

New UIKit Support for International User Interfaces

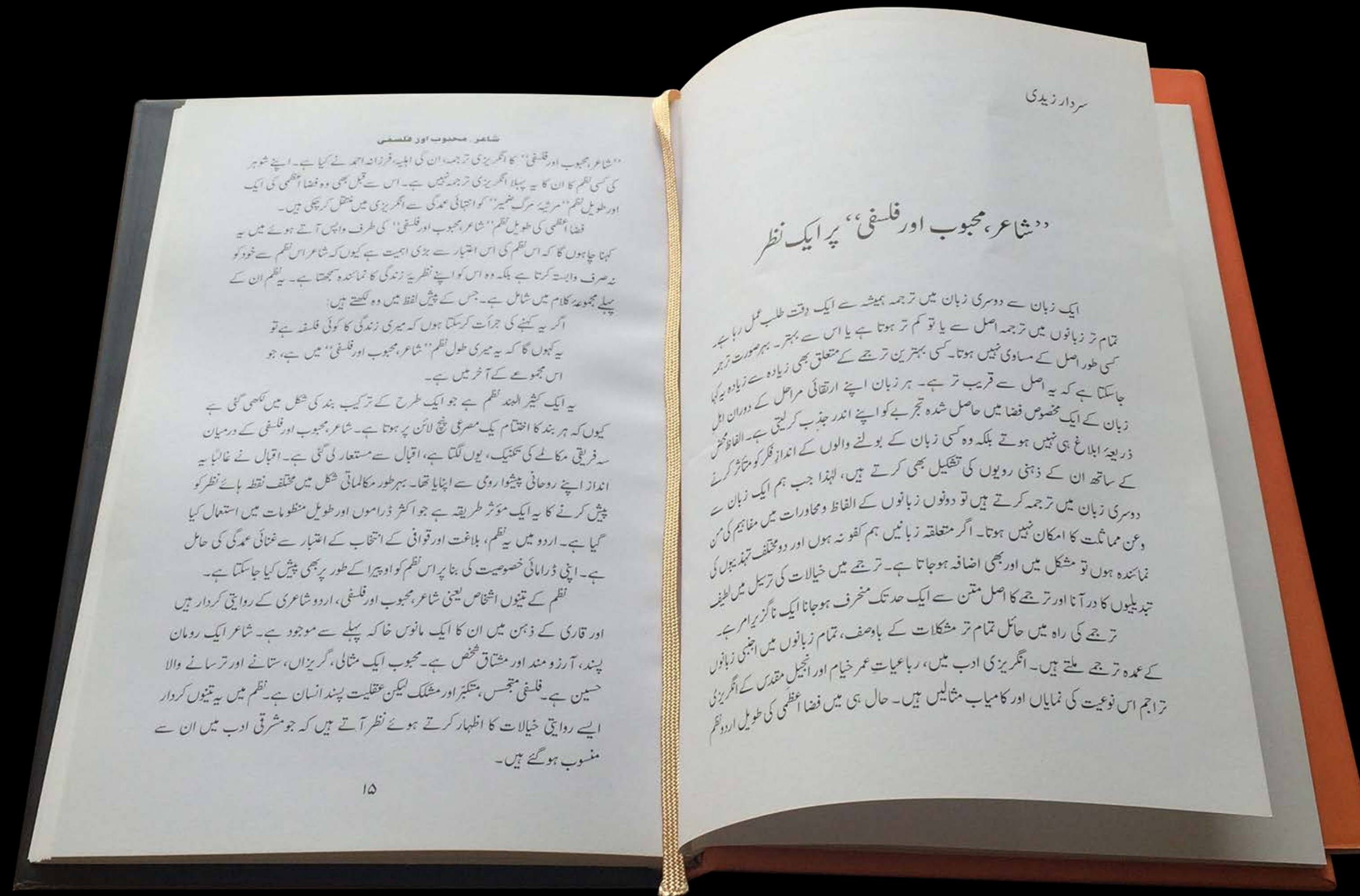
Session 222

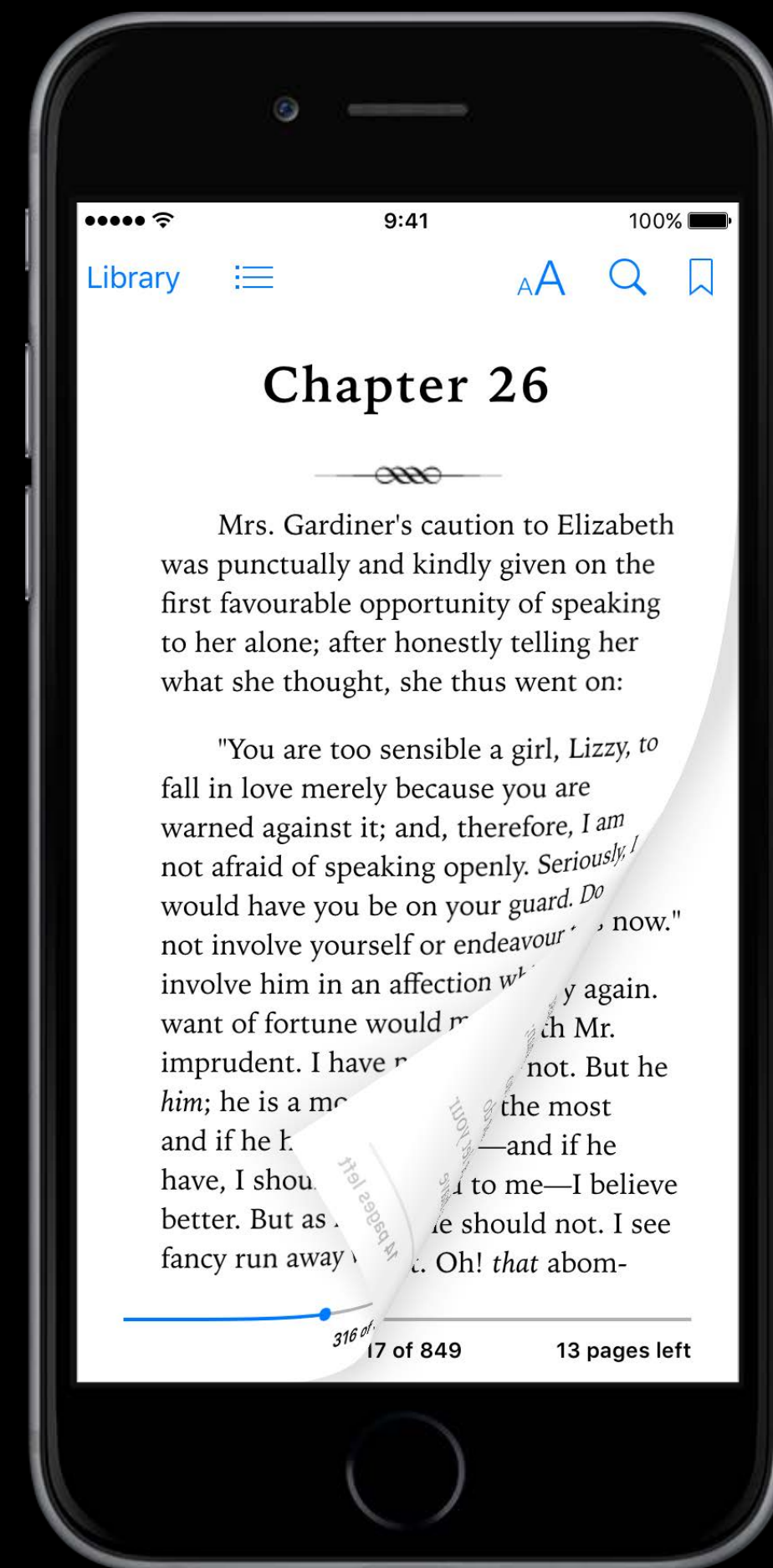
Sara Radi Internationalization Software Engineer

Aaltan Ahmad Internationalization Software Engineer

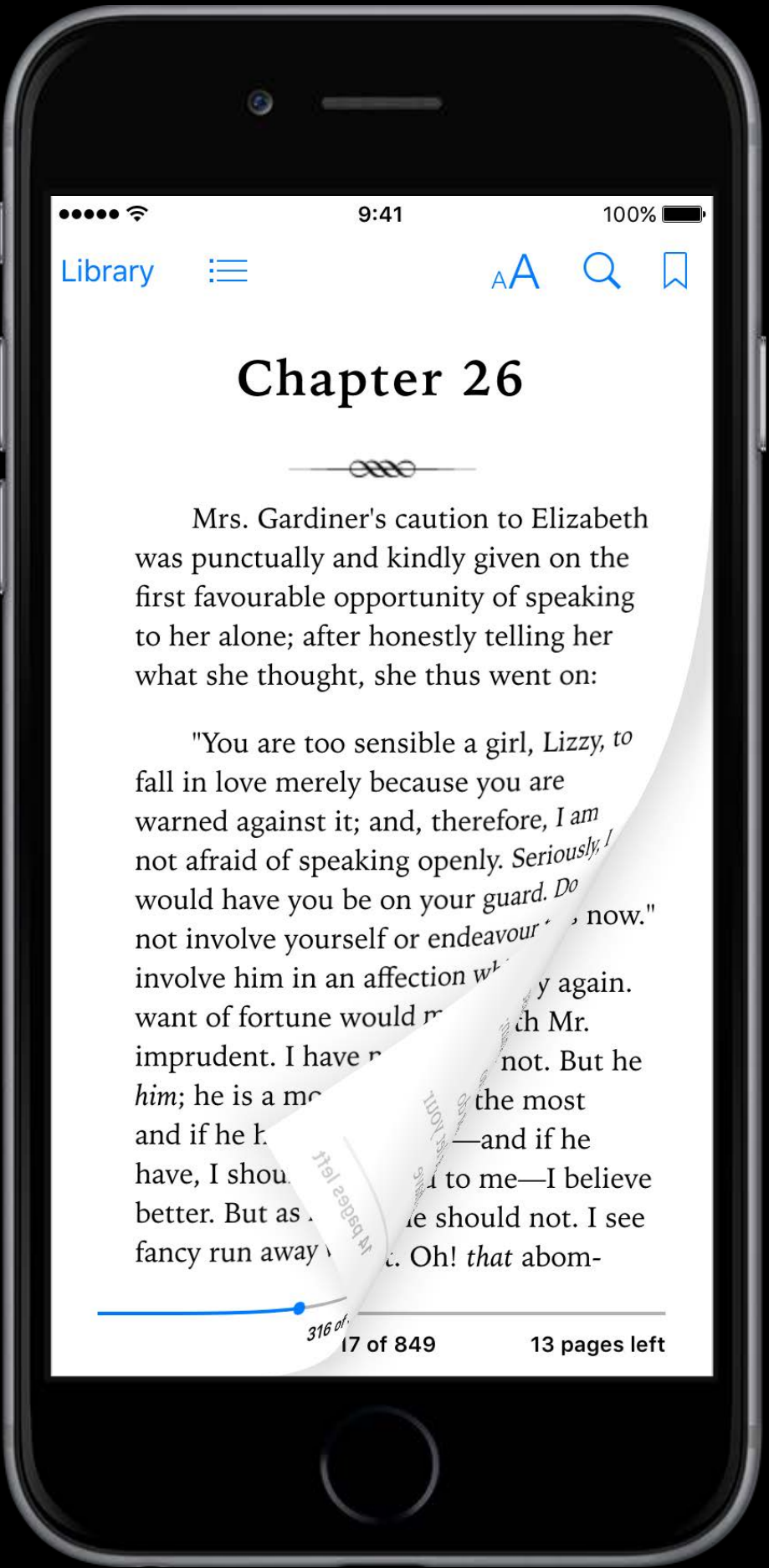
Paul Borokhov Internationalization Software Engineer

Designing UI for RTL Languages





Left-to-Right




Left-to-Right



Right-to-Left



A dark gray world map is centered on the Atlantic Ocean. The continents of North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia are visible in a lighter gray. The region of Latin America, including Central America, the Caribbean, and northern and central South America, is highlighted in a medium blue color. Overlaid on the map is the text "Over 500 million native speakers" in a white, sans-serif font, centered horizontally and partially overlapping the blue highlighted area.

