

Dependency injection

Don't let dependencies drag you down. Inject them up!

Content

- Intro
- Manual DI implementation
- Intro to Koin
- Koin implementation
- Best practices & common pitfalls
- Alternatives
- Conclusion



Intro

- Dependency direct relationship between two classes; i.e. one relies on another for its functionality
- Dependency injection implementation technique for **populating instance variables of a class**
- Based onto **Dependency Inversion Principle** (SOLI**D**) high-level modules shouldn't depend on lowlevel modules, both should depend on abstractions





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Intro

- 4 roles of DI:
 - Service class that carries some functionality
 - Client class that requests something from a service
 - o Interface abstract component implemented by a service for use by one or more clients
 - Injector component that introduces a service to a client; i.e. creating and inserting a service into a client
- Types of injection:
 - Constructor injection (clear glance on required dependencies)
 - Public property/field injection
 - Method injection

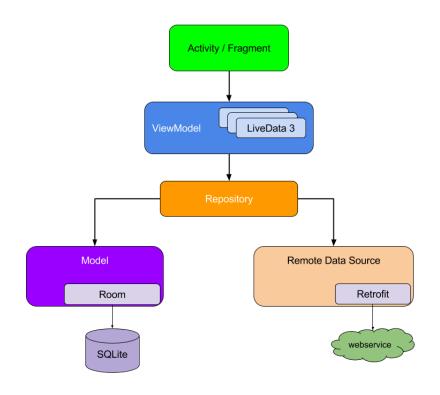


Manual DI implementation





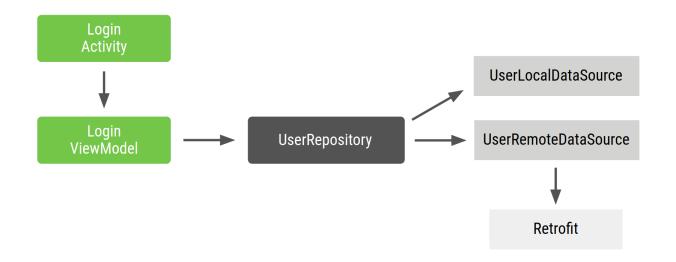
Manual DI implementation





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Manual DI implementation





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```
class LoginViewModel(
    private val userRepository: UserRepository
class UserRepository(
    private val localDataSource: UserLocalDataSource,
    private val remoteDataSource: UserRemoteDataSource
class UserLocalDataSource { ... }
class UserRemoteDataSource(
    private val loginService: ExternalLoginService
```



```
class LoginActivity: Activity() {
    private lateinit var loginViewModel: LoginViewModel
   override fun onCreate(savedInstanceState: Bundle?) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState)
        val loginService: ExternalLoginService()
        val remoteDataSource = UserRemoteDataSource(loginService)
        val localDataSource = UserLocalDataSource()
        val userRepository = UserRepository(localDataSource,
                                            remoteDataSource)
        loginViewModel = LoginViewModel(userRepository)
```

Why this sucks?

- Lot of boilerplate code duplication of the same code pattern for each feature or screen
- Dependencies have to be declared in order you can't instantiate a ViewModel object before
 Repository object
- Difficult to reuse object to share Repository across multiple features you need to construct the Repository following the singleton pattern (deprecated) + makes testing more difficult because all tests share the same singleton instance



There are ways to improve it

- Manage dependencies with a dependency container
- Implement **factory pattern** for instantiation of multiple objects of the same type example: you need a viewmodel in more places in the app
- Use an **DI framework** to simplify your development

```
interface Factory<T> {
   fun create(): T
class LoginViewModelFactory(private val userRepository: UserRepository) : Factory {
   override fun create(): LoginViewModel = LoginViewModel(userRepository)
class AppContainer {
    private val loginService = ExternalLoginService()
    private val remoteDataSource = UserRemoteDataSource(loginService)
    private val localDataSource = UserLocalDataSource()
    private val userRepository = UserRepository(localDataSource, remoteDataSource)
    // only VM factory gets exposed
    val loginViewModelFactory = LoginViewModelFactory(userRepository)
```

