



Android Apps: Big Picture

UI Design using XML

- UI design code (XML) separate from the program (Java)
- Why? Can modify UI without changing Java program
- **Example:** Shapes, colors can be changed in XML file without changing Java program
- UI designed using either:
 - Drag-and drop graphical (WYSIWYG) tool or
 - Programming Extensible Markup Language (XML)
- XML: Markup language, both human-readable and machine-readable''





Android App Compilation

- Android Studio compiles code, data and resource files into Android PacKage (filename.apk).
 - .apk is similar to .exe on Windows
- Apps download from Google Play, or copied to device as filename.apk
- Installation = installing **apk file**



Activities

- Activity? 1 Android screen or dialog box
- Apps
 - Have at least 1 activity that deals with UI
 - Entry point, similar to **main()** in C
 - Typically have multiple activities
- Example: A camera app
 - Activity 1: to focus, take photo, launch activity 2
 - Activity 2: to view photo, save it
- Activities
 - independent of each other
 - E.g. Activity 1 can write data, read by activity 2
 - App Activities derived from Android's **Activity** class





Activity



Our First Android App

3 Files in "Hello World" Android Project

- Activity_my.xml: XML file specifying screen layout
- MainActivity.Java: Java code to define behavior, actions taken when button clicked (intelligence)

AndroidManifest.xml:

- Lists all screens, components of app
- Analogous to a table of contents for a book
- E.g. Hello world program has 1 screen, so AndroidManifest.xml has 1 item listed
- App starts running here (like main() in C)
- Note: Android Studio creates these 3 files for you







Inside "Hello World" AndroidManifest.xml



The app starts runnin(

Execution Order







Example Activity Java file (E.g. MainActivity.java)





Note: Android calls your Activity's onCreate method once it is created

Use screen layout (design) declared in file main.xml

Execution Order







Simple XML file Designing UI

- After choosing the layout, then widgets added to design UI
- XML Layout files consist of:
 - UI components (boxes) called Views
 - Different types of views. E.g
 - TextView: contains text,
 - ImageView: picture,
 - WebView: web page

• Views arranged into layouts or ViewGroups







Android Files



Files in an Android Project

- res/ (resources) folder contains static resources you can embed in Android screen (e.g. pictures, string declarations, etc)
- **res/menu/:** XML files for menu specs
- res/drawable-xyz/: images (PNG, JPEG, etc) at various resolutions
- res/raw: general-purpose files (e.g. audio clips, mpeg, video files, CSV files
- res/values/: strings, dimensions, etc





Concrete Example: Files in an Android Project

- res/layout: layout, dimensions (width, height) of screen cells are specified in XML file here
- **res/drawable-xyz/:** The images stored in jpg or other format here
- **java/:** App's response when user clicks on a selection is specified in java file here
- AndroidManifext.XML: Contains app name (Pinterest), list of app screens, etc





Editting in Android Studio

Editting Android

- Can edit apps in:
 - Text View: edit XML directly
 - Design View: or drag and drop widgets unto emulated phone







Android UI Design in XML

Recall: Files Hello World Android Project

XML file used to design Android UI

- 3 Files:
 - Activity_main.xml: XML file specifying screen layout
 - MainActivity.Java: Java code to define behavior, actions taken when button clicked (intelligence)

AndroidManifest.xml:

- Lists all app components and screens
- Like a table of contents for a book
- E.g. Hello world program has 1 screen, so AndroidManifest.xml has 1 item listed
- App starts running here (a bit like main() in C), launching activity with a tag "LAUNCHER"



Widgets

- Android UI design involves arranging widgets on a screen
- Widgets? Rectangles containing texts, image, etc
- Screen design: Pick widgets, specify attributes (dimensions, margins, etc)





Design Option 1: Drag and Drop Widgets

- Drag and drop widgets in Android Studio Design View
- Edit widget properties (e.g. height, width, color, etc)





Design Option 2: Edit XML Directly

- Text view: Directly edit XML file defining screen (activity_main.xml)
- Note: dragging and dropping widgets in design view auto-generates corresponding XML in Text view







