

# Making Computers Suck Less

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# Overview

- Obsolete UI Models
- New Concepts
- Étoilé Design Overview

# Obsolete UI Models

# Files

- Saving state to a disk
- Good in memory-constrained systems
  - Pre-date virtual memory
  - Pre-date multi-tasking
- Useful for interchange

# Applications

- Originate with single-tasking systems
- Modes - very bad
- Duplicate functionality - inefficient

# New and Modified Concepts

# Stateful Workspaces

- Project as a top-level object
- Documents inside the project
- State maintained on exit
- Flash mock-up

# Indexed Data Store

- Based on PostgreSQL or SQLite
- Full automatic undo
- ‘Checkpoint’ and ‘Publish’ - no ‘Save’
- Indexed for fast searching
- Intermediates cached if possible

# Data Store : Different Approaches

- Unique Data Store, separated from the rest of the system (e.g., a big database)
- Multiple Data Stores (for each project, or each document) : multiple databases (SQLite) or Documents Bundles
- Data Store as a FileSystem: HFS+, BeFS

# Component Design

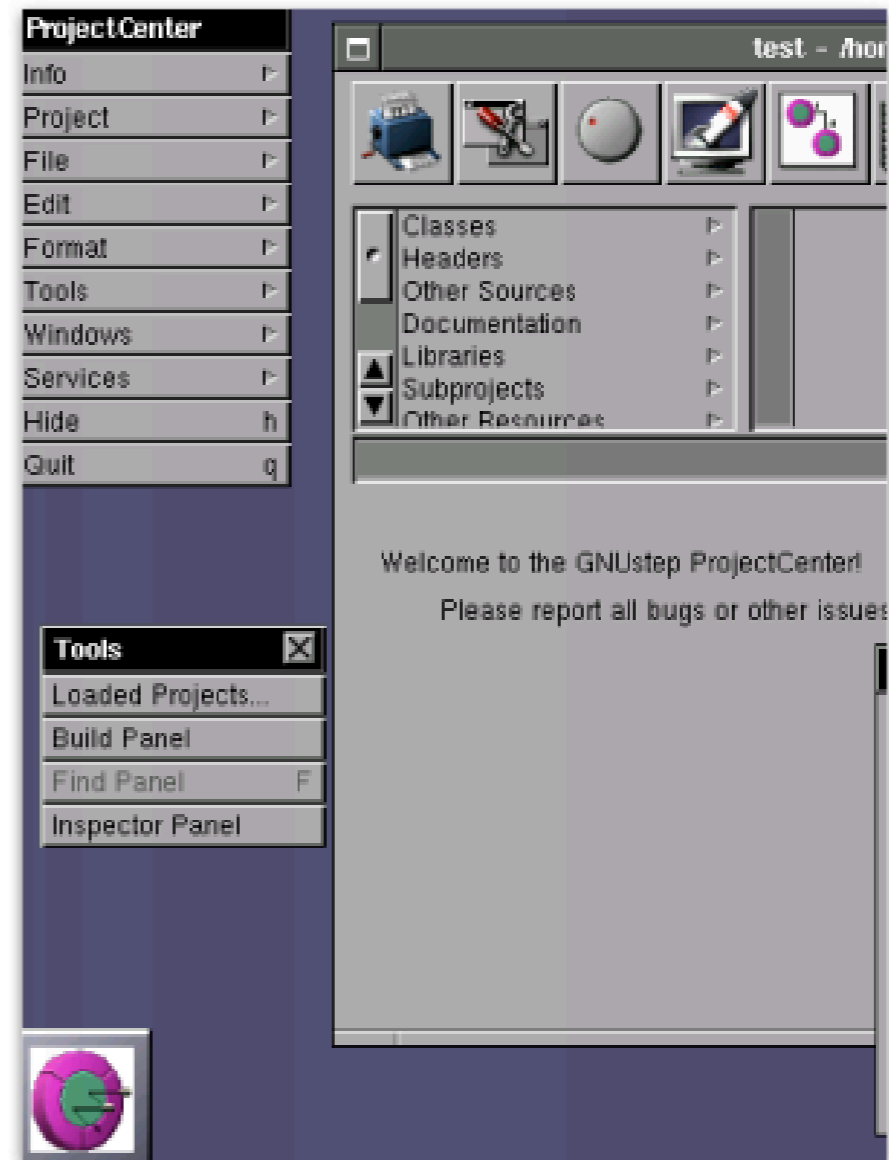
- Components manipulate objects
- Components can be loosely associated
- Components may use other components

