Android Platform Architecture

Beneath the surface

Platform Architecture



Phone, Browser, Contacts, Maps, Gmail,

Application Framework

View System, Window Manager, Telephony, Activity Manager, Power Manager, Content Providers, ...

System Libraries

libc, OpenGL, SQLite, WebKit, FreeType, ...

Android Runtime

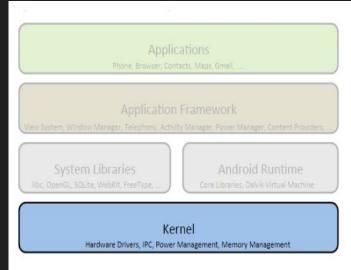
Core Libraries, Dalvik Virtual Machine

Kernel

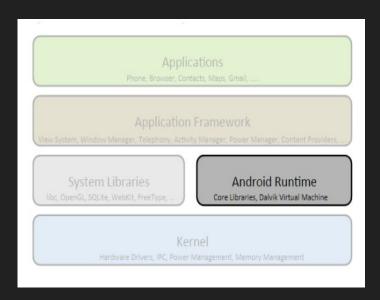
Hardware Drivers, IPC, Power Management, Memory Management

The Kernel

- The Kernel is based on 2.6V of the Linux Kernel.
- Contains the HAL-Hardware Abstraction Layer, components for memory management and IPC.
- YAFFS2-Yet Another Flash File System 2- Solid State flash based storage
- WakeLocks-Force a device from going into low power state. This increases responsiveness and UX.
- Binder- proprietary mechanism for inter-process communication and remote method invocation
- Kernel kills processes that runs low on memroy.



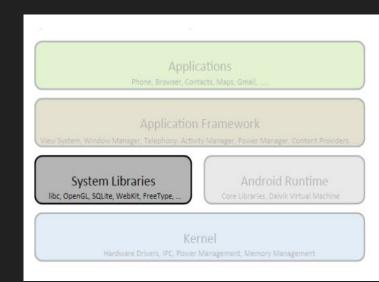
Android Runtime

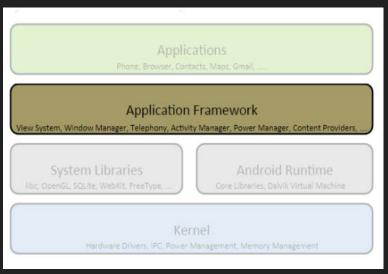


- Dalvik Virtual Machine
- Dalvik runs on top of Kernel and uses it for low-level functions such as multithreading and memory management.
- Android files (JAVA) are converted into JVM compatible .class files
- Absence of AWT(Abstract Window Toolkit) and Swing libraries
- JVM .class->Dalvik Executable .dex , executed by DVM
- DVM includes JIT (Just in time) to improve performance.
- Sandbox Environment

System Libraries

- Provides libraries in C/C++ accessible through Application framework.
- FreeType-Font rendering, SQLite ->database compatibilities,openGL-> 2D and 3D rendering
- LibWeb-Core provides webKit based browser engine embedded as webview (stock android browser)
- The Android Media Library->Image and other multimedia content.



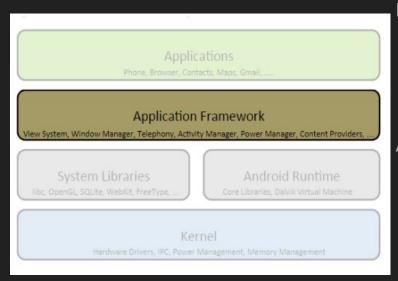


View Class

- Android Application Framework provides a high level API for application developers to take advantage of the various capabilities of the platform
- View System-View Object
- Widgets->derived from view class
- Custom Widgets
- All views in the window are stored in a XML file

Content Provider

- Allows access and sharing of data to other applications
- ContentResolver Interface-> Interface to share and request data
- Receives request, validates and pass it to specific contentProvider

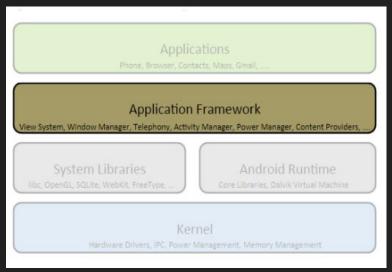


Notification Manager

- Notification Management System
 — Notification Manager class
- Allows icon, flashing LEDs, or backlight.

Android Resource Manager

- The Android Resource Manager provides a way to separate static resources from the application code
- Any resource is accessible within the code by addressing it using its package name, resource type and resource name in the following syntax:
 - <package_name>.R.<resource_type>.<resource_name>



Location Manager

- Google maps support free high-quality turn-by-turn navigation which boosts a lot of map powered applications
- The LocationManager class provides access to the locationing services available on the device
- LBS(Location based service) not only location, but also triggers certain actions when in certain geographical locations
- GpsSatellite and GpsStatus

InputMethod Service

- Enables developers to implement their own custom software keyboards, keypads and even pen input.
- The input is then converted into text and passed on to the target UI element



Telephony Manager

- Ability to determine telephony services on the devices and access specific subscriber information
- Android supports both GSM and CDMA cellular technologies and applications can access information specific to these technologies depending on the device
- SmsManager allows applications to send data and text messages using SMS

Powermanager

- Ability to control the power state of the device using WakeLocks
- Makes sure that the UI is responsive even after inactivity
- Might lead to poor battery and power performance

Thank You