



Qt in Education

Developing Qt Apps for MeeGo



NOKIA



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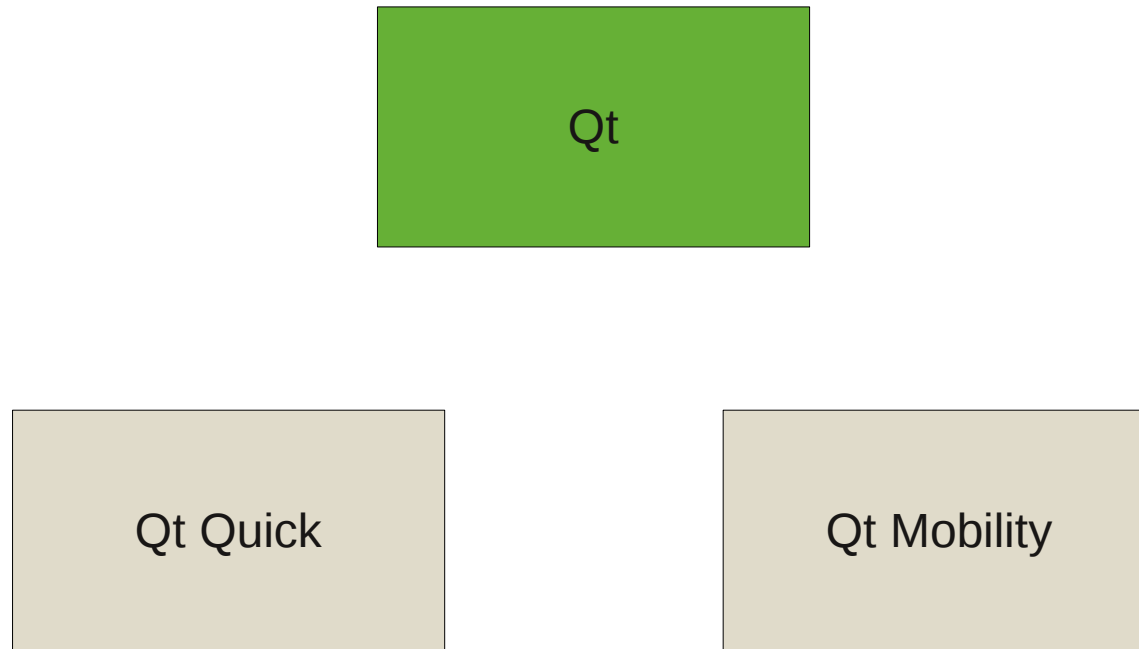


Development Tool-Chain

- The MeeGo SDK is built from the following components
 - QtCreator – integrated development environment
 - Qt Simulator – for running and debugging applications in a simulated environment
 - MADDE – for building and debuggin applications in real or emulated environments

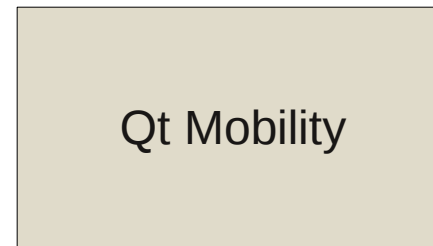
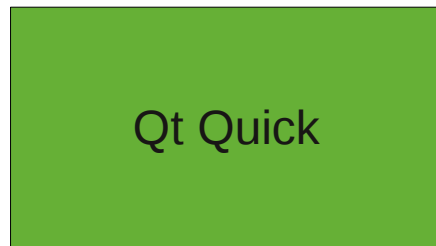
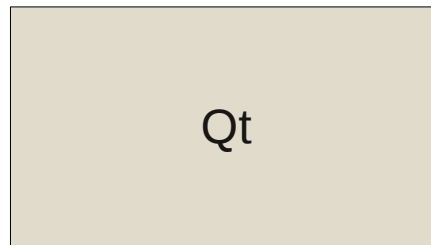


