What's New in Metal, Part 1

Session 603

Rav Dhiraj GPU Software

Metal at WWDC

What's New in Metal, Part 1

- Metal in Review
- New Features
- Metal and App Thinning

What's New in Metal, Part 2

- Introducing MetalKit
- Metal Perfomance
 Shaders

Metal Performance Optimization Techniques

- Metal System Trace Tool
- Metal Best Practices

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Metal in Review

Dramatically reduced overhead Precompiled shaders Graphics and compute Efficient multithreading

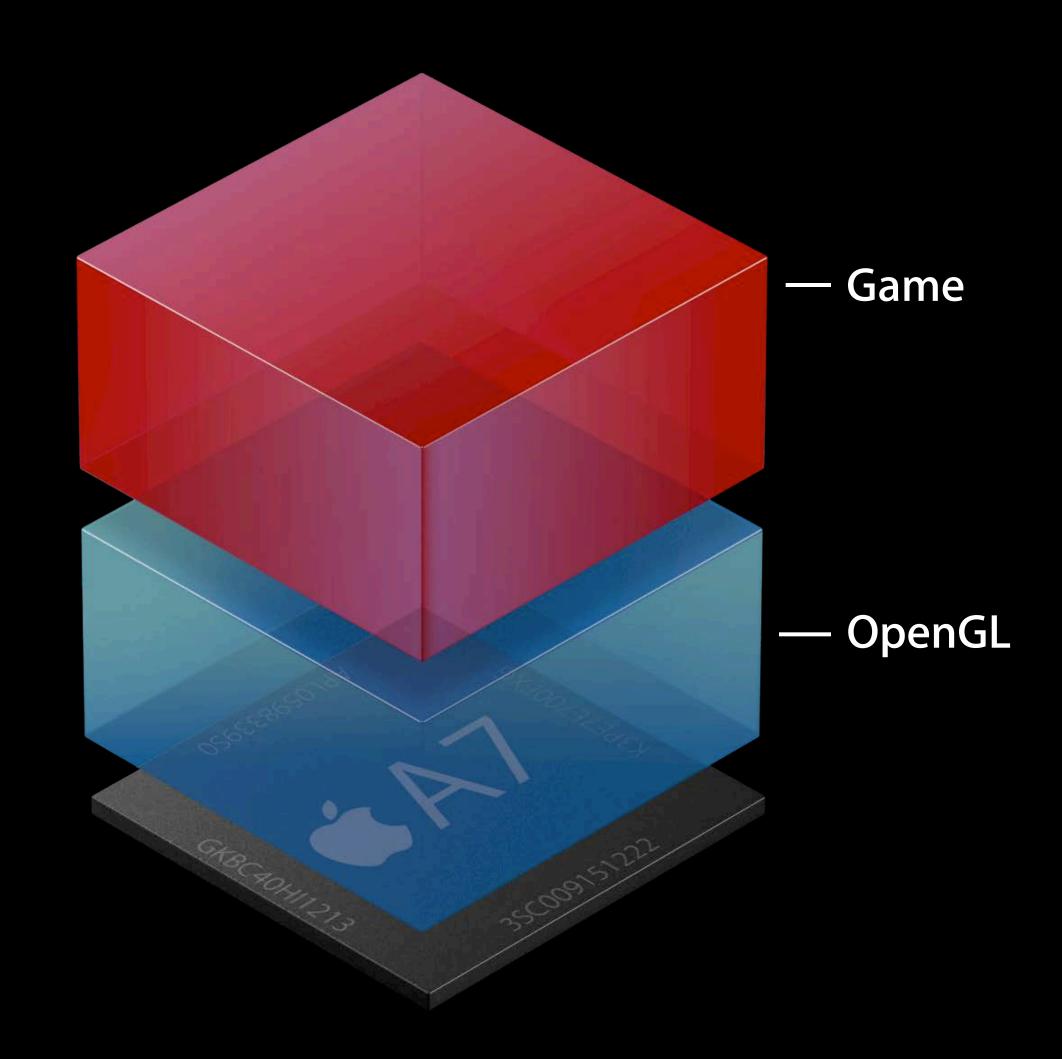


Dramatically reduced overhead

Precompiled shaders

Graphics and compute

Efficient multithreading

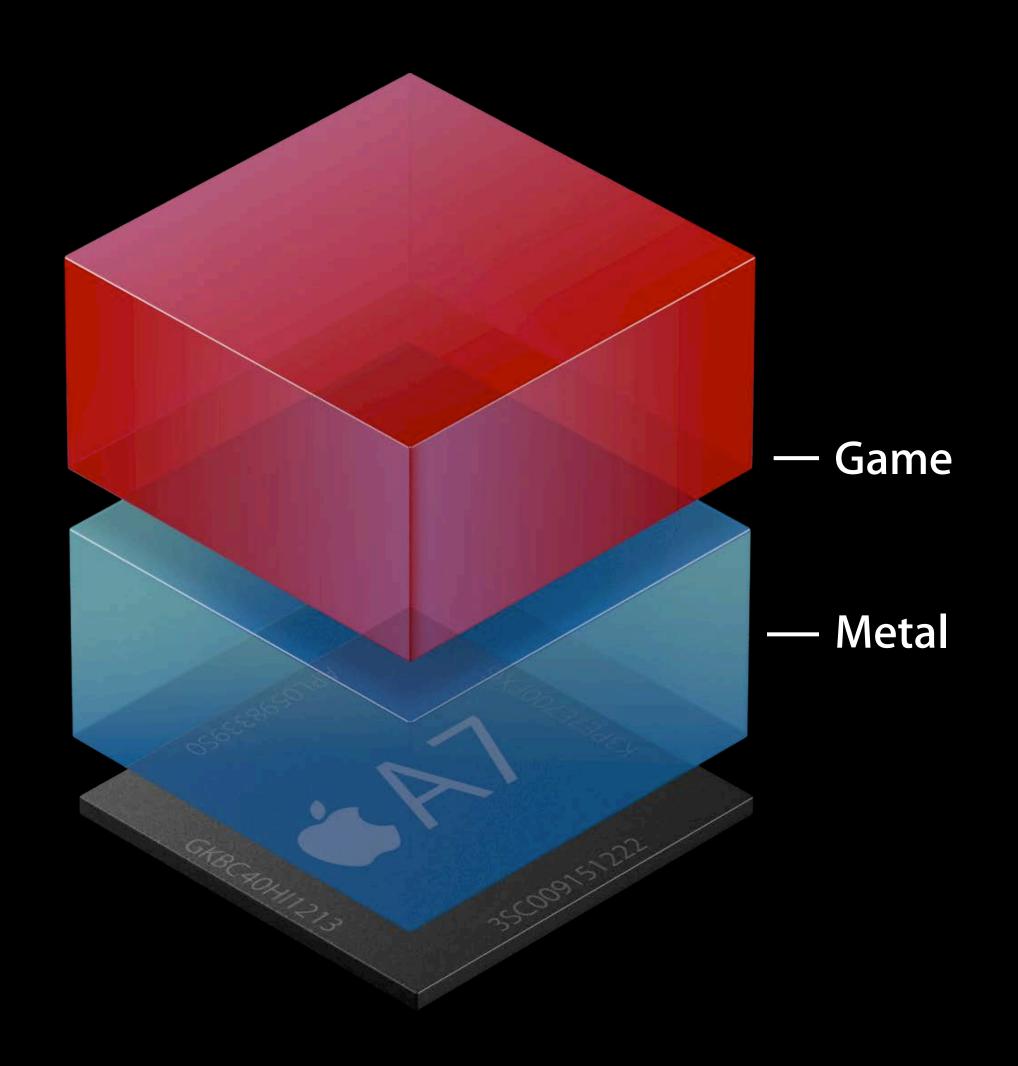


Dramatically reduced overhead

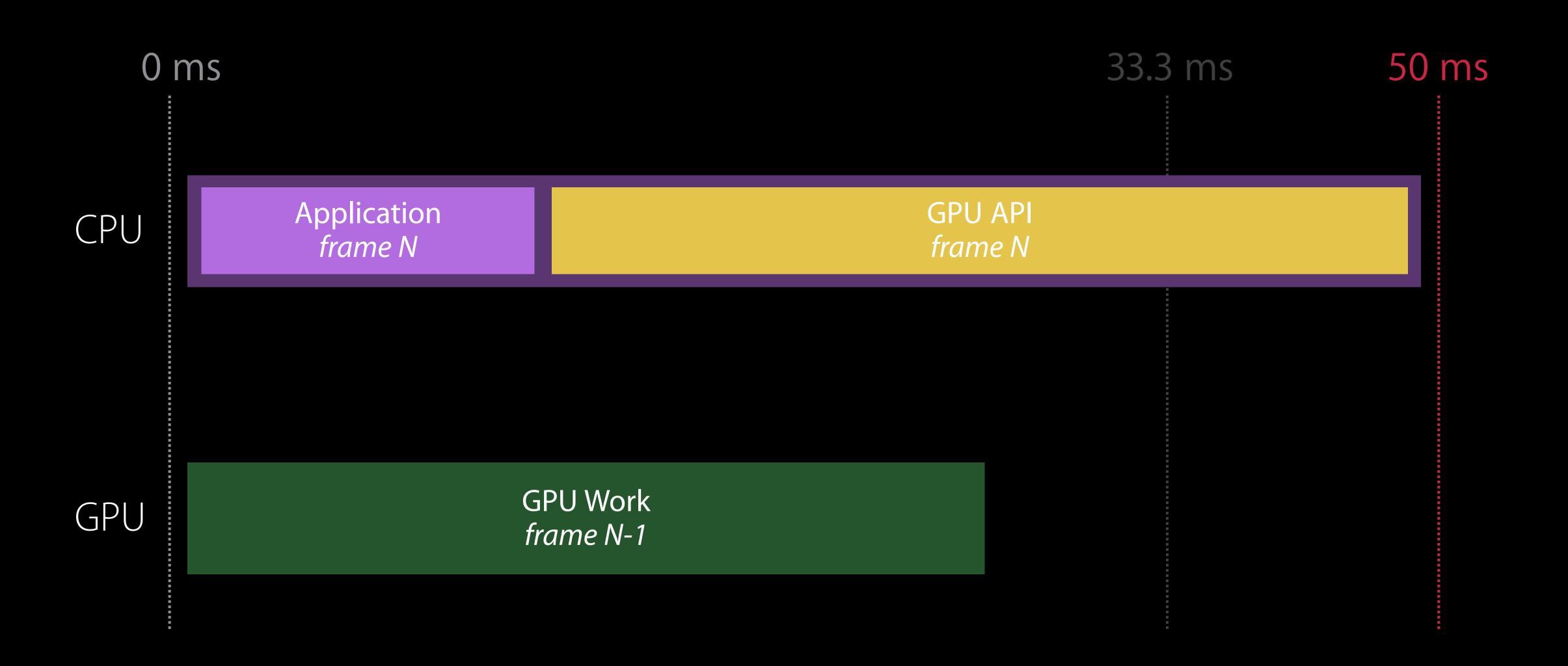
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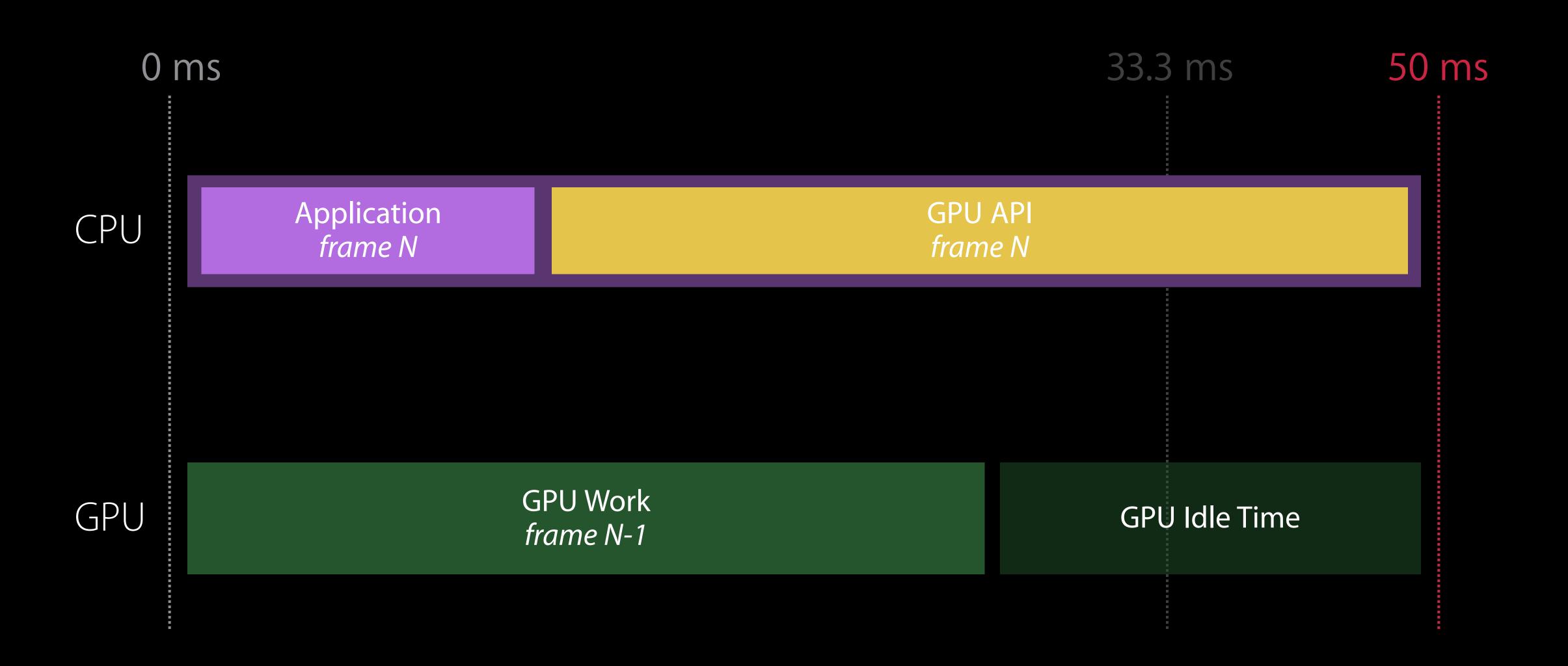
Efficient multithreading



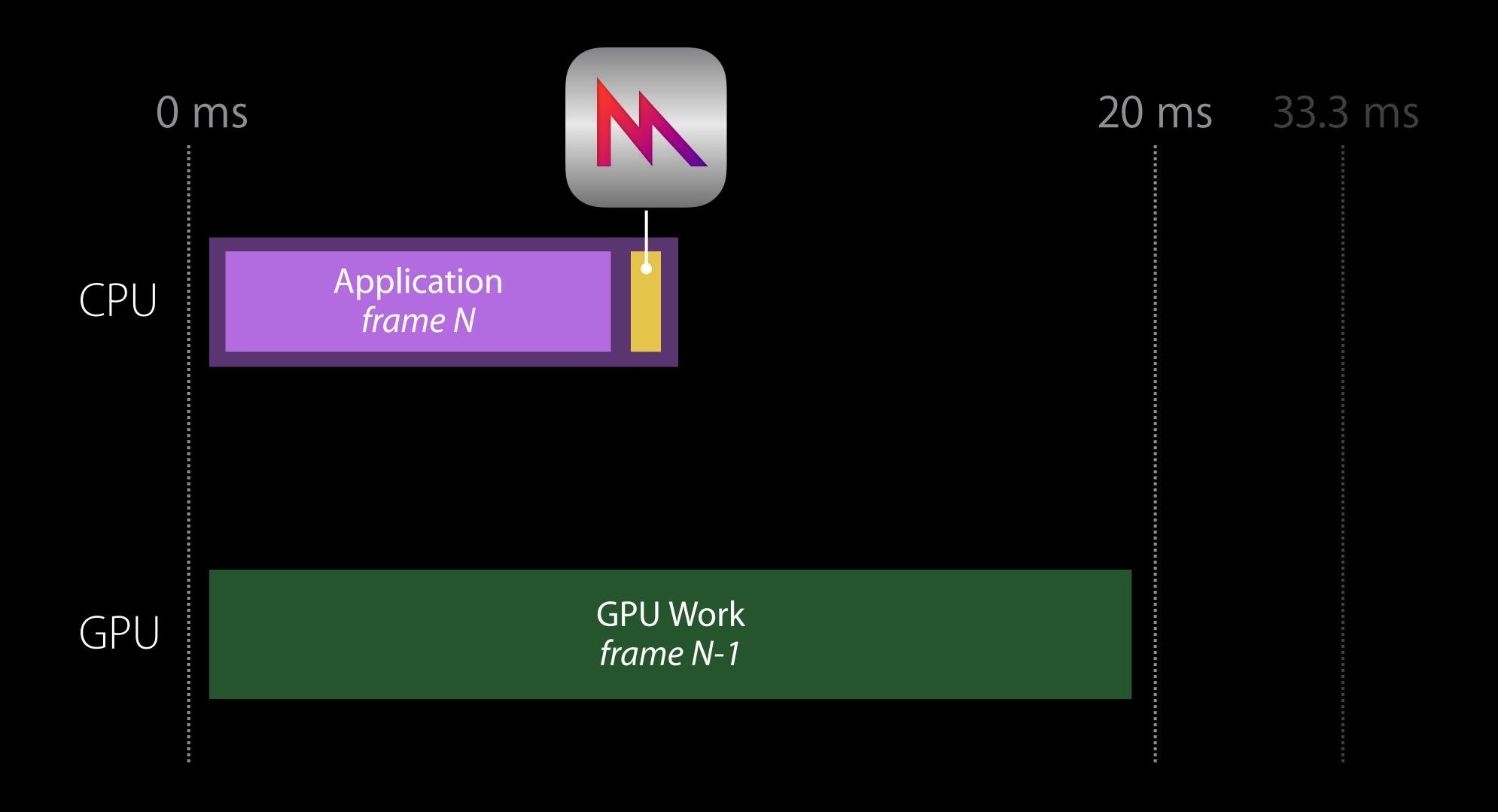
Frame Time with CPU as the Bottleneck



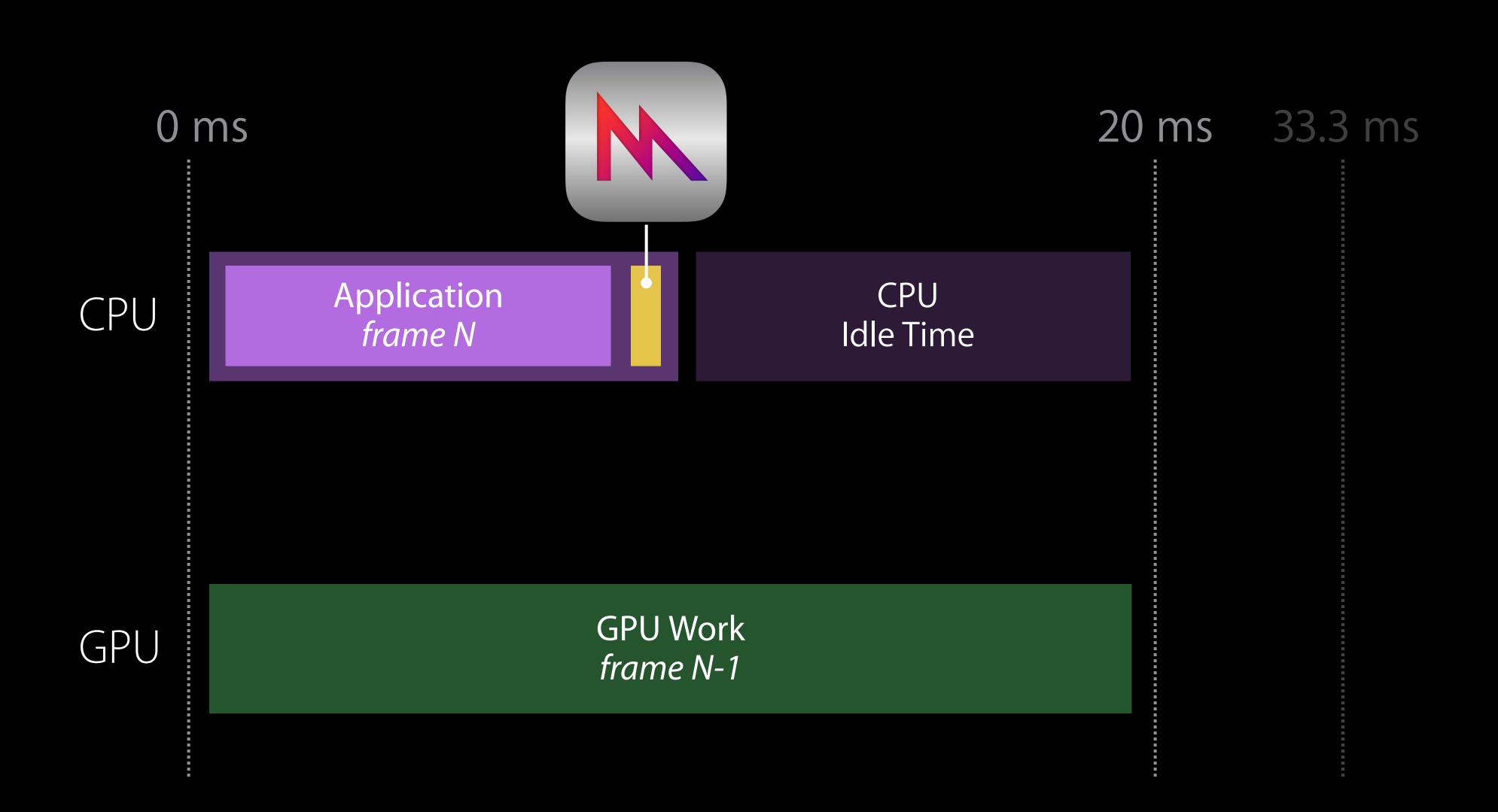
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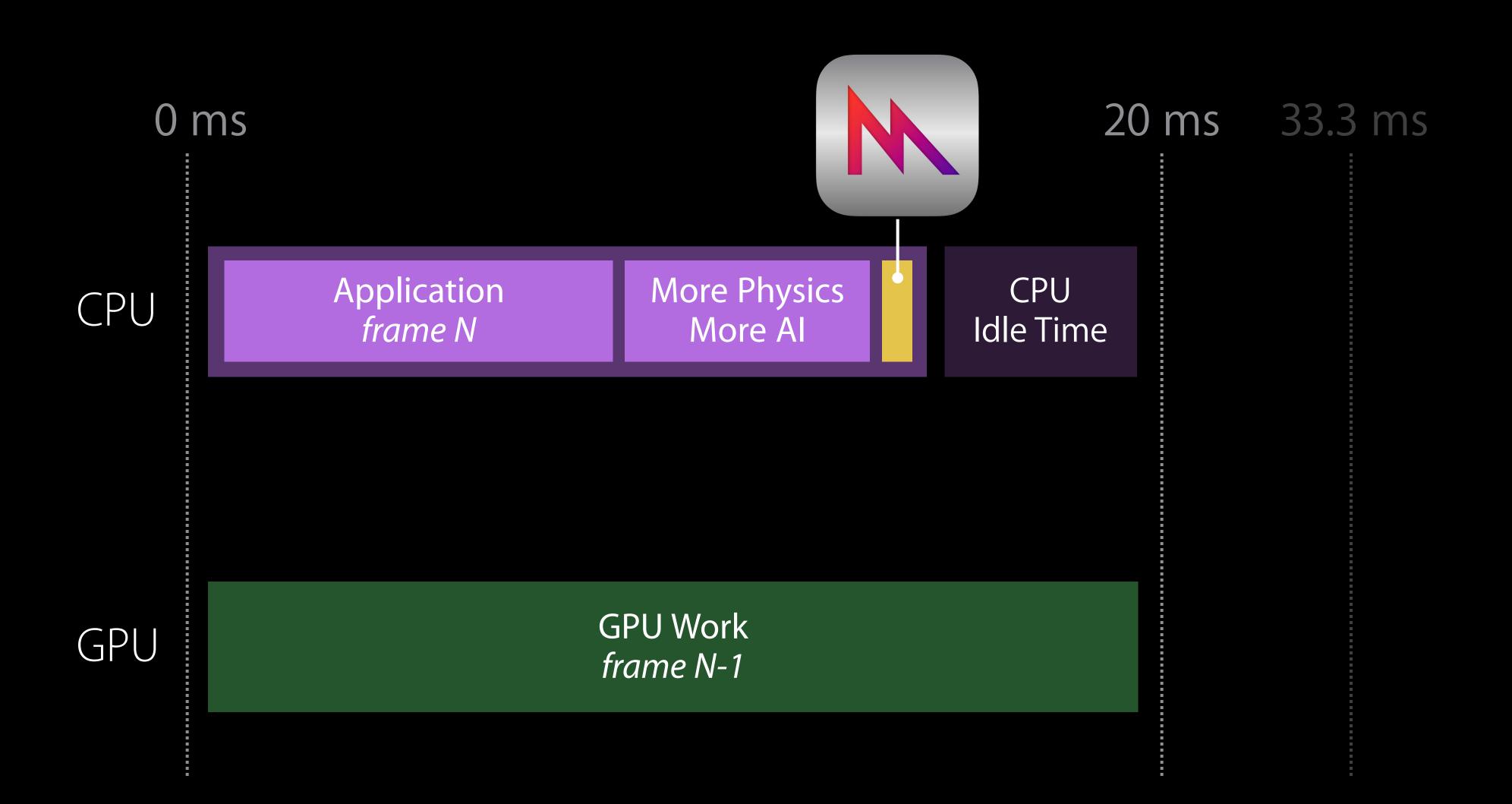
Metal Reduces GPU API Overhead



