

Em09. How to get my app on mobile?

von Bernd Hort, 15.05.2019

Engage





Bernd Hort

- Master degree in computer science
- Lotus Notes developer since 3.3
- „It’s all about giving the user the right tool to get the job done.“

I have this cool
idea for an app!



How do I get it on mobile?



Classic Webapp

PWA



Complexity

Progressive Web Apps



Progressive Web Apps - PWA

- Progressive Web Apps enhance web apps to make them behave (a little bit more) like native apps
 - Offline
 - Start from home screen
 - Access the camera
 - Local storage



- **Discoverable** - so the contents can be found through search engines.
- **Installable** - so it's available on the device's home screen.
- **Linkable** - so you can share it by simply sending a URL.
- **Network independent** - so it works offline or with a poor network connection.
- **Progressive** - so it's still usable on a basic level on older browsers, but fully-functional on the latest ones.
- **Re-engageable** - so it's able to send notifications whenever there's new content available.
- **Responsive** - so it's usable on any device with a screen and a browser – mobile phones, tablets, laptops, TVs, fridges, etc.
- **Safe** - so the connection between you and the app is secured against any third parties trying to get access to your sensitive data.



Web App Manifest

- The „Web App Manifest“ defines the main settings and appearance
- It is a JSON file linked via

```
<link rel="manifest" href="/manifest.json">
```

- Definition from Google Developers - [The Web App Manifest](#)



Web App Manifest

```
{
  "short_name": "Maps",
  "name": "Google Maps",
  "icons": [
    {
      "src": "/images/icons-192.png",
      "type": "image/png",
      "sizes": "192x192"
    },
    {
      "src": "/images/icons-512.png",
      "type": "image/png",
      "sizes": "512x512"
    }
  ],
  "start_url": "/maps/?source=pwa",
  "scope": "/maps/",
  "background_color": "#3367D6",
  "display": "standalone",
  "theme_color": "#3367D6"
}
```

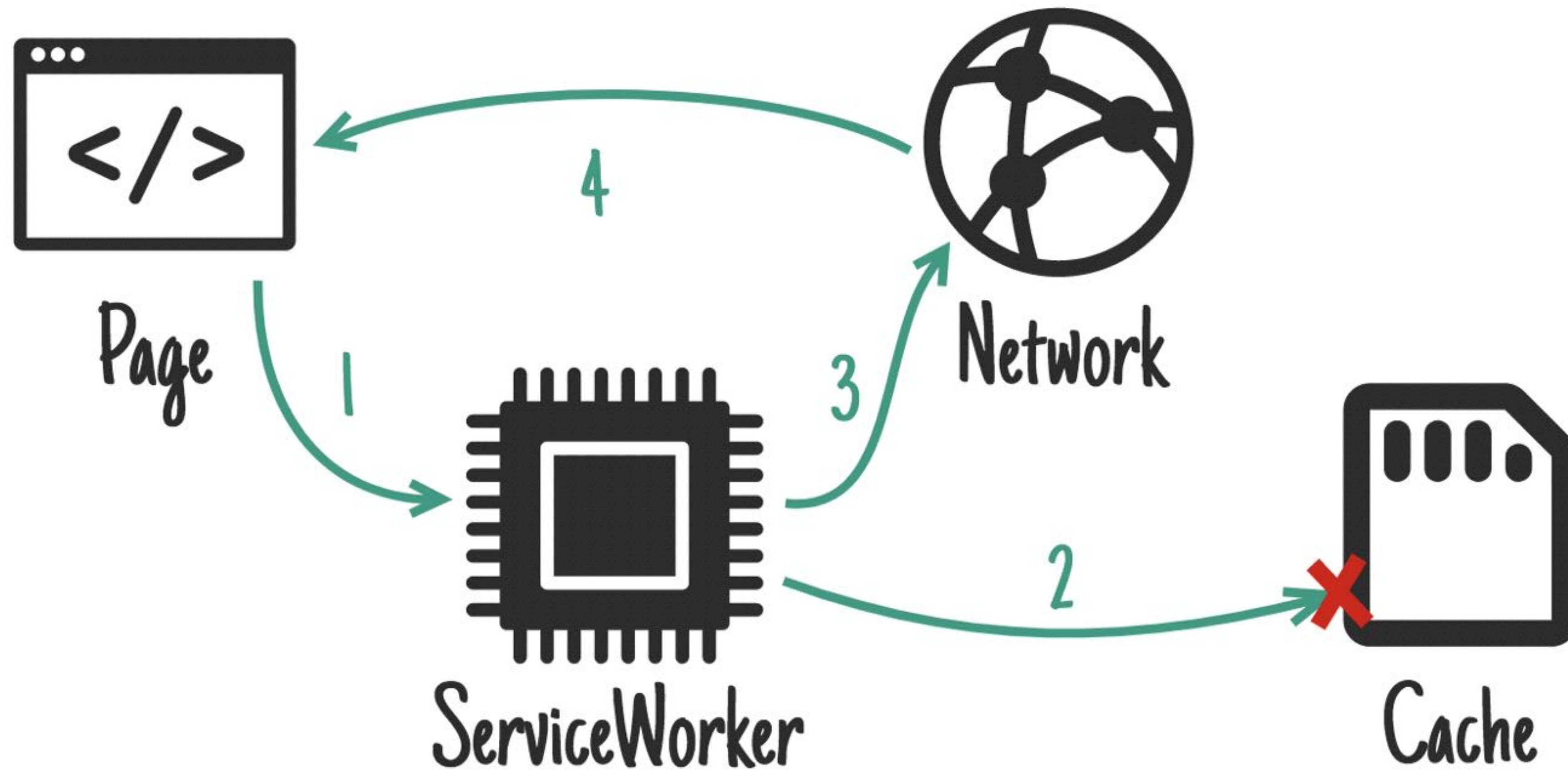


Service Worker

- The Service Worker is a JavaScript file, which will be executed in a separate thread per PWA in the background.
- No direct access to frontend elements
- Implements hooks to react on a number of events