APIs to Use





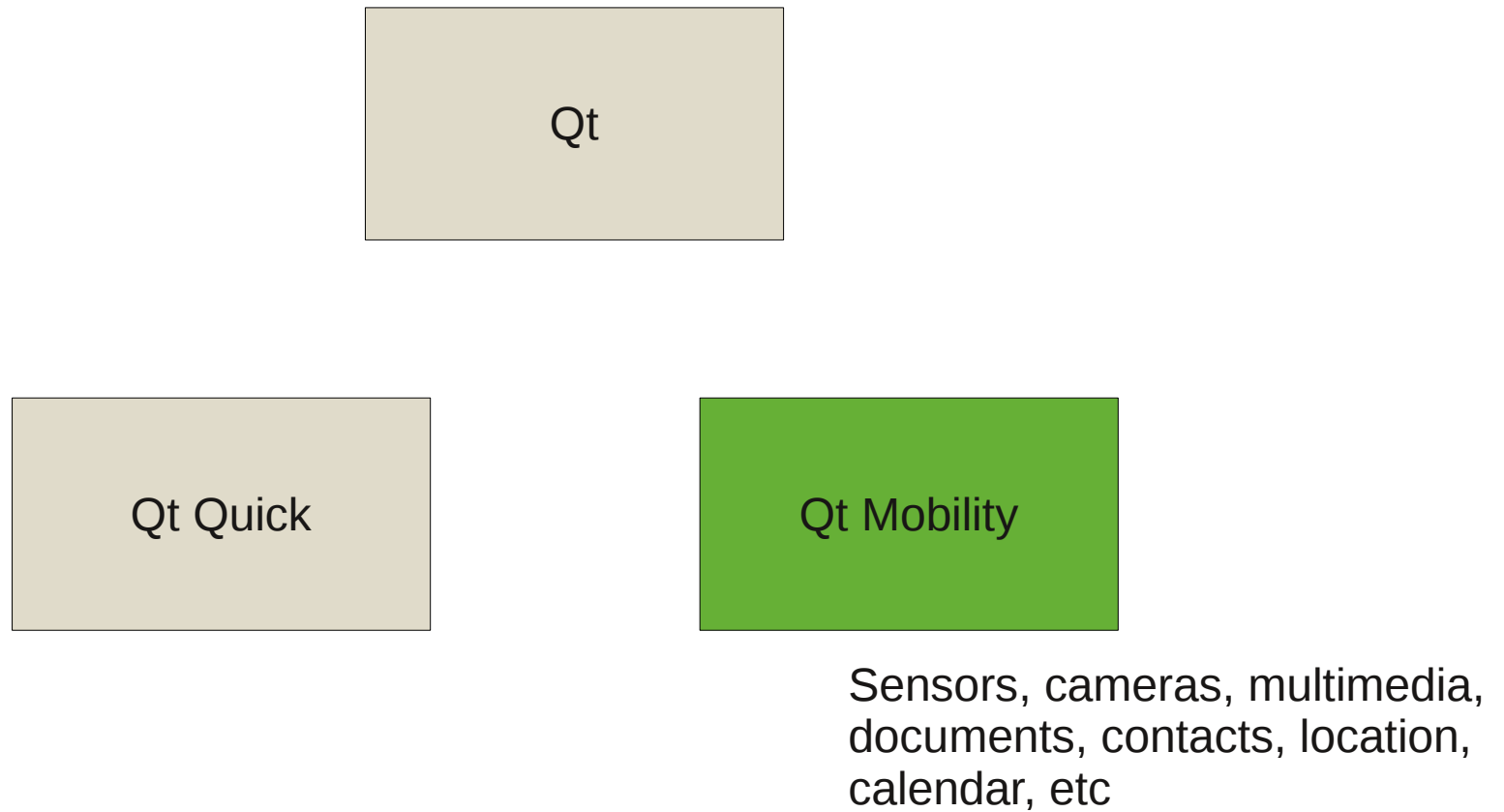
APIs to Use



QML – fluid user interfaces!
Direct access to parts of Mobility



APIs to Use





Qt Simulator

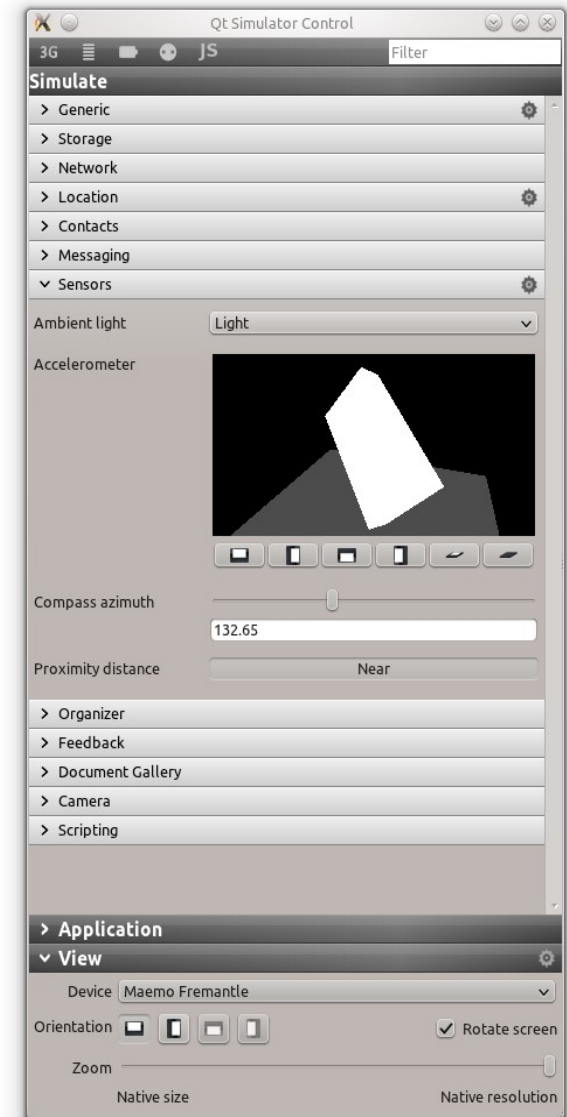
- Most applications are developed using the Qt Simulator
 - Code is executed natively – easy to debug
 - Simulated environment





Qt Simulator

- The simulator interface exposes much of Qt Mobility
 - Can trigger events
 - Can modify data
