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Unit IV : Mobile HCI

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Notes

✓ Mobile Ecosystem

- Mobile is an entirely unique ecosystem and is made up of many different parts that must all work seamlessly together.
- The mobile ecosystem has a system of layers.
- Each layer is reliant on the others to create a seamless, end-to-end experience.

Services
Applications
Application Frameworks
Operating System
Platforms
Devices
Aggregators
Network
Operators

✓ Operators

- The base layer in the mobile ecosystem is the operator.
- Operators can be referred to as Mobile Network Operators (MNOs); mobile service providers, wireless carriers, or simply carriers; mobile phone operators; or cellular companies.

✓ Networks

- Operators operate wireless networks.
- The type of radio and antenna determines the capability of the network and the services that can enable on it.

✓ Devices

The phones, in the mobile industry are called as handsets or terminals.

✓ Platforms

- > A mobile platform's primary duty is to provide access to the device.
- ➤ To run software & services on each of these devices, there is a need of a "platform" or a core programming language in which all of the software is written.
- Software platforms are divided into three categories:
- Licenced
- Proprietary
- Open Source

Licensed

- Licensed platforms are sold to device makers for nonexclusive distribution on devices.
- Used to create a common platform of development Application Programming Interfaces(APIs).

1) Java Micro Edition (Java ME)

- Formerly known as J2ME.
- Java ME is the most predominant software platform.
- It is a licensed subset of the Java platform which provides a collection of Java APIs for the development of software for resource-constrained devices such as phones.

2) Binary Runtime Environment for Wireless (BREW)

- BREW is a licensed platform created by Qualcomm for mobile devices, mostly for the U.S. market.
- It is an interface-independent platform which runs a variety of application frameworks.

3) Windows Mobile

- Windows Mobile is a licensable & compact version of the Windows OS.
- It combined with a suite of basic applications for mobile devices that is based on the Microsoft Win32 API.

4) <u>LiMo</u>

- LiMo is a Linux-based mobile platform created by the LiMo Foundation.
- LiMo includes SDKs for creating Java, native, or mobile web applications using the WebKit browser framework.

> Proprietary

 Proprietary platforms are designed and developed by device makers for use on their devices.

1) Palm

 Uses three different proprietary platforms - Palm OS platform based on the C/C++ programming language, Windows Mobile-based platform and WebOS based on the WebKit browser framework.

2) BlackBerry

 Research in Motion maintains their own proprietary Java-based platform, used exclusively by their BlackBerry devices.

3) iPhone

 Apple uses a proprietary version of Mac OS X as a platform for their iPhone and iPod touch line of devices, which is based on Unix.

> Open Source

- > Open source platforms are mobile platforms that are freely available for users to download, alter, and edit.
- ➤ Open source mobile platforms are newer and slightly controversial, but they are increasingly gaining attraction with device makers and developers.
- Example :- Android.

√ Application Frameworks

- ➤ The first layer the developer can access is the application framework or Application Programming Interface (API).
- > Application frameworks run on top of operating system.
- ➤ These frameworks share core services such as communications, messaging, graphics, location, security, authentication, and many others.

✓ Some Examples of Application Frameworks:-

1) Java

 Java Applications written in the Java ME framework can be deployed across the majority of Java-based devices

2) S60

 The S60 platform, formerly known as Series 60, is the application platform for devices that run the Symbian OS.

3) BREW

 Applications written in the BREW application framework can be deployed across the majority of BREW-based devices, with slightly less cross-device adaption than other frameworks.

4) Flash Lite

 Adobe Flash Lite is an application framework that uses the Flash Lite and ActionScript frameworks to create vector-based applications.

5) Windows Mobile

- Applications written using the Win32 API can be deployed across the majority of Windows Mobile-based devices.
- Windows Mobile applications can be downloaded and installed over the air or loaded via a cable-connected computer.

6) Cocoa Touch

 Cocoa Touch is the API used to create native applications for the iPhone and iPod touch.

7) Android SDK

 It writes applications in C/C++ or use a Java virtual machine which allows developers to create native applications for any device that runs the Android platform.

8) Web Runtimes (WRTs)

 Web Runtimes are meant to be mini-frameworks, based on web standards, to create mobile widgets.

9) WebKit

 It is a browser technology, so applications can be created simply by using web technologies such as HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.

10) The Web

 The Web is the only application framework that works across virtually all devices and all platforms.

✓ Operating systems

 Operating systems often have core services or toolkits that enable applications to talk to each other and share data or services.

✓ Applications

 Application frameworks are used to create applications, such as a game, a web browser, a camera, or media player.

✓ Services

 Services include tasks such as accessing the Internet, sending a text message, or being able to get a location—basically, anything the user is trying to do.