Over 500 million
native speakers

Agenda

Right-to-Left (RTL) User Interface Challenges

Agenda

Right-to-Left (RTL) User Interface Challenges

Supporting RTL UI with UIKit Controls

Agenda

Right-to-Left (RTL) User Interface Challenges

Supporting RTL UI with UIKit Controls

Custom Layout

Agenda

Right-to-Left (RTL) User Interface Challenges

Supporting RTL UI with UIKit Controls

Custom Layout

Exceptions

Overview

Order

————— LTR reading direction —————>

Order



————— LTR reading direction —————→

Order

1

2



LTR reading direction



Order

1

2

3



LTR reading direction



Order

3

2

1



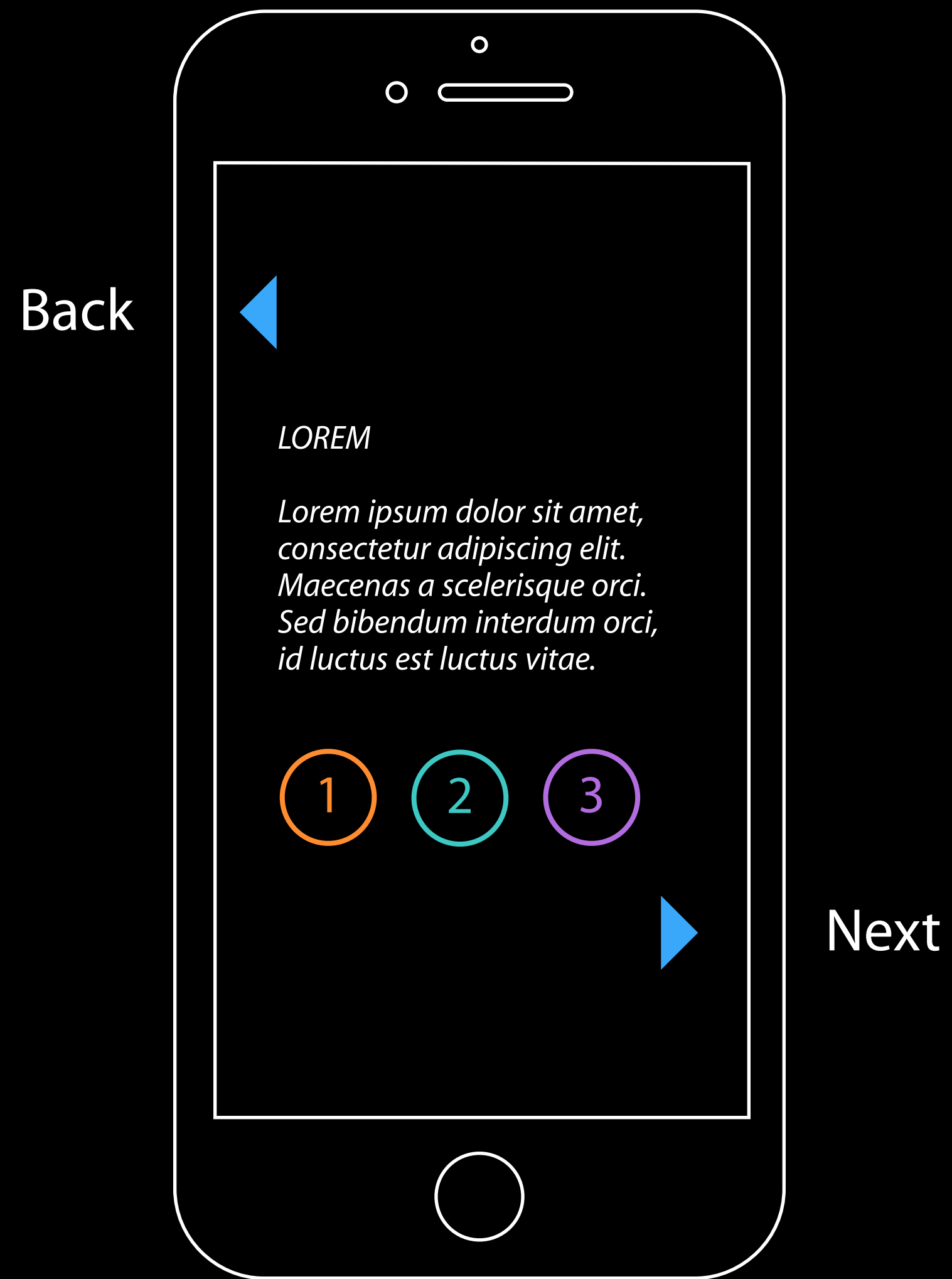
RTL reading direction



LTR reading direction



Navigation



Navigation



New in UIKit

Right-to-left support

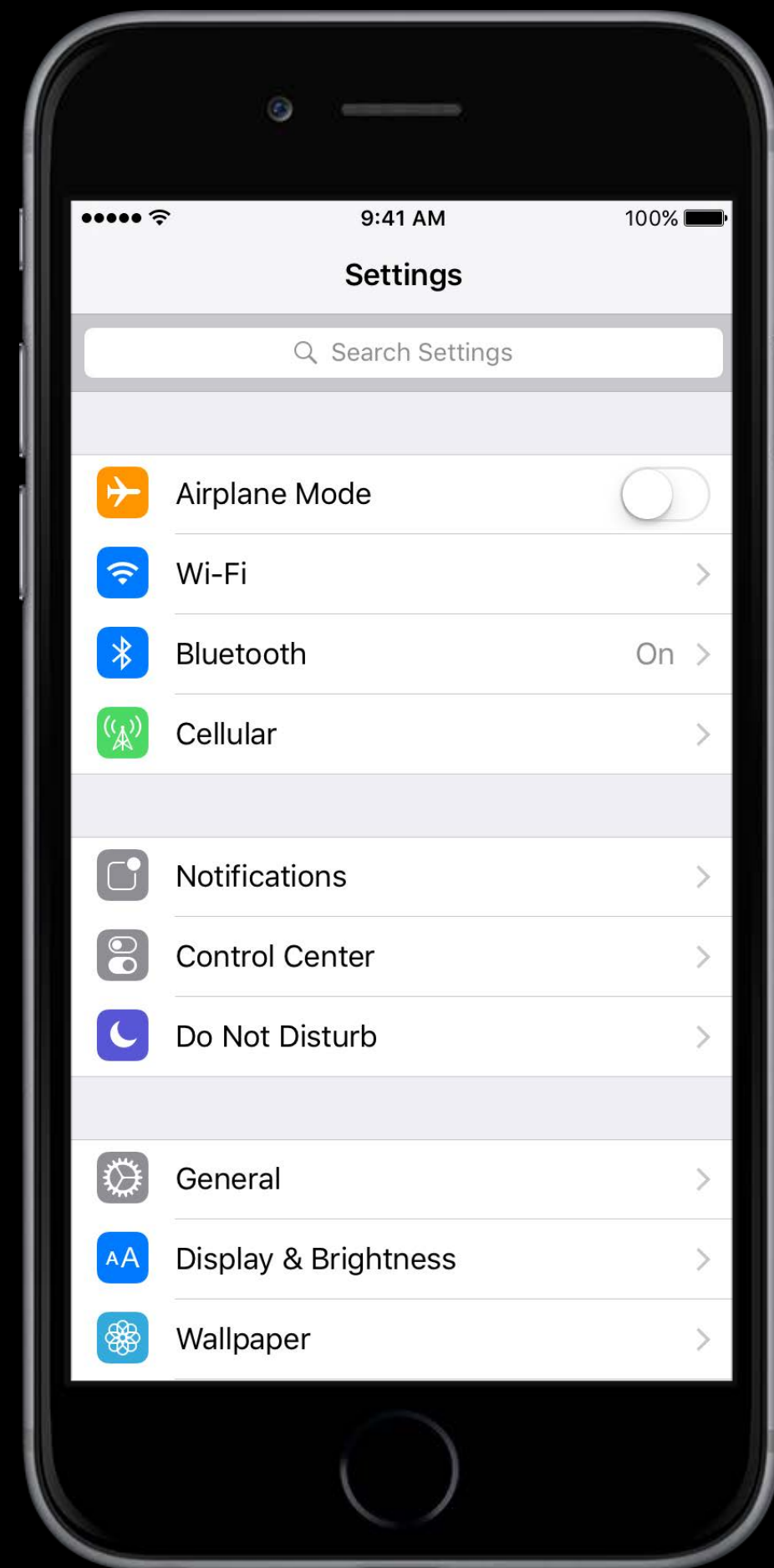




Standard Controls

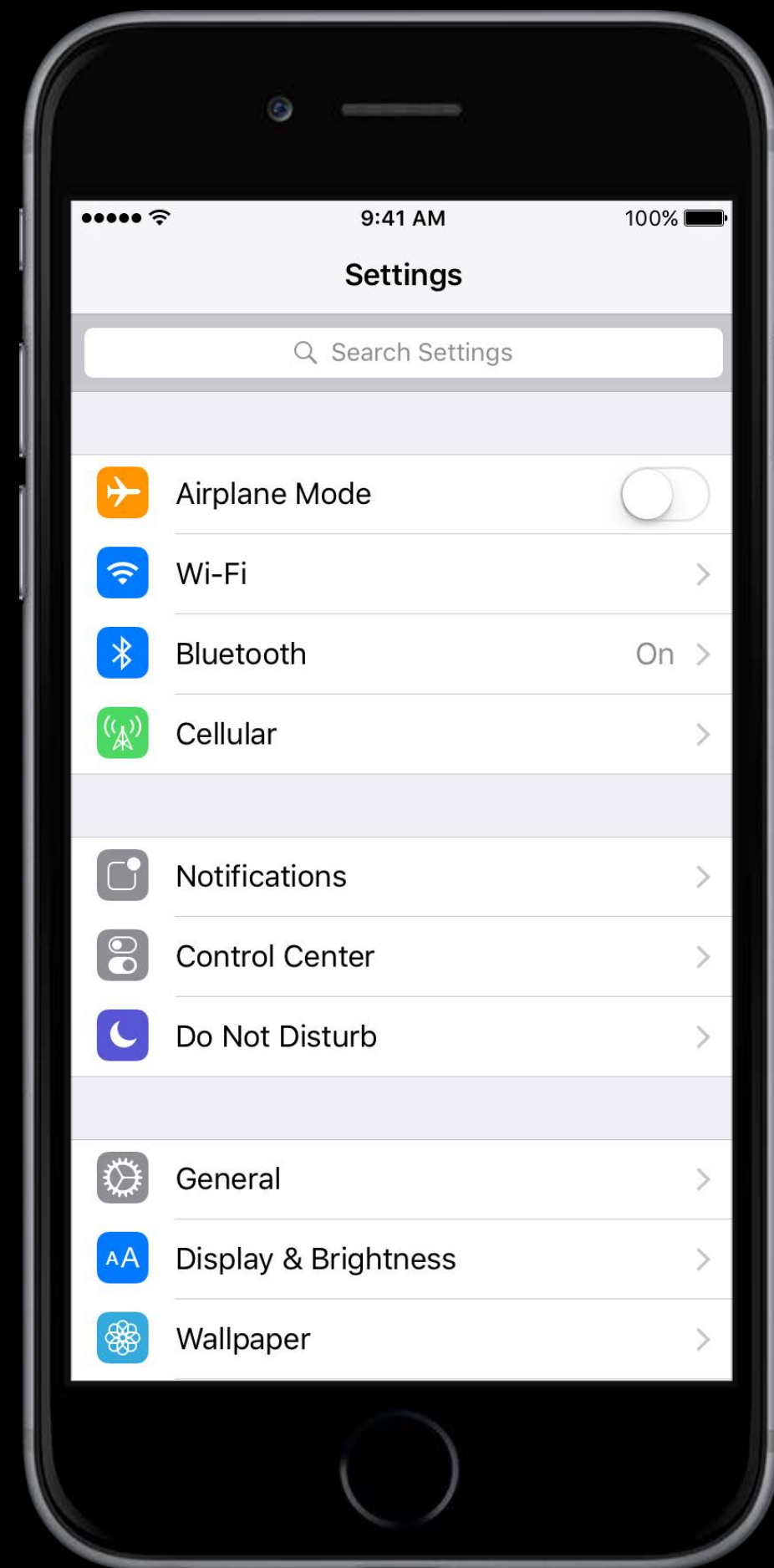
Table Views

Table Views



Left-to-Right

Table Views

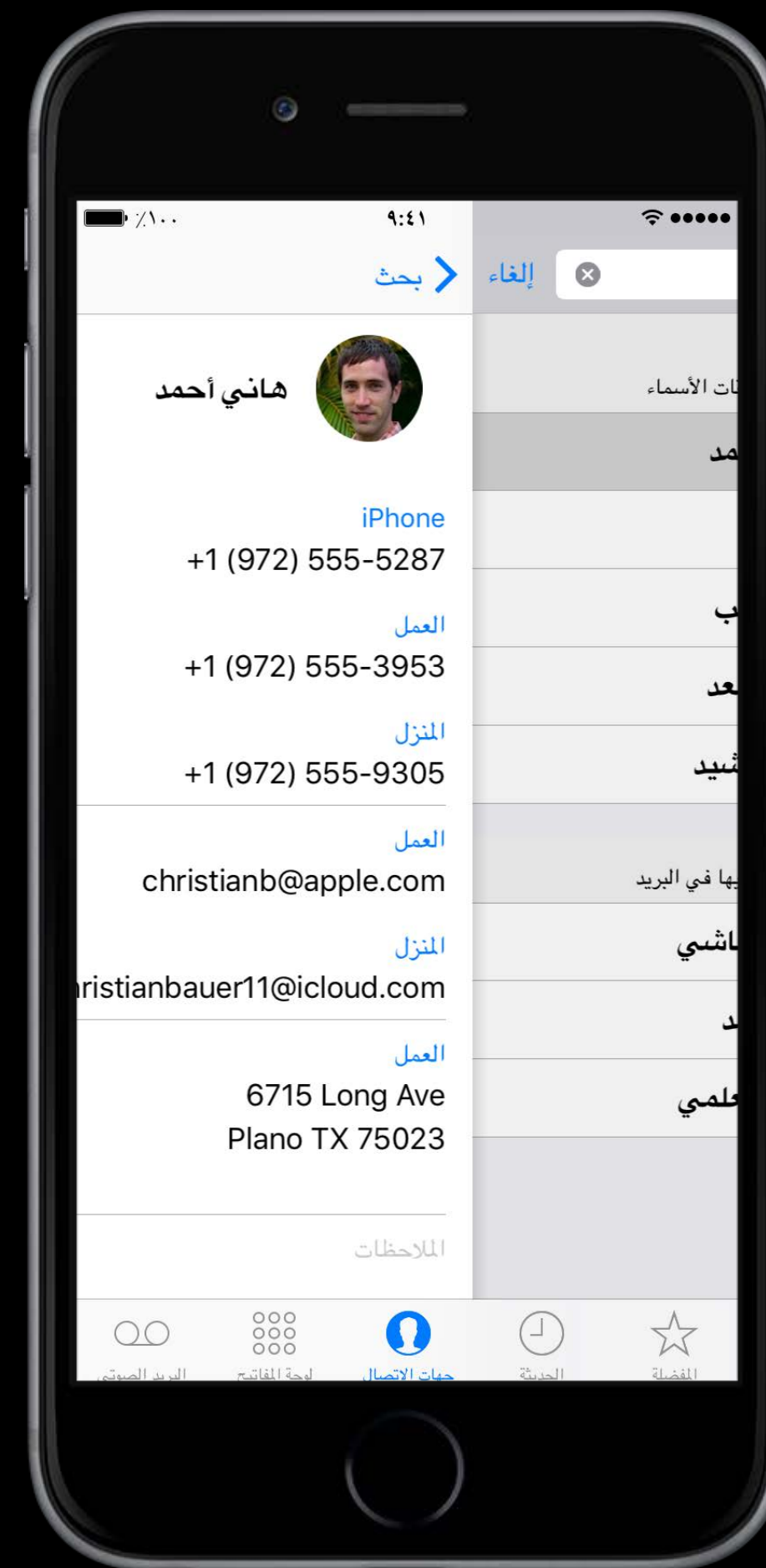


Left-to-Right



Right-to-Left

Navigation Controller



Tracking Gestures



Tracking Gestures



Enabling Right-to-Left Support

Enabling Right-to-Left Support

Link against iOS 9

Enabling Right-to-Left Support

Link against iOS 9

As simple as adding a RTL localization

Enabling Right-to-Left Support

Link against iOS 9

As simple as adding a RTL localization



Base.lproj/Main.storyboard

Enabling Right-to-Left Support

Link against iOS 9

As simple as adding a RTL localization



Base.lproj/Main.storyboard



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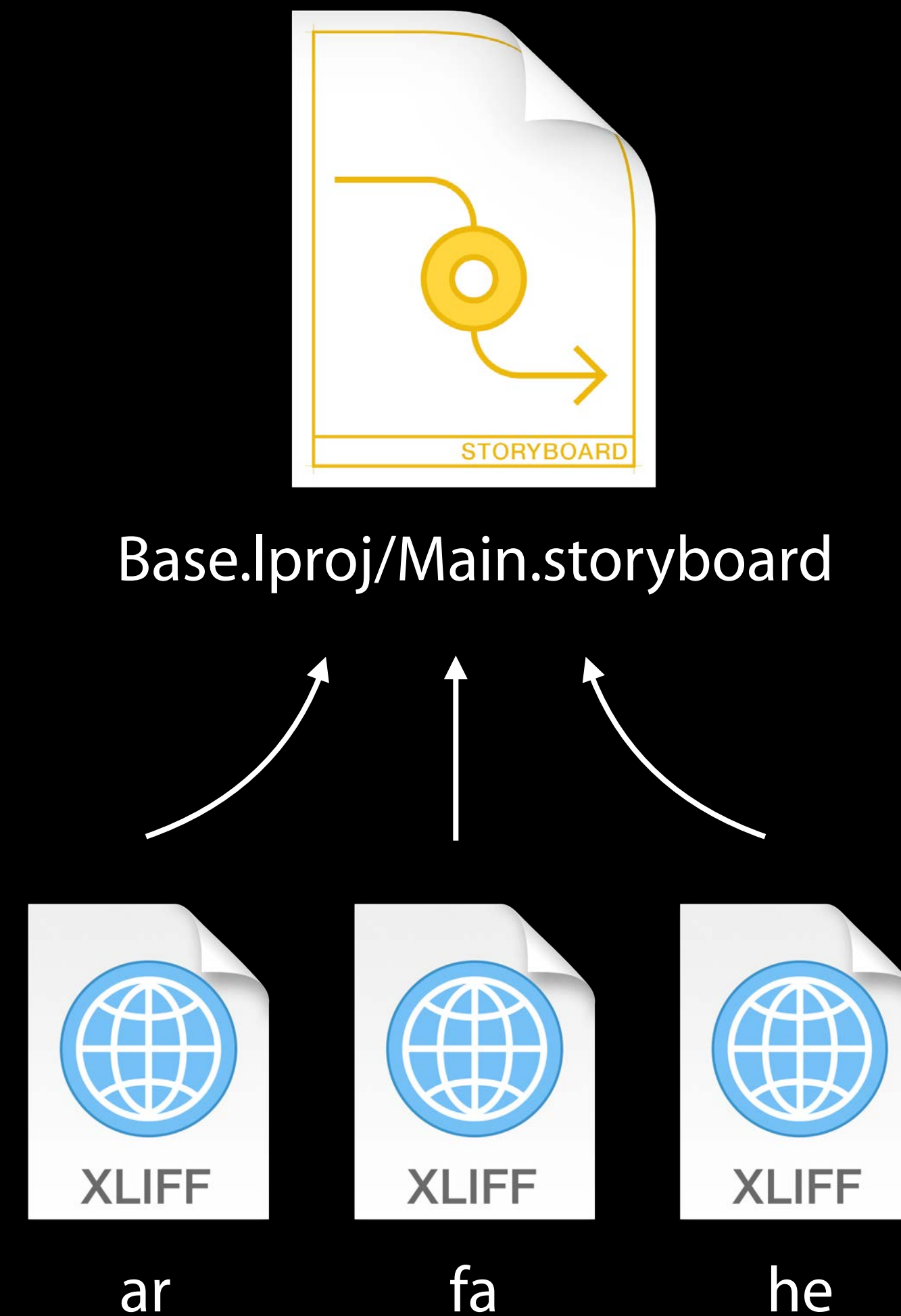