Service Worker



PWA in Angular

- Since version 5.0 Angular supports Progressive Web Apps directly.
- For existing Angular project the package @angular/pwa needs to be added

```
$ng add @angular/pwa --project <projectname>
```

- Creates manifest.json and ngsw-config.json files
- Provides icons in sizes the platform needs



PWA in Angular

- Build Angular app for production

```
$ng build --prod
```



- The default development server is not sufficient for testing pwa
- Use the http-server package which comes with node.js
- Run via

```
$http-server -p 8080 -c-1 dist/<project-name>
```



Customize ngsw-config.json

- Per default all app assets will be cached
 - entry „assetGroups" in ngsw-config.json
- Handling for REST-API data requests must be configured manually
 - entry „dataGroups“
 - definition of URL patterns
 - „api-performance“ vs „api-freshness“
 - configure individual cache settings



„Performance“ vs. „Freshness“

- With the cache strategy „Performance“ data will be fetched from **cache first** until the expiration date will be reached.
- With the cache strategy „Freshness“ the first attempt is to get **fresh data** from the the **server**.
Only if the timeout is reached the data will be get from the cache.



Strategie „Performance“ vs. „Freshness“

```
{
  "dataGroups": [
    {
      "name": "api-performance",
      "urls": [
        "/assets/i18n/**",
        "/api/**"
      ],
      "cacheConfig": {
        "strategy": "performance",
        "maxSize": 100,
        "maxAge": "3d"
      }
    },
    {
      "name": "api-freshness",
      "urls": [
        "/api/fresh-todo-list"
      ],
      "cacheConfig": {
        "strategy": "freshness",
        "maxSize": 100,
        "maxAge": "3d",
        "timeout": "10s"
      }
    }
  ]
}
```



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SSL with Domino Server

- Without SSL connection the Service Worker will not operate
- For public Domino Servers try midpoints Let's Encrypt for Domino (LE4D) (it's free)
- For private Domino Servers use self-signed certificate
 - Good instructions: Setting up https with a valid certificate for a local domain – and use it with Node.js
 - Import Certificate Authority (CA) in your test browser



Authentication with Domino Server

- Before PWA I used to check for Domino specific Cookies for first check if a user is authenticated
- With PWA the session based cookie will not disappear if the browser is closed
- Since IBM Domino 9.0.1 FP10 release new notes.ini setting `DOMINO_FORCE401_WITH_HTML_LOGIN_PAGE=1` to force a 401 HTTP return code



Chrome Developer Tools

- The best support for developing PWA is provided by the Chrome Developer Tools
- Initialize an audit to check PWA status



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Hybride Apps



Hybride Apps

- The programming model for hybrid apps are HTML and JavaScript.
- Once the app is ready a supporting framework will generate code for native iOS or Android apps.
- Using Xcode or Android Studio to compile the generated code to a native app.
- Apache Cordova is the base for most of the existing frameworks.



