

Android Programming 101

Dr. Charles Yu

Outlines

- Introductions and Android Studio
- General Android App UI setup
- Activities and its jumping
- Fragment

Why Android Studio?

- Officially Supported / Suggested by Google for Apps development
- If you are a Python lover, you should know PyCharm?
- Android Studio <-> PyCharm (looks very similar?)
- Developed by JetBrains

Why Android Studio + Java?

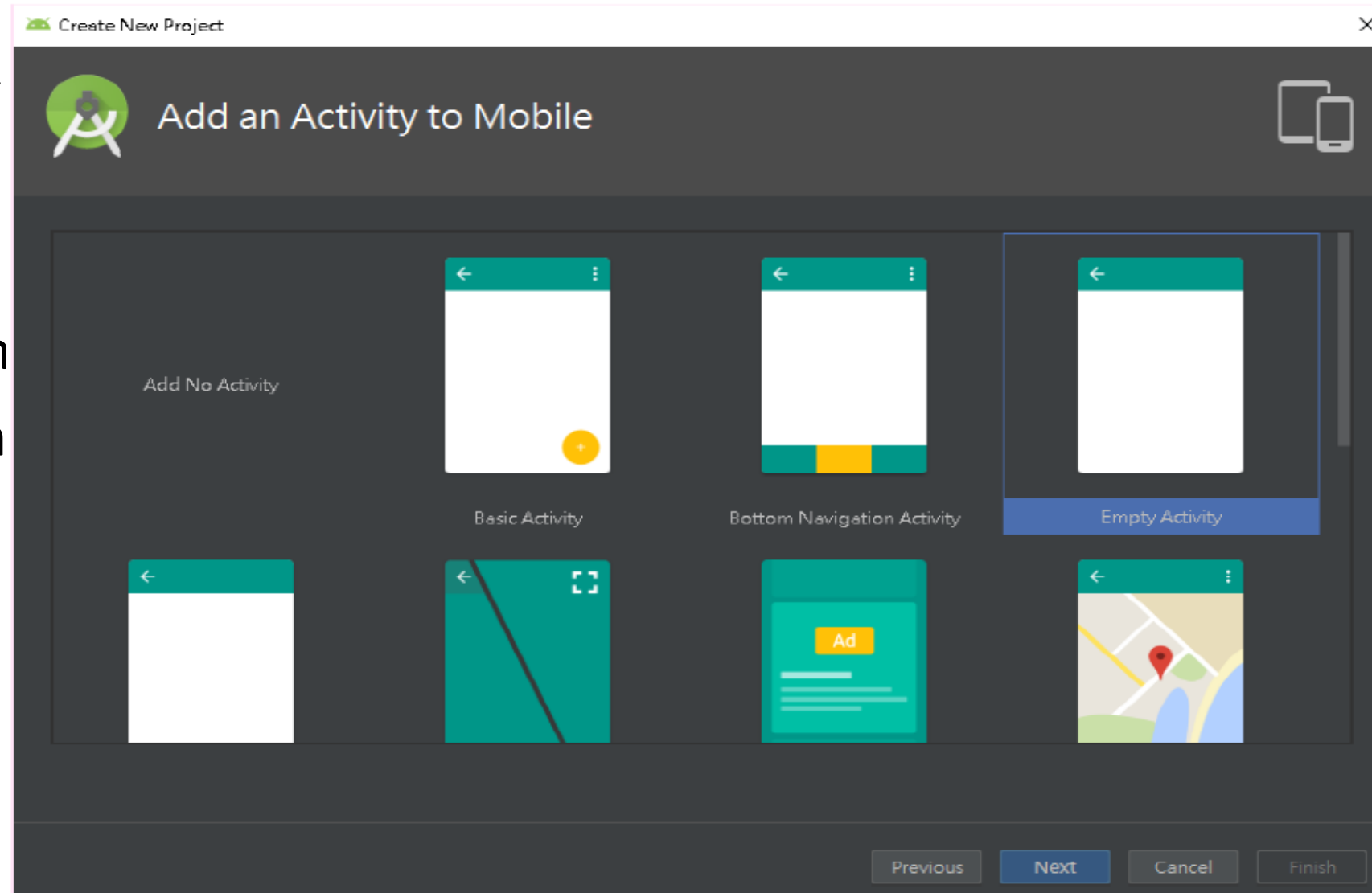
- You need to deal with tons of archive code
- Most of archive code for Android App are written in Java
 - Your 1st job in the company:
 - Maintain the old archived code
 - We still need to survive in our 1st year. Isn't it?

Why Android Studio + Java?

- Kotlin? (like Scala or Ruby). A good choice
- This is a trend: more and more new projects are written in Kotlin
- We can take advantage on new features of Android by using Kotlin
- Their new demo code in android developer's website are written in Kotlin
- One of my friend, she just returned from FB as a summer intern lady.
 - We use Kotlin in new project development!

