

What's New in Core Data

Session 220

Rishi Verma Core Data Engineer

Scott Perry Core Data Engineer

What Is Core Data?

To persist or not to persist

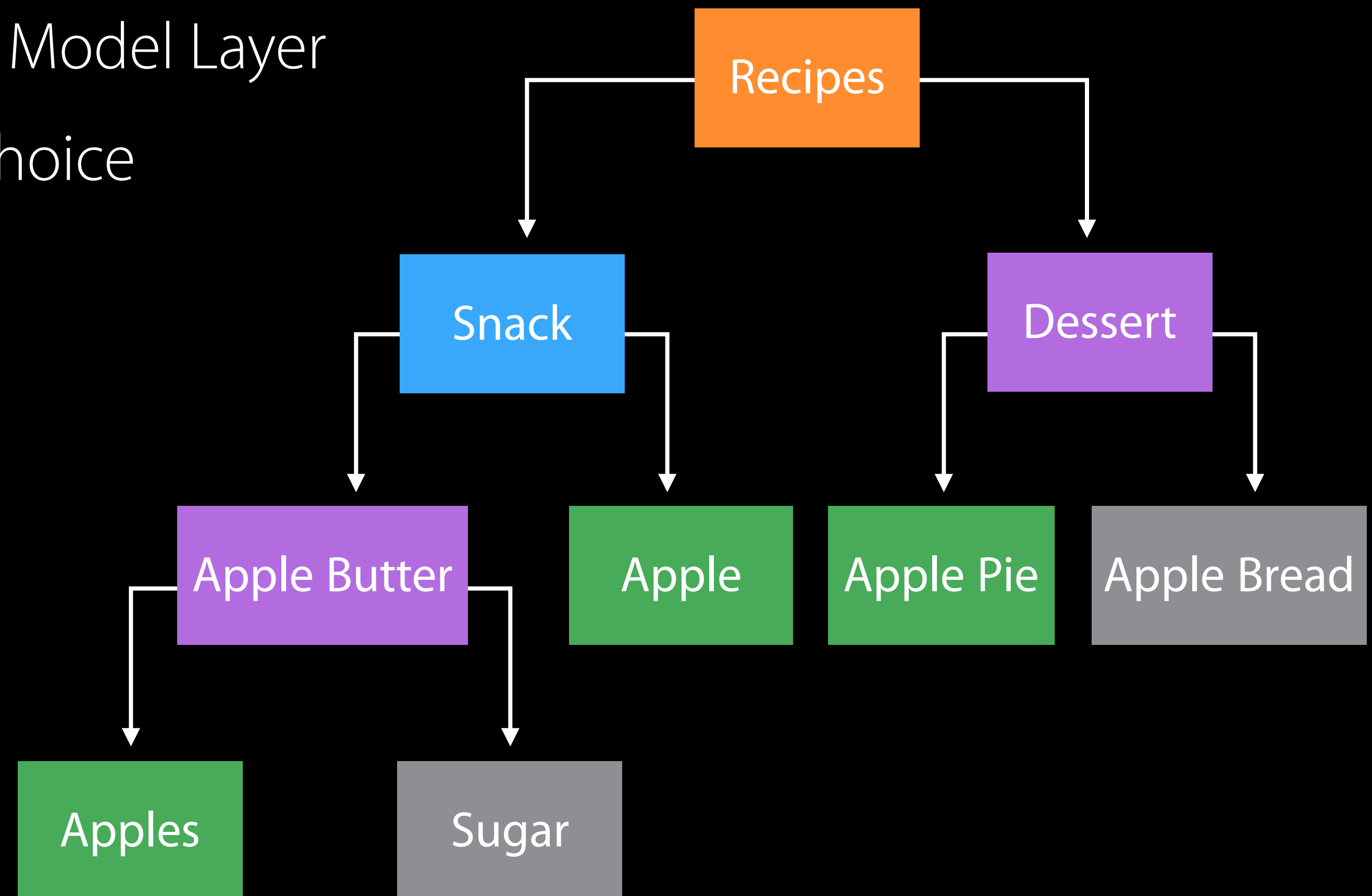
Rishi Verma Core Data Engineer

Object Graph Management

Manage my graph with Core Data

Bridge your data simply into a Cocoa Model Layer

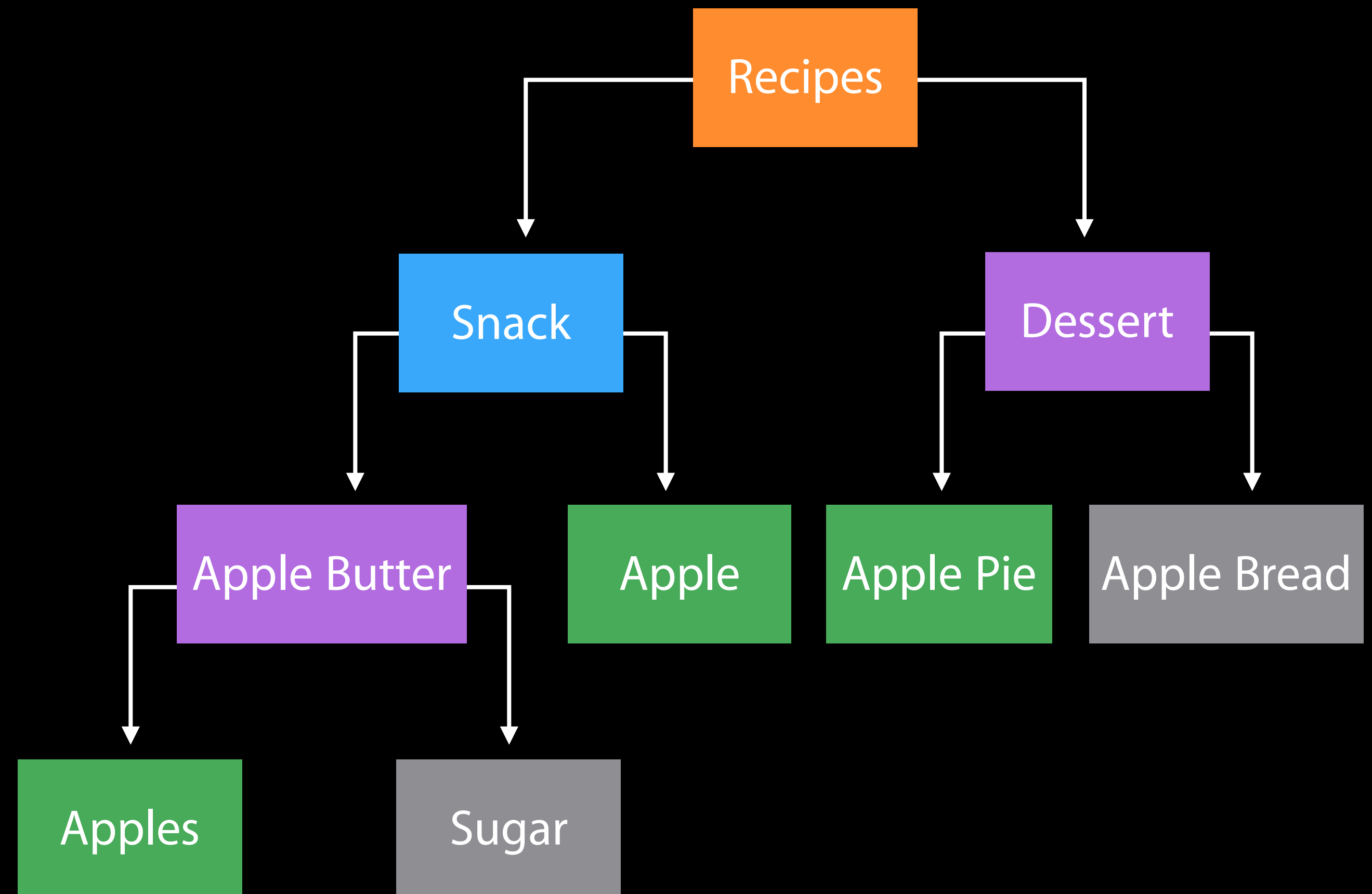
Persist data in the back end of your choice



Automatic Graph Management

Relationships can be complicated...

