

# **Towards a Unified Blink and JavaScript Heap**

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BlinkOn 9, Sunnyvale, Apr 2018

# Memory management across Blink and V8

*now* and in *future*

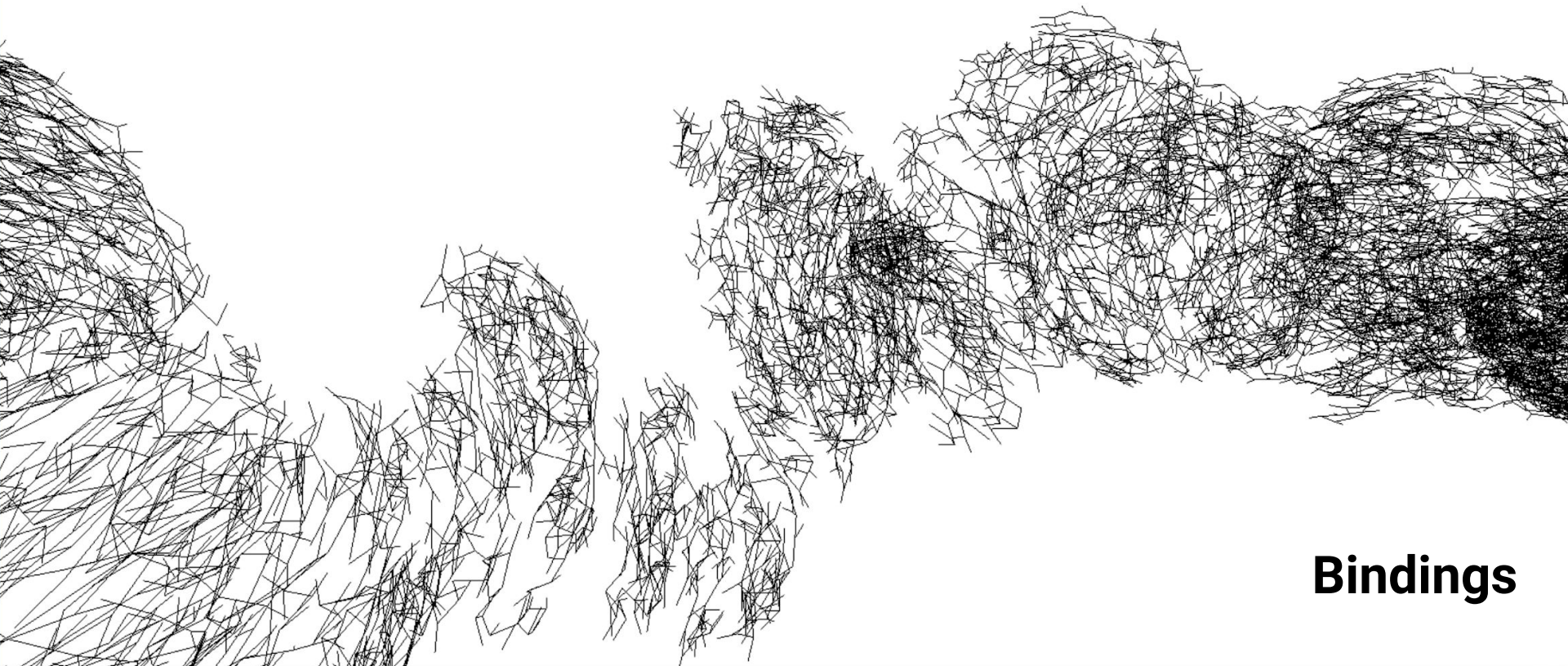
# V8 & Blink

- JavaScript  $\Leftrightarrow$  DOM

**V8**

***Blink***

```
<script>  
  document;  
  document.a;  
  document.addEventListener(...);  
</script>
```



**Bindings**

# V8 & Blink

- JavaScript  $\Leftrightarrow$  DOM
- Objects come in halves

**V8**

document



for JS, e.g.  
properties, elements

**Blink**

blink::HTMLDocument

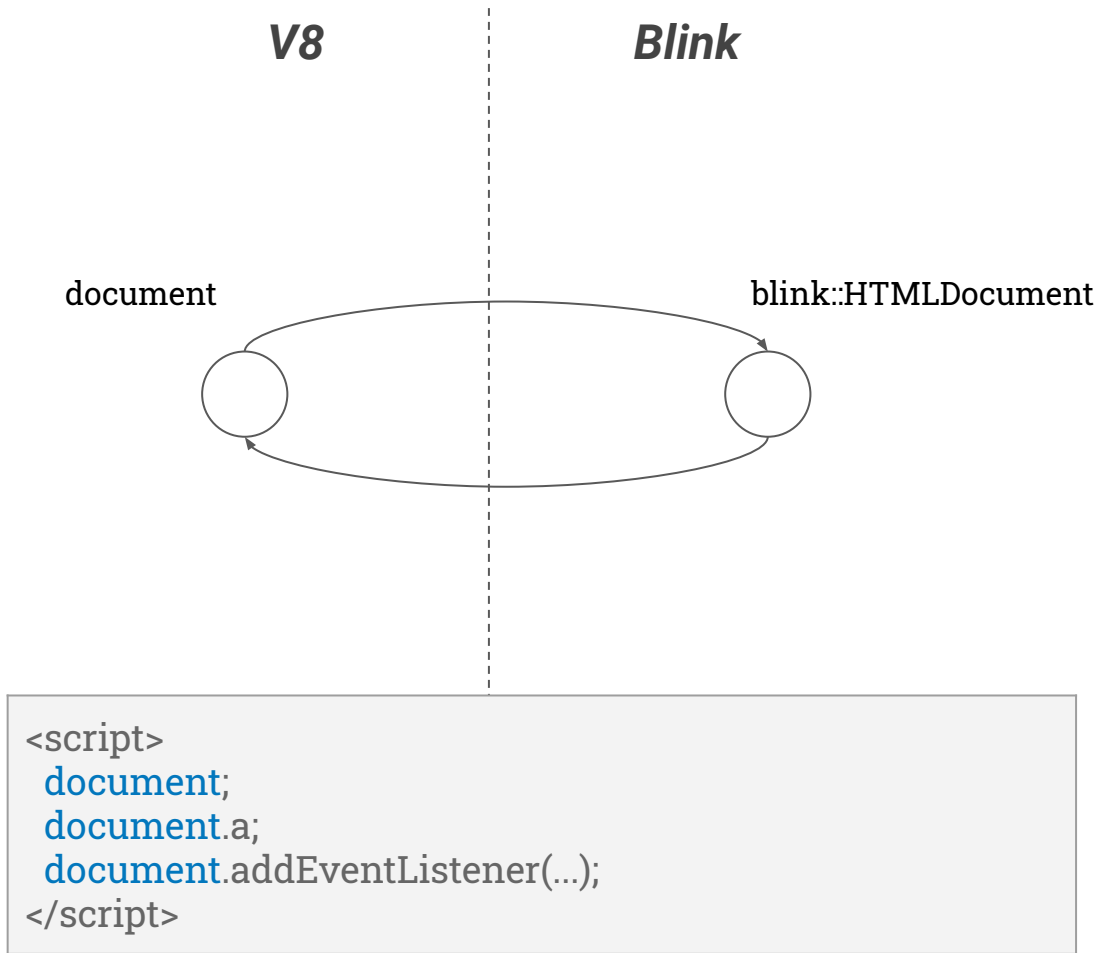


for DOM, e.g.  
addEventListener

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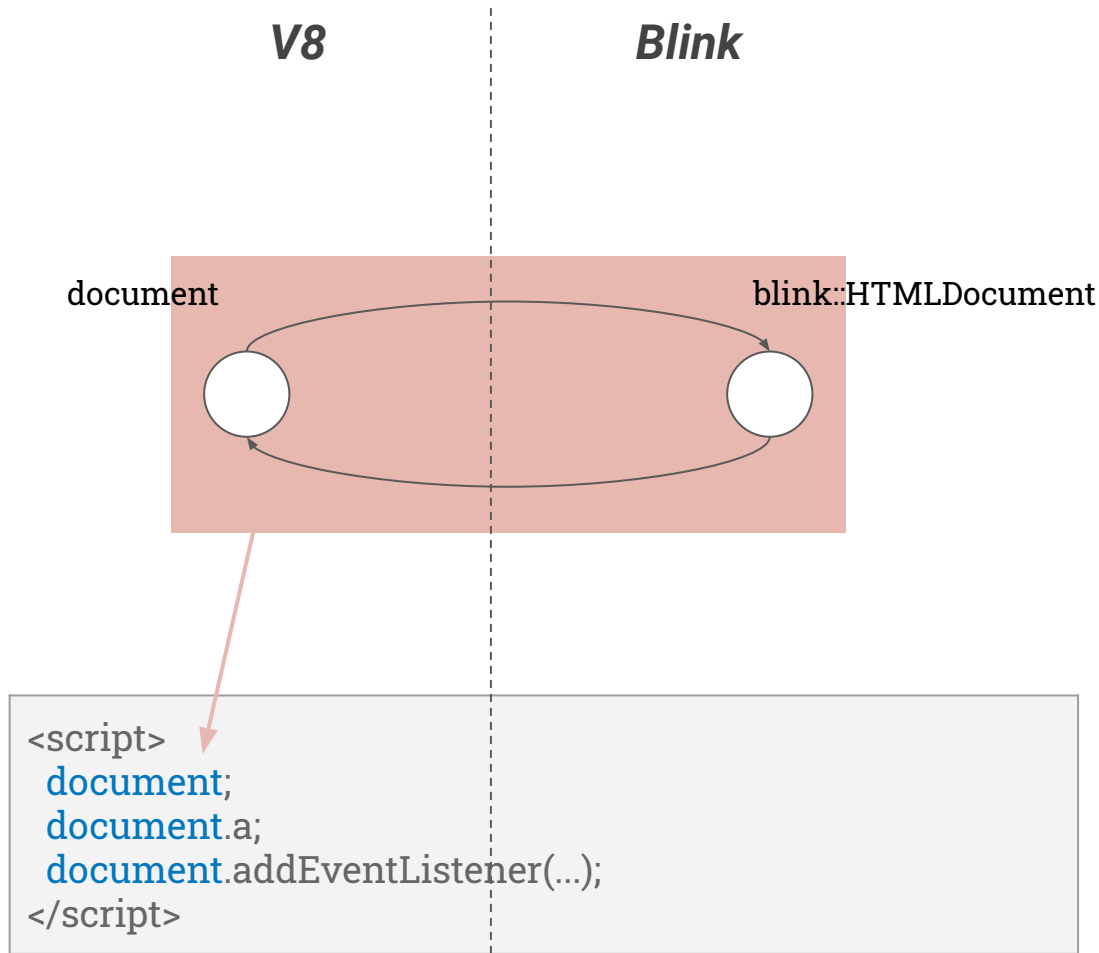
# V8 & Blink

- JavaScript  $\Leftrightarrow$  DOM
- Objects come in halves
- Reference each other

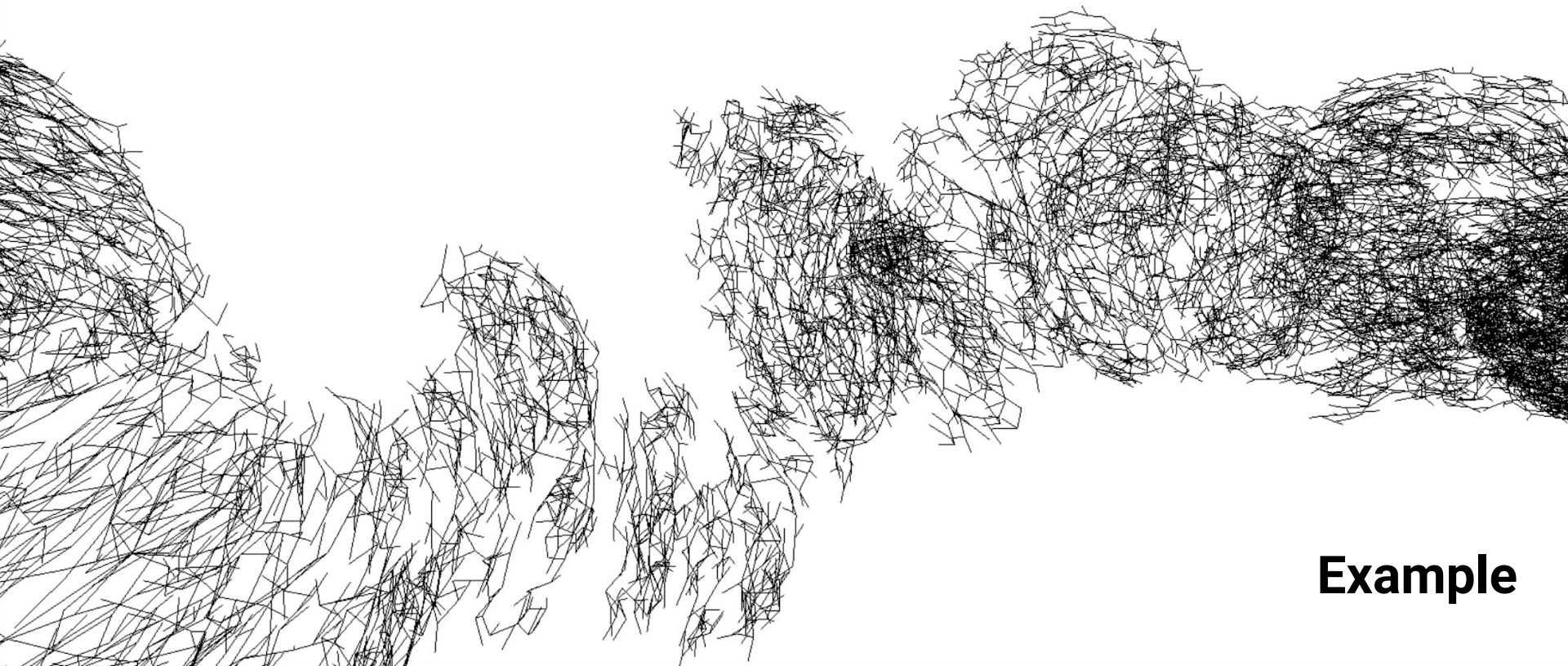


# V8 & Blink

- JavaScript  $\Leftrightarrow$  DOM
- Objects come in halves
- Reference each other







**Example**



# Example

*“Everything should be made as simple as possible, but no simpler”*

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<head><script>
  function createDiv() {
    let newDiv =
      document.createElement("div");
    document.body
      .appendChild(newDiv);
  }

