Honestly, I think the circumstances lead to SharedPreferences Fragment failing to restore apps/information are only the circumstances people writing bad code, such as forgot to commit/apply, wrong file to save and retrieve, having sharedPreference as private but attempt access it outside the scope, hardware storage issues(for examples, running out of memory or changes of file locations), application completely shutting down before saving.

Speaking of commit/apply, commit() saves synchronously and returns a result value, and apply() saves asynchronously and fails silently, therefore, for a safe option, you can have an if-conditioner to check if stored properly with commit().

Also, there can be more factors why SharedPreferences fail. One I can think of is using apply() which runs on a thread running asynchronously, and it could be killed in process due to running out of memory or some other reasons.

This is a complicated topic to say what circumstances lead to SharedPreferences Fragment failing to restore apps, and only reading the failing code itself may give some clues. Still sometimes there can be some bugs that the developers themselves couldn’t answer.