

LOD and Culling Systems That Scale

Mike Acton











Culling

- Per view frustum (6-18 culling planes)
- 5 views in this sample (main camera + shadow cascades)
- Deep hierarchy (nested prefabs)
- ~30-200K instances per section (e.g. single building)
- ~5M instances in scene (whole scene in editor)

Culling

- What's not surprising?
- World is static.
- Flatten hierarchy.

Position

Scale

Rotation

Position

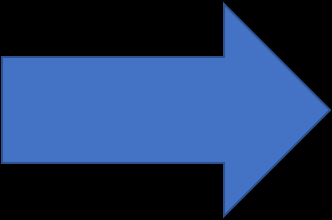
Scale

Rotation

Position

Scale

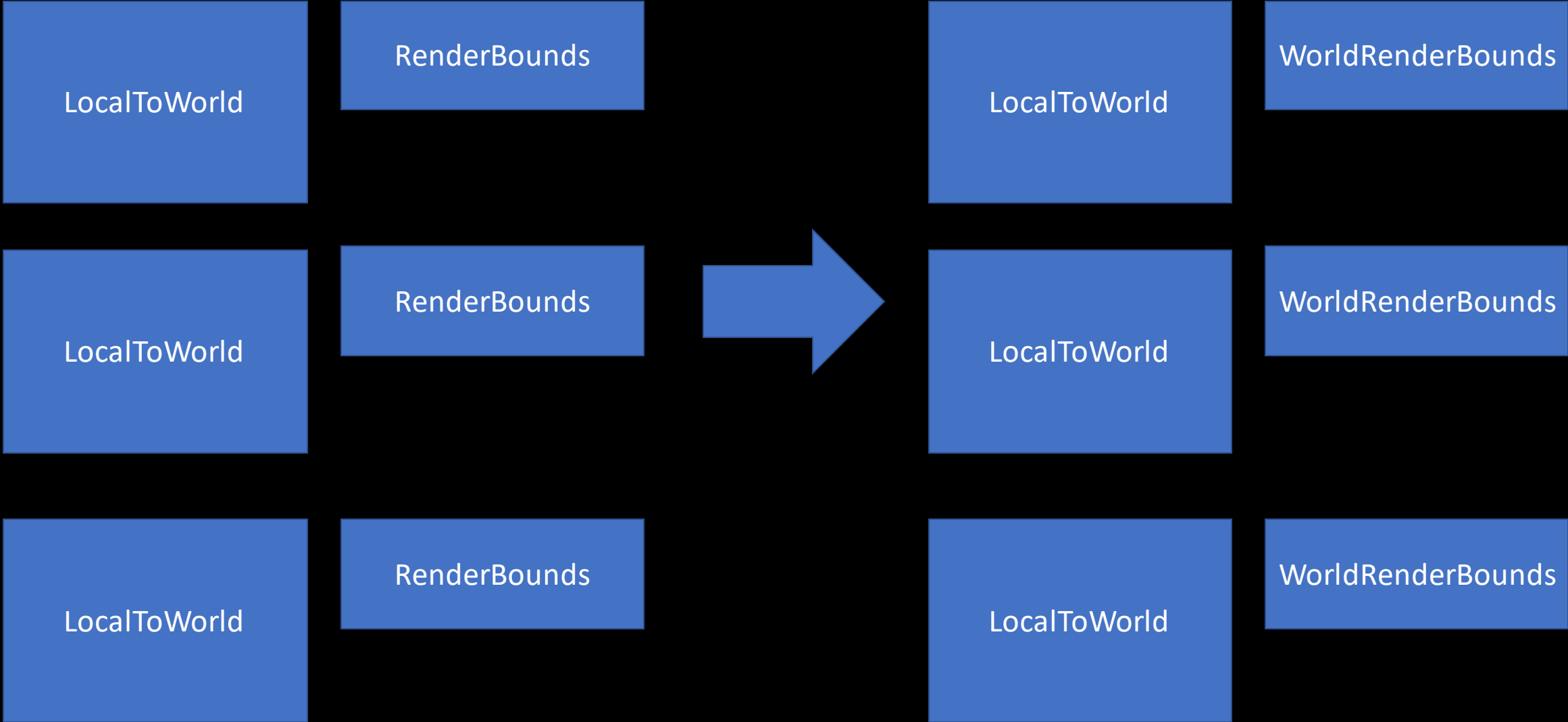
Rotation



LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld



LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

```
/// </summary>  
[Serializable]  
public struct LocalToWorld : IComponentData  
{  
    public float4x4 Value;  
}
```

```
,  
  
public struct WorldRenderBounds : IComponentData  
{  
    public AABB Value;  
}
```


LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

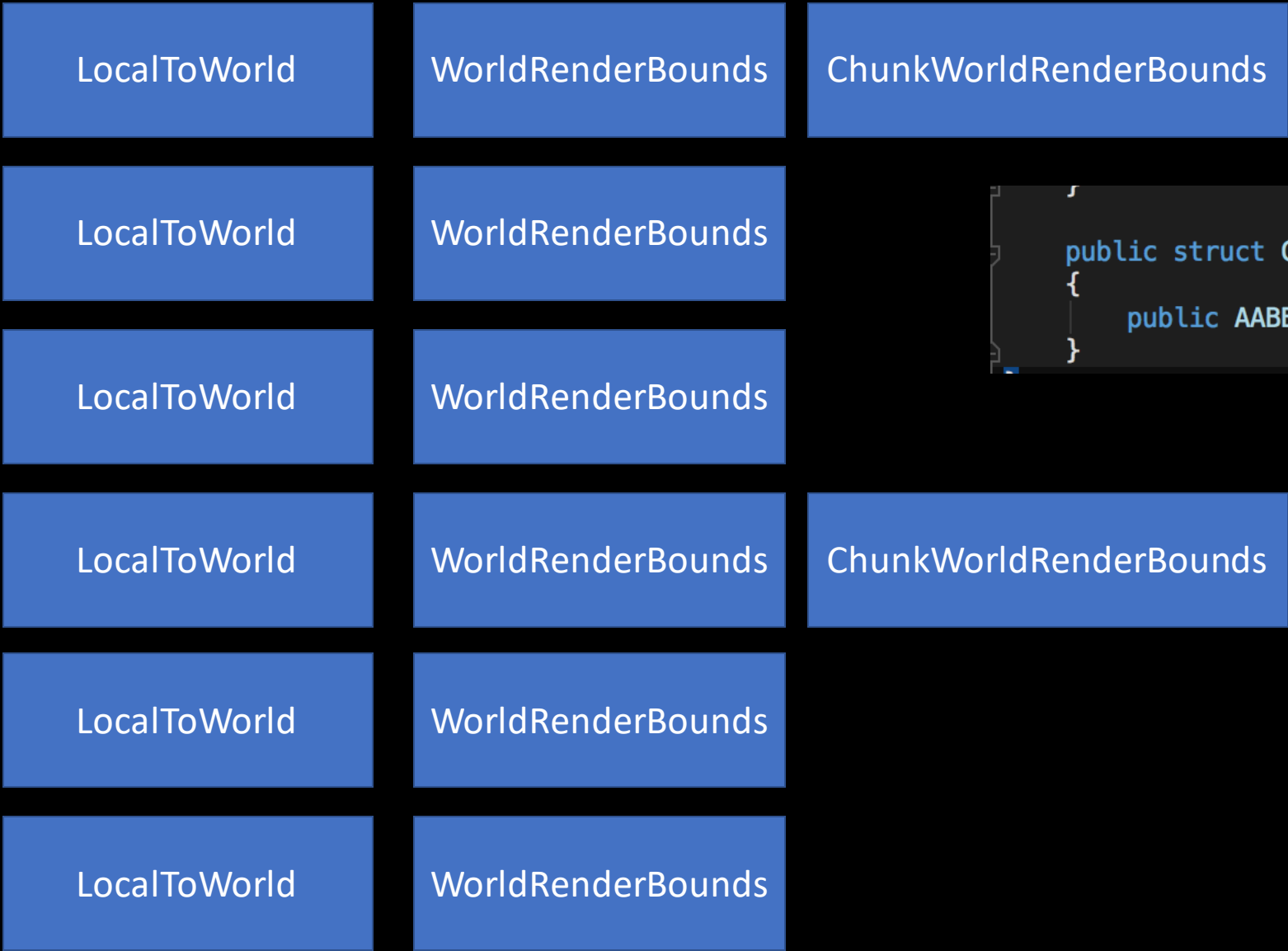
LocalToWorld

WorldRenderBounds

- Flat list of 5M instances
- Next step?
- Hierarchical spatial tree?
- What's our data look like?



- 16K Chunks of component data
- Subscenes roughly spatial



- ~60K Chunks
- (For each view)

```
public struct ChunkWorldRenderBounds : IComponentData
{
    public AABB Value;
}
```

Culling

- Another level of hierarchy?
- Take a look at the data we have again...

MeshRenderer

LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld

MeshRenderer

LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld

- Render Batch

MeshRenderer

LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld

MeshRenderer

LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld

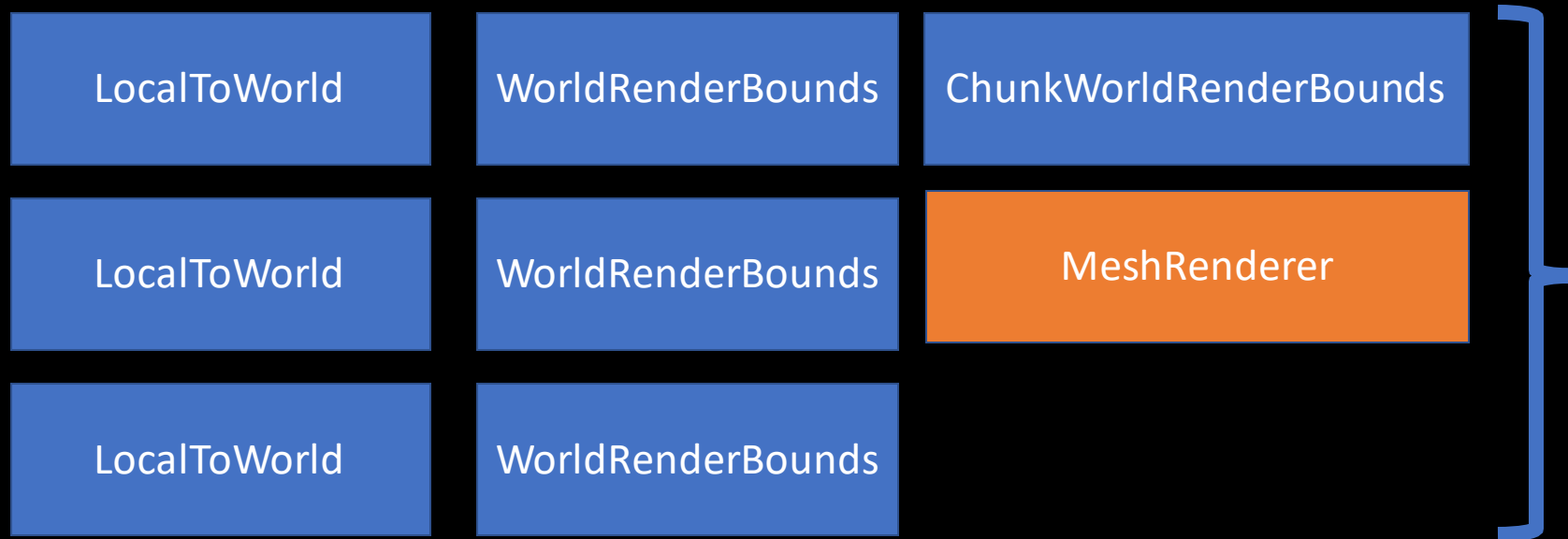
LocalToWorld

MeshRenderer	LocalToWorld	0	-
	LocalToWorld	1	-
	LocalToWorld	2	-
MeshRenderer	LocalToWorld	3	-
	LocalToWorld	4	-
	LocalToWorld	5	-

