OSGi on Google Android using Apache Felix

Marcel Offermans Karl Pauls

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Karl Pauls





- Karl Pauls
- Marcel Offermans







Marcel Offermans







Marcel Offermans







Marcel Offermans



Agenda

- Android
 - Introduction and architecture
 - Hello world demo
- OSGi
 - Introduction
 - Framework and compendium
- Apache Felix on Google Android
 - Getting it to run
 - Creating a dynamic application: paint program



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Android

- First SDK release: november 2007
- Android Developer Challenge, \$10M prize money
- Current SDK (M5 RC15): march 2008
- Phones: second half of 2008?

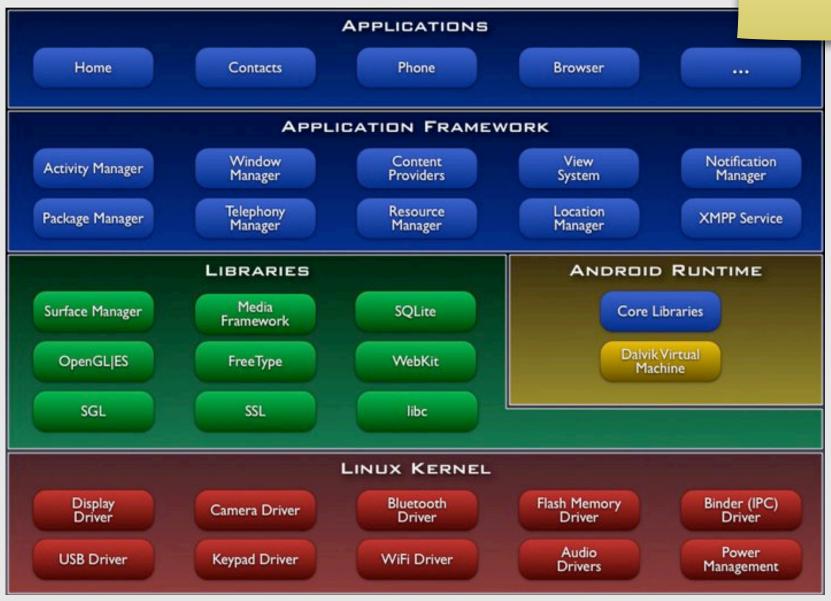


Android

- Device Architecture
- Dalvik Virtual Machine
- From source to deployment
- Anatomy of an application
- Application life cycles

Architecture

This image is rather low-res, so perhaps draw it again...



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Dalvik Virtual Machine

- interpreter-only, register based virtual machine
- optimized to run multiple VM instances
- executes files in .dex format
- runs on posix-compliant operating systems
- looks like Java ;)



From source to deployment



- Eclipse Plugin: Android Development Tools
 - compiles and packages automatically
 - allows you to launch and debug in the emulator
- Command line: activityCreator.py
 - generates project structure
 - Ant build.xml file, optionally IntelliJ project files

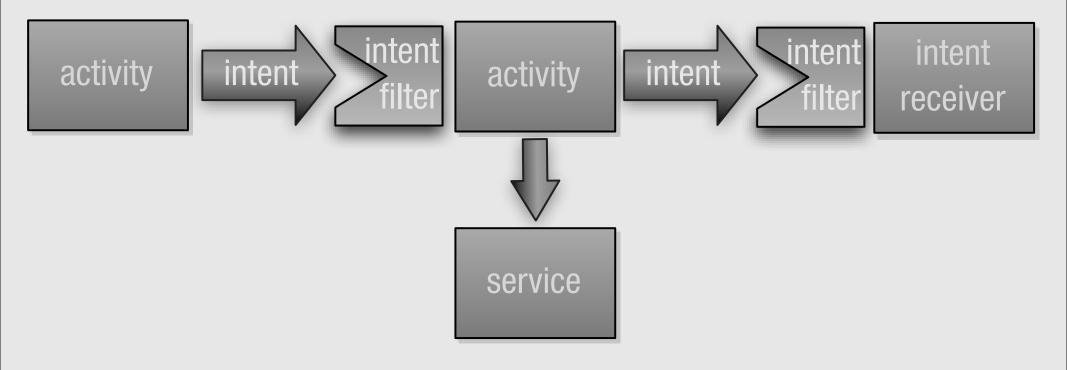


Anatomy

- activity, a single screen
- intent, describes what the application wants done
- intent filter, describes intents that can be handled
- intent receiver, non UI code that reacts to intent
- service, background process with API
- content provider, for shared data access



