

# Writing Flexible Code

for Modern iOS Development

# Overview

Frameworks

Extensions

Tips



# Current Universe

More platforms, devices, device sizes

Hardware rivals and exceeds desktop

More features / system frameworks

More extension points

More ways in which your code may run

# Goal

Write code that's **reusable**, easy to change

Add and ship features more quickly

Fewer bugs (*well, fewer places to fix bugs*)

# Frameworks

# What are frameworks?

**Convenient way to package up your code and resources**

# What goes into frameworks?

## Code

Nib / storyboard files

Asset catalogs

Header files, documentation

Localized strings

# Frameworks

Bundle, with a unique bundle id

Directory on disk with a specific structure

Loaded once into memory

Shared across applications



# Why frameworks?

Way to organize your code and resources

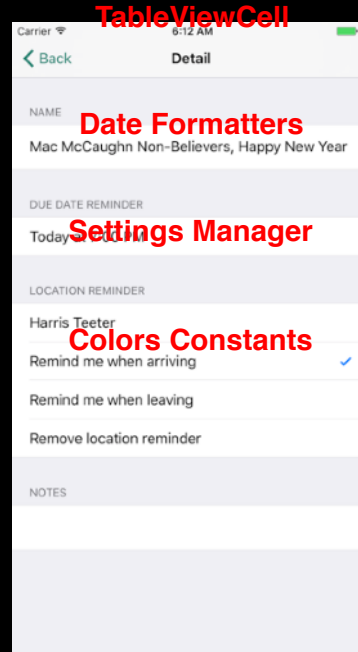
Promotes encapsulation and division of responsibilities

Way to reuse code across multiple applications

Reduces dependencies

# Reduce dependencies

Your Project



Checkmark View

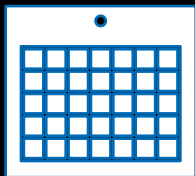
NSDate Extensions

# Apple Frameworks

## EventKit



EKEventStore



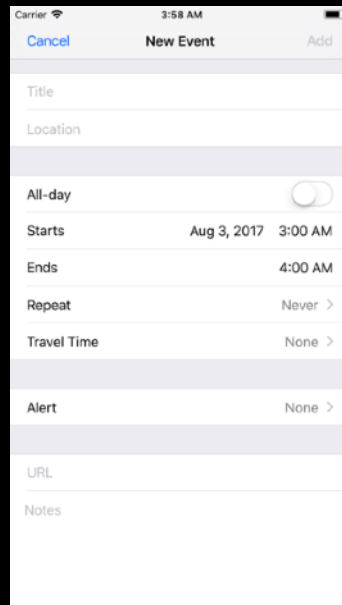
EKEvent

EKCalendar

EKAlarm

## EventKitUI

EKEditEvent  
ViewController



The screenshot shows the 'New Event' form in the EventKitUI framework. The form is displayed on a mobile device screen with a status bar at the top showing 'Carrier', '3:58 AM', and a battery icon. The form has a title bar with 'Cancel', 'New Event', and 'Add' buttons. The form fields include: Title, Location, All-day (toggle), Starts (Aug 3, 2017 3:00 AM), Ends (4:00 AM), Repeat (Never >), Travel Time (None >), Alert (None >), URL, and Notes.

