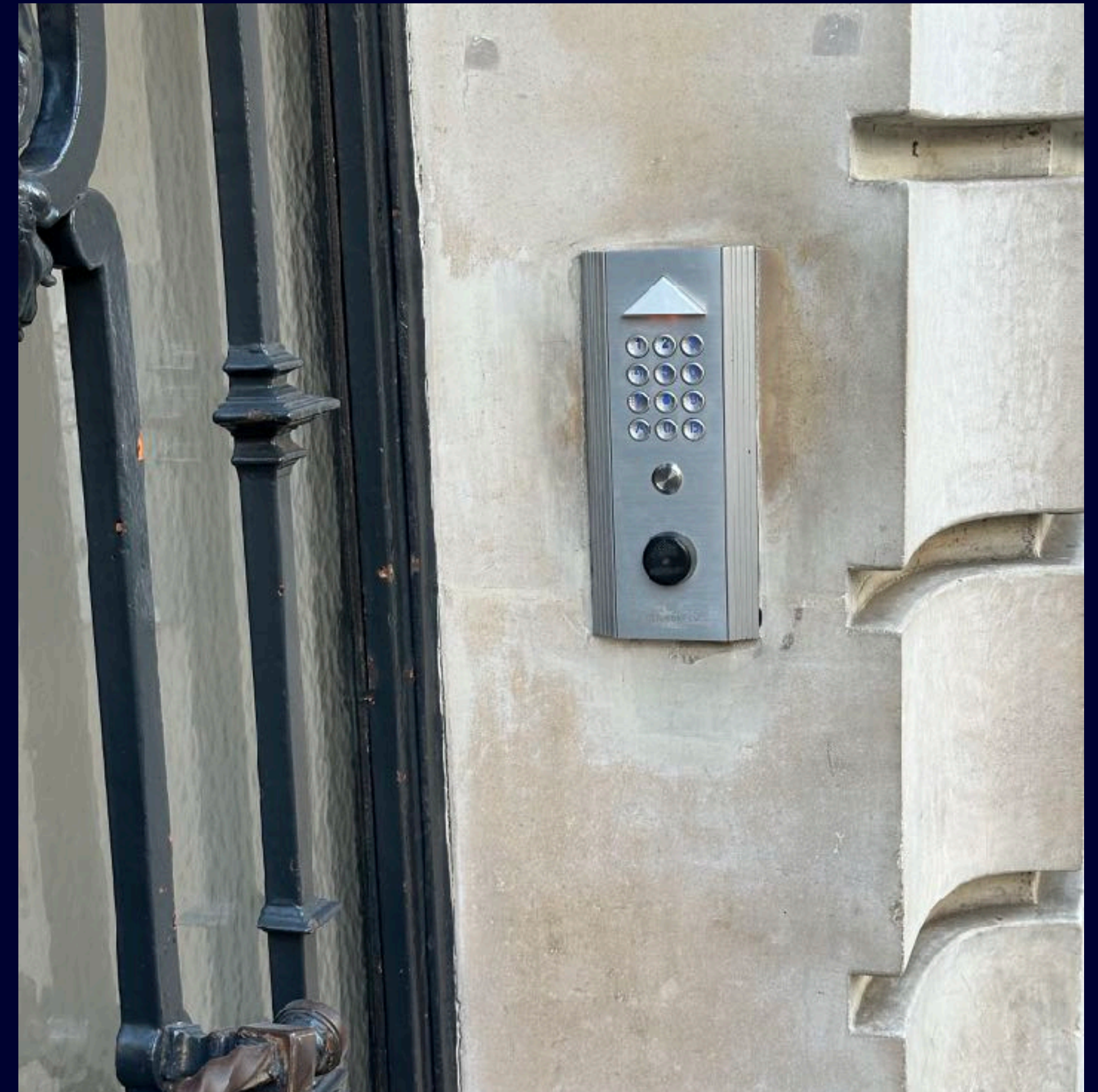


A simple choice

How to deal with door codes?

- Remember them
- Use Reminders app built-in geofencing
- Download a geofencing app
- Learn geofencing, understand the limits, overcome them with engineering, and build an entire app on top of that before making a talk about it



Push the limits of Geofencing

From proof of concept to app

Thomas Durand

Call me Dean



Indie dev of Padlok, iOS dev since 2014

Backend architect at DiliTrust

First time at NSSpain; and first time speaker 🎉

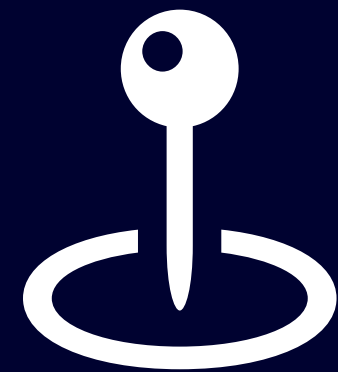
<https://thomasdurand.fr>

@deanatoire@mastodon.social

Geofencing is monitoring when your phone leaves or enters predefined regions

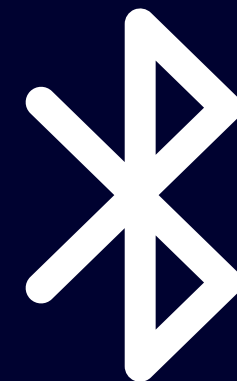
Concept of regions

Circular



Center coordinate
Radius ($\geq 100\text{m}$)