# Menus?

- Encapsulate all commands in an application
- Global to an application
- Standard interface

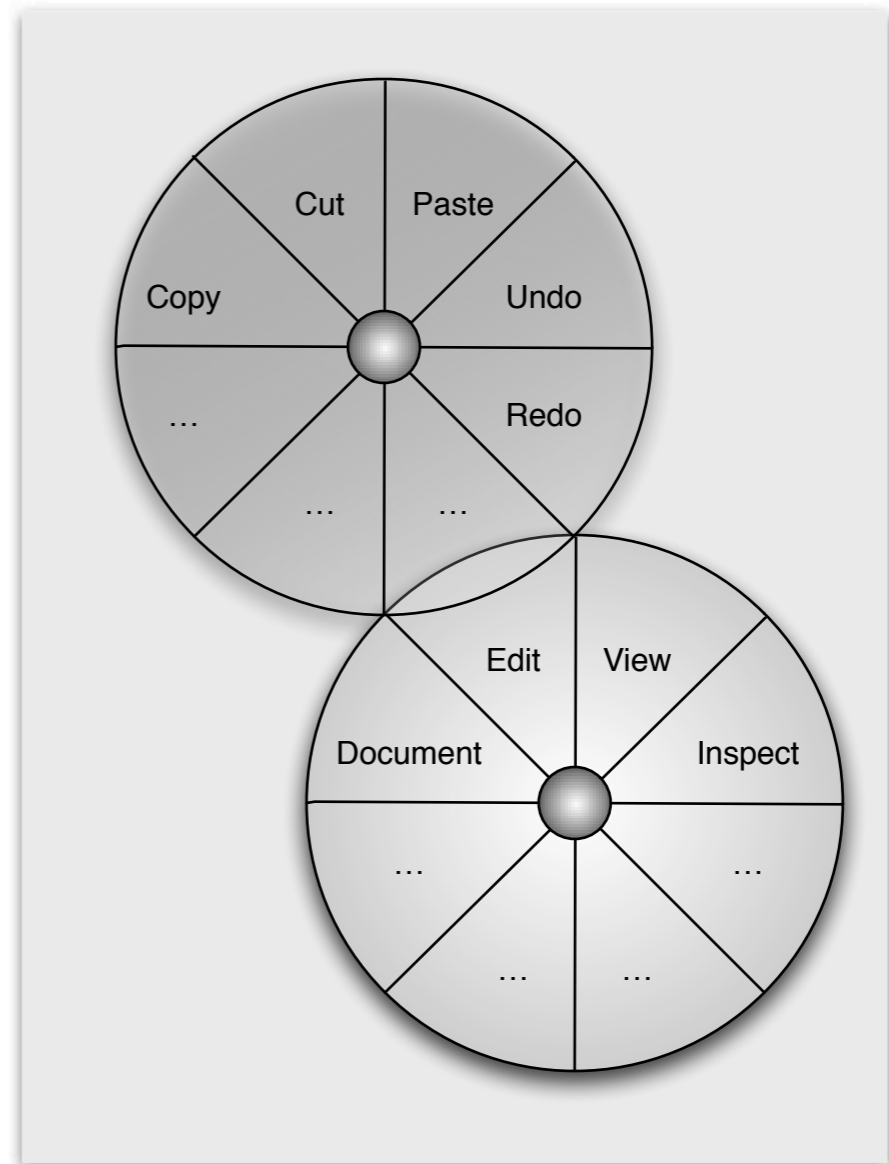
# Vertical Menu

- Scalable to big screens
- Excellent for customising the environment using tear-off menus