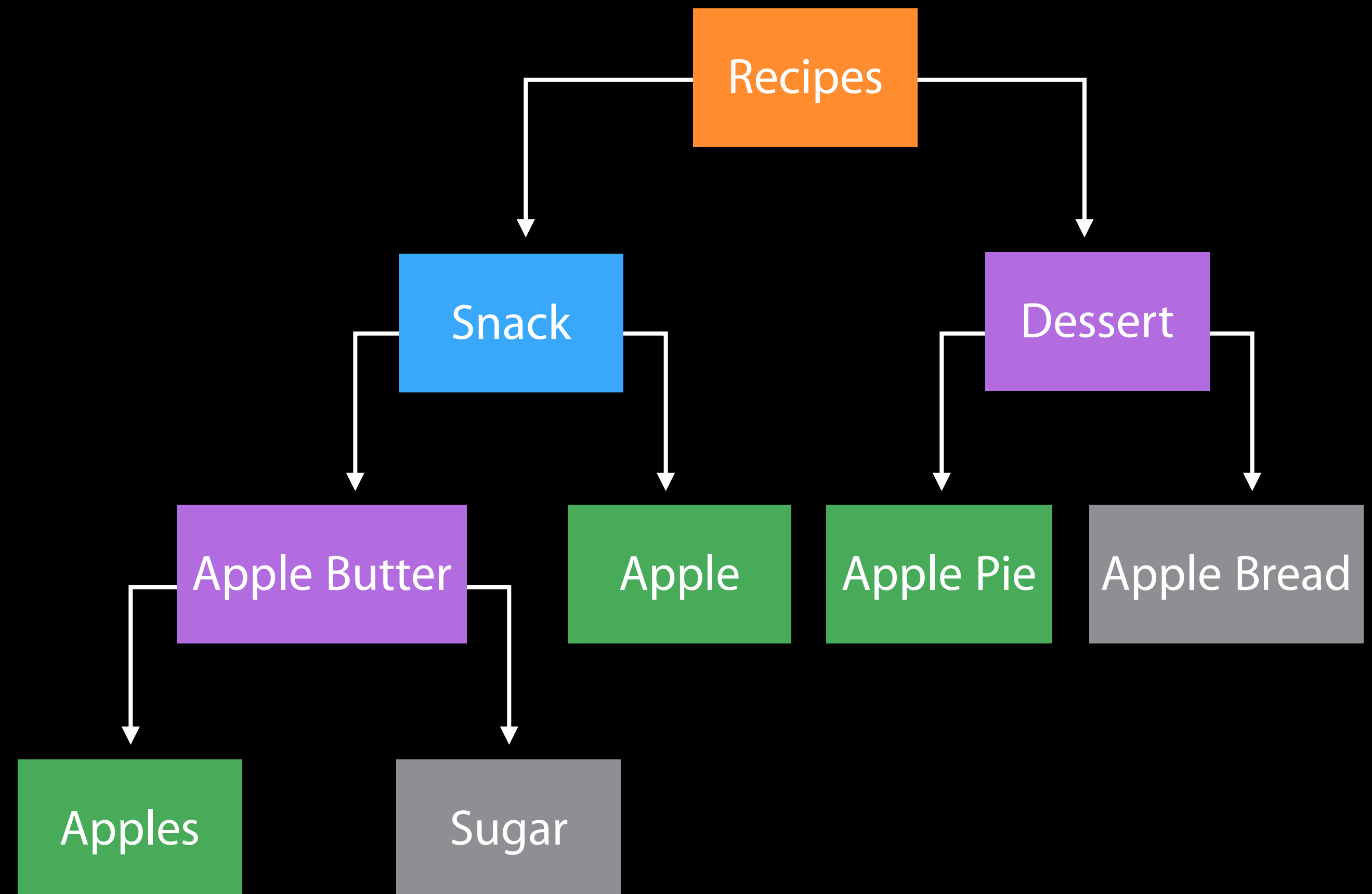
Automatic relationship maintenance



NSFetchRequest

Finding a needle in a haystack

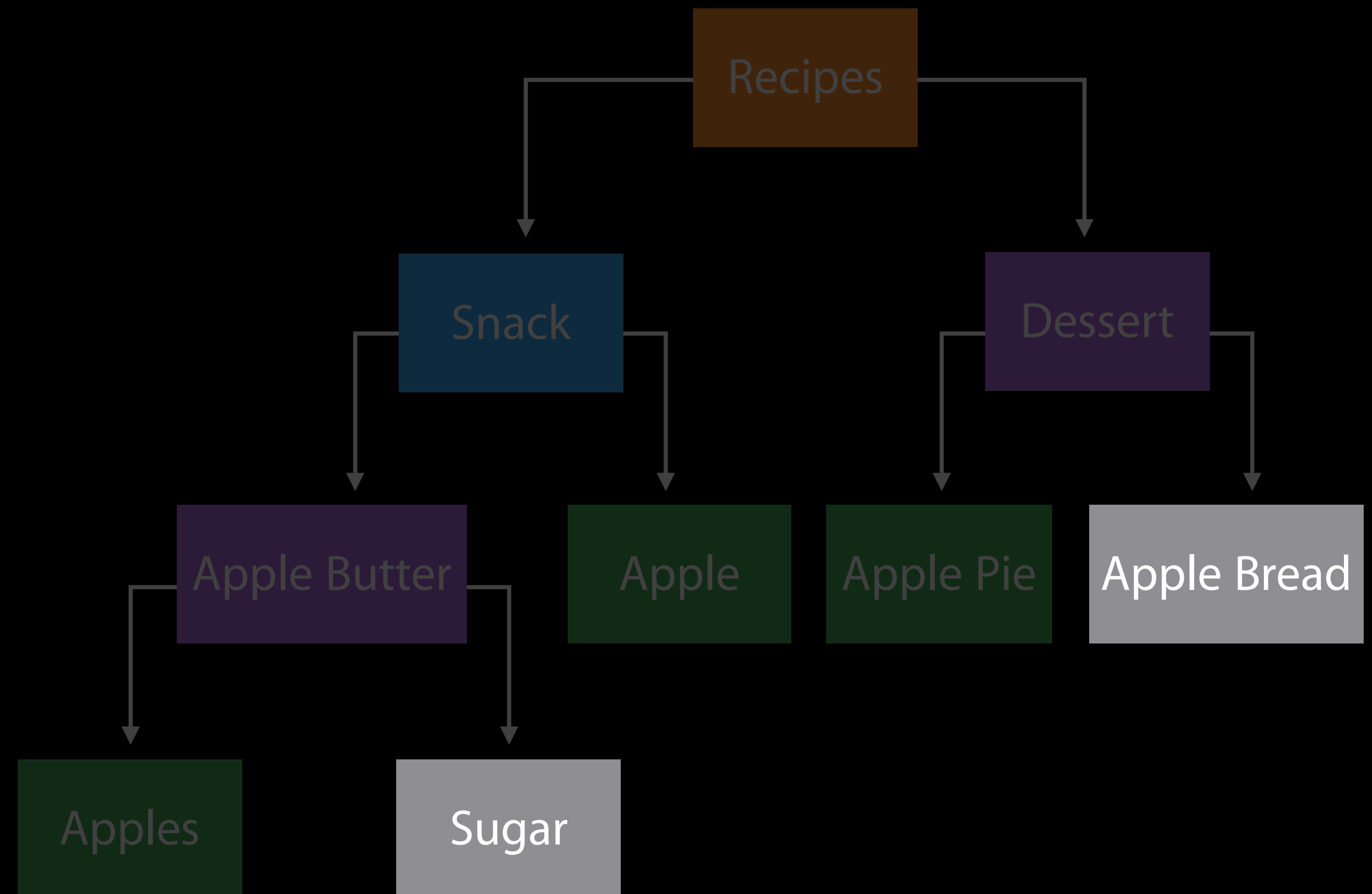
Find the data you need



NSFetchRequest

Finding a needle in a haystack

Find the data you need

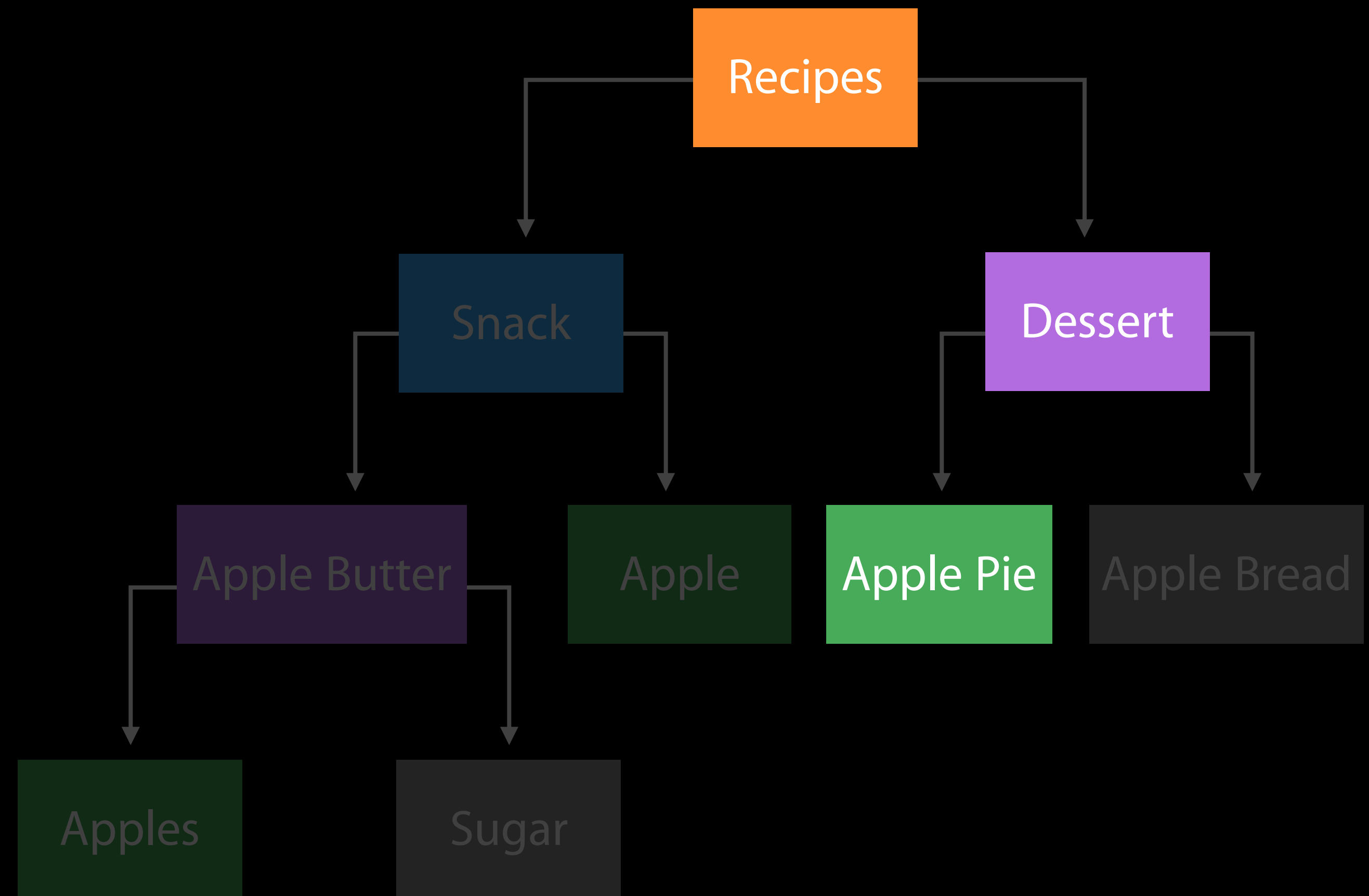


NSFetchRequest

Finding a needle in a haystack

Find the data you need

Batching



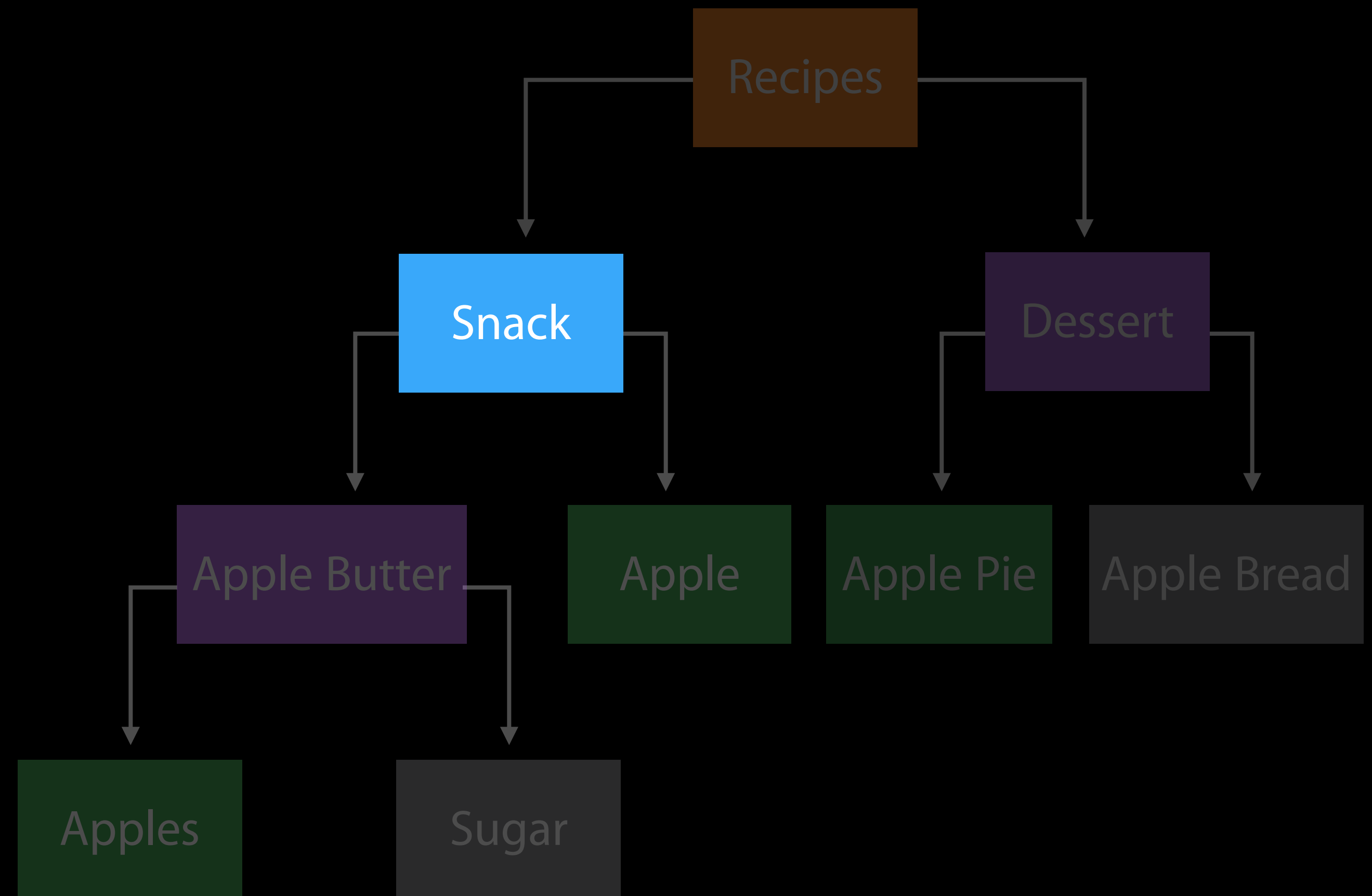
NSFetchRequest

Finding a needle in a haystack

Find the data you need

Batching

Relationship prefetching



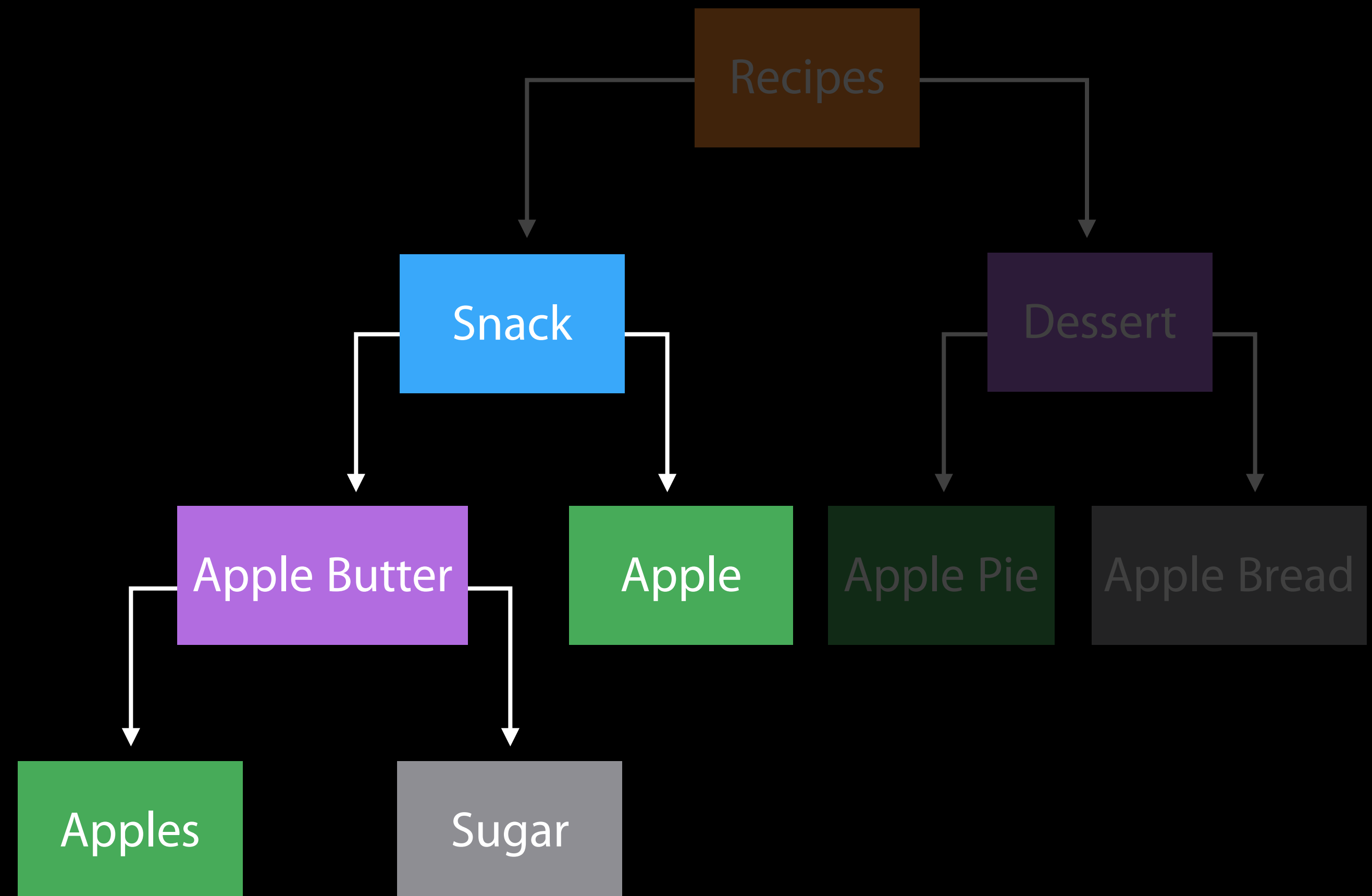
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NSFetchRequest

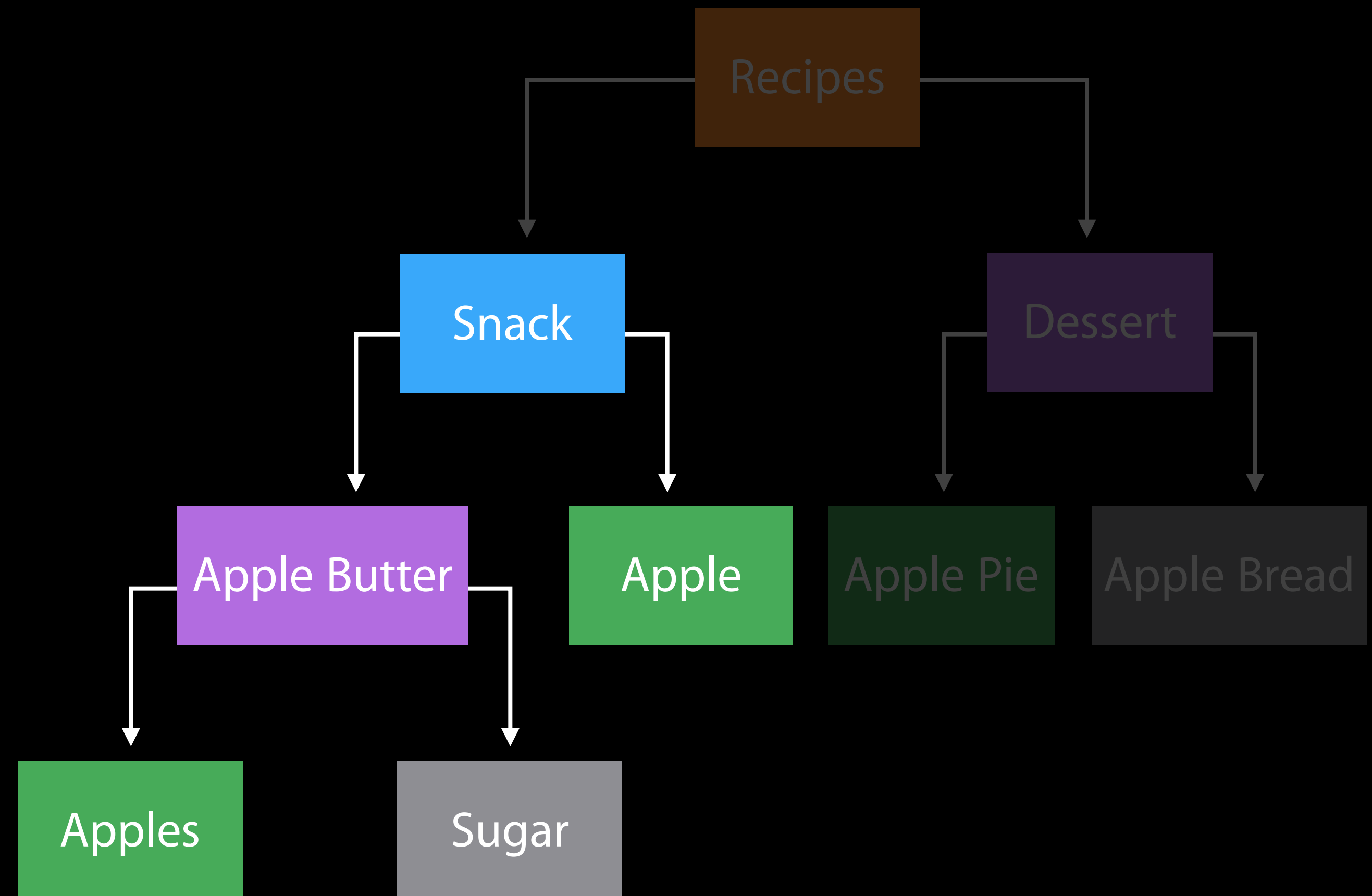
Finding a needle in a haystack

Find the data you need

Batching

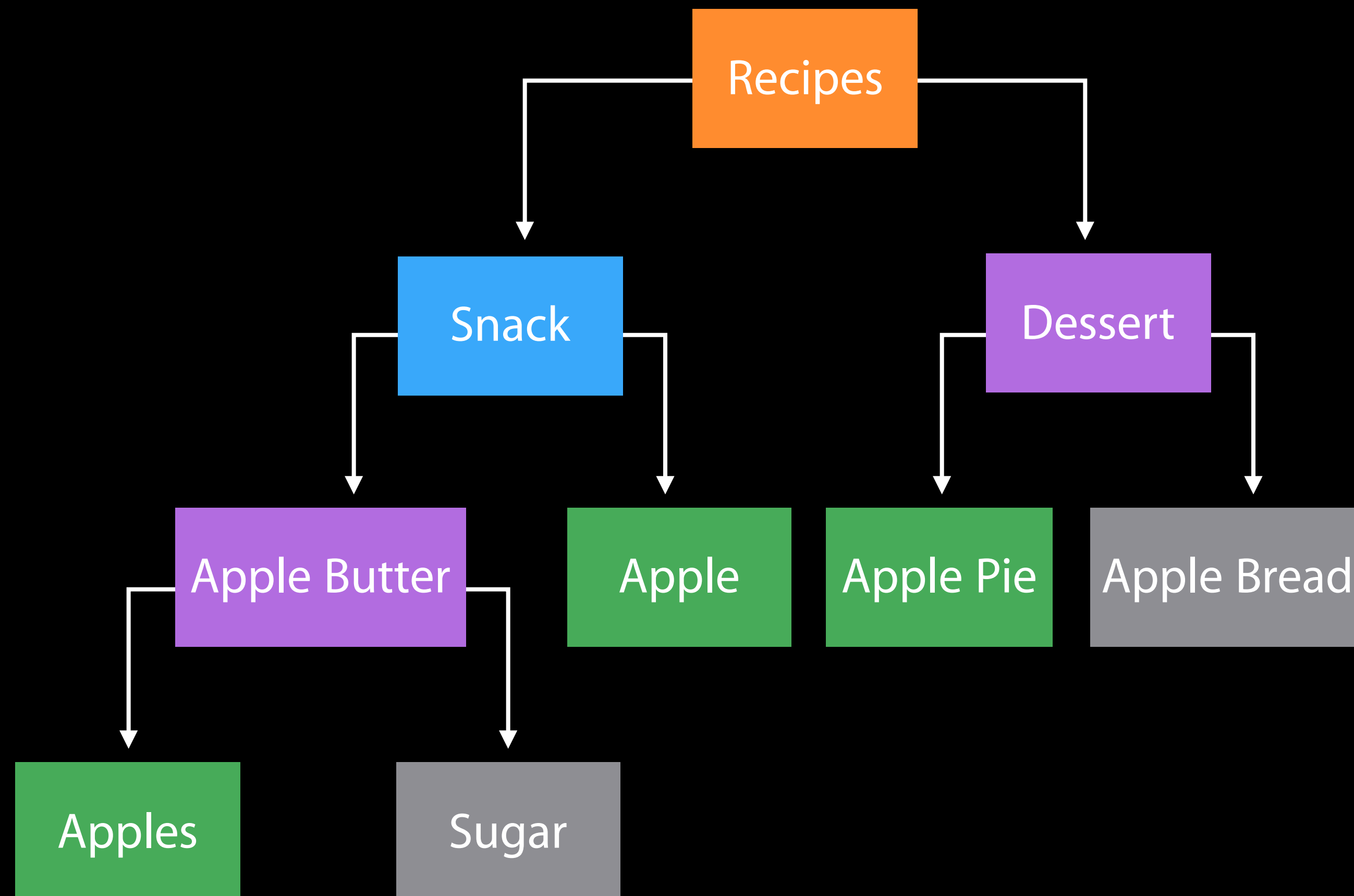
Relationship prefetching

Then tie this with your UI and...



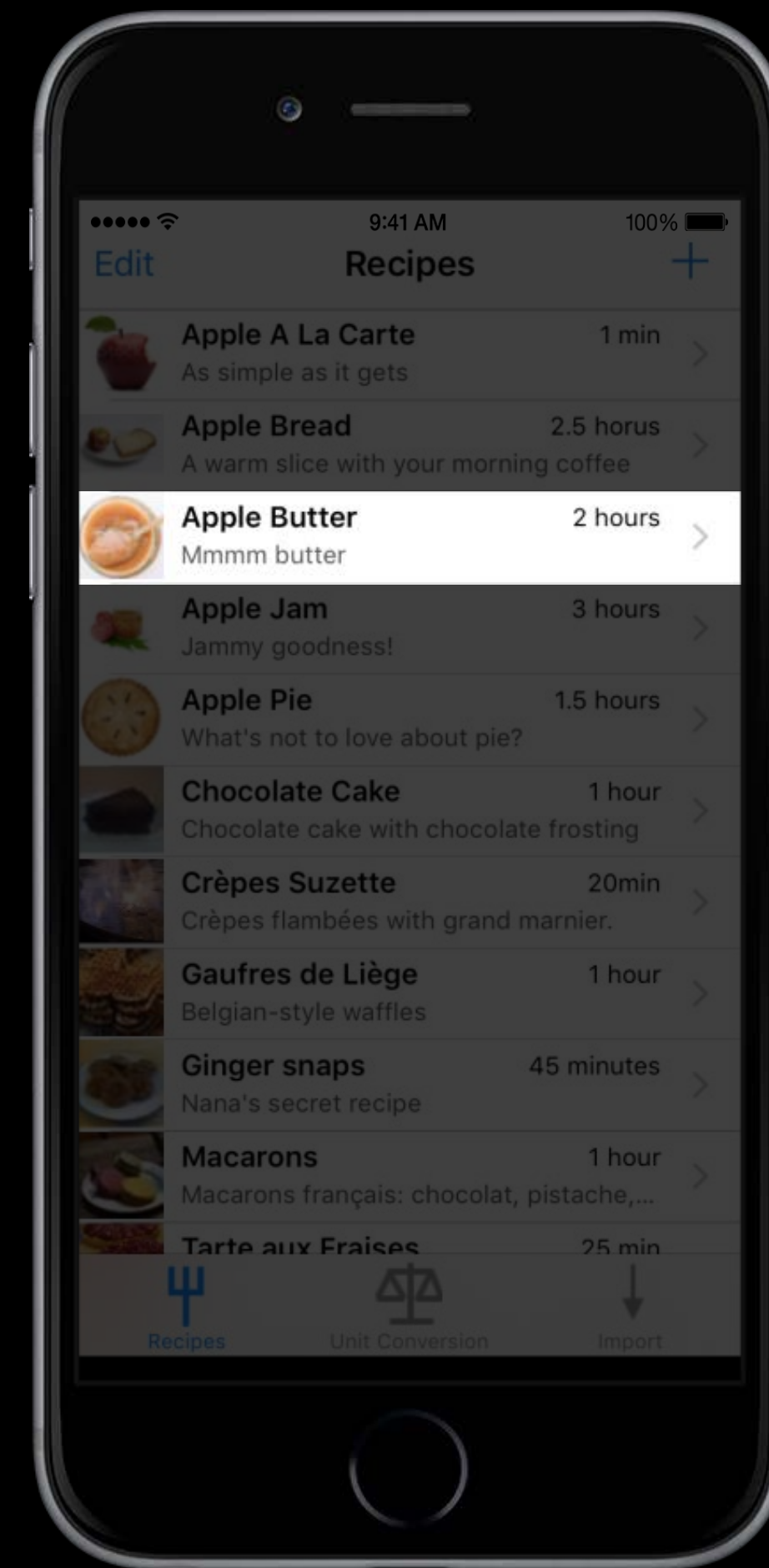
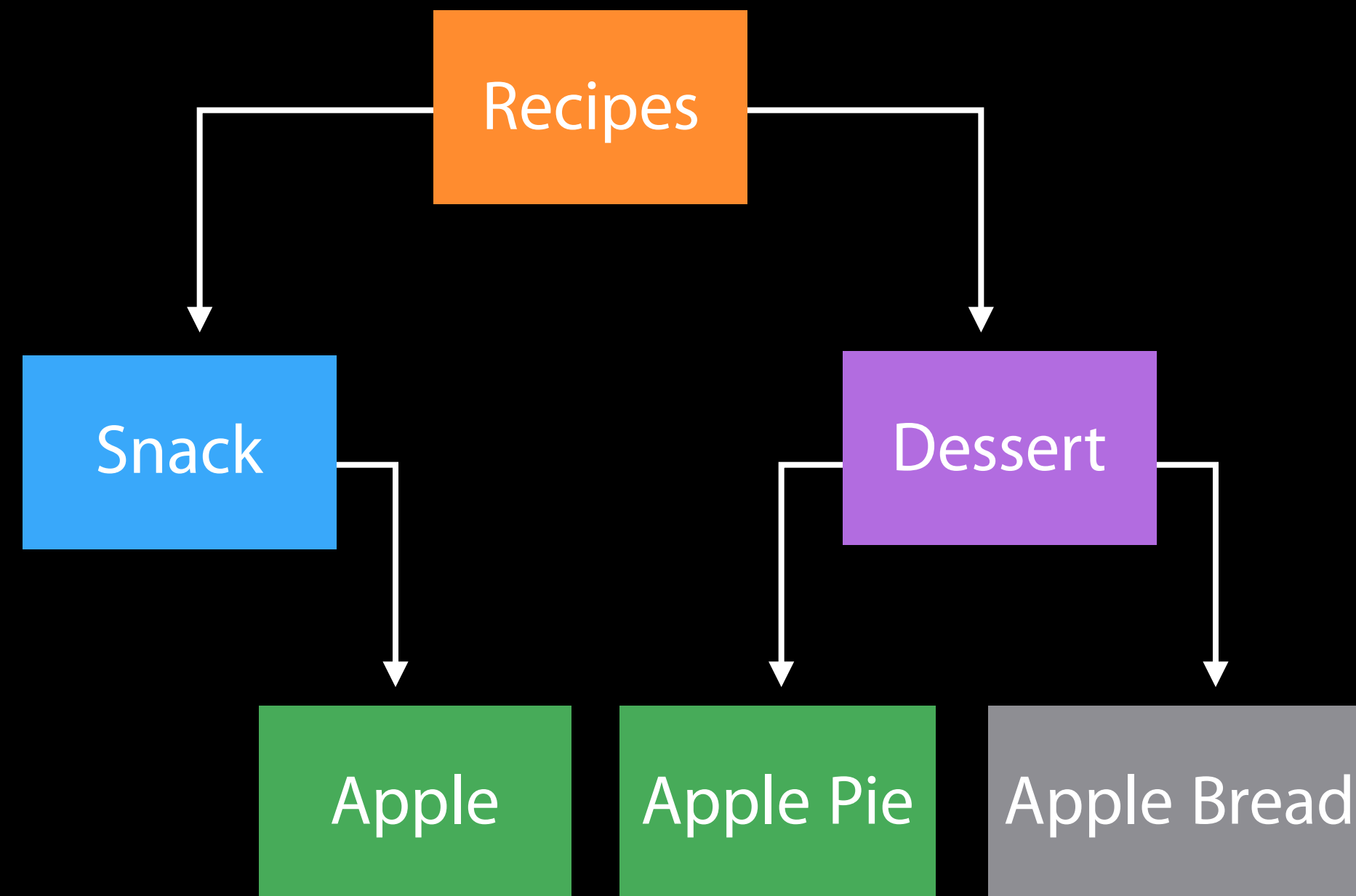
View and Controller Support

