

# Reading the SMS

Dr. Charles Yu

- Reading the SMS

# Reading the SMS

- [Demo1]
  - Reading the SMS
- Background
  - So far, I input only 3 person in my contacts



Create new contact

B



Bonnie Gale

J



Joseph Kim

K

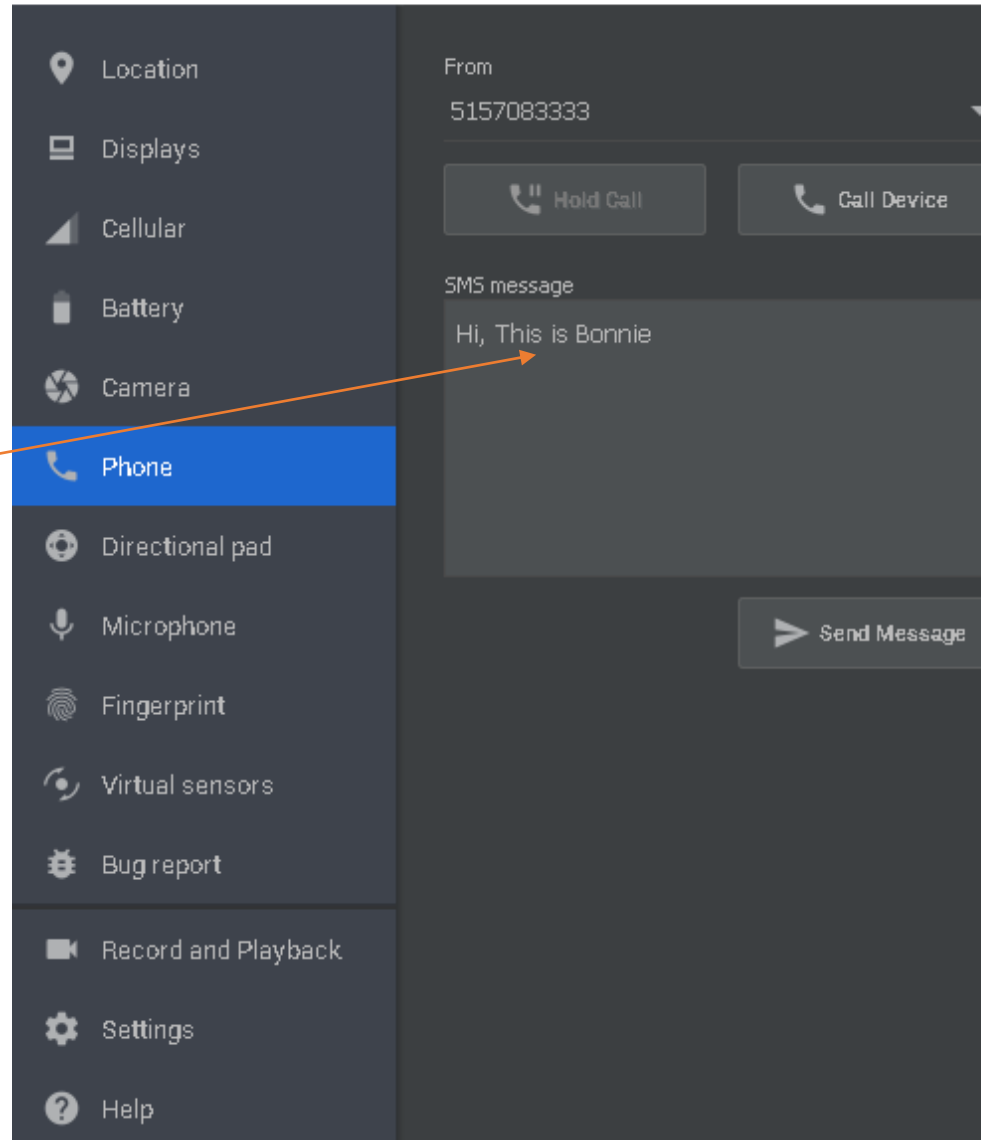


Katie Riedeman

# Reading the SMS

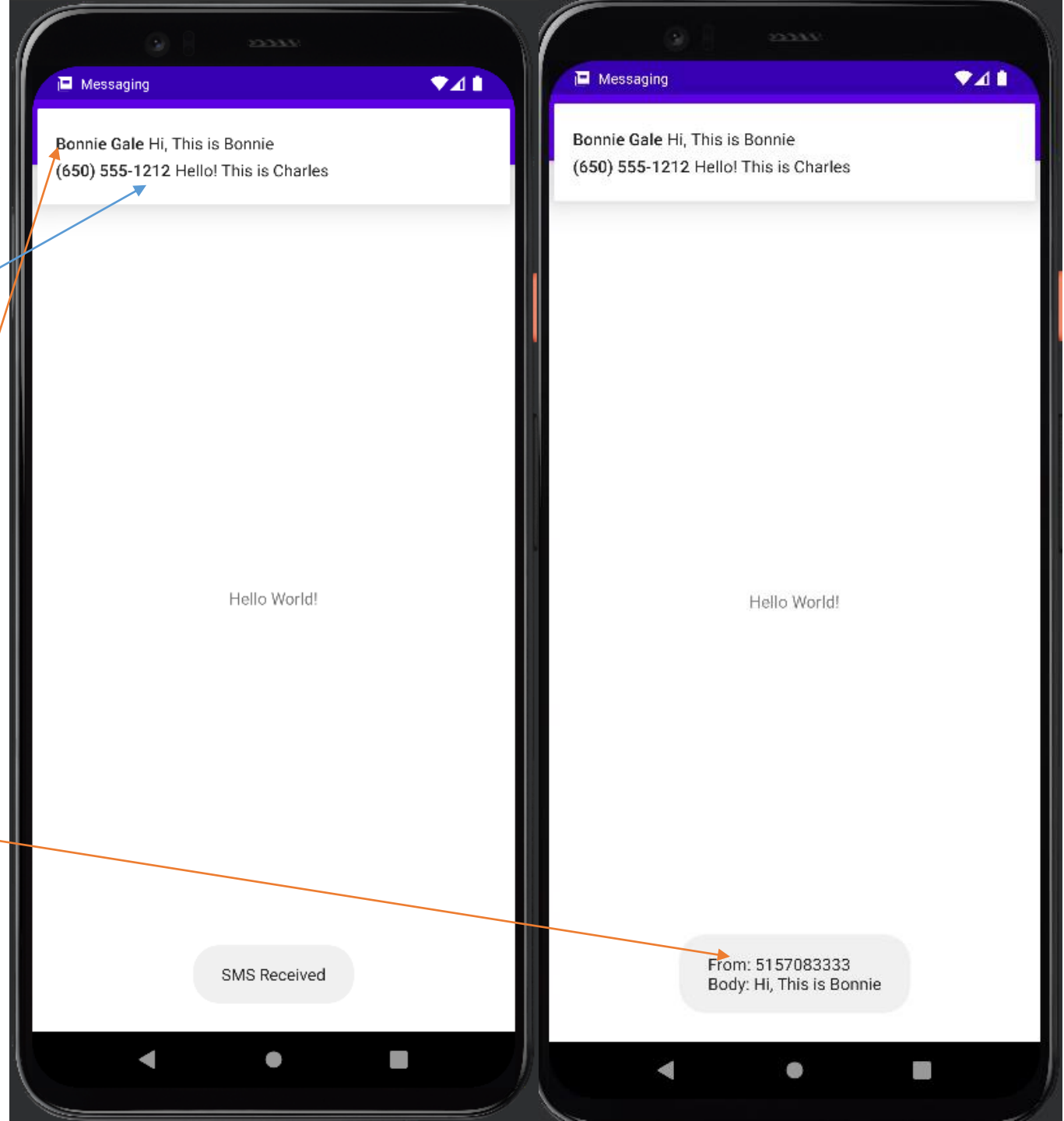
- If I use my friend's phone number as "From",
  - and put the message as follows
- Click the "Send Message"