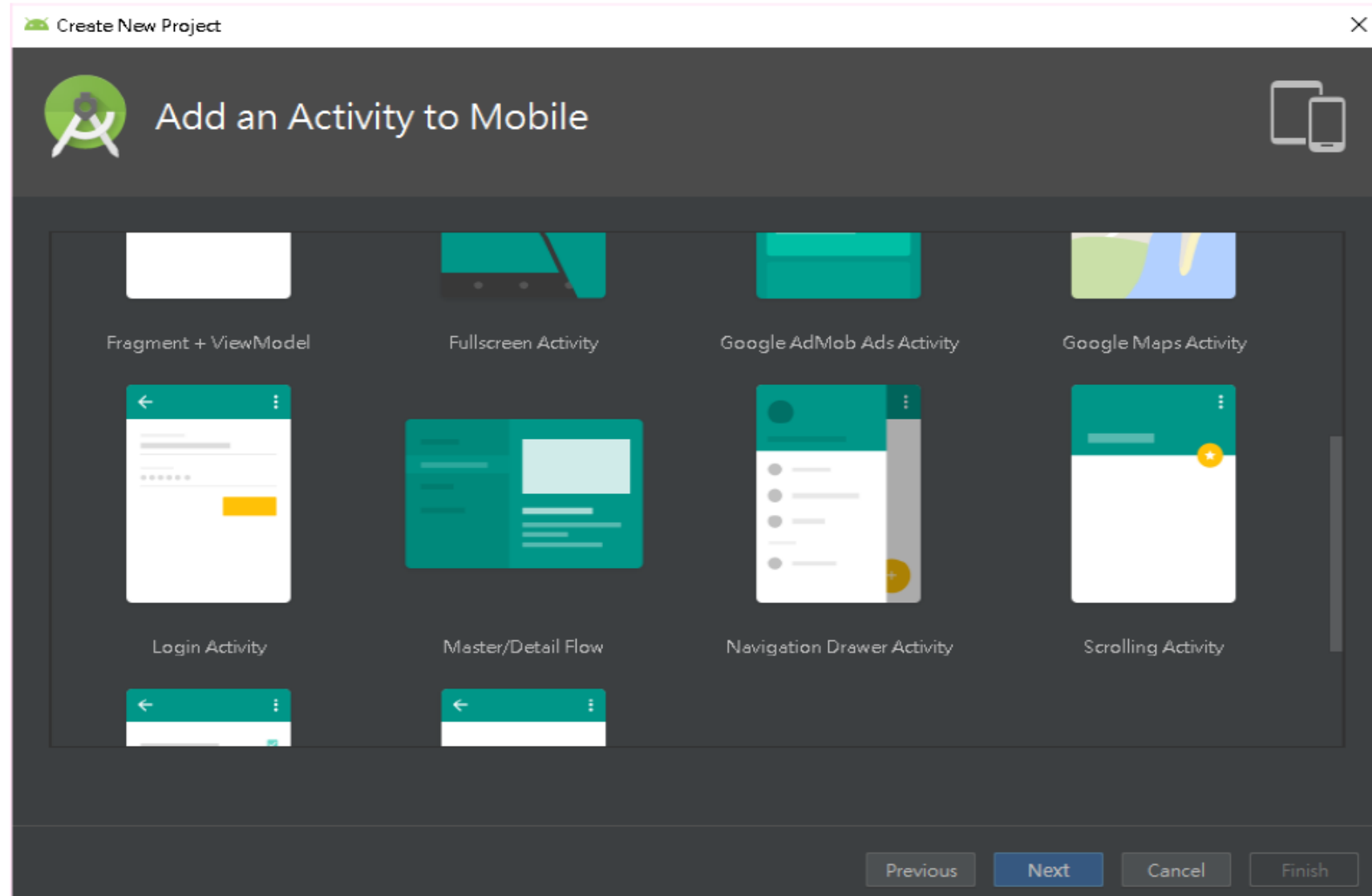
First time, “new” a project, Entry Activity Selection

- Empty activity is my “best favorite”
- If you choose the Basic Activity, you can see the “+” button on the corner after it launches
(go the next page...)