My UI brings all the updates to the users



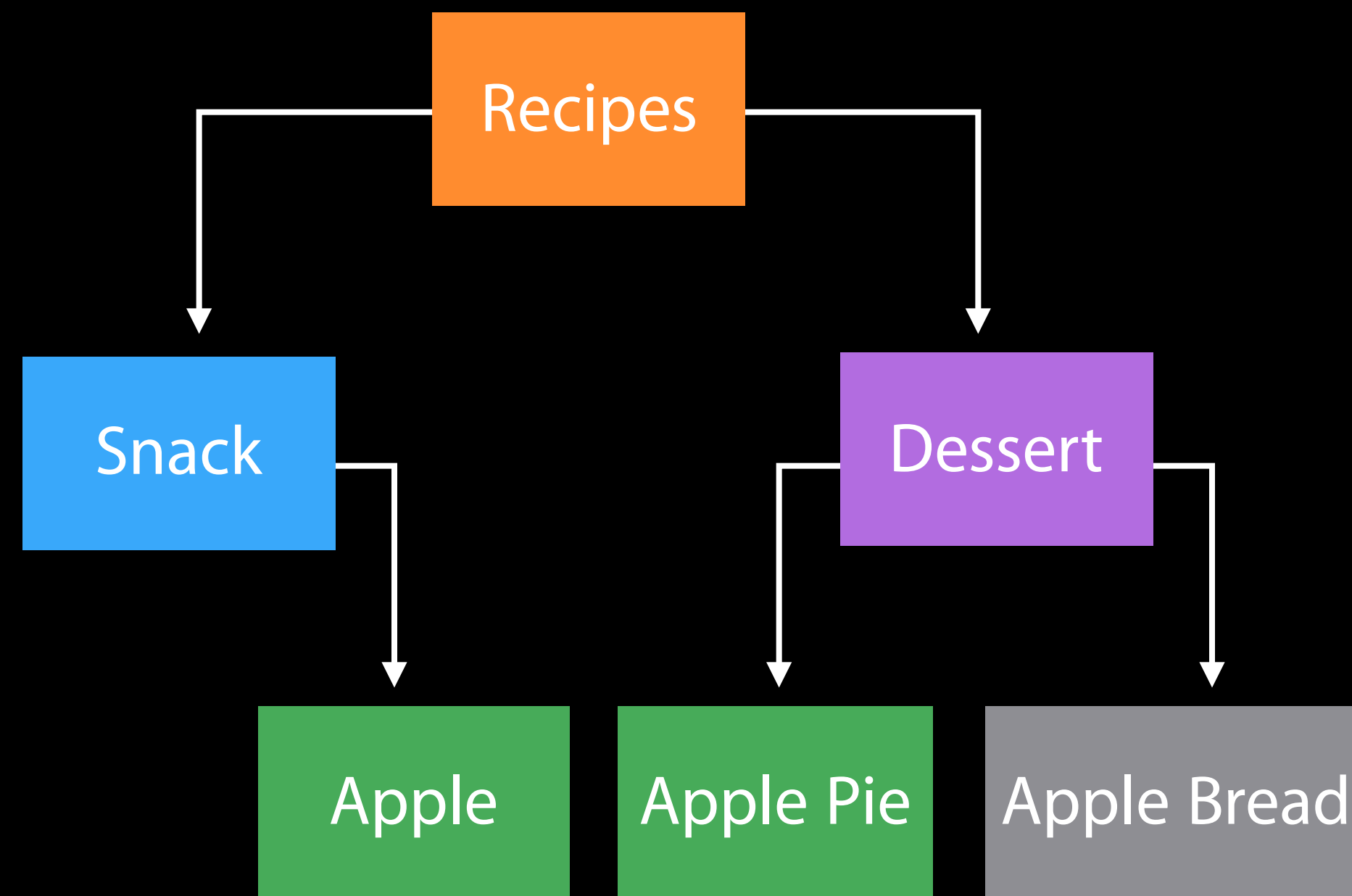
View and Controller Support

My UI brings all the updates to the users



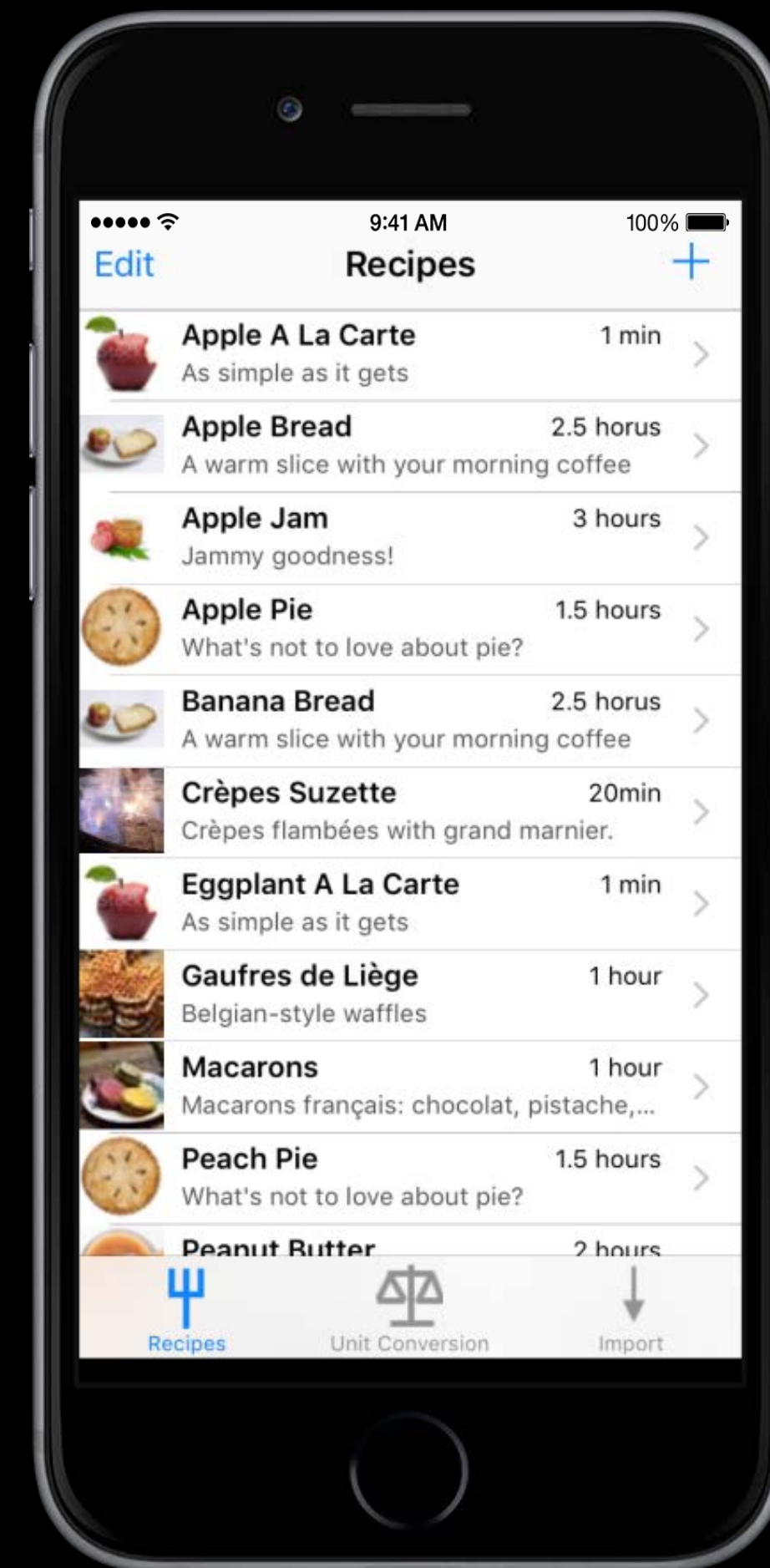
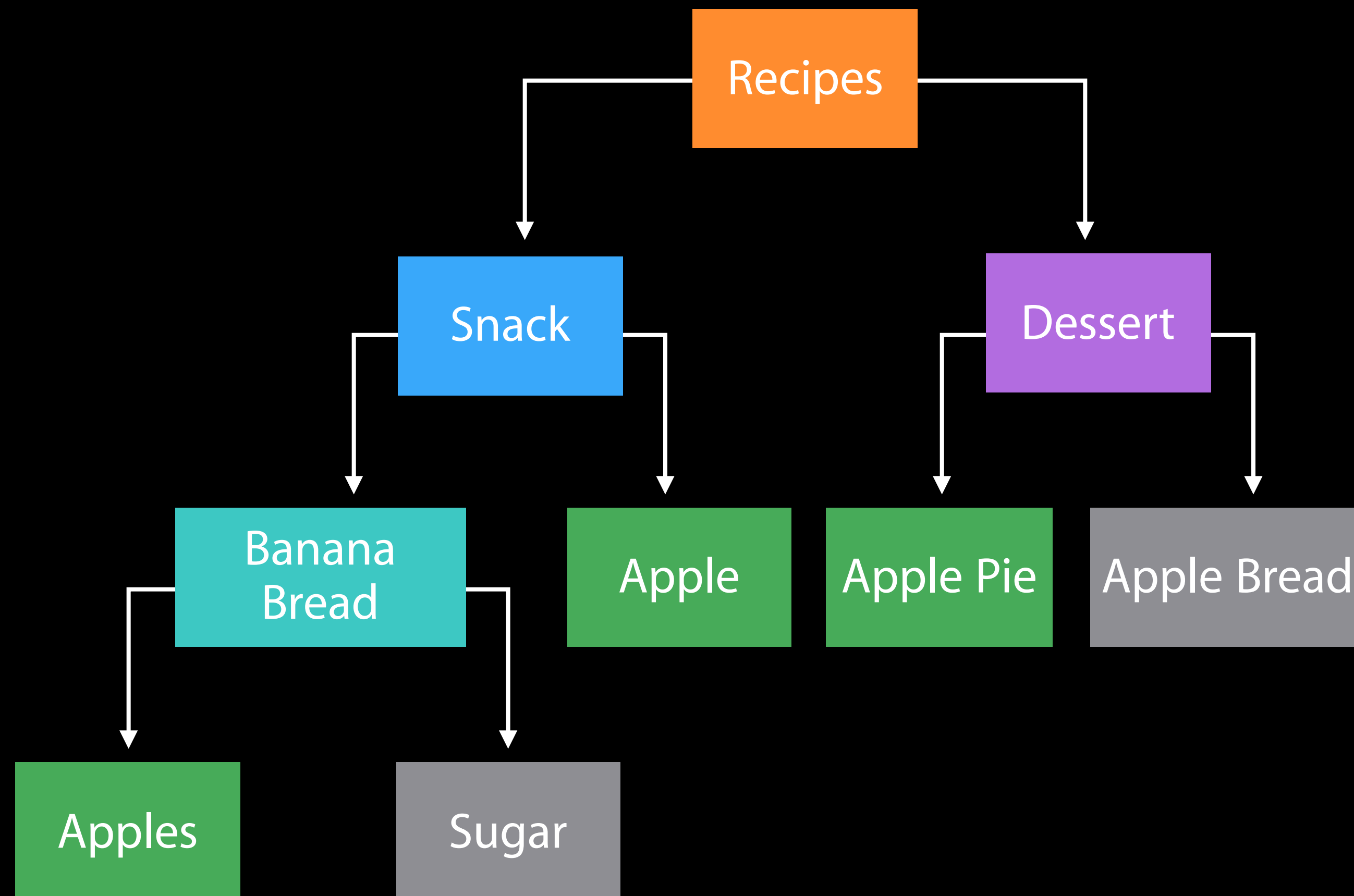
View and Controller Support

