



Laboratorio di programmazione di sistemi mobili e tablet

Prefazione

Marco Ronchetti

Università degli Studi di Trento

Intro to the course

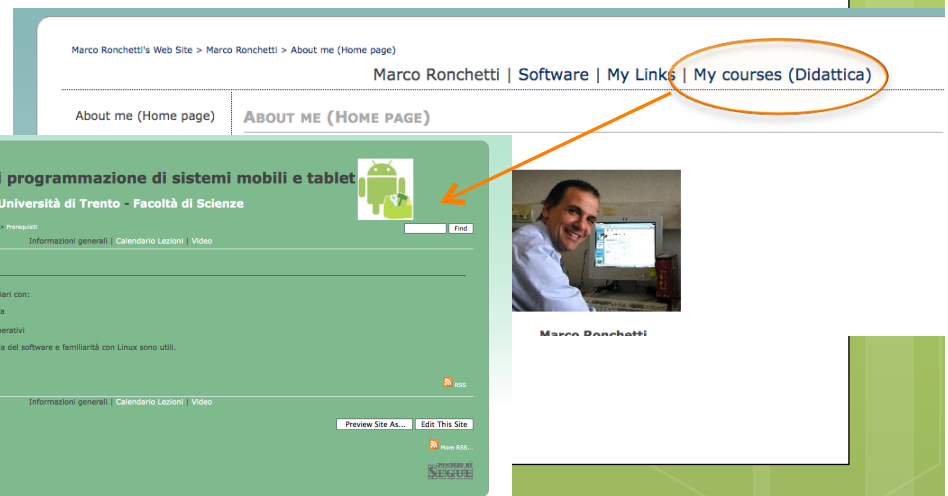
2 teachers (Marco Ronchetti - Giuseppe Riccardi)

2 teaching assistants (Carlo Menapace – Arindam Ghosh)

Final project

web site: google for “marco ronchetti”, go to “My courses”

Videos are available



2



Per poter frequentare il corso con profitto, gli studenti devono essere familiari con:

la **programmazione in Java**

Basi di dati

Nozioni base di sistemi operativi

Nozioni base di reti, di ingegneria del software e familiarità con Linux sono utili.

E' **OBBLIGATORIO** aver superato un esame di Programmazione ad oggetti (es. Programmazione 2 per Informatica) per potersi iscrivere all'esame.

3



Why is mobile programming different?

- Screen: from small phones to large TV sets
- OS version (multiple APK)
- Scarce resources (memory, disk)
- Unreliable and mutable connectivity (GSM, WiFi)
- Data transfer: costly, slow, high latency
- Battery
- Priorities (what if a phone call comes in?)
- User interaction (no kbd, gestures...)
- Devices (accelerometer, GPS, camera, audio, mic)
- Speech APIs
- Inter-app communication
- Security threats
- Development model (cross compilation)
- Distribution model (store)



Design philosophy

Applications should be:

- – Fast
 - In spite of the constraints: < 200 MB RAM, slow processor
- – Responsive
 - Apps must respond to user actions within 5 seconds
- – Secure
 - Apps declare permissions in manifest
- – Seamless
 - Usability is key, persist data, suspend services
 - The OS may kill processes in background as needed





History and context

Marco Ronchetti
Università degli Studi di Trento

Moore's law

The number of transistors that can be placed inexpensively on an integrated circuit doubles approximately every two years.

The period often quoted as "18 months" is due to David House, an Intel executive, who predicted that period for a doubling in chip performance (being a combination of the effect of more transistors and them being faster).





The mobile computer



Adam
Osborn

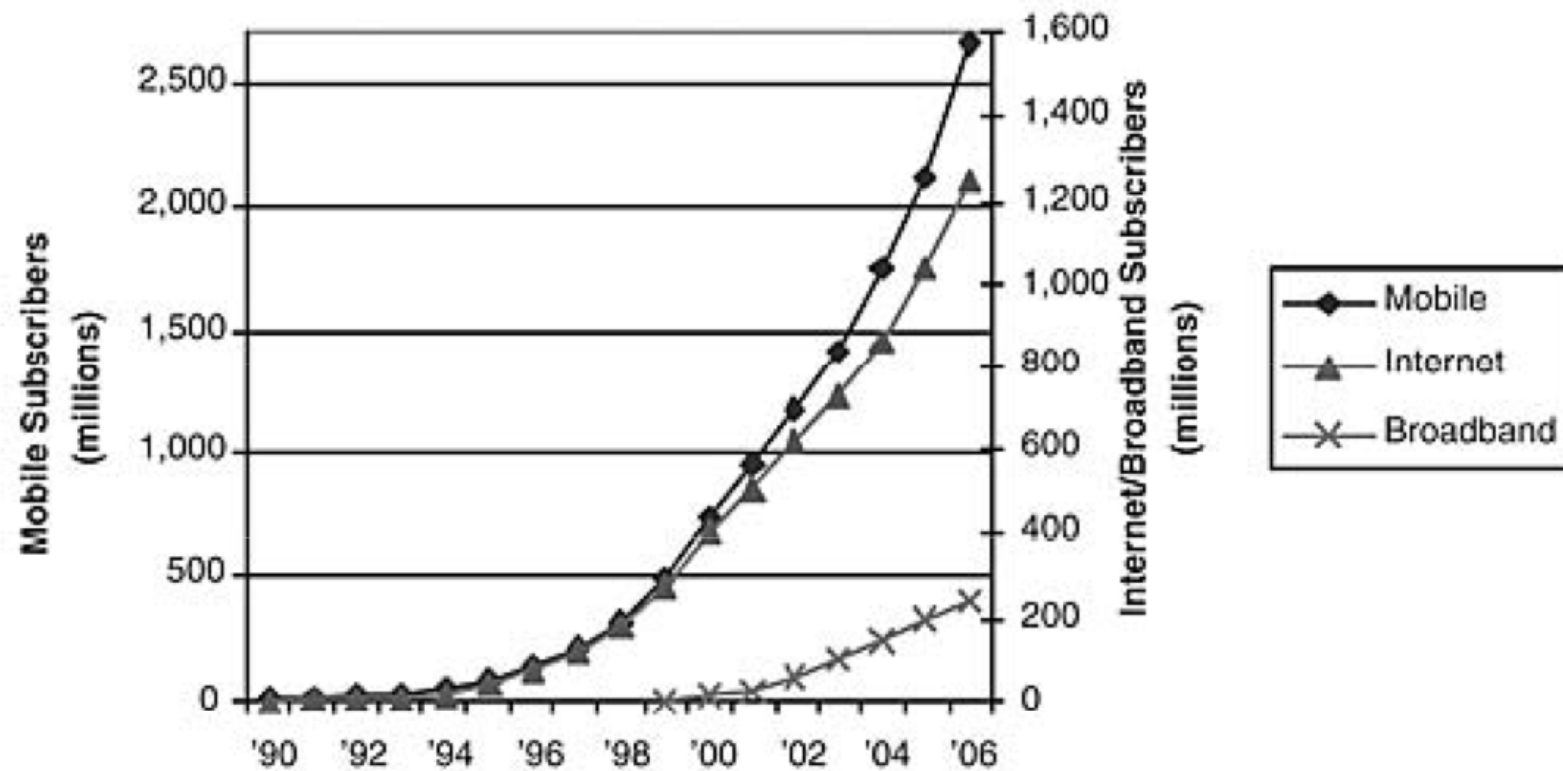
An **Osborne Executive** (early 80s) an an **iPhone**.

- $13,050 \text{ g} / 135 \text{ g} = 100$ times heavier [1]
- $4 \text{ MHz} / 412 \text{ MHz} = 100$ times slower
- $\$2500 / \$200\text{-}300 = 10$ times more expensive
- $(52 \text{ cm} \times 23 \text{ cm} \times 33 \text{ cm}) / (115 \text{ mm} \times 61 \text{ mm} \times 11.6 \text{ mm})$
= 485 times as large (volume)

Images from wikimedia



Growth of mobile device diffusion



Smartphones

IBM Simon: concept product (1992), sold 1993

- mobile phone
- calendar,
- address book
- world clock
- calculator,
- note pad
- e-mail client
- send and receive faxes
- games.

touchscreen

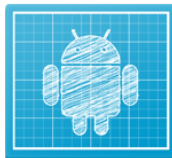


Mobile: many worlds...

android
developers

Home SDK Dev Guide Reference Resources Videos

Developer Announcements



Introducing **Android Design**: The place to learn about principles, building blocks, and patterns for creating world-class Android user interfaces. Whether you're a UI professional or a developer playing that role, these docs show you how to make good design decisions, big and small.

[Android Design »](#)



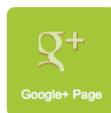
Android Developers on Google+

We now have a Google+ page for [+Android Developers](#). We'll use it to host Hangouts for developers, talk about the latest releases, development and design tips, and much more.

