## Overview of Android (Part 1): Hardware & OS Kernel

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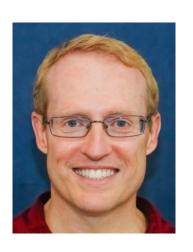
www.dre.vanderbilt.edu/~schmidt



Institute for Software Integrated Systems

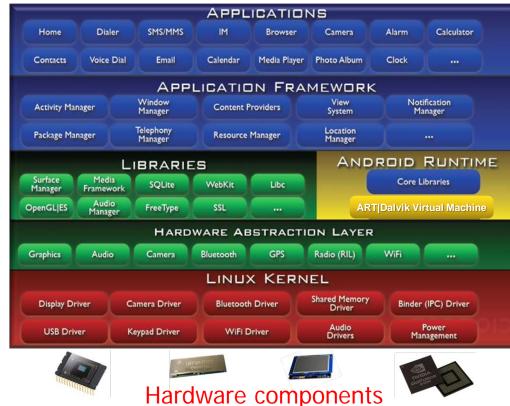
Vanderbilt University Nashville, Tennessee, USA





#### Learning Objectives in this Part of the Lesson

- 1. Understand common hardware elements in Android
  - e.g., sensors, transceivers, storage, & processors

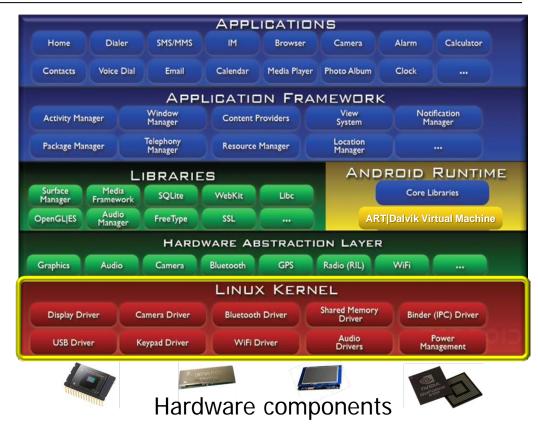




#### Learning Objectives in this Part of the Lesson

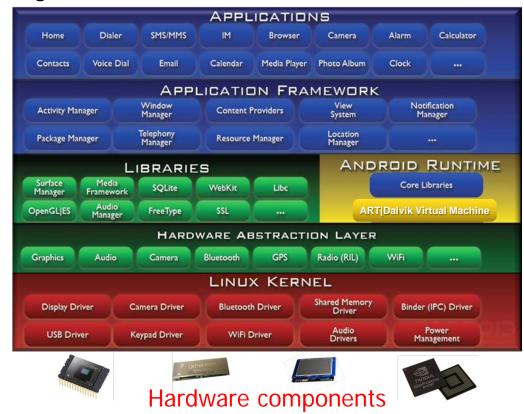
- 1. Understand common hardware elements in Android
- 2. Recognize key characteristics of the Android Linux kernel
  - e.g., its purpose & its extensions to GNU Linux



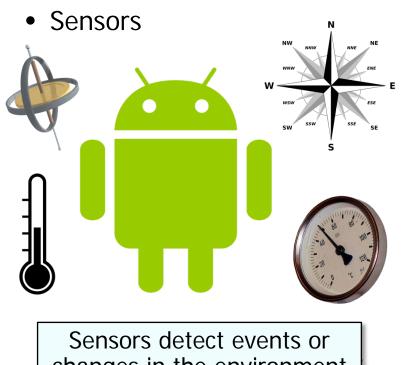


### Overview of Android Hardware

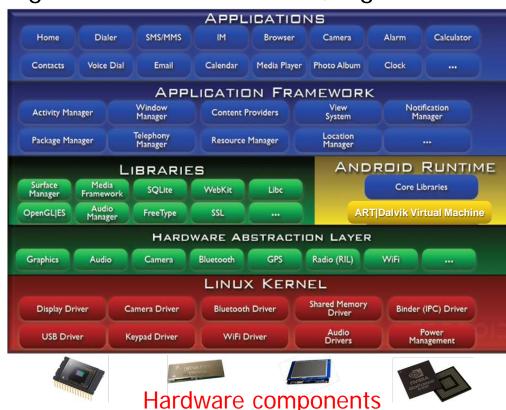
Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements



Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.



changes in the environment



See developer.android.com/quide/topics/sensors/sensors\_overview.html

- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors, e.g.
    - Motion sensors measure acceleration forces & rotation
      - e.g., accelerometers & gyroscopes

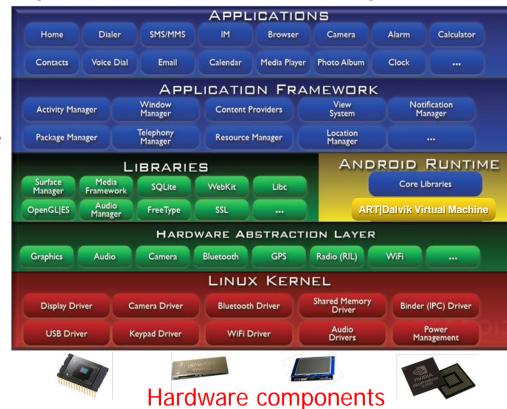




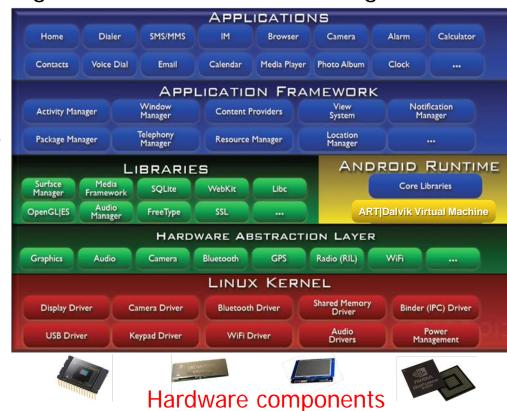




- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors, e.g.
    - Motion sensors measure acceleration forces & rotation
    - Environment sensors measure temperature, pressure, & humidity
      - e.g., thermometers & barometers



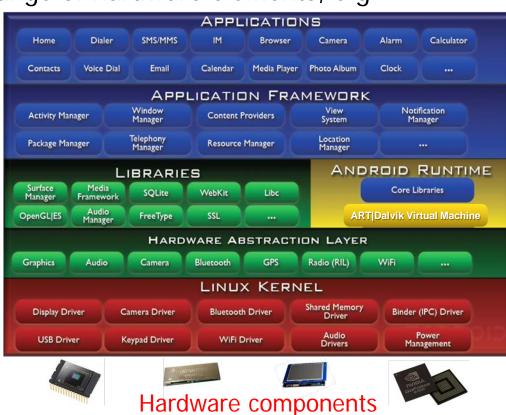
- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors, e.g.
    - Motion sensors measure acceleration forces & rotation
    - Environment sensors measure temperature, pressure, & humidity
    - Position sensors measure the physical position of a device
      - e.g., magnetometers



- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors
  - Transceivers



A transceiver is a device comprising both a transmitter & a receiver



See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transceiver

- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors
  - Transceivers, e.g.
    - WiFi
      - Provides a wireless local area network









- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors
  - Transceivers, e.g.
    - WiFi
    - Bluetooth
      - Exchange data over short distances in a "personal area network"

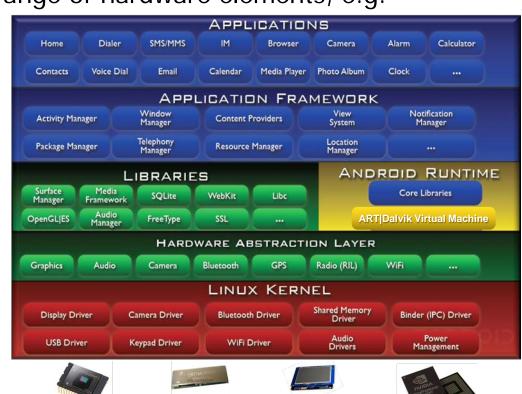








- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors
  - Transceivers, e.g.
    - WiFi
    - Bluetooth
    - Near-field communication (NFC)
      - Enable 2 electronic devices to communicate by placing them within 2 inches