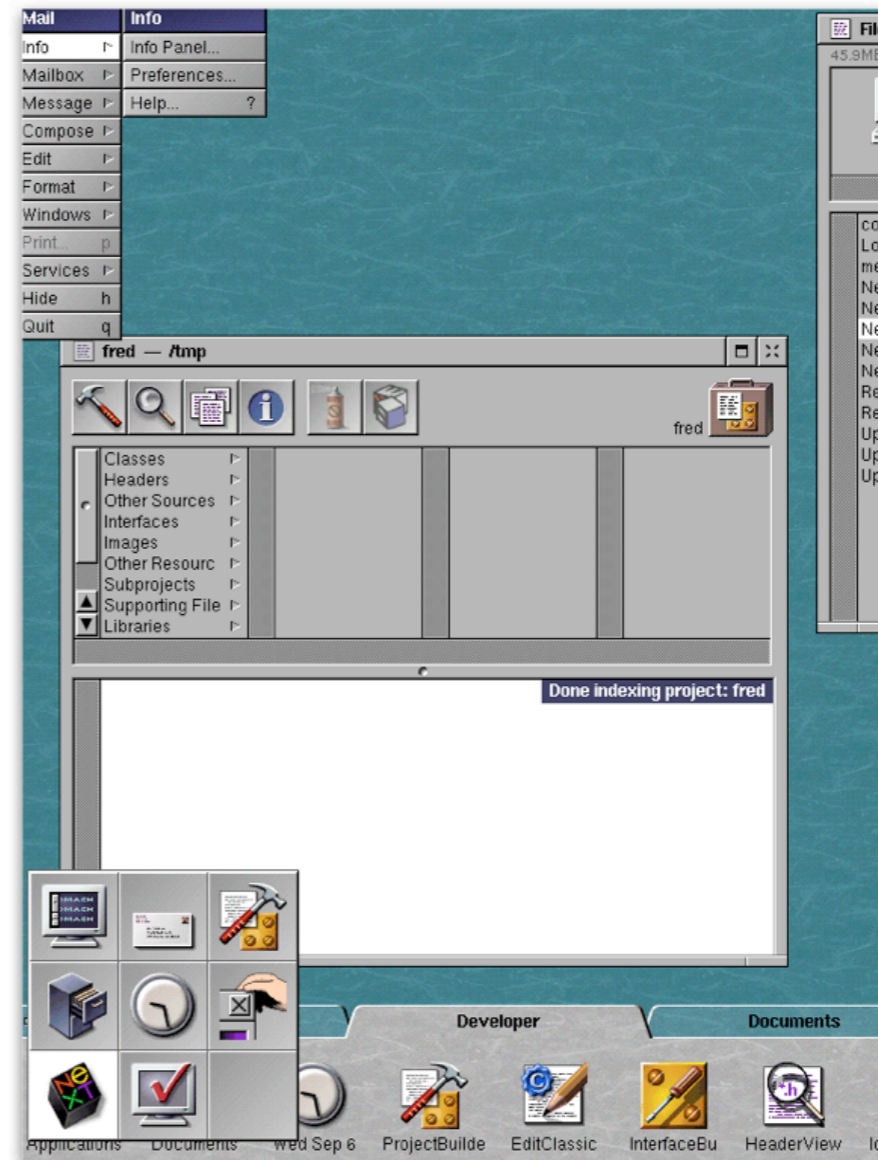
# Circular Menu

- Pop-up menus
- Similar to mouse-gestures
- Good motor-memory



# Tabbed shelf

- A place where you can drag-and-drop objects -- not just files
- Tabbed interface
- Optionally:
  - Populated automatically
  - Display objects spacially



# Floating Shelf Later

- Inspired by Apple's Dashboard
- Assign a shelf to be “floating”
- Shelf floats above desktop, and can be hidden with a key press (e.g. F12)
- Arbitrary objects can be placed on the shelf, as with any shelf