  document.addEventListener(
    "DOMContentLoaded", createDiv);
</script></head>
<body>
  <span></span>
</body>
</html>
```

V8

*Blink*

# Example

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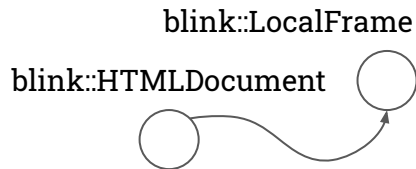
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V8

Blink



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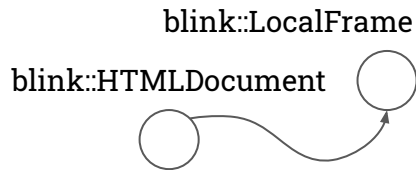
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Code (createDiv)



V8

Blink



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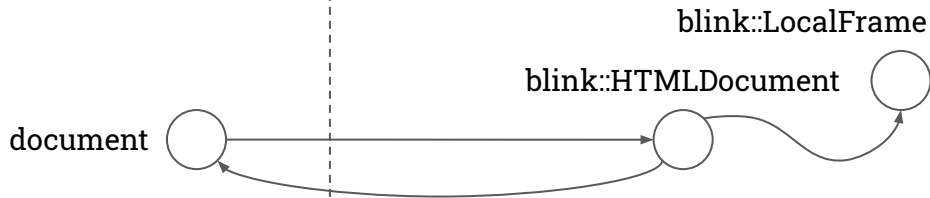
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Code (createDiv)



V8

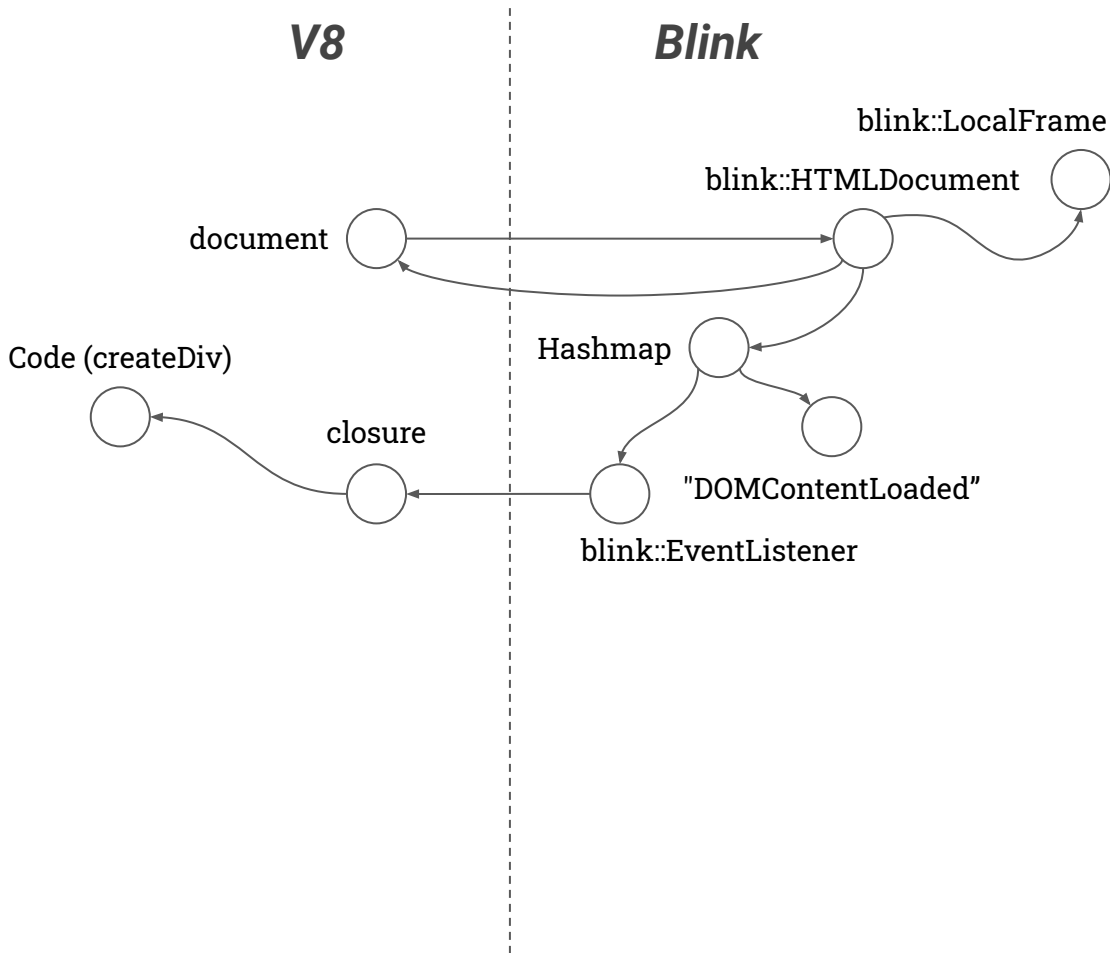
Blink



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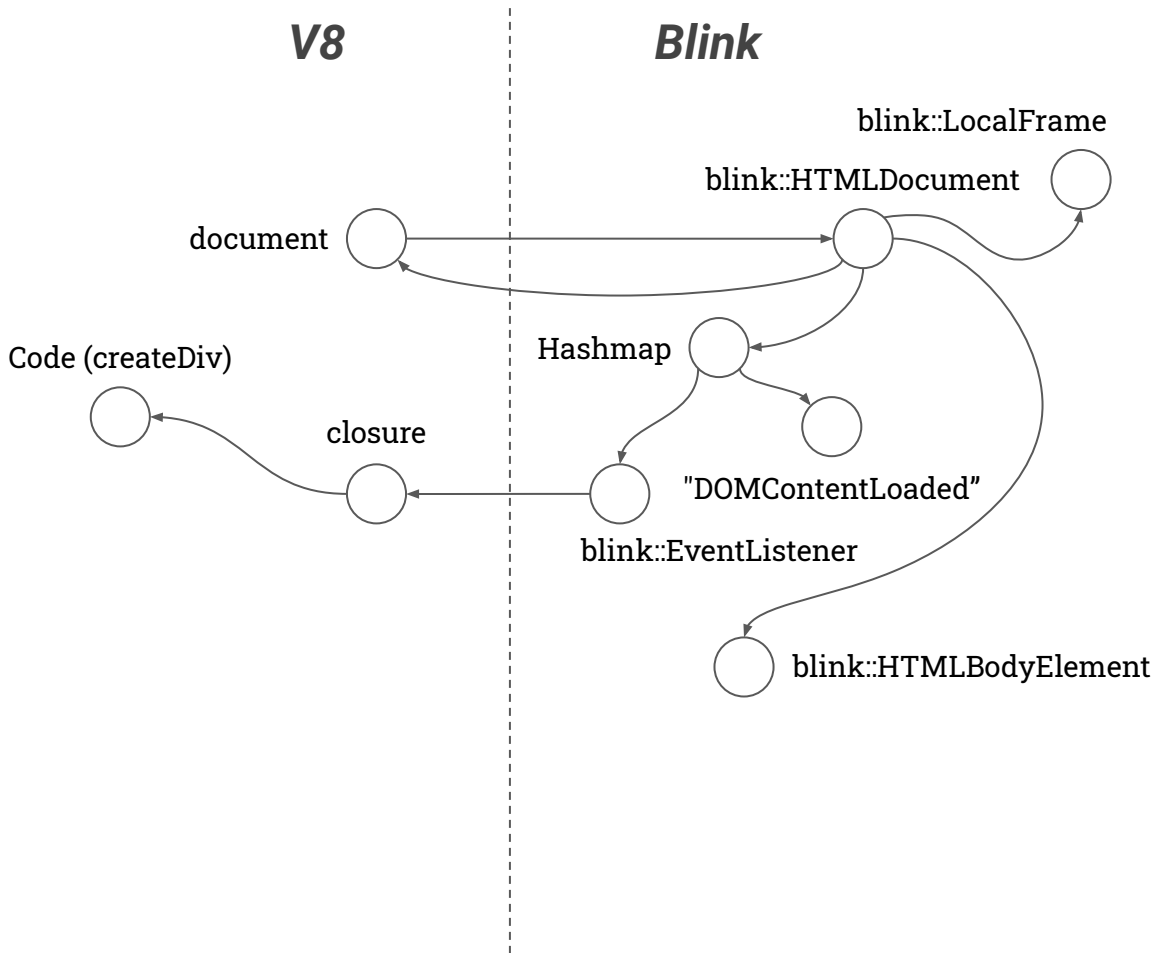
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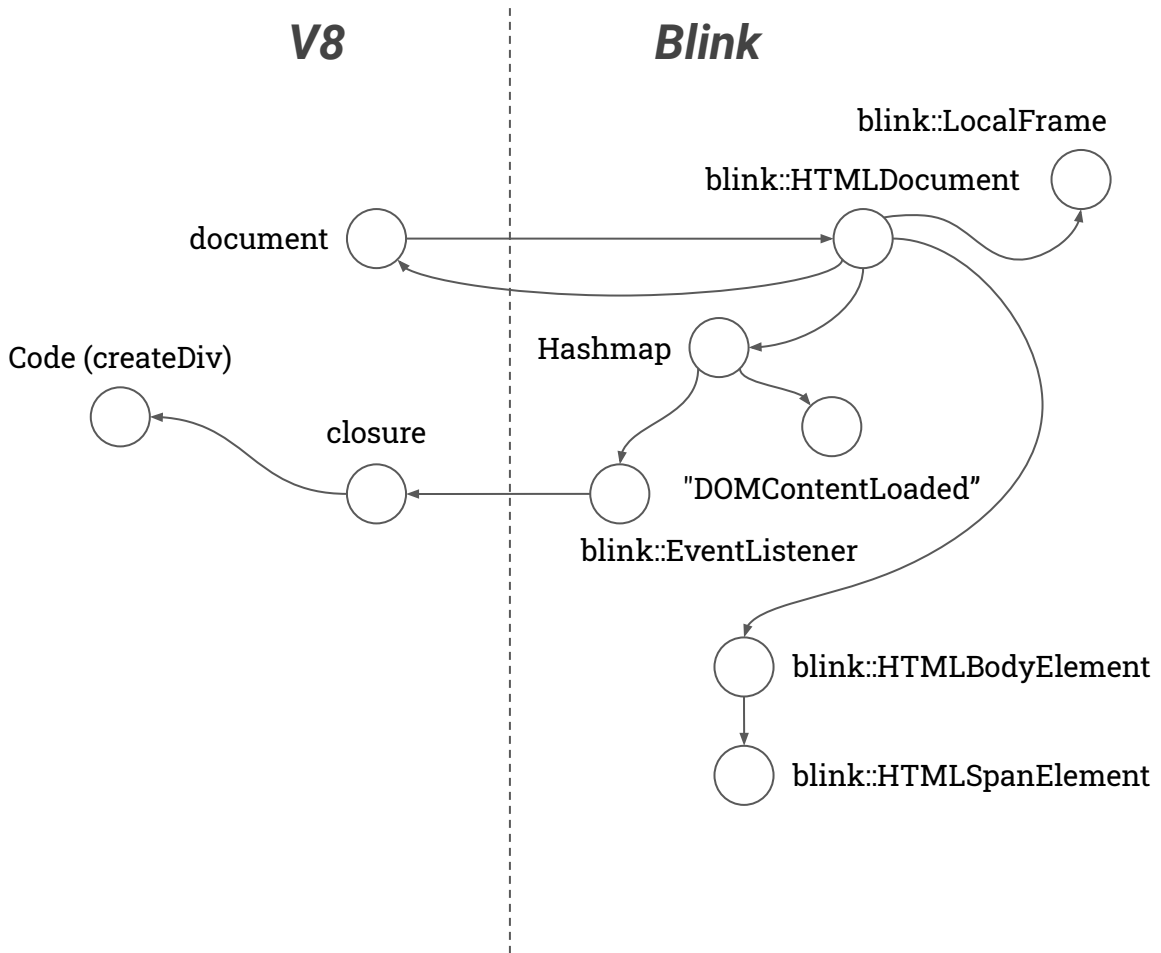




