



CocoaHeads

Thurs May 15, 2008



These Things First

- 1 iPhones to the silent position
- 2 NSCoder Night
- 3 WWDC Meeting: Wed, June 11
- 4 Joel Norvell: PDF Forms in Cocoa
- 5 Scott Stevenson: Best of Both Worlds



Best of Both Worlds

Scott Stevenson

Roadmap

Xcode

Objective-C

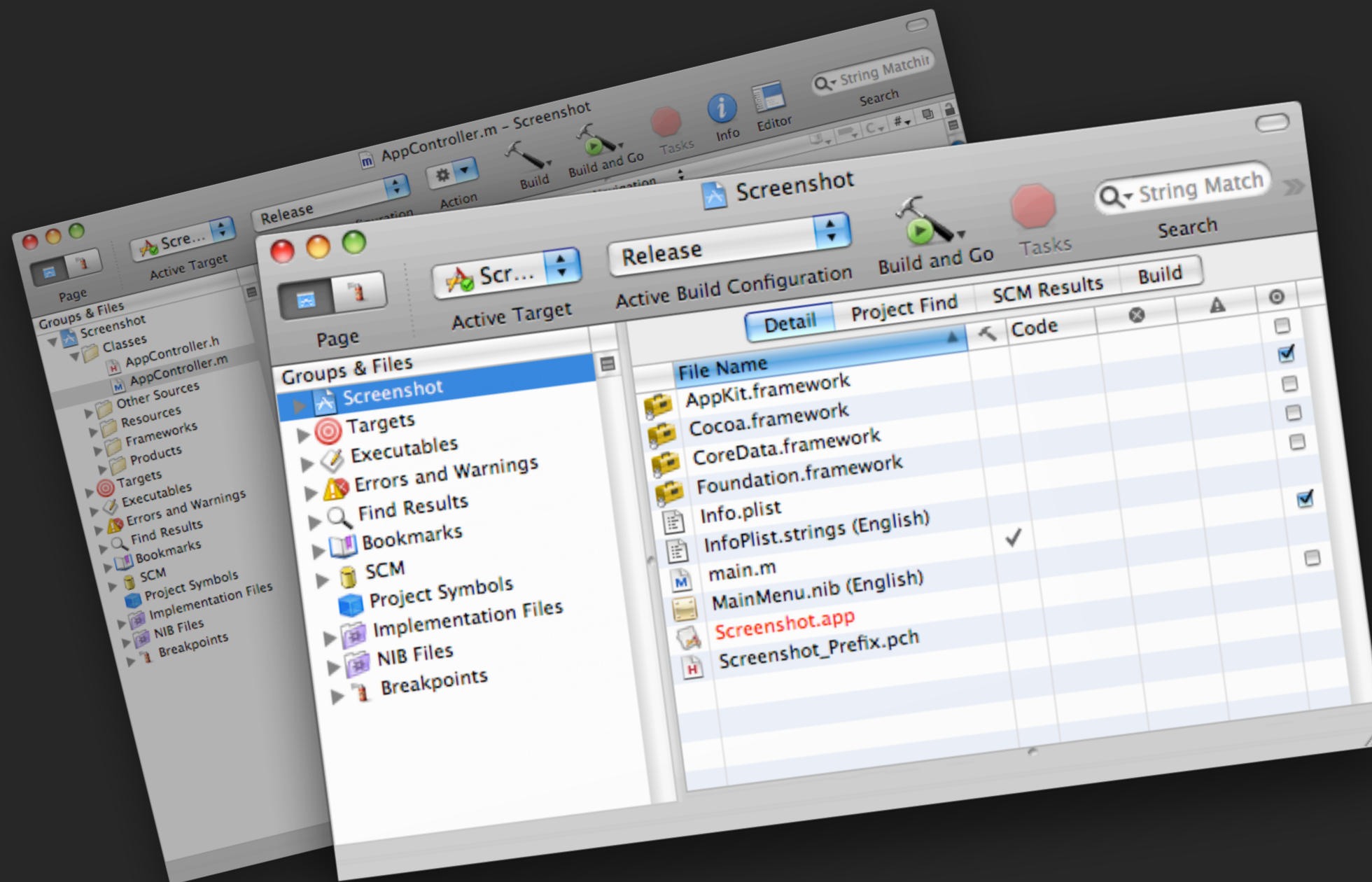
Design

Interface
Builder

Mac OS X

Culture

Advanced



Xcode

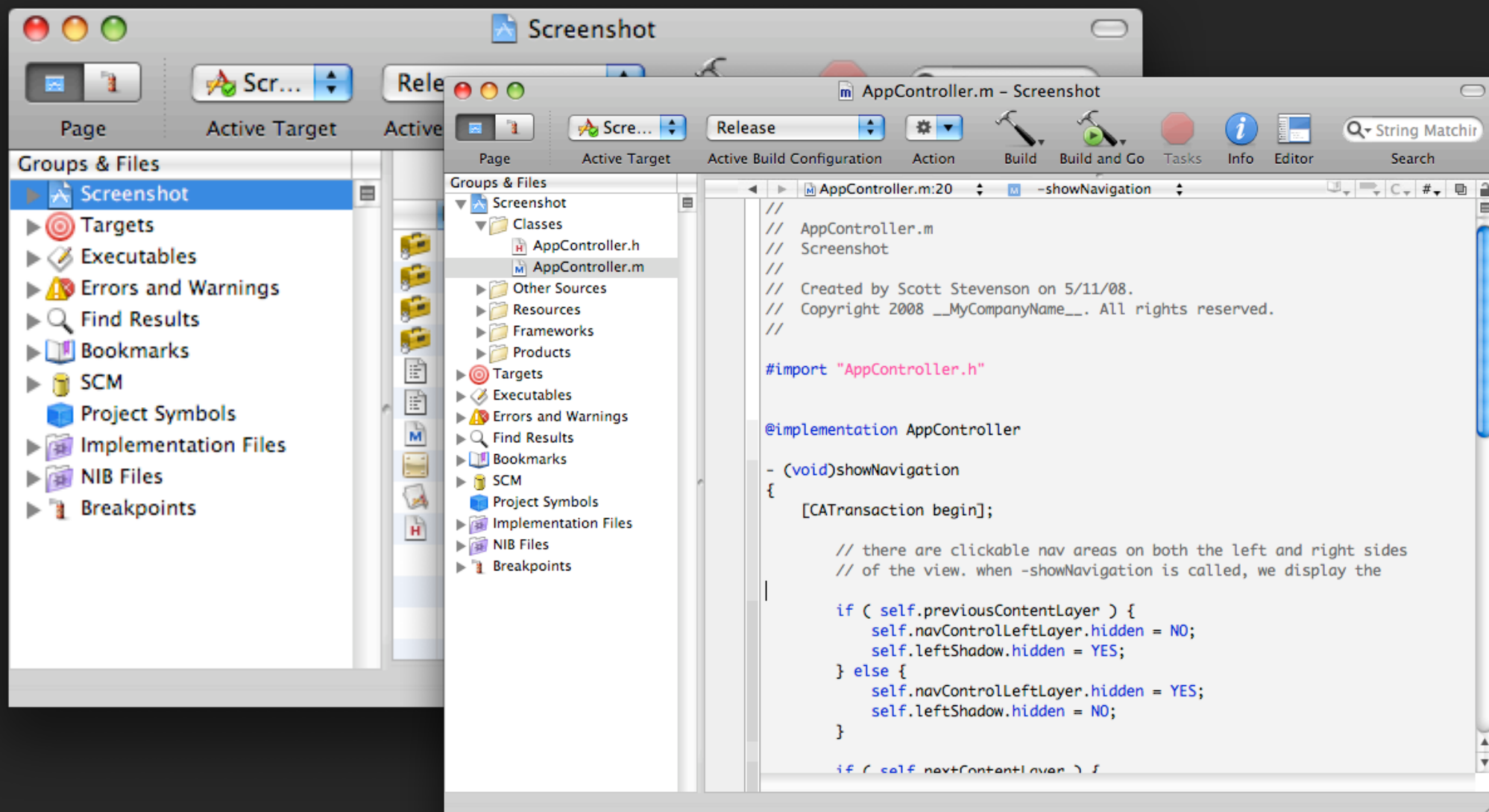
Xcode

Projects, editing, source control

Uses gcc and gdb

Written with Cocoa, used by Apple

Third-party integration



Features

Templates

Code Completion

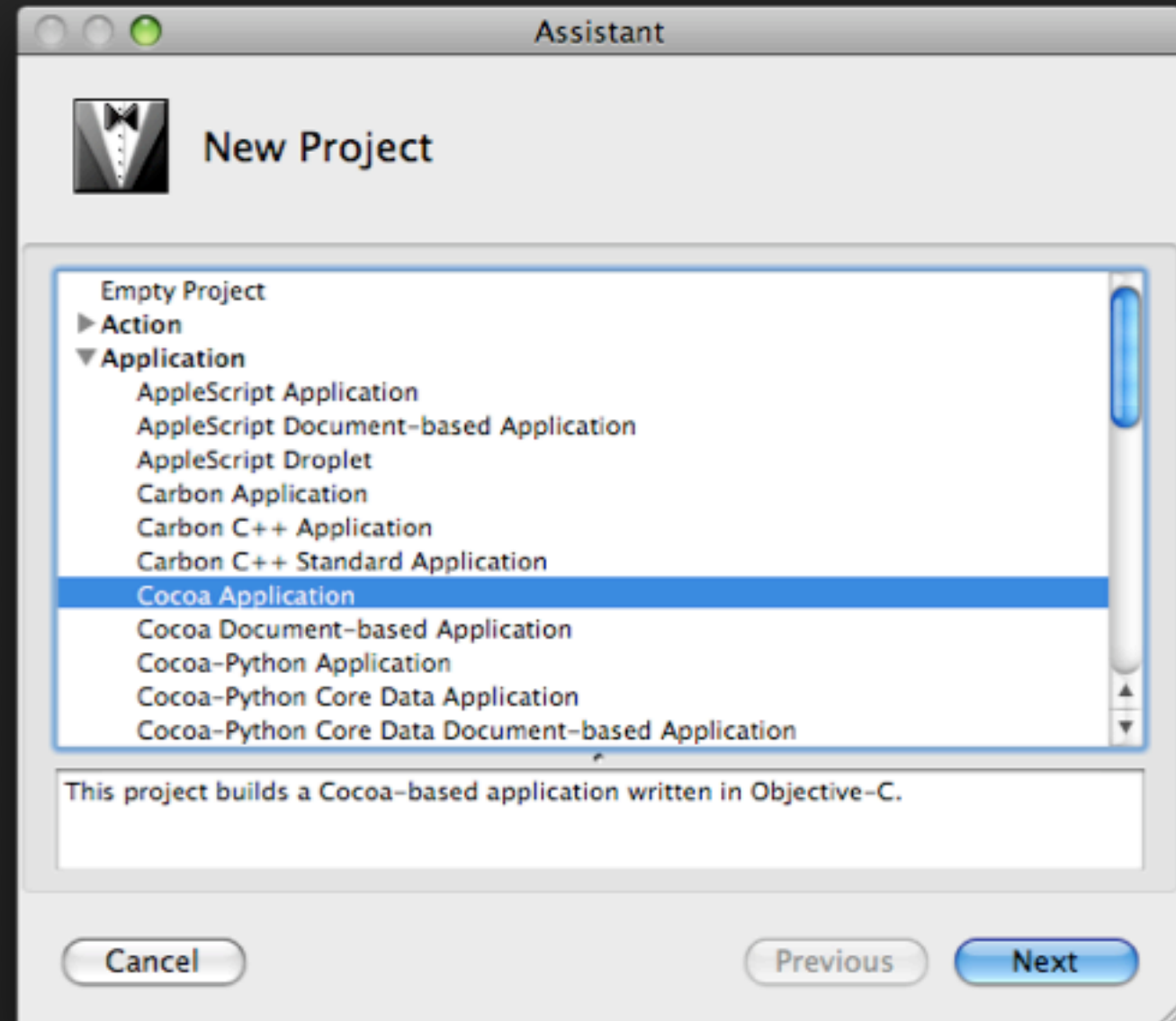
Inline Feedback

Debugging

Documentation

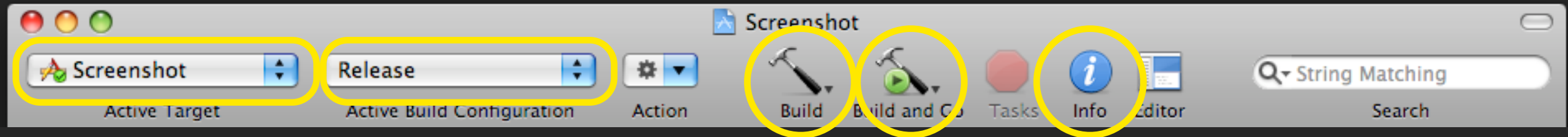
Visual gcc interface

Refactoring

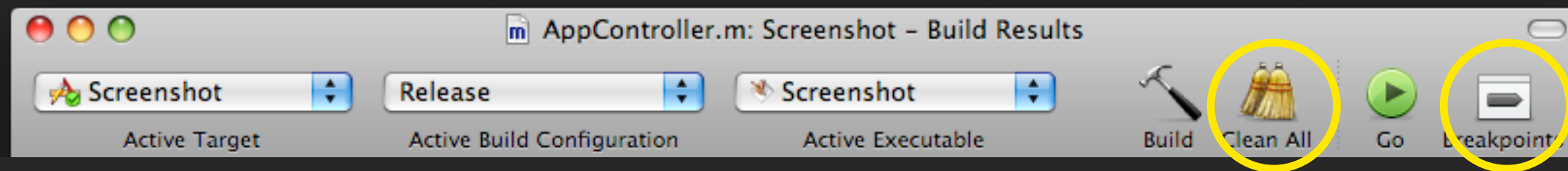


Toolbars

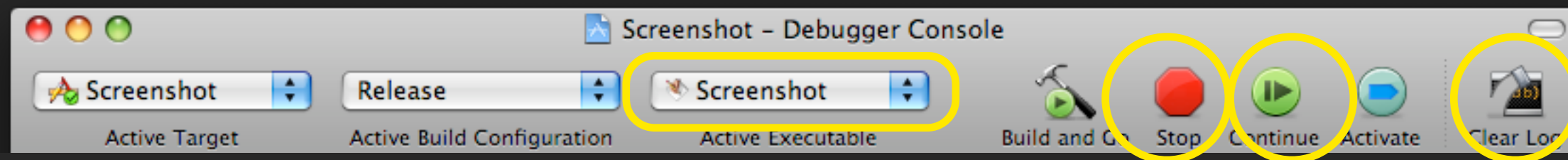
Project View