My UI brings all the updates to the users



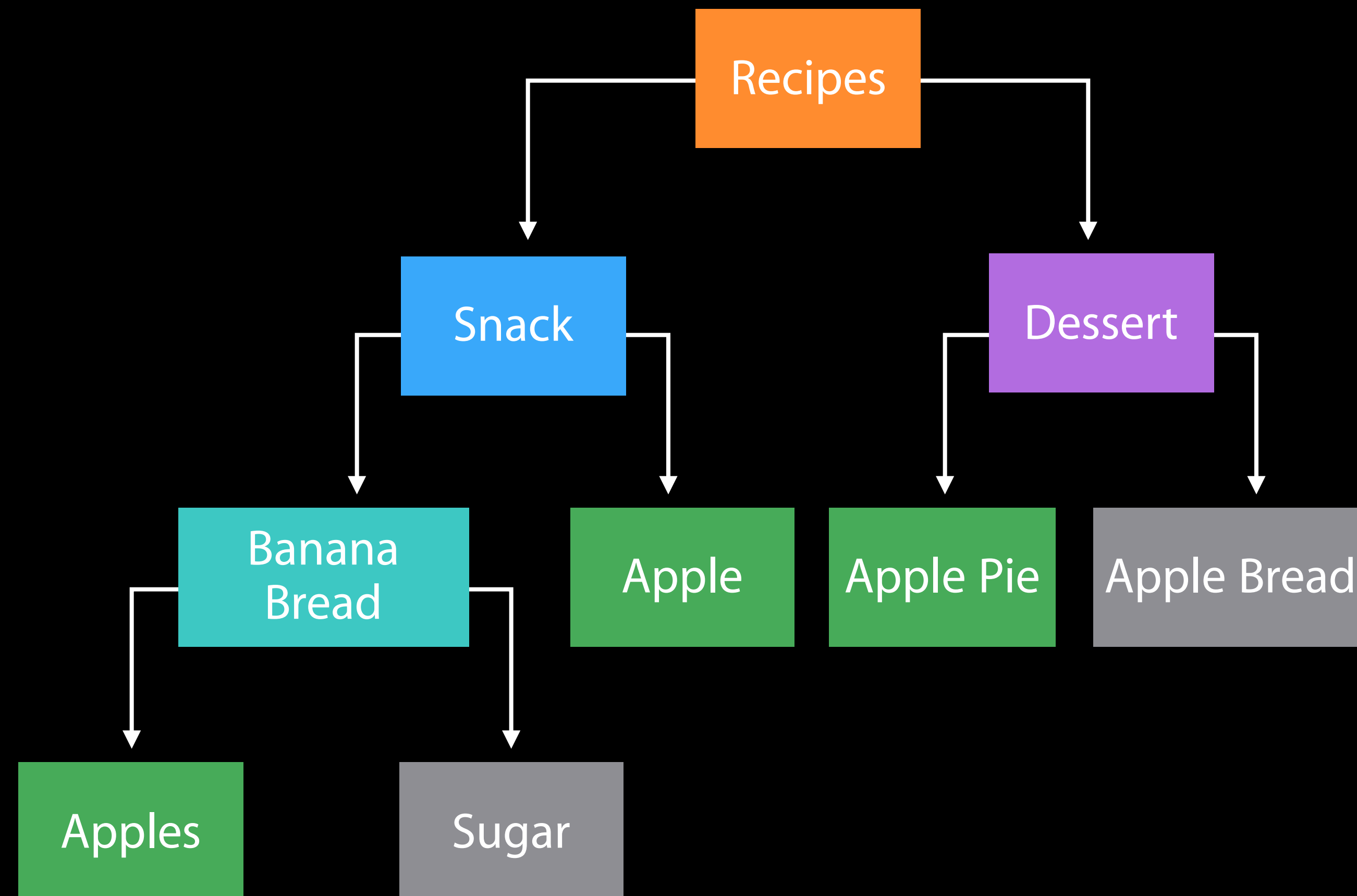
View and Controller Support

My UI brings all the updates to the users



View and Controller Support

My UI brings all the updates to the users



Multi-Writer Conflict Handling

On your mark, set that merge policy, and done

CoreData versions all objects

Several types of merge policies available

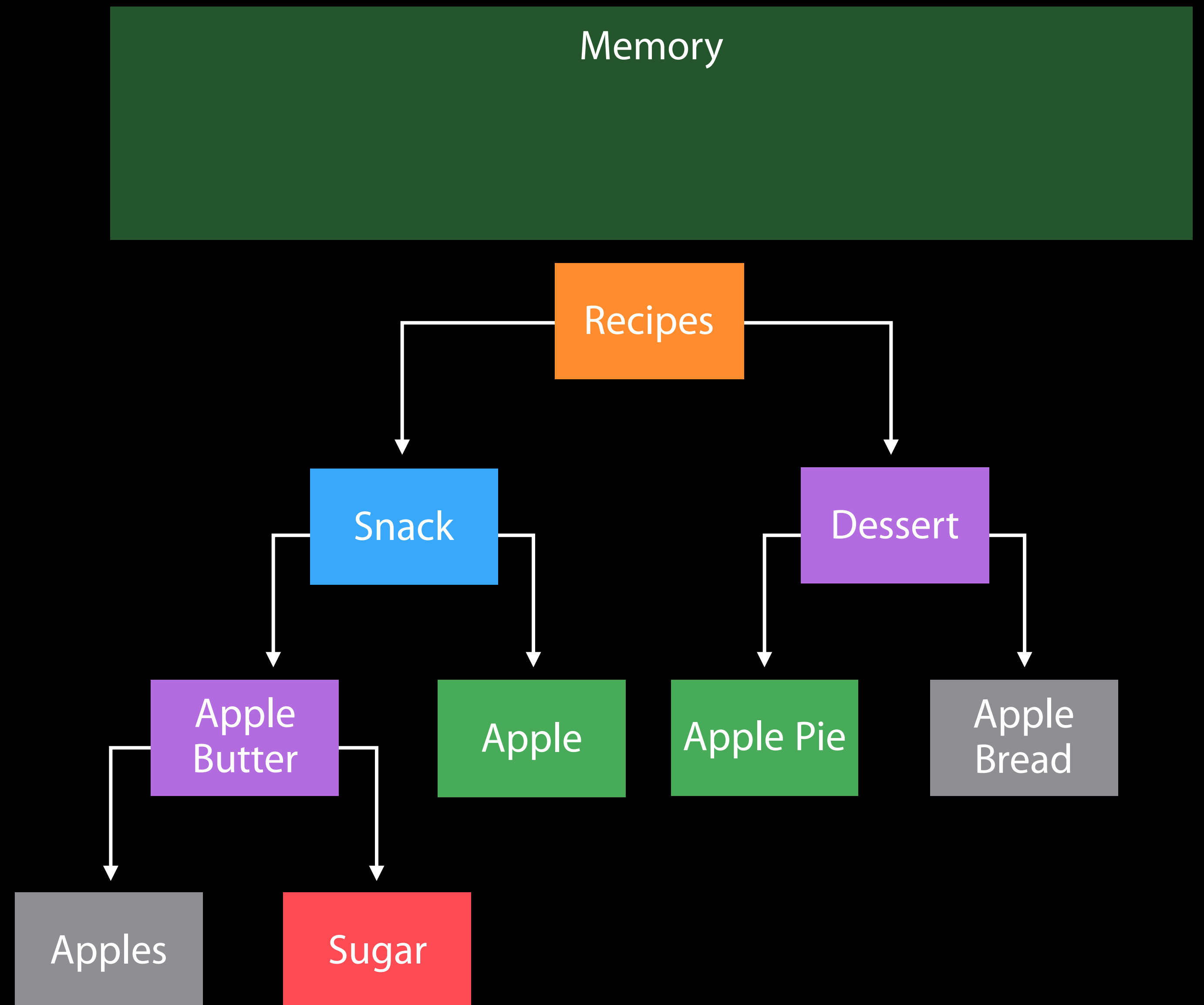
- Defaults to error
- Persistent store vs. in-memory

Memory Efficiencies

APIs with benefits

Excellent memory scalability

Aggressive lazy loading

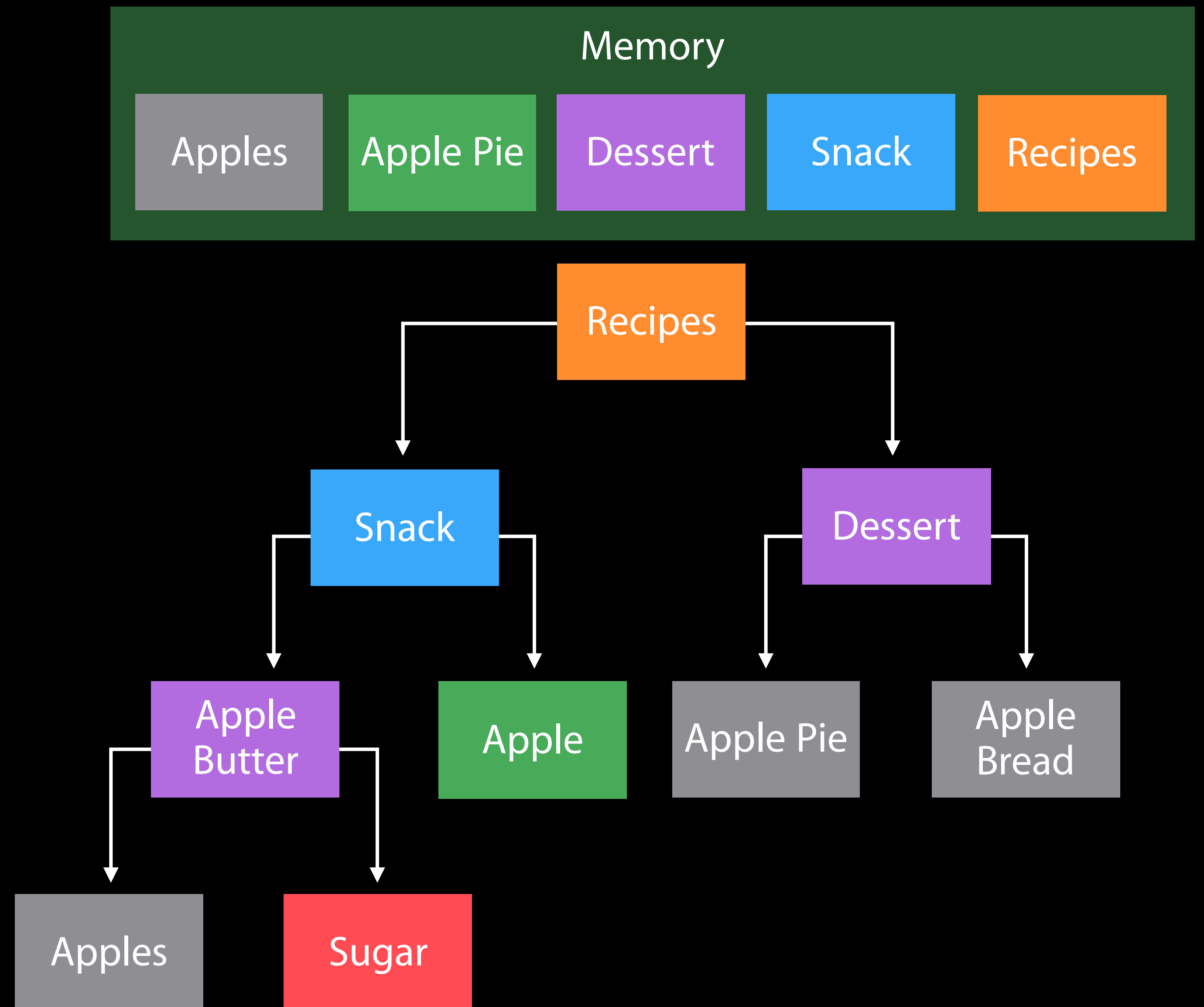


Memory Efficiencies

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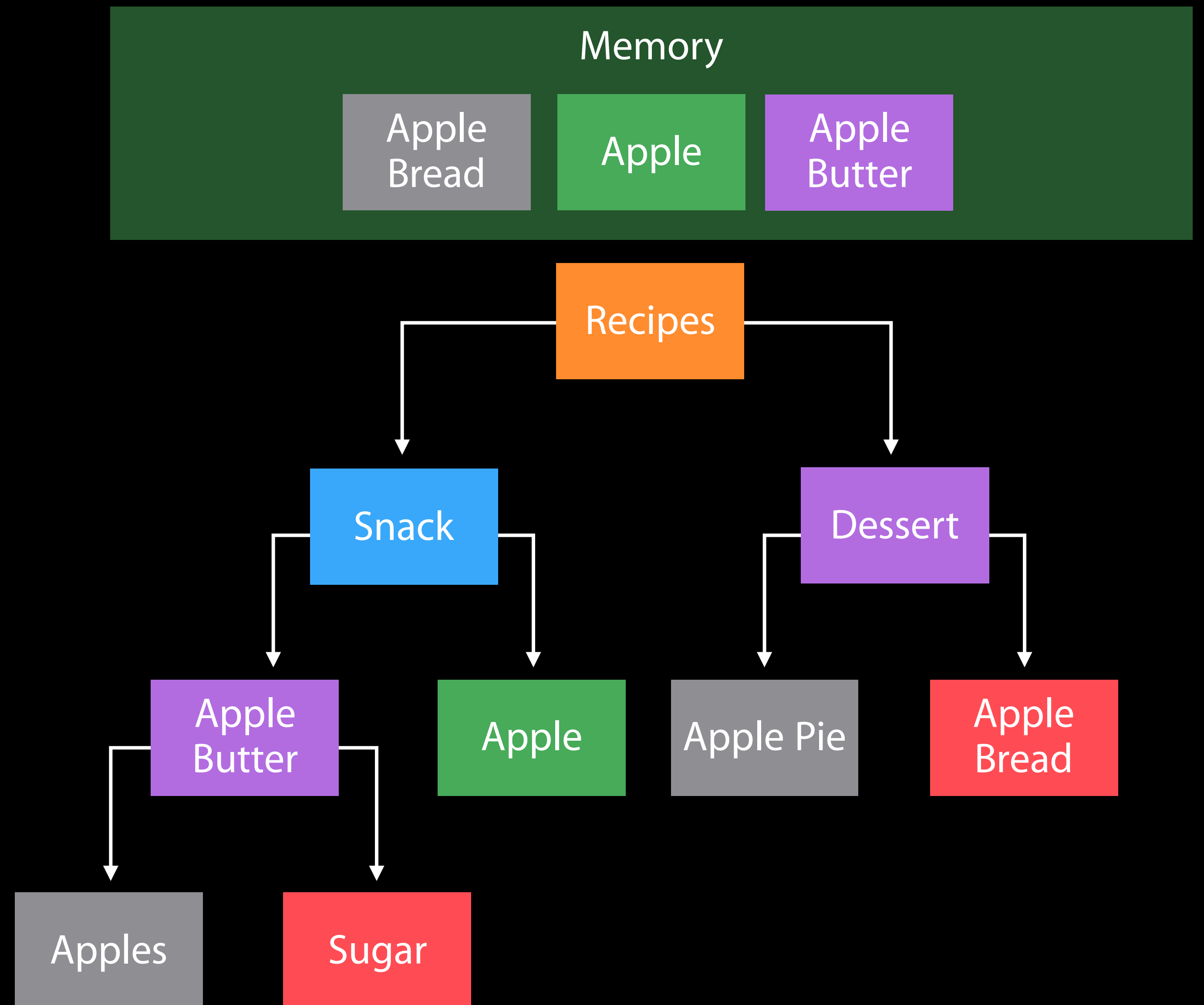


Memory Efficiencies

APIs with benefits

Excellent memory scalability

Aggressive lazy loading



Smaller Footprint

Less is more

50%—70%

Less code

4000,000

API Enhancements

hasPersistentChangedValues

NSManagedObject

NEW

```
var hasPersistentChangedValues: Bool { get }
```

No false positives setting a value to itself

Skips transient properties

objectIDsForRelationshipNamed

NEW

NSManagedObject

```
func objectIDsForRelationshipNamed(key: String) -> [NSManagedObjectID]
```

Reads cache or fetches the objectIDs

Doesn't materialize entire relationship

Useful working with large, many-to-many relationships

objectIDsForRelationshipNamed

Code example

NEW

objectIDsForRelationshipNamed

NEW

Code example

```
let relations = person.objectIDsForRelationshipNamed("family")
```

objectIDsForRelationshipNamed

NEW

Code example

```
let relations = person.objectIDsForRelationshipNamed("family")

let fetchFamily = NSFetchRequest(entityName: "Person")
fetchFamily.fetchBatchSize = 100
fetchFamily.predicate = NSPredicate(format: "self IN %@", relations)
```

objectIDsForRelationshipNamed

NEW

Code example

```
let relations = person.objectIDsForRelationshipNamed("family")

let fetchFamily = NSFetchRequest(entityName: "Person")
fetchFamily.fetchBatchSize = 100
fetchFamily.predicate = NSPredicate(format: "self IN %@", relations)

let batchedRelations = managedObjectContext.executeFetchRequest(fetchFamily)
```

objectIDsForRelationshipNamed

NEW

Code example

```
let relations = person.objectIDsForRelationshipNamed("family")

let fetchFamily = NSFetchRequest(entityName: "Person")
fetchFamily.fetchBatchSize = 100
fetchFamily.predicate = NSPredicate(format: "self IN %@", relations)

let batchedRelations = managedObjectContext.executeFetchRequest(fetchFamily)

for relative in batchedRelations {
    // work with relations 100 rows at a time
}
```


refreshAllObjects

NSManagedObjectContext

NEW

```
func refreshAllObjects()
```

Affects all registered objects in a context

Preserves unsaved changes

Managed Object references remain valid

Useful for breaking retain cycles

mergeChangesFromRemoteContextSave

NEW

NSManagedObjectContext

```
class func mergeChangesFromRemoteContextSave(changeNotificationData:
[NSObject : AnyObject], intoContexts contexts: [NSManagedObjectContext])
```

Better for changes from different coordinators

Fetches latest row data

Handles ordering with nested contexts

No Love for Exceptions

This is not the data you are looking for

Why is Core Data unable to fulfill a fault?

Managed objects are implicit futures

- Cocoa place holders for a row of data
- Often lazily loaded
- Part of a larger graph

Data deleted out from underneath this reference

shouldDeleteInaccessibleFaults

NSManagedObjectContext

```
var shouldDeleteInaccessibleFaults: Bool
```

- Defaults to YES
- Does not effect APIs with error parameters

Bad faults marked deleted

Missing data treated as NULL/nil/0

NSPersistentStoreCoordinator API

It's my file and I'll do what I want to

Truncating and copying databases

Don't bypass the API layers

- NSFileManager and POSIX are bad for databases
- Will corrupt your files if open connections exist

Deleting a file with open locks ends badly...very badly

destroyPersistentStoreAtURL

NEW

NSPersistentStoreCoordinator

```
func destroyPersistentStoreAtURL(url: NSURL, withType storeType: String,  
options: [NSObject : AnyObject]?) throws
```

Honors locking protocols

Handles details reconfiguring emptied files

- Journal mode, page size, etc.
- Need to pass same options as addToPersistentStore
- Accidentally switching journal modes can deadlock

replacePersistentStoreAtURL

NEW

NSPersistentStoreCoordinator

```
func replacePersistentStoreAtURL(destinationURL: NSURL, destinationOptions:
[NSObject : AnyObject]?, withPersistentStoreFromURL sourceURL: NSURL,
sourceOptions: [NSObject : AnyObject]?, storeType: String) throws
```

Same pattern as destroyPersistentStoreAtURL

If destination doesn't exist, this does a copy

Unique Constraints

I got 99 problems and they are all duplicates...

Find or Create Pattern

Unique constraints

```
managedObjectContext.performBlock {  
    let createRequest = NSFetchRequest(entityName: "Recipe")  
    createRequest.resultType = ManagedObjectIDResultType  
    let predicate =  
        NSPredicate(format: "source = %@ AND externalID = %@", source, externalID)  
  
    let results = self.managedObjectContext.executeFetchRequest(createRequest)  
    if (results.count) {  
        //update it!  
    } else {  
        //create it!  
    }  
}
```

One of a Kind

Unique constraints

Unique attributes across all instances of an entity

- Email addresses
- Part numbers
- UPC
- ISBN
- Unique key/value pairs

Best Practices

Unique constraints

Best for values unmodified after object creation

Sub-entities may extend constraints

- Parent (UUID)
- Sub-entity (UUID, EMAIL)

Recovery uses merge policies

Demo

How to utilize unique constraints

Deleting Multiple Objects

Take one down, pass it around...

Scott Perry Code Generator

Object Deletion

The problem

Today, deleting objects requires



Application Memory

The diagram consists of two main components. At the top is a solid red rectangle labeled 'Application Memory'. Below it, and slightly to the left, is a purple rounded rectangle labeled 'Persistent Configuration Storage'. There are no lines or arrows connecting these two components.

