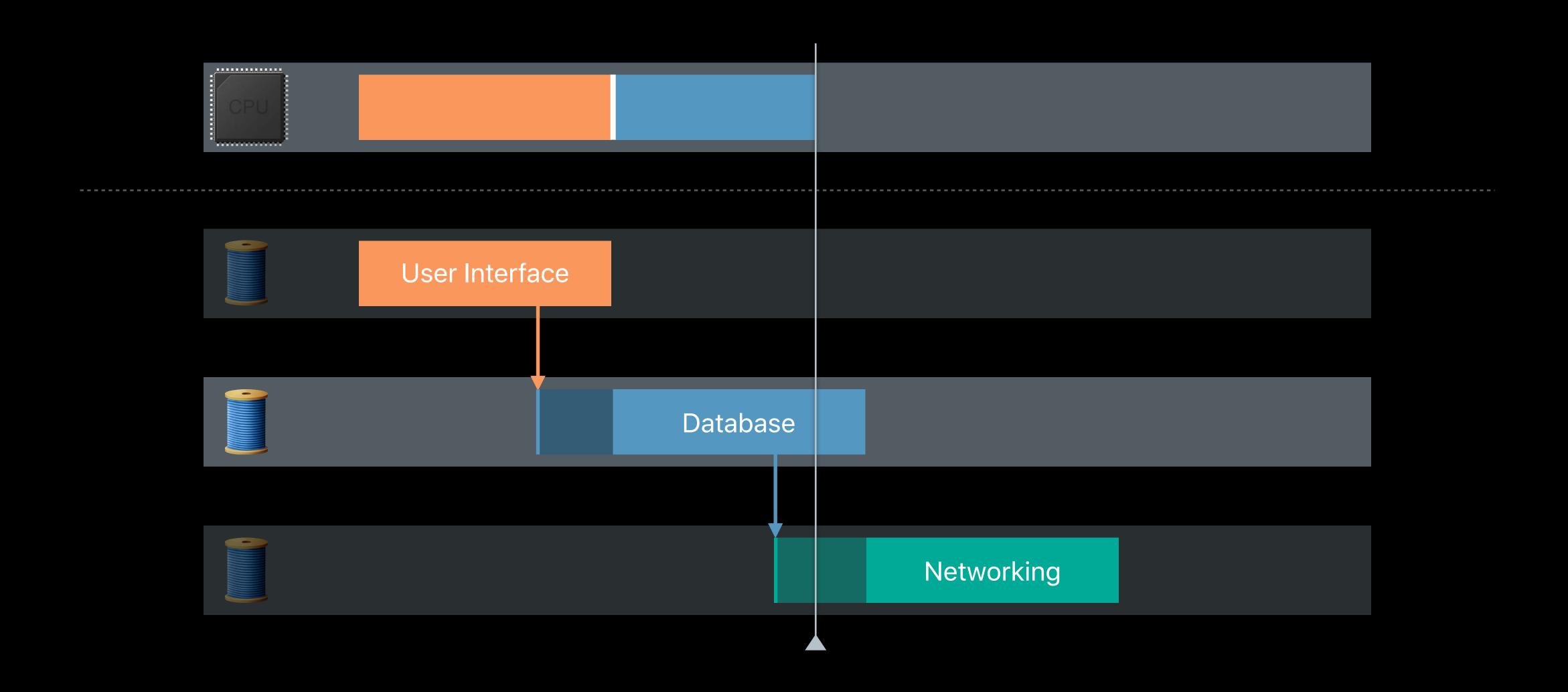
Consider dynamic availability



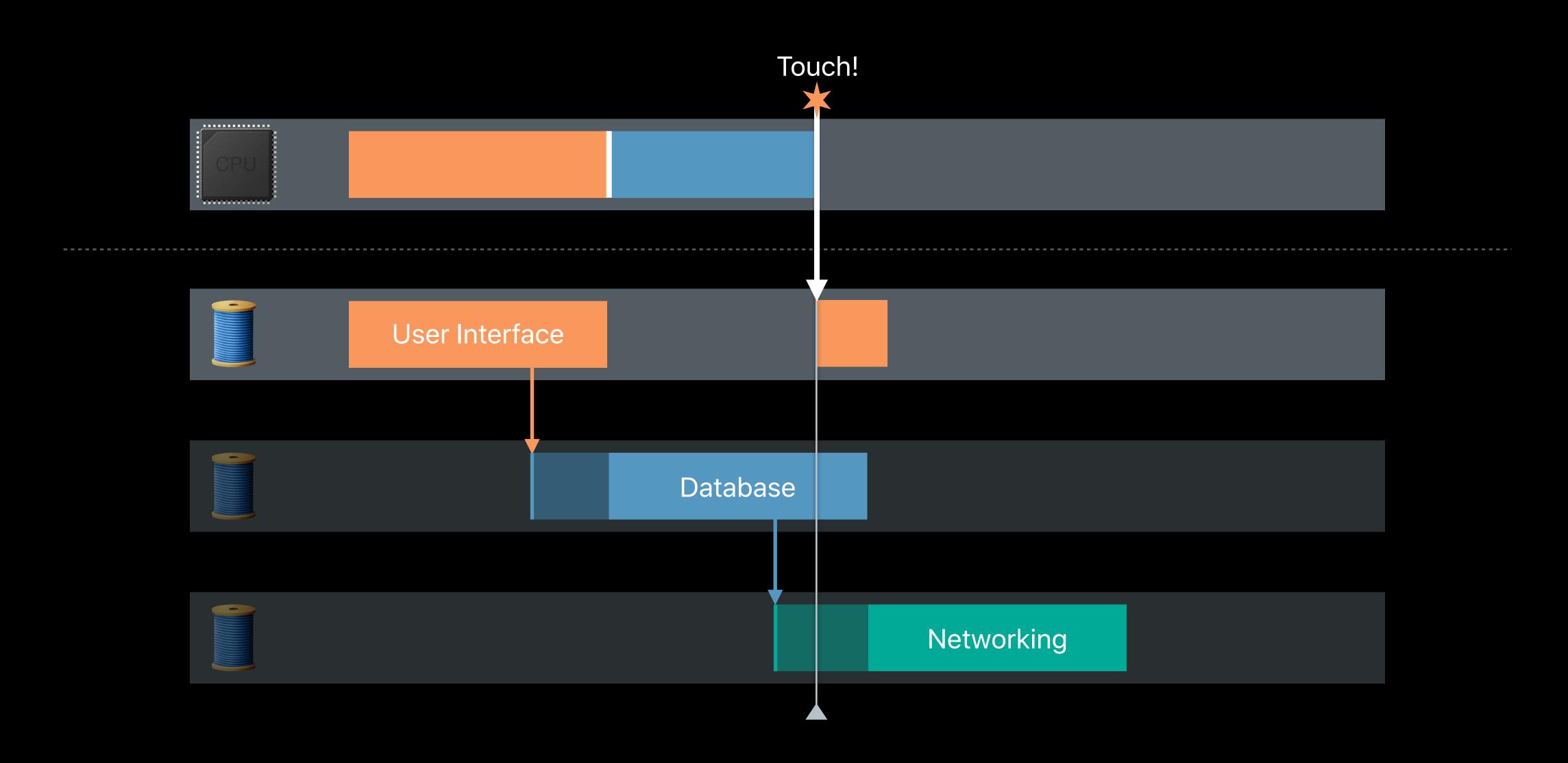




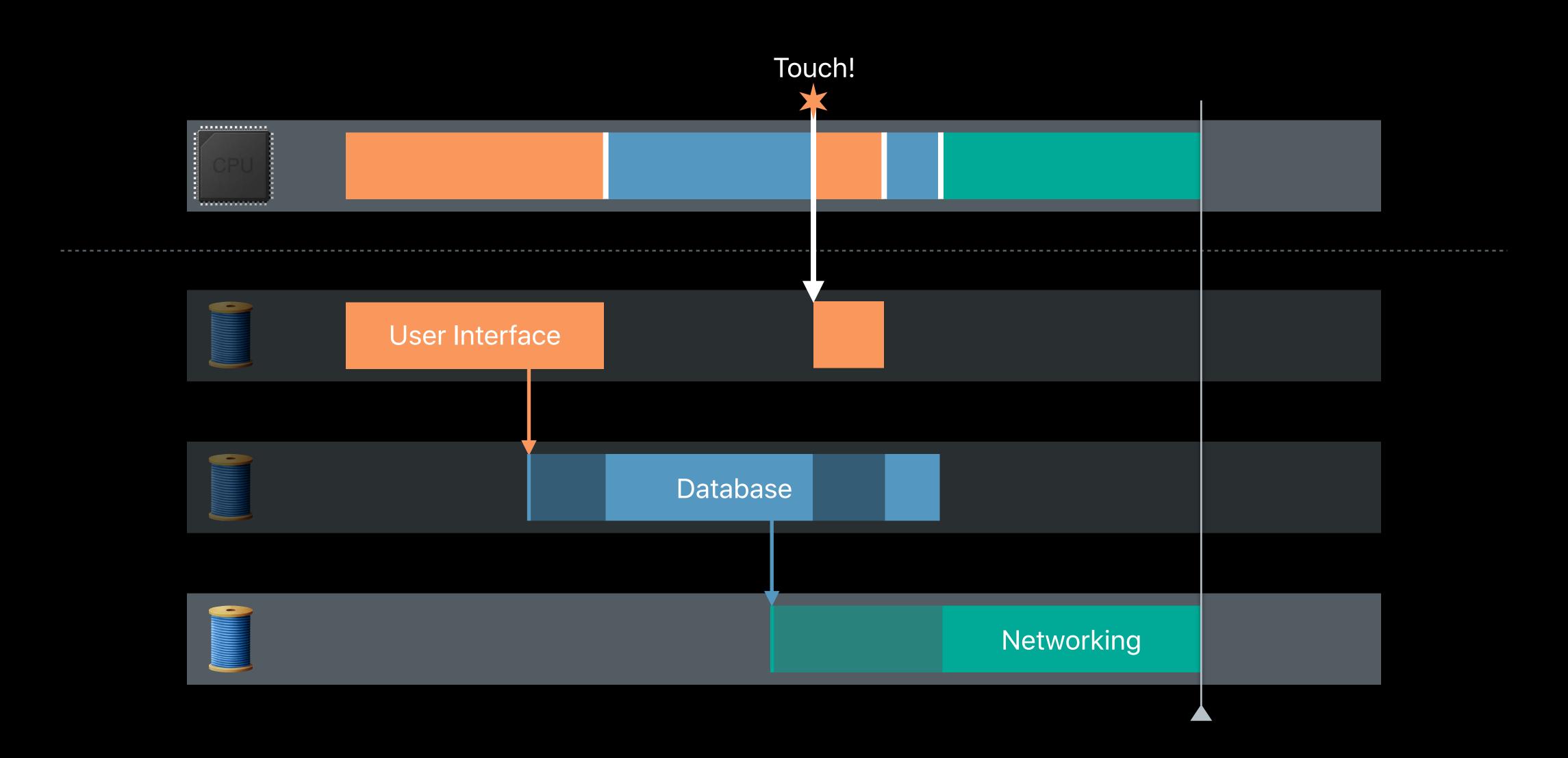




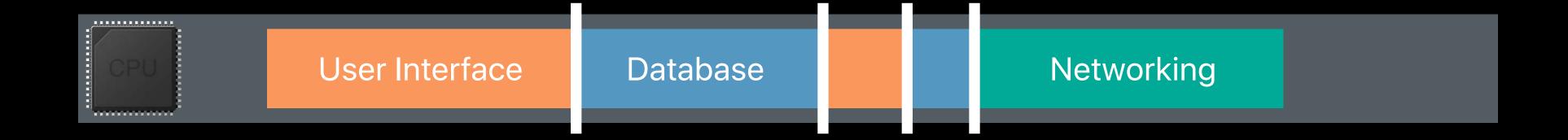
Composition of independently executed tasks



Composition of independently executed tasks

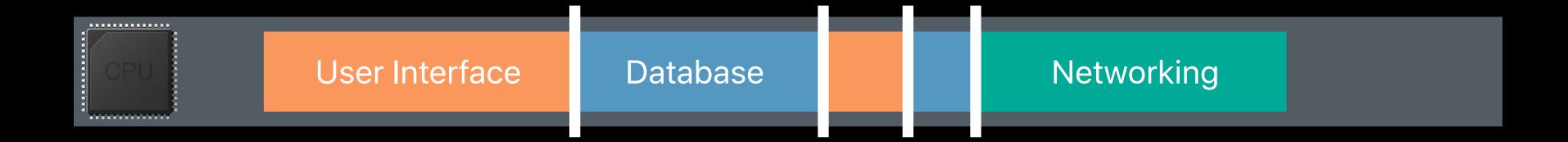


Context switching



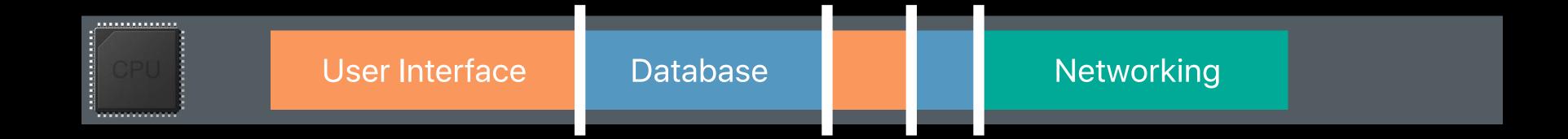
Context switching





System Trace in Depth WWDC 2016

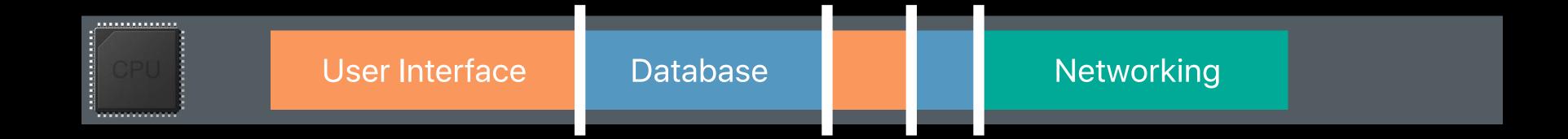
The power of concurrency



The power of concurrency

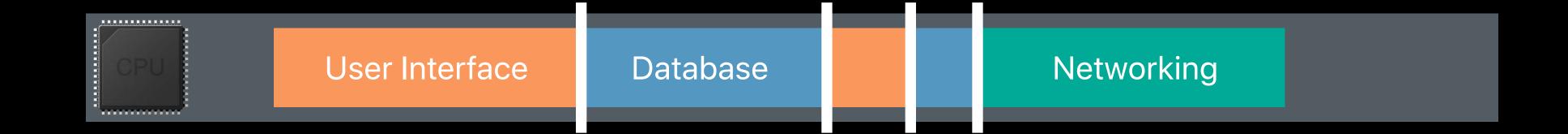
The OS can choose a new thread at any time

A higher priority thread needs the CPU



The power of concurrency

- A higher priority thread needs the CPU
- A thread finishes its current work



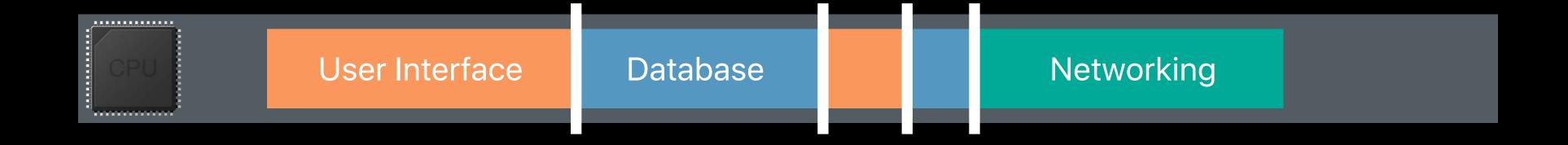
The power of concurrency

- A higher priority thread needs the CPU
- A thread finishes its current work
- Waiting to acquire a resource

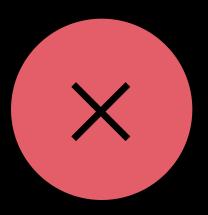


The power of concurrency

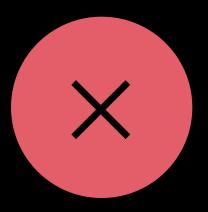
- A higher priority thread needs the CPU
- A thread finishes its current work
- Waiting to acquire a resource
- Waiting for an asynchronous request to complete



Too much of a good thing



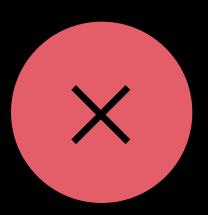
Too much of a good thing





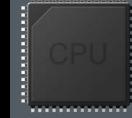


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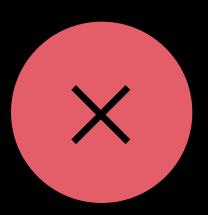


Repeatedly bouncing between contexts can become expensive

CPU runs less efficiently

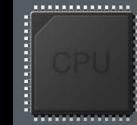


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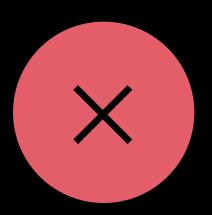


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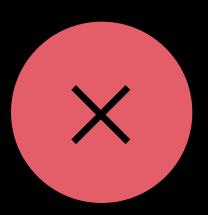
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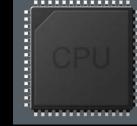
- CPU runs less efficiently
- There may be others ahead in line for CPU access



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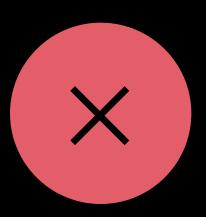


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Too much of a good thing



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Too much of a good thing

Repeatedly waiting for exclusive access to contended resources

Repeatedly switching between independent operations

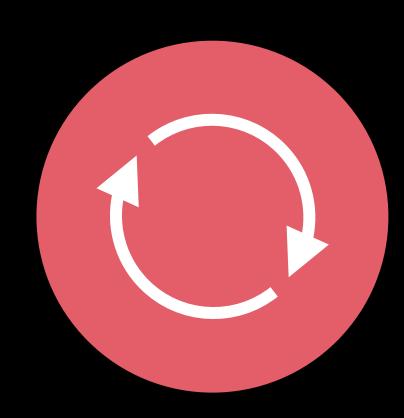
Repeatedly bouncing an operation between threads

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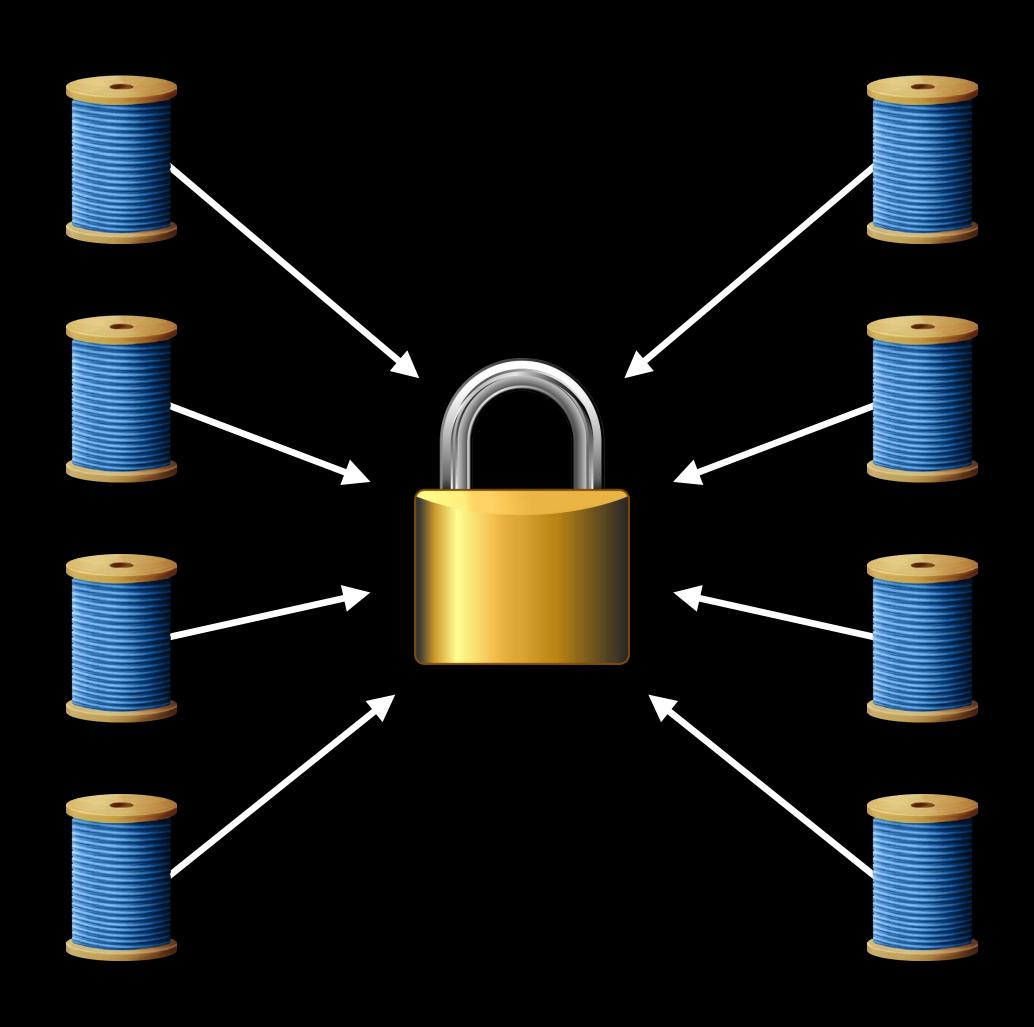
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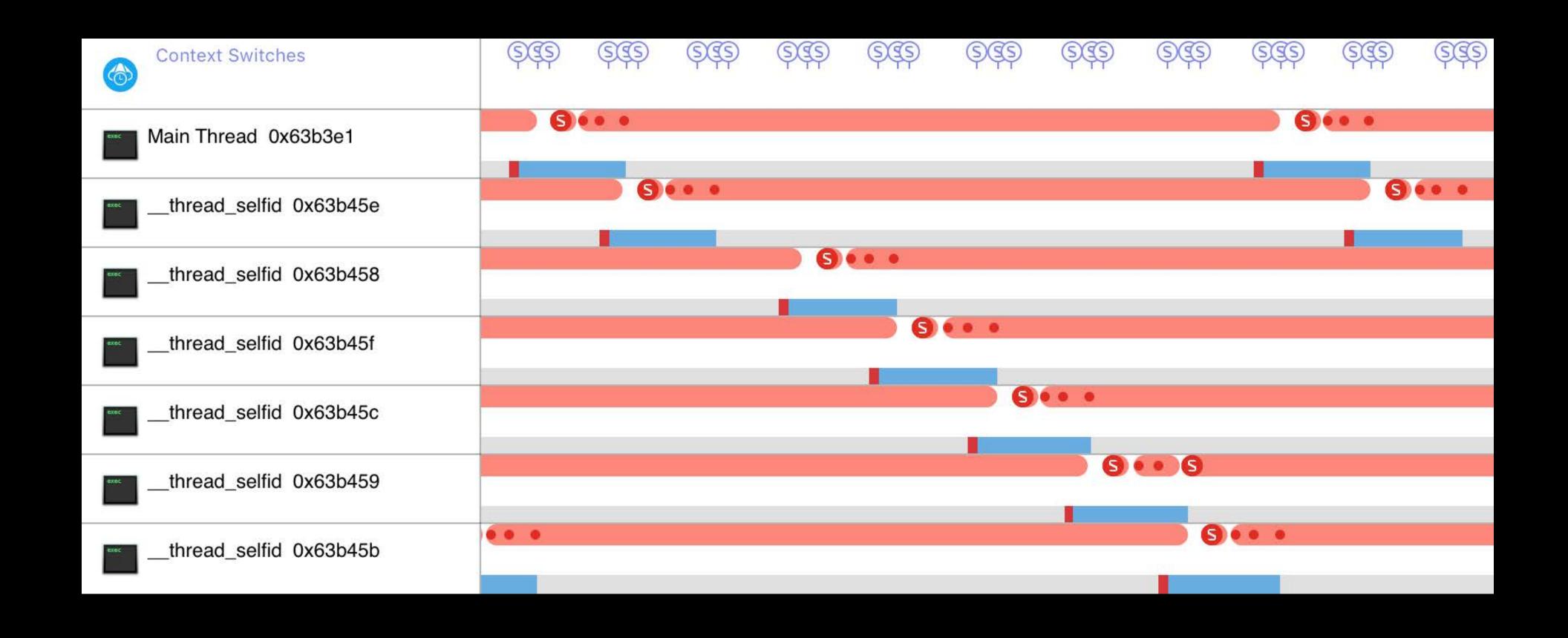
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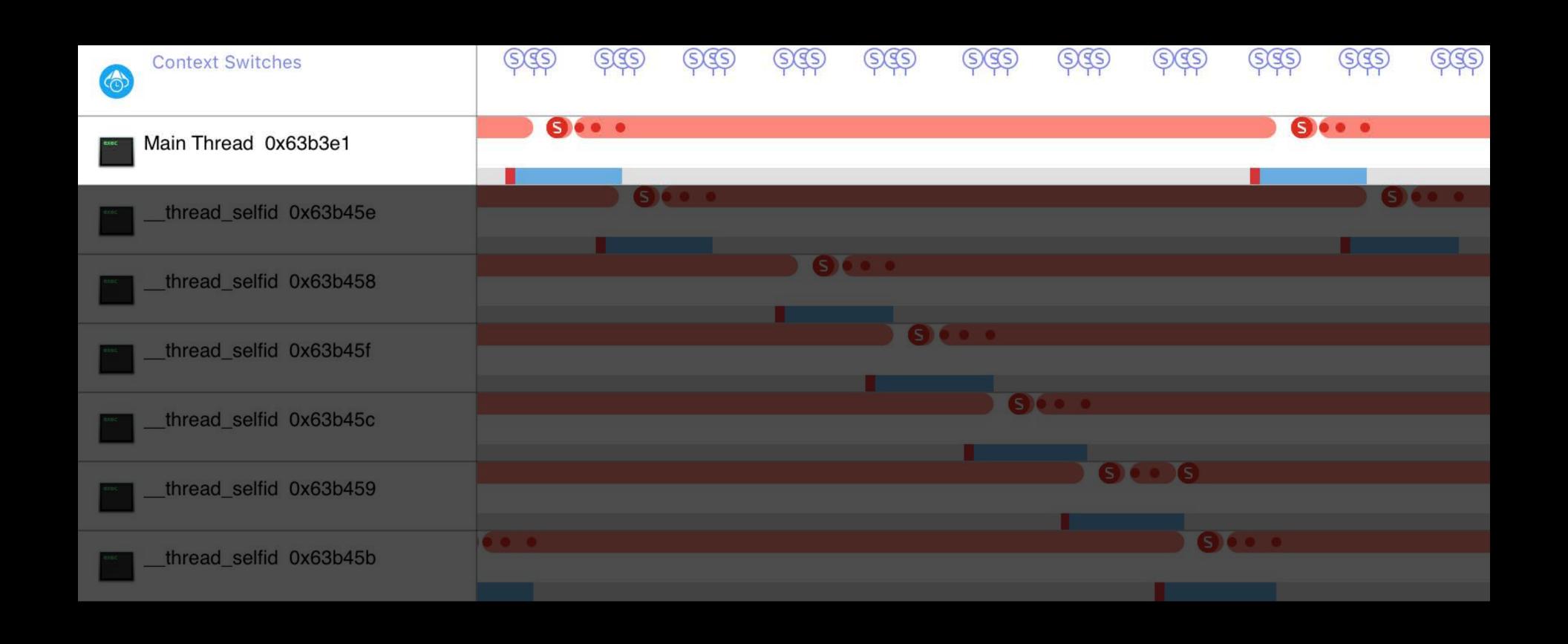


Visualization in Instruments

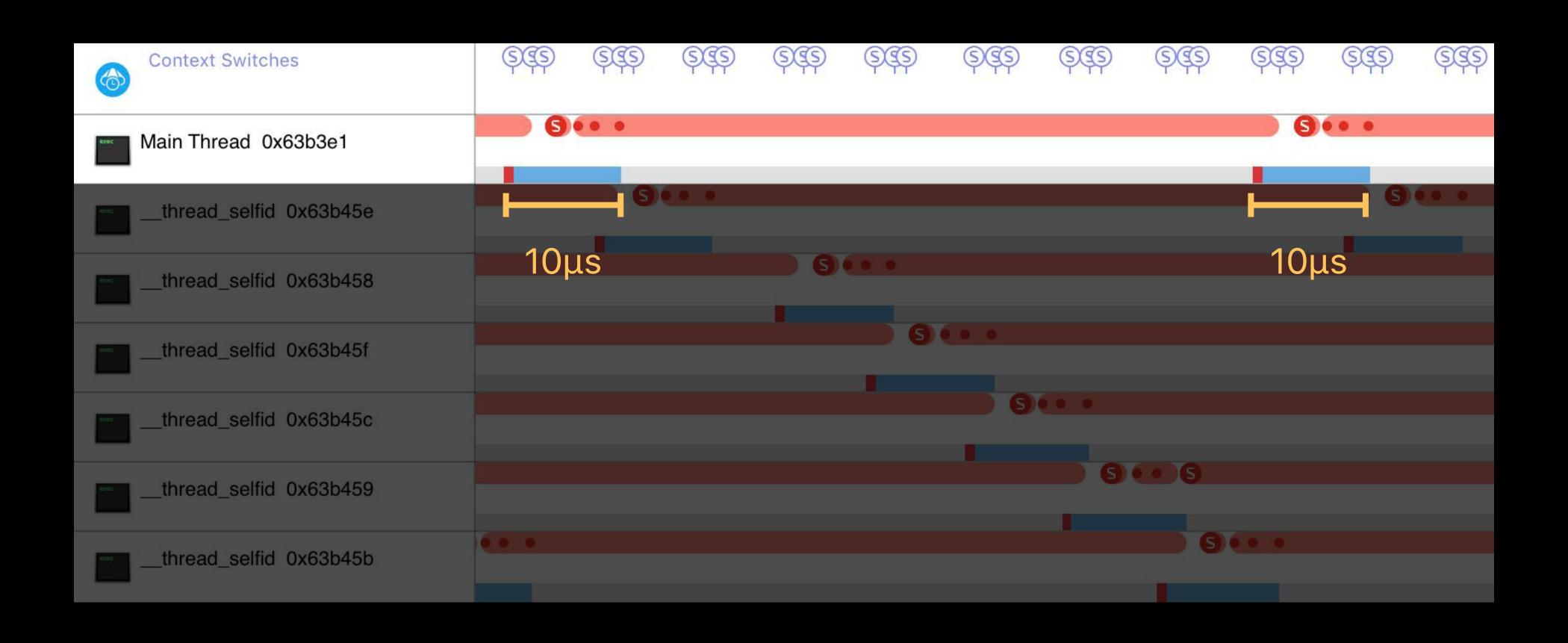




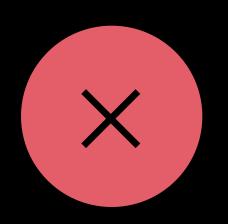
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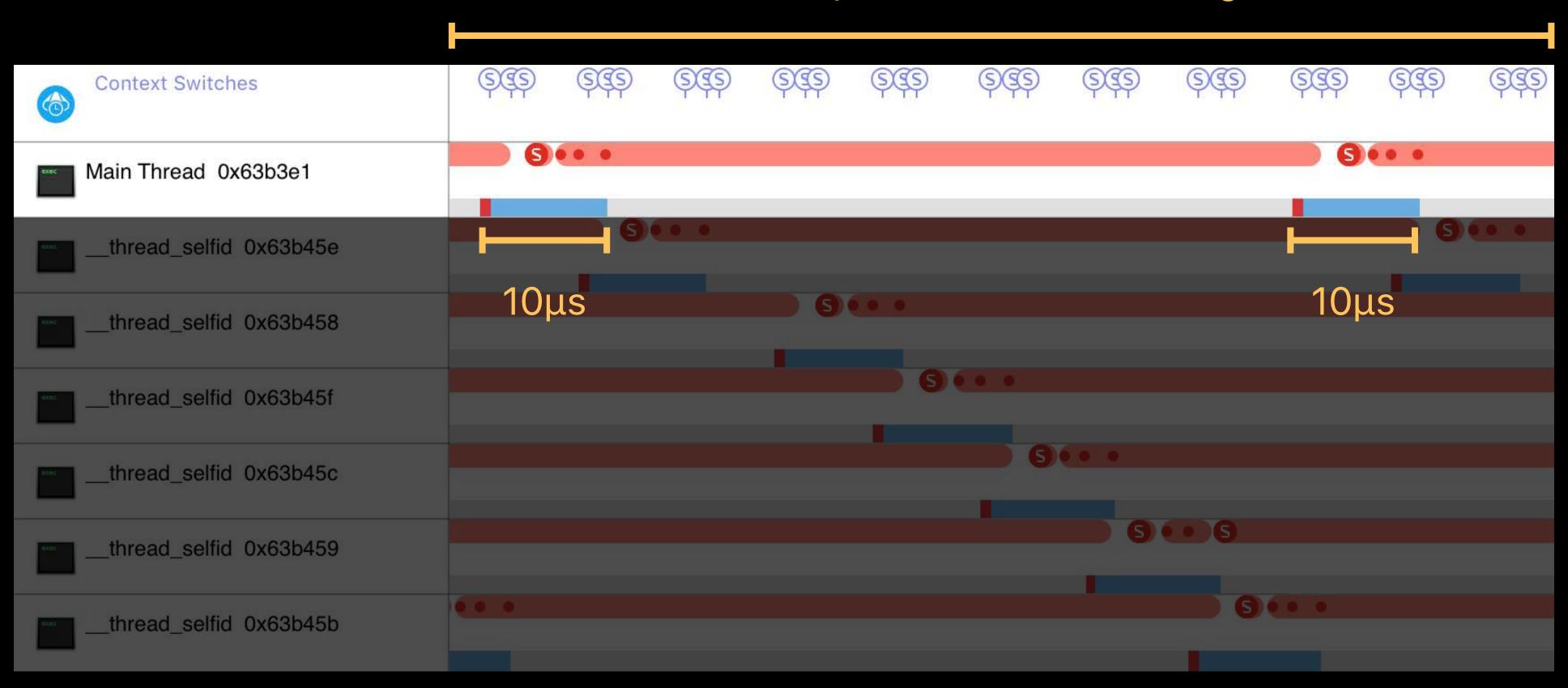
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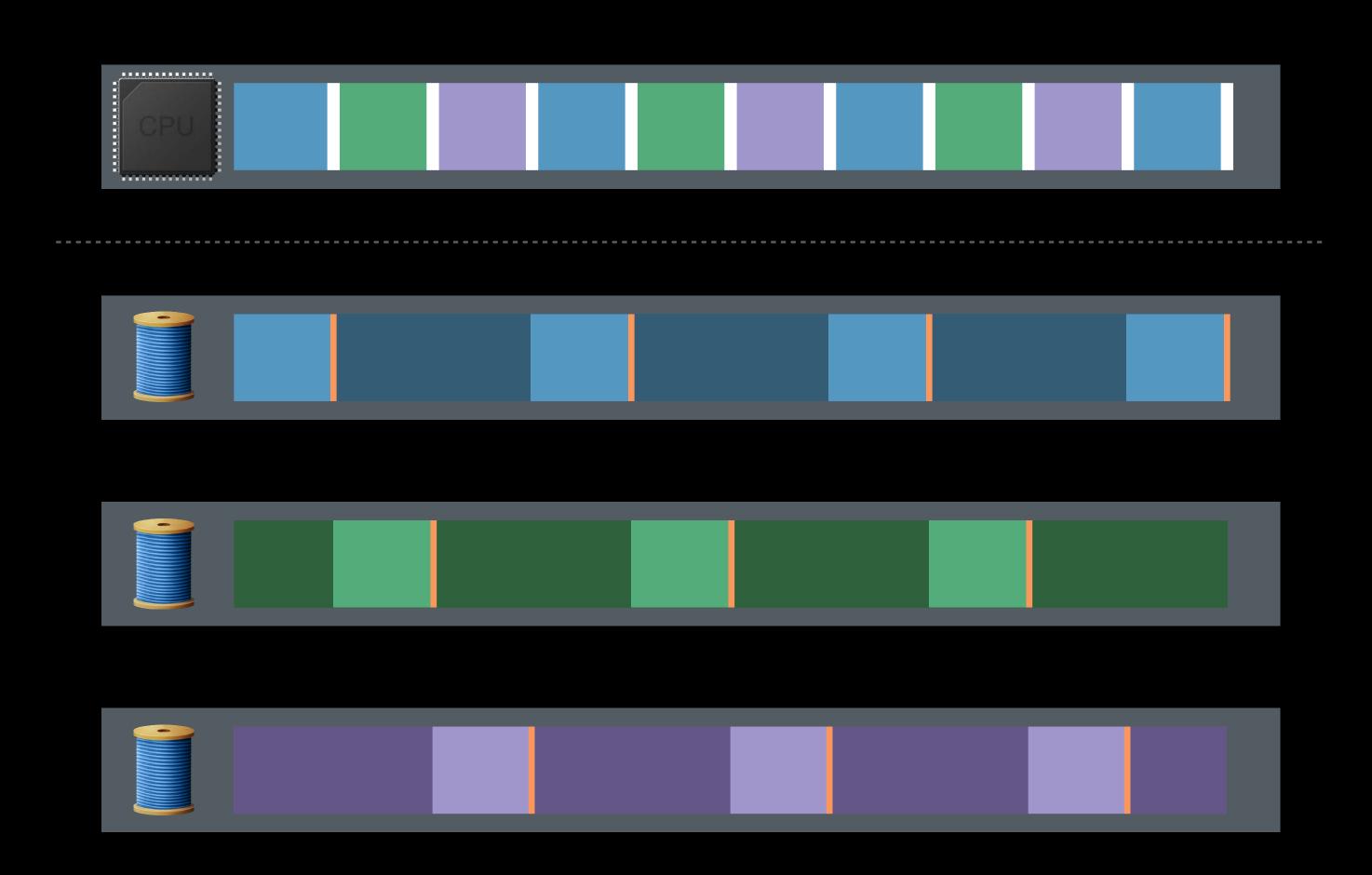