Beacon



UUID
Major/minor versions

onEntry / onExit booleans

Identifier

Pick up dry cleaning

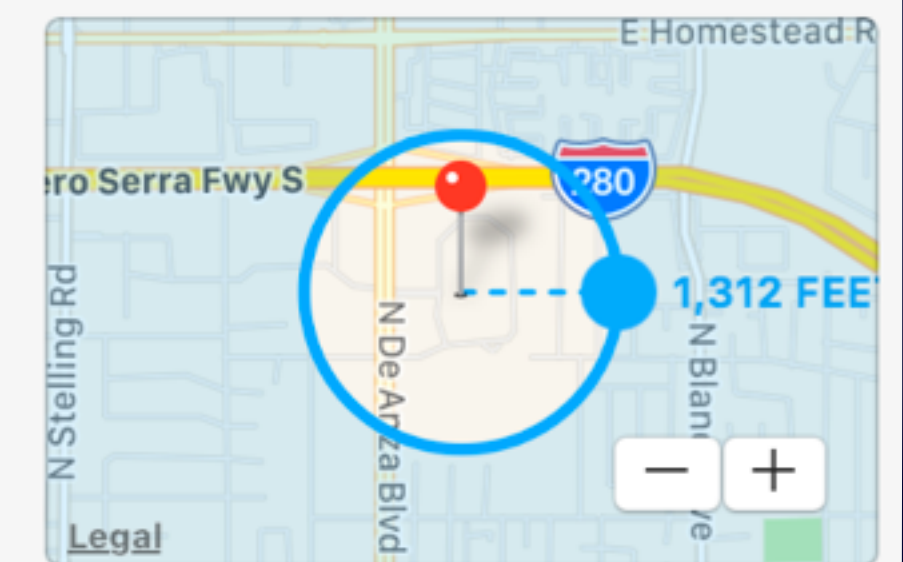
remind me On a Day

At a Location

Work

1 Infinite Loop MS 37-1DP Cupertino
CA 95014 United States

Arriving Leaving



priority None

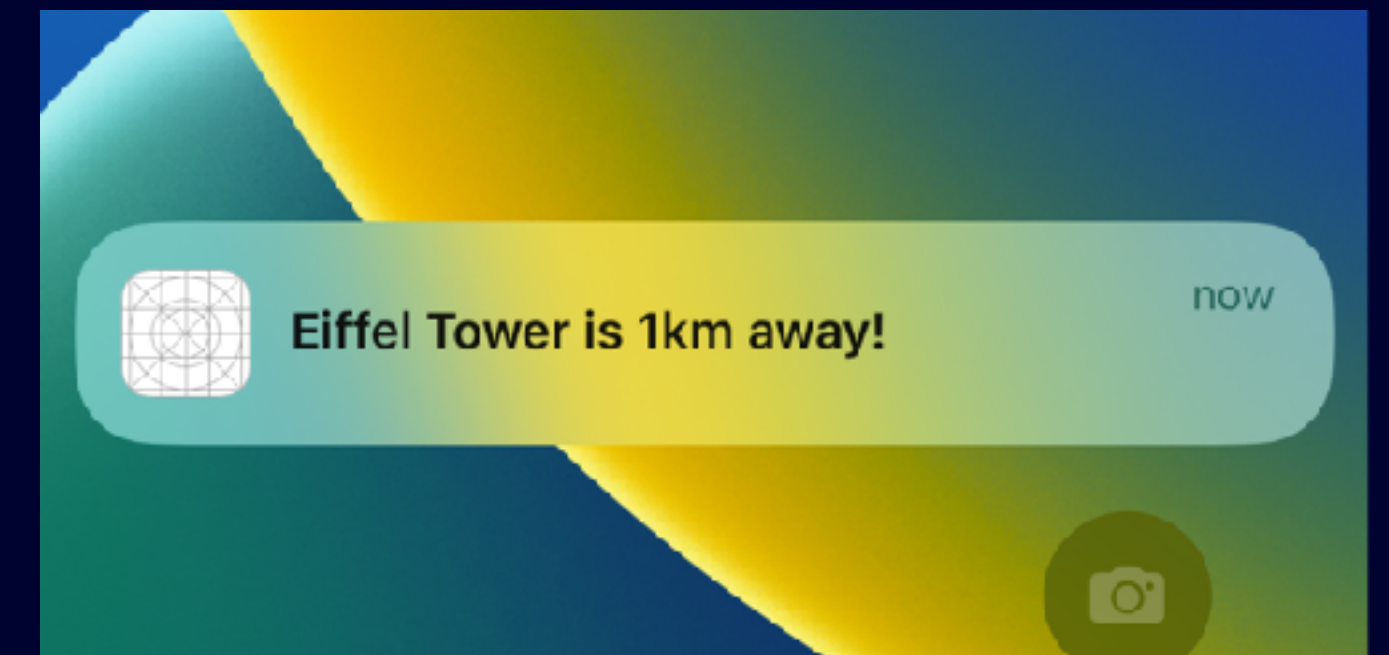
note None

Done

First geofenced notification

Using UserNotifications

- `UNLocationNotificationTrigger` for the win?
 - Initialize with a region and a repeat boolean
 - Requires *when in use* location authorization
- But with limitations:
 - Unregister/Register for any payload change...
 - No control on the actual notification sending...



Diving into Core Location

Meet region monitoring

- Start or Stop monitoring CLRegion

```
manager.startMonitoring(for: region)
```

```
manager.stopMonitoring(for: region)
```

- Events trigger your delegate methods

```
func locationManager(_, didEnterRegion: _)
```

```
func locationManager(_, didExitRegion: _)
```

- Still only require *when in use* location permission

Geofencing tidbits

The devil hides in the details

- You must have full accuracy permission on location
 - Also check if your device is compatible with `isMonitoringAvailable(for:)`