Pixel 4 XL API 30 - Extended Controls



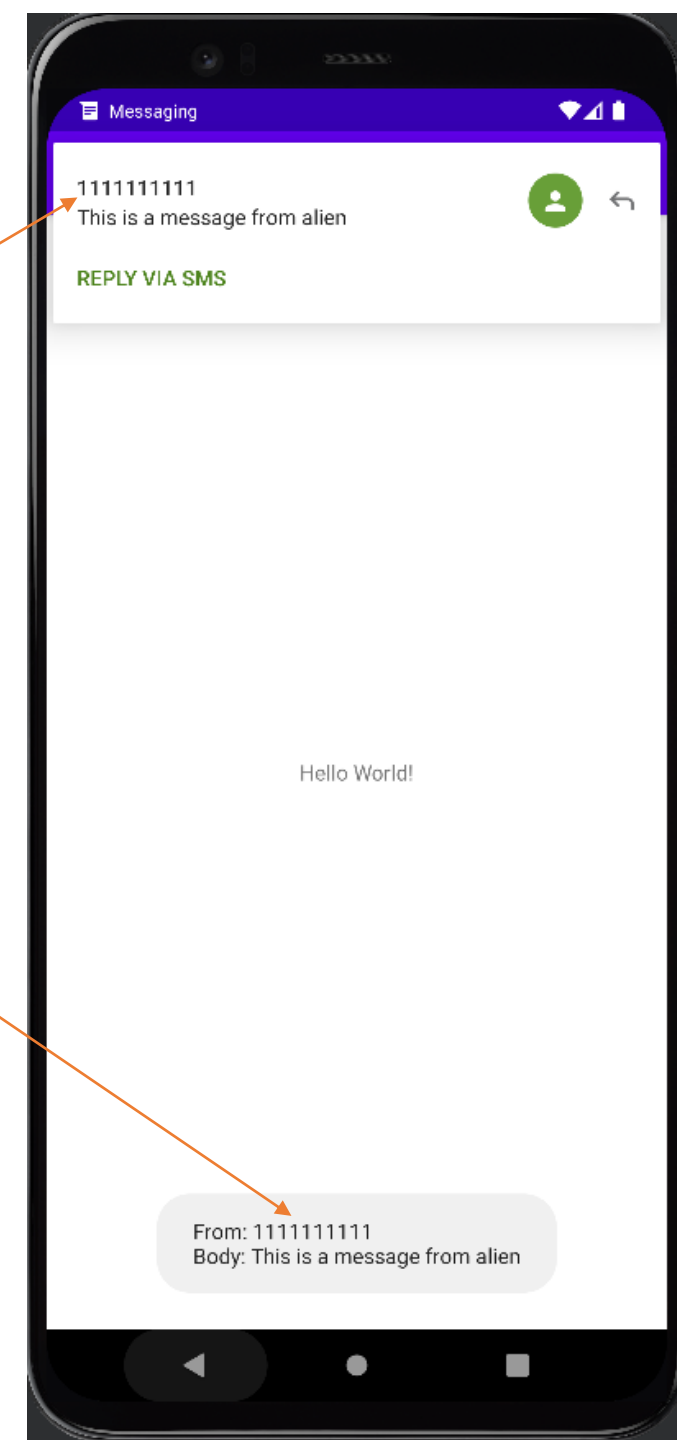
# Reading the SMS

- The one in the **bottom** is my **previous** test message.
- Once the mapping of the phone number and the name of the contact **matches**, it can show the name saying **who** send this SMS.
- This is showing the sender, who is in my contact list (Bonnie). Her phone number



# Reading the SMS

- What if someone send me a weird message?
  - The person is not in my contact list
  - It is just showing its phone number
- Let's take a look at the code



