



Android lecture 5

Services, release process, libraries

Services

Services

- Long running operation in background
- Doesn't depend on UI
- Can expose API for other applications
- By default runs on UI thread

Services

- Types:
 - Started
 - Bound
- Visibility:
 - Background
 - Limited since Oreo (API \geq 26)
 - Foreground

Started service

- Independent from caller
- Do not return result to caller

Started service - starting

- Started by calling
`Context#startService()`
- Override
`Service#onStartCommand()`

Started service - ending

- Stop by self

`Service#stopSelf()`

- From outside

`Context#stopService()`

Bound service

- Client server interface for communication
- Lightweight RPC communication

Bound service - binding

- Component bind to it by calling

```
Context#bindService(service: Intent  
                    conn: ServiceConnection,  
                    flags: Int): Boolean
```

- Override

```
Service#onBind(intent: Intent): IBinder?
```

- Service returns IBinder object for interaction

Bound services - unbind

- Clients call
`Context#unbindService(conn: ServiceConnection)`
- System destroys service, when all clients unbond from it

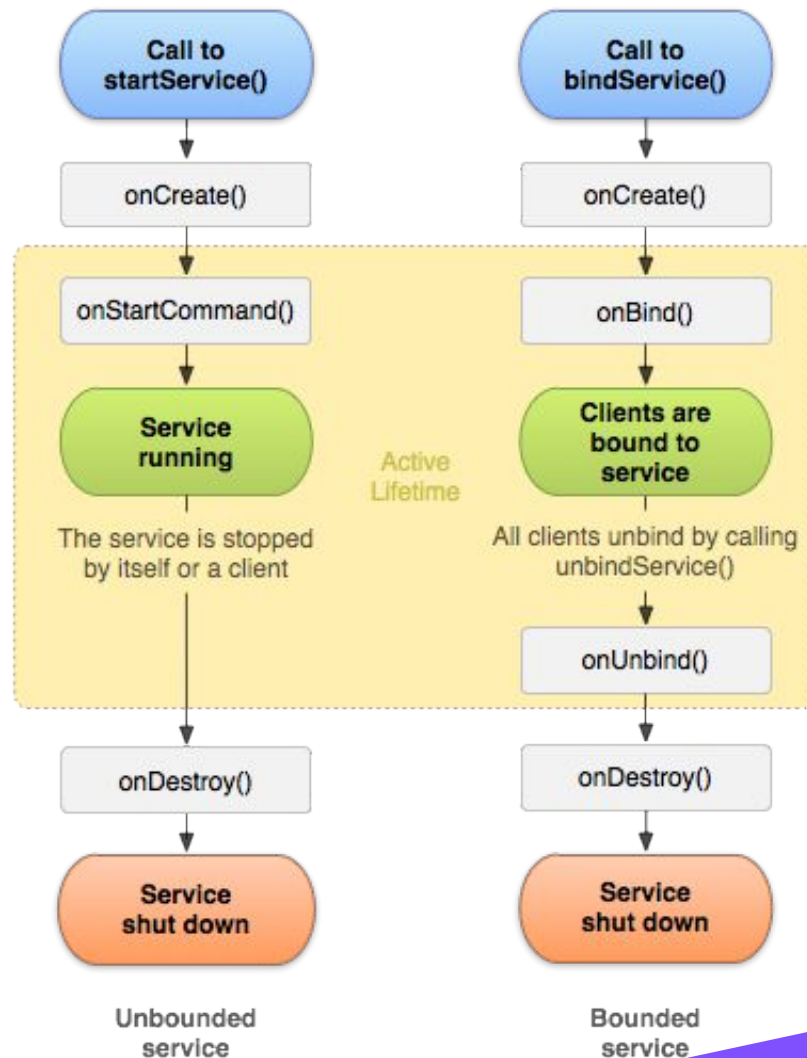
Service connection

- Define callbacks for service binding
- `fun onBindDied(name: ComponentName)`
 - Binding is dead
 - Can happen during app update
 - Unbind and rebind
- `fun onNullBinding(name: ComponentName)`
 - `Service#onBind` returns null
 - Unbinding is still required
- `fun onServiceConnected(name: ComponentName, service: IBinder)`
 - Connection with the service has been established
- `fun onServiceDisconnected(name: ComponentName)`
 - Connection has been lost
 - Process hosting service crashed or been killed
 - Service connection remain active (`onServiceConnected` can be called again)