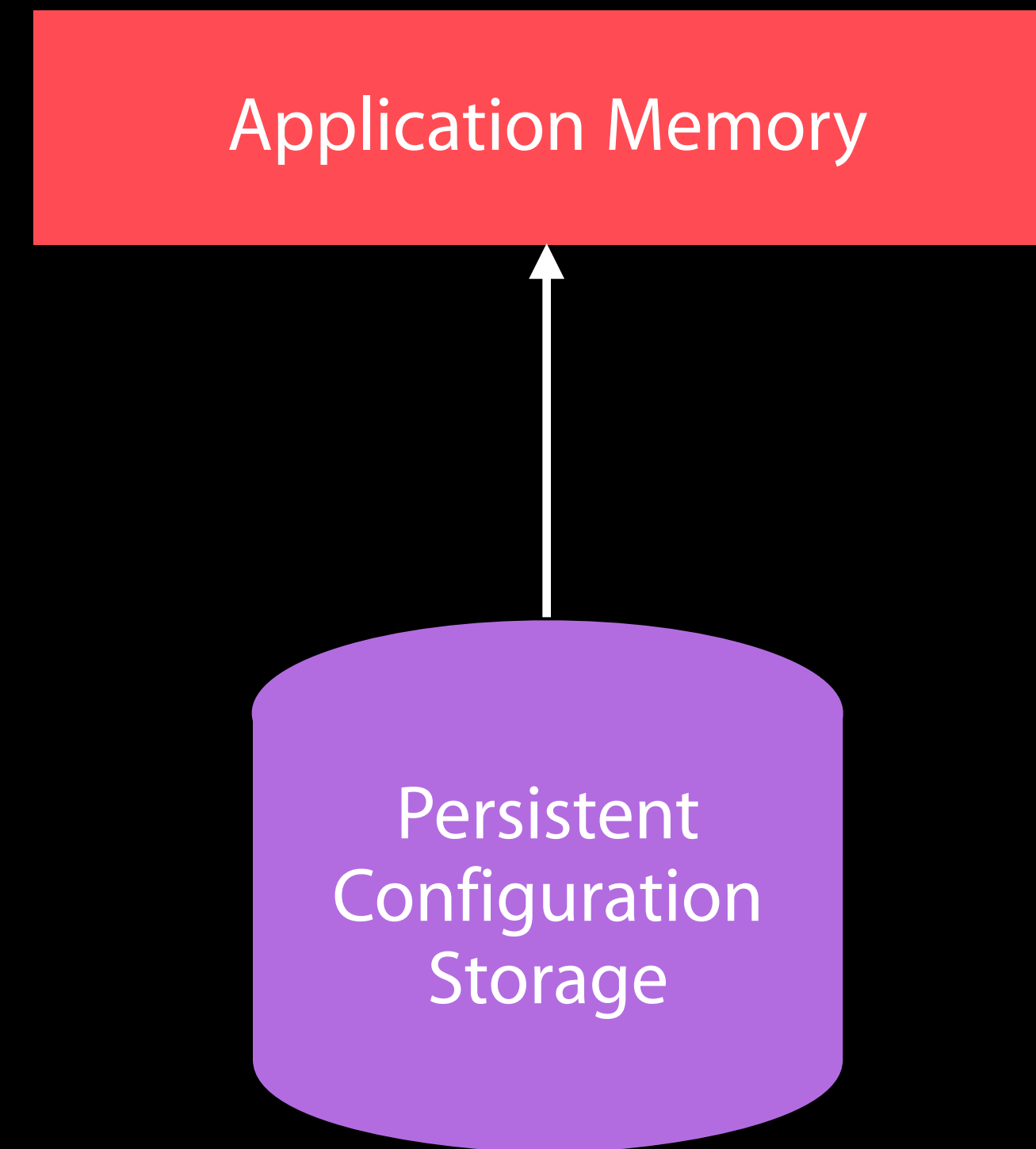
Persistent
Configuration
Storage

Object Deletion

The problem

Today, deleting objects requires

- Fetching some objects



Object Deletion

The problem

Today, deleting objects requires

- Fetching some objects
- Marking each object for deletion

Application Memory 

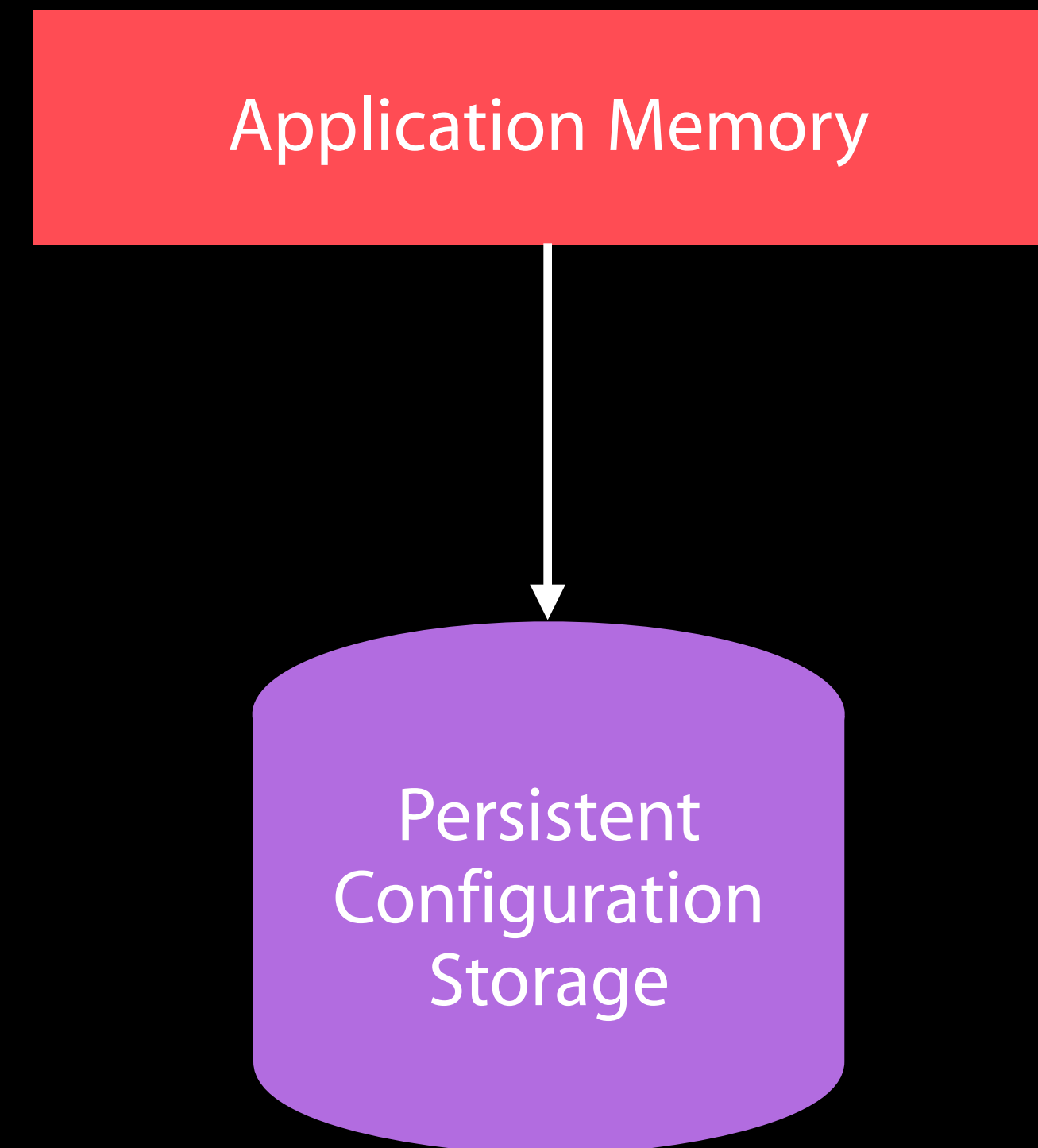
Persistent
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Object Deletion

The problem

Today, deleting objects requires

- Fetching some objects
- Marking each object for deletion
- Saving the changes

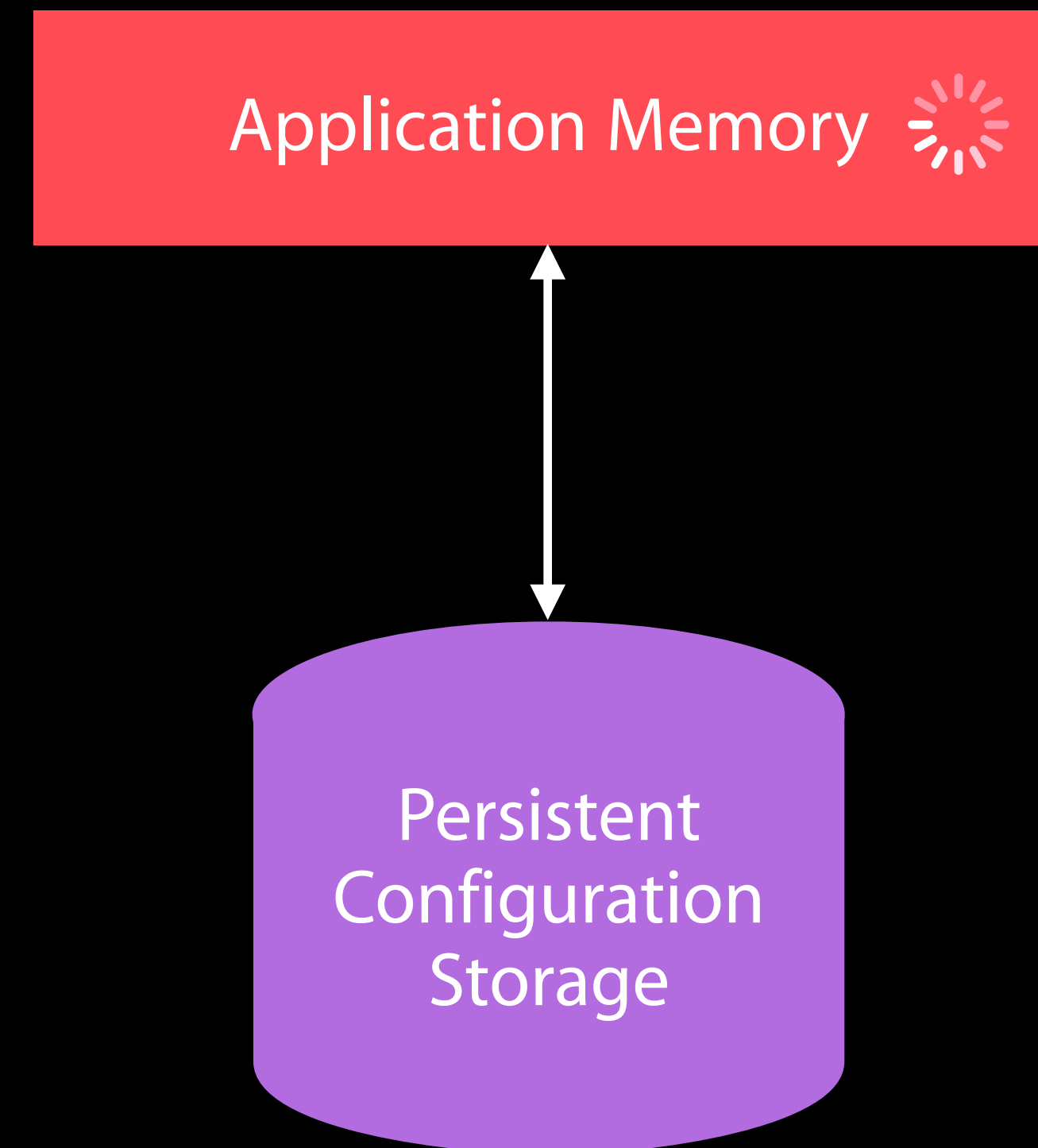


Object Deletion

The problem

Today, deleting objects requires

- Fetching some objects
- Marking each object for deletion
- Saving the changes
- Repeat



Object Deletion

The problem

You shouldn't have to load objects into memory to delete them

NSBatchDeleteRequest

NEW

The solution

Very similar to NSBatchUpdateRequest

- Acts directly on the Persistent Store

NSBatchDeleteRequest

NEW

The solution

Very similar to NSBatchUpdateRequest

- Acts directly on the Persistent Store

Instances of NSBatchDeleteRequest wrap an instance of NSFetchRequest

- One entity
- One or more stores
- Supports predicates as well as sort descriptors and offset/limit

NSBatchDeleteResult

NEW

The solution

Success/failure

Count of objects deleted

Object IDs of objects deleted

Batch Deletions

Limitations

Changes are not reflected in the context

Not all validation rules are enforced

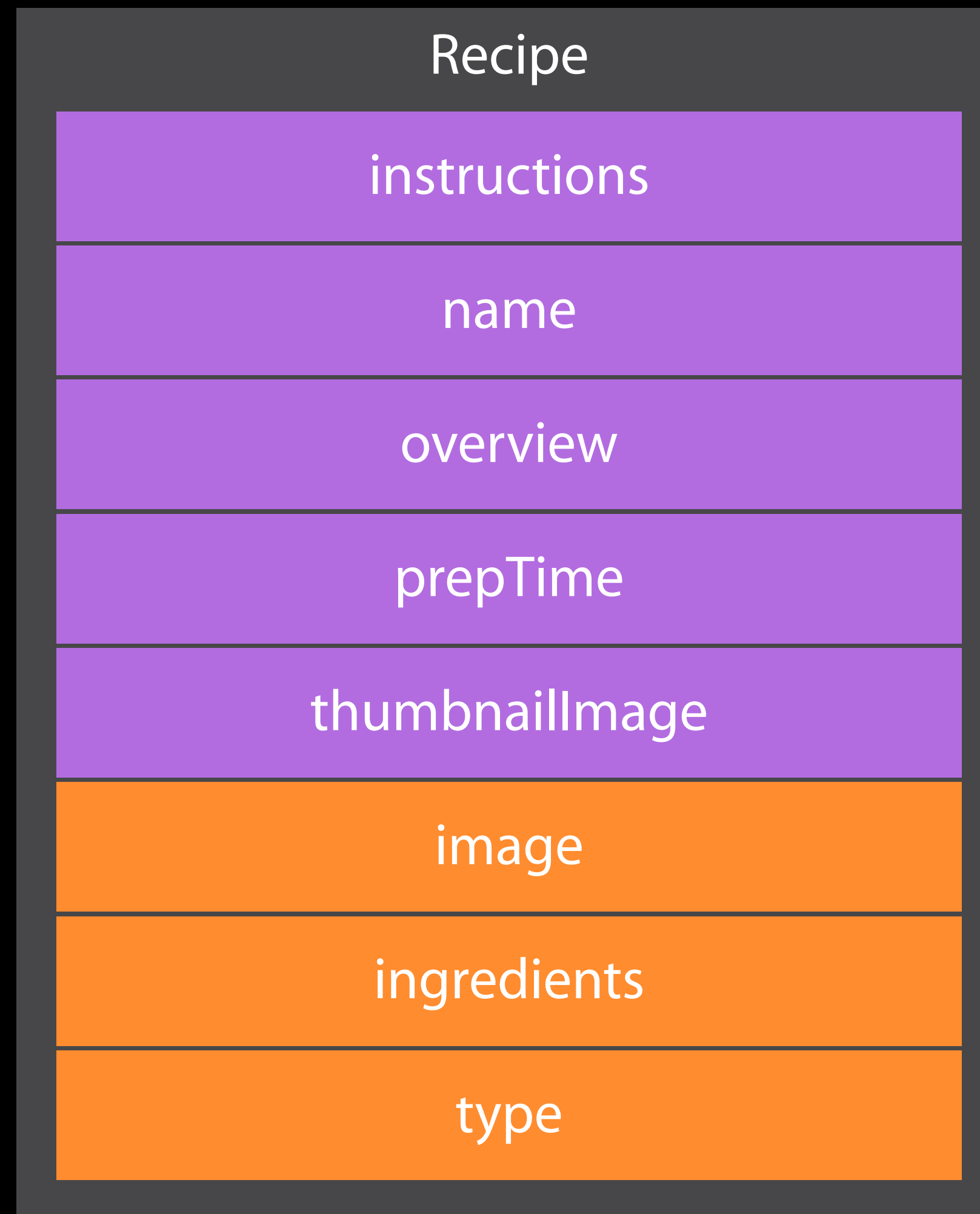
No object notifications

Demo

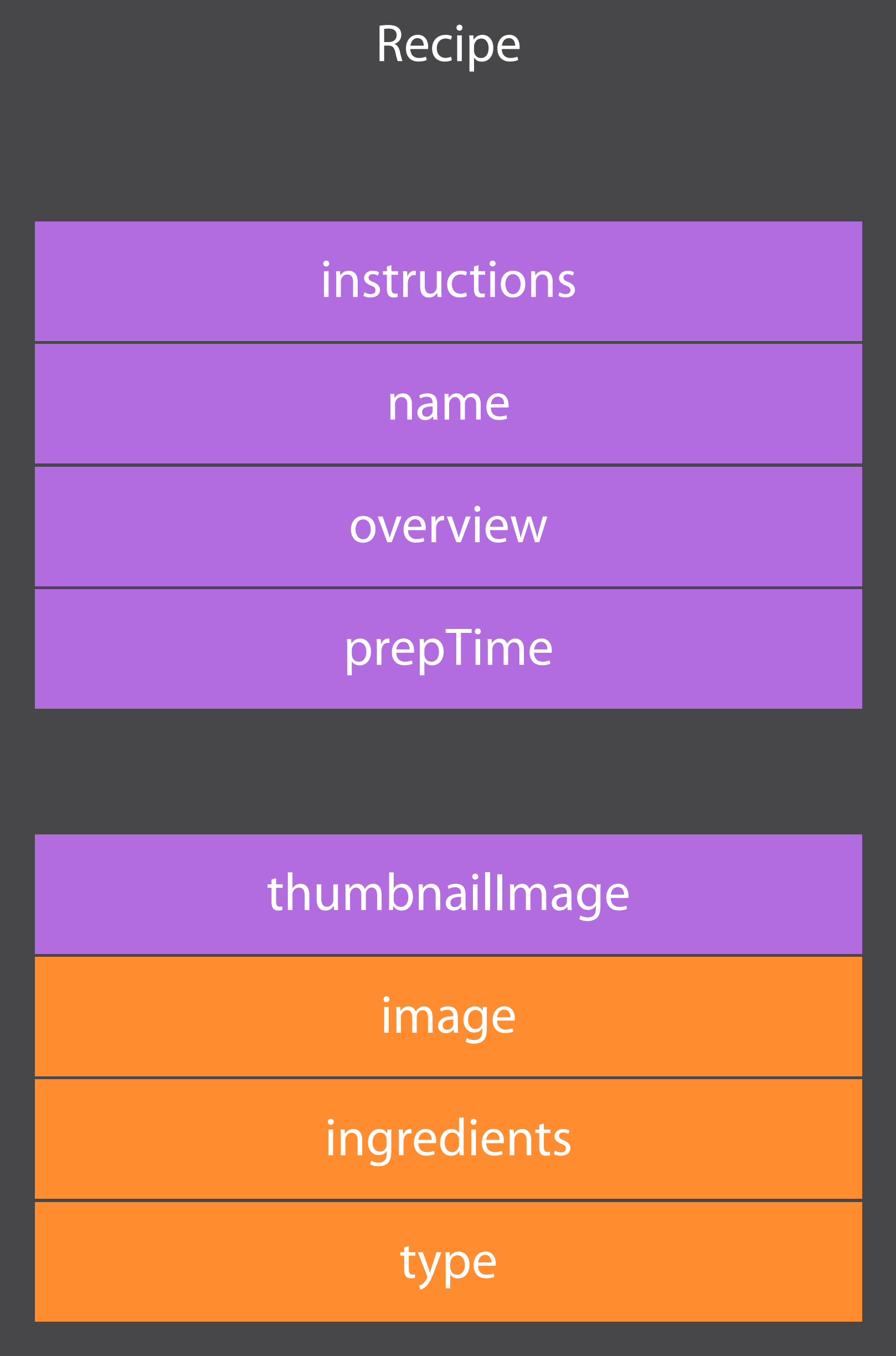
NSBatchDeleteRequest

Model Versioning

Models Change



Models Change



Models Change

Recipe
externalID
instructions
name
overview
prepTime
source
thumbnailImage
image
ingredients
type

Models Change

...But migrations stay the same

```
Error Domain=NSCocoaErrorDomain Code=134130 "Persistent store migration failed, missing source managed
object model." UserInfo=0x1054a2380 {
    URL=file:///private/var/mobile/Containers/Data/Application/6CD803A7-91EC...
    metadata={
        NSPersistenceFrameworkVersion = 619;
        NSStoreModelVersionHashesVersion = 3;
        NSStoreModelVersionIdentifiers = (
            ""
        );
        NSStoreType = SQLite;
        NSStoreUUID = "EF65B546-1D30-48A4-9090-E274F4DF7822";
        "_NSAutoVacuumLevel" = 2;
        NSStoreModelVersionHashes = {
            Recipe = <81b7e3b1 450cf990 6f1c8f36 89786a0b f61715cb afd9016b ...
            ...
        };
    },
    reason=Can't find model for source store
}
```

Models Change

...But migrations stay the same

```
Error Domain=NSCocoaErrorDomain Code=134130 "Persistent store migration failed, missing source managed
object model." UserInfo=0x1054a2380 {
    URL=file:///private/var/mobile/Containers/Data/Application/6CD803A7-91EC...
    metadata={
        NSPersistenceFrameworkVersion = 619;
        NSStoreModelVersionHashesVersion = 3;
        NSStoreModelVersionIdentifiers = (
            ""
        );
        NSStoreType = SQLite;
        NSStoreUUID = "EF65B546-1D30-48A4-9090-E274F4DF7822";
        "_NSAutoVacuumLevel" = 2;
        NSStoreModelVersionHashes = {
            Recipe = <81b7e3b1 450cf990 6f1c8f36 89786a0b f61715cb afd9016b ...
            ...
        };
    },
    reason=Can't find model for source store
}
```

Models Change

The problem

Iterating models is cumbersome

Forgetting to deploy model versions is dangerous

Models Change

The problem

Iterating models is cumbersome

Forgetting to deploy model versions is dangerous

Automatic lightweight migrations should “Just Work™”