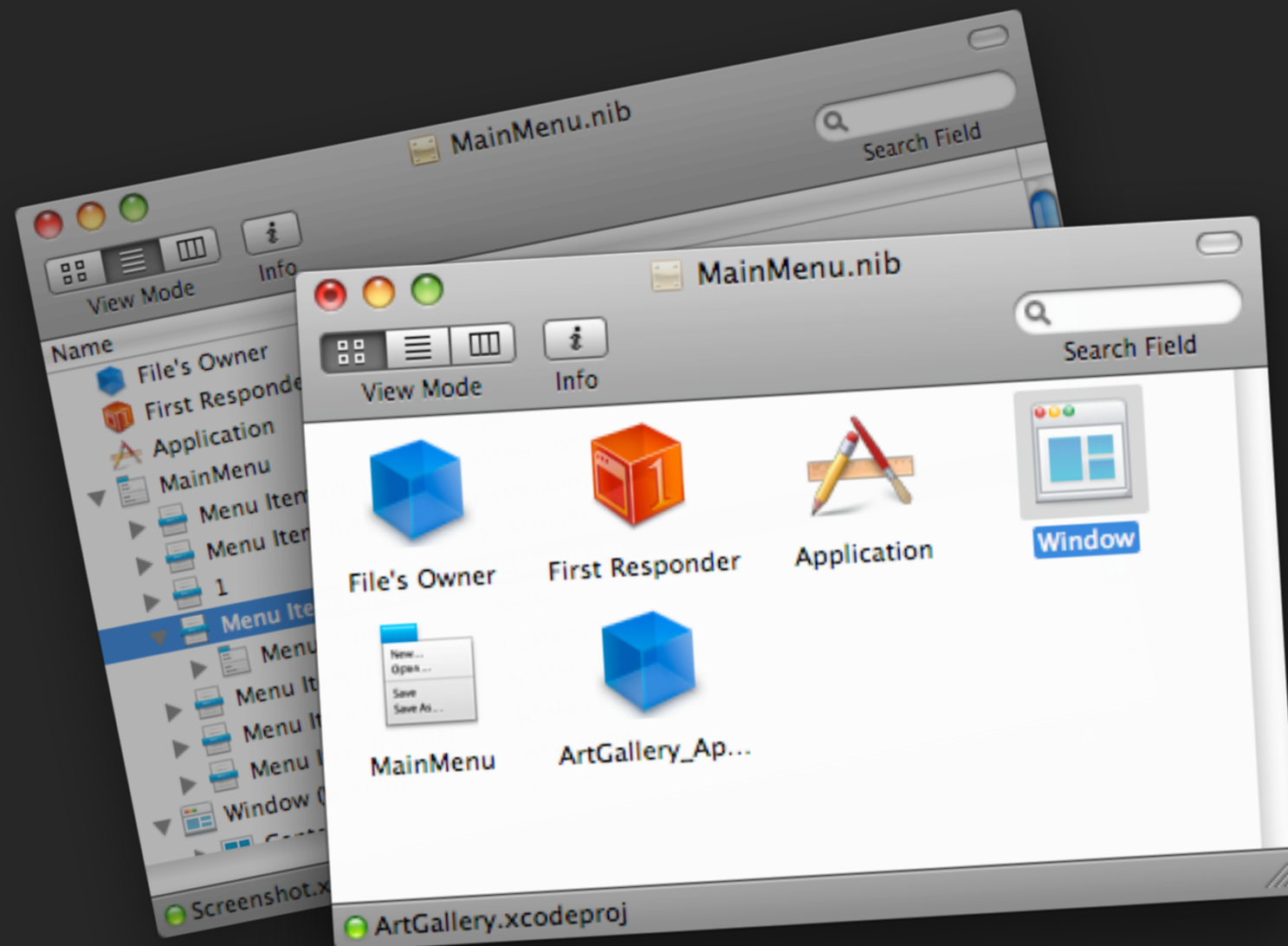
Build Results



Debugger



Xcode Tour



Interface Builder

Interface Builder

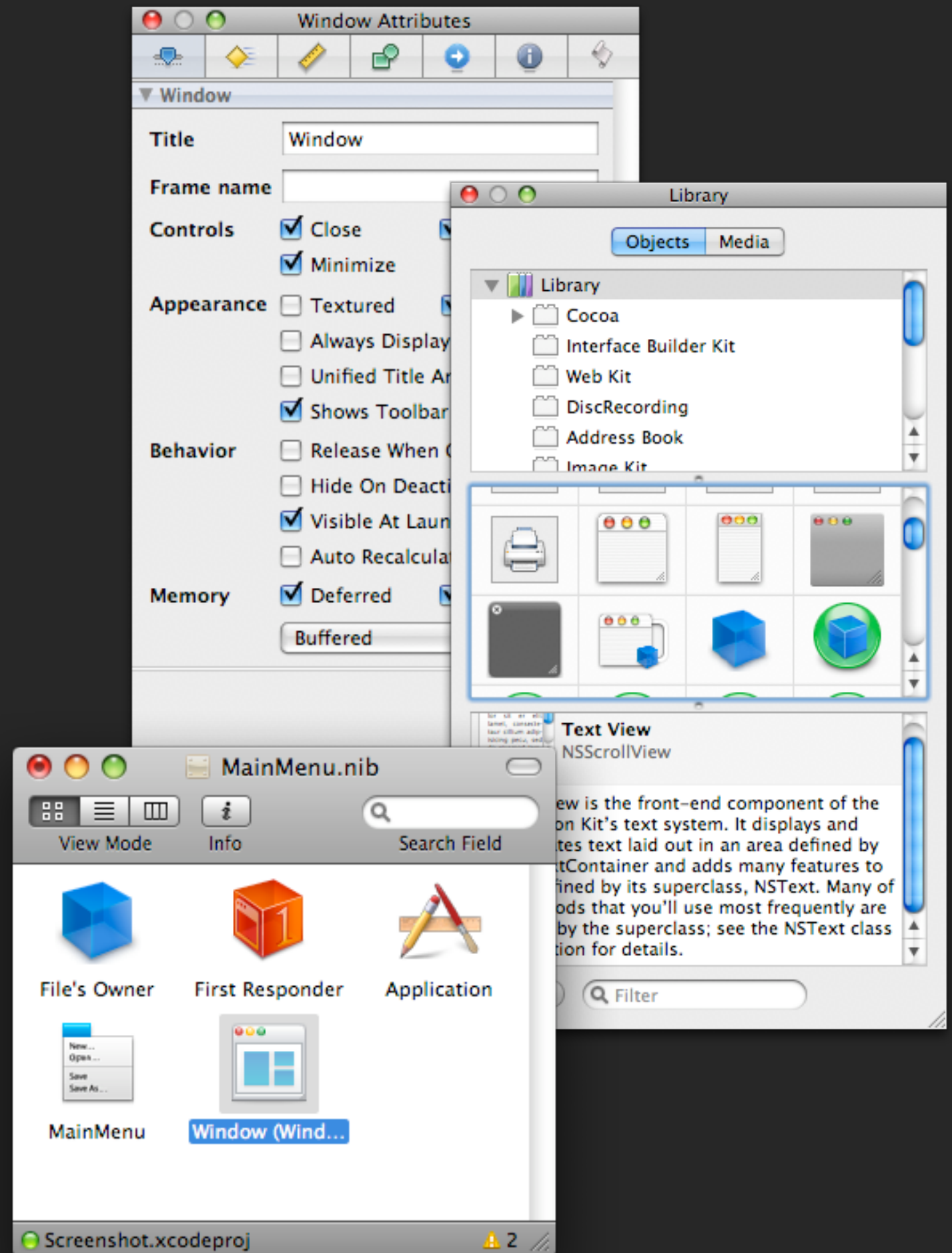
Basic layout and setup

Prototyping

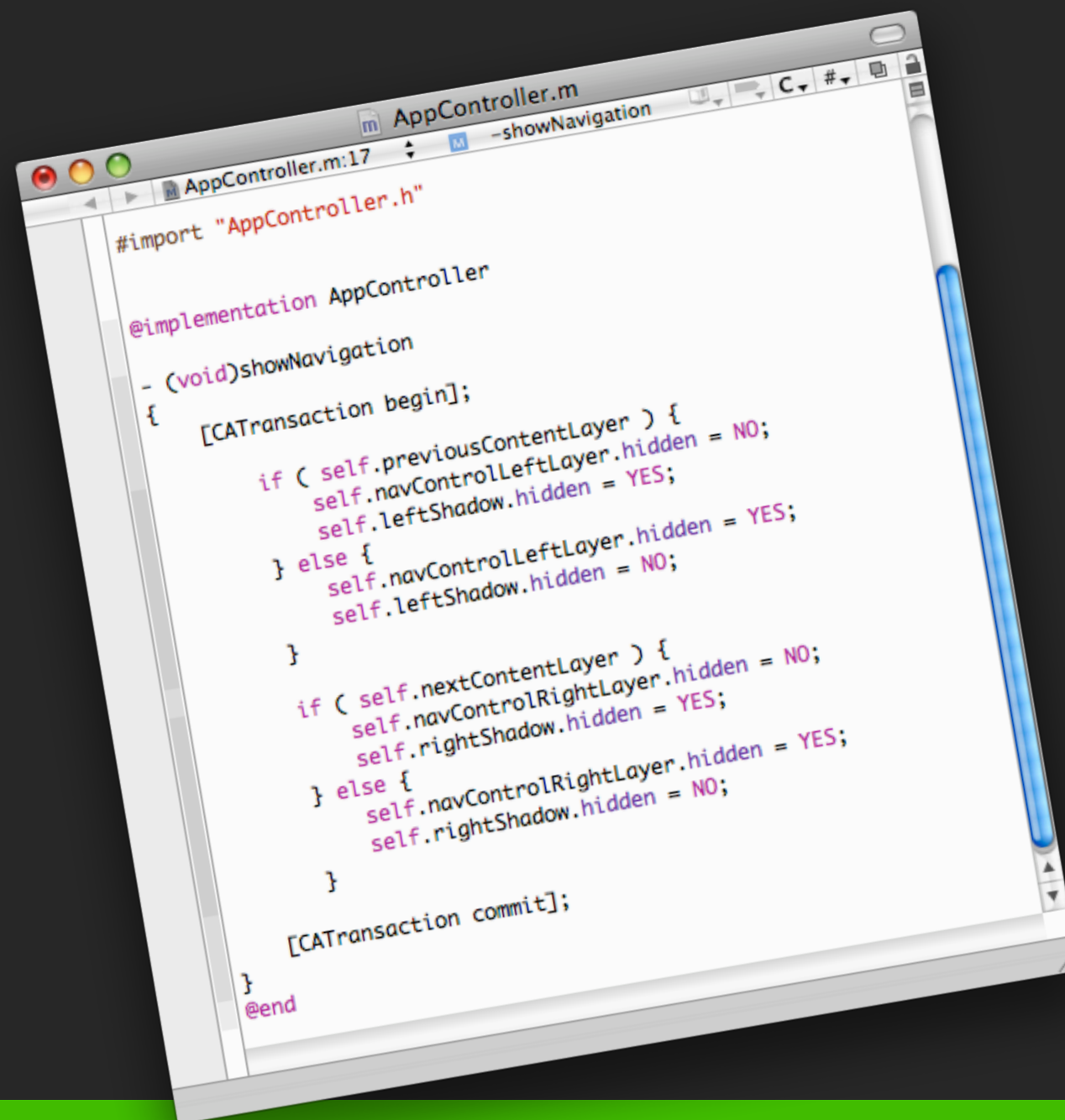
Visualizing

XIB and NIB files

Integrated with Xcode



Interface Builder Tour



Objective-C

Objective-C

Primary language for Cocoa

Object additions to C

Dynamic runtime

Weakly typed

Simple syntax

Best-kept secret

Can integrate with C++

A screenshot of an Xcode window titled 'AppController.m'. The window shows Objective-C code for a class named 'AppController'. The code includes an import statement for 'AppController.h', an '@implementation' block for 'AppController', and a method '- (void)showNavigation'. The method body contains two conditional blocks: one for 'self.previousContentLayer' and one for 'self.nextContentLayer', each with 