# Reading the SMS

- Again, we use BroadcastReceiver
  - **AndroidManifest.xml**
- Permission
- This is the **name** of “**action**”, we will use that later in our BroadcastReceiver --- SmsReceiver

```
activity_main.xml x MainActivity.java x AndroidManifest.xml x SmsReceiver.java x
1 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
2 <manifest xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
3   xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools">
4   <!-- <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.READ_SMS" /> -->
5   <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.RECEIVE_SMS" />
6   <application
7     android:allowBackup="true"
8     android:dataExtractionRules="@xml/data_extraction_rules"
9     android:fullBackupContent="@xml/backup_rules"
10    android:icon="@mipmap/ic_launcher"
11    android:label="ReadSMS"
12    android:supportRtl="true"
13    android:theme="@style/Theme.ReadSMS"
14    tools:targetApi="31">
15     <activity
16       android:name=".MainActivity"
17       android:exported="true">
18       <intent-filter>
19         <action android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN" />
20
21         <category android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER" />
22       </intent-filter>
23     </activity>
24     <receiver android:name=".SmsReceiver"
25       android:permission="android.permission.BROADCAST_SMS"
26       android:exported="true">
27       <intent-filter>
28         <action android:name="android.provider.Telephony.SMS_RECEIVED" />
29       </intent-filter>
30     </receiver>
31   </application>
32
33 </manifest>
```

# Reading the SMS

- The beginning of the MainActivity

- I use “this.getApplicationContext()” to setup mContext object

- mContext will be used in requesting for runtime permissions

- grantSMSAccessRights() is the function to ask for run-time SMS receiving access rights
- Request code, which is used in the ActivityCompat.requestPermissions()

```
2 usages
public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {
    2 usages
    private static final int MY_PERMISSIONS_REQUEST_RECEIVE_SMS = 0; // This is the request code
    3 usages
    Context mContext;
    @Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
        mContext = this.getApplicationContext();
        grantSMSAccessRights();
    }
}
```



# Reading the SMS

- MainActivity
- Run-time Permission
- This time, I added a call-back function to check the status of permission after the request has been made.

```
@Override
protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
    setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
    mContext = this.getApplicationContext();
    grantSMSAccessRights();
}

1 usage
public void grantSMSAccessRights() {

    if (ContextCompat.checkSelfPermission(mContext, android.Manifest.permission.READ_SMS) != PackageManager.PERMISSION_GRANTED ||
        ContextCompat.checkSelfPermission(mContext, android.Manifest.permission.RECEIVE_SMS) != PackageManager.PERMISSION_GRANTED) {
        ActivityCompat.requestPermissions(this,
            new String[]{ android.Manifest.permission.RECEIVE_SMS},
            MY_PERMISSIONS_REQUEST_RECEIVE_SMS);
    }
}

14 usages
@Override
public void onRequestPermissionsResult(int requestCode, @NonNull String[] permissions, @NonNull int[] grantResults) {
    super.onRequestPermissionsResult(requestCode, permissions, grantResults);

    switch (requestCode) {
        case MY_PERMISSIONS_REQUEST_RECEIVE_SMS:
            if (grantResults[0] == PackageManager.PERMISSION_GRANTED) {
                Toast.makeText(this, "Permission Granted", Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();
            } else {
                Toast.makeText(this, "Permission Not Granted!", Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();
                this.finish();
            }
        }
    }
}
```

# Reading the SMS

- In this callback function, I use the case-switch to **match** my previously defined **request code**. See the slide #8
- If the permission is denied by the user, this is the only one thing I do.
  - Finish this App. Close it up!



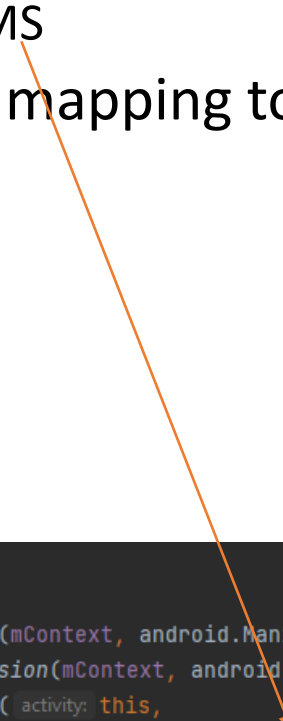
```
@Override
public void onRequestPermissionsResult(int requestCode, @NonNull String[] permissions, @NonNull int[] grantResults) {
    super.onRequestPermissionsResult(requestCode, permissions, grantResults);

    switch (requestCode) {
        case MY_PERMISSIONS_REQUEST_RECEIVE_SMS:
            if (grantResults[0] == PackageManager.PERMISSION_GRANTED) {
                Toast.makeText(context, this, text: "Permission Granted", Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();
            } else {
                Toast.makeText(context, this, text: "Permission Not Granted!", Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();
                this.finish();
            }
        }
    }
```

The image shows a code snippet with three arrows pointing from the text above to specific parts of the code: an orange arrow from 'request code' to 'requestCode', a blue arrow from 'match' to the 'switch' statement, and another orange arrow from 'Finish this App' to 'this.finish()'.