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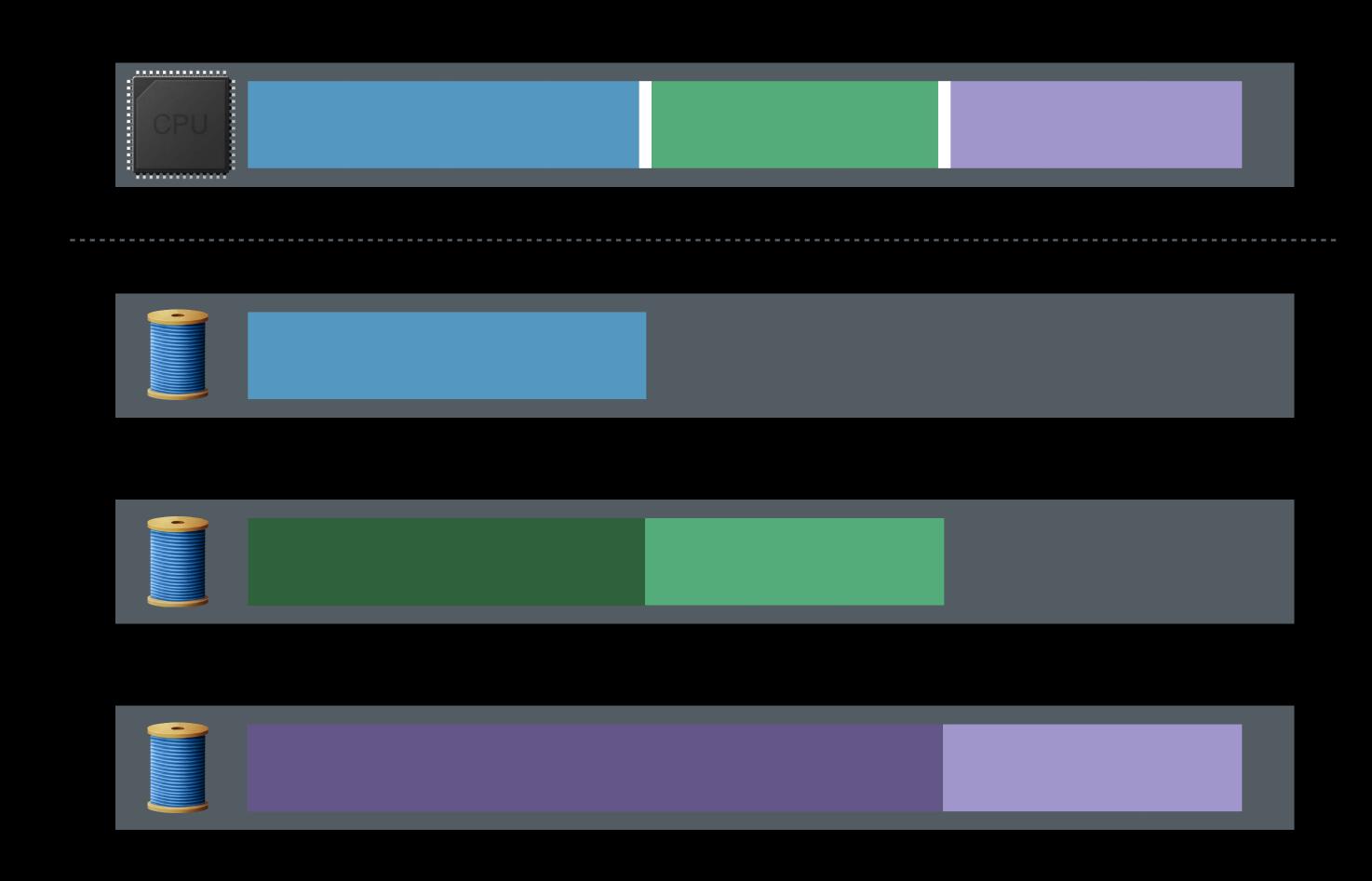


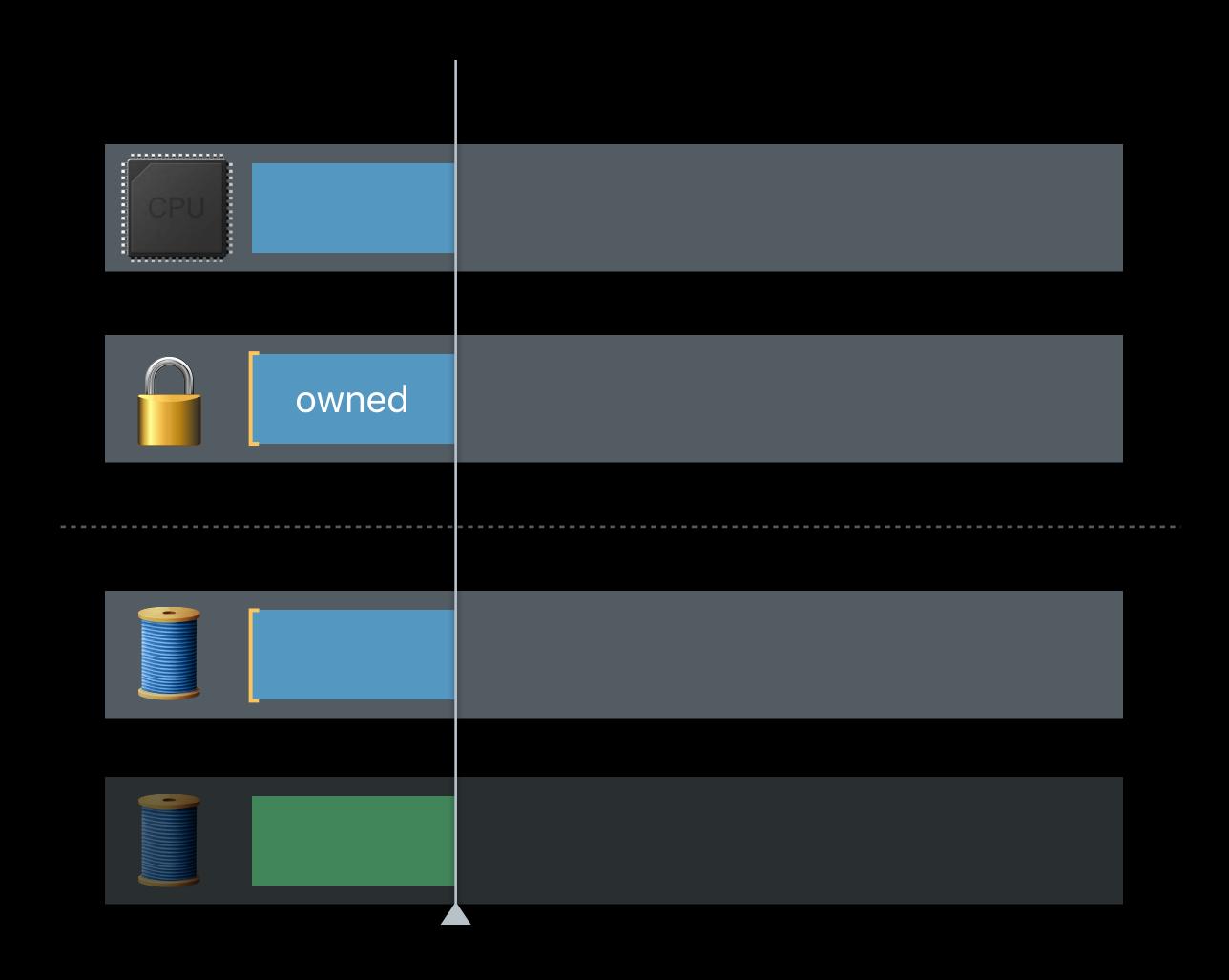
Frequent context-switching

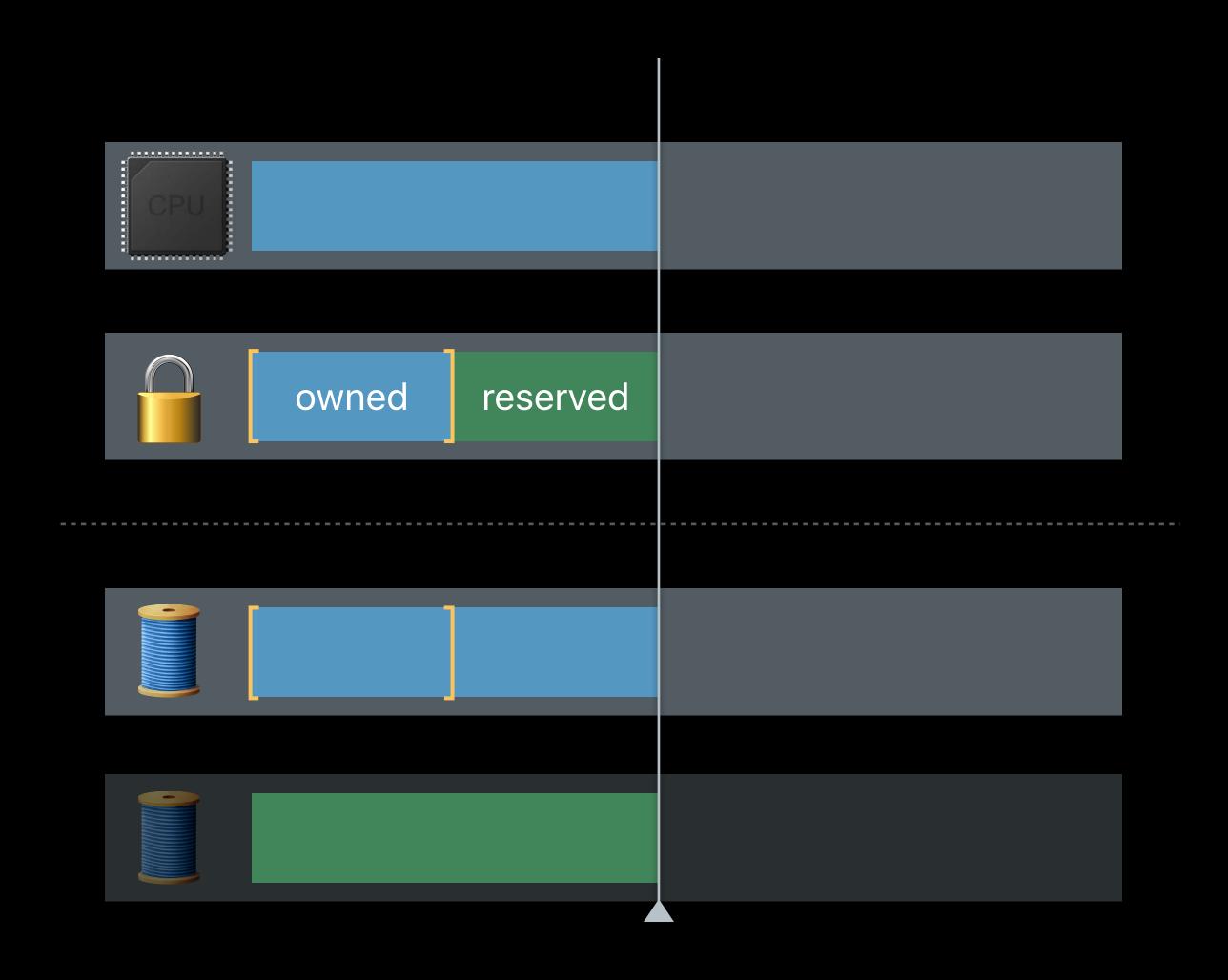


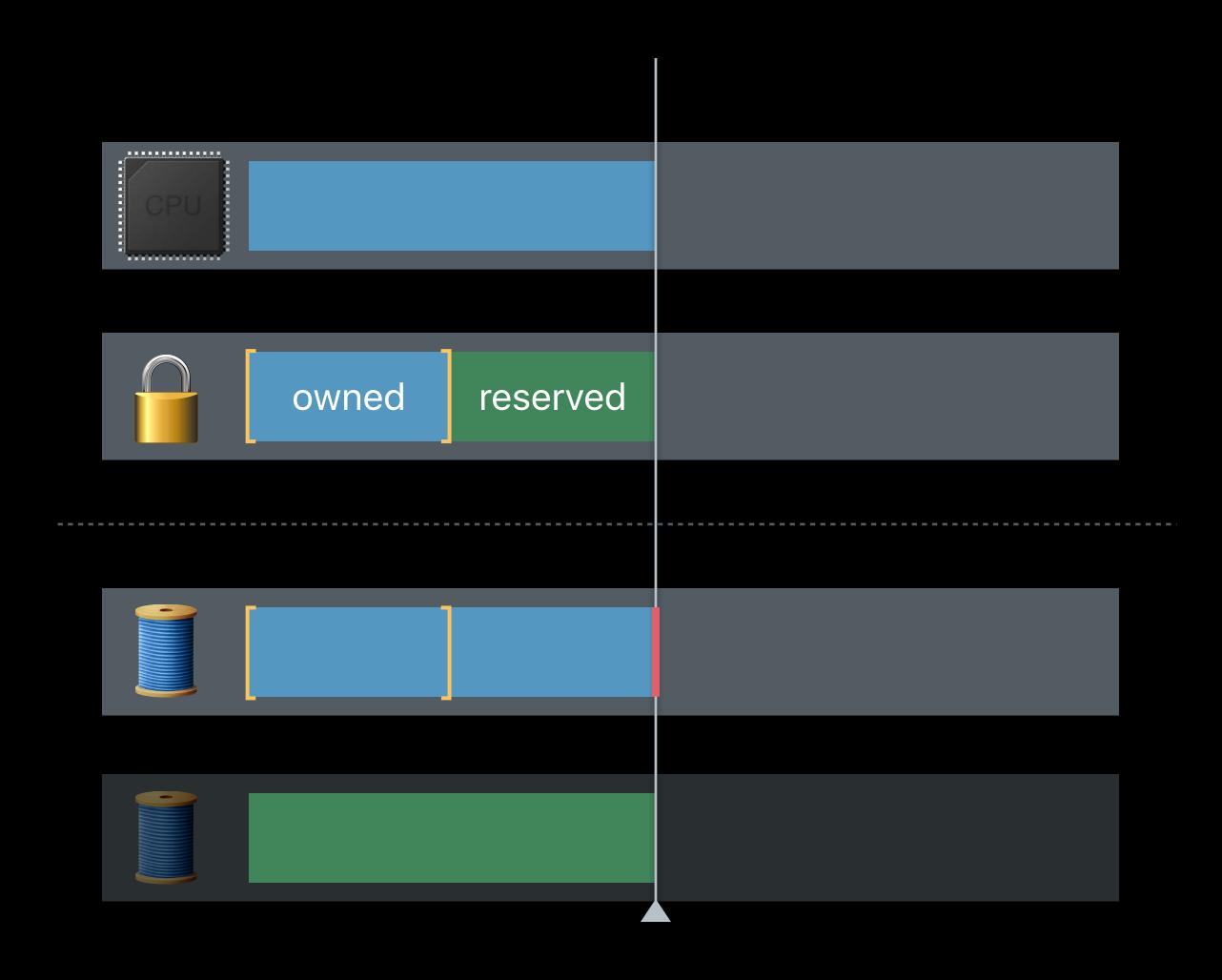








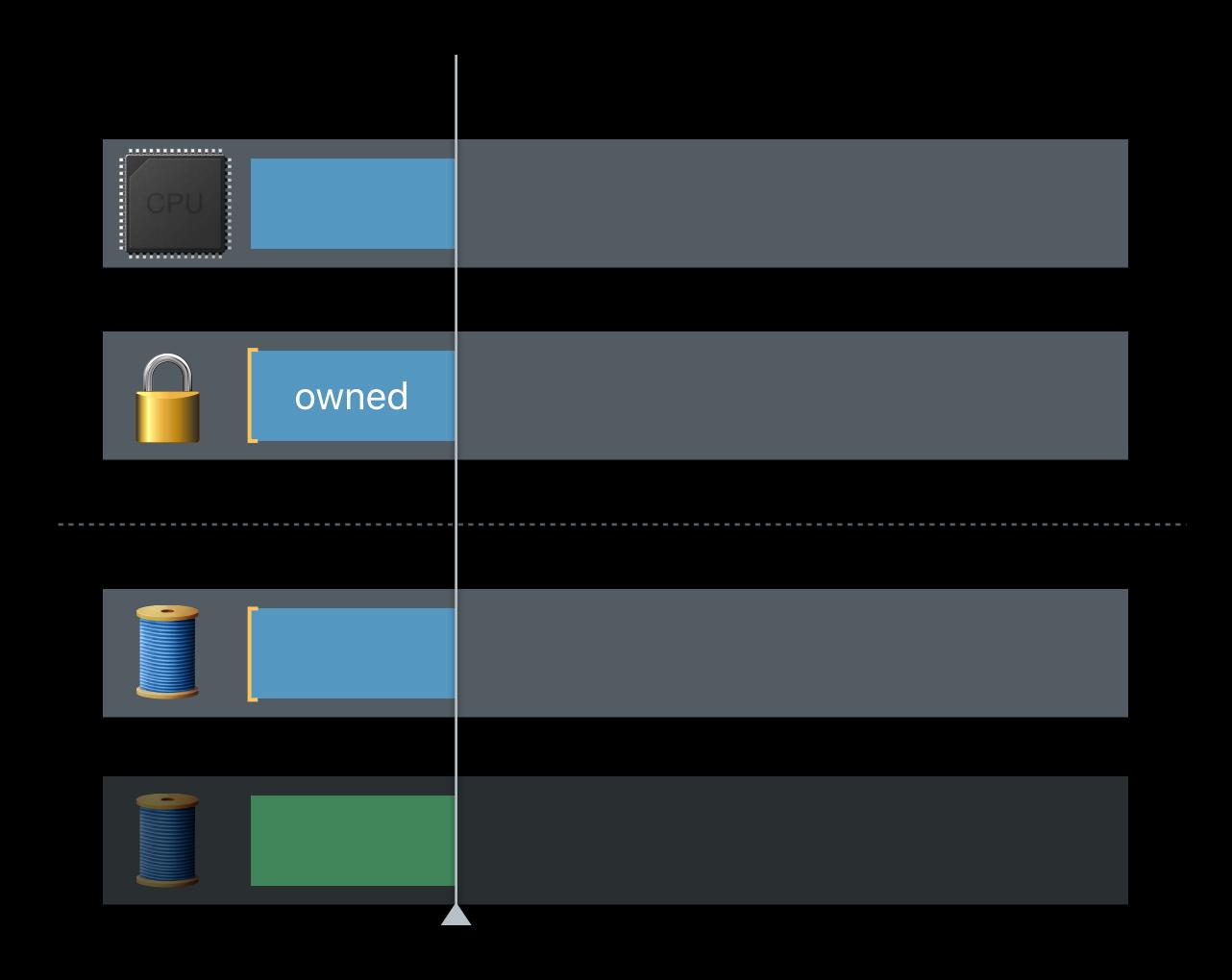








Unfair locks



Unfair locks



Unfair locks



Use the right lock for the job

	Unfair	Fair
Available types	os_unfair_lock	pthread_mutex_t,NSLock DispatchQueue.sync
Contended lock re-acquisition	Can steal the lock	Context switches to next waiter
Subject to waiter starvation	Yes	No

Lock Ownership



Ownership helps resolve priority inversion

- High priority waiter
- Low priority owner



Single Owner

Serial queues

DispatchWorkItem.wait

os_unfair_lock

pthread_mutex, NSLock

Single Owner

No Owner

Serial queues	dispatch_semaphore	
DispatchWorkItem.wait	dispatch_group	
os_unfair_lock	pthread_cond, NSCondition	
pthread_mutex, NSLock	Queue suspension	

Single Owner	No Owner	Multiple Owners
Serial queues	dispatch_semaphore	Private concurrent queues
DispatchWorkItem.wait	dispatch_group	pthread_rwlock
os_unfair_lock	pthread_cond, NSCondition	
pthread_mutex,NSLock	Queue suspension	

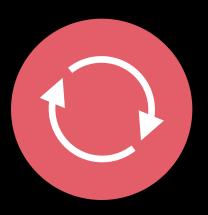
Optimizing Lock Contention

Inefficient behaviors are often emergent properties

Visualize your app's behavior with Instruments

Use the right lock for the job

Too Much of a Good Thing



Repeatedly waiting for exclusive access to contended resources

Repeatedly switching between independent operations

Repeatedly bouncing an operation between threads

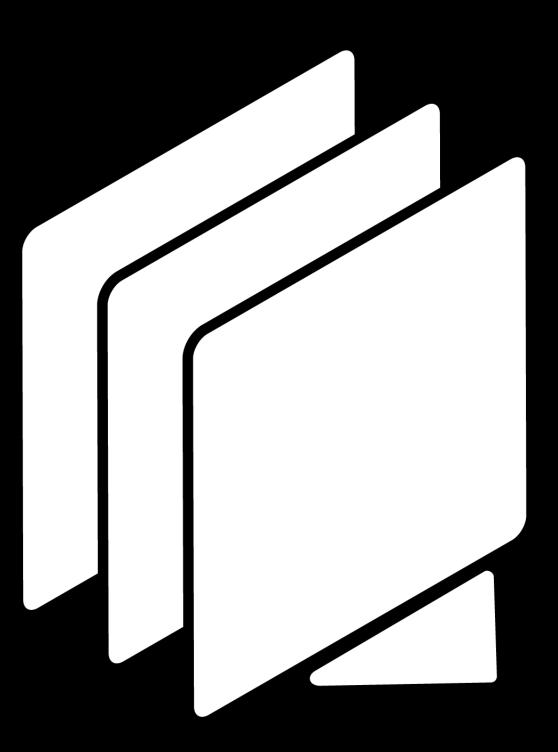
Using GCD for Concurrency

Grand Central Dispatch



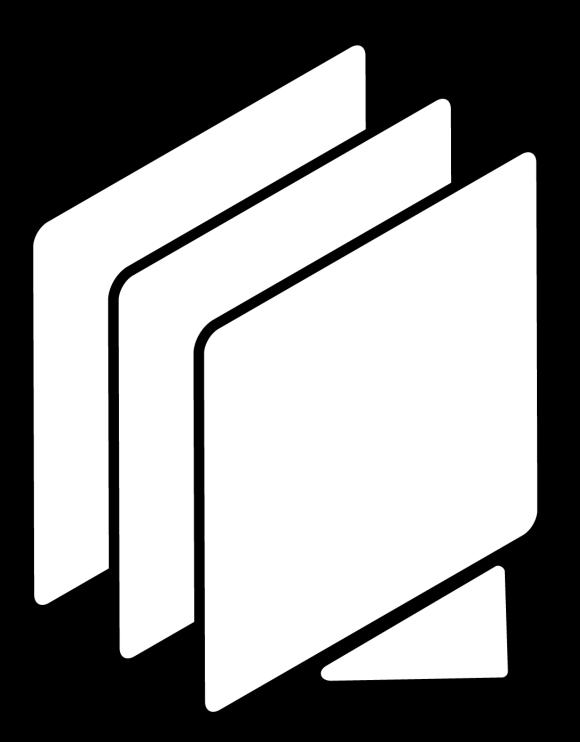
Simplifying iPhone App Development with Grand Central Dispatch	WWDC 2010
Asynchronous Design Patterns with Blocks, GCD, and XPC	WWDC 2012
Power, Performance, and Diagnostics: What's new in GCD and XPC	WWDC 2014
Building Responsive and Efficient Apps with GCD	WWDC 2015
Concurrent Programming with GCD in Swift 3	WWDC 2016

Fundamental GCD primitive



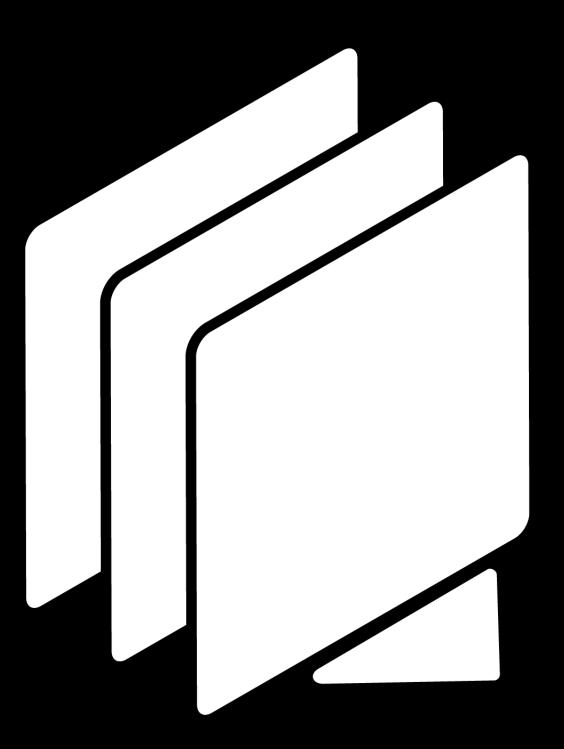
Fundamental GCD primitive

- Mutual exclusion
- FIFO ordered



Fundamental GCD primitive

- Mutual exclusion
- FIFO ordered
- Concurrent atomic enqueue
- Single dequeuer



```
let queue = DispatchQueue(label: "com.example.queue")
queue.async { /* 1 */ }
queue.async { /* 2 */ }
queue.sync { /* 3 */ }
```

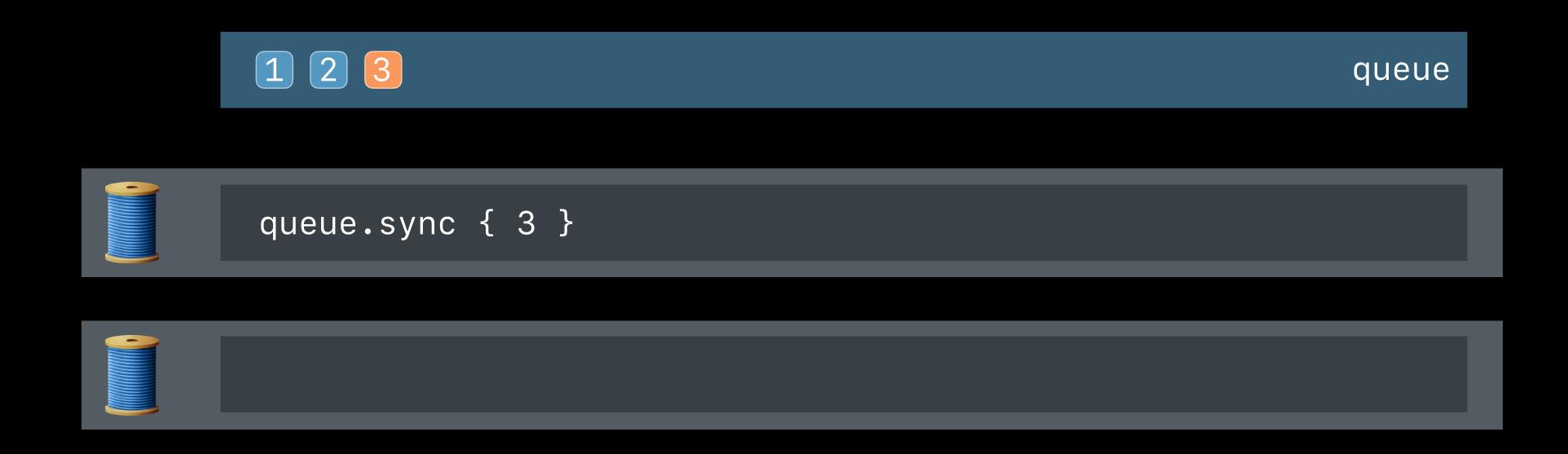
queue

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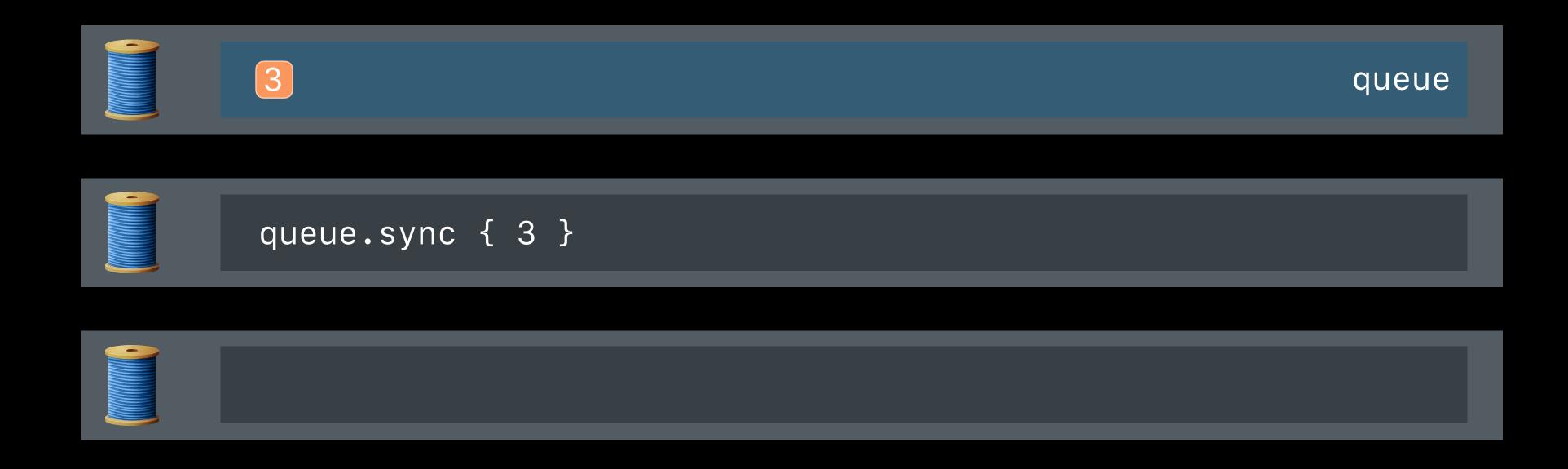
```
queue.async { 1 }

queue.async { 2 }
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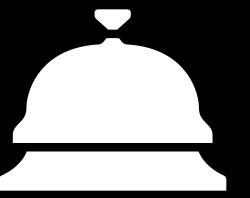
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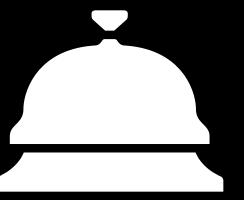


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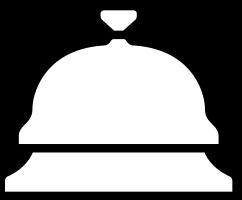
Event monitoring primitive