'if' and 'else' branches setting 'hidden' properties on 'navControlLeftLayer' and 'navControlRightLayer' and 'leftShadow' and 'rightShadow' respectively. The method ends with '[CATransaction commit];' and '@end'. The code is color-coded: keywords in blue, literals in red, and identifiers in black.

```
#import "AppController.h"

@implementation AppController

- (void)showNavigation
{
    [CATransaction begin];

    if ( self.previousContentLayer ) {
        self.navControlLeftLayer.hidden = NO;
        self.leftShadow.hidden = YES;
    } else {
        self.navControlLeftLayer.hidden = YES;
        self.leftShadow.hidden = NO;
    }

    if ( self.nextContentLayer ) {
        self.navControlRightLayer.hidden = NO;
        self.rightShadow.hidden = YES;
    } else {
        self.navControlRightLayer.hidden = YES;
        self.rightShadow.hidden = NO;
    }

    [CATransaction commit];
}

@end
```

Memory Management

Garage Collection on 10.5

Reference counting

Do not free object memory

Core Foundation



```
#import "AppController.h"

@implementation AppController

- (void)showNavigation
{
    [CATransaction begin];

    if ( self.previousContentLayer ) {
        self.navControlLeftLayer.hidden = NO;
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    } else {
        self.navControlLeftLayer.hidden = YES;
        self.leftShadow.hidden = NO;
    }

    if ( self.nextContentLayer ) {
        self.navControlRightLayer.hidden = NO;
        self.rightShadow.hidden = YES;
    } else {
        self.navControlRightLayer.hidden = YES;
        self.rightShadow.hidden = NO;
    }

    [CATransaction commit];
}

@end
```

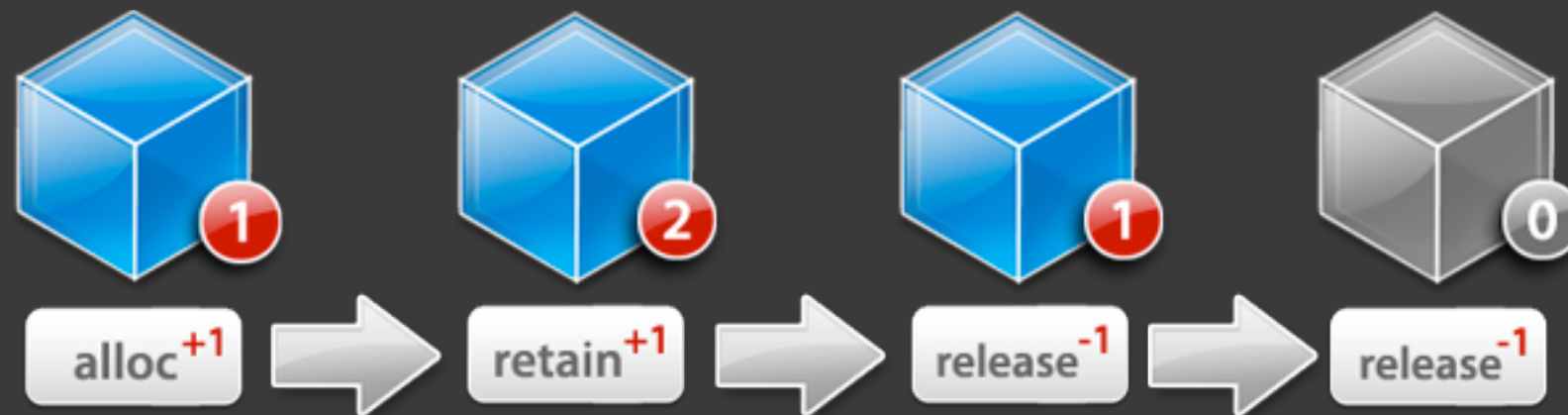
Memory Management

Object starts with 1

Increase with **-retain**, **-copy**