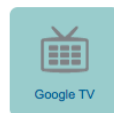
We're on  [Add to circles](#)



Android 4.0.3



Google+ Page



Google TV



Apple Developer Technologies Resources Programs Support

iOS Dev Center

Log in to get the most out of the iOS Dev Center. [Log in](#)

Log in with the Apple ID and password you used to register as an Apple Developer, or [register](#) for free today.

Development Resources

Documentation and Videos

- iOS Developer Library**
 - Articles
 - Getting Started
 - Guides
 - Reference
- Release Notes**
- Sample Code**
- Technical Notes**
- Technical Q&As**

- Development Videos**
 - iOS Development
 - WWDC 2011

Featured Content

- What's New in iOS 5
- Start Developing iPad Apps
- iOS Application Programming Guide
- iOS Development Guide
- iOS Human Interface Guidelines
- Your First iOS Application
- Learning Objective-C: A Primer

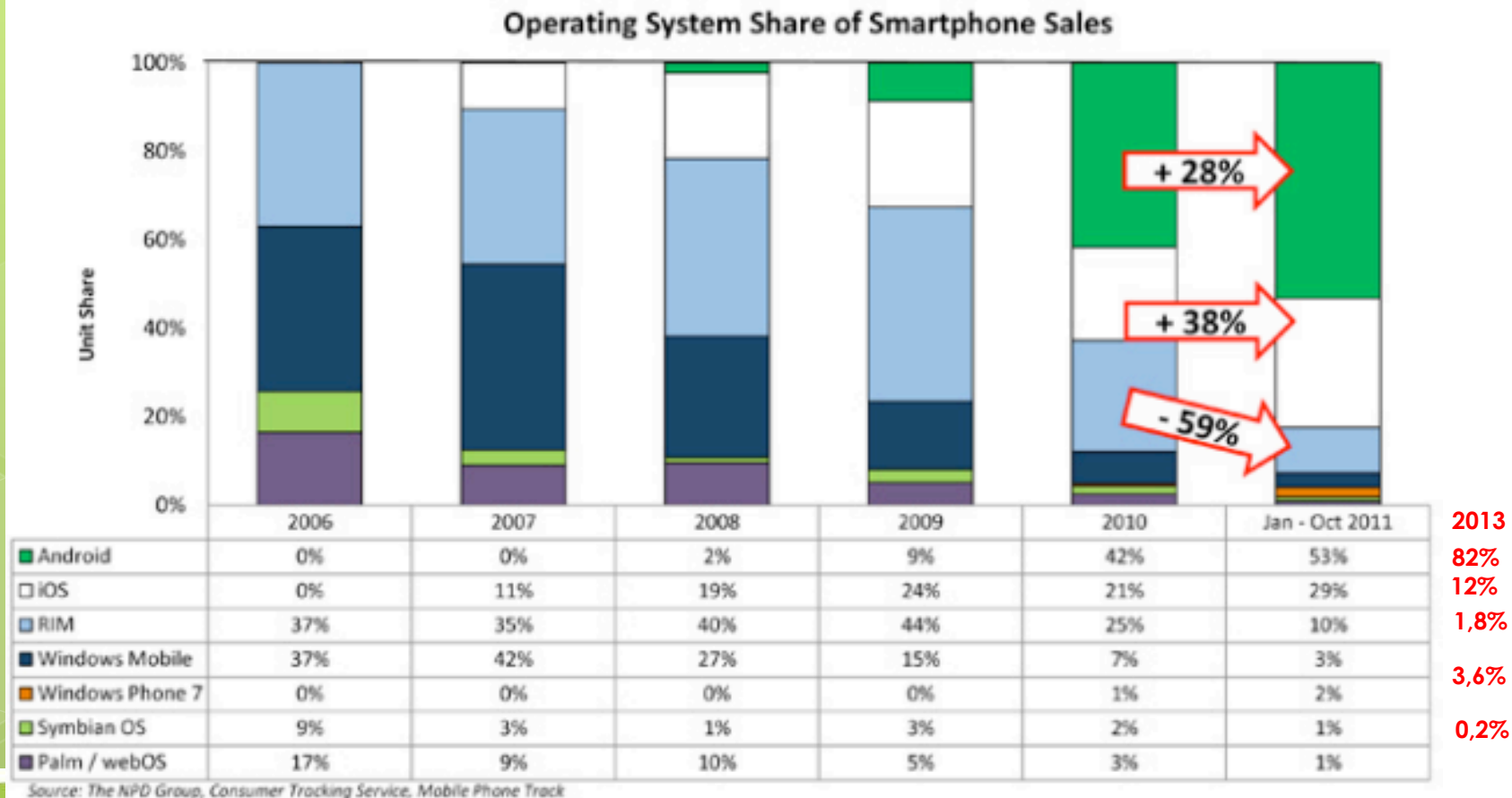
Downloads



Xcode 4
This complete performance



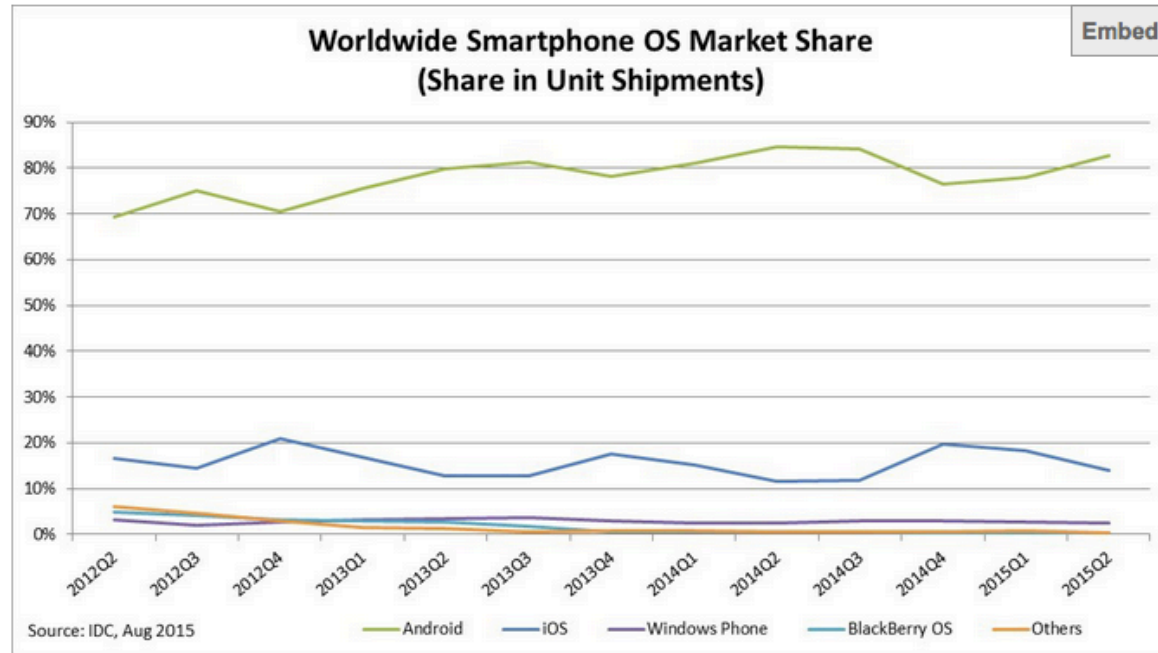
What the market says (2006-2011)



2013
82%
12%
1,8%
3,6%
0,2%



What the market says (2012-2015)



<http://www.idc.com/prodserv/smartphone-os-market-share.jsp>

Period	Android	iOS	Windows Phone	BlackBerry OS	Others
2015Q2	82.8%	13.9%	2.6%	0.3%	0.4%
2014Q2	84.8%	11.6%	2.5%	0.5%	0.7%
2013Q2	79.8%	12.9%	3.4%	2.8%	1.2%
2012Q2	69.3%	16.6%	3.1%	4.9%	6.1%

Source: IDC, Aug 2015



Android or iOS ?

iOS:

- Develop in Objective-C
- Develop (only) on Macs (with emulator)

iPhone Open Development

- Jailbreak your iPhone or Touch
- Develop on any computer
 - Apps will not work with App Store
 - Device may not work with upgrades
- Need device! (iPhone or Touch)

Android:

- Develop in Java
- Develop on any platform (with emulator)





Introduction to Android

Laboratorio di programmazione di sistemi mobili e
tablet

Marco Ronchetti, Università di Trento

What Android is not

- A Java ME implementation
- Part of the Linux Phone Standard Forum
- “only” an application layer
- A mobile phone



What Android is

From: <http://source.android.com/>

Android is:

an **open-source software stack for mobile devices**,
and **a corresponding open-source project led by Google**.

“We created Android in response to our own experiences launching mobile apps. We wanted to make sure that there was **no central point of failure**, so that **no industry player can restrict or control the innovations of any other**.”

