



SMARTPHONE APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT WITH GOOGLE'S ANDROID

School of Engineering and Computer Science

Fairfield University

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By

FAHIM UDDIN

<http://fahim.cooperativecorner.com>

email@fahim.cooperativecorner.com

203-543-9688

INTRODUCTORY HANDOUTS

From the Contents, The topics (1,2,3,4,10,11) will be discussed during lecture in classroom. Topics (5,6,7,8,9) are both given in handouts and will be discussed in class as well.

This document is very basic introduction to Android. Sole purpose is to let you read some basics and make you get your machines ready with necessary tools and discuss very first program to start getting our hands wet with it.

As you will see, Android is much-much-much-much more than that.

These handouts are written with sense of humor in mind so you don't fall asleep. Feel free to point out any technical error in here and I will reward you with \$1 Bill with my signature on it. ☺ - believe me?

Contents

1. Introduction to Smartphone Application Development and look at the market. (In Class)
2. Why bother developing for Smartphone's anyways? (In Class)
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4. Operating System for Smartphone's (In Class)
5. Introduction to Android (Handout and in Class)

6. Introduction to Java and Eclipse (Handout and in Class)

7. Preparing your machines (Handout)
 - i) Hardware requirements
 - ii) Software requirements
8. Hello Android Example with sample code. (Handout and in Class)
9. Study resources. (Handout)
10. Conclusion. (In Class)
11. Next Lecture coverage. (In Class)

5. INTRODUCTION TO ANDROID

It was originally developed by Android Inc. Google purchased it in 2005. Today it is being developed by OHA(Open Handset Alliance) led by Google and other companies.

OHA – a consortium of about 86 hardware, software and telecommunication companies who are devoted to promoting and advancing Open Standard for mobile devices. Google has releases Android code as Open Source under the Apache License. This License simply means: ***go ahead and download the source code (SDK) and develop it for free.*** Vendors and hardware manufacturer can extend android into their own versions to distinguish their products and devices.

Let me have you pick the definition you like.

- a) Android is simply a mobile operating system. It is actually modified version of Linux OS.
- b) The first truly open and comprehensive platform for mobile devices, all of the software to run a mobile phone but without the proprietary obstacles that have hindered mobile innovation. (<http://googleblog.blogspot.com/2007/11/wheres-my-gphone.html>)
- c) It is an open source mobile operating system that combines and builds on different parts of various open source projects. This makes it platform independent development tool.
- d) It is simply another OOP framework that helps building mobile devices environment that is running supported OS in conjunction. For example, the application that you develop using Android can run on any phone or tablet device that is running any of Google's OS versions (will discuss this later) and it does not matter who is manufacturer of device, unlike Apple App Development that requires Apple Device with iOS running as Operating System.
- e) *If you come up with your own definition of Android after your hands are wet enough with experience of development with Android, then please write that in lines below:*

YOUR DEFINITION: _____

6. INTRODUCTION TO JAVA AND ECLIPSE

For the purpose of this introductory lecture series, I will not dig into Java. You are encouraged to take Java courses otherwise if you are interested in Java as a Language and or a separate credit course. However, I highly recommend you to go through online documentation (<http://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/java/concepts/>). For regular 3 credit course class of Android Application Development, I will spend a lecture or two on Java to build basics upon which we can learn Android development.

You should also have received a PDF file along with these handouts for Java. Go through if you are brand new to Java.

Eclipse:

This is one of freely available and highly used and recommended IDE for developing Android (Java based) applications.

Take a look at the following recourses for more details.

1. <http://www.eclipse.org/>
2. <http://www.vogella.com/articles/EclipseWizards/article.html>
3. <http://www.eclipse.org/resources/>

7. PREPARING YOUR MACHINES

Hardware requirements:

Source:

http://www.netmite.com/android/mydroid/development/pdk/docs/system_requirements.html

Device Requirements

While Android is designed to support a wide variety of hardware platforms and configurations, this section provides recommended minimum device requirements.

Feature	Minimum Requirement	Notes
Chipset	ARM-based	For the first release, Android is primarily targeted towards mobile handsets and portions of the platform, such as Dalvik VM graphics processing, currently assume an ARM architecture.
Memory	128 MB RAM; 256 MB Flash	Android can boot and run in configurations with less

	External	memory, but it isn't recommended.
Storage	Mini or Micro SD	Not necessary for basic bring up, but recommended.
Primary Display	QVGA TFT LCD or larger, 16-bit color or better	The current Android interface targets a touch-based HVGA resolution display with a touch-interface no smaller than 2.8 inches in size. However, smaller displays will suffice for initial porting.
Navigation Keys	5-way navigation with 5 application keys, power, camera and volume controls	
Camera	2MP CMOS	Not required for basic bring up.
USB	Standard mini-B USB interface	Android uses the USB interface for flashing the device system images and debugging a running device.
Bluetooth	1.2 or 2.0	Not required for initial bring up.

If available, your Android device can also benefit from the following optional device characteristics:

- QWERTY keyboard
- WiFi
- GPS

Software Requirements

Supported OS:

- Windows XP (32-bit), Vista (32- or 64-bit), or Windows 7 (32- or 64-bit)
- Mac OS X 10.5.8 or later (x86 only)
- Linux (tested on Ubuntu Linux, Lucid Lynx)
 - GNU C Library (glibc) 2.7 or later is required.
 - On Ubuntu Linux, version 8.04 or later is required.
 - 64-bit distributions must be capable of running 32-bit applications.

Various version of Android OS:



1.5
Cupcake



1.6
Donut



2.0/2.1
Eclair



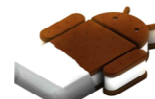
2.2
Froyo



2.3
Gingerbread



3.0/3.1
Honeycomb



...
Ice Cream Sandwich

Android 2.2 (Called Froyo. The oldest of the android operating system).
Android 2.3 (operating system. called Gingerbread. Supports Adobe flash).
Android 3.0 (only for tablets, usually 7 to 10 inches. Called Honeycomb)
Android 4.0 (only on Nexus cell phone and the newest tablets. Called Ice cream)

* For cell phones, I would recommend getting Android 2.3. Make sure that it is running Android 2.3 or Gingerbread. I would say 90 percent of the cell phones already have Gingerbread running on the android cell phones.