 - Can change sensor readings
- It is possible to script the simulator





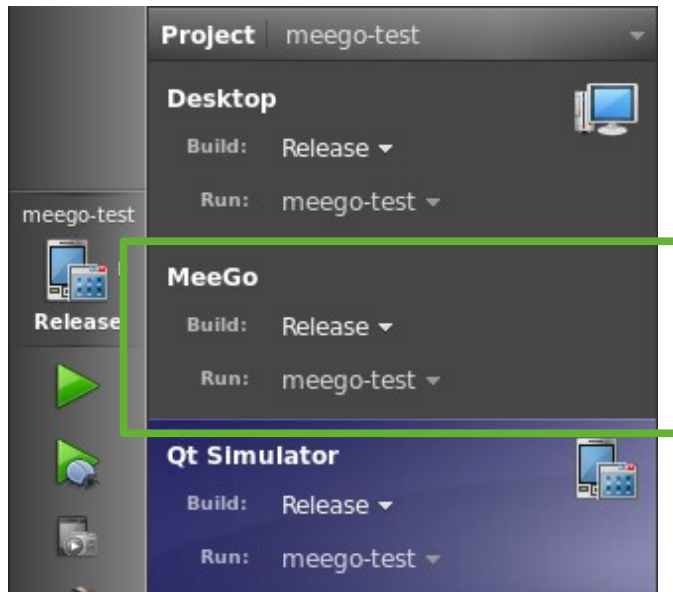
Deploying Apps

- Build for target
 - Results in an RPM-file (an installer package)
 - Test, test and test again
 - Publish to a store, or through your own channels
- Stores
 - Intel AppUp
 - Nokia Ovi Store



Building RPMs

- Simply select the MeeGo target
 - The resulting RPM resides in *project-build-meego/rrpmbuild*