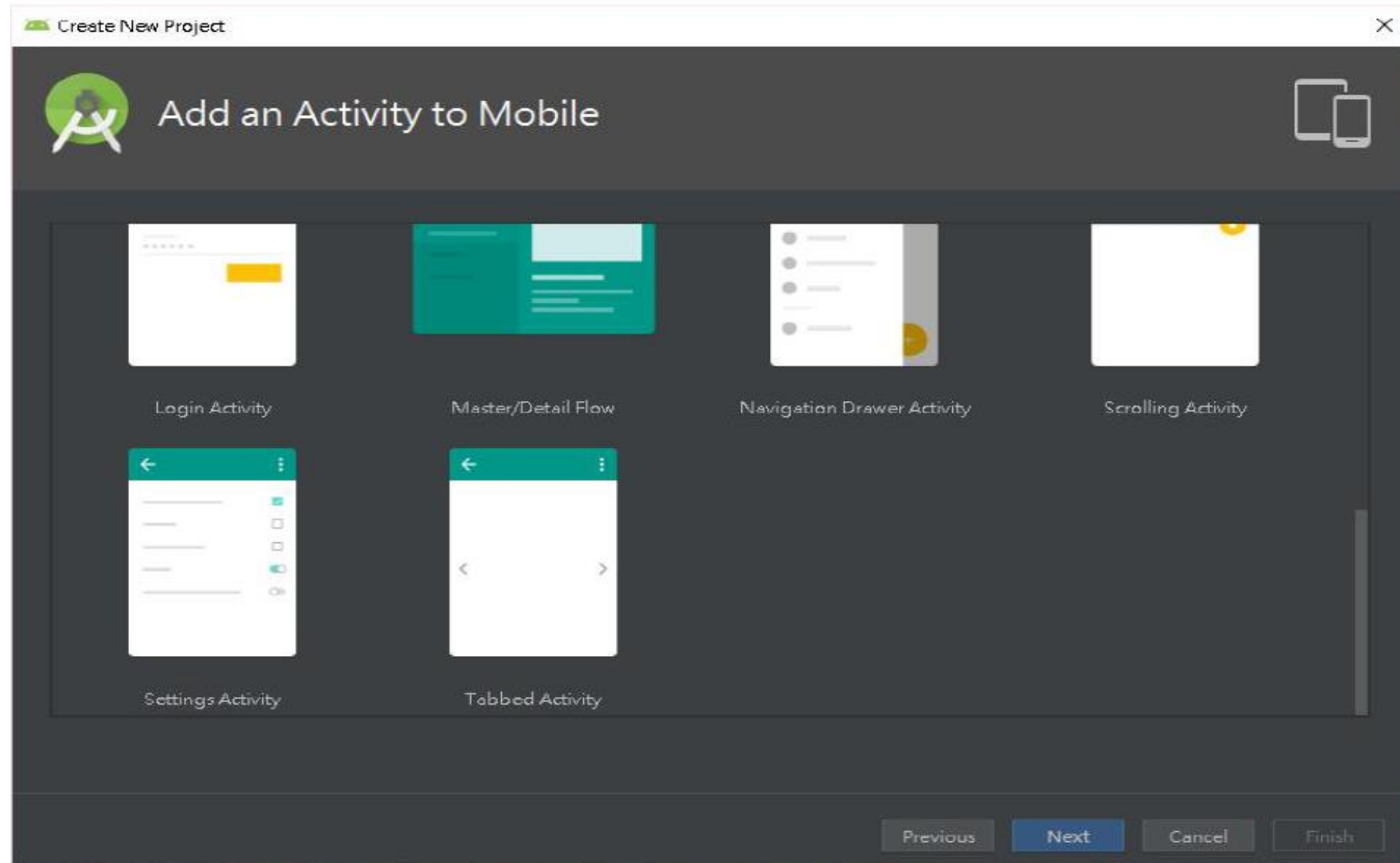
First time, “new” a project, Entry Activity Selection

- **Login** Activity: They “dig” everything ready for you (buttons, text views...)
- **Navigation** Drawer: In your 1st (entry) activity, you will have the navigation bar. You can swipe it out from the LHS
- **Scrolling** is similar to news reader app. Two parts are separated but the bottom part is scrollable



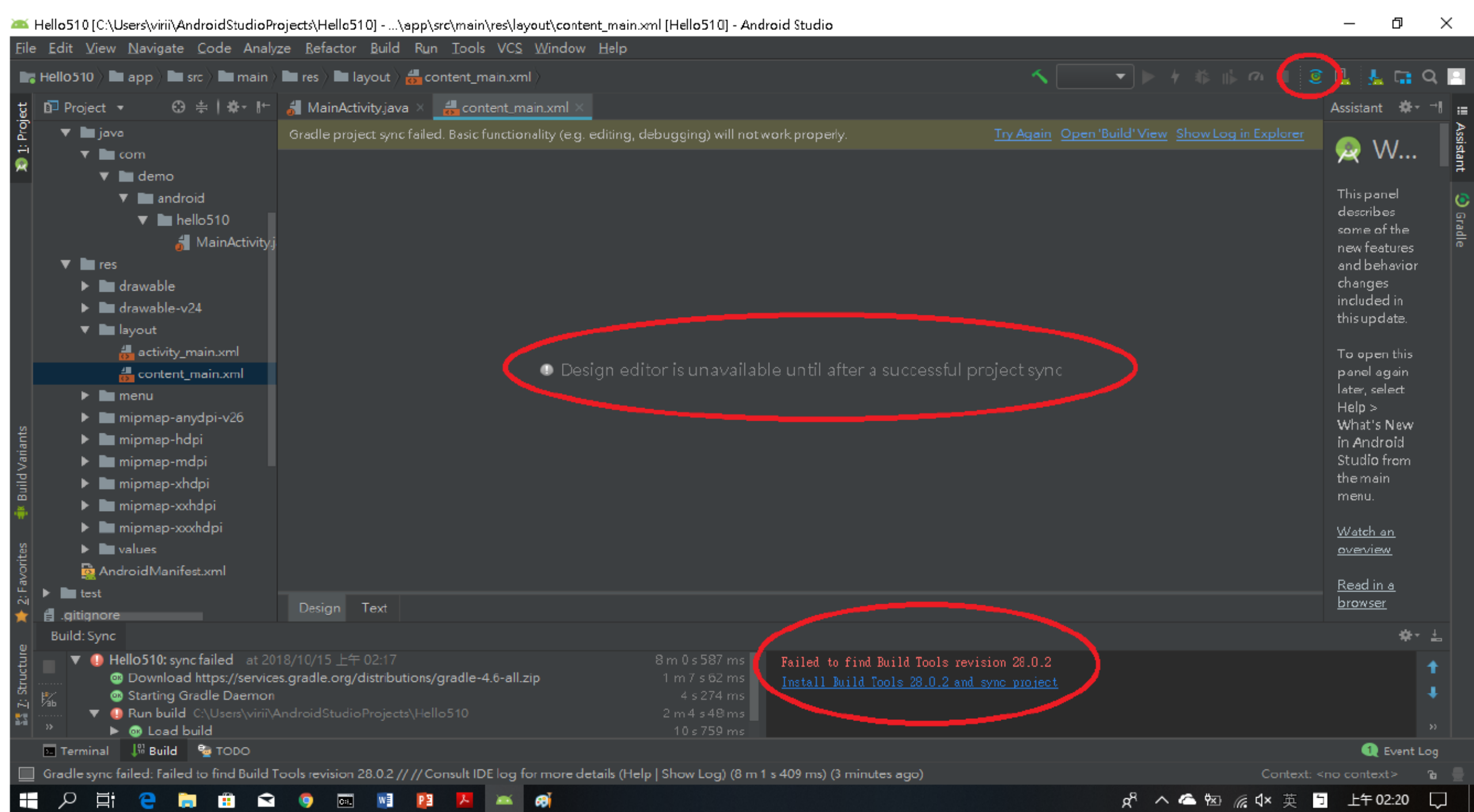
First time, “new” a project, Entry Activity Selection