```
let source = DispatchSource.makeReadSource(fileDescriptor: fd, queue: queue)
source.setEventHandler { read(fd) }
source.setCancelHandler { close(fd) }
source.activate()
```



Event monitoring primitive

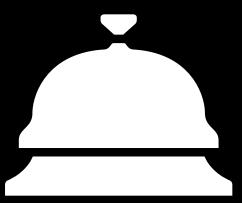
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Event monitoring primitive

Event handler executes on target queue

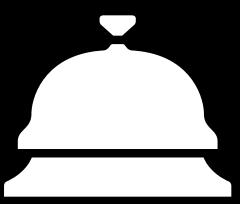
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Event monitoring primitive

- Event handler executes on target queue
- Invalidation pattern with explicit cancellation

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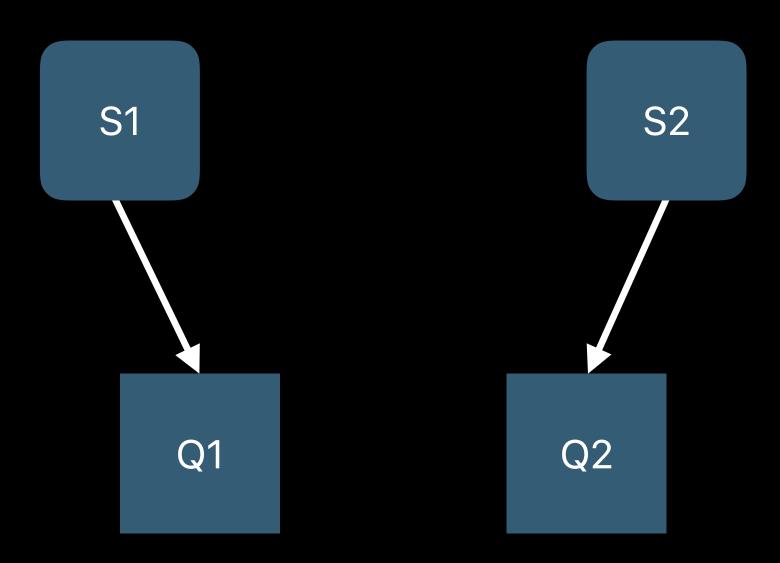
Event monitoring primitive

- Event handler executes on target queue
- Invalidation pattern with explicit cancellation
- Initial setup followed by activate

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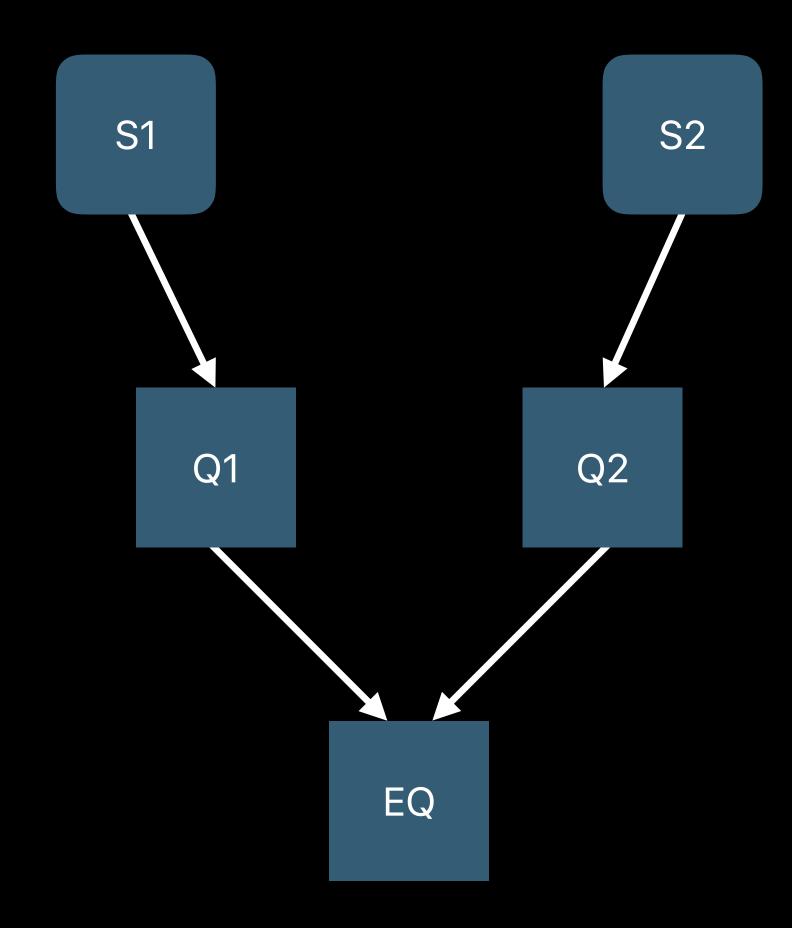
Serial queues and sources can form a tree

Serial queues and sources can form a tree



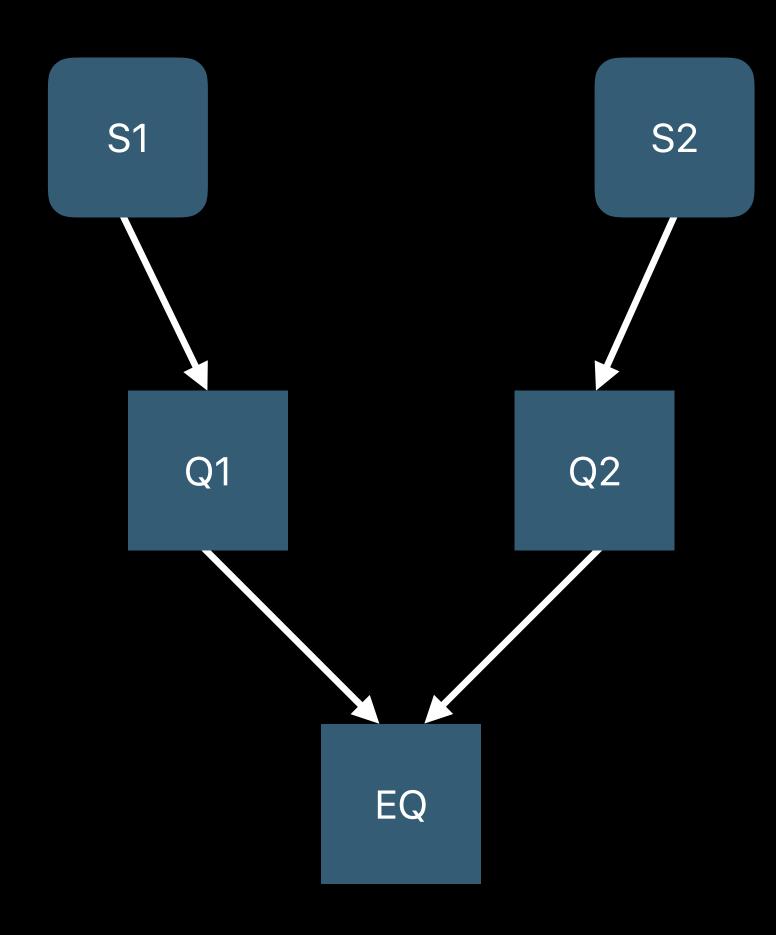
Serial queues and sources can form a tree

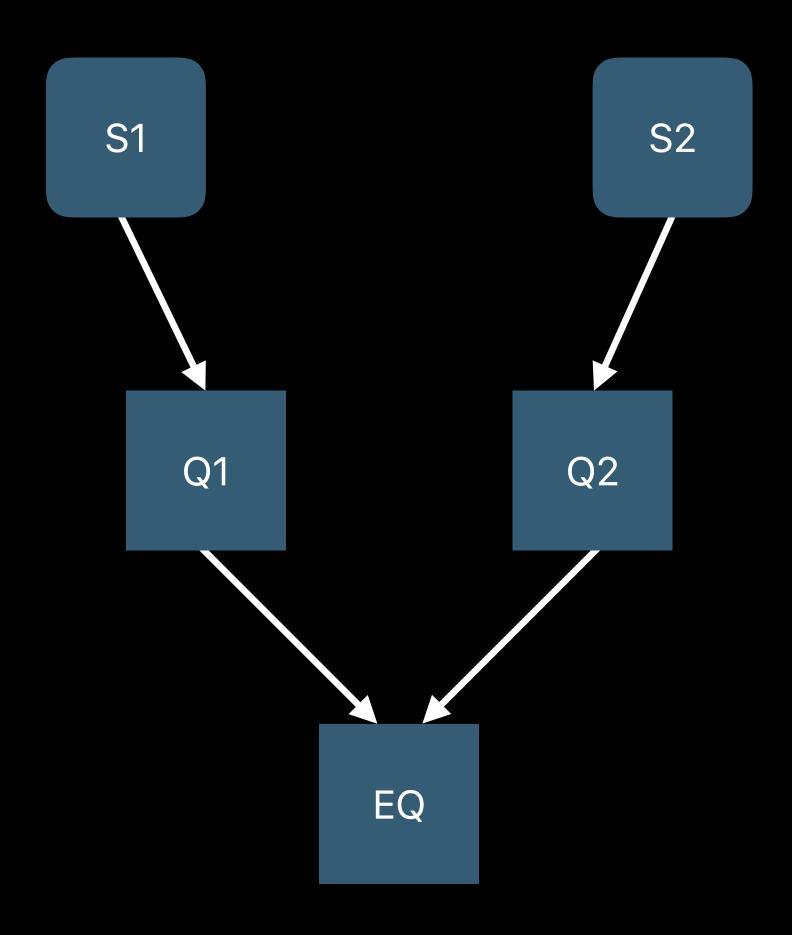
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let Q1 = DispatchQueue(label: "Q1", target: EQ )
let Q2 = DispatchQueue(label: "Q2", target: EQ )
```

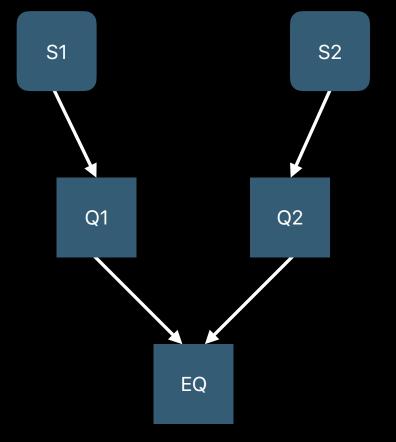


Serial queues and sources can form a tree
Shared single mutual exclusion context
Independent individual queue order

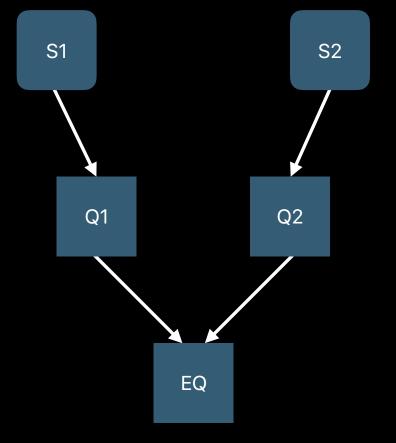
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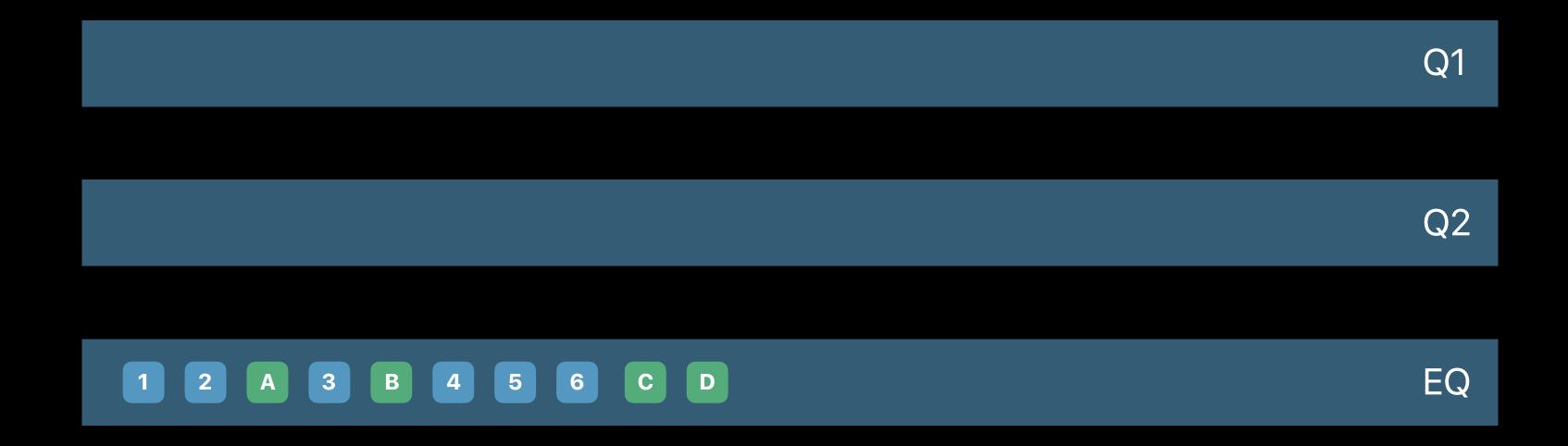


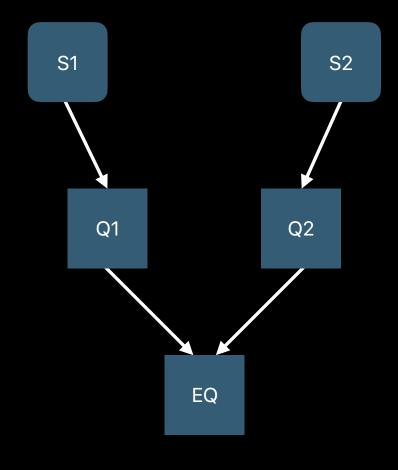


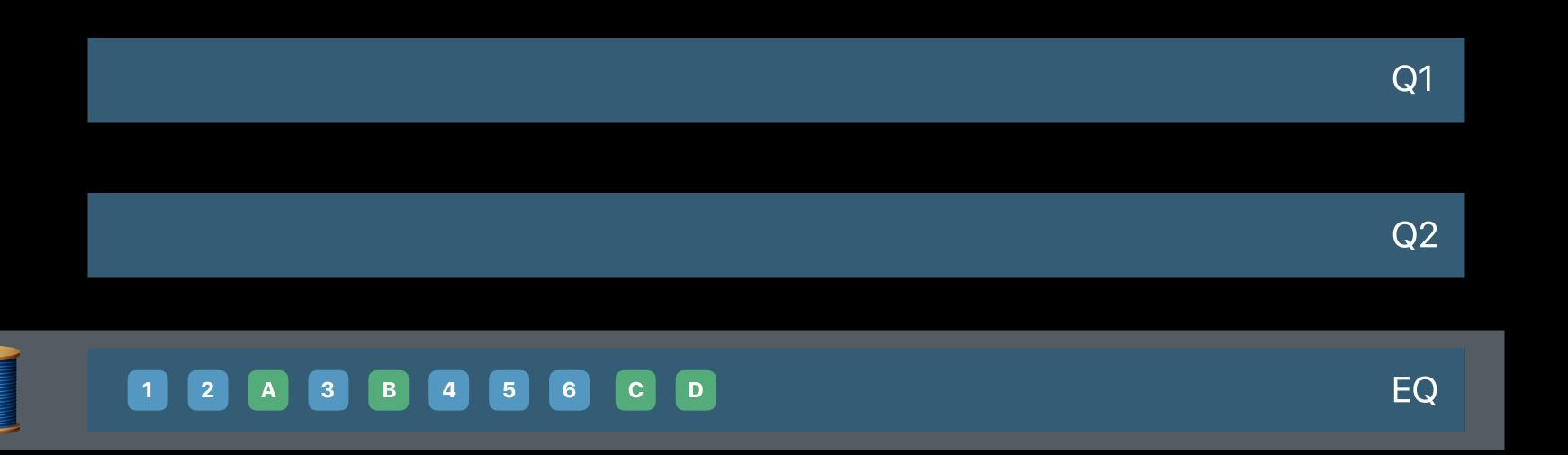












Abstract notion of priority

Provides explicit classification of your work

Affects various execution properties

User Interactive

User Initiated

Utility

Background

Abstract notion of priority

Provides explicit classification of your work

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User Interactive

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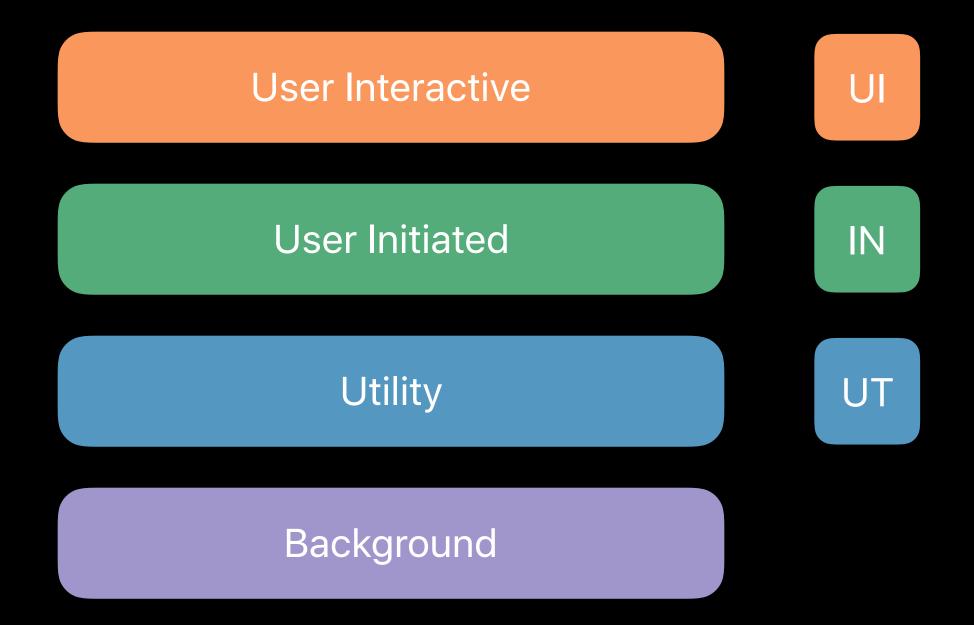
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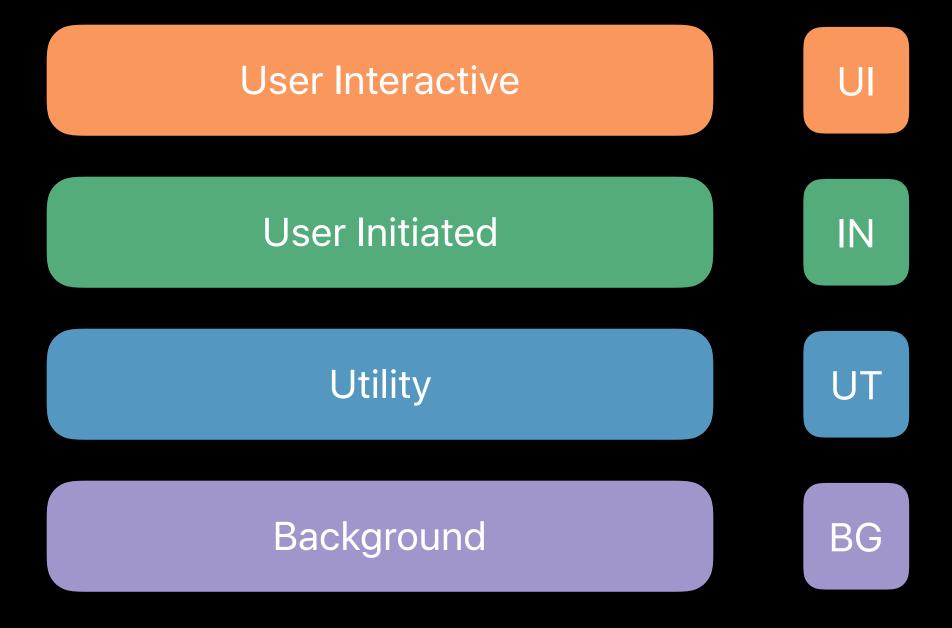
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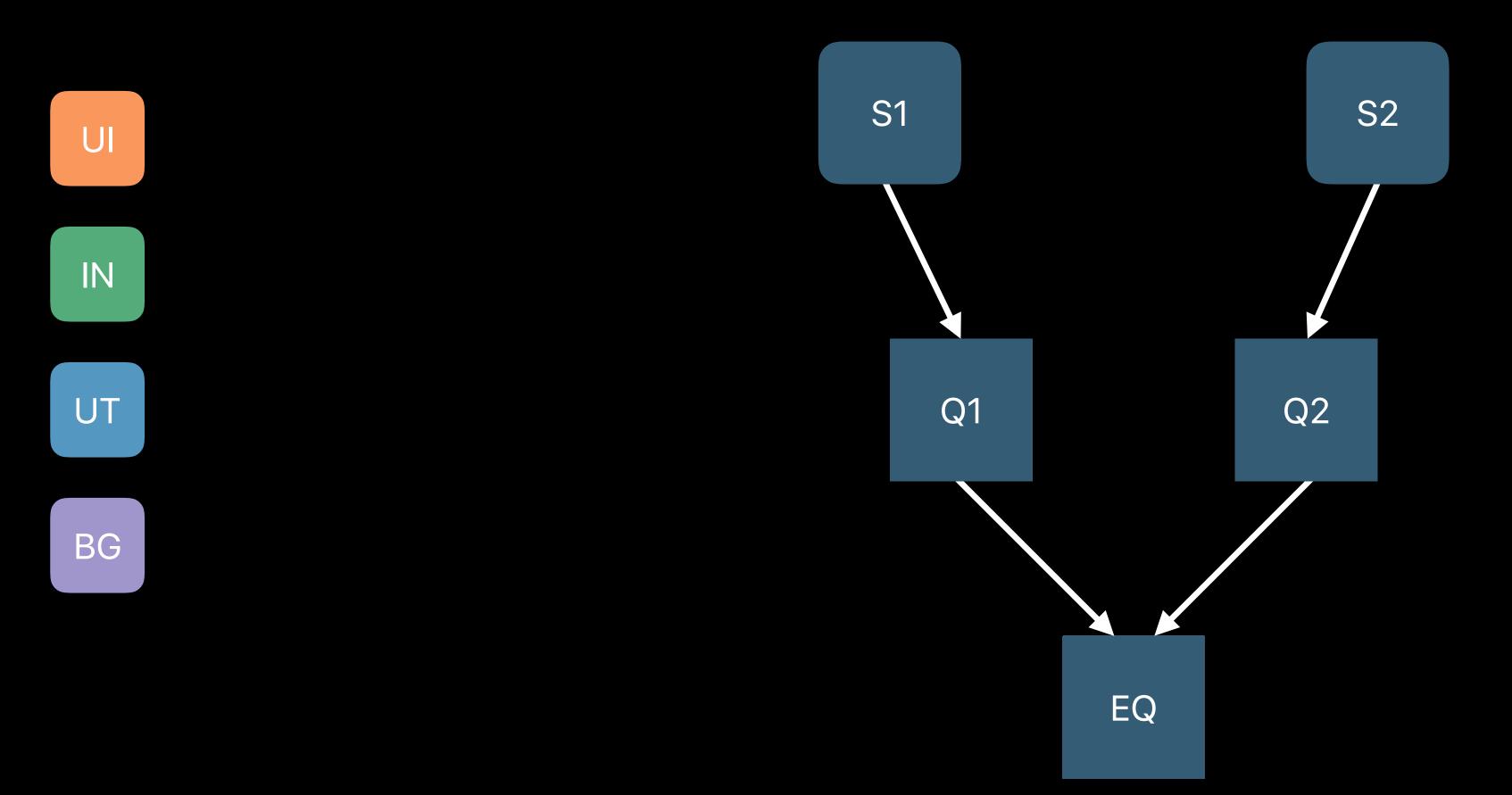
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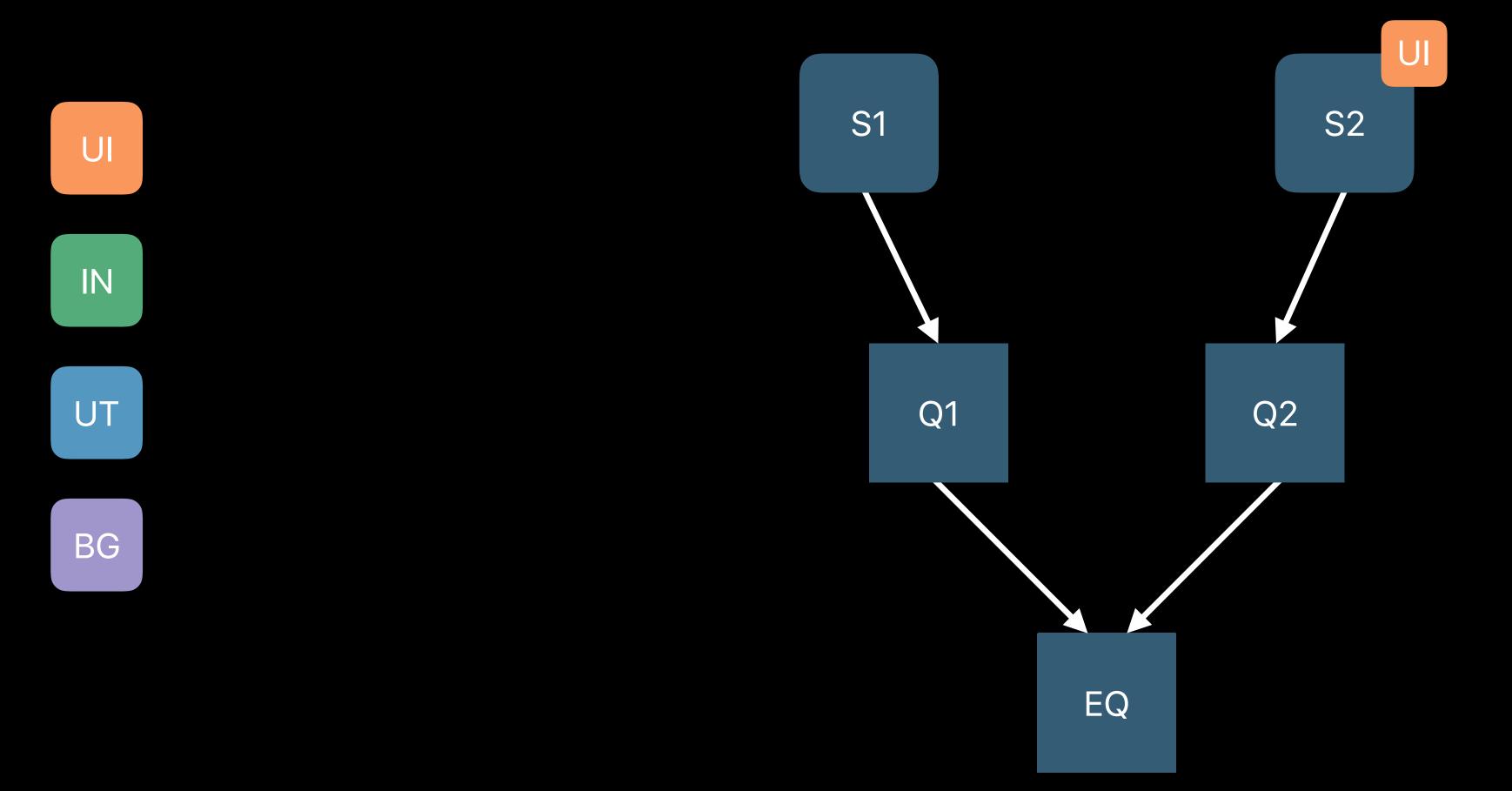
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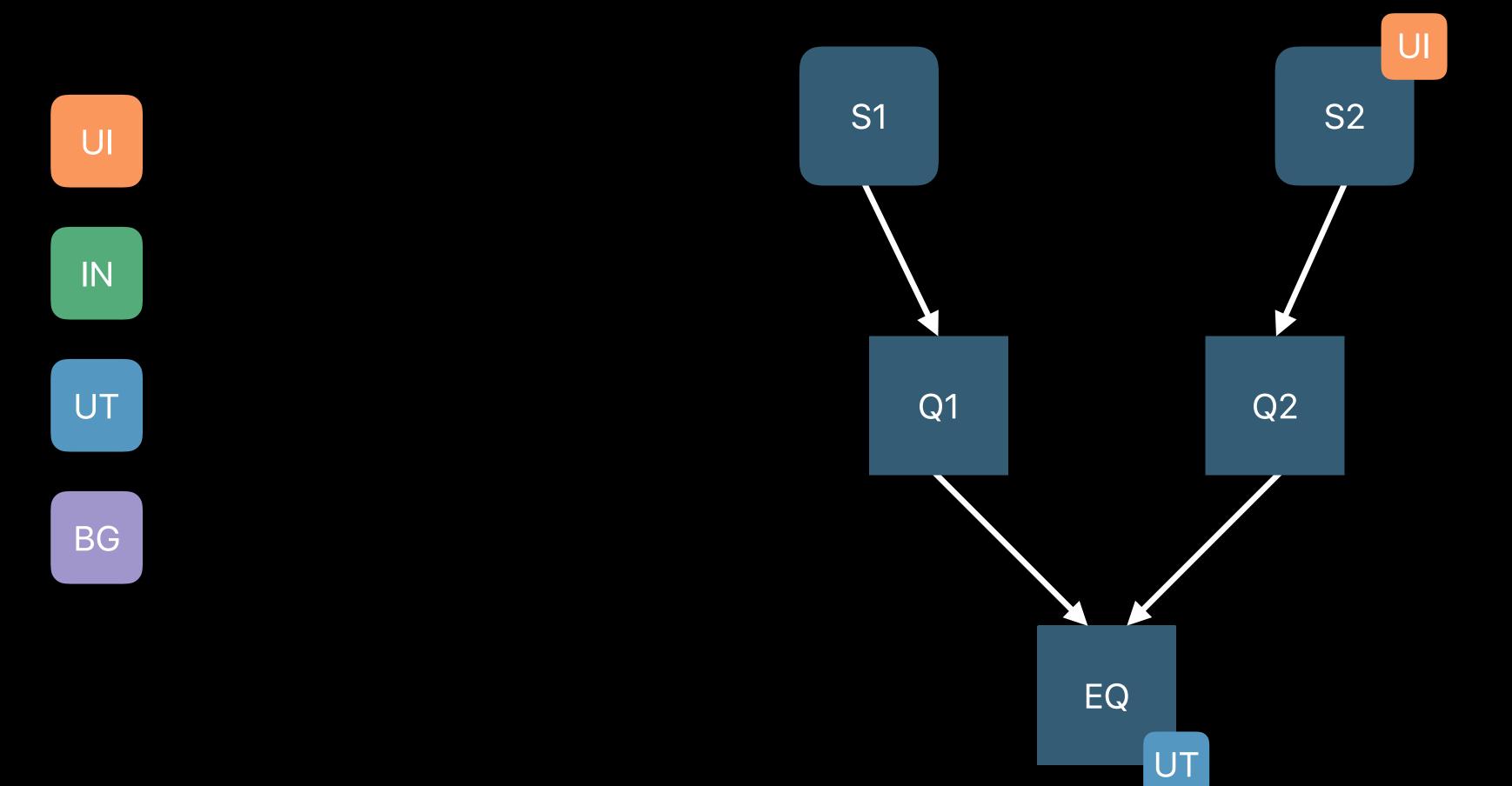
Affects various execution properties

