

# MOBILE COMMERCE

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Mobile Devices and Operating Systems

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# Learning Objectives

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- The relevant mobile devices, their properties and interfaces, how to classify them and assess their possible uses.
- Know the current development of the smart phone market.
- Operating systems for mobile devices and assess their possible uses based on their advantages and disadvantages.



# Mobile Devices and Operating Systems

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What is a mobile device?

- The characteristics form the conception for mobile use

Types of Devices

- Mobile phone, Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), Smartphone
- Other mobile devices - Examples: Tablet PC (depending on the application), Smart watch, mobile NFC-Reader
- Devices for special purposes - Example: Parcel service has special hardware developed that is designed for the special requirements, of its delivery drivers are connected via mobile radio
- By definition, no mobile devices are: Laptop-PC (even it is light ...) - Stationary use : although the location changes sometimes.  
- Mobile devices: single user - multi task



# Interfaces of Mobile Devices

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Mobile devices typically provide a set of interfaces:

- Sending / Receiving short messages (SMS, EMS, MMS)
- Voice function, use of Interactive Voice Response (IVR)
- Internet Browser (formerly: WAP, today: Mobile Browser)
- Data transmission via WLAN, IR, Bluetooth, RFID, NFC,...
- Execution of programs (also “native apps”), programmed in higher programming languages (Java, C++, ...)
- Localization function (GPS), radio cell localisation



## Interface: SMS

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GSM service for sending short messages (160 characters) Sequence of several messages possible.

Benefits:

- “Store-and-Forward” service: If the message cannot be delivered directly, it will be delivered later by means of intermediate storage
- Device independence
- Different billing models possible (e.g. premium SMS)

Disadvantages:

- Very limited functionality
- Few interaction options

Consequence: outdated!

- Usage has dropped dramatically
- Messenger services have taken over



## Interface: MMS

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Service for sending messages with image, video and audio data (in GPRS and UMTS networks)

- Extension of the SMS service

Benefits:

- Offers obviously some more options than conventional SMS
- Can be sent to email addresses, too

Disadvantages:

- Compatibility problems between different mobile devices
- But also little interaction and little functionality
- Just an intermediate step towards media flexibility  
Pretty outdated as well!



# Interface: Transmission via IR, Bluetooth, RFID, NFC

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Possibility of transaction processing through data connection over short ranges (almost direct contact)

Benefits:

- Directly and automatically use of location/context-specific services
- Identification function (e.g. for access control, billing)

Disadvantages / Risks:

- Data protection
- Limited distribution so far, keyword: “killer application”



# Interface: Internet Browser

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Presentation of conventional websites as a “mobile” version

- Also called “Web Apps”

Benefits:

- Quite low additional development effort compared to the conventional website offer
- Outsourcing of the computation load to the server side

Disadvantages:

- Some special display problems on different browser types and the huge amount of different mobile device types
- Need for (almost) permanent internet access (hidden costs ?)



# Interface to Application: Native Apps

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Provision of various applications via one-time download in an online shop (“App Store”)

- Native Apps are often developed for a special operating environment and a special runtime version

Benefits:

- One-time download, then no internet access required - for the program itself! Most apps still need data access via internet
- Any application possible (large developer community)

Disadvantages:

- Strict operating system dependency
- Relative high costs for development and maintenance - Entire software development lifecycle



# Example “Amazon”

The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of the Amazon mobile website. Both screenshots show a shopping cart with a single item: "TRUEtest Blood Glucose Test Strips, 50 count (pack of 2)".

**Screenshot 1 (Left):** Shows the shopping cart screen. The cart subtotal is \$18.75. There is a checkbox labeled "This order contains a gift". A large yellow "Proceed to checkout" button is at the bottom. Below the button, the product details are shown: "TRUEtest Blood Glucose Test Strips, 50 count (pack of 2)", \$18.75 (Prime), and "In Stock". Buttons for quantity selection (1, +), "Delete", and "Save for later" are present. A section titled "Saved for later (369 items)" shows a partial listing for "WAC Lighting PLD-F4-404CO/BN Felis 1-Light MonoPoint Pendant".

**Screenshot 2 (Right):** Shows the cart subtotal (\$18.75) and a checkbox for "This order contains a gift". A large yellow "Proceed to checkout" button is at the bottom. Below it, the product details are shown: "TRUEtest Blood Glucose Test Strips, 50 count (pack of 2)", \$18.75 (Prime), and "In Stock". Buttons for quantity selection (1, +), "Delete", and "Save for later" are present. A section titled "Saved for later (369 items)" shows a partial listing for "WAC Lighting PLD-F4-404CO/BN Felis 1-Light MonoPoint Pendant".



# Example “Facebook”

The image shows two side-by-side mobile application screenshots for the Facebook mobile website, viewed in Safari on iOS.