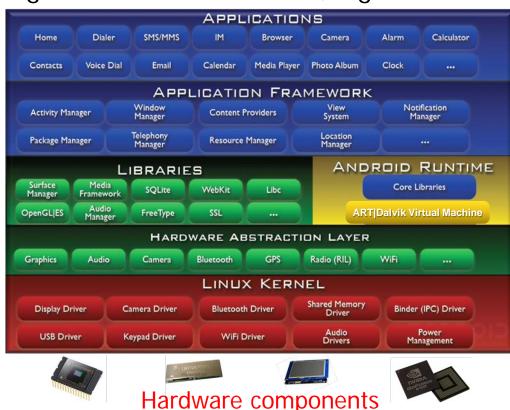


Hardware components



Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.





See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer\_data\_storage

- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors
  - Transceivers
  - Storage, e.g.
    - Random access memory (RAM)
      - Allows read/write access to data in ~same amount of time irrespective location









- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors
  - Transceivers
  - Storage, e.g.
    - Random access memory (RAM)
    - Flash memory
      - Non-volatile memory that can be electrically erased & reprogrammed

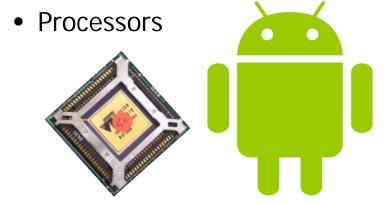




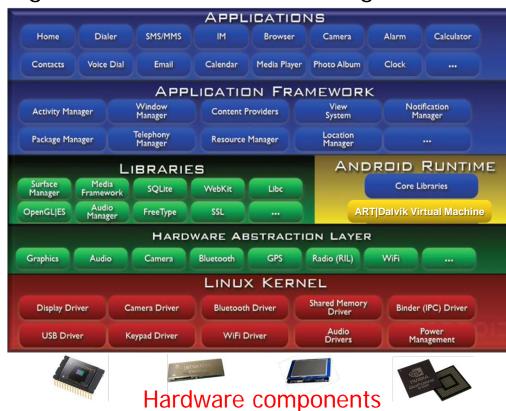




- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors
  - Transceivers
  - Storage



Processors perform instructions of computer programs



- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors
  - Transceivers
  - Storage
  - Processors, e.g.,
    - Central processing units
      - Performs basic arithmetic. logical, control, & I/O operations







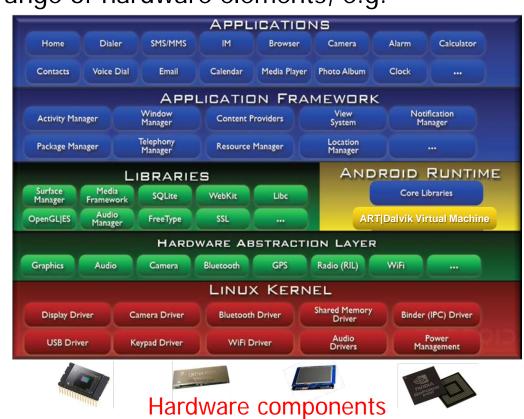


- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors
  - Transceivers
  - Storage
  - Processors, e.g.,
    - Central processing units
      - Performs basic arithmetic, logical, control, & I/O operations
      - Increasingly multi-core



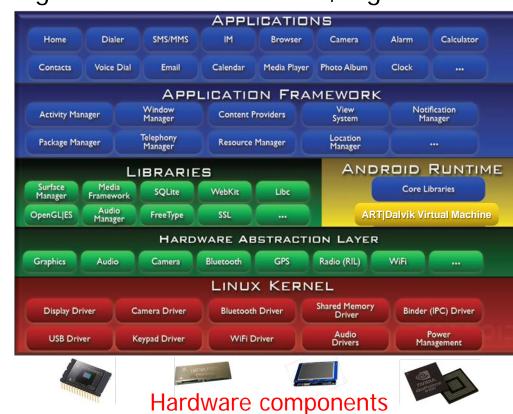


- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors
  - Transceivers
  - Storage
  - Processors, e.g.,
    - Central processing units
    - Graphics processing units
      - More efficient than CPUs for processing of large blocks of data in parallel