# Reading the SMS

- The way to ask the permission is the same.
  - In this demo, we only need to ask for this:
    - android.Manifest.permission.RECEIVE\_SMS
  - In the AndroidManifest.xml, there is a mapping to
    - android.permission.RECEIVE\_SMS



```
public void grantSMSAccessRights() {  
  
    if (ContextCompat.checkSelfPermission(mContext, android.Manifest.permission.READ_SMS) != PackageManager.PERMISSION_GRANTED ||  
        ContextCompat.checkSelfPermission(mContext, android.Manifest.permission.RECEIVE_SMS) != PackageManager.PERMISSION_GRANTED) {  
        ActivityCompat.requestPermissions( activity: this,  
            new String[]{ android.Manifest.permission.RECEIVE_SMS},  
            MY_PERMISSIONS_REQUEST_RECEIVE_SMS);  
    }  
}
```

# Reading the SMS

- It's time to take a look at BroadcastReceiver  
--- SmsReceiver
- I do not specifically register and unregister the broadcast receiver, **it still can work.**
- Register/Unregister is a good convention.

```
public class SmsReceiver extends BroadcastReceiver {  
    @Override  
    public void onReceive(Context context, Intent intent) {  
        Toast.makeText(context, "SMS Received", Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();  
  
        if (intent.getAction().equals("android.provider.Telephony.SMS_RECEIVED")) {  
            Bundle bundle = intent.getExtras();  
            SmsMessage[] msgs;  
            String msg_from;  
            if (bundle != null) {  
                try {  
                    /*  
                     * Check the SMS PDU  
                     * https://developer.android.com/reference/android/telephony/SmsMessage  
                     */  
  
                    Object[] pdus = (Object[]) bundle.get("pdus");  
                    msgs = new SmsMessage[pdus.length];  
                    for (int i = 0; i < msgs.length; i++) {  
                        msgs[i] = SmsMessage.createFromPdu((byte[]) pdus[i]);  
                        msg_from = msgs[i].getOriginatingAddress();  
                        String msgBody = msgs[i].getMessageBody();  
  
                        Toast.makeText(context, "From: " + msg_from + "\n" + "Body: " + msgBody, Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();  
                    }  
                } catch (Exception e) {  
                    e.printStackTrace();  
                }  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

# Reading the SMS

- Now, if there is an intent is received from the system broadcast, we can **parse** its “**action**” by calling --- `getAction()`
- Check the slide #7, this **action** is well-defined in the “**intent-filter**”, specifying **what kind of actions**, this **broadcast receiver wants to intercept?**

```
<receiver android:name=".SmsReceiver"
    android:permission="android.permission.BROADCAST_SMS"
    android:exported="true">
    <intent-filter>
        <action android:name="android.provider.Telephony.SMS_RECEIVED" />
    </intent-filter>
</receiver>
```

```
public class SmsReceiver extends BroadcastReceiver {
    @Override
    public void onReceive(Context context, Intent intent) {
        Toast.makeText(context, text "SMS Received", Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();

        if (intent.getAction().equals("android.provider.Telephony.SMS_RECEIVED")){
            Bundle bundle = intent.getExtras();
            SmsMessage[] msgs;
            String msg_from;
            if (bundle != null) {
                try {

                    /*
                     * Check the SMS PDU
                     * https://developer.android.com/reference/android/telephony/SmsMessage
                     */

                    Object[] pdus = (Object[]) bundle.get("pdus");
                    msgs = new SmsMessage[pdus.length];
                    for (int i = 0; i < msgs.length; i++) {
                        msgs[i] = SmsMessage.createFromPdu((byte[]) pdus[i]);
                        msg_from = msgs[i].getOriginatingAddress();
                        String msgBody = msgs[i].getMessageBody();

