

Implementing the challenge handler in Android applications

fork and edit tutorial (<https://github.ibm.com/MFPSamples/DevCenter/tree/master/tutorials/en/foundation/8.0/authentication-and-security/user-authentication/android/index.md>) | report issue (<https://github.ibm.com/MFPSamples/DevCenter/issues/new>)

Overview

Prerequisite: Make sure to read the **CredentialsValidationSecurityCheck**'s challenge handler implementation ([../credentials-validation/android](#)) tutorial.

The challenge handler will demonstrate a few additional features (APIs) such as the preemptive `login`, `logout` and `obtainAccessToken`.

Login

In this example, `UserLoginSecurityCheck` expects *key:values* called `username` and `password`. Optionally, it also accepts a boolean `rememberMe` key that will tell the security check to remember this user for a longer period. In the sample application, this is collected using a boolean value from a checkbox in the login form.

`credentials` is a `JSONObject` containing `username`, `password` and `rememberMe`:

```
submitChallengeAnswer(credentials);
```

You may also want to login a user without any challenge being received. For example, showing a login screen as the first screen of the application, or showing a login screen after a logout, or a login failure. We call those scenarios **preemptive logins**.

You cannot call the `submitChallengeAnswer` API if there is no challenge to answer. For those scenarios, the MobileFirst Platform Foundation SDK includes the `login` API:

```
WLAuthorizationManager.getInstance().login(securityCheckName, credentials, new WLLoginResponseListener() {
    @Override
    public void onSuccess() {
        Log.d(securityCheckName, "Login Preemptive Success");
    }

    @Override
    public void onFailure(WLFailResponse wIFailResponse) {
        Log.d(securityCheckName, "Login Preemptive Failure");
    }
});
```

If the credentials are wrong, the security check will send back a **challenge**.

It is the developer's responsibility to know when to use `login` vs `submitChallengeAnswer` based on the application's needs. One way to achieve this is to define a boolean flag, for example `isChallenged`, and set it to `true` when reaching `handleChallenge` or set it to `false` in any other cases (failure, success, initializing, etc).

When the user clicks the **Login** button, you can dynamically choose which API to use:

```
public void login(JSONObject credentials){
    if(isChallenged){
        submitChallengeAnswer(credentials);
    }
    else{
        WLAuthorizationManager.getInstance().login(securityCheckName, credentials, new WLLoginResponseListener() {
            //...
        });
    }
}
```

Note: WLAuthorizationManager's login() API has its own onSuccess and onFailure methods, the relevant challenge handler's handleSuccess or handleFailure will **also** be called.

Obtaining an access token

Since this security check supports *remember me* functionality, it would be useful to check if the client is currently logged in, during the application startup.

The MobileFirst Platform Foundation SDK provides the obtainAccessToken API to ask the server for a valid token:

```
WLAuthorizationManager.getInstance().obtainAccessToken(scope, new WLAccessTokenListener() {
    @Override
    public void onSuccess(AccessToken accessToken) {
        Log.d(securityCheckName, "auto login success");
    }

    @Override
    public void onFailure(WLFailResponse wLFailResponse) {
        Log.d(securityCheckName, "auto login failure");
    }
});
```

Note: WLAuthorizationManager's obtainAccessToken() API has its own onSuccess and onFailure methods, the relevant challenge handler's handleSuccess or handleFailure will **also** be called.

If the client is already logged-in or is in the *remembered* state, the API will trigger a success. If the client is not logged in, the security check will send back a challenge.

The obtainAccessToken API takes in a **scope**. The scope can be the name of your **security check**.

Learn more about **scope** in the Authorization concepts (../authorization-concepts) tutorial

Retrieving the authenticated user

The challenge handler's `handleSuccess` method receives a `JSONObject identity` as a parameter. If the security check sets an `AuthenticatedUser`, this object will contain the user's properties. You can use `handleSuccess` to save the current user:

```
@Override
public void handleSuccess(JSONObject identity) {
    super.handleSuccess(identity);
    isChallenged = false;
    try {
        //Save the current user
        SharedPreferences preferences = context.getSharedPreferences(Constants.PREFERENCES_FILE, Context.MODE_PRIVATE);
        SharedPreferences.Editor editor = preferences.edit();
        editor.putString(Constants.PREFERENCES_KEY_USER, identity.getJSONObject("user").toString());
        editor.commit();
    } catch (JSONException e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    }
}
```

Here, `identity` has a key called `user` which itself contains a `JSONObject` representing the `AuthenticatedUser`:

```
{
  "user": {
    "id": "john",
    "displayName": "john",
    "authenticatedAt": 1455803338008,
    "authenticatedBy": "UserLogin"
  }
}
```

Logout

The MobileFirst Platform Foundation SDK also provides a `logout` API to logout from a specific security check:

```
WLAAuthorizationManager.getInstance().logout(securityCheckName, new WLLogoutResponseListener() {
    @Override
    public void onSuccess() {
        Log.d(securityCheckName, "Logout Success");
    }

    @Override
    public void onFailure(WLFailResponse wLFailResponse) {
        Log.d(securityCheckName, "Logout Failure");
    }
});
```

Sample applications

There are two samples associated with this tutorial:

- **PreemptiveLoginAndroid**: An application that always starts with a login screen, using the

preemptive `login` API.

- **RememberMeAndroid**: An application with a *Remember Me* checkbox. The user can bypass the login screen the next time the application is opened.

Both samples use the same `UserLoginSecurityCheck` from the **SecurityCheckAdapters** adapter Maven project.

Click to download (<https://github.com/MobileFirst-Platform-Developer-Center/SecurityCheckAdapters/tree/release80>) the SecurityAdapters Maven project.

Click to download (<https://github.com/MobileFirst-Platform-Developer-Center/RememberMeAndroid/tree/release80>) the Remember Me project. Click to download (<https://github.com/MobileFirst-Platform-Developer-Center/PreemptiveLoginAndroid/tree/release80>) the Remember Me project.

Sample usage

- Use either Maven or MobileFirst Developer CLI to build and deploy the available **ResourceAdapter** and **UserLogin** adapters (`../../creating-adapters/`).
- Ensure the sample is registered in the MobileFirst Server by running the command: `mfpdev app register` from a **command-line** window.
- Map the `accessRestricted` scope to the `UserLogin` security check:
 - In the MobileFirst Operations Console, under **Applications** → **[your-application]** → **Security** → **Map scope elements to security checks**, add a mapping from `accessRestricted` to `UserLogin`.
 - Alternatively, from the **Command-line**, navigate to the project's root folder and run the command: `mfpdev app push`.

Learn more about the `mfpdev app push/push` commands in the [Using MobileFirst Developer CLI to manage MobileFirst artifacts \(../../using-the-mfpf-sdk/using-mobilefirst-developer-cli-to-manage-mobilefirst-artifacts\)](#).



