Glom

Easy Databases On Maemo

Part 1: Stop Writing Code
Part 2: Glom
Part 3: Handheld Glom

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Part 1: Stop Writing Code

Developers are incredibly ineffective

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Developers Are Difficult

- Argue about editors
- Argue about version control
- Argue about programming languages
- Argue about code style
- Argue about toolkits
- Argue about build tools
- Nice to have: Implement features

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The Best Is Not Enough

- People say the best developers are 10 x more productive than other developers

- That's true

- That's still 1000 x not good enough

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Stop The Developers

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Code

- Code crashes

- Code works but you don't know why

- Code does something but you don't know what

- Code stops working if you look at it.

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100 Ways To Be Slightly Better

- Development methodologies

- Specifications

- IDEs

- New programming languages

- Regression Testing

After everything, code is still mostly awful.

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Stop Writing Code

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Estimates Are Always Wrong

- Always 2 weeks until it's finished.
  Translation: "We have no idea".

- First month: Version 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9

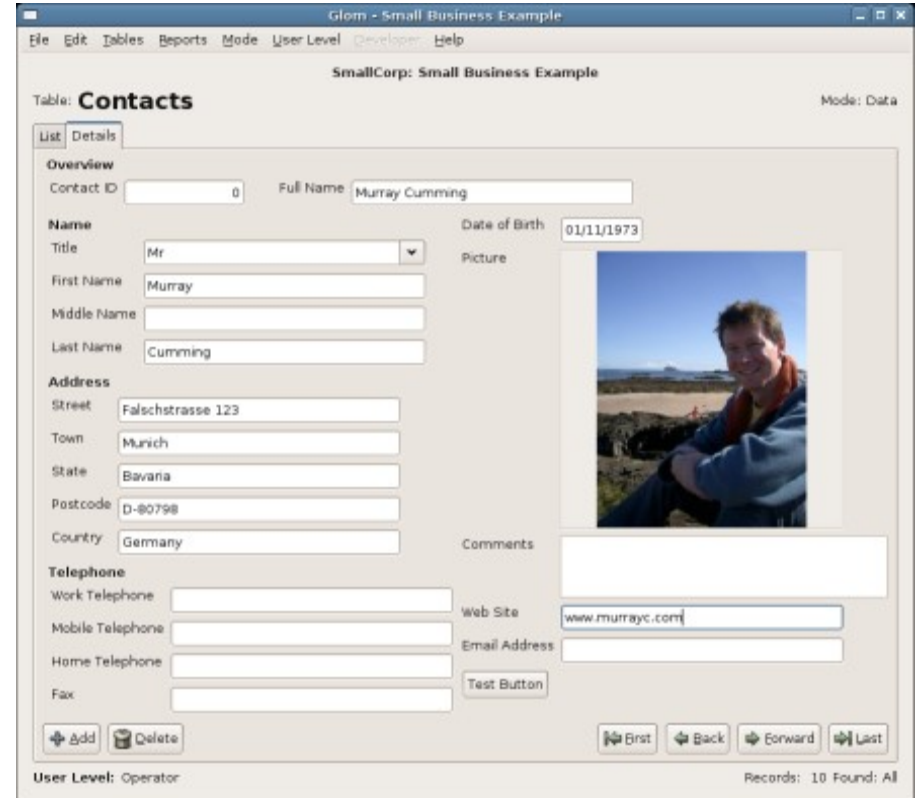- Last two years: 0.91, 0.92 ... 0.9991 ... 0.9999, 2.0

- Requirements Always Change

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Stop Planning

Show useful results early. Move on.

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Part 2: Glom

- Design database systems

- UI and structure together

- Self-contained in one folder

- For normal users

- No code. No SQL.
(You can if you must)

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Features (1)

- Simple field types

- Automatic layout

- Find

- Relationships:

  - Related records

  - Field lookups

  - Related fields

  - Drop-down choices

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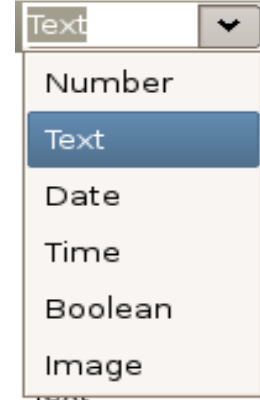
Desktop Uses

Anything that people would (ab)use Excel for.

- Order Taking and Invoicing

- Project Management

- Membership Databases

- Bookings, Reservations

- Film Production Management

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Handheld Uses

Jobs without computers: People who work on their feet.