- Android devices are built upon a range of hardware elements, e.g.
  - Sensors
  - Transceivers
  - Storage
  - Processors, e.g.,
    - Central processing units
    - Graphics processing units
    - Digital signal processors
      - Efficiently measure, filter
         & compress continuous
         analog signals



## Overview of the Android Linux Kernel

Android Linux is a variant of the GNU Linux operating system (OS) kernel







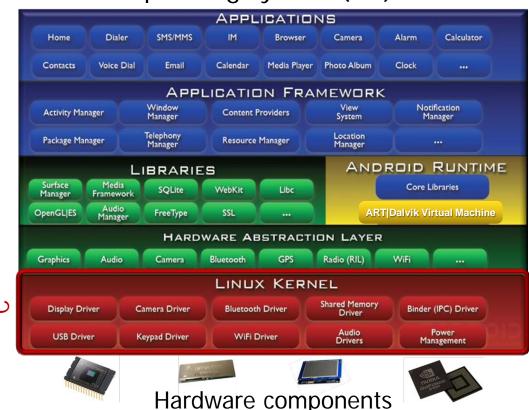




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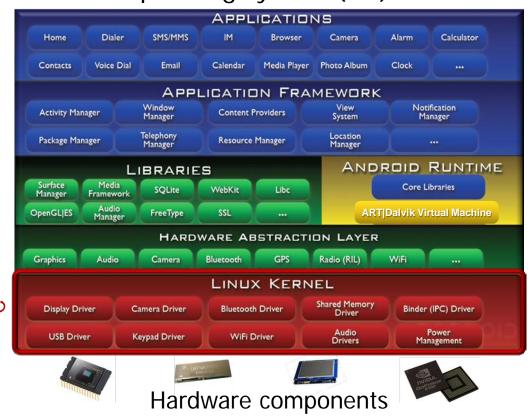
Android Linux kernel is written in C & ships separately from rest of Android stack



See <a href="mailto:source.android.com/source/building-kernels.html#downloading-sources">source.android.com/source/building-kernels.html#downloading-sources</a>

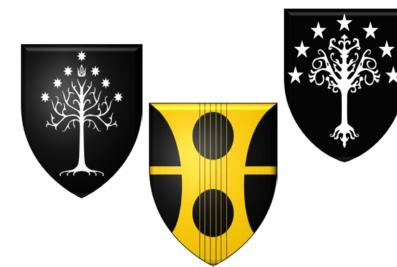
- Android Linux is a variant of the GNU Linux operating system (OS) kernel
  - Optimized to meet the needs of mobile devices & apps

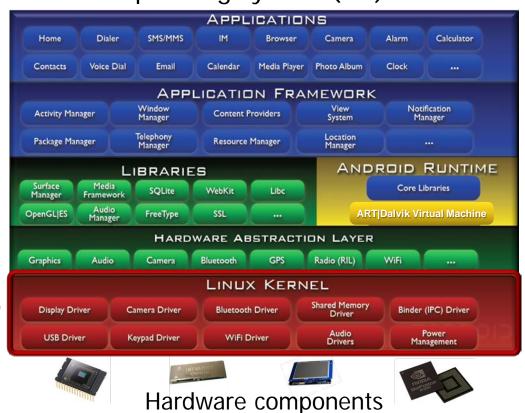




See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android\_(operating\_system)#Linux\_kernel

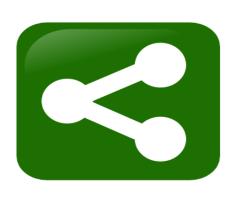
- Android Linux is a variant of the GNU Linux operating system (OS) kernel
  - Optimized to meet the needs of mobile devices & apps
  - Shields higher Android layers from hardware diversity

