Android SQLite Tutorial

Introduction:

The objective of this tutorial is to demonstrate and explain how to manipulate an SQLite database in the android development environment. It involves the presentation of the database in the UI as well as the functions of CRUD (create, read, update and delete) records in the app demo. The audiences are expected to know how to manage an SQLite database and present the desired output in the android development after studying this tutorial. A simple birth weight database is used as the example.

Assumption:

The audience should know the following knowledge in prior to this tutorial:

- Java programming language,
- Xml language,
- SQL query, and
- Some basic knowledge in android development like layout, event handlers, manipulate the elements in UI, intent, context and so on.

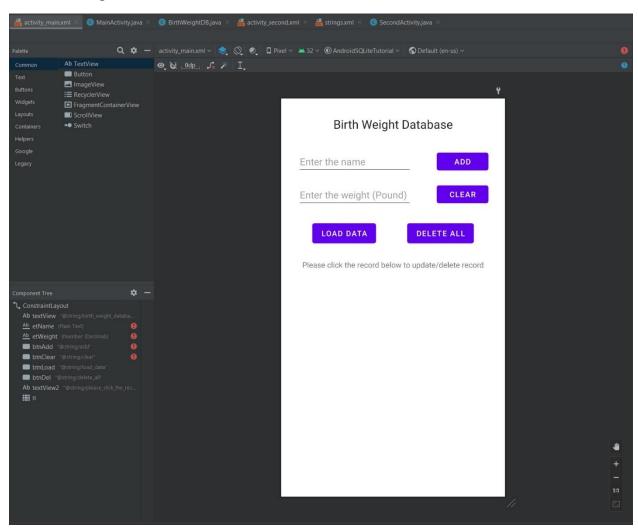
The flow:

We will go through the following steps for this tutorial.

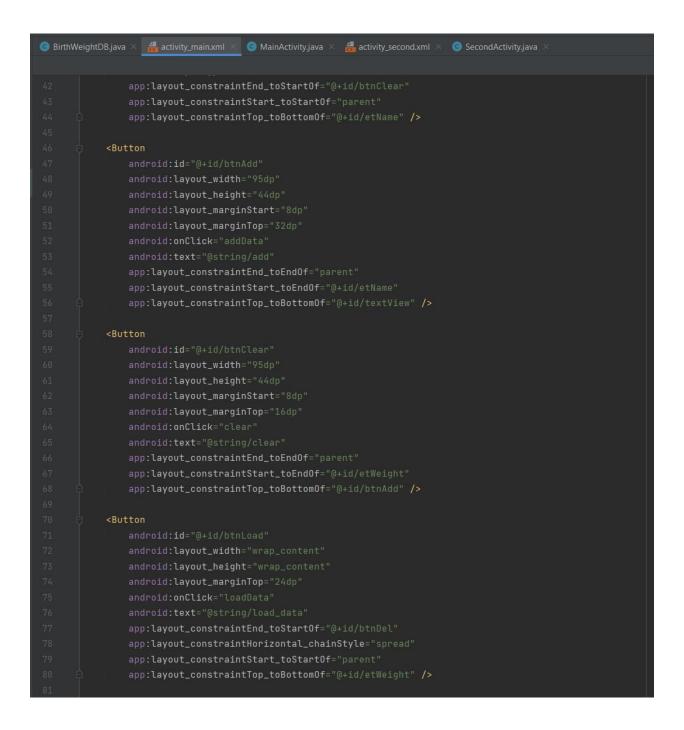
- Step 1 Create the layout of MainActivity with elements
- Step 2 Create a database subclass which inherits SQLiteOpenHelper class
- Step 3 Declare and call the variables and methods in MainActivity.java for creating the database, adding records, and reading/displaying the records
- Step 4 Create the SecondActivity.java and its layout
- Step 5 Declare and call the variables and methods in SecondActivity.java for updating and deleting the records