**Native App (iOS)**

- Header:** Shows signal strength, 3G, battery level at 100%, and the time 9:48 AM.
- Top Bar:** Includes a menu icon, profile picture, message icon, and globe icon with a red notification badge.
- Content Area:** Features a "Write Post" button and a "Share Photo" button.
- Post Preview:** Shows a post from "Six Revisions" with the text "Computers/Internet" and "4,836 like this". Below it is a "Liked" button with a checkmark.
- Timeline Item:** Shows a post from "Six Revisions" 2 hours ago, with the text: "Here are the 10 winners of the PageLines Framework 2.2 Developer licenses for the giveaway we did recently." and a link <http://goo.gl/Ut8sP>.
- Bottom Bar:** Includes "Wall", "Info", and "Photos" buttons.

**Mobile Web App (viewed in Safari)**

- Header:** Shows signal strength, 3G, battery level at 100%, and the time 9:47 AM.
- Top Bar:** Includes a menu icon, profile picture, message icon, and globe icon with a red notification badge.
- Content Area:** Shows tabs for "Wall", "Info", and "Photos", with "Wall" being the active tab.
- Post Preview:** Shows a post from "Six Revisions" with the text "Computers/Internet" and "4,836 like this". Below it is a "Liked" button with a checkmark and a "Message" button.
- Timeline Item:** Shows a post from "Six Revisions" 2 hours ago, with the text: "Here are the 10 winners of the PageLines Framework 2.2 Developer licenses for the giveaway we did recently." and a link <http://goo.gl/Ut8sP>.
- Bottom Bar:** Includes "Status" and "Photo" buttons, along with navigation icons for back, forward, search, and more.

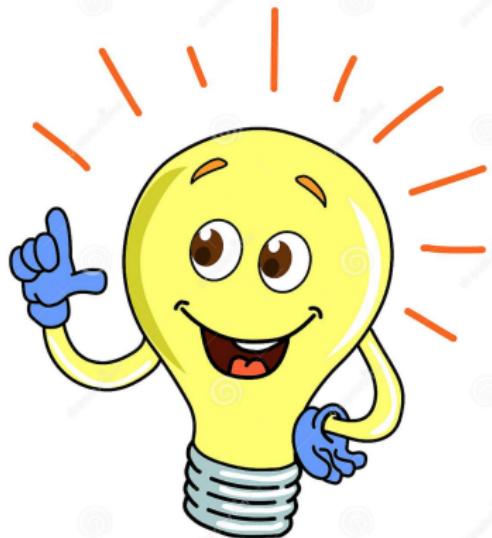


## Class Discussion

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From your perspective:

- What are the pros and cons for
  - Web Apps compared to Native Apps?





## Web-App Vs. Native-App (1/2) - “Pros”

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What are the arguments in favour of “web apps”?

“Pros”:

- No download of the application necessary
- Compatible with all operating systems
- Live updates
- Web apps content can be found via search engines
- Via interfaces to existing offers (websites, CMS systems), content can be generated quickly and easily for web apps
- Lower development and maintenance costs than “native apps”



## Web-App Vs. Native-App (2/2) - “Cons”

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What are the arguments against “web apps”?

“Cons”:

- Restricted access to hardware of the mobile device
- Permanent internet connection necessary (possibly higher costs)
- Operation and display are often less convenient
- “Native apps” are presented by a central contact point (app store) (e.g. through reviews)
- No integration into the operating system services used e.g. push notifications, controls, “Bookmark” on the home screen, access to contacts, address data, etc.



# Somewhere in the Middle: Hybrid Apps

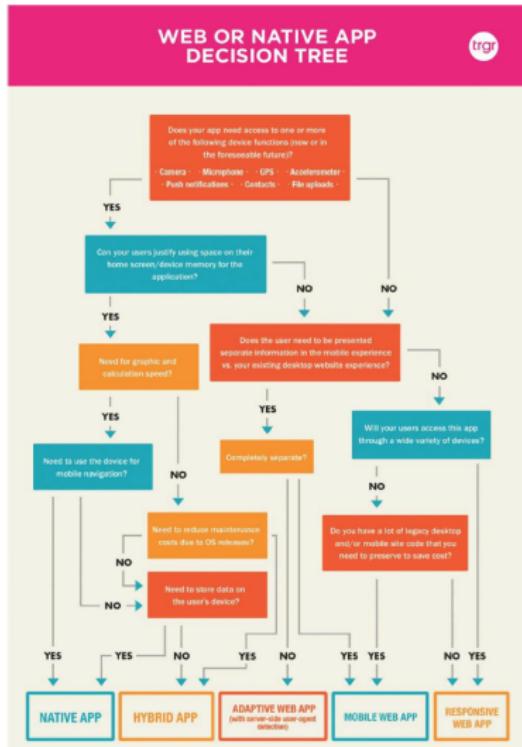
A hybrid mobile app ...