# Apple Frameworks

## Contacts



**CNContactStore**



**CNContact**

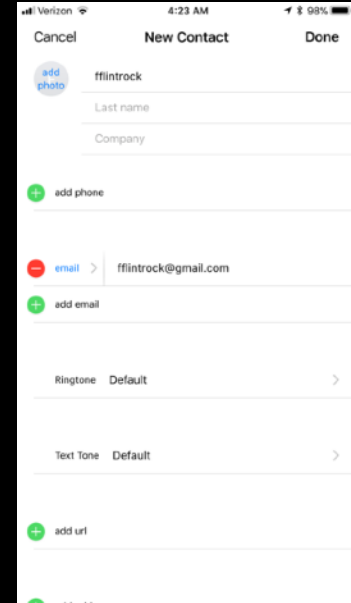
**CNContact  
FetchRequest**

**CNContact  
SaveRequest**

## ContactsUI

**CNContact  
ViewController**

**CNContactPicker  
ViewController**



# What goes in your frameworks?

Data model

Networking code

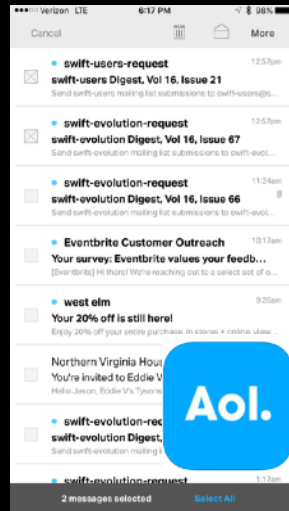
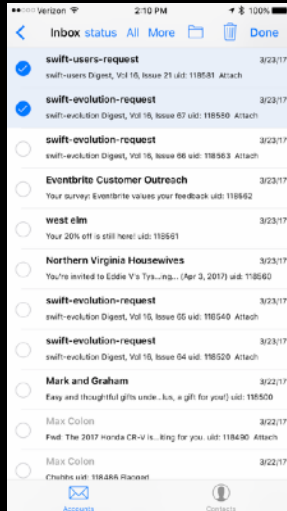
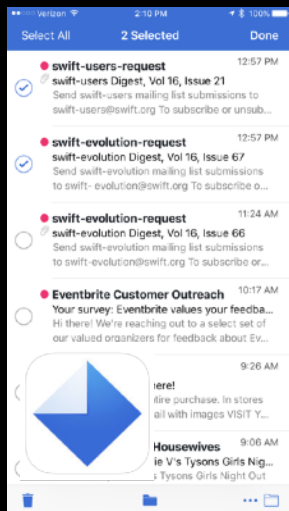
Logic code