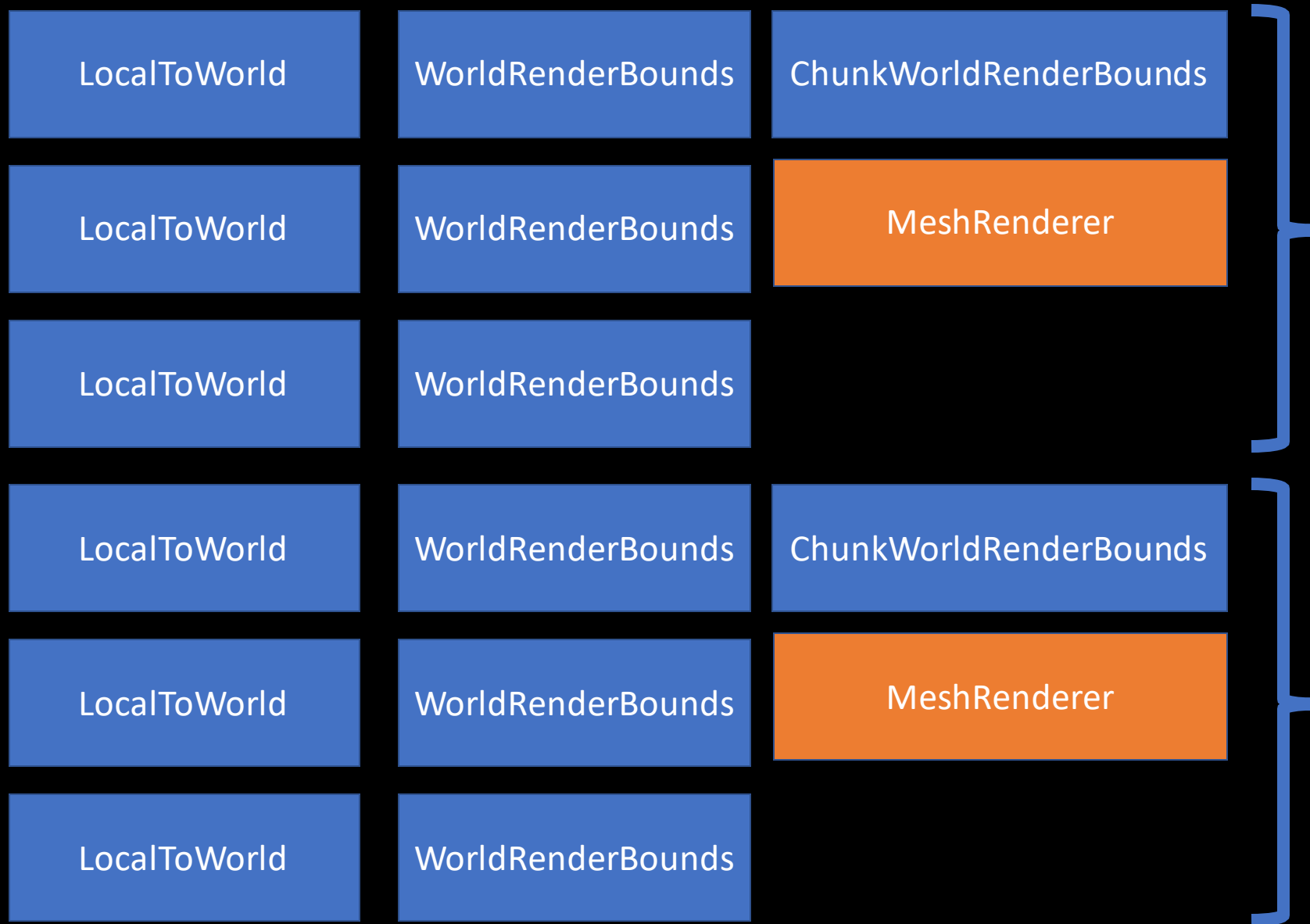
MeshRenderer	LocalToWorld	0	-
	LocalToWorld	1	-
	LocalToWorld	2	-
MeshRenderer	LocalToWorld	3	-
	LocalToWorld	4	-
	LocalToWorld	5	-

MeshRenderer	LocalToWorld	0	1
	LocalToWorld	1	4
	LocalToWorld	2	5
MeshRenderer	LocalToWorld	3	-
	LocalToWorld	4	-
	LocalToWorld	5	-