“That's why we created Android, and made its source code open.” (under Apache Software Licence, 2.0)

18 The Android system tries to avoid incorporating GPL components



Why Android is not LGPL

LGPL requires either:

- shipping of source to the application;
- a written offer for source;
- linking the LGPL-ed library dynamically and allowing users to manually upgrade or replace the library.

Since Android software is typically shipped in the form of a static system image, complying with these requirements ends up restricting OEMs' designs. (For instance, it's difficult for a user to replace a library on read-only flash storage.)

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For more details: <http://source.android.com/source/licenses.html>



Development and governance

- At any given moment, there is a **current latest release** of the Android platform
- **Device builders and Contributors work with the current latest release**, fixing bugs, launching new devices, experimenting with new features, and so on.
- In parallel, **Google works internally on the next version** of the Android platform and framework, working according to the product's needs and goals. We develop the next version of Android by working **with a device partner on a flagship device** whose specifications are chosen to push Android in the direction we believe it should go.
- **When the "n+1"th version is ready, it will be published** to the public source tree, and become the new latest release.



Android and Linux

Android relies on **Linux version 2.6** for core system services such as **security, memory management, process management, network stack, and driver model.**

The kernel also acts as an **abstraction layer** between the hardware and the rest of the software stack.



History

- **Oct 2003** Android, Inc. founded in Palo Alto
- **2005** Google buys Android, Inc..
- **2007** Open Handset Alliance is announced. Android is officially open-sourced.
- **2008** Android SDK 1.0 is released. The G1 phone, manufactured by HTC, is sold by T-Mobile USA.
- **2009** sees a proliferation of Android-based devices (20+ devices run Android).
- **2010** Android is 2nd only to RIM as best-selling smart phone platform. 60+ devices run Android



Three components

The **Android Compatibility Program** defines the technical details of Android platform and provides tools used by OEMs to ensure that developers' apps run on a variety of devices.

The **Android SDK** provides built-in tools that Developers use to clearly state the device features their apps require.

The **Android Market** shows apps only to those devices that can properly run them.



The main building blocks

Device Hardware: Android runs on a wide range of hardware configurations including smart phones, tablets, and set-top-boxes. Android is processor-agnostic, but it does take advantage of some hardware-specific security capabilities (e.g. on ARM).

Android Operating System: The core operating system is built on top of the Linux kernel. All device resources are accessed through the operating system.

Android Application Runtime: Android applications are most often written in **Java** and run in the **Dalvik V.M.**

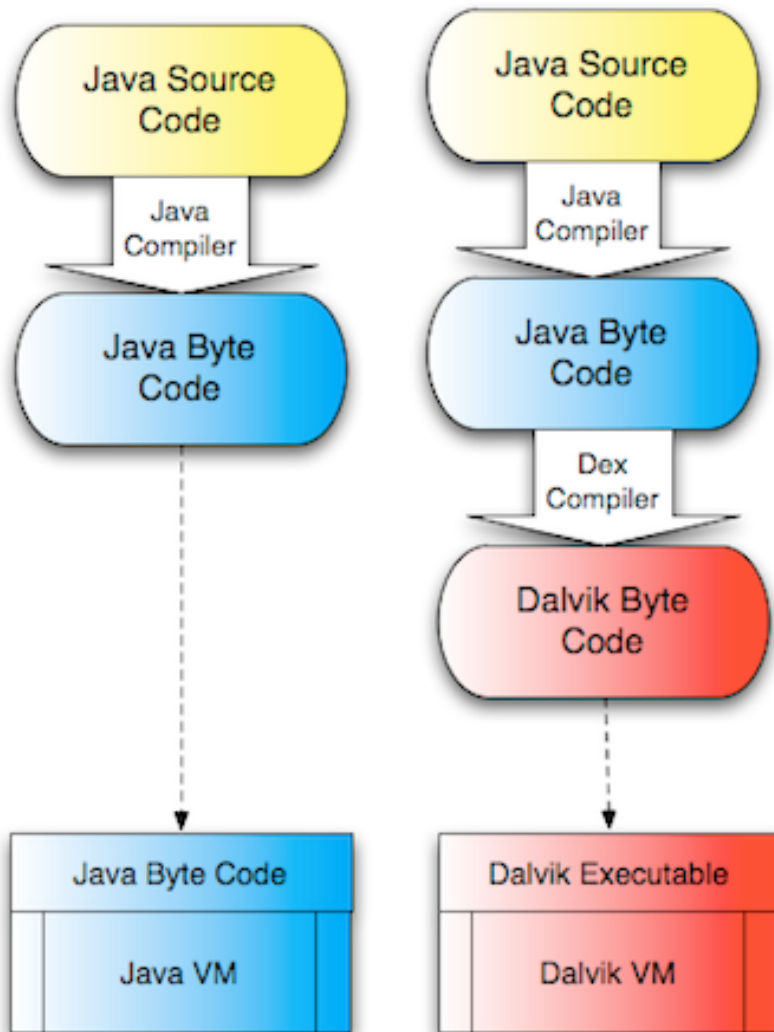
However, many applications, including core Android services and applications are native applications or include native libraries.

Both Dalvik and native applications run within the same security environment, in the Application Sandbox.

Applications get a dedicated part of the filesystem in which they can write private data, including databases and raw files.



Java vs. Dalvik



Dalvik is the managed runtime used by applications and some system services on Android. Dalvik was originally created specifically for the Android project.

Specification of the bytecode format, .dex (dalvik executable) and Dalvik VM Instruction Formats are available at

<http://source.android.com/tech/dalvik/index.html>



Dalvik

Every Android application runs in its own process, with its **own instance of the Dalvik virtual machine**.

Dalvik has been written so that a device can run multiple VMs efficiently. The Dalvik VM executes files in the Dalvik Executable (.dex) format which is optimized for minimal memory footprint.

The Dalvik VM **relies on the Linux kernel for underlying functionality** such as threading and low-level memory management.



Android is non standard Java

Standard Java distributions:

1. Java Standard Edition: used for development on basic desktop-type applications.
2. Java Enterprise Edition (aka J2EE or JavaEE): used for development of enterprise applications.
3. Java Micro Edition (aka J2ME or JavaME): Java for mobile applications.

Android's Java set of libraries is closest to Java Standard Edition. The major difference is that Java libraries for user interface (AWT and Swing) have been taken out and replaced with Android-specific user interface libraries.

Android also adds quite a few new features to standard Java while supporting most of Java's standard features.