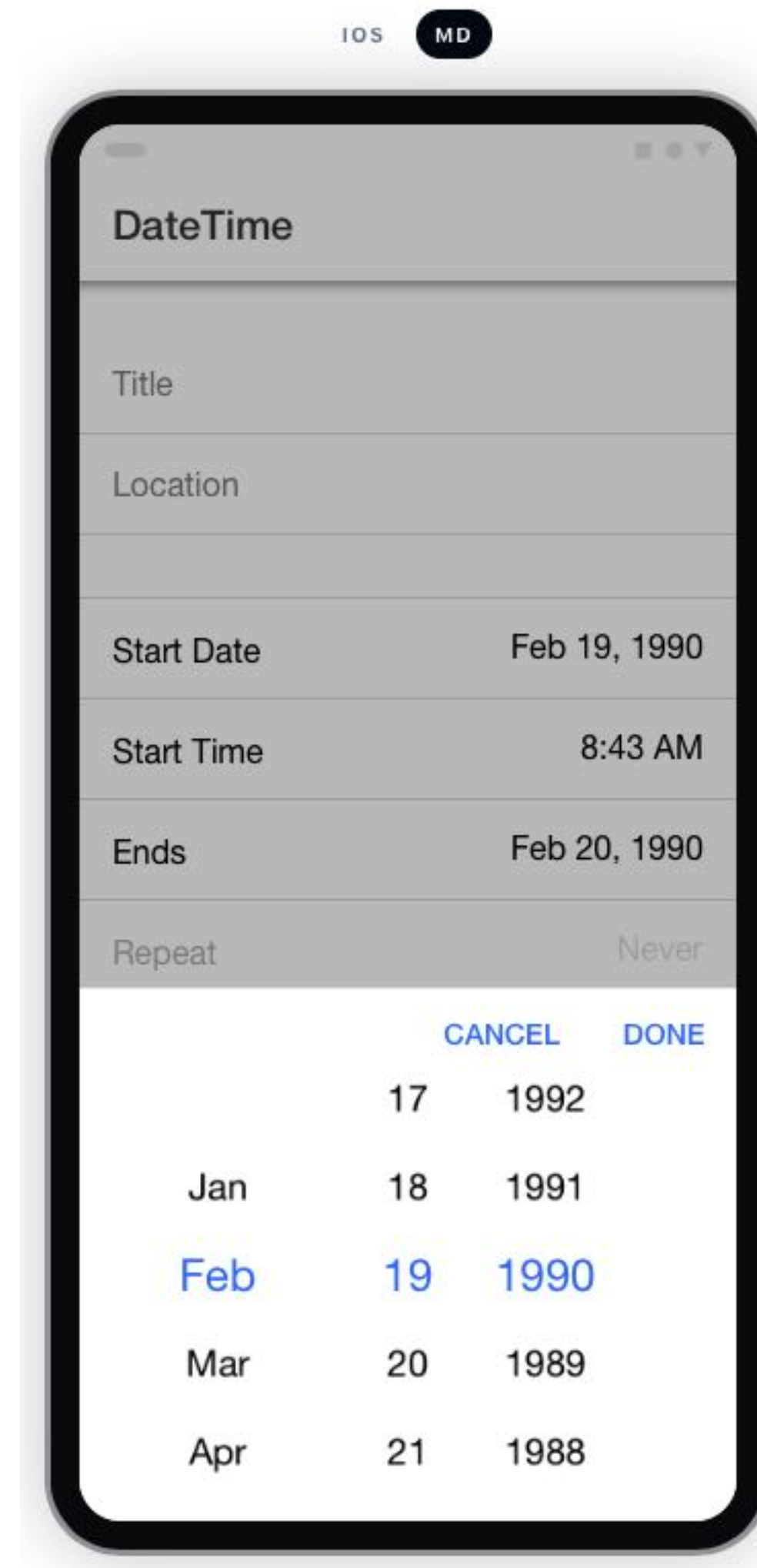
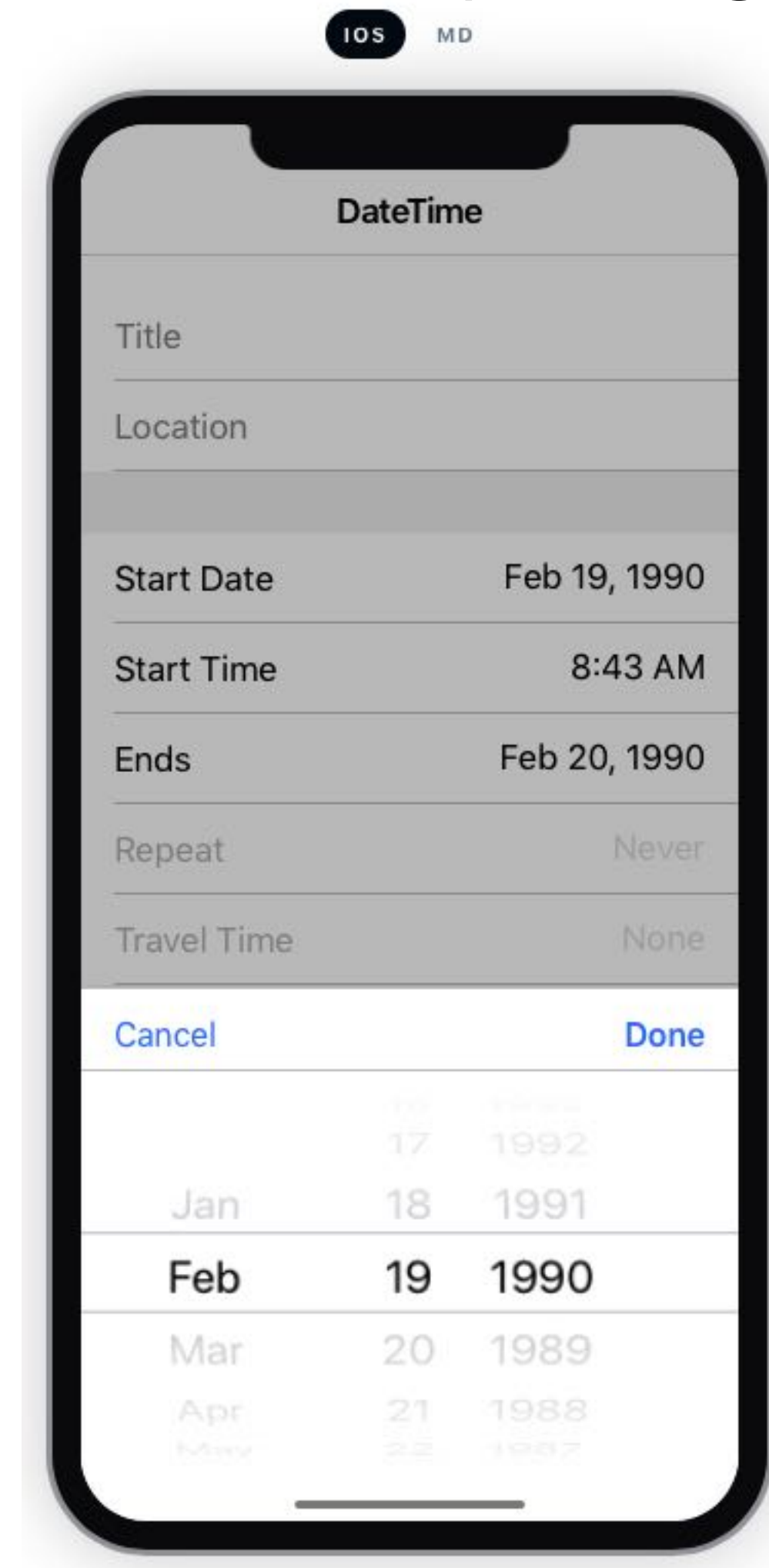
Ionic Framework

- Ionic uses also Apache Cordova
- Originally Ionic only supports Angular (AngularJS)
- Since version 4.0 also React or Vue.js are supported.
- First approaches to move away from Cordova
 - Ionic own project Capacitor
- Use payed services for build support
 - Creating iOS apps without a Mac