Model Caching

The solution

NEW

NSManagedObjectModel copied to store

Automatically updates existing stores

Lightweight migrations fetch the model from the store

Model Caching

Limitations

Only SQLite stores

Cached model is not available to explicit migrations

API Modernization

Generics and Nullability

Better living through more explicit types

`nonnull` (default), `nullable`, and `null_resettable`

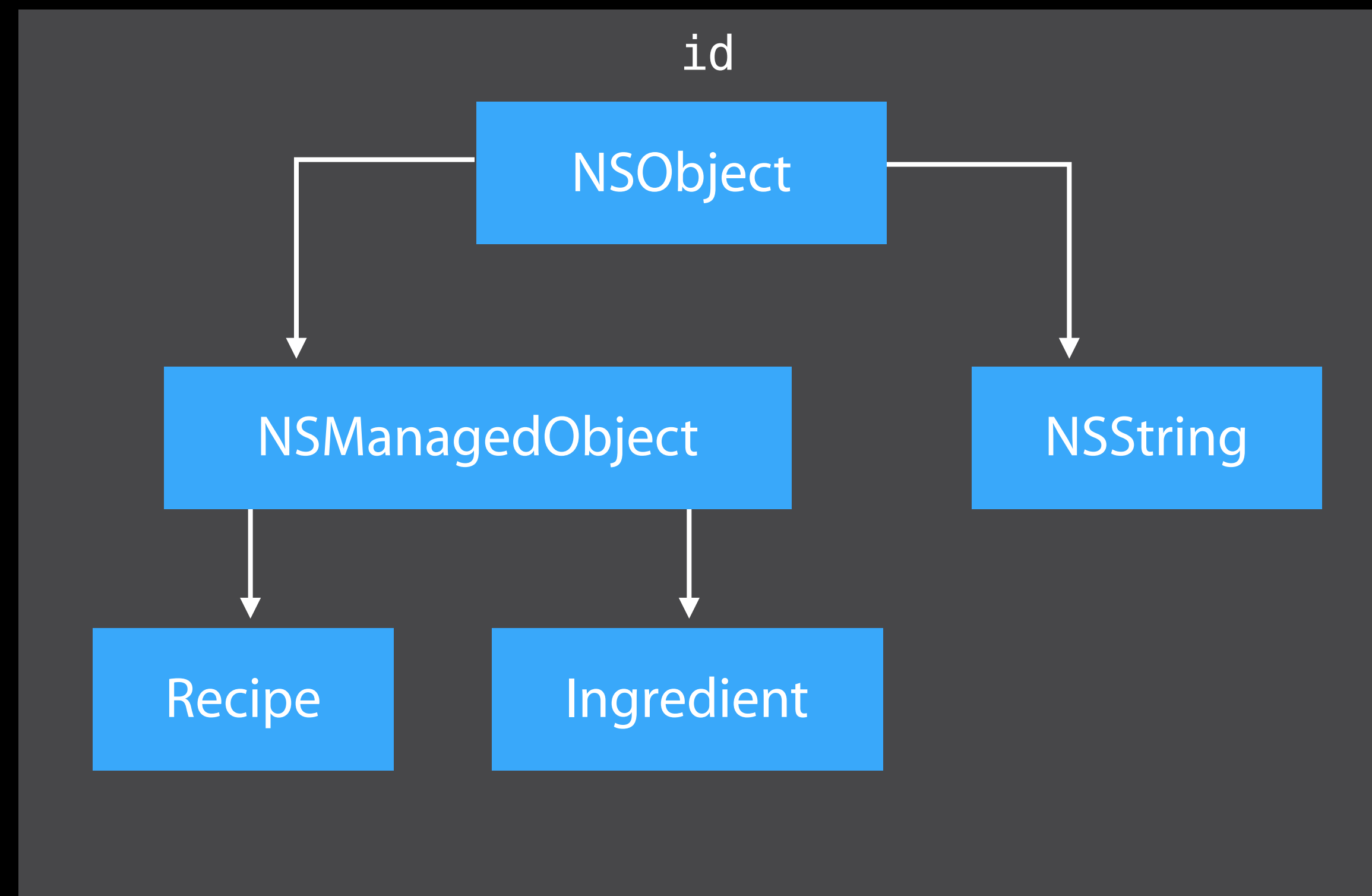
`__kindof` allows for easier casting

Generics and Nullability

Better living through more explicit types

`nonnull` (default), `nullable`, and `null_resettable`

`__kindof` allows for easier casting

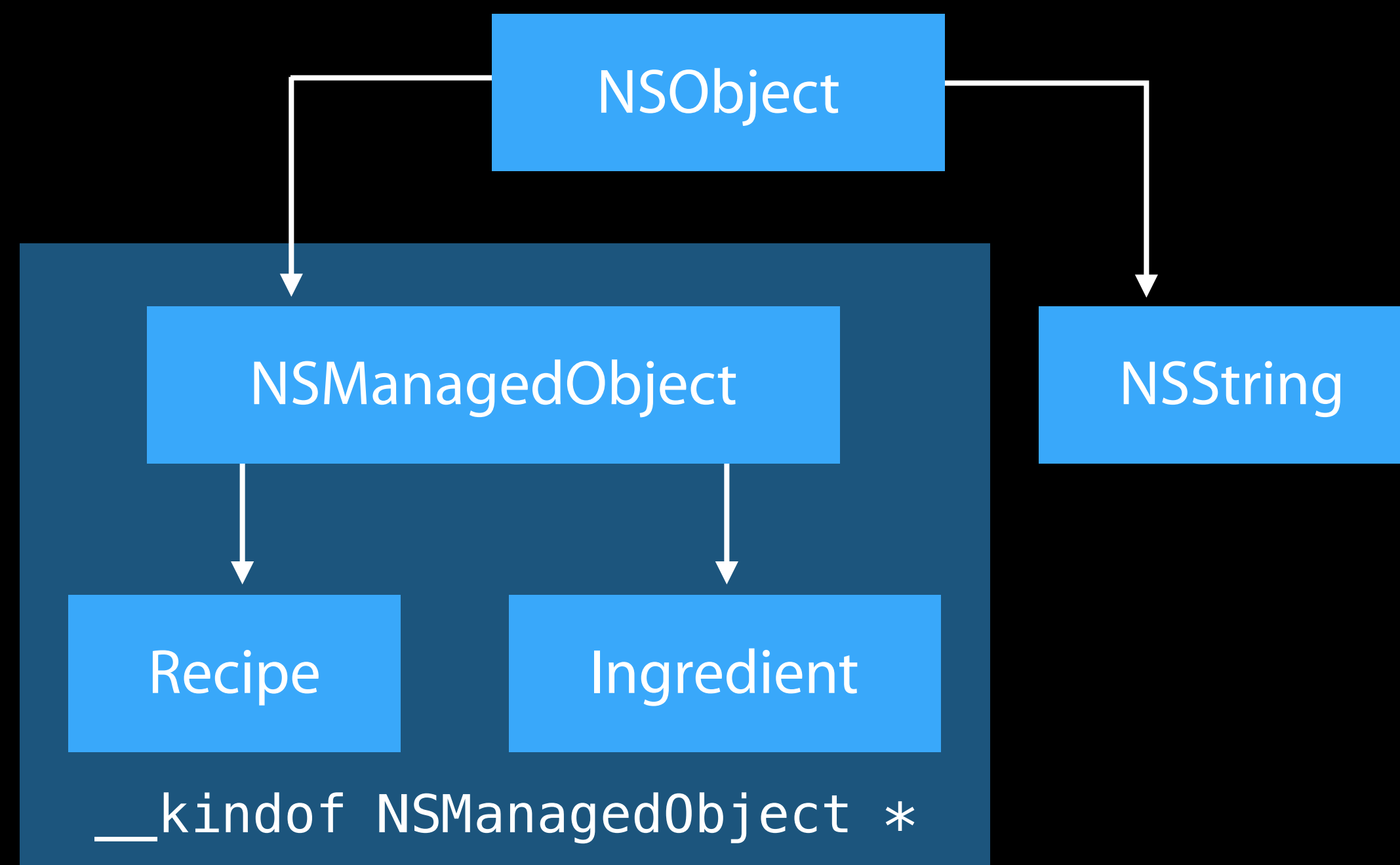


Generics and Nullability

Better living through more explicit types

`nonnull` (default), `nullable`, and `nonnull_resetttable`

`__kindof` allows for easier casting



Generics and Nullability

Better living through more explicit types

`nonnull` (default), `nullable`, and `null_resettable`

`__kindof` allows for easier casting

Generated subclasses use generics for to-many relationships

Generated Subclasses

Subclass.h

Subclass.m

Subclass.swift

Generated Subclasses

Subclass.h

Subclass+NSManagedProperties.h

Subclass.m

Subclass.swift

Subclass+NSManagedProperties.swift

Generated Subclasses

Subclass+NSManagedProperties.h

Subclass+NSManagedProperties.swift

Generated Subclasses

Subclass+NSManagedProperties.h

```
#import "Recipe.h"

NS_ASSUME_NONNULL_BEGIN

@interface Recipe (CoreDataProperties)

@property (nullable, nonatomic, retain) id thumbnailImage;
@property (nullable, nonatomic, retain) NSString *source;
@property (nullable, nonatomic, retain) NSString *instructions;
@property (nullable, nonatomic, retain) NSString *prepTime;
@property (nullable, nonatomic, retain) NSString *overview;
@property (nullable, nonatomic, retain) NSString *externalID;
@property (nullable, nonatomic, retain) NSString *name;
@property (nullable, nonatomic, retain) NSSet<Ingredient *> *ingredients;
@property (nullable, nonatomic, retain) NSManagedObject *image;
@property (nullable, nonatomic, retain) NSManagedObject *type;

@end

@interface Recipe (CoreDataGeneratedAccessors)

- (void)addIngredientsObject:(Ingredient *)value;
- (void)removeIngredientsObject:(Ingredient *)value;
- (void)addIngredients:(NSSet<Ingredient *> *)values;
- (void)removeIngredients:(NSSet<Ingredient *> *)values;

@end

NS_ASSUME_NONNULL_END
```

Subclass+NSManagedProperties.swift

```
import Foundation
import CoreData

extension Recipe {

    @NSManaged var thumbnailImage: NSObject?
    @NSManaged var source: String?
    @NSManaged var instructions: String?
    @NSManaged var prepTime: String?
    @NSManaged var overview: String?
    @NSManaged var externalID: String?
    @NSManaged var name: String?
    @NSManaged var ingredients: NSSet?
    @NSManaged var image: NSManagedObject?
    @NSManaged var type: NSManagedObject?

}
```

Concurrency

Confinement is dead, long live queues

Concurrency

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ConfinementConcurrencyType is deprecated

Concurrency

Confinement is dead, long live queues

ConfinementConcurrencyType is deprecated

init() has been deprecated

Concurrency

Confinement is dead, long live queues

ConfinementConcurrencyType is deprecated

init() has been deprecated

init(concurrencyType:) is the designated initializer

- Use **PrivateQueueConcurrencyType** or **MainQueueConcurrencyType**

Concurrency

Confinement is dead, long live queues

ConfinementConcurrencyType is deprecated

init() has been deprecated

init(concurrencyType:) is the designated initializer

- Use **PrivateQueueConcurrencyType** or **MainQueueConcurrencyType**

Core Data Performance

Apps Improve

Models get more complex

Stores get larger

Queries get more interesting

Apps Improve

Models get more complex

Stores get larger

Queries get more interesting

Apps stay fast!