Android Widgets

Example: Some Common Widgets

- TextView: Text in a rectangle
- EditText: Text box for user to type in text
- **Button:** Button for user to click on





TextView Widget

- Text in a rectangle
- Just displays text, no interaction

```
<TextView
android:layout_width="match_parent"
android:layout_height="wrap_content"
android:text="This is a 'sans' demo!"
android:typeface="sans"
/>
```

XML code



TextView Widgets

Common attributes:

- typeface (android:typeface e.g monospace), bold, italic, (android:textStyle), text size, text color (android:textColor e.g. #FF0000 for red), width, height, padding, background color
- Can also include links to email address, url, phone number,
 - web, email, phone, map, etc



TextView

- TextView widget is available in widgets palette in Android Studio Layout editor
 - Plain TextView, Large text, Medium text and Small text

• After dragging Textview widget in, edit properties

P	operties	? 5 🕇
	singleLine	
	stateListAnimator	
	text	@string/hello_wor
	textAlignment	
	textAppearance	
	textColor	
	textColorHighlight	
	textColorHint	
	textColorLink	
	textIsSelectable	
	textSize	
Þ	textStyle	[]
	theme	
	translationZ	
	typeface	
	viewName	
	visibility	



Widget ID

- Every widget has ID, stored in android:id attribute
- Using Widget ID declared in XML, widget can be referenced, modified in java code (More later)

Pr	operties	? 5 7
	ellipsize	
	enabled	
	focusable	
	focusableInTouch	Moc
	fontFamily	
Þ	gravity	0
	height	
	hint	
	id	textView2
	importantForAcce	ssil
	inputMethod	
Þ	inputType	Π
	labelFor	
	lines	
	linksClickable	
	longClickable	

Button Widget

- Clickable Text or icon on a Widget (Button)
- E.g. "Click Here"
- Appearance can be customized
- Declared as subclass of TextView so similar attributes (e.g. width, height, etc)





Button in Android Studio

- **Button** widget available in palette of Android Studio graphical layout editor
- Drag and drop button, edit its attributes





Responding to Button Clicks

- May want Button press to trigger some action
- How?

Activity_my.xml

1. In XML file (e.g. Activity_my.xml), set android:onClick attribute to specify method to be invoked



2. In Java file (e.g. MainActivity.java) declare method/handler to take desired action

MainActivity.java

public void someMethod(View theButton) {
 // do something useful here



Embedding Images: ImageView and ImageButton

- ImageView: display image (not clickable)
- ImageButton: Clickable image

Use android:src attribute to specify image source in drawable folder (e.g. @drawable/icon)

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<ImageView xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
 android:id="@+id/icon"
 android:layout_width="match_parent"
 android:layout_height="match_parent"
 android:adjustViewBounds="two"
 android:src="@drawable/molecule"/>

File molecule.png in drawable/ folder





ImageView in Widgets Palette

- Can drag and drop ImageView from Widgets Palette
- Use pop-up menus (right-click) to specify:
 - src: choose image to be displayed
 - **scaleType:** choose how image should be scaled

scaleType		
src	<unset></unset>	
stateListAnimator	matrix fitXY	
textAlignment	fitStart	
thoma	fitCenter	
	fitEnd	
Eve	center centerCrop	





Options for Scaling Images (scaleType)



"center" centers image but does not scale it





"centerCrop" centers image, scales it (maintaining aspect ratio) so that shorter dimension fills available space, and crops longer dimension

"fitXY" scales/distorts image to fit ImageView, ignoring aspect ratio

EditText Widget

- Widget with box for user input
- Example:

<EditText

android:id="@+id/edittext"
android:layout_width="fill_parent"
android:layout_height="wrap_content"
android:layout_gravity="center"
android:gravity="center"
android:inputType="textPersonName"
android:hint="type your name" />

- Text fields can have different input types
 - e.g. number, date, password, or email address
- android:inputType attribute sets input type, affects
 - What type of keyboard pops up for user
 - E.g. if inputType is a number, numeric keyboard pops up