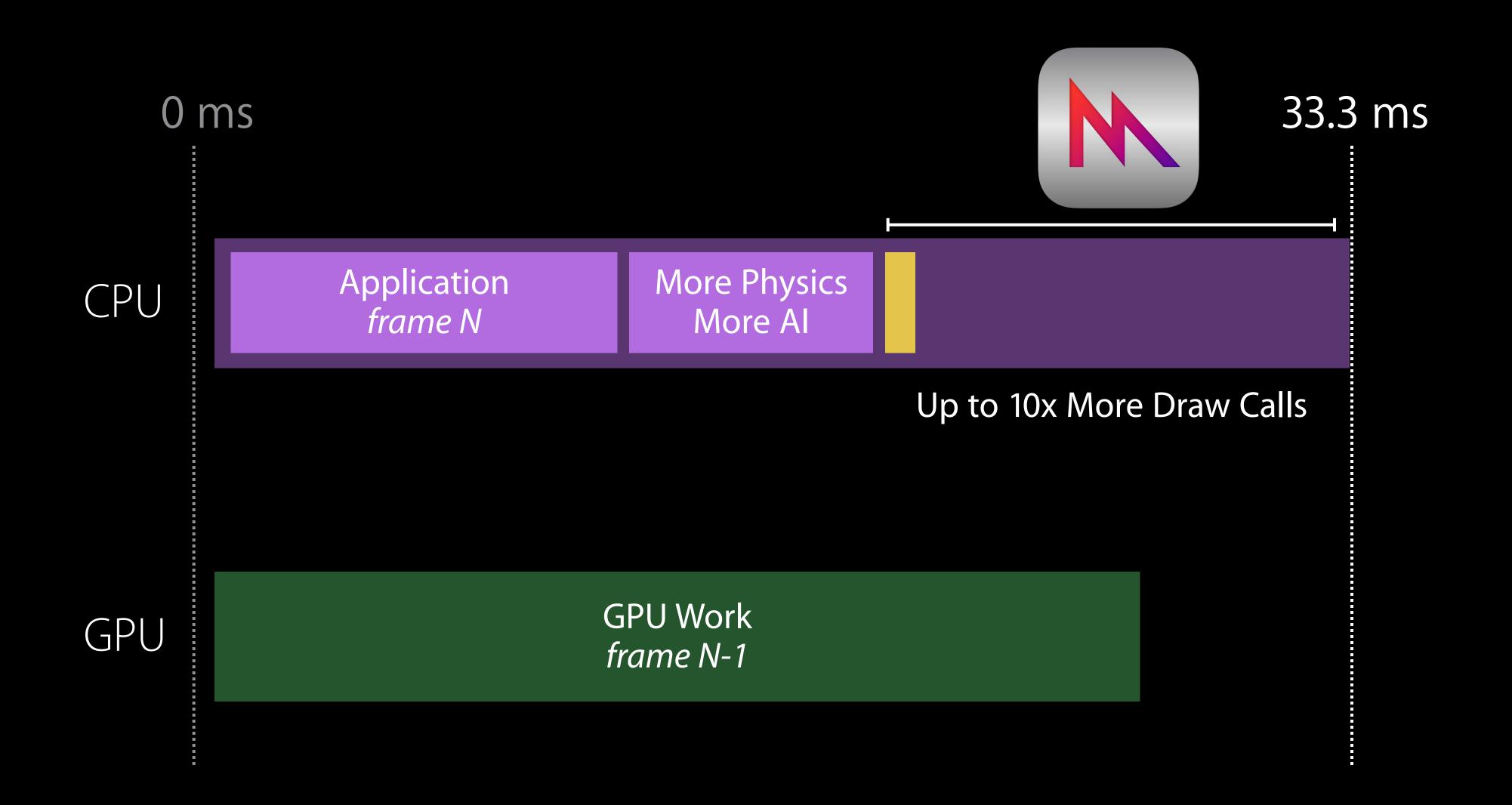
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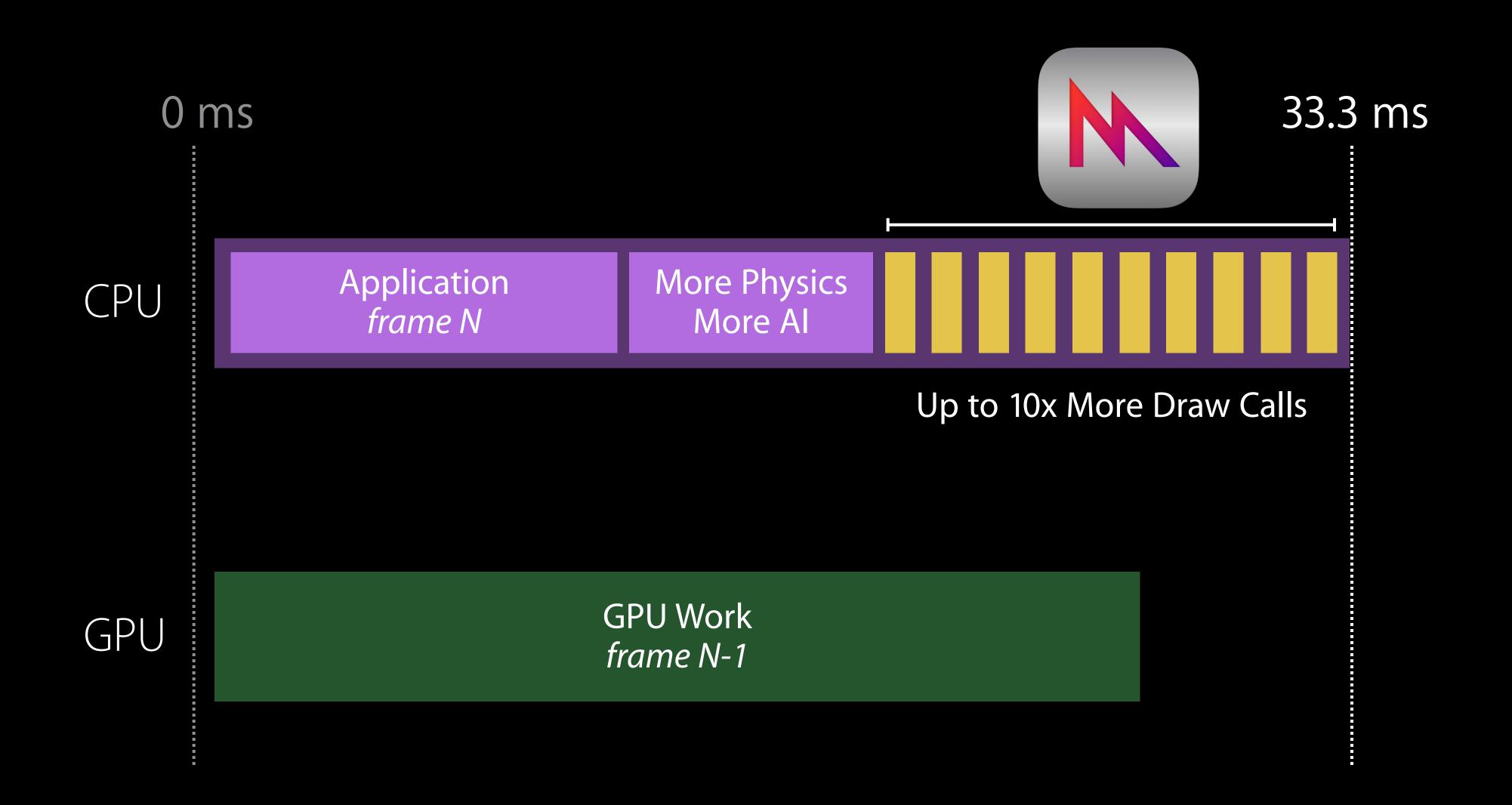
Improve Your Game



Or Issue More Draw Calls



Or Issue More Draw Calls



Dramatically reduced overhead

Precompiled shaders

Graphics and compute

Efficient multithreading

Build Time "Never"

Load Time Infrequent Draw Time 1000s per Frame

Shader Compilation

State Validation

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Render Command Encoder

Compute Command Encoder

Render Command Encoder

Command Buffer

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Thread 1

Pass 1 Command Encoder

Pass 2 Command Encoder

Pass 3
Command
Encoder

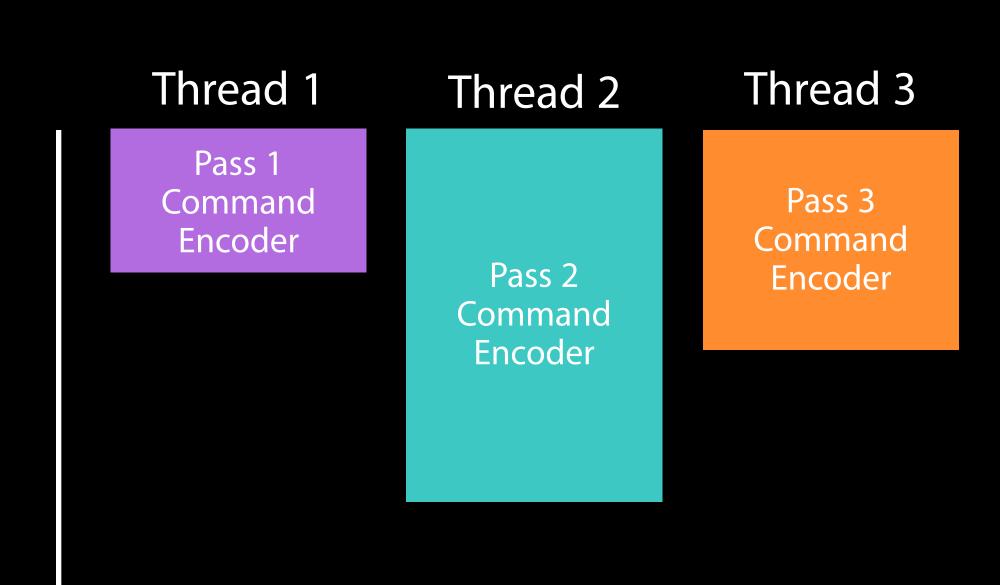
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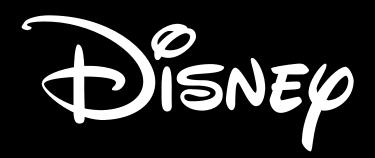
















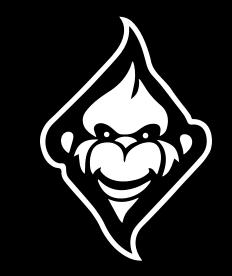














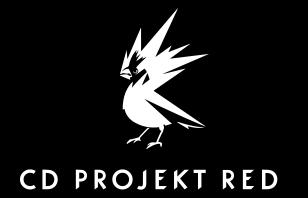
































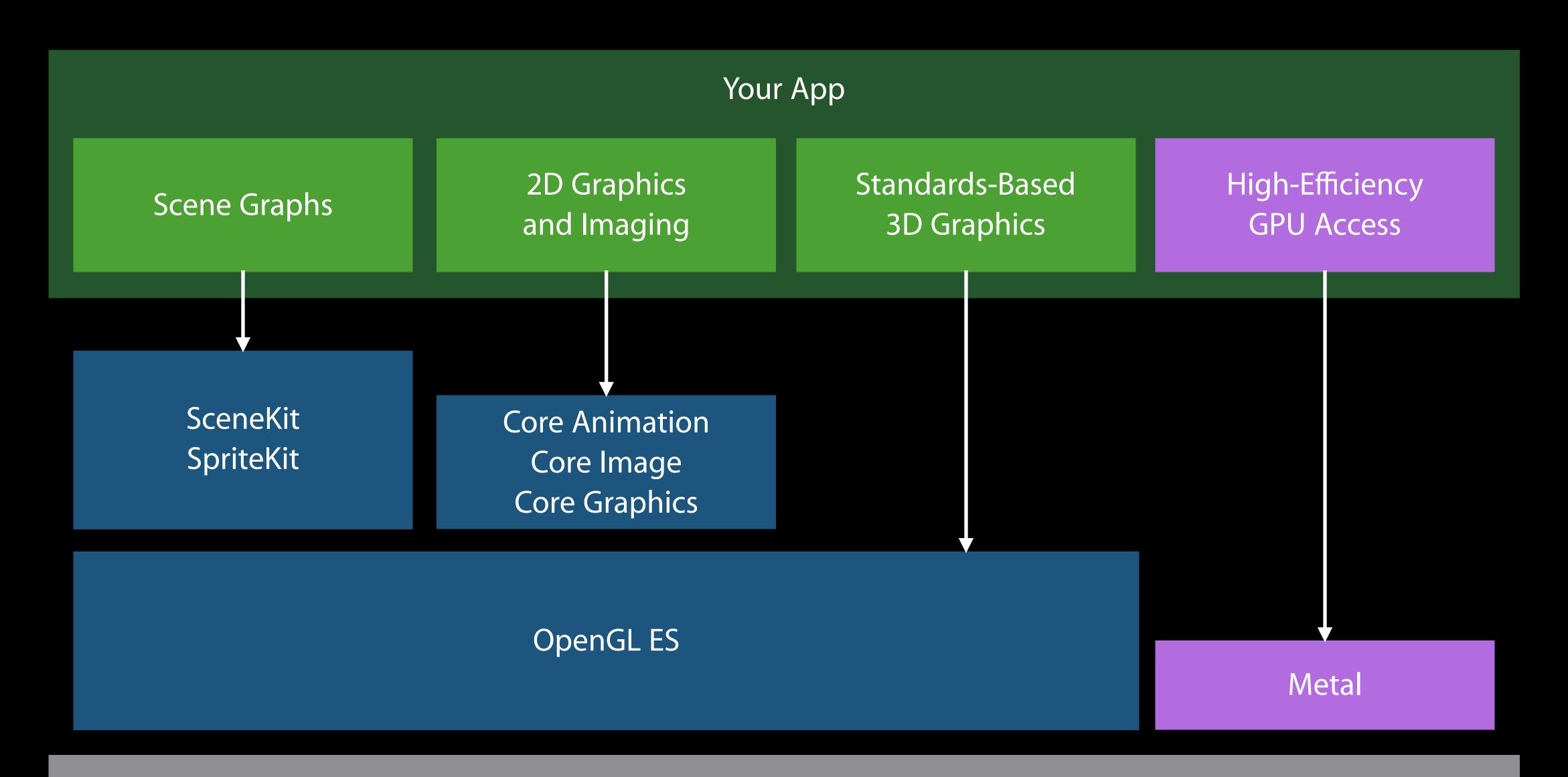


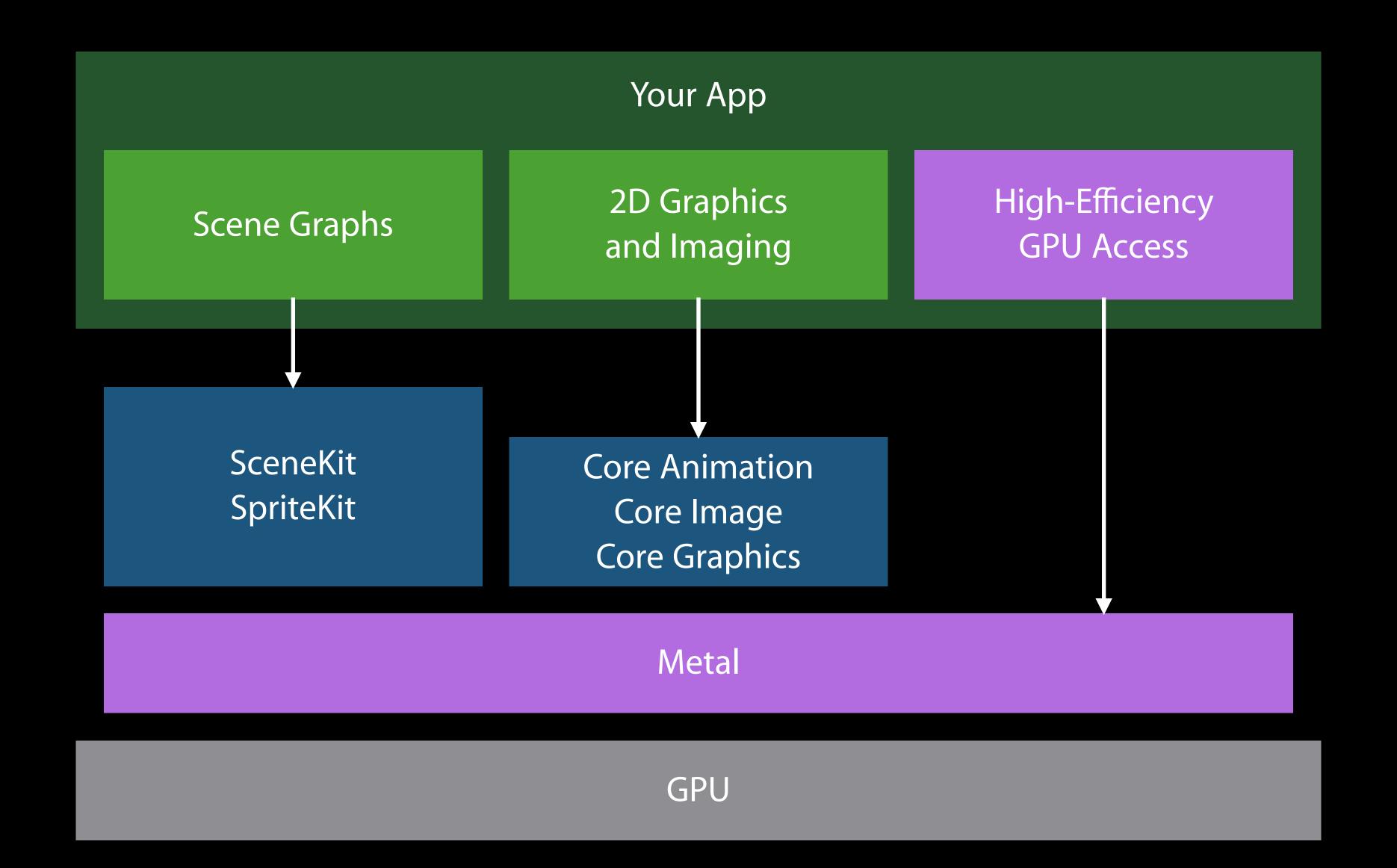


















Broad Support for Metal



Tools Support

Frame Debugger

Shader Profiler

Shader Editor

State Inspector

Driver Instruments

API Analysis Tools



Minimal code change required for existing iOS applications

Minimal code change required for existing iOS applications

Device selection

Minimal code change required for existing iOS applications

- Device selection
- Support for Discrete Memory

Minimal code change required for existing iOS applications

- Device selection
- Support for Discrete Memory
- New texture formats for desktop GPUs

















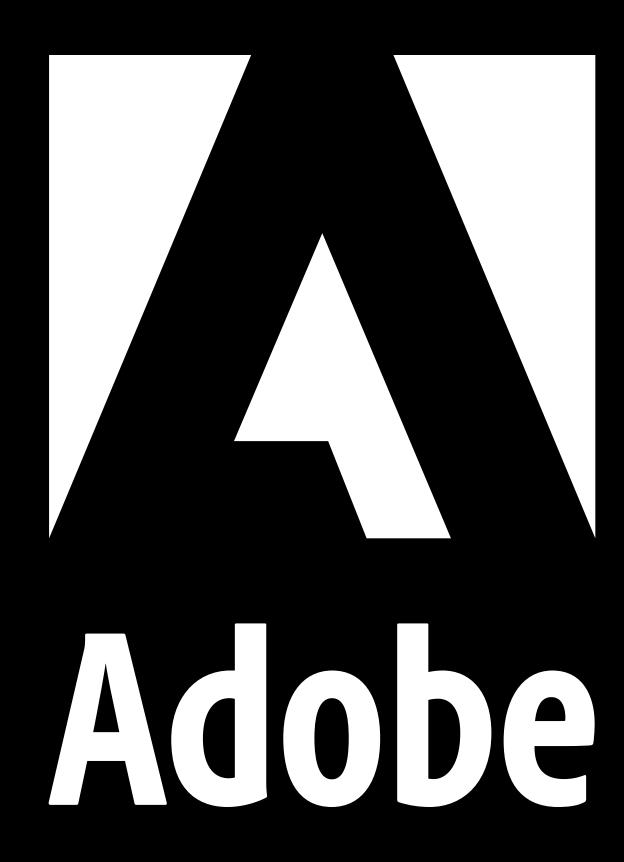












THE FOUNDRY.

Adopting Metal on OS X The Foundry

Jack Greasley



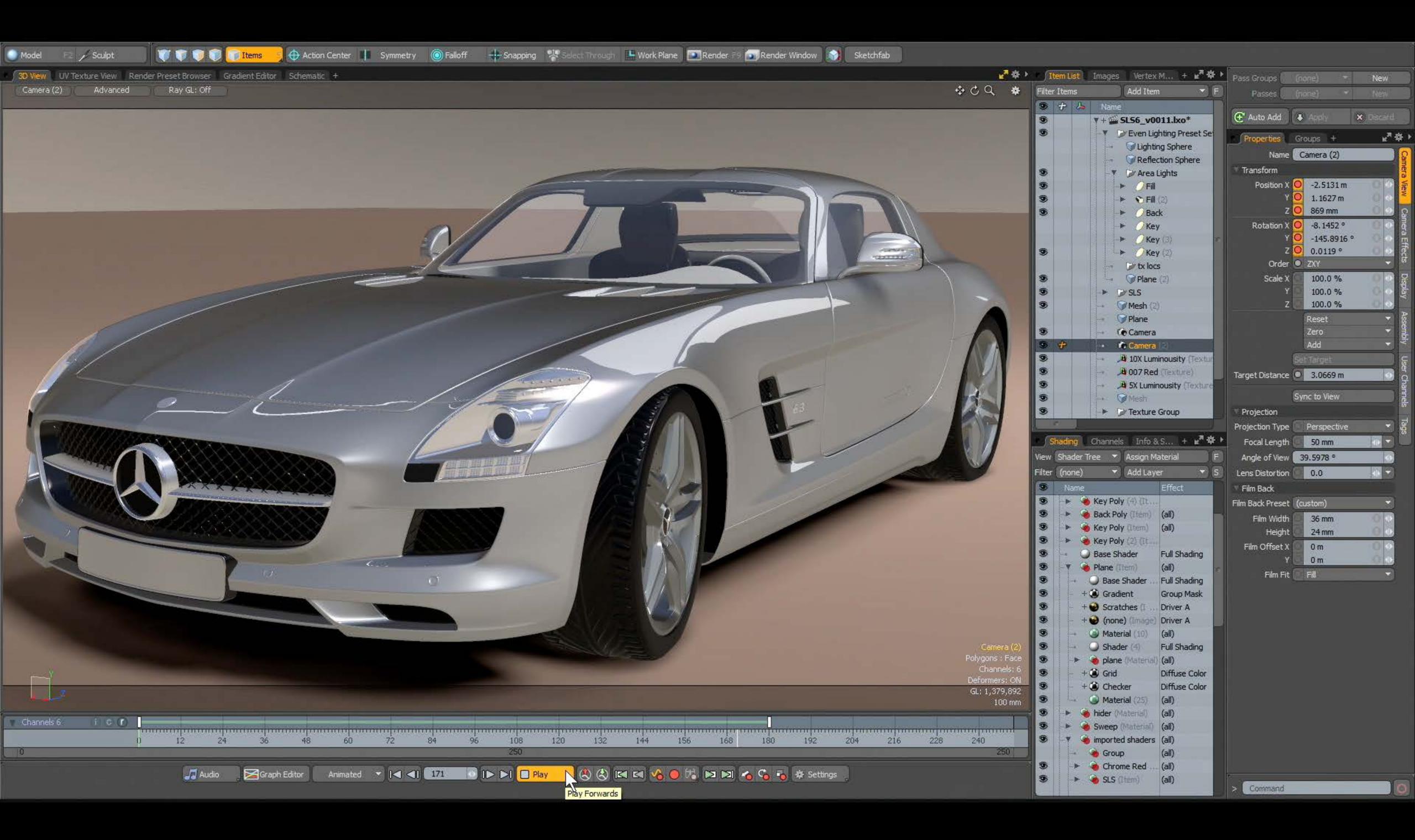
Courtesy of Framestore, Heyday films, and StudioCanal



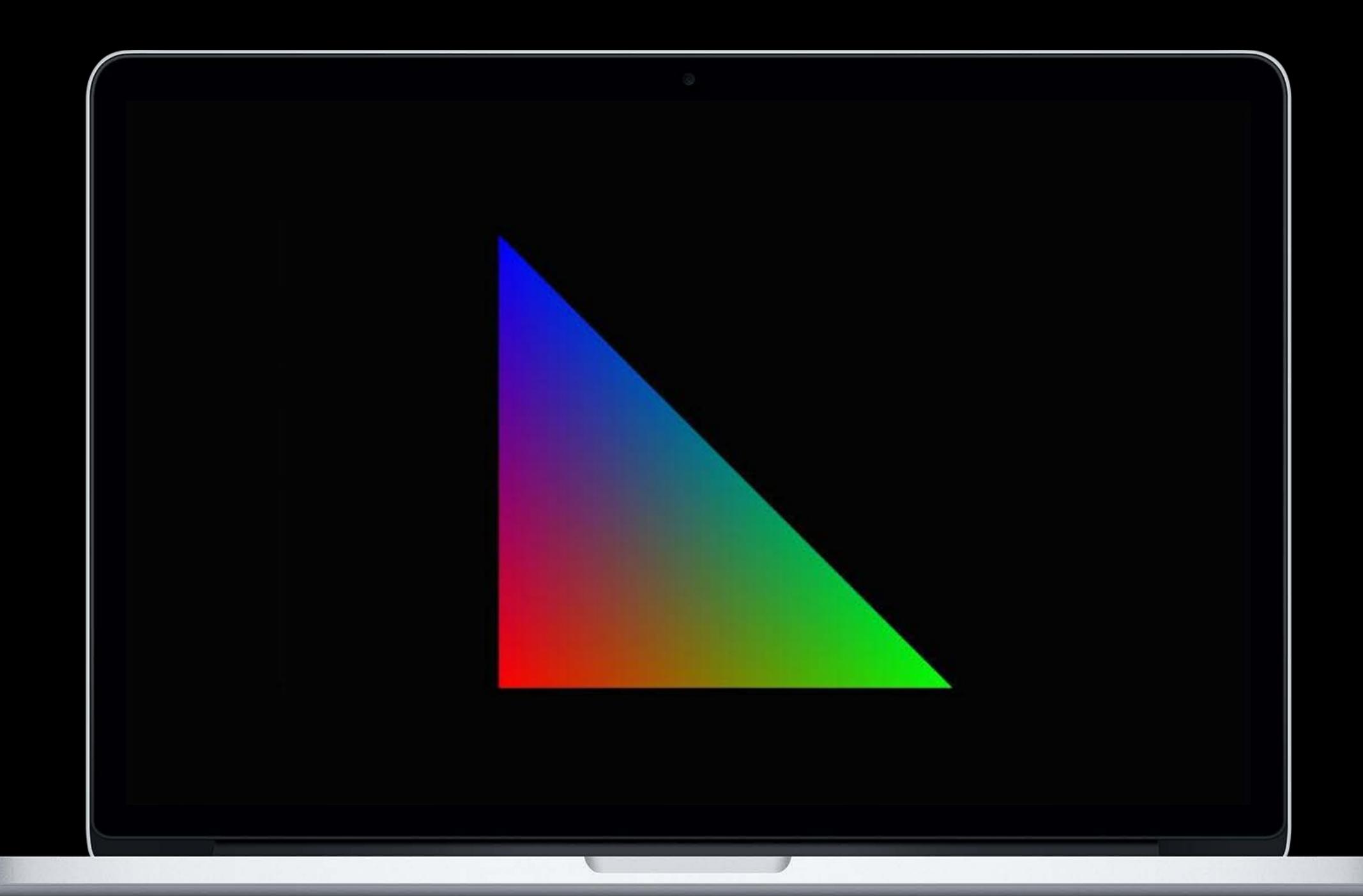
© The Witcher 3. Image courtesy of Platige Image.











