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Pro Android Apps Performance Optimization



Synopsis

Today's Android apps developers are often running into the need to refine, improve and optimize their apps performances. As more complex apps can be created, it is even more important for developers to deal with this critical issue. Android allows developers to write apps using Java, C or a combination of both with the Android SDK and the Android NDK. *Pro Android Apps Performance Optimization* reveals how to fine-tune your Android apps, making them more stable and faster. In this book, you'll learn the following: How to optimize your Java code with the SDK, but also how to write and optimize native code using advanced features of the Android NDK such as using ARM single instruction multiple data (SIMD) instructions (in C or assembly) How to use multithreading in your application, how make best use of memory and how to maximize battery life How to use to some OpenGL optimizations and to Renderscript, a new feature in Android 3.0 (Honeycomb) and expanded in Android 4.0 (Ice Cream Sandwich). After reading and using this book, you'll be a better coder and your apps will be better-coded. Better-performing apps mean better reviews and eventually, more money for you as the app developer or your indie shop.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book gets to the nuts and bolts of optimizing Android code. The author reveals both Android and core Java data structures that will make it easier to write code that will zip along. They have some great info on caching and SQLite, as well as a chapter on preserving battery life. A must have

for any serious developer. (I bought this book through the Alpha program at Apress).

This book is a great overview of techniques for improving android performance. The book covers the full range from common sense in writing efficient algorithms, to hand optimized assembly. Lots of useful information about cache, compilers, and practical advice when certain optimization techniques are appropriate. The book covers user experience in detail with good info about battery consumption, and application responsiveness. The chapters on graphics and renderscript feel more like an afterthought in comparison. The author has a great writing style, making the content very accessible. Not always the case with programming books. Overall, this is a very helpful book for Android app development full of practical advice and relevant examples.

Overall, I've really enjoyed this book and would recommend it to advanced Android developers. There were many interesting tips and details along the way, as well as great example code and guides to creating/using advanced components. My biggest criticism is that sometimes it went far too deep in terms of optimizations. For example, while it was interesting to see the assembly code created by the NDK compiler, the authors then describe how you can inject custom assembly instructions into NDK/C code. They also warn against optimizing minutiae, which this seems to qualify as. Otherwise, very good.

This book is super helpful when writing high performance Android applications. It covers all you need to know about the various compilers and languages. Having a professional Android developer helping along the way is really reassuring. I have to stress that this book is not for someone wanting to learn programming or write their first Android app, it is for a good programmer who wants to make their apps really fly. It covers run time analysis, cache, compilers, battery life...essential for high performance programming. Great stuff!

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