Decrease with **-release**, **-autorelease**

Final release triggers **-dealloc**



Runtime

Create methods at runtime 

Intercept/redirect messages

Missing methods are warnings

Runtime loading of plug-ins

You may be subclassed at runtime

Typing

Objective-C is weakly typed: `id`

Toll-free bridging

`NSString` : `CFStringRef`

`NSArray` : `CFArrayRef`

`NSDictionary` : `CFDictionaryRef`

Messages

Not direct method calls

Can be perform delayed

```
NSString* value = [textField stringValue];
```

```
[textField setStringValue:@"Your Name"];
```

```
[textField setValue:name forKey:kNameKey];
```

```
[textField setValue:name  
                    forKey:kNameKey];
```

```
[nil setValue:name forKey:kNameKey];
```

Messages

Alternate syntax for accessors

```
NSString* value = textField.stringValue;  
textField.stringValue = @"Your Name";
```

Only for setters and getters

Not direct ivar access

Classes

Separate header and implementation files

Single inheritance

```
@interface MyClass: NSObject {  
    NSString* title;  
    NSDate* creationDate;  
}  
- (NSString*) title;  
- (NSDate*) creationDate;  
- (void) setCreationDate: (NSDate*)newDate;  
- (void) resetCreationDate;  
- (void) setTitle: (NSString*)newTitle;  
@end
```

```
@implementation MyClass
```

```
- (id) init
```

```
{
```

```
    if ( self = [super init] )
```

```
    {
```

```
        title = nil;
```

```
    }
```

```
    return self;
```

```
}
```

```
@implementation MyClass
```

```
- (NSString*) title {  
    return title;  
}
```

```
- (void) setTitle: (NSString*)newTitle {  
    [title autorelease];  
    title = [newTitle retain];  
}
```

```
- (void) dealloc {  
    [title release];  
    [super dealloc];  
}
```

```
@end
```