Geofencing tidbits

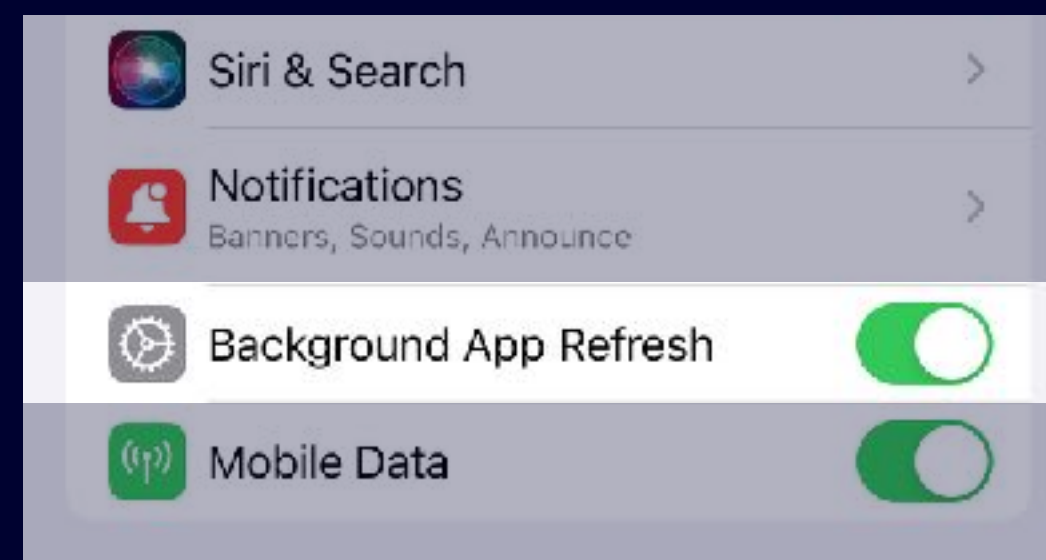
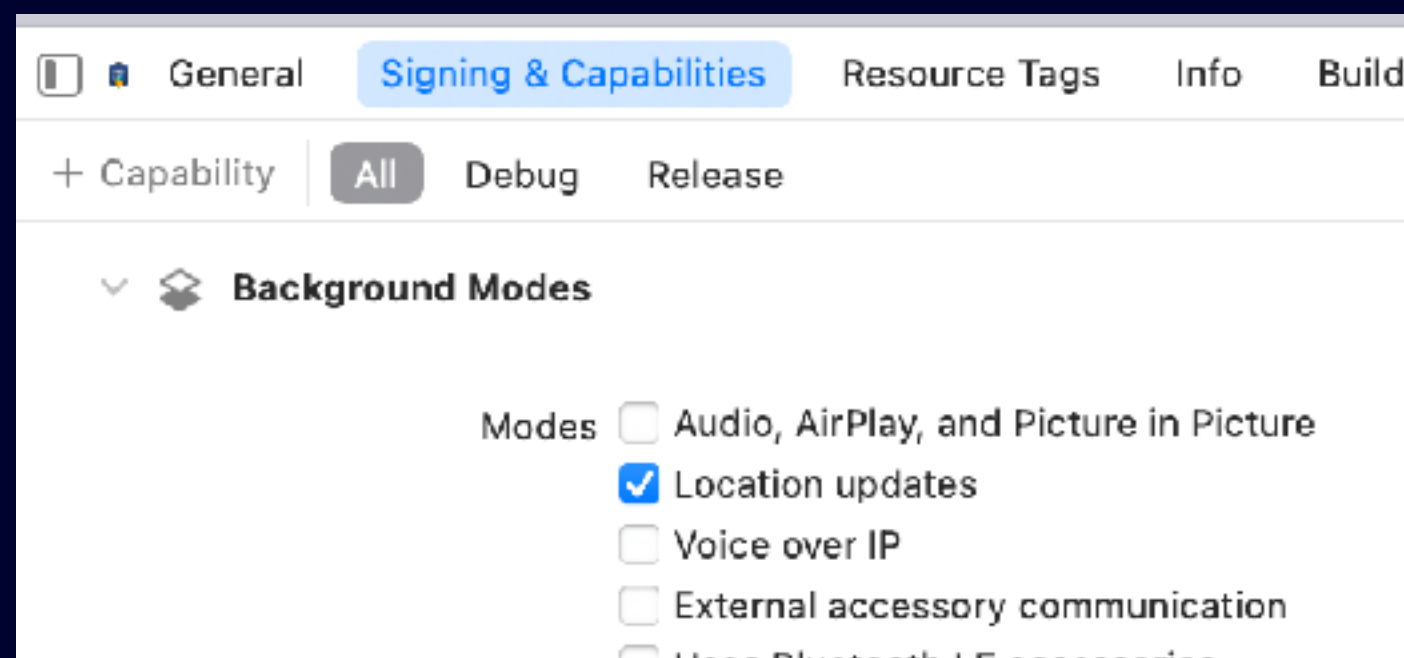
The devil hides in the details

- You must have full accuracy permission on location
 - Also check if your device is compatible with `isMonitoringAvailable(for:)`
- Setup your `CLLocationManagerDelegate` as soon as possible
 - Your app might be launched in background to deal with monitoring events