EditText Widget in Android Studio Palette

 A section of Android Studio palette has EditText widgets (or text fields)



Y		
	none	
	text	
	textCapCharacter	
	textCapWords	
	textCapSentences	
	textAutoCorrect	
	textAutoComplete	
	textMultiLine	
	textImeMultiLine	
	textNoSuggestion	
	textUri	
	textEmailAddress	
	textEmailSubject	
	textShortMessage	
	textLongMessage	
	textPersonName	
	textPostalAddress	
	textPassword	
	textVisiblePasswo	
	textWebEditText	
	textFilter	
	textPhonetic	
	textWebEmailAddr	
	textWebPassword	
	number	
	numberSigned	Edit
	numberDecimal	inni
	numberPassword	ΠΡ
	phone	

EditText inputType menu

Text Fields Section of Widget palette



Some Other Available Widgets



MapView

WebView



Rectangle that contains a map

Rectangle that contains a web page

Pickers

- TimePicker: Select a time
- DatePicker: Select a date
- Typically displayed in pop-up dialogs (TimePickerDialog or DatePickerDialog)





Spinner Controls

• user **must** select one of a set of choices

	1+ 36	util	7	9:12
ontolSamples				_
Pick a Continent				
Africa			(
Antarctica			0	
Asia			(
Australia			0	
Europe			(
North America			0	
Parala America			(2



Checkbox

USB debugging Debug mode when USB is connected

- Checkbox has 2 states: checked and unchecked
- XML code to create Checkbox

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<CheckBox xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
 android:id="@+id/check"
 android:layout_width="wrap_content"
 android:layout_height="wrap_content"
 android:text="@string/unchecked"/>

Other Indicators





ProgressBar



RatingBar

- Chronometer
- DigitalClock
- AnalogClock





Android Layouts in XML

Android UI using XML Layouts

- Layout? Pattern in which multiple widgets are arranged
- Layouts contain widgets
- In Android internal classes, widget is child of layout
- Layouts (XML files) stored in **res/layout**





Some Layouts

- FrameLayout,
- LinearLayout,
- TableLayout,
- GridLayout,
- RelativeLayout,
- ListView,
- GridView,
- ScrollView,
- DrawerLayout,
- ViewPager



LinearLayout

- aligns child elements (e.g. buttons, text boxes, pictures, etc.) in one direction
- orientation attribute defines direction (vertical or horizontal):
 - E.g. android:orientation="vertical"

Linear Layout

 	 _

Orientation: vertical

Orientation: horizontal





3:02

5554:AndroidBase

Hello World, UISamplesActivity!

Yet Another

Sample !!!!

Sample Number 1

Layout Width and Height Attributes

- wrap_content: widget as wide/high as its content (e.g. text)
- match_parent: widget as wide/high as its parent layout box
- **fill_parent:** older form of **match_parent**





LinearLayout in Android Studio

LinearLayout in Android Studio Graphical Layout Editor



Linear Layout

• After selecting LinearLayout, toolbars buttons to set parameters





LinearLayout Attributes



XML attributes	
android:baselineAligned	When set to false, prevents the layout from aligning its children's baselines.
android:baselineAlignedChildIndex	When a linear layout is part of another layout that is baseline aligned, it can specify which of its children to baseline align to (that is, which child TextView).
android:divider	Drawable to use as a vertical divider between buttons.
android:gravity	Specifies how an object should position its content, on both the X and Y axes, within its own bounds.
android:measureWithLargestChild	When set to true, all children with a weight will be considered having the minimum size of the largest child.
android:orientation	Should the layout be a column or a row? Use "horizontal" for a row, "vertical" for a column.
android:weightSum	Defines the maximum weight sum.