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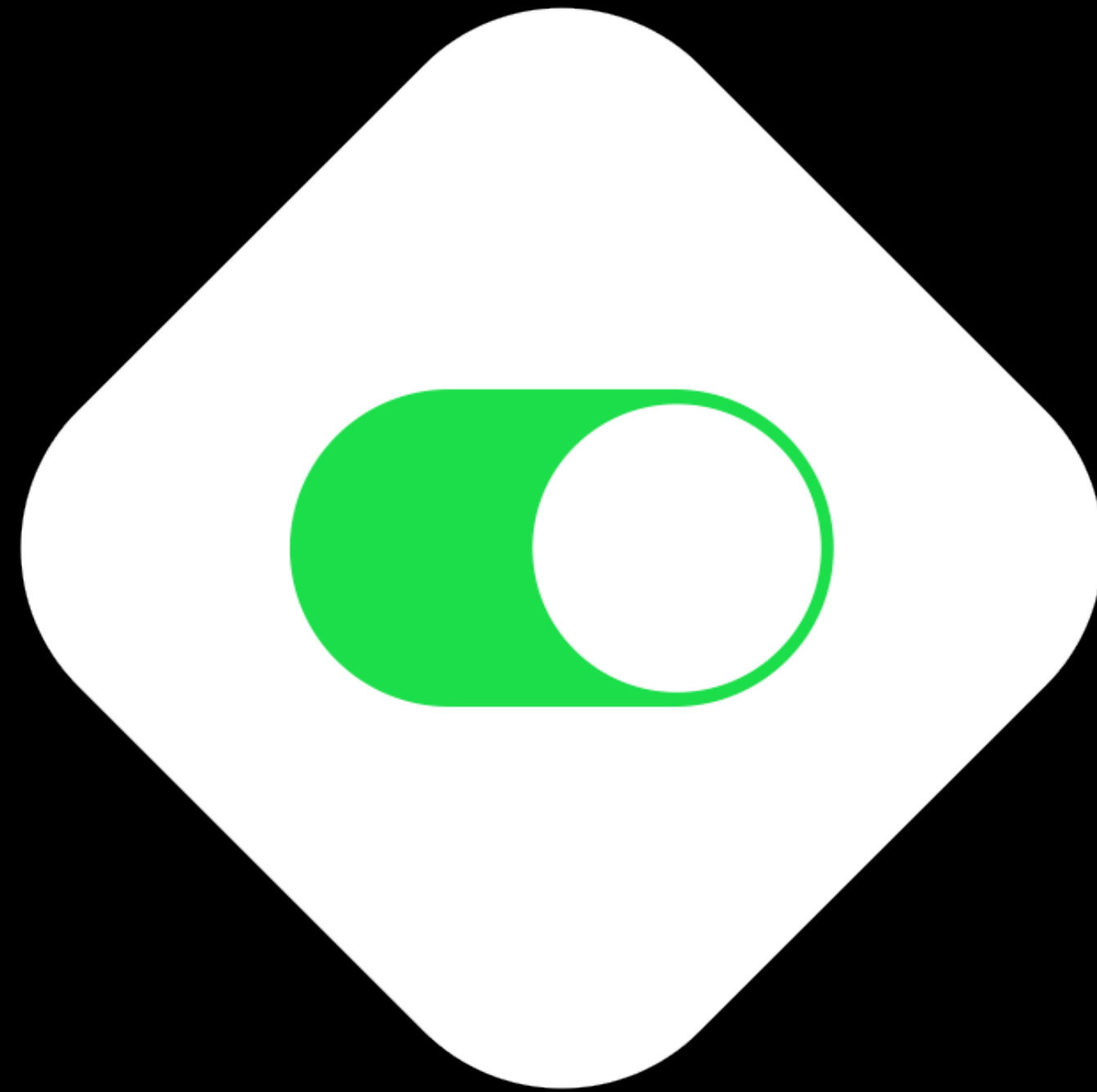
Enabling Right-to-Left Support

Link against iOS 9

As simple as adding a RTL localization



User Interface Testing



- ▶ **Build**
2 targets
- ▶ **Run**
Debug
- ▶ **Test**
Debug
- ▶ **Profile**
Release
- ▶ **Analyze**
Debug
- ▶ **Archive**
Release

| | Info | Arguments | Options | Diagnostics |
|---------------------------|---|-----------|---------|-------------|
| Core Location | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allow Location Simulation | | | |
| Default Location | None | | | |
| Application Data | None | | | |
| Routing App Coverage File | None | | | |
| GPU Frame Capture | Automatically Enabled | | | |
| Metal API Validation | Enabled | | | |
| Background Fetch | <input type="checkbox"/> Launch due to a background fetch event | | | |
| Localization Debugging | <input type="checkbox"/> Show non-localized strings | | | |
| Application Language | System Language | | | |
| Application Region | System Region | | | |
| XPC Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debug XPC services used by this application | | | |
| View Debugging | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enable user interface debugging | | | |

Duplicate Scheme

Manage Schemes...

☐ Shared

Close

| | Info | Arguments | Options | Diagnostics |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|---------|-------------|
| Build 2 targets | | | | |
| Run Debug | | | | |
| Test Debug | | | | |
| Profile Release | | | | |
| Analyze Debug | | | | |
| Archive Release | | | | |
| | Core Location | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allow Location Simulation | | |
| | Default Location | None | | |
| | Application Data | None | | |
| | Routing App Coverage File | None | | |
| | GPU Frame Capture | Automatically Enabled | | |
| | Metal API Validation | Enabled | | |
| | Background Fetch | <input type="checkbox"/> Launch due to a background fetch event | | |
| | Localization Debugging | <input type="checkbox"/> Show non-localized strings | | |
| | Application Language | System Language | | |
| | Application Region | English | | |
| | XP | Double Length Pseudolanguage | | |
| | | Right to Left Pseudolanguage | | |
| | View Debugging | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enable user interface debugging | | |

Duplicate Scheme

Manage Schemes...

☐ Shared

Close

Demo

Localization

Custom Layout

API Changes

API Changes

UITextField

- `leftView/rightView` and `leftViewMode/rightViewMode` flip automatically
- `leftViewRectForBounds(_:)/rightViewRectForBounds(_:)` stay unchanged

API Changes

UITextField

- `leftView/rightView` and `leftViewMode/rightViewMode` flip automatically
- `leftViewRectForBounds(_:)/rightViewRectForBounds(_:)` stay unchanged

UITableView

- Insets set using the `separatorInset` property automatically flip left and right measurements

API Changes

API Changes

UISlider

- `minimumValueImage` and `maximumValueImage` flip automatically
- Be aware of adjustments done in `minimumValueImageRectForBounds(_:)` and `maximumValueImageRectForBounds(_:)`

API Changes

UISlider

- `minimumValueImage` and `maximumValueImage` flip automatically
- Be aware of adjustments done in `minimumValueImageRectForBounds(_:)` and `maximumValueImageRectForBounds(_:)`

UINavigationController

- `leftBarButtonItem(s)` and `rightBarButtonItem(s)` flip automatically
- Beware of views added outside of API

Table View Cells

Table View Cells

Standard cells flip automatically



Table View Cells

Standard cells flip automatically

Custom layouts need to be flipped too



Collection View Flow Layouts

CollectionView Flow Layouts

UICollectionViewFlowLayout supports
right to left



CollectionView Flow Layouts

`UICollectionViewFlowLayout` supports
right to left

Reverse math for custom flow layouts



CollectionView Flow Layouts

UICollectionViewFlowLayout supports
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Reverse math for custom flow layouts

- Subclass UICollectionViewFlowLayout



CollectionView Flow Layouts

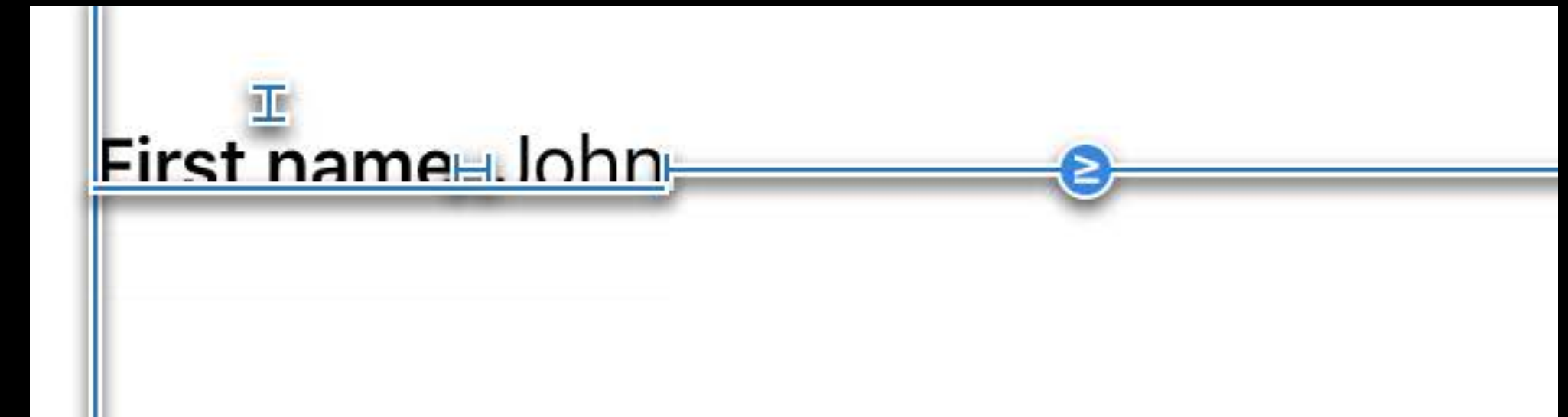
`UICollectionViewFlowLayout` supports
right to left

Reverse math for custom flow layouts

- Subclass `UICollectionViewFlowLayout`

Auto Layout

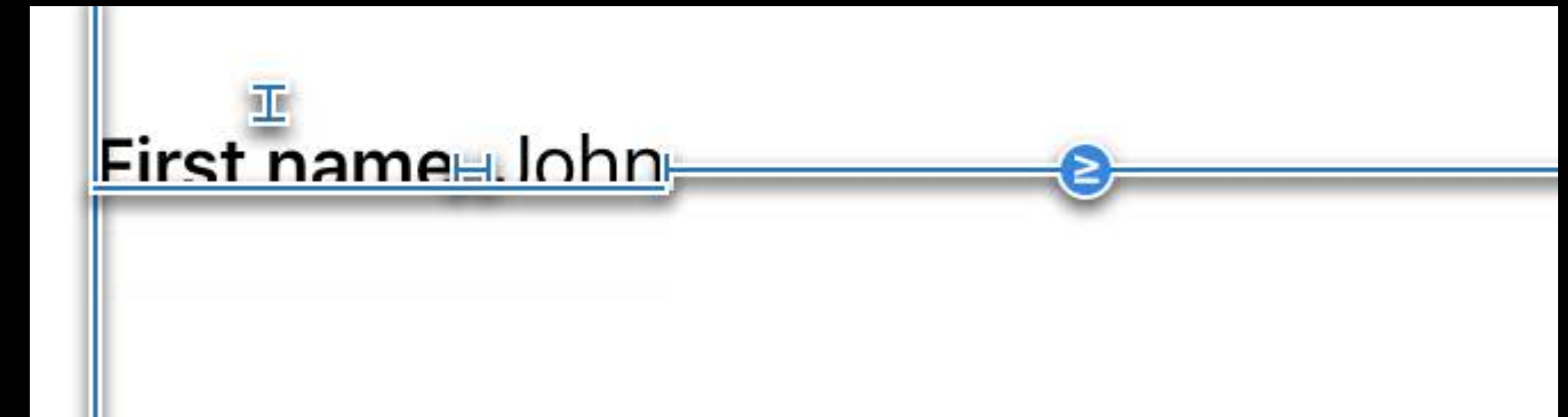
Many reasons to use Auto Layout



Auto Layout

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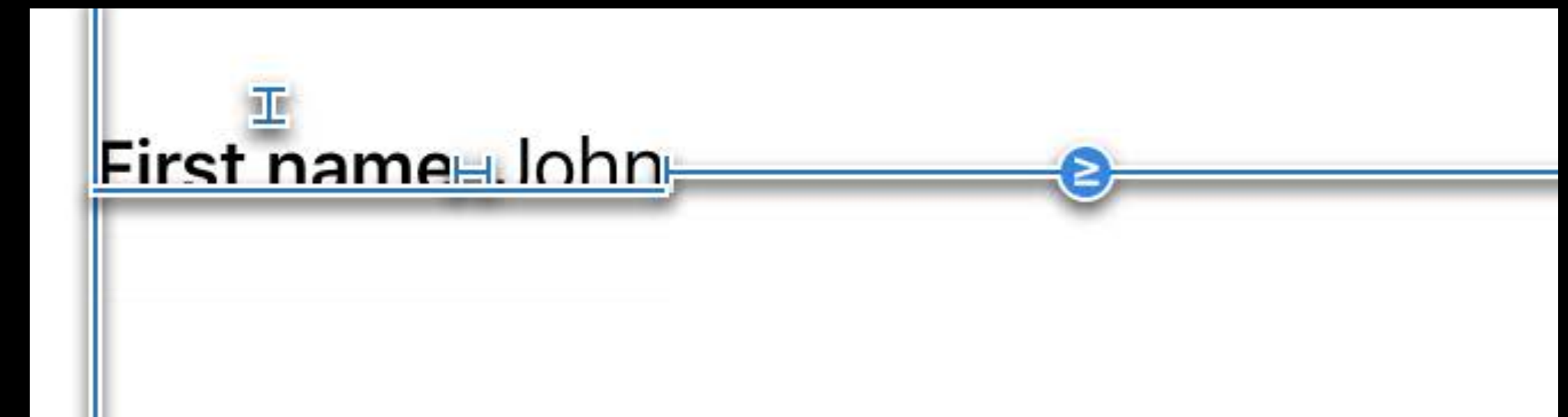
- Available since iOS 6