```
// Custom Application class that needs to be specified in the AndroidManifest.xml file
class MyApplication : Application() {
    val appContainer = AppContainer()
class LoginActivity: Activity() {
    private lateinit var loginViewModel: LoginViewModel
    override fun onCreate(savedInstanceState: Bundle?) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState)
        val appContainer = (application as MyApplication).appContainer
        loginViewModel = appContainer.loginViewModelFactory.create()
```

Drawbacks for this approach

- AppContainer quickly gets complicated when you want to include more functionality into your app
- Optimizing the AppContainer can be difficult and tiring deleting or updating the whole dependency chain
- Resulting into harder maintenance, reduced testability, larger time consumption on boilerplate code,
 error-prone, limited flexibility, depression and lack of motivation for developing





Intro to Koin

- DI framework which uses Kotlin DSL (Domain Specific Language) with **declarative approach**
- Popular because of its **simplicity** and support for Kotlin Multiplatform
- Latest stable version: v4.0.1
- Similar to service locator pattern (registry of available services ready to be requested for usage) but there are differences:
 - Koin defines its own modules instead of a single static registry
 - Dependencies are tightly coupled to the locator, Koin uses loose coupling due to modules and constructor injection

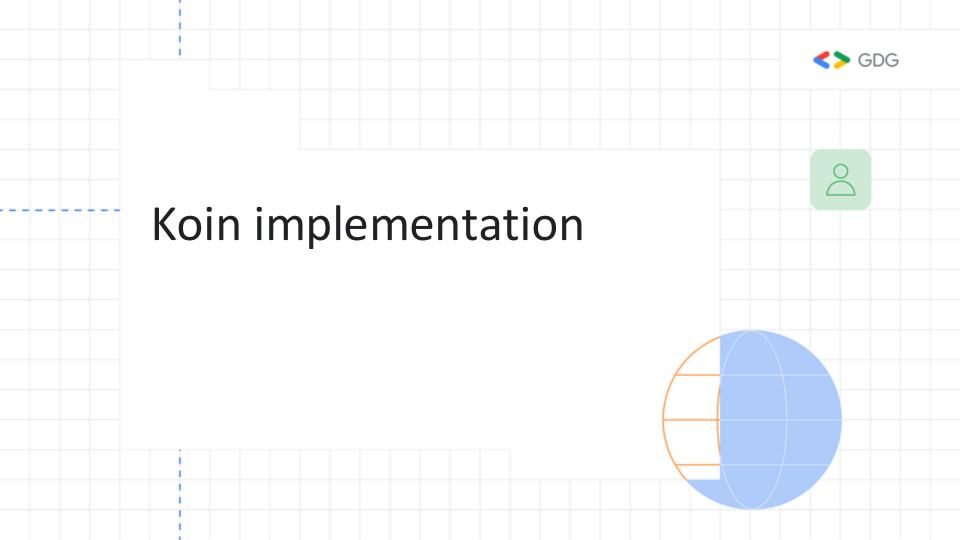




Koin terminology

- Module a **container** for defining dependencies and their relationships
- Definition a **declaration of a dependency** within a module. Definitions specify how to create or retrieve an instance of a particular type
- Scope a mechanism for **controlling the lifecycle** of dependencies
 - single singleton dependency (one instance across the application)
 - o factory a factory dependency, meaning a new instance is created each time it's requested
 - viewModel a ViewModelScope instance for managing the lifecycle of coroutines within a ViewModel
- get() resolves dependencies inside module
- inject() retrieving dependency instances from a module
- Qualifier name of the definition, differentiation between definitions of the same type





Add Koin to project

```
dependencies {
  val koinVersion = "4.0.1"
  // Koin core features
  implementation("org.koin:koin-core:$koinVersion")
  // Koin Android features
  implementation("org.koin:koin-android:$koinVersion")
  implementation("org.koin:koin-androidx-viewmodel:$koinVersion")
```



Define modules and dependencies

```
val networkingModule = module {
  single<ProfileApi>(qualifier = named("PrimaryProfileApi")) { PrimaryProfileApiImpl() }
  single<ProfileApi>(qualifier = named("OtherProfileApi")) { OtherProfileApiImpl() }
val repositoryModule = module {
  single<ProfileRepository> { ProfileRepositoryImpl(api = get(qualifier = named("PrimaryProfileApi"))) }
val viewModelModule = module {
  viewModel<ProfileViewModel> { (profileId) ->
      ProfileViewModelImpl(repository = get(), profileId = profileId)
```

Initialize Koin

```
class MyApplication : Application() {
  override fun onCreate() {
    super.onCreate()
    startKoin {
       androidContext(this@MyApplication)
       modules(networkingModule, repositoryModule, viewModelModule)
// Inside Manifest.xml
<manifest>
  <application
    android:name=".MyApplication" ... />
</manifest>
```



Components injection

