Lab 7 - Jetpack Compose

COMP4107 - SDDT - HKBU - Spring2023



In upcoming labs, we'll build an Android app called InfoDay using **Android Studio** and **Jetpack Compose**, Android's modern toolkit for building native UI.

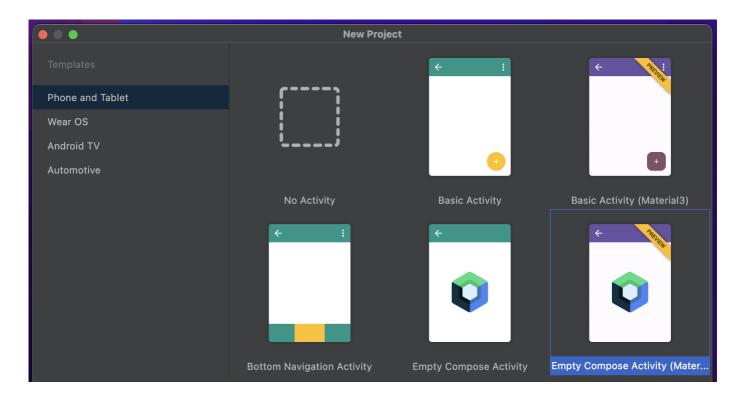
Jetpack Compose simplifies and speeds up UI development on Android. Using Compose, you can define your UI programmatically instead of using XML layout files.

Compose uses a **declarative syntax**, so you describe what your UI should look like and do, rather than defining steps to build the UI.

Getting Started

Native Android applications can be developed using **Android Studio** (https://developer.android.com/studio). Launch it, upgrade it to the latest version. Restart the IDE after upgrade.

Next, create a New Project and select Empty Compose Activity (Material 3) under Phone and Tablet.



Name the project InfoDay and use the default settings. It will take a while for **Gradle** to download all dependencies.

You will receive a file called MainActivity.kt, which is the starting point of your app. The code in MainActivity.kt is as follows:

```
class MainActivity : ComponentActivity() {
    override fun onCreate(savedInstanceState: Bundle?) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState)
        setContent {
            InfoDayTheme {
                // A surface container using the 'background' color from the theme
                Surface(
                    modifier = Modifier.fillMaxSize(),
                    color = MaterialTheme.colorScheme.background
                ) {
                    Greeting("Android")
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
@Composable
fun Greeting(name: String) {
   Text(text = "Hello $name!")
}
```

```
@Preview(showBackground = true)
@Composable
fun DefaultPreview() {
    InfoDayTheme {
        Greeting("Android")
    }
}
```

Composable Function

While the entry point of this app is the <code>onCreate()</code> function, the main focus of development will be on **composable functions**.

```
@Composable
fun Greeting(name: String) {
    Text(text = "Hello $name!")
}
```

Composable functions (also called composables or components) are special Kotlin functions marked with the <code>@Composable</code> annotation. They are used to build user interfaces with Compose.

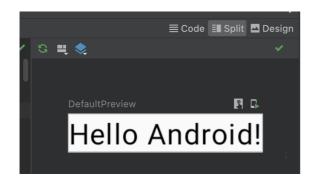
A composable function differs from a regular Kotlin function in that it can be called from Compose. Composable functions allow you to define your UI in a declarative, modular style.

Preview

Jetpack Compose provides **instant UI previews**. Add the <code>@Preview()</code> annotation before a composable function to see a live preview of the UI.

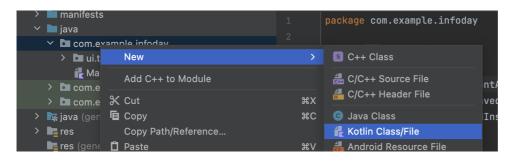
```
@Preview(showBackground = true)
@Composable
fun DefaultPreview() {
    InfoDayTheme {
        Greeting("Android")
    }
}
```

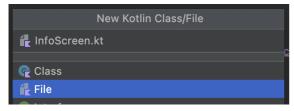
To preview your app, select the Split mode in the top-right corner of Android Studio. Then click Build and Refresh. You should see a preview like this:



Info Screen

Next, right-click on com.example.infoday and create a new Kotlin file. Name this file InfoScreen.kt.