Step 1 – Create the layout of MainActivity with elements

First of all, we design the layout of the MainActivity. There are several elements including 2 textviews for displaying messages, 2 edittexts for user input, 4 buttons for handling events and 1 tablelayout for displaying the records from the database. Here is the screenshot of the layout code and design.



```
্<<mark>a</mark>ndroidx.constraintlayout.widget.ConstraintLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
         android:layout_width="wrap_content"
         android:layout_marginTop="32dp"
         android:textAppearance="@style/TextAppearance.AppCompat.Large"
         app:layout_constraintEnd_toEndOf="parent"
         app:layout_constraintStart_toStartOf="parent"
         app:layout_constraintTop_toTopOf="parent" />
     <EditText
         android:layout_marginTop="32dp"
         android:layout_marginEnd="8dp"
     <EditText
         android:layout_marginTop="16dp'
         android:layout_marginEnd="8dp"
```



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BirthWeightDB.java ×

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                                                                                                                                                                                                                             SecondActivity.java
                                                app:layout_constraintHorizontal_chainStyle="spread"
                                               app:layout_constraintStart_toStartOf="parent"
                                                app:layout_constraintTop_toBottomOf="@+id/etWeight" />
                                   <Button
                                               android:layout_height="wrap_content"
                                               android:layout_marginTop="24dp"
                                               app:layout_constraintEnd_toEndOf="parent"
                                               app:layout_constraintStart_toEndOf="@+id/btnLoad"
                                                app:layout_constraintTop_toBottomOf="@+id/etWeight" />
                                               android:layout_width="wrap_content"
                                               android:layout_marginTop="24dp"
                                               app:layout_constraintEnd_toEndOf="parent"
                                               app:layout_constraintTop_toBottomOf="@+id/btnLoad" />
                                   <TableLayout
                                                android:layout_width="match_parent"
                                                android:layout_height="wrap_content"
                                               android:layout_marginStart="32dp"
                                               android:layout_marginTop="16dp"
                                               android:layout_marginEnd="32dp"
                                                app:layout_constraintEnd_toEndOf="parent"
                                               app:layout_constraintHorizontal_bias="1.0"
                                               app:layout_constraintStart_toStartOf="parent"
                                               app:layout_constraintTop_toBottomOf="@+id/textView2" />
                       </androidx.constraintlayout.widget.ConstraintLayout>
```

Step 2 – Create a database subclass which inherits SQLiteOpenHelper class

A database subclass of SQLiteOpenHelper class is required to allow the app to execute database-related methods from SQLiteOpenHelper class. We name "BirthWeightDB" as an example of creating the database subclass.

After creating the class, we add several variables which will be used in the methods. They include some constant strings which represent the database table and column names, context, an int for saving the number of records, and the database variable itself, SQLiteDatabase variable.

Next, we create a constructor to initiate the database object in the MainActivity. Super is used due to the inheritance from the super class. There are two override methods which are onCreate() and onUpgrade(). We use db.execSQL() with SQL "CREATE TABLE" query in onCreate() to create the table when the database object is initiated. onUpgrade() is used when the developer wants to upgrade the database. Here is the code.

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The last part of this class is creating corresponding methods to manage the database. There are five methods which are named as insertData(), loadData(), delAll(), update(), delData(). Besides loadData(), other methods use getWritableDatabase() which does not accept SQL query with "SELECT" allows us to create/update/delete the records in the database. For loadData(), getReadableDatabase(), which accepts SQL query with "SELECT", is used to read the database.

Similar to onCreate(), we use BirthWeightDB.execSQL() with SQL queries to execute the queries in the methods besides loadData(). There are some alternative methods which does not require SQL query for update(), delAll() and delData(). These methods, which are included in the code as comments, are safer for developers to prevent SQL syntax mistakes.

For loadData(), we use ArrayList<String[]> return method to return the database records into an ArrayList. We firstly create an empty ArrayList and make BirthWeightDB readable by using getReadableDatabase(). We next create a cursor, cr, onto a view/table with desired data by using rawQuery() with SQL "SELECT" query. The numeric value of number of records is assigned to the variable count by using cr.getCount(). Then we use while loop with cr.moveToNext() to screen the data from the selected view/table. By using cr.getInt() and cr.getString(), we can assign the values of each field from records to String variable and the ArrayList. At last but not least, we need to close the cursor and return the ArrayList. Here is the code of the 5 methods.

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```

<u>Step 3 – Declare and call the variables and methods in MainActivity.java for creating the</u> database, adding records, and reading/displaying the records

Now we develop the methods in the MainActivity.java to create and manipulate a concrete database. We create a number of variables including two edittexts, one tablelayout, one public static BirthWeightDB (it is accessible in the SecondActivity), one ArrayList (for storing the records from the database), and a public static int id (the id from the first column of our database). We assign the values to the edittexts, the tablelayout and create the concrete database, bwDB, in onCreate(). Since we want to read and load the database directly after jumping back from SecondActivity, the if statement in onCreate() will automatically read and load the database if the intent is not empty. Here is the code.