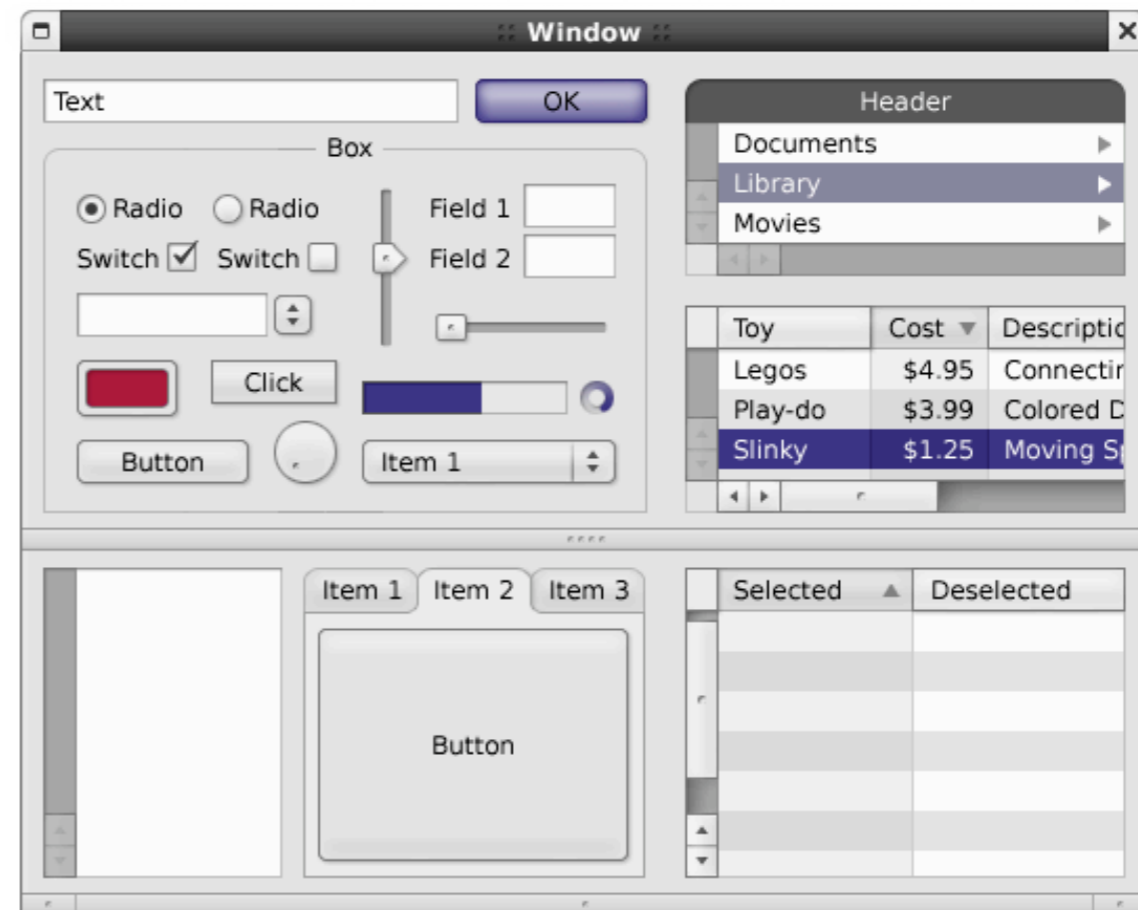
# Étoilé Architecture

# Built On GNUstep

- GNUstep is an Object-Oriented development environment
- Provides proved API and development tools
- Very powerful and flexible
- Rapid development
- Provides Smalltalk-like development environment
- Based on Objective-C