- Render Batch Index List
- Same Mesh Renderer
- Max 1023 instances



- Chunks
- SharedComponent



- Chunks
- SharedComponent



- Chunks
- SharedComponent

MeshRenderer

LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld

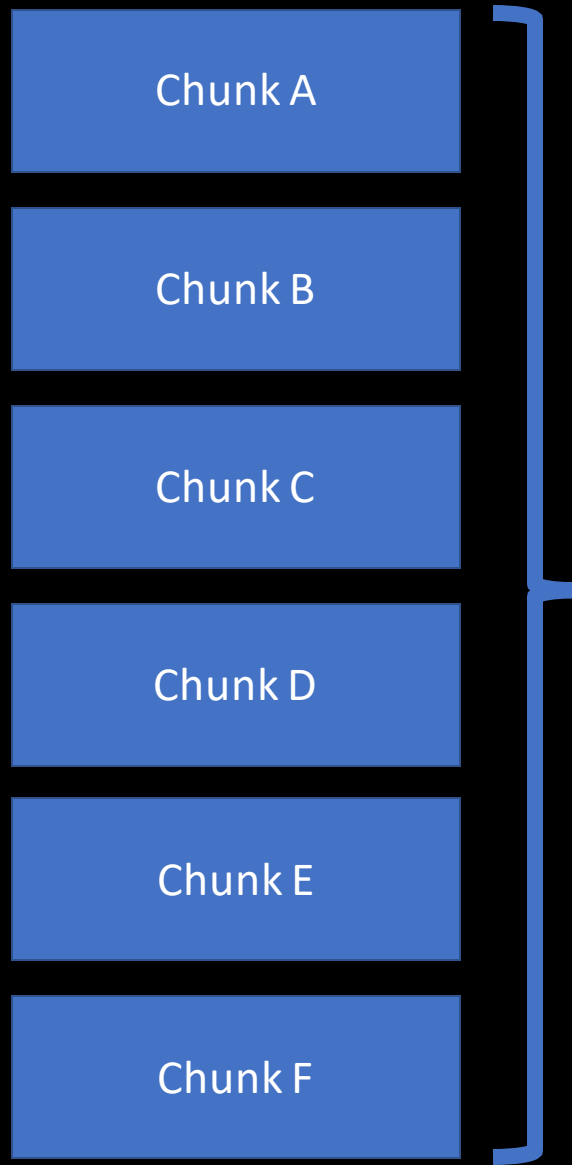
MeshRenderer

LocalToWorld

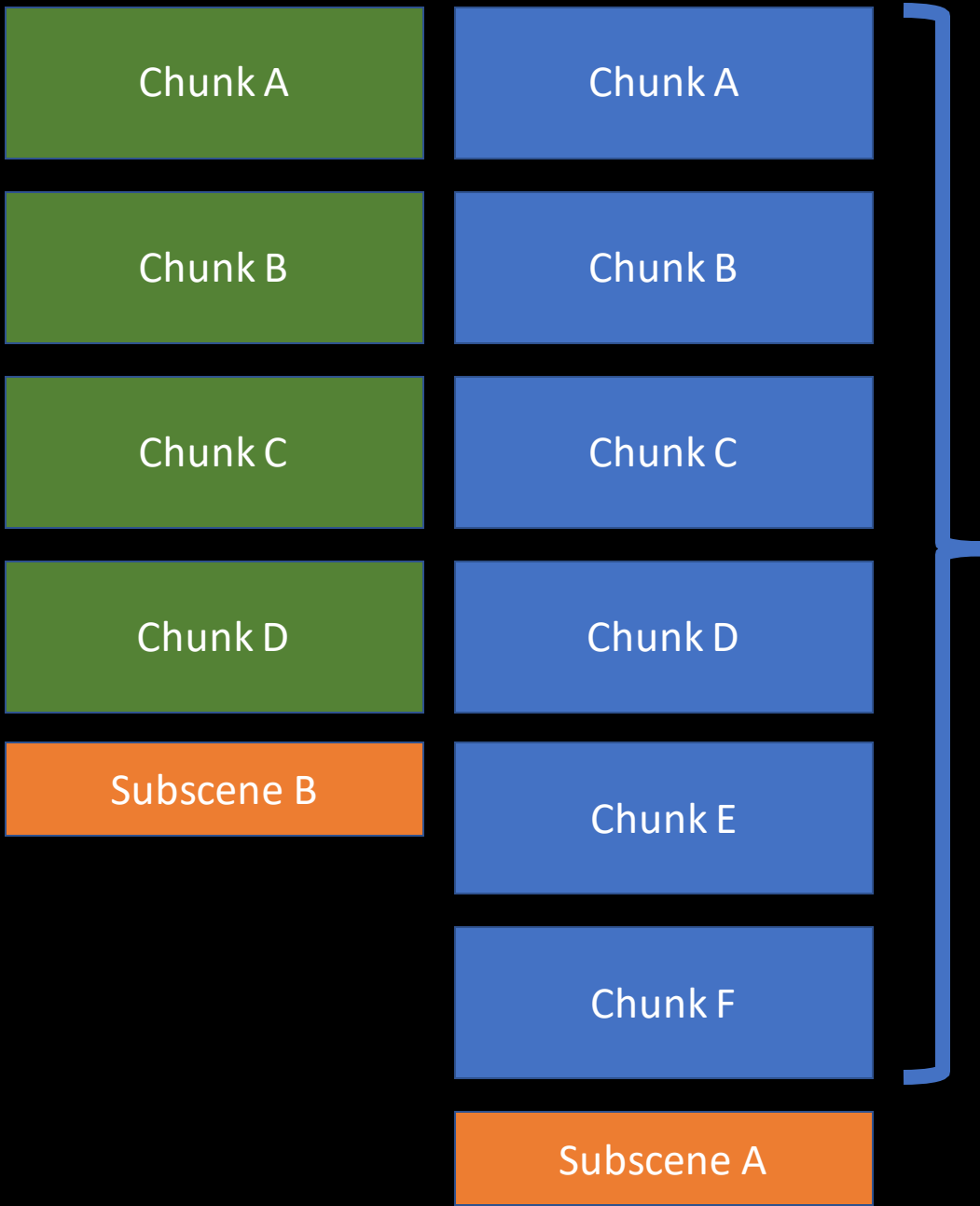
LocalToWorld

LocalToWorld

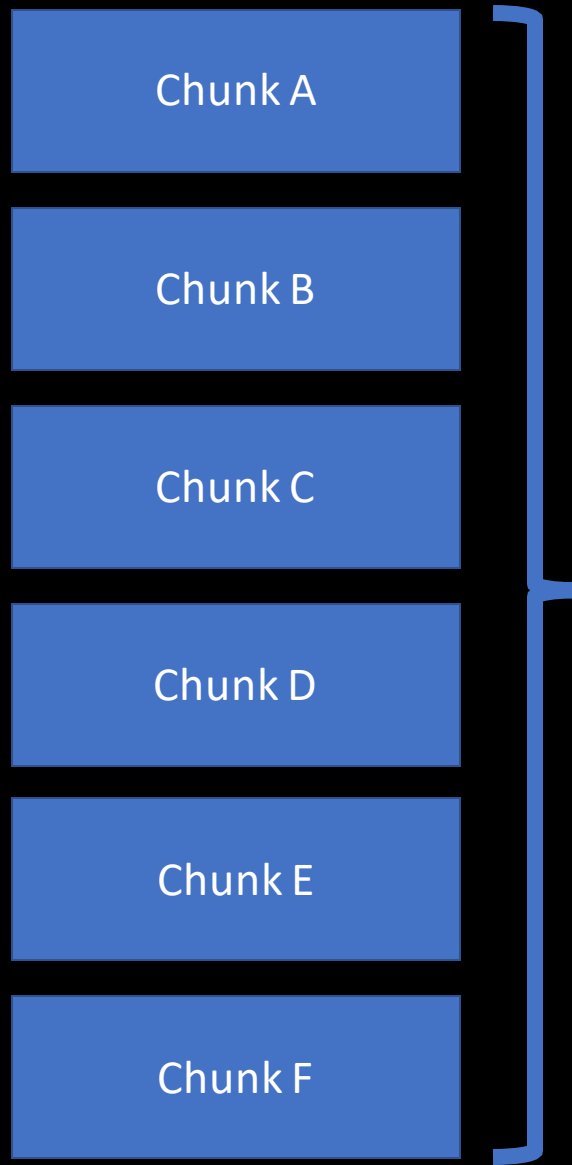
- Looks a like like what we need for render batch



- Render Batch = NativeArray of Chunks
- ...Gives us second-level hierarchy



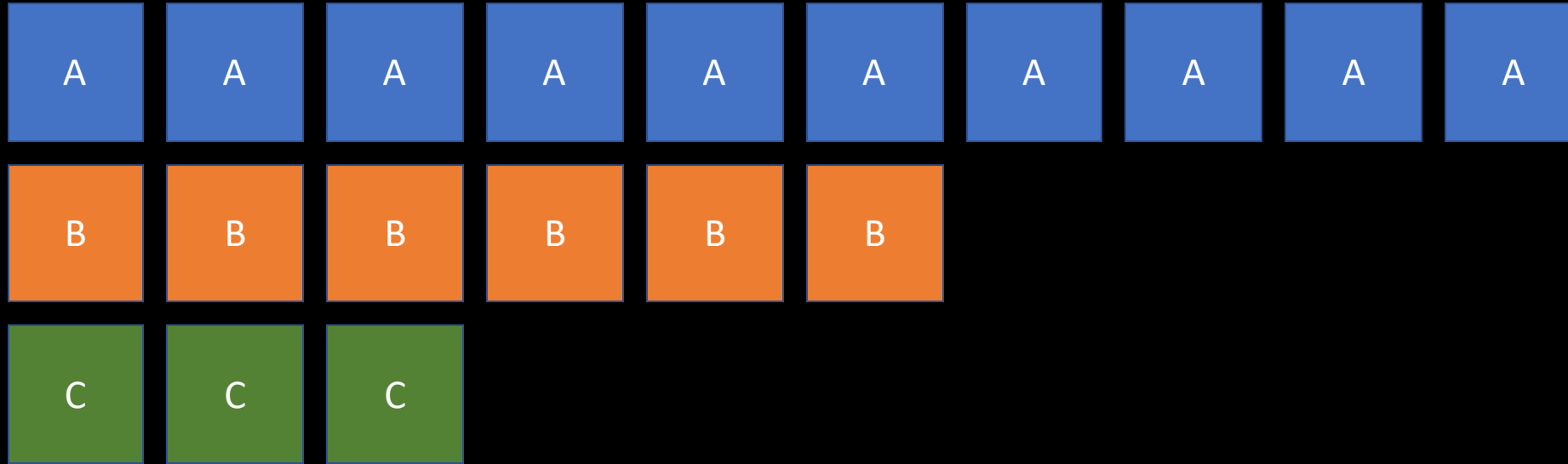
- Different streaming subscenes?



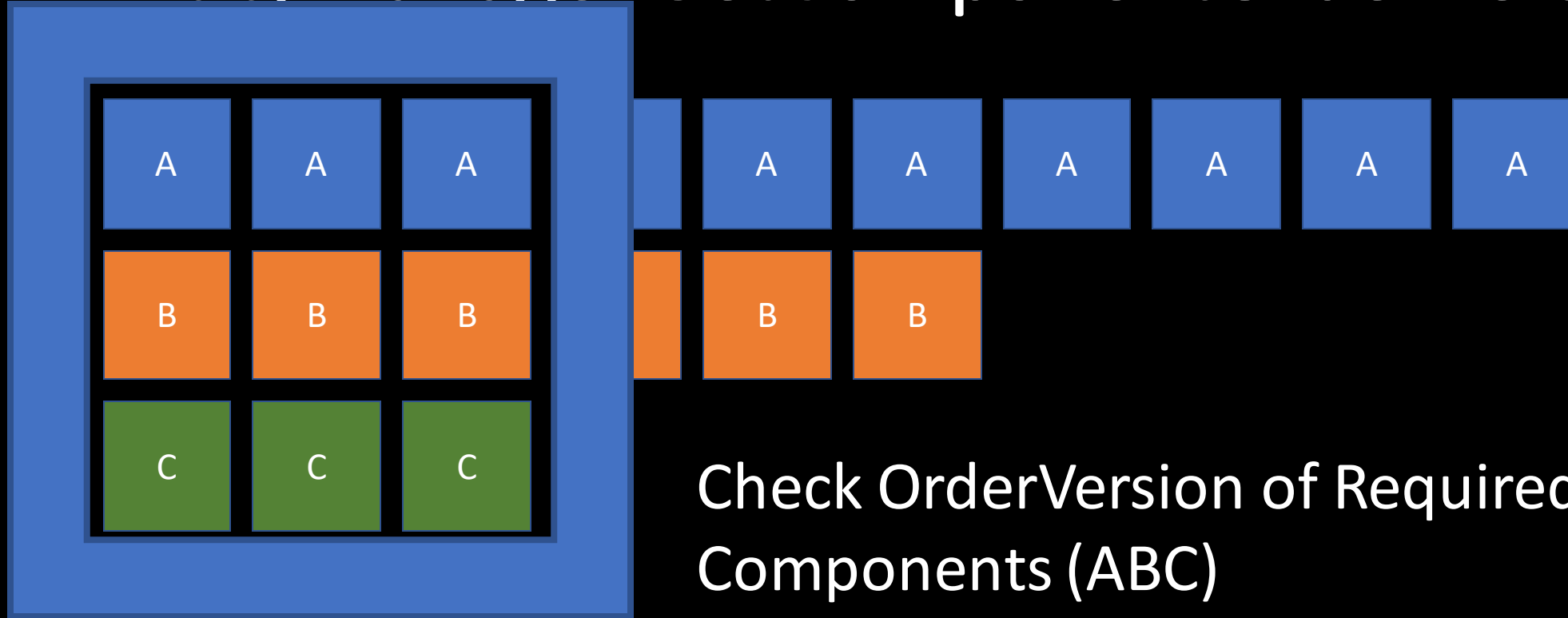
[Aside] Let's go back to...
Render Batch = NativeArray of Chunks

Is this safe?

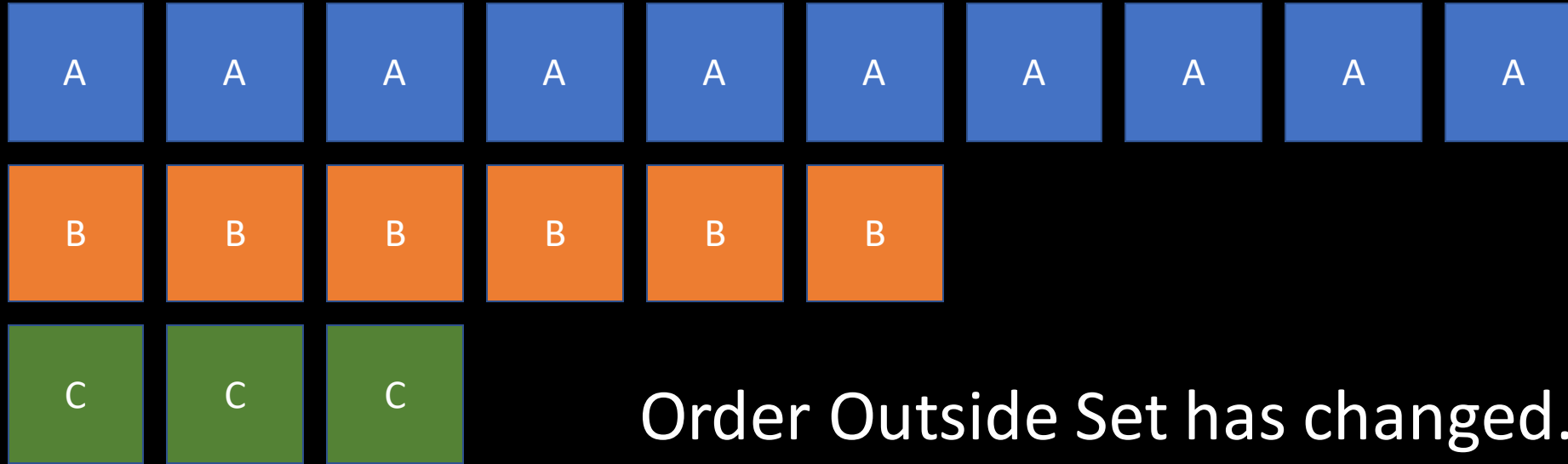
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