Anatomy Example



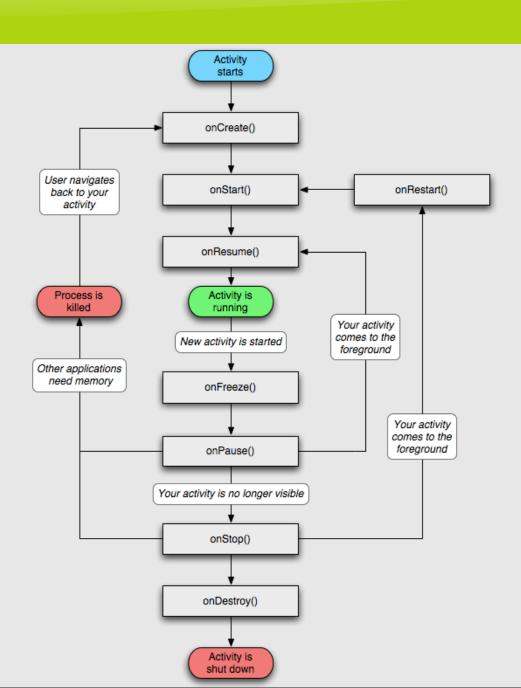
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Life cycle

- Application life cycle is not controlled by the application itself
- Android maintains an "importancy hierarchy" based on the components and their state:
 - foreground process
 - visible process
 - service process
 - background process
 - empty process



Life cycle (Activity)



Hello world demo!

- Create an application with an activity in Eclipse
- Set "hello world" text
- Create a breakpoint
- Deploy and debug the application



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OSGi history

- Started as an embedded platform for the "home gateway"
- Originally under the JCP as JSR-8 (1999)
- OSGi alliance, consists of a large number of big companies, with the following mission:
 - Maintaining and publicizing the OSGi specification.
 - Certifying implementations.
 - Organising events.
- Current version: OSGi Release 4.1 (JSR-291)



OSGi today

OSGi technology is the dynamic module system for Java™

OSGi technology is Universal Middleware.

OSGi technology provides a service-oriented, component-based environment for developers and offers standardized ways to manage the software lifecycle. These capabilities greatly increase the value of a wide range of computers and devices that use the Java $^{\text{TM}}$ platform.

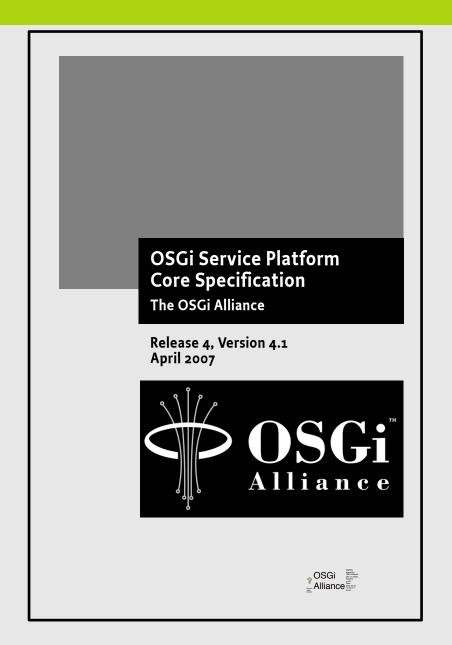


OSGi Alliance

- Expert Groups:
 - core platform (CPEG)
 - mobile (MEG)
 - vehicle (VEG)
 - enterprise (EEG)
 - residential (REG)
- Working Groups:
 - marketing
 - requirements



OSGi specification







OSGi Framework Layering

SERVICE MODEL

L3 - Provides a publish/find/bind service model to decouple bundles

LIFECYCLE

L2 - Manages the life cycle of a bundle in a framework without requiring the vm to be restarted

MODULE

L1 - Creates the concept of a module (aka. bundles) that use classes from each other in a controlled way according to system and bundle constraints

Execution Environment

L0 -

OSGi Minimum Execution Environment CDC/Foundation
JavaSE

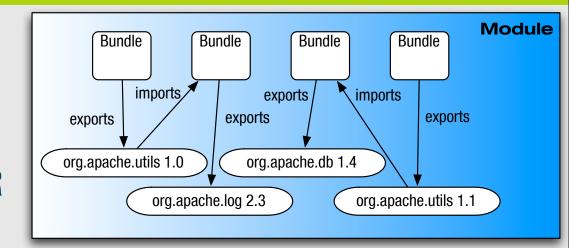
Module Layer (1/3)