Classes

Creating objects

```
MyClass* object = [[MyClass alloc] init];
```

```
[object setTitle:title];
```

```
[object setCreationDate:[NSDate date]];
```

```
[object release];
```

Properties

```
@interface MyClass: NSObject {  
    NSString* title;  
}  
@property (retain) NSString* title;  
@end
```

```
@implementation MyClass  
@synthesize title;  
  
- (id) init {  
    self.title = nil;  
}  
@end
```



Mac OS X

Mac OS X

Application Packages

Installation

Respect the user's space:

~/Library/**Application Support**

~/Library/**Preferences**

Do not put anything in:

Home

Documents

/System/

Hidden Directories



App Package

Do not change contents

Essentials: keep self-contained

Application Support

Real data for non-document apps

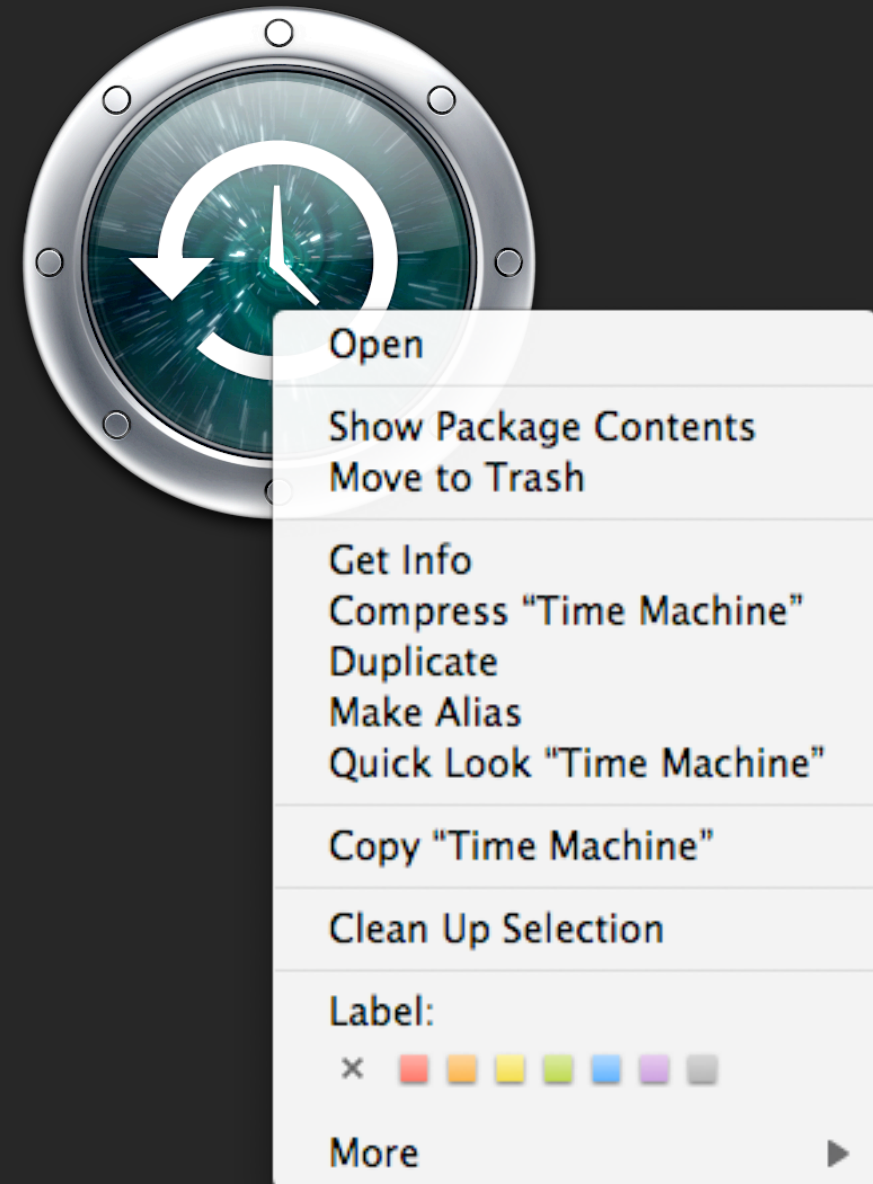
Third Party Plug-ins

Preferences

Disposable

Standard format

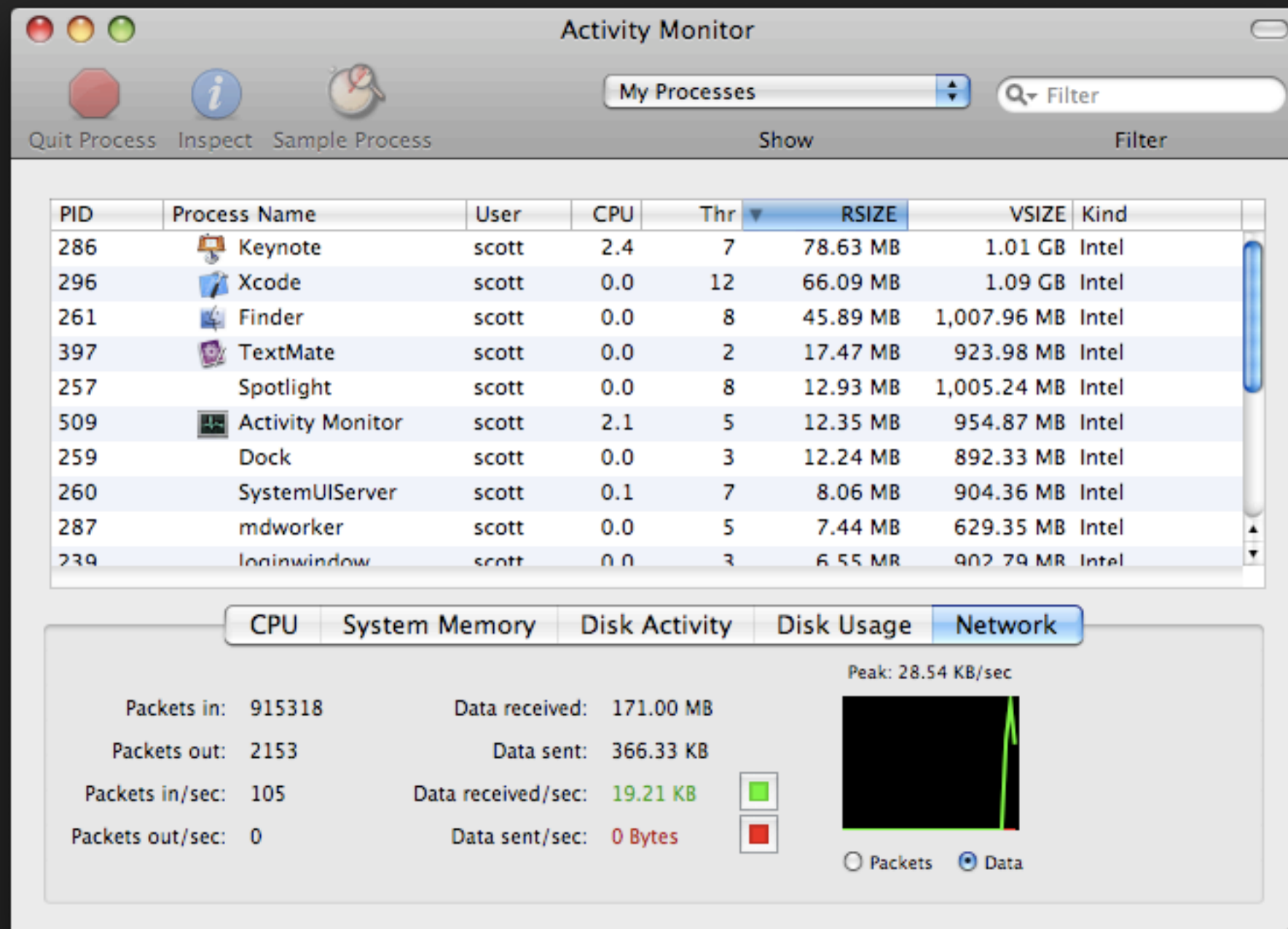
Delete during testing



Background Processes

Don't do it.

Seriously, don't do it.