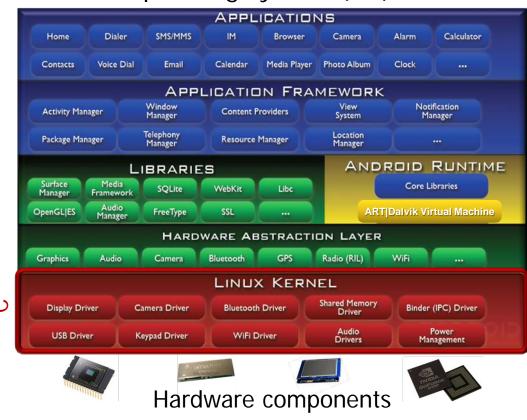




See <a href="mailto:en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_Linux-supported\_computer\_architectures">en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_Linux-supported\_computer\_architectures</a>

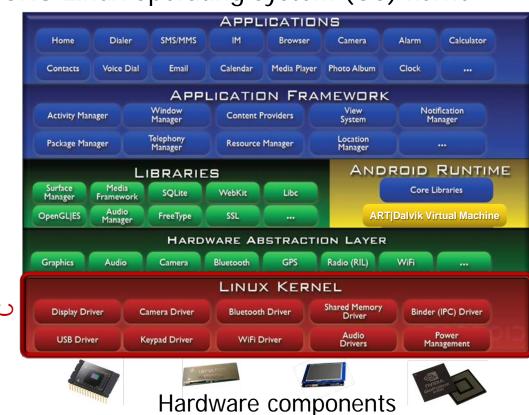
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  - Shields higher Android layers from hardware diversity
  - Mediates access to & sharing of hardware resources





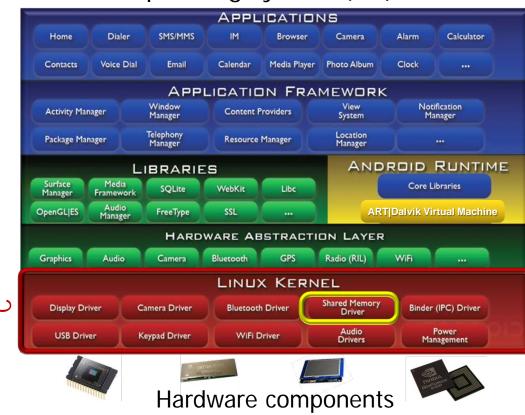
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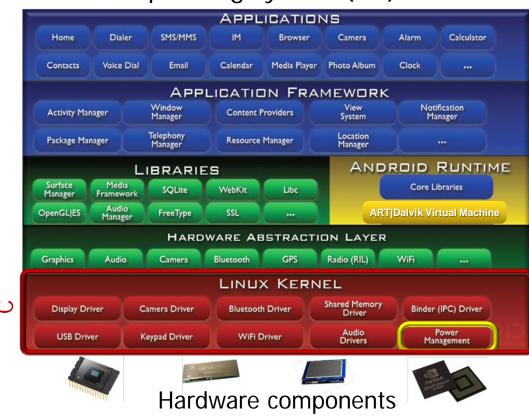


See <a href="mailto:elinux.org/Android\_Kernel\_Features">elinux.org/Android\_Kernel\_Features</a>

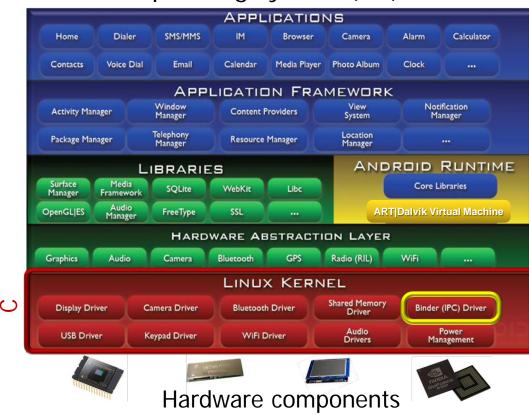
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  - Extends GNU Linux, e.g.
    - conserve memory