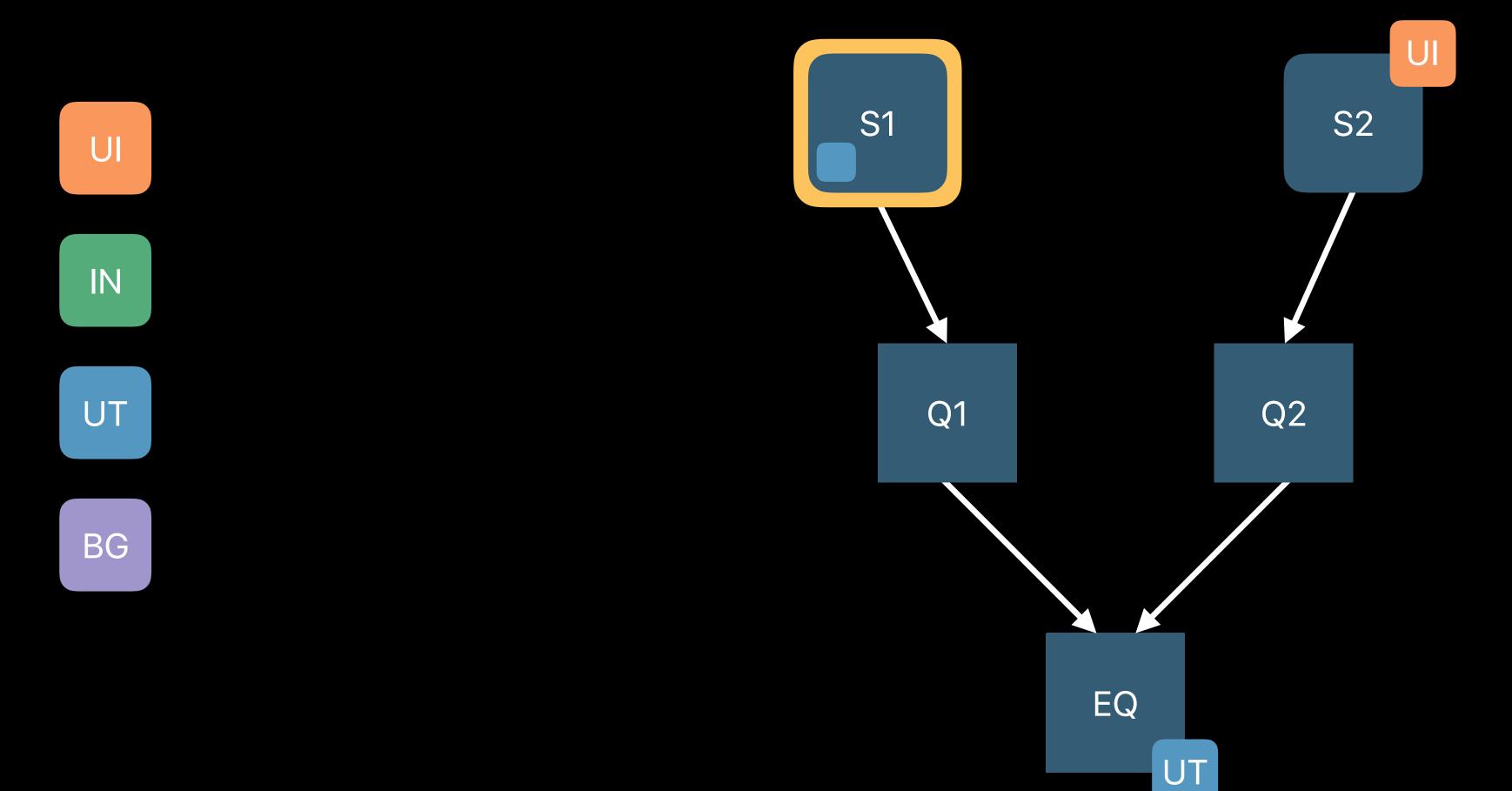


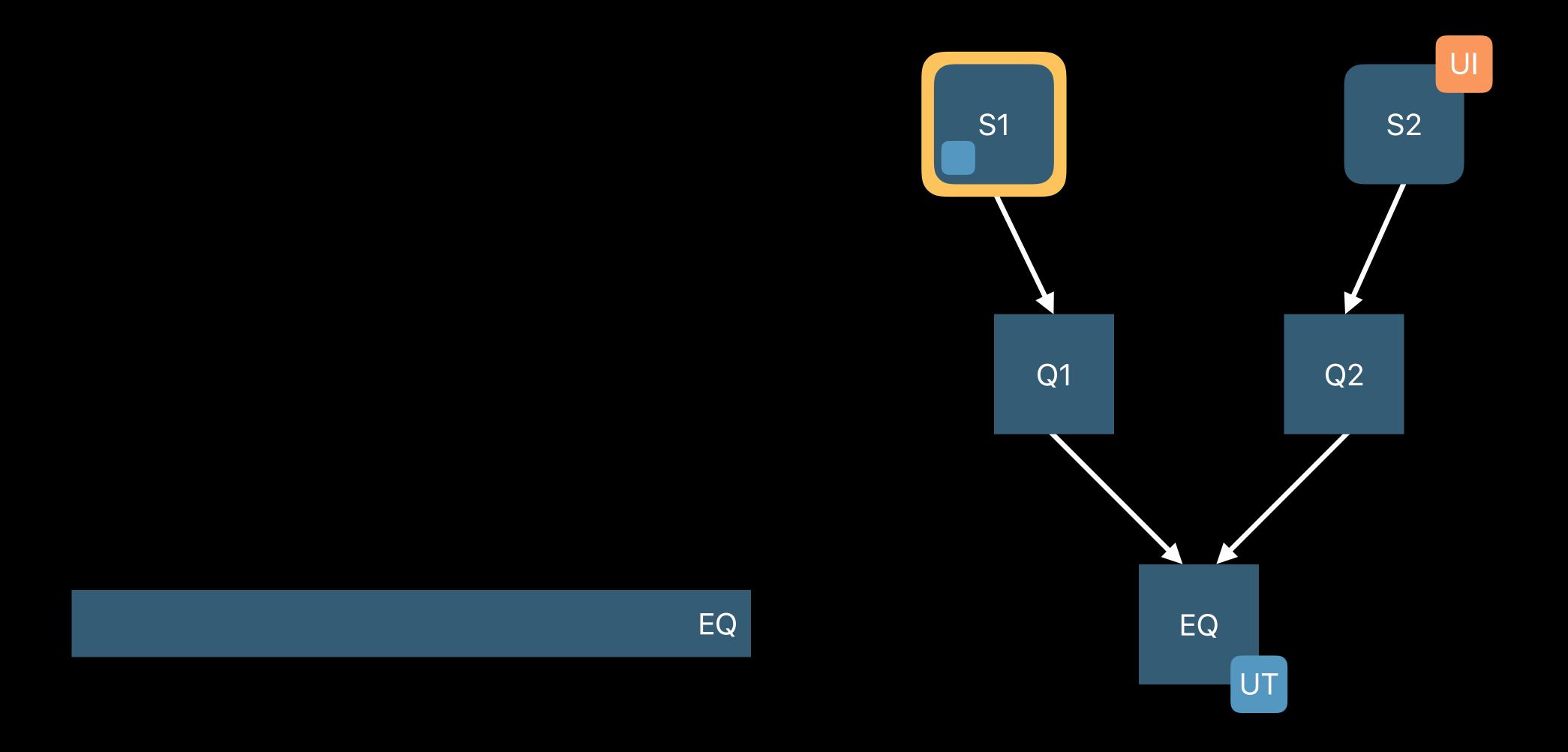
QoS and Target Queue Hierarchy

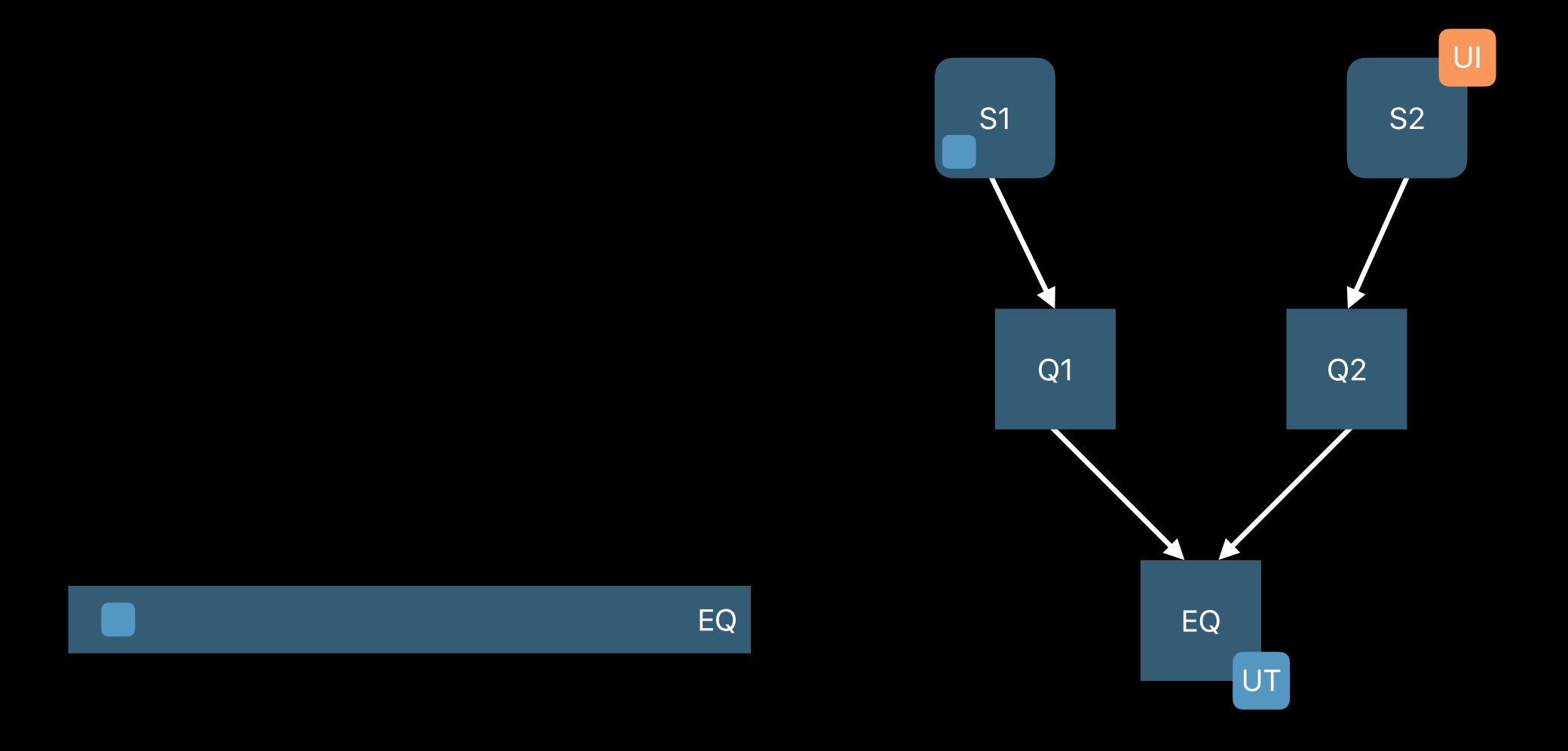


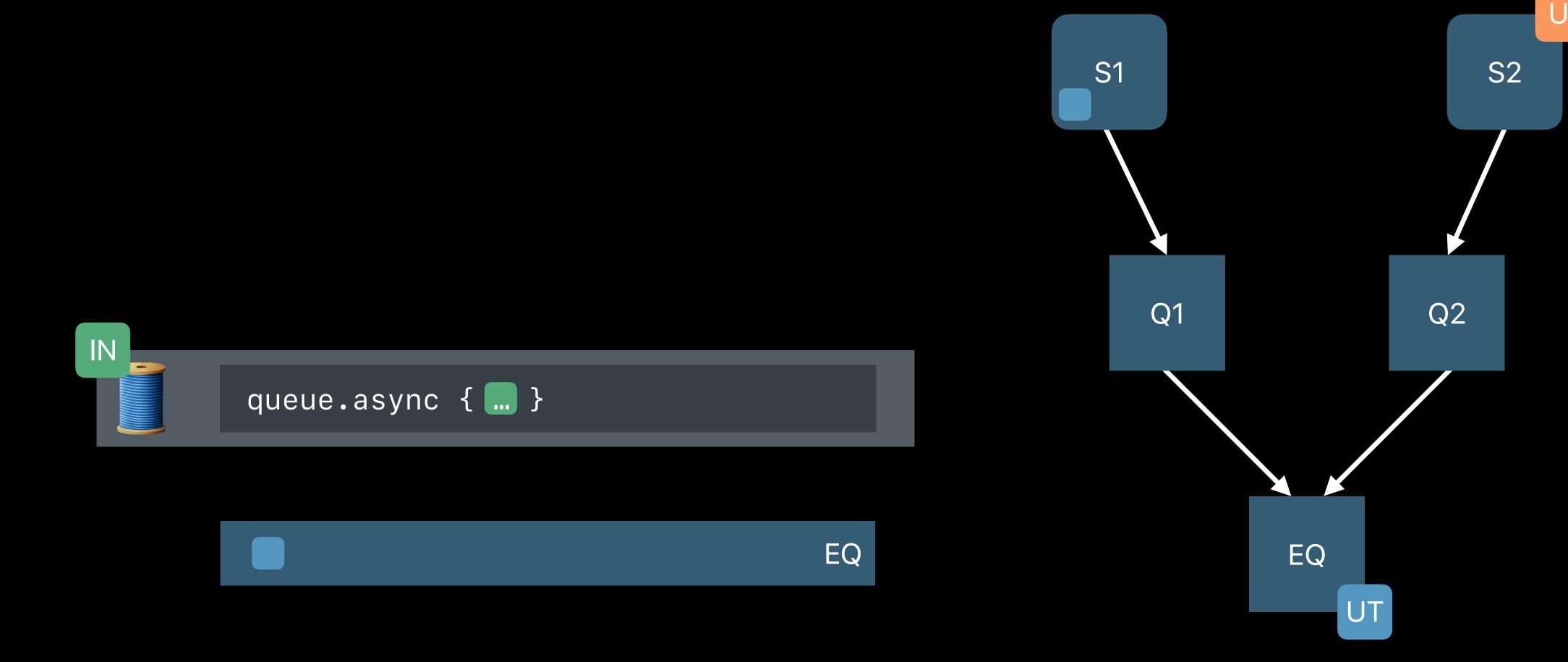


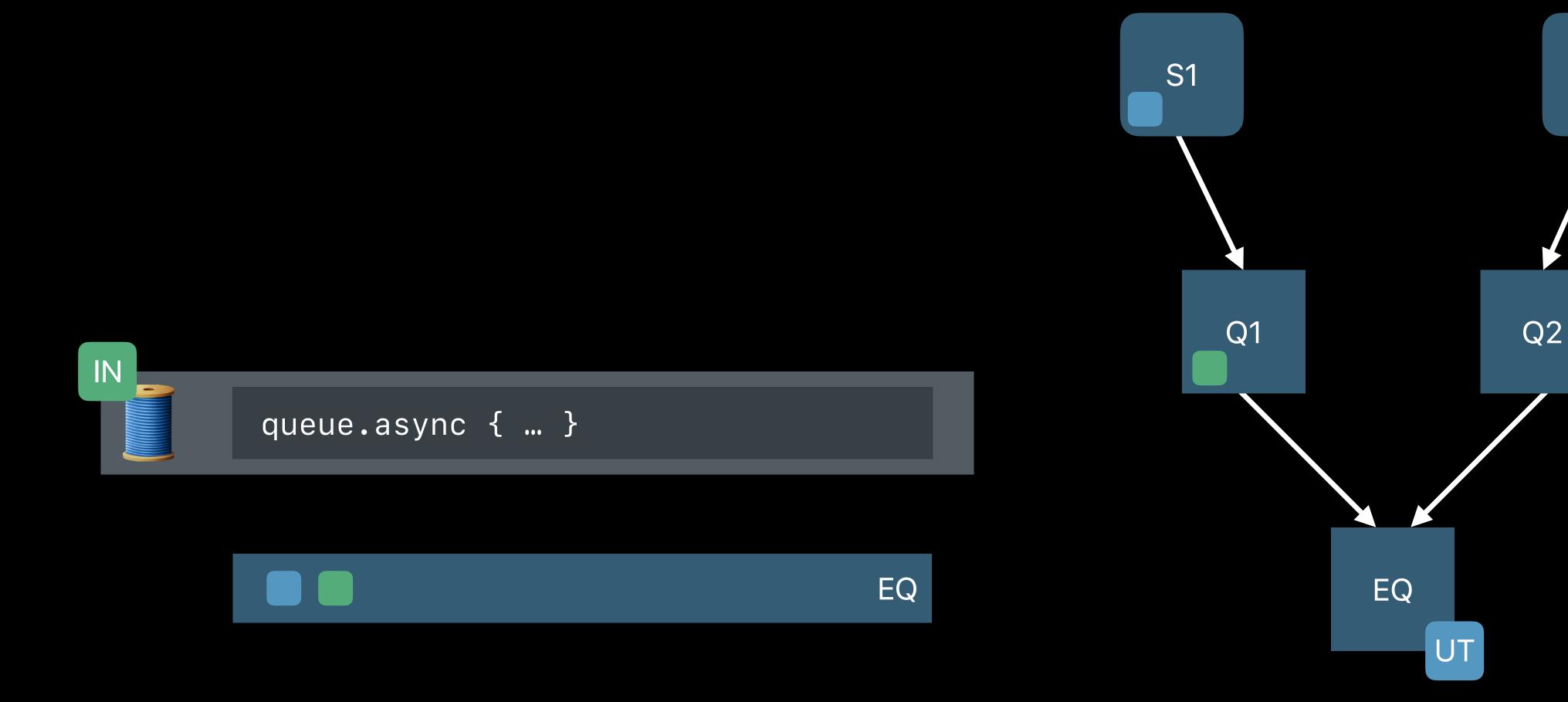


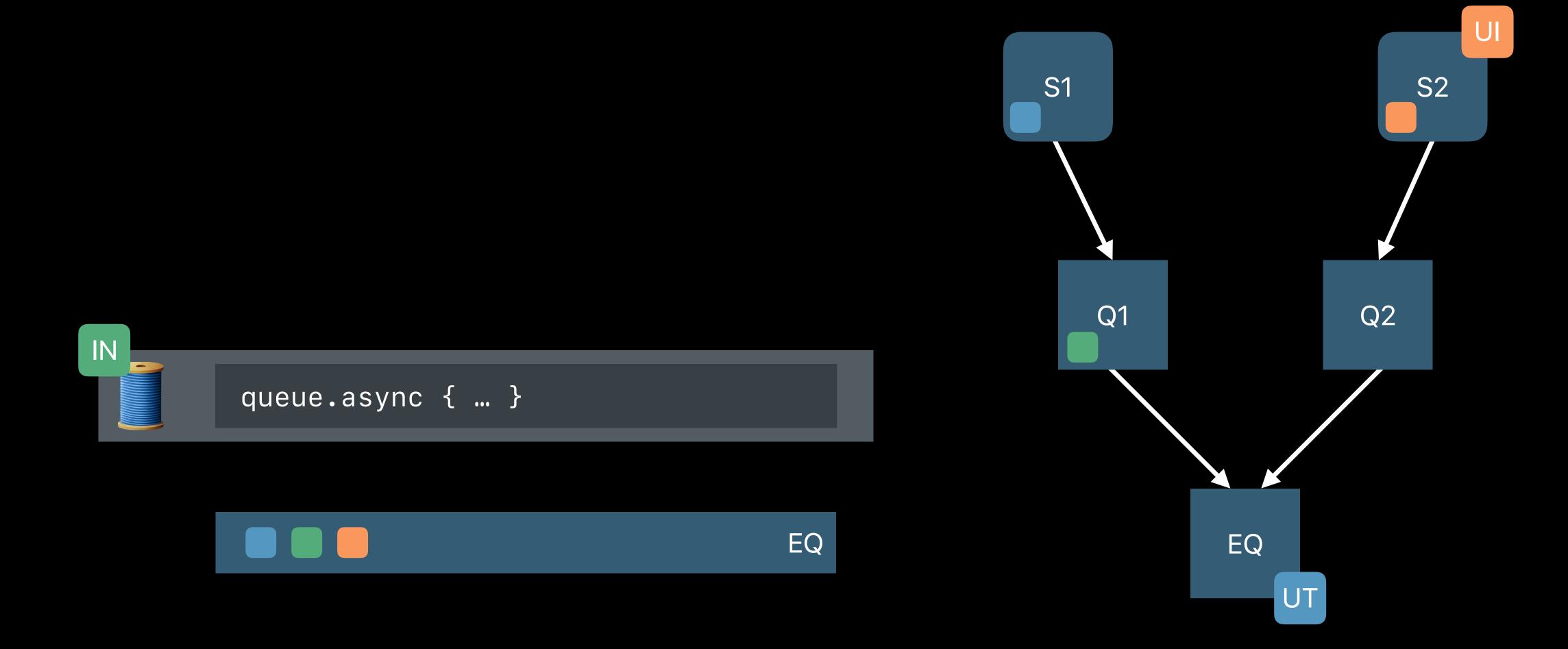


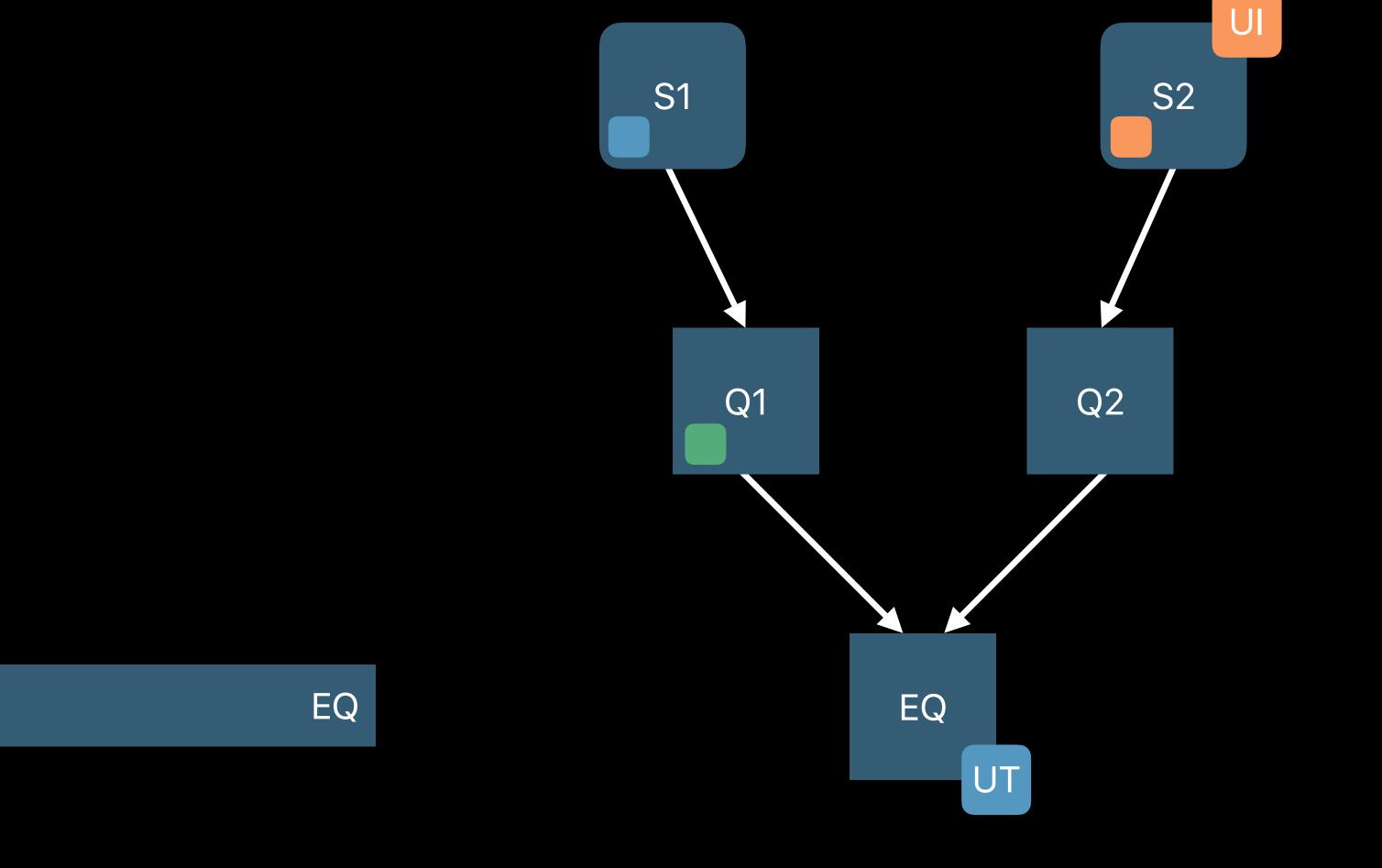




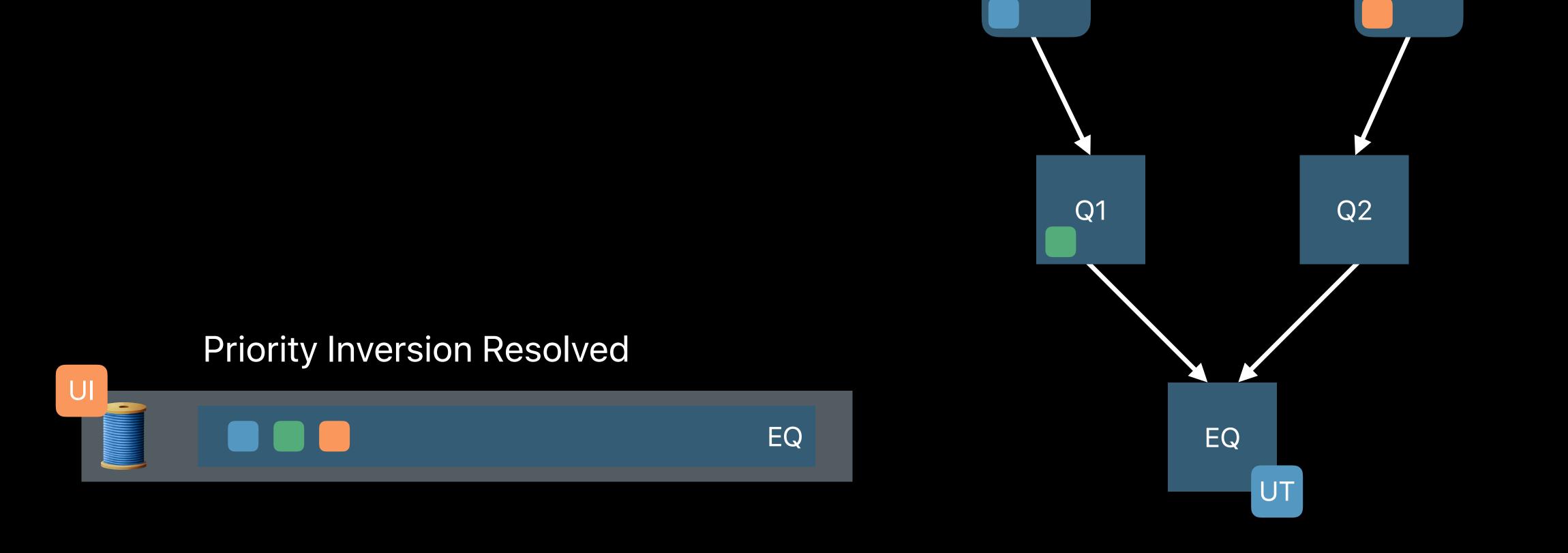








Priority Inversion



Granularity of Concurrency

User Interface

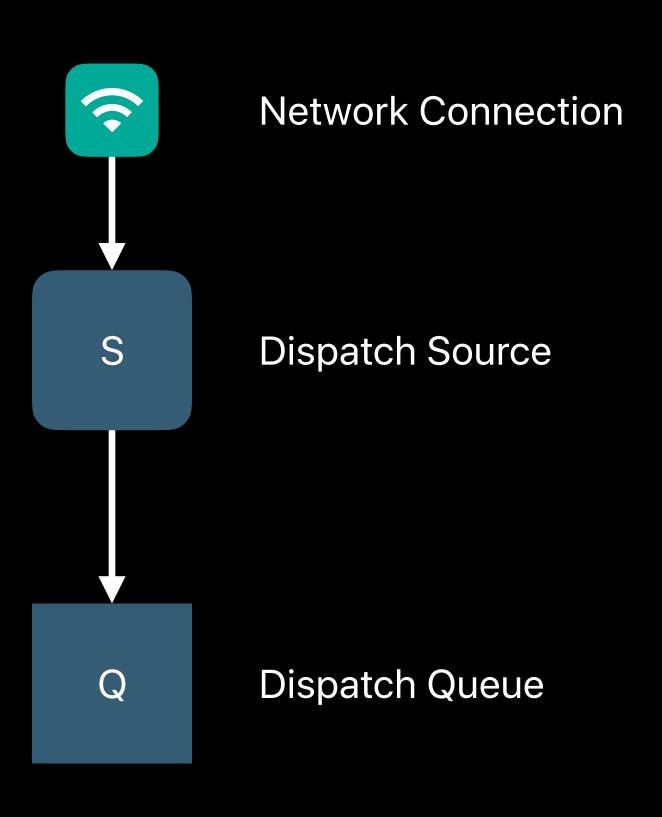
Networking

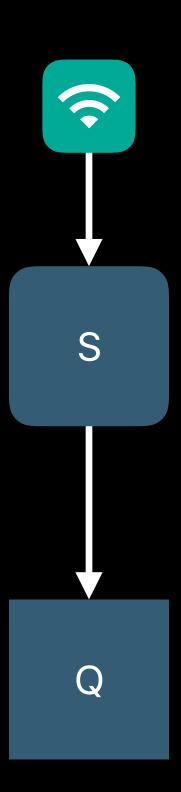
Database

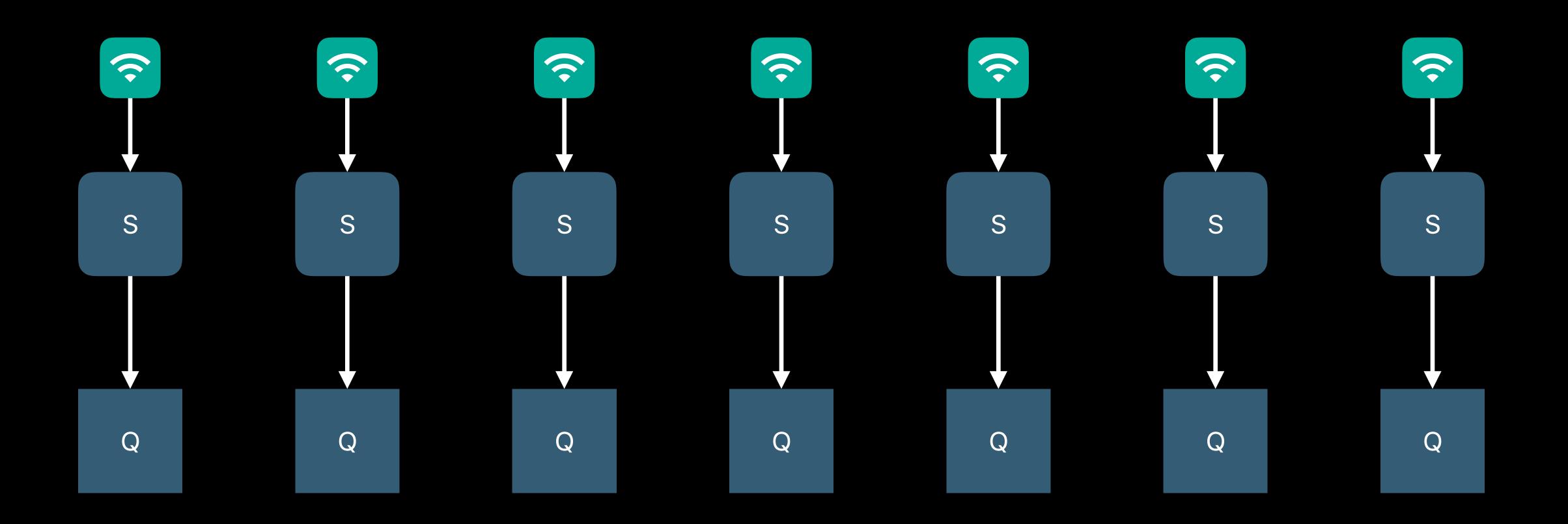
Networking

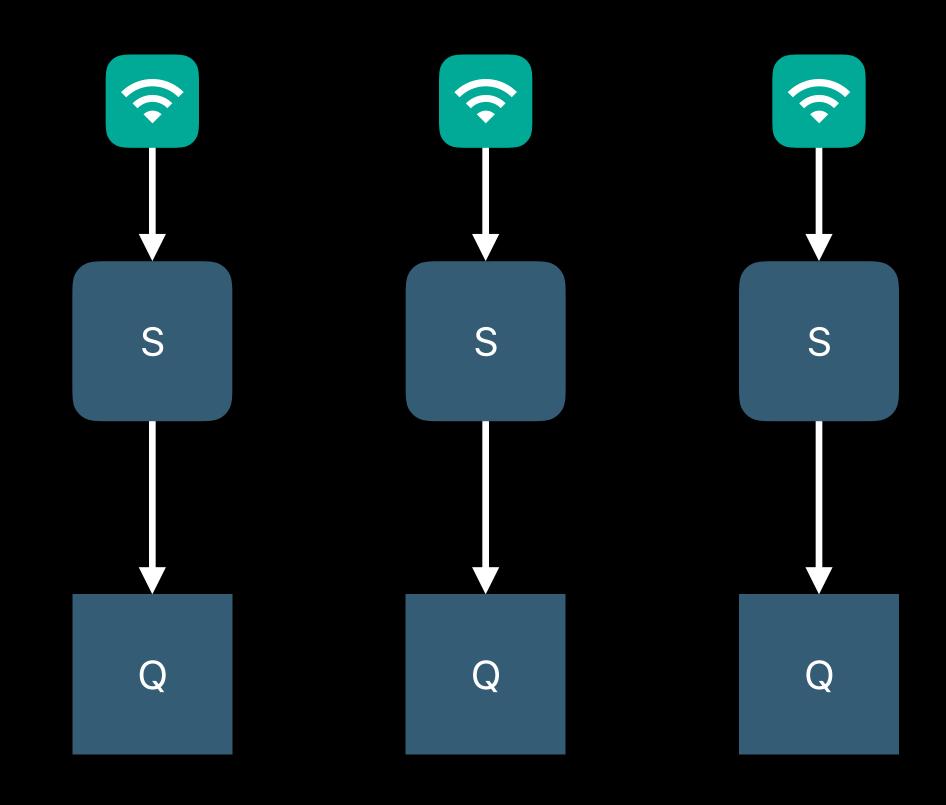


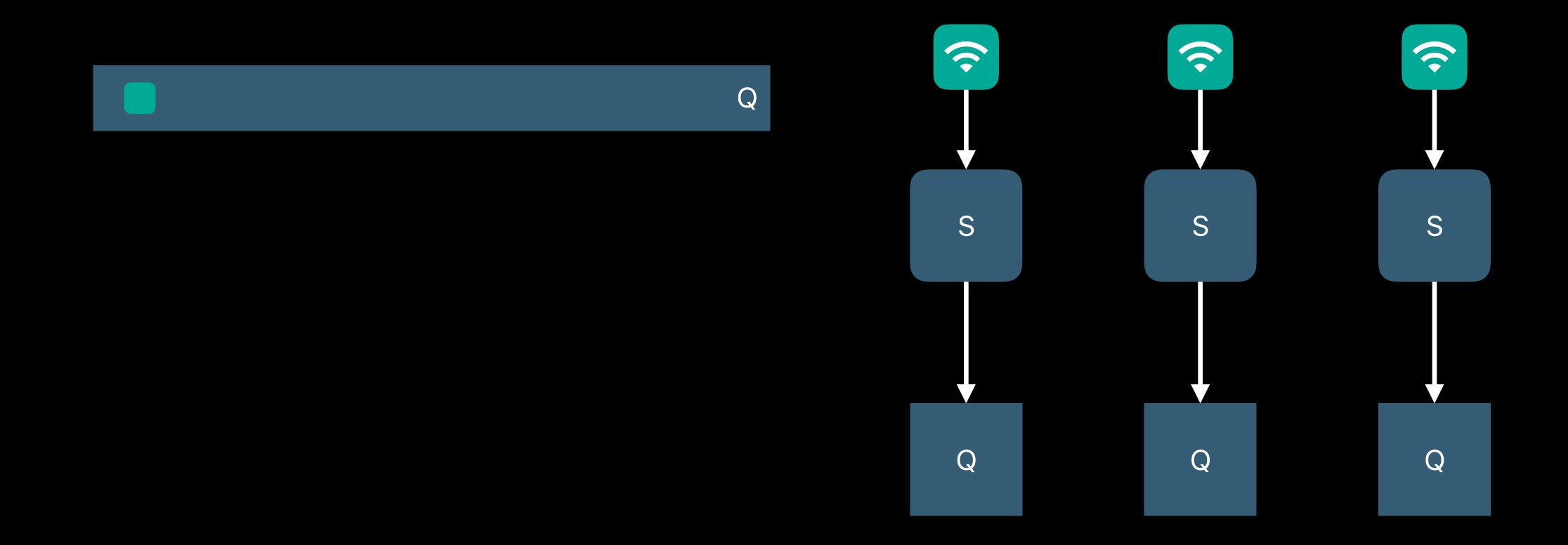
Network Connection

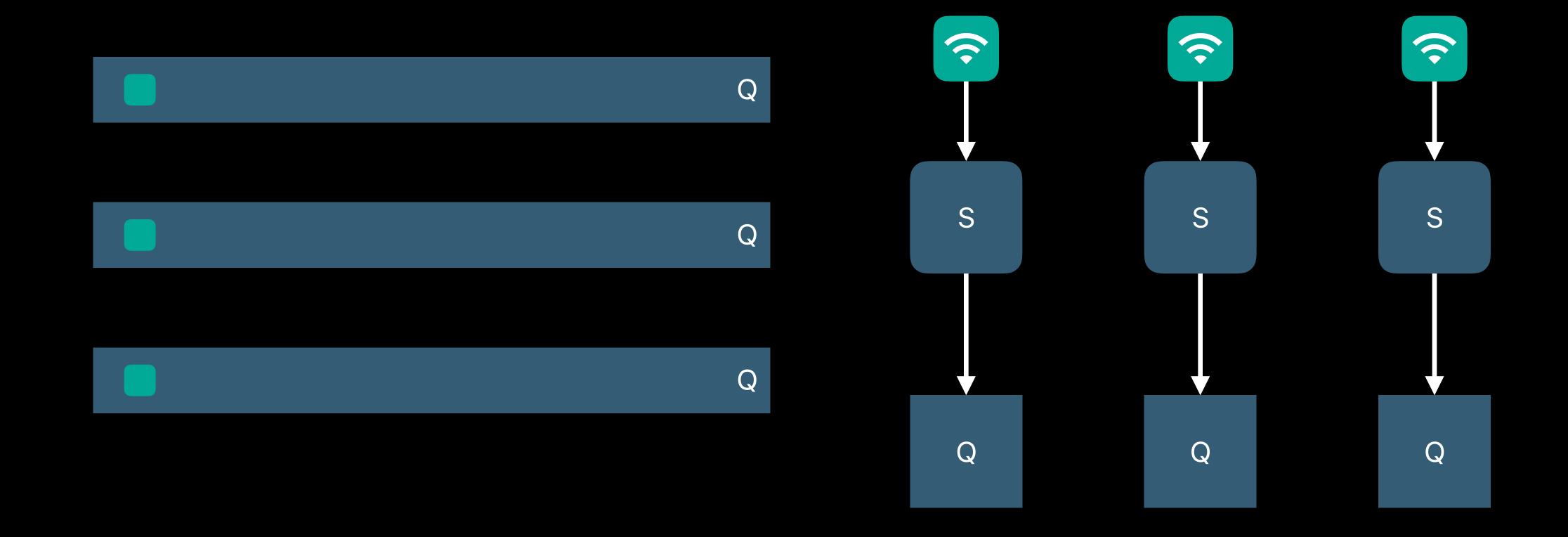


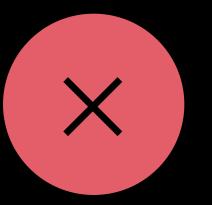




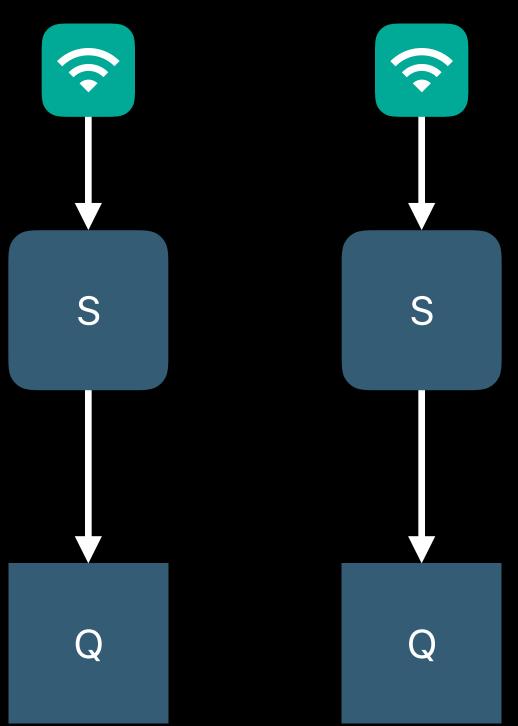


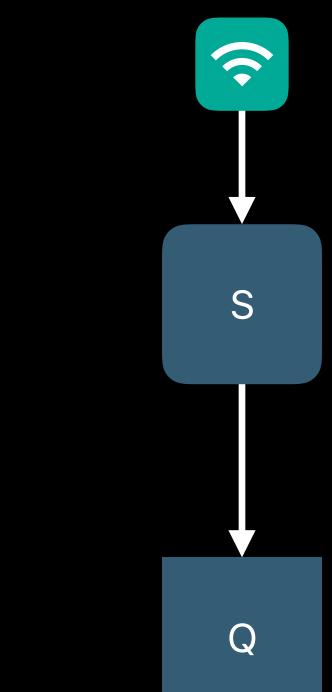


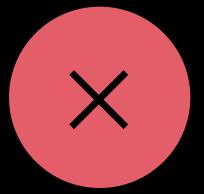


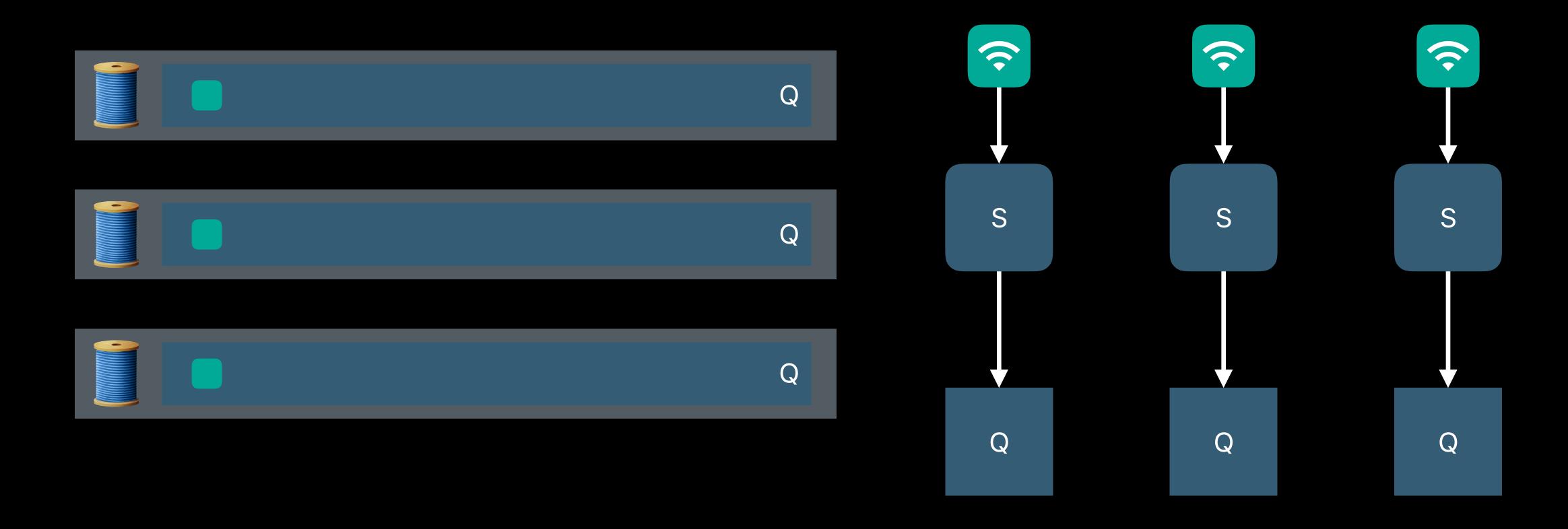




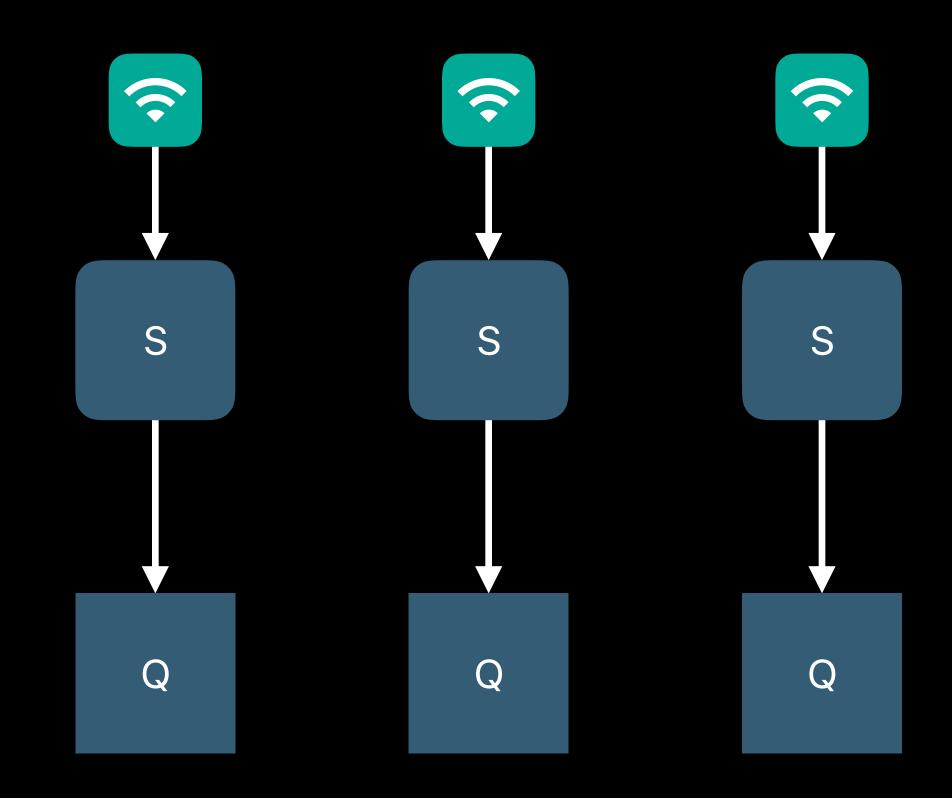




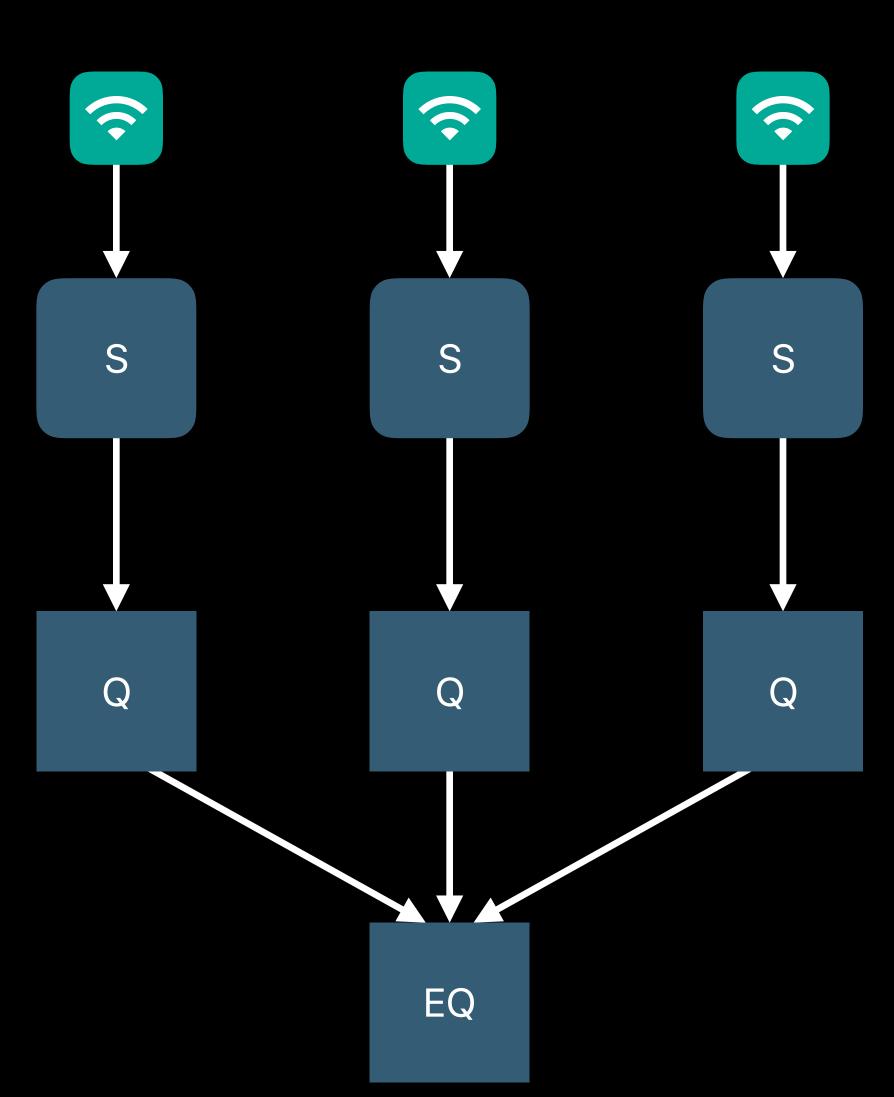






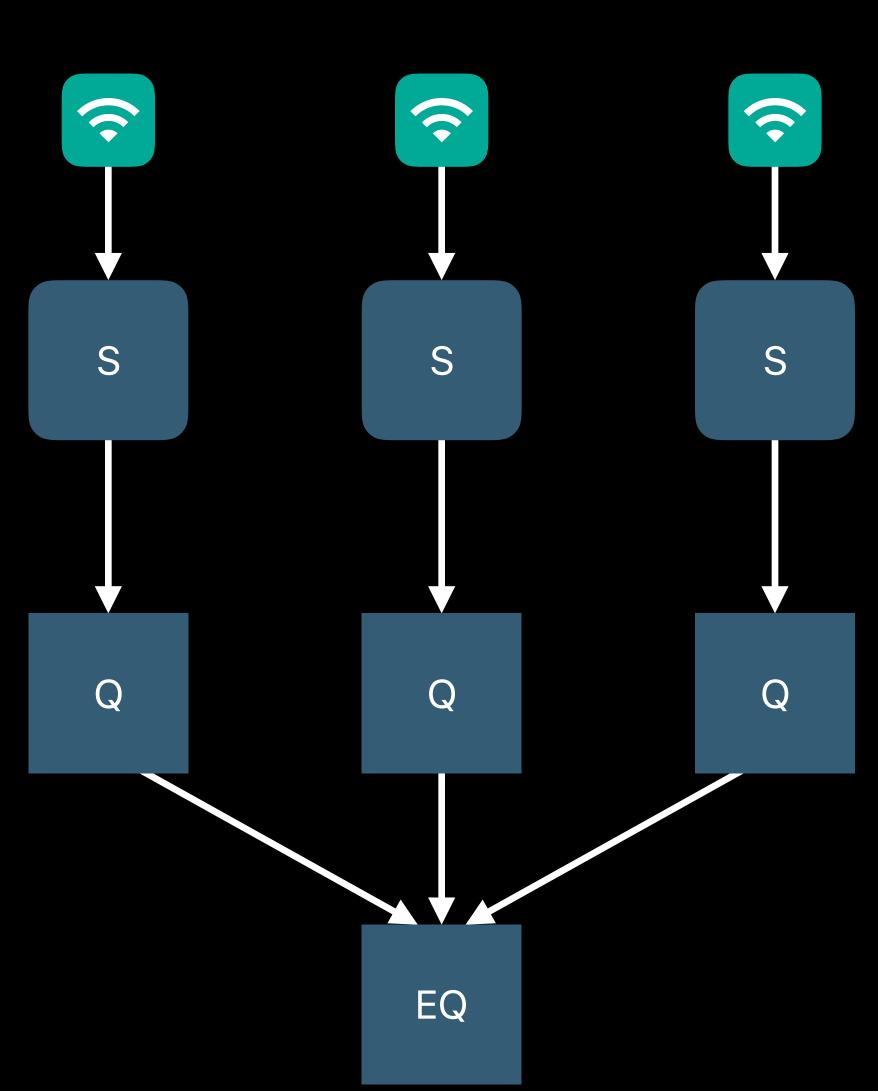






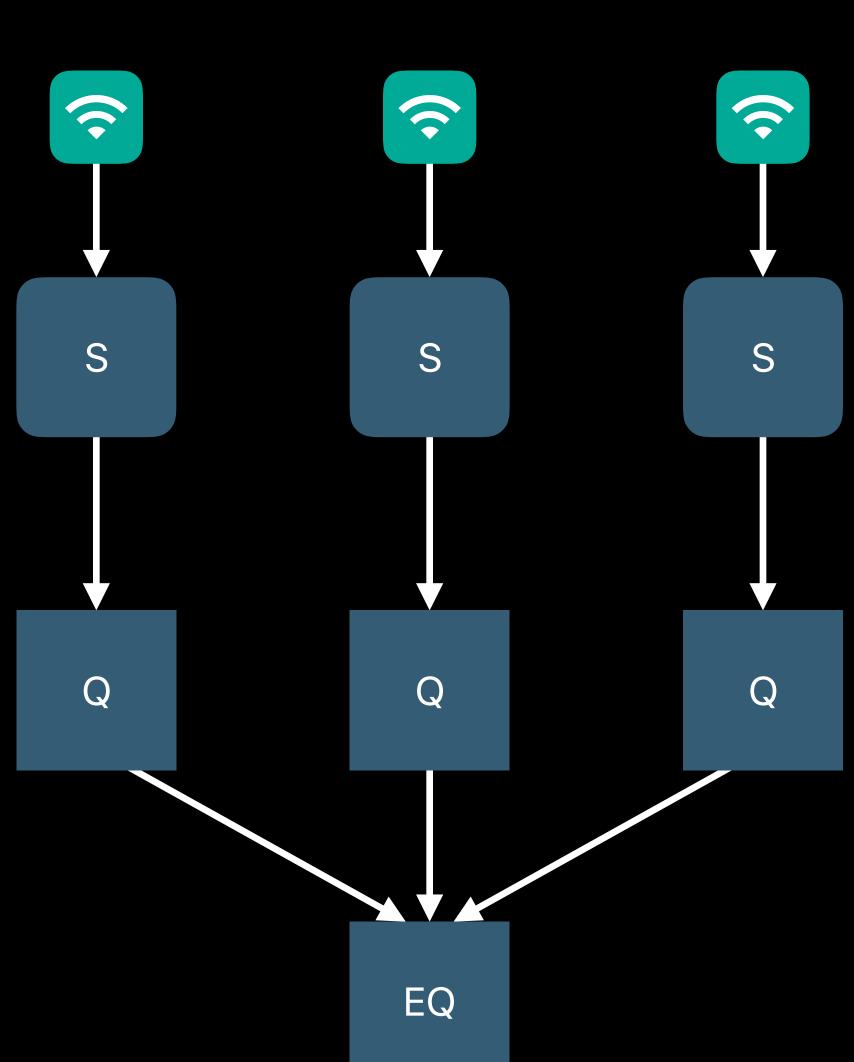




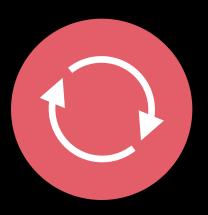








Too Much of a Good Thing



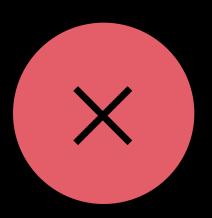
Repeatedly waiting for exclusive access to contended resources

Repeatedly switching between independent operations

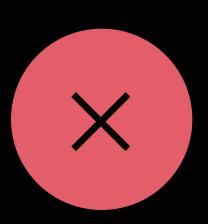
Repeatedly bouncing an operation between threads

Repeatedly switching between independent operations

Repeatedly switching between independent operations



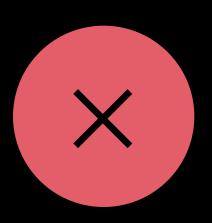
Repeatedly switching between independent operations