- ...contains a web view (essentially an isolated browser instance) to run a web application inside of a native app.
- ...uses a native app wrapper that can communicate with the native device platform and the web view
- ...can run on a mobile device and have access to the device, such as the camera or GPS features

Hybrid App	Native App
Developed using HTML, CSS, and Javascript	Developed in platform specific language, Objective-C or Swift for iOS, Java for Android, etc.
Write Once, Run Anywhere	Separate code for each platform
Medium performance comparable to Native apps	Fastest and most responsive experience to users
Save Time and Money	Higher investment of time, talent and resources
Faster development cycle	Higher costs and development time
Eg. <a href="#">Baskin Robbin</a> , <a href="#">Sworkit</a> , <a href="#">Untappd</a>	Eg. <a href="#">PayPal</a> , <a href="#">Gmail</a>



# Web-App vs. Native-App





# Mobile phone, Voice Function Only

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- 1G or very old 2G devices
- Today (2021) almost irrelevant
  - Voice function IVR (V)
  - SMS / MMS (X / X)
  - WAP / Internet (X / X)
  - IR / Bluetooth / RFID (X / X)
  - Higher Programming Languages (X)

NOTE: (V) = Yes, (X) = No and (0) = Partly





## Mobile phone, Java Capable

## 2G devices

- Voice function IVR (V)
  - SMS / MMS (V / V)
  - WAP / Internet (V / 0)
  - IR / Bluetooth / RFID (V / V / 0)
  - Higher Programming Languages (0)

NOTE: (V) = Yes, (X) = No and (0) = Partly





# Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) - Intermediate Step to Smartphones (1/2)

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## Functionality

- Organizer with PIM functionality
- Devices with a PC-like operating system

## Communication

- Offline synchronization
- Connection via modem-compatible mobile phone
- Mobile phone as a plug-in card
- Integrated mobile radio



# Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) - Intermediate Step to Smartphones (2/2)

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- Voice function IVR (V)
- SMS / MMS (V / V)
- WAP / Internet (V / 0)
- IR / Bluetooth / RFID (V / V / 0)
- Higher Programming Languages (0)

NOTE: (V) = Yes, (X) = No and (0) = Partly





## Today: Smartphones (1/2)

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Integration of multiple functionalities Okay, it's still a telephone, too, but ...

- PDA: Personal Digital Assistant
- PIM: Software “Personal Information Manager”
- Camera
- Navigator
- General purpose computer ...



## Today: Smartphones (2/2)

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- Voice function IVR (V)
- SMS / MMS (V / V)
- WAP / Internet (X / V)
- IR / Bluetooth / RFID (V / V / 0)
- Higher Programming Languages (V)

NOTE: (V) = Yes, (X) = No and (0) = Partly





# iPhones

A matter of money and “personal style”





# Android Phones

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Stylish assessor and - by the way - a phone ...





# Properties of Mobile Devices / Smartphones (1/2)

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Basic properties:

- Ensuring permanent mobility
- Requirements: small, light, shockproof and “robust”

Power supply

- Use of optimized processors
- Trade-off : power consumption vs. computing power

“Sufficient” storage

- Flashcards (e.g. MMC, SD, CF, MicroSD, ...)

“User friendly” interface (whatever that means ...)

- Options, options, options, options, options, options, options,...



# Properties of Mobile Devices / Smartphones (2/2)

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Running a specific operating system

- Installation of (almost) any program - if it fits to the OS

Providing a touchscreen

- Manual entry with your fingers or special stylus
- Gesture control
- Mostly provided: typing AND voice input

Additional features

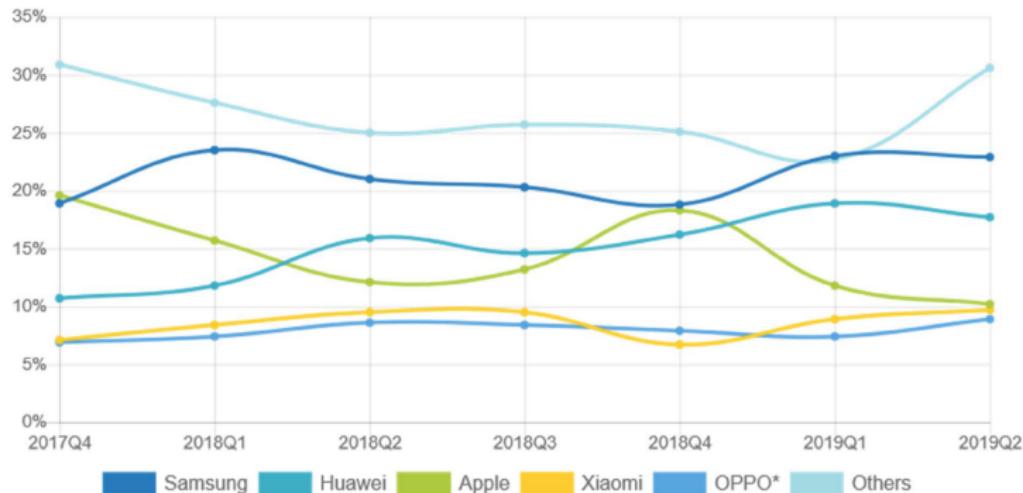
- Digital camera, GPS receiver, MP3 player, Gyroscope, many kinds of additional sensors