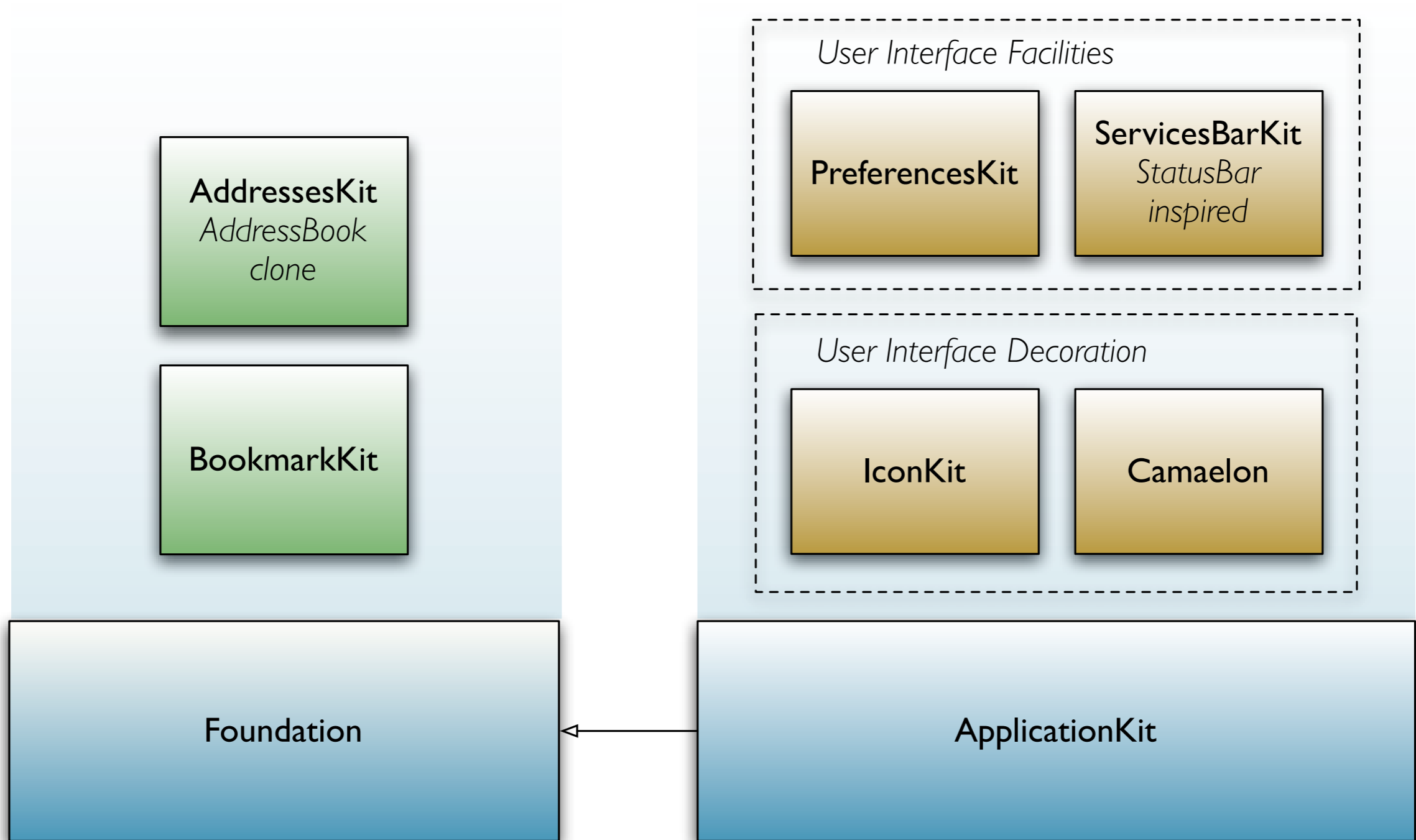
# Built On GNUstep

- New Theme, Nessedah
- Services
- Distributed Objects