- Restaurant Orders

- Deliveries

- Stock Taking

- Warehouse Order Picking

- Garage Billing

- School Attendance

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Tables and Fields

- Tables
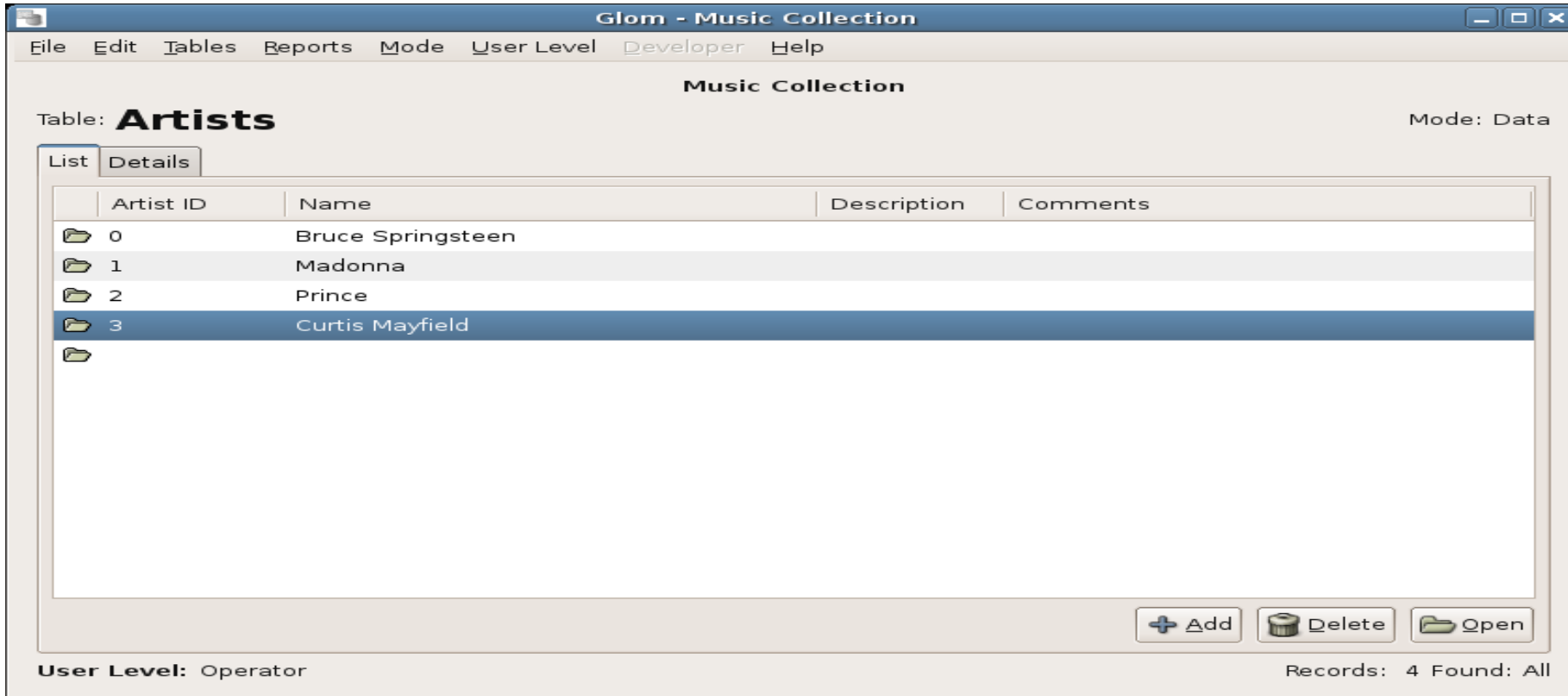
- Fields

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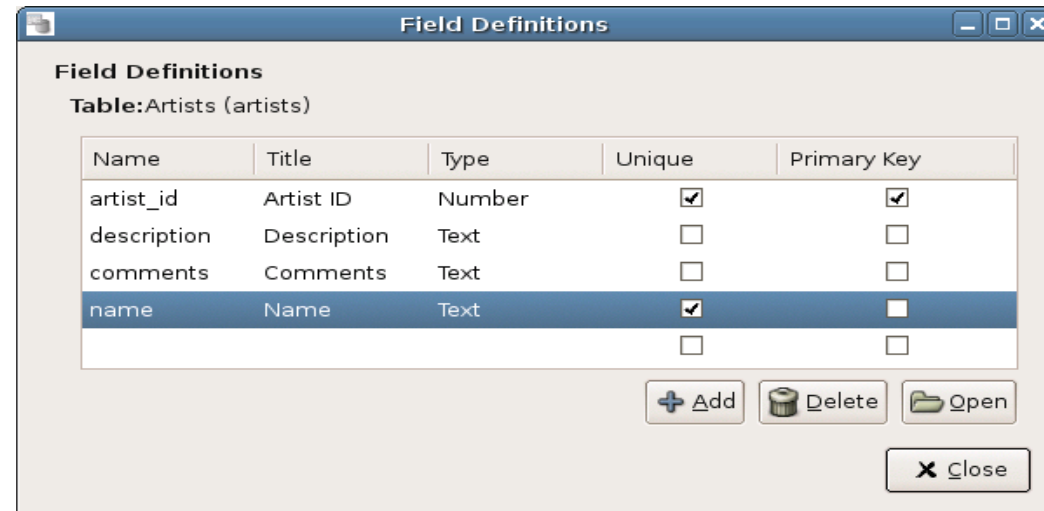
Layout: List

- Shows many records:

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Layout: Details

- Show more details for one record.

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Relationships

- Identify records based on a field value.

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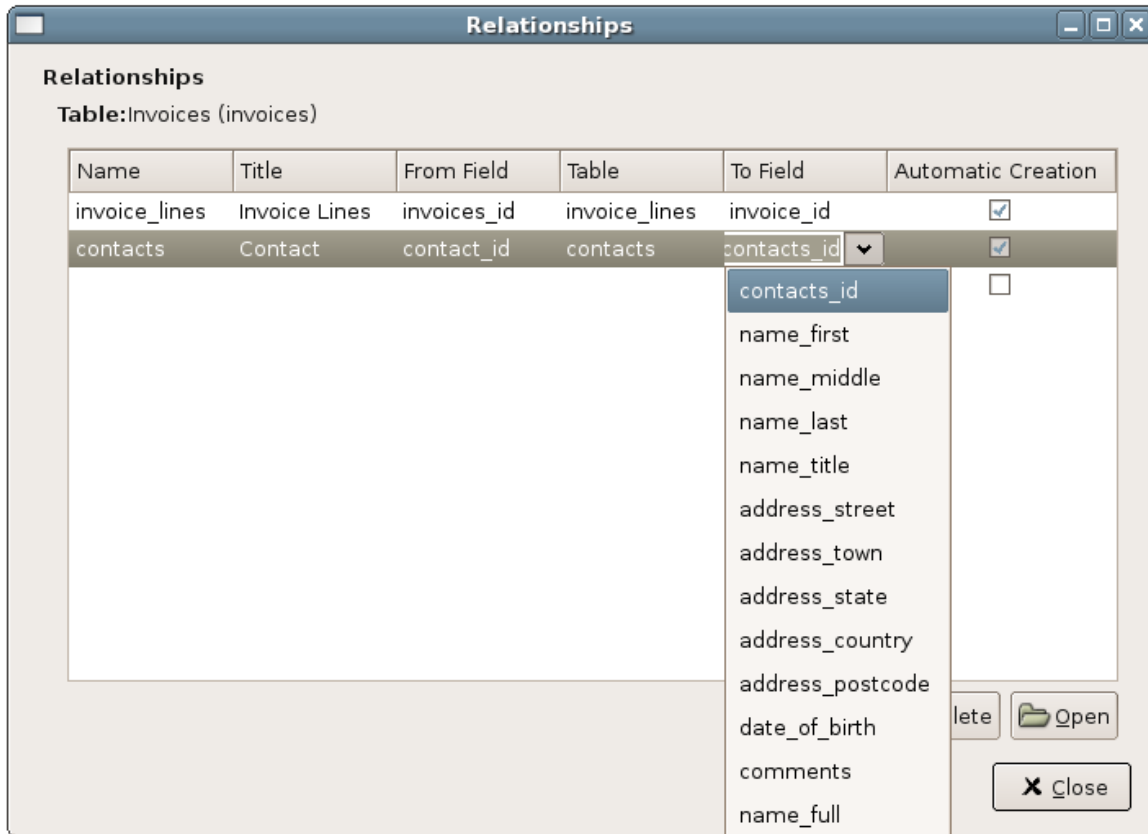
Using Relationships

- View related records

- View a related field

- Lookup a value from a related field

- Show list of possible values from a related record

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No need for SQL

- This is pain:
  SELECT "invoices"."invoice_id", "invoices"."date", "invoices"."contact_id", "relationship_contacts"."name_full", "invoices"."price_total", "invoices"."vat_total", "invoices"."price_total_with_vat", "invoices"."comment", "invoices"."invoice_id" FROM "invoices" LEFT OUTER JOIN "contacts" AS "relationship_contacts" ON ("invoices"."contact_id" = "relationship_contacts"."contact_id") WHERE "invoices"."invoice_id" = 0

- Glom does it for you.

