"Learning AOSP" Hardware Abstraction Layer



Nanik Tolaram **™**nanikjava

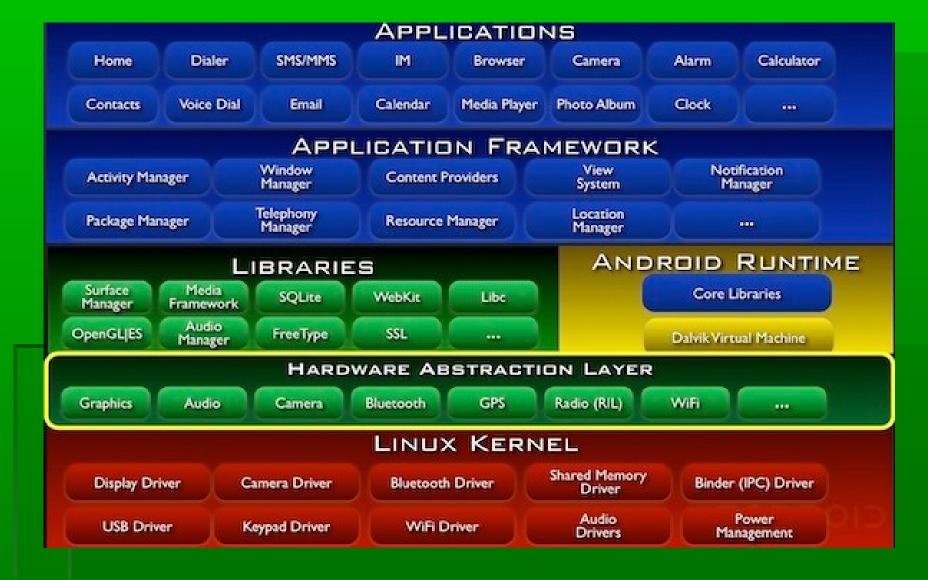
(kernel).ozandroid.info

pius.google.com/+NanikT

Thank You!



Architecture



Questions!

What is HAL?

Why is it such a big deal?

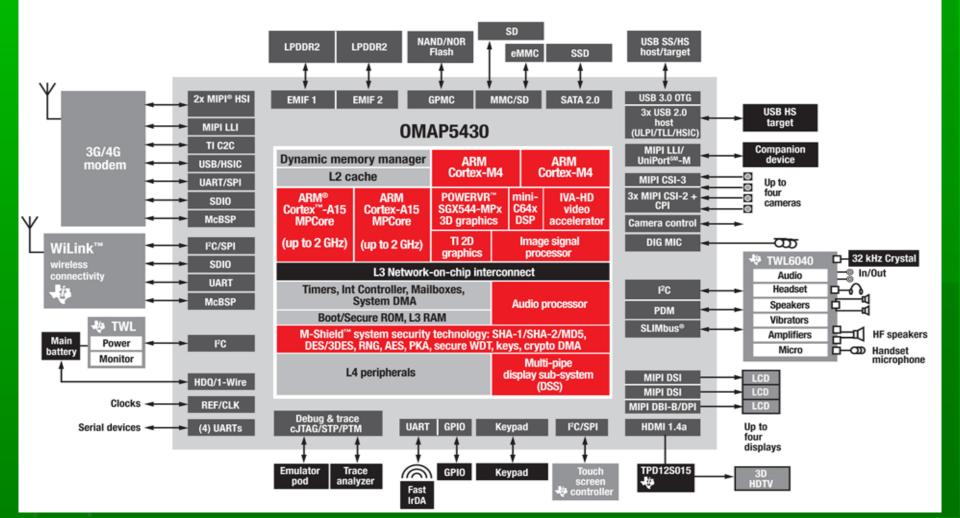
Why do we care?

What hardware is part of HAL?

What is relationship between Android and HAL?

Hardware Layer

TI OMAP5430 SoC



What is HAL?