- **Settings** Activity: Making something setup related UI
- **Tabbed** Activity: Like the 1st time launch, welcoming messages (tips), this tab → next tab →...



Why my Android Studio has so many error messages?

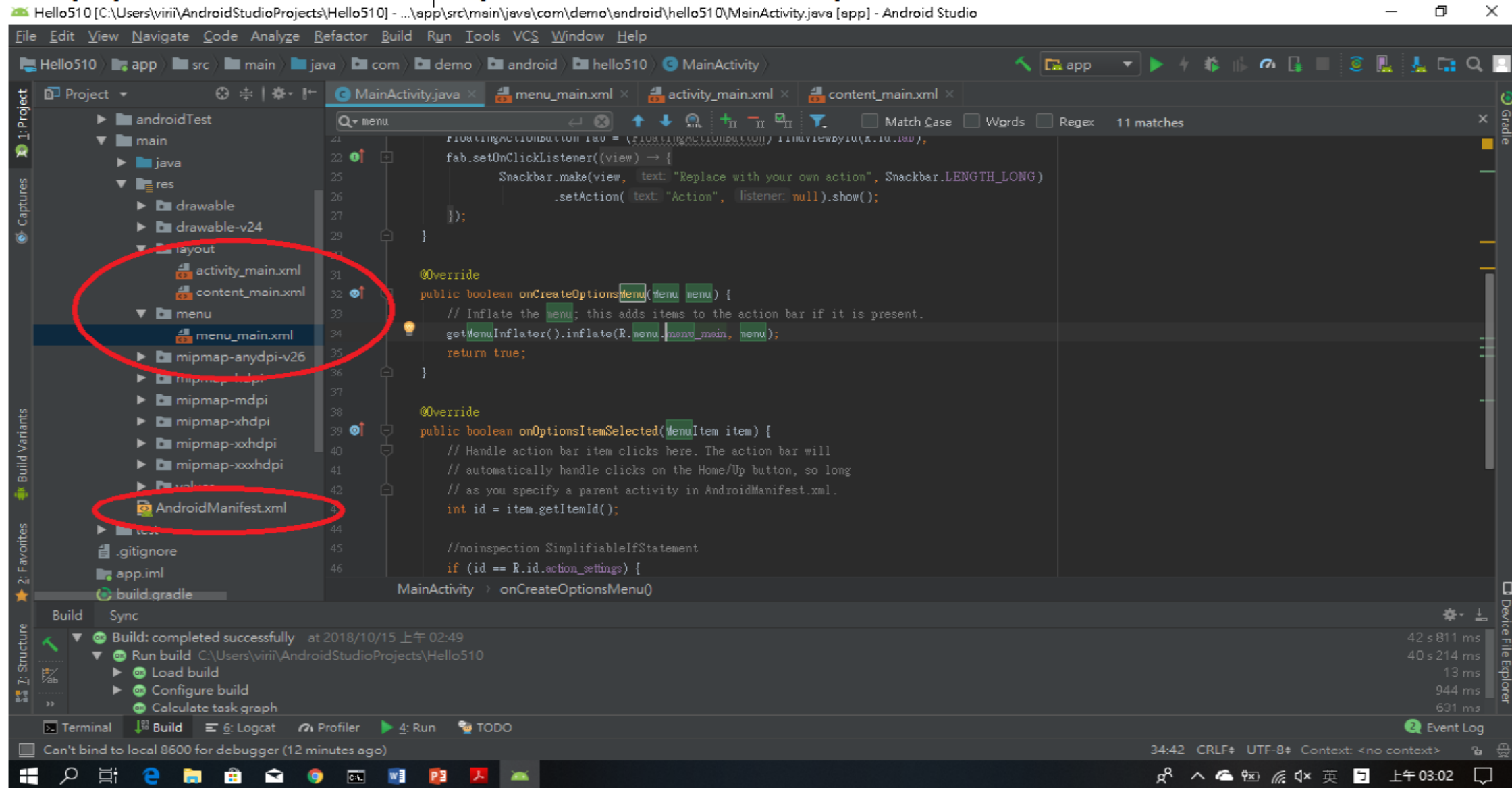
- You need to refresh, every time, after you installed something or synced new libraries from the cloud



What if my Android Studio is very abnormal?

- Note that my version might be old. You need to take care of your version
- How to fix it? (Windows, for example)
 - Kill everything underneath:
 - C:\Users\[user_name]\.AndroidStudio3.2
- Restart Android Studio

UI setup (previous 2 xml) and App wide setup



UI setup and App wide setup

- Couple of xml files
 - AndroidManifest.xml
 - In src/main
 - activity_main.xml
 - In res/layout
 - content_main.xml
 - In res/layout
 - menu_main.xml
 - In res/menu
- There is only **AndroidManifest.xml** about **application wide software components setup**. Other xml(s) are about UI!