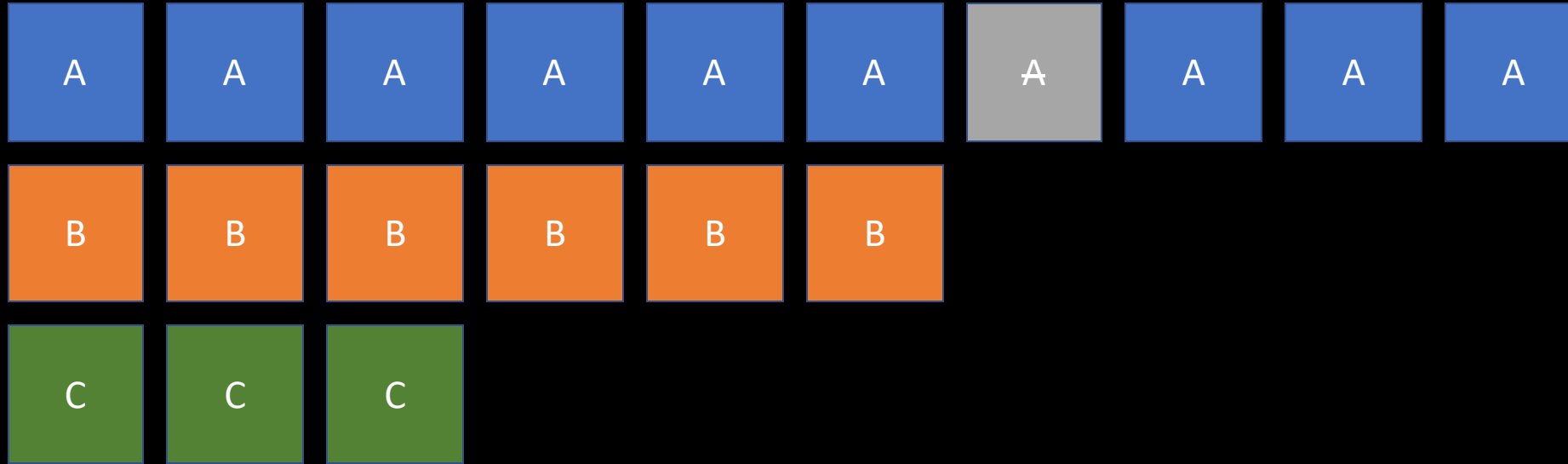
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



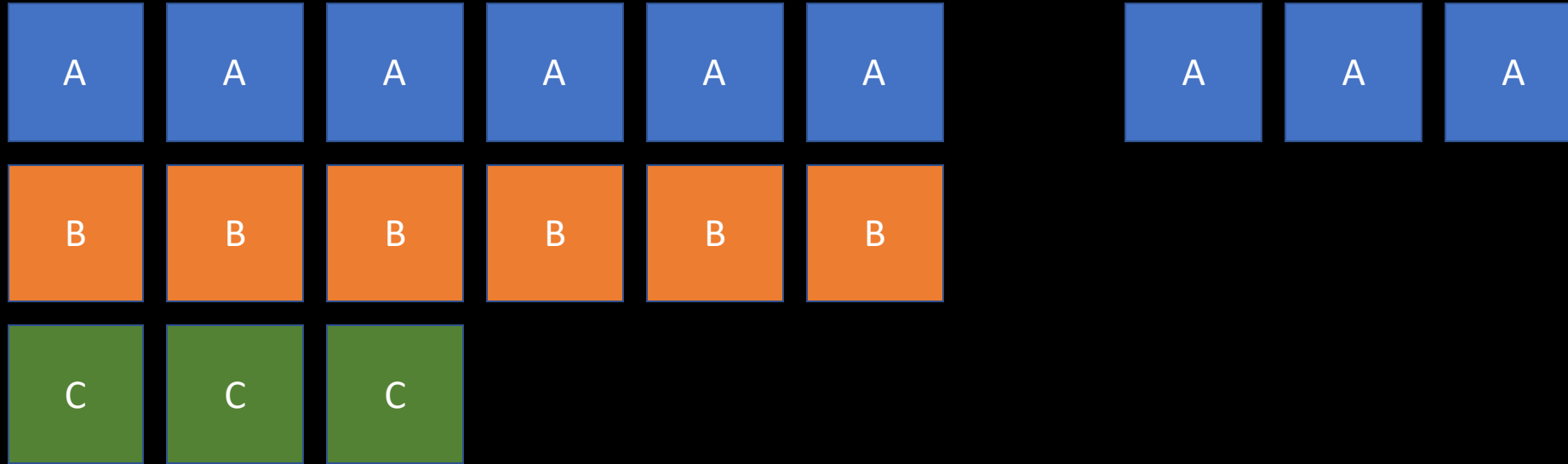
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



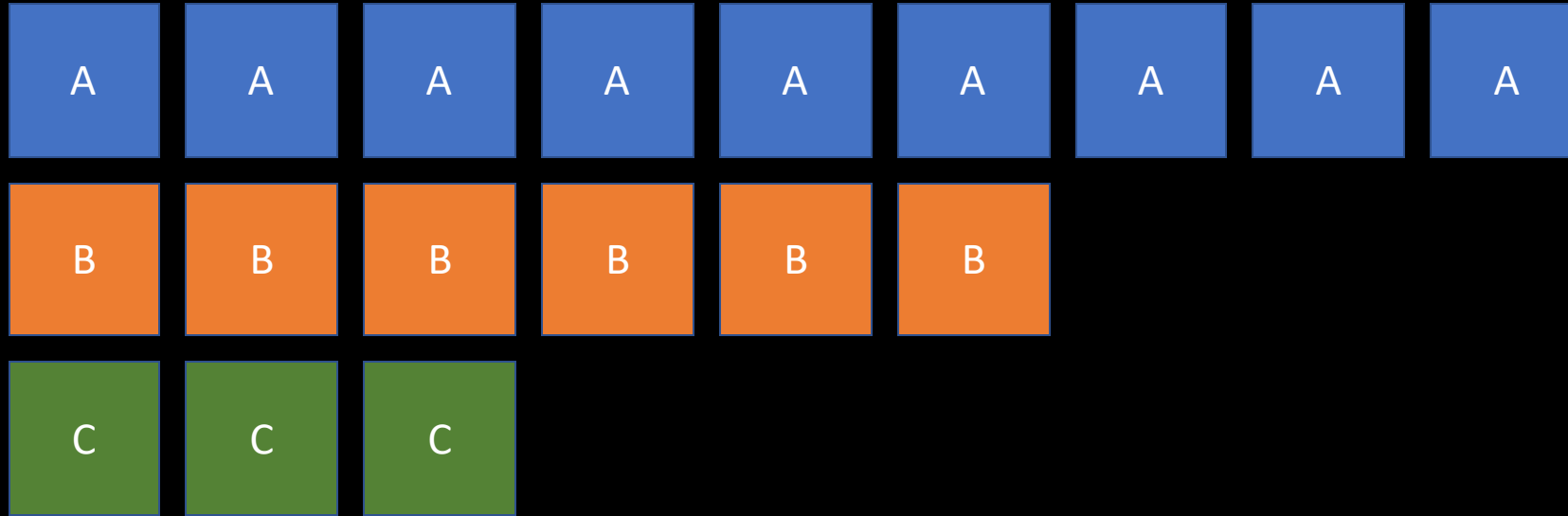
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



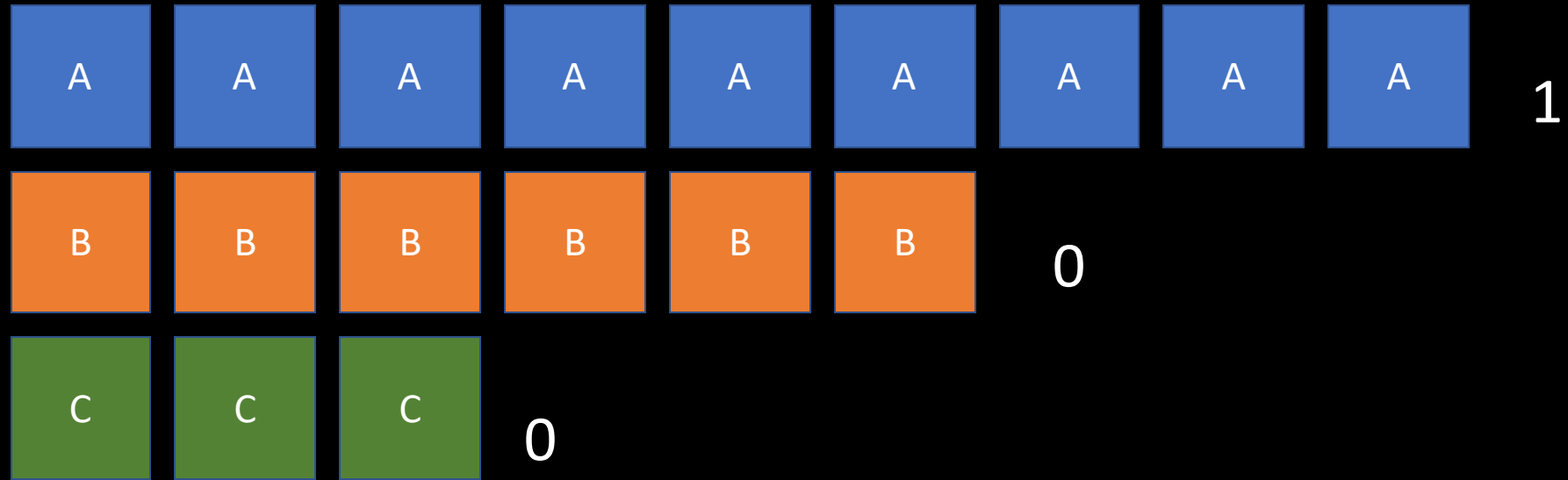
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



