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Write a Touch-friendly HTML5 App

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Agenda

- Background
- Touch vs. Mouse
- Part I: UI Layout
- Part II: Event Handling
- Touch in HTML5 Framework
- Q/A

Background

- Touching Experience
 - First introduced by Apple in iOS 2.0
 - Widely supported on mobile platforms today
 - Supported by both native app and web app



Background

- Touch Event API (W3C Spec)
 - Define low-level touch events for web app
 - 4 touch events in Version 1 (CR)
 - `touchstart`, `touchend`, `touchmove`, `touchcancel`
 - 2 more touch events in Version 2 (Raw File)
 - `touchenter`, `touchleave`
- Gesture Event API (Apple)
 - `gesturestart`, `gestureend`, `gesturechange`

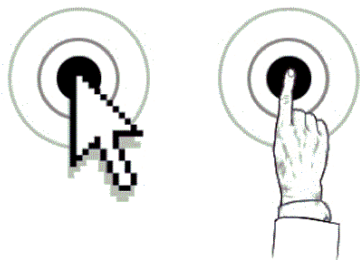
Background

- Touch Event Handling
 - Follow DOM Level 2 event handling style
 - Add touch event listener on a DOM element

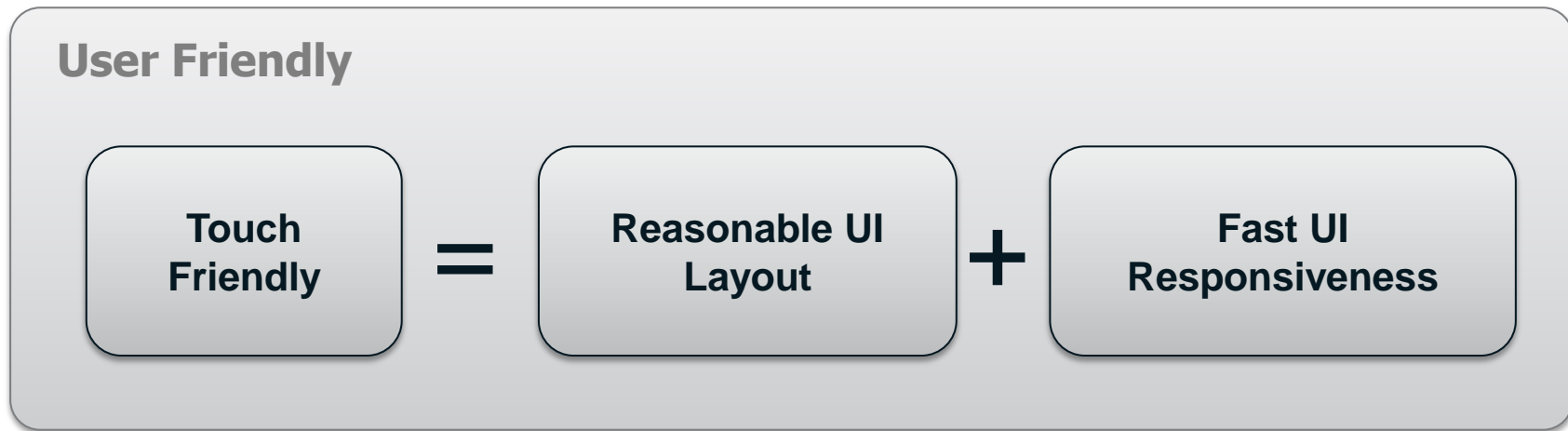
```
var elem = document.getElementById("canvas");  
elem.addEventListener("touchmove", function(event) {  
    // handle touch move event  
}, false);
```

Touch vs. Mouse

- Touch-based interaction mode
 - No precise, fixed touch position on the screen
 - Require large space for selectable element
 - Support multiple touch positions
 - Support gestures like tap, pinch, swipe
 - No default focused element
 - No hover event for element (version 1)