- Cater for non-GPL vendor code
- Included in Android image as blob (.so)
- Freeing developer to focus on their app (Camera3 multiple camera support KitKat)
- Software layer that interact with kernel drivers *NOT* to hardware
- /system/lib/hw and /vendor/lib/hw

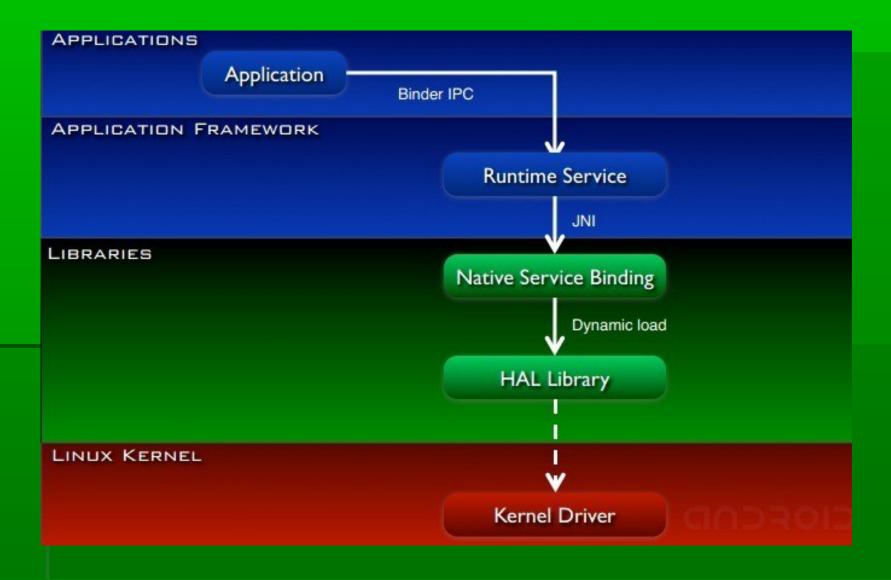
Hardware

Nexus 7 (2012) ["grouper"] : Camera, Sensors, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, Touch Panel, Orientation Sensor, Graphics, NFC, DRM

Nexus 7 (2013) ["razor"] : Camera, Sensors, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, Graphics, NFC, DRM, Audio, Sensors, Media, DSP, USB

Nexus 5 ["hammerhead"] : Camera, Sensors, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, Graphics, NFC, Audio, GSM, Camera, Media, DSP, USB

Framework and HAL



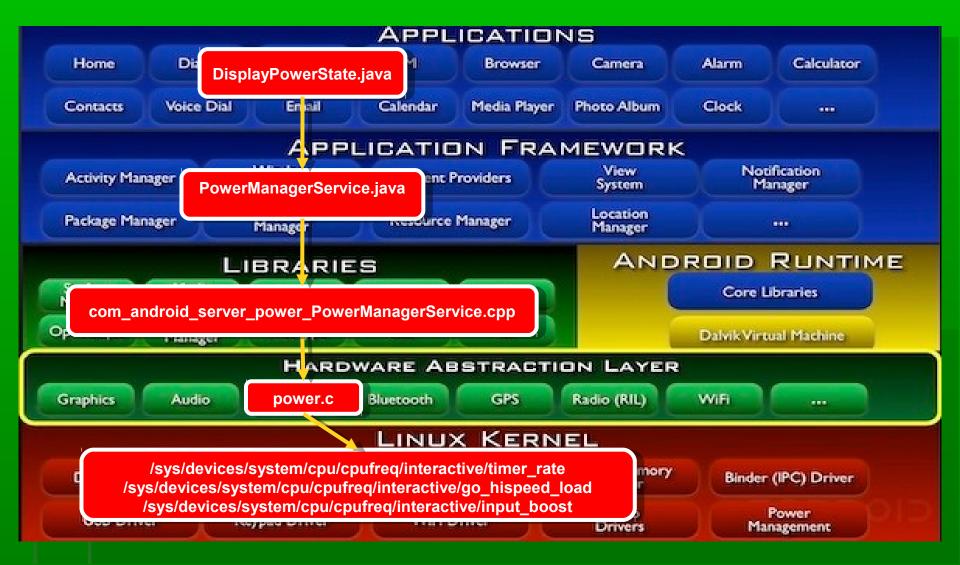
HAL Stubs

Android provides the interface that vendors must implement (/hardware/libhardware/include/hardware)