Utility and helper code

Reusable UI code



# You've got mail!



## MailKit

Core Data

Networking

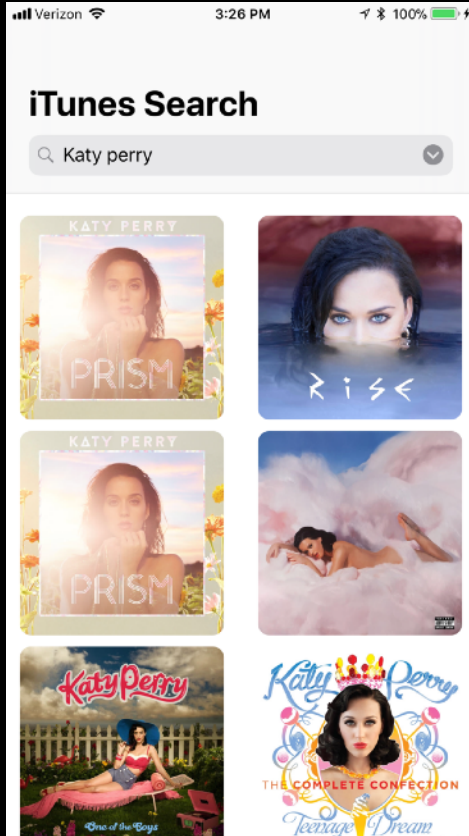
Logic

# **:30 Demo - creating a framework**

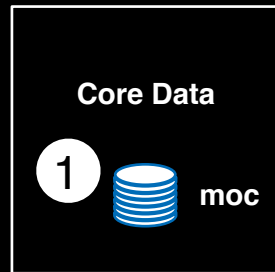
# iTunes Search



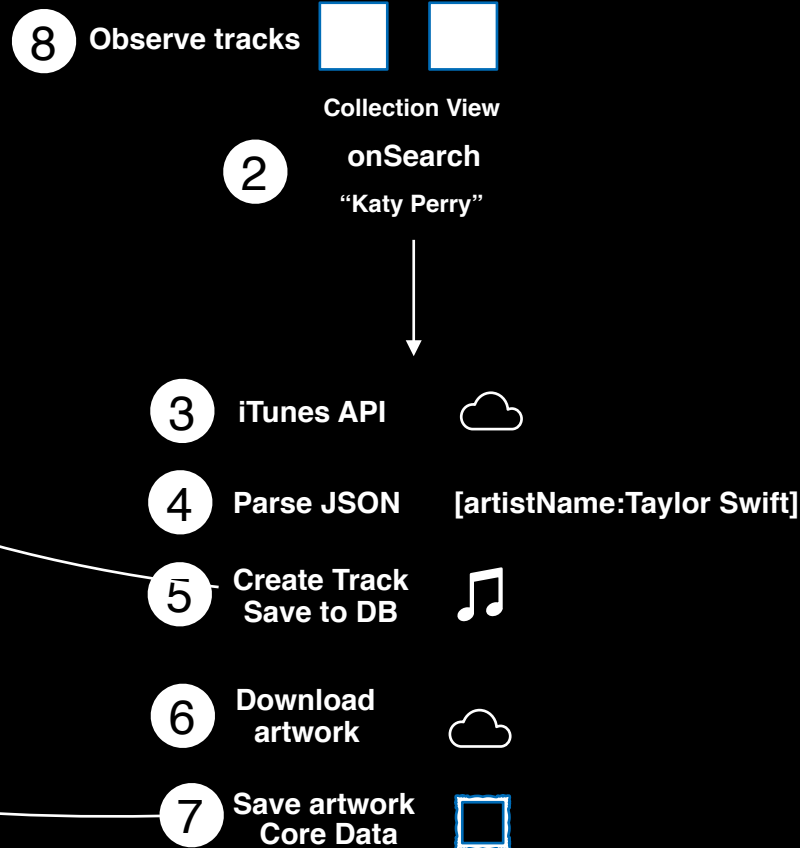
# iTunes Search



## AppDelegate



## ITunesListViewController

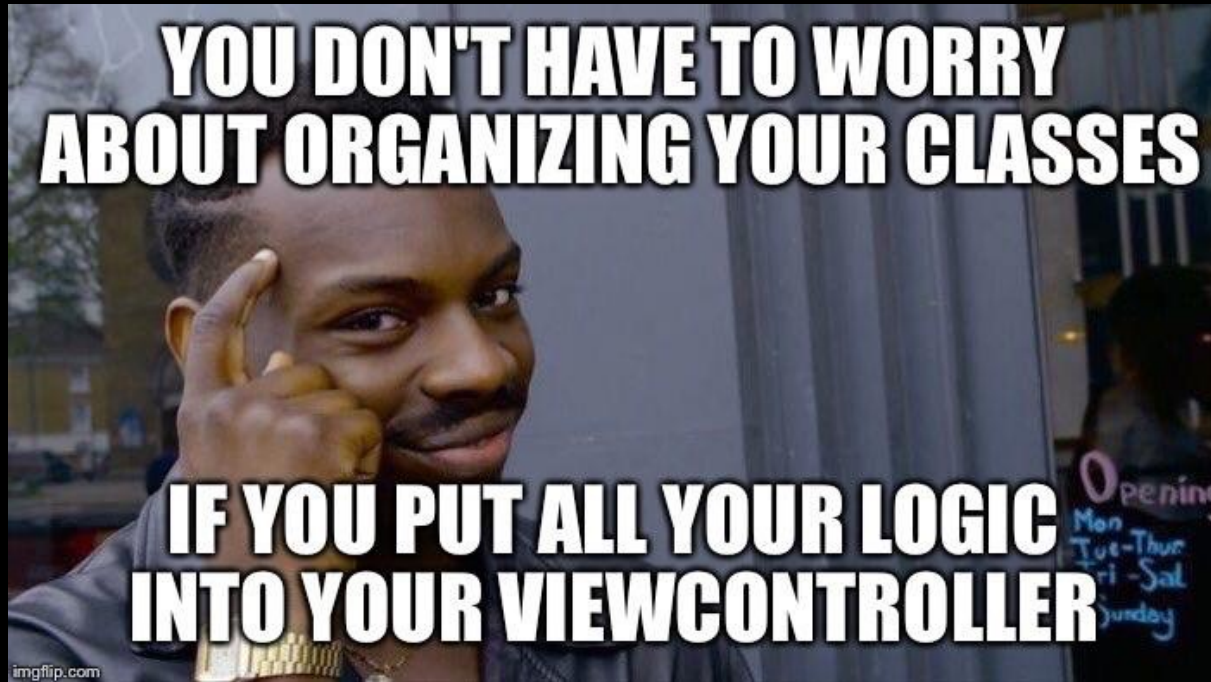


• Game Plan (Naive)