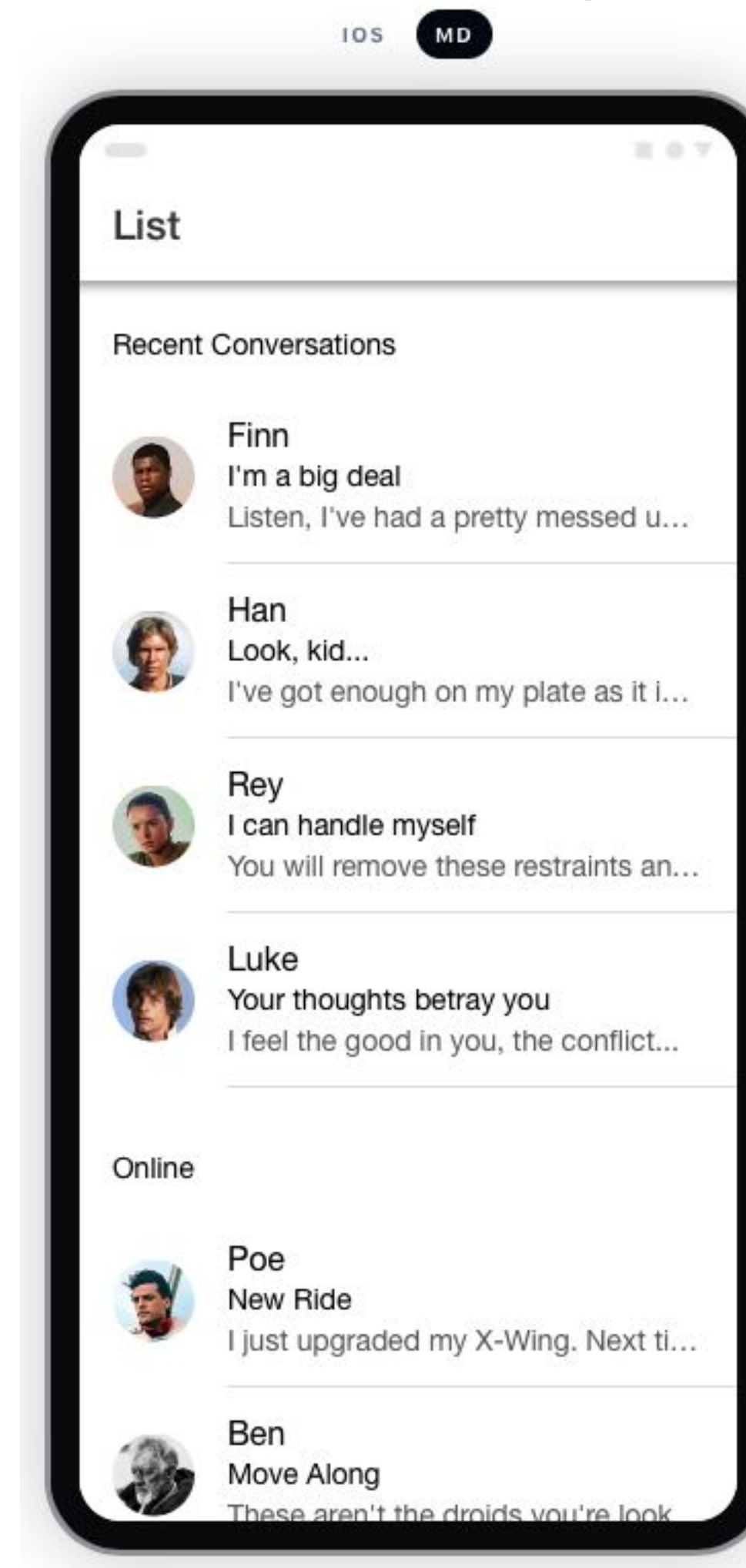
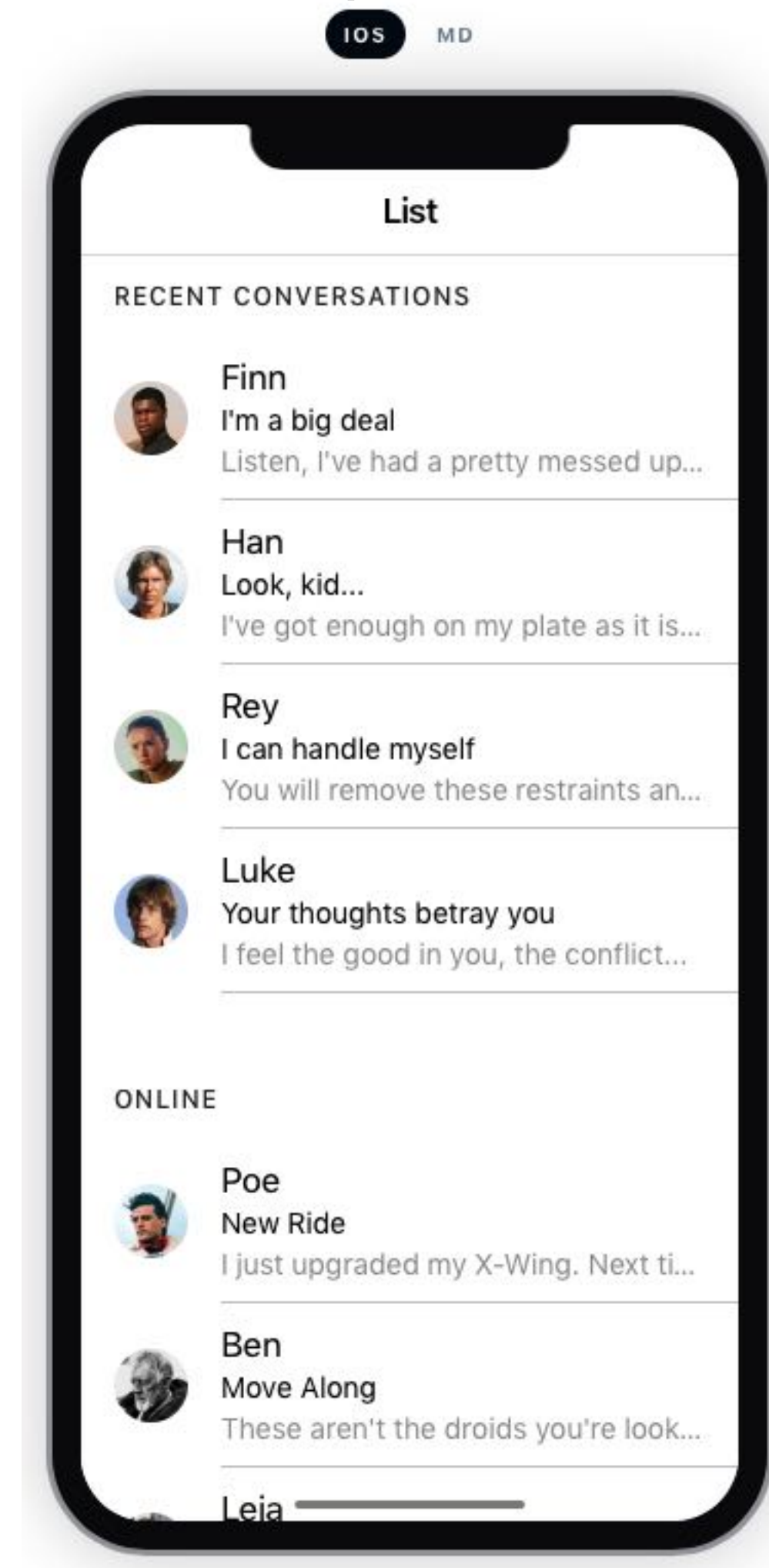
Ionic Look & Feel