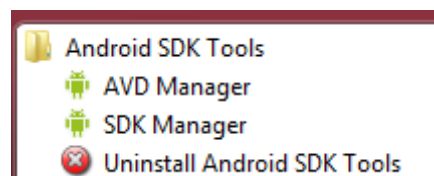
Setup Checklist

Source : <http://developer.android.com/>

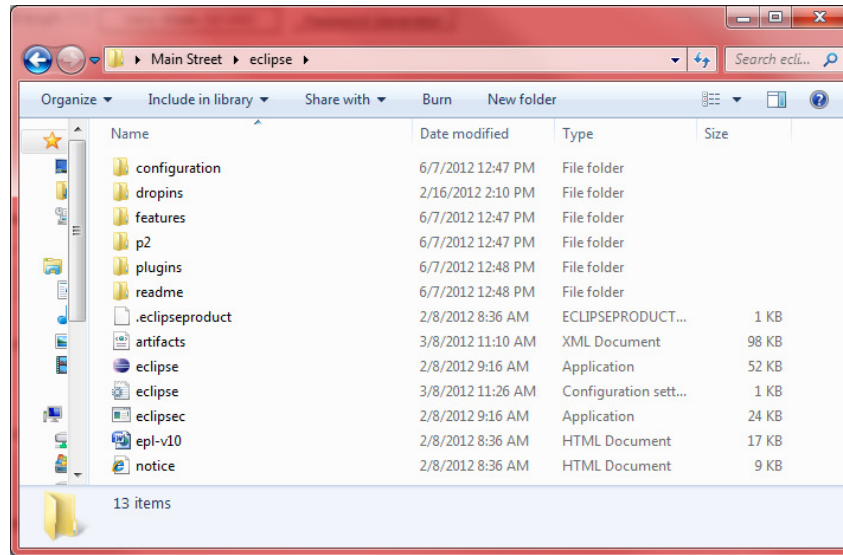
- Step1: Download your eclipse IDE ([Galileo](#)) or use your existing IDE.
- Step2: Follow the android link section "Installing the [ADT Plugin](#)" for eclipse.
- Step3: Download the SDK [android-sdk_r04-windows.zip](#) and save it in a location.
- Step4: Unzip the SDK and click on the android-sdk-windows\SDK Setup.exe
- Step5: You will see a window popup, for some reason it fails saying HTTPS.
- Step6: Go to settings check the checkbox "force https://.....".
- Step7: Now you should see list of Android SDK's,
- Step8: Choose , 1. SDK platform Android 2.0.1, API 6, Revision 1, 2. Android SDK Tools, revision 4,3.Google APIs by Google Inc., Android API 6, revision 1, 4.Documentation if you want.
- Step9: Accept all, will install the sdk in android-sdk-windows\platforms\android-2.0.1
- Step10: Go back to eclipse windows -> preferences -> Android -> set your sdk unzipped location and save it.

8. HELLO ANDROID EXAMPLE WITH SAMPLE CODE

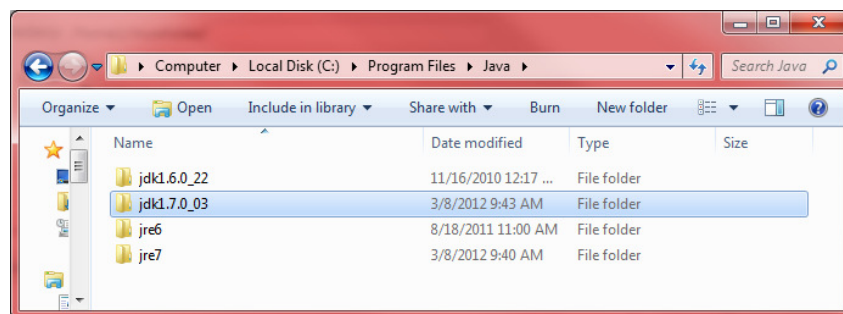
Before you begin, make sure that you see the following in your program files menu if installed with default settings.



Eclipse IDE is installed somewhere on your file system on your workstation.



Don't forget Java JDK

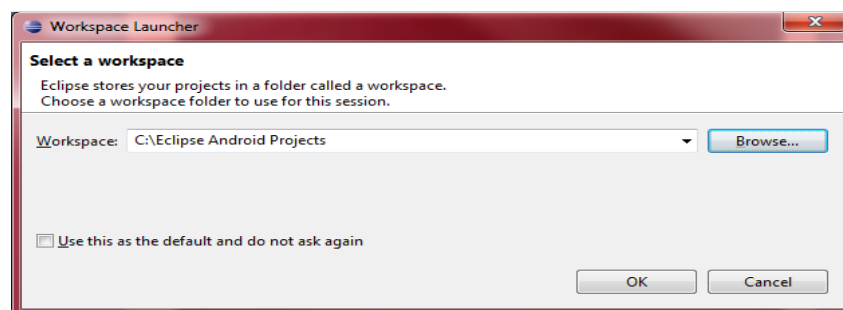


Alright. That is good for now.

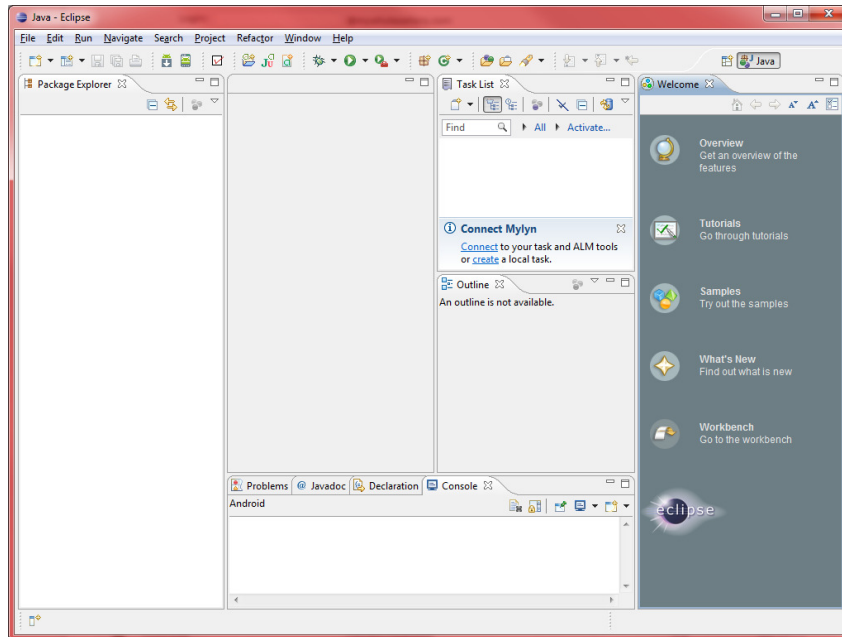
Let open the Eclipse,

Double click the eclipse Icon that has type as Application:

After splash screen disappears, you would see a dialog box where you need to provide IDE with a location of a folder where you like your projects to be saved as file system. I would create a folder in C drive as the following:

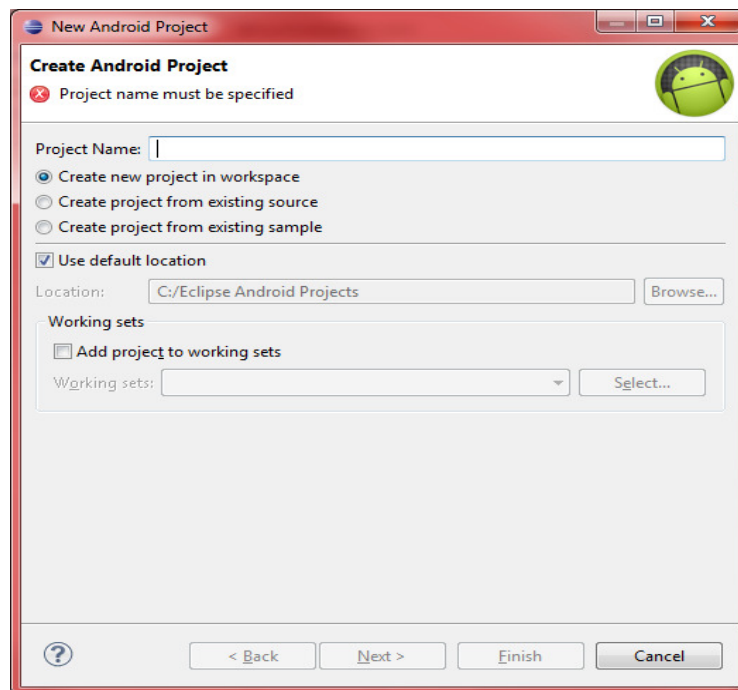


Hang in there guys after clicking on OK button, you would soon see the screen as below screen shot. Yes, I know it took little while (could be slow).



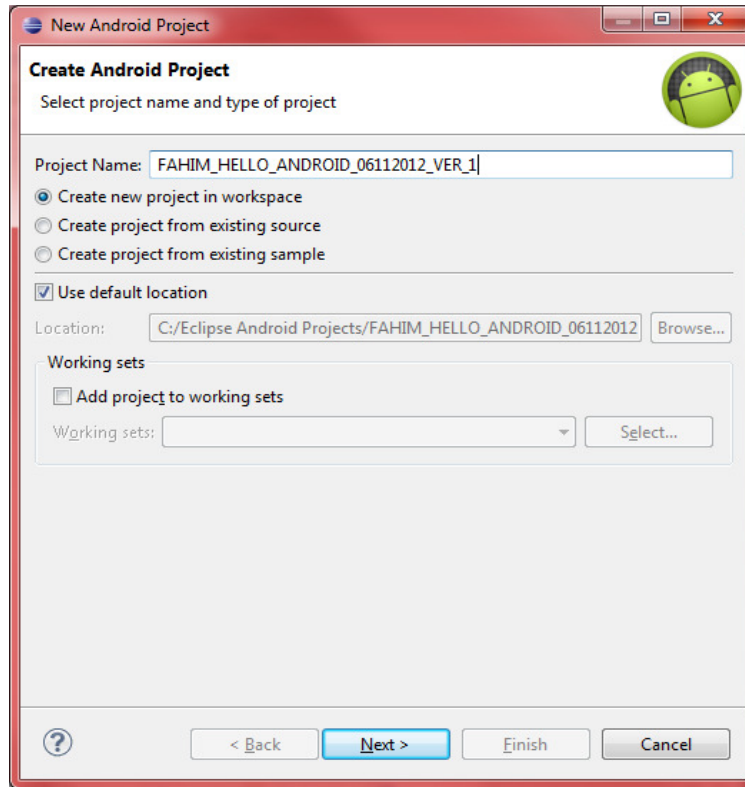
If you like to dig more into IDE in general, then play with it as much as possible, I will skip to the our business directly and that is **creating brand new Android project.**

Go to File Menu and follow New to Android Project type and you would get as screen below.

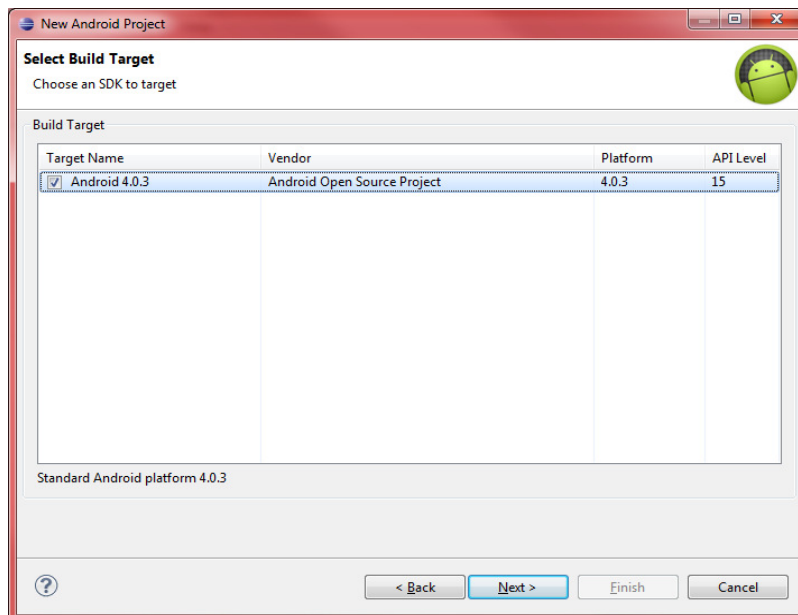


Follow the following format for any project name. My name is FAHIM. You can have your own name if you don't like mine.