# Demo - iTunes Search (Naive)

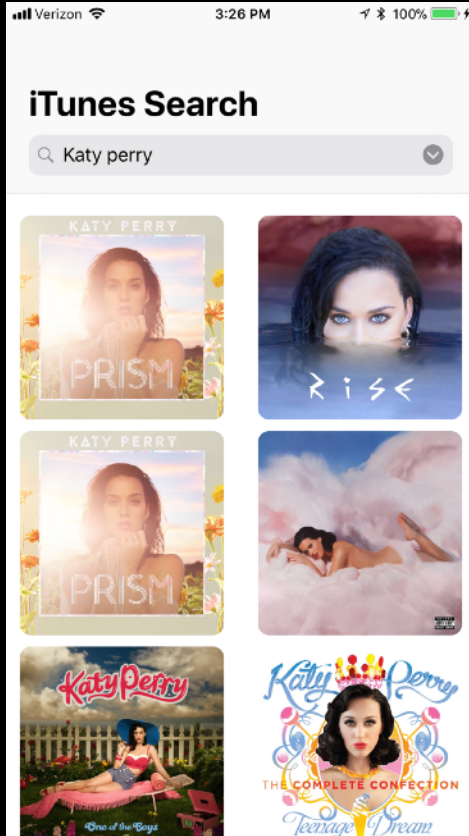
# MVC\*

⌵ \*Massive View Controller



**F\*ck it,  it.**

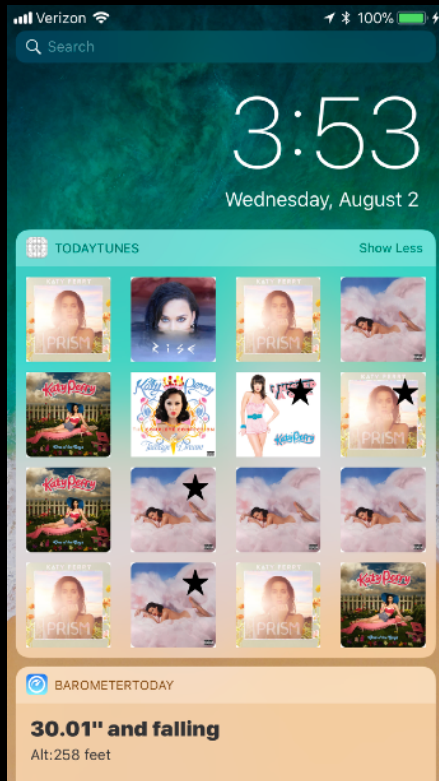
# Smashing Success



# iTunes Search 2.0

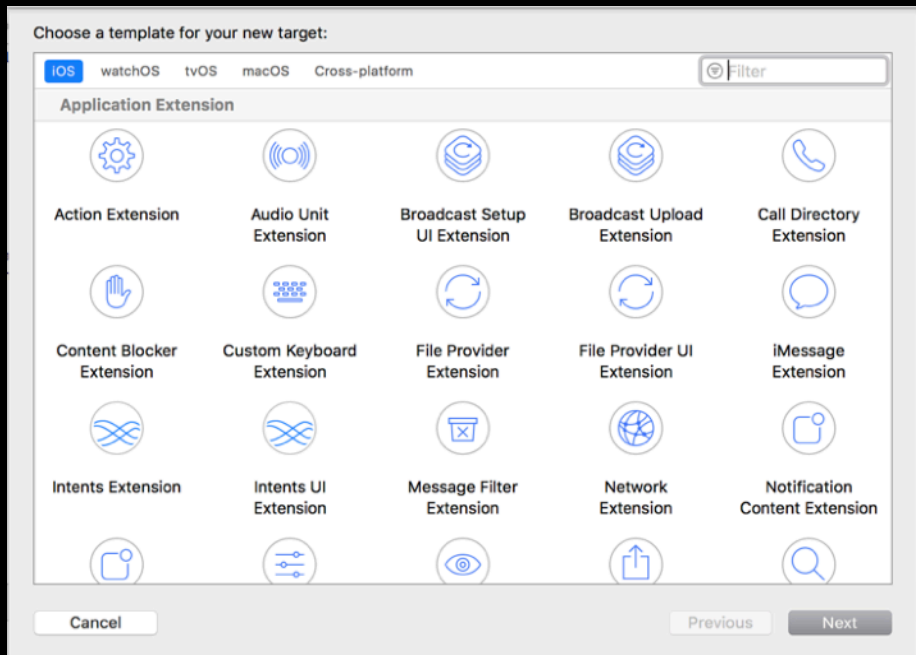


# Today Extension



# So You Research Extensions...

# New Extension Target



Refactor!



⌘C  
⌘V

⋮ The Moment of Truth

```

45     guard let trackName = itemDict["trackName"] as? String else { return }
46     guard let trackId = itemDict["trackId"] as? Int else { return }
47     guard let isStreamable = itemDict["isStreamable"] as? Bool else { return }
48
49     var track:Track = Track()
50
51     let iTunesTrack = iTunesTrack(artistId: artistId, artistName: artistName, trackName: trackName,
52                                   trackId: trackId, isStreamable:isStreamable)
53
54     let appDelegate = UIApplication.shared.delegate as! AppDelegate