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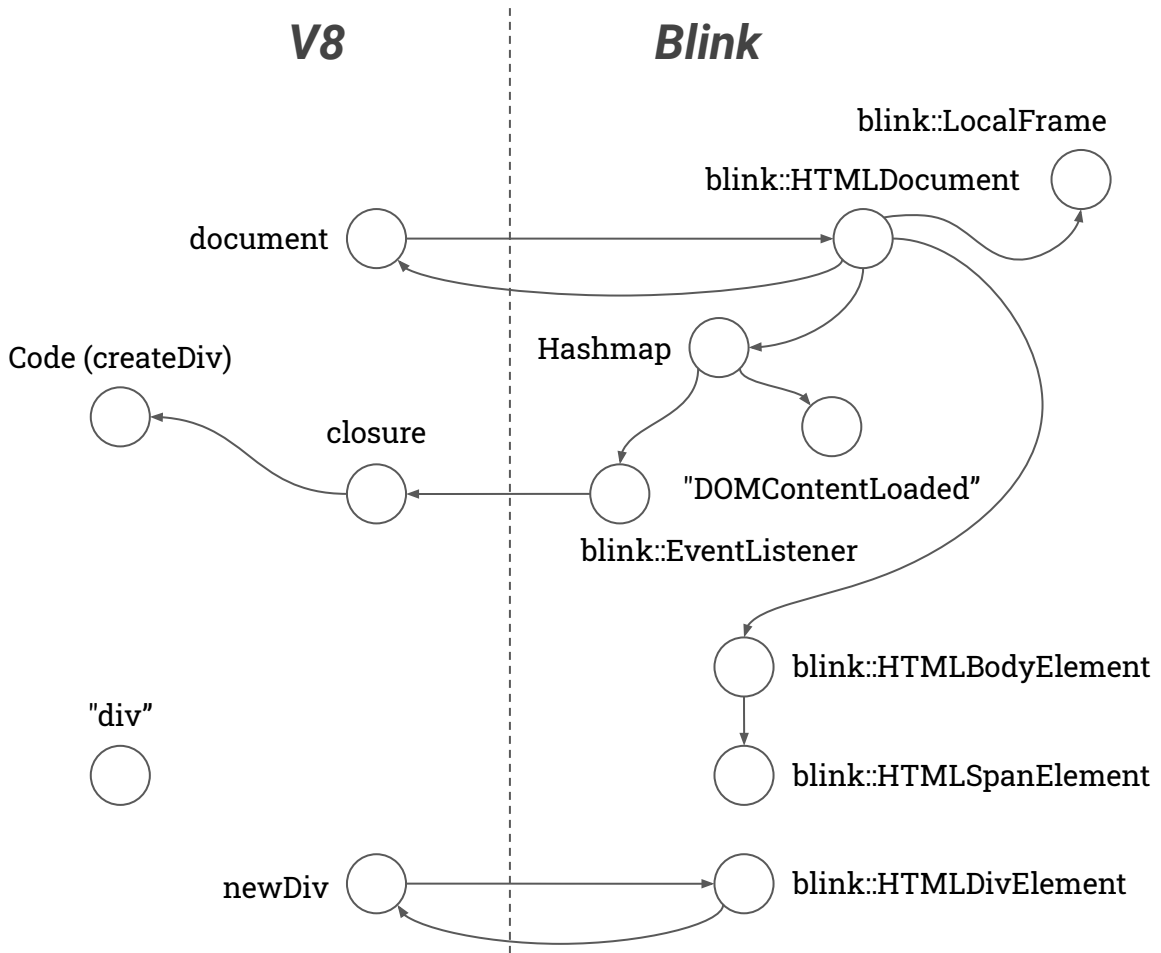
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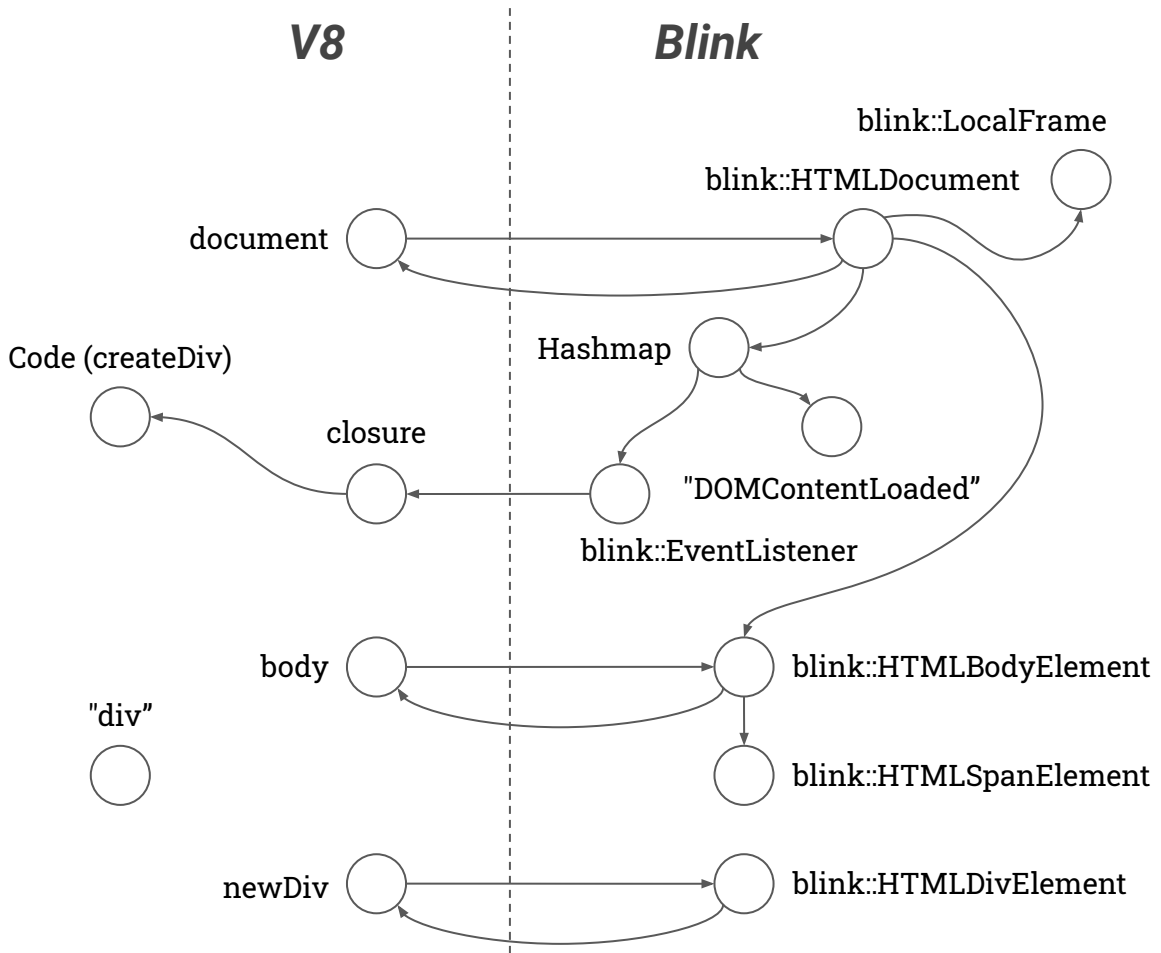
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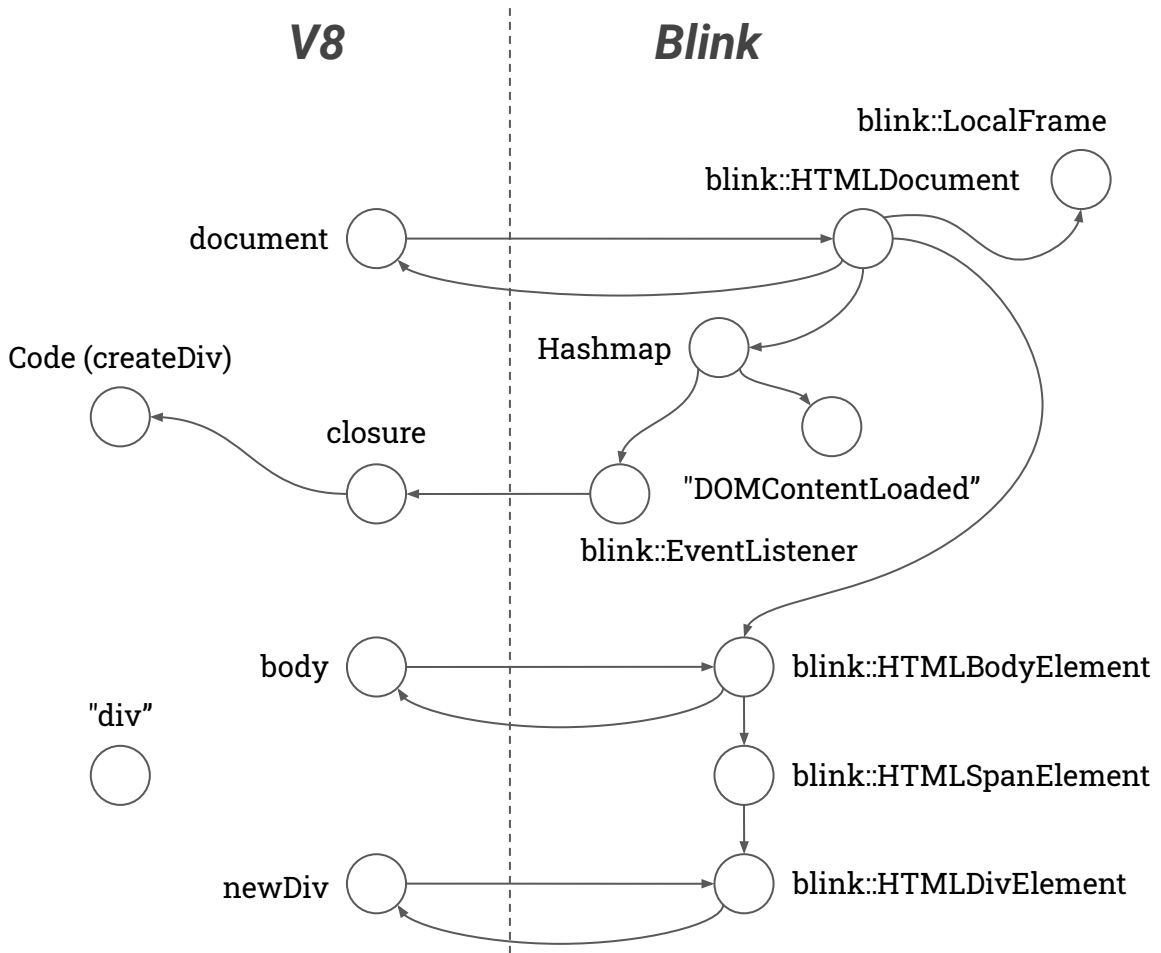
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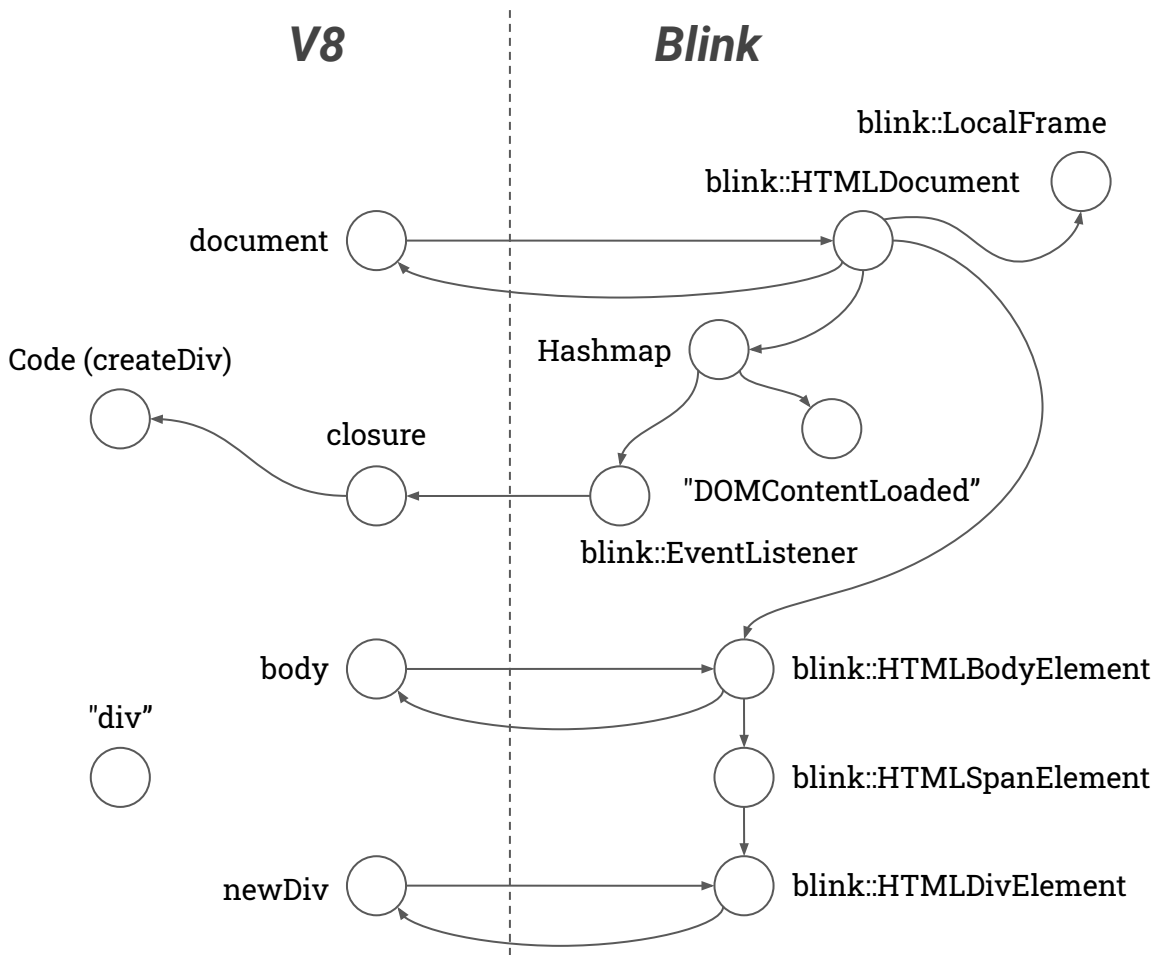
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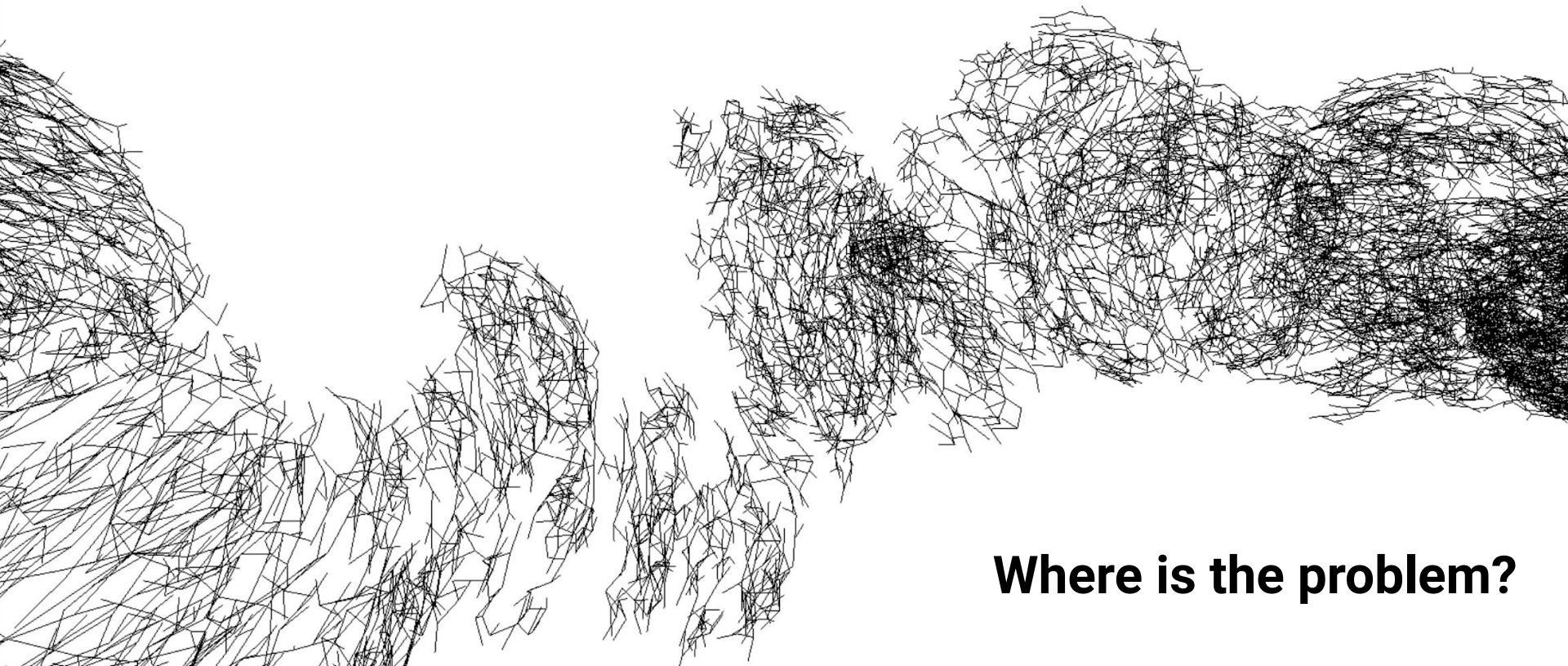






**Take a deep breath.**

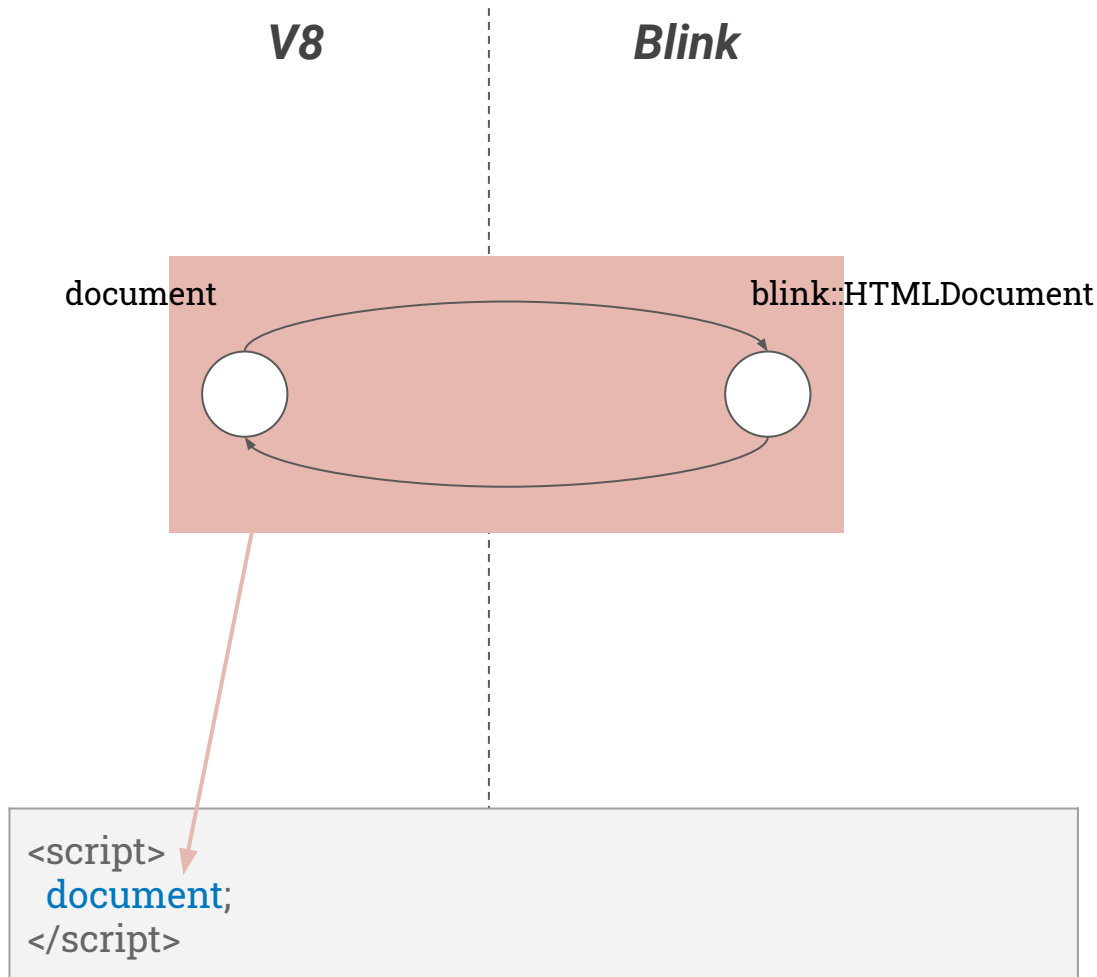




**Where is the problem?**



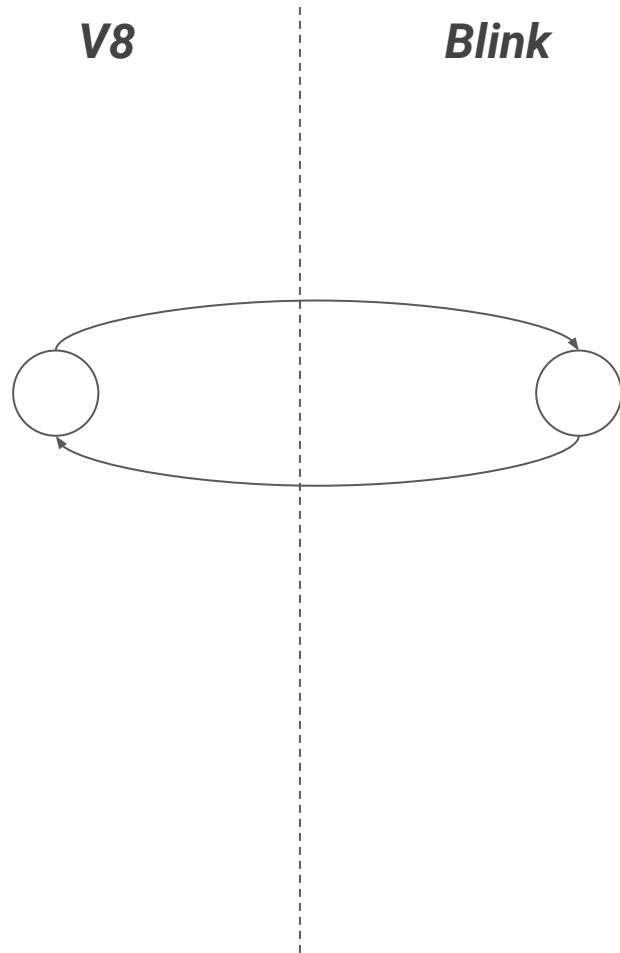
# V8 & Blink



# V8 & Blink

- Two components with separate managed heaps

*Conceptually, **cannot** be root references because that would form cycles*

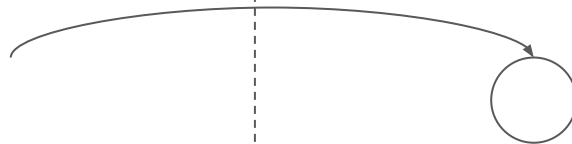


# Blink's view

Treats incoming references as roots

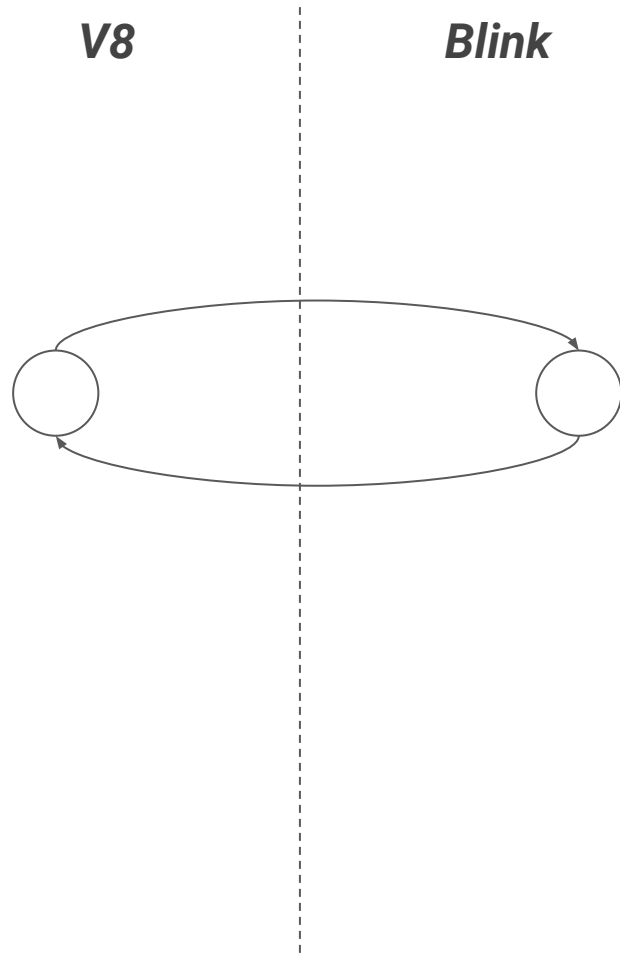
**V8**

***Blink***

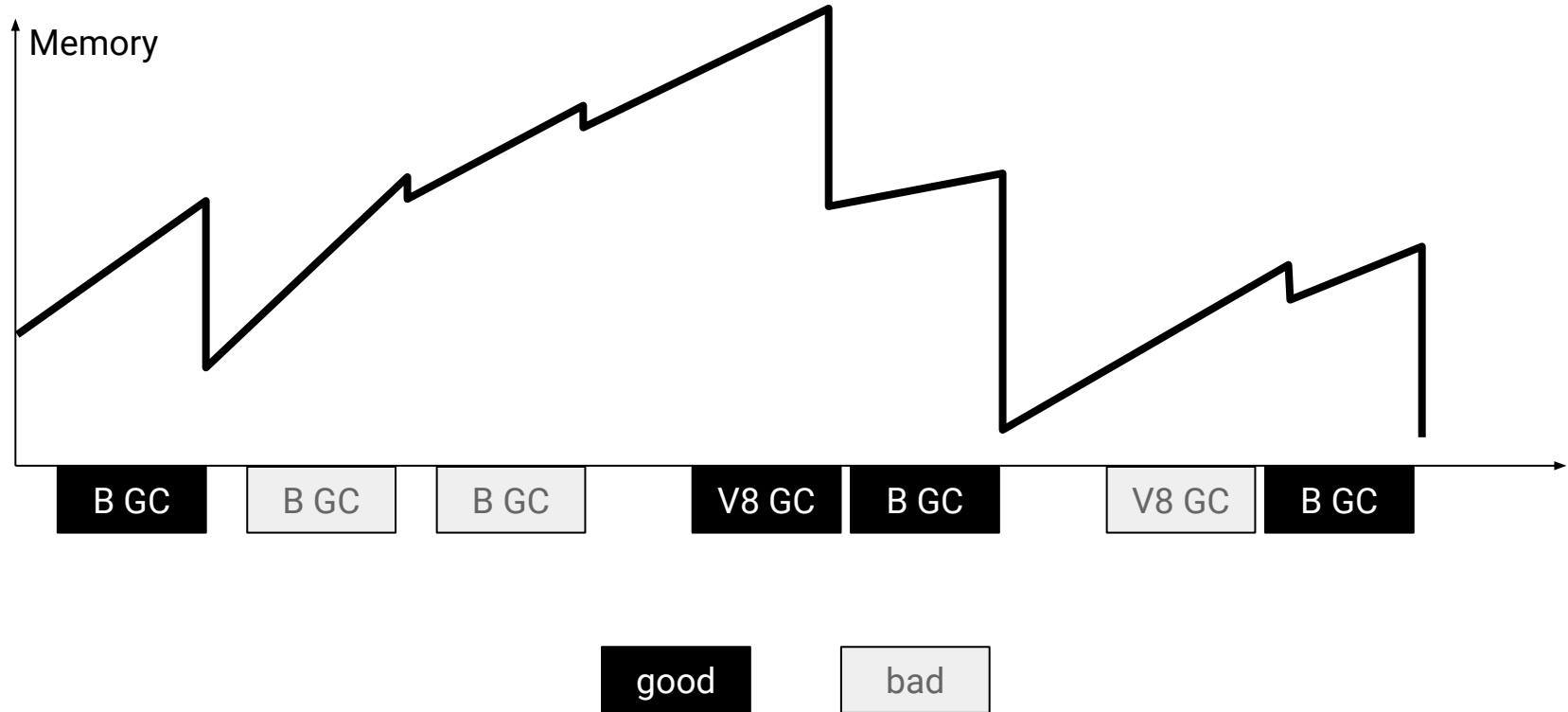