- Unit of deployment is the bundle i.e., a JAR
- Separate class loader per bundle
 - Class loader graph
 - Independent namespaces
 - Class sharing at the Java package level



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Module Layer (2/3)

- Multi-version support
 - i.e., side-by-side versions
- Explicit code boundaries and dependencies
 - i.e., package imports and exports
- Support for various sharing policies
 - i.e., arbitrary version range support
- Arbitrary export/import attributes
 - Influence package selection



Module Layer (3/3)

- Sophisticated class space consistency model
 - Ensures code constraints are not violated
- Package filtering for fine-grained class visibility
 - Exporters may include/exclude specific classes from exported package
- Bundle fragments
 - A single logical module in multiple physical bundles
- Bundle dependencies
 - Allows for tight coupling when required



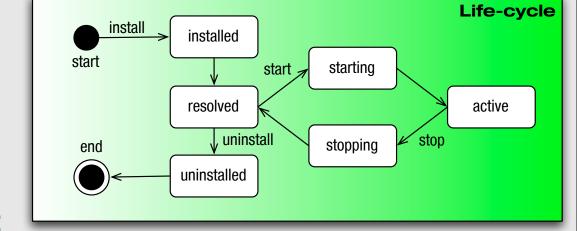
Life-cycle Layer

- Managed life cycle
 - States for each bundle;
- Allows updates of existing bundles.
 - Dynamically install, start, update, and uninstall

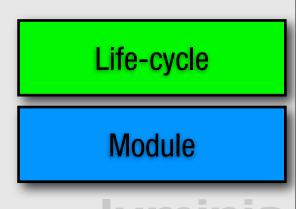


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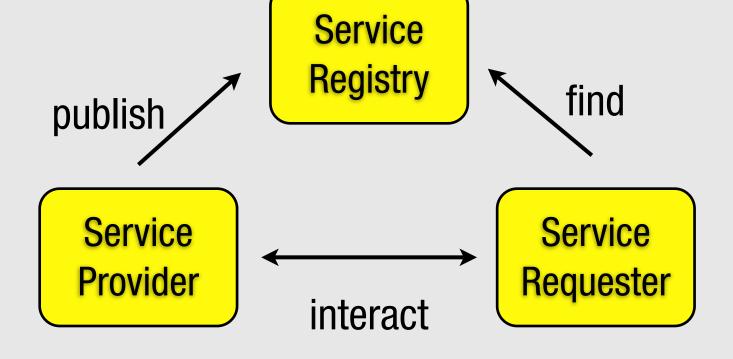


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Service Layer

 OSGi framework promotes service oriented interaction pattern among bundles

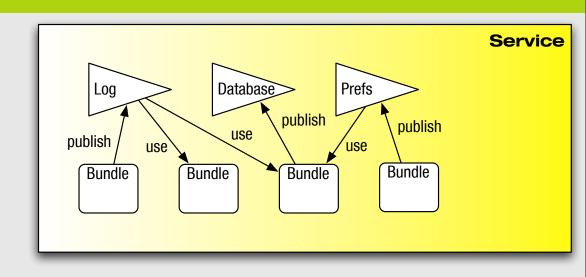


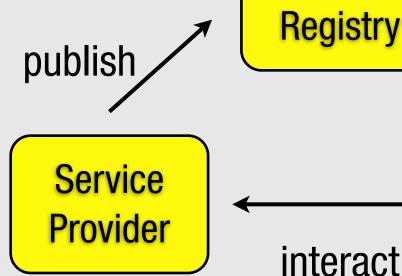
Life-cycle Module

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Service Layer

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Service Registry find

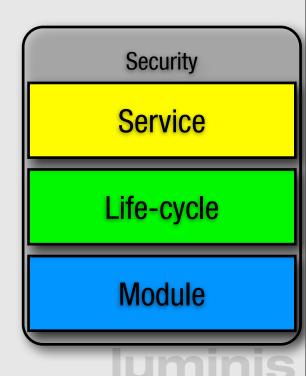
Service Requester Service

Life-cycle

Module

Security

- Optional Security Layer based on Java permissions
- Infrastructure to define, deploy, and manage fine-grained application permissions
- Code authenticated by location or signer
- Well defined API to manage permissions
 - PermissionAdmin
 - ConditionalPermissionAdmin