Slow Can Be Surprising

Scale differs between development and production

The simulator is faster than the device

Slow Can Be Surprising

Scale differs between development and production

The simulator is faster than the device

Users use devices in production

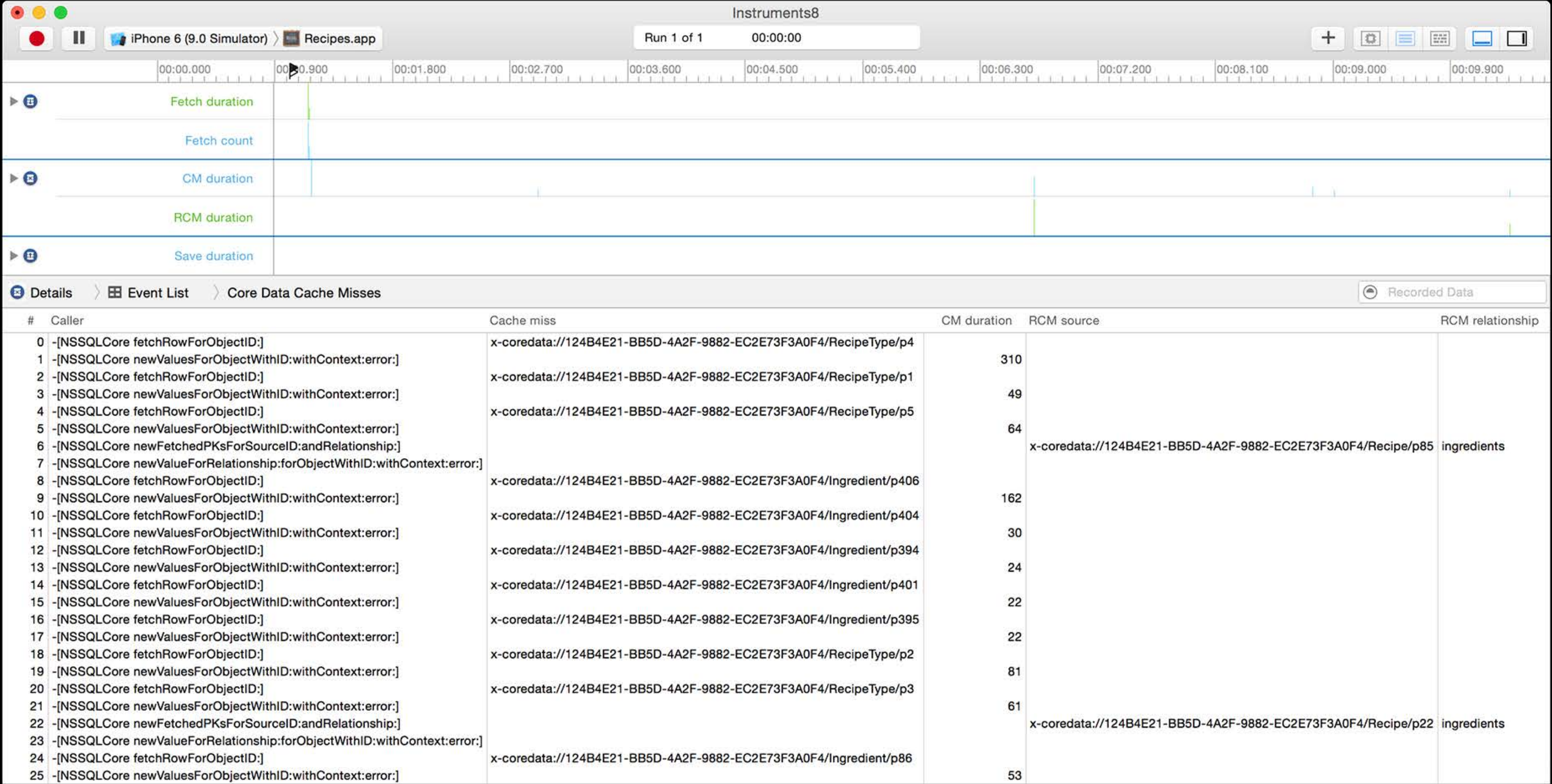
Find Problems Before They Find You

Predicting the future with tools

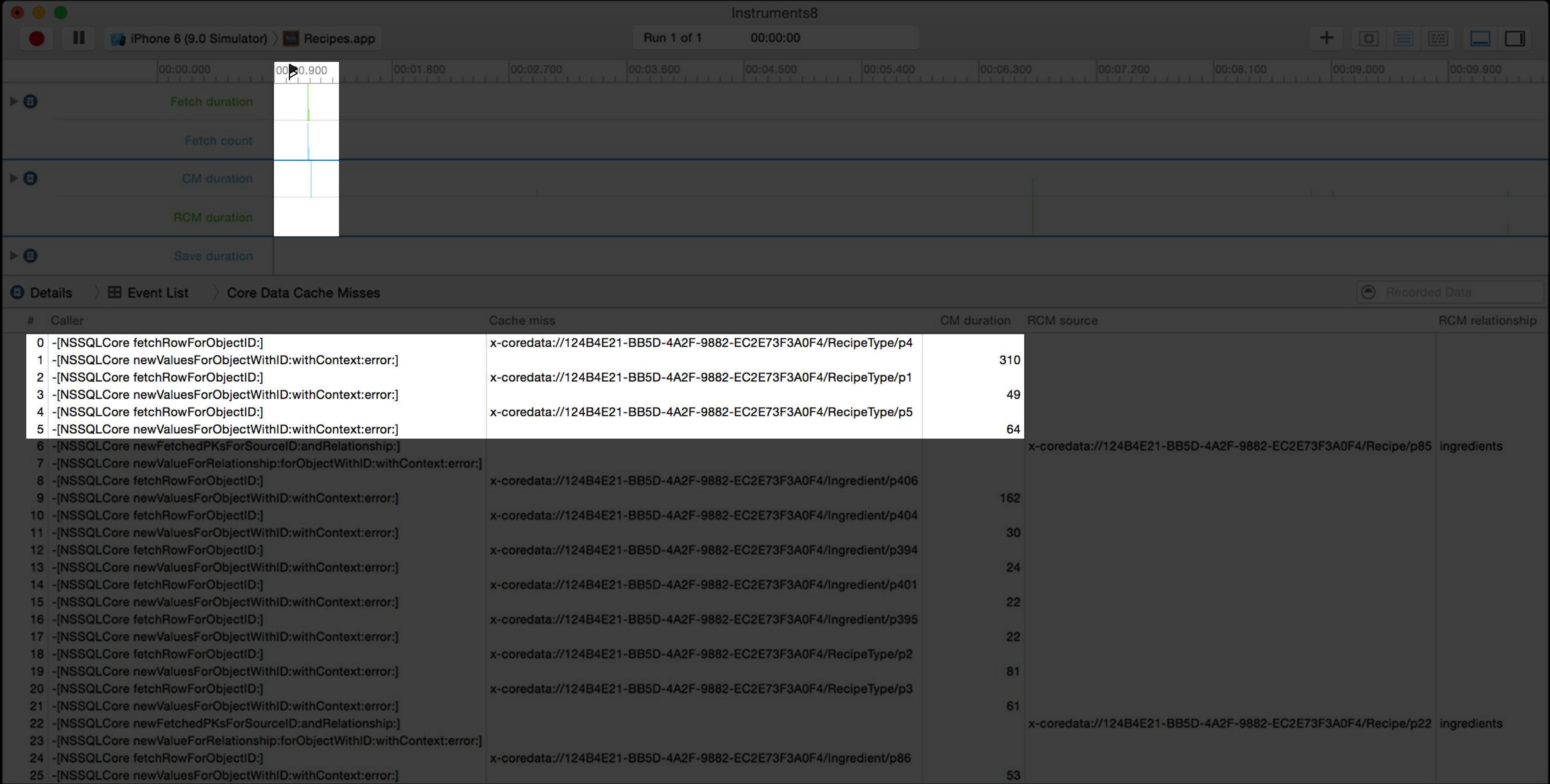


Relationship Faults

Relationship Faults



Relationship Faults



Relationship Faults

Prefetch the objects you're going to use

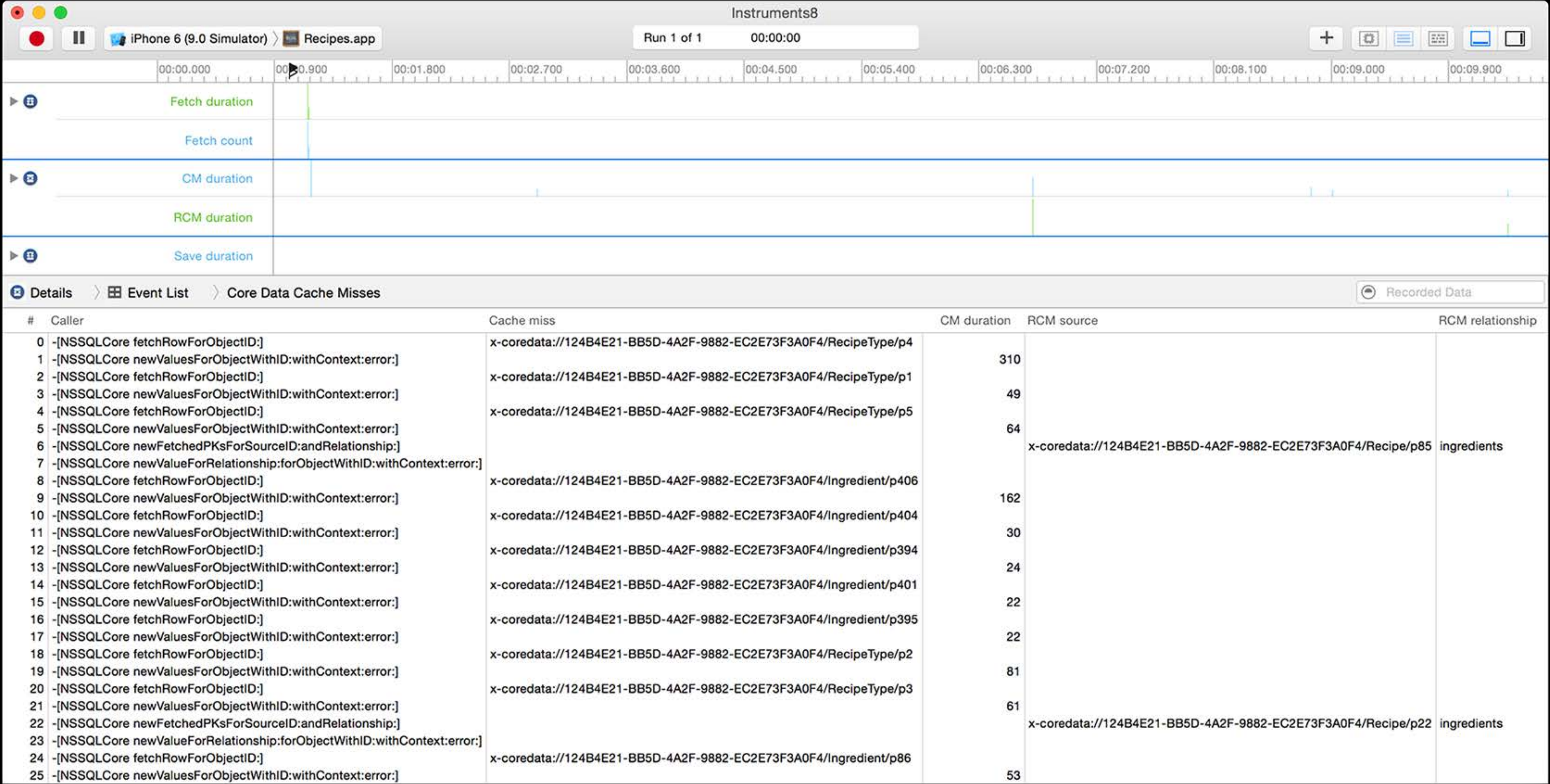
```
var recipeRequest = NSFetchRequest(entityName:"Recipe")

let sortDescriptor = NSSortDescriptor(key:"name", ascending: true)
recipeRequest.sortDescriptors = [sortDescriptor]

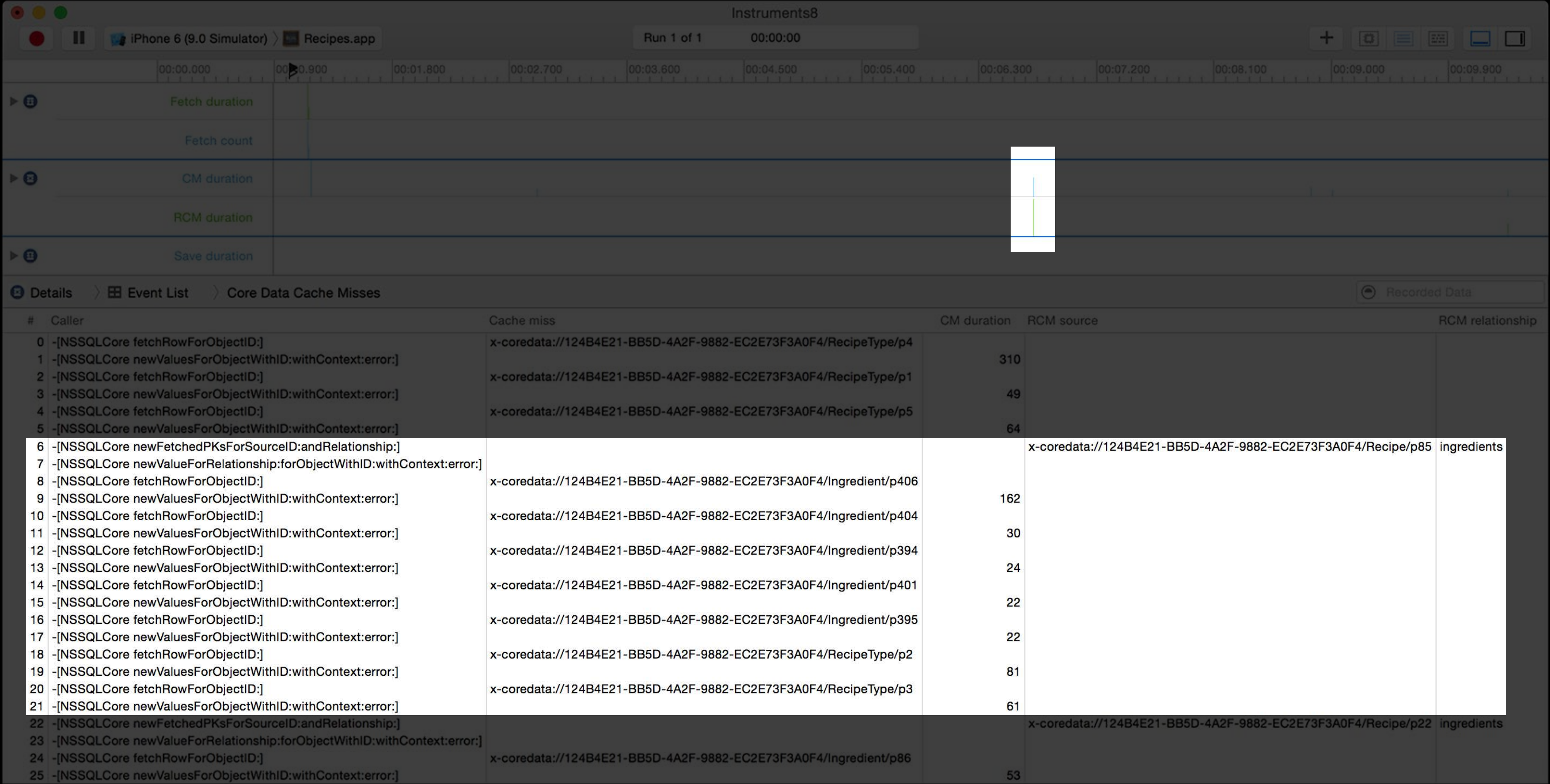
recipeRequest.relationshipKeyPathsForPrefetching = ["type"]

context.executeFetchRequest(recipeRequest)
```


Relationship Faults



Relationship Faults



Relationship Faults

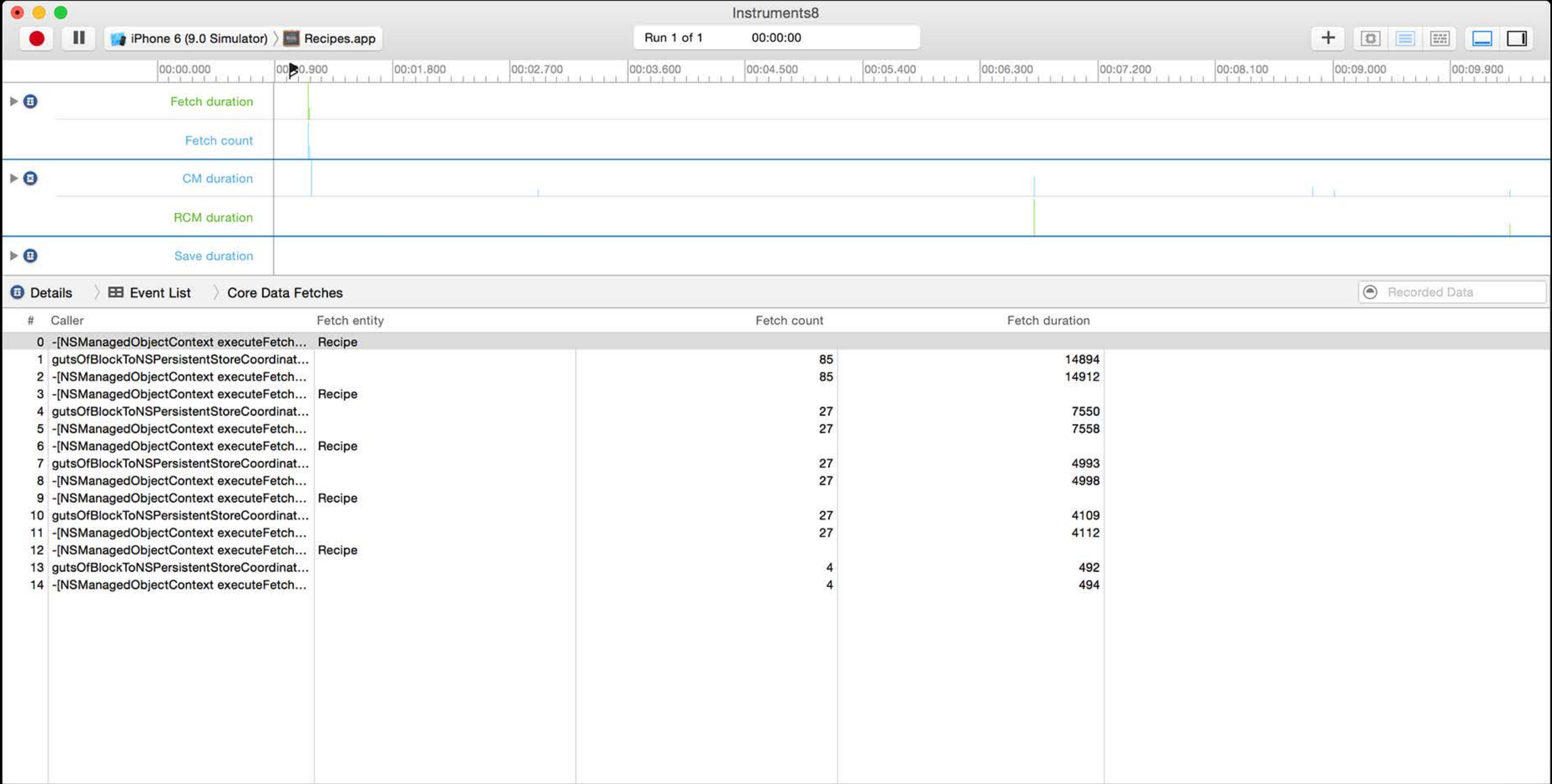
Prefetch the objects you're going to use

```
var ingredientRequest = NSFetchRequest(entityName:"Ingredient")

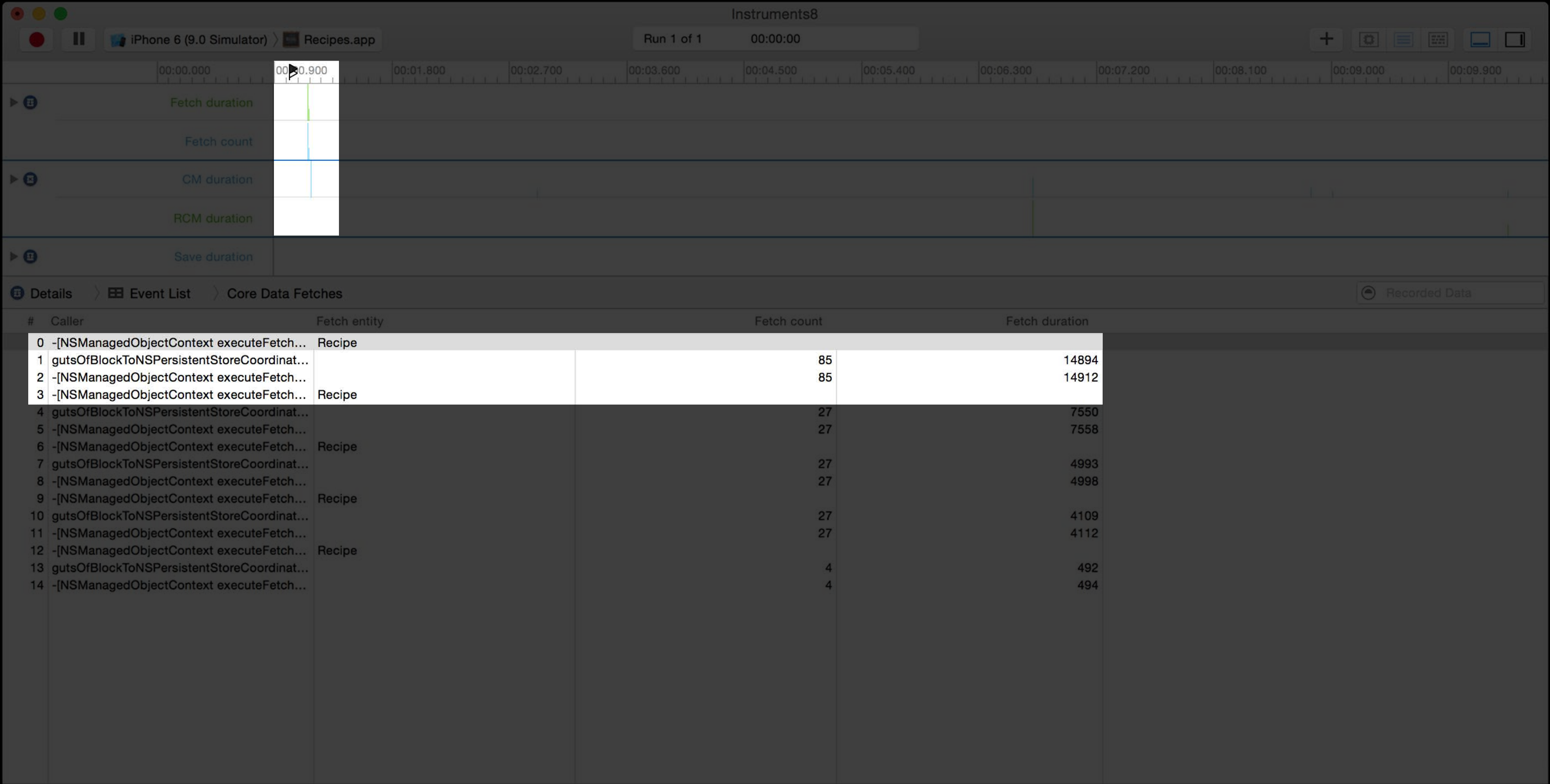
ingredientRequest.predicate = NSPredicate(format:"recipe = %@",
argumentArray:[recipe])

context.executeFetchRequest(ingredientRequest)
```