UI setup and App wide setup

- UI and the calling sequence
- R.layout.activity_main get called in onCreate()
- In activity_main.xml, it **includes** content_main.xml (**You won't see that if you choose the Empty Activity**)
- menu_main was get called in onCreateOptionsMenu()
- That's take a look in MainActivity.java, as an entry point to your App and try to find out all of these xml files

UI setup and App wide setup

- AndroidManifest.xml
 - You can clearly see how many software components in this app
 - Activity(ies), Service(s),...
- Another purpose is to setup access rights
 - After Android 6.0, you **not only** have to **setup** access rights in **AndroidManifest.xml** but **also** need to **ask** App user to **grant** the hardware or system resources in the running time.
 - Hardware or system resources include camera, location (GPS), sensors, file system,..., etc
 - (See the next page, our AndroidManifest in MySQLDemo2022)

UI setup and App wide setup

- See? It is asking access rights!

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<manifest xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
    package="com.example.mysqldemo2022">

    <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.INTERNET" />
    <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.ACCESS_NETWORK_STATE" />

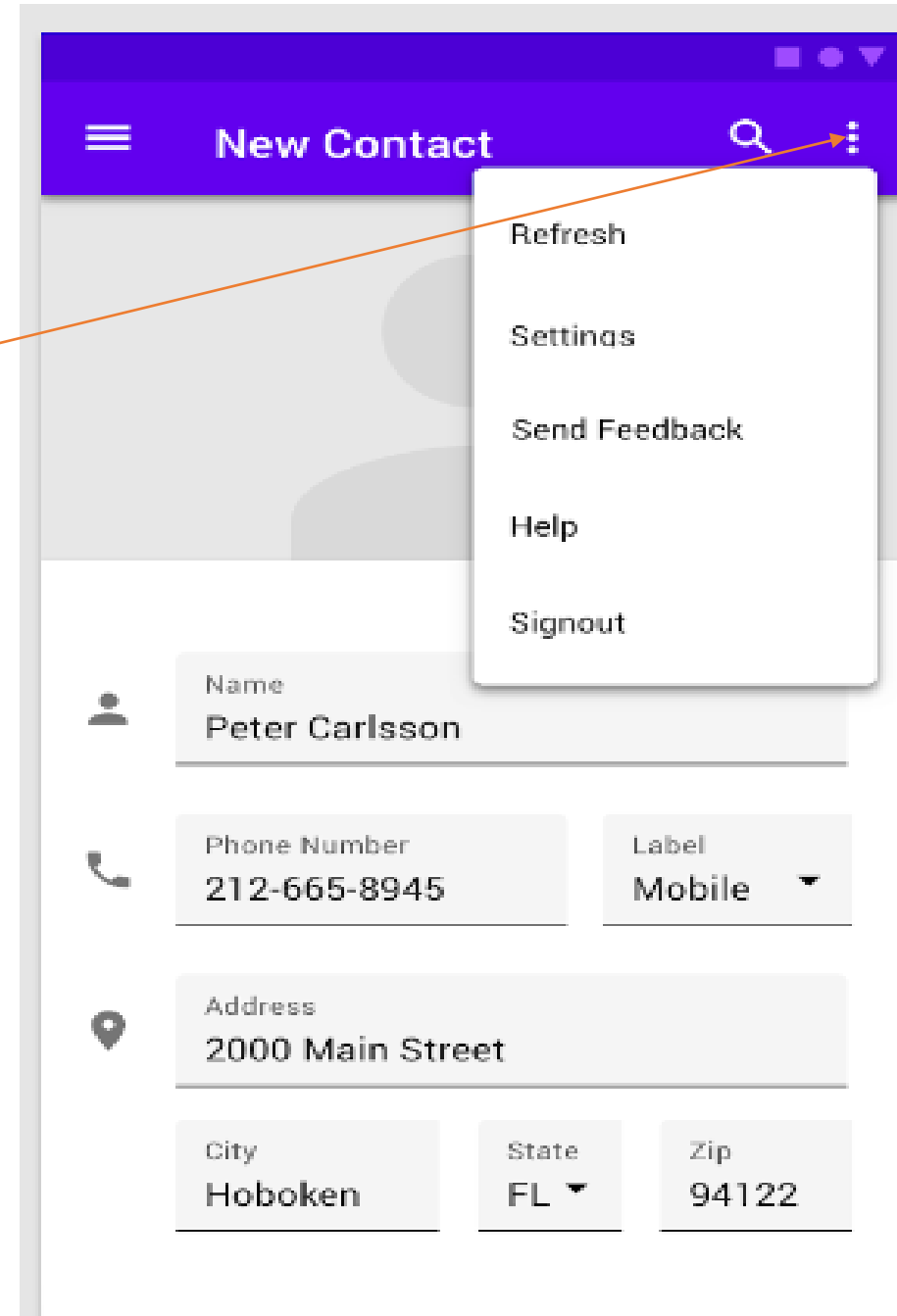
    <application
        android:allowBackup="true"
        android:dataExtractionRules="@xml/data_extraction_rules"
        android:fullBackupContent="@xml/backup_rules"
        android:icon="@mipmap/ic_launcher"
        android:label="@string/app_name"
        android:roundIcon="@mipmap/ic_launcher_round"
        android:supportsRtl="true"
        android:theme="@style/Theme.MySQLDemo2022"
        tools:targetApi="31">
        <activity
            android:name=".MainActivity"
            android:exported="true">
            <intent-filter>
                <action android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN" />