Many queues becoming active at once

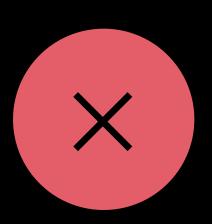
- Independent per-client sources
- Independent per-object queues

Repeatedly switching between independent operations



Many workitems submitted to global concurrent queue

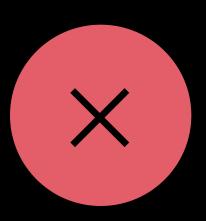
Repeatedly switching between independent operations



Many workitems submitted to global concurrent queue

- If workitems block, more threads will be created
- May lead to thread explosion

Repeatedly switching between independent operations

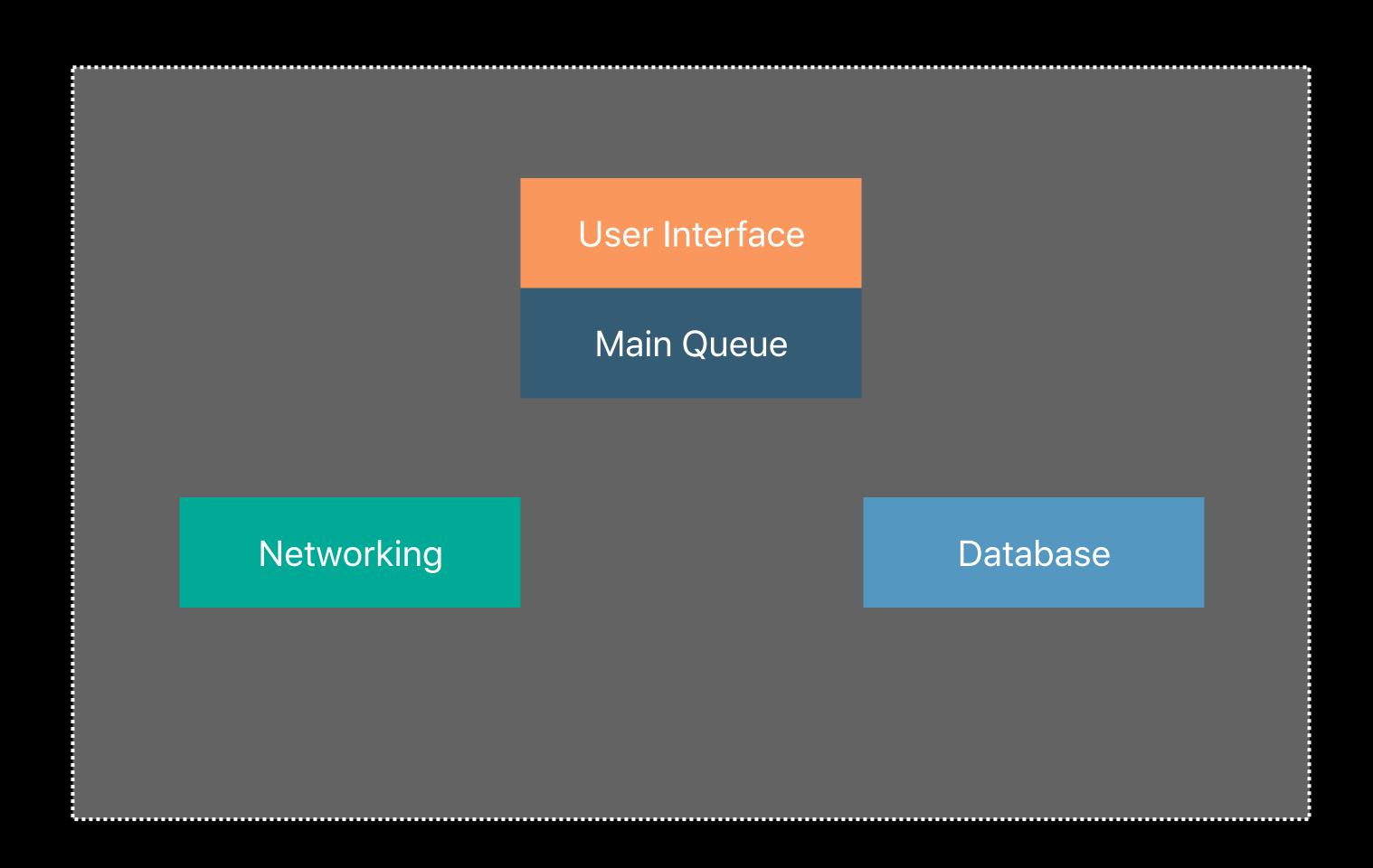


Many workitems submitted to global concurrent queue

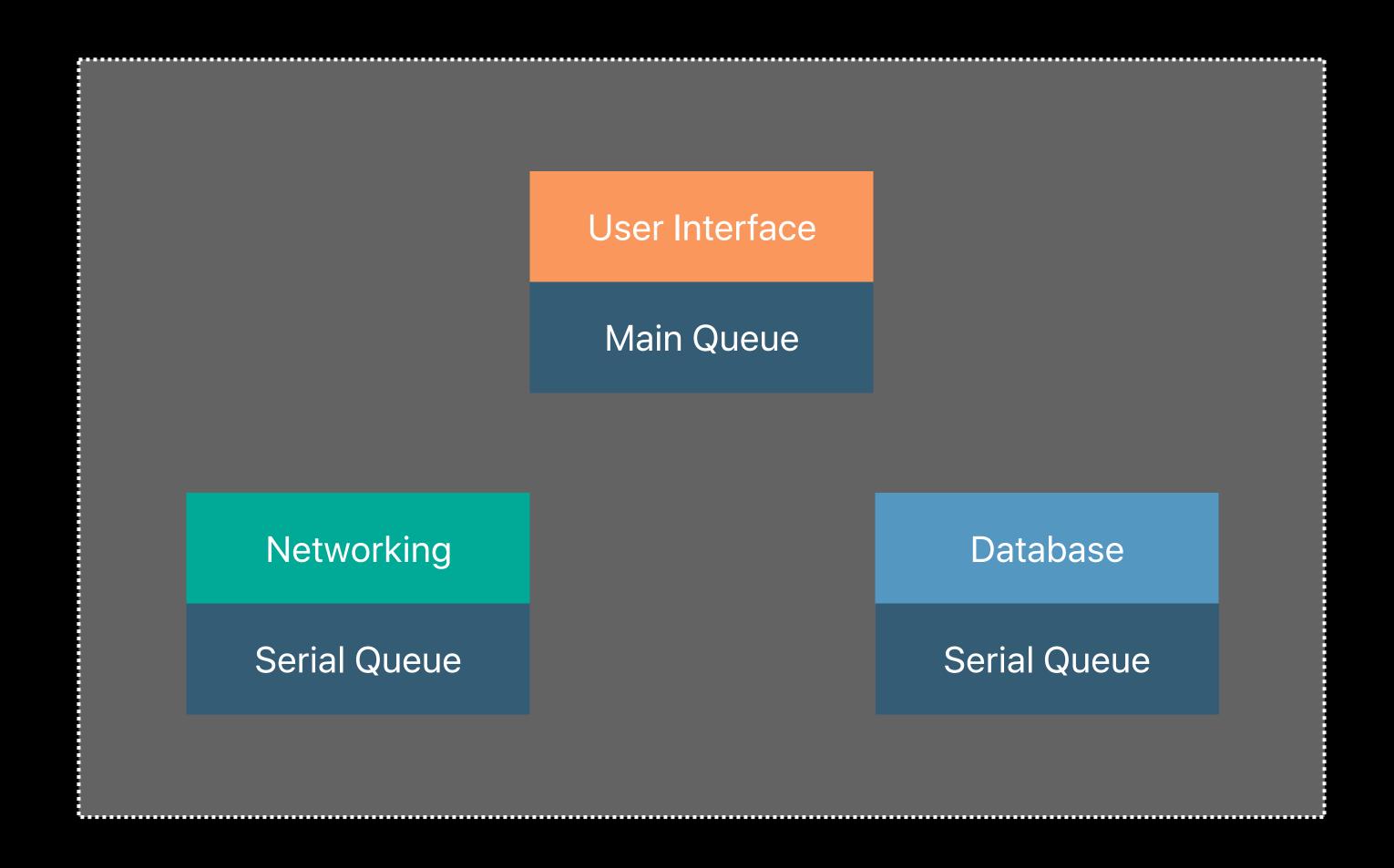
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One Queue per Subsystem

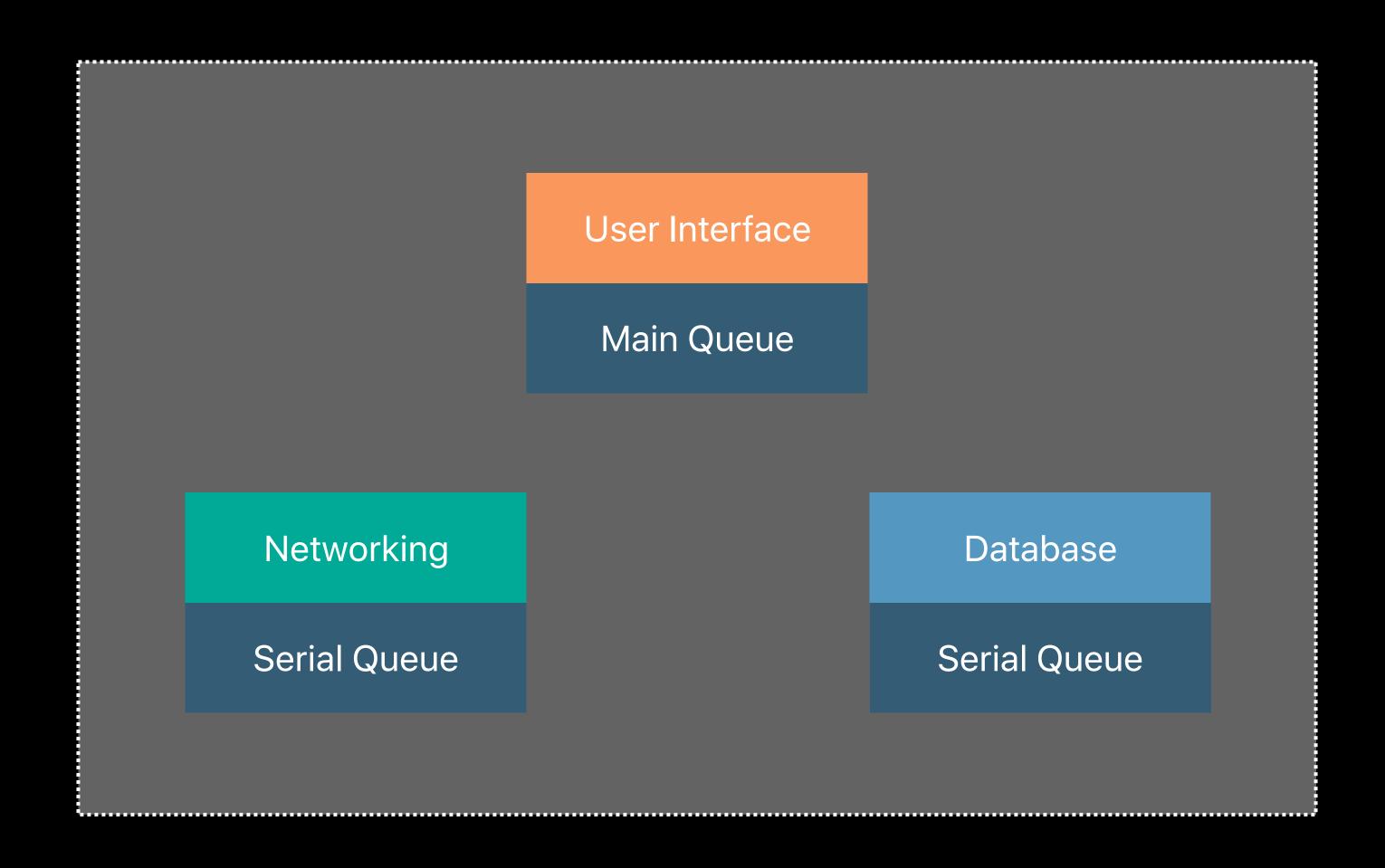
One Queue per Subsystem



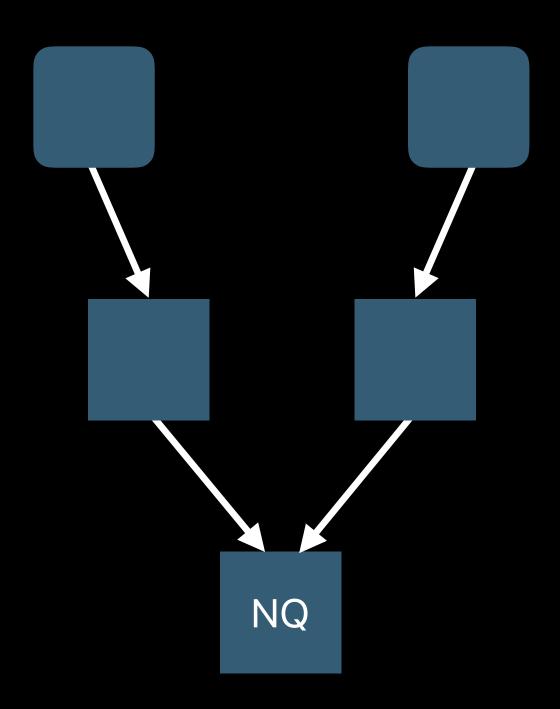
One Queue per Subsystem

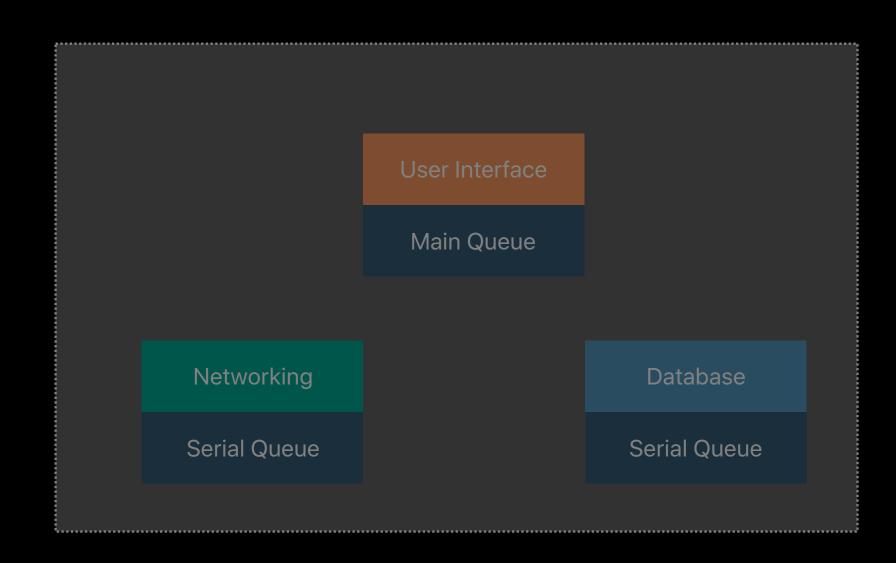


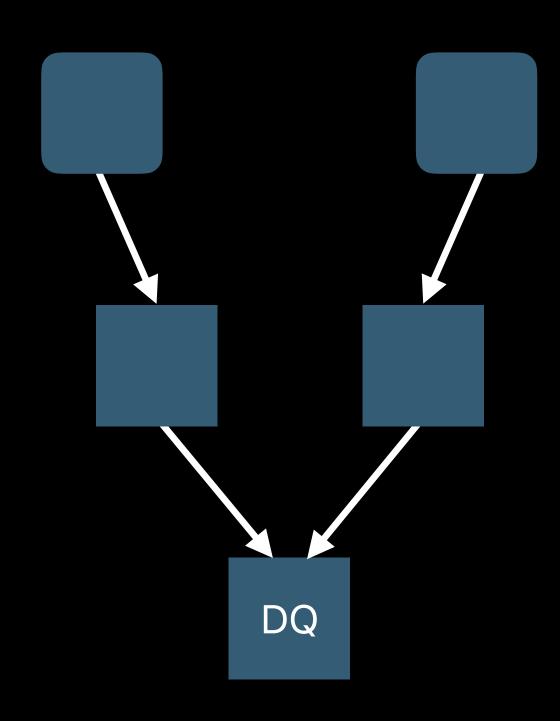
One Queue Hierarchy per Subsystem



One Queue Hierarchy per Subsystem







Fixed number of serial queue hierarchies



Fixed number of serial queue hierarchies



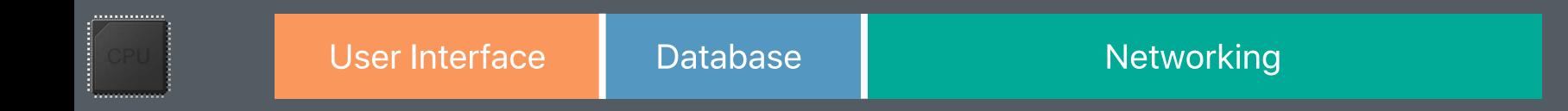
Fixed number of serial queue hierarchies

Coarse workitem granularity between hierarchies



Fixed number of serial queue hierarchies

Coarse workitem granularity between hierarchies

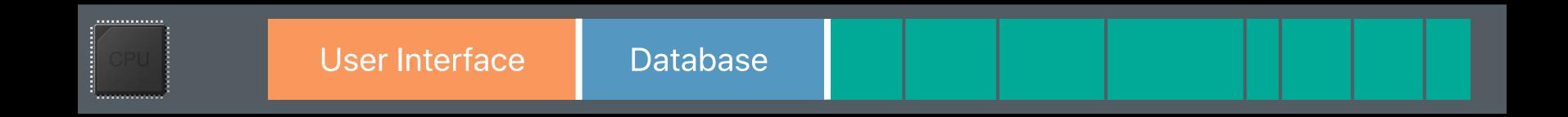




Fixed number of serial queue hierarchies

Coarse workitem granularity between hierarchies

Finer workitem granularity inside a hierarchy



Using GCD for Concurrency

Organize queues and sources into serial queue hierarchies

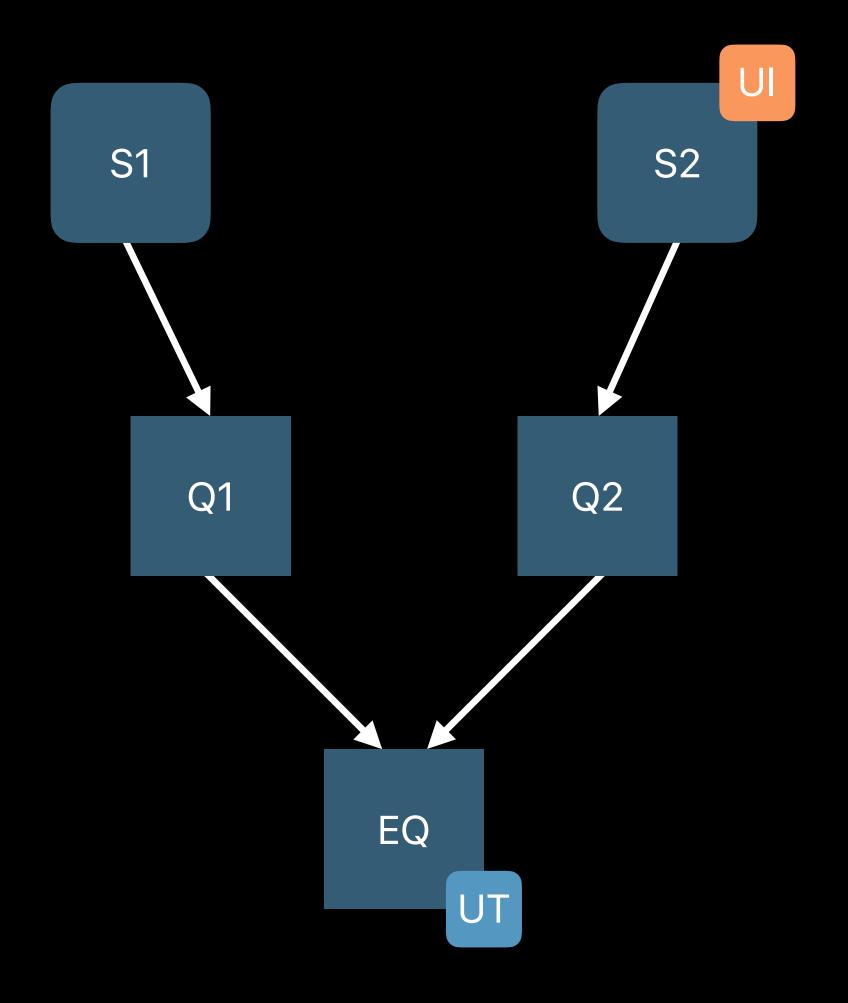
Use a fixed number of serial queue hierarchies