- Ionic uses native Look & Feel depending on platform



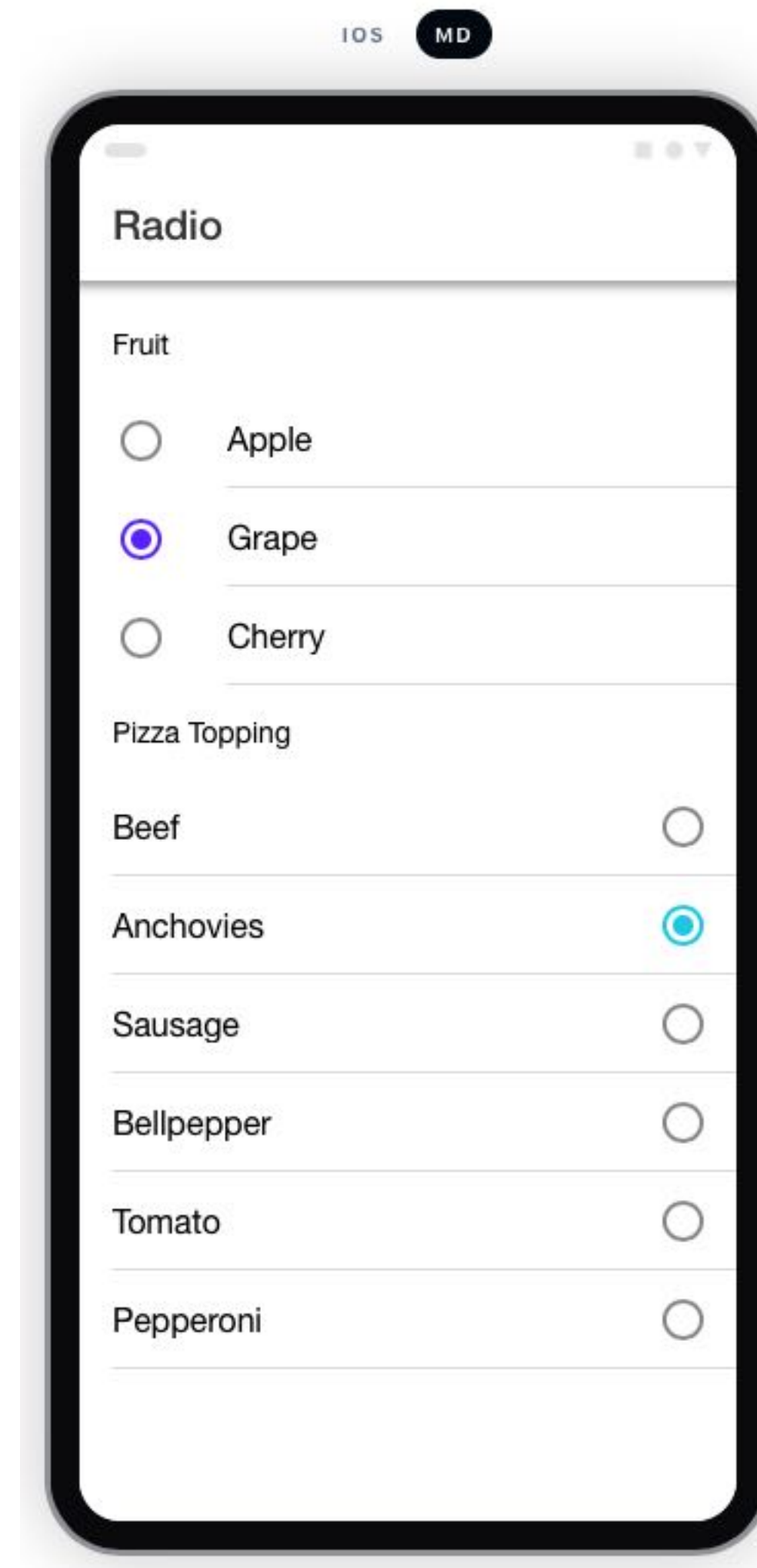
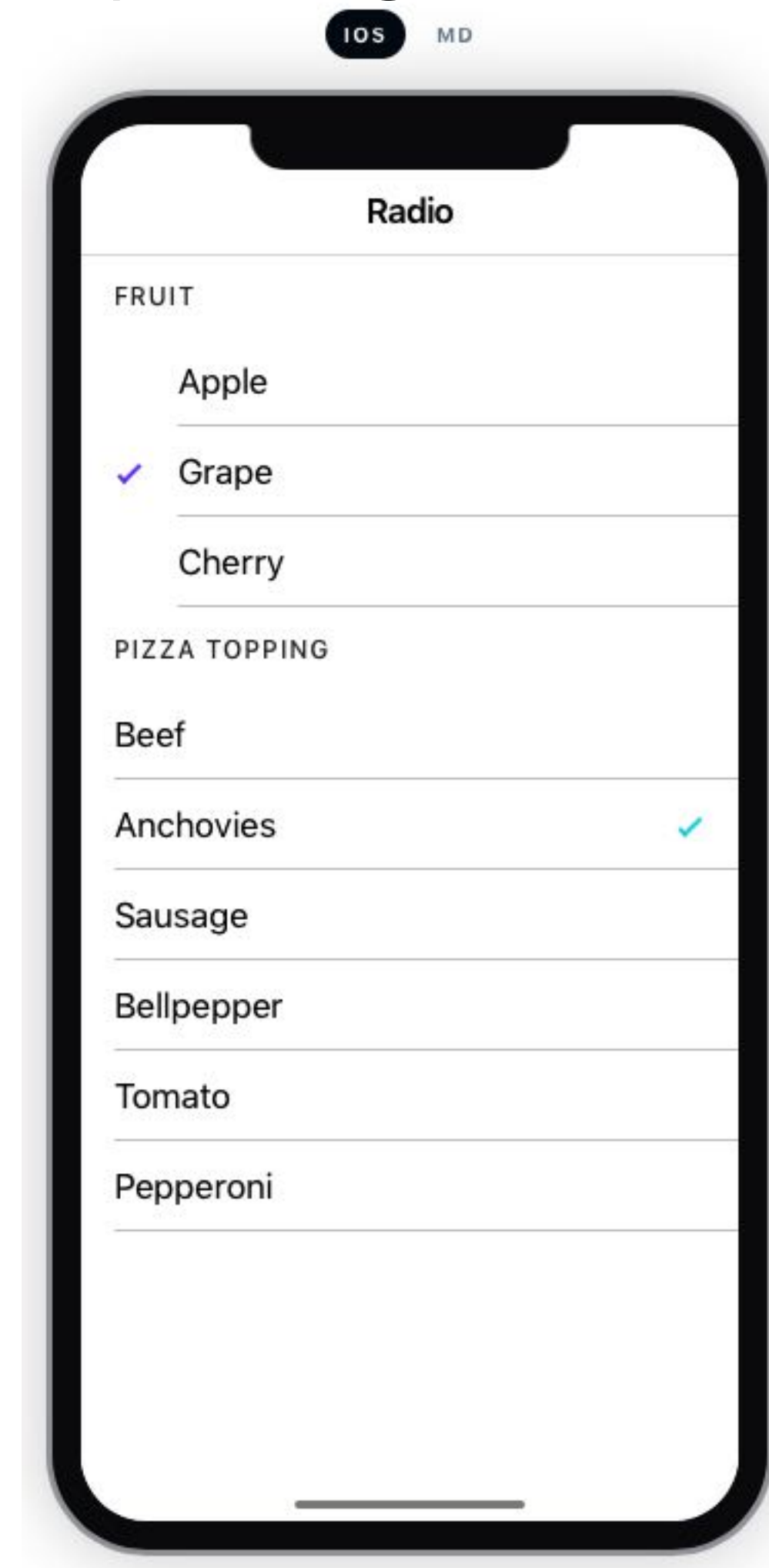
Ionic Look & Feel