```
package com.example.lab3sqlitetutorial_300345759;
public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {
      public static BirthWeightDB bwDB;
         etName = findViewById(R.id.etName);
         bwDB = new BirthWeightDB( ct this);
```

Next we create several methods for button event handlers. They include addData(), clear(), loadDB(), and delDB(). After getting the input from the edittexts, we use if statement to check if the input is empty. If not, we call the insertData() from BirthWeightDB class with input as parameters to insert the input into the database. We empty the edittext and popup a message to confirm the user that the record is added successfully. We close the database at the end. It is simple for clear() which just clear the edittext fields for better user experience. Here is the code

The loadDB() method involves the longest codes in the app. We firstly call the loadData() from the BirthWeightDB class to read the database and store the records to our ArrayList. This method serves for several purposes beside just reading the records from database. It not only checks if the database is empty (the first part if statement) but also dynamically to display the records in the tablelayout. We remove all views from the tablelayout to prevent overlapping display. Then we create a tablerow with two textviews to display the table header and add them to the tablelayout. We use for-loop to create number of tablerows and textviews to display each record. We also use setId(), setClickable(), and setOnClickListener() in the loop to allow user to click each tablerow for modifying/deleting the record in the SecondActivity. Do not forget to add each tablerow into the tablelayout. At last, we clear the edittexts.

To activate the on click event on each table row, an onClickListener variable is needed in the setOnClickListener() aforementioned. We create an intent which allows the user to jump to the SecondActivity. Then we use the Id from the selected tablerow to refer the record from the ArrayList. The fields of the selected record will be stored into the intent by using putExtra(). Finally, we start the intent to jump to SecondActivity.

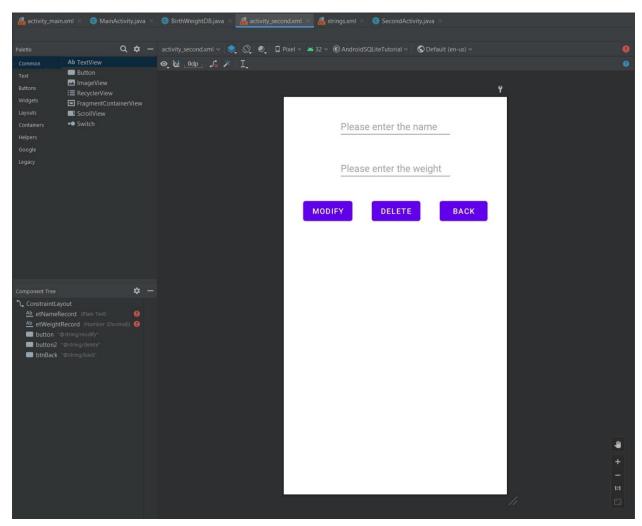
The last method, delDB(), is simple. We call the delAll() from the BirthWeightDB class to delete the database. Then we remove all the views from the tablelayout and pop up the message about the database deletion. Close the database and this is done. Here is the code.

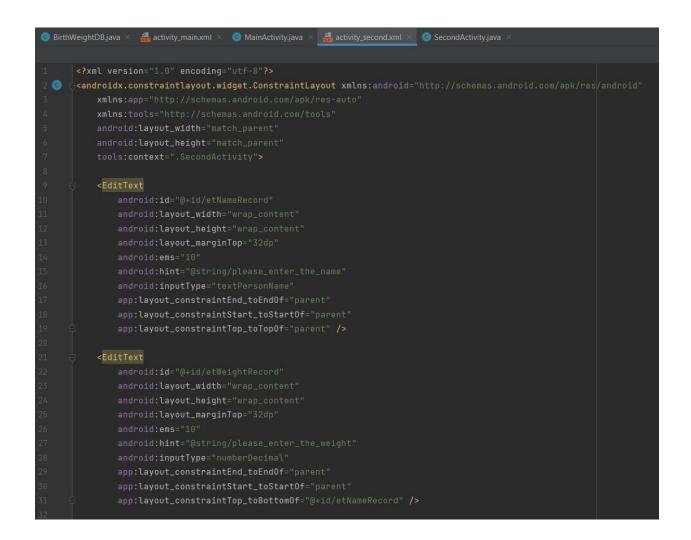
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                                         //Create a textview to display a message about no data
TextView txvNoData = new TextView( context this);
txvNoData.setText( There are no data yet.");
txvNoData.setTextAlignment(View.TEXT_ALIGNMENT_CENTER);
                                         //Create two <u>textviews</u> for the two headers
TextView txvNameHeader = new TextView( context this);
txvNameHeader.setText("Infant Name");
txvNameHeader.setTextSize(16);
                                          TextView txvWeightHeader = new TextView(
                                          txvWeightHeader.setText("Weight (lbs)");
                                            for(int 1 = 0; 1 < bwDB.count; 1++){
   //Create a table tow to show the data of each record
   TableRow tr = new TableRow( context this);</pre>
```

```
0 0
                                      intent1.putExtra( name: "id", id);
intent1.putExtra( name: "name", s1);
intent1.putExtra( name: "weight", s2);
                                       startActivity(intent1);
```