IBinder/Binder

- Remotable object for communication with bounded service

Service lifecycle



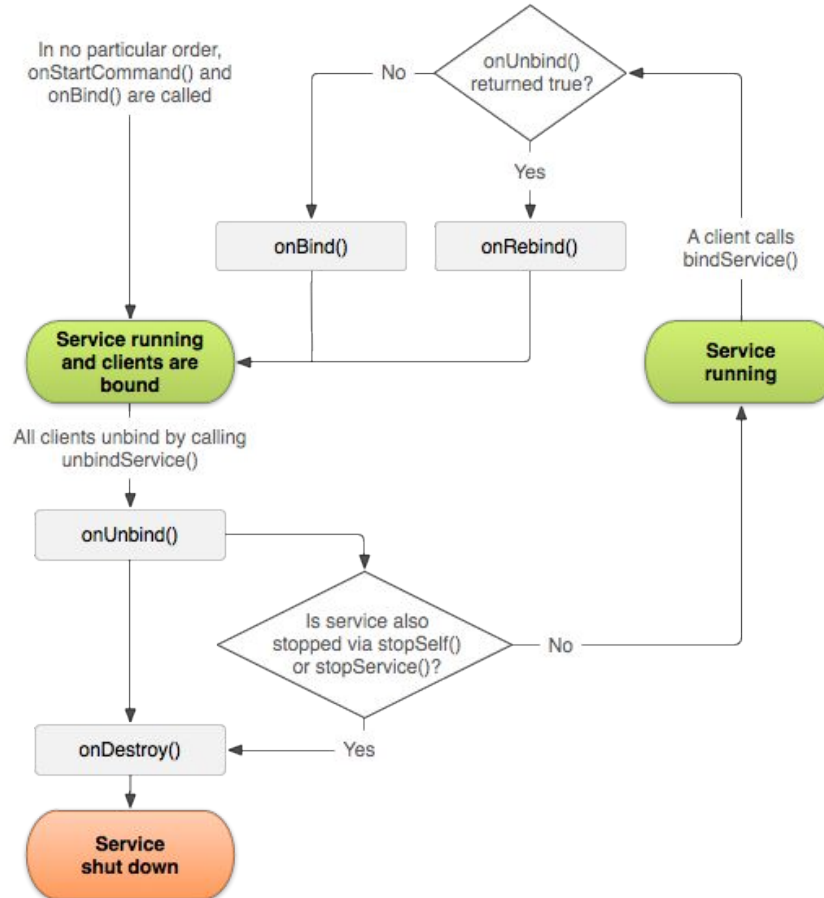
Service lifecycle

- onCreate()
 - Called when the service is being created (after first call of startService() or bindService())
- onStartCommand()
 - Called when startService() is called, delivers starting intent
 - Returned value specify behaviour when it's killed by system
 - START_STICKY - don't retain intent, later when system recreate service null intent is delivered (explicitly started/stopped services)
 - START_NOT_STICKY - if there is no start intent, take service out of the started state. Service is not recreated.
 - START_REDELIVER_INTENT - last delivered intent will be redelivered, pending intent delivered at the point of restart

Service - lifecycle

- onBind()
 - When another component binds to service
 - Returns Binder object for communication
- onUnbind()
 - When all clients disconnected from interface published by service
 - Returns true when onRebind should be called when new clients bind to service, otherwise onBind will be called
- onRebind()
 - Called when new clients are connected, after notification about disconnecting all client in its onUnbind
- onDestroy()
 - Called by system to notify a Service that it is no longer used and is being removed.
 - Cleanup receivers, threads..

Bound Service lifecycle



Background service

- On background by default
- Strongly limited since Android Oreo (API 26)
 - Not possible to start background service when app is not on the foreground

Foreground service

- Service process has higher priority
- User is actively aware of it
- System not likely to kill foreground services
- Requires permanent notification (cannot be dismissed), it is under Ongoing heading
- Use `Context#startForegroundService(Intent)`
 - 5s window to make the service foreground
- By calling `Service#startForeground(int, Notification)`
- Remove from foreground `stopForeground()`
- Apps targeting Android 9 (API 28) or higher must define
 - FOREGROUND_SERVICE permission (normal permission)

IntentService

- Subclass of Service
- Uses worker thread to handle requests
- Handle only one request at one time
- Creates work queue
- Stops when it run out of work
- Override `onHandleIntent(Intent)` for processing requests, runs on worker thread

JobIntentService

- Replacement of IntentService
- Part of support library
- Uses JobScheduler
- Requires WAKE_LOCK permission