Auto Layout

Many reasons to use Auto Layout

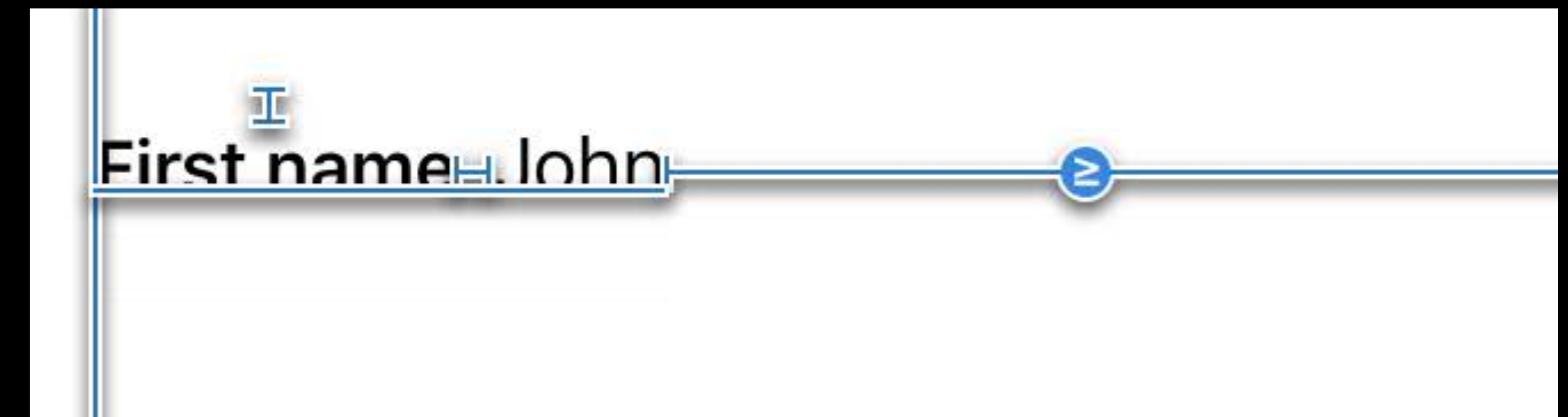
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- Different screen sizes



Auto Layout

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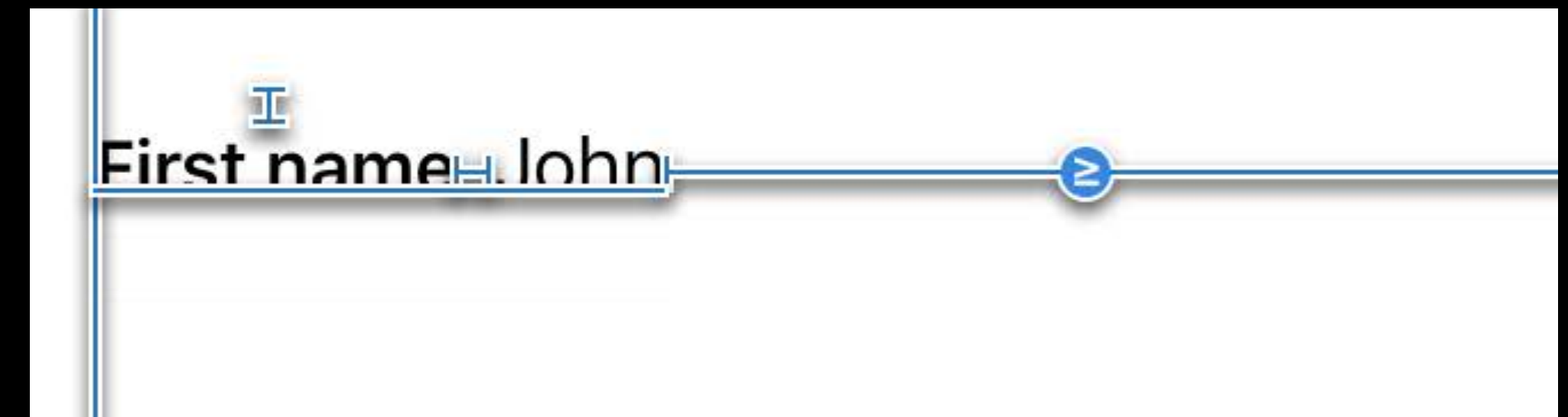
- Available since iOS 6
- Different screen sizes
- Split-screen multitasking



Auto Layout

Many reasons to use Auto Layout

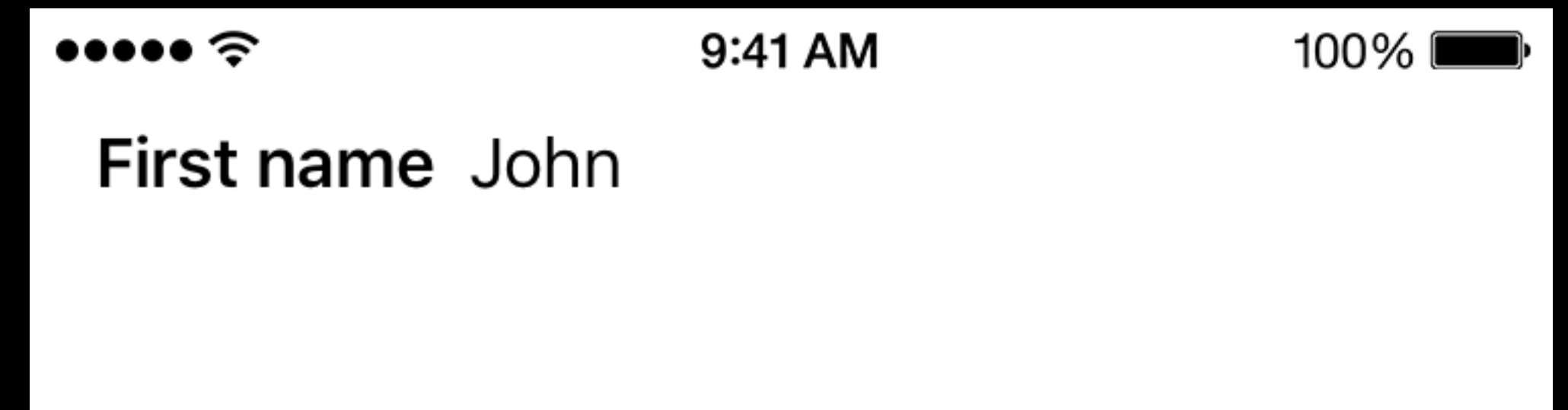
- Available since iOS 6
- Different screen sizes
- Split-screen multitasking
- Localization



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Many reasons to use Auto Layout

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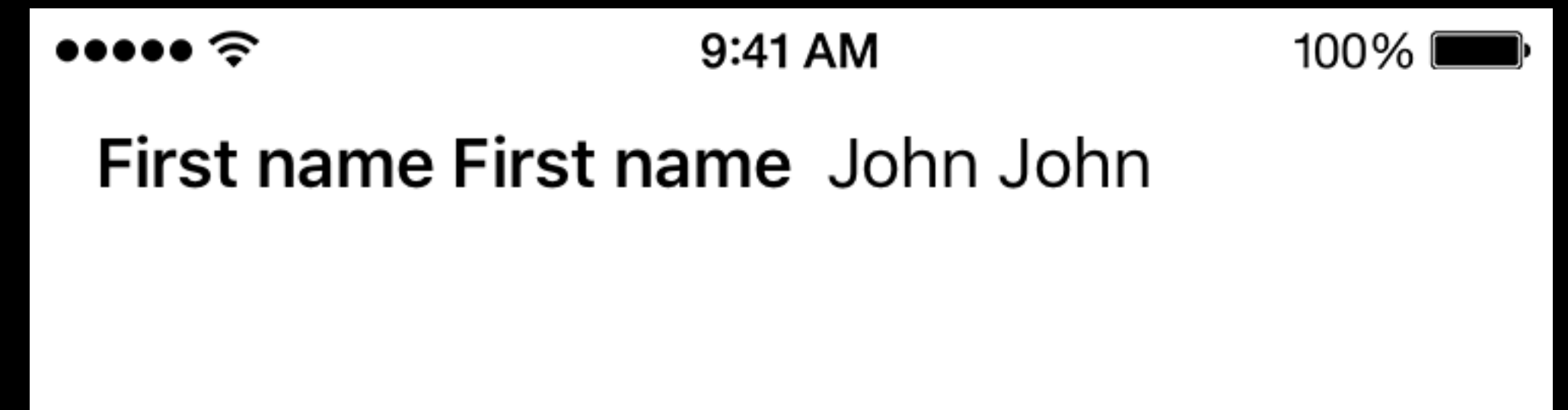
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One more reason—right-to-left!



Auto Layout

Many reasons to use Auto Layout

- Available since iOS 6
- Different screen sizes
- Split-screen multitasking
- Localization

One more reason—right-to-left!

