Programming Android for fun and profit



New kid on the smartphone block



Source: http://www.appleinsider.com/articles/09/08/21/canalys_iphone_outsold_all_windows_mobile_phones_in_q2_2009.html





Handsets





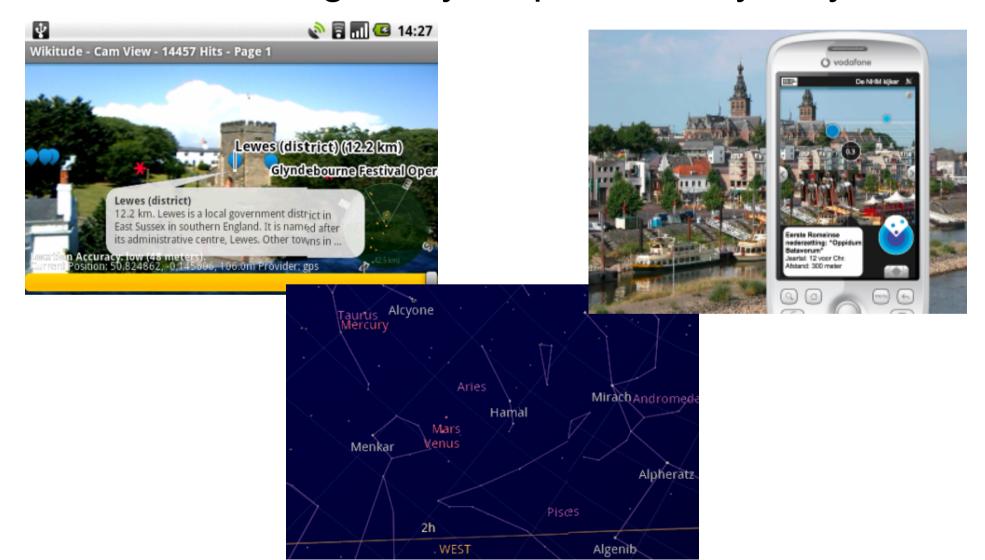


G1 Hardware

- 528 Mhz processor
- 192Mb RAM
- 256Mb ROM + 2Gb SD card
- wifi + 3G
- (not multi)touchscreen
- GPS
- accelerometer + compass
- keyboard

An aside: location-based AR

wikitude, Google Sky Map, Gamaray, Layar



Interface

- menu button
- back button
- notification bar
- slidey drawer thing
- slidey homescreen with widgets
- context menu (press and hold)



That's great, but...

- sometimes confusing interface
- sometimes buggy (apps crash, caller-ID FAIL)
- poor battery life
- low internal memory on G1 means you can't install all the apps you want

Software stack

- It's Java...
- ...but not as you know it
- Custom 'JVM' Dalvik
- Most of J2SE (minus GUI)
- Bundled libraries (android.*) for telephony, location, animation, OpenGL ES, SQLlite, etc.
- Apache XML libraries

Core Components

- Activities
- Intents
- Content Providers
- Services

All provide the illusion of constantly running applications

Enough talk, let's demo!

barcampdemo ▼ 2 src org.roddis.android HelloBarcamp.java HelloBarcamp onCreate(Bundle) 🔻 进 gen [Generated Java Files] de de la companya del companya del companya de la companya della companya de la companya della companya de la companya de la companya della companya del Google APIs [Android 1.5] 🔑 assets 🔻 👺 res drawable layout values AndroidManifest.xml default.properties

Publishing your app

- Package as .apk file
- Install on any phone (with "untrusted apps")
- Can publish to Marketplace for \$25 joining fee
- Marketplace currently has 8000+ apps

Another aside: ASE

- Android Scripting Environment
- Program on your phone, in Python, Perlm JRuby, BeanShell, Lua...
- E.g. serve the contents of your SD card in 4 lines of Python:

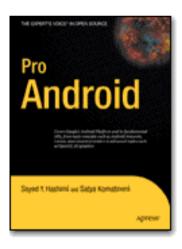
```
import SimpleHTTPServer
from os import chdir
chdir('/sdcard/')
SimpleHTTPServer.test()
```

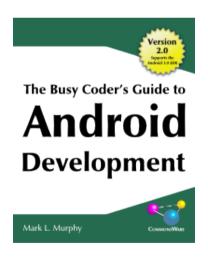
Conclusions

- Modern, flexible development framework
- Open source
- Low barrier to entry
 - programming
 - publishing

Further information

- Code + SDK http://code.google.com/android
- Development forums http://www.anddev.org/
- ASE http://code.google.com/p/android-scripting/
- Books





Slides available at www.roddis.org/android

Thanks

• Questions?

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