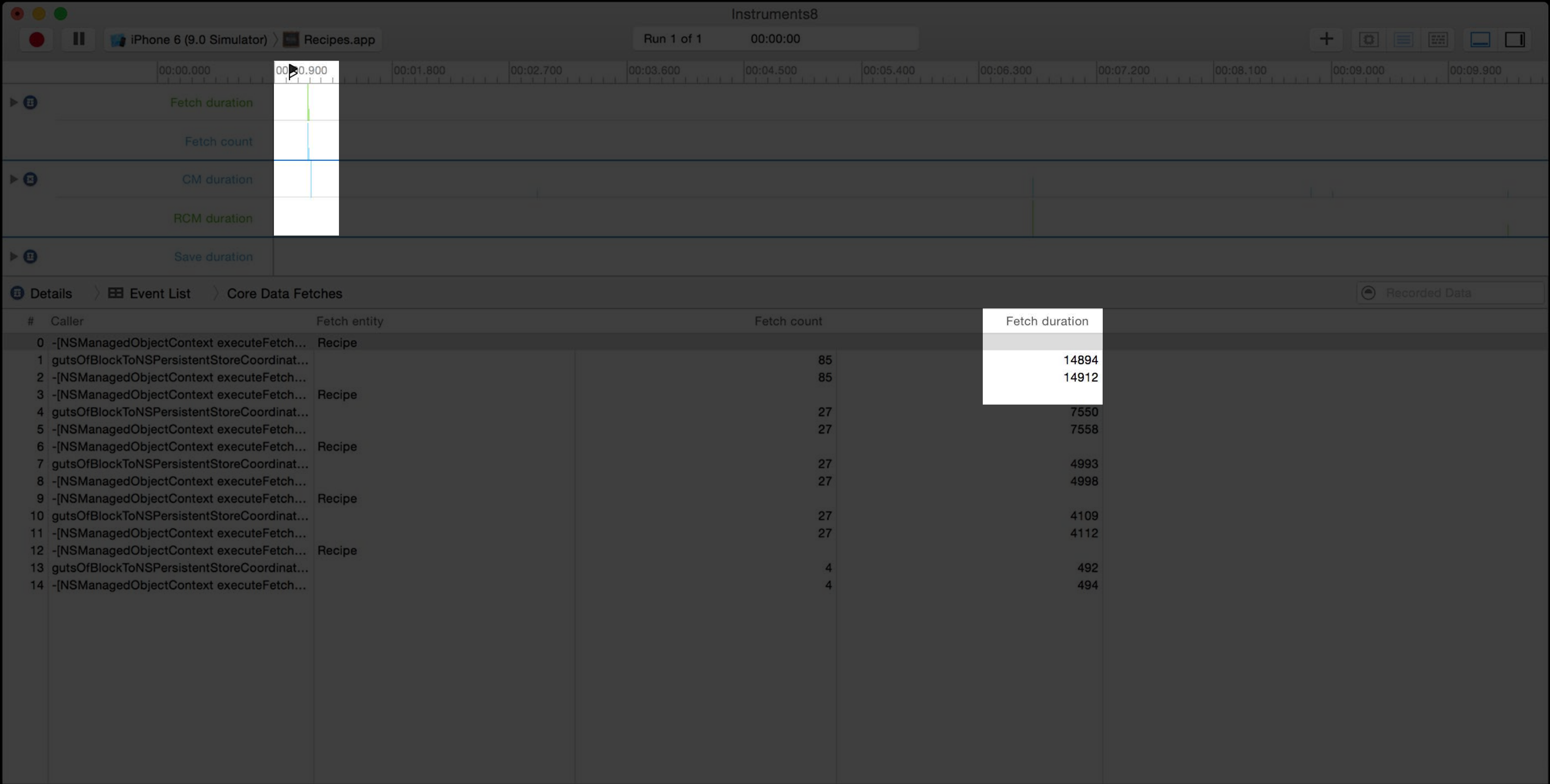

Large Fetches



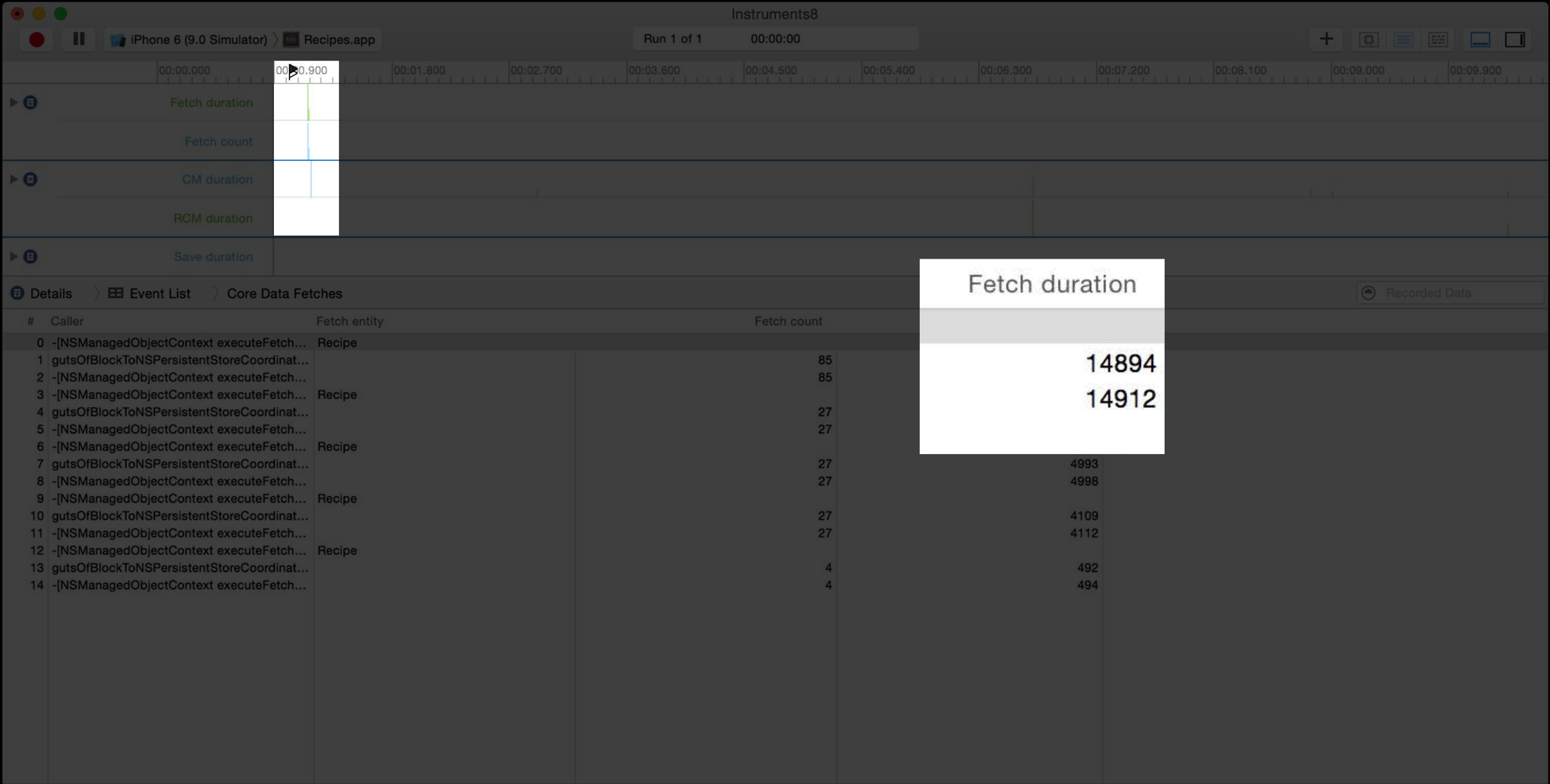
Large Fetches



Large Fetches



Large Fetches



Large Fetches

Take advantage of batching

```
var recipeRequest = NSFetchRequest(entityName:"Recipe")

let sortDescriptor = NSSortDescriptor(key:"name", ascending: true)
recipeRequest.sortDescriptors = [sortDescriptor]

recipeRequest.fetchBatchSize = 30

context.executeFetchRequest(recipeRequest)
```

Complex Fetches

`-com.apple.CoreData.SQLDebug 1`

Larger time/count ratio

Complex Fetches

`-com.apple.CoreData.SQLDebug 1`

Larger time/count ratio

```
CoreData: sql: SELECT 0, t0.Z_PK, t0.Z_OPT, t0.ZEXTERNALID, t0.ZINSTRUCTIONS,  
t0.ZNAME, t0.ZOVERVIEW, t0.ZPREPTIME, t0.ZSOURCE, t0.ZTHUMBNAILIMAGE,  
t0.ZIMAGE, t0.ZTYPE FROM ZRECIPE t0 WHERE NOT ( t0.Z_PK IN (SELECT  
n1_t0.Z_PK FROM ZRECIPE n1_t0 GROUP BY n1_t0.ZSOURCE, n1_t0.ZEXTERNALID ))
```

```
CoreData: annotation: sql connection fetch time: 0.0766s
```

```
CoreData: annotation: total fetch execution time: 0.0786s for 85 rows.
```

Complex Fetches

`-com.apple.CoreData.SQLDebug 1`

Larger time/count ratio

CoreData: annotation: Connecting to sqlite database file at "/Users/numist/...

...

CoreData: sql: SELECT 0, t0.Z_PK, t0.Z_OPT, t0.ZEXTERNALID, t0.ZINSTRUCTIONS, t0.ZNAME, t0.ZOVERVIEW, t0.ZPREPTIME, t0.ZSOURCE, t0.ZTHUMBNAILIMAGE, t0.ZIMAGE, t0.ZTYPE FROM ZRECIPE t0 WHERE NOT (t0.Z_PK IN (SELECT n1_t0.Z_PK FROM ZRECIPE n1_t0 GROUP BY n1_t0.ZSOURCE, n1_t0.ZEXTERNALID))

CoreData: annotation: sql connection fetch time: 0.0766s

CoreData: annotation: total fetch execution time: 0.0786s for 85 rows.

Complex Fetches

EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN

```
$ sqlite3 "/Users/numist/.../Recipes.sqlite"  
sqlite>
```

Complex Fetches

EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN

```
$ sqlite3 "/Users/numist/.../Recipes.sqlite"
sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT 0, t0.Z_PK, t0.Z_OPT, t0.ZEXTERNALID,
t0.ZINSTRUCTIONS, t0.ZNAME, t0.ZOVERVIEW, t0.ZPREPTIME, t0.ZSOURCE,
t0.ZTHUMBNAILIMAGE, t0.ZIMAGE, t0.ZTYPE FROM ZRECIPE t0 WHERE NOT ( t0.Z_PK
IN (SELECT n1_t0.Z_PK FROM ZRECIPE n1_t0 GROUP BY n1_t0.ZSOURCE,
n1_t0.ZEXTERNALID ));
```

Complex Fetches

EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN

```
sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT 0, t0.Z_PK, t0.Z_OPT, t0.ZEXTERNALID,
t0.ZINSTRUCTIONS, t0.ZNAME, t0.ZOVERVIEW, t0.ZPREPTIME, t0.ZSOURCE,
t0.ZTHUMBNAILIMAGE, t0.ZIMAGE, t0.ZTYPE FROM ZRECIPE t0 WHERE NOT ( t0.Z_PK
IN (SELECT n1_t0.Z_PK FROM ZRECIPE n1_t0 GROUP BY n1_t0.ZSOURCE,
n1_t0.ZEXTERNALID ));
```

select	order	from	details
0	0	0	SCAN TABLE ZRECIPE AS t0
0	0	0	EXECUTE LIST SUBQUERY 1
1	0	0	SCAN TABLE ZRECIPE AS n1_t0
1	0	0	USE TEMP B-TREE FOR GROUP BY

Complex Fetches

EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN

```
sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT 0, t0.Z_PK, t0.Z_OPT, t0.ZEXTERNALID,
t0.ZINSTRUCTIONS, t0.ZNAME, t0.ZOVERVIEW, t0.ZPREPTIME, t0.ZSOURCE,
t0.ZTHUMBNAILIMAGE, t0.ZIMAGE, t0.ZTYPE FROM ZRECIPE t0 WHERE NOT ( t0.Z_PK
IN (SELECT n1_t0.Z_PK FROM ZRECIPE n1_t0 GROUP BY n1_t0.ZSOURCE,
n1_t0.ZEXTERNALID ));
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select	order	from	data
0	0	0	SCAN TABLE ZRECIPE AS t0
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Complex Fetches

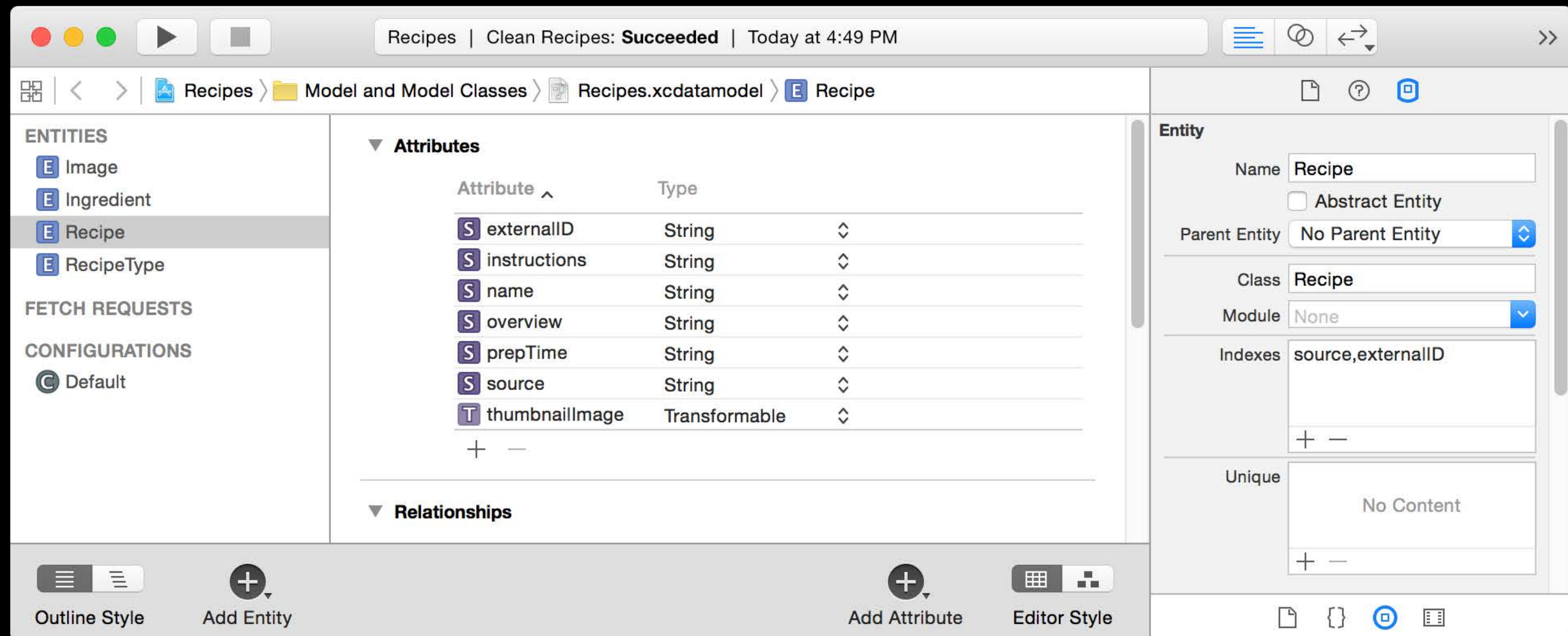
EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN

```
sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT 0, t0.Z_PK, t0.Z_OPT, t0.ZEXTERNALID,
t0.ZINSTRUCTIONS, t0.ZNAME, t0.ZOVERVIEW, t0.ZPREPTIME, t0.ZSOURCE,
t0.ZTHUMBNAILIMAGE, t0.ZIMAGE, t0.ZTYPE FROM ZRECIPE t0 WHERE NOT ( t0.Z_PK
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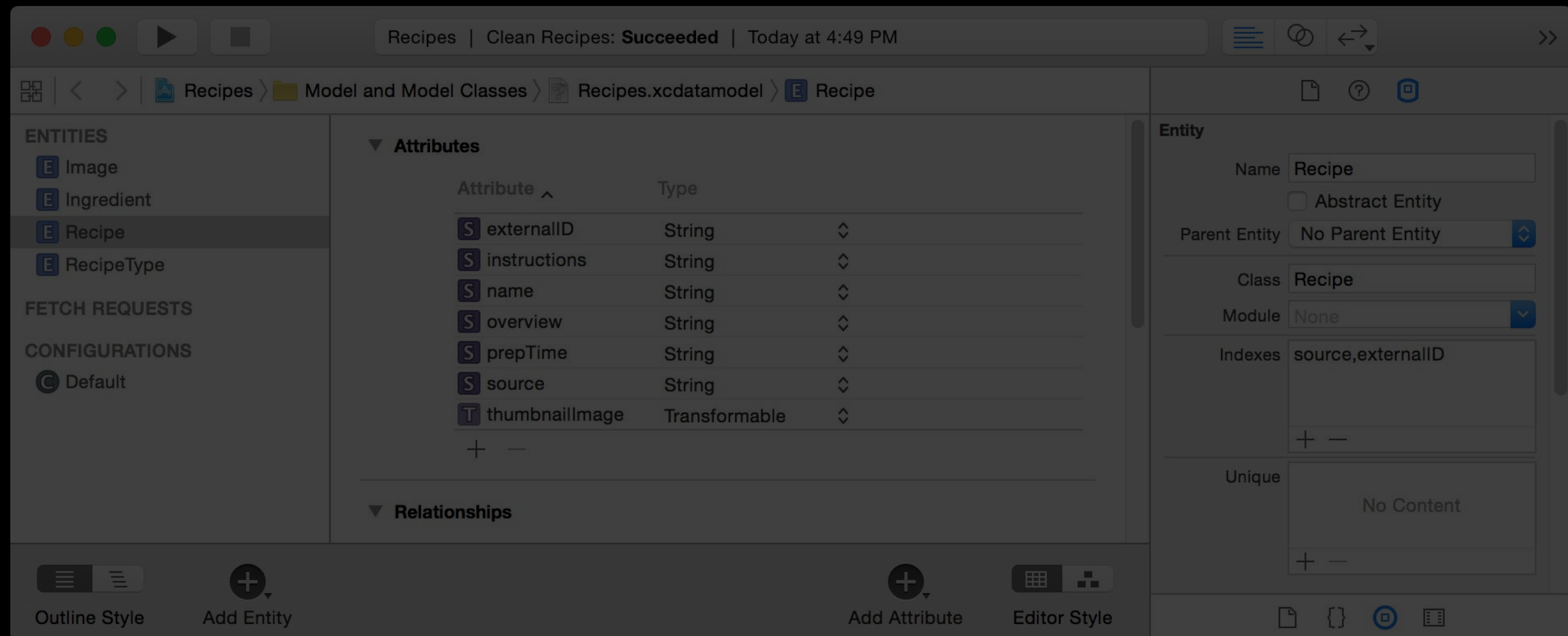
Complex Fetches

Large fetches benefit from indexes



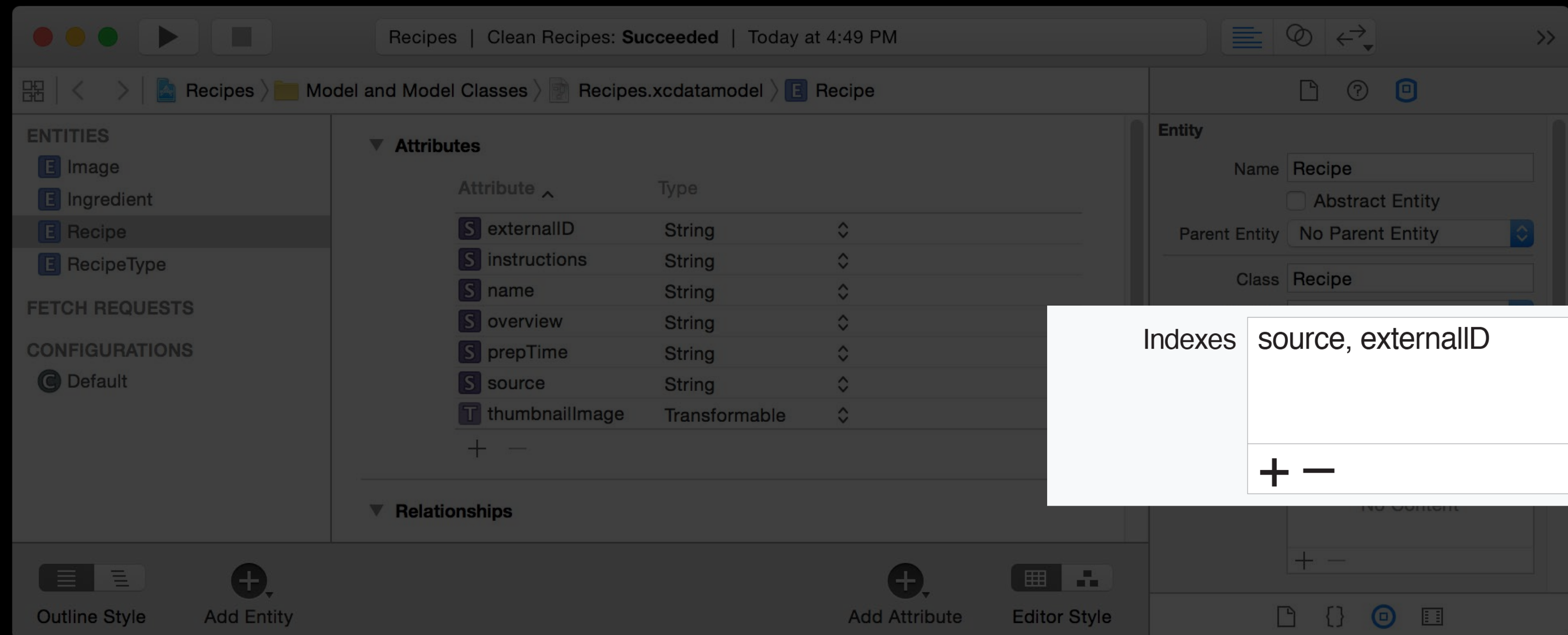
Complex Fetches

Large fetches benefit from indexes



Complex Fetches

Large fetches benefit from indexes



Complex Fetches

Verify a better plan

```
sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT 0, t0.Z_PK, t0.Z_OPT, t0.ZEXTERNALID,
t0.ZINSTRUCTIONS, t0.ZNAME, t0.ZOVERVIEW, t0.ZPREPTIME, t0.ZSOURCE,
t0.ZTHUMBNAILIMAGE, t0.ZIMAGE, t0.ZTYPE FROM ZRECIPE t0 WHERE NOT ( t0.Z_PK
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n1_t0.ZEXTERNALID ));
```

sele	order	from	data
----	-----	----	-----
0	0	0	SCAN TABLE ZRECIPE AS t0
0	0	0	EXECUTE LIST SUBQUERY 1
1	0	0	SCAN TABLE ZRECIPE AS n1_t0 USING COVERING INDEX ZRECIPE_ZSOURCE_ZEXTERNALID

Irreducible complexity

sel	order	from	data
0	0	0	SCAN TABLE ZRECIPE AS t0
0	0	0	EXECUTE LIST SUBQUERY 1
1	0	0	SCAN TABLE ZRECIPE AS n1_t0 USING COVERING INDEX ZRECIPE_ZSOURCE_ZEXTERNALID

Complex Fetches

Irreducible complexity

Get off the main thread

- Private queue context
- `NSAsynchronousFetchRequest`

Look for Problem Patterns

Relationship faults

- Lots of small queries slow down your app

Large fetches

- Make Core Data do the work

Complex fetches

- Add indices and try more powerful predicates
- Avoid blocking UI threads

<http://bugreport.apple.com>

Bugs

- Sample app bonus

Feature requests

Enhancement ideas

Performance issues

- Sample store bonus

Documentation improvements



More Information

Developer Portal

developer.apple.com

Documentation and Sample Code

developer.apple.com/library

Developer Forums

developer.apple.com/forums

Developer Technical Support

developer.apple.com/support/technical

Related Labs

Core Data Lab	Frameworks Lab C	Thursday 3:30PM
Core Data Lab	Frameworks Lab E	Friday 10:00AM