# V8's view

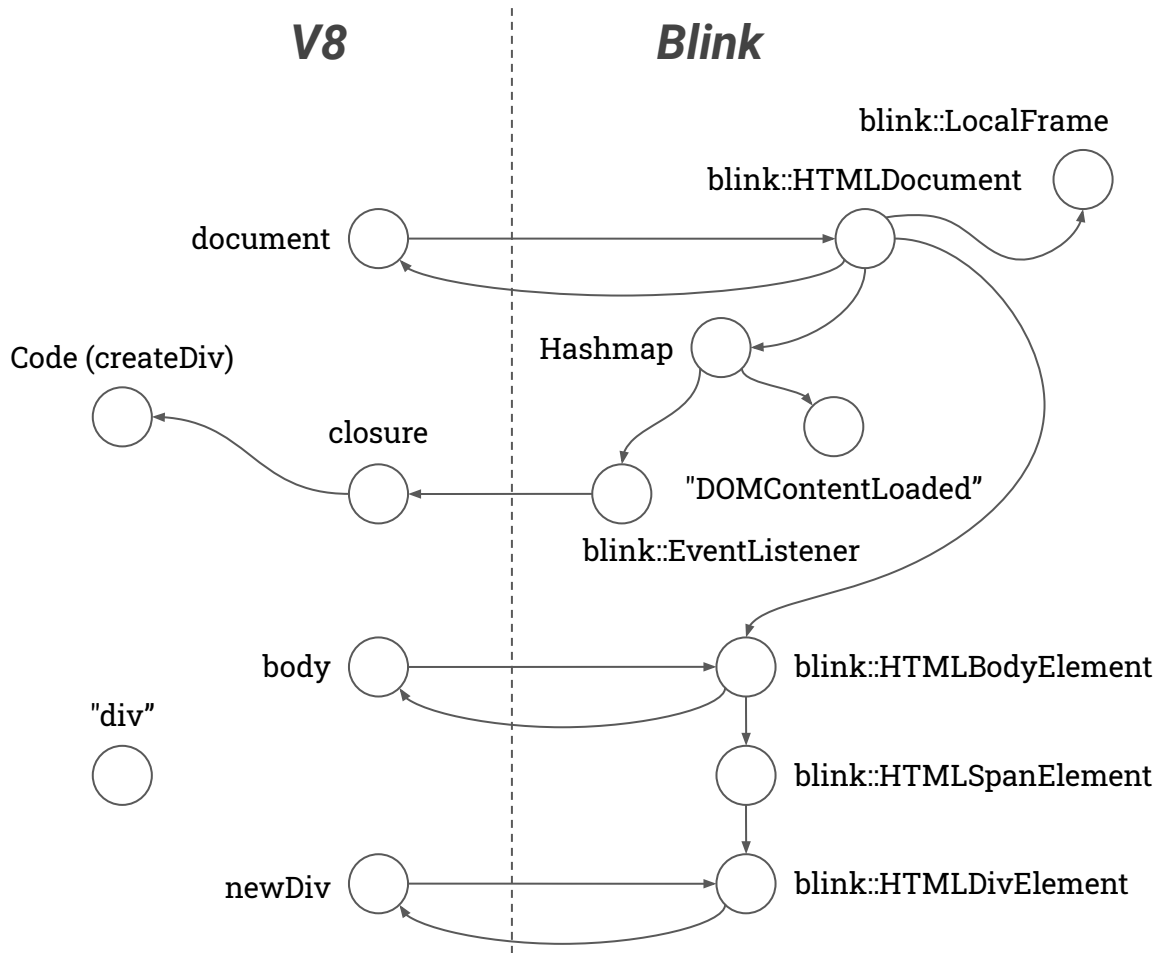
Trace *relevant* transitive closure  
(wrapper tracing)



# Scheduling problem



# Alternative world

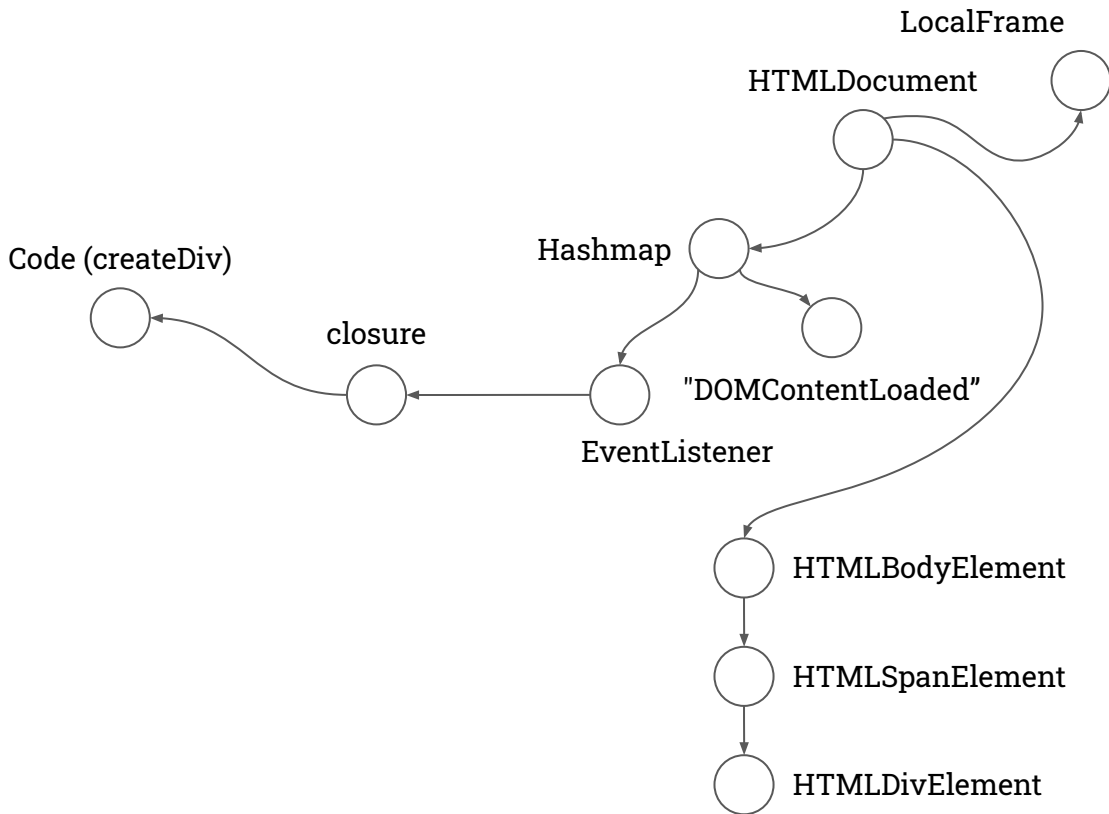


# Alternative world

Only have a single managed heap  
for all renderer memory

(Blink in JS)

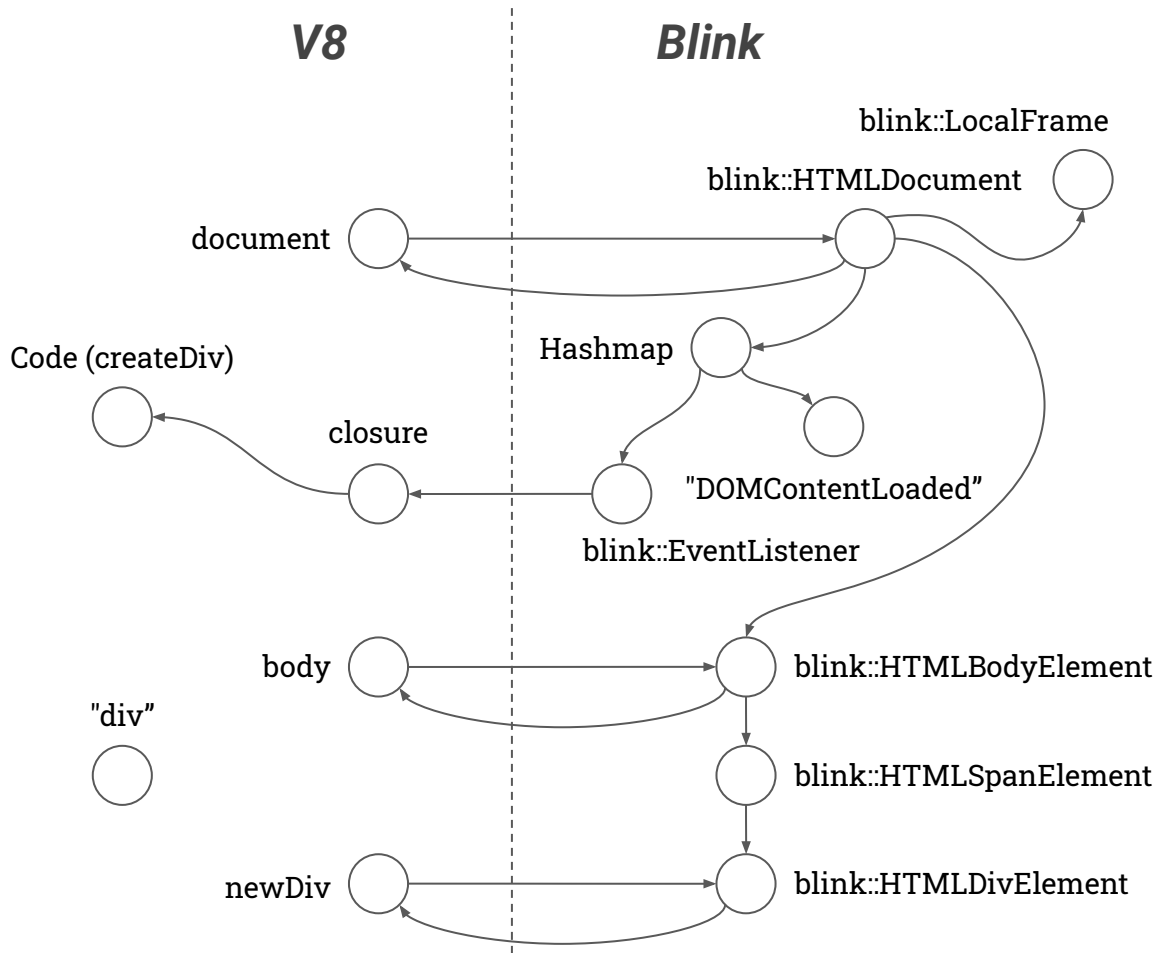
## *Renderer heap*



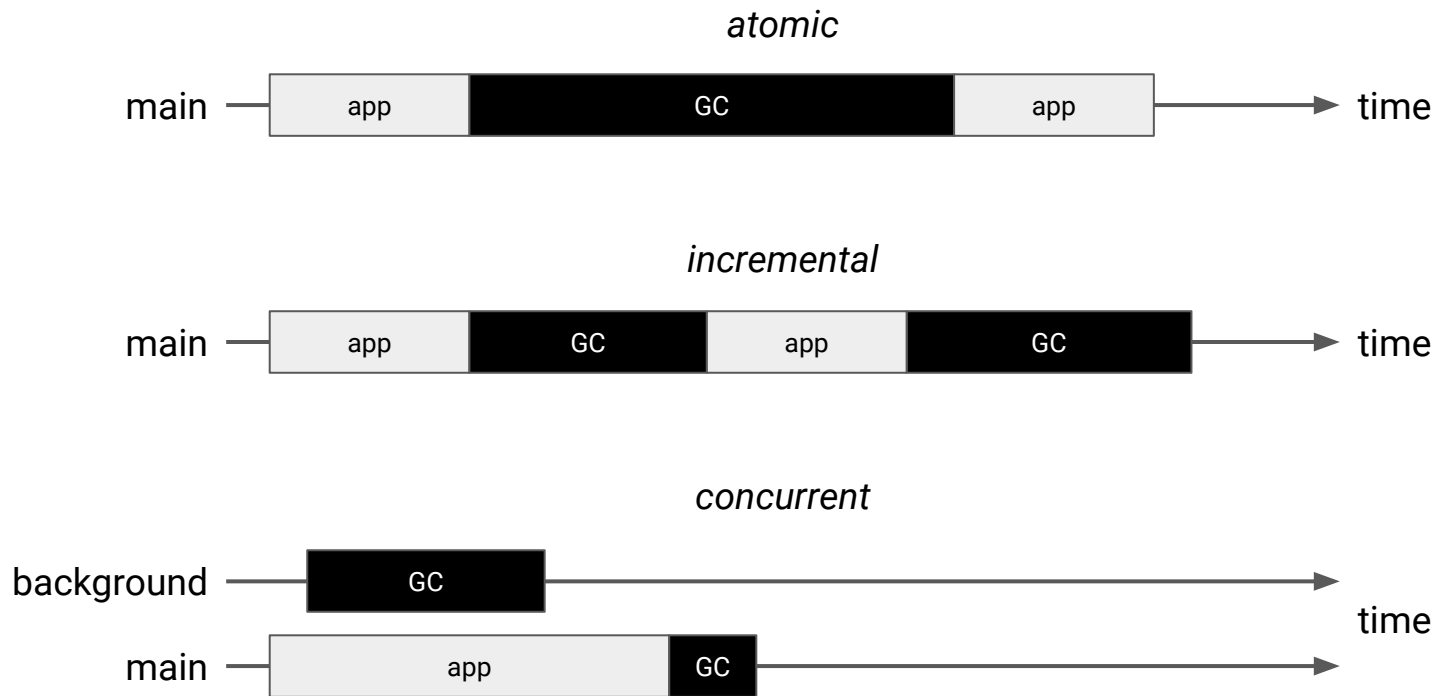


# Unified heap

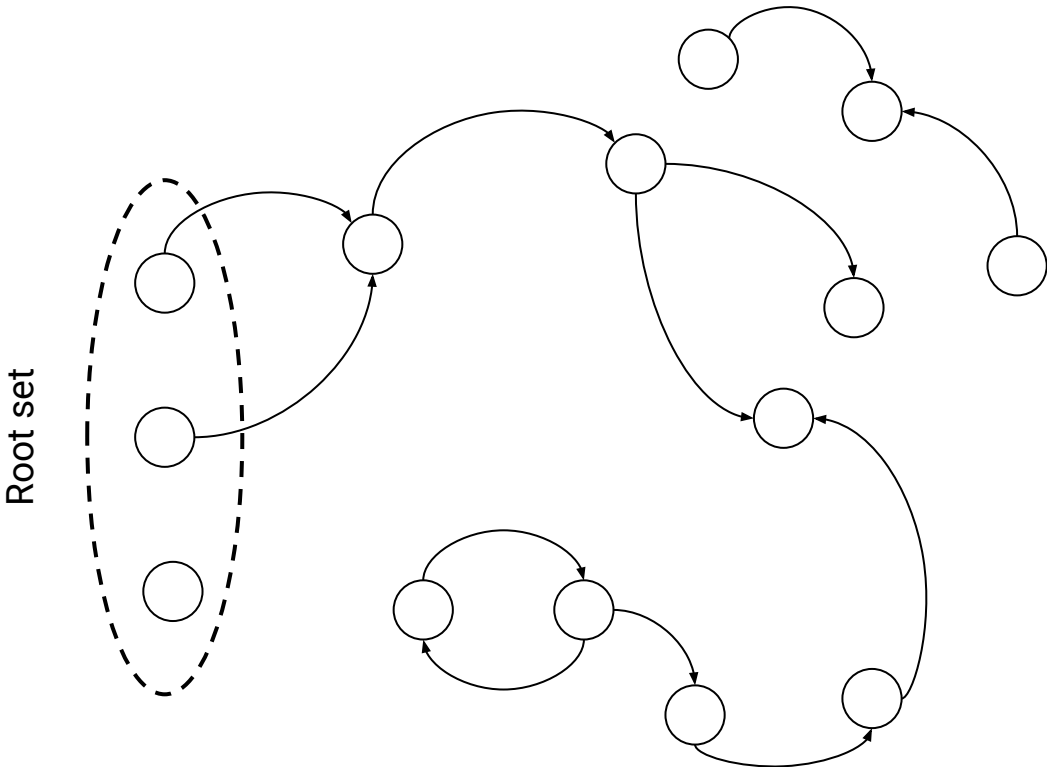
- Compromise
- Keep separate heap implementations
  - Blink: Oilpan
  - V8: Orinoco
- Allow **full** garbage collections across those component boundaries
- Deprecate wrapper tracing



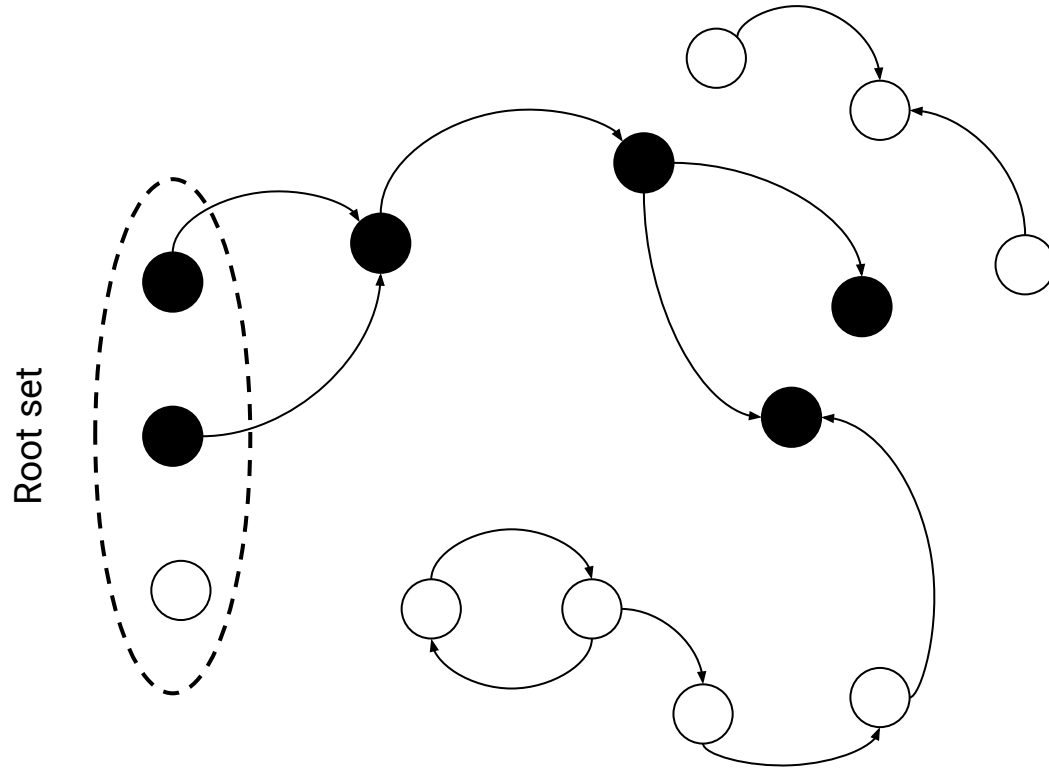
# Interlude: Garbage Collection



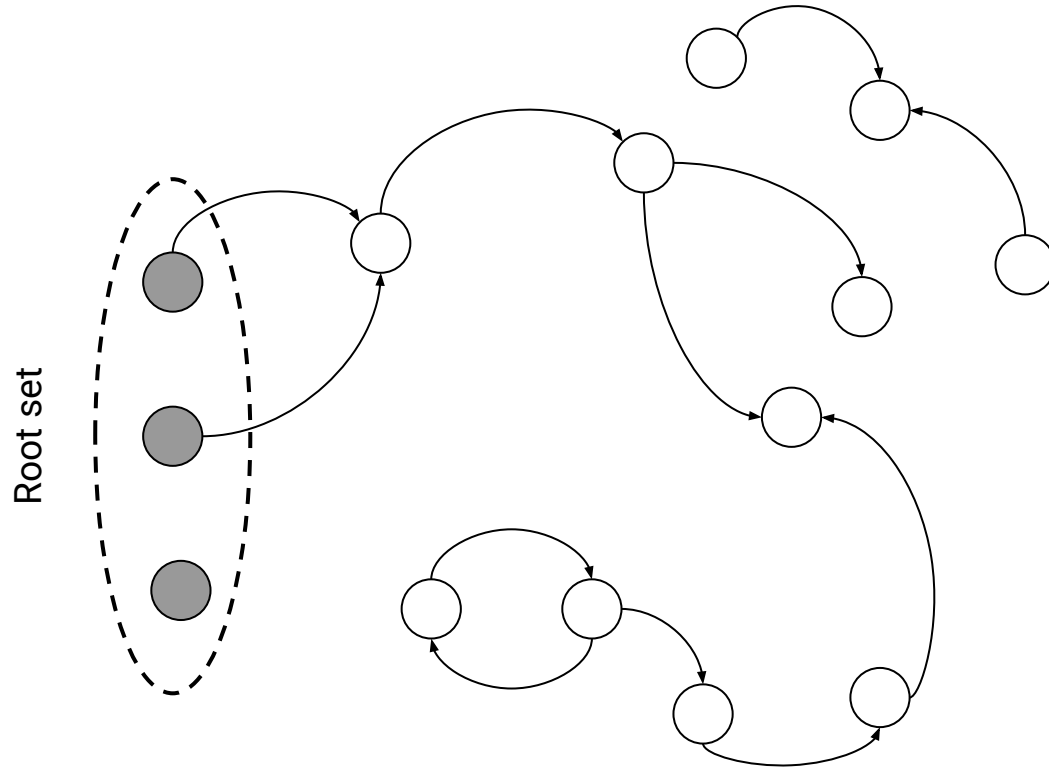
# Interlude: Marking



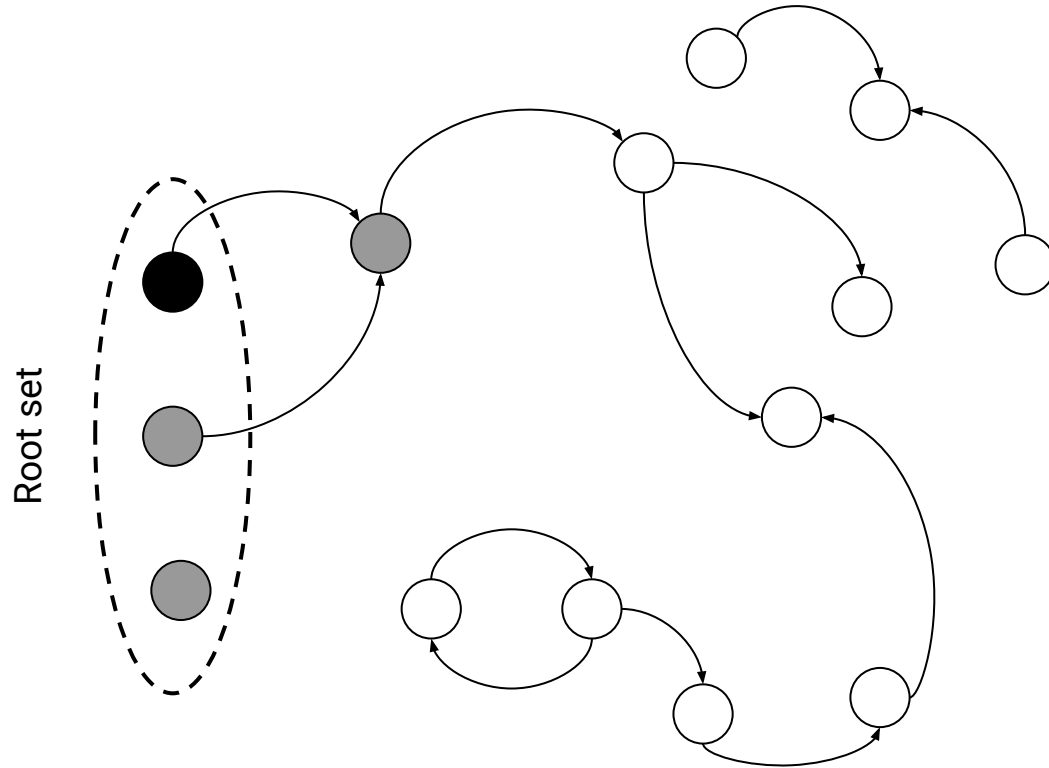
# Interlude: (Atomic) Marking



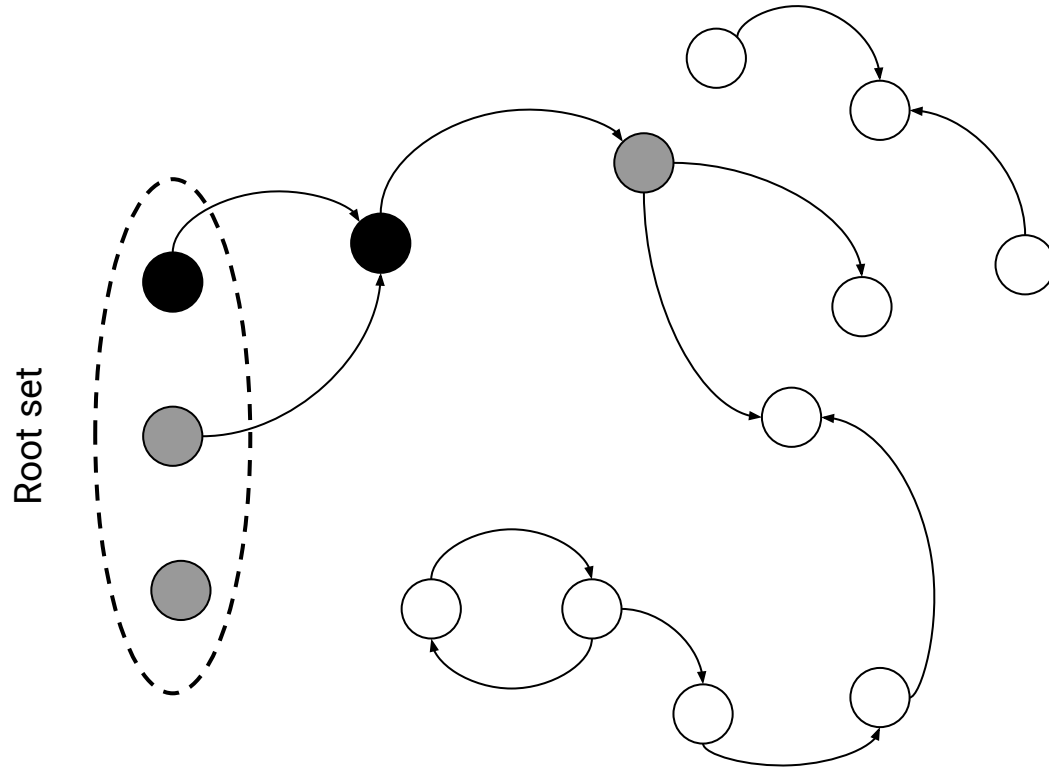