If sufficient bandwidth is available

- Internet telephony (VoIP), Video conferences via LTE-A



# Worldwide Top 5 Smartphone Shipment Company Market Share



Source: IDC 2019



# Briefly: Generations of Operating Systems (1/2)

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## Batch Operating Systems (main frames)

- Programs were executed “quasi parallel” independently from each others
- Processes could be interrupted waiting for resources to become ready
- Shared resources (memory, tape storage) managed by the OS

## Operating Systems supporting user dialogs

- User interaction at exact defined points in the program
- Execution pauses while waiting for user to complete the input
- Synchronous Dialogs (exception: some keys ...)

## BIG Change: OS with Graphical User Interfaces (GUI)

- Direct manipulative user interaction: mouse (1963) or light-pen
- Asynchronous Interrupts by user: mouse or keyboard
- Reactive while many processes execute in parallel
- Programming Concepts: Input focus, callbacks, threads ...



## Briefly: Generations of Operating Systems (2/2)

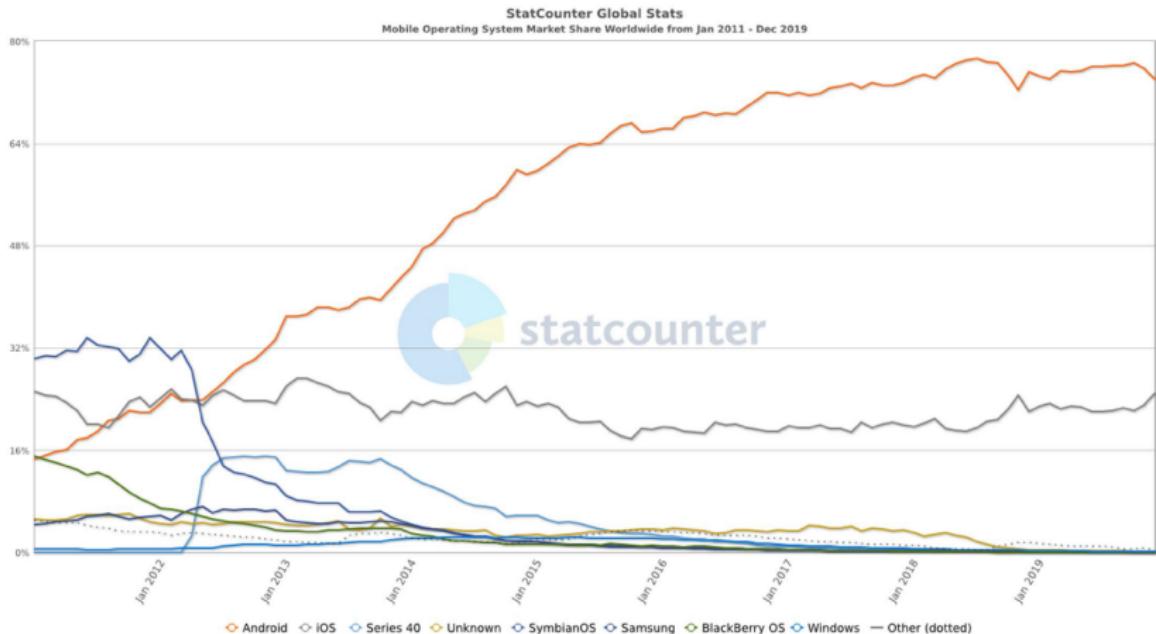
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Additional challenge: Mobile Operating System

- Much more asynchronous user interaction
- New kinds of interaction: touch screen, gesture control
- Communication between different Apps
- Numerous sensors with different return data and interrupts
- More communication with (background-) services: music, time events, events from sensors or network
- Programs with multiple program entry points (not only “main”)
- More complex process lifecycle
- Complex permission control
- Dynamic binding between processes ...



# Worldwide Smartphone Operating System Market



Source: statCounter 2020



## Android Versions

**Legend:**  Old version  Older version, still supported  Latest version  Latest preview version  Future release



## Acknowledgment

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VERY LARGE  
BUSINESS APPLICATIONS