Working with RPMs

- When you have the RPM on your target, you can handle it using rpm
 - `rpm -i myrpm-version.rpm` – install
 - `rpm -e myrpm` – erase
 - `rpm -U myrpm-version.rpm` – upgrade
- or using zypper
 - `zypper install myrpm.rpm`
 - `zypper remove myrpm`



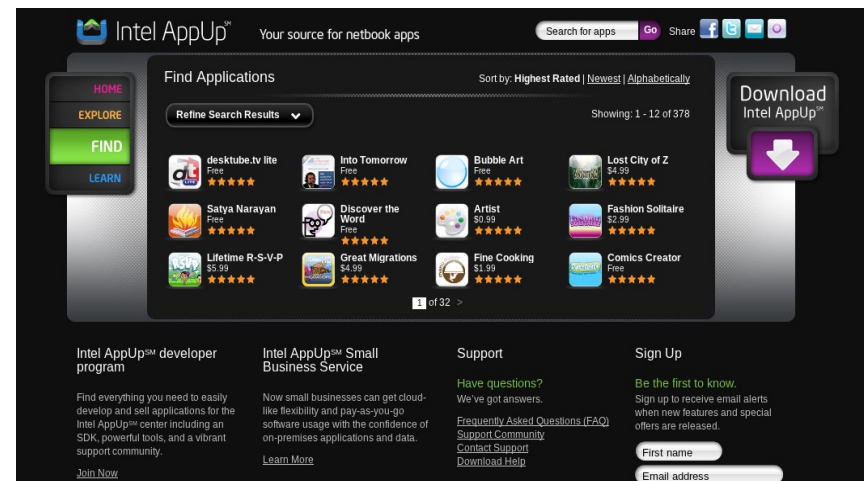
Repositories

- For easier installation and updates, you can place your RPMs in a repository
 - User the `createrepo` tool to create a repository
 - <http://createrepo.baseurl.org/>
 - Zypper handles repositories
 - `zypper ar` to add a repository to a target
 - `zypper refresh` to update meta-data from repositories
 - `zypper search` to search all repositories for a package
 - `zypper info` for information about a package
 - `zypper install` to install a package



Intel AppUp

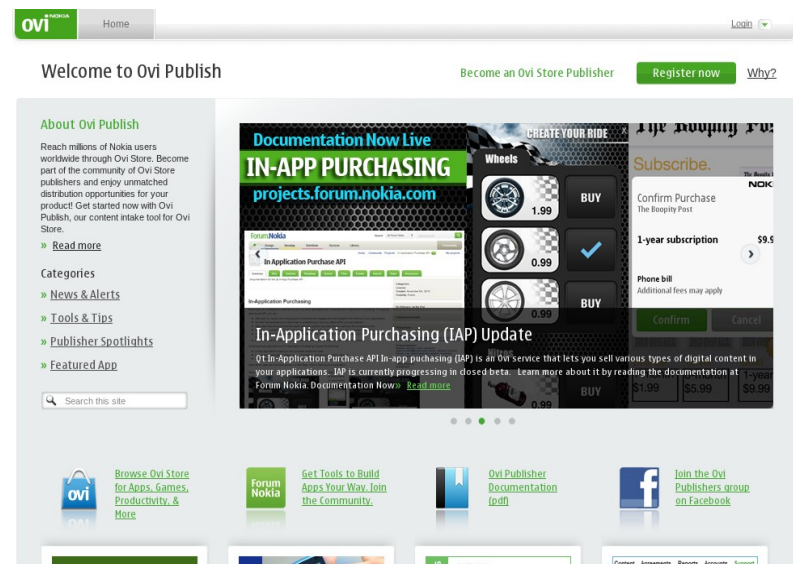
- On-line app store for MeeGo netbooks and tablets
- Possible to sell applications, or to distribute them for free
- Apps are validated before they are made available through the store





Nokia Ovi Store

- On-line app store for MeeGo handsets
- Possible to sell applications, or to distribute them for free
- Apps are validated before they are made available through the store





Stores in General

- Offers a profit sharing program
- Provides API for in-app purchases
 - Upgrades (try and buy)
 - Subscriptions
 - Virtual goods (for games, etc)
- Handles payments from multiple markets