Image

Download the following **HKBU logo** in **SVG** format:



Back in Android Studio, right-click on com.example.infoday and select Vector Asset. Choose Local File then select the SVG file.



The vector graphic will be referred to as hkbu_logo. Next, develop a **composable function** to display this logo along with text below it:

```
@Composable
```

```
fun InfoGreeting() {
    Image(
        painter = painterResource(id = R.drawable.hkbu_logo),
        contentDescription = stringResource(id = R.string.hkbu_logo),
    )
    Text(text = "Hello Android!")
}
```

The <u>Image</u> requires importing [androidx.compose.foundation.Image].

To preview, develop a **preview function**:

```
@Preview(showBackground = true)
@Composable
fun InfoPreview() {
    InfoDayTheme {
        InfoGreeting()
    }
}
```

While the R.drawable.hkbu_logo vector image is imported, the R.string.hkbu_logo string resource is currently undefined. Let's create it under res -> values -> string.xml. Add a new string resource as follows:

```
<resources>
     <string name="app_name">InfoDay</string>
```

```
<string name="hkbu_logo">HKBU logo</string>
</resources>
```

A preview will then be shown.



The image and text are stacking together. To develop a vertical layout, we should place the elements inside a Column. Revise the code as follows:

```
@Composable
```

You can use Ctrl+Alt+L on Windows or Option+Command+L on Mac for code formatting.

Spacers and Modifiers

Finally, we can enhance the layout with some **spacers** and **modifiers**:

@Composable

```
fun InfoGreeting() {
    val padding = 16.dp
    Column(horizontalAlignment = Alignment.CenterHorizontally) {
        Spacer(Modifier.size(padding))
        Image(
```

List

On the same file, develop the following Contact data class and the corresponding data:

If you know your use case **does not require scrolling**, you may want to use a simple **Column** or **Row** (depending on direction) and populate each item by **iterating over a list**, like this:

Then, modify the preview composable as follows:

```
}
}
}
```

Lambda Expression

In Kotlin, an **unnamed function** used primarily as an argument to a function call is called a **lambda expression**. Here is an example:

```
{ message ->
    Text(message.office)
}
```

Material Design 3 and List Item

<u>Material Design 3</u> is the latest **specification of Material Design by Google**. It provides updated guidance on visual, motion, and interaction design across platforms and devices.

Material Design 3 provides a helpful ListItem component (Reference): (For reference only, don't copy)

```
@Composable
@ExperimentalMaterial3Api
fun ListItem(
    headlineText: @Composable () -> Unit,
    modifier: Modifier = Modifier,
    overlineText: (@Composable () -> Unit)? = null,
    supportingText: (@Composable () -> Unit)? = null,
    leadingContent: (@Composable () -> Unit)? = null,
    trailingContent: (@Composable () -> Unit)? = null,
    colors: ListItemColors = ListItemDefaults.colors(),
    tonalElevation: Dp = ListItemDefaults.Elevation,
    shadowElevation: Dp = ListItemDefaults.Elevation
): Unit
Here, we only use the [headlineText], [leadingContent], and [trailingContent] settings as follow:
@Composable
fun PhoneList() {
    Column {
        Contact.data.forEach { message ->
            ListItem(
                headlineText = { Text(message.office) },
```

leadingContent = {

Icon(

In case of errors, it's likely the Material Design dependency needs updating. Let's go to the **module-level Gradle file**, hover over the material3 dependency and upgrade it to version 1.0.0-rc01 or 1.0.1.

```
implementation 'androidx.compose.material3:material3:1.0.0-alpha02' testImplementation 'junit androidTestImplementation and androidTestImplementation and androidTestImplement
```

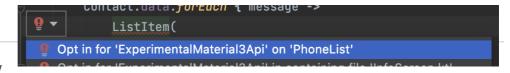
Hit Sync Now to download the latest dependency updates.

```
ged since last project sync. A project sync may be necessary for the IDE to work properly.

Sync Now Ignore these changes
```