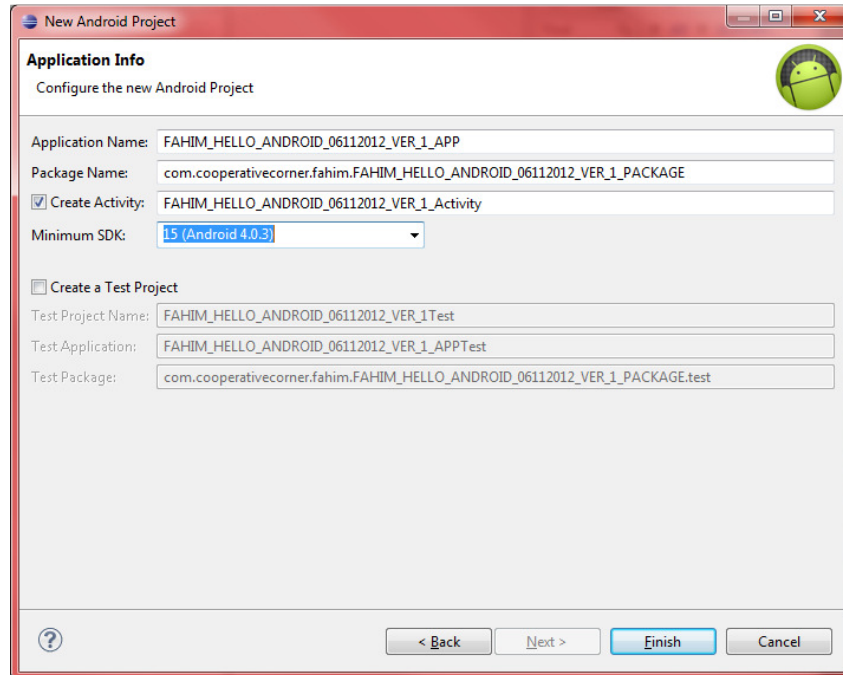
FAHIM_ProjectName_ANDROID_MMDDYYYY_VER_1



Do you really want me to tell you what to do here?



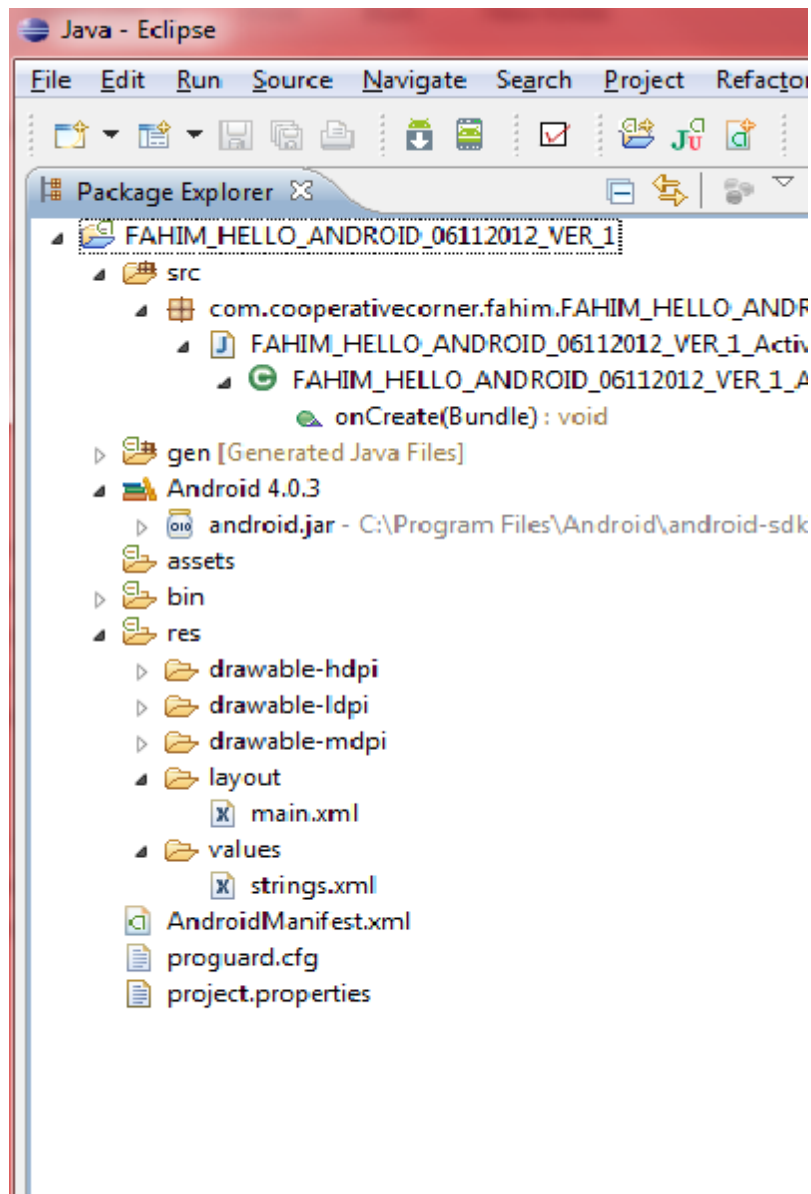
I will discuss various choices during lecture on this window.



When you click finish, You are done. Good night.

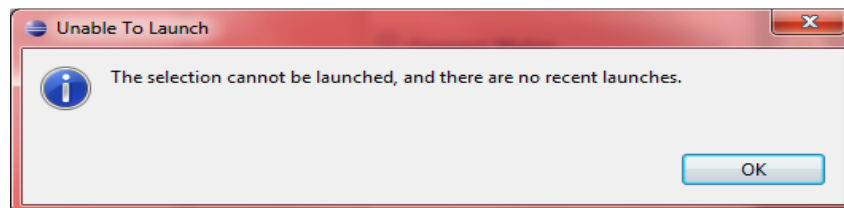


Eclipse will provide you with basic structure of your application and folders with sample code already typed in associated files. Take a look at image on next page.



Let's run it as is.