                        Toast.makeText(context, text "From: " + msg_from + "\n" + "Body: " + msgBody, Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();
                    }
                } catch (Exception e) {
                    e.printStackTrace();
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

# Reading the SMS

- If the **action** extracted from the **intent** matches the one in the AndroidManifest.xml, we can use the Bundle to get the “**pdus**” and save it into Object array.
- PDU stands for **Protocol Data Unit**.
- For most of the SMS, they are supporting 2 modes
  - Text mode
  - PDU mode
- Please check appendix for details
  - About their differences

```
public class SmsReceiver extends BroadcastReceiver {  
    @Override  
    public void onReceive(Context context, Intent intent) {  
        Toast.makeText(context, "SMS Received", Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();  
  
        if (intent.getAction().equals("android.provider.Telephony.SMS_RECEIVED")) {  
            Bundle bundle = intent.getExtras();  
            SmsMessage[] msgs;  
            String msg_from;  
            if (bundle != null) {  
                try {  
                    /*  
                     * Check the SMS PDU  
                     * https://developer.android.com/reference/android/telephony/SmsMessage  
                     */  
  
                    Object[] pdus = (Object[]) bundle.get("pdus");  
                    msgs = new SmsMessage[pdus.length];  
                    for (int i = 0; i < msgs.length; i++) {  
                        msgs[i] = SmsMessage.createFromPdu((byte[]) pdus[i]);  
                        msg_from = msgs[i].getOriginatingAddress();  
                        String msgBody = msgs[i].getMessageBody();  
  
                        Toast.makeText(context, "From: " + msg_from + "\n" + "Body: " + msgBody, Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();  
                    }  
                } catch (Exception e) {  
                    e.printStackTrace();  
                }  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

# Reading the SMS

- Now, we allocate a `SmsMessage` object array called `msgs`.
- `msgs` is used to populate the data, **parsed** from the Object array, `pdu`.
- `msgs[i]` is populated by calling `createFromPdv()`
- **`msg_from`** is a **string**, and it is actually the sender's **phone number**. It is obtained by calling **`getOriginatingAddress()`**
- **`msgBody`** is another **string**, which is obtained by calling **`getMessageBody()`**

```
if (intent.getAction().equals("android.provider.Telephony.SMS_RECEIVED")){
    Bundle bundle = intent.getExtras();
    SmsMessage[] msgs;
    String msg_from;
    if (bundle != null) {
        try {

            /*
             * Check the SMS PDU
             * https://developer.android.com/reference/android/telephony/SmsMessage
             */

            Object[] pdus = (Object[]) bundle.get("pdus");
            msgs = new SmsMessage[pdus.length];
            for (int i = 0; i < msgs.length; i++) {
                msgs[i] = SmsMessage.createFromPdu((byte[]) pdus[i]);
                msg_from = msgs[i].getOriginatingAddress();
                String msgBody = msgs[i].getMessageBody();

                Toast.makeText(context, "From: " + msg_from + "\n" + "Body: " + msgBody, Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();
            }
        } catch (Exception e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
        }
    }
}
```

# Reading the SMS

- You might wonder why we need to do this?
  - When we use the bundle to get the data from “pdus” column, the returned value is actually an Object array.
  - Seriously? Object array is a very low level stuff! (bits and bytes)
    - Raw data
    - Yes, the 1<sup>st</sup> hand information in your phone, SMS, is raw data! (non-human readable)
  - We need to use the **SmsMessage** class provided by the Android to **construct** the **message**
  - That is why we have these 3 lines

```
msgs[i] = SmsMessage.createFromPdu((byte[]) pdus[i]);  
msg_from = msgs[i].getOriginatingAddress();  
String msgBody = msgs[i].getMessageBody();
```



# Reading the SMS

- Finally, since we only test “a single text message” (SMS), we only have `msgs[0]`
  - Because there is just one time of a “Toast” about sender’s phone number and message body
- Since the incoming SMS is arriving sporadically, I only need to have a Toast would be good enough.
  - No need for UI displays. i.e. `TextView`

# Appendix

- **SMS Text Mode vs. SMS PDU Mode**
  - <https://www.developershome.com/sms/operatingMode.asp>
  - <https://www.gsmfavorites.com/documents/sms/pdutext/>