

Introduction to Android Lecture 1

Android Native Development Kit

9 February 2014



Android Architecture

Application components

IPC

Tools



Android Architecture

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Tools



- ▶ Petre Eftime & Laura Gheorghe
- Course and lab: 17:00 20:00, Tuesdays
- ▶ Project: 20:00 21:00, Tuesdays
- Grading
 - ▶ 10% lecture and lab activity
 - ▶ 10% assignment
 - ▶ 40% project
 - ▶ 40% final exam
 - 10% bonus for feedback



Android Architecture

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Source: http://commons.wikimedia.org





- Linux kernel
- AOSP
 - Runtime
 - Libraries
 - Application framework
- Applications

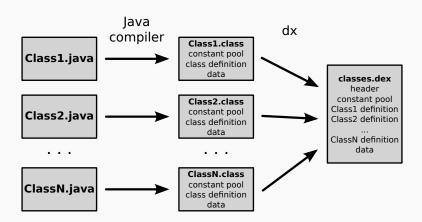


- Patches on top of mainline Linux
- Android Mainlining Project
- Wakelocks (also added to Linux 3.5)
- ► Low-Memory Killer, Binder, Alarm, Logger, etc.
- Only suspend to memory



- Dalvik Virtual Machine (Java VM)
- Runs Dalvik-specific byte-code generated from Java-based apps, system components
- Apache Harmony project (implementation of Java libraries)
- Designed for embedded systems (slow CPU, small RAM, no swap, battery)
- ► Works with .dex files instead of .jar files
 - Dalvik Executable Format
 - .dex is 50% smaller than corresponding .jar





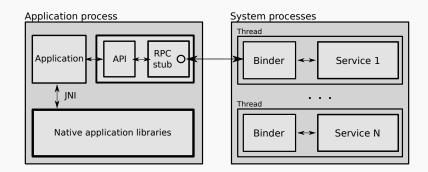


- bioniC (libc)
 - ► Much smaller than glibc
- sqlite
 - Managing SQL databases
- OpenGL ES
 - Standard software interface for 3D processing hardware
- WebKit
 - Display web pages
 - Android, Apple iOS, BlackBerry, Tizen
- SSL
 - Securing the communication over Internet



- Services
- Managers
 - ► Telephony
 - Location
 - Activity
 - Package
 - Notification
- Content Providers







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Keyword:

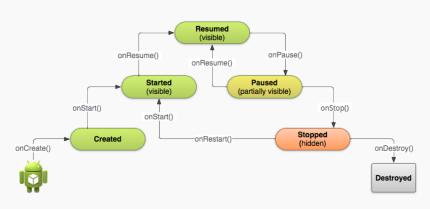


- User interaction
 - Activities
- Background functionality
 - Services
 - Broadcast Receivers
 - Content Providers



- User interface
- Similar to a window from window-based GUIs
- Cannot be minimized, maximized, resized
- Uses the whole visual area
- User interacts with a single activity at a time
- Activities stack
 - Activities launch other activities
 - Back button for returning to the previous activity
 - No forward button
- Start activities with intents





Source: http://developer.android.com



- Background thread
- Runs in the same process as the application
 - Can be configured to run in another process
- Provide services to the other applications
- Communication through the Binder



- Receive broadcast announcements
 - Low battery
 - Reboot
 - Application state changes
- Can receive global or local broadcasts
- Choose which broadcasts to receive
 - Intent filters
- Intents
- Active only when receiving a broadcast



- Store and share application data
- Required for sharing data
- Relational database
- URI for identifying the provider and the table
- Content Resolver uses the URI to send a query to the provider
- Active only when responding to a request



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- Send message, determine action execution
- Purpose
 - Start activities, start or bind services
 - Delivering broadcast messages to receivers
- Dispatched by the Android system
- Includes action and data
 - ► ACTION_DIAL content://contacts/people/1
- Types
 - Explicit: directed towards a specific receiver
 - Implicit: a receiver which can resolve the action



- ▶ Lightweight RPC
- Remote object invocation
- ▶ In process and interprocess
- ► Transmit parcels of data
- Synchronous calls (blocking)



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- Android SDK Manager
 - Download SDK packages
- AVD Manager
 - Manages Android Virtual Devices (for emulator)
- Emulator
 - Virtual mobile devices running on a PC
- ► Dalvik Debug Monitor Server (ddms)
 - Debugging tool
 - Port forwarding, screen capture, call and SMS spoofing, location spoofing, etc.



- Android Debug Bridge (adb)
 - Communication between the development tools and (virtual) device
- ► dx
 - ▶ Generates the *classes.dex* file from several .*class* files
- Android Interface Definition Language (aidl)
 - To allow clients from another application to access your service
 - ▶ Generates interfaces and stubs that are used by the Binder
- Android Asset Packaging Tool (aapt)
 - Create, update and view Zip-compatible archives (zip, apk, jar)
 - Compile resources into binary assets (XML files, etc.)
- dexdump
 - Disassembler tool
 - Obtain the Dalvik bytecode from classes.dex



- ▶ Three components
 - Client: runs on the development machine
 - Server: background process on the development machine
 - Daemon: background process on the (virtual) device
- Copy files
- Install applications
- Debug
- Shell on the (virtual) device



- QEMU
- Screen, Keyboard, Network, Audio, GPS, Radio
- Can be acceleration through virtualization
 - x86 System Image
 - Intel Hardware Accelerated Execution Manager (HAXM) on Windows
 - KVM on Linux
- GPU accelerated



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- ► Linux kernel
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- Android Runtime
- Libraries
- Activities
- Services

- Broadcast Receivers
- Content Providers
- Intents
- Binders
- ADB
- Emulator