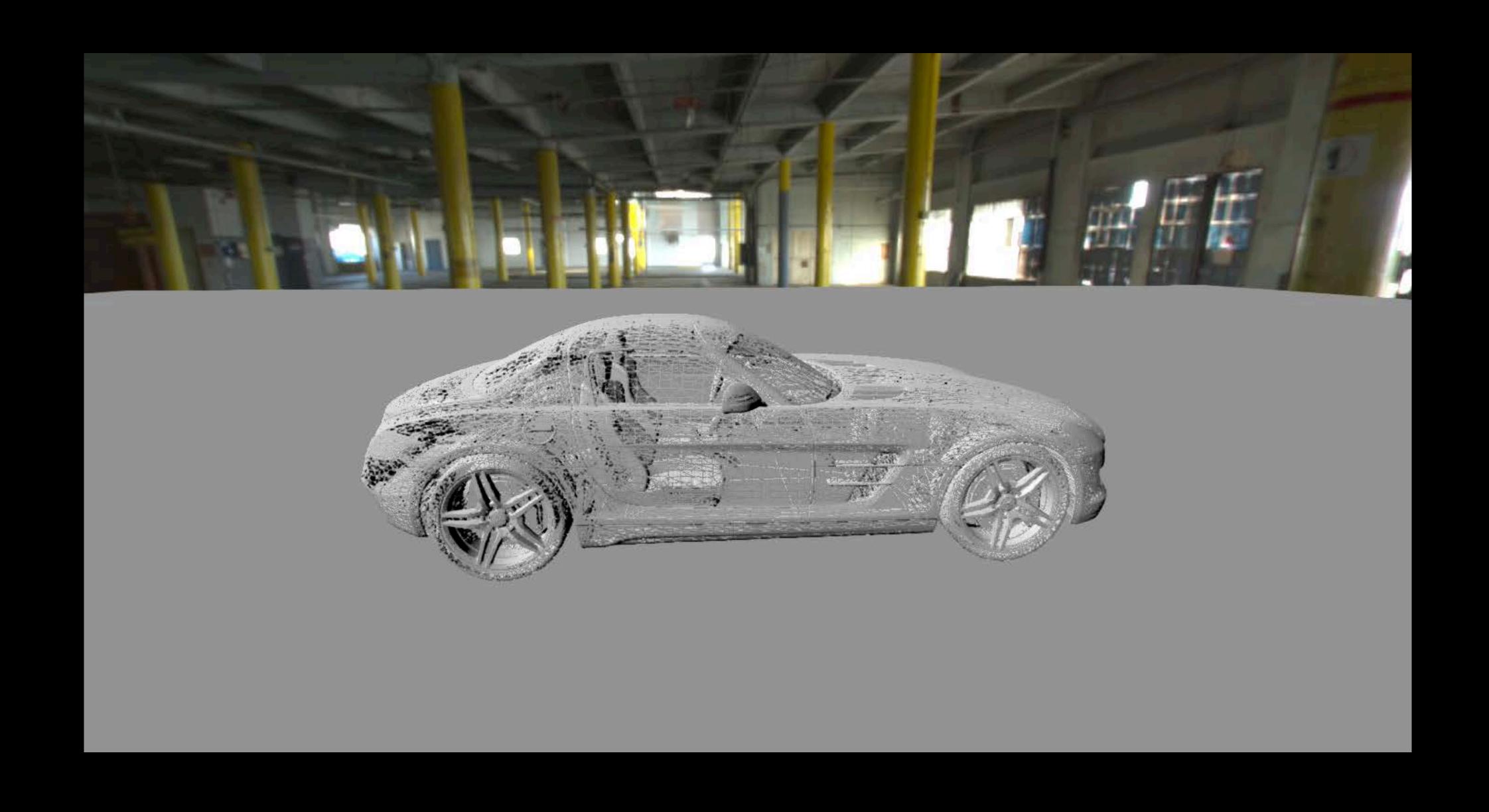
Day One



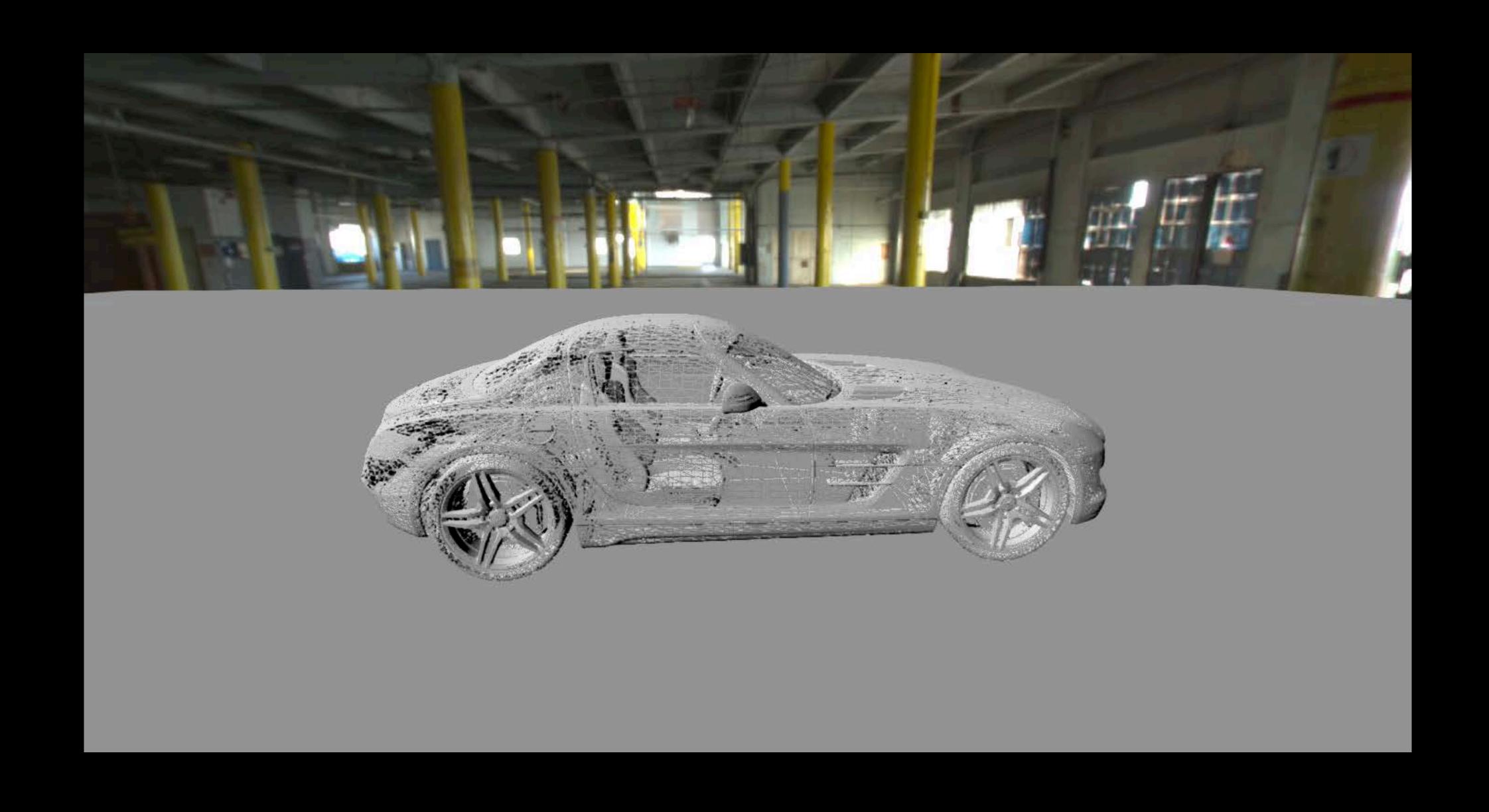
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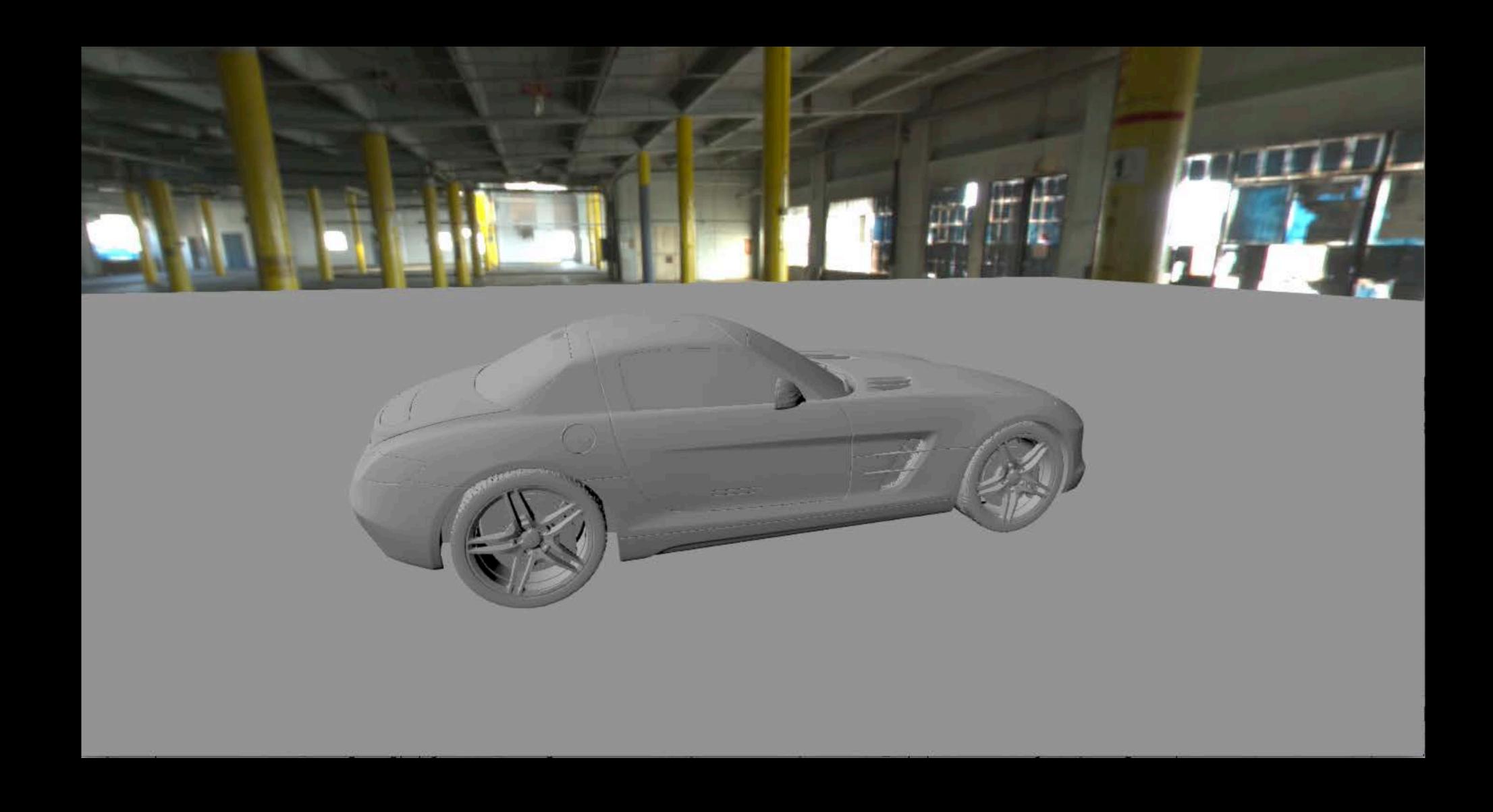
Day Five



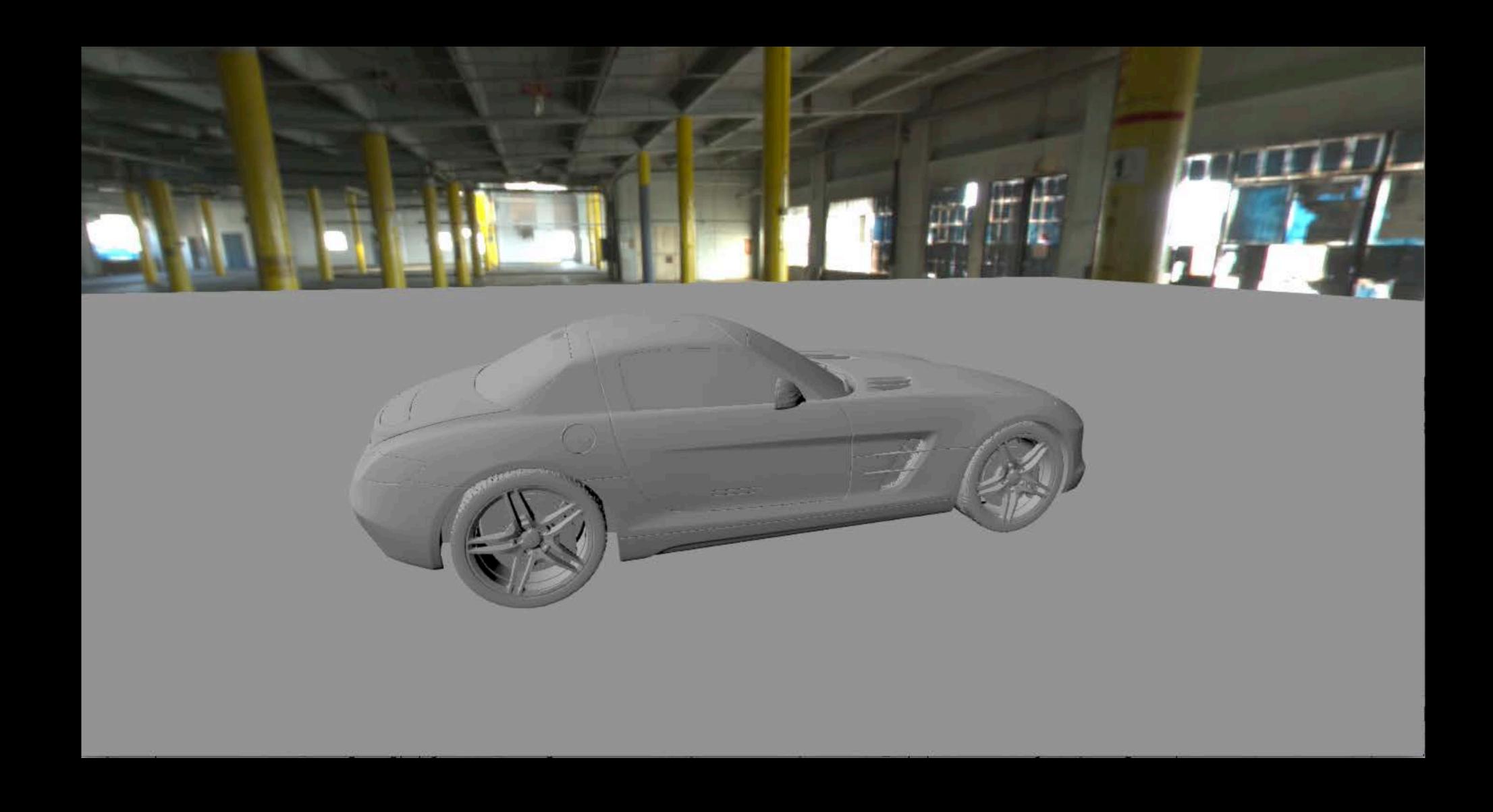
Day Five



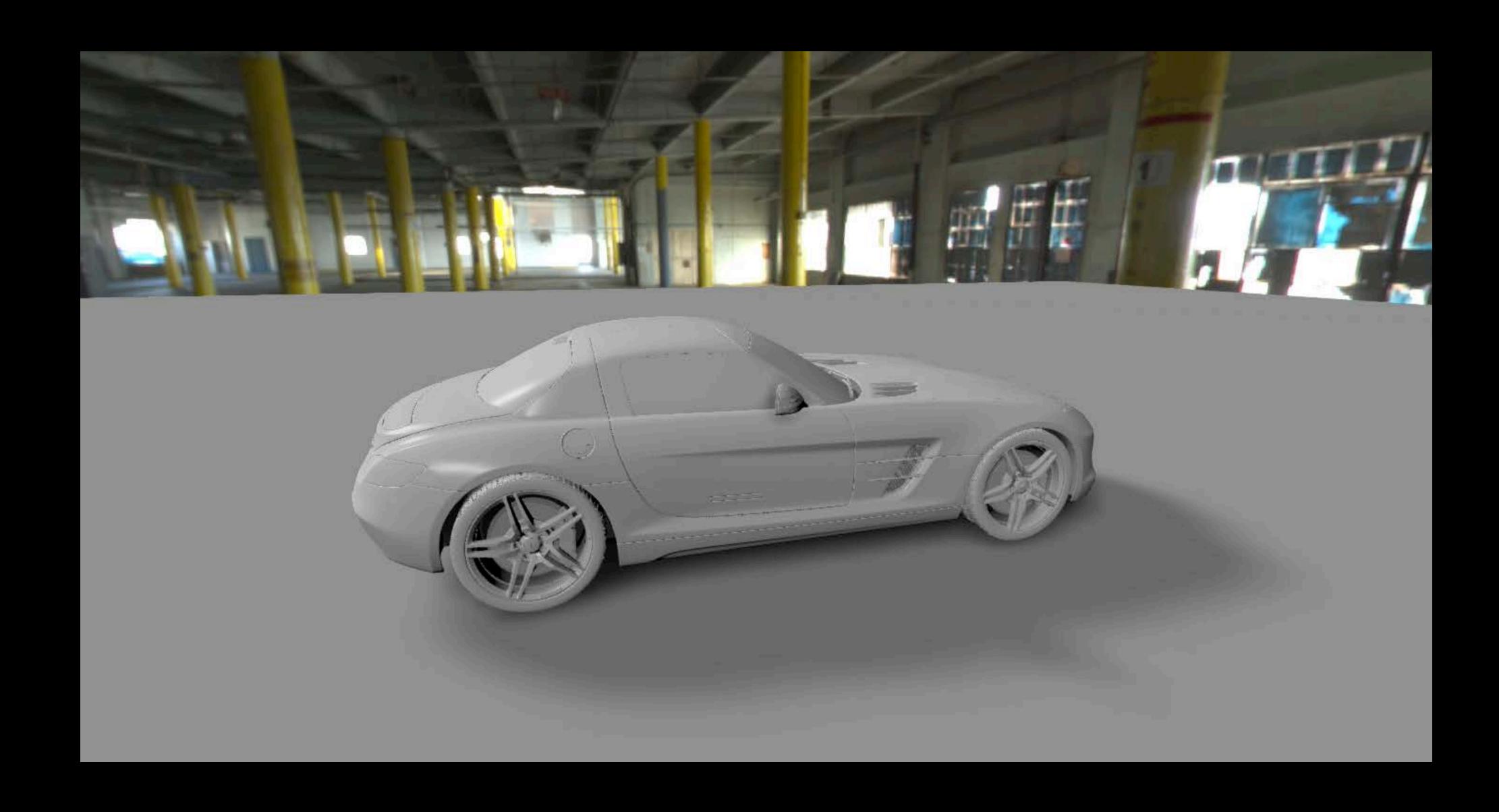
Day Fifteen



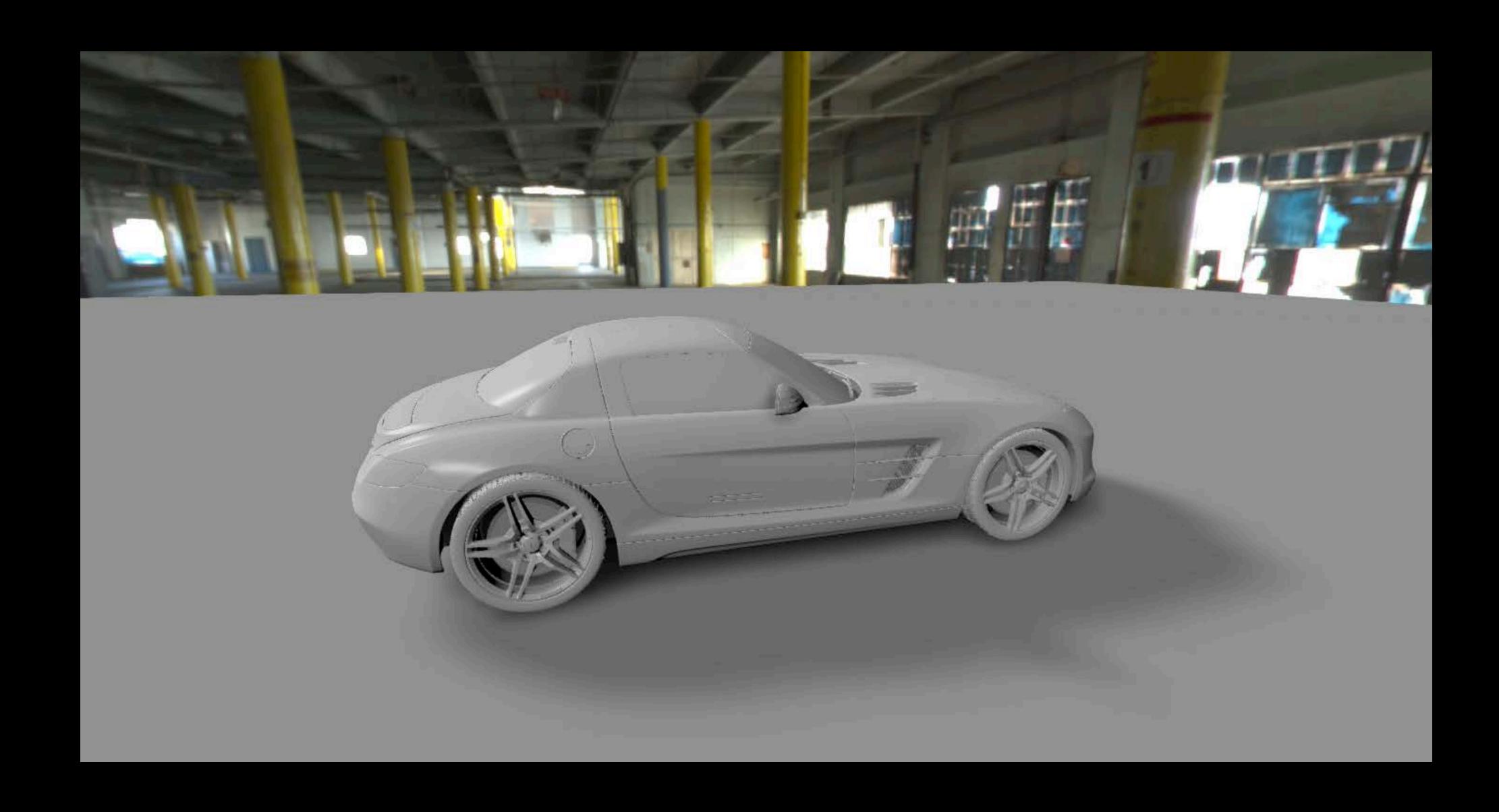
Day Fifteen



Day Twenty



Day Twenty

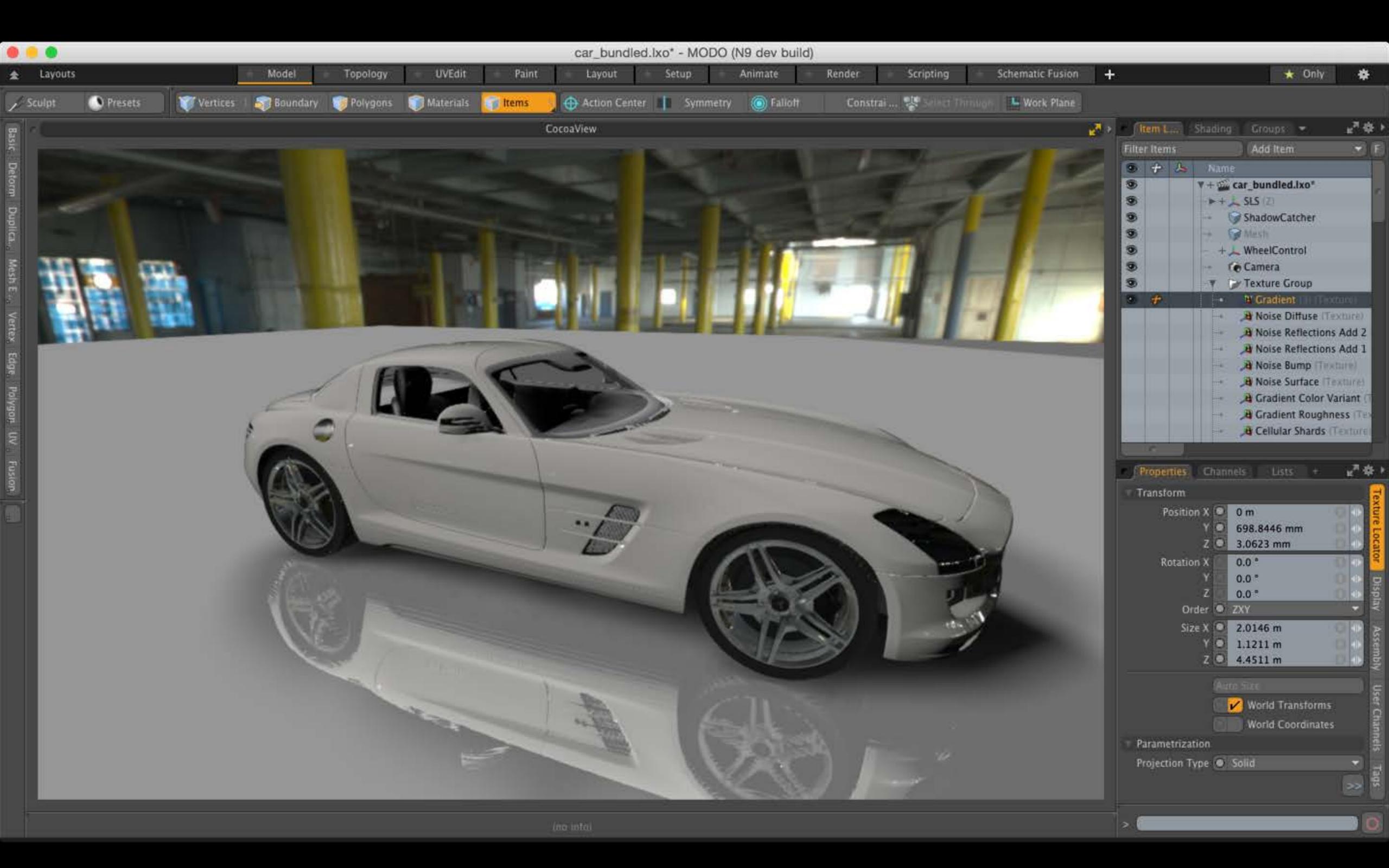


Day Twenty-Five



Day Twenty-Five





What did we learn?