Can be used in storyboards,
programmatically, or both



Auto Layout

Auto Layout

Use leading and trailing constraints

Auto Layout

Use leading and trailing constraints

Xcode



Auto Layout

Use leading and trailing constraints

Xcode

First name

Paul

Auto Layout

Use leading and trailing constraints

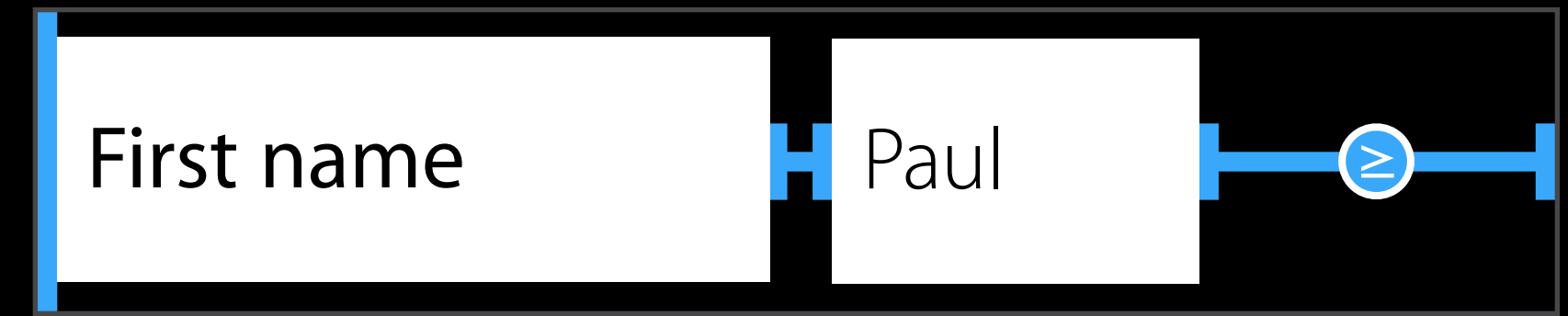
Xcode



Auto Layout

Use leading and trailing constraints

Xcode



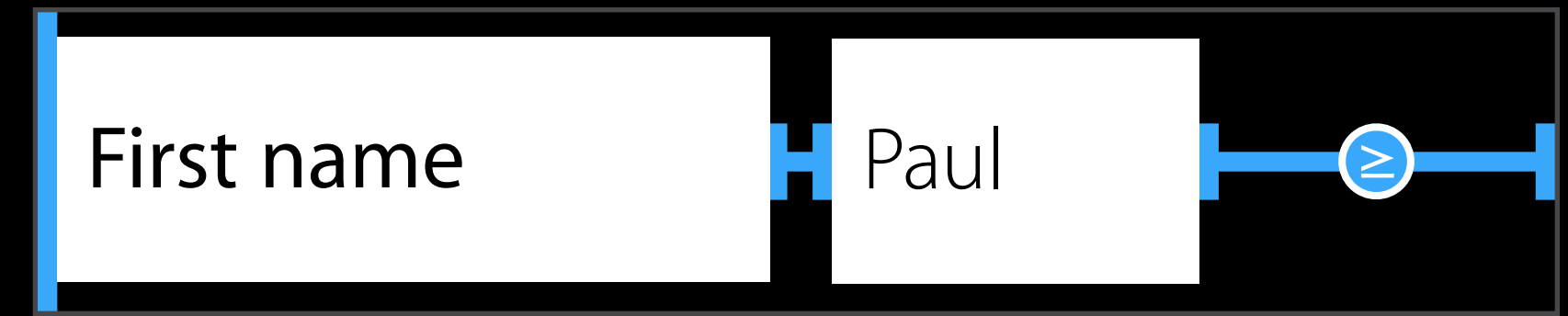
Left-to-right



Auto Layout

Use leading and trailing constraints

Xcode



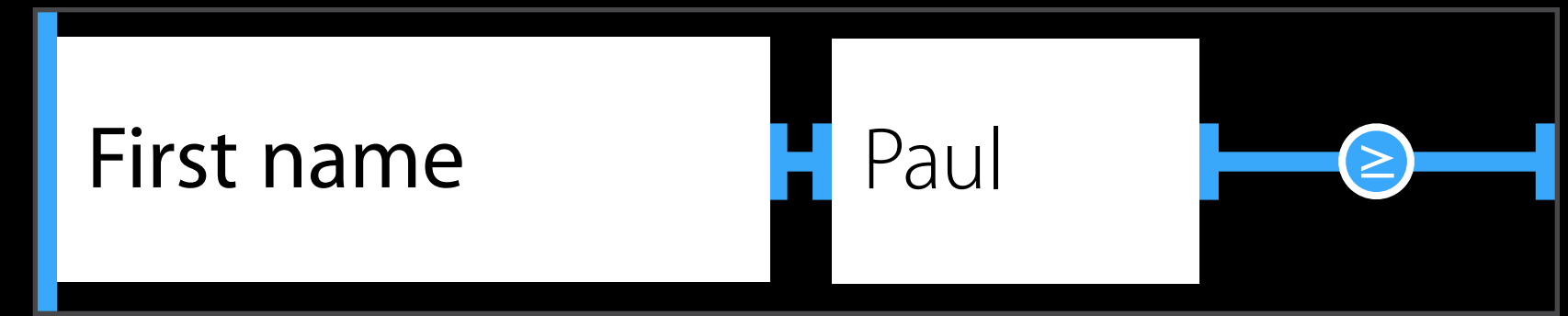
Right-to-left



Auto Layout

Use leading and trailing constraints
Storyboards

Xcode



Right-to-left



Auto Layout

Use leading and trailing constraints

Storyboards

- The default

Xcode



Right-to-left



Auto Layout

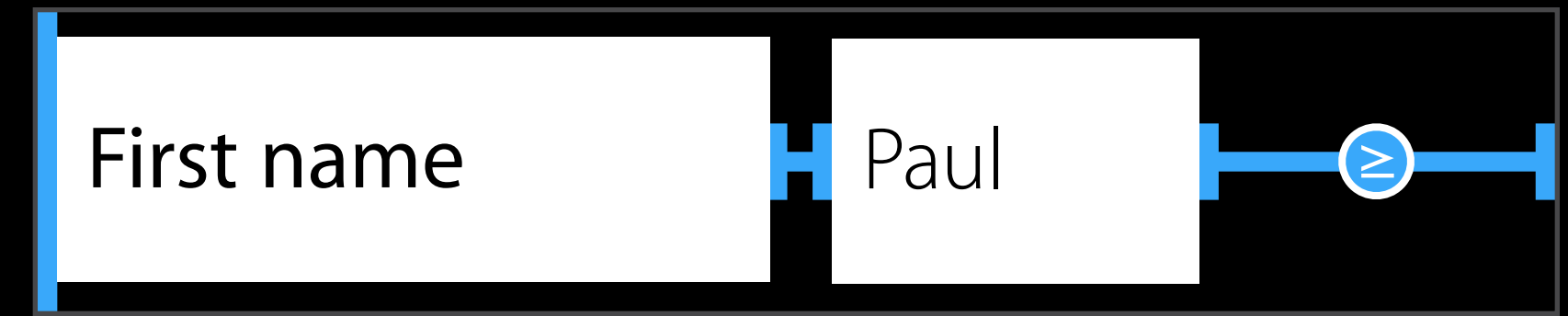
Use leading and trailing constraints

Storyboards

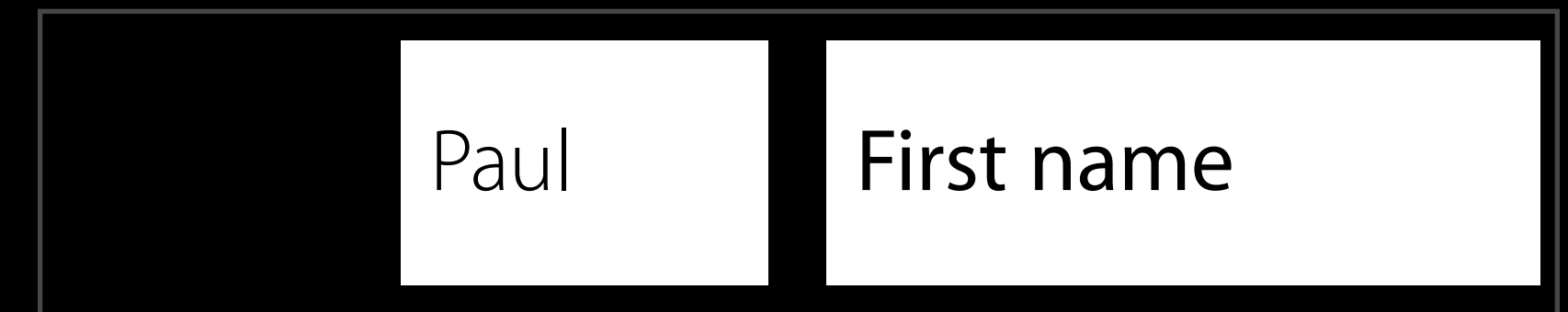
- The default

Code

Xcode



Right-to-left



Auto Layout

Use leading and trailing constraints

Storyboards

- The default

Code

- The default in visual format language

Xcode



Right-to-left



Auto Layout

Use leading and trailing constraints

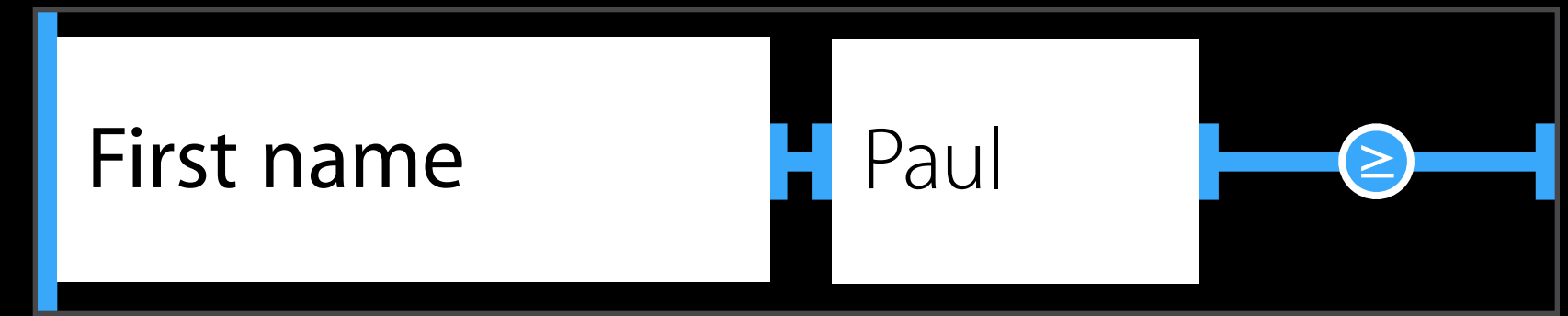
Storyboards

- The default

Code

- The default in visual format language
- Use explicitly for manual constraints and layout anchors

Xcode



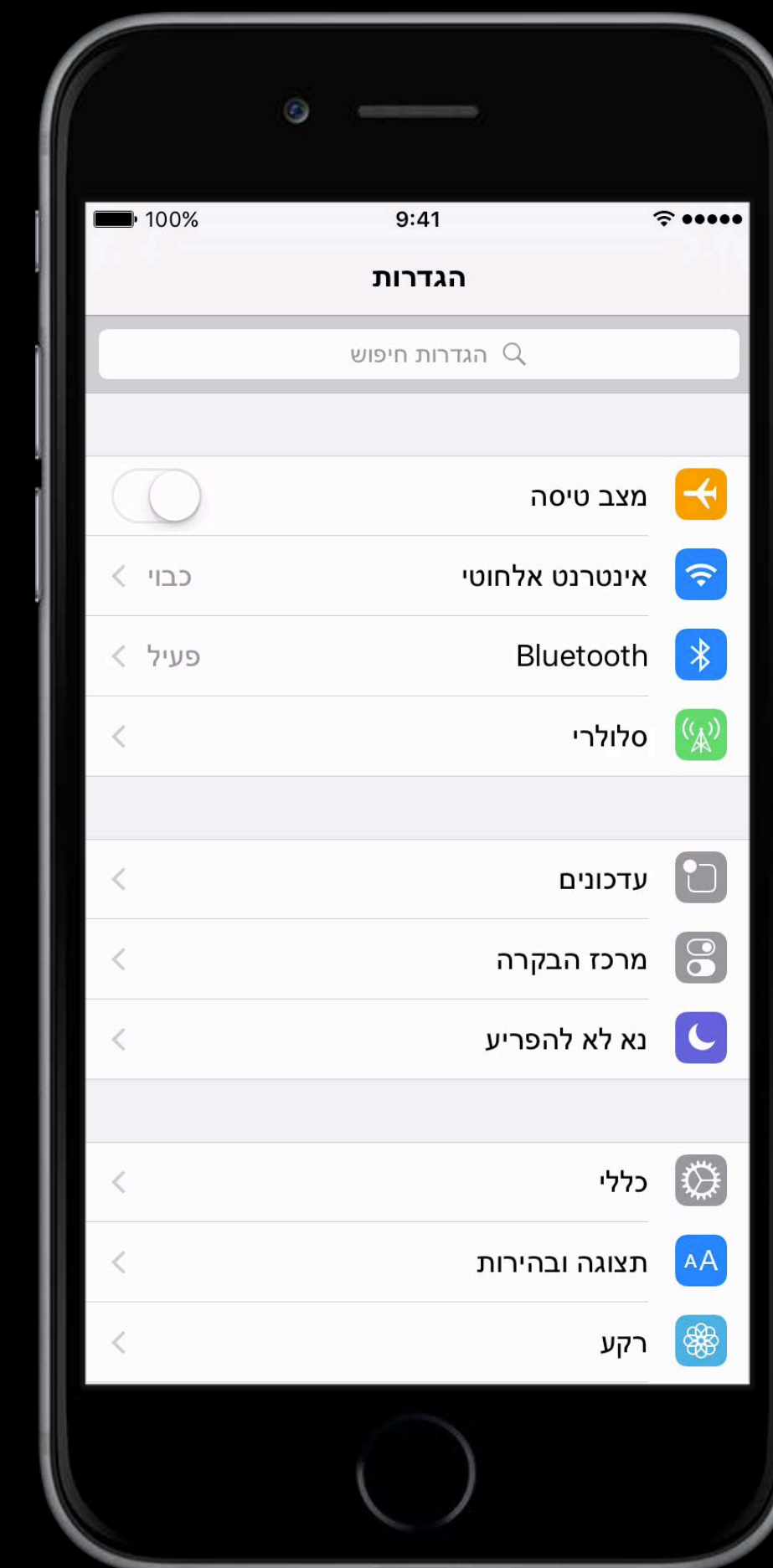
Right-to-left



Animations

Flip your x-axis animations if using frames

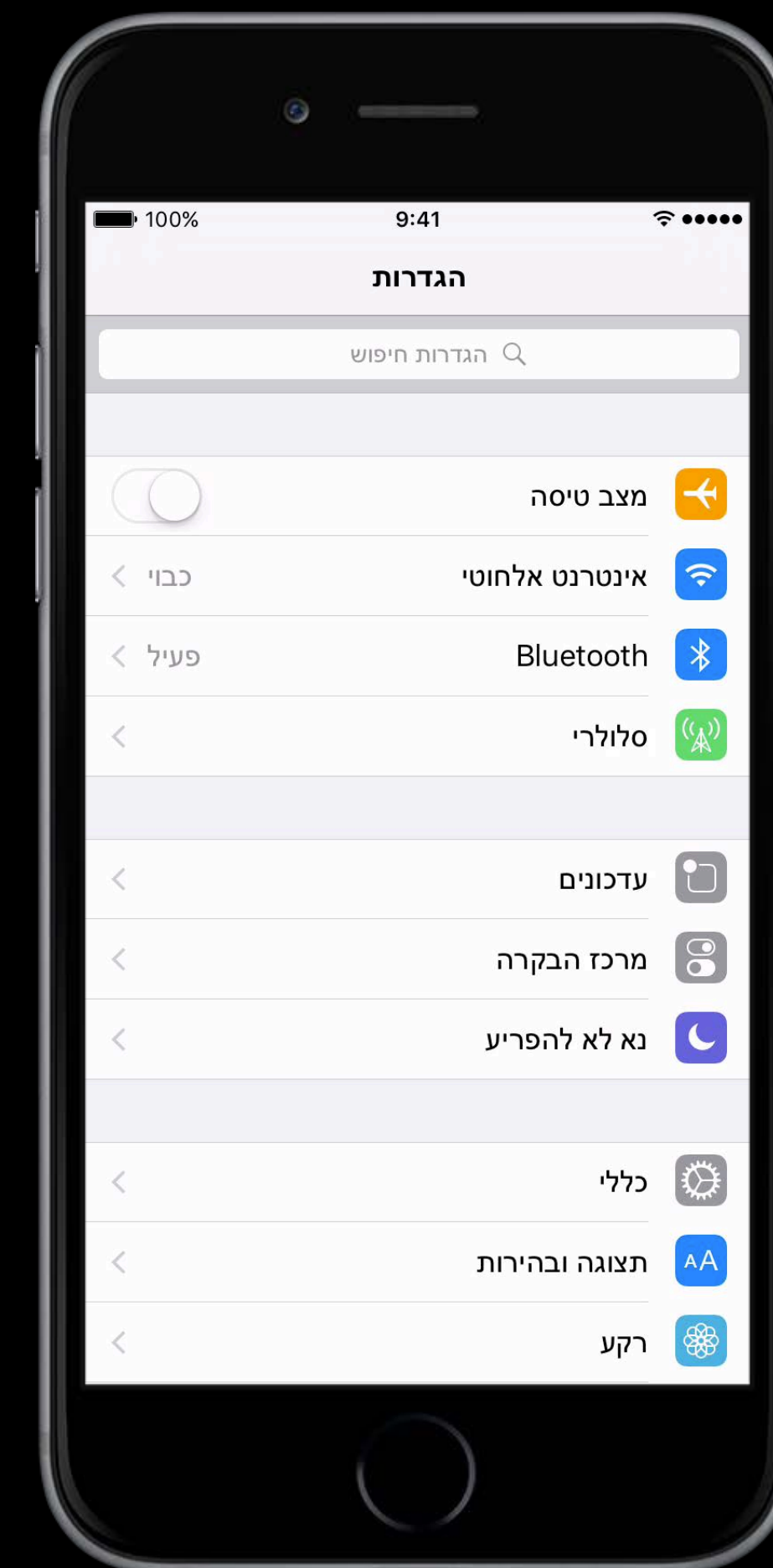
- Not recommended



Animations

Flip your x-axis animations if using frames

- Not recommended

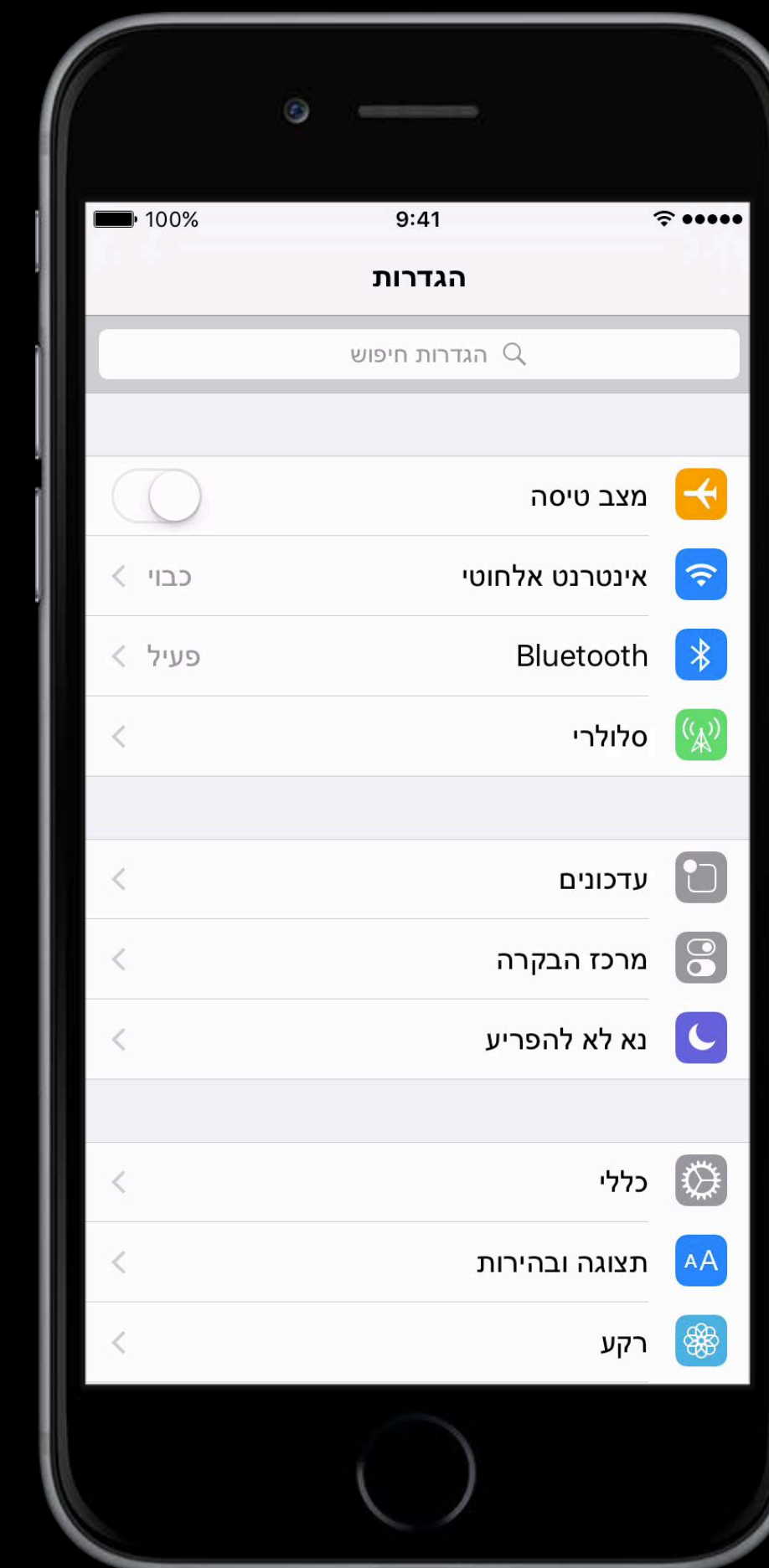


Animations

Flip your x-axis animations if using frames

- Not recommended

Use Auto Layout with leading and trailing constraints instead



Animations

Animations

```
let duration = 0.5 // time in seconds
let newOffset = 10 // new constraint value to animate to
self.layoutIfNeeded() // make sure all frames are at the starting position
UIView.animateWithDuration(duration) {
    self.animatedConstraint?.constant = newOffset
    self.layoutIfNeeded() // layout again to update the frames
}
```