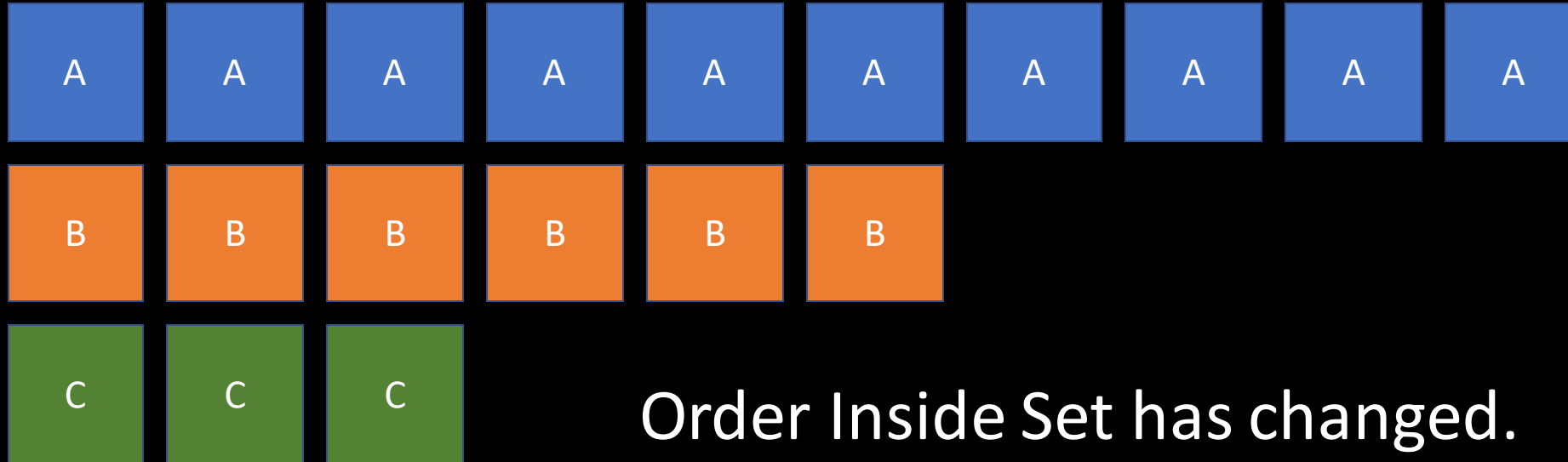
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



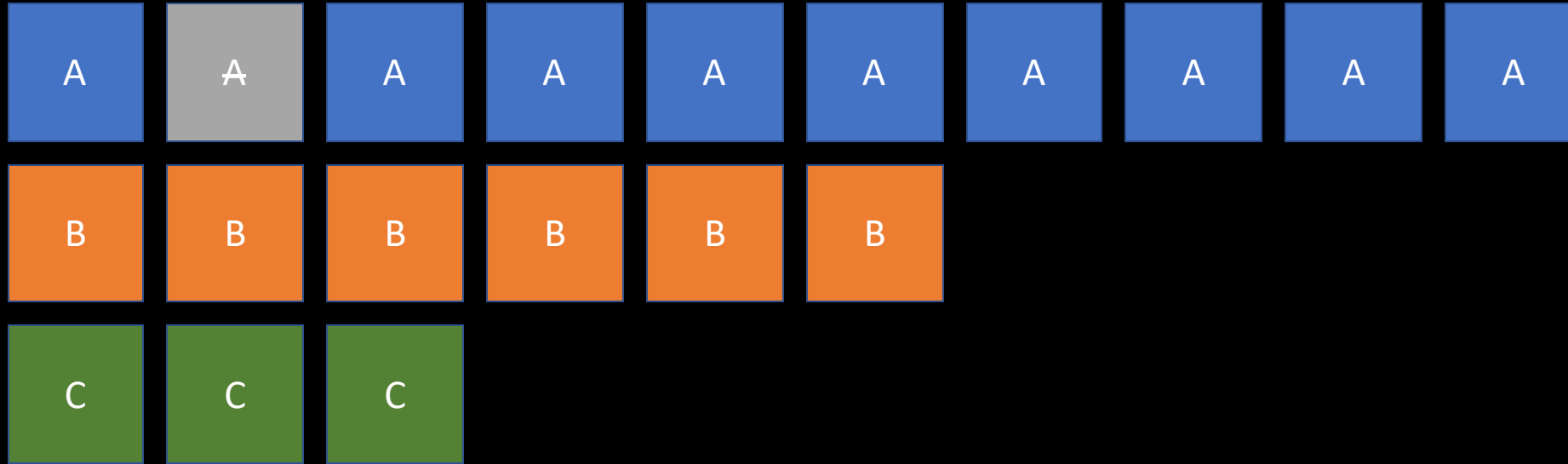
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



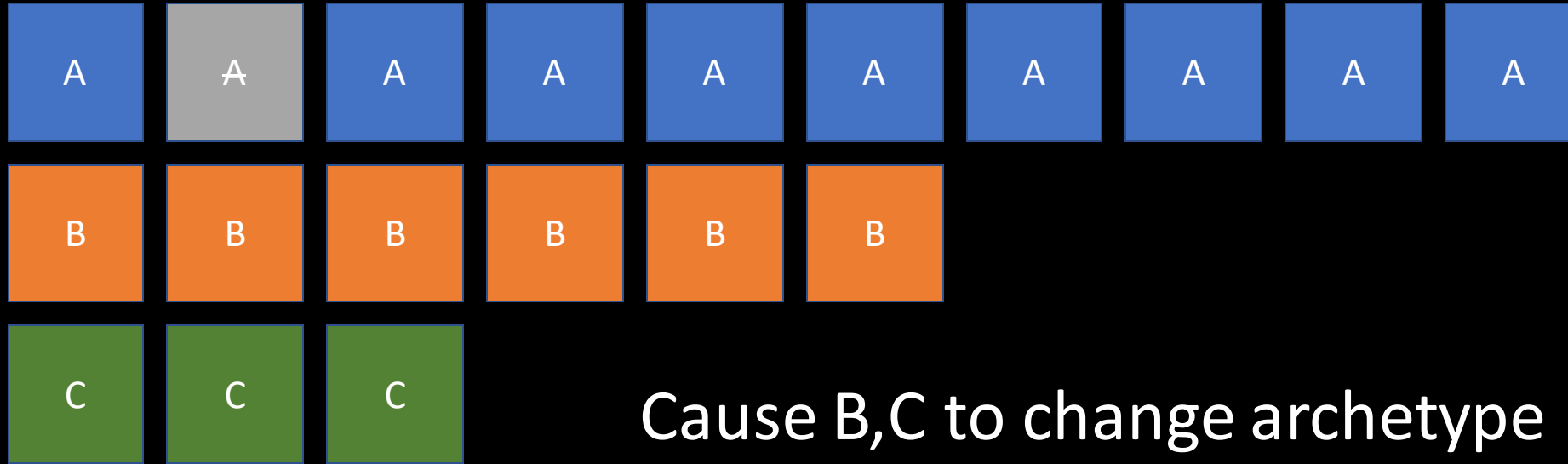
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



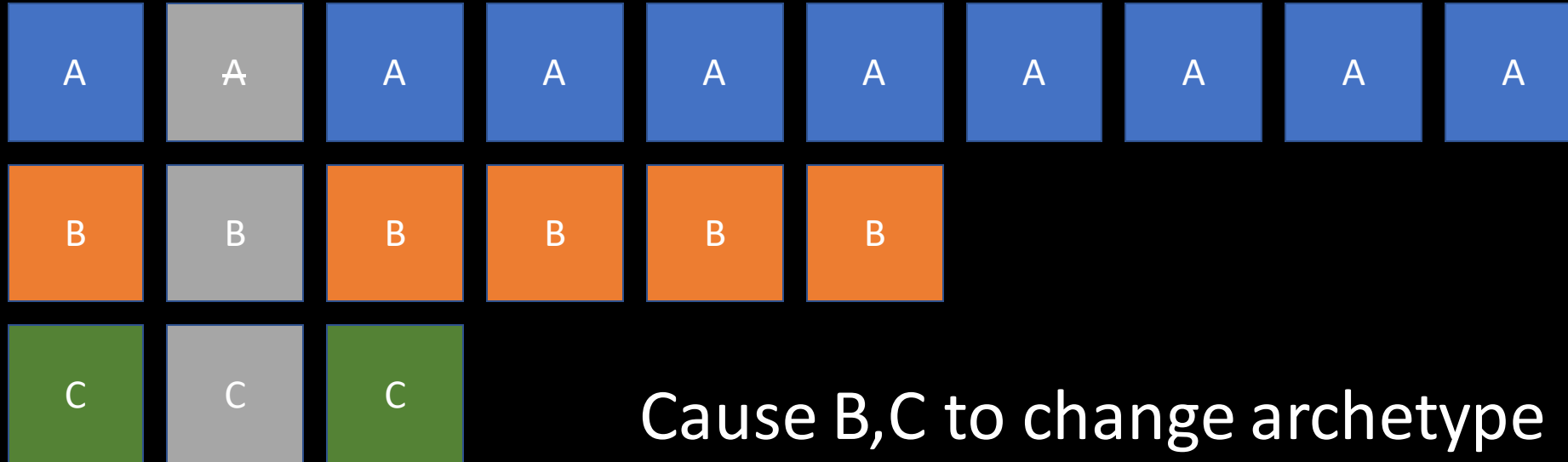
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



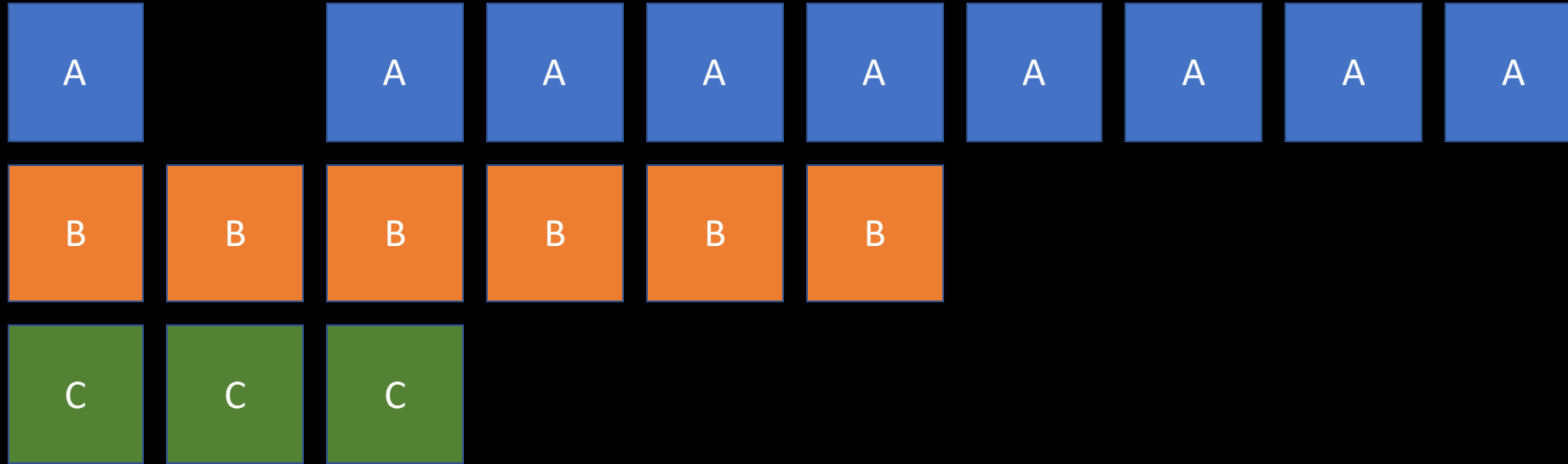
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