New Features

Device Selection

New Compressed Texture Formats

Texture Barriers

New Texture Features

MetalKit

Layer Select

Metal Performance Shaders

Counting Occlusion Queries



New Memory Model

Multi-sample Depth resolves



Depth Clipping Support

GPU Family Sets

Draw and Compute Indirect

Metal System Trace Tool

Separate front/back stencil reference values

New Shader Constant Update APIs

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Feature sets represent a collection of capabilities by GPU generation

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Prefix defines the platform

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- Prefix defines the platform
- Family Name is unique to a hardware generation

Feature sets represent a collection of capabilities by GPU generation

- Prefix defines the platform
- Family Name is unique to a hardware generation
- · Revision number can change as features are added over time

Simple query to see if device supports a given feature set

Simple query to see if device supports a given feature set

[myMetalDevice supportsFeatureSet:iOS_GPUFamily2_v1]

iOS Metal Feature Sets

Name	Introduced	Feature Additions	Supported Devices
iOS_GPUFamily1_v1	iOS 8	Core Metal features for A7 devices	iPhone 5s iPad Air iPhone 6 and 6 Plus iPad Air 2
iOS_GPUFamily1_v2	iOS 9	New texture features Multi-sample depth resolves Depth clipping support Separate stencil reference values	
iOS_GPUFamily2_v1	iOS 8	ASTC texture support	iPhone 6 and 6 Plus iPad Air 2
iOS_GPUFamily2_v2	iOS 9	New texture features Multi-sample depth resolves Depth clipping support Separate stencil reference values	

OS X Metal Feature Sets

Name	Introduced	Feature Additions	Supported Devices
OSX_GPUFamily1_v1	OS X 10.11	Same core feature as iOS, plus BCn texture compression formats Combined depth stencil formats Managed resource model Multi-GPU device selection Draw and compute indirect counting occlusion queries Layer select Texture barriers New texture features Multi-sample depth resolves Depth clipping support Separate stencil reference values	All Macs since 2012

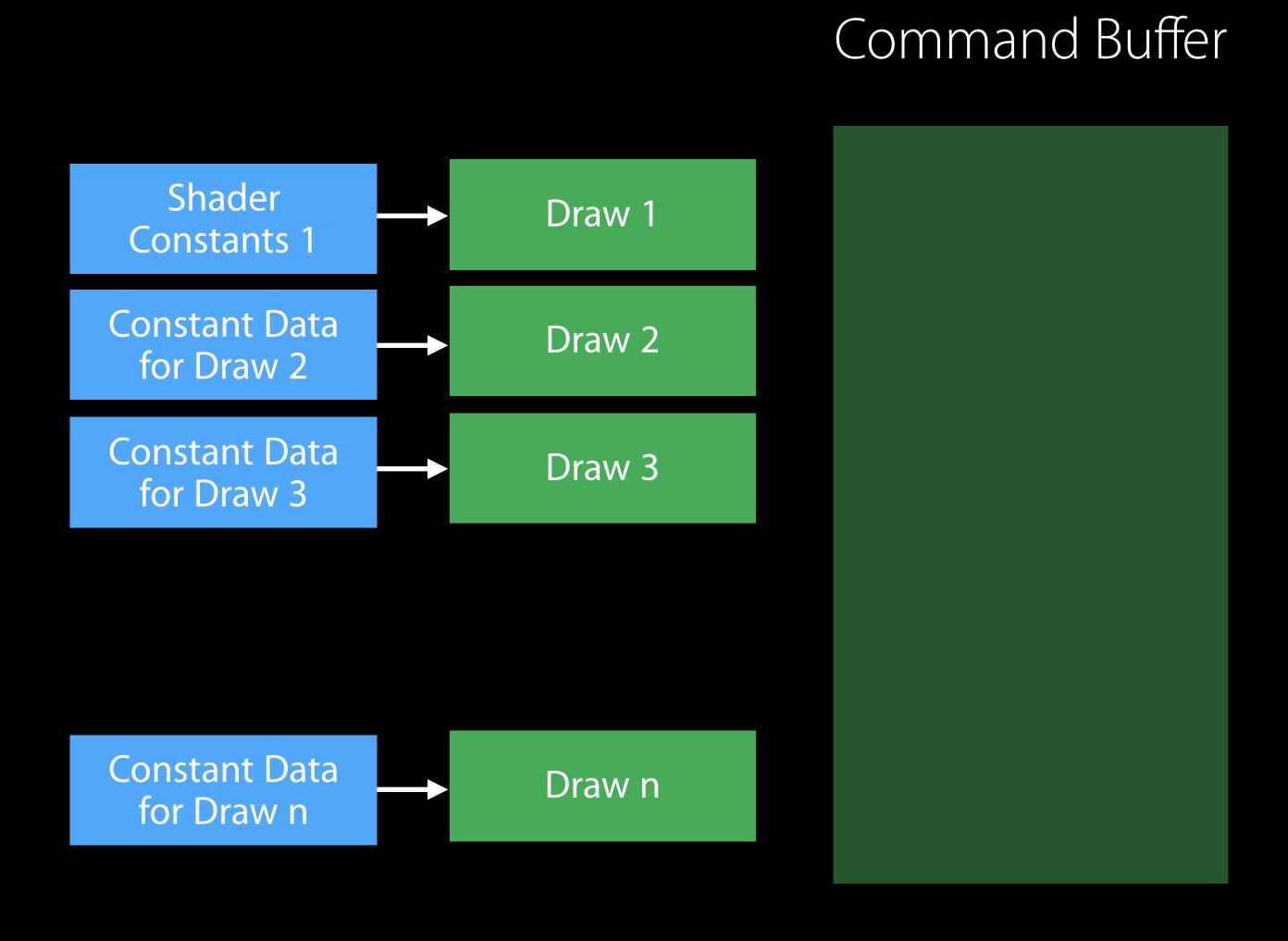
Command Buffer

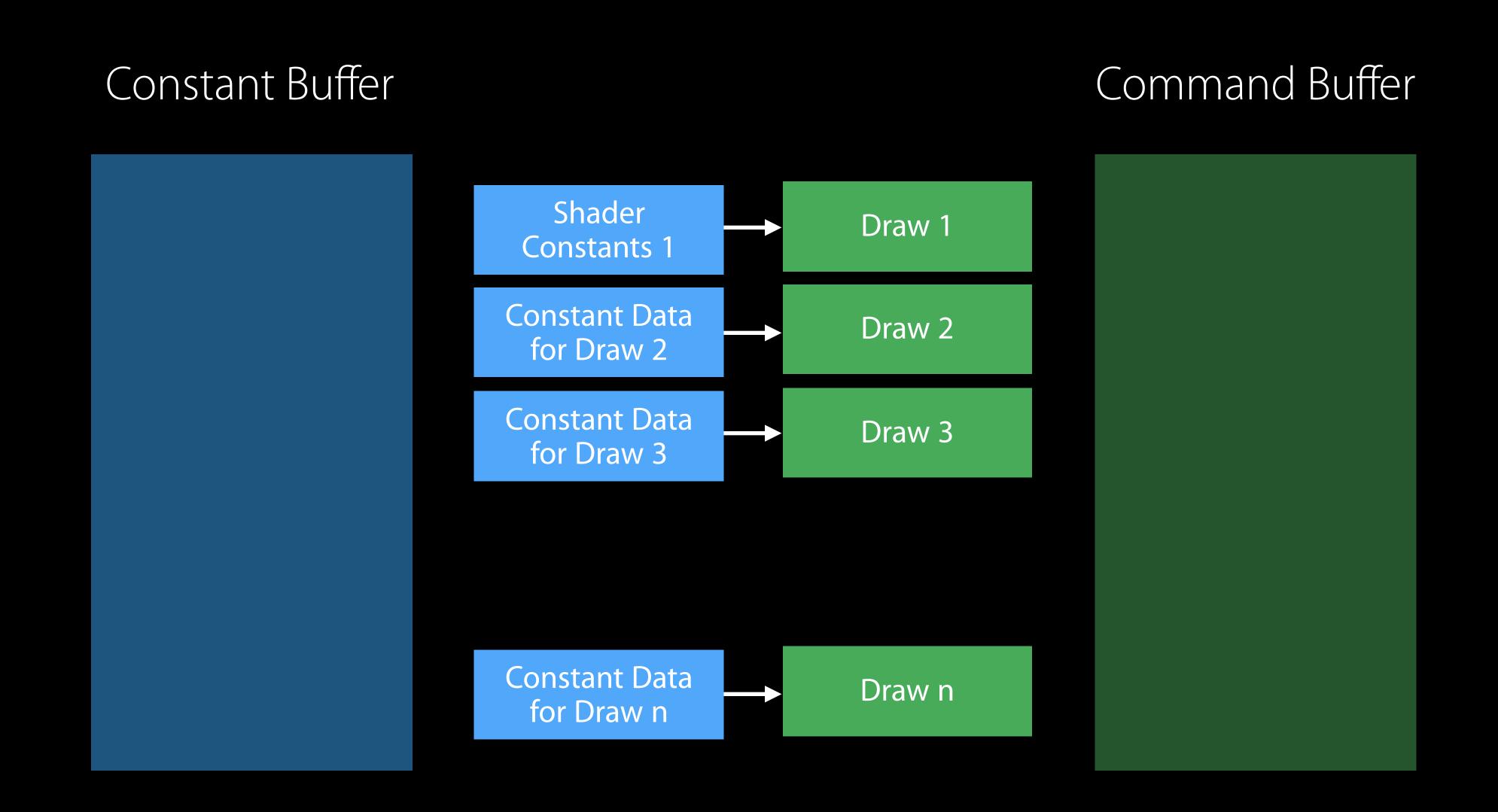
Draw 1

Draw 2

Draw 3

Draw n





Constant Buffer

Shader Constants 1

Constant Data for Draw 2

Constant Data for Draw 3

Constant Data for Draw n

Command Buffer

Draw 1

Draw 2

Draw 3

Draw n

```
id <MTLBuffer> constant_buffer = ...;
MyConstants* constant_ptr = constant_buffer.contents;

for (i=0; i<draw_count; i++)
{
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Internal constant buffer managed by Metal

```
for (i=0; i<draw_count; i++)
{
    MyConstants constants = // generate constants onto the stack
    [renderpass setVertexBytes:&constants length:sizeof(MyConstants) atIndex:0];
    // draw
}</pre>
```

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New Memory Model

New Memory Model

Support both unified and Discrete Memory model with minimal code change

New Memory Model

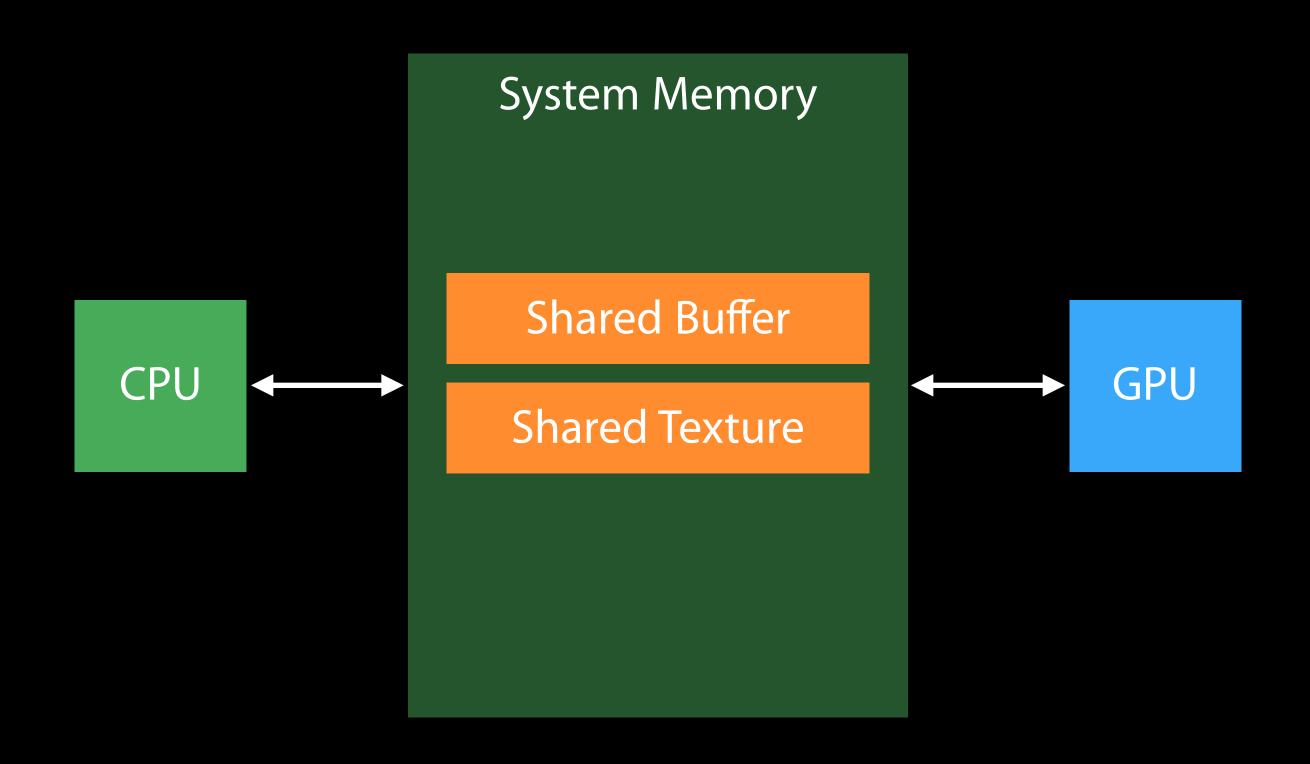
Support both unified and Discrete Memory model with minimal code change New storage modes to specify where the resource should reside

- Shared storage mode
- Private storage mode
- Managed storage mode

Shared Storage Mode

Introduced with iOS 8

Full coherency between CPU and GPU at command buffer boundaries

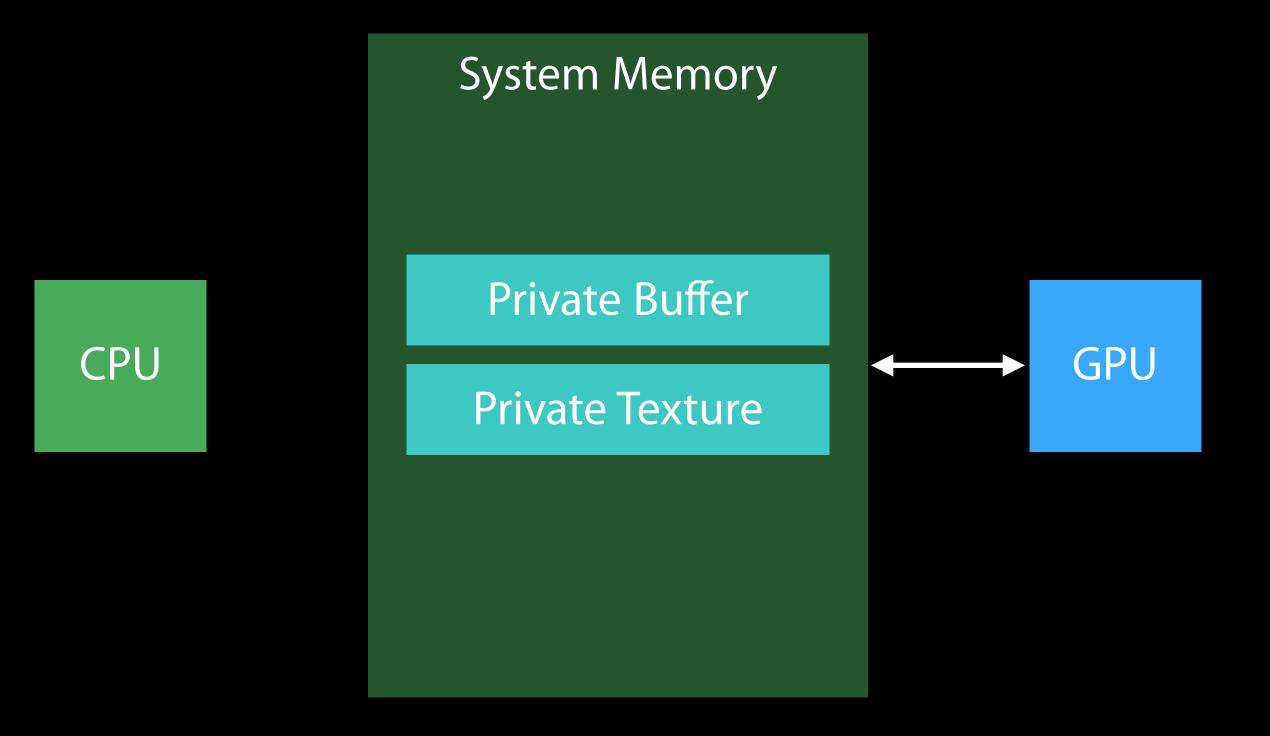


Private Storage Mode

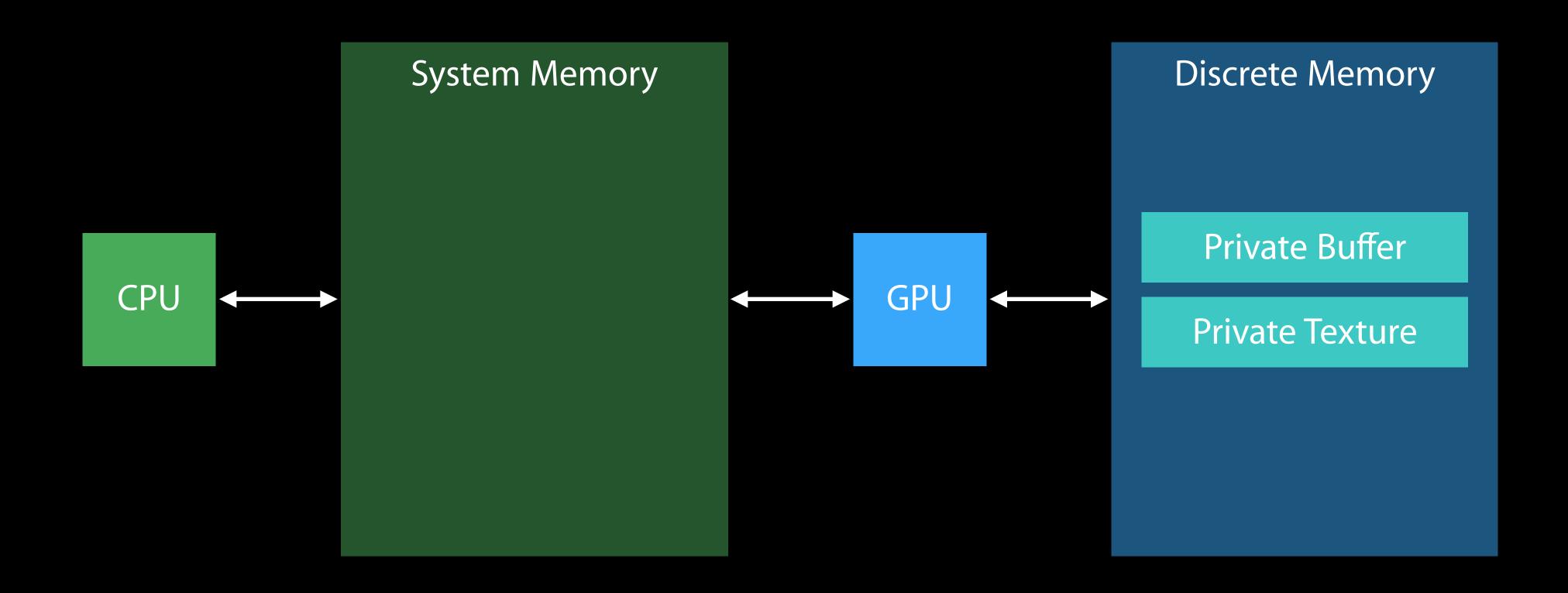
New with iOS 9 and OS X

Resources are only accessible to GPU—blit, render, compute

Metal can store data more optimally for the GPU



Private Storage Mode with Discrete Memory

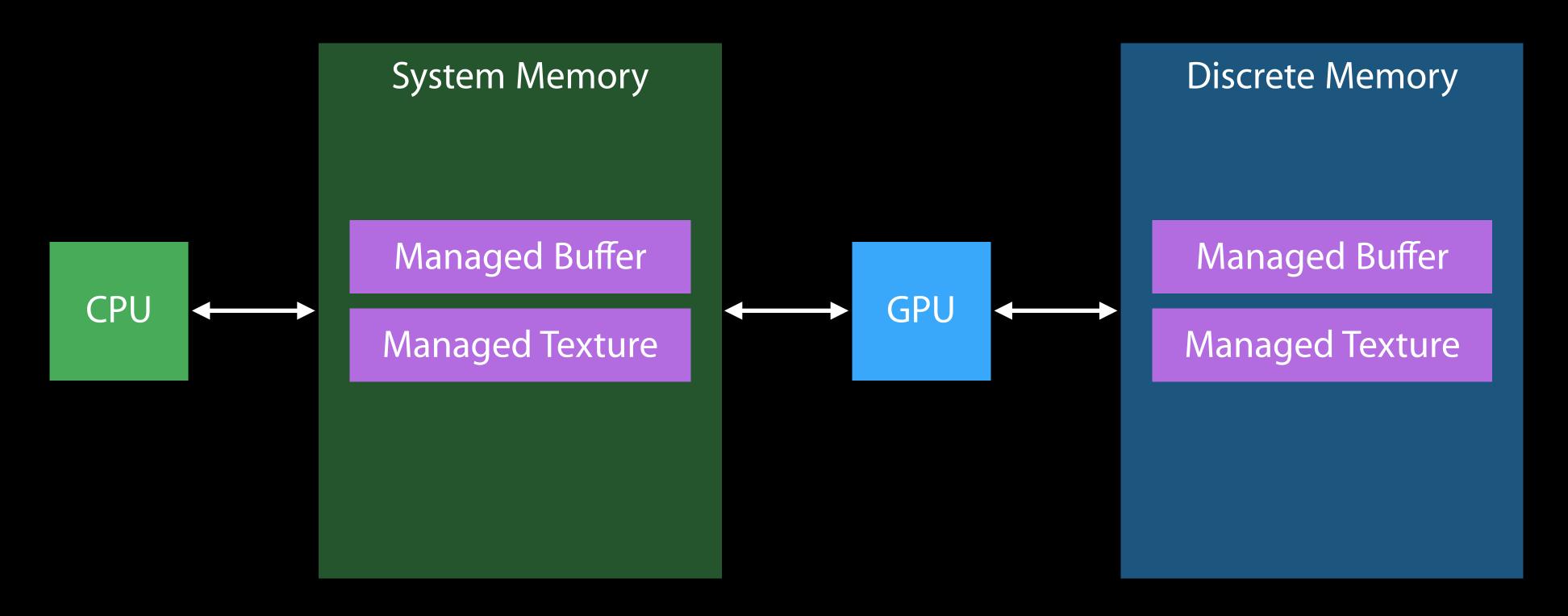


Managed Storage Mode

New with OS X

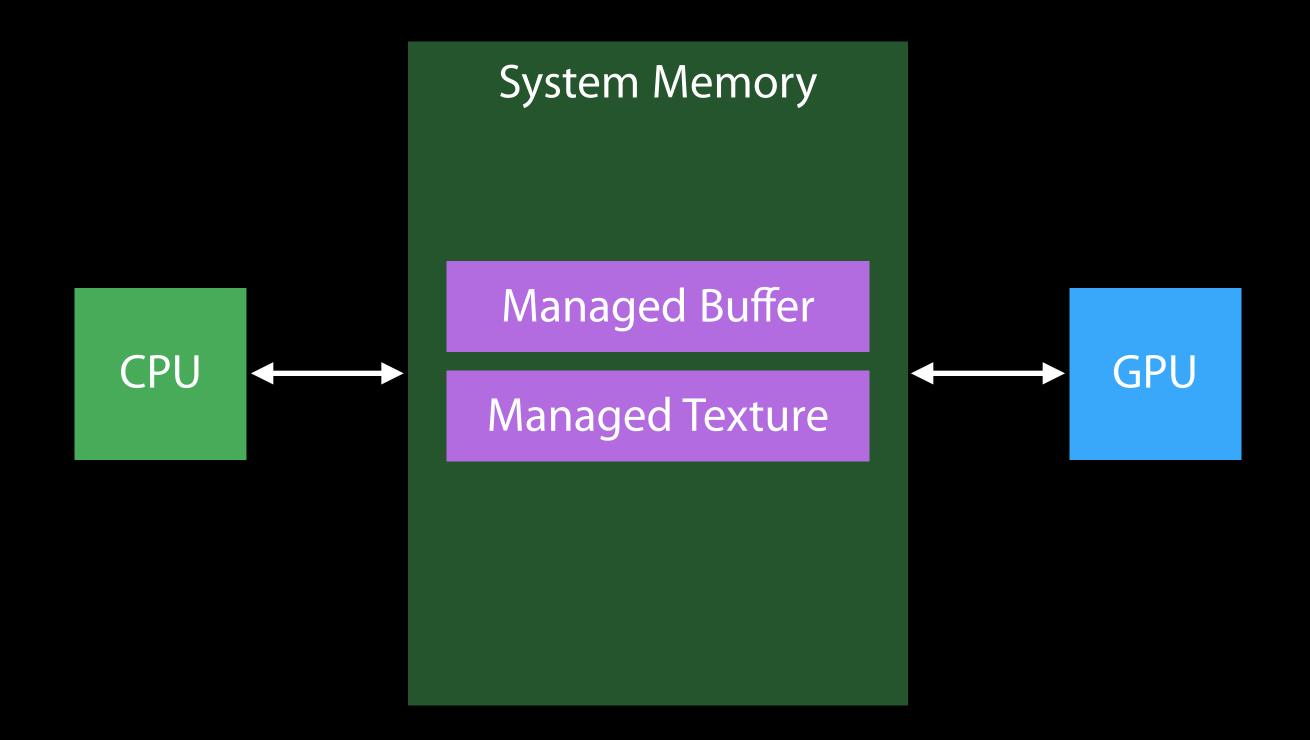
Metal manages where the resource resides

Performance of private memory with convenience of shared



Managed Storage Mode

No extra copy for unified memory systems



Managed Storage Mode CPU modified data

App must notify Metal when modifying a resource with CPU