```
// Injection into Fragments or other classes
val someService by inject<ProfileTranslator>()
// Injection into Composables
@Composable
fun App() {
 val vm = koinViewModel<ProfileViewModel>() // lazy initialization is not possible in composables
 val someService = koinInject<ProfileTranslator>()
@Composable
fun App(vm : ProfileViewModel = koinViewModel(), someService: ProfileTranslator = koinInject()) {
 //...
```

Practical example



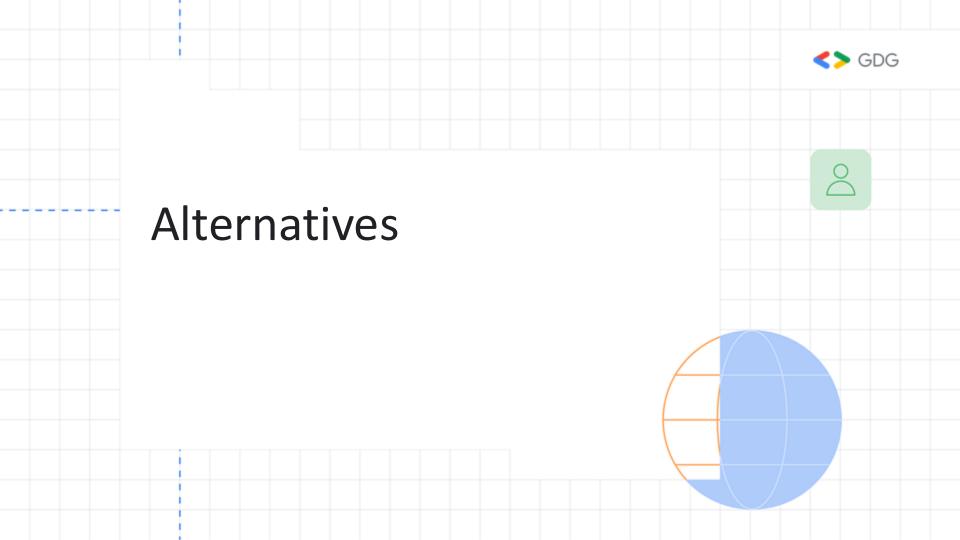
Waiting for Android Studio to load up





Best practices & common pitfalls

- Best practices:
 - Separate responsibilities organize dependencies into layered modules (feature or functionality based)
 - Write clear **unidirectional dependencies** avoid circular references
 - Use property injection with **lazy injection** technique where possible
- Common pitfalls:
 - Incorrect scoping overuse of Singletons
 - Tight Coupling
 - Unclear Module Structure



Alternatives

- **Dagger** relies on compile-time code generation, processes annotations during compilation to generate the DI code for object instantiation and injection
- Hilt built on top of Dagger with more simplified and Android-oriented (pre-defined) annotations

Alternatives comparison

| Feature | Koin | Dagger | Hilt |
|------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| Approach | Runtime service locator | Compile-time code generation | Inherits from Dagger |
| Learning curve | Easy | Steep | Moderate |
| Boilerplate code | Minimal | High | Medium |
| Setup | Simple, declarative | Complex (requires component definitions) | Simplified setup than Dagger (predefined components and scopes) |
| Compile time | None | Increases (can be significant) | Increases (less than Dagger) |
| Debugging | Easier | Complex (code generation) | Easier than Dagger |





Conclusion

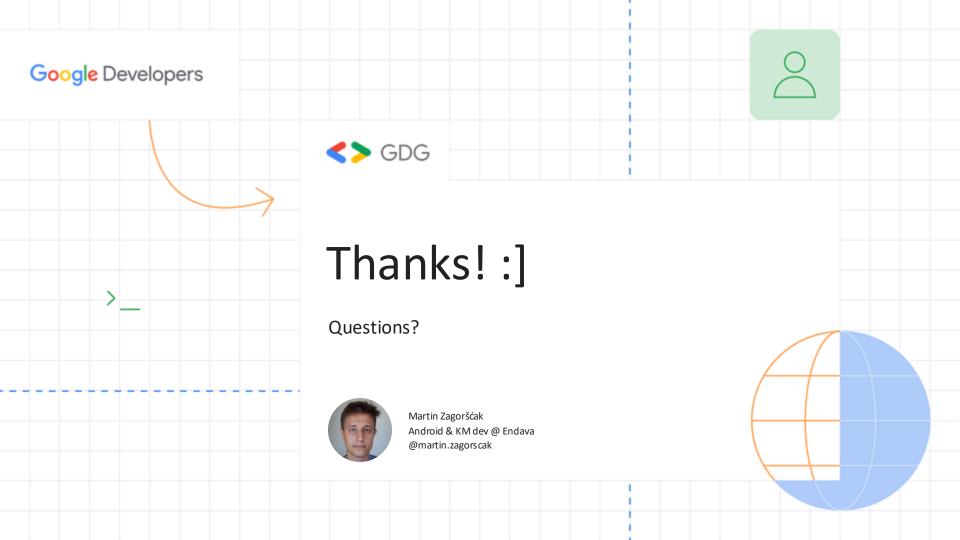
- Dependency Injection promotes loose coupling, testability, and maintainability in your app
- Relying on interfaces makes your code clean
- Smaller or bigger project, Koin does the job 💪
- If you are not familiar with SOLID principles, check it out

Literature





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Homework

Implement DI system into your existing projects by following best practices.

Bonus: Study how Hilt works and try it out.