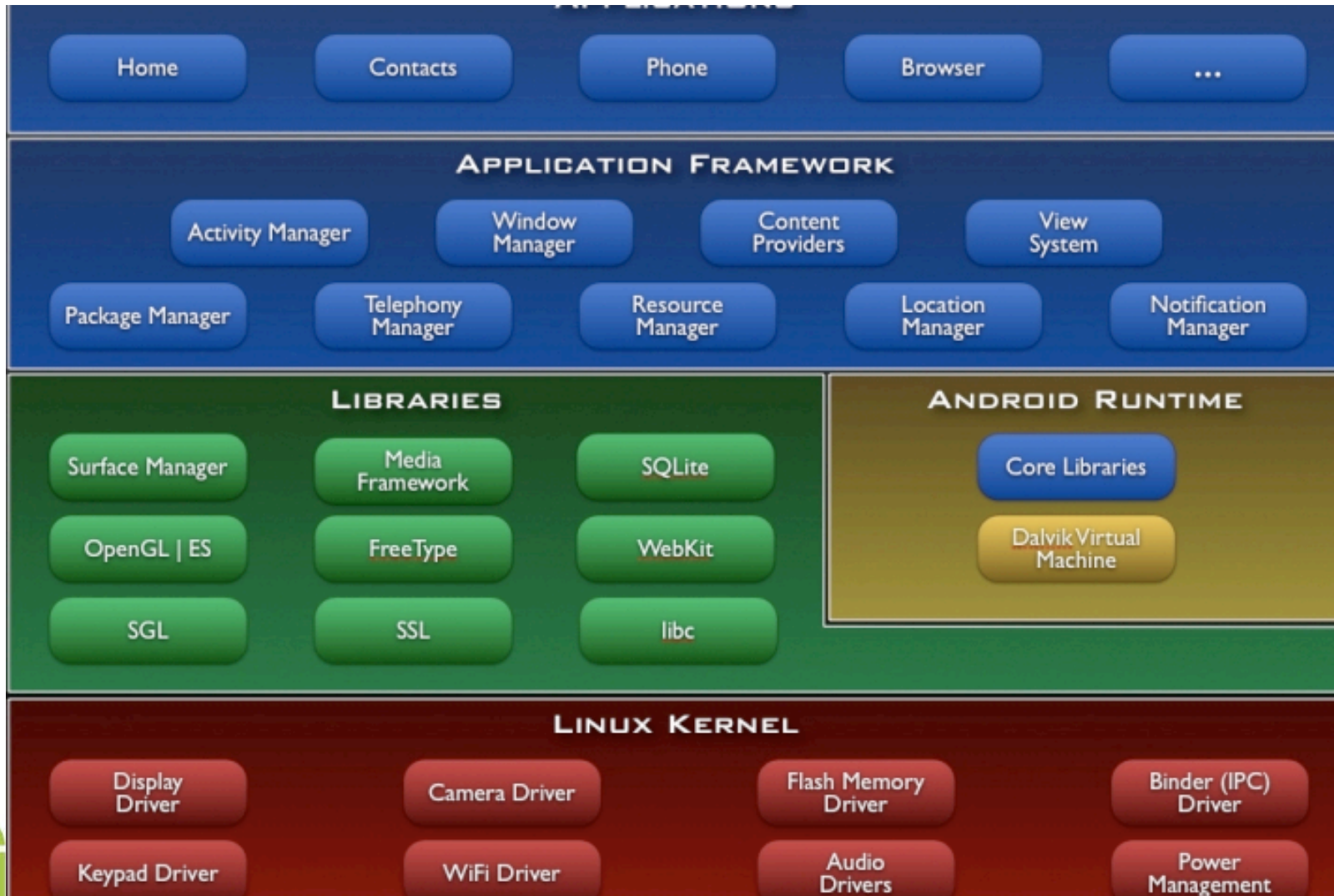


What Android supports

- User Interface
 - IO widgets (buttons, textboxes, lists)
 - Images
 - 2D/3D drawing
- Database
- Integrated browser
- Media support (audio, video, images; camera)
- Application framework lifecycle
- Connectivity (bluetooth, wi-fi, EDGE, 3G)
- Sensors (GPS/Geo-location, accelerometer, compass)
- GSM Telephony (call – sms)
- Google Maps
- Multiple processes
 - Managed by Android Dalvik VM
 - Background Services
 - Interprocess communications (e.g. Intents)
- Rich development environment including a device emulator, debugging tools, memory and performance profiling, Eclipse plug in



The Android stack

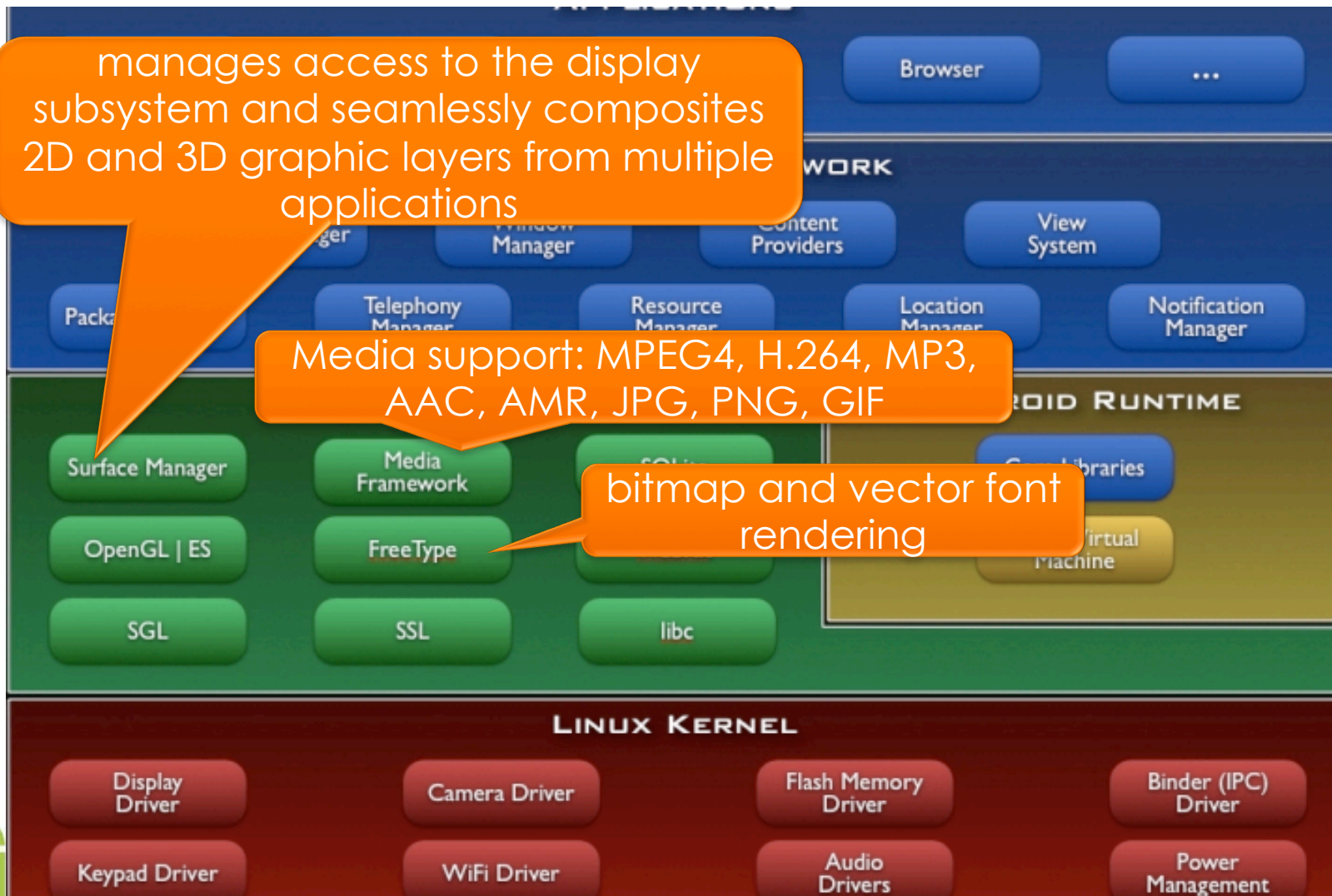


The Android stack

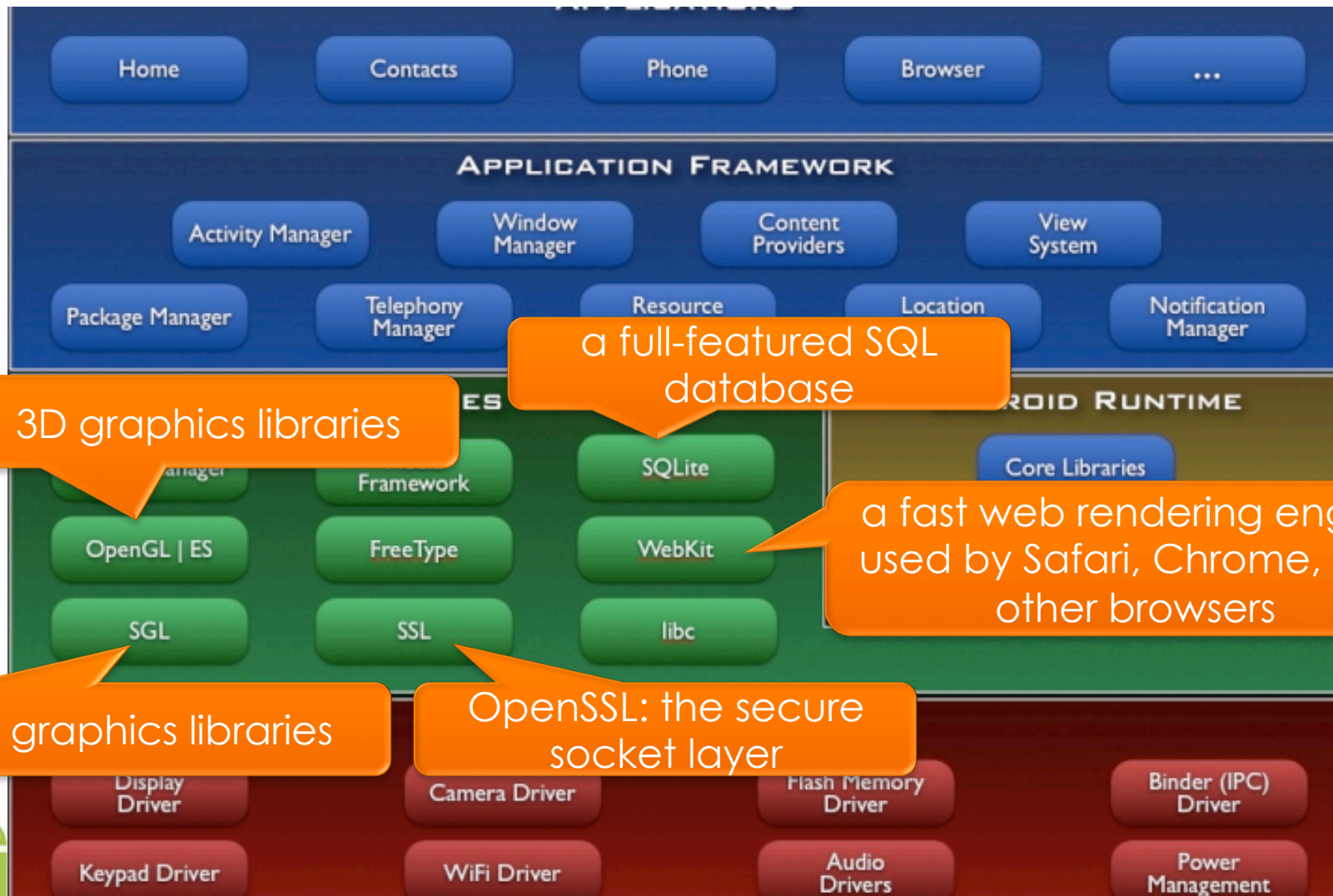
manages access to the display subsystem and seamlessly composites 2D and 3D graphic layers from multiple applications

Media support: MPEG4, H.264, MP3, AAC, AMR, JPG, PNG, GIF

bitmap and vector font rendering



The Android stack



Android NDK

The Android NDK is a toolset that lets you embed components that make use of native code in your Android applications.