```
[myBuffer didModifyRange:...];
[myTexture replaceRegion:...];
```

Managed Storage Mode CPU read back

App must synchronize resource before CPU read

```
[blitCmdEncoder synchronizeResource:myBuffer];
[cmdBuffer waitUntilCompleted]; // Or use completion handler
contents = [myBuffer contents];

[blitCmdEncoder synchronizeResource:myTexture];
[cmdBuffer waitUntilCompleted]; // Or use completion handler
[myTexture getBytes:...];
```

Shader Constant Update

Review

```
id <MTLBuffer> constant_buffer = ...;
MyConstants* constant_ptr = constant_buffer.contents;

[renderpass setVertexBuffer: constant_buffer offset: 0 atIndex: 0];

for (i=0; i<draw_count; i++)
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    constant_ptr[i] = // write constants directly into the buffer
    [renderpass setVertexBufferOffset:i*sizeof(MyConstants) atIndex:0];

    // draw
}</pre>
```

Constant Updates on Discrete Systems

Using Managed Buffers

```
Fast and easy shader constant uploads
id <MTLBuffer> constant_buffer = [device newBufferWithOptions:MTLResourceStorageModeManaged
                                                       length:kMyConstantBufferSize];
MyConstants* constant_ptr = constant_buffer.contents;
[renderpass setVertexBuffer: constant_buffer offset: 0 atIndex: 0];
foreach i in draw_count
    constant_ptr[i] = // write constants directly into the buffer
    [renderpass setVertexBufferOffset:i*sizeof(MyConstants) atIndex:0];
        draw
[constant_buffer didModifyRange:NSRangeMake(0, i*sizeof(MyConstants))];
```

Constant Updates on Discrete Systems

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```

Metal Managed Memory Model

Default storage modes

Buffers are shared

Default texture storage mode depends on platform

- iOS default is shared
- OS X default is managed

Customizing Storage Modes

Private textures

Use private for GPU-only resources

```
fbTextureDesc.storageMode = MTLStorageModePrivate;
fbTexture = [device newTextureWithDescriptor:fbTextureDesc];
```

Customizing Storage Modes

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Device Selection On multi-GPU systems

Use MTLCreateSystemDefaultDevice

- Picks the device connected to the main display
- Activates the discrete GPU on systems with automatic graphics switching

Selecting the Auxiliary GPU on a Mac Pro

New MTLCopyAllDevices API to enumerate all Metal capable devices

'headless' property identifies auxiliary GPU

```
id <MTLDevice> aux_gpu = nil;
for (id <MTLDevice> device in MTLCopyAllDevices())
{
   if ([device isHeadless]) {
      aux_gpu = device;
      break;
   }
}
```

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Selecting the 'best' device in a dual-GPU MacBook Pro

Ideal for applications that are not full-screen games and want to optimize for power

Selecting the 'best' device in a dual-GPU MacBook Pro

Ideal for applications that are not full-screen games and want to optimize for power Register for a GPU 'switch' notification

NSViewGlobalFrameDidChangeNotification

Selecting the 'best' device in a dual-GPU MacBook Pro

Ideal for applications that are not full-screen games and want to optimize for power Register for a GPU 'switch' notification

NSViewGlobalFrameDidChangeNotification
 Use the CoreGraphics convenience API to query the current active device

Pass in the current display your view is on

```
#include <CoreGraphics/CGDirectDisplayMetal.h>
id <MTLDevice> device = = CGDirectDisplayCopyCurrentMetalDevice(display);
```

Layered Rendering

Rasterize to multiple layers of a texture

- Slices of a 2D array texture
- Plane of a 3D texture
- Face of a cube texture

Layered Rendering

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- Slices of a 2D array texture
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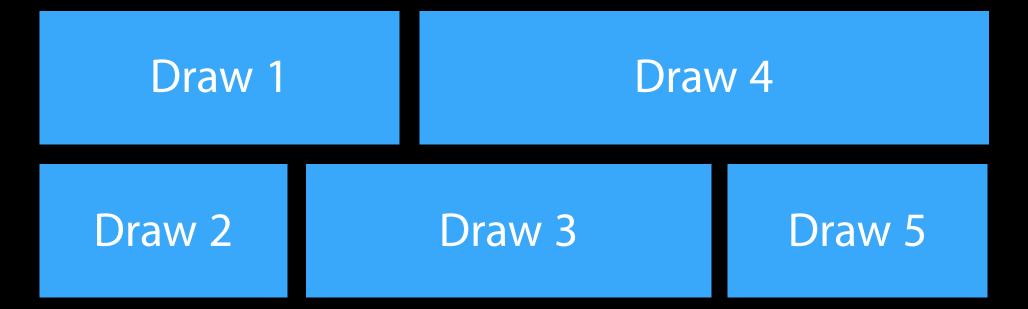
Output the target layer from a vertex shader

```
struct VSOut {
   float4 position [[position]];
   ushort layer [[render_target_array_index]];
}
```

GPUs overlap execution of many draw calls

Output of one draw cannot be safely read by a later draw

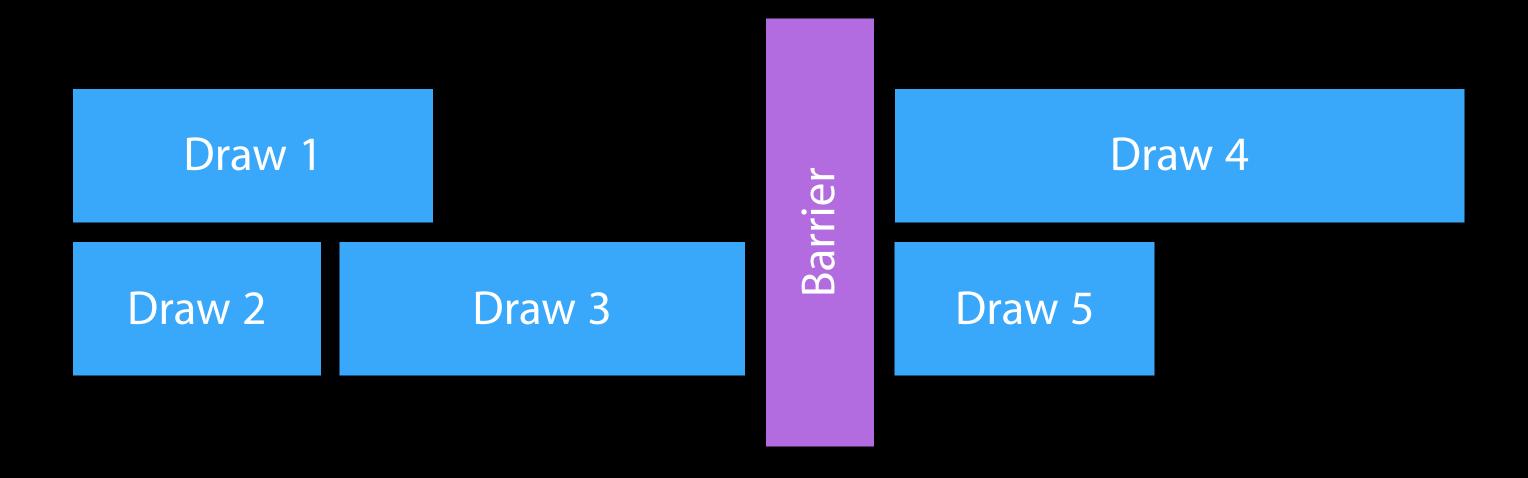
New API to insert barriers between draw calls



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Output of one draw cannot be safely read by a later draw

New API to insert barriers between draw calls



Example

```
// start render pass, drawing to Texture A
[renderPass draw...];

[renderPass setFragmentTexture:textureA atIndex:0];
[renderPass draw...];
```

Example

```
// start render pass, drawing to Texture A
[renderPass draw...];

[renderPass textureBarrier];