Design



Developer

The appearance and behavior of the view layer.

User

The product.

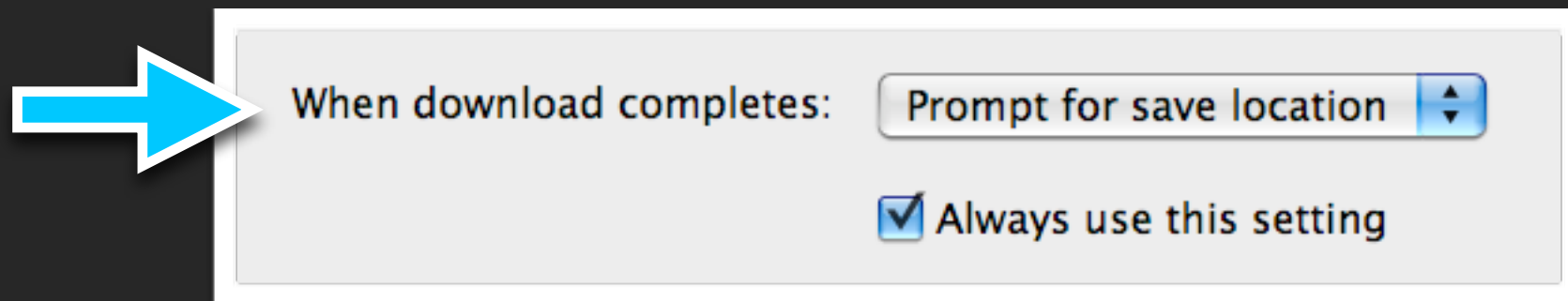


Labels and Prompts

Use common words and complete sentences.

Don't use lingo or clever language.

Prompt only for multiple items.
Labels for everything else.



Simplicity and clarity win every time.

Model prefs design citizen: [Safari](#)



Icons

First impressions

Specialized Skill

Full size

Appealing

Functional and conceptual

Common Mistakes

Splash screens

Inventing your own UI style

Throwing files everywhere

Too much user interface

Bizarre font choices

If You Do Nothing Else

Keep it simple.



Culture

Code Culture

Use clear method names

Avoid subclassing

Learn the frameworks

Trust the frameworks

Use the highest level abstractions

User Culture

Mac developers live online

Users buy into *you*

Respect your users

Mac news sites

Apple Top Downloads

WWDC

CocoaHeads (you are here!)

Wrap Up

Wrap-up

<http://theocacao.com/>