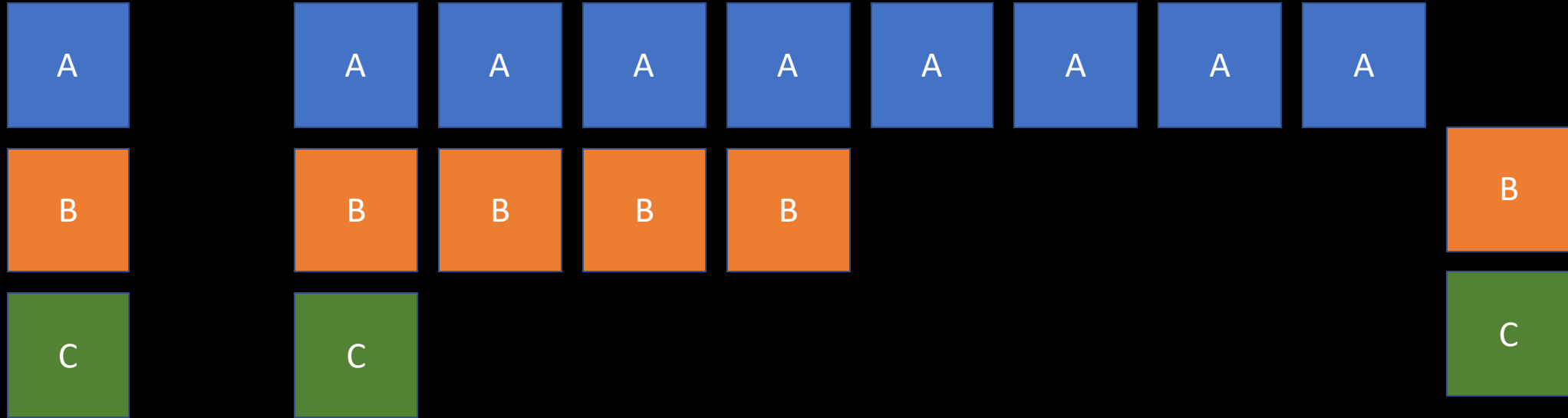
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



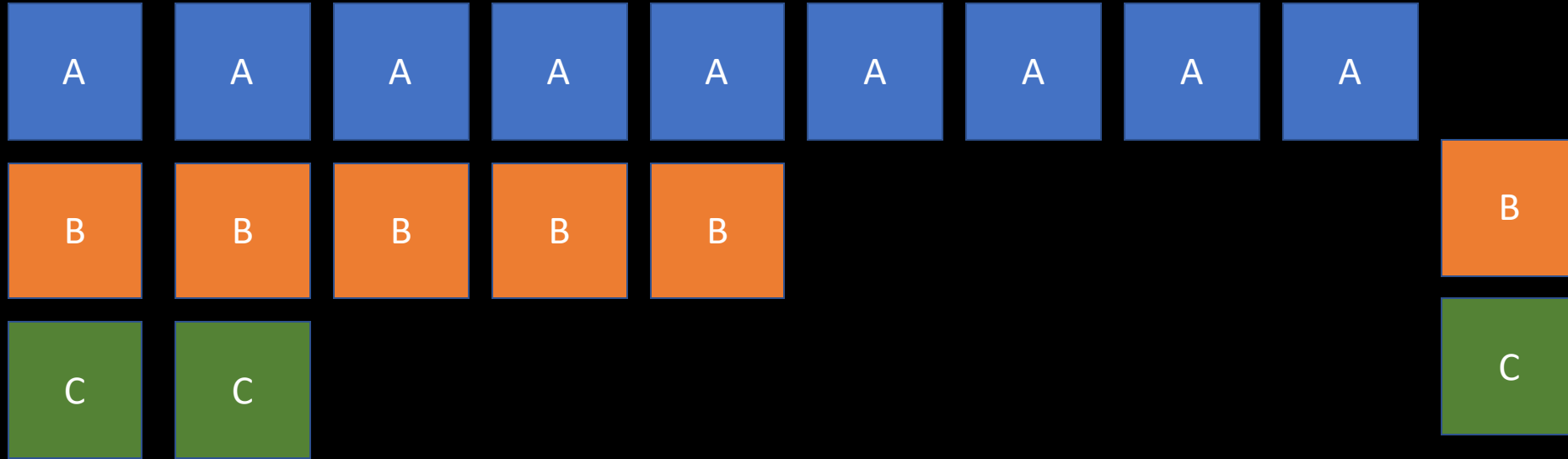
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



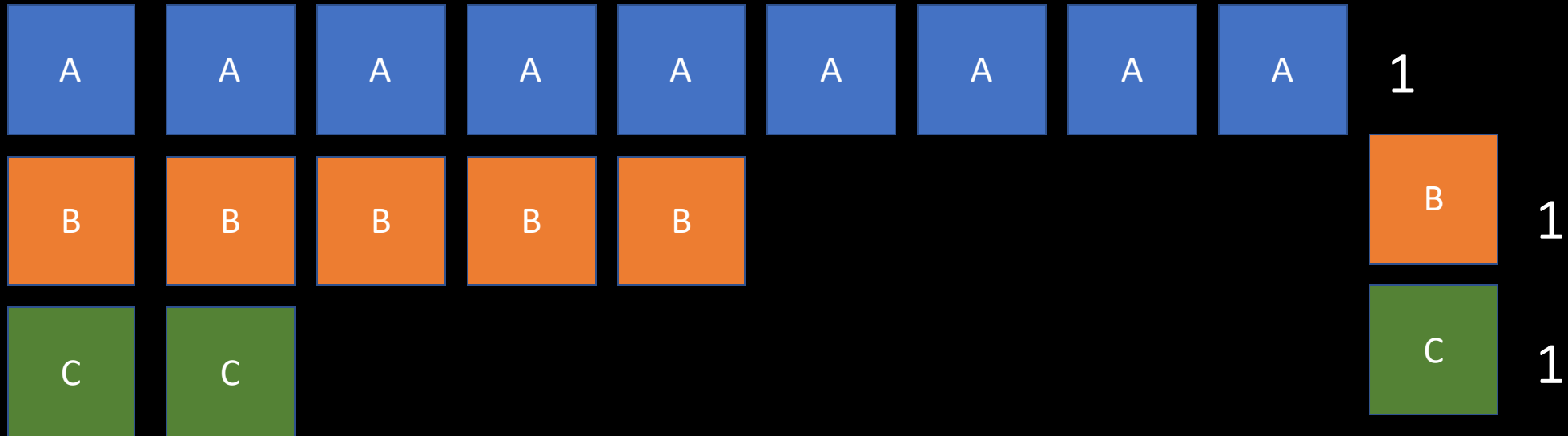
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



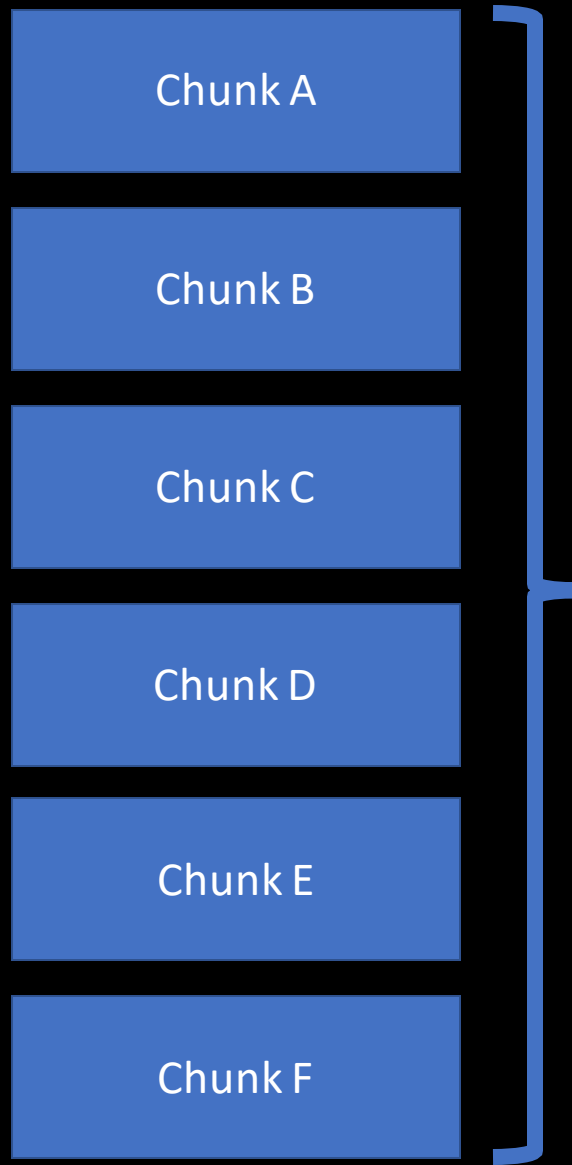
EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



EntityManager.GetComponentOrderVersion



*All Required Component Order Versions changed
= Chunks invalid*



[Aside] Let's go back to...

Render Batch = `NativeArray` of Chunks

Is this safe?

Yes.

Culling loop is Simple.