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Extend via Python

- Define **Field calculations** using Python.
  To calculate a value based on other fields.

- Add a **button** that runs a Python script.
  To do something based on the field values,
  Use SQL if you like, via the provided pygda connection.

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Extend via SQL

- Glom uses PostgreSQL or SQLite.

- So you can access the data directly, without even using Glom.

- Just don't use unusual features that Glom doesn't expect.
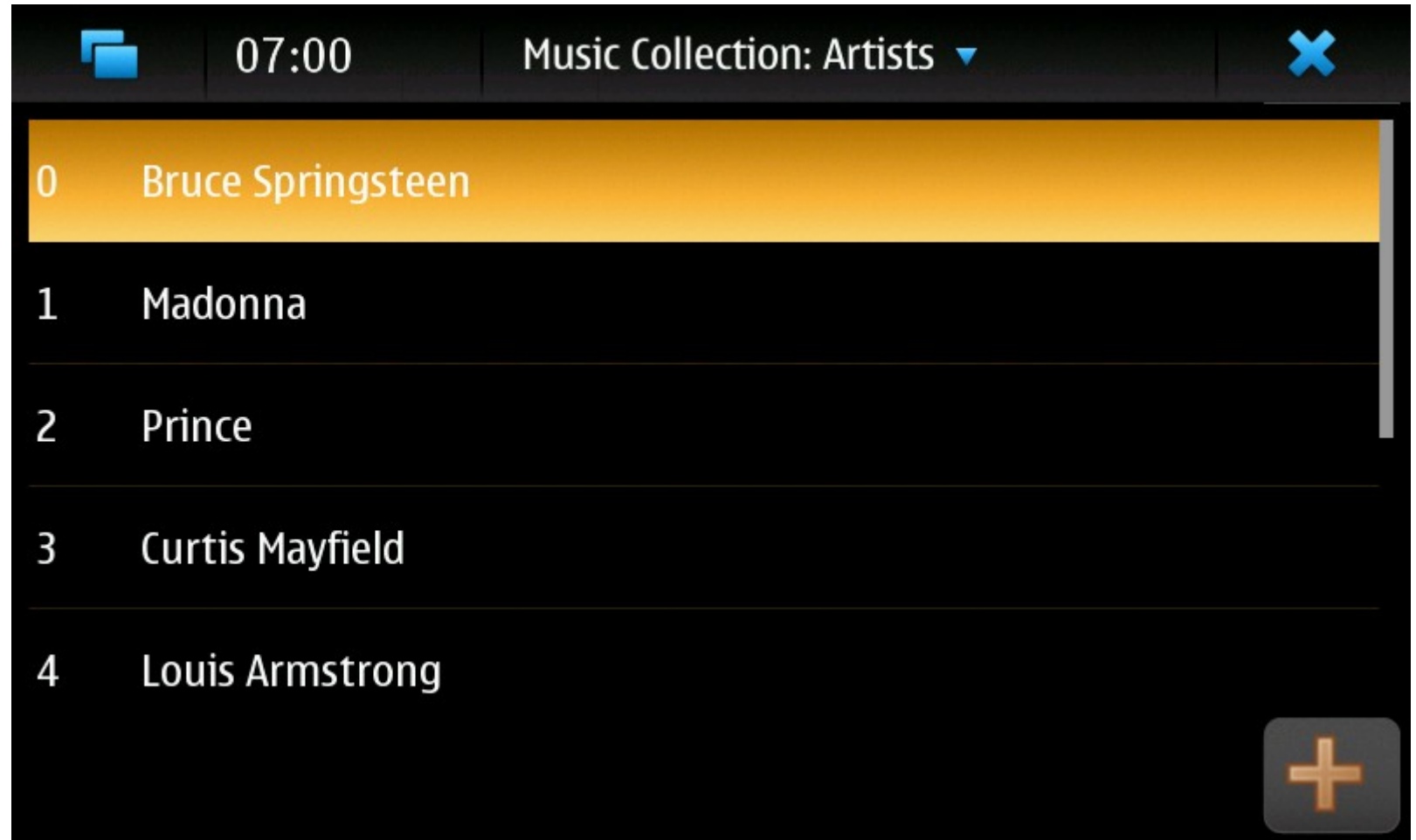
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Extend via XML

- .glom files are XML.

- The format is obvious and documented.

