Google APIs

Users of the Android operating system aren’t limited to making calls, organizing

contacts, or installing apps. As a developer, you have great power at your

fingertips — you can even integrate maps into your application, for example.

To do so, you use the Maps APIs that contain map widgets.

Pinpointing locations on a map

Perhaps you want to write an app that displays a user’s current location to

friends. You can spend hundreds of hours developing a mapping system, or

you can use the Android Maps API, which Google provides for use in your

apps. You can embed the API in your application and you don’t have to

invest hundreds of development hours or even a single cent. Using the Maps

API, you can find almost anything that has an address. The possibilities are

endless — a friend’s location, the nearest grocery store, or your favorite gas

station, for example.

Showing your current location to friends is cool, but the Android Maps API

can also access the Google Navigation API, to pinpoint your location and show

your users how to reach it.

DDMS is also useful in scenarios where you have no physical device for

testing. For example, if your application is based on tracking a user who is

moving across a map and the user’s device has no GPS (or the user has no

device), the task becomes nontrivial. Thankfully, DDMS is here to help. DDMS

provides tools via location control. As a developer, you can manually provide

GPS coordinates or a GPS eXchange Format (GPX) file or a Keyhole Markup

Language (KML) file that represents points on a map that can be timed

accordingly. For example, you might specify that the user stay at this point

for 5 seconds, move to another point, move to the next point, and so on.

Google APIs by Google Inc.: This is not a part of the core

components and is distributed as an add-on. The Android

SDK Manager installs these APIs under the **<*sdk-dir*>/add-ons**

directory. This add-on allows you to develop applications

using Google’s API and services, such as Google Maps. It also

comes with an extended emulator system image that contains

the Google system components that are not available in the

default emulator system image.

Android programming cookbook – 33 (exemplu pas cu pas si cu imagini)

Mics2014 (si teorie si explicatii pt aplicatie – posibil model pt licenta)

50 android hacks – 6 (ceva exemplu legat de view-ul in care se afla harta)

Android application development cookbook – 243 (explicatii pas cu pas pe exemple (mai detaliat))

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