Shameless plug:

if you want to know more about security in OSGi, come to our talk about

Building Secure OSGi Applications



Leveraging standard services

- Specification:
 - OSGi compendium catalog of standard service descriptions
- Implementations:
 - OBR repository at bundles.osgi.org over 1400 bundles, implement compendium and other services
 - Maven repository and third party OBR's
 - More and more projects are made OSGi compatible, for example:
 - Apache Commons OSGi



OSGi compendium



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OSGi compendium

User Admin

Initial Provisioning

Wire Admin

XML Parser

Log

Device Access

Measurement and State

Preferences

Configuration Admin

Position

Metatype

Event Admin

Service Tracker

10 Connector

HTTP

Execution Environment Spec

Declarative Services

UPnP™ Device



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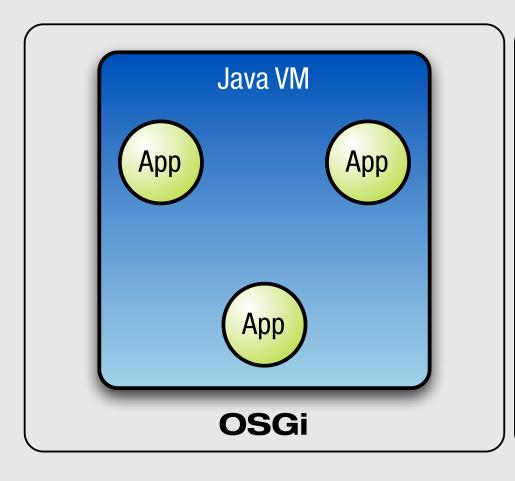
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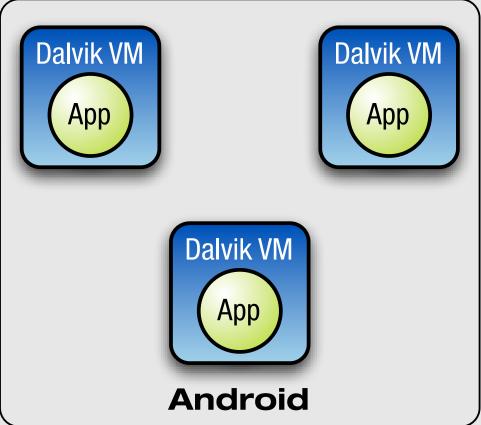
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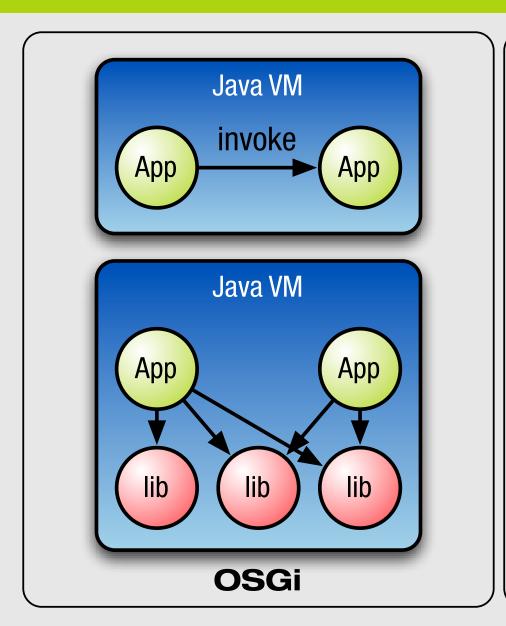
Why OSGi and Android?

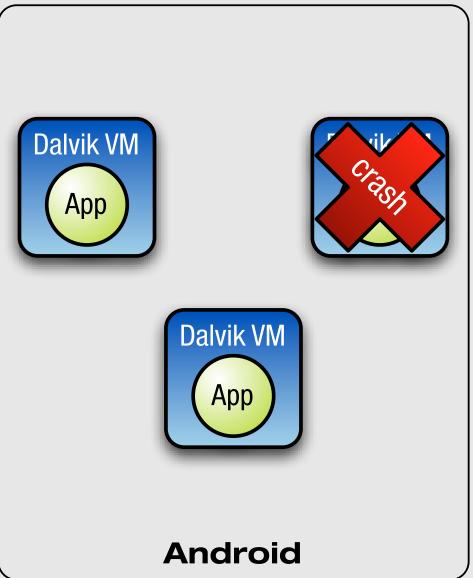
Models are different





Benefits of each model







Services in Android

- Must be declared in AndroidManifest.xml
- Can be started and stopped:
 Context.startService and Context.stopService()
- You can bind to a service if you want to talk to it
- Services can run in remote processes, in which case there is an Android IDL compiler to generate stubs
 - handles primitives, some collections and Parcelable's by value
 - handles other AIDL interfaces by reference



Getting Felix to run...