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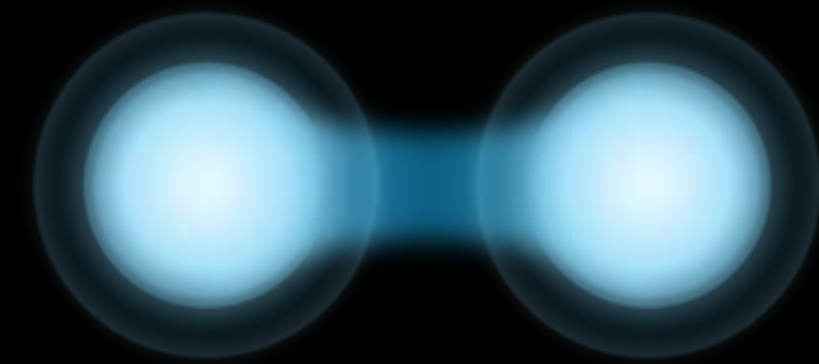
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Tracking Gestures

Gesture recognizers remain unchanged

- Inherently physical, map-to-finger movement
- A “flipped” recognizer wouldn’t make sense



Tracking Gestures

Tracking Gestures

Be aware of what's being manipulated in UI

Tracking Gestures

Be aware of what's being manipulated in UI

- Paintbrush on a canvas?



Tracking Gestures

Be aware of what's being manipulated in UI

- Paintbrush on a canvas?
- Table view cell?



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Tracking Gestures

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- Navigation?



Tracking Gestures

Be aware of what's being manipulated in UI

- Paintbrush on a canvas?
- Table view cell?
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Make sure that position changes correspond to movement



Tracking Gestures

Be aware of what's being manipulated in UI

- Paintbrush on a canvas?
- Table view cell?
- Navigation?

Make sure that position changes correspond to movement

- Use Auto Layout



Demo

Custom layout

Exceptions

Views

Exceptions

Semantic content attributes

NEW

Exceptions

Semantic content attributes

NEW

```
var semanticContentAttribute: UISemanticContentAttribute
```

Exceptions

NEW

Semantic content attributes

```
var semanticContentAttribute: UISemanticContentAttribute
```

Not all UI flips

Exceptions

NEW

Semantic content attributes

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Not all UI flips

Default is `.Unspecified`

Exceptions

NEW

Semantic content attributes

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var semanticContentAttribute: UISemanticContentAttribute
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Not all UI flips

Default is **.Unspecified**

Some UI needs different semantic content attribute for correct layout

Exceptions

NEW

Semantic content attributes

```
var semanticContentAttribute: UISemanticContentAttribute
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Not all UI flips

Default is **.Unspecified**

Some UI needs different semantic content attribute for correct layout

Affects resolution of leading and trailing constraints

Exceptions

Semantic content attributes

NEW

`UISemanticContentAttribute.Playback`

Containers of playback controls, playhead scrubbers, etc.



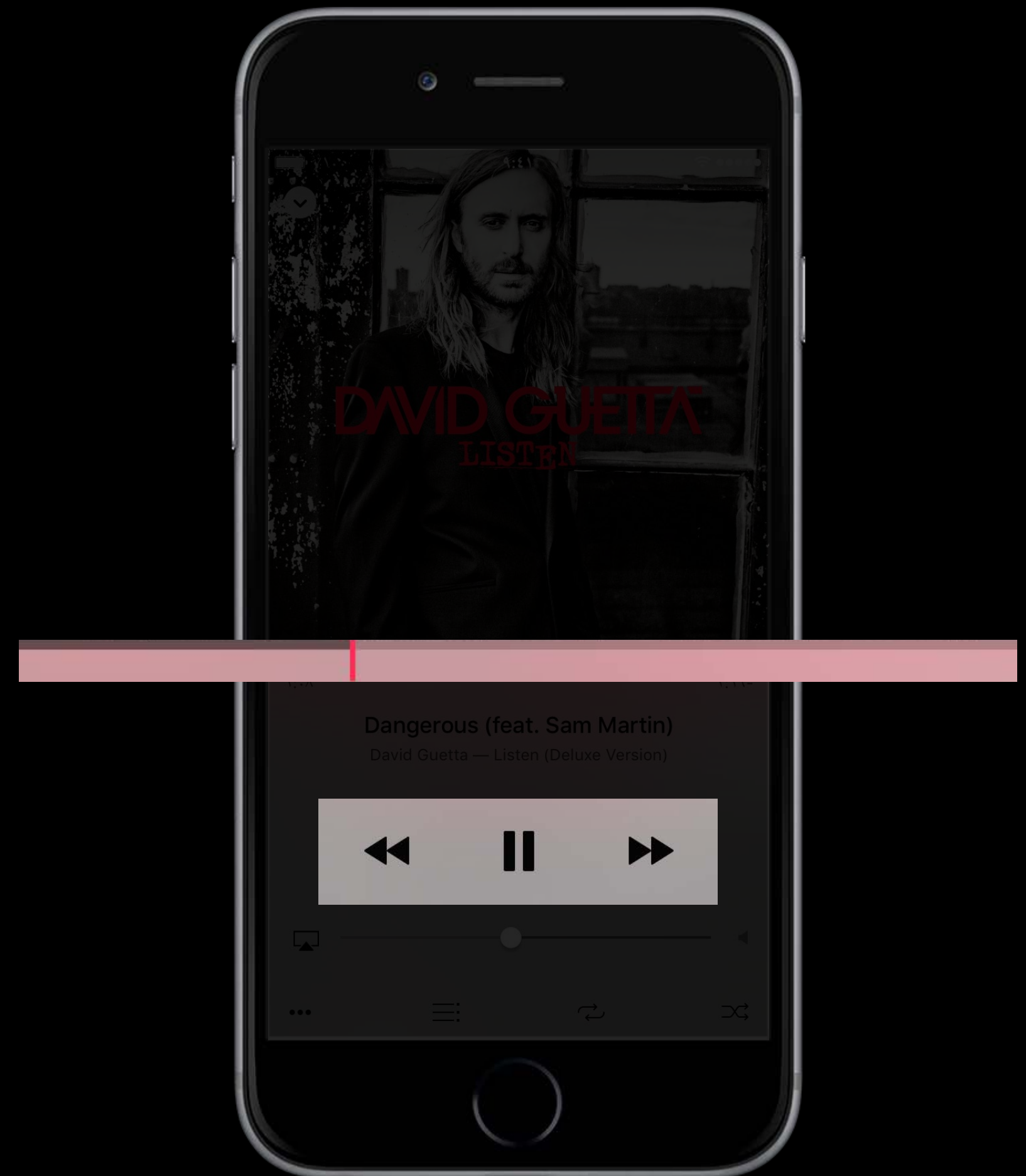
Exceptions

Semantic content attributes

NEW

UISemanticContentAttribute.Playback

Containers of playback controls, playhead scrubbers, etc.



Exceptions

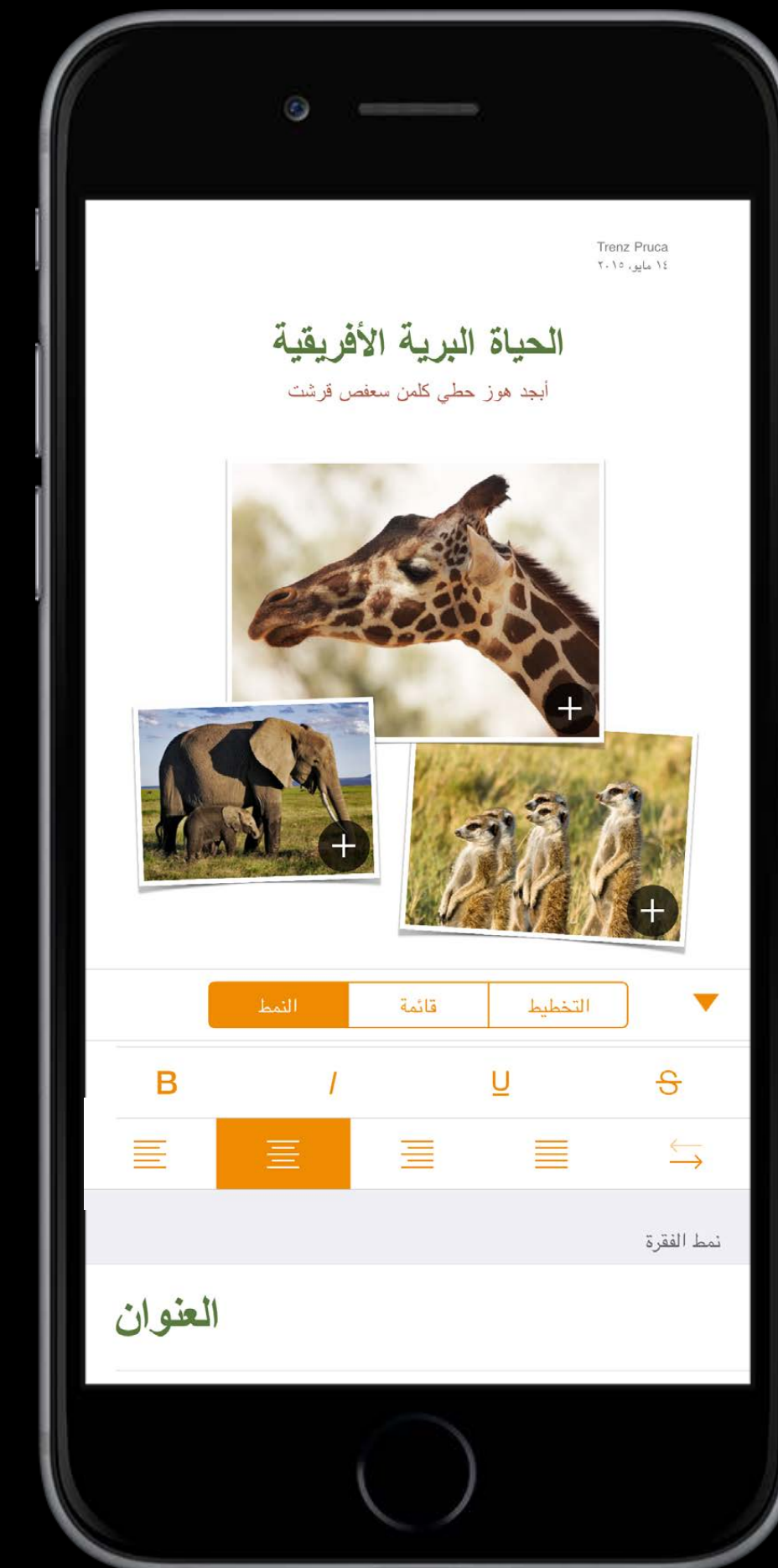
Semantic content attributes

NEW

UISemanticContentAttribute.Spatial

Groups of controls for manipulating objects or directional input on the screen

- Game controllers
- Text alignment controls



Exceptions

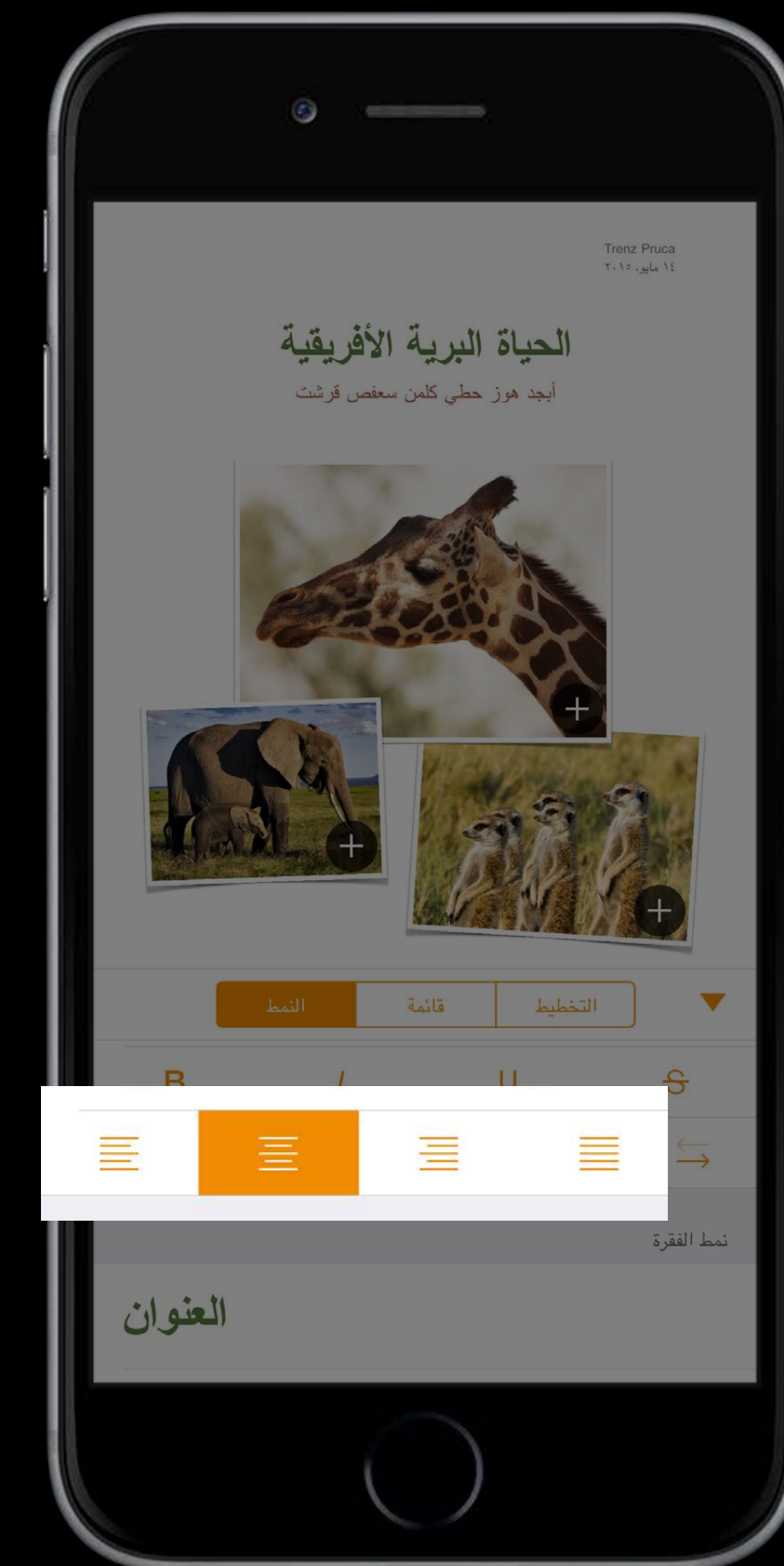
Semantic content attributes

NEW

UISemanticContentAttribute.Spatial

Groups of controls for manipulating objects or directional input on the screen

- Game controllers
- Text alignment controls



Exceptions

Semantic content attributes

NEW

Exceptions

Semantic content attributes

NEW