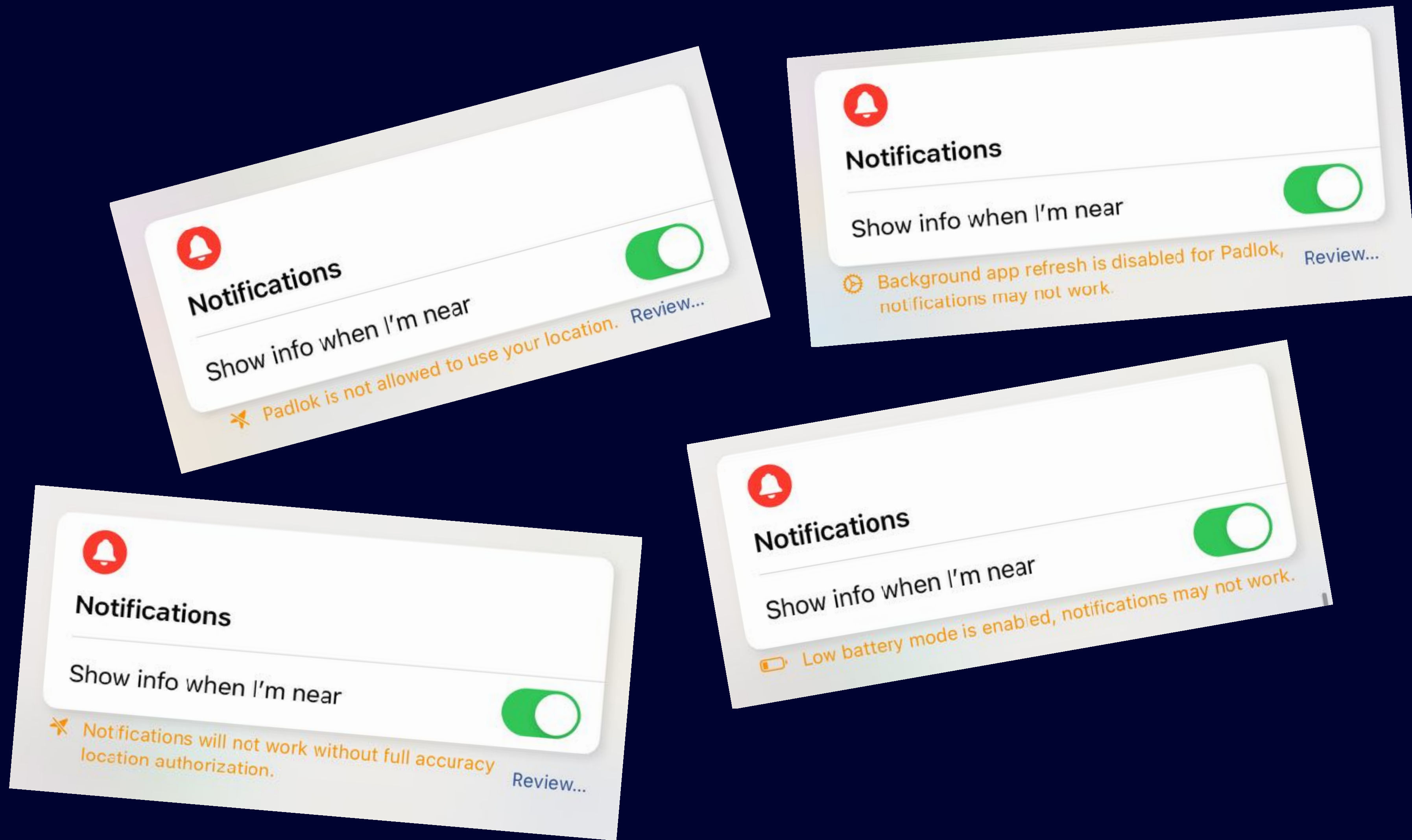
Geofencing tidbits

The devil hides in the details

- You must have full accuracy permission on location
 - Also check if your device is compatible with `isMonitoringAvailable(for:)`
- Setup your `CLLocationManagerDelegate` as soon as possible
 - Your app might be launched in background to deal with monitoring events
- Terminated app won't start unless location background modes are enabled



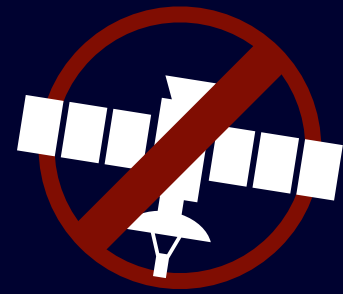
No workaround? Warn your users



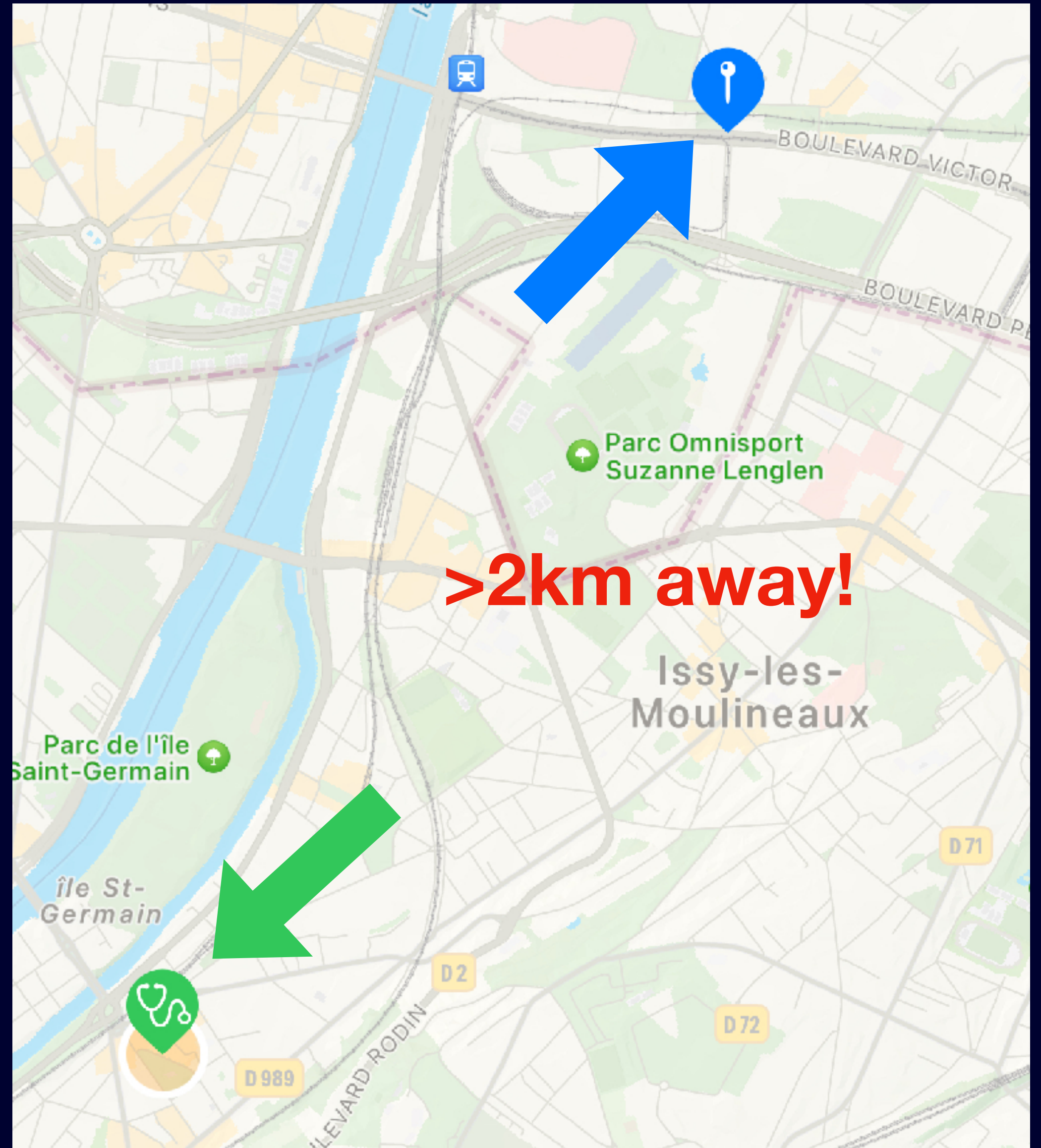
Precision...