- First step, getting the framework to run
 - Apache Felix is very portable, so we just dex'ed it
 - found a couple of issues, fixed in release 1.0.3
- Second step, dynamically loading bundles
 - the hard part was finding a way to load classes
 - found undocumented internal class
 - Google, we need an official API for this!
- For more details:
 http://blog.luminis.nl/roller/luminis/entry/osgi_on_google_android_using



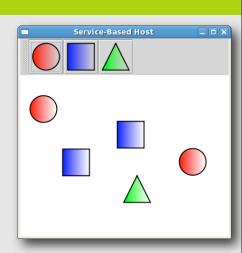
...others soon followed

- At EclipseCon 2008, Santa Clara:
 - Neil Bartlett and BJ Hargrave, ported both Equinox and Concierge to Android
 - Slides at: https://eclipsecon.greenmeetingsystems.com/attachments/download/390
- ProSyst announced:
 - A port of their mBedded Server: http://www.adon-line.de/kunden/prosystBlog/?p=24
- Knopflerfish
 - We talked to Eric Wistrand and Christer Larsson of MakeWave but they have no plans yet

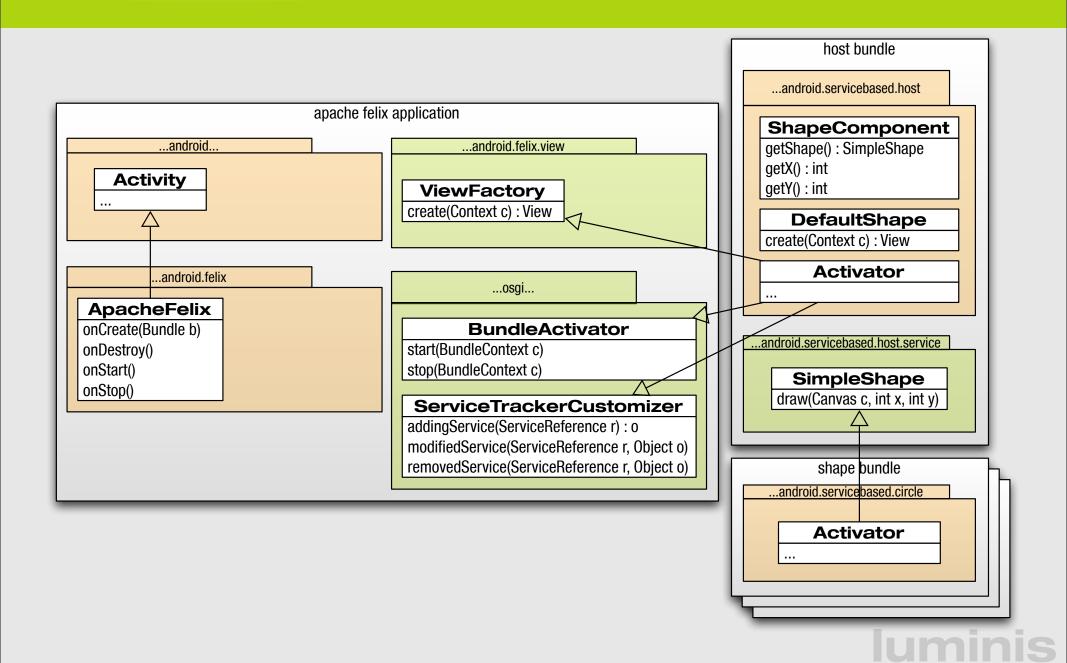


A dynamic application

- Apache Felix framework
 - embeds an activity to hook into;
 - embeds file install bundle for easy deployment.
- Host bundle that provides a canvas and a toolbar
- Shape bundles that add new shapes
- Based on example from Apache Felix website:
 http://felix.apache.org/site/apache-felix-application-demonstration.html



Architecture



Live demo!

- Deploying Felix to the Phone Emulator
- Installing the first bundle, the host application
- Adding and removing plugins: square, circle and triangle

Links

- Slides, docs and code: http://opensource.luminis.net/
- Android SDK: http://code.google.com/android/
- Open Handset Alliance: http://www.openhandsetalliance.com/
- Apache Felix and OSGi: http://felix.apache.org/ http://www.osgi.org/
- Karl Pauls: karl.pauls@luminis.nl
 Marcel Offermans: marcel.offermans@luminis.nl



Questions?!

