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CMSC436: Programming Handheld Systems

Multi-Touch & Gestures

Today's Topics

MotionEvents

Touch Handling

Gestures

MotionEvent

Represents a movement in an input device reading pen, trackball, mouse, finger

MotionEvent

Action Code

State change that occurred

Action Values

Position and movement properties, such as time, source, location, pressure, and more

This lesson focuses on touch events read from a touch screen

MultiTouch

MultiTouch screens emit one movement trace per touch source

Individual touch sources are called pointers

MultiTouch

Each pointer has a unique ID for as long as it is active

MotionEvents can refer to multiple pointers

Each pointer has an index within the event, but that index may not be stable over time

Some MotionEvent actions

ACTION_DOWN

ACTION_POINTER_DOWN

ACTION_POINTER_UP

ACTION_MOVE

ACTION_UP

ACTION_CANCEL

Consistency Objectives

For touch events, Android *tries to guarantee* that touches

Go down one at a time

Move as a group

Come up one at a time or are cancelled

Applications should be tolerant to inconsistency

MotionEvent methods

```
getActionMasked()
getActionIndex()
getPointerId(int pointerIndex)
getPointerCount()
getX(int pointerIndex)
getY(int pointerIndex)
findPointerIndex (int pointerId)
```

Handling Touch Events on a View

The View being touched receives View.onTouchEvent(MotionEvent event)

onTouchEvent() should return true if the MotionEvent has been consumed; false otherwise

Handling Touch Events with a Listener

View.OnTouchListener defines touch event callback methods

boolean onTouch(View v, MotionEvent event)

View.setOnTouchListener() registers listener for Touch callbacks

Handling Touch Events with a Listener

onTouch() called when a touch event, such as pressing, releasing or dragging, occurs

onTouch() called before the event is delivered to the touched View

Should return true if it has consumed the event; false otherwise

Handling Multiple Touch Events

Multiple touches can be combined to form a more complex gesture

Must identify & process the combinations of touches

For example, a double tap consists of:

ACTION_DOWN, ACTION_UP, ACTION_DOWN, ACTION_UP in quick succession

Multi-touch Handling

Multi-touch Handling Example

1st touch →

 2^{nd} touch \rightarrow

1st lift →

 2^{nd} lift \rightarrow

Action	IDs
ACTION_DOWN	0
ACTION_MOVE	0
ACTION_POINTER_DOWN	1
ACTION_MOVE	0,1
ACTION_POINTER_UP	0
ACTION_UP	1

Multi-touch Handling Example

1st touch →

 2^{nd} touch \rightarrow

 2^{nd} lift \rightarrow

1st lift →

Action	IDs
ACTION_DOWN	0
ACTION_MOVE	0
ACTION_POINTER_DOWN	1
ACTION_MOVE	0,1
ACTION_POINTER_UP	1
ACTION_UP	0

Multi-touch Handling Example

1st touch →

 2^{nd} touch \rightarrow

3rd touch →

 2^{nd} lift \rightarrow

1st lift →

 3^{rd} lift \rightarrow

Action	ID
ACTION_DOWN	0
ACTION_POINTER_DOWN	1
ACTION_POINTER_DOWN	2
ACTION_MOVE	0,1,2
ACTION_POINTER_UP	1
ACTION_POINTER_UP	0
ACTION_UP	2

TouchIndicateTouchLocation

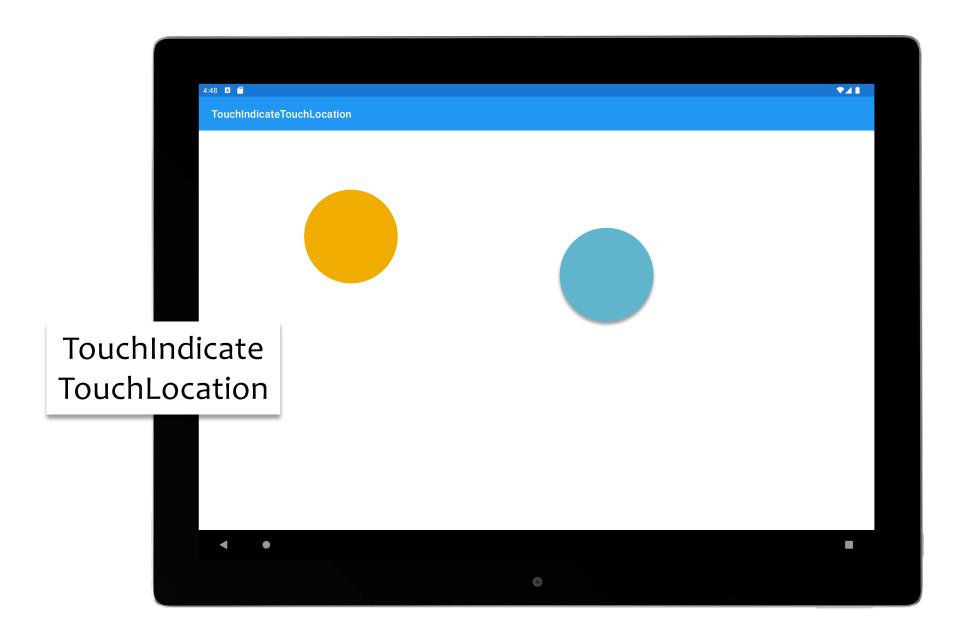
Application draws a circle wherever the users touches the screen