# Interlude: Incremental Marking



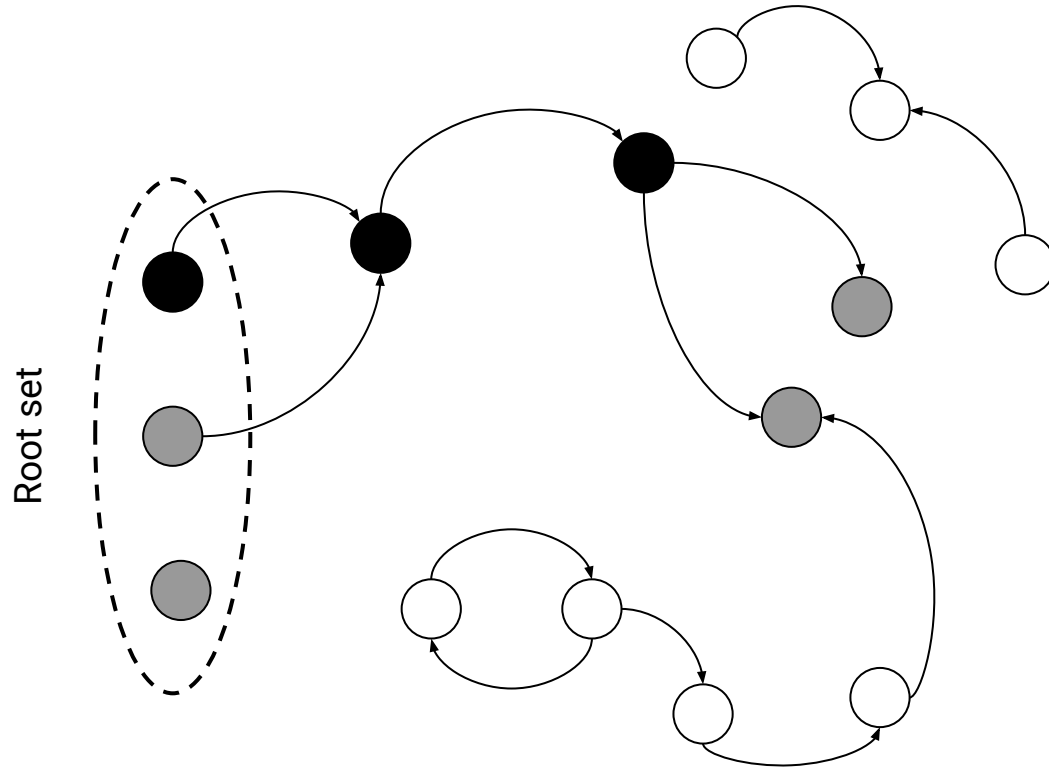
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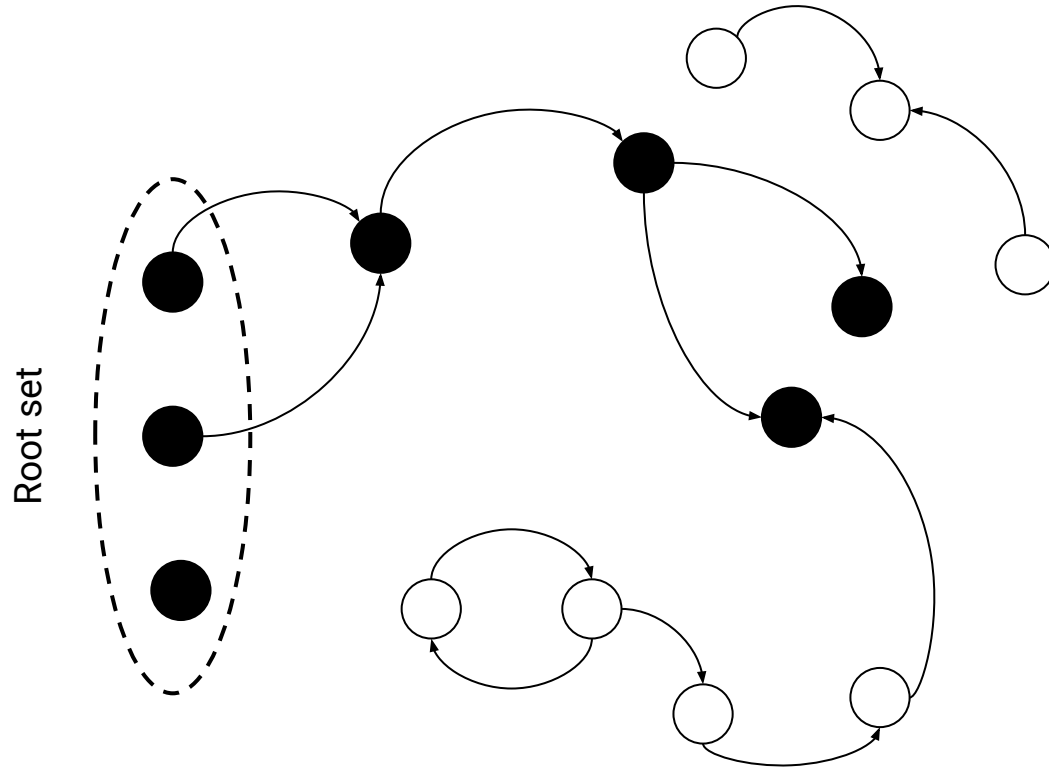


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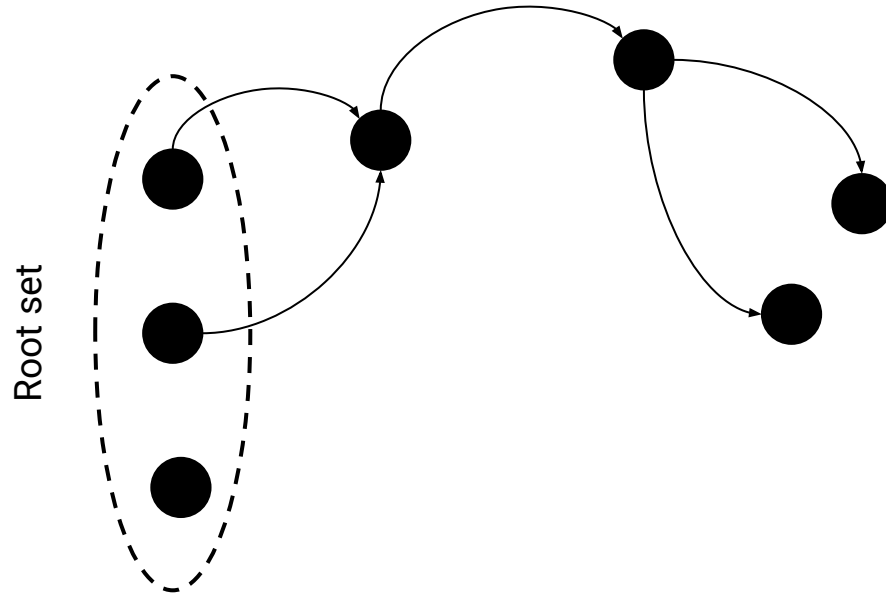




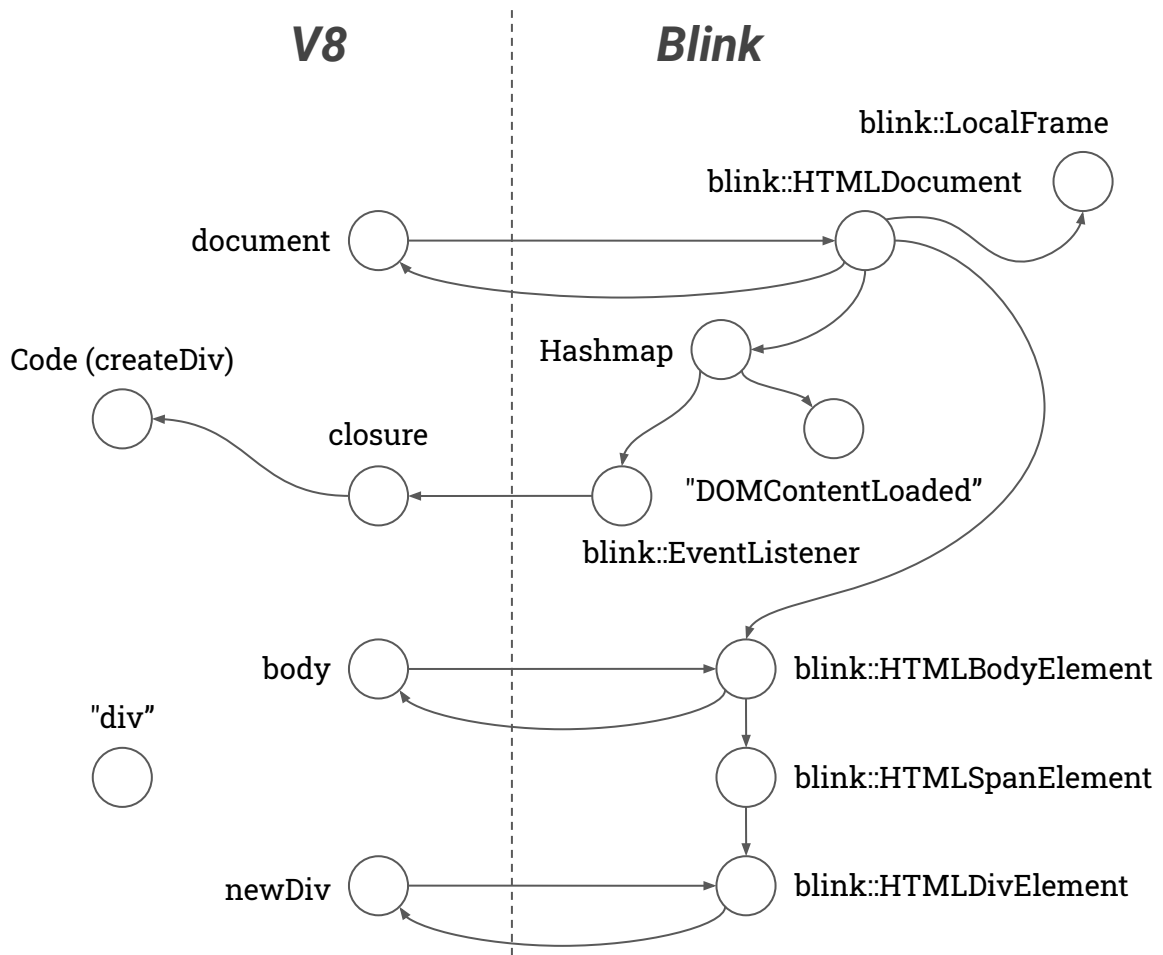
# Interlude: Incremental Marking



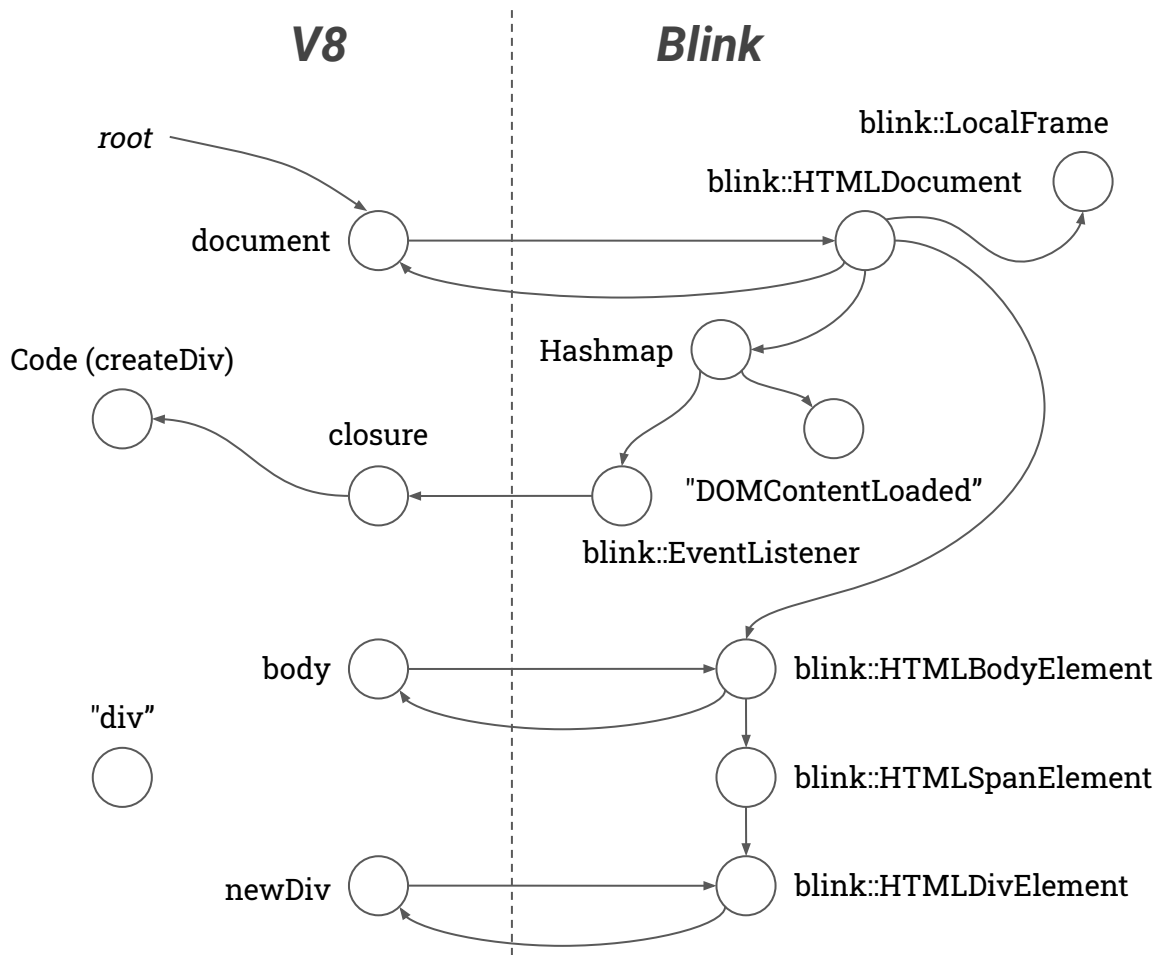
# Interlude: Sweeping



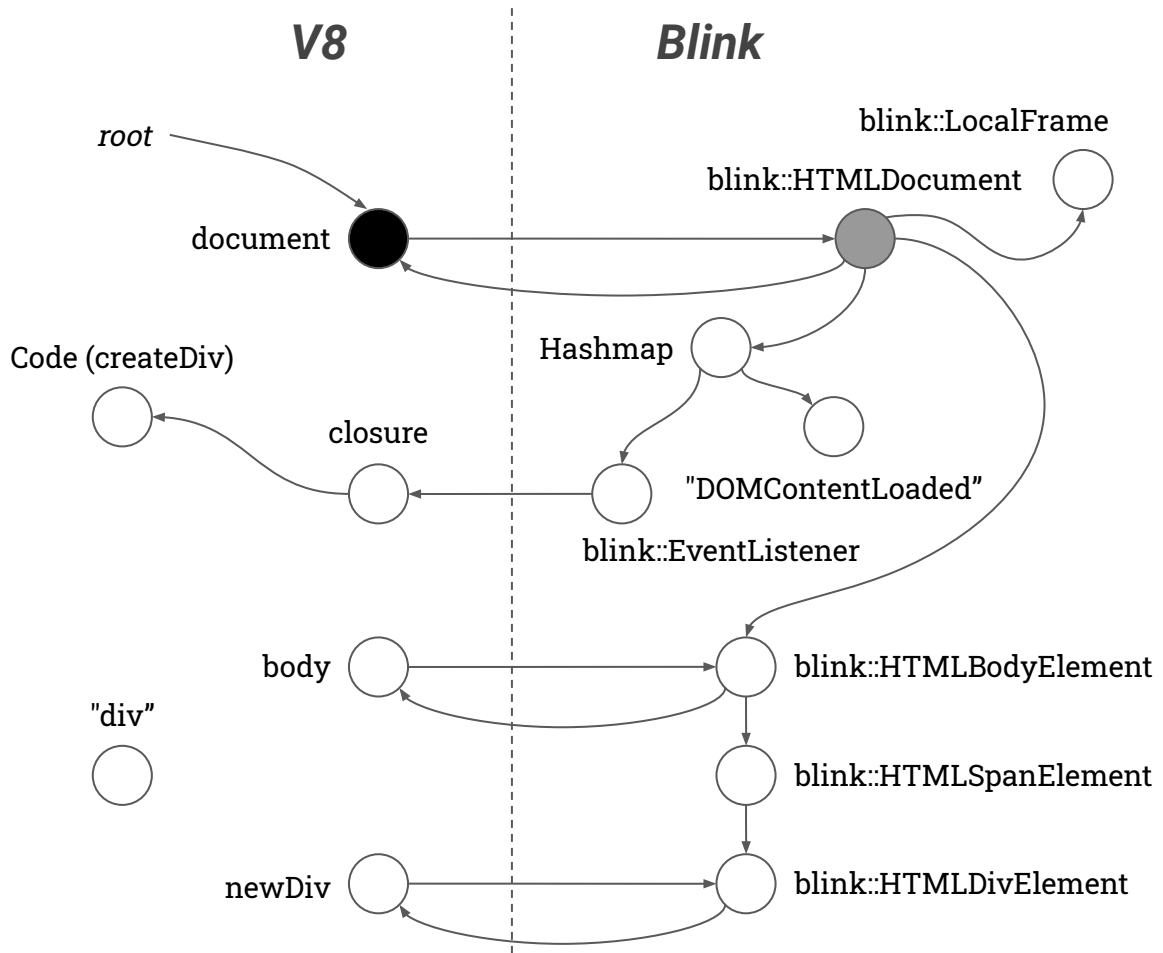
# Unified heap



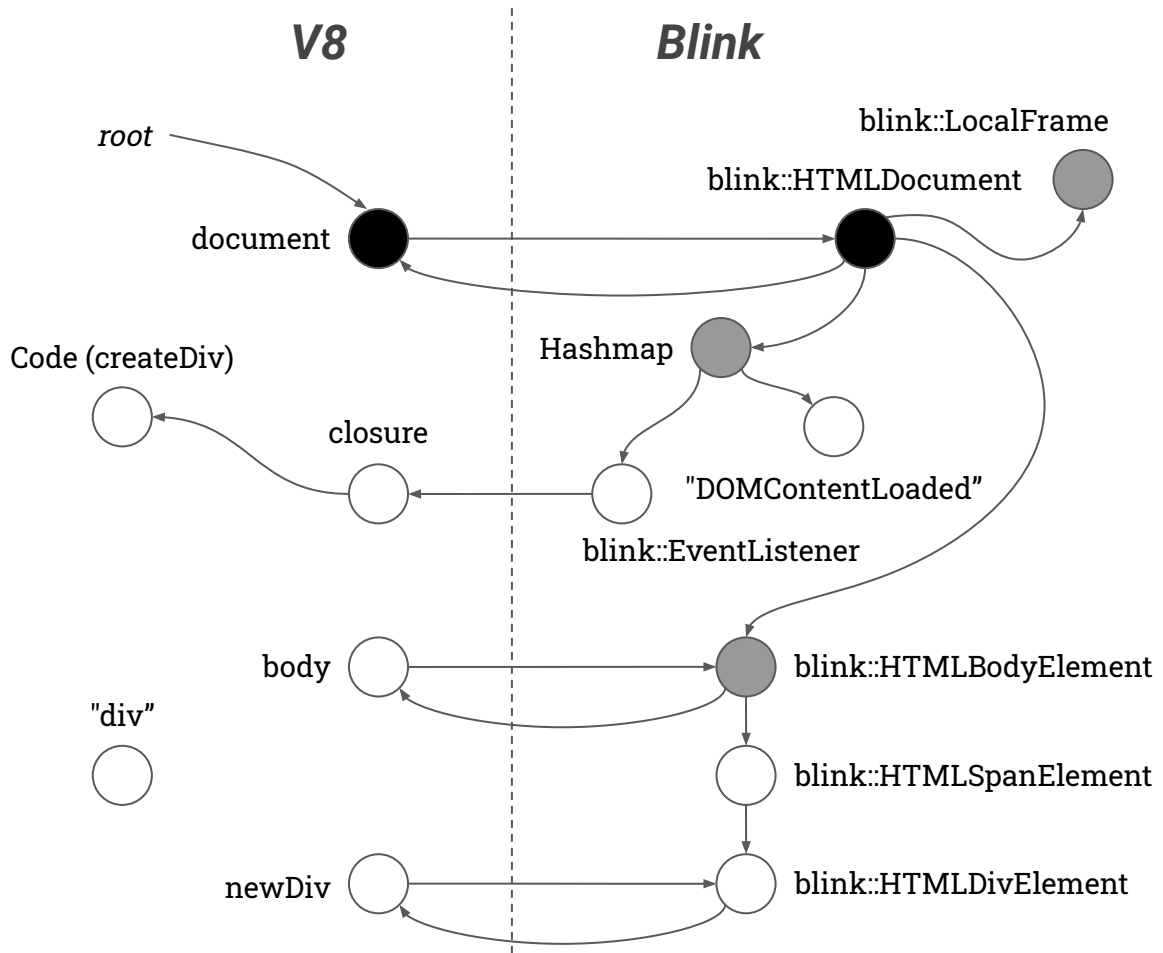
# Unified heap



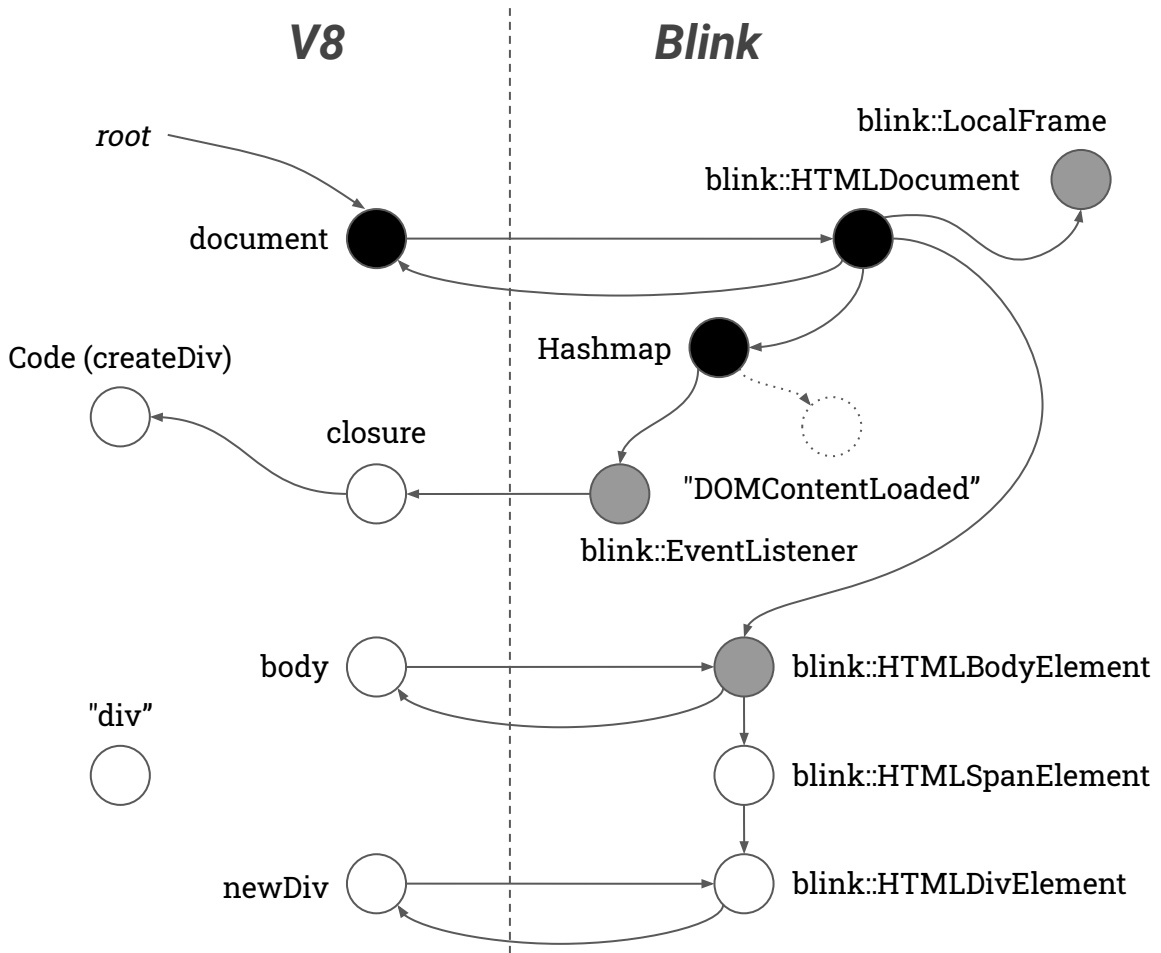
# V8



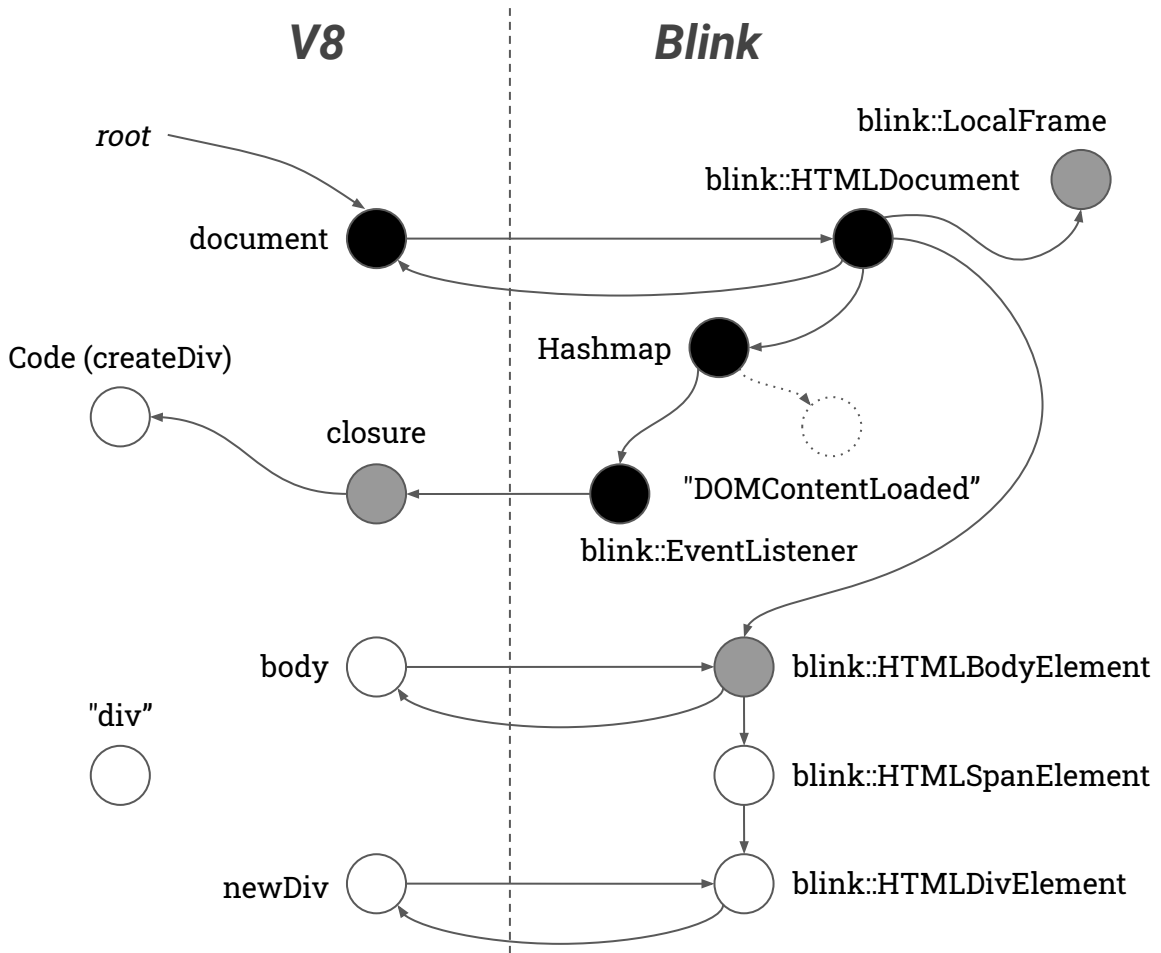
# Blink



# Blink

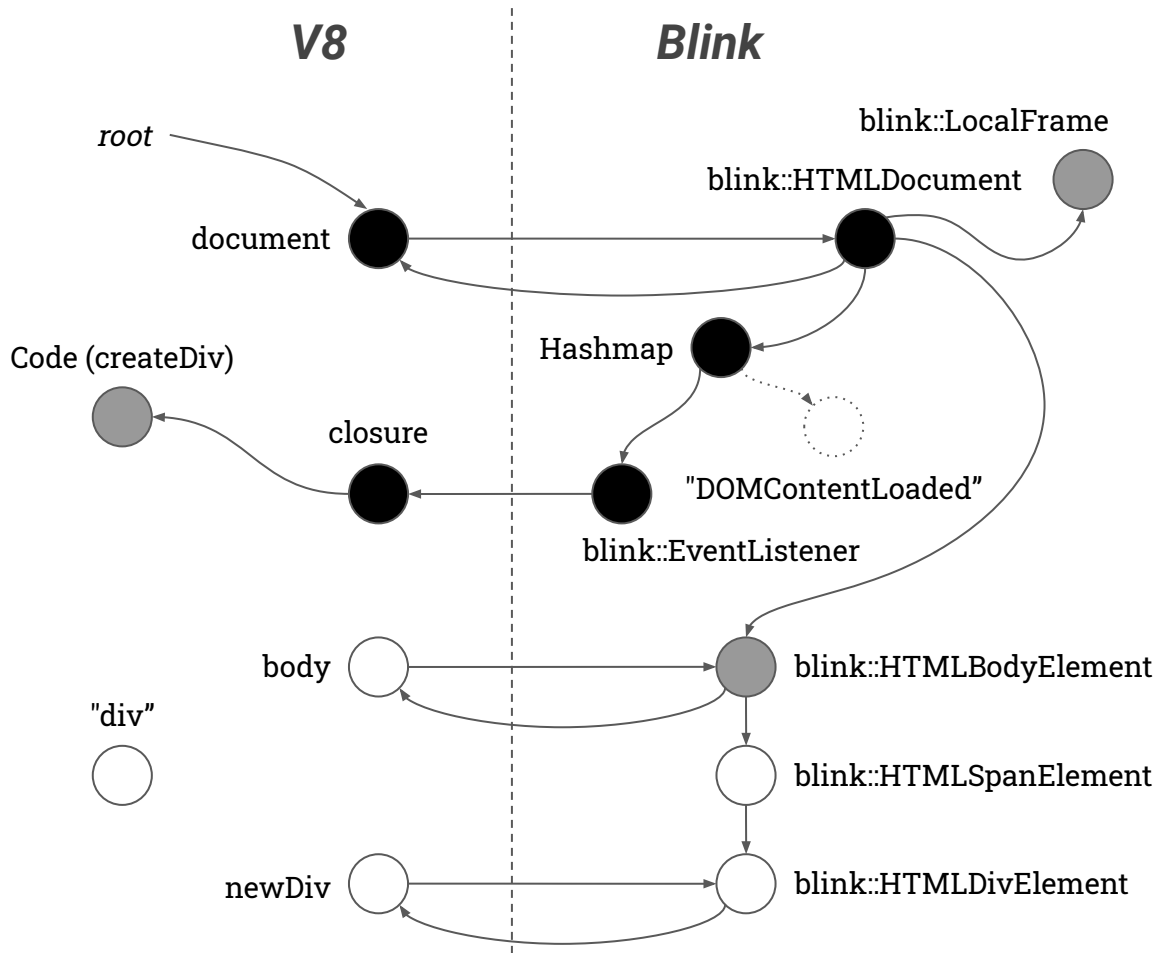


# Blink



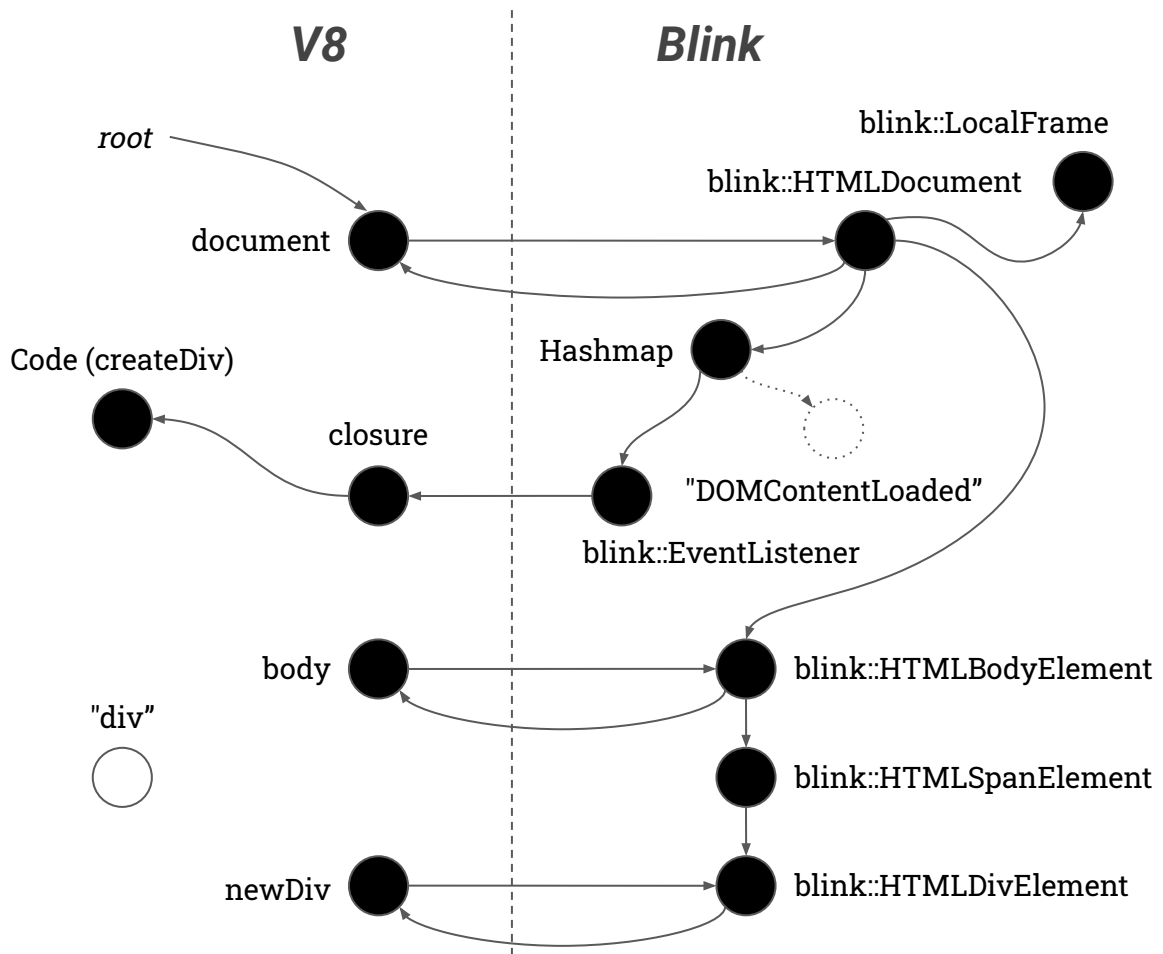


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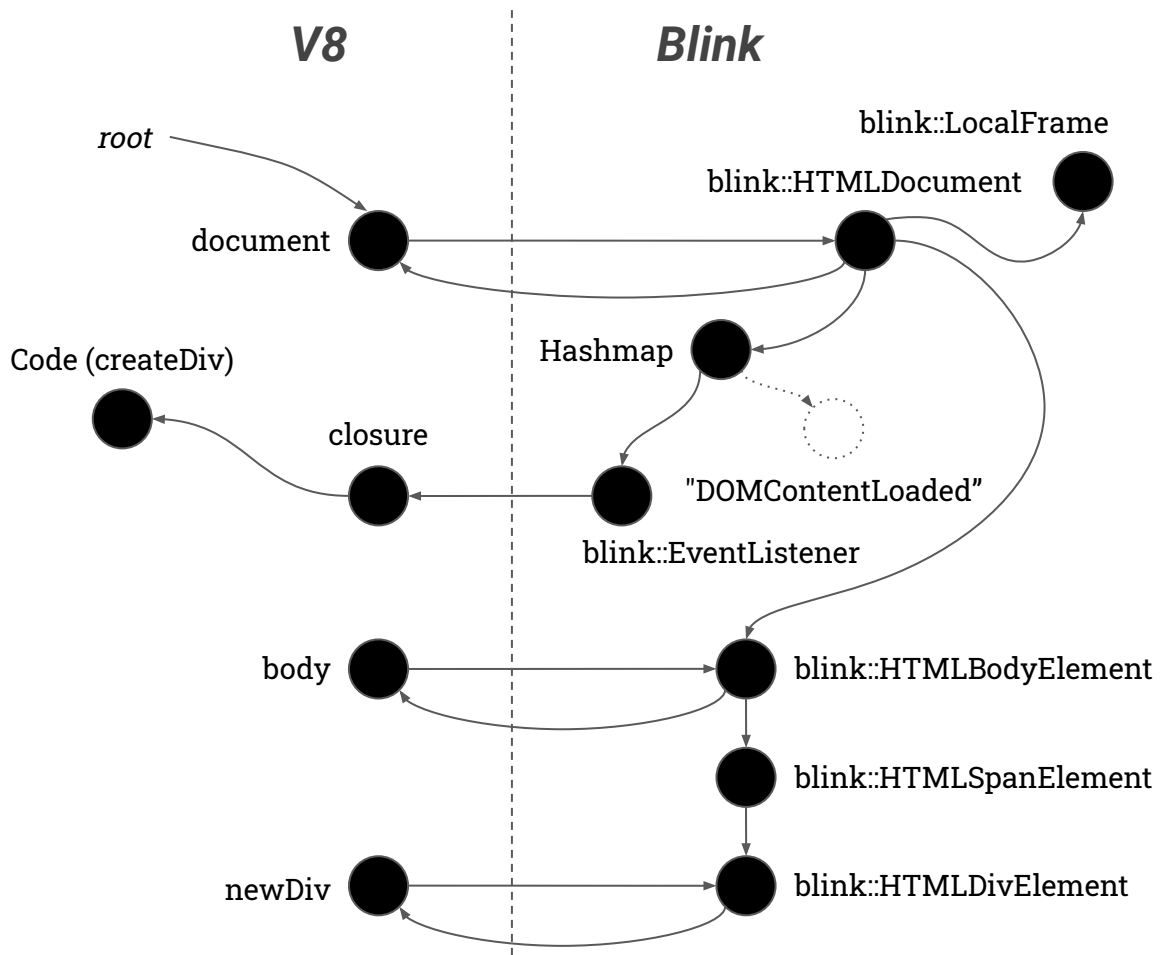


# V8 & Blink

Concurrently...

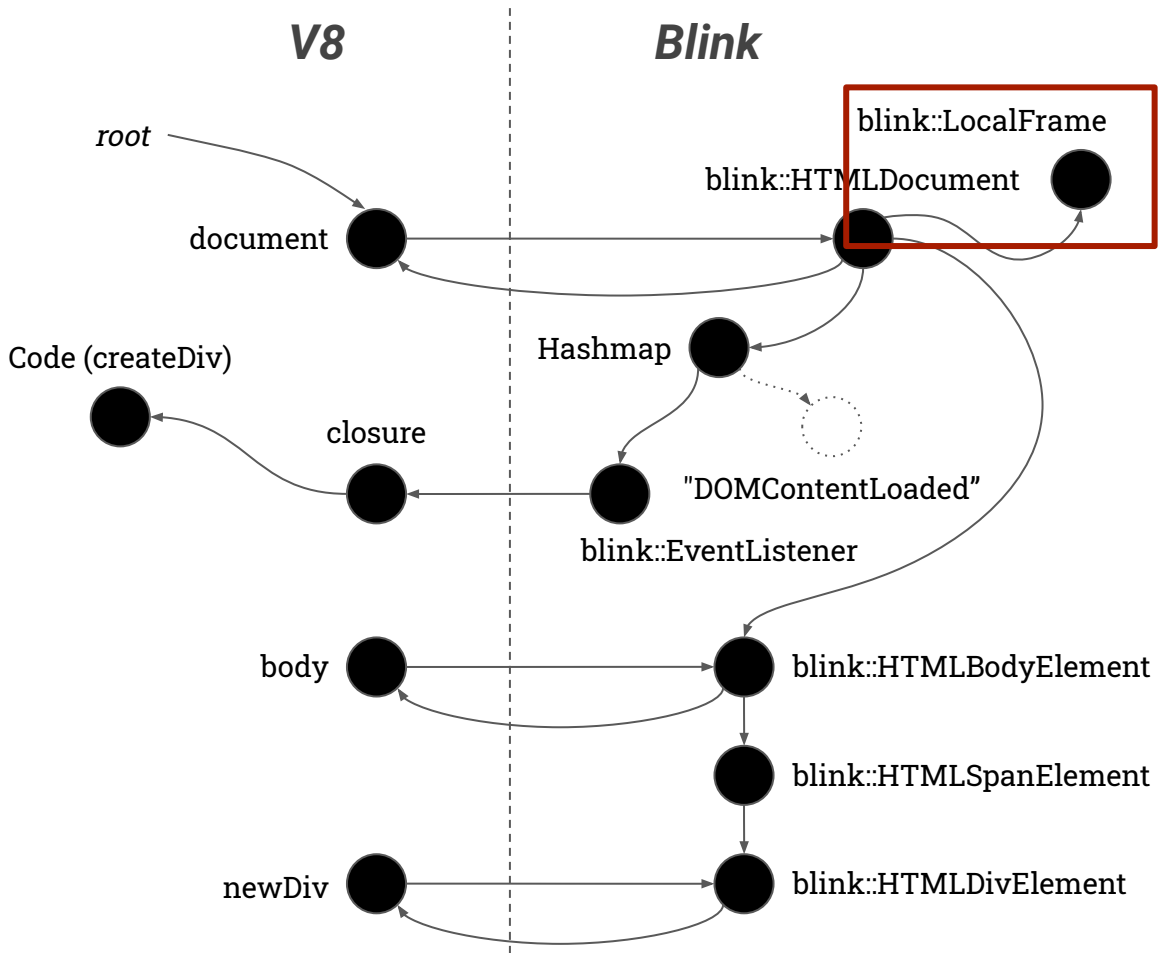


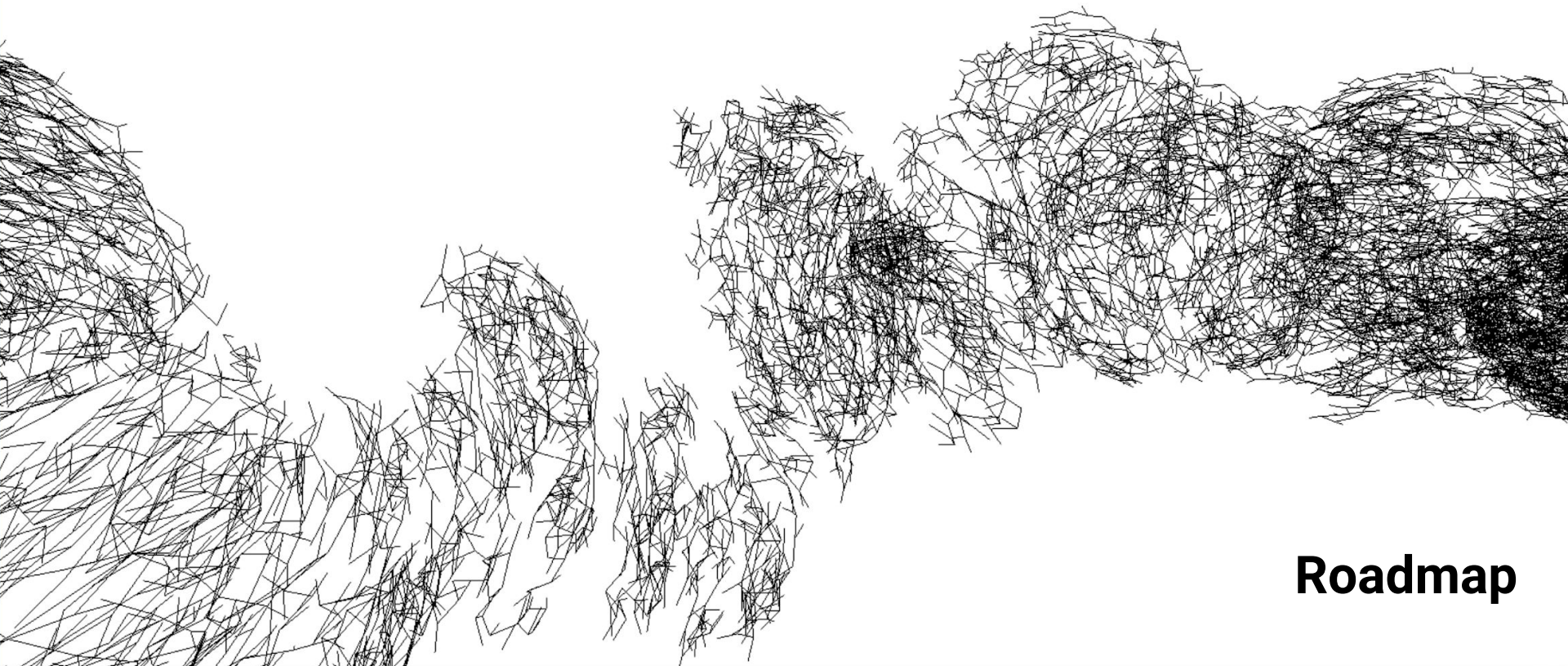