Application release

Gather materials for release

- Cryptographic keys
 - Apps in store are digitally signed, by developer certificate
 - Identify app developer
 - Self-signed certificate is enough
 - Needs to end after 22 October 2033
 - Protect your private key and password, it is not possible to update application if it is lost
- End-user license agreement (EULA)
 - User should know if you gather some data
 - Not required but recommended
 - GDPR

Gather material for release

- Application icon
 - Visible in launcher, settings or other applications
 - High-res assets for google play store listing
- Misc. materials
 - Promo and marketing materials
 - Promotional text and graphic for store listing
- Changelog

Before release

- Delete unused parts (sources, resources, assets)
- Package name
 - <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.avast.android.mobilesecurity>
- Turn off debug features
 - Delete Log.* calls
 - Remove android:debuggable flag from AndroidManifest
 - Remove Debug or Trace calls
 - If you using WebView ensure that debug is disabled, otherwise is possible to inject js code
- Clean up your directories, checks if libraries doesn't include some unnecessary files to your *.apk (*.proto, java manifests, ...)

Configure application for release

- Review
 - permissions - remove unnecessary
 - App icon and label
 - Version code and version name
 - Used URLs test vs. production backend
- Check compatibility
 - Support of multiple screens
 - Tablet mode

Build application for release

- Signing
 - Manually
 - Using Keytool and Jarsigner from JDK
 - Configure sign options in gradle
 - Android studio
 - Sign scheme v2 <https://source.android.com/security/apksigning/v2>
 - Sign scheme v3 <https://source.android.com/security/apksigning/v3>
- Obfuscation
 - Use proguard to obfuscate your code, it is really easy to decompile application and find how it works, endpoints
- Consider
 - Who has access to your sign key
 - Signing server

Prepare external servers and resources

- Ensure that backend is running
- Check if app is switched to prod environment

Testing your application for release

- Regression test
- Test new features
- If it is possible test it on multiple devices, android versions
- Test multiple languages
- Check if it looks good with RTL languages
- Check lint, if it doesn't contain some several issues

Publishing

- Google play store
 - Registration cost 25 USD
 - Reporting about installs
 - Crashes
 - If user sends it
 - Cloud test lab
 - Run monkey tests on multiple devices before releasing
 - Alpha/Beta groups
 - Distribution specific domain - internal apps
 - Staged rollout
 - API - import crash reports to bug tracker, upload new APK, ...

Publishing

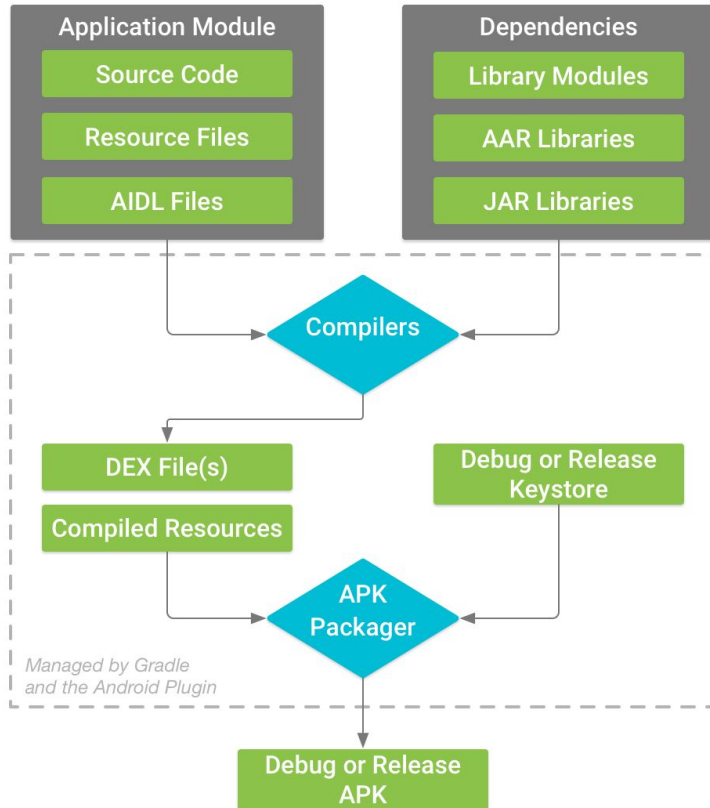
- Email, Web page
 - Untrusted sources - security risk
 - Manual Updates
- 3rd party distribution
 - Amazon