- Appearance is similar but respects the UX guidelines of the platform



Ionic Look & Feel

- During build the corresponding UI element is chosen





```
<ion-list>
  <ion-radio-group>
    <ion-list-header>
      <ion-label>Name</ion-label>
    </ion-list-header>

    <ion-item>
      <ion-label>Biff</ion-label>
      <ion-radio slot="start" value="biff" checked></ion-radio>
    </ion-item>

    <ion-item>
      <ion-label>Griff</ion-label>
      <ion-radio slot="start" value="griff"></ion-radio>
    </ion-item>

    <ion-item>
      <ion-label>Buford</ion-label>
      <ion-radio slot="start" value="buford"></ion-radio>
    </ion-item>
  </ion-radio-group>
</ion-list>
```

Usage of Storage and HTTP

- Separate packages for dealing with storage and HTTP
- The developer is responsible for providing a strategy how to combine the Storage package and the HTTP package:
 - Store an additional timestamp while storing the data into the cache
 - Decide on the expiration time for each type of resource
 - Decide whether to test first the cache or getting „fresh“ data



Comparison

Advantage Progressive Web Apps

- Faster development since testing is done in the browser
- No need to deploy the app on test devices
- No approval needed for Apple iOS App Store or Android Play Store
- No Apple developer license
- No company app store
- No Mac needed

Advantage Hybride Apps

- Access to native resources
 - Barcode scanner
 - Live preview
 - Push notifications in iOS
- Nativ Look & Feel
- Higher prestige!

Let's talk about
money



Photo by [Ramiro Mendes](#) on Unsplash

What about the costs?

- Both approaches come free to start with
 - PWA just depends on browser support
 - Angular and Ionic both uses MIT license
- Ionic offers paid support
 - It is possible to build production apps without support
- **Main factor is development time / costs!**



Questions?

Picture Credits

- PWA-Logo
<https://github.com/webmaxru/progressive-web-apps-logo>
- Ionic-Logo
https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Ionic_Logo.svg
- Unplash
<https://unsplash.com/>
- Pexels
<https://www.pexels.com/>



Slide backup



Photo by [jesse orrico](#) on [Unsplash](#)

PWA - Browser Support

- Web App Manifest
 - No support for IE, Edge (non Chrome), Firefox, Safari (Desktop)
- Service Worker
 - Service Worker itself - Most browsers
 - Background Sync API - Only Chromium based browsers
 - Fetch - Most browsers



Source: Can I use...?

Ionic & Cordova install

- Ionic and Cordova both use the npm Package manager
- Install with

```
$npm install -g ionic
```