55     let context = appDelegate.persistentContainer.viewContext
56
57     context.perform {
58         let track = NSManagedObject(insertNewObject(forEntityName: "Track", into: context) as! Track
59         track.artistId = iTunesTrack.artistId.flatMap({String($0)}) ?? ""
60         track.trackId = String(iTunesTrack.trackId)
61         track.artistName = iTunesTrack.artistName
62         track.trackName = iTunesTrack.trackName
63         track.isStreamable = iTunesTrack.isStreamable ?? false
64         track.artworkUrlSmall = iTunesTrack.artworkUrl100
65         track.artworkUrlLarge = iTunesTrack.artworkUrl100?.replacingOccurrences(of: "100x100", with:
66                                     "600x600")
67     }

```

# Frameworks and Extensions

Framework support introduced in iOS 8

Extensions introduced in iOS 8

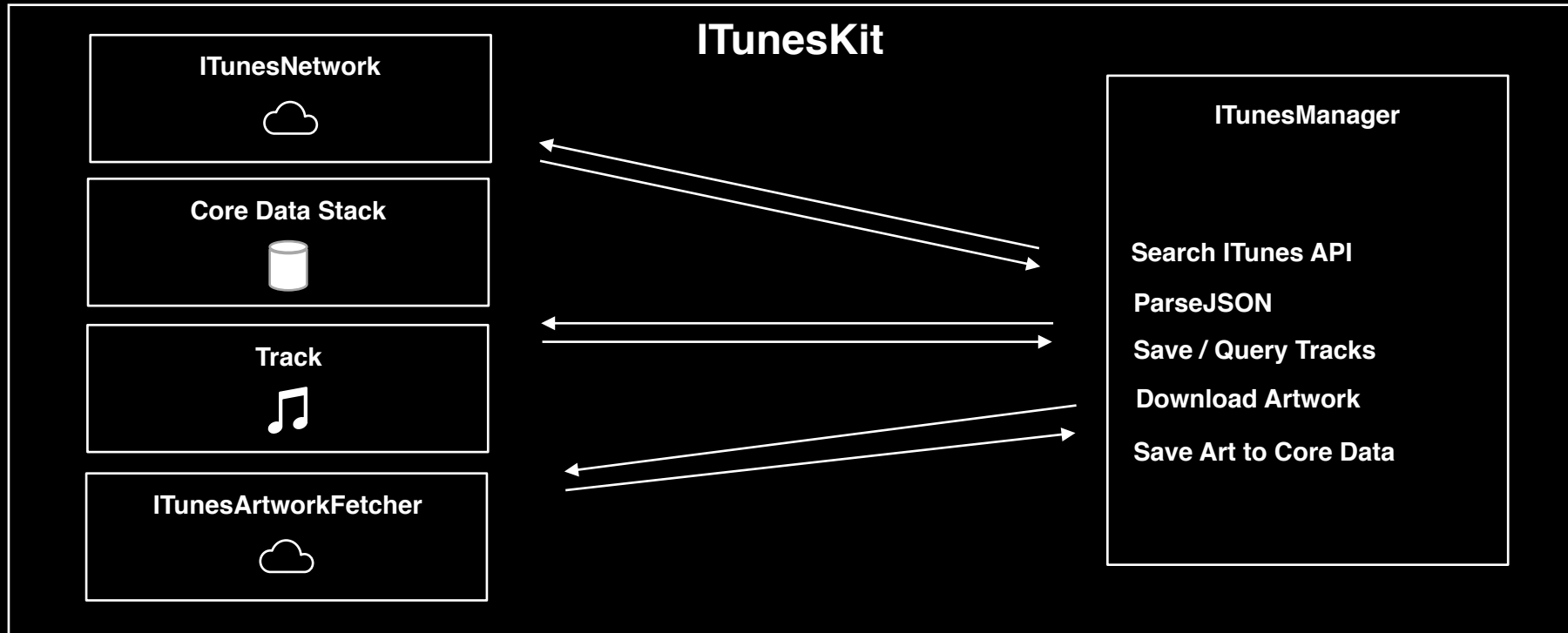
Hmmmm...