A true story

- Geofencing does not rely on satellite navigation



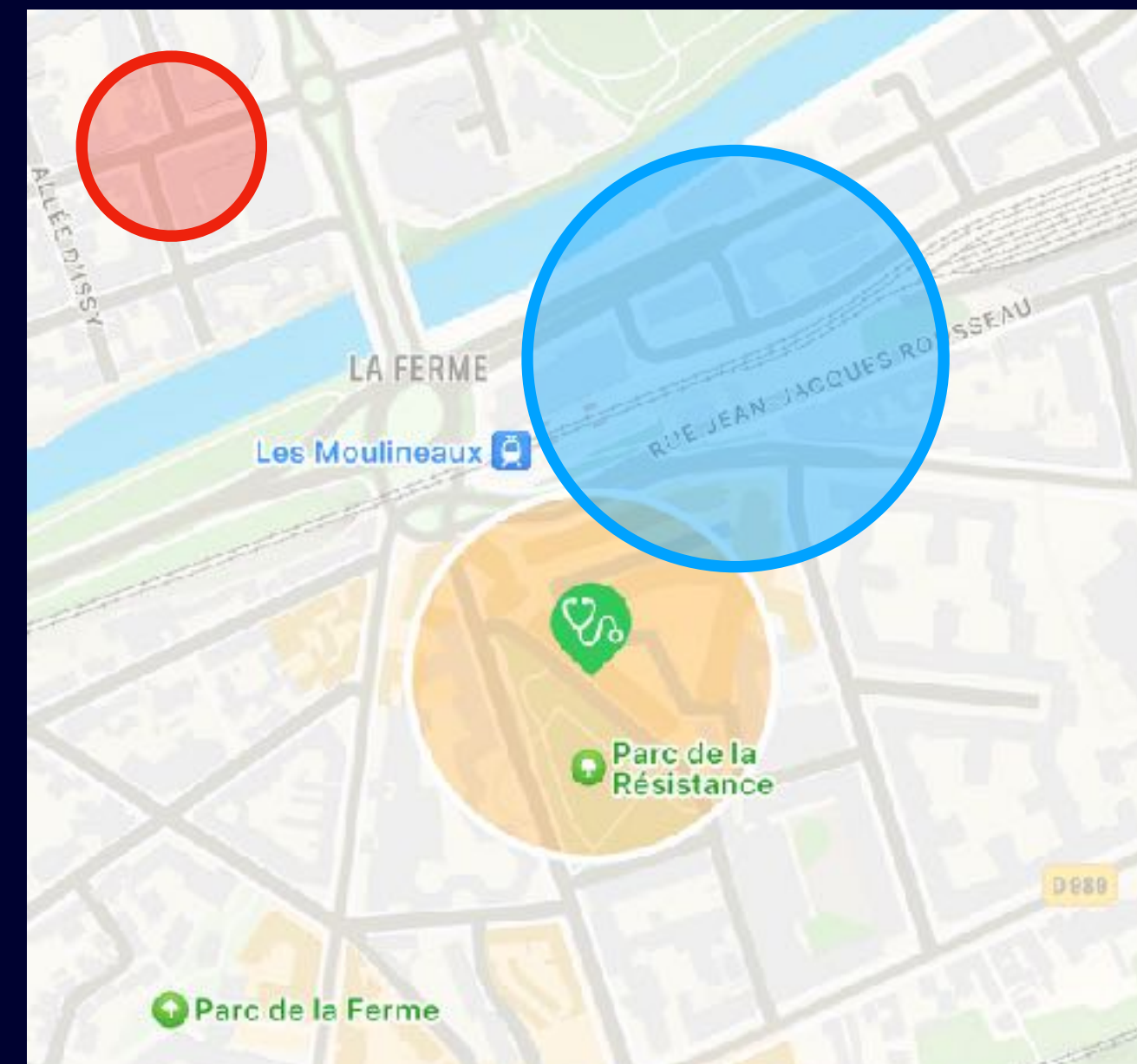
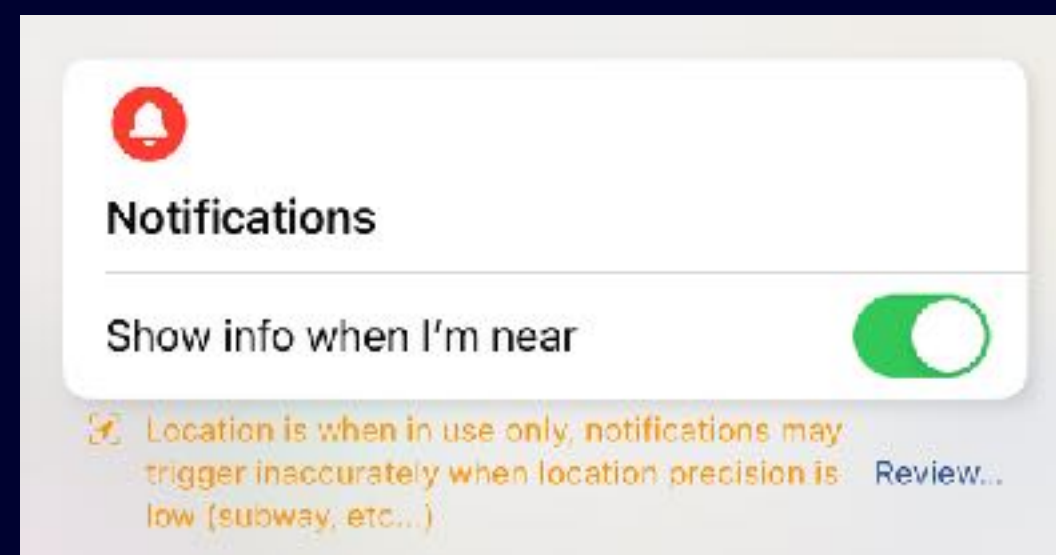
Expect false positives!



Precision...

Prevent false positives

- When entering/leaving region, we don't have access to the position
- We can access it with `CLLocationManager.requestLocation()`
 - But requires « Always » location permission
- Take into account the given location accuracy!



Precision...