and

```
$npm install -g cordova
```



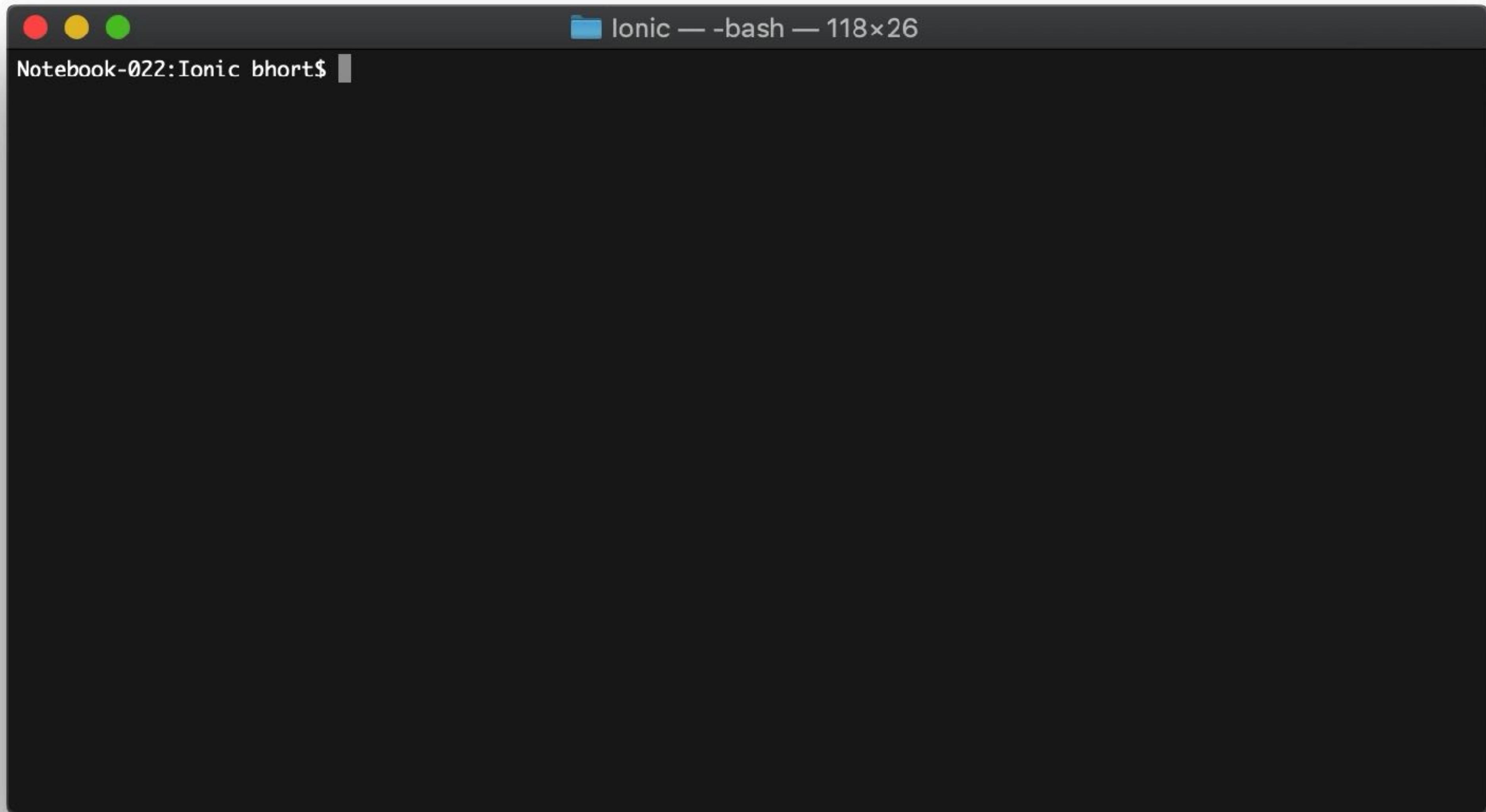
New Ionic Project



- Create a new project with

```
$ionic start {Projektname}
```

- Use additional parameter to define the typ of application and some basic template



Storage



- The Storage package encapsulates different storage options
- Install with

```
$npm install @ionic/storage
```

- Install the Cordova plugin to use SQLite

```
$ionic cordova plugin add cordova-sqlite-storage
```

Dependency Injection of the Storage Module



- As described on the [Ionic](#) web page
- Modify src/app/app.module.ts
 - Add the needed import

```
import { IonicStorageModule } from '@ionic/storage';
```

```
@NgModule({  
  ...  
  imports: [..., IonicStorageModule.forRoot()],  
  ...  
})
```

HTTP Module



- The HTTP package encapsulates the network usage
- Install with

```
$npm install @ionic-native/http
```

- Install the corresponding Cordova Plugin

```
$ionic cordova plugin add cordova-plugin-advanced-http
```

Dependency Injection of the HTTP Module



- As described on the [Ionic](#) web page
- Datei src/app/app.module.ts anpassen
 - Import hinzufügen

```
import { HTTP } from '@ionic-native/http/ngx';
```

```
@NgModule({  
  ...  
  imports: [..., HTTP],  
  ...  
})
```