Self-Publish

- It is possible to self-publish applications
 - Provide RPMs
 - Provide access to a repository
- What you do not get when self-publishing
 - Validated applications
 - Support for handling payments
 - Easy access through a global store



Break



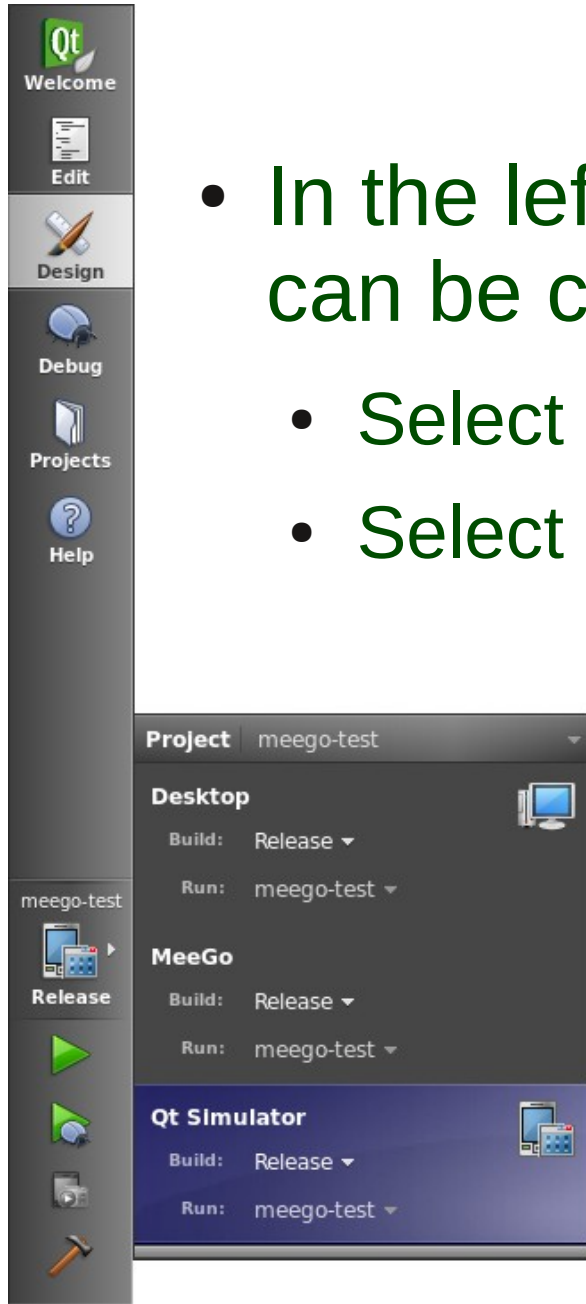
An Example Project

- Setup a project
 - A C++ application with Qt Quick support
- Test on desktop
 - Basic testing and debugging
- Test using simulator
 - Testing and debugging with “sensor” input and proper screen resolution
- Test using remote (virtual) target
 - Final testing on an actual target



Selecting target

- In the left Qt Creator toolbar, the target can be configured
 - Select between Release or Debug
 - Select target
 - Simulator
 - Deployment
 - Any other target of the project, e.g. local