After publish

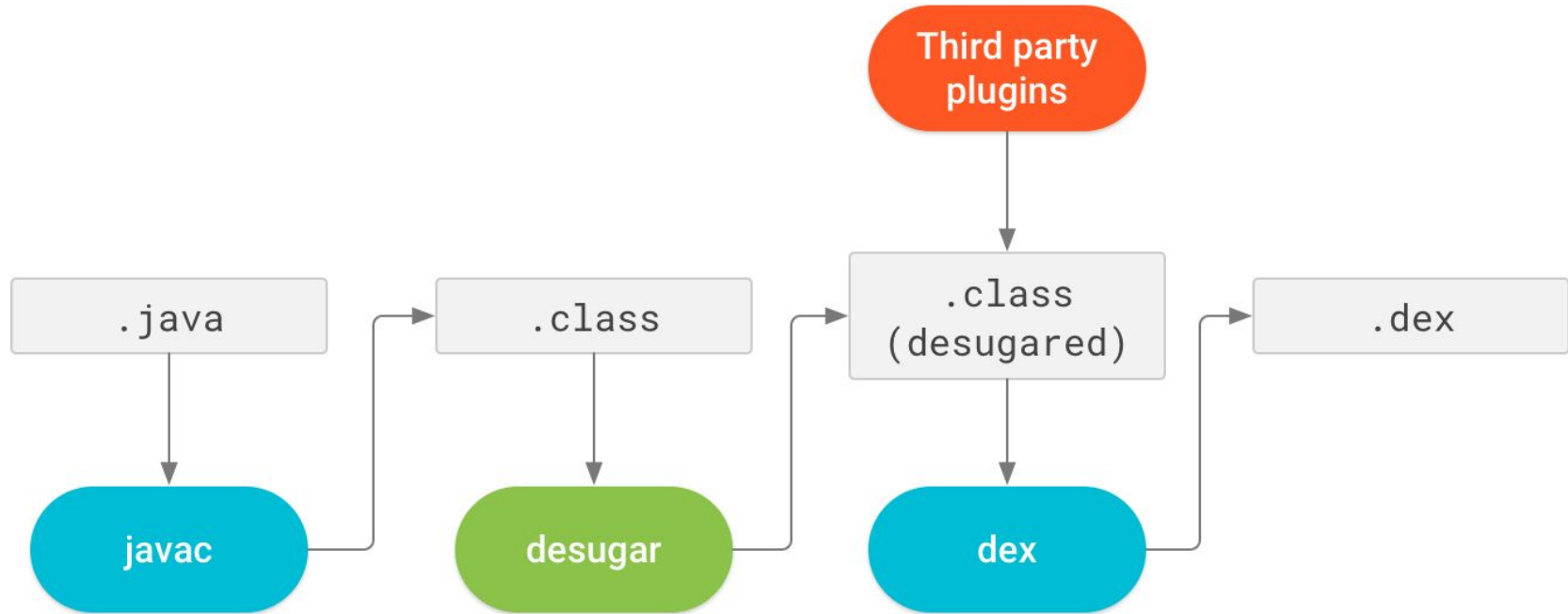
- Monitor new crashes
- New permission slows down spreading between users
- Not good idea publish app before weekend or vacation

Build process and APK structure

Build process



Support java 8 features (d8)