Click on Start Green Icon

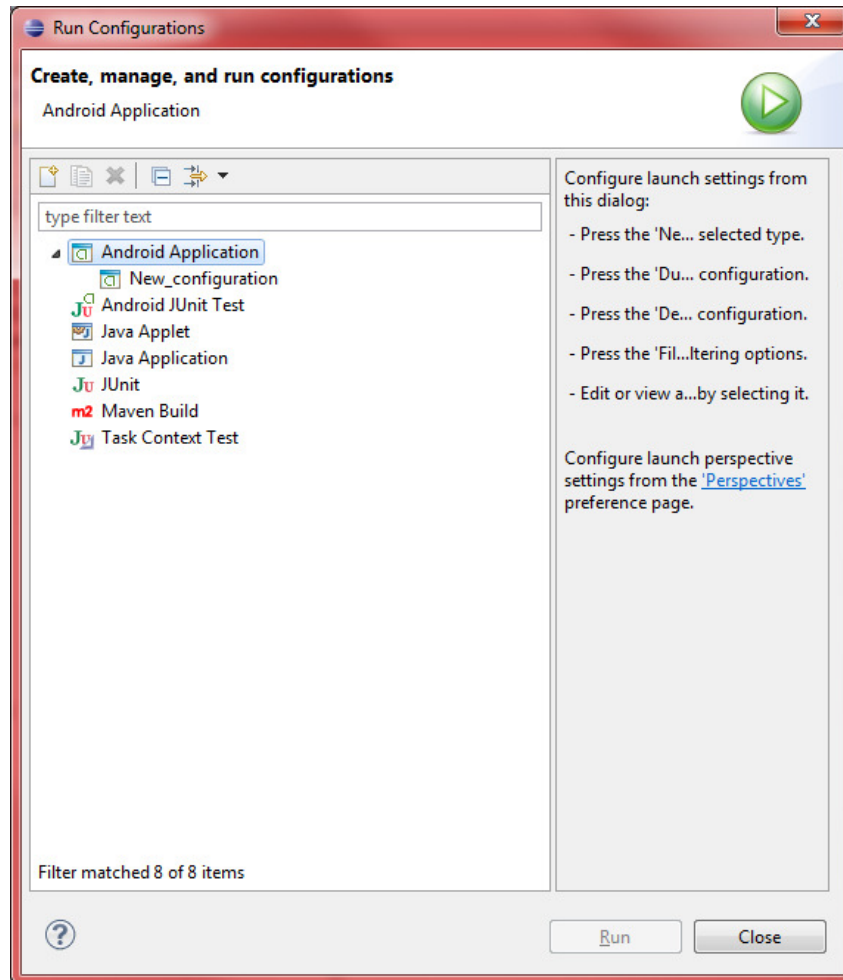


Hmm. Why is it?

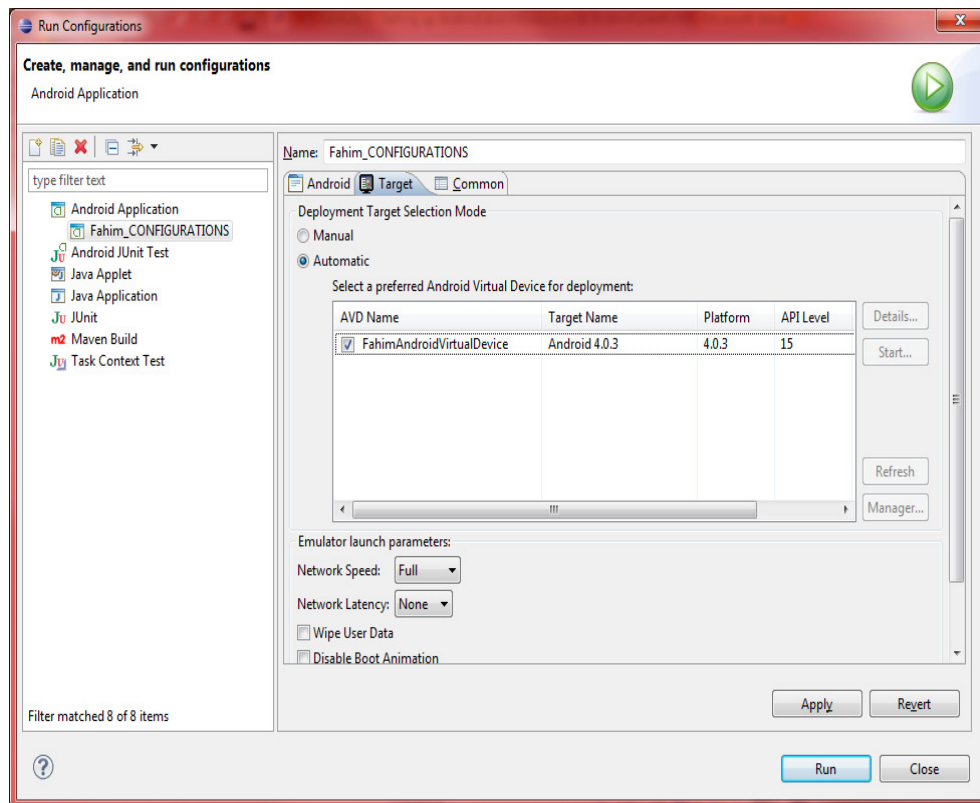
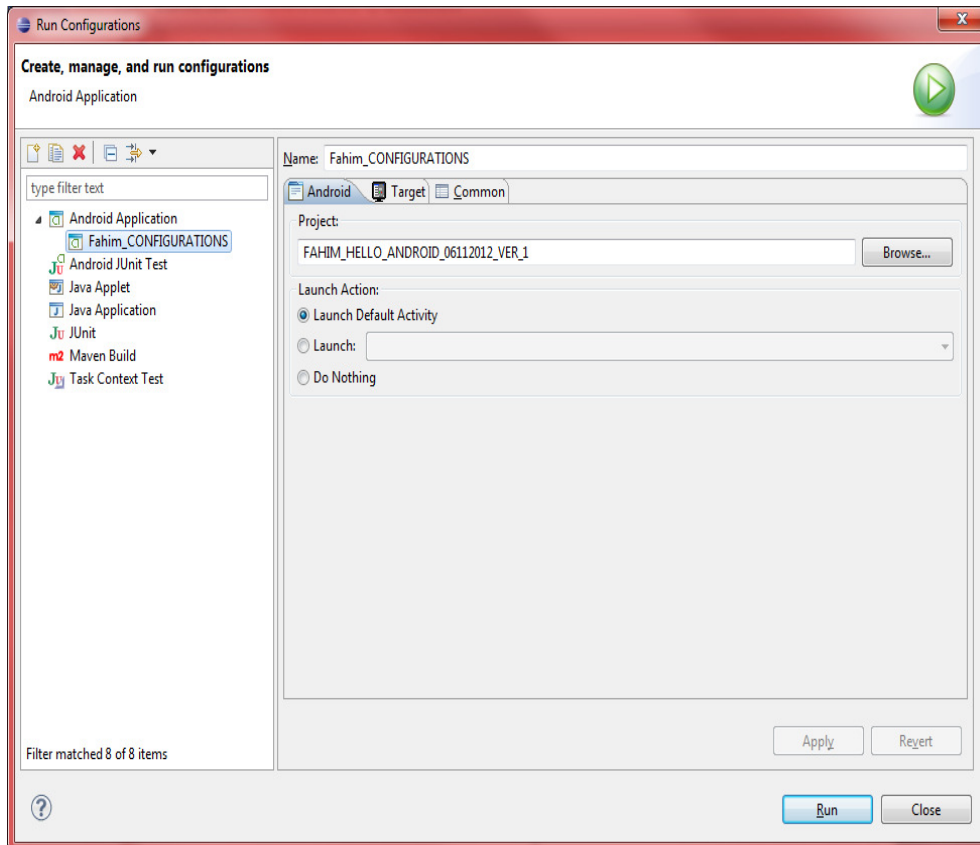
Let's take care of this issue:

Go and Run Configurations:

(from where? I let you figure this out)

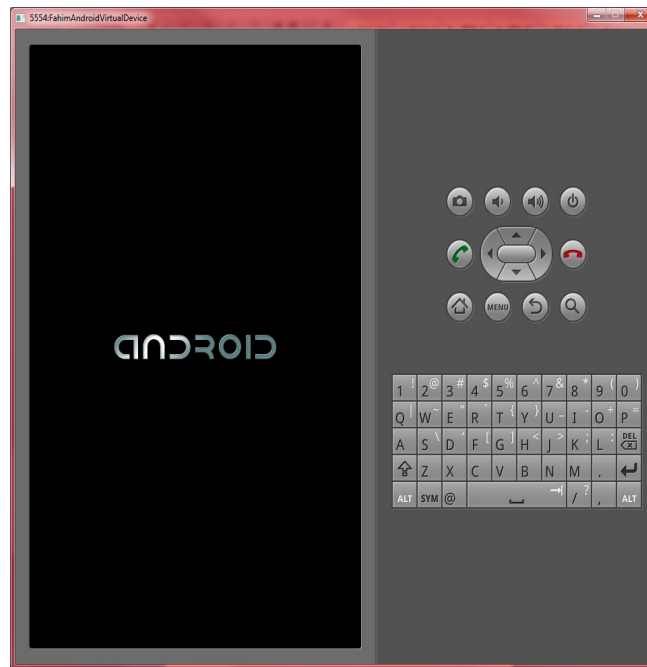


I will discuss Virtual Device and Android Simulator in Class.



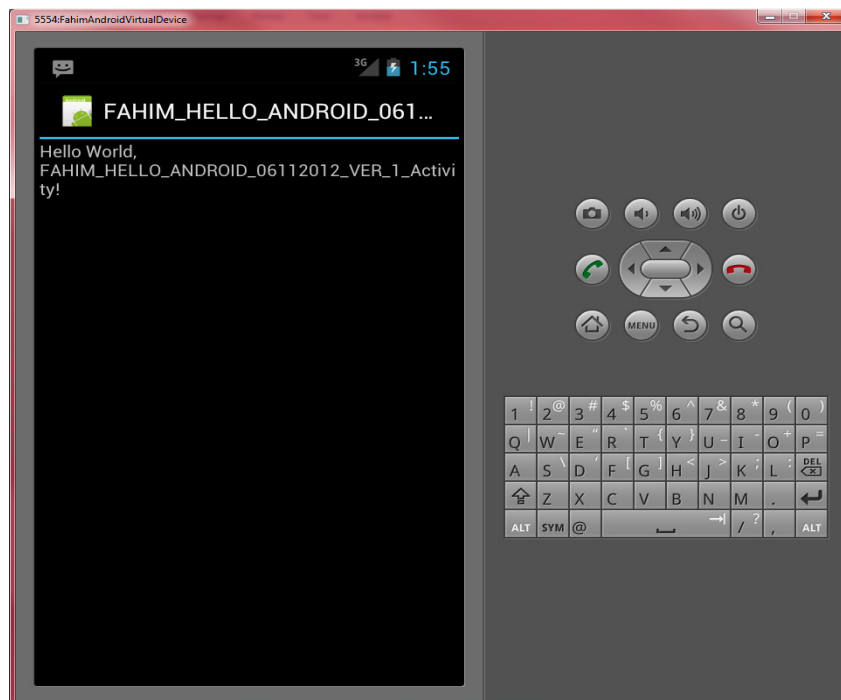
Click on RUN.

If you see this screen, then you don't have any compilation errors.



This will take few seconds for your program to load up finally so hang in there, but meanwhile keep looking at it, since **Android does not like be ignored.**

Unlock the screen, when home screen appears, and you should see, because I say so. 😊



Folder Structure Review/ Project Tree

Grandfather node here is Project Node:

FAHIM_HELLO_ANDROID_06112012_VER_1

You have the following sub nodes or folders

- src
- gen
- assets
- bin
- res
- res → layout
- res → values

Rest of the folders are not important to talk about at this point.

What are the files that we have deal with?

FILE 1: Developer baby for Java code, ___Activity.java

This file contains basic java code with onCreate method created by your system. All of your custom java code goes here.

FILE 2: main.xml (under res → layout)

When you open it, you would see two tabs. Graphic layout and xml code.

Switch to xml code for now.

Here you see xml code that basically defines the layout of what you see on screen. This is developer second coding baby.

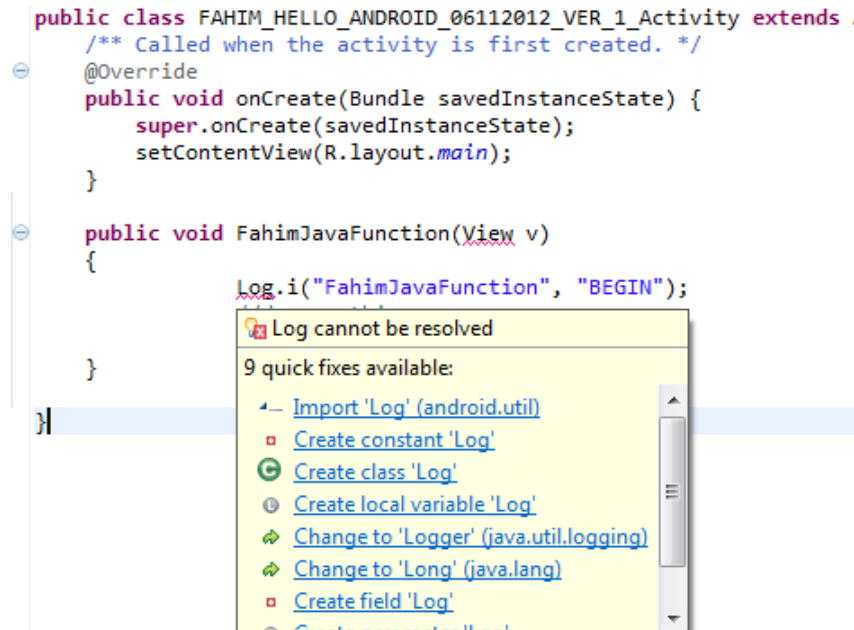
FILE 3: strings.xml (under res → values)

Similar to main.xml, This is Developer's third coding baby.