Going below the 100m radius

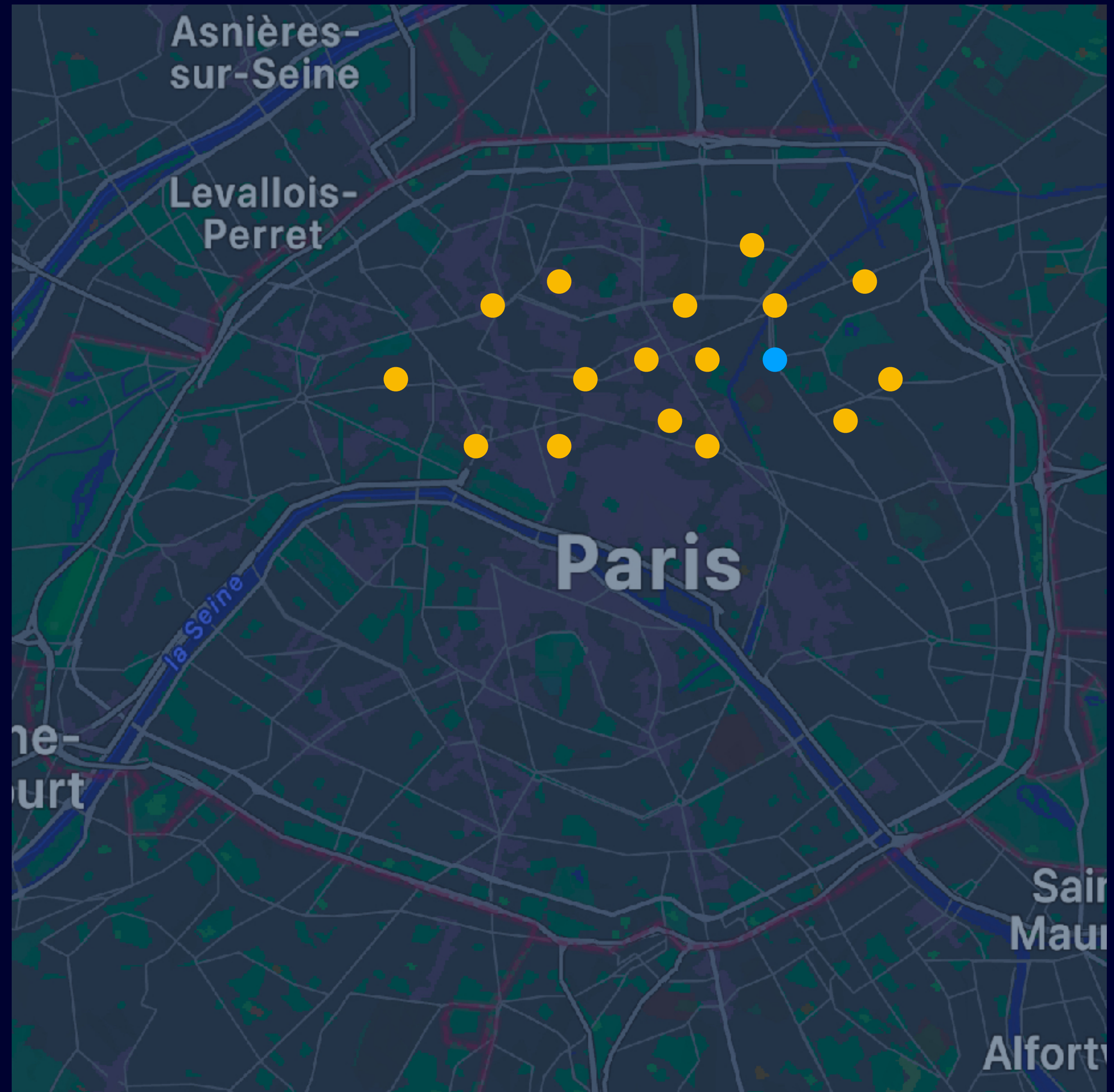
- Get multiple location events
 - `CLLocationManager.startUpdatingLocation()`
- Think about battery consumption!
 - `desiredAccuracy & distanceFilter`
 - `stopUpdatingLocation()`



Region budget

≤ 20 regions per app...

- Concept of syncing
 - Get current location
 - Register closest regions
- Repeat...
 - Get new location
 - Unregister; Register regions



~~Significant Location Change?~~

~~Region clustering?~~

Padlok a utilisé votre position 25 fois en arrière-plan au cours des 3 derniers jours. L'autorisez-vous à continuer à utiliser votre position en arrière-plan ?

Padlok peut accéder à votre localisation lorsque l'application n'est pas ouverte pour éviter les faux positifs.

Given an initial set of k means $m_1^{(1)}, \dots, m_k^{(1)}$ (see below), the algorithm proceeds by alternating between two steps:^[7]

1. **Assignment step:** Assign each observation to the cluster with the nearest mean: that with the least squared **Euclidean distance**.^[8] (Mathematically, this means partitioning the observations according to the **Voronoi diagram** generated by the means.)

$$S_i^{(t)} = \left\{ x_p : \|x_p - m_i^{(t)}\|^2 \leq \|x_p - m_j^{(t)}\|^2 \forall j, 1 \leq j \leq k \right\},$$

where each x_p is assigned to exactly one $S^{(t)}$, even if it could be assigned to two or more of them.

2. **Update step:** Recalculate means (**centroids**) for observations assigned to each cluster.