Circle's color is randomly selected

Redraws circles as user drags across the screen

TouchIndicateTouchLocation

The size of the circles are proportional to the number of currently active touches



GestureDetector

A class that recognizes common touch gestures Some built-in gestures include confirmed single tap, double tap, fling

GestureDetector

Activity creates a GestureDetector that implements GestureDetector.
OnGestureListener interface

Activity receives calls to onTouchEvent() when Activity is touched

onTouchEvent() should delegate call to GestureDetector.OnGestureListener. onTouchEvent()

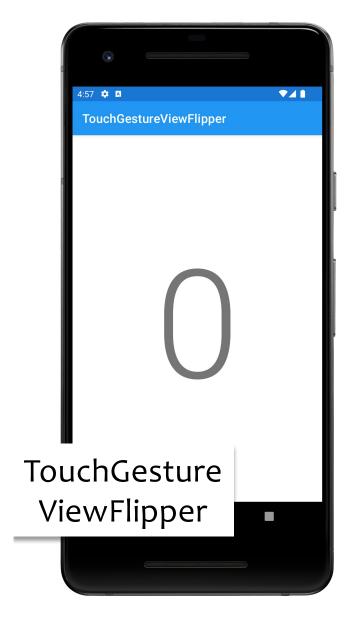
TouchGestureViewFlipper

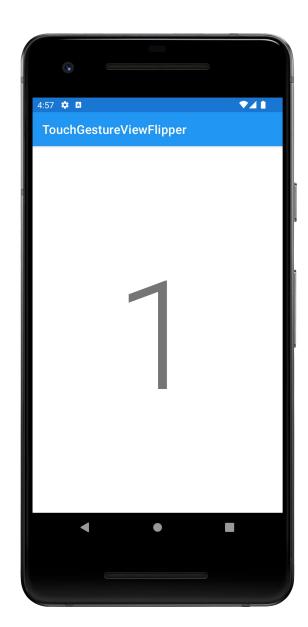
Shows a TextView displaying a number

If the user performs a right to left "fling" gesture,

The TextView will scroll off the screen

A new TextView will scroll in behind it







Creating Custom Gestures

GestureBuilder applications let you create & save custom gestures

Search in Google Play Store

Creating Custom Gestures

GestureLibraries supports loading custom gestures & then recognizing them at runtime

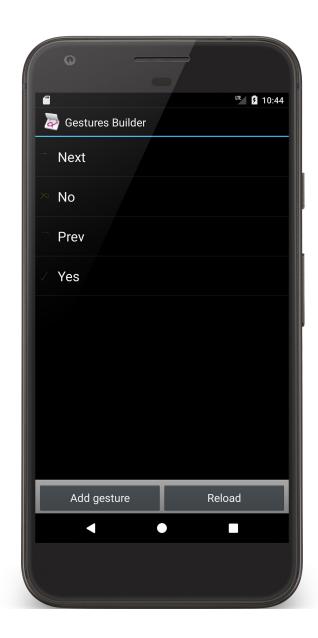
Creating Custom Gestures

Include a GestureOverlayView in your layout

The Overlay intercepts user gestures and invokes your application code to handle them

GestureBuilder

Can find Gesture Builder tool in Google Play Store Stores gestures to /mnt/sdcard/gestures Copy this file to /res/raw directory



TouchGestures

Application displays a small View with a colored background

User can swipe left and right to cycle between different candidate background colors

Can make a "check" or "X-like gesture" to set or cancel the application's current background color

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Touch Gestures



Next Time

MultiMedia

Example Applications

TouchIndicateTouchLocation

TouchGestureViewFlipper

TouchGestures