There could also be an error stating this API is **experimental**. Locate the **red lightbulb** next to ListItem and Opt in:

Info Screen



Finally, let's construct a new composable as follows:

@Composable

```
fun InfoScreen() {
    Column(horizontalAlignment = Alignment.CenterHorizontally) {
        InfoGreeting()
        PhoneList()
    }
}
```



Update preview composable as follows:

```
@Preview(showBackground = true)
@Composable
fun InfoPreview() {
    InfoDayTheme {
        InfoScreen()
     }
}
```

Scaffold

Head back to MainActivity.kt and we will develop a <u>Scaffold</u>, which implements the basic material design visual layout structure.

This component provides API to **assemble multiple material components** to construct your screen. It ensures proper layout and gathers necessary data so these components work together correctly. **For reference only, don't copy**:

```
@ExperimentalMaterial3Api
@Composable
fun Scaffold(
    modifier: Modifier = Modifier,
    topBar: @Composable () -> Unit = {},
    bottomBar: @Composable () -> Unit = {},
    snackbarHost: @Composable () -> Unit = {},
    floatingActionButton: @Composable () -> Unit = {},
    floatingActionButtonPosition: FabPosition = FabPosition.End,
```

```
containerColor: Color = MaterialTheme.colorScheme.background,
    contentColor: Color = contentColorFor(containerColor),
    contentWindowInsets: WindowInsets = ScaffoldDefaults.contentWindowInsets,
    content: @Composable (PaddingValues) -> Unit
): Unit
We will develop a topBar, a bottomBar and of course the content. Here's our ScaffoldScreen()
@Composable
fun ScaffoldScreen() {
    Scaffold(
        topBar = {
            TopAppBar(
                title = { Text("HKBU InfoDay App") }
            )
        },
        bottomBar = {},
        content = { innerPadding ->
            Column(
                modifier = Modifier.padding(innerPadding),
            ) {}
        }
    )
}
```

Again, we **must** enable the ExperimentalMaterial3Api.

Navigation Bar

Navigation bars provide a consistent way to navigate between the main sections of an app. To add one, include the following within the ScaffoldScreen composable:

```
var selectedItem by remember { mutableStateOf(0) }
val items = listOf("Home", "Events", "Itin", "Map", "Info")

Then, use the following navigation bar as our bottom bar:

NavigationBar {
   items.forEachIndexed { index, item ->
      NavigationBarItem(
      icon = { Icon(Icons.Filled.Favorite, contentDescription = item) },
      label = { Text(item) },
      selected = selectedItem == index,
```

```
onClick = { selectedItem = index }
)
}
```

You need to import androidx.compose.runtime.*.

```
remember { mutableStateOf() }
```

Reference: https://dev.to/zachklipp/remember-mutablestateof-a-cheat-sheet-10ma

- remember keeps a value (any value) **consistent across recompositions**. "Recomposition" means when a composable function is called multiple times to update the UI.
- mutableStateOf returns a MutableState.
- MutableState is just a thing that holds a value, where Compose will automatically observe changes to the value.

Content

```
Here, selectedItem holds the chosen item. Using a when() statement on selectedItem, we can switch to different screens.
```

```
content = { innerPadding ->
    Column(
        modifier = Modifier.padding(innerPadding),
    ) {
        when (selectedItem) {
            0 -> InfoScreen()
            1 -> InfoScreen()
            2 -> InfoScreen()
            3 -> InfoScreen()
            4 -> InfoScreen()
            4 -> InfoScreen()
```

In the <code>DefaultPreview()</code> composable, replace <code>Greeting("Android")</code> with <code>ScaffoldScreen()</code>. Run it in <code>interactive mode</code> and tap the navigation tabs.





You may have to create a new virtual device. Choose Pixel 4 with R as the OS.

Version Control

Claim your **private repo** at https://classroom.github.com/a/t86LHCCf.

To enable Git, go to VCS -> Enable Version Control Integration.....

Then go to VCS -> Git -> Remotes to add your **GitHub private repo** URL as **origin**. You can then add, commit, and push your work to GitHub. We will continue maintaining source code on GitHub for upcoming Android Labs.

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