Render Batch

Chunk

Chunk

ChunkRenderBounds

ChunkRenderBounds

WorldRender
Bounds

WorldRender
Bounds

WorldRender
Bounds

WorldRender
Bounds

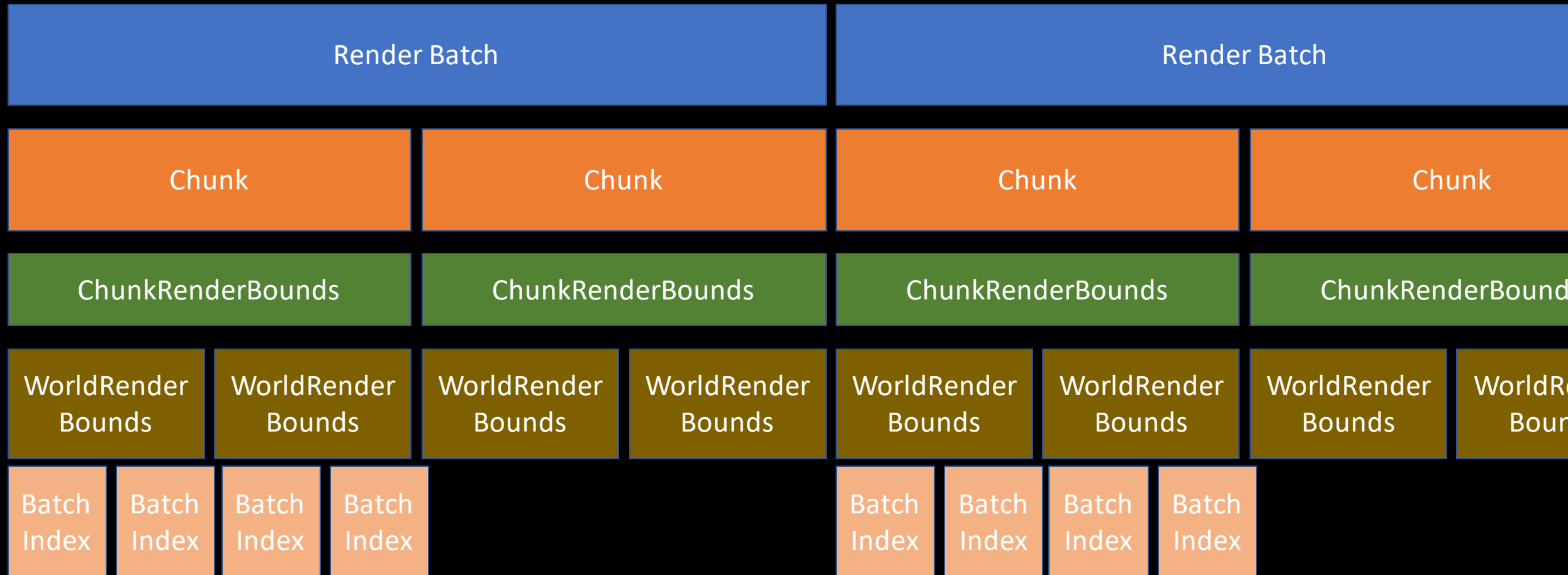
Batch
Index

Batch
Index

Batch
Index

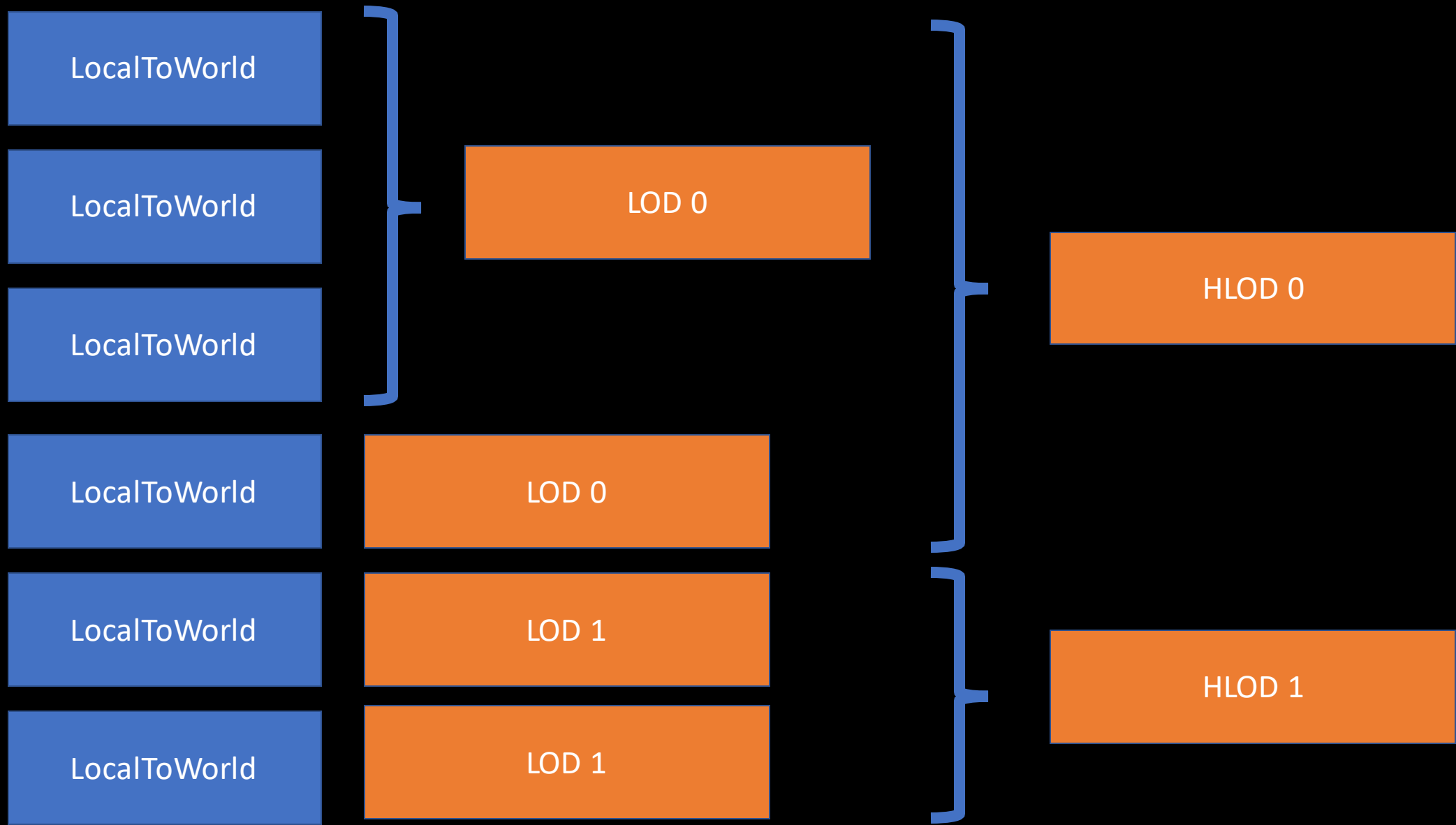
Batch
Index

Culling loop is Simple. (Batches in parallel)



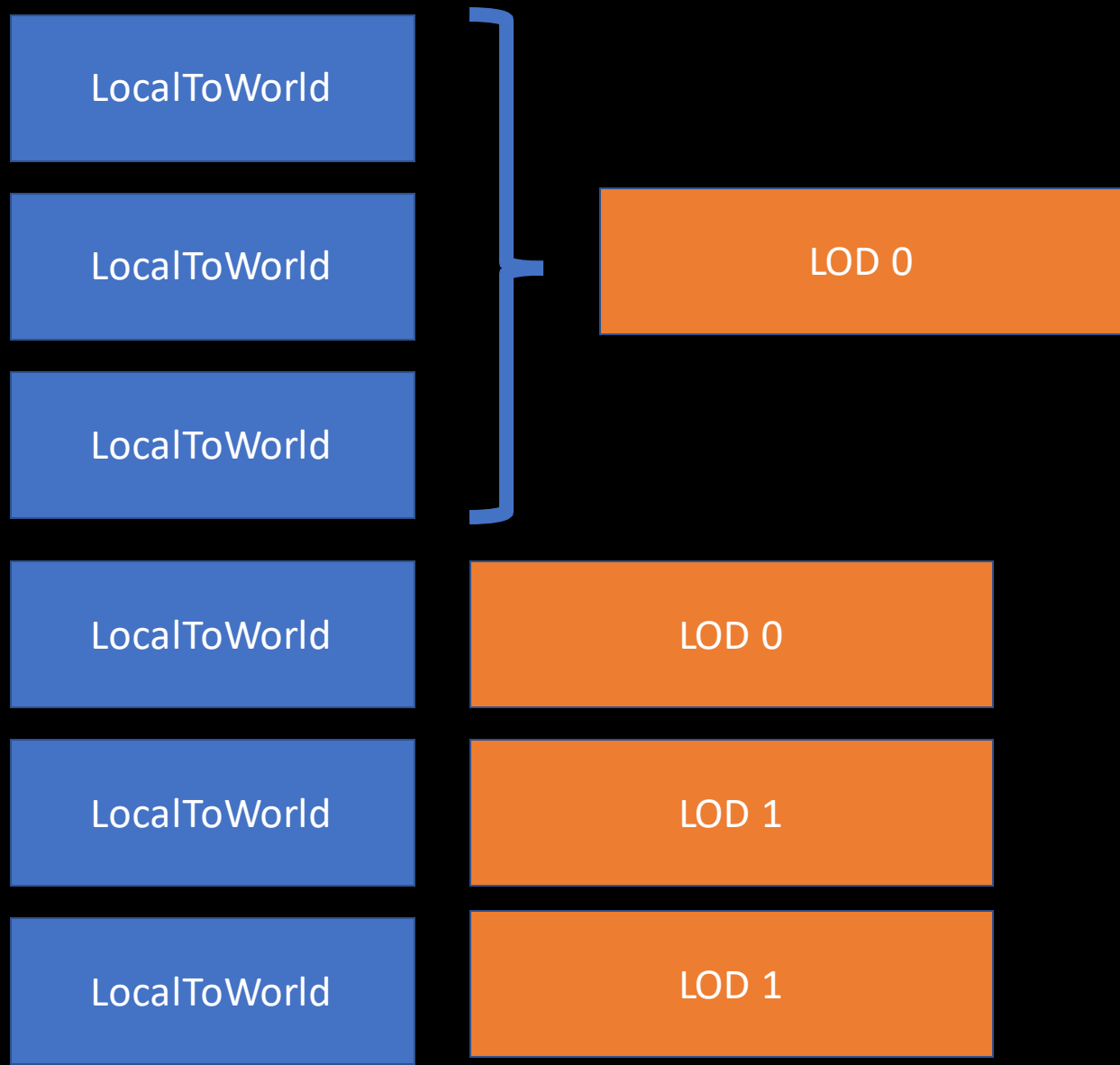
LOD

- What about LOD?
- Flatten similar to transform hierarchy
- But still LOD groupings...



LOD

- What about LOD?
- Most instance LODs are *unique* (not mesh combinations)



LocalToWorld	LOD 0
LocalToWorld	LOD 0
LocalToWorld	LOD 0
LocalToWorld	LOD 0
LocalToWorld	LOD 1
LocalToWorld	LOD 1

```
,
struct LodRequirement : IComponentData
{
    public float3 WorldReferencePosition;
    public float MinDist;
    public float MaxDist;
```

LOD

- What about LOD?
- Most instance LODs are *unique* (not mesh combinations)
- What about HLOD?