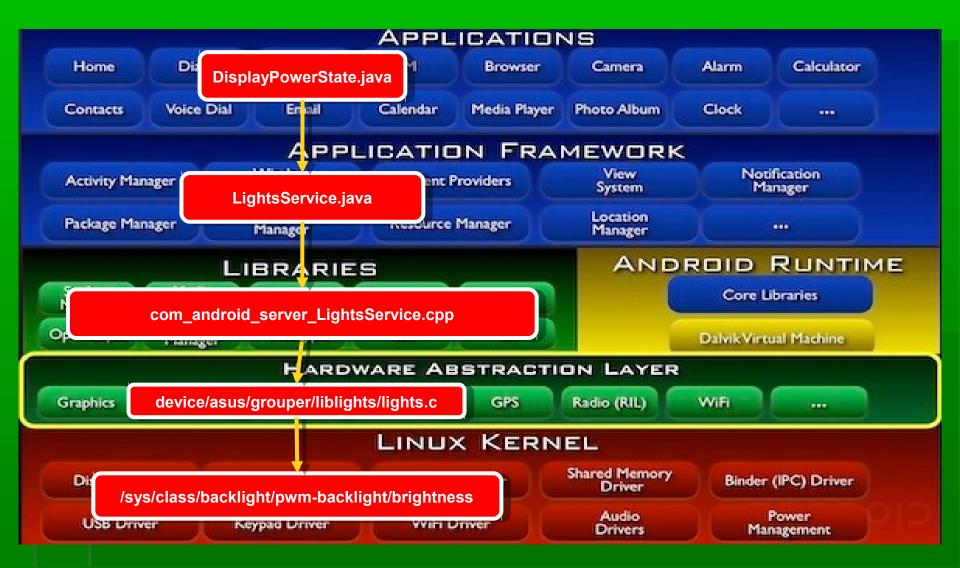
HAL process

- Java application call hardware framework service API
- 2. Framework service call internal API
- 3. HAL framework loads hardware library
- 4. Obtain device structure from memory
- 5. Call HAL stub function

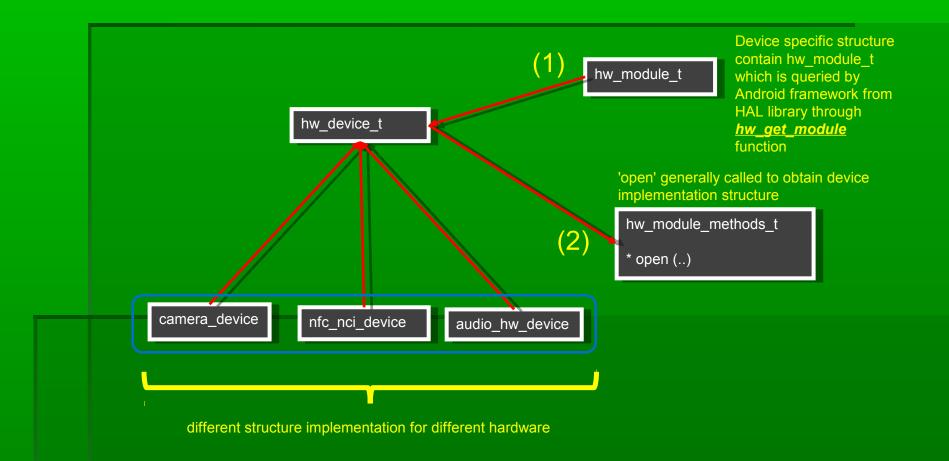
Example - Power HAL



Example - LCD Backlight



HAL Structure



Thank You