                <category android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER" />
            </intent-filter>
        </activity>
    </application>

</manifest>
```


UI setup and App wide setup

- What is the purpose of menu_main?
- When the dot-dot-dot is clicked,
 - its job is to setup how does that look like?
 - I can guess, in this app (from someone's website), it only put 5 items in the xml file



UI setup and App wide setup

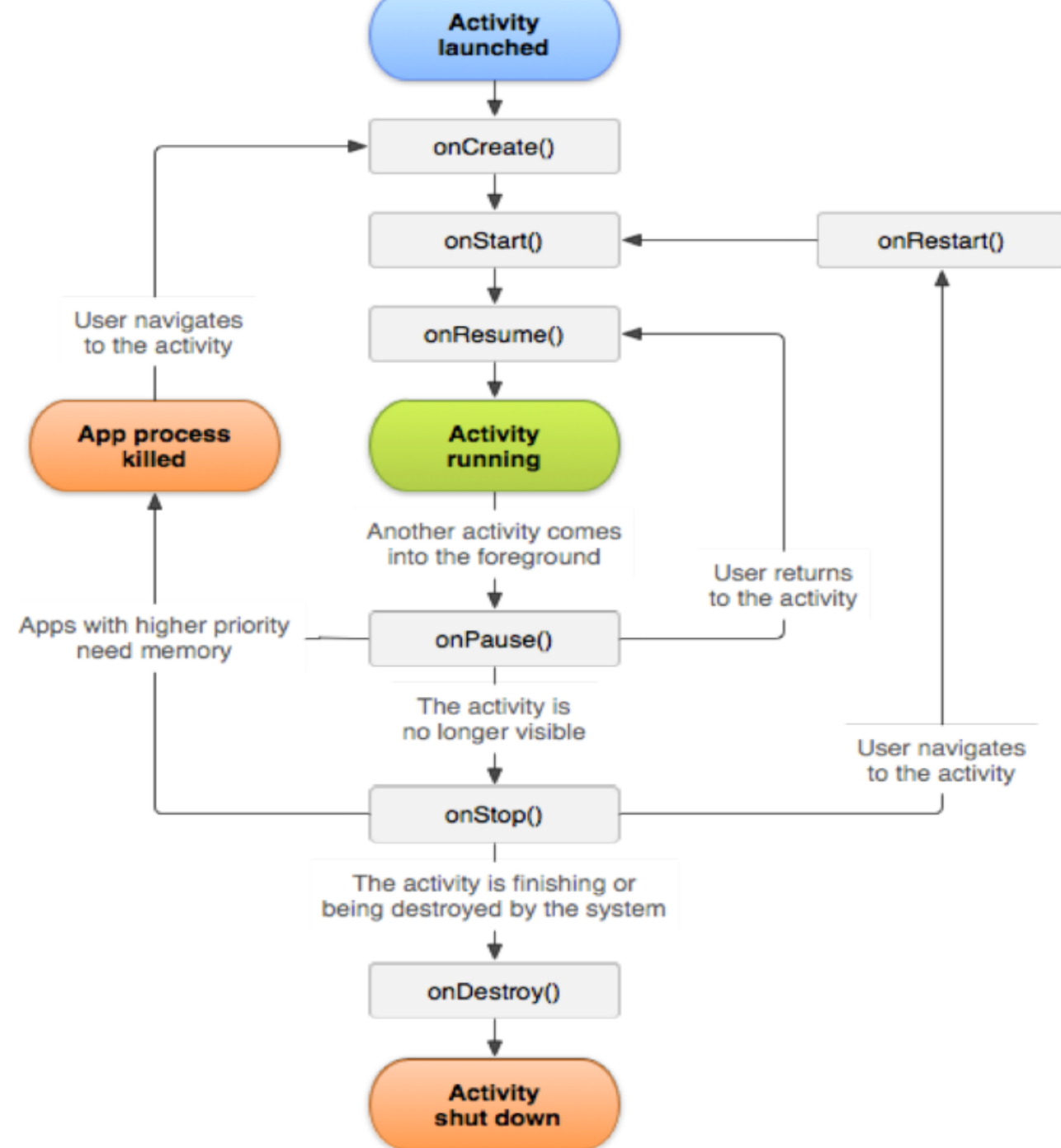
- In conclusion of Android UI:
 - Event driven code implementation when the UI got clicked
 - i.e. It is possible that, I can swipe a tab and upload a file to the server.

Activity

- Your 1st App will start with dealing with “Activity” (newer versions of API will bring you a Fragment)
- For each of the “page”, the unit is called “Activity”. This is true before the “Fragment” comes into the world