**Refactor!**



**: Good enough isn't**

# Refactor to a framework





# Refactor to a framework

## ITunesKit

### ITunesManager

Search iTunes API

ParseJSON

Save / Query Tracks

Download Artwork

Save Art to Core Data

```
public func searchForArtist(artistName:String,  
completion:@escaping ([Track]?, Error?)->())
```

```
public func addTrackObserver(handler:@escaping  
(Track) -> ())
```

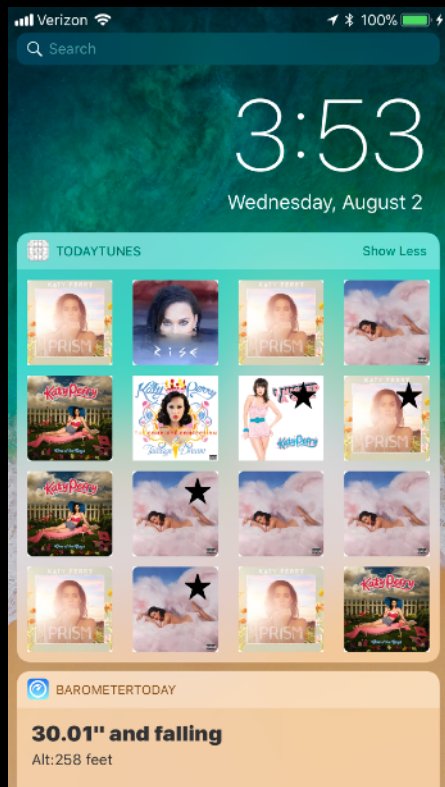


# Refactor to a framework

## UIKit



# Let's do this!



ITunesListViewController



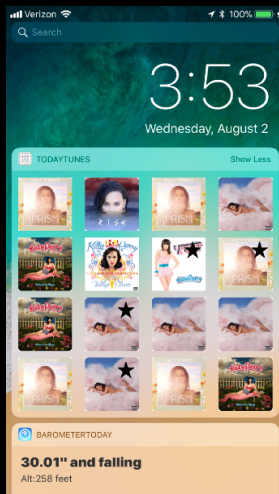
# Demo - Adding a Today Extension

# Sharing Data

## Extension Sandbox

Documents

Caches



## App Group

Shared  
Container



Core Data

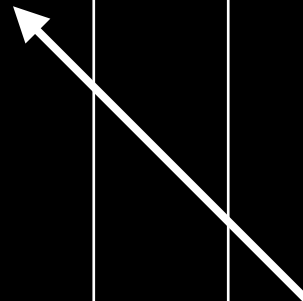
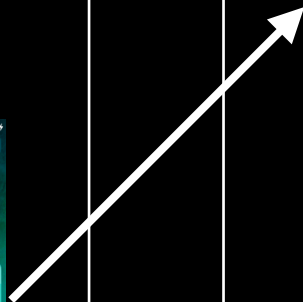
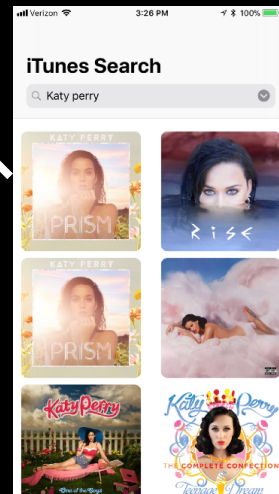
Shared  
Keychain