- Libglom helps you to read the XML.
  Qlom (Qt) uses it. We have a Java JSP test too.

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Part 3: Handheld Glom

- Client-only: Just viewing and Editing of data
- TouchSelector instead of TreeView
- PickerButton+TouchSelector instead of ComboBox
- Hide some labels
- Use single-columned layouts by default
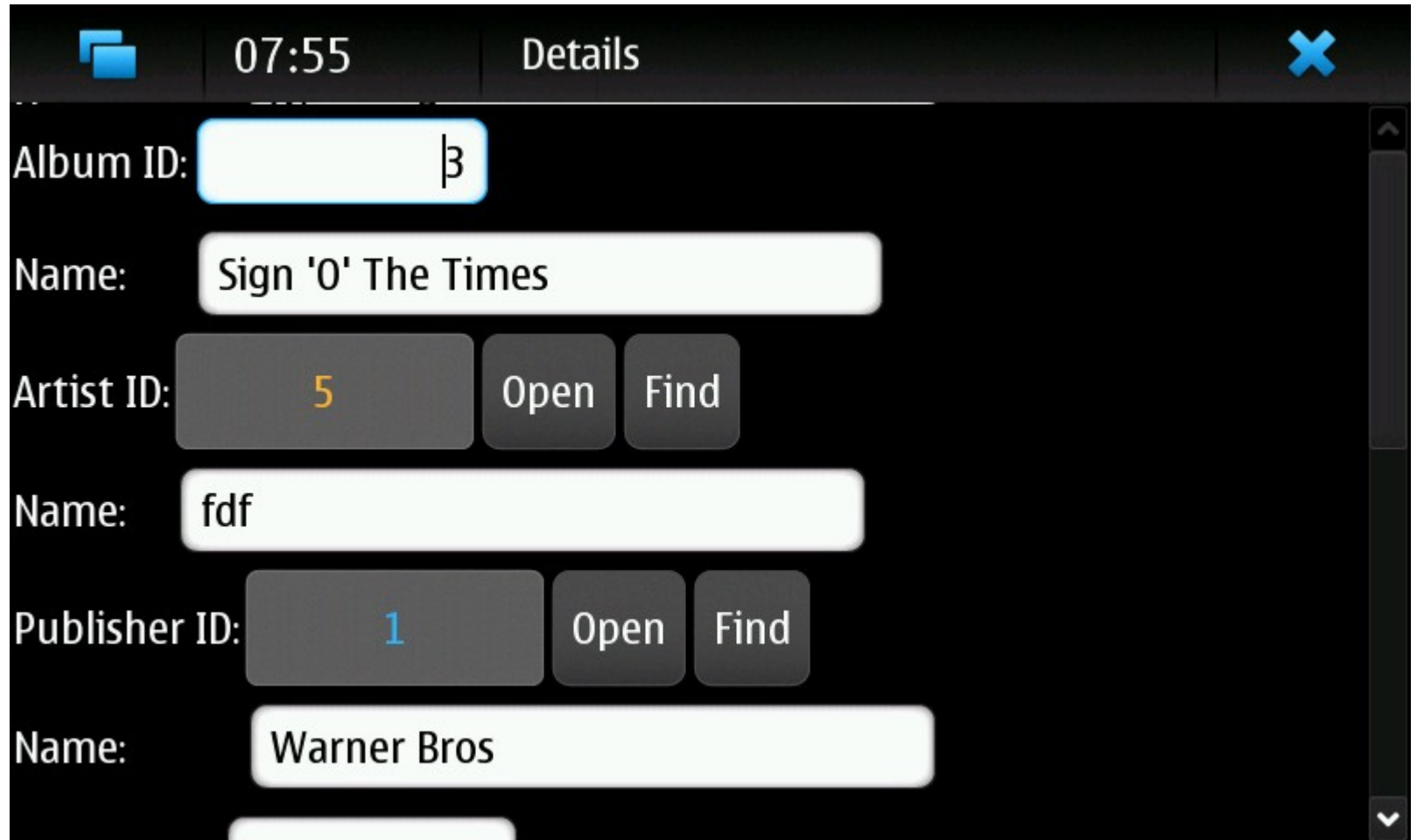- Use Hildon Buttons, Entries, Windows
- ifdeftastic

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Simpler UI

List:

07:00   Music Collection: Artists ▾

0	Bruce Springsteen
1	Madonna
2	Prince
3	Curtis Mayfield
4	Louis Armstrong

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Simpler UI

Details:

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Openismus GmbH

We Create Quality
We Fight Entropy

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