# Unified heap



# Wrapper tracing $\Delta$

- Proper stack handling in all code paths
- Covers *all* paths on Oilpan's heap
- Allows sweeping both, V8 and Blink after marking





**Roadmap**

# Unified Heap

*Requirement: Low-latency on garbage collection operations*

- **V8**

- Concurrent marking
- Concurrent sweeping
- Parallel compaction



- **Oilpan**

- Non-incremental marking
- Incremental sweeping



# Roadmap

**Oilpan: Incremental Marking**

**(Oilpan: Concurrent Marking)**

**Unified Heap**

# Oilpan: Incremental Marking

- No changes in non-platform Blink code
- Implemented basic infrastructure
  - `gn arg: enable_blink_heap_incremental_marking`
- Unit test suite for
  - Write barriers
  - WTF collection integration
- Verification of mark bits
  - `gn arg: enable_blink_heap_verification`
  - Verifies after marking that there are no transitions from marked to unmarked objects
  - Landed on CI (fyi) for current Oilpan
- Currently working on performance tuning



[bit.ly/oilpan-incremental-marking](https://bit.ly/oilpan-incremental-marking)



# Oilpan: Concurrent Marking

- (Ideally) no changes in non-platform Blink code
- Needed immediately if incremental marking performance regresses too much
- Based on incremental marking
  - Same barriers and consistency models
- Concurrent read-only access on object payload
  - Using existing `Member<T>` abstractions
- Complex object types (e.g. collections) are handled on the main thread



[bit.ly/oilpan-concurrent-marking](https://bit.ly/oilpan-concurrent-marking)

# Unified Heap

- Currently working on sanitization
- Intermediate step: Merge visitation
  - Visible in non-heap Blink code!

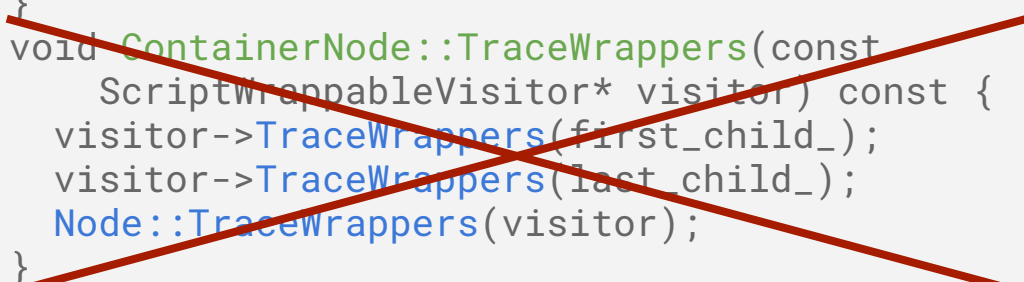
```
void ContainerNode::Trace(
    blink::Visitor* visitor) {
    visitor->Trace(first_child_);
    visitor->Trace(last_child_);
    Node::Trace(visitor);
}