Android applications run in the Dalvik virtual machine. The NDK allows you to implement parts of your applications using native-code languages such as C and C++. This can provide benefits to certain classes of applications, in the form of reuse of existing code and in some cases increased speed.



When to develop in NDK

“Using native code does not result in an automatic performance increase, but always increases application complexity.”

“In general, you should only use native code if it is essential to your application, not just because you prefer to program in C/C++.”



Android applications

Pre-Installed Applications:

phone, email, calendar, web browser, and contacts. These function both as user applications and to provide key device capabilities that can be accessed by other applications. Pre-installed applications may be part of the open source Android platform, or they may be developed by an OEM for a specific device.

User-Installed Applications:

Android provides an open development environment supporting any third-party application. The Android Market offers users hundreds of thousands of applications.



Cloud-based services

Android Market: a collection of services that allow users to discover, install, and purchase applications from their Android device or the web.

The Market also provides community review, application license verification, and other security services.

Android Update Service: delivers new capabilities and security updates to Android devices, including updates through the web or over the air (OTA).

Application Services: Frameworks that allow Android applications to use cloud capabilities such as

- (backing up) application data and settings
- cloud-to-device messaging (C2DM) for push messaging.



Platform versions

Nov.2015

Oct..2014

Set..2013

Lug..2013

Nov.2011

Feb 2011

Dic 2010

Mag 2010

Ott. 2009

Apr 2009

Sept. 2008

Android 6.0	23	M	API Changes
Android 5.1	22	LOLLIPOP_MR1	Platform Highlights
Android 5.0	21	LOLLIPOP	
Android 4.4W	20	KITKAT_WATCH	KitKat for Wearables Only
Android 4.4	19	KITKAT	Platform Highlights
Android 4.3	18	JELLY_BEAN_MR2	Platform Highlights
Android 4.2, 4.2.2	17	JELLY_BEAN_MR1	Platform Highlights
Android 4.1, 4.1.1	16	JELLY_BEAN	Platform Highlights
Android 4.0.3, 4.0.4	15	ICE_CREAM_SANDWICH_MR1	Platform Highlights
Android 4.0, 4.0.1, 4.0.2	14	ICE_CREAM_SANDWICH	
Android 3.2	13	HONEYCOMB_MR2	
Android 3.1.x	12	HONEYCOMB_MR1	Platform Highlights
Android 3.0.x	11	HONEYCOMB	Platform Highlights
Android 2.3.4	10	GINGERBREAD_MR1	Platform Highlights
Android 2.3.3			
Android 2.3.2	9	GINGERBREAD	
Android 2.3.1			
Android 2.3			
Android 2.2.x	8	FROYO	Platform Highlights
Android 2.1.x	7	ECLAIR_MR1	Platform Highlights
Android 2.0.1	6	ECLAIR_0_1	
Android 2.0	5	ECLAIR	
Android 1.6	4	DONUT	Platform Highlights
Android 1.5	3	CUPCAKE	Platform Highlights
Android 1.1	2	BASE_1_1	
Android 1.0	1	BASE	

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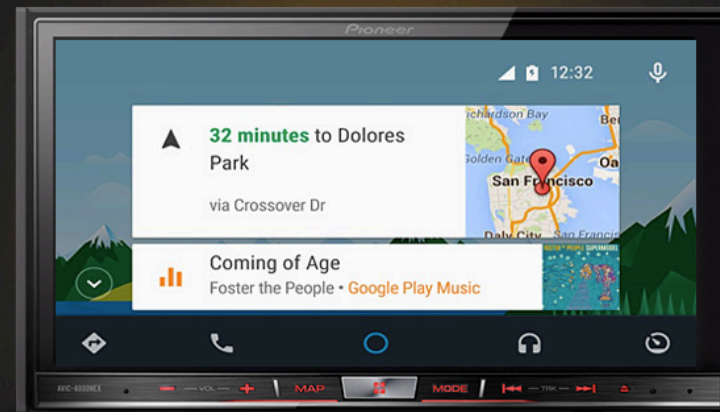
<http://developer.android.com/guide/appendix/api-levels.html>

Functionalities by version

- 1.5 Integrazione con **servizi Google**
- 1.6 **Sintesi vocale, ricerca vocale, gestures**
- 2.0 Miglior supporto videocamera, multitouch
- 2.2 Migliori prestazioni. Open GL ES2.0, **Javascript e Flash. Tethering.** Installazione apps su SD
- 2.3 Video chat in GoogleTalk. UI migliorata, Download manager
- 3.0 **Ottimizzata per tablet.** Aggiunta la barra di sistema e Action Bar. Possibilità di criptare tutti i dati personali.
- 3.1 Supporto per le periferiche USB
- 4.0 **UI completamente riprogettata.** Prestazioni migliorate. Dettatura real time. Face Unlock. Fotocamera migliorata. "Contatti" con integrazione con i social network
- 5.0 Cambiamento grafica e animazione, **high performance graphics**, migliore efficienza (ART), 64 bit, migliori notifiche, **Android TV**, battery stats, tilt & heart rate sensors, migliore audio e camera
- 6.0 Supporto telefono **Android wear**, multiscreen, **nuovo security model**



Android wear – Android auto



android auto

Android Auto for the Vehicle You Already Own



Hands on?

Getting Started ^

Building Your First App ^

Creating an Android Project

Running Your Application

Building a Simple User Interface

Starting Another Activity

Supporting Different Devices v

Managing the Activity Lifecycle v

Building a Dynamic UI with Fragments v

Saving Data v

Interacting with Other Apps v

Working with System Permissions v

Building Apps with Content Sharing v

Building Your First App

Welcome to Android application development!

This class teaches you how to build your first Android app. You'll learn how to create an Android project and run a debuggable version of the app. You'll also learn some fundamentals of Android app design, including how to build a simple user interface and handle user input.

Get started >

Dependencies

> [Android Studio](#)

Set Up Your Environment

Before you start this class, be sure you have your development environment set up. You need to:

1. Download [Android Studio](#).
2. Download the latest SDK tools and platforms using the [SDK Manager](#).

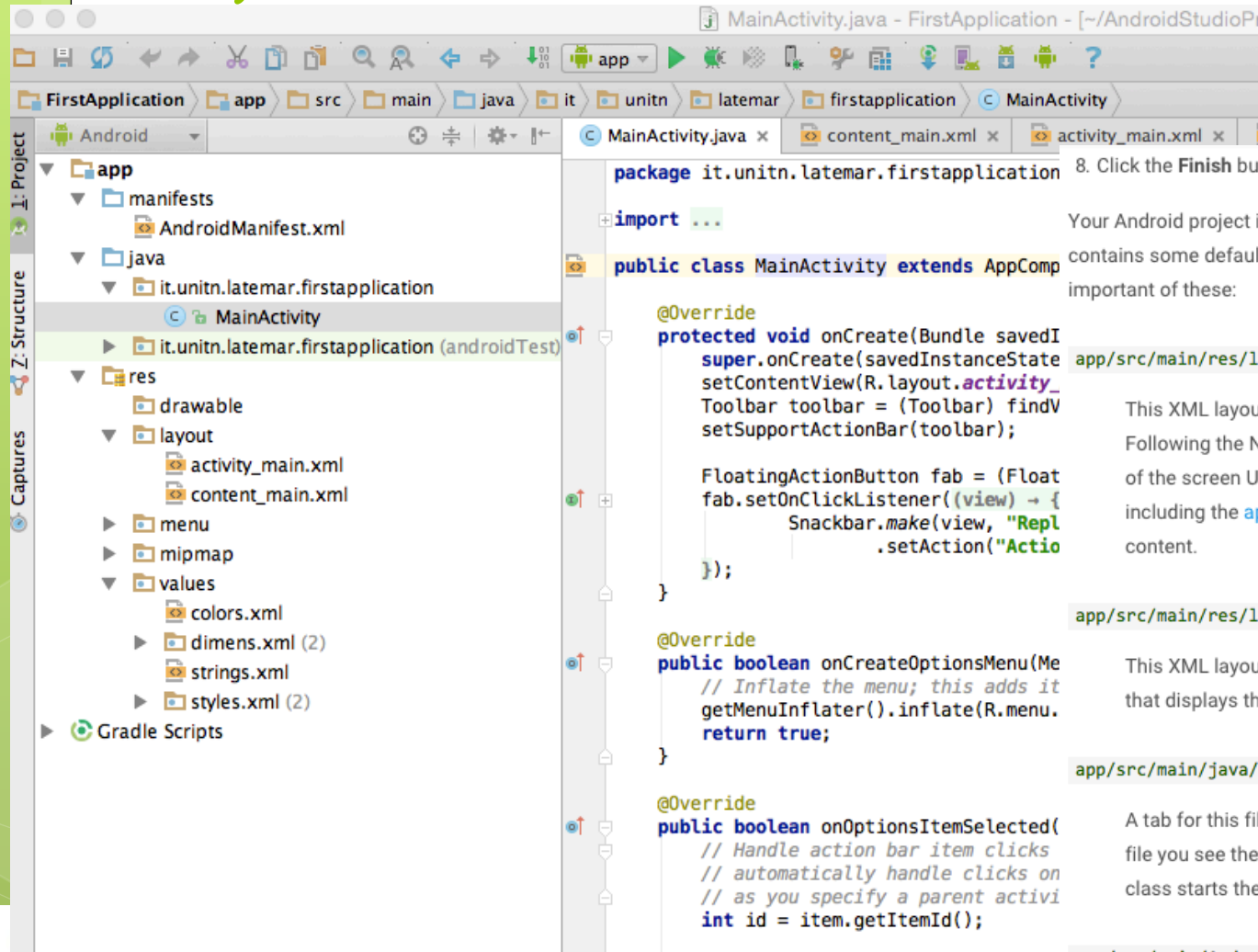
Note: Although most of this training class expects that you're using Android Studio, some procedures include alternative instructions for using the SDK tools from the command line instead.

This class uses a tutorial format to create a small Android app that teaches you some fundamental concepts about Android development, so it's important that you follow each step.

Get started >



Si, ma...



8. Click the **Finish** button to create the project.

Your Android project is now a basic "Hello World" app that contains some default files. Take a moment to review the most important of these:

`app/src/main/res/layout/activity_my.xml`

This XML layout file is for the activity you added when you created the app. Following the New Project workflow, Android Studio presents this file as the main layout of the screen UI. The file contains some default interface elements for the activity, including the **app bar** and a floating action button. It also includes a **Snackbar** to display content.

`app/src/main/res/layout/content_my.xml`

This XML layout file resides in `activity_my.xml`, and contains some default interface elements that displays the message, "Hello world!".

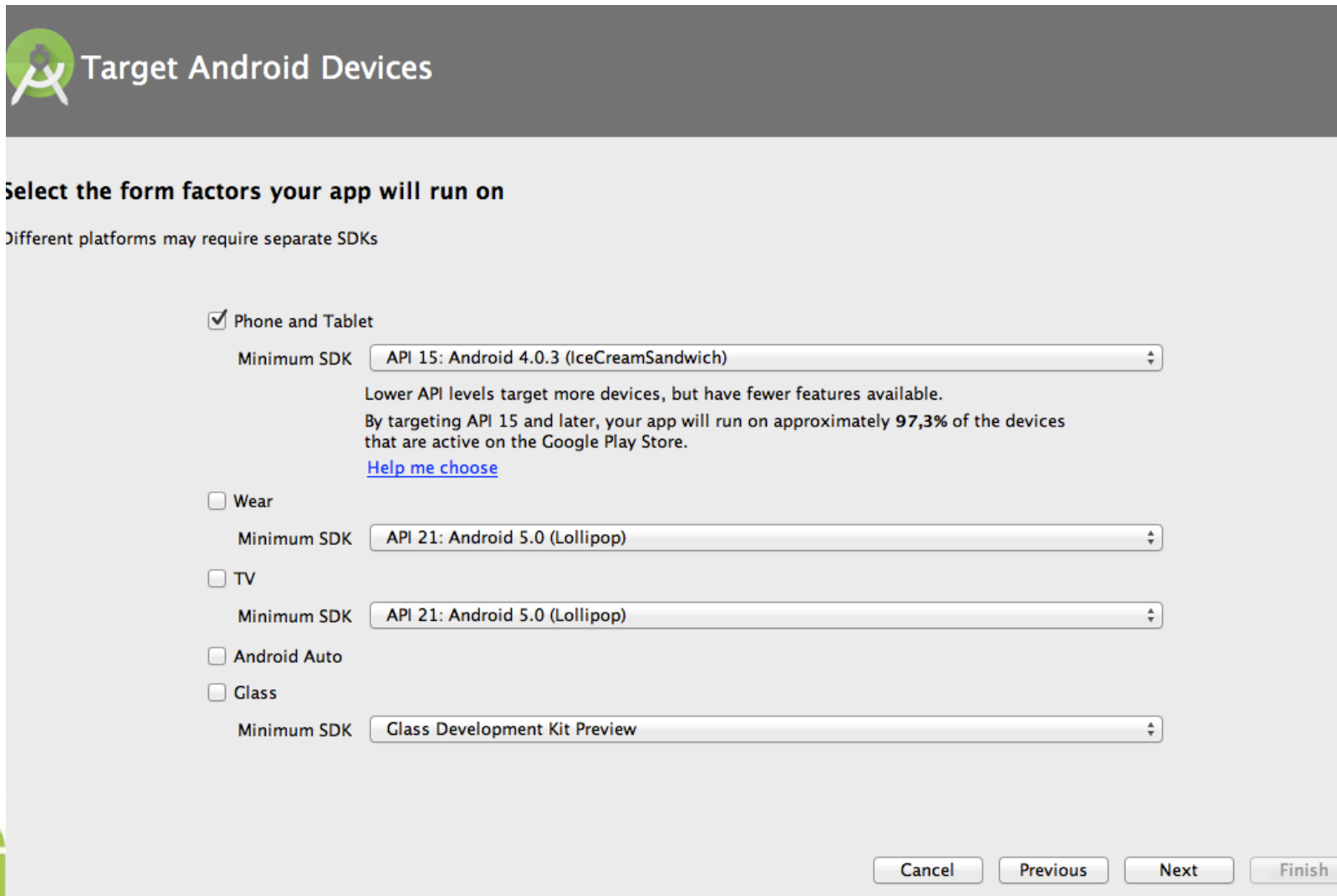
`app/src/main/java/com.mycompany.myfirstapp/MyActivity.java`

A tab for this file appears in Android Studio when the New Project workflow is complete. The file you see the class definition for the activity you created. When you click the **Run** button, the class starts the activity and loads the layout file that says "Hello World!".

`app/src/main/AndroidManifest.xml`

The **manifest file** describes the fundamental characteristics of the app components. You'll revisit this file as you follow these lessons and add new components.

Target devices (Android Studio)



The image shows the 'Target Android Devices' dialog in Android Studio. It has a dark header with the Android Studio logo and the title 'Target Android Devices'. Below the header, the text 'Select the form factors your app will run on' is displayed, followed by a note: 'Different platforms may require separate SDKs'. There are five sections, each with a checkbox and a 'Minimum SDK' dropdown menu. The 'Phone and Tablet' section is selected. Below the 'Phone and Tablet' dropdown, there is explanatory text about API levels and a link to 'Help me choose'. The other sections (Wear, TV, Android Auto, Glass) are not selected. At the bottom right, there are four buttons: 'Cancel', 'Previous', 'Next', and 'Finish'.

Target Android Devices

Select the form factors your app will run on

Different platforms may require separate SDKs

- ☒ Phone and Tablet
 - Minimum SDK: API 15: Android 4.0.3 (IceCreamSandwich)
 - Lower API levels target more devices, but have fewer features available.
By targeting API 15 and later, your app will run on approximately **97,3%** of the devices that are active on the Google Play Store.
[Help me choose](#)
- ☐ Wear
 - Minimum SDK: API 21: Android 5.0 (Lollipop)
- ☐ TV
 - Minimum SDK: API 21: Android 5.0 (Lollipop)
- ☐ Android Auto
- ☐ Glass
 - Minimum SDK: Glass Development Kit Preview

Cancel Previous Next Finish

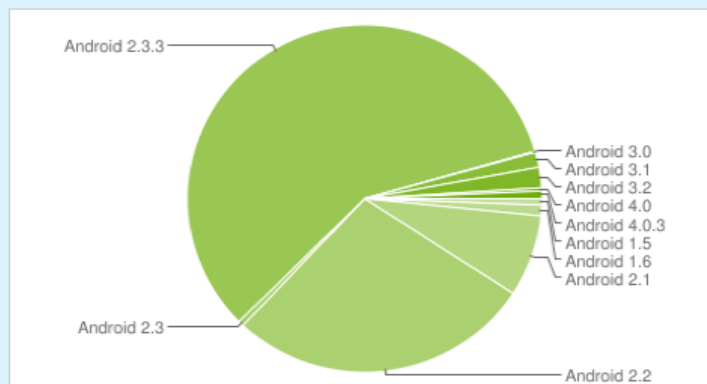
41



Android version distribution Feb 2012

<http://developer.android.com/resources/dashboard/platform-versions.html>

The following pie chart and table is based on the number of Android devices that have accessed Android Market within a 14-day period ending on the data collection date noted below.