FILE 4: R.java (under gen → package name)

This is **not** your 4th baby. **Stay away from it. And don't make any changes in it.** You don't have legal authority on it and I am afraid, you can never adopt this child. Yes, you can take a look and through

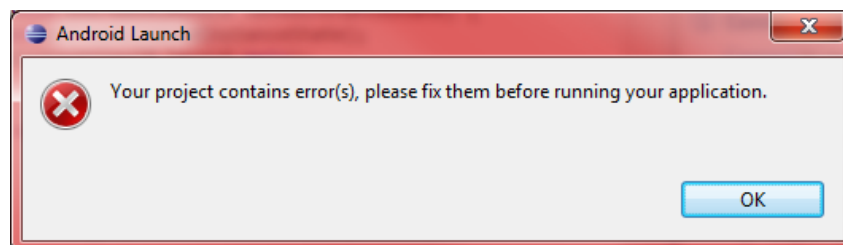
You would notice a small red sign that it does not know, what is “Log”, using mouse intellisense to add the required package: and it will add



Import android.util.Log;

Let's run it.

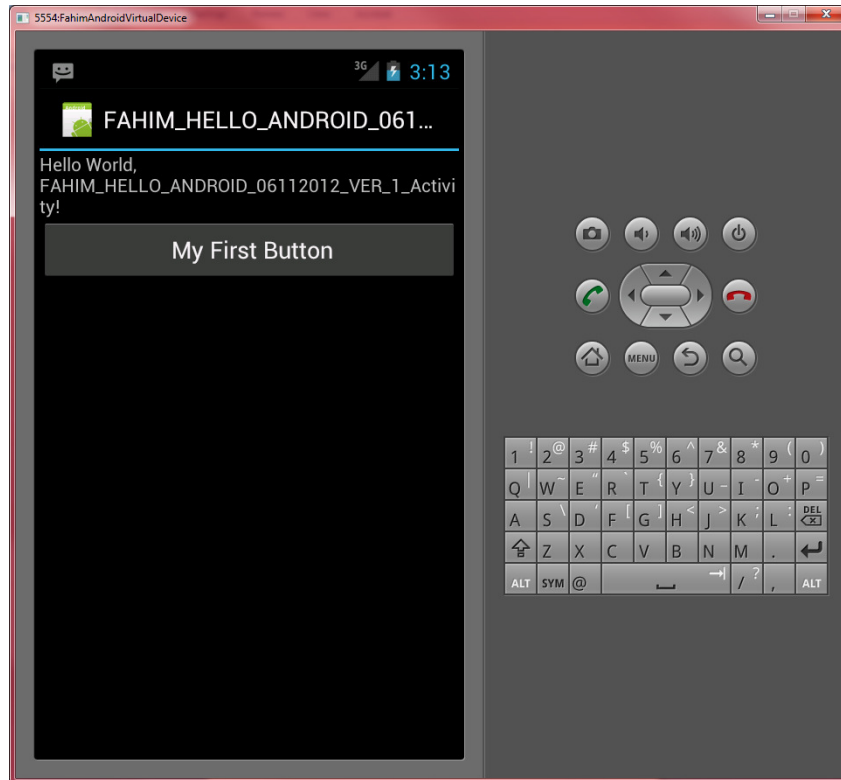
Oops, I get this error:



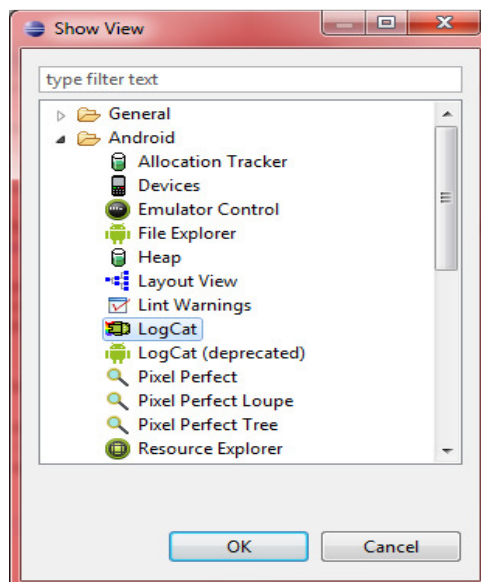
I forgot to add

Import android.view.View;

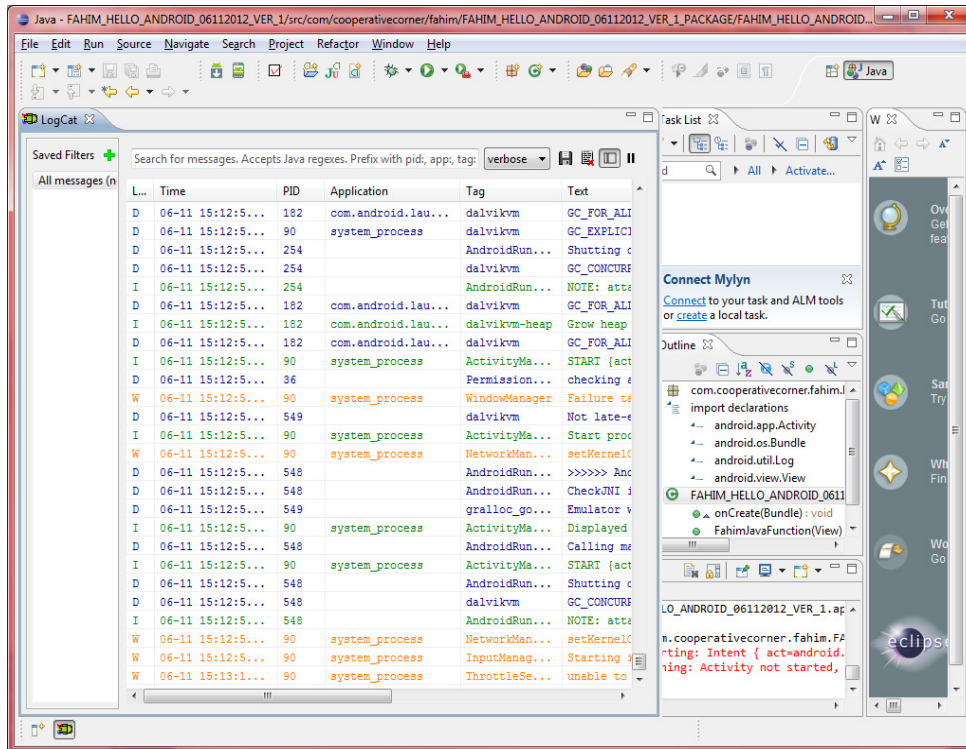
Now Run it.