iOS or Android Build



- iOS Build

```
$ionic cordova prepare ios
```

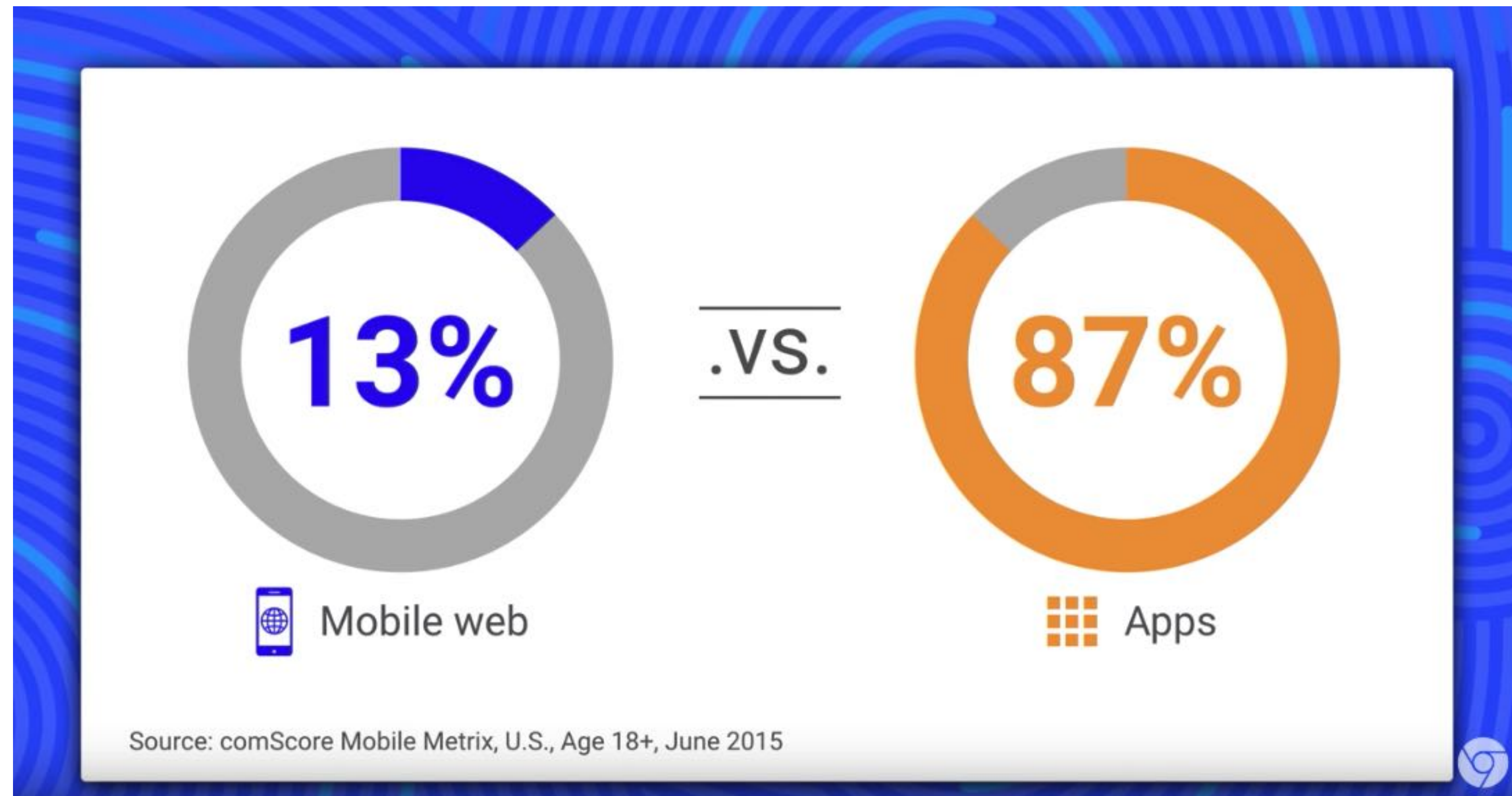
- open afterwards in Xcode Project

- Android Build

```
$ionic cordova prepare android
```

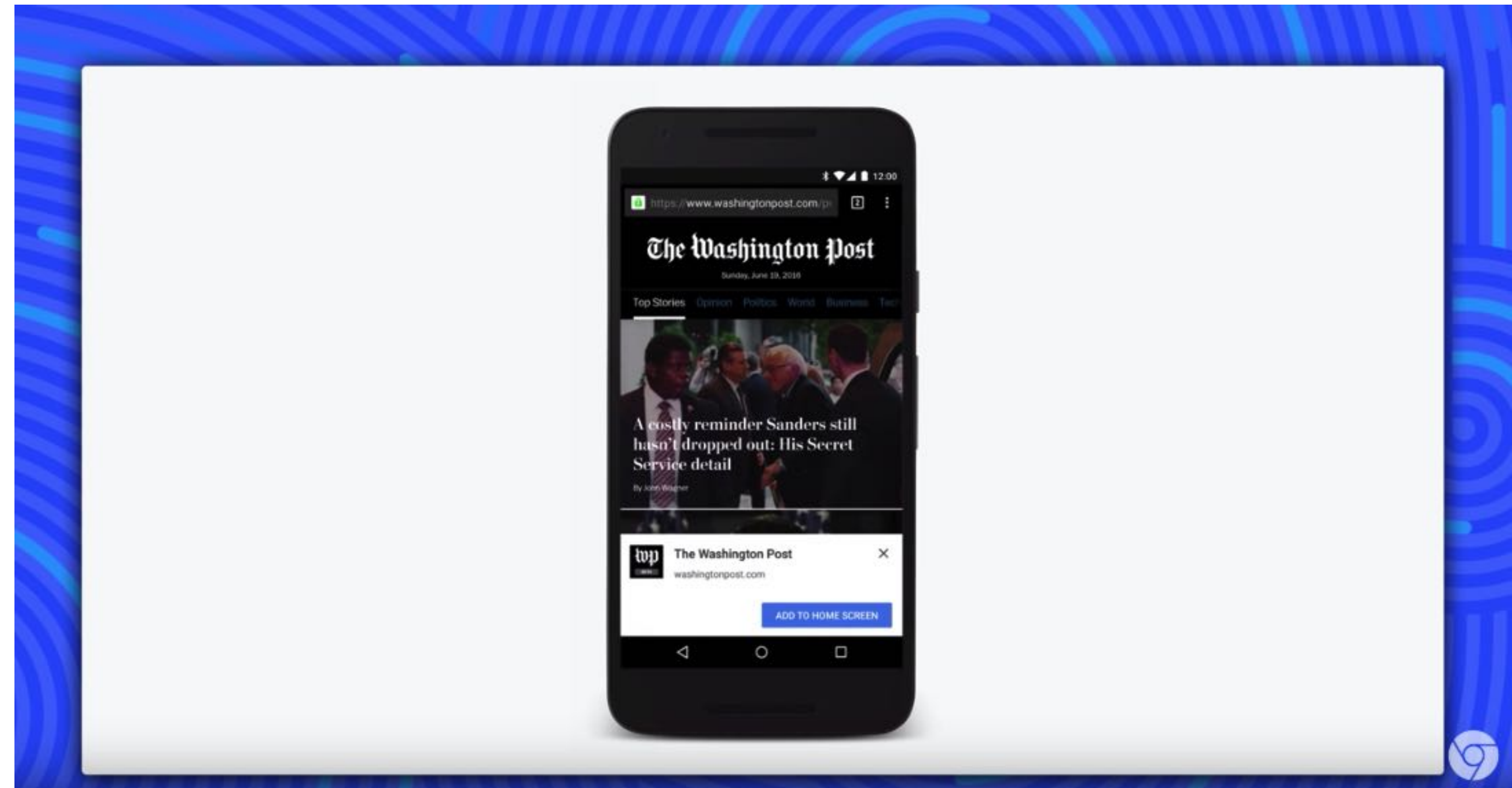
- open afterwards in Android Studio

Mobile Web vs. Apps



„Add-to-Home-Screen“

- Dialog will displayed automatically after frequent visit on the web site
- The browser decides!
- The developer can not push it!



„Splash-Screen“

- Will be shown while the web app will be loaded.