Platform	Codename	API Level	Distribution
Android 1.5	Cupcake	3	0.6%
Android 1.6	Donut	4	1.0%
Android 2.1	Eclair	7	7.6%
Android 2.2	Froyo	8	27.8%
Android 2.3 - Android 2.3.2	Gingerbread	9	0.5%
Android 2.3.3 - Android 2.3.7		10	58.1%
Android 3.0	Honeycomb	11	0.1%
Android 3.1		12	1.4%
Android 3.2		13	1.9%
Android 4.0 - Android 4.0.2	Ice Cream Sandwich	14	0.3%
Android 4.0.3		15	0.7%

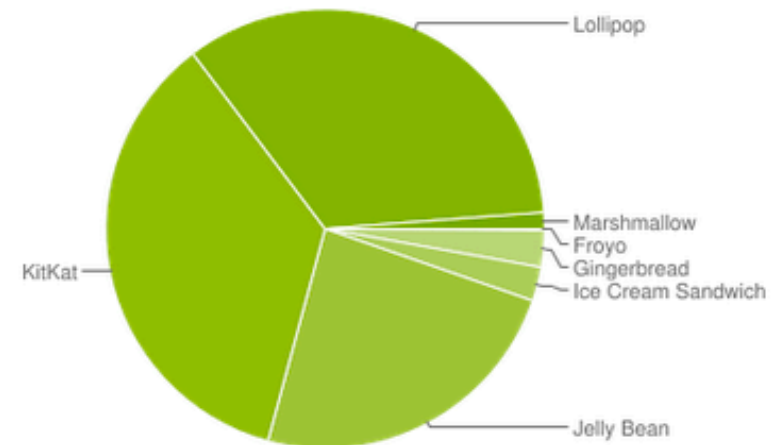
Data collected during a 14-day period ending on February 1, 2012



Android version distribution – Feb 2016

<http://developer.android.com/resources/dashboard/platform-versions.html>

Version	Codename	API	Distribution
2.2	Froyo	8	0.1%
2.3.3 - 2.3.7	Gingerbread	10	2.7%
4.0.3 - 4.0.4	Ice Cream Sandwich	15	2.5%
4.1.x	Jelly Bean	16	8.8%
4.2.x		17	11.7%
4.3		18	3.4%
4.4	KitKat	19	35.5%
5.0	Lollipop	21	17.0%
5.1		22	17.1%
6.0	Marshmallow	23	1.2%



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Data collected during a 7-day period ending on February 1, 2016.

Any versions with less than 0.1% distribution are not shown.



Which version?

ANDROID PLATFORM VERSION	API LEVEL	CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION
2.3 Gingerbread	10	97,3%
4.0 Ice Cream Sandwich	15	94,8%
4.1 Jelly Bean	16	86,0%
4.2 Jelly Bean	17	74,3%
4.3 Jelly Bean	18	70,9%
4.4 KitKat	19	35,4%
5.0 Lollipop	21	18,4%
5.1 Lollipop	22	1,3%
6.0 Marshmallow	23	

The minimum SDK version determines the lowest level of Android that your app will run on.

You typically want to target as many users as possible, so you would ideally want to support everyone -- with a minimum SDK version of 1. However, that has some disadvantages, such as lack of features, and very few people use devices that old anymore.

Your choice of minimum SDK level should be a tradeoff between the distribution of users you wish to target and the features that your application will need.

Click each Android Version/API level for more information.

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Android Java packages

Marco Ronchetti
Università degli Studi di Trento

Basic components

android.app

- ◉ implements the Application model for Android

android.content

- ◉ implements the concept of Content providers

android.content.pm

- ◉ Package manager: permissions, installed {packages, services, provider, applications, components}

android.content.res

- ◉ Access to resources

android.provider

- ◉ Contacts, MediaStore, Browser, Setting



GUI basics

android.view

- Menu, View, ViewGroup + listeners

android.view.animation

android.view.inputmethod

- Input methods framework

android.widget

- UI controls derived from View (Button, Checkbox...)

android.gesture

- create, recognize, load and save gestures



Graphics

`android.graphics`

- low level graphics tools such as canvases, color filters, points, and rectangles that let you handle drawing to the screen directly.
- Bitmap, Canvas, Camera (3D transformation, not the camera!) , Color, Matrix, Movie, Paint, Path, Rasterizer, Shader, SweepGradient, Typeface

`android.graphics.drawable`

- variety of visual elements that are intended for display only, such as bitmaps and gradients

`android.graphics.drawable.shapes`

`android.opengl`

- opengl-related utility classes, not the opengl!

`javax.microedition.khronos.opengles`

`javax.microedition.khronos.egl`

`javax.microedition.khronos.nio`

`android.renderscript`

- low-level, high performance means of carrying out mathematical calculations and 3D graphics rendering



Text rendering

android.text

- ◉ classes used to render or track text and text spans on the screen

android.text.method

- ◉ Classes that monitor or modify keypad input.

android.text.style

- ◉ Text styling mechanisms

android.service.textservice

- ◉ Provides classes that allow you to create spell checkers

android.view.textservice

- ◉ Use spelling checkers



Database, Web and location

android.database

- classes to explore data returned through a content provider.

android.database.sqlite

- the SQLite database management classes that an application would use to manage its own private database. Applications use these classes to manage private databases.

android.webkit

- tools for browsing the web.

android.location

- Address, Geocoder, Location, LocationManager, LocationProvider

com.google.android.maps



Network and telephony

`android.net`

- Socket-level network API - help with network access, beyond the normal `java.net.*` APIs.

`android.net.wifi`

`android.bluetooth`

`android.nfc`

- Near Field Communication (NFC) is a set of short-range wireless technologies, typically requiring a distance of 4cm or less to initiate a connection. NFC allows you to share small payloads of data between an NFC tag and an Android-powered device, or between two Android-powered devices.

`android.telephony`

- monitoring the basic phone information, plus utilities for manipulating phone number strings, SMS
- `CellLocation`, `PhoneNumberUtils`, `TelephonyManager`

`android.telephony.gsm`

- Obtain Cell location of GSM

`android.telephony.cdma`

- Obtain Cell location of CDMA - CDMA2000 is a family of 3G mobile technology standards



Media and speech

android.media

- manage various media interfaces in audio and video
- MediaPlayer, MediaRecorder, Ringtone, AudioManager, FaceDetector.

android.media.effect

- apply a variety of visual effects to images and videos

android.hardware

- support for hardware features, such as the camera and other sensors

android.drm

- Digital right management

android.mtp

- interact directly with connected cameras and other devices, using the PTP (Picture Transfer Protocol)

android.speech

- base class for recognition service implementations

android.speech.tts

- Text to Speech



General utilities

android.util

- date/time manipulation, base64 encoders and decoders, string and number conversion methods, and XML utilities.

android.sax

- XML parsing

android.test

- A framework for writing Android test cases and suites

android.preference

- manage application preferences and implement the preferences UI. Using these ensures that all the preferences within each application are maintained in the same manner and the user experience is consistent with that of the system and other applications

android.os

- basic operating system services, message passing, and inter-process communication
- Binder (ipc), FileObserver (changes in files) Handler e Looper (for dealing with message threads), BatteryManager, PowerManager



Still useful java packages

java.lang (e subpackages)

java.math

java.net + javax.net

java.io

java.nio

java.sql+javax.sql

- ◉ (android.database preferable if possible)

java.util



Other still useful packages

javax.crypto

javax.security

javax.xml

org.w3c.dom

org.xml.sax

org.apache.http (e subpackages)





Introducton to Applications

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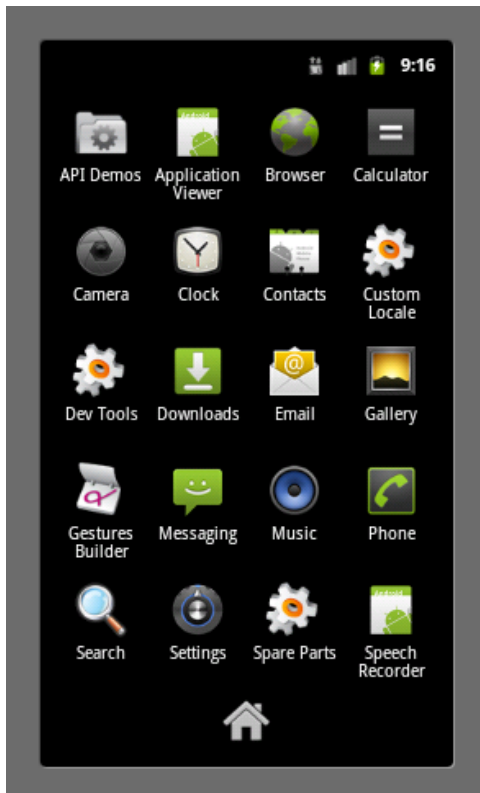
An Android *application* typically **consists of one or more related, loosely bound activities** for the user to interact with.