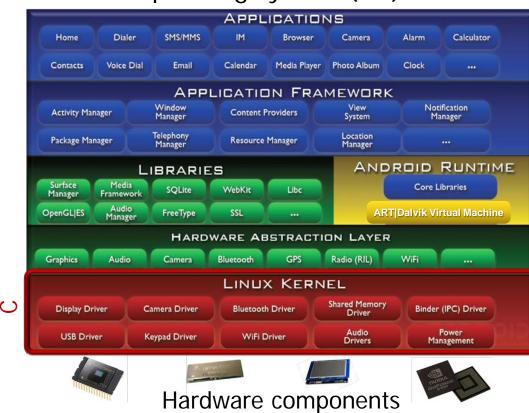
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    - manage power



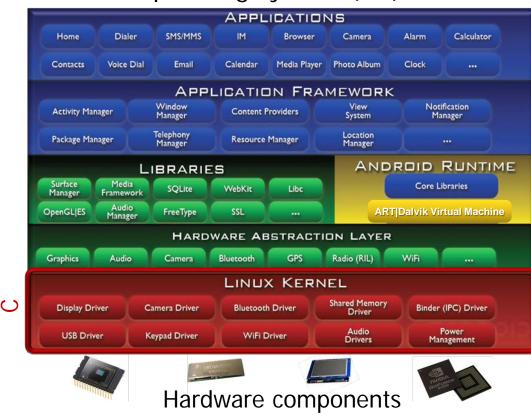
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  - Extends GNU Linux, e.g.
    - conserve memory
    - manage power
    - accelerate communication



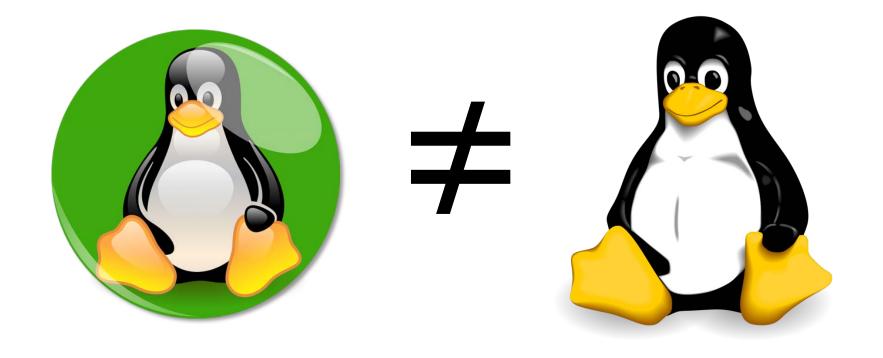
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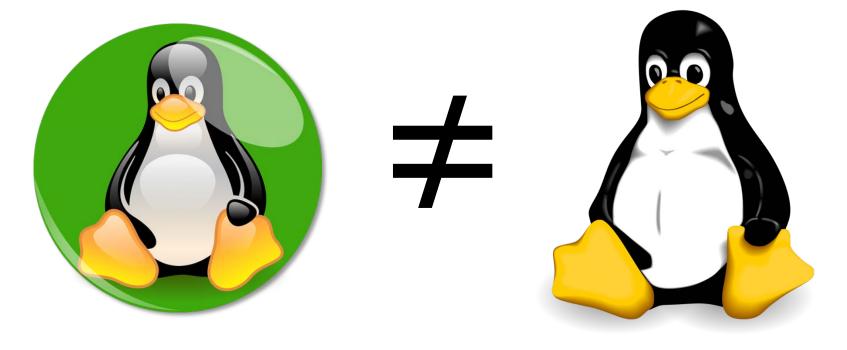


• The Android Linux kernel is a forked version of the GNU Linux kernel



See <a href="mailto:en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fork\_(software\_development">en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fork\_(software\_development)</a>

- The Android Linux kernel is a forked version of the GNU Linux kernel
  - It therefore isn't entirely compatible with the GNU Linux kernel



However, Android Linux kernel offers familiar/robust capabilities for mobile apps

# End of the Overview of Android (Part 1): Hardware & OS Kernel