Size your workitems appropriately

Introducing Unified Queue Identity

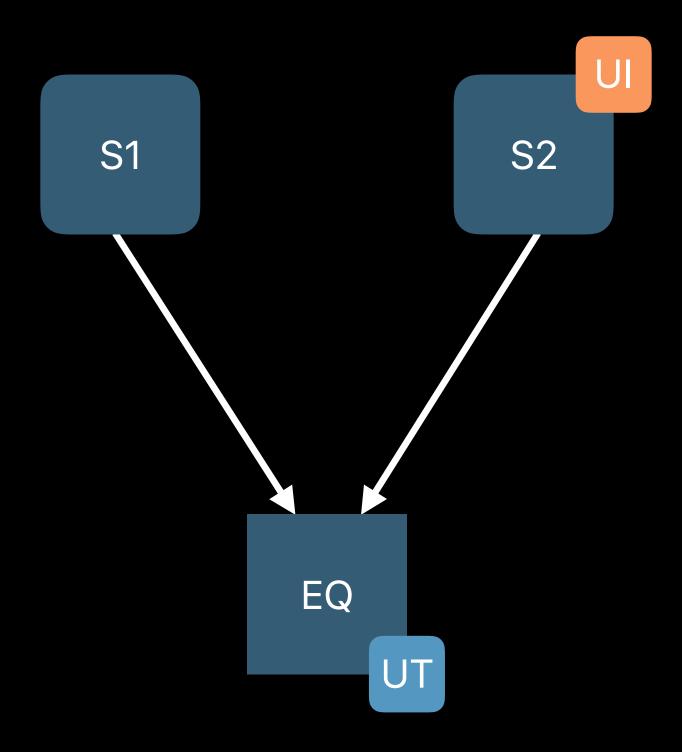
Mutual Exclusion Context

Deep dive



Mutual Exclusion Context

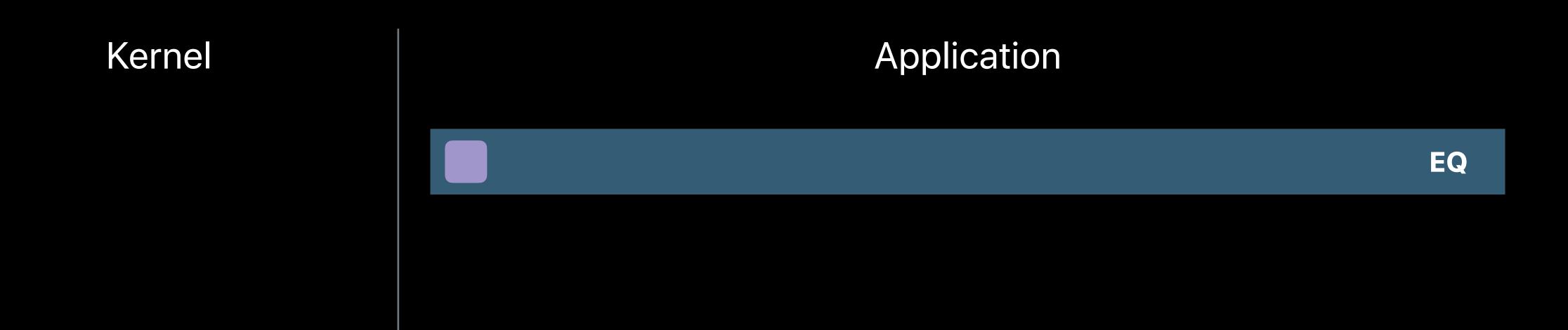
Deep dive



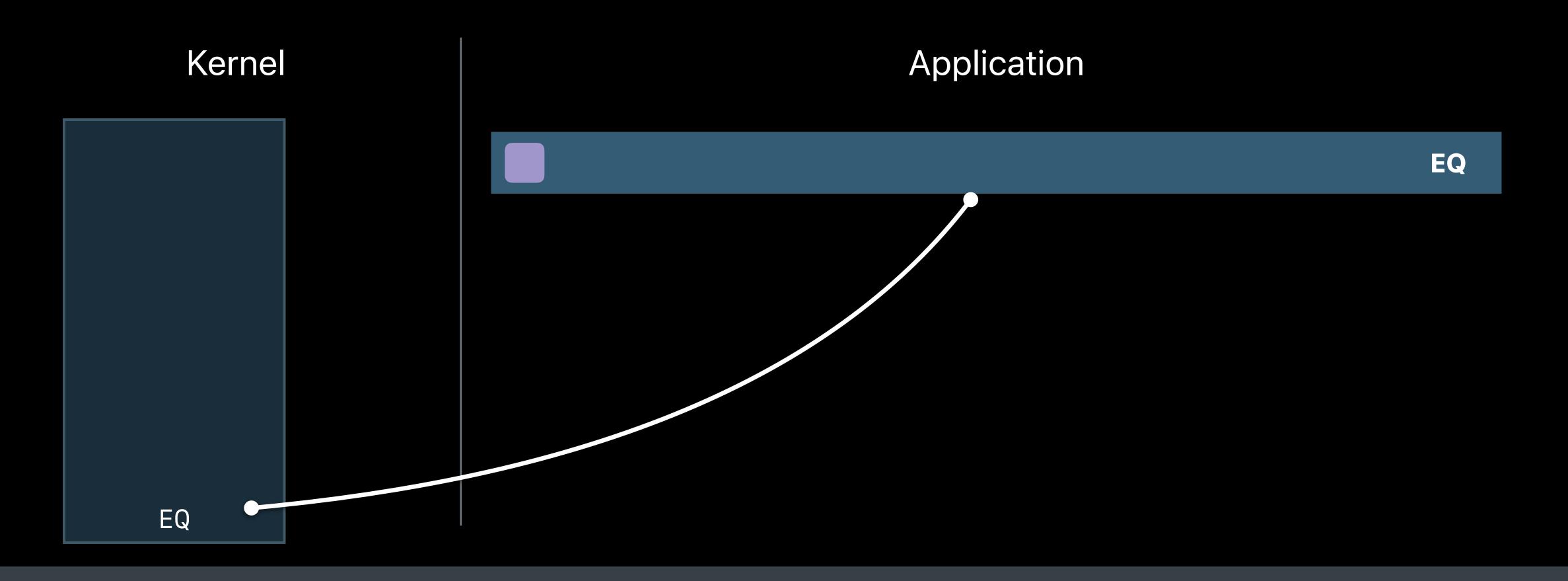


let EQ = DispatchQueue(label: "com.example.exclusion-context")

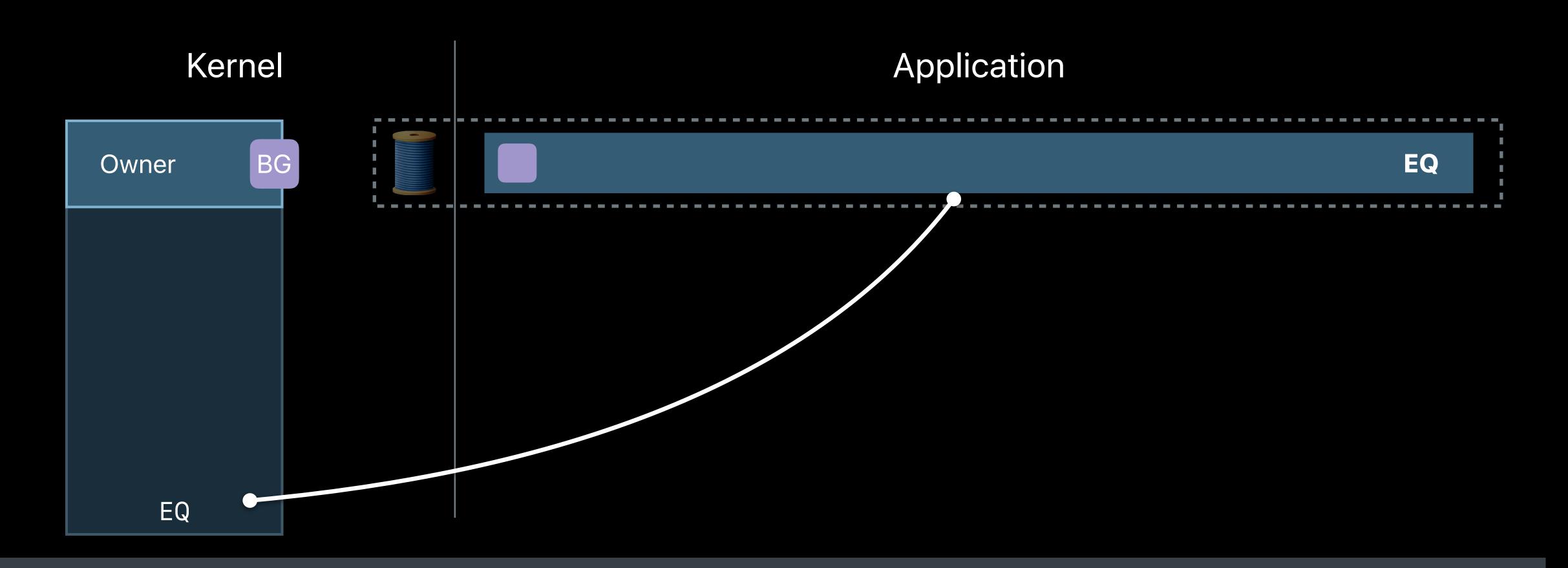




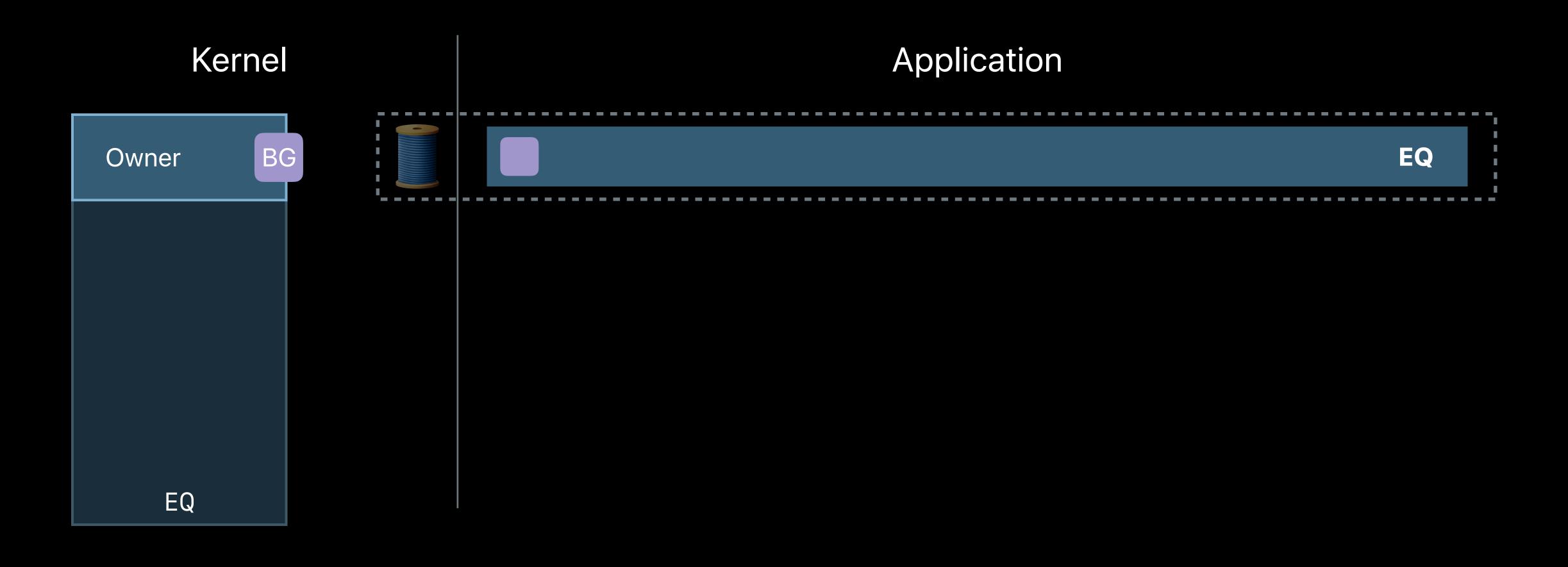




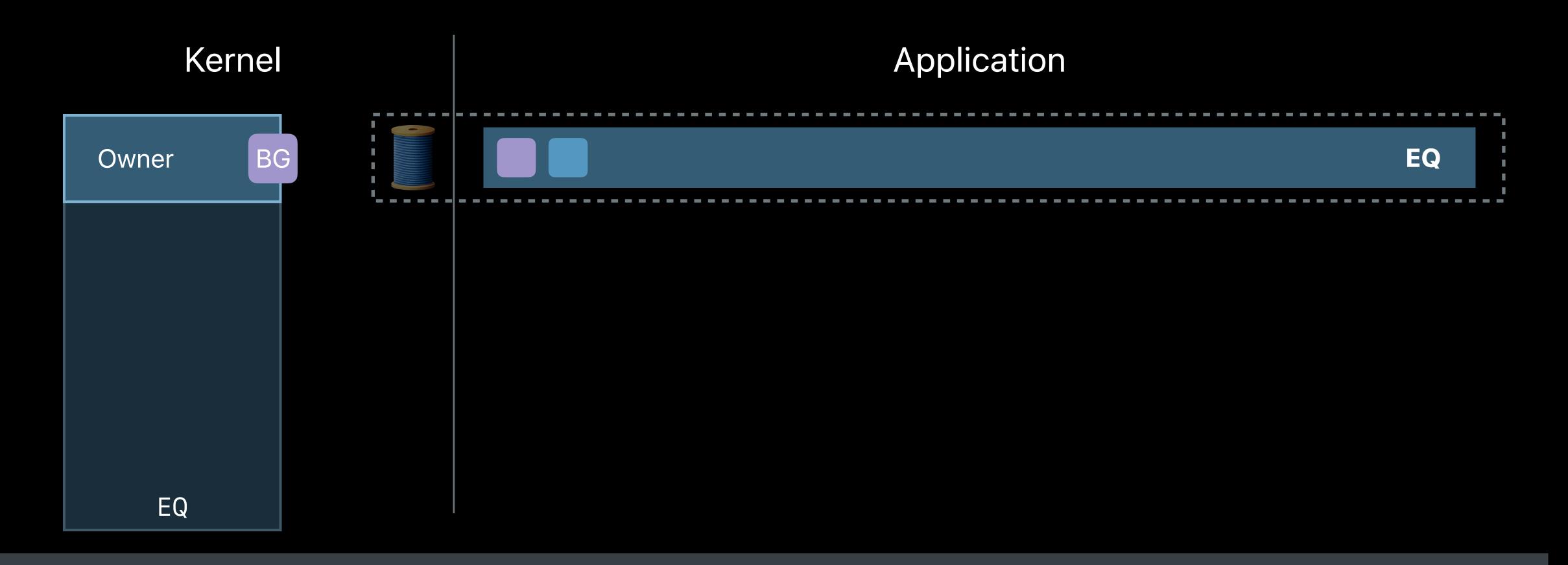




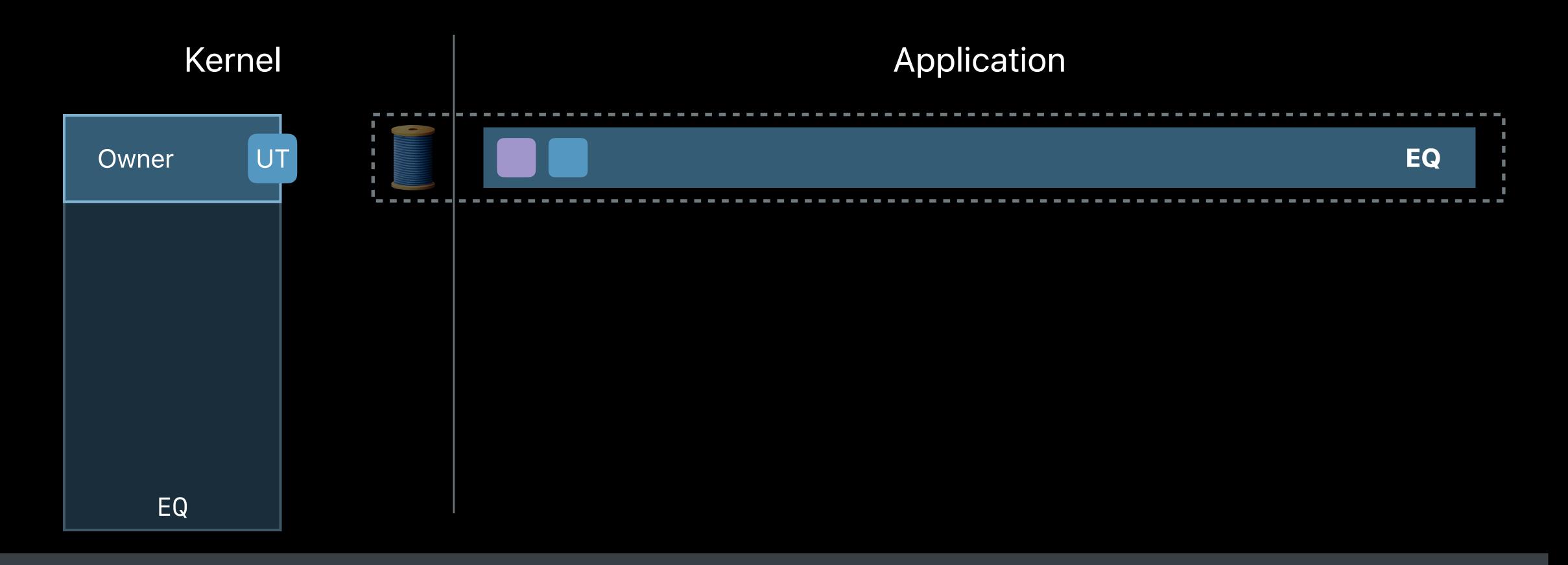




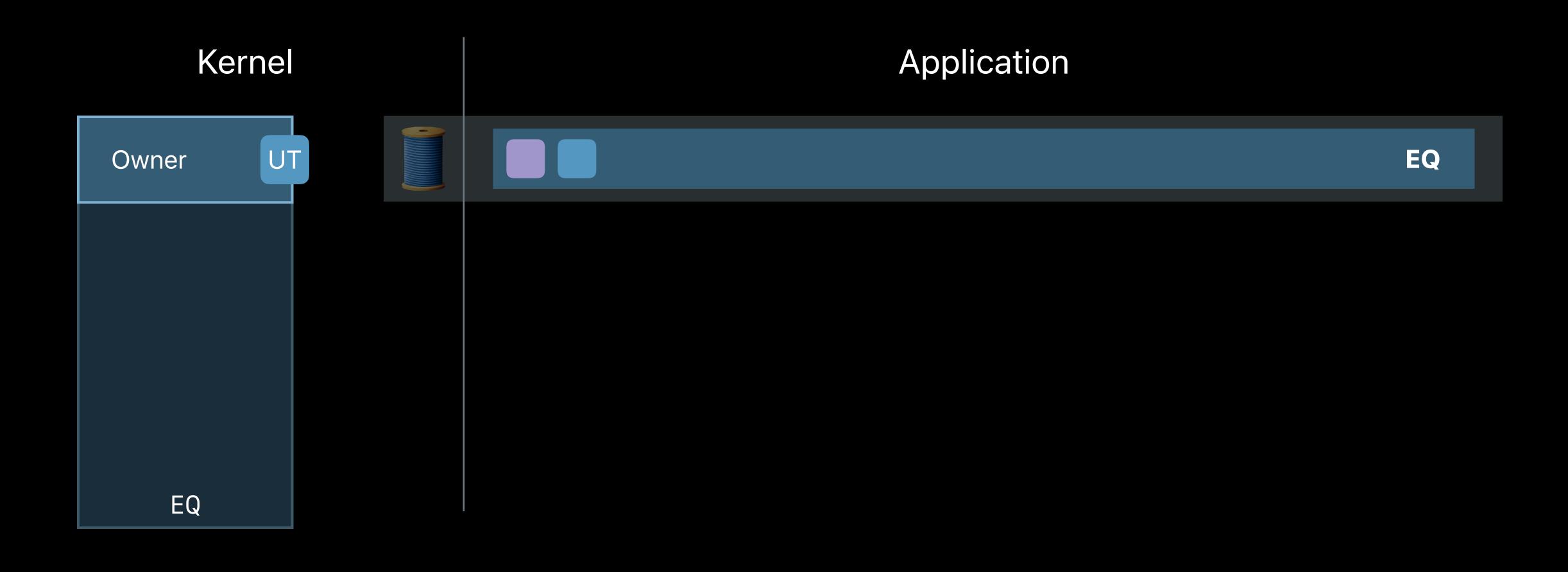




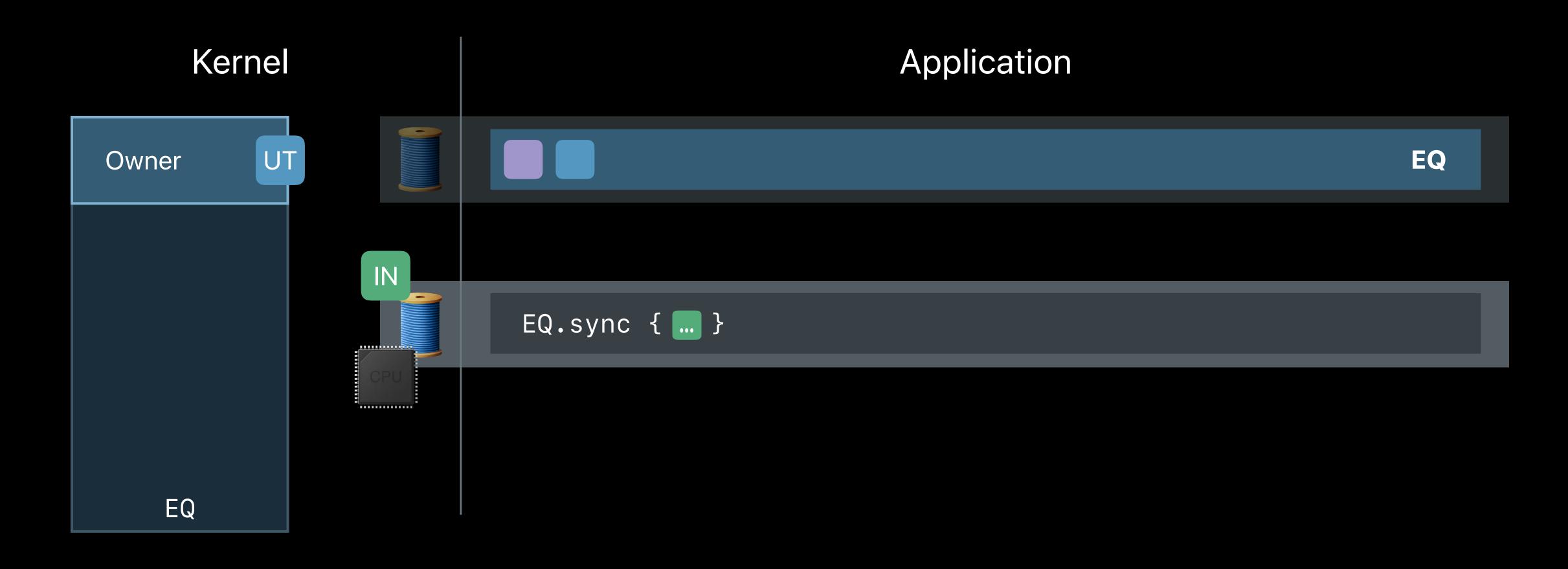




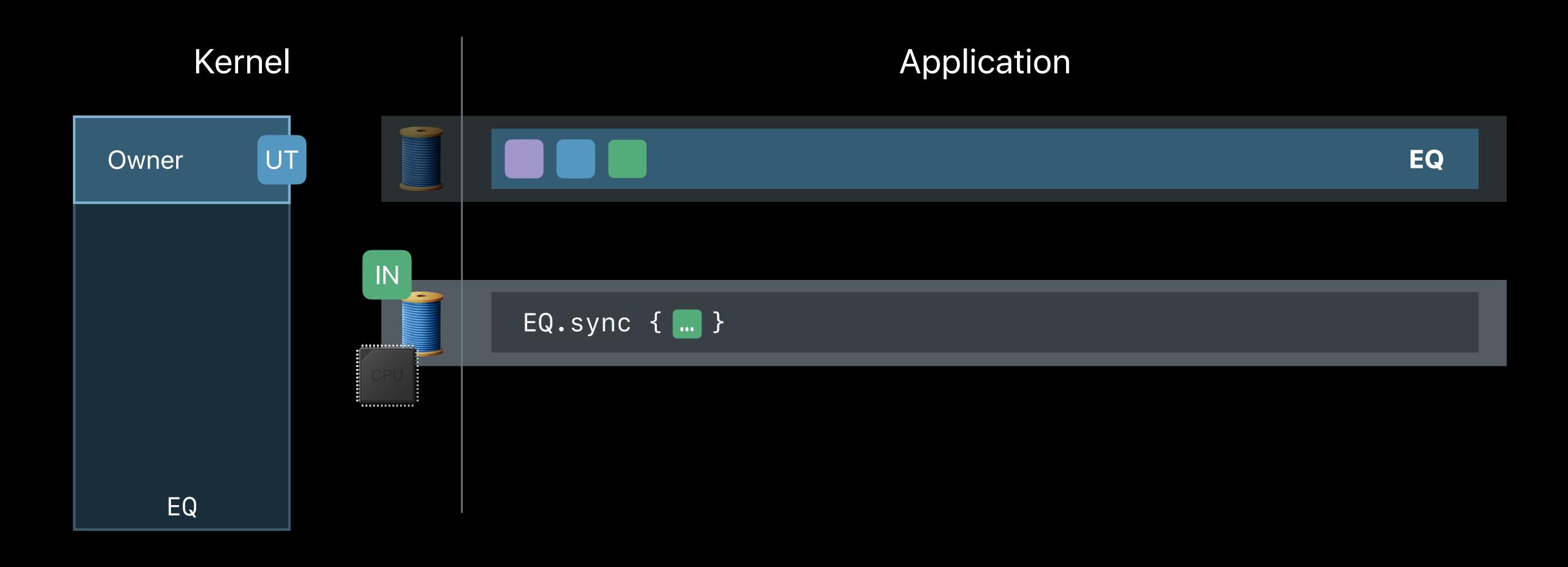




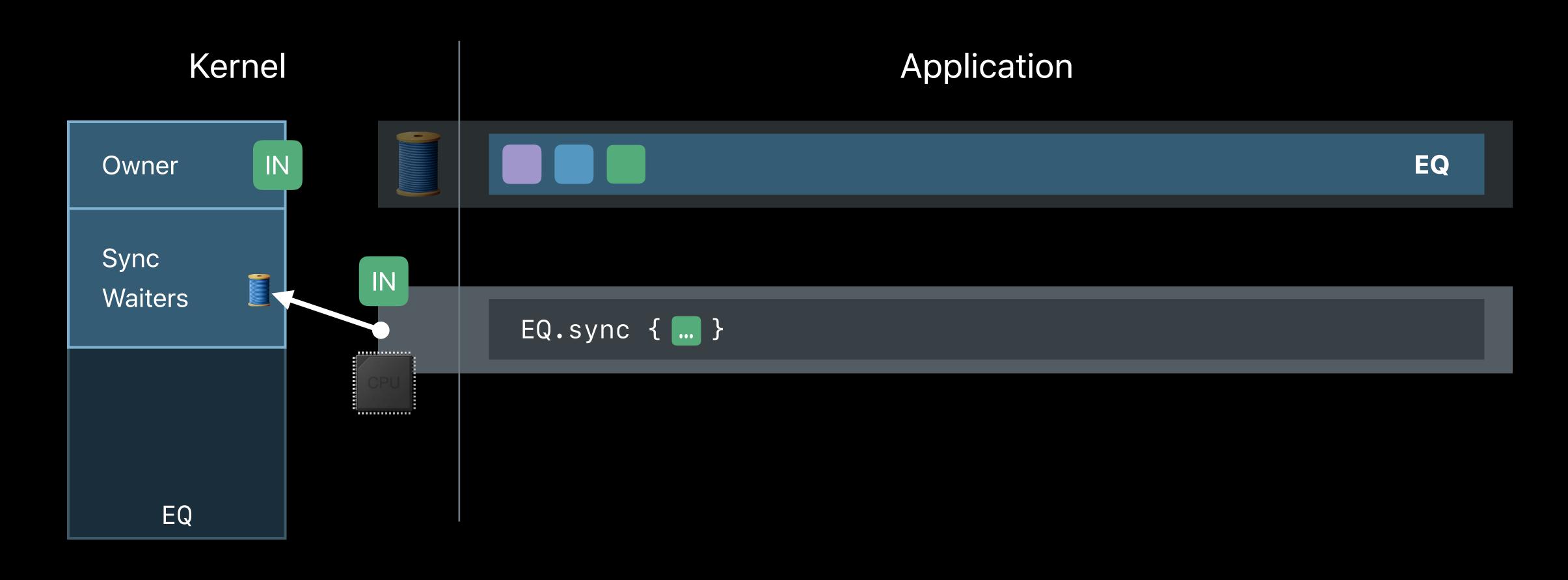




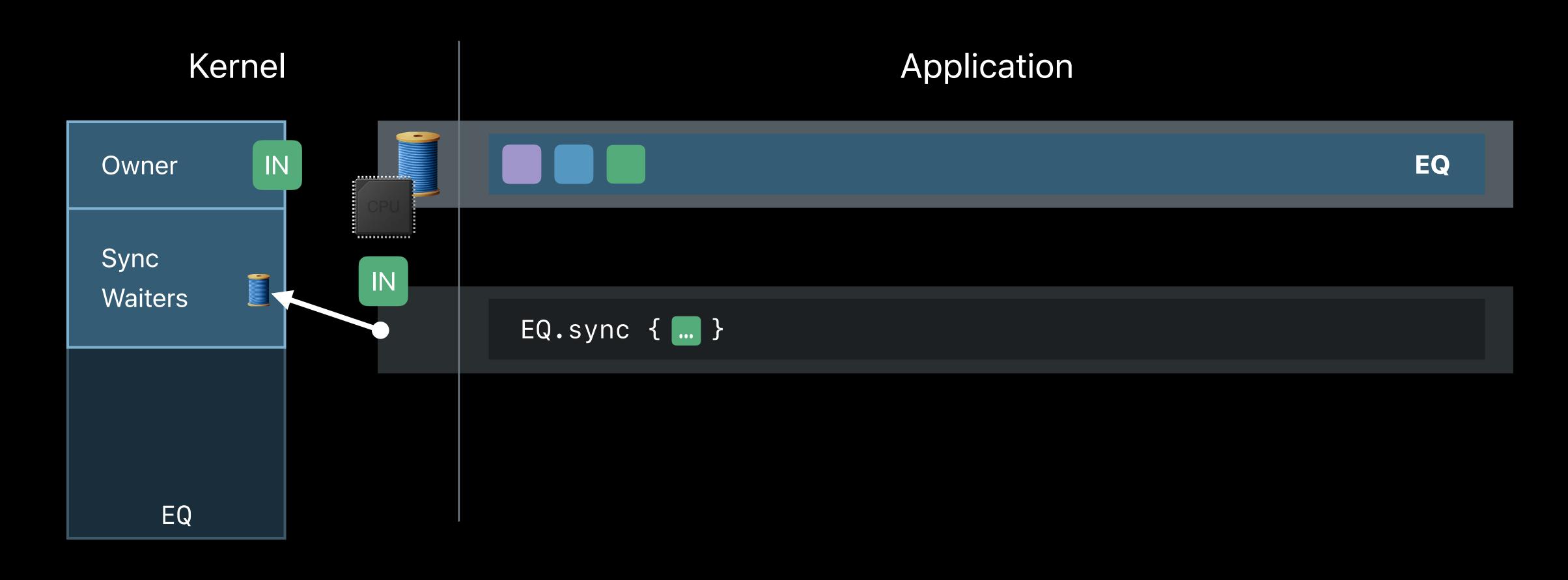






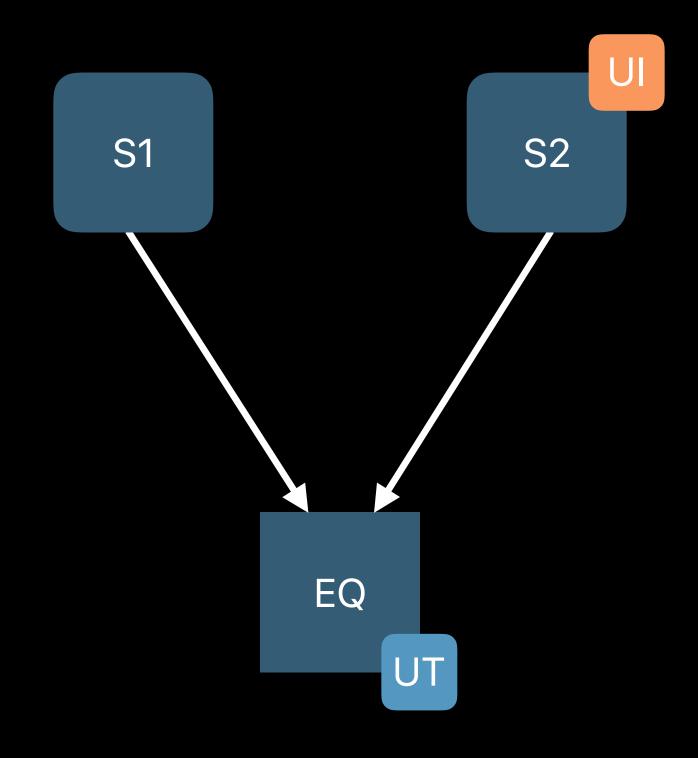






... and in the kernel bind them





... and in the kernel bind them



Kernel Application EQ let S1 = DispatchSource.makeReadSource(fileDescriptor: fd, queue: EQ) S1.setEventHandler { ... } S1.activate()

... and in the kernel bind them



```
Kernel
                                              Application
                                                                                EQ
                     let S1 = DispatchSource.makeReadSource(
                              fileDescriptor: fd, queue: EQ)
                      S1.setEventHandler { ... }
                     S1.activate()
```

... and in the kernel bind them

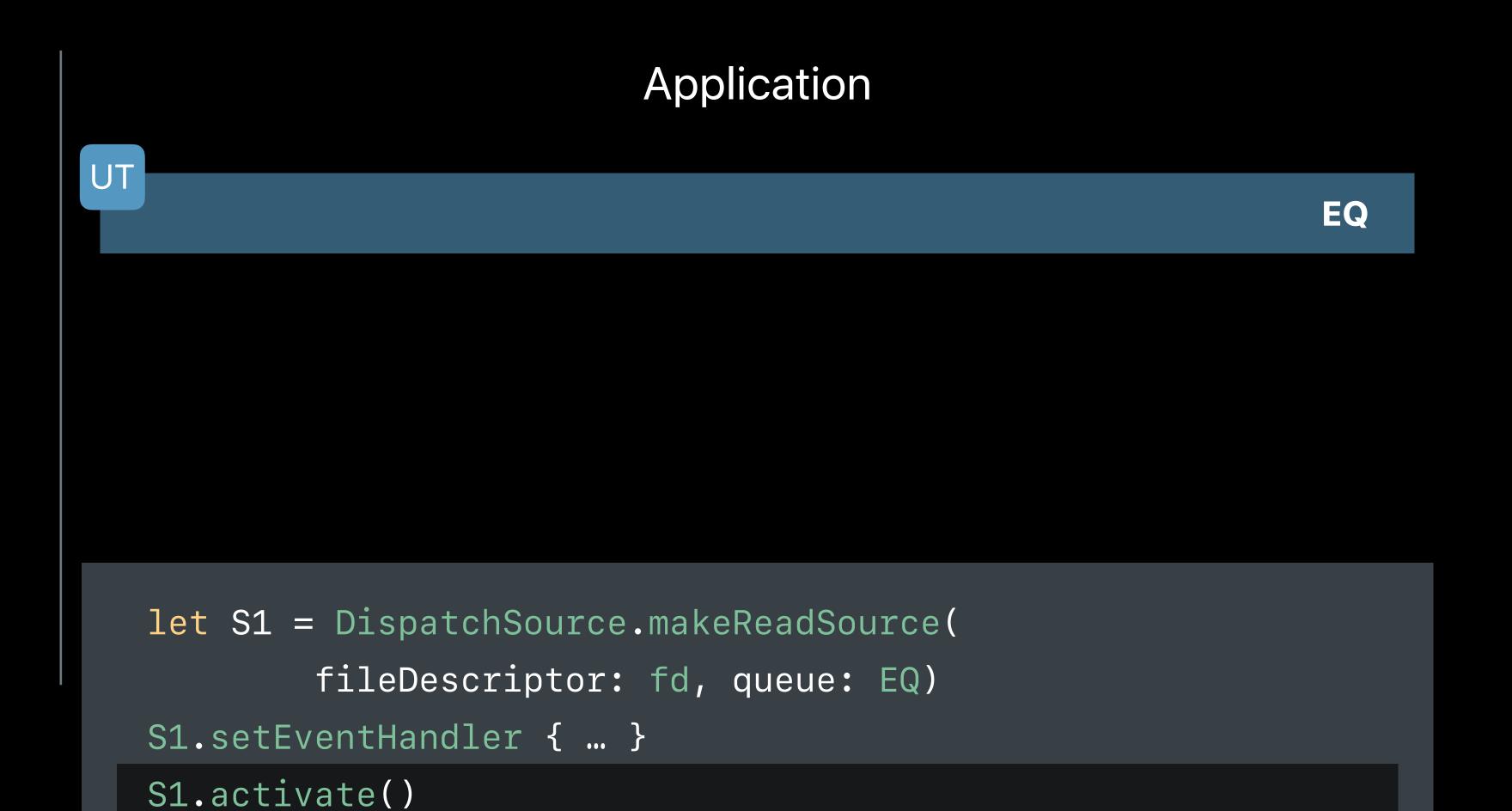


Kernel Application EQ let S1 = DispatchSource.makeReadSource(fileDescriptor: fd, queue: EQ) S1.setEventHandler { ... } S1.activate()