Shared  
UserDefaults

## Sandbox

Documents

Caches



# Enabling App Groups

## ▼ App Groups

ON

App Groups: ☒ group.com.howl.in.FlexibleCode



- Steps:
- ✓ Add the App Groups entitlement to your entitlements file
  - ✓ Add the App Groups feature to your App ID.
  - ✓ Add App Groups to your App ID



# App Groups

Keychain is a separate entitlement

Not available on watchOS

You'll need to migrate existing data

# Shared Container

```
let appGroup = "com.howlin.iTunesSearch"
```

```
let url = FileManager.default.containerURL(forSecurityApplicationGroupIdentifier: appGroup)
```

```
try file.write(to: url, options: [.atomic])
```



# Shared User Defaults

```
let appGroup = "group.com.howlin.iTunesSearch"
let defaults: UserDefaults = {
    let userDefaults = UserDefaults(suiteName: appGroup)
    return userDefaults!
}()
```

ALTO

Jason Howell  
Core Data

Yes, the data will be copied for the migrated database. I think that's reassuring, because it's the only way Core Data can hold its ACID guarantees on binary attributes with external storage.

I've never tried that but I suspect you could avoid migrating the data for this particular attribute with a custom migrating method. But then you'll have to re-upload the cached data.

Done

Mark as Read

The screenshot shows an iPhone home screen with a grid of app icons and a series of email notifications. The notifications are as follows:

- Timbuk2** (Yesterday): The Timbuk2 authority on Timbuk2 products. Check out the blogs your buddies are posting about: View online Warner touch IT? Our smarty-pants sto...
- swift-evolution** (Yesterday): swift-evolution Digest, Vol 16, Issue 73. Send swift-evolution mailing list submissions to: swift-evolution@swift.org To subscribe or unsubscribe...
- swift-users** (Yesterday): swift-users Digest, Vol 16, Issue 73. Send swift-users mailing list submissions to: swift-users@swift.org To subscribe or unsubscribe via t...
- Lacoste** (Yesterday): Lookme With Lacoste | New Arrivals. New Arrival Longsaver MEN WOMEN KIDS STORE. LOCATOR FREE GROUND SHIPPING ON ALL ORD...
- swift-evolution** (Yesterday): swift-evolution Digest, Vol 16, Issue 72. Send swift-evolution mailing list submissions to: swift-evolution@swift.org To subscribe or unsubscribe...
- swift-evolution** (Friday): swift-evolution Digest, Vol 16, Issue 71. Send swift-evolution mailing list submissions to...

Other visible app icons include: Messages, Photos, Camera, App Store, Settings, Safari, Mail, Reminders, Calendar, Notes, and a dock with Phone, Mail, Safari, and App Store. The background features a collage of photos, including a person in a red hoodie, a group of people, and a dog.

The screenshot shows a WhatsApp chat interface. At the top, the contact name is 'John' with a profile picture of a man. The status bar at the very top shows the time as 4:52 PM and battery level at 93%. The chat history includes a blue bubble saying 'From back to the future.' and a grey bubble replying 'Could u ask mom if she could take me off team B.' Below the text is a gallery of 12 images arranged in a 3x4 grid. The images include a white dog, a sunset, a car, a person in a car, a person in a car, a person in a car, a person in a car, a person in a car, a person in a car, a person in a car, a person in a car, and a person in a car. At the bottom, there is a 'More images' link and a keyboard with the letters 'a', 'b', 'c' visible.