- How to see Activity’s documentation?
 - Well formatted in Java’s style
 - <https://developer.android.com/reference/android/app/Activity>

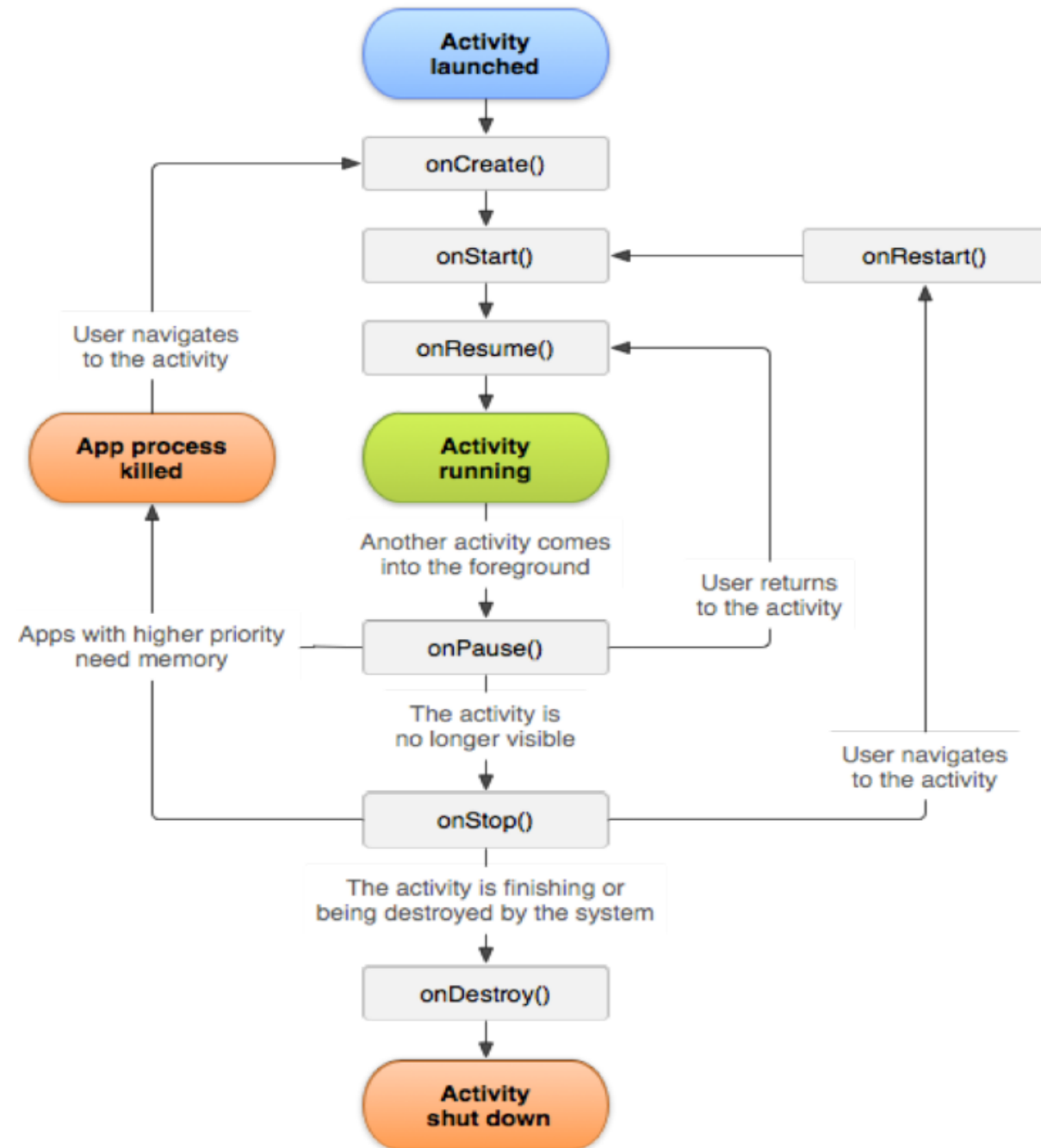
Activity

- The activity does have its lifecycle!
- Get UI ready in onCreate(). This is a one-time setup (most cases)
- If an Activity enters onResume(), It can re-run the core jobs again. For example, the logic when you “return” to the App, you want to check something.
 - i.e. internet is still available?



Activity

- **onPause** and **onStop** will get executed by pressing [**Back**] key and [**Home**] key respectively!
- Do the right thing, in the right time
- If you are expecting the user is about to exit this app, for example, going back to the home screen and won't see this app for a while, the pre-occupied system resources has to be released by unregistering them
 - i.e. Cameras, Sensors



Activity

