Ionic Framework with Angular for Hybrid App Development

Juilee Waranashiwar, Manda Ukey

Abstract— Ionic framework is an open source cross platform tool which allows to develop hybrid application which work on different mobile platforms like android, IOS and windows without much efforts and increasing the ease of development. Ionic framework enhances the look and the feel of the UI of the hybrid application with the use of HTML5 and CSS.

Index Terms— Apache Cordova, Hybrid Application, Angular 4, Ionic Framework.

I. INTRODUCTION

Angular is an open-source web application framework which is used in developing web based applications while Apache Cordova lets developers build mobile applications using JavaScript, CSS and HTML instead of using platform specific application programming interface (APIs') like those in iOS, Android or Windows Phone.

Apache Cordova

Apache Cordova, was previously known as PhoneGap is a mobile application development framework initially created and distributed by Nitobi. In 2011, Adobe Systems purchased Nitobi and rebranded it as PhoneGap. Later Adobe released it as an open source software called Apache Cordova. Apache Cordova provides the means for software programmers to create applications for mobile devices deploying HTML5,CSS3, and JavaScript unlike native tools and languages that depend of each platform SDK and APIs such as Android, iOS, and Windows Phone. It works like a native application wrapper with components that offer the appropriate modifications. Cordova can integrate and interpret HTML5,CSS3, and JavaScript codes without modification of additional coding or changes in a native application. This framework helps developers to build a rapid mobile application regardless of the knowledge and skills of the target native platform.

Ionic Framework

Ionic is a much better platform to use in order to design and build applications, since native applications are platform specific, have respective development tools, are extremely time consuming and expensive as well. Ionic on the other hand is platform independent, uses HTML5, CSS and Javascript. The development process is fairly quick and developers have a direct access APIs’ with Cordova. Ionic utilizes the CSS property called Syntactically Awesome Style Sheets (SASS).

Global installation: npm install –g ionic cordova.

After the basic packages have been installed, their versions can be confirmed via the following npm commands.

To check version of ionic and cordova version:

ionic –v
cordova –v

In order to build a new application the ionic serve command can be used in the terminal after setting the appropriate directory where the project exists. In order to run the template or application the following commands can be used. on web browser: ionic serve add mobile platform: ionic platform add [android/ios] run on device/emulator: ionic [run/emulate] [android/ios].

To create mobile App project ionic start ionic start

“app_name” “blank”.

JUILEE WARANASHIWAR, Department of computer Application, Shri Ramdeobaba College of Engineering and Management, Nagpur

JUILEE WARANASHIWAR, Department of computer Application, Shri Ramdeobaba College of Engineering and Management, Nagpur

The procedure for installation of ionic and cordova is fairly simple and straight forward. In order to perform a global installation, the following command can be input in the terminal which installs the packages needed to be used.
**SOFTWARE SPECIFICATIONS**

In order to build the application various tools and software were used. The application is built and tested on a Windows platform using command line interface (CLI). NodeJS latest version along with cordova and ionic 3.20.0.

**ABOUT THE APPLICATION**

This application is developed using Ionic Framework and angular. This is an marketing and sales tracking application developed for marketing and sales team, where the Admin assigns a particular contact to marketing and sales members. Then the marketing and sales team can manage these leads and convert them into prospect customers.

As this is an hybrid application it is compatible with android, IOS and windows devices. This is the login page of the application.

Above screen of the application lists the contacts added by the admin to the particular marketing and sales member. By clicking on a contact user can view the details of the contact. In this screen we made use of ion-fab which is the add icon which is used to add new contact. Ion-cards are being used to divide each contact separately in a block format. Ion-search bar is used to display search box which helps in finding particular contact.

**V. CONCLUSION**

This study aimed at making hybrid applications which can run on android, IOS, windows platform. This has three collaborative frameworks: Apache cordova, ionic, Angular. This study could save a lot of cost and time compared to the native software development kit or SDK from Apple such as Xcode with Objective-C or Swift. For cost saving can be fined by the number of mobile application developer are less than the native application. For time saving, it is defined as the time period that is much shorter that the native one as well.

Hybrid app combines the best of both web and native app to deploy native like app across different platforms. The conclusion of this study is that the choice to go with hybrid approach is worthwhile considering the emerging framework.

**VI. Future Recommendations**

Ionic framework should work on making progressive web apps without only being restricted to mobile platforms like android, IOS.

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