[renderPass setFragmentTexture:textureA atIndex:0];
[renderPass draw...];
```

	iOS GPUFamily1	iOS GPUFamily2	OS X GPUFamily1
Max Number of Textures per Shader Stage	31	31	128
Max Texture Size	8k	8k	16k
Max Render Target Count	4	8	8
MSAA	2x, 4x	2x, 4x	4x, 8x
Cube Array Support	_	-	Yes
Compute Pixel Writes	Int32, Float32	Int32, Float32	Int32, Float32, packed

Texture usage

New property in the texture descriptor to declare how a texture will be used Allows the Metal implementation to optimize for that usage

MTLTextureUsageShaderRead
MTLTextureUsageShaderWrite
MTLTextureUsageRenderTarget
MTLTextureUsageBlit

Texture usage

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MTLTextureUsageUnknown

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New property in the texture descriptor to declare how a texture will be used Allows the Metal implementation to optimize for that usage

MTLTextureUsageUnknown

MTLTextureUsageShaderWrite
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Depth/stencil textures

Mac GPUs only support combined depth and stencil formats

- Depth32Float_stencil8
 - Supported on all Metal Devices
- Depth24Unorm_stencil8
 - If available and meets your precision requirements

iOS texture compression formats

Format	Bits Per Pixel	Support	Properties
PVRTC	2, 4	All iOS devices	RGB content Widest support
ETC2	4 - RGB 8 - RGBA	All Metal devices	RGB content Good alpha support
EAC	4 - One channel 8 - Two channels	All Metal devices	Height/Bump Maps Normal Maps Alpha Masks
ASTC	0.9 - 8	iOS GPUFamily2	Highest quality at all sizes Many size vs. quality options Slowest encoding

New Texture Features iOS texture compression formats

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Great for a broad range of usages

- Photographic content
- Height maps
- Normal maps
- Sprites

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Finer grained control of size vs. quality

• 1-8 bits per pixel

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New in GPUFamily2

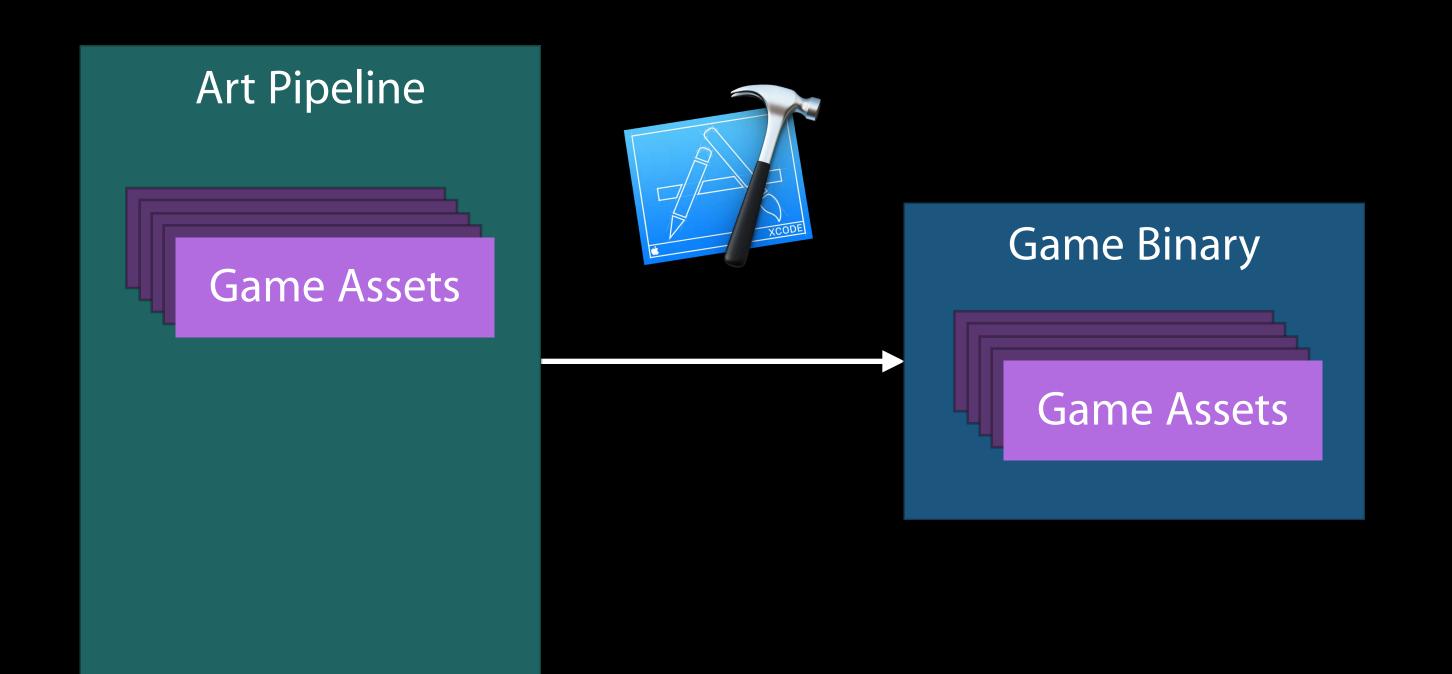
New Texture Features

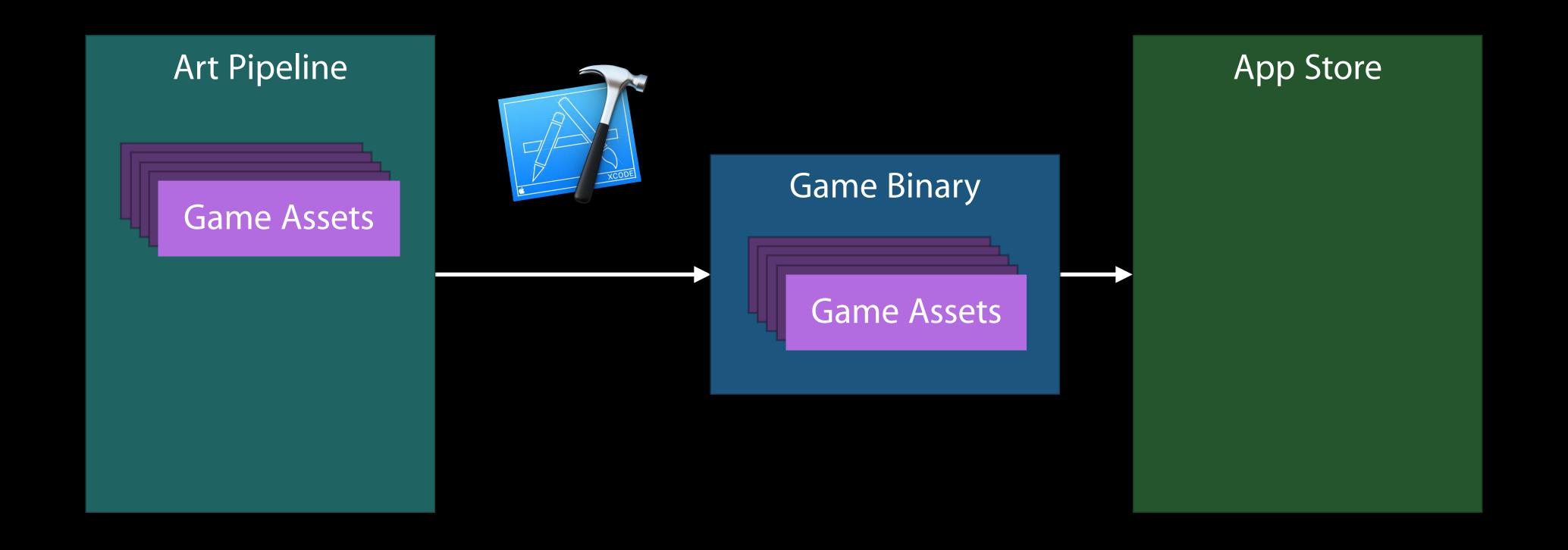
OS X texture compression formats

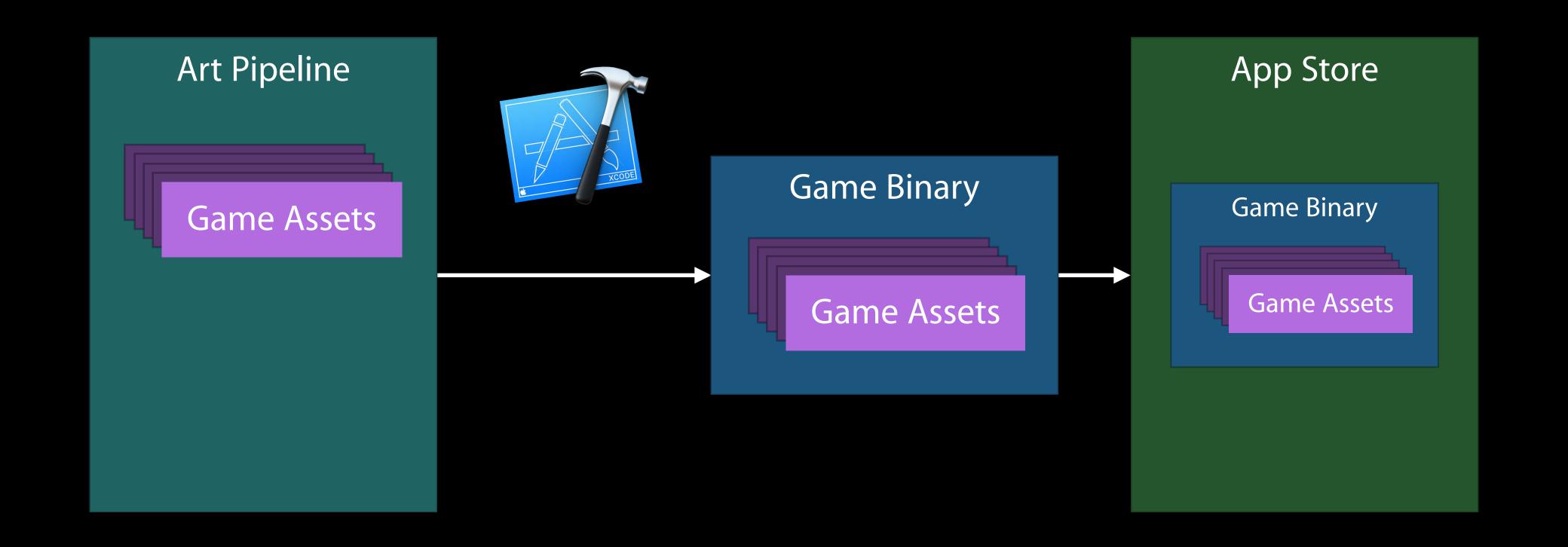
Format	Bits Per Pixel	Also Known As	Properties
BC1	4	S3TC, DXT1	RGB content Very fast encoding
BC2, BC3	8	S3TC, DXT3, DXT5	RGBA content Very fast encoding