... and in the kernel bind them



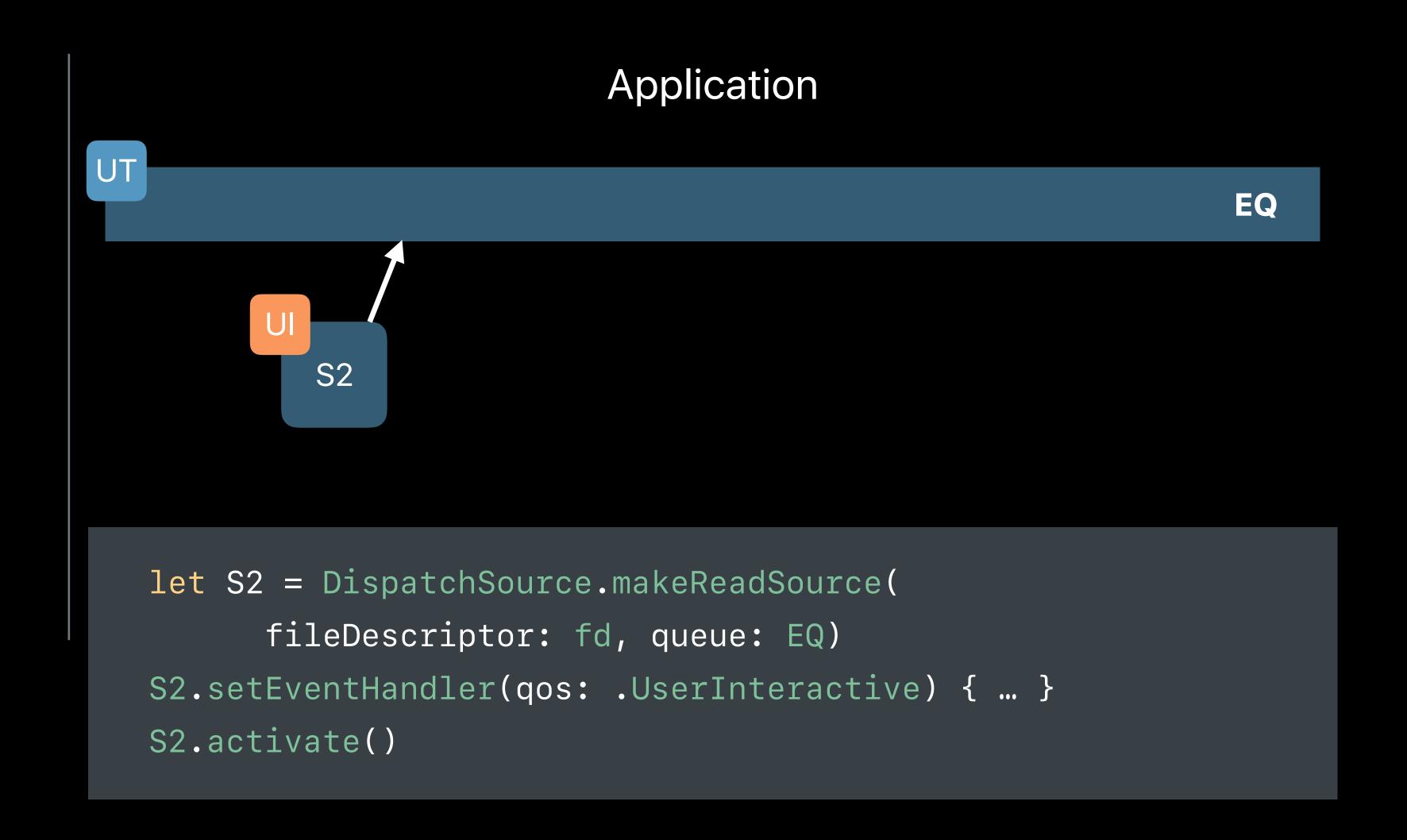
Kernel Owner Sync Waiters Kernel Events EQ



... and in the kernel bind them



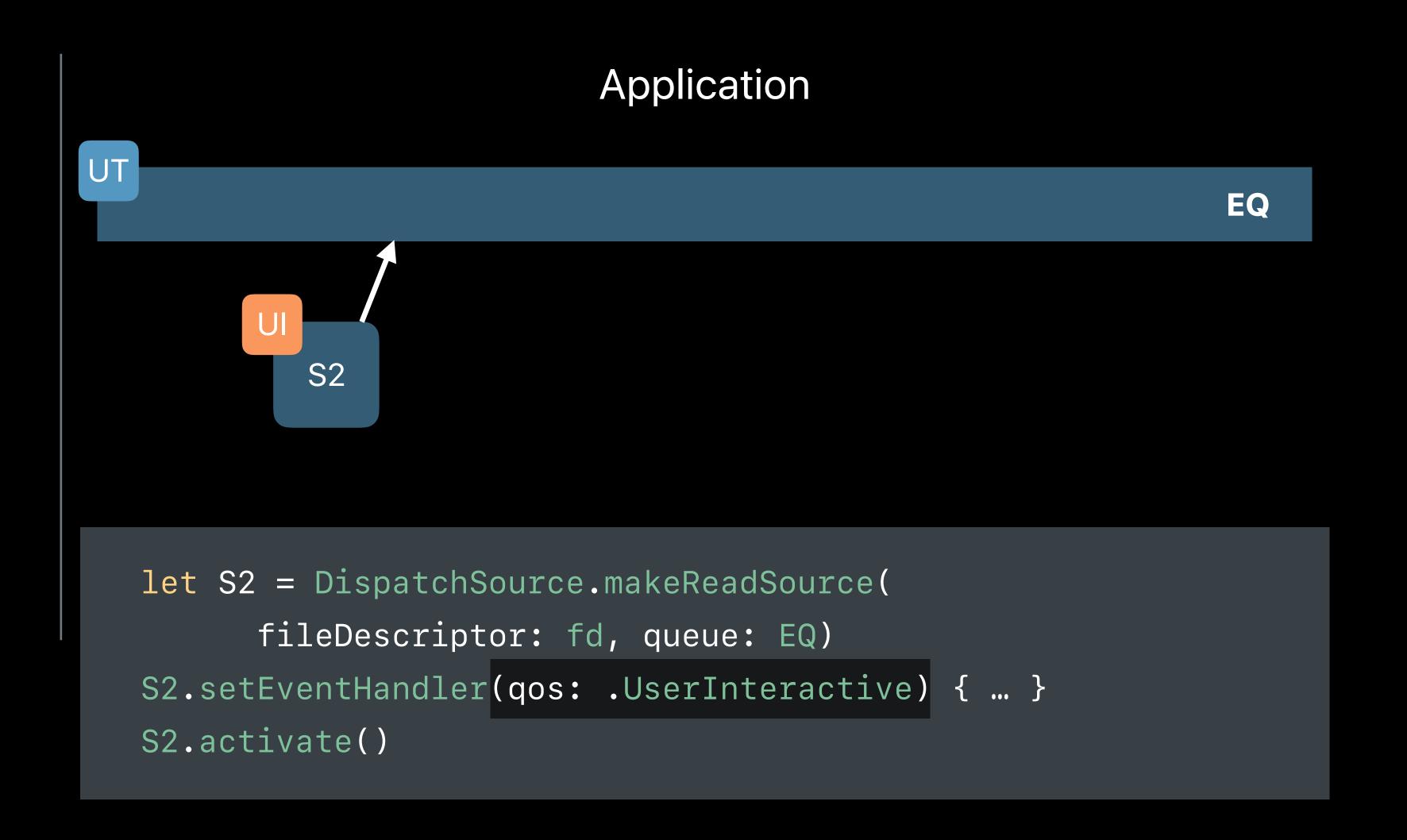




... and in the kernel bind them







... and in the kernel bind them



Kernel

Owner

Sync
Waiters

Kernel
Events

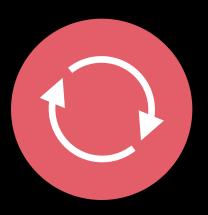
EQ

Application

EQ

```
let S2 = DispatchSource.makeReadSource(
    fileDescriptor: fd, queue: EQ)
S2.setEventHandler(qos: .UserInteractive) { ... }
S2.activate()
```

Too Much of a Good Thing



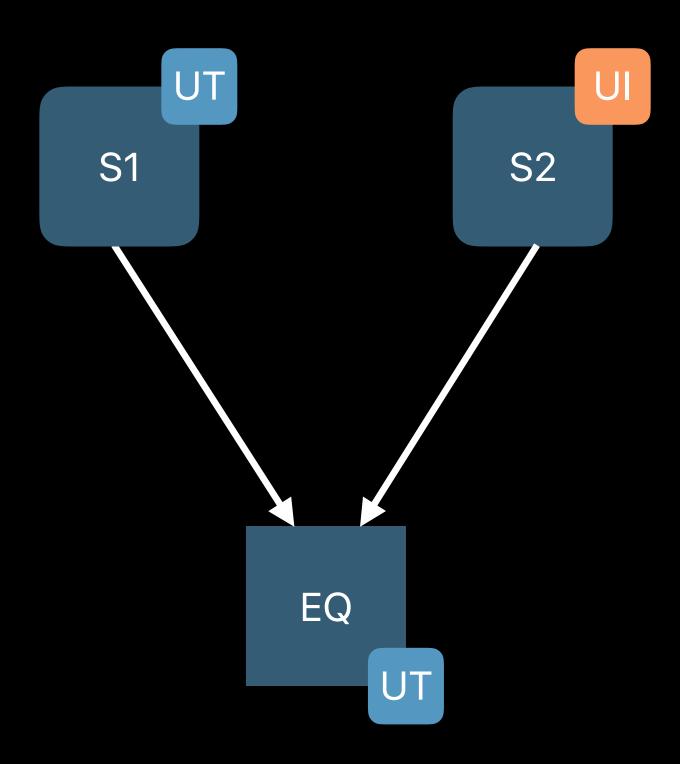
Repeatedly waiting for exclusive access to contended resources

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Repeatedly bouncing an operation between threads

