

Intro to RubyMotion

Creating Native iOS Apps with Ruby



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Me:

10+ published apps in the iTunes Store for clients

4 published apps for Mohawk Apps targeting mostly
Direct Sales Consultants

- Consistently in the top 100 ranking and grossing apps (Business category) for US and Canada.
- Multiple appearances on Apple's "What's Hot" list.





Winston-Salem Crime Map

<https://github.com/markrickert/WSCrime>



What Is RubyMotion?

“It lets you quickly develop and test native iOS applications for iPhone or iPad, all using the awesome Ruby language you know and love.”

-RubyMotion.com



What Is RubyMotion?

- Developed by Belgian company HipByte
- Commercial Product
- Closed source compiler
- Open source build tools:
<https://github.com/HipByte/RubyMotion>





Add .DS_Store to project created .gitignore

[Browse code](#)

markrickert authored 4 months ago

1 parent c66f4faeff commit ad2a1108d286703a7937daf69a03ab0ce8e9bf6a

Showing 1 changed file with 1 addition and 0 deletions.

[Show Diff Stats](#)

1 lib/motion/project/app.rb

[View file @ ad2a110](#)

```
...  ... @@ -99,6 +99,7 @@ def create(app_name)
  99  99      io.puts "resources/*.nib"
 100 100      io.puts "resources/*.momd"
 101 101      io.puts "resources/*.storyboardc"
 102 102 +      io.puts ".DS_Store"
 102 103      end
 103 104      App.log 'Create', File.join(app_name, 'Rakefile')
 104 105      File.open('Rakefile', 'w') do |io|
```

Support Open Source Software!

Any Contribution is a GOOD Contribution...



- * Fixed a bug in the compiler where certain structures could be returned as an object of the wrong class (ex. MKCoordinateRegion.region returning AudioValueRange instead of CLLocationCoordinate2D).
- * Fixed a bug in Object#{dup,clone} where #{initialize_dup,initialize_clone} would not be called.
- * Fixed a bug in Object#instance_eval where the receiver object was not properly yield to the block.
- * Fixed a bug in Array#== and Marshal.dump where unnecessary private methods were being looked up.
- * Fixed a bug in Array#{rotate,rotate!} where it would not raise a TypeError exception if nil was given.
- * Fixed Array#{uniq, uniq!} and NSArray#{uniq, uniq!} to support blocks.
- * Fixed a bug in Range#dup where the begin/end values were not copied.
- * Fixed a bug in Range#step which would not behave like Numeric#step if given a Float argument.
- * Fixed a bug in String#<< with a codepoint argument where an exception would be raised when called on US-ASCII/BINARY strings.
- * Added .DS_Store, temporary files and project files into the default .gitignore file. Thanks to Mark Rickert and Eric Summers for the patch.

(See the `~/Library/RubyMotion/NEWS` file for all changes.)
brewmaster:~ mrickert\$

You might even get a shout-out
in the release notes!



Pros:

- Its Ruby
- Editor Agnostic
- Lots of “Wrapper” gems
- Fast (bytecode)
- Interactive Console
- Easy to test
- Growing Community
- Frequent updates
- On-device debugging
- Extensive documentation



Cons

- Cost - \$199 (but not for you...)
- Most iOS tutorials are in Objective-C
- Doesn't play well with Interface Builder
- Future maintainability?



1,000 Foot View:

- Apps are completely native
- Apps are 100% App Store compliant
- Works seamlessly with cocoapods
- Integrates seamlessly with TestFlight.com
- BYOTE (Bring Your Own Text Editor)
- No reliance on XCode or InterfaceBuilder (other than it must be installed)
- Automatic memory management



Metaprogramming FTW!

```
InfoViewController.h
1 #import <UIKit/UIKit.h>
2
3 @interface InfoViewController : UIViewController
4
5 -(NSString *) n;
6 -(NSString *) nn;
7 -(NSString *) nnn;
8 -(NSString *) nnnn;
9
10 @end
11

Counterparts > InfoViewController.m > -nnn
1 #import "InfoViewController.h"
2
3 @implementation InfoViewController
4
5 // Other Stuff Up here
6
7 -(NSString *) n {
8     return "\n"
9 }
10
11 -(NSString *) nn {
12     return "\n\n"
13 }
14
15 -(NSString *) nnn {
16     return "\n\n\n"
17 }
18
19 -(NSString *) nnnn {
20     return "\n\n\n\n"
21 }
22
23 @end
24
```

```
1 class InfoViewController < UIViewController
2
3     # Other stuff up here ...
4
5     (1..4).each do |i|
6         define_method("n" * i) { "\n" * i }
7     end
8
9 end
```

I think I've made
my point.