BC4, BC5	4 - One channel 8 - Two channels	RGTC	Height/Bump Maps Normal Maps Alpha Masks
BC6, BC7	8	BPTC	RGBA content Slowest encoding

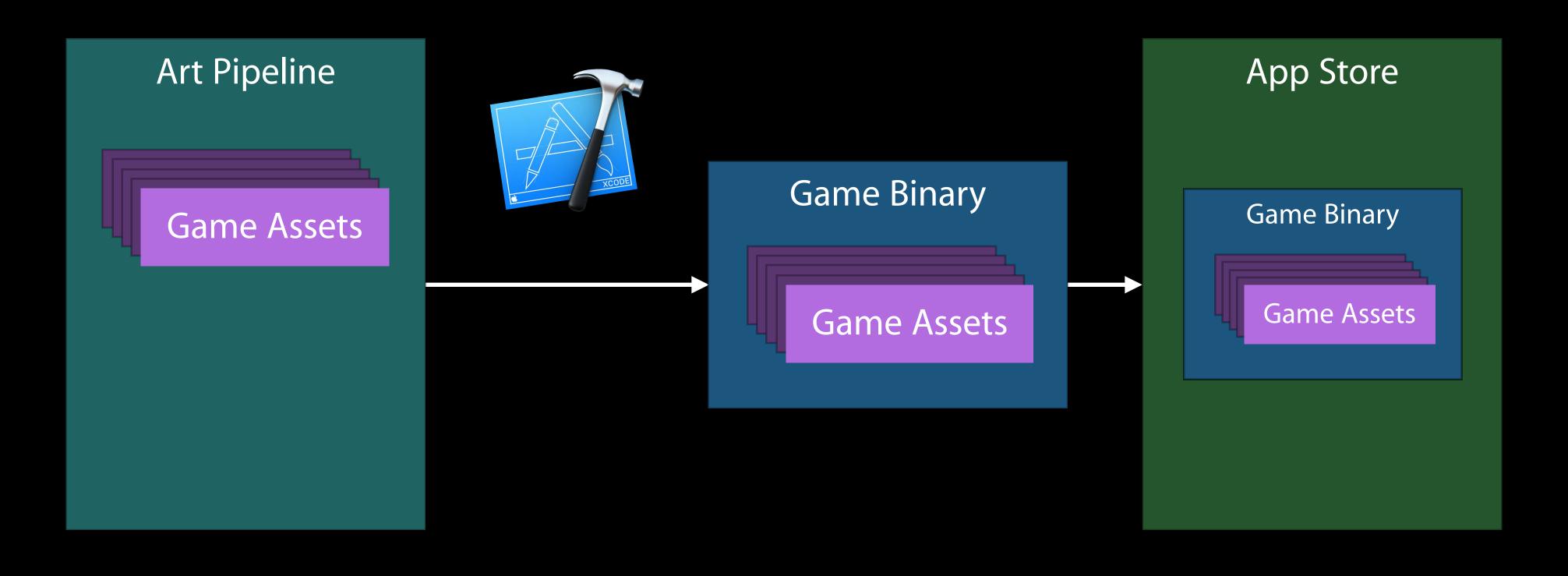
Metal and App Thinning

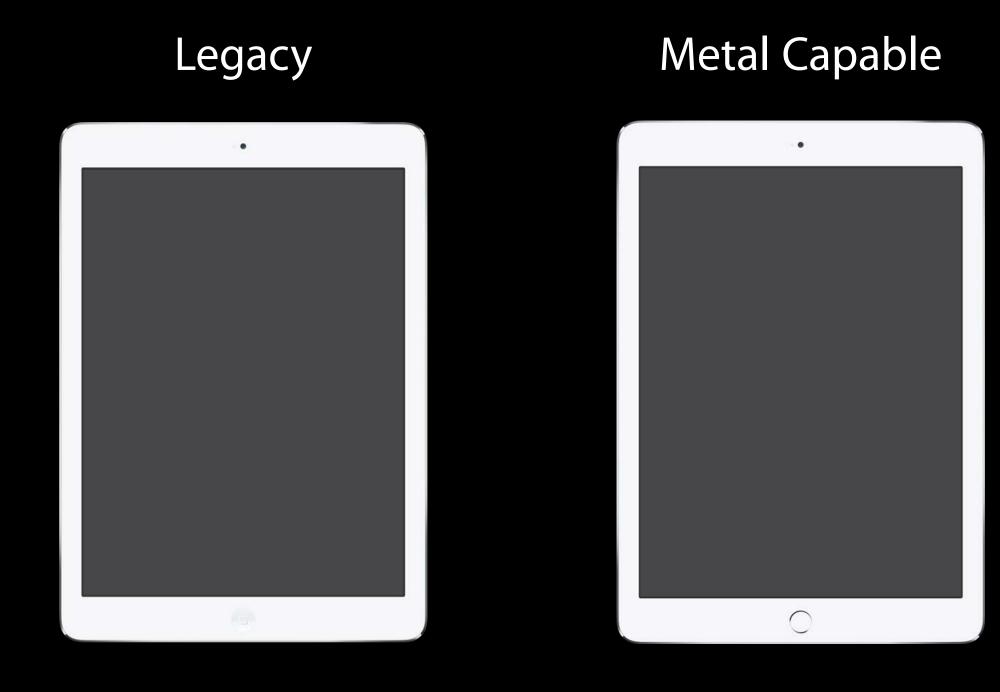
Art Pipeline Game Assets

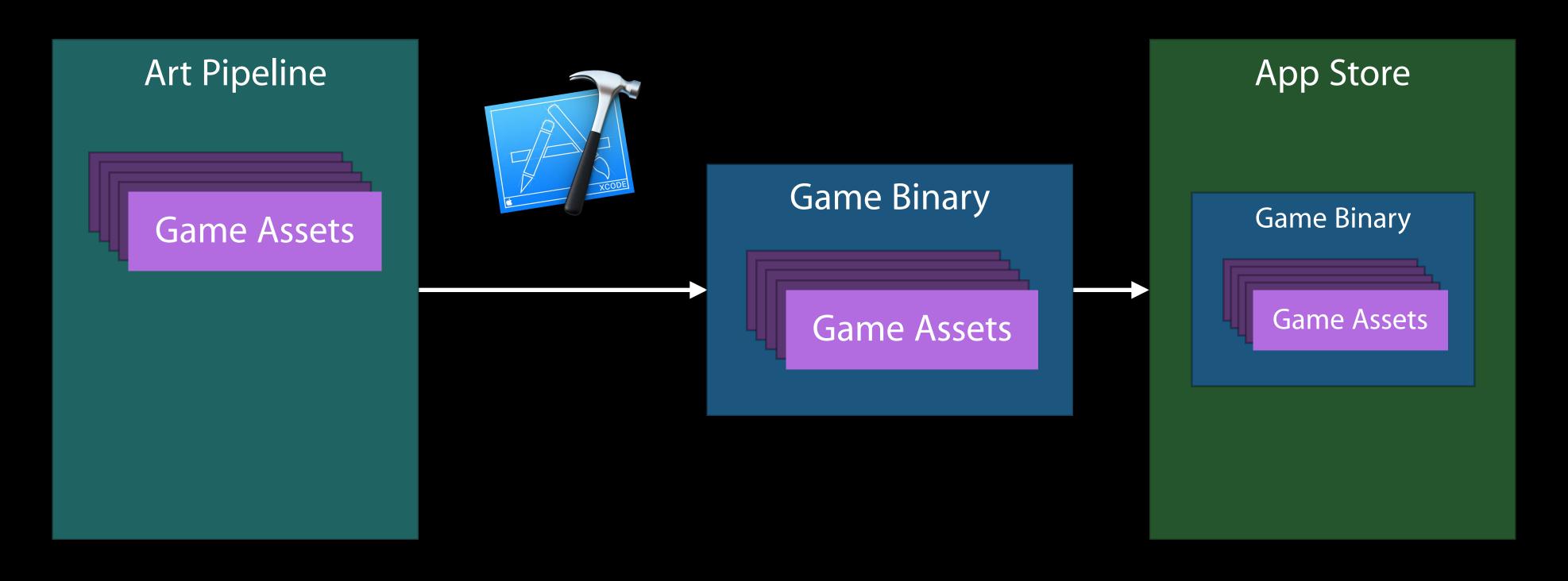


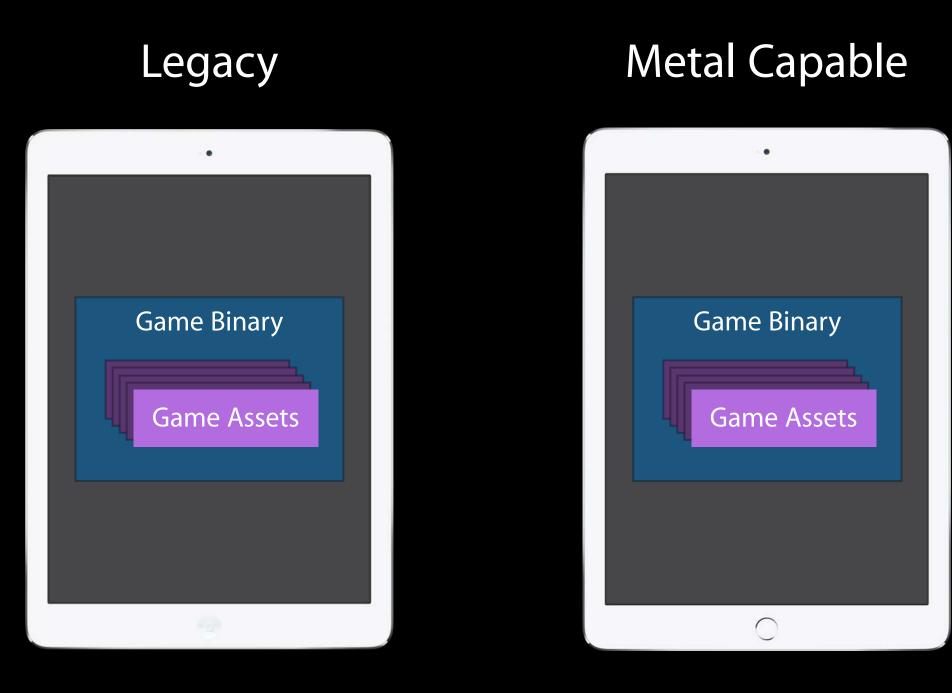


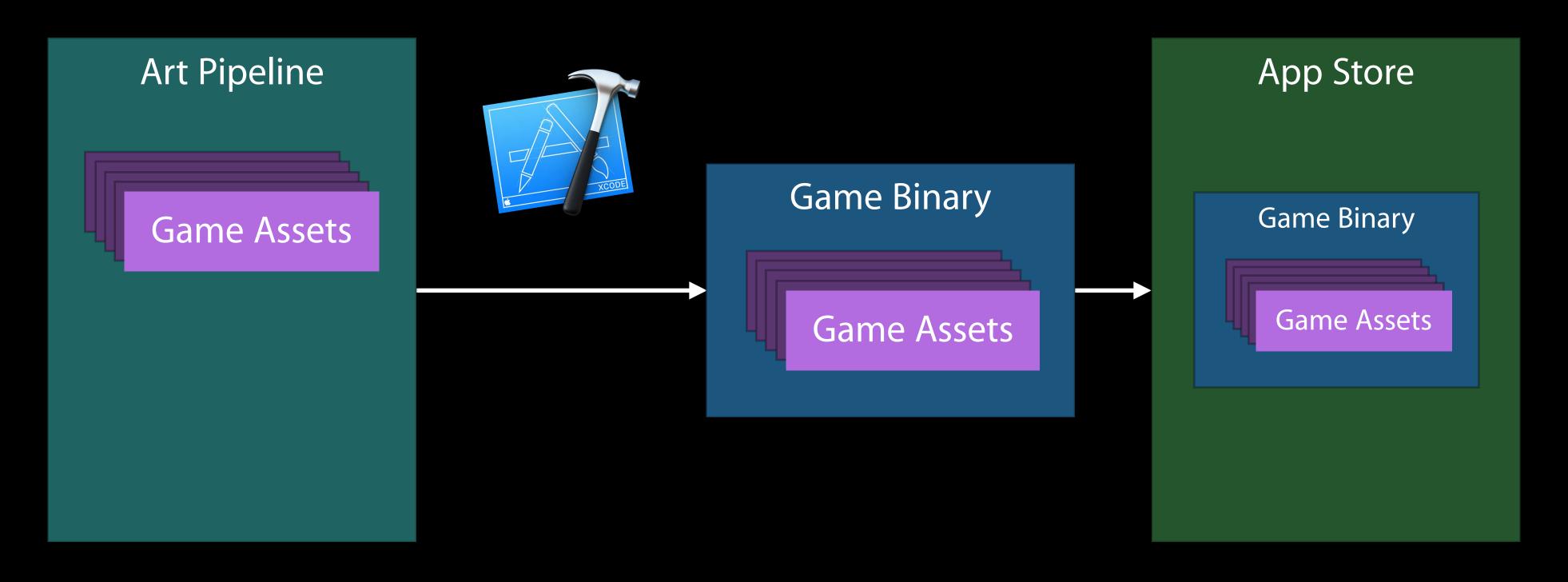


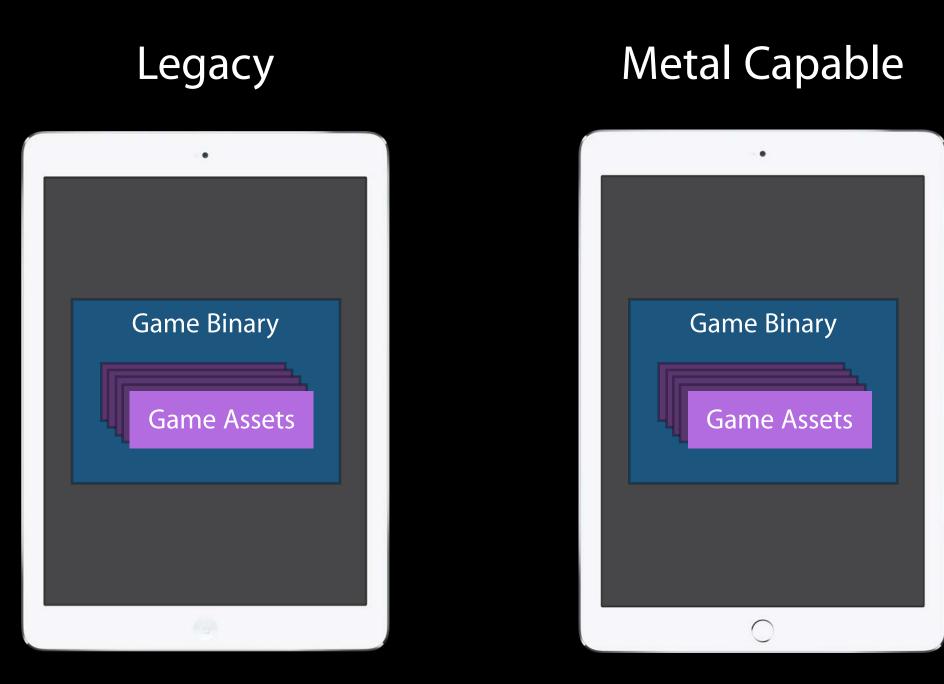


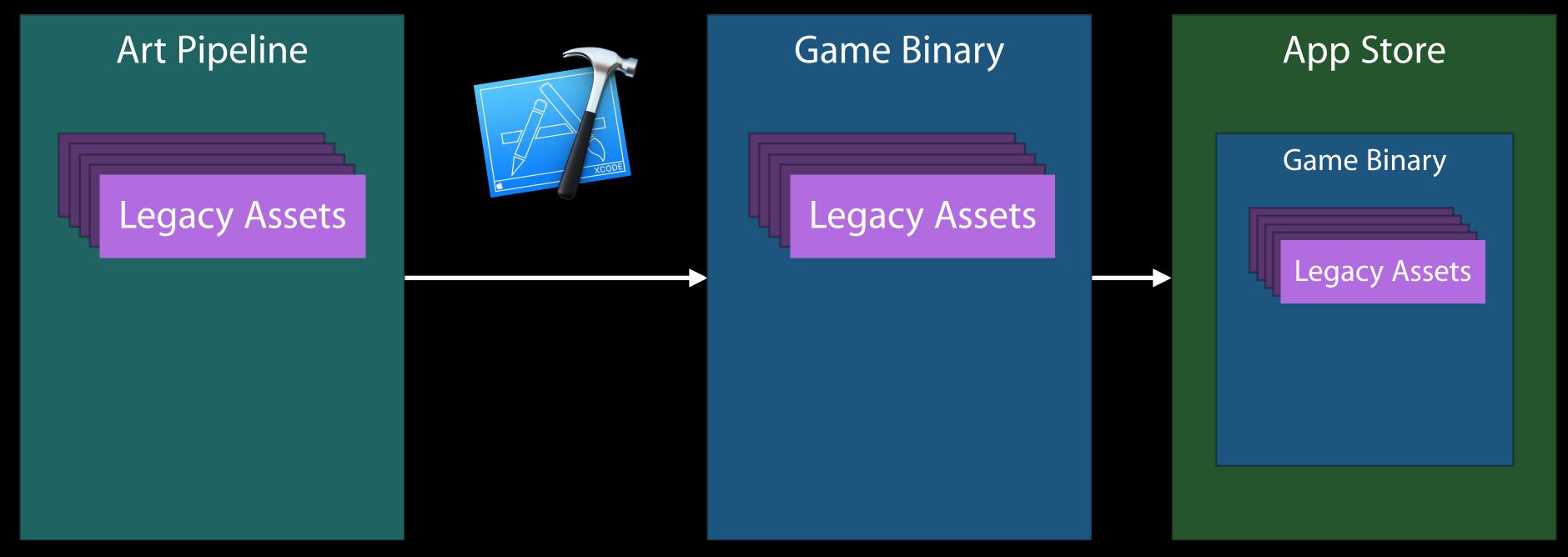


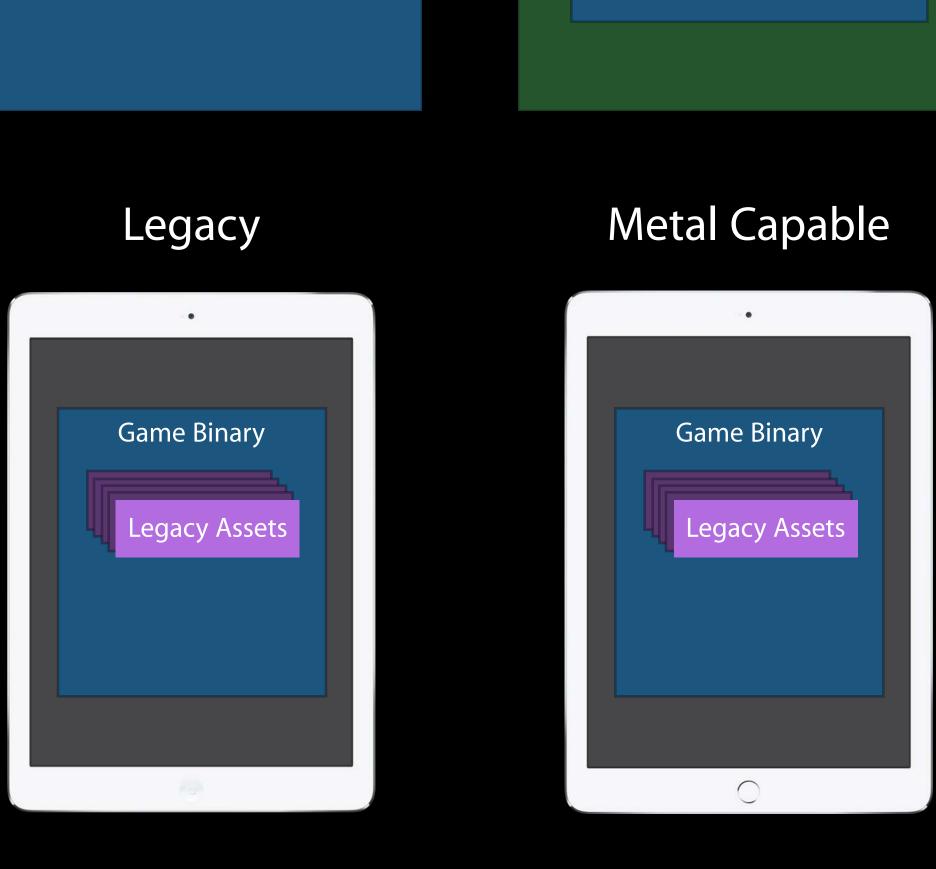


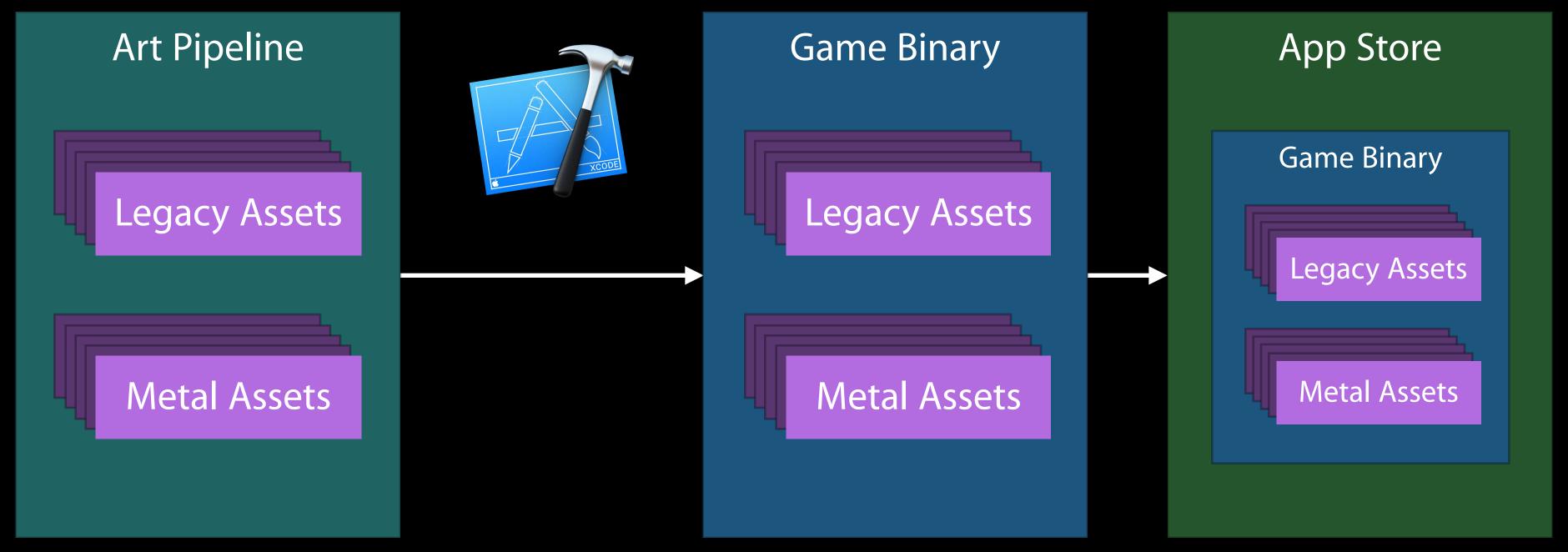


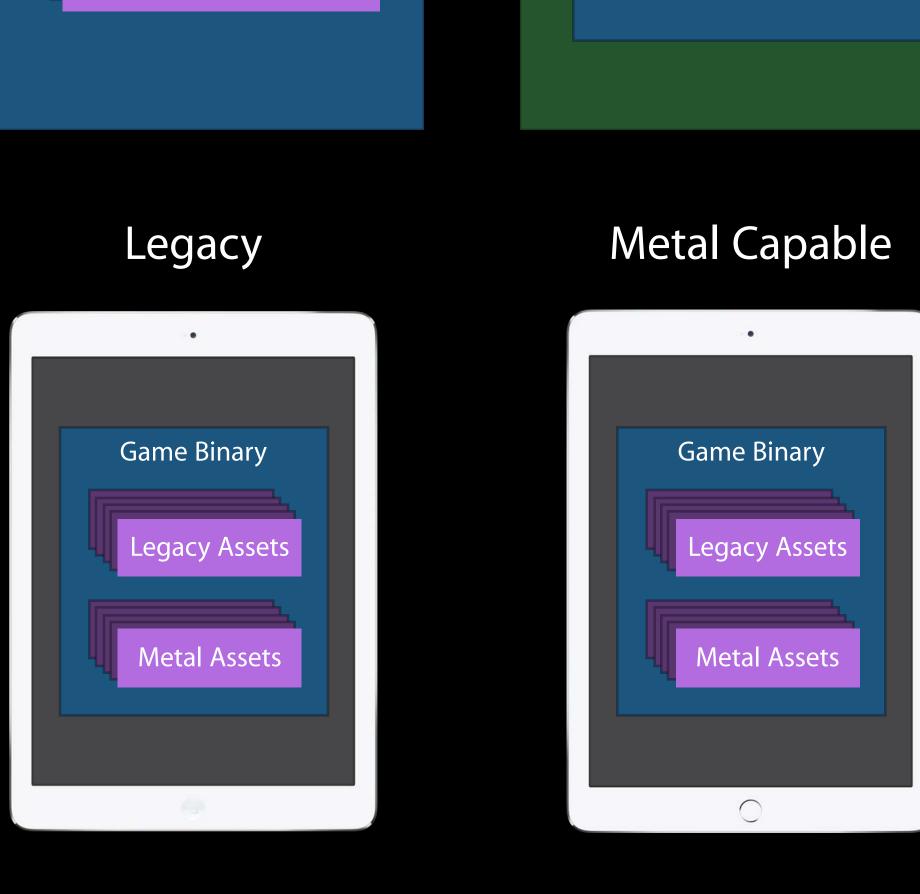


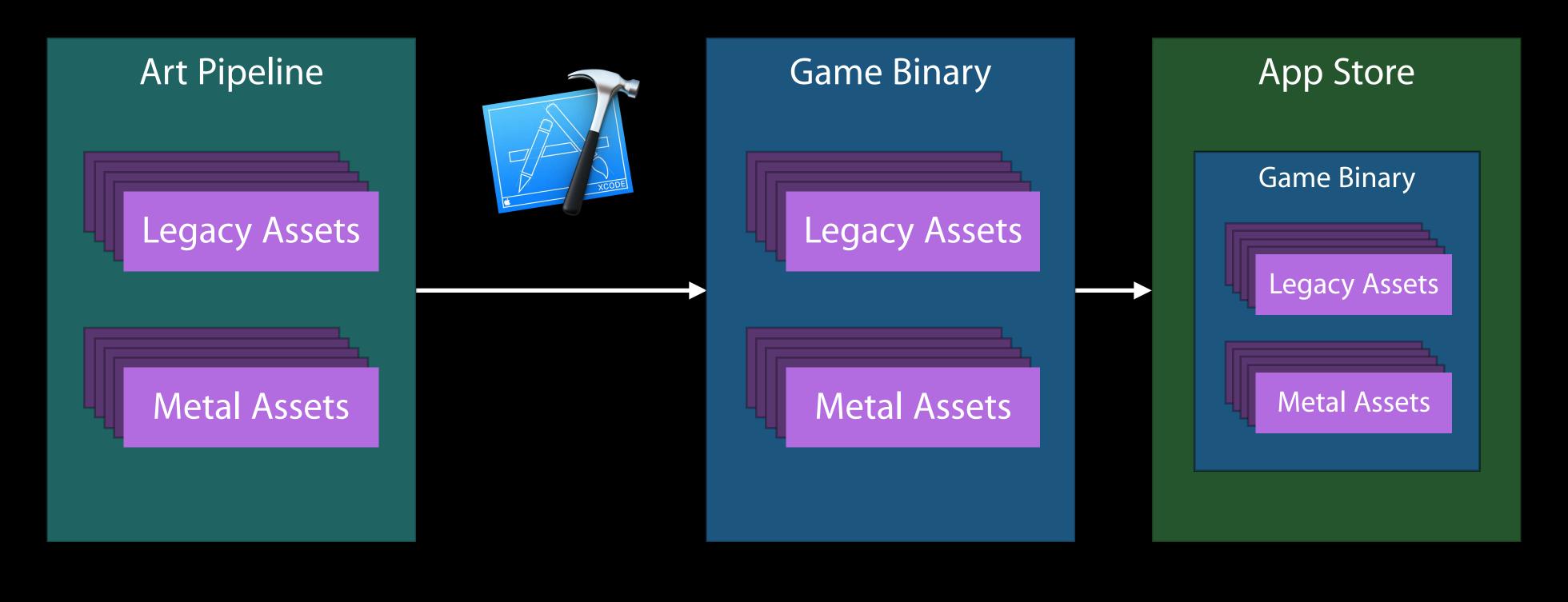




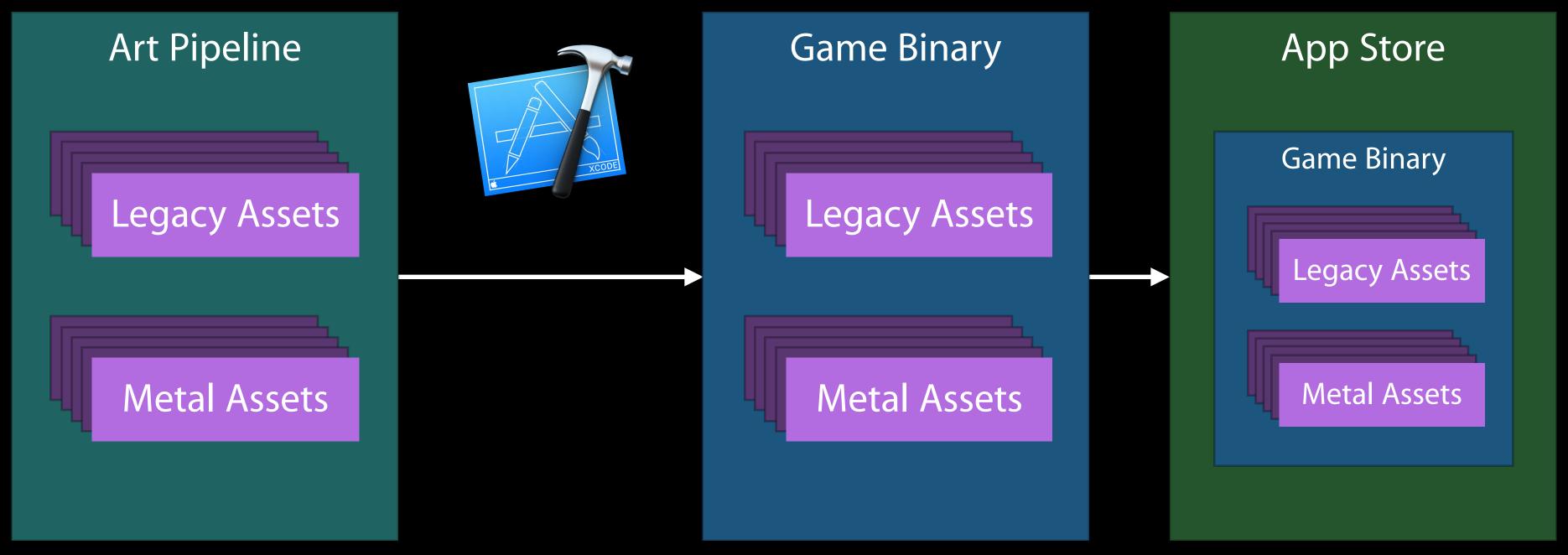


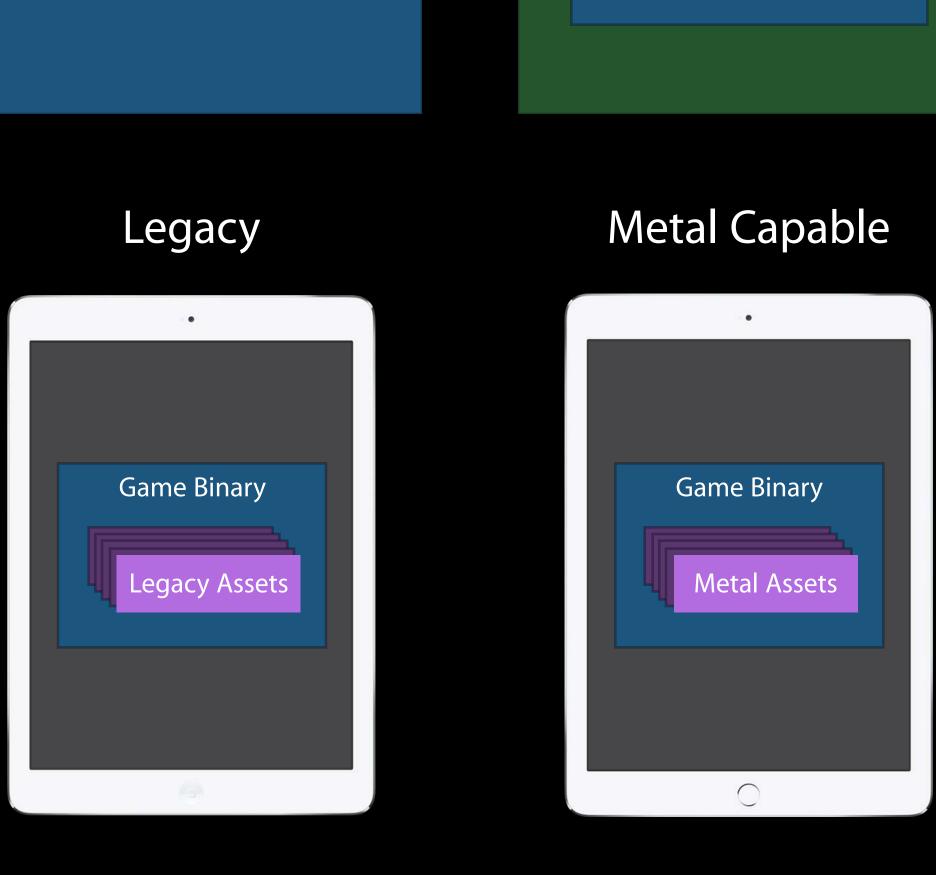


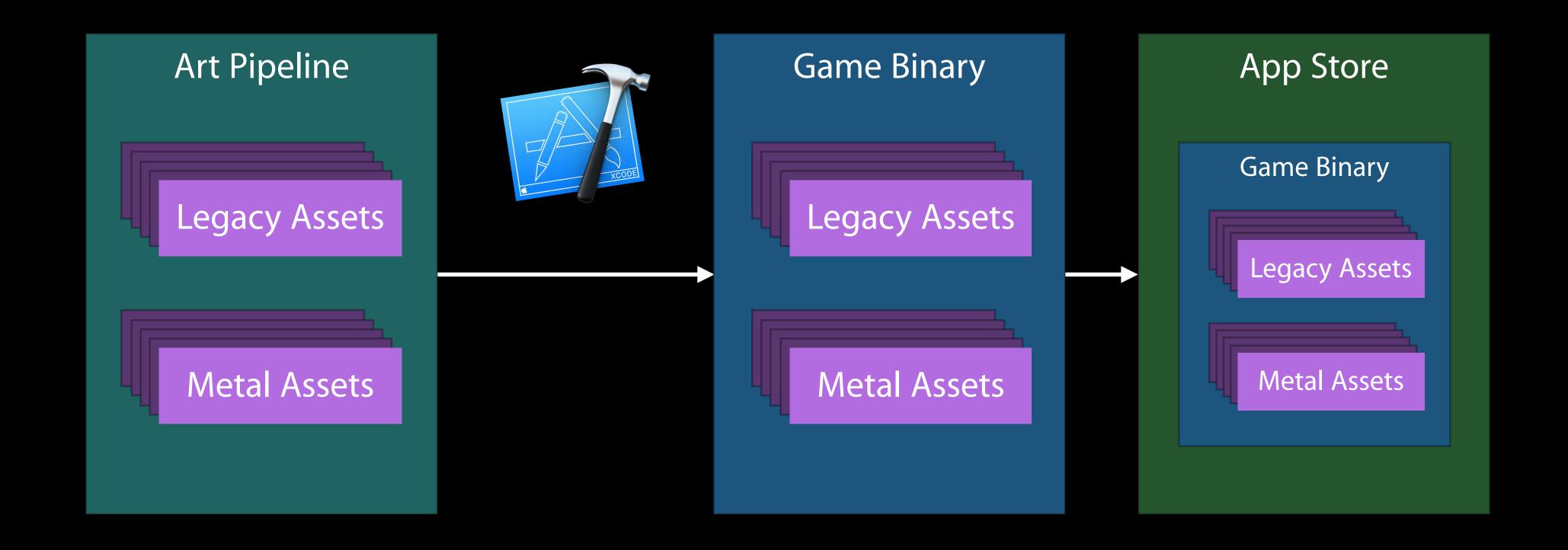












With App Thinning, only the assets applicable to the device are downloaded on install





512MB 1GB 2GB Metal GPUFamily2 Metal GPUFamily1 OpenGL ES Legacy

Typical normal map example

Metal GPUFamily1

OpenGL ES Legacy

Typical normal map example

Metal GPUFamily1

OpenGL ES Legacy

512x512 EAC

Typical normal map example

Metal GPUFamily1

OpenGL ES Legacy

512x512 EAC

512x512 RG8

Typical normal map example

Metal GPUFamily1

OpenGL ES Legacy

512x512
EAC

512x512
RG8

Extended normal map example

512MB 1GB 2GB Format Metal GPUFamily2 Metal GPUFamily1 OpenGL ES Legacy

256x256 RG8

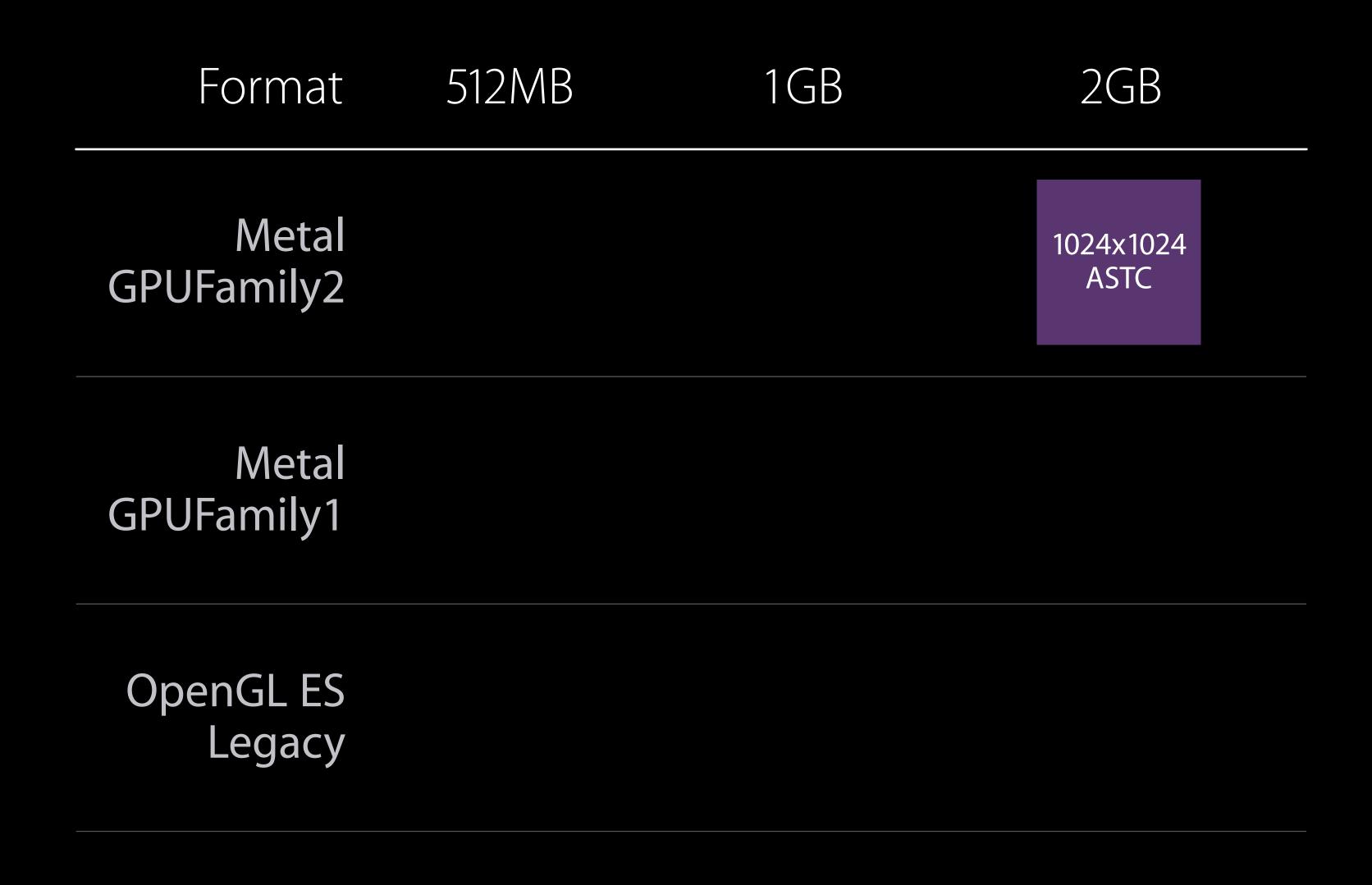
> 512x512 RG8

512x512 EAC

512x512 ASTC

> 1024x1024 ASTC

Extended normal map example



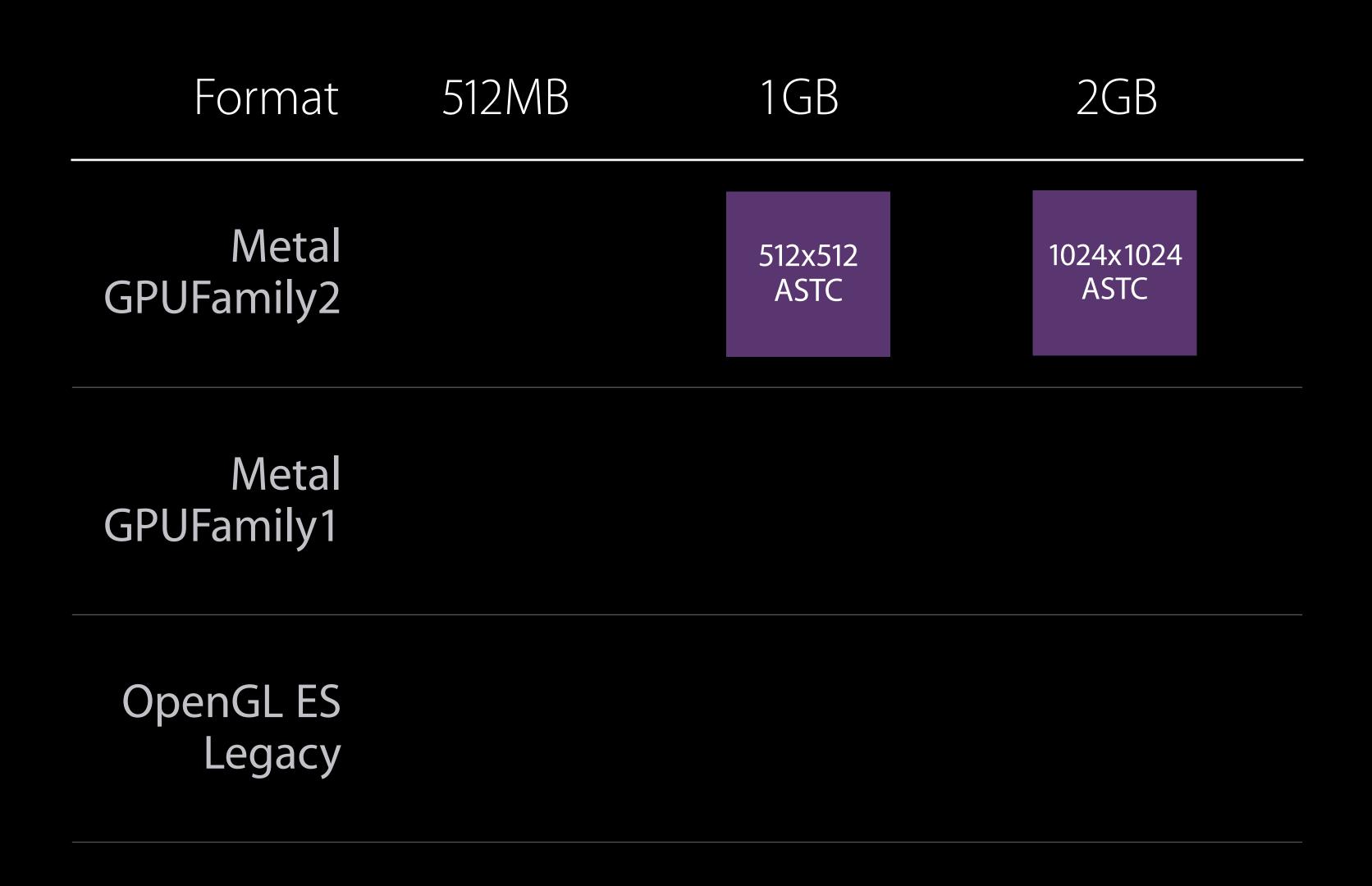
256x256 RG8

> 512x512 RG8

512x512 EAC

512x512 ASTC

Extended normal map example

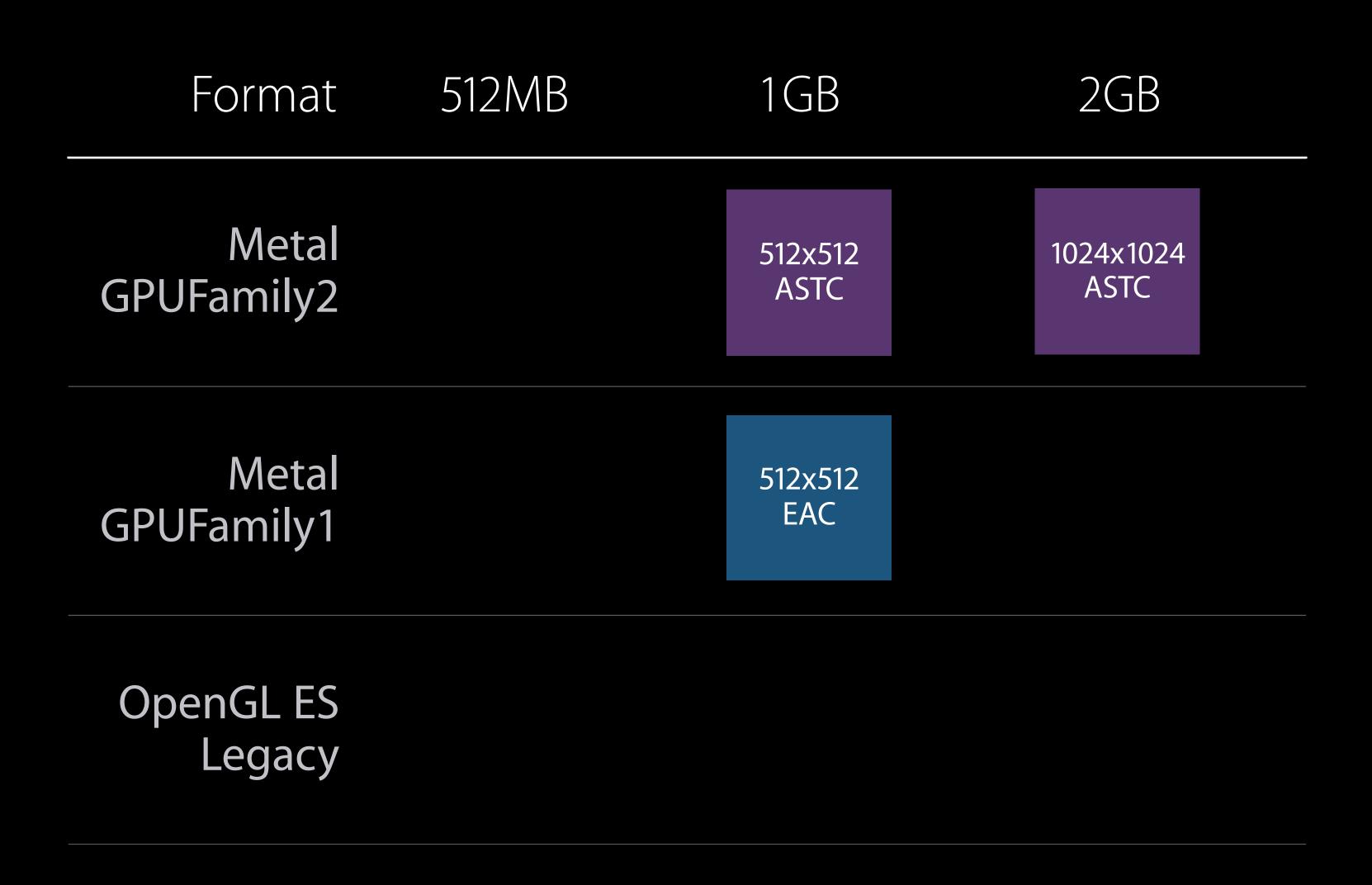


256x256 RG8

> 512x512 RG8

512x512 EAC

Extended normal map example



256x256 RG8

> 512x512 RG8

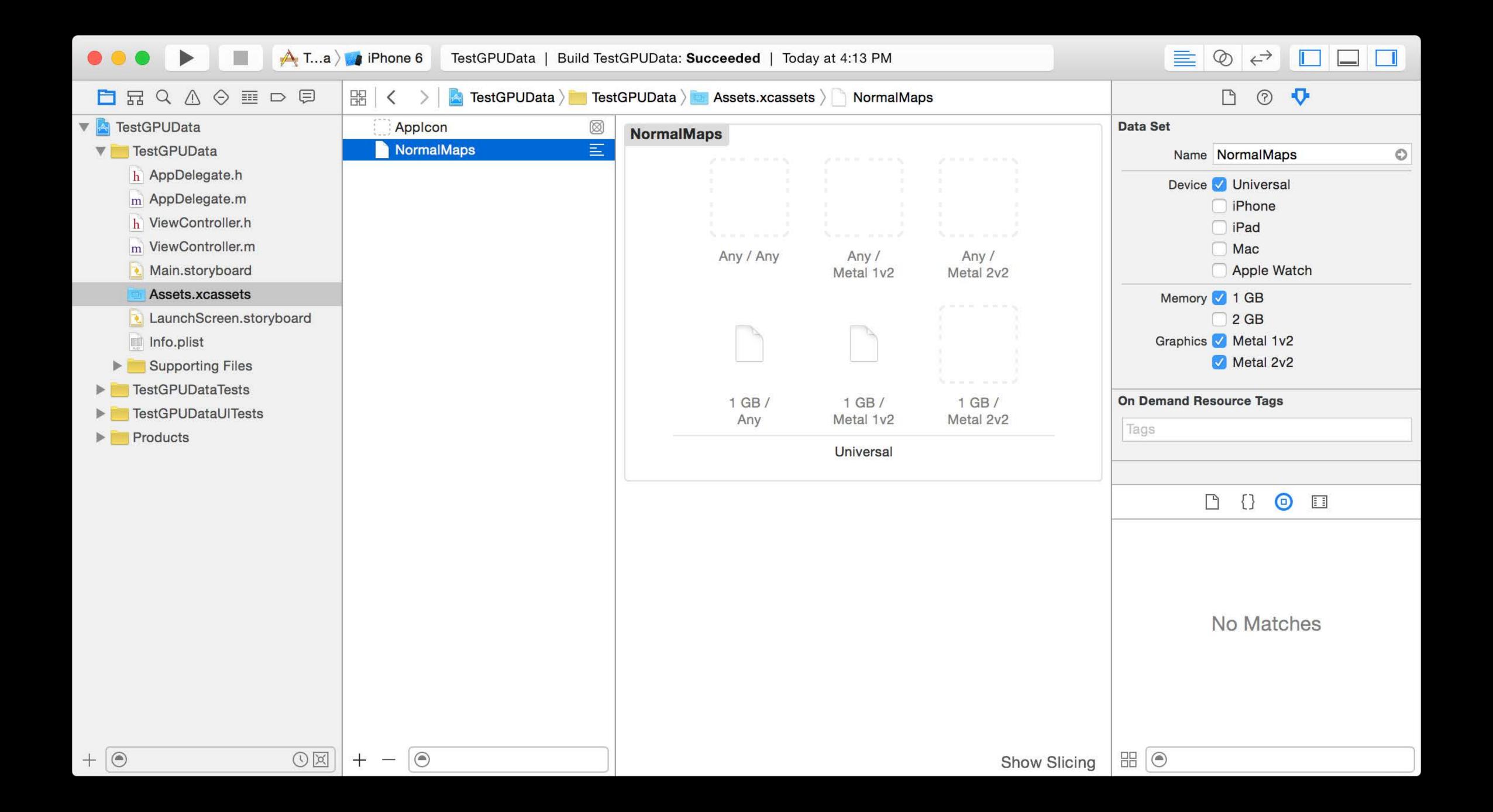
Extended normal map example

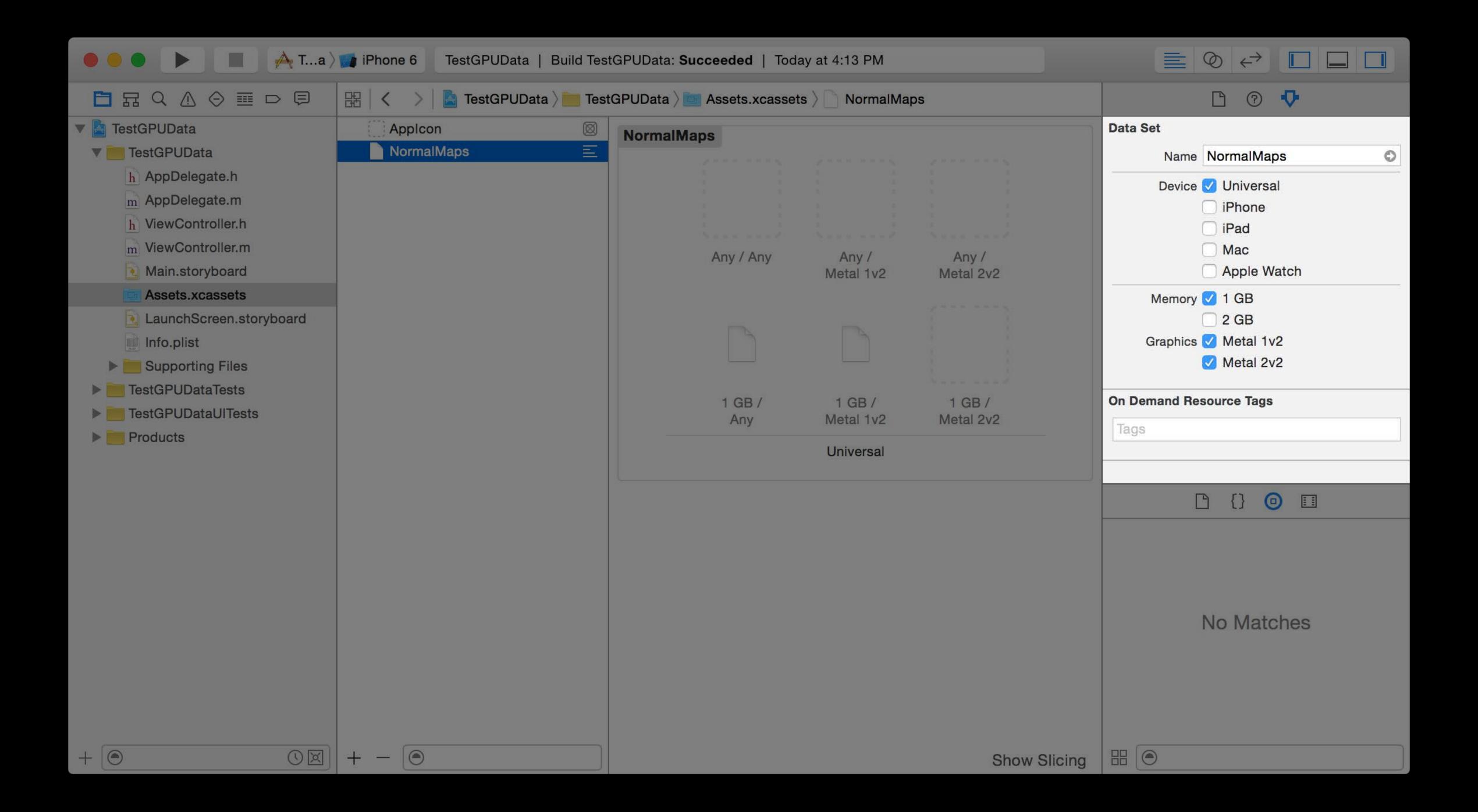
Format	512MB	1GB	2GB
Metal GPUFamily2		512x512 ASTC	1024x1024 ASTC
Metal GPUFamily1		512x512 EAC	
OpenGL ES Legacy		512x512 RG8	

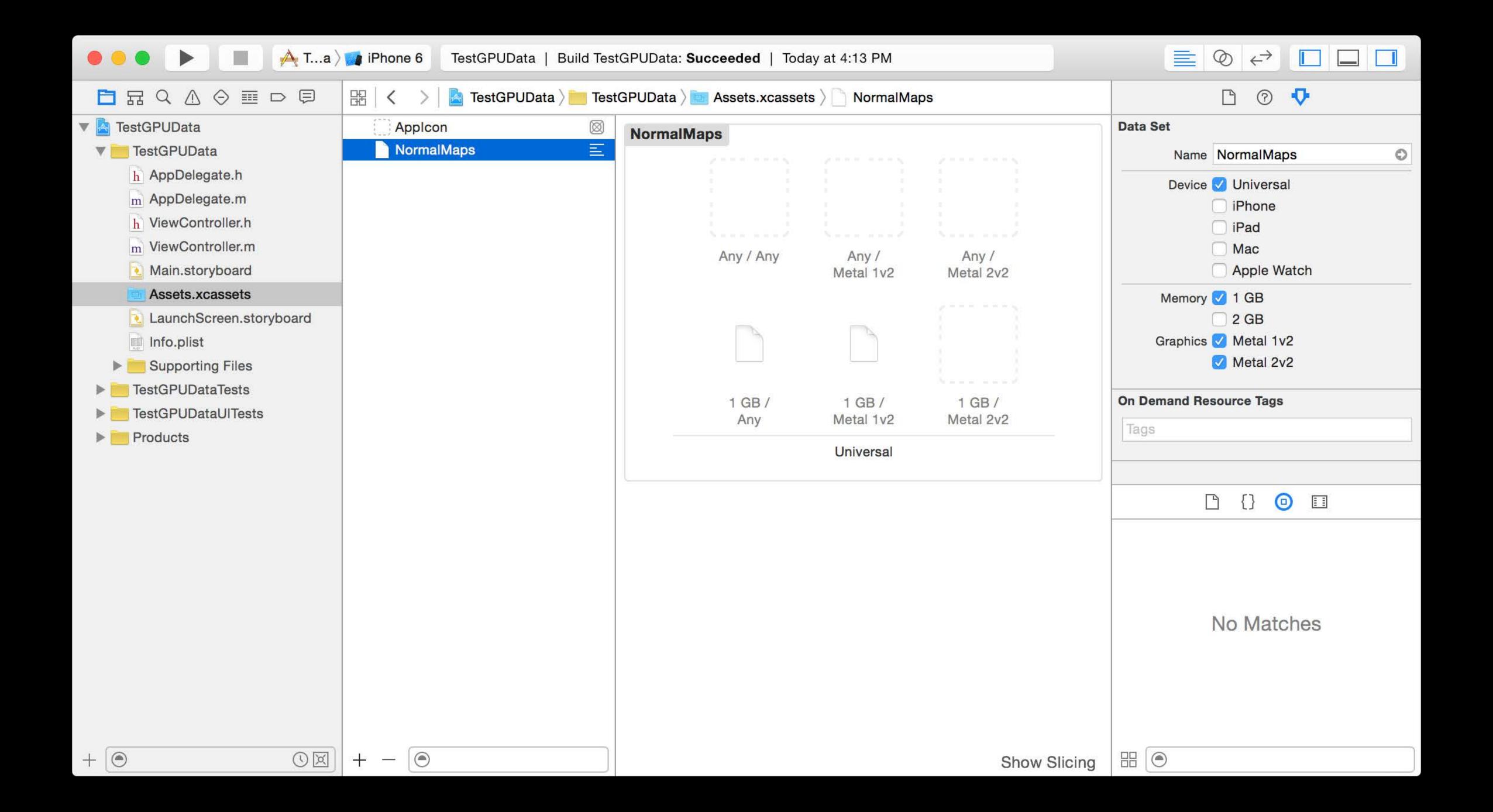
256x256 RG8

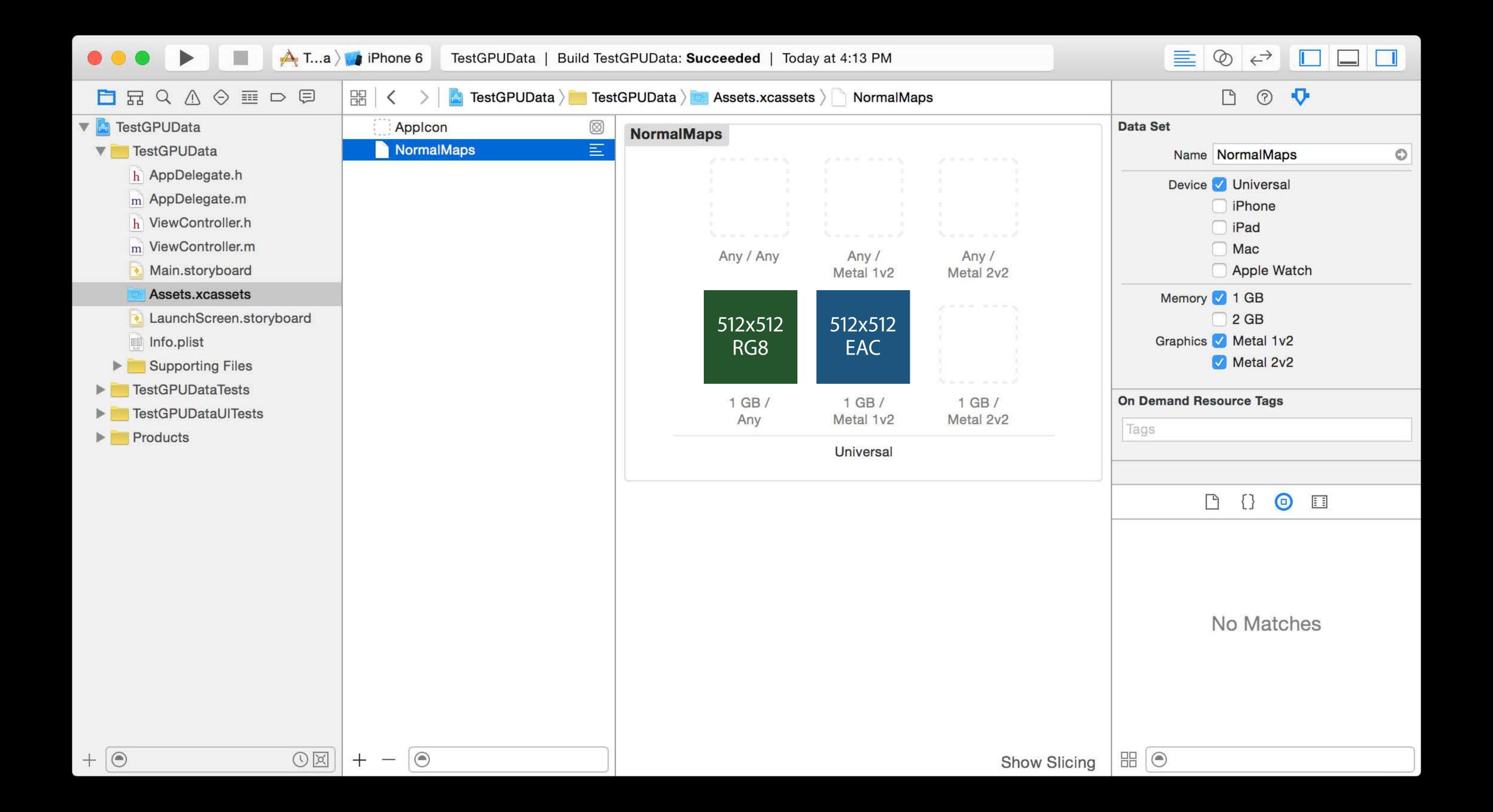
Extended normal map example

Format	512MB	1GB	2GB
Metal GPUFamily2		512x512 ASTC	1024x1024 ASTC
Metal GPUFamily1		512x512 EAC	
OpenGL ES Legacy	256x256 RG8	512x512 RG8	









Custom Tools Pipelines

Custom Tools Pipelines

Publicly documented JSON file format

Easily integrated into custom toolchain