Android has an **application launcher** available at the Home screen, typically in a sliding drawer which displays applications as icons, which the user can pick to start an application.

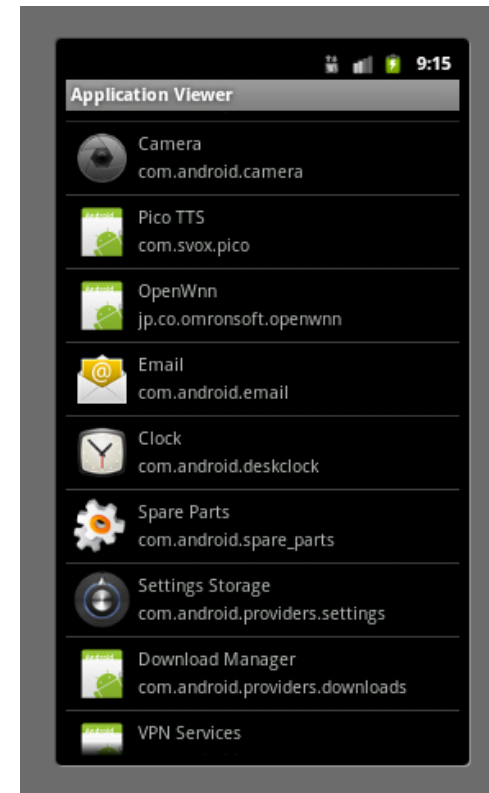
Android ships with a rich set of applications that may include email, calendar, browser, maps, text messaging, contacts, camera, dialer, music player, settings and others.



Application Launcher



You can replace it



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See e.g. <http://xjaphx.wordpress.com/2011/06/12/create-application-launcher-as-a-list/>



Application package

An application is a single APK (application package) file. An APK file roughly has three main components.

- **Dalvik executable**: all your Java source code compiled down to Dalvik executable. This is the code that runs your application.
- **Resources**: everything that is not code (images, audio/video clips, XML files describing layouts, language packs, and so on).
- **Native libraries**: e.g. C/C++ libraries.



Signing applications

Android applications must be **signed** before they can be installed on a device

To distribute your application commercially, you'll want to sign it with your own key.



Distributing applications

Unlike the iPhone, on Android, there can be **many different Android stores or markets**. Each one can have its own set of policies with respect to what is allowed, how the revenue is split, and so on.

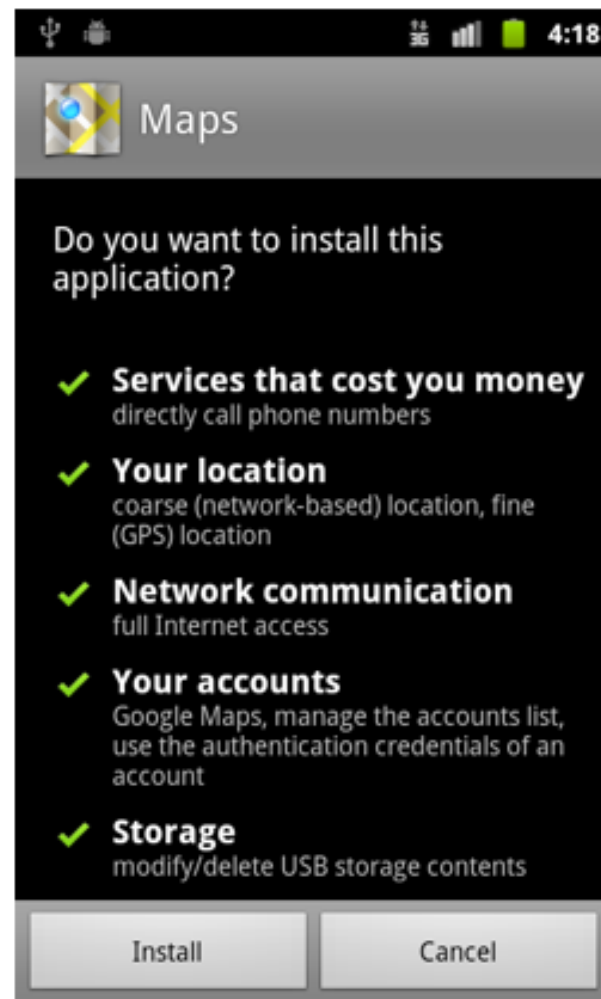
The biggest market currently is Android Market run by Google

Applications can also be distributed **via the web**. When you download an APK file from a website by using the Browser, the application represented by the APK file automatically gets installed on your phone.

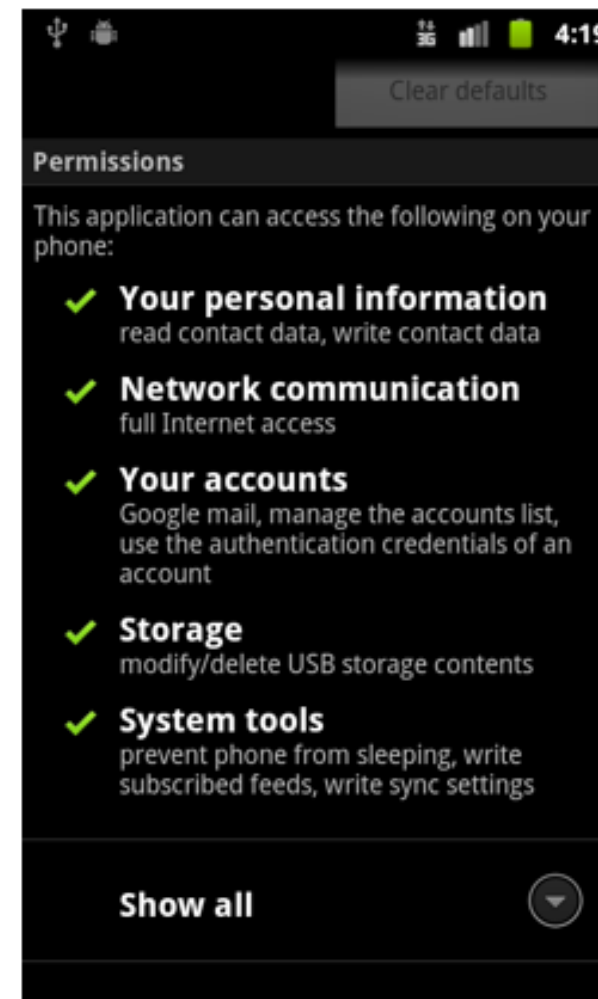


Granting and checking permissions

Permissions at Application Install -- Google Maps



Permissions of an Installed Application -- gMail



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Impostazioni->Altro->Gestione Applicazioni -> ...

Security

Android has a security framework.

<http://source.android.com/devices/tech/security/index.html>

The Android File System can be encrypted.

Encryption on Android uses the dm-crypt layer in the Linux kernel.



Security model

Android OS is a multi-user Linux in which **each application is a different user**.

By default, the system assigns each application a unique Linux user ID (the ID is unknown to the application). The system sets permissions for all the files in an application so that **only the user ID assigned to that application can access them**.

Each process has its own virtual machine (VM), so an application's code runs **in isolation from other applications**.

By default, every application runs in its own Linux process.



Principle of least privilege

Principle of least privilege (or “need to know”)

Each application, by default, has access only to the components that it requires to do its work and no more.

A variation of “information hiding”, or “Parnas’ principle”.



Data sharing

It's possible to arrange for two applications to **share the same Linux user ID**, in which case they are able to access each other's files.

Applications with the same user ID can also arrange to **run in the same Linux process and share the same VM** (the applications must also be signed with the same certificate).

An application can request permission to access device data such as the user's contacts, SMS messages, the mountable storage (SD card), camera, Bluetooth, and more. **All application permissions must be granted by the user at install time.**



Process lifetime

Android

- starts the process when any of the application's components need to be executed,
- shuts down the process when
 - it's no longer needed
 - the system must recover memory for other applications.