Project Outline

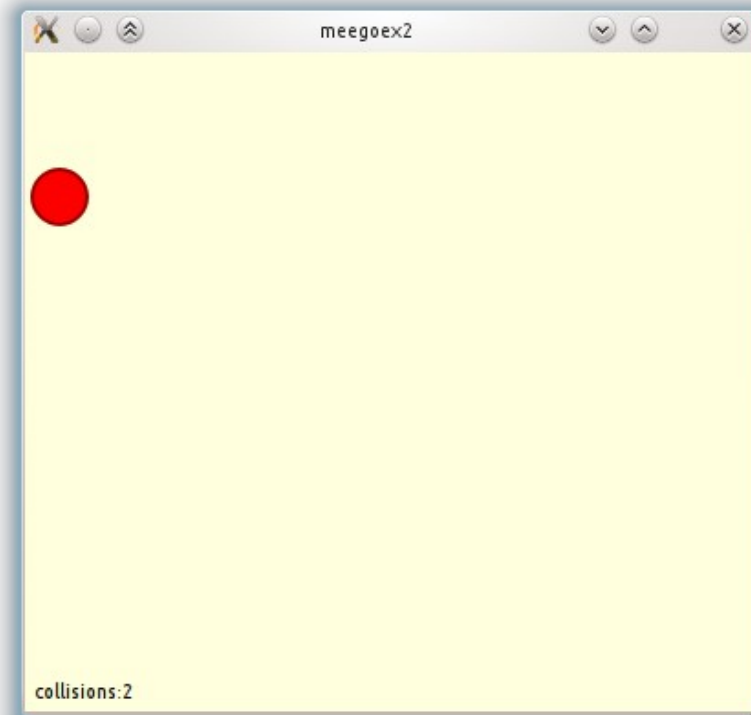
- Core application in C++
- Qt Quick user interface
- C++ slot called from Qt Quick event





Desktop Experience

- Select the Desktop target
- Set a breakpoint in the slot
- Build and run





Desktop Debugging

The screenshot displays the Qt Creator IDE interface for a project named 'meegoex2'. The main editor shows the 'main.cpp' file with a breakpoint set at line 14. The code defines a 'BallApplicationViewer' class and a 'main' function. The right-hand pane shows the current state of variables: 'ballItem' is a 'QDeclarativeItem', 'ccount' is an 'int' with a value of 2, 'root' is a 'QGraphicsObject', 'this' is a 'BallApplicationViewer', and 'QmlApplicationViewer' is a 'QmlApplicationViewer'. The bottom pane shows a stack trace with the following entries:

Level	Function	File	Line	Address
0	BallApplicationViewer::upd...	main.cpp	14	0x403689
1	BallApplicationViewer::qt_...	main.moc	71	0x403327
2	QObject::activate(QO...	/home/w...	0	0x7ffff6769cd8
3	??	/home/w...	0	0x7ffff79edb18
4	??	/home/w...	0	0x7ffff7aa430b
5	??	/home/w...	0	0x7ffff7aa4bdf
6	??	/home/w...	0	0x7ffff7aa57a7
7	??	/home/w...	0	0x7ffff55cc475
8	??	/home/w...	0	0x7ffff54b55cf
9	??	/home/w...	0	0x7ffff54889b7

The bottom status bar shows the current state: 'Threads: 1', 'Stopped: "end-stepping-range"', and tabs for 'Breakpoints', 'Thread', and 'Snapshots'.



Simulator Experience

- Select the Simulator target
- Set a breakpoint in the slot
- Build and run





Simulator Debugging

The screenshot displays the Qt Creator IDE interface during a simulator debug session. The main window shows the source code of `main.cpp` for a project named `meegoex2`. The code defines a `BallApplicationViewer` class that inherits from `QmlApplicationViewer` and implements the `updateCollisionCounter()` slot. A red bug icon on the left margin indicates a breakpoint is set at line 14. The `updateCollisionCounter()` function logic is as follows:

```
void updateCollisionCounter() {
    QGraphicsObject *root = rootObject(); // Component
    QDeclarativeItem *ballItem = root->findChild<QDeclarativeItem>("ballItem");
    int ccount = ballItem->property("collisionCount").toInt();
    ballItem->setProperty("collisionCount", ccount+1);
}
```

The `main()` function creates a `QApplication` object and instantiates the `BallApplicationViewer` class.