The screenshot shows the iPhone 4S lock screen. At the top, the status bar displays 'Verizon', '4:52 PM', and a battery icon. Below the status bar is a 'Search' bar. A notification banner reads 'Tonight: Reginald Ostrander to N.Y.C.' with a small image of a man. Below the notification is a 'More Top Stories' button. A green banner for 'ALTO OVERVIEW' is visible, with a 'Show Less' link on the right. Below the banner are three app tiles: 'America' with the text 'Your Flight Is Today', 'iPod' with the text 'Pick up Your Car Today', and 'App Store' with the text 'Sunny, Mar 26 at 12:35 PM'. At the bottom is a large advertisement for 'JUNIPER CURIO BY HI' with the text 'Enjoy Your Stay' and 'JUNIPER CURIO BY HI'. The ad features four images: a fire, a couple, a couple, and a dog.

## Logic

## Watch App

Super ToDo's 9:00

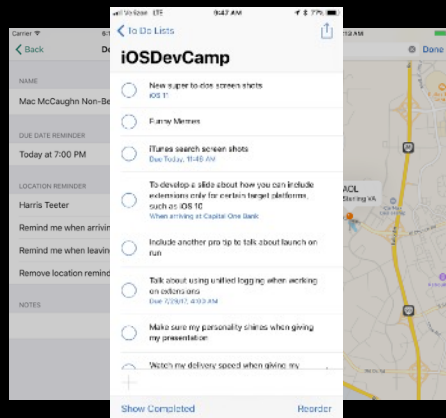
Alto Bugs

Grocery List

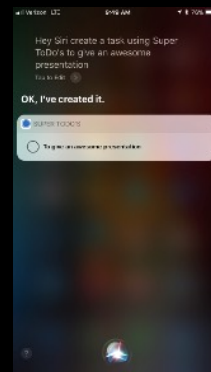
New Music Movies  
Books

New Years  
Resolutions

# Super ToDo's



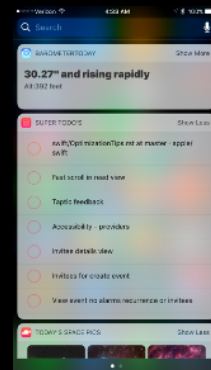
## Siri Intent



## Share Extension



## Today Extension



## ToDoKit

Core Data

CloudKit

Logic

# Tips

# Harsh Environments for Extensions



# Extension Constraints

Limited amount of time

Aggressive memory limits

Unable to handle authentication issues, no accounts

Migrations

# Synchronizing with your model

Issues when extension and app running simultaneously

Look at Core Data, SQLite, and FileCoordinators

Core Data added NSPersistentHistory in iOS 11

# Background Tasks\* in Extensions

No UIApplicationBackgroundTask

Use `ProcessInfo.performExpiringActivity`



# Logging

Avoid adding a logging framework to your framework

Use a logging delegate pattern instead

Look at the new Unified Logging framework

Helpful for cross-process output

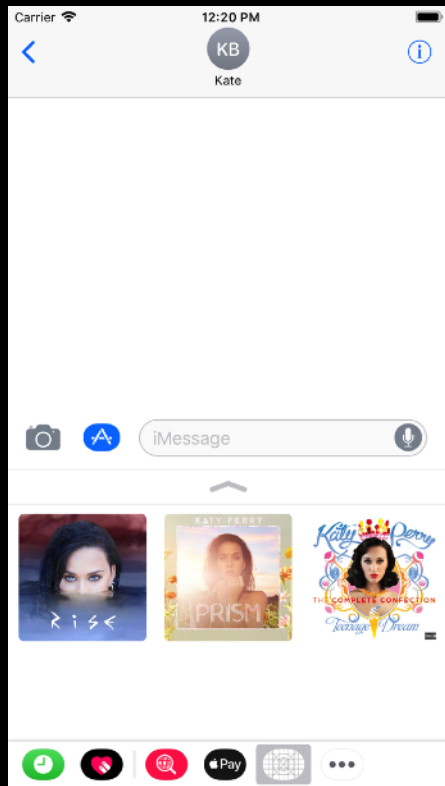
# Nano Mode

Option to start your framework to start in a minimalist mode



# iTunes Search 3.0

# Let's do this!



MSMessagesAppViewController

ITunesListViewController



ITunesListDelegate

# Demo - Adding an iMessage Extension

# Summary

Use frameworks to create reusable code

Let extension help guide your architecture

# Thank you!