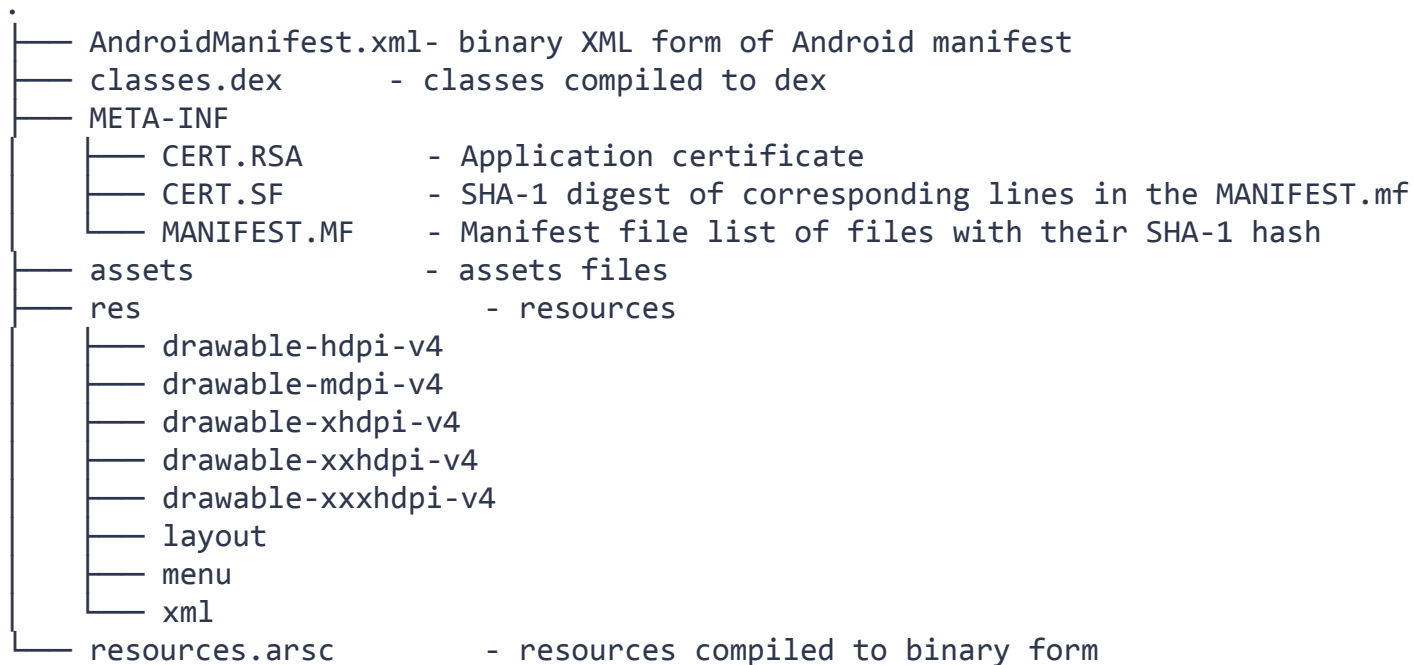
Building android apps limitations

- Dex limit 64k methods
 - Shrink unused methods and classes (libraries)
 - You need to specify what is entry point, build dependency graph. Classes which are not part of graph are removed, unused methods as well
 - When you work on library, provide proguard rules together with library
 - Sometimes is better copy some classes from library into application
 - for example guava library
- Google doesn't allow code side load

Multidex

- Native support since API-21 for older version support library
- Try to avoid using multidex, it slows down application start
- Splits classes to multiple dex files
- on API \geq 21 dex files are converted to single .oat file (ART runtime)
- Main dex file loaded when app is started
- Loading of additional dex files is performed during initialization
- Dex files are in app folder
- <https://www.blackhat.com/docs/ldn-15/materials/london-15-Welton-Abusing-Android-Apps-And-Gaining-Remote-Code-Execution.pdf>

Apk structure



Proguard/R8

- Shrink - smaller code, faster build
- Optimize - faster code, removing static conditions
- Obfuscate - make it harder to read

Decompile apk

- Unzip the apk
- Dex2Jar to convert classes.dex to jar archive
 - <https://github.com/pxb1988/dex2jar>
- jd-gui to view decompiled classes
 - <http://jd.benow.ca/>
- Android studio apk analyzer
 - Easy to check resources
 - Compare multiple apk

Android and SW development - best practices

- Keep strings, dimensions, colors, ... in resources
- Create libs for parts used in multiple projects (simplify maintenance, speed-up builds)
- Use git
- Do code reviews
- Write tests

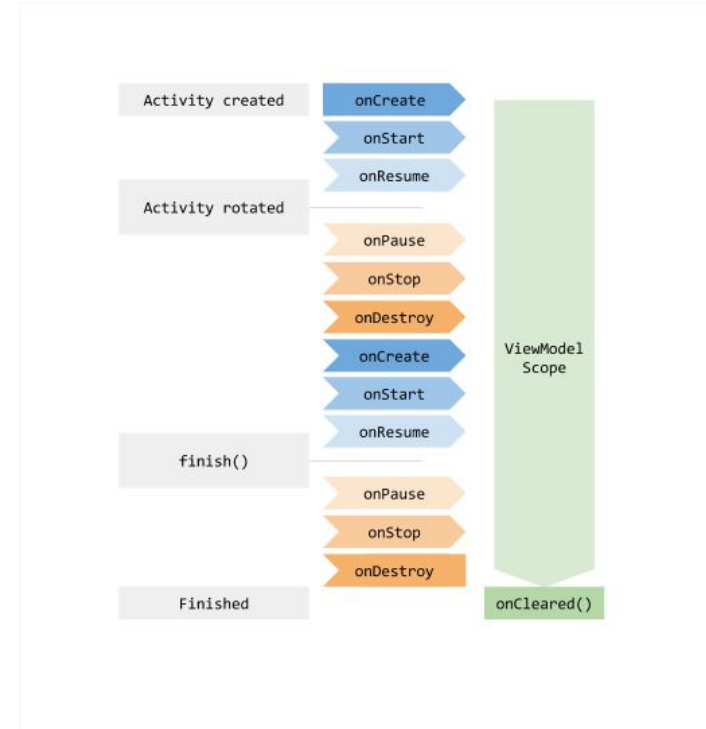
Libraries, gradle plugins, etc...