```
UISemanticContentAttribute.ForceLeftToRight  
                           .ForceRightToLeft
```

Exceptions

NEW

Semantic content attributes

```
UISemanticContentAttribute.ForceLeftToRight  
                           .ForceRightToLeft
```

Explicitly set the layout direction you want

Exceptions

NEW

Semantic content attributes

`UISemanticContentAttribute.ForceLeftToRight`
`.ForceRightToLeft`

Explicitly set the layout direction you want

Only `.ForceRightToLeft` affects layout in left-to-right localizations

Exceptions

NEW

Semantic content attributes

`UISemanticContentAttribute.ForceLeftToRight`
`.ForceRightToLeft`

Explicitly set the layout direction you want

Only `.ForceRightToLeft` affects layout in left-to-right localizations

Come talk to us in a lab if you want to use these

Best Practices

User interface and text

Right-to-Left User Interface

Right-to-Left User Interface

Use formatters for region-appropriate formatting

Right-to-Left User Interface

Use formatters for region-appropriate formatting

Right-to-Left User Interface

Use formatters for region-appropriate formatting

Never use `NSLocale` or `NSBundle` for UI layout branching

Right-to-Left User Interface

Use formatters for region-appropriate formatting

Never use `NSLocale` or `NSBundle` for UI layout branching

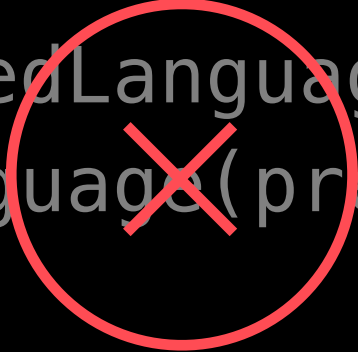
```
let preferredLang = NSLocale.preferredLanguages().first!  
if NSLocale.characterDirectionForLanguage(preferredLang) == .RightToLeft {  
    // ...  
}
```

Right-to-Left User Interface

Use formatters for region-appropriate formatting

Never use `NSLocale` or `NSBundle` for UI layout branching

```
let preferredLang = NSLocale.preferredLanguages().first!  
if NSLocale.characterDirectionForLanguage(preferredLang) == .RightToLeft {  
    // ...  
}
```



Right-to-Left User Interface

NEW

Right-to-Left User Interface

NEW

```
class func userInterfaceLayoutDirectionForSemanticContentAttribute(  
    attribute: UISemanticContentAttribute) -> UIUserInterfaceLayoutDirection
```

Right-to-Left User Interface

NEW

```
class func userInterfaceLayoutDirectionForSemanticContentAttribute(  
    attribute: UISemanticContentAttribute) -> UIUserInterfaceLayoutDirection
```

For custom UI layout

- Do not use to determine regional or formatting settings

Right-to-Left User Interface

NEW

```
class func userInterfaceLayoutDirectionForSemanticContentAttribute(  
    attribute: UISemanticContentAttribute) -> UIUserInterfaceLayoutDirection
```

For custom UI layout

- Do not use to determine regional or formatting settings

```
let semanticAttr = myView.semanticContentAttribute  
let layoutDirection = UIView.userInterfaceLayoutDirectionForSemanticContentAttribute(semanticAttr)  
if layoutDirection == .RightToLeft {  
    // ...  
}
```

Right-to-Left User Interface

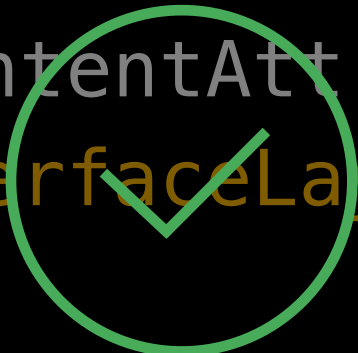
NEW

```
class func userInterfaceLayoutDirectionForSemanticContentAttribute(  
    attribute: UISemanticContentAttribute) -> UIUserInterfaceLayoutDirection
```

For custom UI layout

- Do not use to determine regional or formatting settings

```
let semanticAttr = myView.semanticContentAttribute  
let layoutDirection = UIView.userInterfaceLayoutDirectionForSemanticContentAttribute(semanticAttr)  
if layoutDirection == .RightToLeft {  
    // ...  
}
```



Right-to-Left Text

NEW

Right-to-Left Text

NEW

Leave alignment and directionality at their default values



Right-to-Left Text

NEW

Leave alignment and directionality at their default values

- Natural alignment is now default on iOS 9



Right-to-Left Text

NEW

Leave alignment and directionality at their default values

- Natural alignment is now default on iOS 9
- Natural base writing direction is default since iOS 7



Right-to-Left Text

NEW

Leave alignment and directionality at their default values

- Natural alignment is now default on iOS 9
- Natural base writing direction is default since iOS 7

Do not make layout decisions based on the alignment or writing direction



Exceptions

Images

Exceptions

Images

NEW

Exceptions

Images

NEW

```
func imageFlippedForRightToLeftLayoutDirection() -> UIImage
```

Exceptions

Images

NEW

```
func imageFlippedForRightToLeftLayoutDirection() -> UIImage
```

Horizontally flips image in a right-to-left context

Exceptions

Images

NEW

```
func imageFlippedForRightToLeftLayoutDirection() -> UIImage
```

Horizontally flips image in a right-to-left context

- Obeys the `UIImageView`'s semantic content attribute

Exceptions

Images

NEW