Under the Hood:

- Runs a variant of the Ruby 1.9 runtime
- Built in Ruby classes map 1:1 to Objective-C counterparts

Ruby Class	Ancestors
Hello	NSObject → Kernel
String	NSMutableString → NSString → Comparable → NSObject → Kernel
Array	NSMutableArray → NSArray → Enumerable → NSObject → Kernel
Hash	NSMutableDictionary → NSDictionary → Enumerable → NSObject → Kernel
Numeric	Comparable → NSNumber → NSValue → NSObject → Kernel
Time	Comparable → NSDate → NSObject → Kernel



Under the Hood:

- Implements a variant of the LLVM compiler
- Statically translates Ruby directly to machine code
- Source is never present in the compiled app



Under the Hood:



Ruby Code

```
class HelloView < UIView
  def drawRect(frame)
    super
    ...
  end
end
```



Machine Code

```
"_rb_scope__drawRect:__":
Ltmp12:
Lfunc_begin6:
    .loc      1 0 0
    push     {r4, r5, r6, r7, lr}
    add      r7, sp, #12
    push     {r8, r10, r11}
    sub      sp, sp, #48
    ldr      r1, LCPI6_0
    mov      r10, r0
    ...
```



How It's Different:

- Objective-C

```
[string drawAtPoint:point withFont:font];
```

- RubyMotion

```
string.drawAtPoint(point, withFont:font)
```

- But it's just sending an Objective-C Message:

```
string.send(:'drawAtPoint:withFont:', point, font)
```

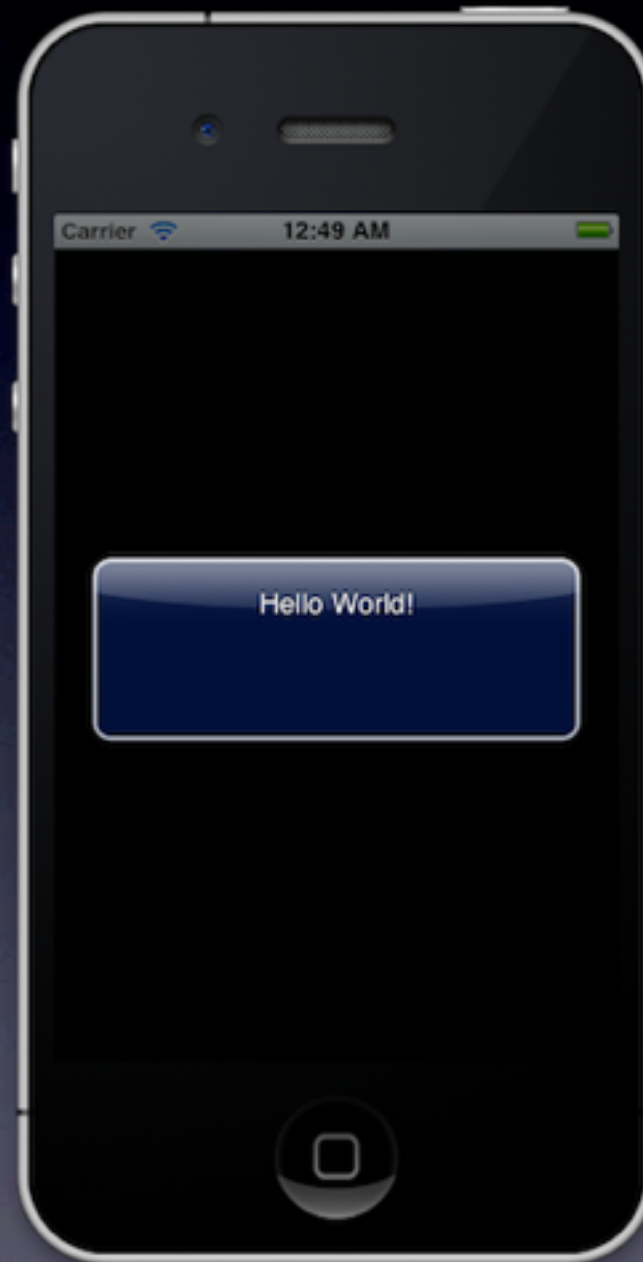


Requirements:

- Mac running 10.6 or higher
- Xcode & Developer Tools installed
- RubyMotion compiler
(purchase from rubymotion.com)
- Basic knowledge of Apple APIs and MVC



Official Tutorial App



<https://github.com/Skookum/RubyMotionTalk>

Well that's kind of a
useless app...



Rake!

- rake || rake simulator
- rake device
(beyond the scope of this talk)
- rake simulator device_family=ipad
- rake simulator retina=true
- rake clean
- rake spec
- rake archive



Anatomy of a RubyMotion App

/app	All your project classes go here
app_delegate.rb	The main delegate file.
/build	Static compiled files (safe to delete)
/resources	Images & other assets
/spec	Tests live here
.gitignore	Your project is automatically in git
Rakefile	Critical definitions for your app



I Need More Ruby!

- Gemfile / bundler
- rake tasks
- spec files



Demo:

Using Apple APIs



I Need More OBJ-C!

- cocoapods
- xcode projects
- static libraries $\{*.a, *.h\}$

*images & resources have to be
copied into the /resources directory



Demo:

Wrappers & External Libraries



Testing

- You write tests for your applications...
RIGHT?
- MacBacon < Bacon < RSpec
 - Unit Tests
 - Functional Tests (UI Automation)



Demo:

Testing TinyMon

<https://github.com/tkadauke/TinyMon/>



Questions?



Resources:

- <http://www.rubymotion.com/developer-center/>
- <http://rubymotion-wrappers.com/>
- <http://bubblewrap.io/>
- <https://github.com/hipbyte>
- <https://github.com/rubymotion>
- <http://rubymotion-tutorial.com/>
- <http://twitter.com/RubyMotion>