$$m_i^{(t+1)} = \frac{1}{|S_i^{(t)}|} \sum_{x_j \in S_i^{(t)}} x_j$$

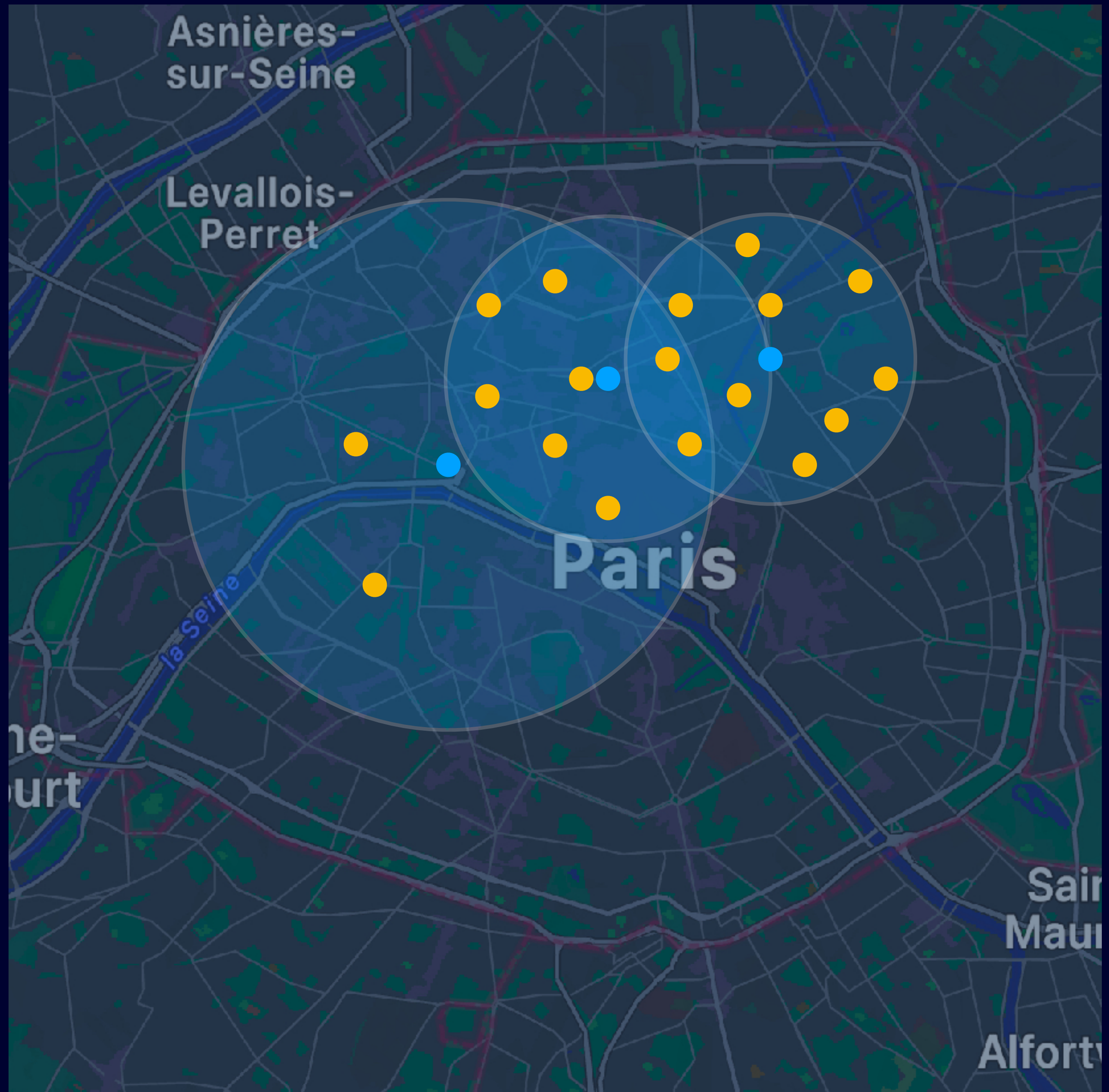
« Lorsque l'app est active »

Toujours autoriser

Region budget

≤ 20 regions per app...

- Use 19 regions out of 20
- Enclose them with the 20th
- When exiting the outer region
 - Fetch location
 - Sync
 - Repeat!