- [Demo1] Activity Jumps

Fragment

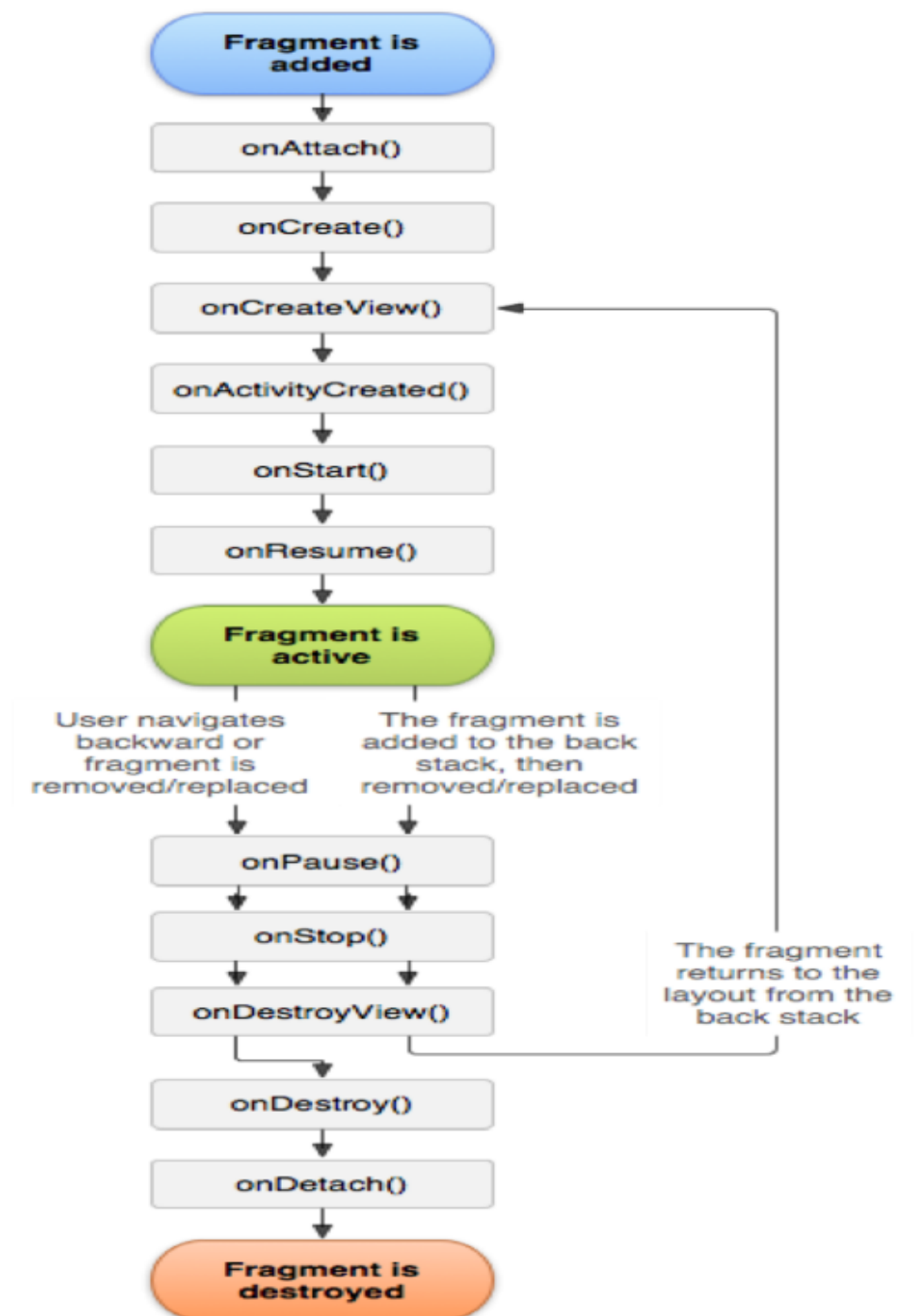
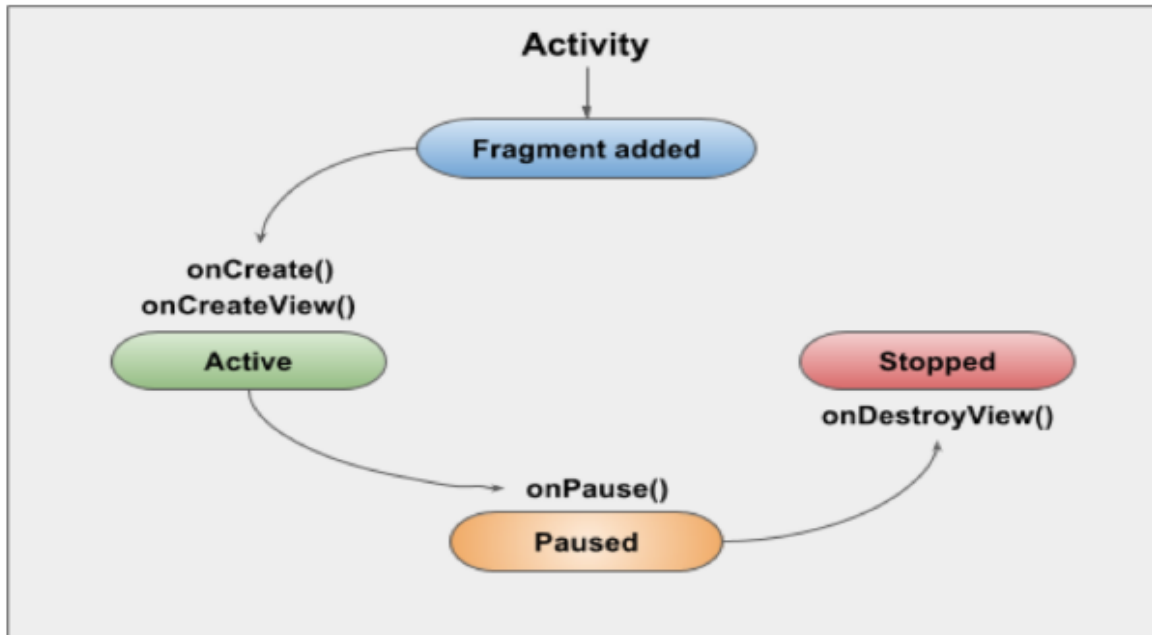
- What is Fragment?
- A Parasite?
- A fragment must always be hosted in an Activity and the Fragment's lifecycle is directly affected by the host Activity's lifecycle
- For example, when the Activity is paused, so are all the Fragments in it, and when the Activity is destroyed, so are all the Fragments.

Fragment

- Why we need to have Fragments?
 - Light weight
 - Faster
 - Better user experience
 - Fragments VS. Activity, any differences?
 - I will show you later.
 - They can be different, visually!

Fragment Lifecycle

Macro (high-level) view and Micro View



Fragment

- [Demo2] Activity and Fragment

Note that, in the AboutMe.java, there is no dot-dot-dot. It is because I do not do the setup like MainActivity. You know what I mean and please check the slide #17