On the right side, the **Variable Inspector** shows the state of variables at the current execution point:

Name	Value	Type
ballItem		QDeclarativeItem
ccount	2	int
root		QGraphicsObject
this		BallApplicationViewer

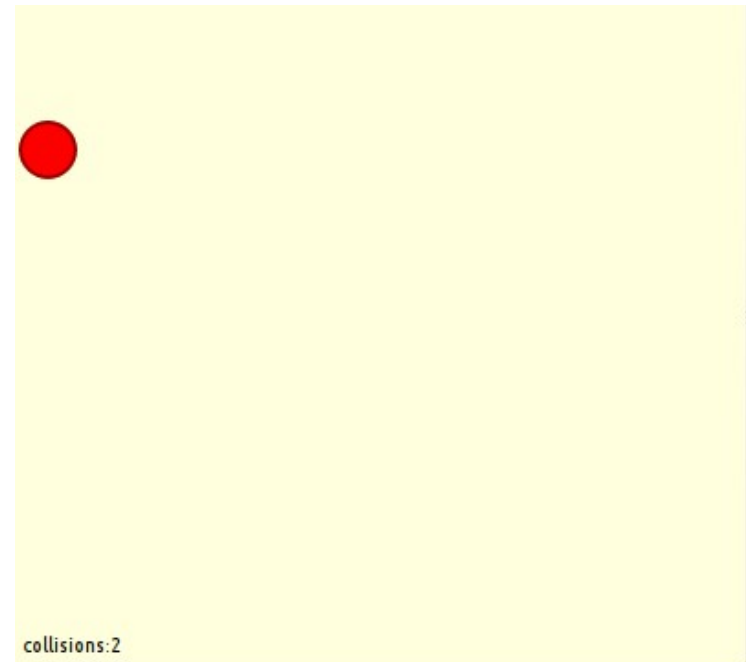
The bottom of the IDE features the **Debugger** and **Stack** panels. The **Debugger** shows the current thread is stopped at line 14 of `main.cpp`. The **Stack** panel displays the call stack, with the top frame being `BallApplicationViewer::updateCollisionCounter()` at line 14.

The bottom status bar includes tabs for **Build Issues**, **Search Results**, **Application Output**, and **Compile Output**.



Target Experience

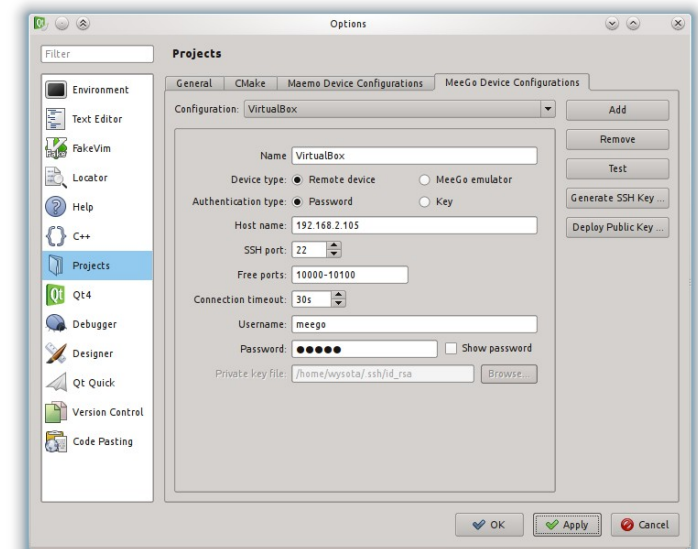
- Select the MeeGo target
- Set a breakpoint in the slot
- Build and deploy





Configure Target

- Select target device
 - Settings – Project – MeeGo Device Configuration
 - Host name – IP of remote target
 - User name / password
 - Target must run sshd





MeeGo Debugging

The screenshot shows the Qt Creator IDE with the following components:

- Project Explorer:** Shows the project structure for 'meegoex2', including 'meegoex2.pro', 'qmlapplicationviewer', 'Sources', 'main.cpp', 'QML', and 'Other files'.
- Editor:** Displays the code for 'main.cpp'. A breakpoint is set at line 14, which is the start of the 'updateCollisionCounter()' function. The code includes headers for 'main.moc' and 'QtDebug', and defines the 'main' function and 'BallApplicationViewer' class.
- Variable Explorer:** Located on the right, it shows the current state of variables. The 'this' variable is of type 'BallApplicationViewer'. The 'ccount' variable is of type 'int' and has a value of 2.
- Call Stack:** Located at the bottom, it shows the current stack frame for 'BallApplicationViewer::updateCollisionCounter()' at line 14.
- Application Output:** Located at the bottom right, it shows the output of the application, including the 'end-stepping-range' message.