```
"info" : {
    "author" : "xcode",
    "version" : 1
    "filename" : "NormalMaps_512x512.rg8",
    "universal-type-identifier": "public.uncompressed-rg8",
    "memory" : "1GB"
   "filename" : "NormalMaps_512x512.eac",
   "universal-type-identifier": "public.eac",
   "memory" : "1GB",
    "graphicsFeatureSet" : "metal1v2"
   "filename": "NormalMaps_512x512.astc",
   "universal-type-identifier" : "public.astc",
    "memory" : "1GB",
    "graphicsFeatureSet" : "metal2v2"
   "filename" : "NormalMaps_1024x1024.astc",
    "universal-type-identifier": "public.astc",
    "memory" : "2GB",
    "graphicsFeatureSet" : "metal2v2"
```

NSDataAsset class provides correctly matched data resource from Asset Catalog

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#import <UIKIt/NSDataAsset.h>

NSDataAsset class provides correctly matched data resource from Asset Catalog

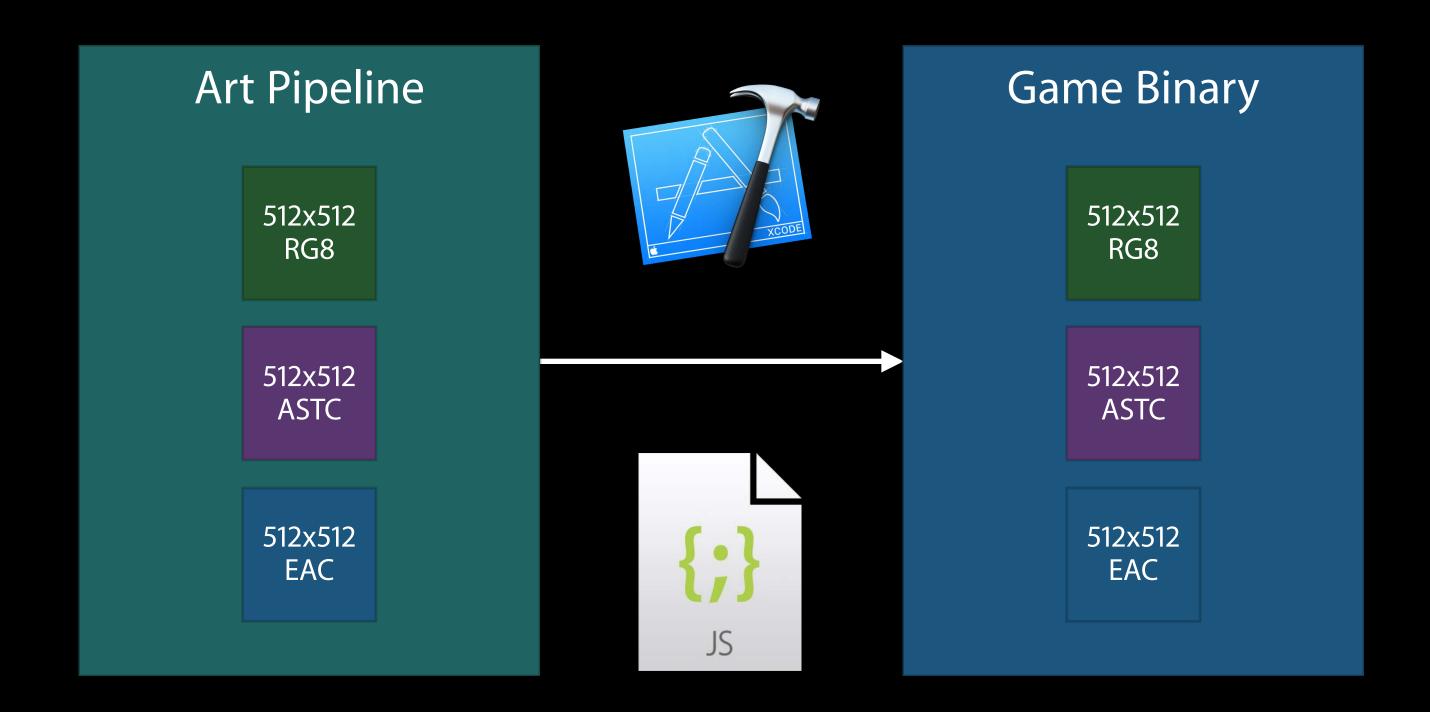
```
#import <UIKIt/NSDataAsset.h>
NSDataAsset **asset = [[NSDataAsset alloc] initWithName:@"NormalMaps"];
NSData **data = asset.data;
```

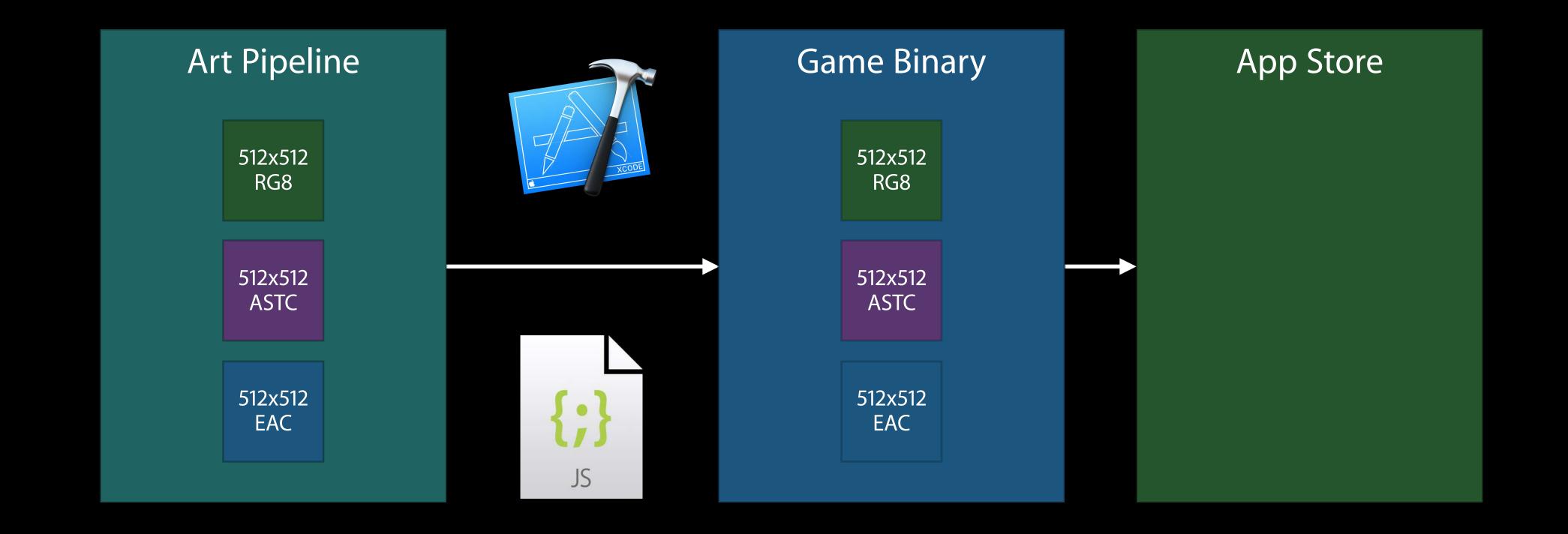
Art Pipeline

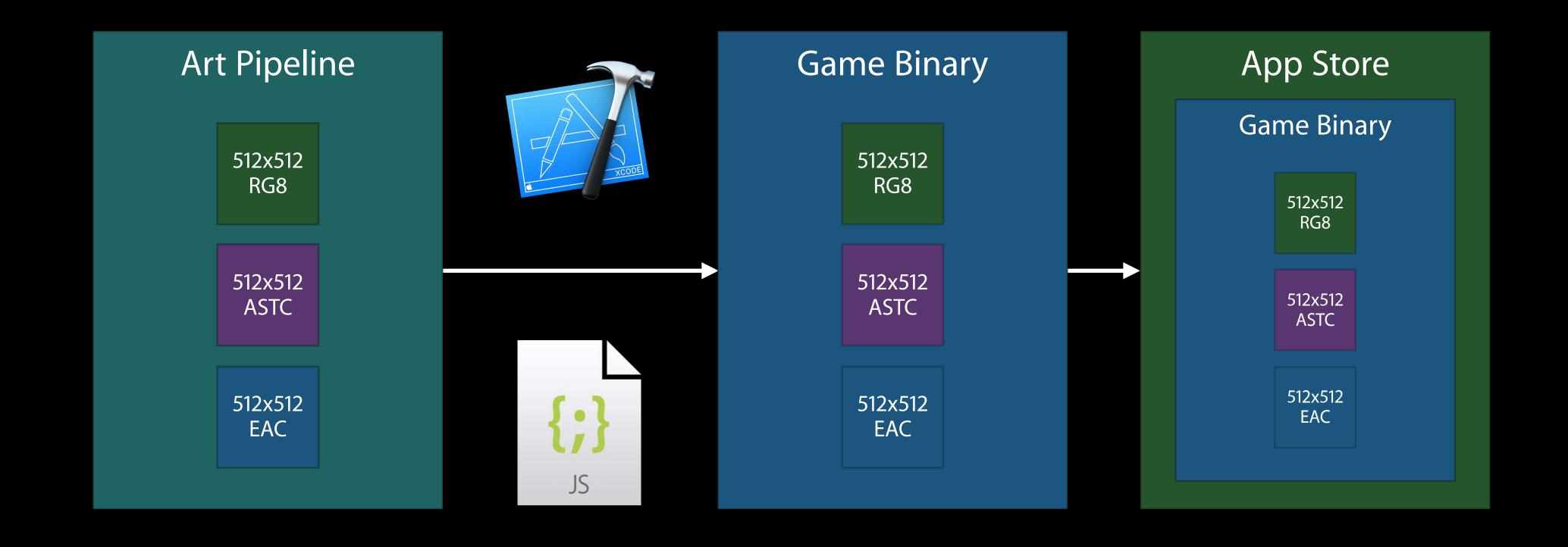
512x512 RG8

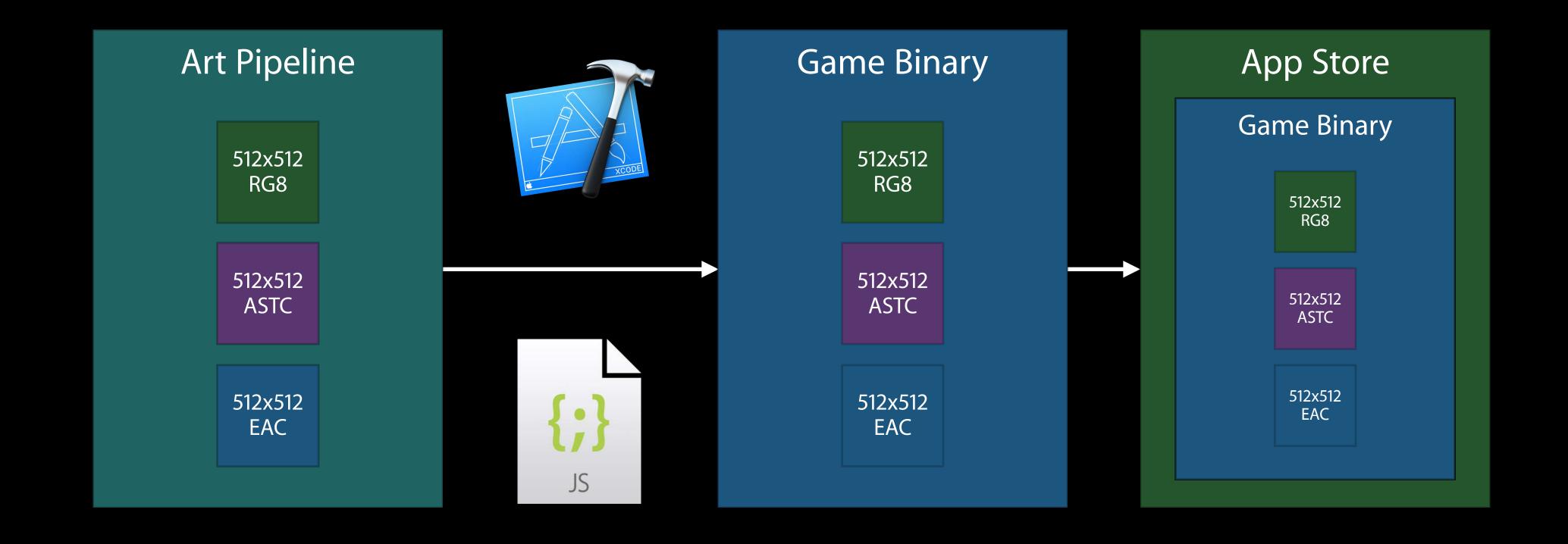
512x512 ASTC

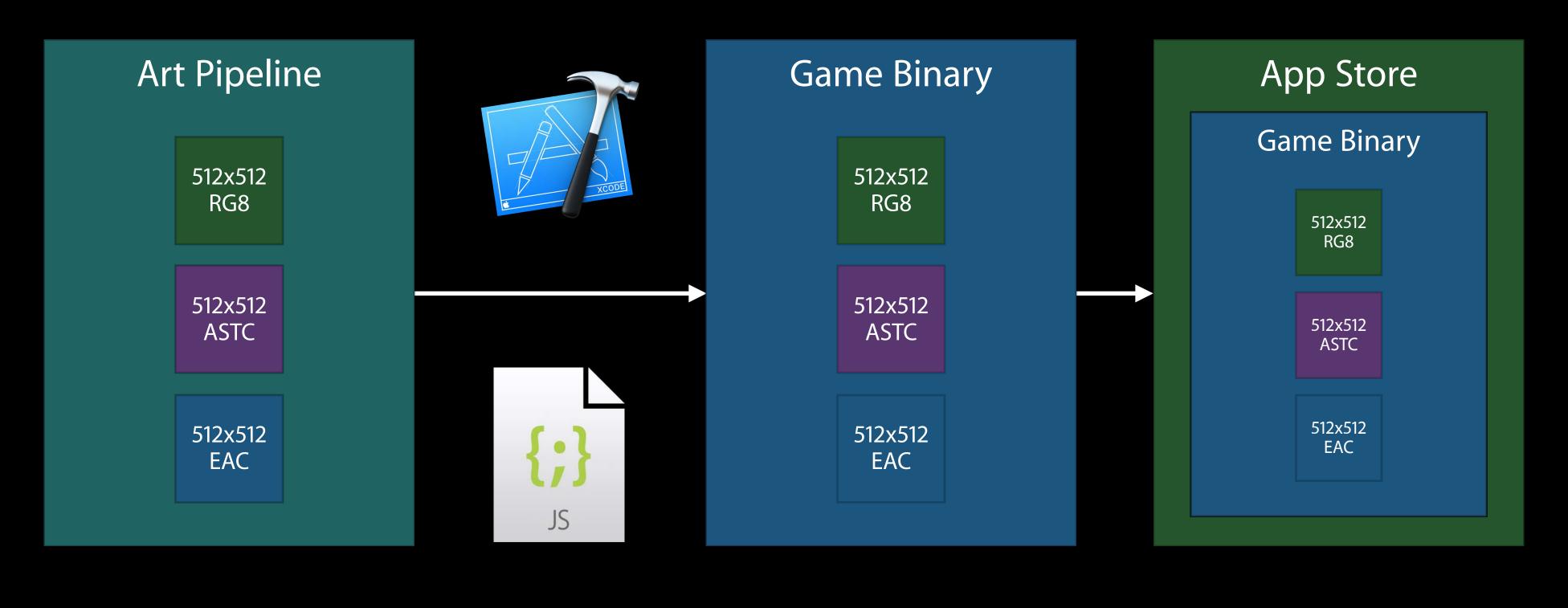
512x512 EAC



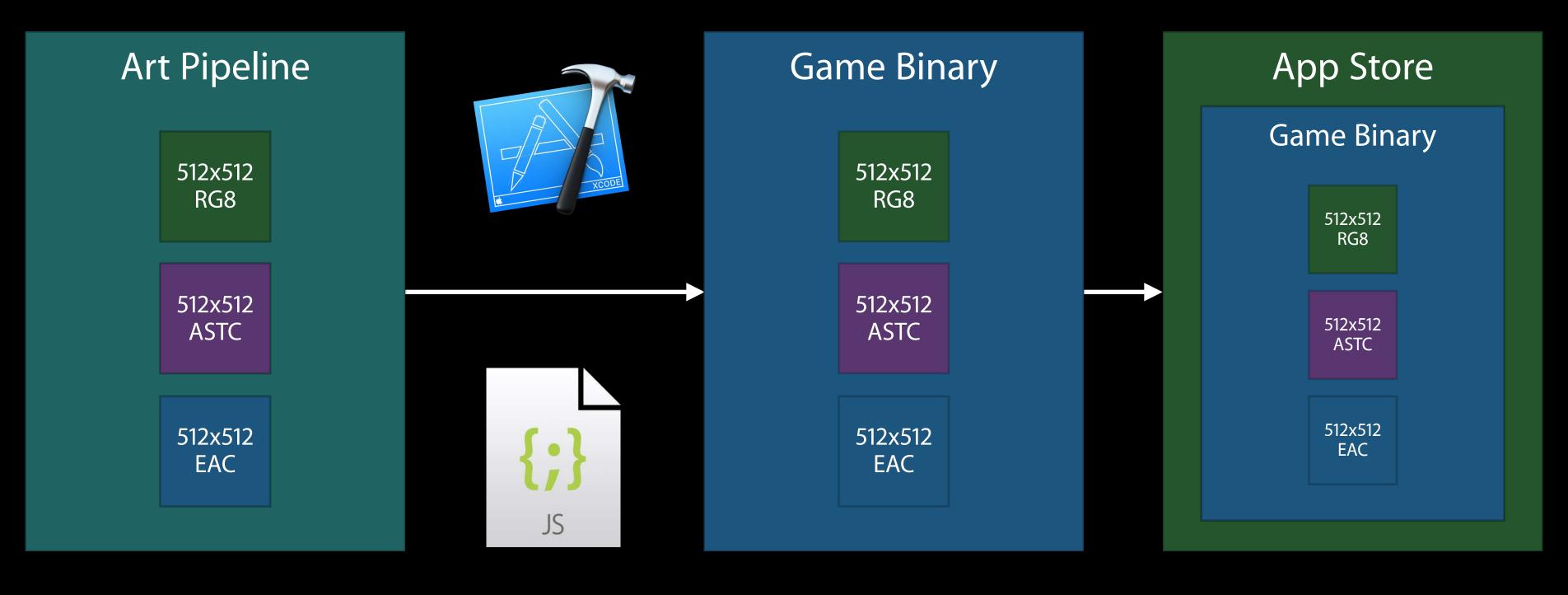














Summary

Developers are using Metal to create next-generation games and professional apps

Metal now available for OS X

New Xcode Metal tools

New API features in iOS 9 and OS X

Support Metal-specific assets with App Thinning

More Information

Metal Documentation and Videos

http://developer.apple.com/metal

Apple Developer Forums

http://developer.apple.com/forums

Developer Technical Support

http://developer.apple.com/support/technical

General Inquiries

Allan Schaffer, Game Technologies Evangelist aschaffer@apple.com

Related Sessions

What's New in Metal, Part 2	Mission	Thursday 9:00AM
Metal Performance Optimization Techniques	Pacific Heights	Friday 11:00AM

Labs

Metal Lab	Graphics, Games, and Media Lab C	Wednesday 11:00AM
Metal Lab	Graphics, Games, and Media Lab D	Friday 12:00PM

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