Step 4 – Create the SecondActivity.java and its layout

We create a new empty activity and called it SecondActivity for allowing user to modify/delete a certain record. The layout of the SecondActivity is much simpler. There are 2 edittexts and 3 buttons only. Here is the screenshot of the layout code and design.





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BirthWeightDB.java ×
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                                                                           SecondActivity.java
           <Button
               android:layout_width="wrap_content"
               android:layout_height="wrap_content"
               android:layout_marginTop="32dp"
               app:layout_constraintEnd_toStartOf="@+id/button2"
               app:layout_constraintHorizontal_bias="0.5"
               app:layout_constraintHorizontal_chainStyle="spread"
               app:layout_constraintStart_toStartOf="parent"
               app:layout_constraintTop_toBottomOf="@+id/etWeightRecord" />
               android:layout_width="wrap_content"
               android:layout_height="wrap_content"
               android:layout_marginTop="32dp"
               app:layout_constraintEnd_toStartOf="@+id/btnBack"
               app:layout_constraintHorizontal_bias="0.5"
               app:layout_constraintTop_toBottomOf="@+id/etWeightRecord" />
           <Button
               android:layout_width="wrap_content"
               android:layout_height="wrap_content"
               android:layout_marginTop="32dp"
               app:layout_constraintEnd_toEndOf="parent"
               app:layout_constraintHorizontal_bias="0.5"
               app:layout_constraintStart_toEndOf="@+id/button2"
               app:layout_constraintTop_toBottomOf="@+id/etWeightRecord" />
      </androidx.constraintlayout.widget.ConstraintLayout>
```

<u>Step 5 – Declare and call the variables and methods in SecondActivity.java for updating and deleting the records</u>

Firstly, we declare a String, two editext variables and another intent to jump back MainActivity. We then assign the corresponding values to the intent and edittext variables and set the text from the MainActivity intent by using getIntent().getStringExtra() in onCreate(). The String flag is used to store some data to show that the intent is not empty. It will trigger the loadData() in the onCreate() of MainActivity to load and display the data automatically. Here is the code.

Next we create 3 methods for 3 button event handlers which are updateRecord(), delRecord(), and back(). After getting the input from edittext and checking if the input is empty, we call the update() from BirthWeightDB class of the concrete database created in the MainAcitvity to update the record within the same database. We use the MainActivity id to indicate which record is needed to be updated. Set and assign the flag to the intent then start the intent to

jump back to MainActivity. The delRecord() is similar to updateRecord. It just calls another method, delData() from the BirthWeightDB(). The back() is just used to implement the intent to mainActivity without manipulating the database. Here is the code.

```
startActivity(intent2);
public void delRecord(View view) {
```

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