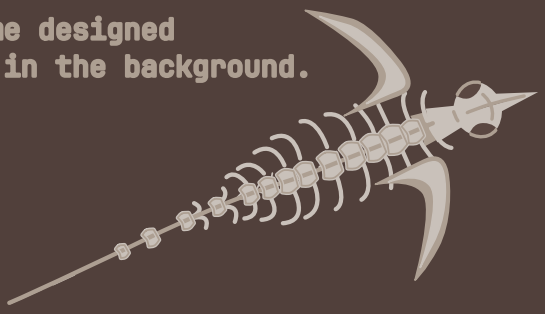
Backbone

A runtime designed to work in the background. forever.



EN / RU

The app is currently in early development, here's the .apk

The Problem

Let's say you need a good camera and a screen for a robot you're making. The traditional way is a raspberry pi (around 70 USD) with a CSI camera ($25 for v3) and an official display ($40 at least).

The scrappy way is to use a phone. If you don't have an old phone, you can find one on the used marked for less than just a pi.

But phones
1. Run android, which is not really designed for embedded applications
2. Make it increasingly difficult to develop for with every generation
3. Come with non-unlockable bootloaders now

What Backbone Is

It's an app that you can install on any Android 5+ device, allow it access to the hardware, set it as the launcher and forget about.

Instead of developing for Android, you get this JS API:

```
backbone.startup(
    url,          // Link to your actual webapp.
                  // Default: localhost:2903 || backbone.snlx.net/app
    fullscreen,   // Default: false
    shellCommand, // command runs in termux at startup. Default: ""
    delay,        // between shell and url. Defuault: 0
)
backbone.central(deviceNames: string[]) // run as BLE central
backbone.peripheral(deviceName: string) // run as BLE peripheral
backbone.send(message: string, device?: string) // send a message over BLE
backbone.onmessage: (message: string, device: string) => void
```

Peripherals can only send to central, so the device is optional for them.