- Scripting



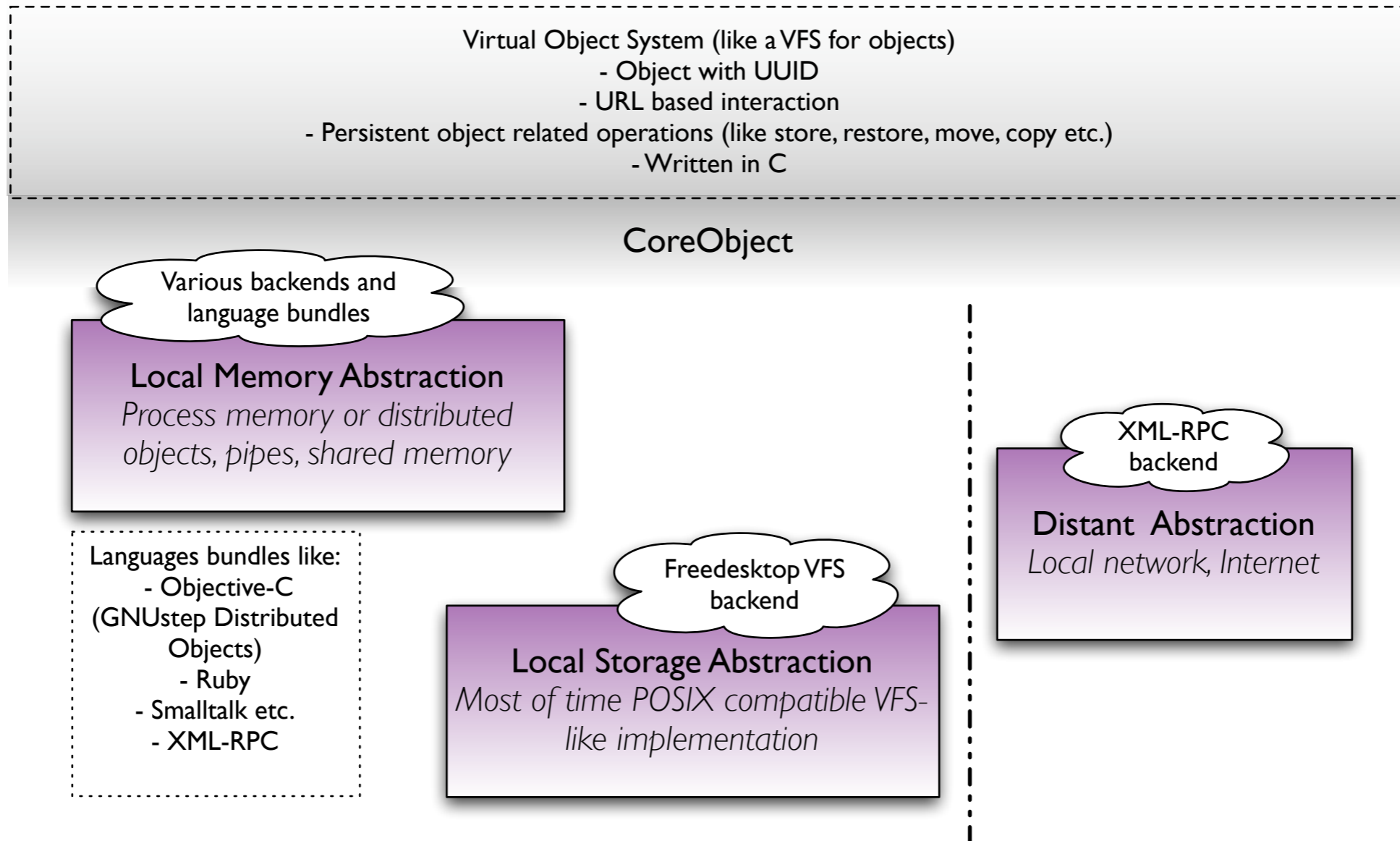
# Étoilé Generic Desktop related Frameworks