LocalToWorld	WorldRenderBounds	ChunkWorldRenderBounds
LocalToWorld	WorldRenderBounds	MeshRenderer
LocalToWorld	WorldRenderBounds	Subscene A
LocalToWorld	WorldRenderBounds	ChunkWorldRenderBounds
LocalToWorld	WorldRenderBounds	MeshRenderer
LocalToWorld	WorldRenderBounds	Subscene B

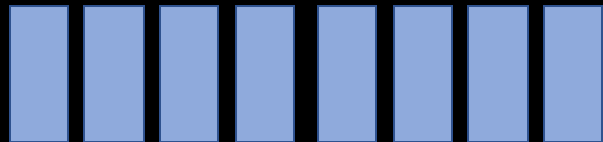
Chunks by

- Same Renderer
- Same Subscene

99+% of chunks have
only one HLOD root

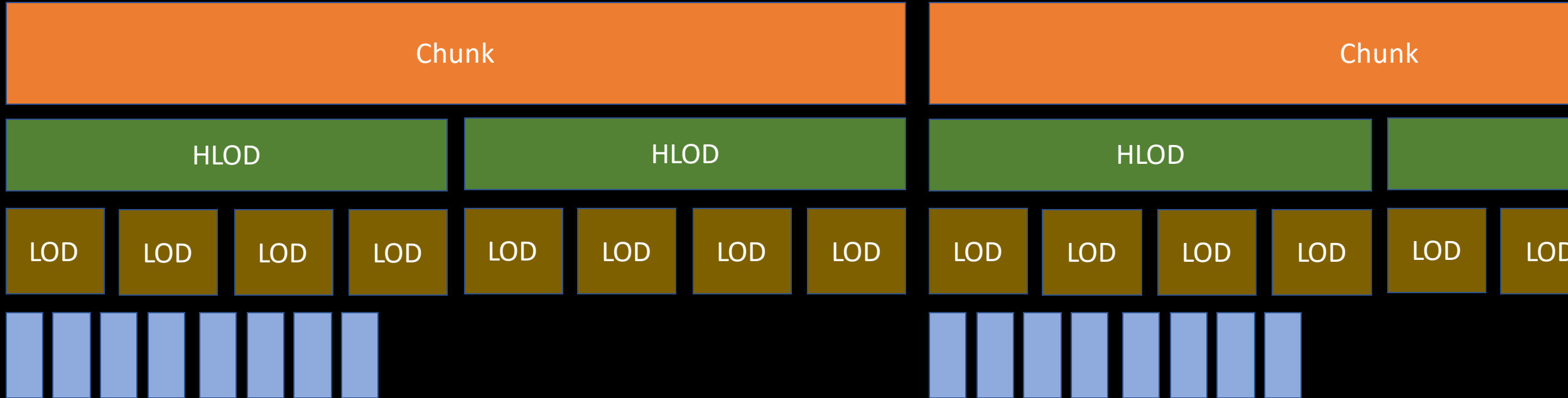
LocalToWorld	LOD 0	HLOD 0	5
LocalToWorld	LOD 0		
LocalToWorld	LOD 0		
LocalToWorld	LOD 0		
LocalToWorld	LOD 1		
LocalToWorld	LOD 1	HLOD 1	1

LOD loop is Simple.



Packed Potentially Visible Bitset

LOD loop is Simple. (Chunks in parallel.)



Putting them together

LOD (All Chunks)

Cull (View 0)

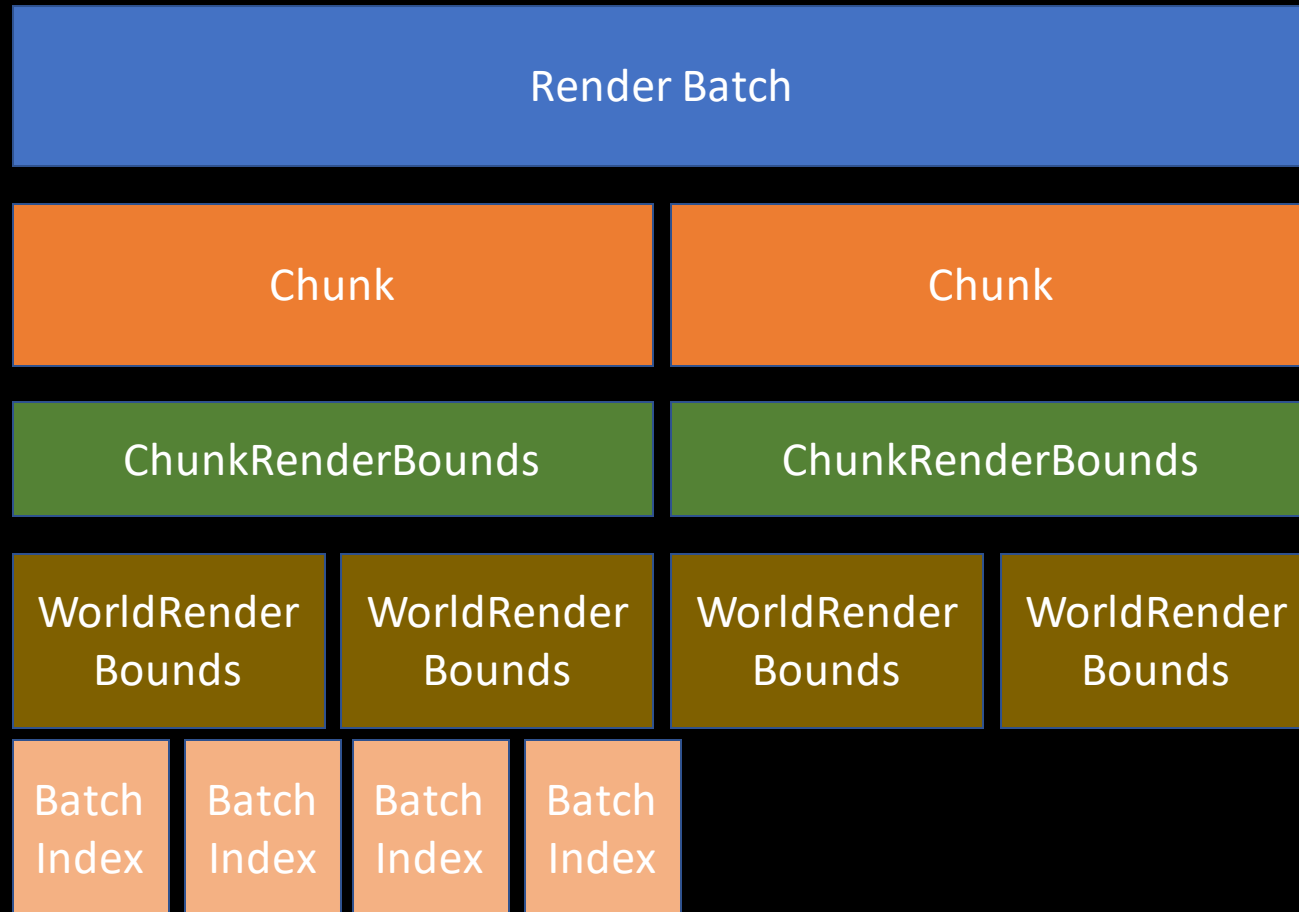
Cull (View 1)

Cull (View 2)

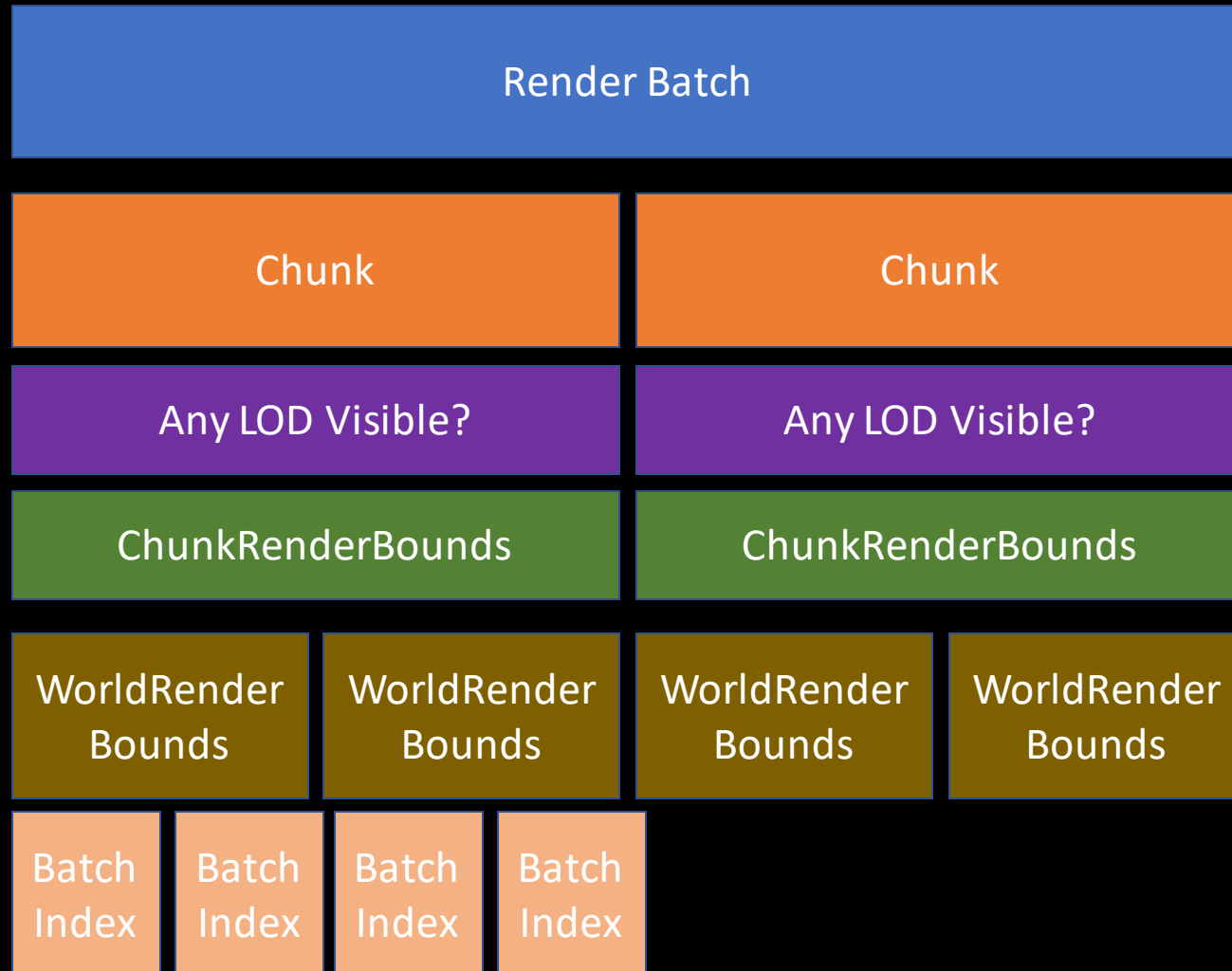
Cull (View 3)

Cull (View 4)

Look at culling loop again...



Early out based on LOD visibility



Recap

- Simple culling loop
- Simple LOD loop
- Because we could reason about how data was stored...
- ...and some basic statistics about that data.

Key to Data-Oriented Practice =
Data Transparency