void ContainerNode::TraceWrappers(const
    ScriptWrappableVisitor* visitor) const {
    visitor->TraceWrappers(first_child_);
    visitor->TraceWrappers(last_child_);
    Node::TraceWrappers(visitor);
}
```

# Unified Heap

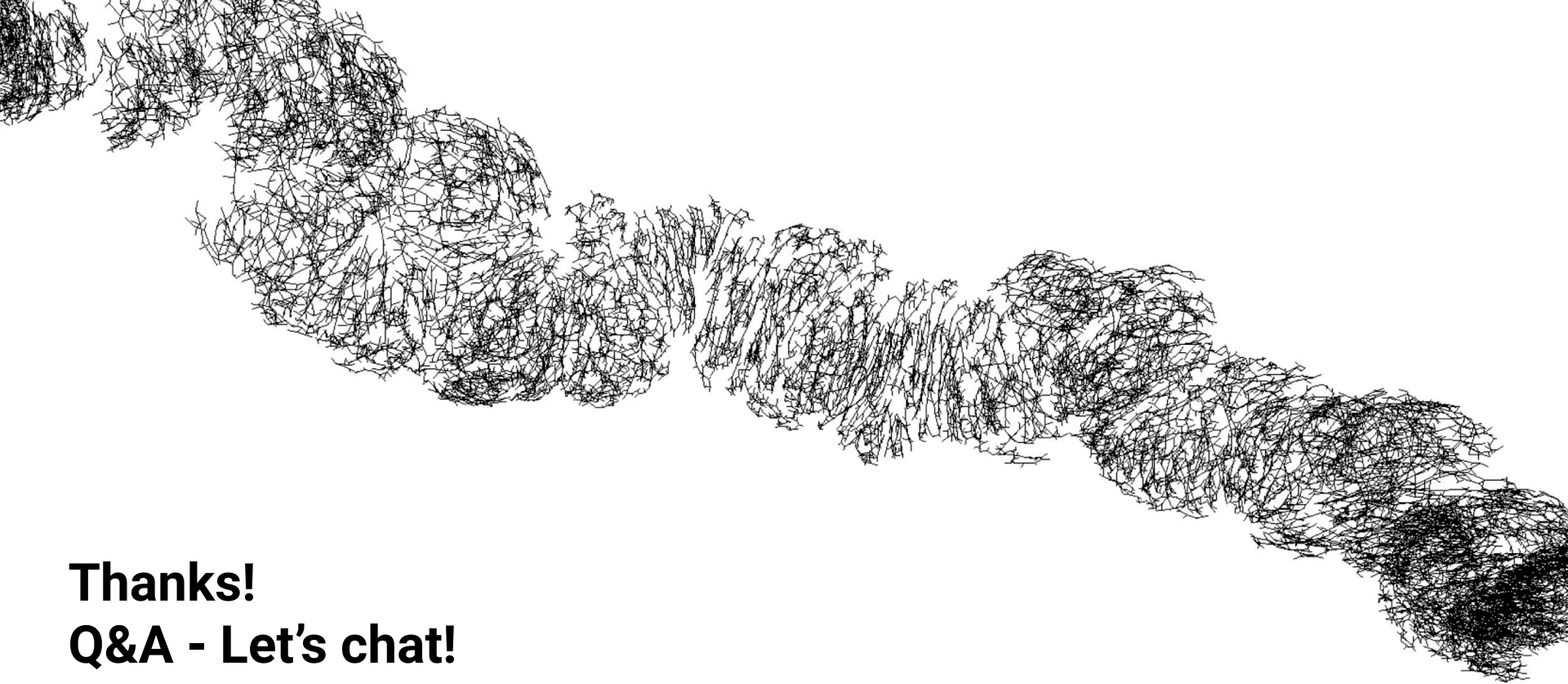
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    Node::Trace(visitor);  
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    ScriptWrappableVisitor* visitor) const {  
    visitor->TraceWrappers(first_child_);  
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    Node::TraceWrappers(visitor);  
}
```



# Takeaways

- Memory management across V8 and Blink is tricky
- Unified heap solves this problem in a principled way
- Full garbage collections cover V8 and Blink's heap
  - Both garbage collectors can start sweeping
- Steps on the way
  - Oilpan Incremental Marking
  - Oilpan Concurrent Marking



**Thanks!**  
**Q&A - Let's chat!**

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BlinkOn 9, Sunnyvale, Apr 2018