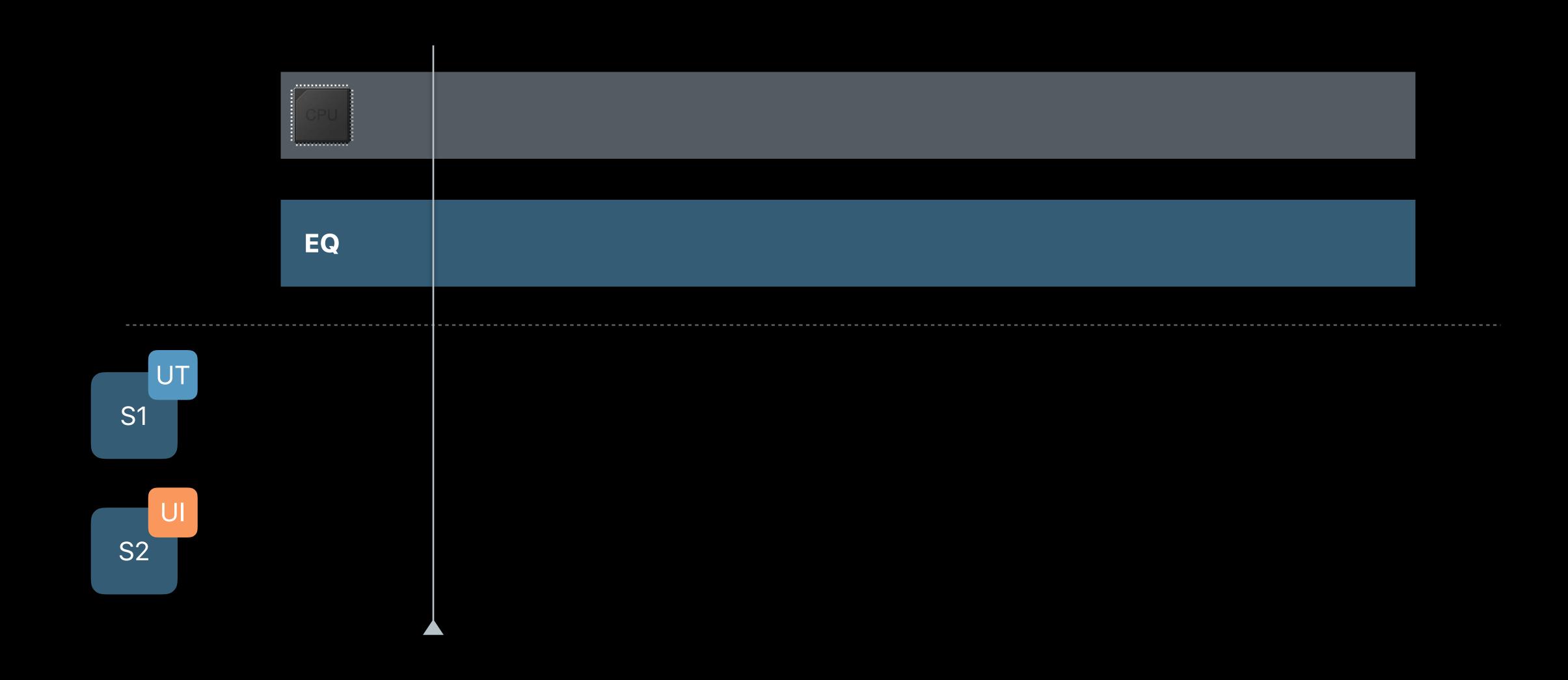
Without Unified Identity

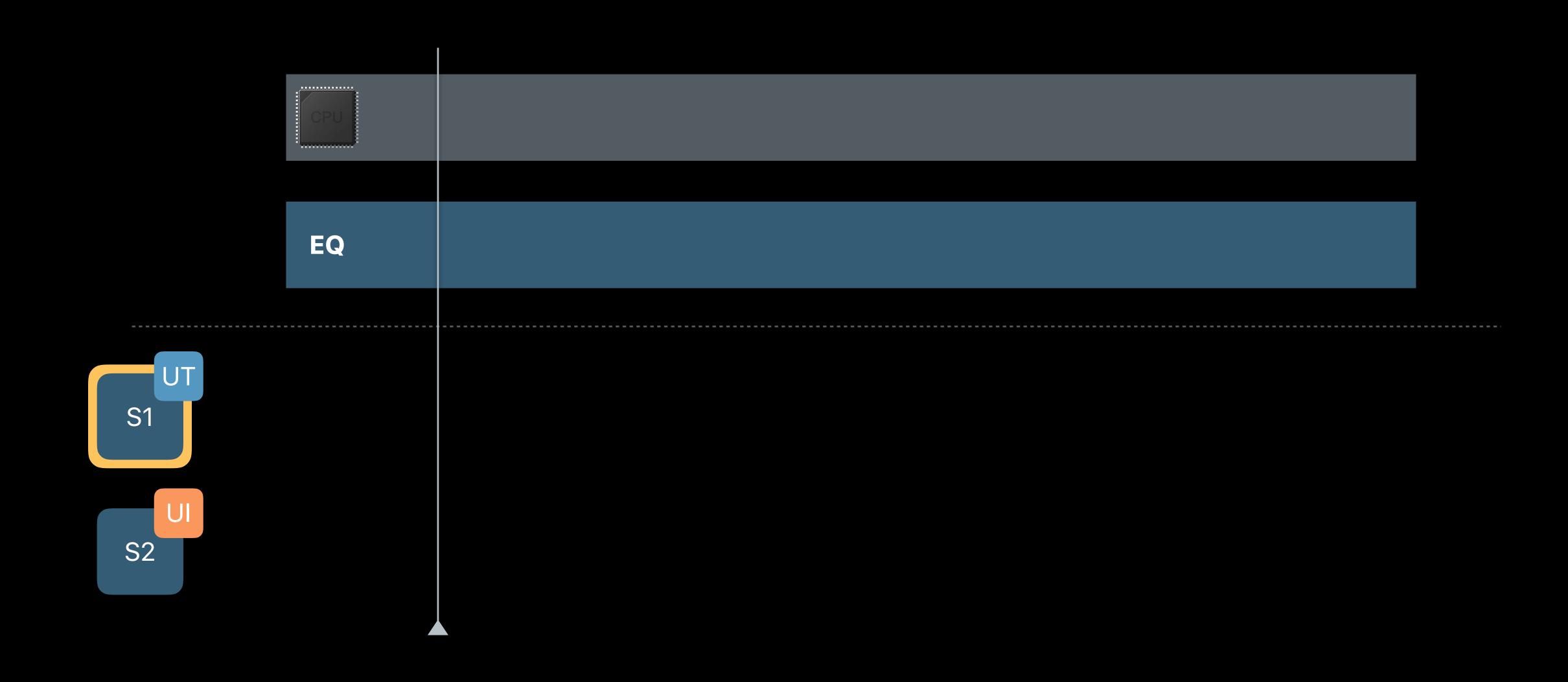
In macOS Sierra and iOS 10

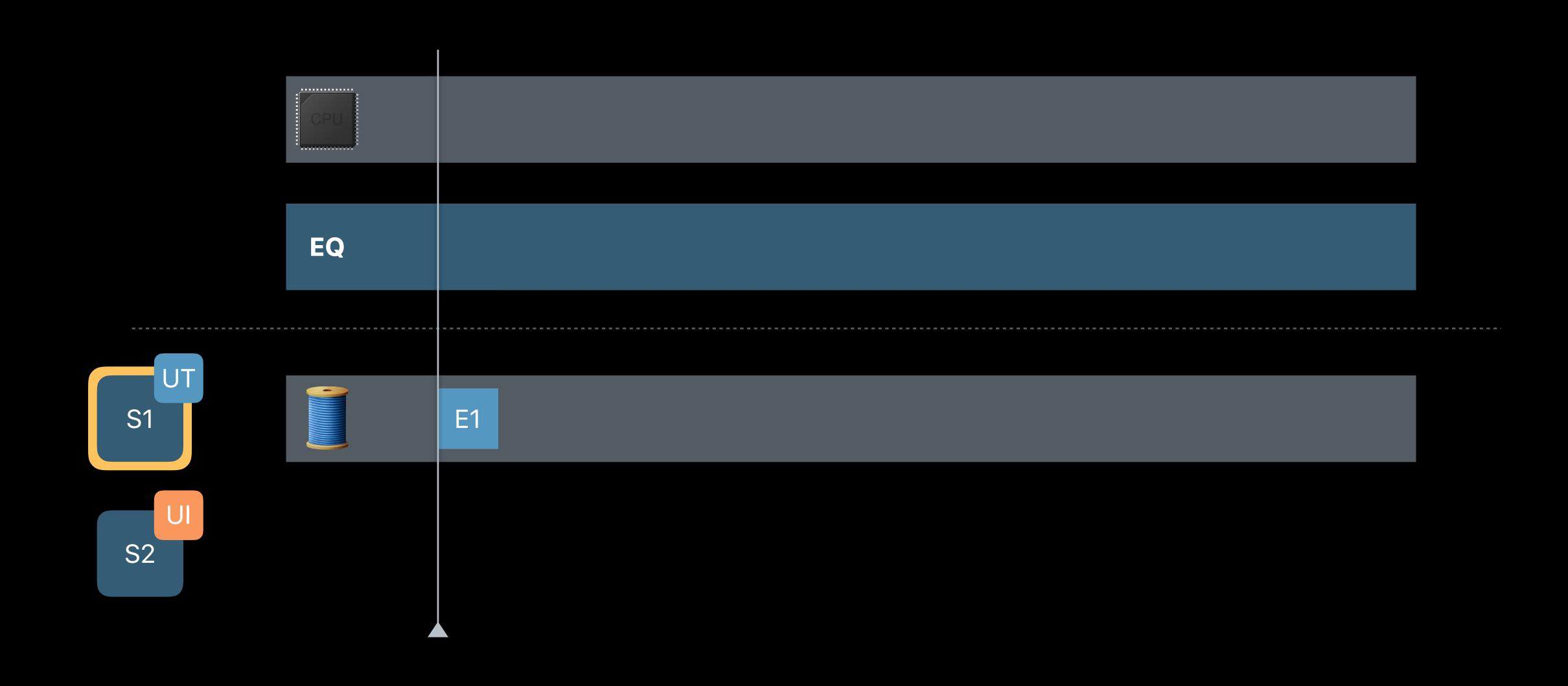


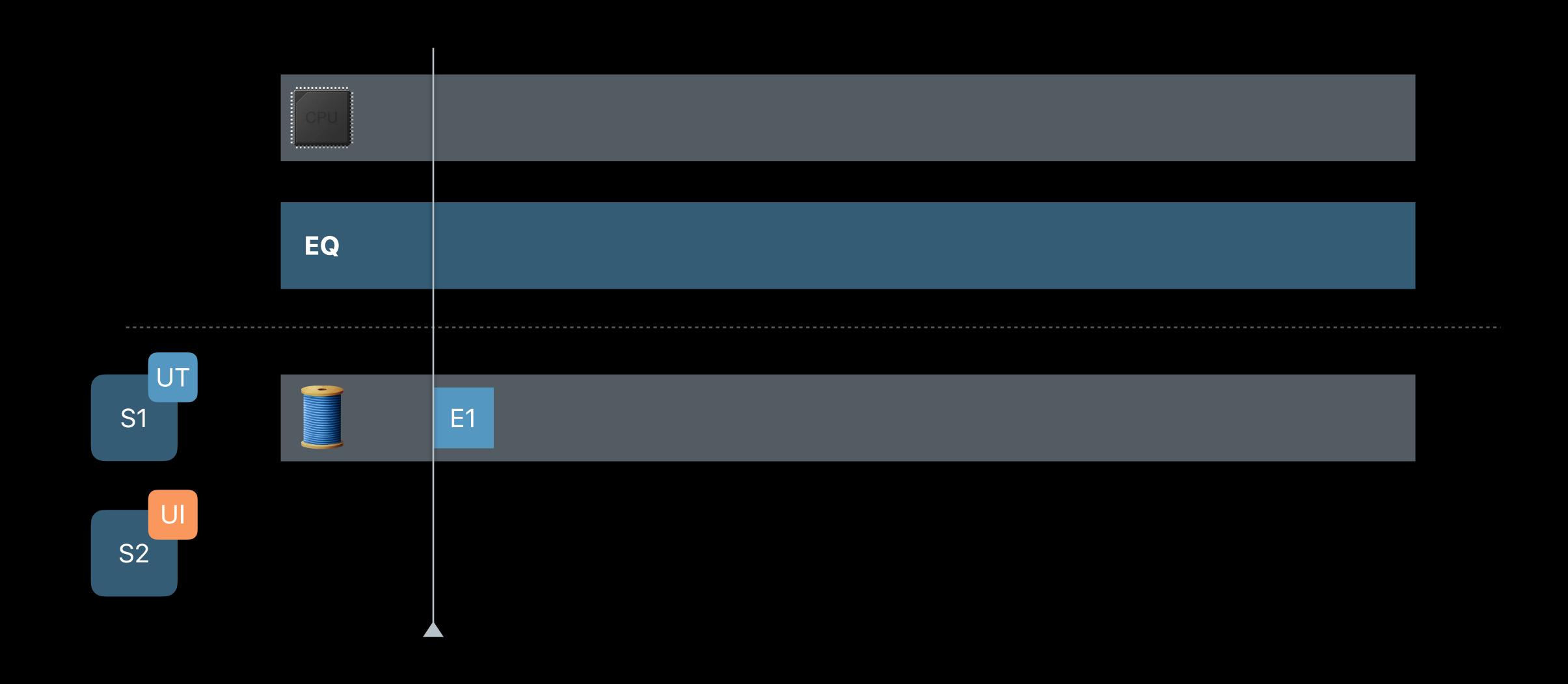
Without Unified Identity

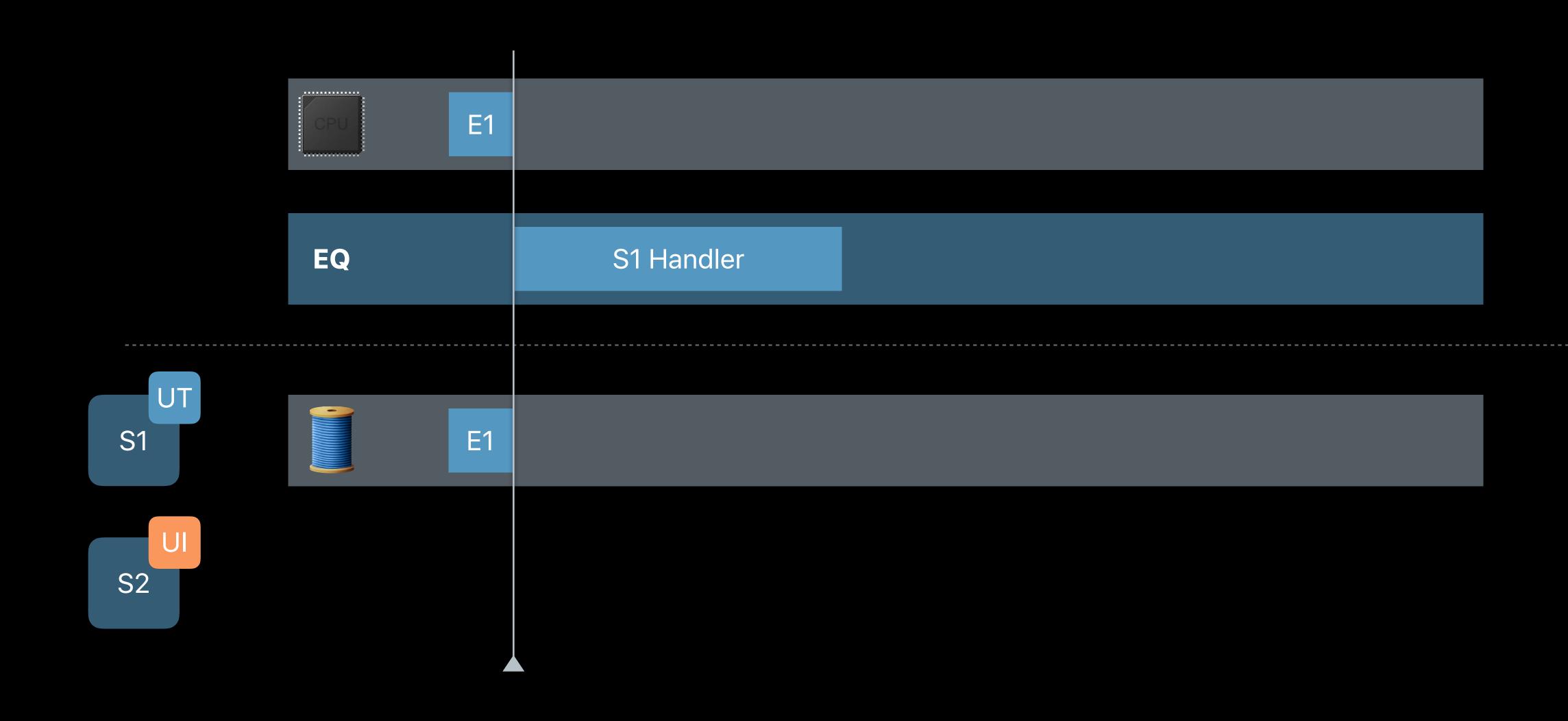
In macOS Sierra and iOS 10

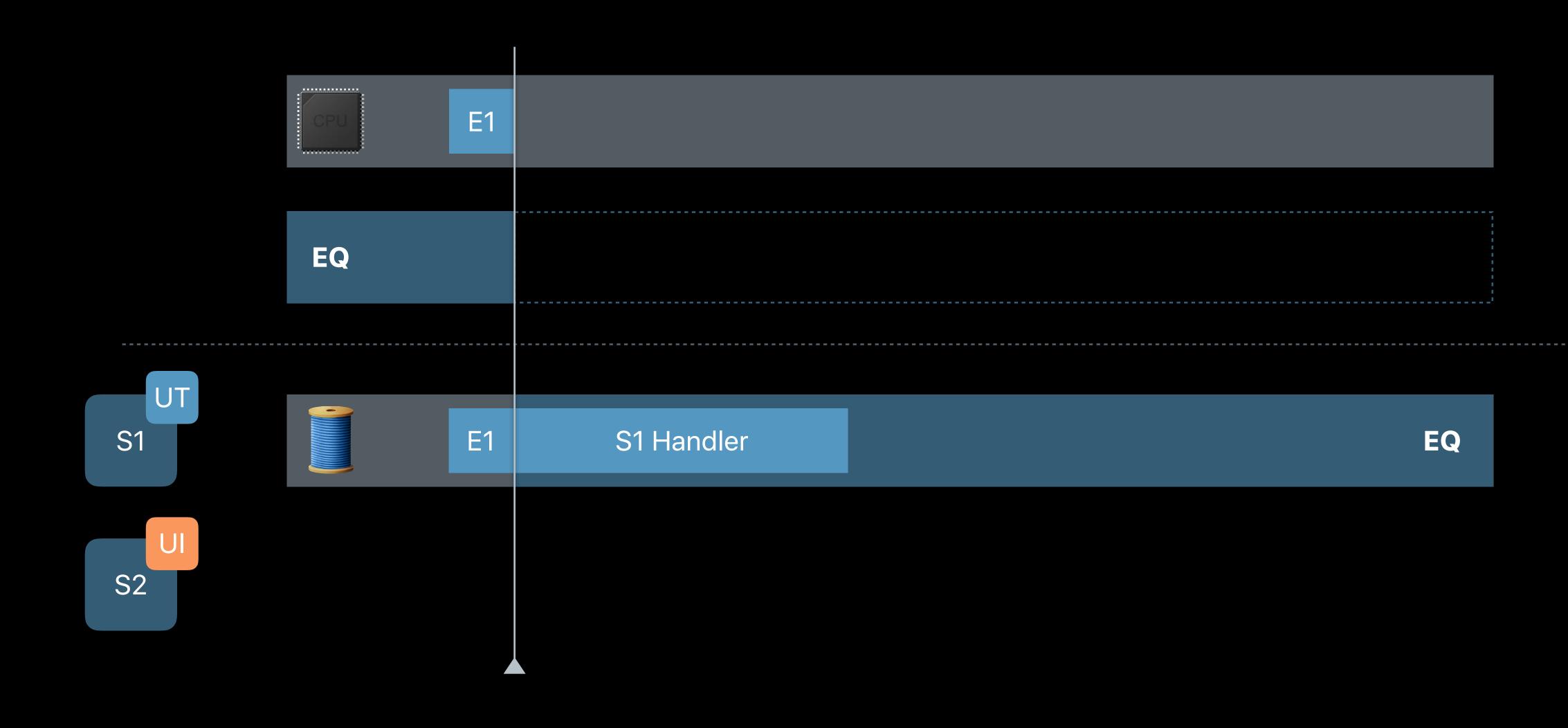


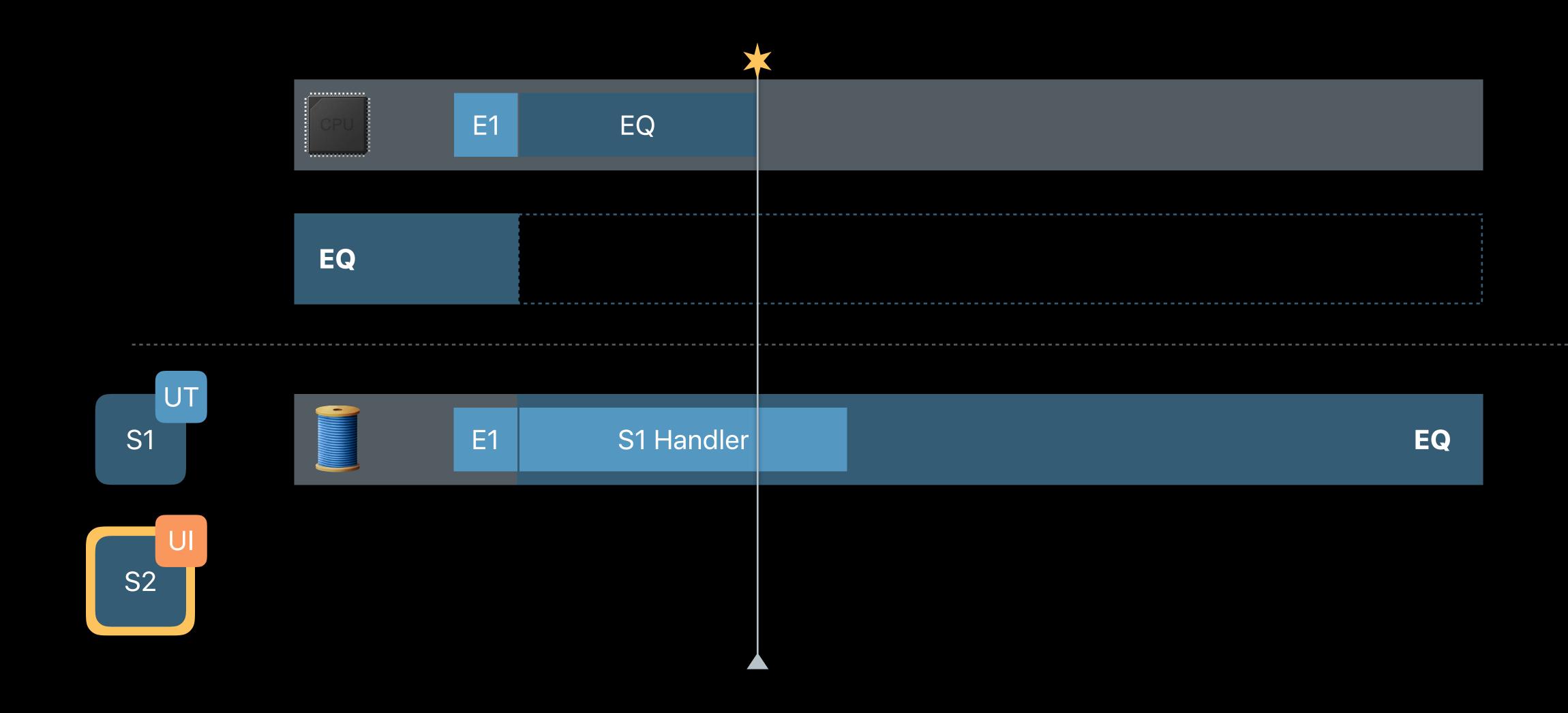


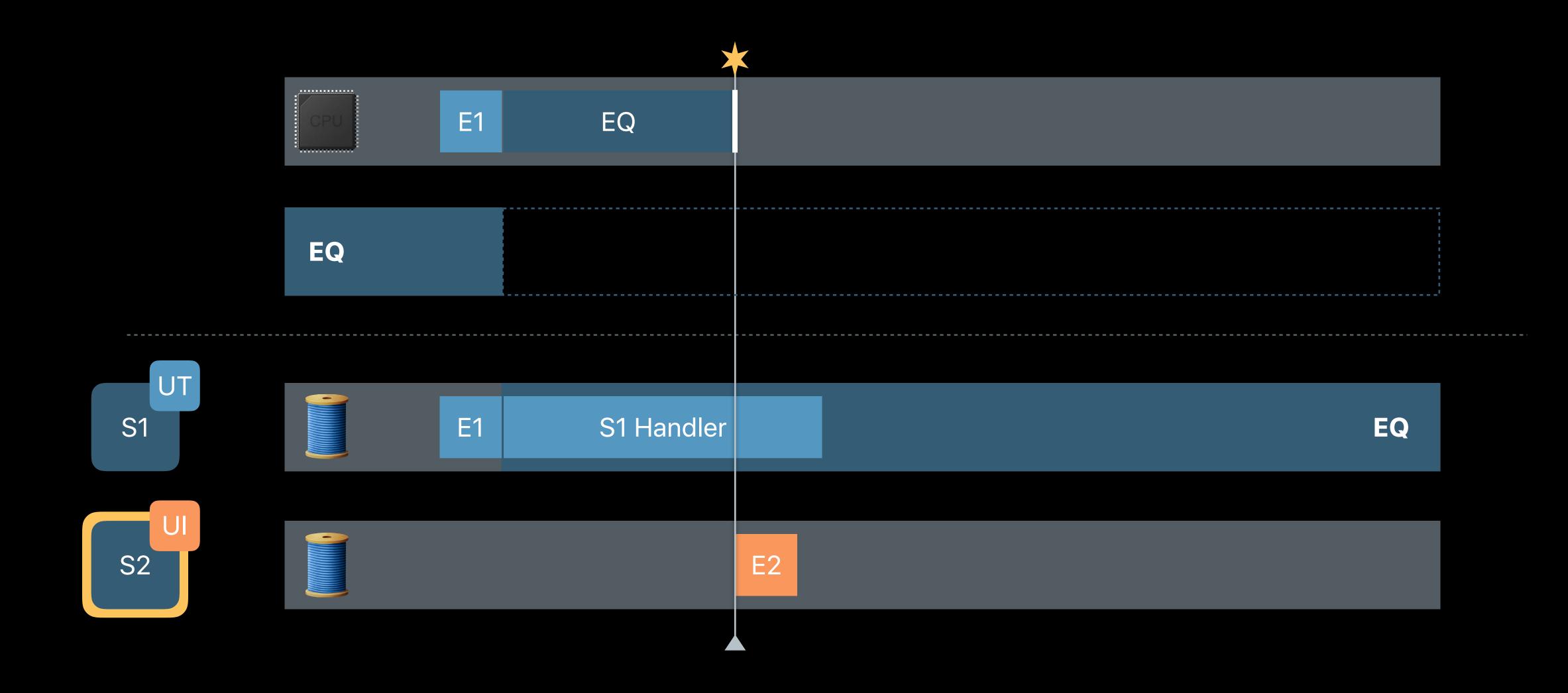


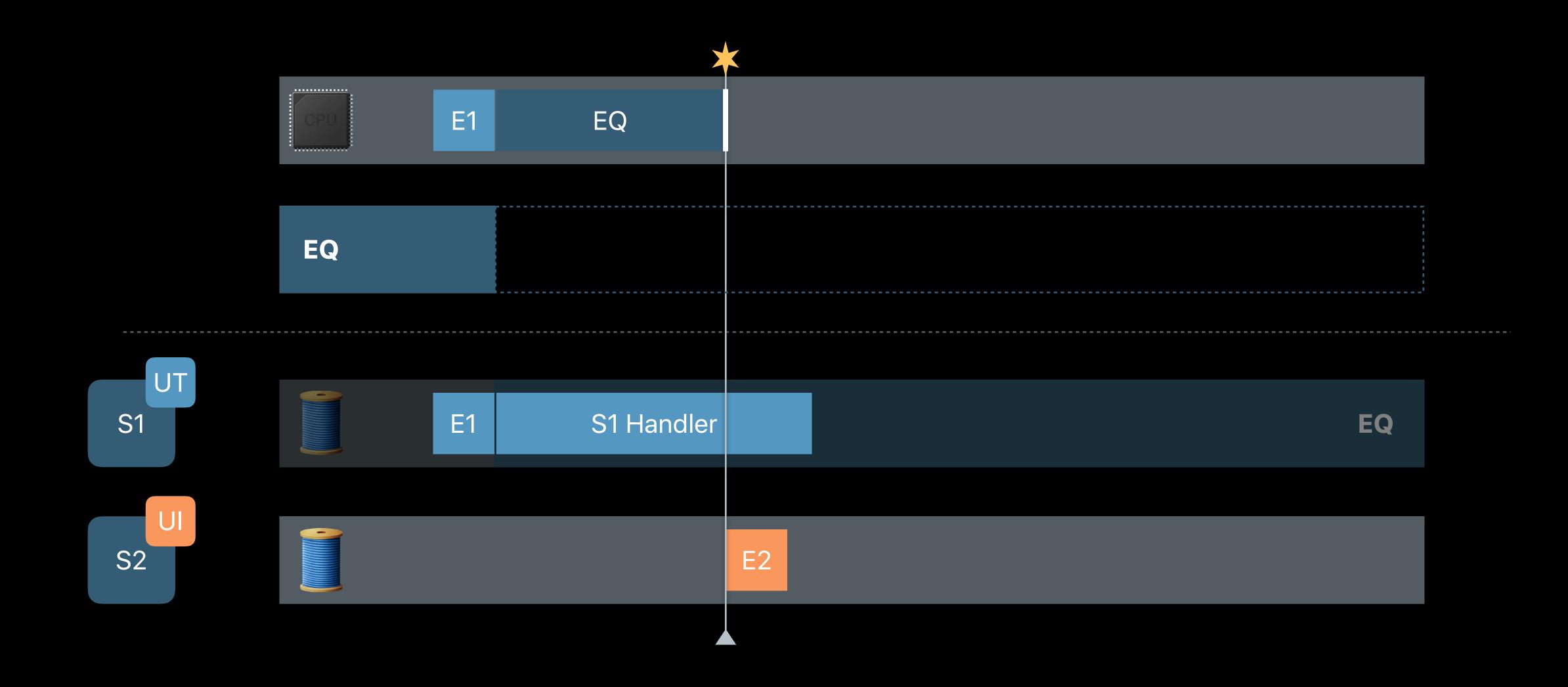


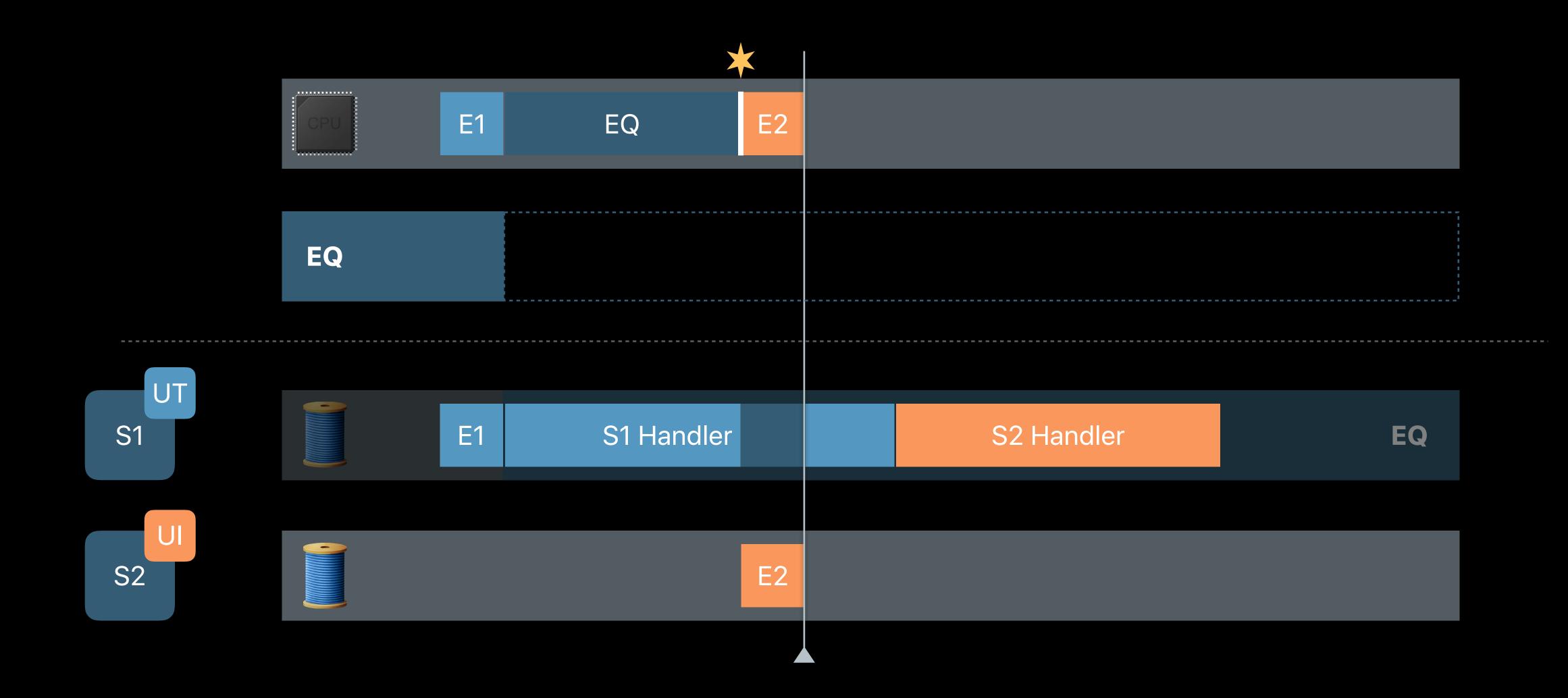


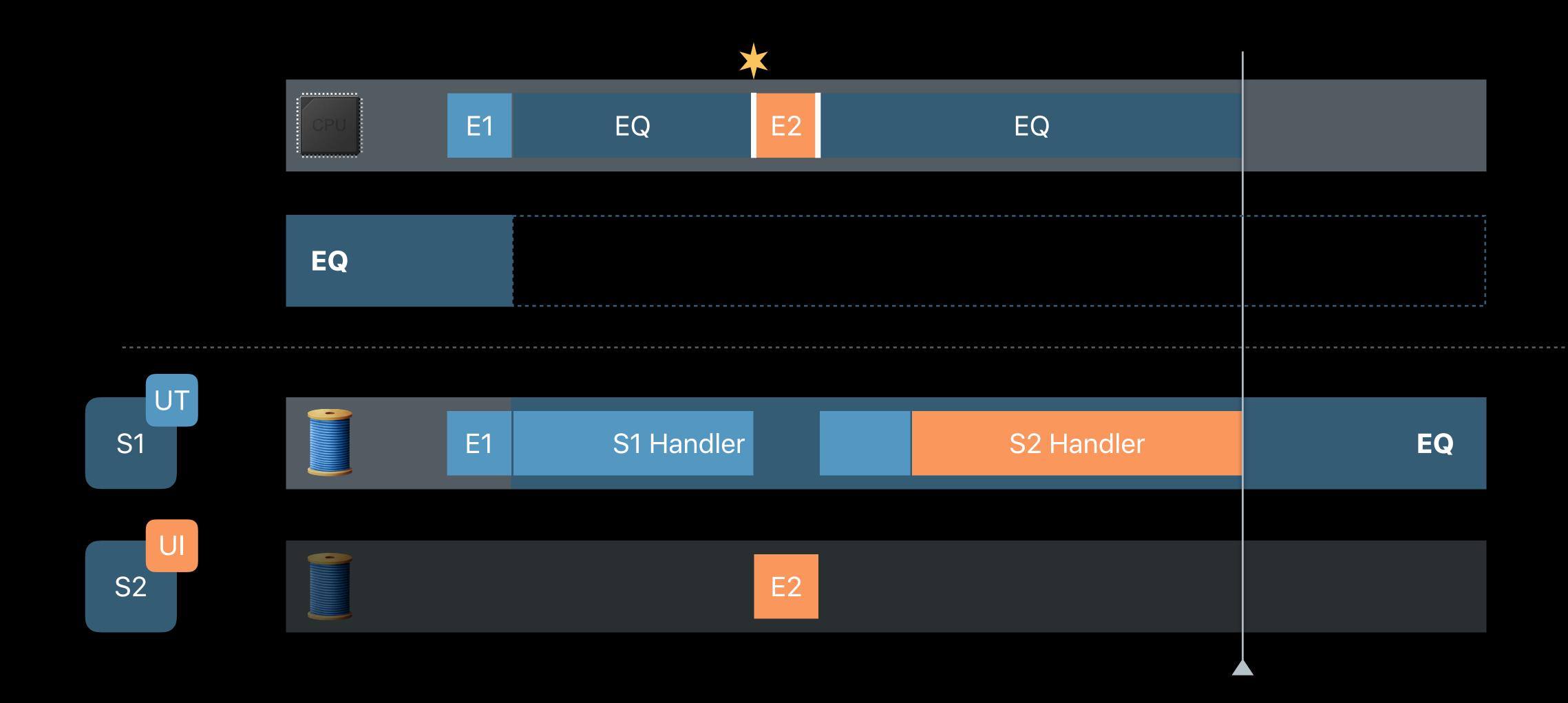




















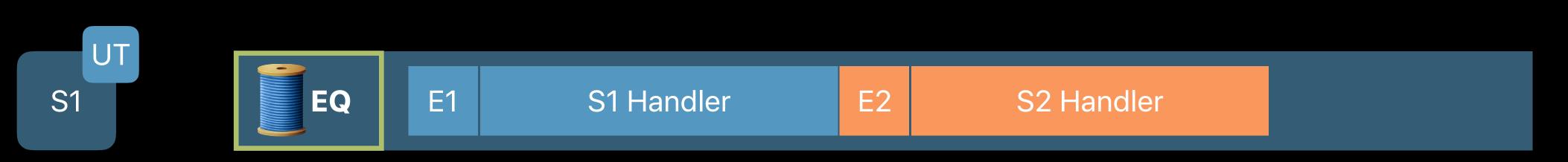




UI S2







S2







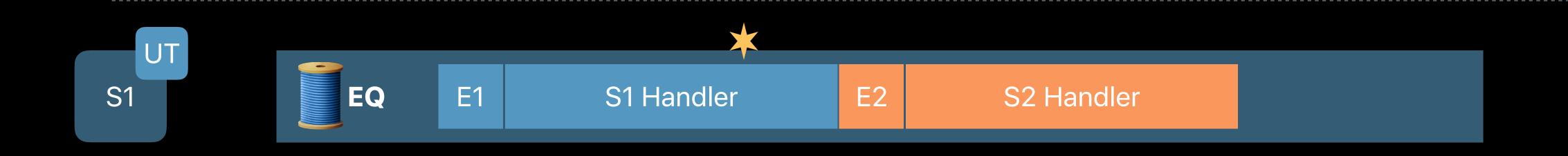
UT S1





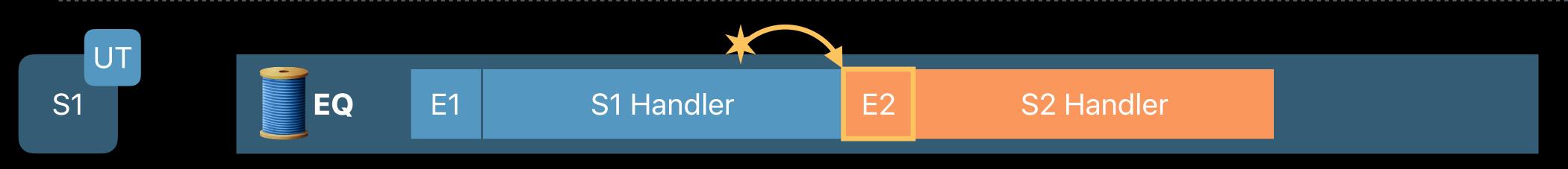














The runtime uses every possible hint to optimize behavior

Modernizing Existing Code

Modernizing Existing Code

No dispatch object mutation after activation

Protect your target queue hierarchy

- Source handlers
- Target queues

- Source handlers
- Target queues

```
let mySource = DispatchSource.makeReadSource(fileDescriptor: fd, queue: myQueue)
```

- Source handlers
- Target queues

```
let mySource = DispatchSource.makeReadSource(fileDescriptor: fd, queue: myQueue)
mySource.setEventHandler(qos: .userInteractive) { ... }
mySource.setCancelHandler { close(fd) }
```



- Source handlers
- Target queues

```
let mySource = DispatchSource.makeReadSource(fileDescriptor: fd, queue: myQueue)
mySource.setEventHandler(qos: .userInteractive) { ... }
mySource.setCancelHandler { close(fd) }

mySource.activate()
```



- Source handlers
- Target queues

```
let mySource = DispatchSource.makeReadSource(fileDescriptor: fd, queue: myQueue)
mySource.setEventHandler(qos: .userInteractive) { ... }
mySource.setCancelHandler { close(fd) }
mySource.activate()
mySource.setTarget(queue: otherQueue)
```

Effects of Queue Graph Mutation

Priority and ownership snapshots can become stale

- Defeats priority inversion avoidance
- Defeats direct handoff optimization
- Defeats event delivery optimization

Effects of Queue Graph Mutation

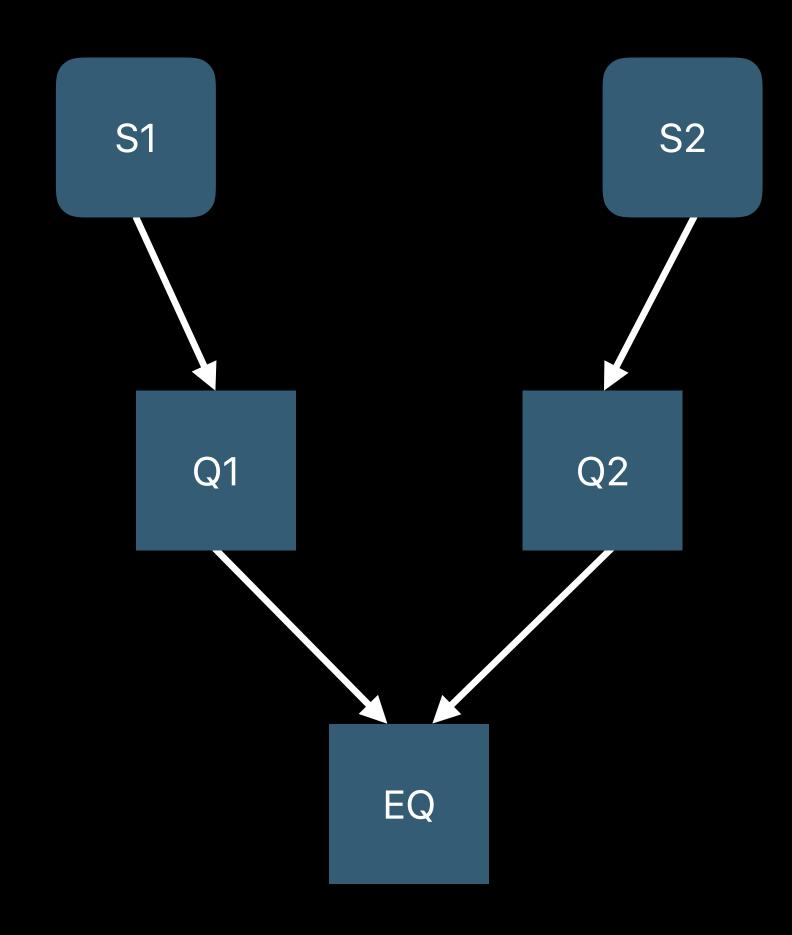
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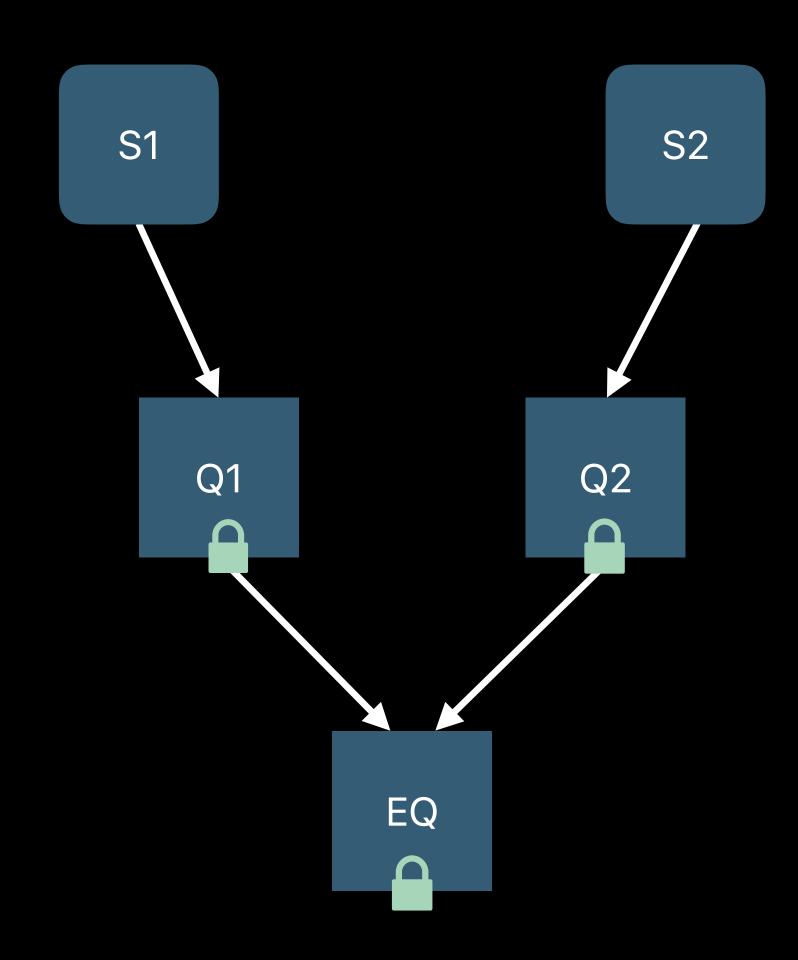
System frameworks may create sources on your behalf

XPC connections are like sources

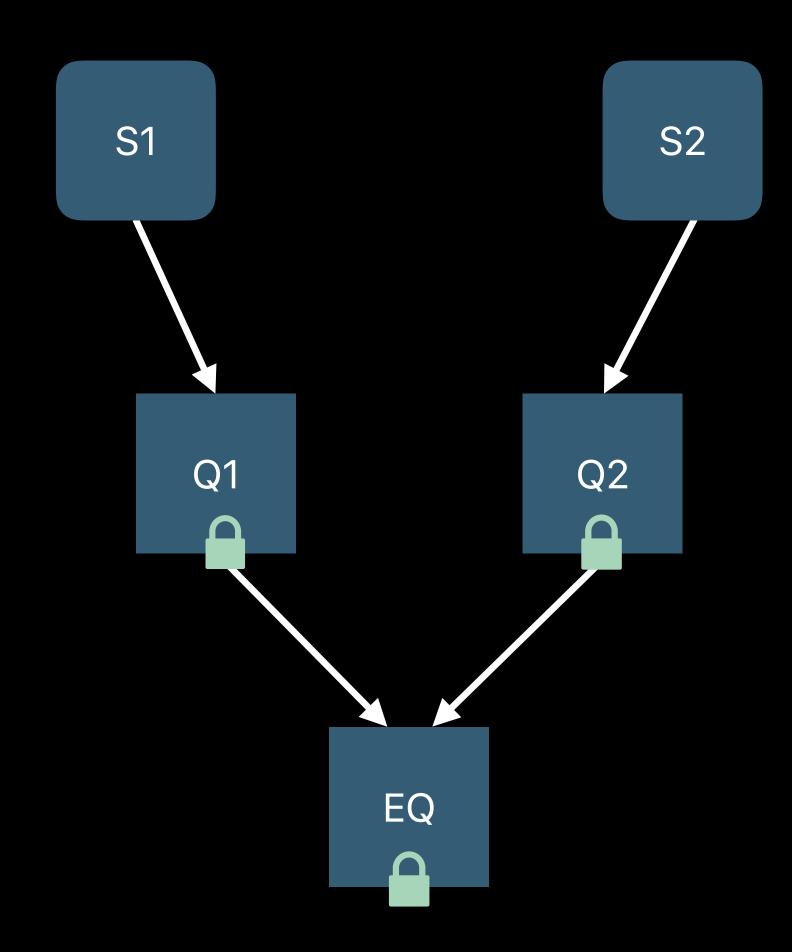
Build your queue hierarchy bottom to top



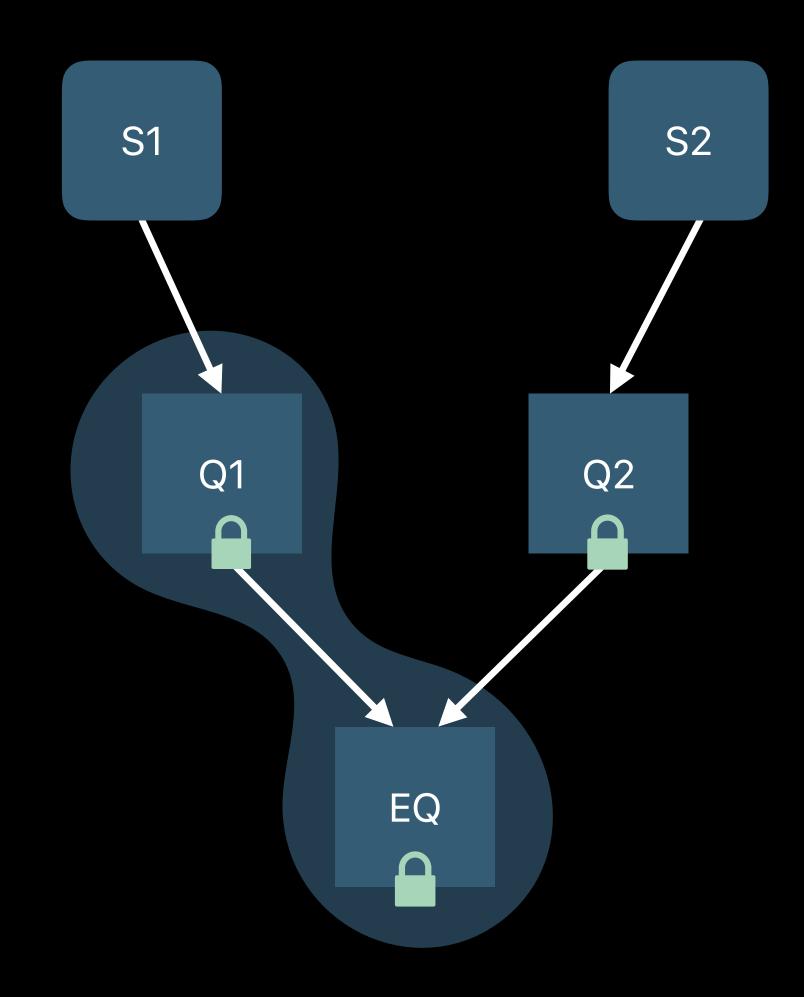
Build your queue hierarchy bottom to top



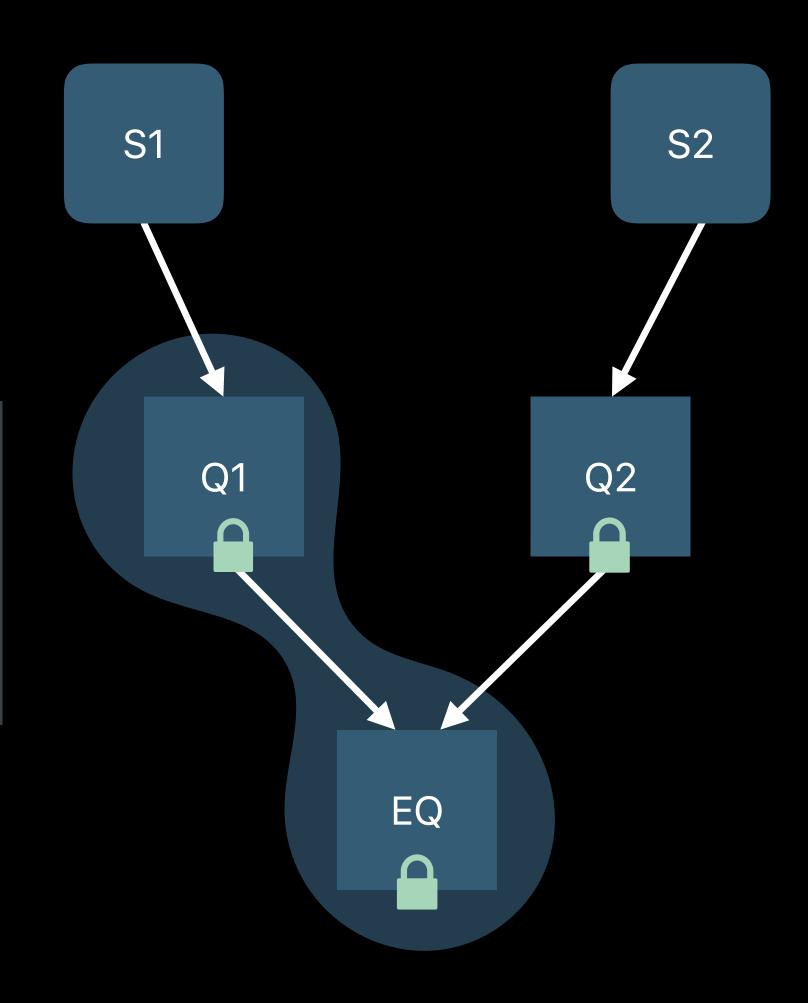
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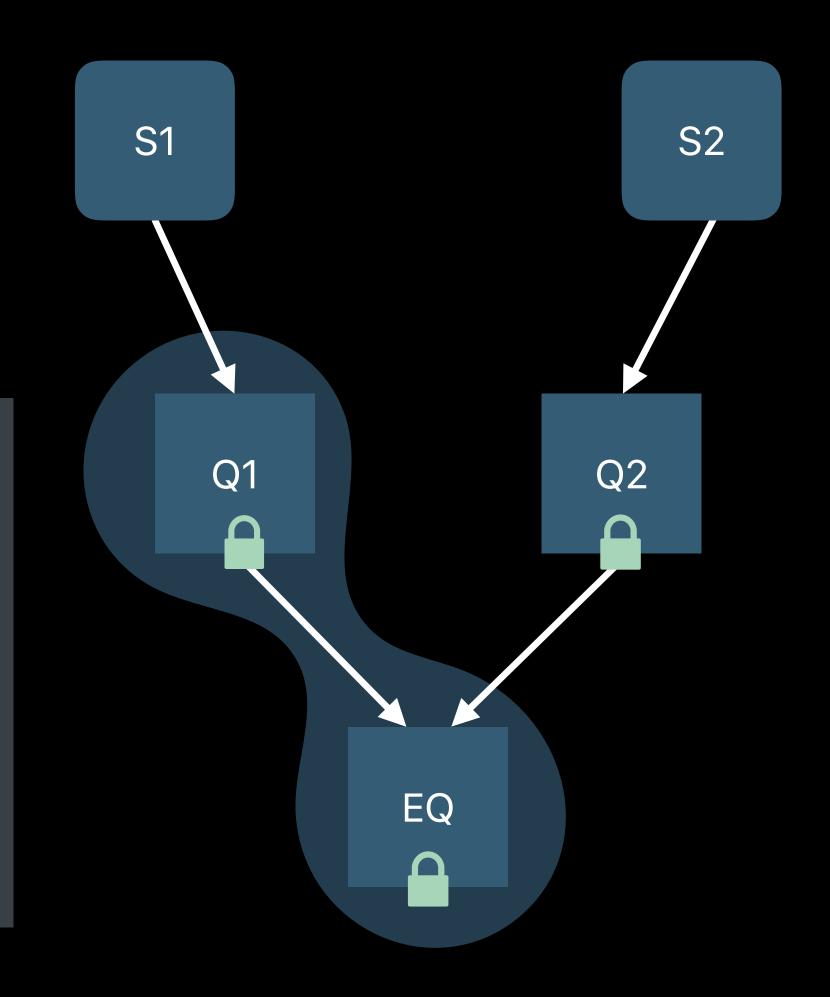
Build your queue hierarchy bottom to top



Build your queue hierarchy bottom to top



Build your queue hierarchy bottom to top



Demo Finding problem spots

Daniel A. Steffen, Core Darwin

```
(void)createConnections:(int) numberOfConnections serverPort:(int)port
  struct sockaddr_in serverAddr = [self server];
  conns = (struct client_connection *)malloc
          (numberOfConnections * sizeof(struct client_connection));
  for (int i = 0; i < numberOfConnections; i++) {</pre>
      int sock = socket(PF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0);
      int ret = connect(sock, (struct sockaddr *) &serverAddr, sizeof(serverAddr));
      assert(ret >= 0);
      int flags = fcntl(sock, F_GETFL, 0);
      fcntl(sock, F_SETFL, flags | O_NONBLOCK);
      char queue_name[1024];
      snprintf(queue_name, 1024, "com.apple.client-queue-%d", i);
      dispatch_queue_t queue = dispatch_queue_create(queue_name, DISPATCH_QUEUE_SERIAL);
      dispatch_source_t source = dispatch_source_create(DISPATCH_SOURCE_TYPE_READ, sock, 0, NULL);
      dispatch_block_t block = dispatch_block_create(DISPATCH_BLOCK_ASSIGN_CURRENT, ^{
          /* Drop the data read block start signpost */
          kdebug_signpost_start(MYNEWS_CONN_DATA_RECV, i, sock, 0, 0);
          /* Re-initialize the buffer for the connection */
```

```
(void)createConnections:(int) numberOfConnections serverPort:(int)port
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      int flags = fcntl(sock, F_GETFL, 0);
      fcntl(sock, F_SETFL, flags | O_NONBLOCK);
      char queue_name[1024];
      snprintf(queue_name, 1024, "com.apple.client-queue-%d", i);
      dispatch_queue_t queue = dispatch_queue_create(queue_name, DISPATCH_QUEUE_SERIAL);
      dispatch_source_t source = dispatch_source_create(DISPATCH_SOURCE_TYPE_READ, sock, 0, NULL);
      dispatch_block_t block = dispatch_block_create(DISPATCH_BLOCK_ASSIGN_CURRENT, ^{
          /* Drop the data read block start signpost */
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          /* Re-initialize the buffer for the connection */
```

```
if (err == 0 || (err < 0 && errno != EAGAIN && errno != EINTR)) {
            dispatch_source_cancel(source);
            break;
        if (err < 0 && errno == EAGAIN) {</pre>
            break;
        conns[i].index += err;
    /* Add URL to global Set */
    [self processURL:conns[i].buffer];
    /* Drop the data read block end signpost */
    kdebug_signpost_end(MYNEWS_CONN_DATA_RECV, i, sock, 0, 0);
});
dispatch_activate(source);
dispatch_source_set_event_handler(source, block);
dispatch_source_set_cancel_handler(source, ^{
   close(sock);
});
dispatch_set_target_queue(source, queue);
```

```
if (err == 0 || (err < 0 && errno != EAGAIN && errno != EINTR)) {
            dispatch_source_cancel(source);
            break;
        if (err < 0 && errno == EAGAIN) {</pre>
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      char queue_name[1024];
      snprintf(queue_name, 1024, "com.apple.client-queue-%d", i);
      dispatch_queue_t queue = dispatch_queue_create(queue_name, DISPATCH_QUEUE_SERIAL);
      dispatch_source_t source = dispatch_source_create(DISPATCH_SOURCE_TYPE_READ, sock, 0, NULL);
      dispatch_block_t block = dispatch_block_create(DISPATCH_BLOCK_ASSIGN_CURRENT, ^{
          /* Drop the data read block start signpost */
          kdebug_signpost_start(MYNEWS_CONN_DATA_RECV, i, sock, 0, 0);
          /* Re-initialize the buffer for the connection */
```

```
(void)createConnections:(int) numberOfConnections serverPort:(int)port
  struct sockaddr_in serverAddr = [self server];
  conns = (struct client_connection *)malloc
          (numberOfConnections * sizeof(struct client_connection));
  for (int i = 0; i < numberOfConnections; i++) {</pre>
      int sock = socket(PF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0);
      int ret = connect(sock, (struct sockaddr *) &serverAddr, sizeof(serverAddr));
      assert(ret >= 0);
      int flags = fcntl(sock, F_GETFL, 0);
      fcntl(sock, F_SETFL, flags | O_NONBLOCK);
      char queue_name[1024];
      snprintf(queue_name, 1024, "com.apple.client-queue-%d", i);
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```

```
if (err == 0 || (err < 0 && errno != EAGAIN && errno != EINTR)) {</pre>
            dispatch_source_cancel(source);
            break;
           (err < 0 && errno == EAGAIN) {
            break;
        conns[i].index += err;
    /* Add URL to global Set */
    [self processURL:conns[i].buffer];
    /* Drop the data read block end signpost */
    kdebug_signpost_end(MYNEWS_CONN_DATA_RECV, i, sock, 0, 0);
});
dispatch_source_set_event_handler(source, block);
dispatch_source_set_cancel_handler(source, ^{
    close(sock);
});
dispatch_set_target_queue(source, queue);
dispatch_activate(source);
```

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            dispatch_source_cancel(source);
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            /* Re-initialize the buffer for the connection */
            bzero(&conns[i].buffer, CONNECTION BUFFER STZE):
```

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Demo Finding problem spots

Daniel A. Steffen, Core Darwin

Summary

Not going off-core is ever more important

Size your work appropriately

Choose good granularity of concurrency

Modernize your GCD usage

Use tools to find problem spots

More Information

https://developer.apple.com/wwdc17/706

Related Sessions

Introducing Core ML		WWDC 2017
Accelerate and Sparse Solvers	Grand Ballroom A	Thursday 10:00AM
Using Metal 2 for Compute	Grand Ballroom A	Thursday 4:10PM
Writing Energy Efficient Apps	Executive Ballroom	Friday 9:00AM
App Startup Time: Past, Present, and Future	Hall 2	Friday 10:00AM

Labs

Kernel & Runtime Lab	Technology Lab D	Wed 1:50PM-4:10PM
Kernel & Runtime Lab	Technology Lab J	Thu 10:00AM-12:00PM
Performance Profiling and Runtime Analysis Tools Lab	Technology Lab K	Thu 1:00PM-4:10PM
Optimizing App Startup Time Lab	Technology Lab E	Fri 11:00AM-12:30PM

SWWDC17