Differences

- Desktop
 - Native execution on local machine
 - No mobility services (in SDK build)
- Simulator
 - Native execution on local machine
 - Simulated mobility services
- Target
 - Native execution on remote machine
 - Actual mobility services



Platform Specific Code

- Preprocessor defines identify the platform
 - Desktop
 - Q_WS_X11 / Q_WS_MAC / Q_WS_WIN
 - Simulator
 - Q_SIMULATOR
 - Target
 - Q_WS_X11



Development Considerations Overview

- Window sizes / orientation
- Limited input – touch and no keyboard
- Memory availability – RAM and persistent storage
- Service availability - sensors
- Cost of bandwidth / connection reliability
- Media codec availability



Window sizes

- Windows might be freely sized, but can also be locked to the geometry of the screen or a top-level window
- Your design must be adapted to this





Limited input

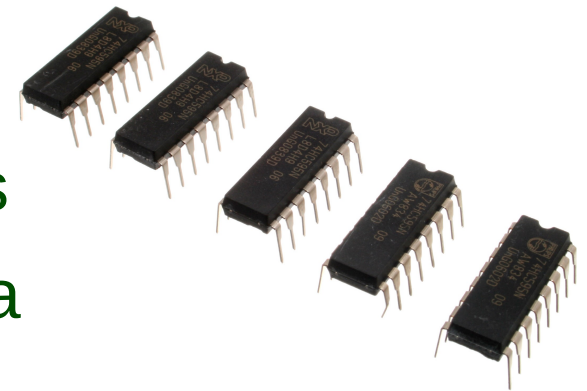
- Keyboards can be limited to many different configurations
 - Keypad
 - Predictive text, or limited key set
 - Touch
 - On screen keyboard, uses screen estate
 - Finger-based touch
 - Limited accuracy, interactive areas must have a minimum (touchable) size





Memory availability

- Memory of embedded devices is more limited than on a desktop system
- Today, memories can be considered large
- It is still important to be smart
 - Avoid duplicated data
 - Avoid bloated data structures
 - Avoid shipping too much data



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Cost of bandwidth

- Mobile devices can be assumed to use expensive and unreliable network connections
 - Data traffic roaming can be expensive
 - Connections can be interrupted at any time
 - Bandwidth can be limited at times
- Let the user control network access
- Support an off-line mode

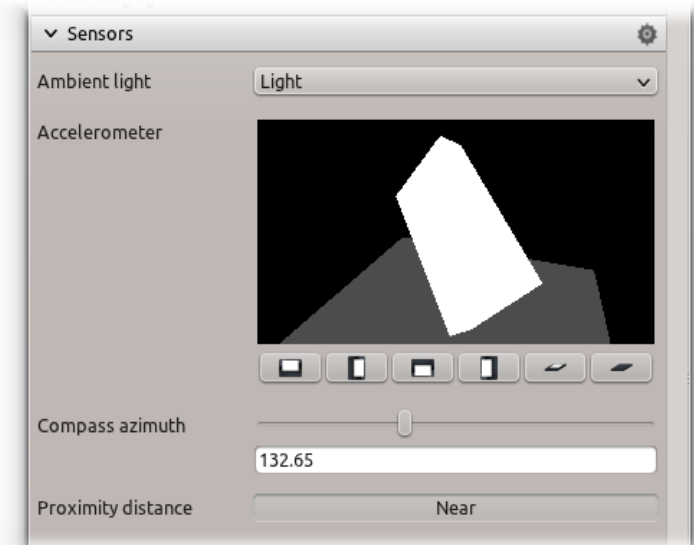


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Service availability

- Different devices have different features
 - Location resolution, and availability
 - Orientation sensor availability
 - Contacts and calendar availability
 - etc
- One of the key elements of the Qt Mobility API is that it can abstract services that are optional





Codec availability

- Media playback is an area affected by patents and licenses
 - All systems cannot decode all media
 - Ensure that codecs are available for your target platform
 - Qt Mobility / MultimediaKit relies on gstreamer to playback media on MeeGo devices