Android jetpack

- Set of libraries from google
- <https://developer.android.com/jetpack>
- Groups
 - Foundation
 - AppCompat, Android KTX, Multidex, Test
 - Architecture
 - Data binding, Lifecycles, LiveData, Navigation, Paging, Room, ViewModel, WorkManager
 - Behavior
 - Download manager, Media & playback, Notifications, Permissions, Preferences, Sharing, Slices
 - UI
 - Animations & transitions, Auto, Emoji, Fragment, Layout, Palette, TV, Wear OS

Android jetpack ViewModel

- Store and manage UI related data
- Scoped to Lifecycle when getting view model instance
- Do not hold reference to Activity/Fragment/View !!!



Android jetpack - LiveData

- Observable data holder
- Lifecycle aware

DexCount plugin

- Computes methods count in APK
- Visualize count in nice chart
- <https://github.com/KeepSafe/dexcount-gradle-plugin>

Retrofit

- A type-safe HTTP client for Android and Java
- Simplify communication with some API service
- Configurable
 - OkHTTP 3 client - compression, timeouts
 - Supports multiple convertors
 - Gson
 - Jackson
 - Moshi
 - Protobuf
 - Wire
- <https://square.github.io/retrofit/>

OkHttp

- An HTTP & HTTP/2 client for Android and Java applications
- Supports sync/async calls
- Supports multiple addresses per URL (Load balancing, failover)
- <http://square.github.io/okhttp/>

Dagger

- Dependency injection framework
- Decouple code
- Better testing
- <https://dagger.dev/android.html>

Stetho

- Debug tool by Facebook
- Inspect
 - ViewHierarchy
 - Database
 - Shared preferences
 - Network trafic
- <http://facebook.github.io/stetho>

LeakCanary

- Helps with finding memory leaks
- <https://github.com/square/leakcanary>

Kotlin coroutines intro - bonus

Kotlin coroutines

- Lightweight thread
- Uses suspending functions

Suspend function

- Function which is able to suspend it's execution without blocking thread

```
suspend fun longRunningOperation() { delay(10_000) }
```

- Suspend lambda
- suspend/resume
- Can be called only from other suspend function or in coroutine created by coroutine builder

Suspend functions

- `suspend` does not mean to run function on background
-

CoroutineDispatcher

- All coroutines run in dispatcher
- Coroutine can **suspend** themselves
- Knows how to **resume** suspended coroutines

CoroutineDispatcher

Dispatchers.Main	Dispatchers.IO	Dispatchers.Default
Main thread, interact with UI, light work	Disk and network IO off the main thread	CPU intensive work
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call suspend functions• Call UI functions• Updating LiveData	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Database• R/W files• Networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sorting list• Parsing JSON• DiffUtils

CoroutineDispatcher

```
override suspend fun getUser(username: String): User? = withContext(Dispatchers.IO) {  
    return@withContext GithubServiceFactory.githubService.getUser(username).body()  
}
```

Coroutine scope

- Keep track of all coroutines running inside
- Not possible to start coroutine outside of some scope
- If scope cancels, coroutines cancels
- GlobalScope - lifetime of whole application
- `ViewModel.viewModelScope` - extension property
 - Cancel coroutines started by current view model when it is cleared

Coroutine scope builders

- Creates new coroutine scope inside current one
- Cancellation is propagated from parent to children's
- `coroutineScope` vs. `supervisorScope`
 - `coroutineScope` - cancels if any of its children fail
 - `supervisorScope` - still run if some children fail
 - Suspends until coroutines complete

Coroutines - starting

- launch
 - Fire and forget - do not return result to caller
 - Usually bridge from regular function into coroutines
 - Return Job for cancellation
 - Do not block current thread
- async/await
 - Start computation asynchronously
 - Creates coroutine and return it's future result (Deferred)
 - Await - wait until coroutine finishes and return result to the caller
 - Thrown exceptions are not signaled until await is called



Thank you Q&A

Feedback is appreciated

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