*without involved dependencies on Étoilé Core Frameworks*



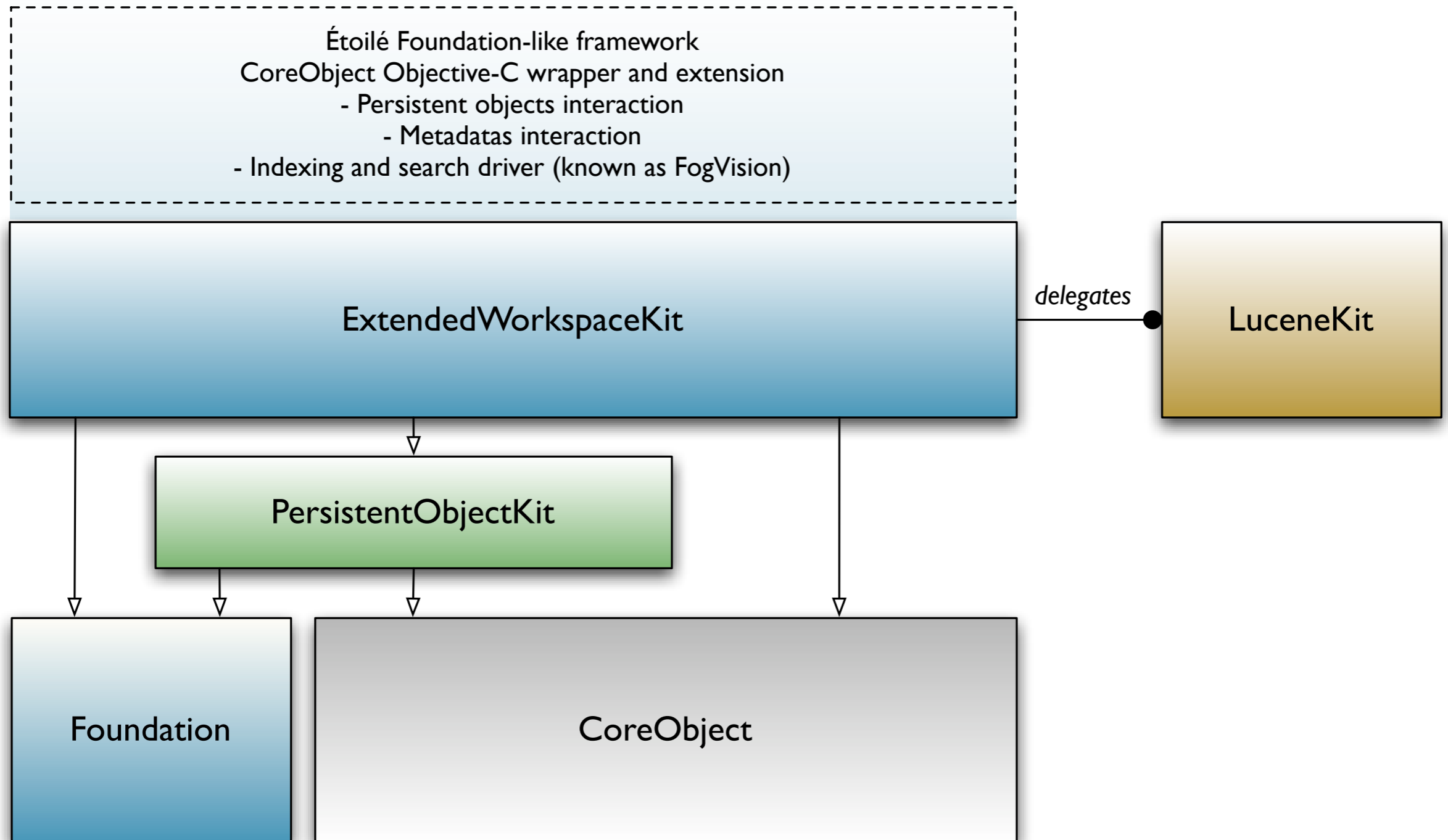
# Étoilé CoreObject Framework

*persistency, distribution, operations (move, copy, store, restore, do etc.)*



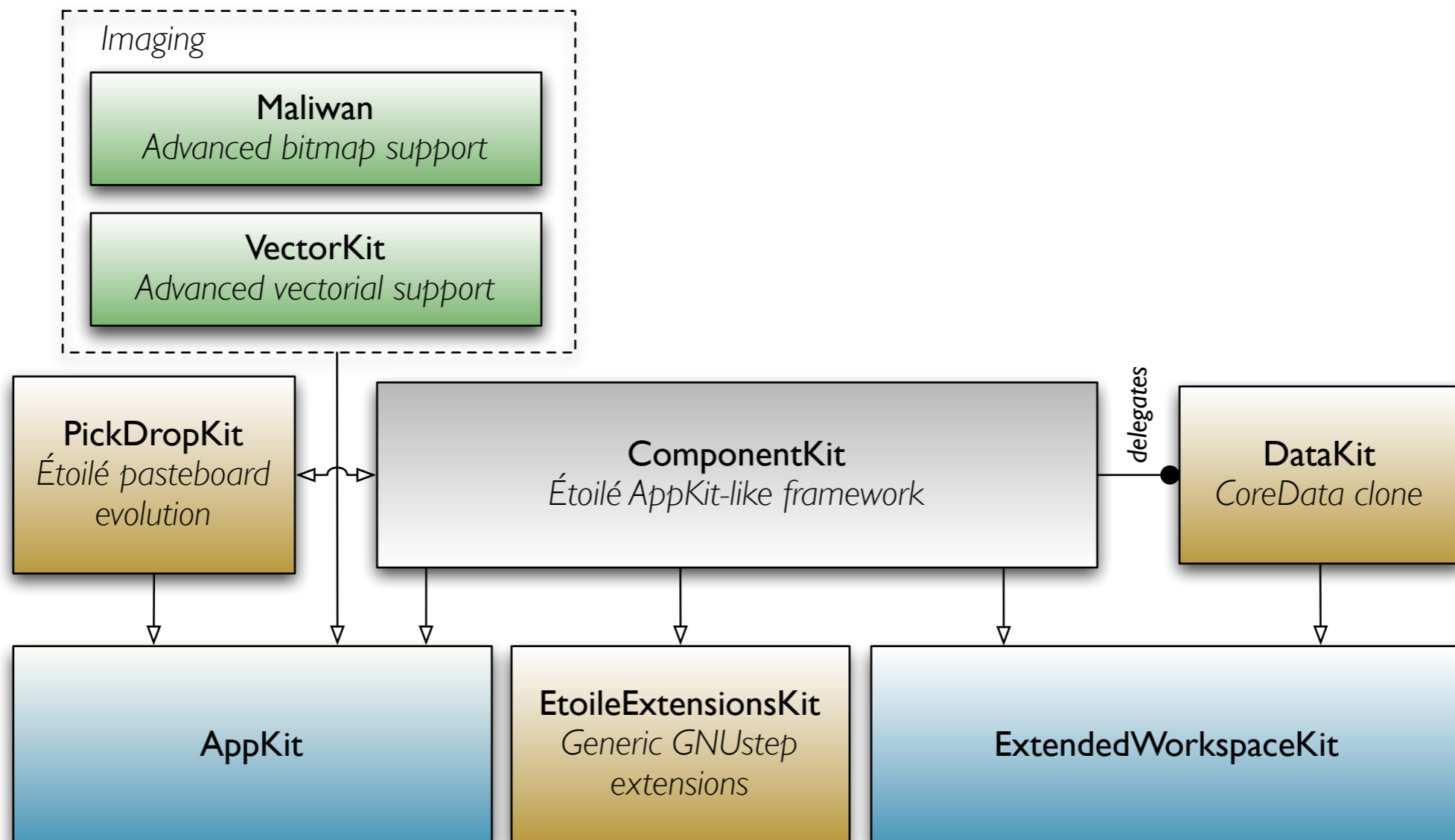
# Étoilé Core Frameworks

*persistence, indexing, search, distribution, operations (move, copy, etc.)*



# Étoilé Services Frameworks

*involves Étoilé AppKit replacement with components, services etc.*



# Questions / Discussion