Guide to FSU's ISI Application

Bryan Bollou

Created: September 6, 2017

Updated: September 8, 2017

Disclaimer - To effectively modify and add to this application you will need some basic on knowledge of HTML, JavaScript, CSS, XML, and App Design. This will help you recognize patterns and understand the code though it was written by someone else. If you have no knowledge of the skills I mentioned above use CodeAcademy, W3Schools, and StackOverFlow submissions to learn some concepts. As for the Framework7 components just look at the Framework7 documents on the website.

Programs used

The three software that are required to start the build like one I used to create the ISI APP are;

MiddleWare such as PhoneGap: Shell- RawPhoneGapShell folder

Compiler- https://build.phonegap.com/

Web Development Tool such as Framework7: Web App

(The version the original app was made on = v1.6.4): https://github.com/nolimits4web/Framework7/releases/tag/v1.6.4

 (latest check - may still be in beta = v2.0.0): https://github.com/nolimits4web/Framework7/releases/tag/v2.0.0-beta.2 Further Elements- https://framework7.io/docs/

 Highly recommended going through the Framework7 tutorial on the site to get started: https://framework7.io/get-started/

This is also the YouTube guide I had originally used to learn how to use the application: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K4XO03fpdh8&list=PLnBvgoOXZNCM2C5hoDiLuRC2ufb-2LG9j

A local/web hosted server such as WAMP server or GoDaddy respectively**

**An emulator or phone could be used for testing but makes it harder for others to access the updates

WAMP server download: https://sourceforge.net/projects/wampserver/ and follow the previously recommended video to see how to host files on the local server

Use Google chrome and the inspect function once Web Developer tools are enabled to preview the app in a phone emulator (links won't work as the app isn't being hosted).

Recreating Application

To make the main development area, we need to combine the PhoneGap and Framework7 files.

The way it works is that Phone Gap wraps around the Framework elements to make it seem like a native application and compliable to an APK or IOS installation file.

Take the RawPhoneGapShell folder and move it into where you want to be developing the application. (Or make a copy and rename it to back up the raw)

Go to the downloaded version of Framework7 files you have and enter the folder.

Here you will see folders such as; GitHub, dist, examples, etc.

Go into dist and copy the contents of the folder.

Paste those contents into the "www" folder in the RawPhoneGapShell folder to fill it with Framework7 elements. (Overwrite/replace any duplicates)

You can now start developing a Framework7 App from scratch.

There are some example html files provided for you that you can build upon or delete.

The folder FinalIteration that I provided for the ISI APP is the same folder just edited and added with information over 15 weeks.

From here just use your knowledge of HTML, JavaScript, and XML as well as Framework7 elements to add to the project.

Raw Development Folder

I have provided a raw development folder and this folder called "RawDevelopmentFolder" is all you need to get started.

If you want to host the Web APP on the WAMP server;

Make sure the server is installed and running (type WAMP in your search bar and run the app - it'll open in your system tray)

Either navigate to wherever you installed the WAMP server or left click the WAMP icon in your system tray and click on "www directory".

Simply move the folder you have been editing into this folder at wamp64/www and it is being locally hosted on your machine.

Go to a web browser and type in localhost/YourProject'sFolderName (the actual name of your project not that)/www

Now you can navigate in the Web app

Google Chrome Emulator

(May only work on Windows OS)

Get the latest version of chrome.

Open our html file with chrome.

Click on the drop-down menu in the top right corner of the Chrome browser (looks like three vertical dots).

Navigate to More tools -> Development Tools.

Now right click on the opened web page and press inspect.

You will see a responsive phone emulator and can switch to different phone previews and sizes with the options at the top of the screen.

After doing this once, you can now just right-click -> inspect to use the developer tools

Putting the application onto an online server (for preview or hosting) such as GoDaddy

For GoDaddy files had to be uploaded using FTP and so could only be selected one at a time

Make sure you had an index.html file or change the initiation file in the manifest

Compress the application file into a zip file

Go to the GoDaddy dashboard (cPanel) and enter the File Manager and select the Web Root (public_html/www)

Take the compressed file and upload it the server to the Web Root (public_html/www) folder

Extract the compressed file and select all the files in the www then move it to the public/www folder

If you visit the website the application should be accessible

If you want to compile the application:

Compress the folder and make sure it is less than 50MB

Go to https://build.phonegap.com/ and sign up or sign in

Create a new app if you haven't already, update the code of previously created app or delete the old one and create a new one

Upload the zip file and click ready to build

Wait for the installation packages to compile (You'll need an iOS developer key to get that package)

Download the APK by clicking on the button

Move the installation package to an emulator or physical phone and install the application by accepting you are installing an app of an unknown developer