```
func imageFlippedForRightToLeftLayoutDirection() -> UIImage
```

Horizontally flips image in a right-to-left context

- Obeys the `UIImageView`'s semantic content attribute

Only for directional images

Exceptions

Images

NEW

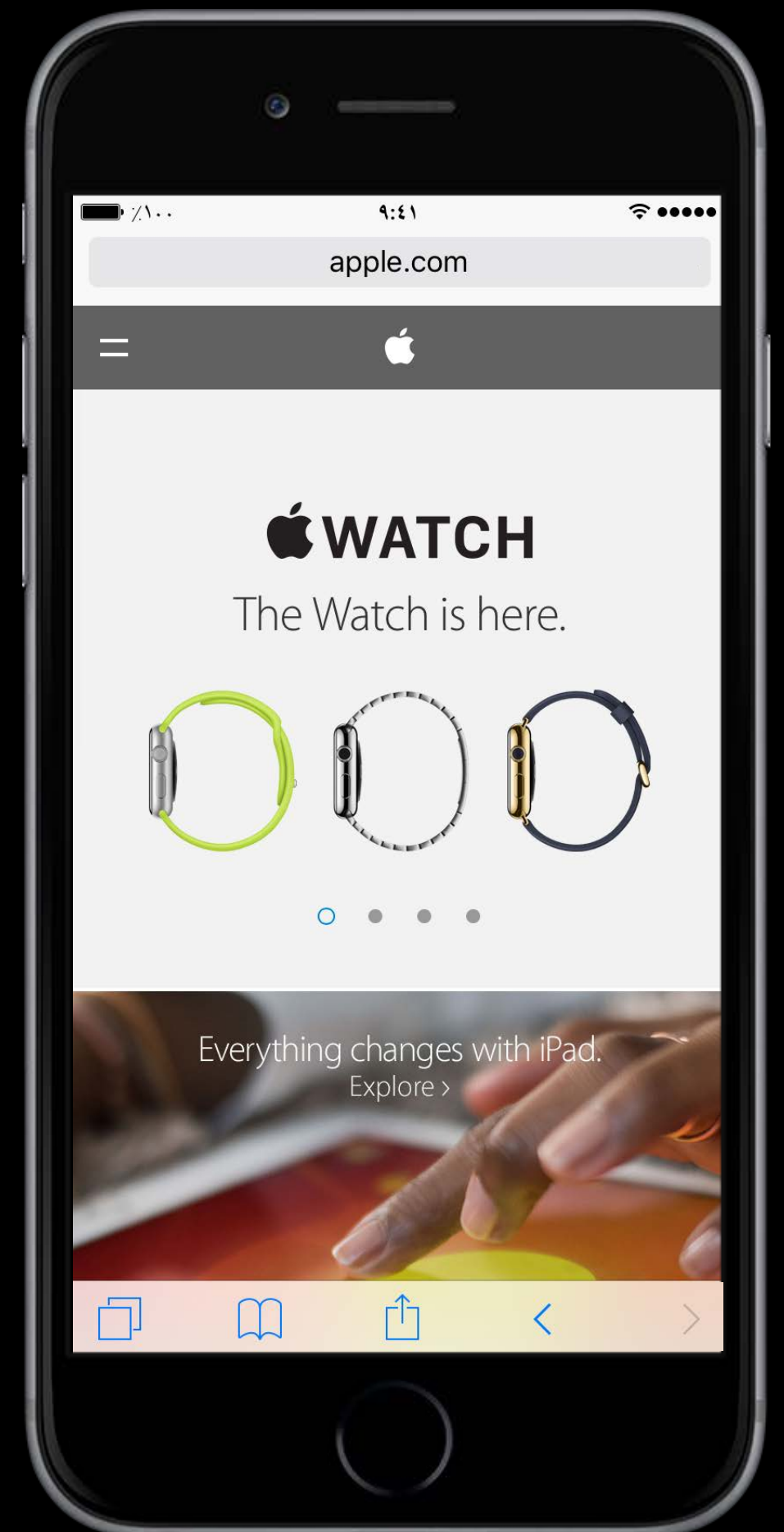
```
func imageFlippedForRightToLeftLayoutDirection() -> UIImage
```

Horizontally flips image in a right-to-left context

- Obeys the `UIImageView`'s semantic content attribute

Only for directional images

- Arrows
- Chevrons



Exceptions

Images

NEW

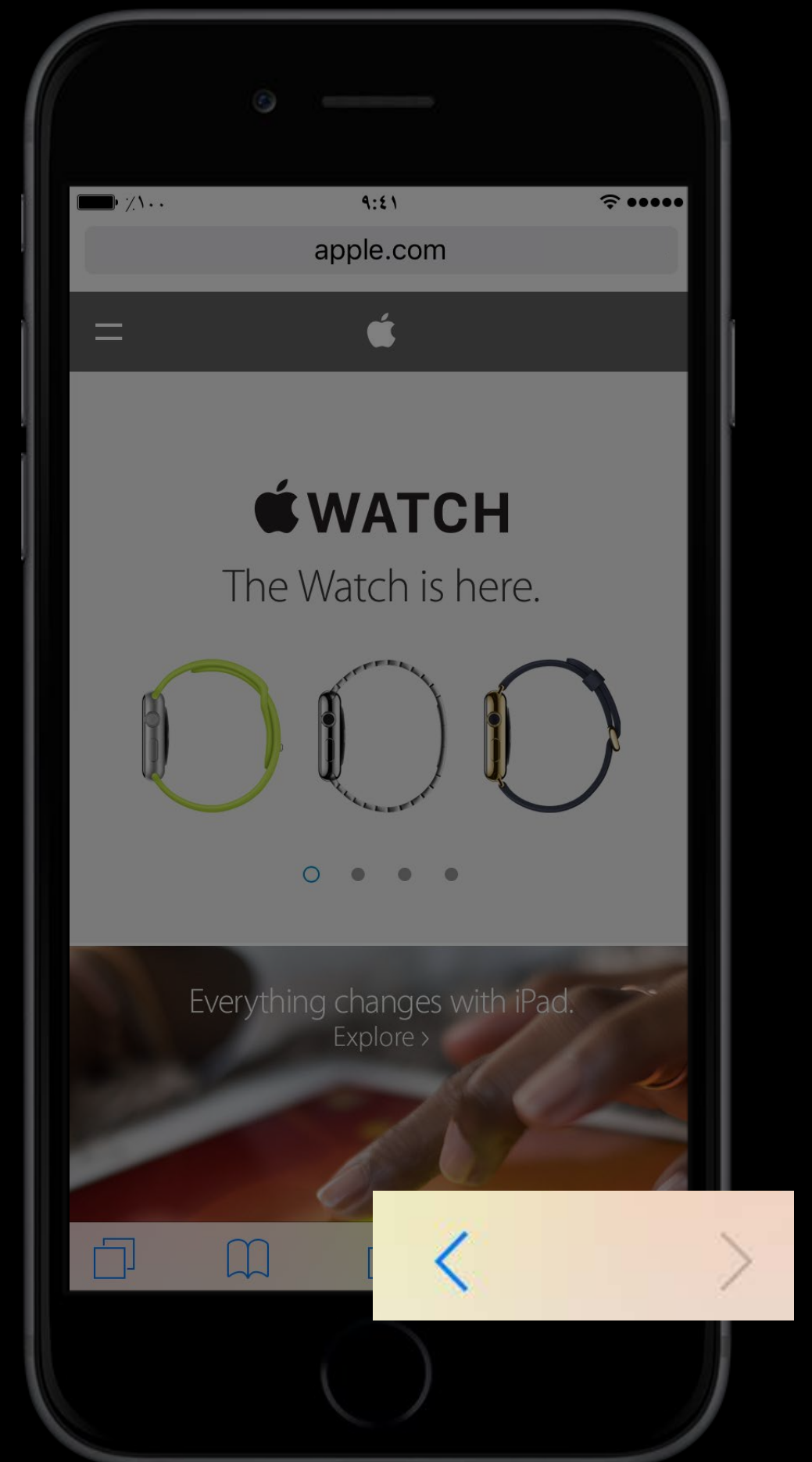
```
func imageFlippedForRightToLeftLayoutDirection() -> UIImage
```

Horizontally flips image in a right-to-left context

- Obeys the `UIImageView`'s semantic content attribute

Only for directional images

- Arrows
- Chevrons



Exceptions

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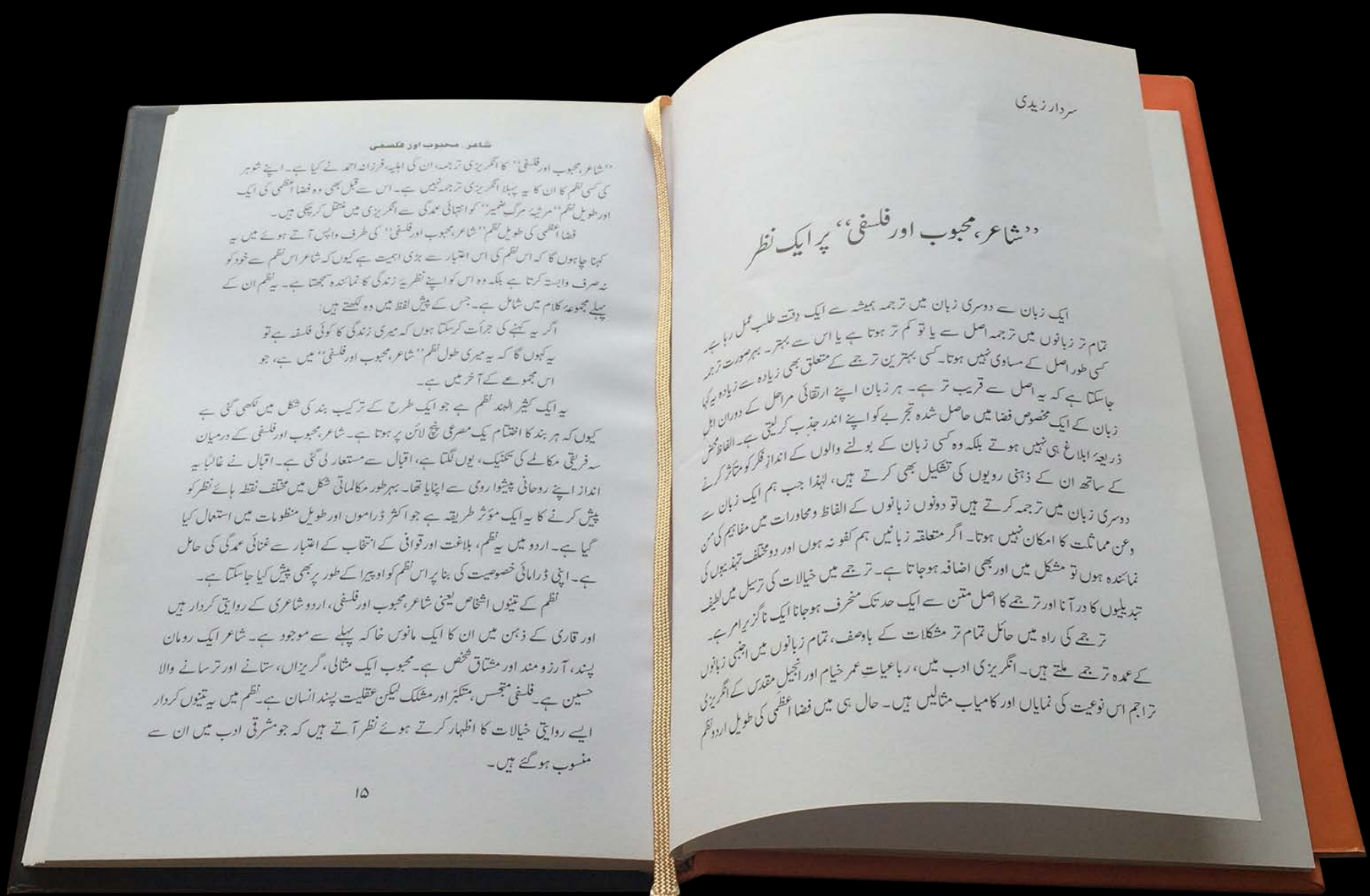
Demo

Exceptions and best practices

Conclusion

Summary

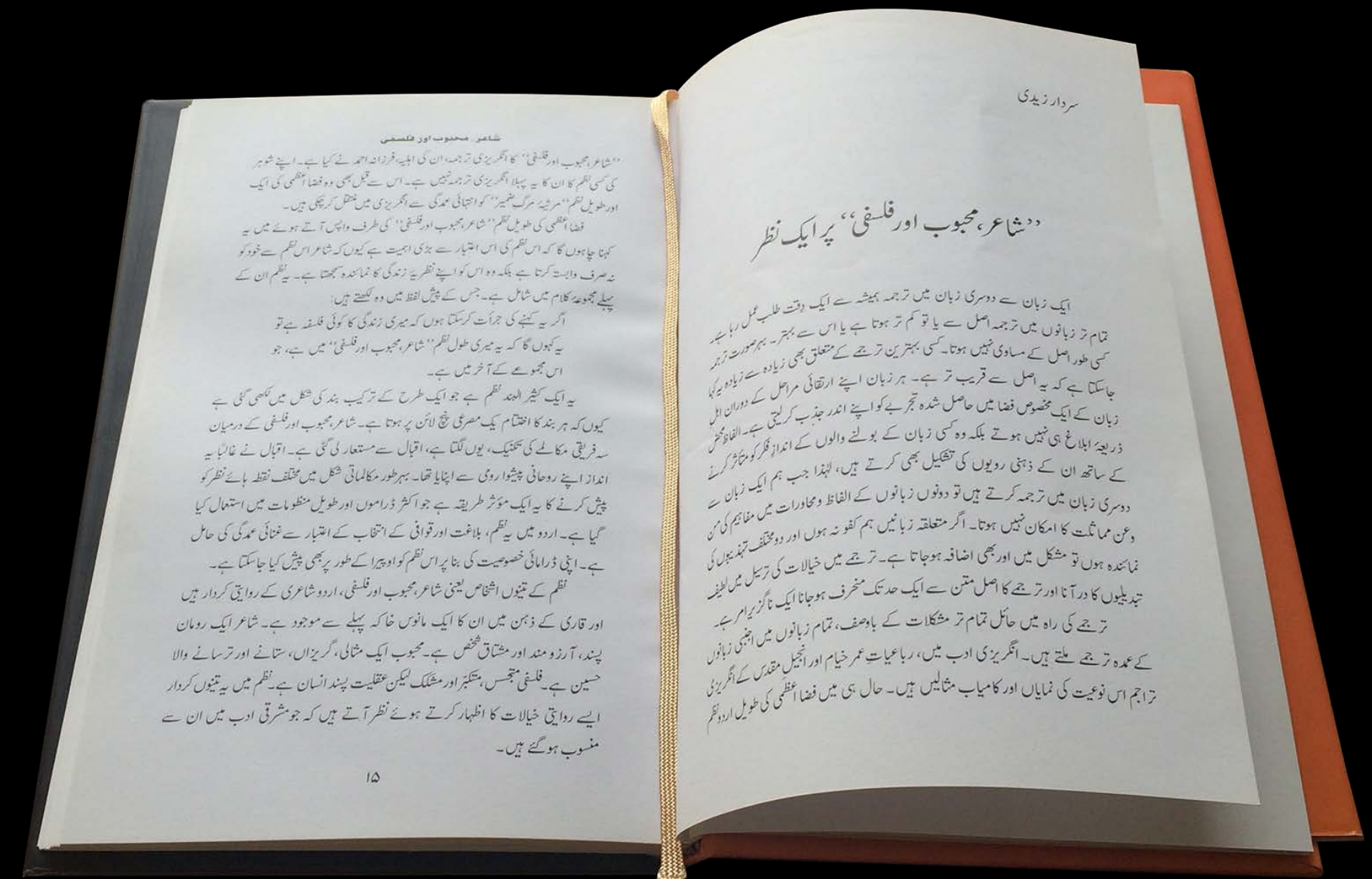
Natives of right-to-left languages expect
right-to-left UI



Summary

Natives of right-to-left languages expect right-to-left UI

Perfect opportunity to add right-to-left localizations

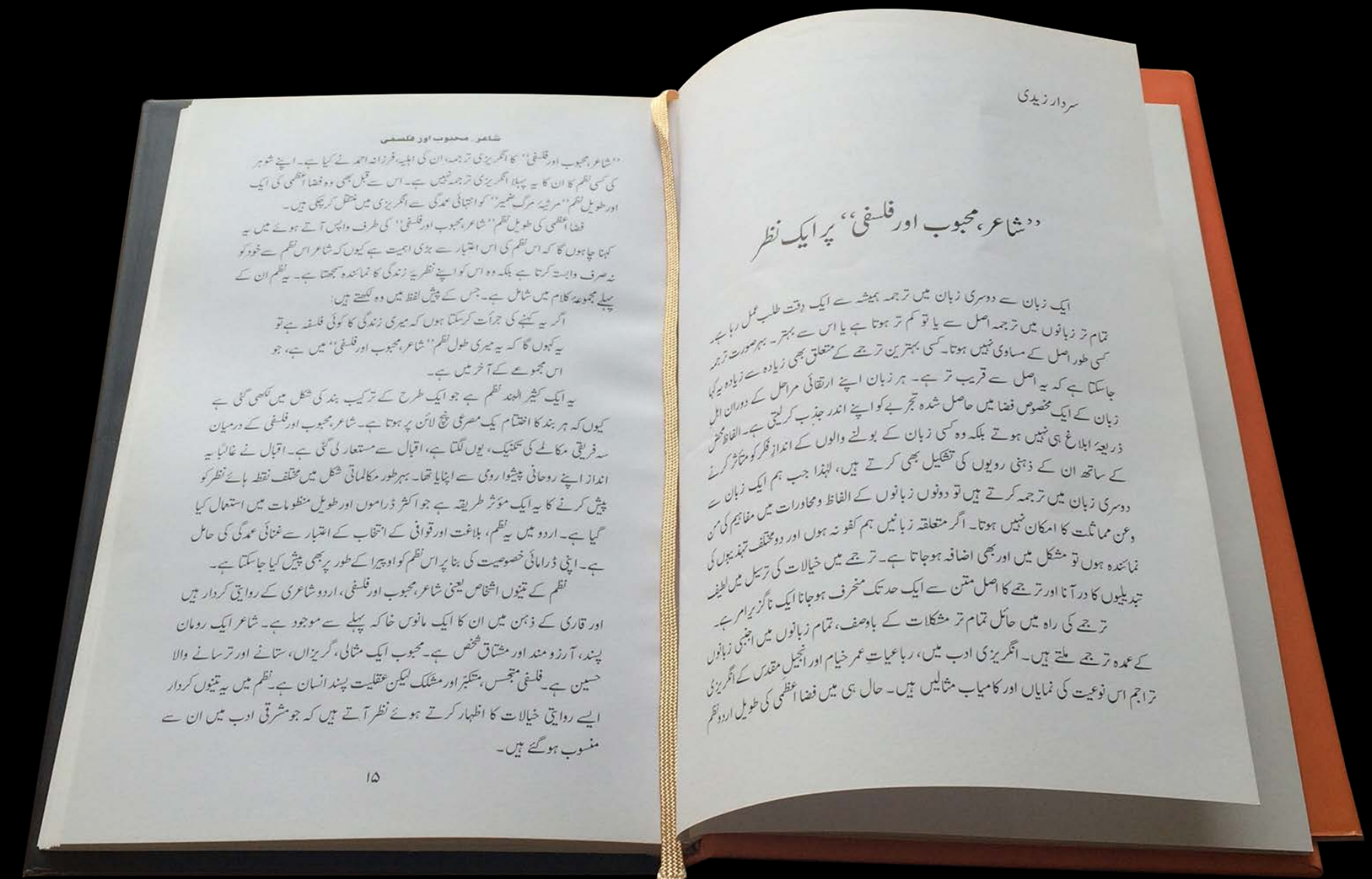


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API accessible to non-natives



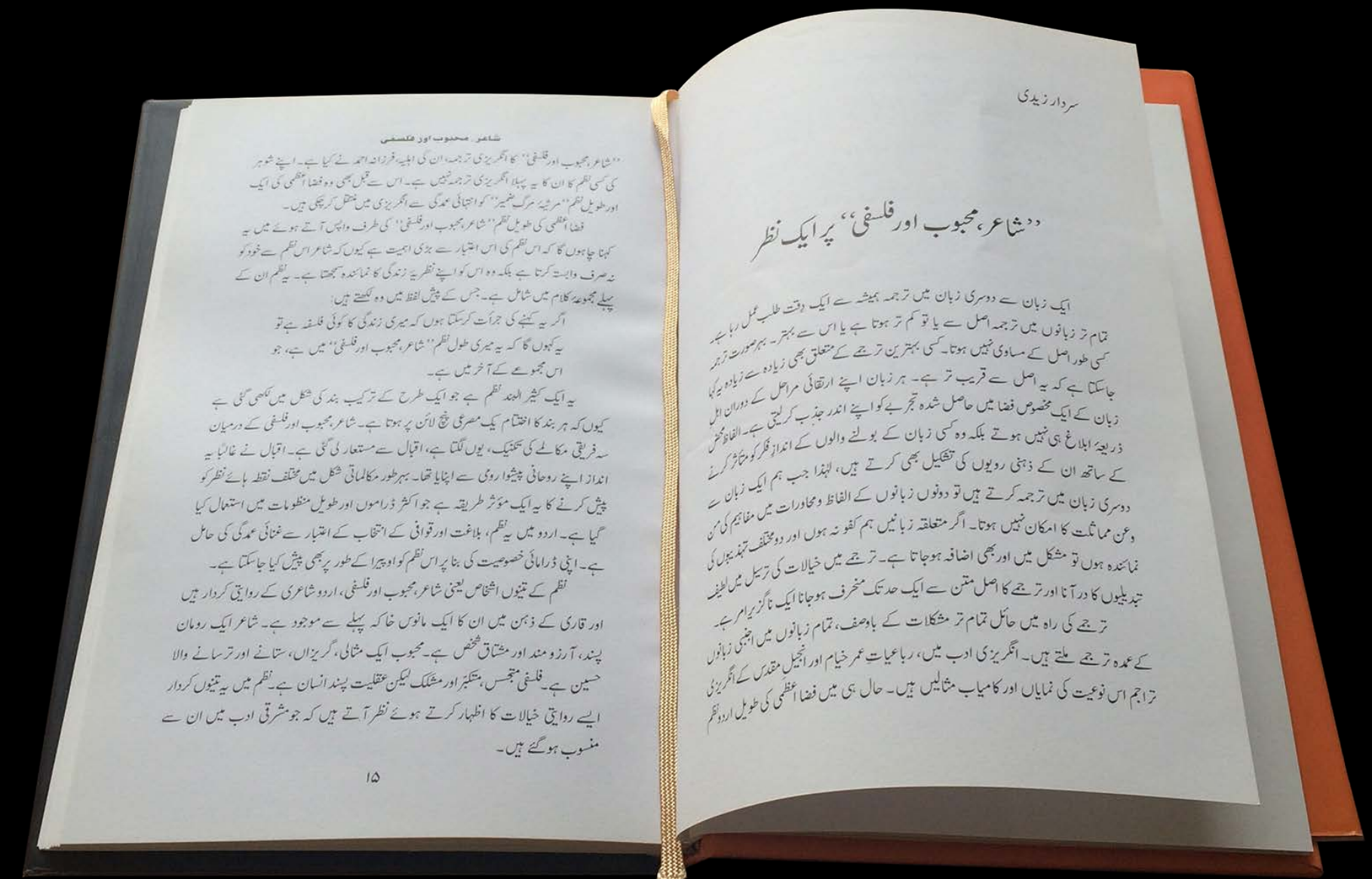
Summary

Natives of right-to-left languages expect right-to-left UI

Perfect opportunity to add right-to-left localizations

API accessible to non-natives

Reach millions of users in new markets



More Information

Documentation and Videos

Internationalization Guide

<http://developer.apple.com/internationalization/>

Technical Support

Apple Developer Forums

<http://developer.apple.com/forums>

Related Sessions

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Mysteries of Auto Layout, Part 1 | Presidio | Thursday 11:00 AM |
| Mysteries of Auto Layout, Part 2 | Presidio | Thursday 1:30 PM |
| What's New in Internationalization | Pacific Heights | Friday 9:00 AM |
| Cocoa Touch Best Practices | Presidio | Friday 1:30 PM |

Labs

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Interface Builder and Auto Layout Lab | Developer Tools Lab C | Now |
| Internationalization Lab | Frameworks Lab A | Friday 11:00 AM |