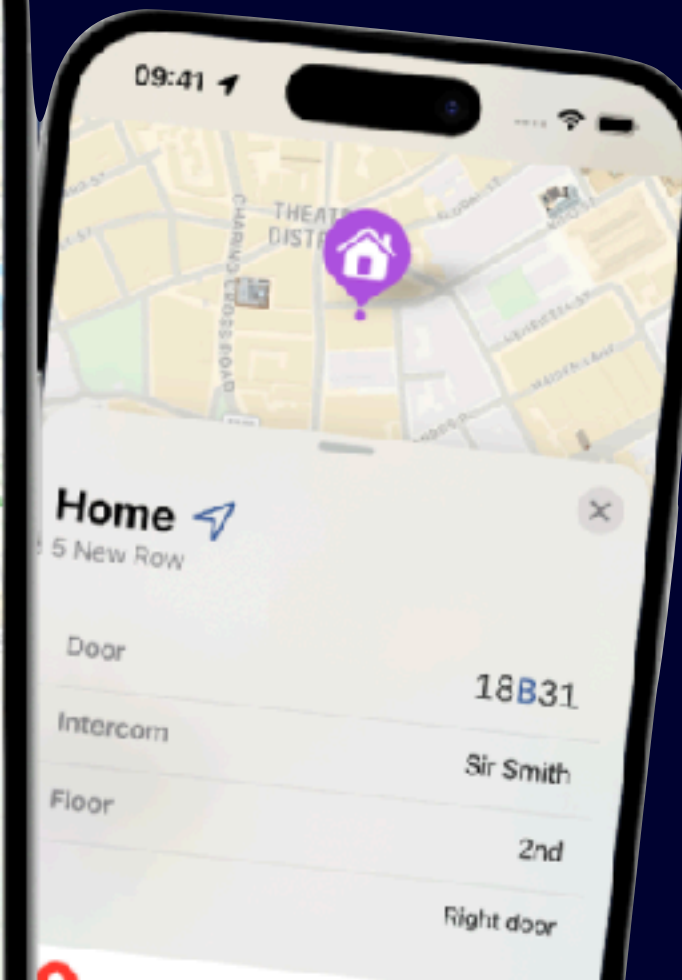
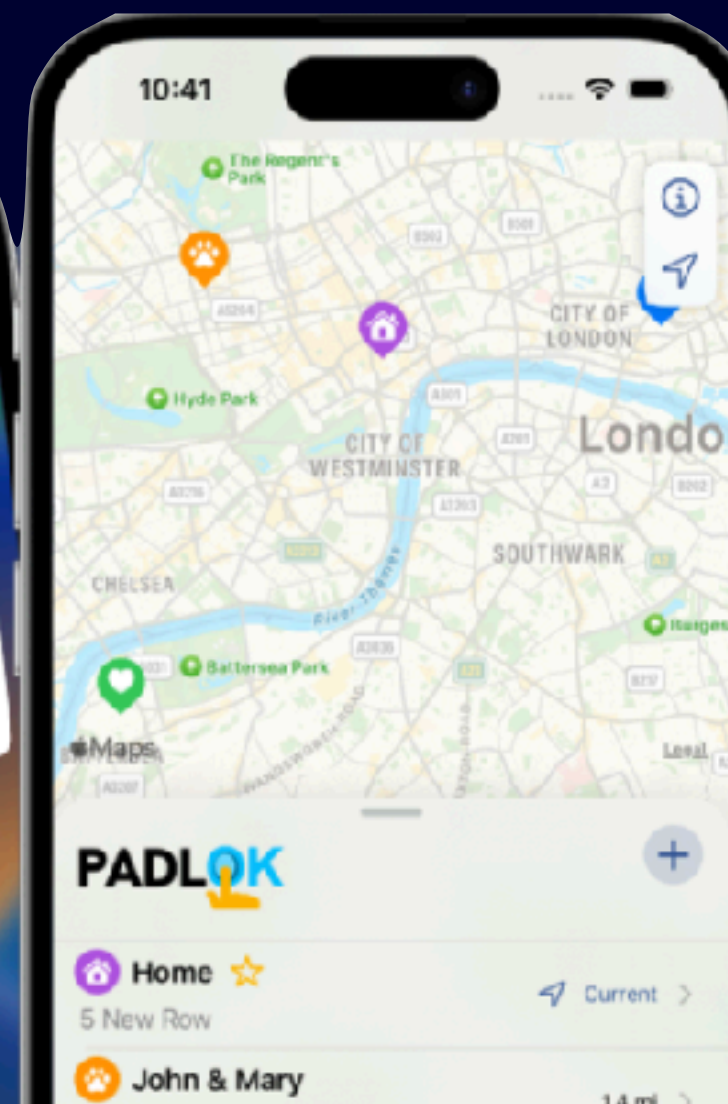
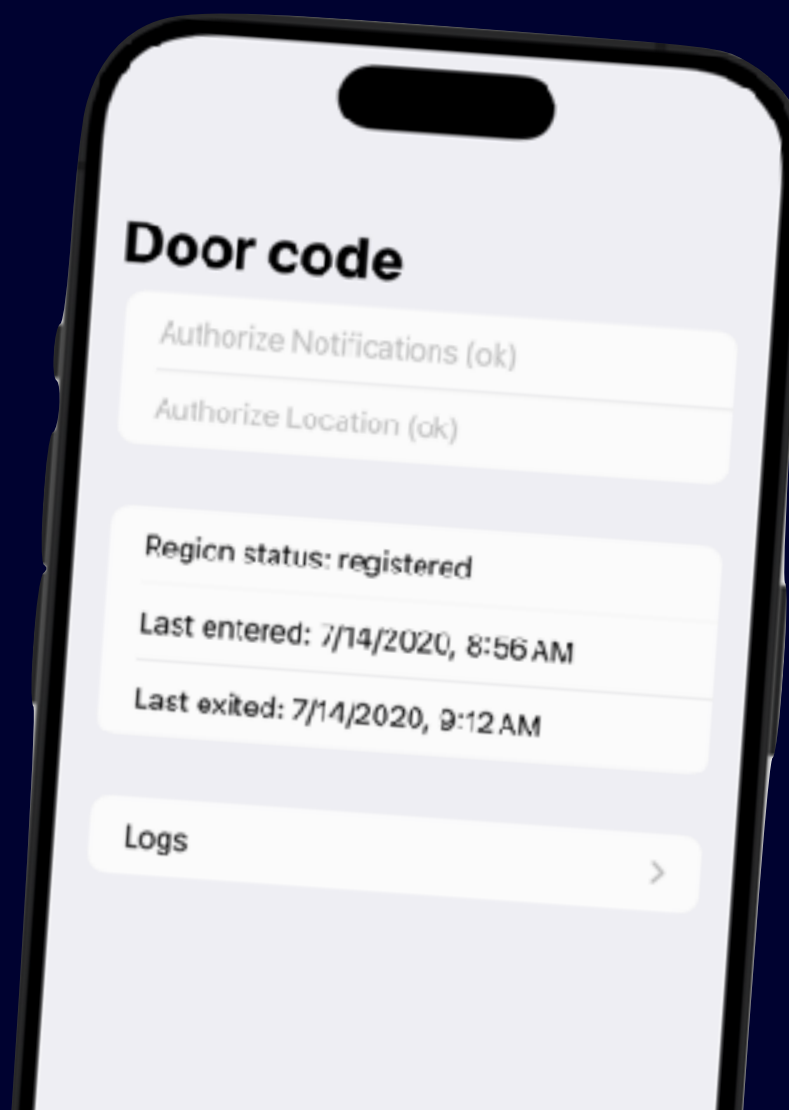
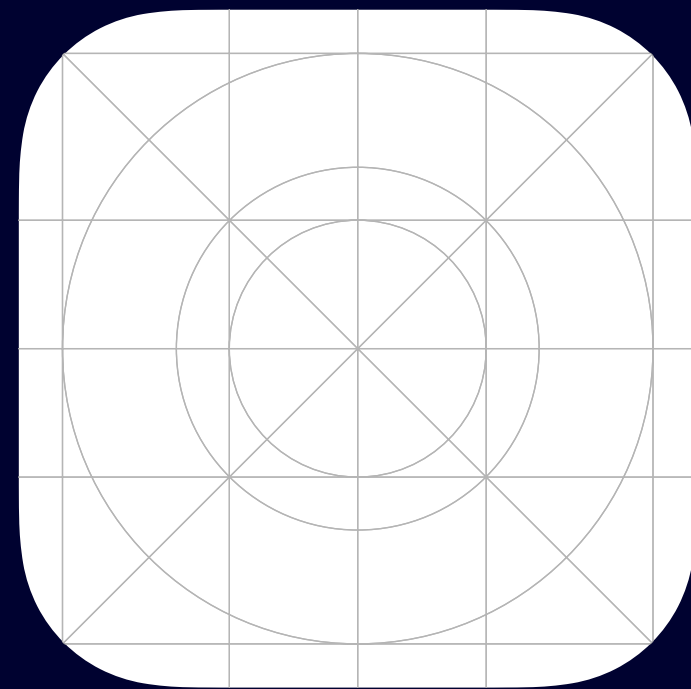


Deprecated?

Meet the new CLMonitor

Deprecating CLLocationManager monitor

CLLocationManager Monitoring API <small>deprecated</small>	CLMonitor <small>new</small>
iOS 5+ / macOS 10.8+	iOS 17+ / macOS 14+
Delegation	AsyncSequence
No state	Current state access
~100 meters precision	
20 regions hard limit	



<https://padlok.app>

Thank you!

Slides:

<https://thomasdurand.fr/nsspain-xi>

<https://thomasdurand.fr>

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