While this is running, lets Open LogCat

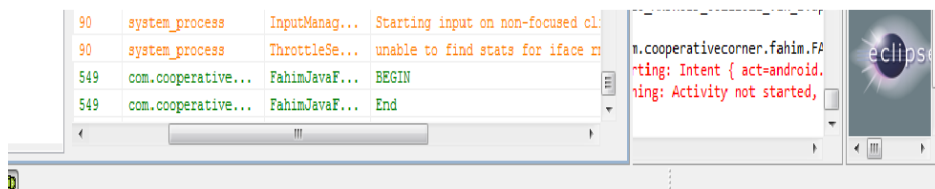


This is all, I see as below. So what is in there for me? We will dig more into it, for now, I want to show you that your code will reflect in this debug utility when you click on button.



Let's click the button now.

Do you see what I see?



KOOOOL. Our click is responding.

Let's go and modify the content of Textview during runtime, through Java code.

Add this line of code to Textview node in main.xml file.

```
android:id="@+id/FahimTextView"
```

As soon as you save it, it will magically add the following code to the R.java,

```
public static final class id
{
    public static final int FahimTextView=0x7f050000;
}
```

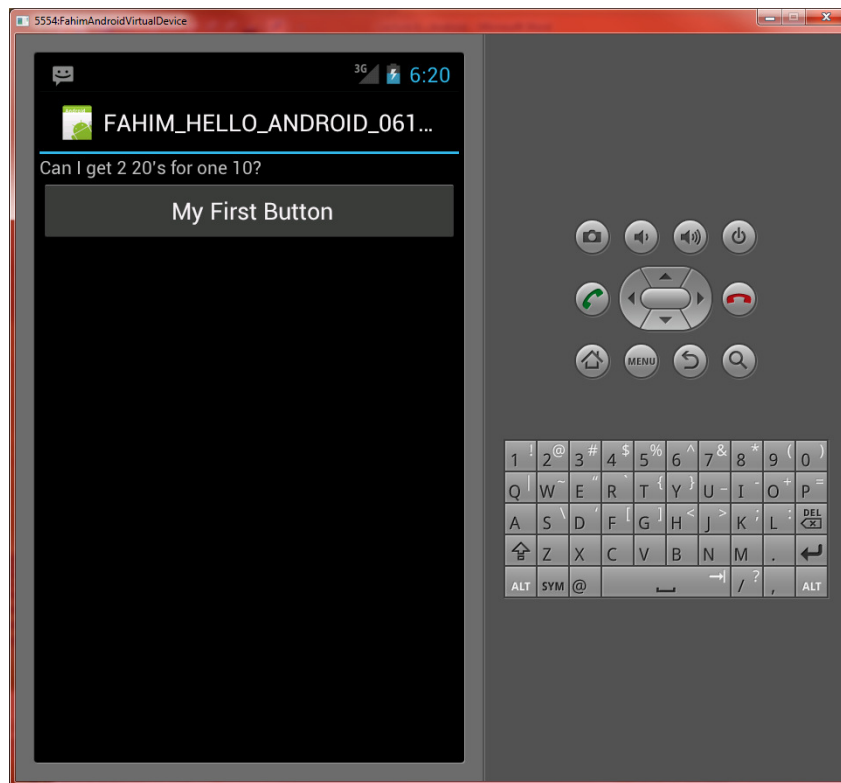
You are getting it. Aren't you?

Let's reference it in Java code. Add the following code in between Log statement in FahimJavaFunction.

```
TextView FahimTextView = (TextView)this.findViewById(R.id.FahimTextView);  
FahimTextView.setText("Can I get 2 20's for one 10?");
```

Run it.

You should see something like as below screen, once you click on button. If you don't see or it does not work, then it is your problem, not mine. 😊



***** OUR CODE WORKED*****

I CAN TELL MY FRIENDS, I AM AN ANDROID APPLICATION DEVELOPER AS I FINALLY WROTE A CODE OF MY OWN.

Let's Now Understand How All Pieces Of Code Really Work

PORT NUMBER:

This is simply TCP/IP port number, very similar to port 80 when your web service runs on it.

If we were to run two separate emulators, like honeycomb tablet in conjunction with Ginger Bread, the port number help identify between these two. Port number also serves as Developer Phone number so text messages, for example, can be sent back and forth. Therefore, two phones can be simulated in Android IDE for app development testing.

What exactly did we do in Java code?

Remember in HTML webpage development, where you use javascript and then call in using OnClick(). Same is true here. What we did was that we created a simple onclick handler in our code.

What code being called when you hit the button with mouse?

Close your eyes and think for a while.

Yes, your guess is right. That is main.xml, that is being called at first to draw your User interface.

Check your code out, you would see that you are telling them that call FahimJavaFunction onclick event.

Then you added a line of code into TextView node as follows:

```
@+id/FahimTextView
```

What does it tell you, that it could be doing?

Give it a thought; I am sure you can figure it out.

Remember, as soon as you added this line, what happened? When you saved it.

It created a new entry in R.java file as follows:

```
public static final class id {  
    public static final int FahimTextView=0x7f050000;  
}
```

Yes, you got that right. It is HexDec address of integer. Now think of HTML code, where if you need to reference one of the objects, you use elementById, and HTML will return a handle to the javascript engine. That is exactly we did in java code function using different syntax (who cares if it was different syntax, right?).

In java code, you added

```
TextView FahimTextView= (TextView)this.findViewById(R.id.FahimTextView);
```

We are just returning a Textview from function call here. It is bringing back a pointer in memory to an object. It uses this integer value find a reference by id in this activity (.this),

Also, since view is an abstract type so we had to cast it specifically.

With this done, FahimTextView is a variable of datatype TextView.

```
FahimTextView.setText("Can I get 2 20's for one 10?");
```

This line of action looks similar to Visual Studio label control right?

But note, it behaves very different though. So don't take it exactly like label control.

Even you have seen some similarities between Android-Java and HTML-javascript, but here is a difference or one of the differences that when we specify javascript function in html, we specify open and close parenthesis, but in android world, **we don't**.

9. STUDY RESOURCES

During lecture, I will give you name of some good books for you out there. I will also discuss my own book that I am in process of composing at the present time. My book as a text book will be available by **spring 2013**.

Here are some worth resources for you to go through:

1. <http://www.netmite.com/android/mydroid/development/pdk/docs/index.html>
2. <https://developers.google.com/android/>
3. <http://source.android.com/compatibility/index.html>
4. <http://www.helloandroid.com/tutorials>
5. <http://www.vogella.com/articles/Android/article.html>
6. <http://www.youtube.com> (of course).