Ref: https://developer.android.com/reference/android/widget/LinearLayout.html

Setting Attributes

```
k?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<LinearLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.c
android:layout_width="fill_parent"
android:layout_height="fill_parent"
android:background="#ff00ff"
android:orientation="vertical" >
```

```
public class UISamplesActivity extends Activity {
    /** Called when the activity is first created. */
    @Override
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.main);
    }
    public void change(View v) {
        LinearLayout vg = (LinearLayout)this.findViewById(R.id.main_Layout);
        Log.d("UI SAMPLE", vg + "");
        vg.setOrientation(LinearLayout.HORIZONTAL);
    }
} Can also design UI, set attributes in Java
    program (e.g. ActivityMain.java) (More later)
```



Adding Padding



Paddings sets space between layout sides and its parent (e.g. the screen)



Setting Margins

- Can increase gap (margin) between adjacent widgets
- E.g. To add margin between two buttons, in declaration of bottom button



• Other options

CLICK ME

android:layout_marginRight

android:layout_marginLeft





Gravity Attribute





Linear Layout Weight Attribute

- Specifies "importance", larger weights takes up more space
- Can set width, height = 0 then
 - weight = percent of height/width you want element to cover





Scrolling

- Phone screens are small, scrolling content helps
- Examples: Scroll through
 - large image
 - Linear Layout with lots of elements
- Views for Scrolling:
 - ScrollView for vertical scrolling
 - HorizontalScrollView
- Rules:
 - Only one direct child View
 - Child could have many children of its own

```
<ScrollView

...>

<LinearLayout>

....

<!-- you can have as many Views in here as you want -->

</LinearLayout>

</ScrollView>
```



RelativeLayout

- First element listed is placed in "center"
- Positions of children specified relative to parent or to each other.

id=F	id= E	id= G
toLeftOf E	center_horizontal	toRightOf ·E
above D	ParentTop	above B
id=D center_vertical ParentLeft	id= A Center	id= B center_vertical ParentRight
id= I	id= C	id= H
toLeftOf C	center_horizontal	toRightOf C
below D	ParentBottom	below B

Relative Layout



RelativeLayout available In Android Studio palette



Positioning Views Relative to Parent Layout

- Position a view (e.g. button, TextView) relative to its parent
- Example: Button aligned to top, right in a Relative Layout



See Head First Android Development (2nd edition) page 169-220 for more examples

Table Layout

- Specify number of rows and columns of views.
- Available in Android Studio palette







GridLayout

- In TableLayout, Rows can span multiple columns only
- In GridLayout, child views/controls can span multiple rows AND columns



 See section "GridLayout Displays Views in a Grid" in Head First Android Development 2nd edition (pg 824)



Absolute Layout

• Allows specification of exact x,y coordinates of layout's children.



Absolute Layout



FrameLayout

- child elements pinned to top left corner of layout
- adding a new element / child draws over the last one





Other Layouts: Tabbed Layouts







Android Example: My First App (Ref: Head First Android)

My First App

- Hello World program in Head First Android Development (Chapter 1)
- Creates app, types "Sup doge" in a TextView



HW0: Tutorials from YouTube Android Development Tutorials 1-8 by Bucky Roberts

- Tutorials 1 & 2 (Optional): Installing Java, Android Studio on your owh machine
 - **Tutorial 1:** Install Java (Android studio needs this at least ver. 1.8)
 - Tutorial 2: Install Android Studio
- Tutorial 3: Setting up your project
 - How to set up a new Android Project, add new Activity (App screen)
- Tutorial 4: Running a Simple App
 - How to select, run app on a virtual device (AVD)
- **Tutorial 5:** Tour of Android Studio Interface
 - Intro to Android Studio menus, toolbars and Drag-and-drop widget palette



References



- Android App Development for Beginners videos by Bucky Roberts (thenewboston)
- Ask A Dev, Android Wear: What Developers Need to Know, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zTS2NZpLyQg
- Ask A Dev, Mobile Minute: What to (Android) Wear, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n5Yjzn3b_aQ
- Busy Coder's guide to Android version 4.4
- CS 65/165 slides, Dartmouth College, Spring 2014
- CS 371M slides, U of Texas Austin, Spring 2014