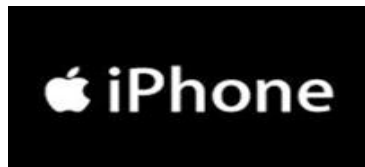


Touch Friendly App



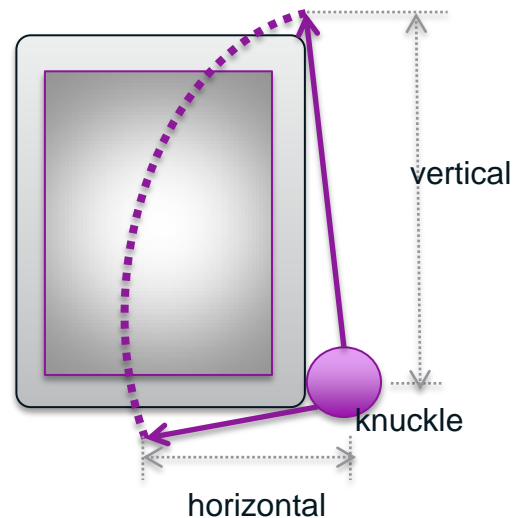
Part I: UI Layout

- Make sure the clickable area is large enough
 - Make it easier for the user to select an item
 - For example, the optimal size of a button or a list item is ~**9x9** mm² on small touch screen
 - OS vendors have design guidelines for touch target size



Part I: UI Layout

- Limit scrolling to one direction, vertical preferred
 - Keep content in one single column
 - Vertical scrolling is preferred on a small screen



Part I: UI Layout

- Auto-hide browser's address bar

```
// Hides mobile browser's address bar when page is loaded.  
window.addEventListener('load', function(e) {  
    setTimeout(function() { window.scrollTo(0, 1); }, 1);  
}, false);
```

Part I: UI Layout

- Targeting screen size
 - The media tag describes the conditions for applying the CSS given in the href attribute

```
<link rel="stylesheet" media="handheld, only screen and (max-device-width: 320px)" href="mobile.css">
```

- The following targets screen width between 600px and 800px:

```
<link rel="stylesheet" media="only screen and (min-width: 600px) and (max-width: 800px)" href="ipad.css">
```

Part I: UI Layout

- Fullscreen mode
 - Prefer to toggle Fullscreen for web apps, especially for HTML5 games
 - W3C fullscreen API is still not widely supported on mobile browser

Part I: UI Layout

- Disable Zooming
 - Avoid triggering browser default behavior for zooming

```
<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width,  
initial-scale=1.0, user-scalable=no">
```

Part II: Event Handling

- Prevent Default Behavior
 - Avoid triggering browser itself behavior for the touch events
 - Send message preventDefault to event object
 - For example, to prevent scrolling by browser

```
// Call preventDefault on touchmove or touchstart
document.addEventListener("touchmove", function(event)
{ event.preventDefault(); }, false);
// Note the following will also prevent mouse events from firing
document.addEventListener("touchstart", function(event)
{ event.preventDefault(); }, false);
```

Part II: Event Handling

- Multi Touch Events
 - A new touchstart/touchmove/touchend event is triggered each time a finger places down/moves/lifts up screen
 - Make use of touches, targetTouches and changedTouches lists
 - Can be recognized as gesture events



Part II: Event Handling

- Handle multi-touch efficiently
 - Example: a canvas drawer to handle multi fingers drawing

```
canvas.addEventListener('touchmove',  
function(event) { drawCanvas(event.touches); }, false);
```



```
var touches = [];  
canvas.addEventListener('touchmove',  
    function(event) { touches = event.touches; }, false);  
function drawLoop() {  
    requestAnimationFrame(drawLoop);  
    drawCanvas(touches);  
}  
drawLoop();
```

1. Less CPU overhead
2. Better performance

Part II: Event Handling

- Handle orientation changes
 - Different UI appearances for landscape mode and portrait mode
 - iOS can trigger `onorientationchange` event

```
<body onorientationchange="updateOrientation();">
```

- Tizen can trigger `deviceorientation` event

```
window.addEventListener("deviceorientation", function(event) {  
    // process event.alpha, event.beta and event.gamma  
}, true);
```

- Android doesn't support `onorientationchange`, please use `resize` event instead

Touch in HTML5 Framework

- Touch Event abstraction
 - Hide the differences of event handling on different platforms
 - Unify event-handling model for touch and mouse events
 - No need to handle raw touch or mouse events



Sencha

Dojo Toolkit 1.7



Touch in HTML5 framework

- jQuery Mobile provides
 - High level touch events
 - `tap`, `taphold`, `swipe`, `swipeleft`, `swiperight`
 - Virtual mouse events to abstract away mouse and touch event
 - `vmouseclick`, `vmousedown`, `vmouseup`, ...
 - Orientation change event support
 - No multi-touch gestures support

Q/A

Reference

- [1] [Building a Touch-Friendly HTML5 Site](#), [Erik Klimczak](#)
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- [9] [Safari Web Content Guide - Handle Event](#), iOS Developer Library
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