



Lab on apps development for tablets, smartphones and smartwatches

Week 5: Firebase and Data Management

Dr. Giovanni Ansaloni, Prof. David Atienza

Ms. Halima Najibi, Ms. Farnaz Forooghifar, Mr. Renato Zanetti, Mr. Saleh Baghersalimi, Mr. Alireza Amirshahi

Institute of Electrical Engineering (IEL) – Faculty of Engineering (STI)



- Communication with Android Wear devices
- Two Wear APIs:
 - Message API
 - Short arrays (typically strings)
 - one-way requests
 - Data API
 - DataMaps (structured bundles of data)
 - From one node to all connected nodes
 - Synchronizes data, similar to shared memory
- Activities interact with WearService with Intents on sender and receiver side



- To send a Message, WearService needs information on:
 - actioncontentpath

WearService onStartCommand()



Intent from application

```
public void sendMessage(View view){
    Intent intent = new Intent( packageContext: this, WearService.class);
    intent setAction(WearService.ACTION_SEND.MESSAGE.name());
    intent putExtra(WearService.MESSAGE, value: "Messaging other device!");
    intent putExtra(WearService.PATH, BuildConfig.W_example_path_text);
    startService(intent);
}
```

- action
- content
- path

```
@Override
public int onStartCommand(Intent int
```

WearService onStartCommand()



- Sending DataMaps, is similar (we use sendPutDataMapRequest())
 - action
 - content → Key/value pairs, keys shared among tablet and watch
 - path



Intent from application

```
public void sendDatamap(View view){
   int some_value = 420;
   ArrayList<Integer> arrayList = new ArrayList<>();
   Collections.addAll(arrayList, ...elements: 105, 107, 109, 1010);
   Intent intent = new Intent( packageContext: this, WearService.class);
   intent.setAction(WearService.ACTION_SEND.EXAMPLE_DATAMAP.name());
   intent.putExtra(WearService.DATAMAP_INT, some_value);
   intent.putExtra(WearService.DATAMAP_INT_ARRAYLIST, arrayList);
   startService(intent);
}
```

- action
- content
- path

```
@Override
                                                                                       WearService
public int onStartCommand(Intent intent, int flags, int startId) {
    super.onStartCommand(intent, flags, startId);
                                                                                       onStartCommand()
 // Match against the given action
   ACTION_SEND action = ACTION_SEND.valueOf(intent.getAction());
   PutDataMapRequest putDataMapRequest;
    switch (action) {
       case EXAMPLE_DATAMAP:
           putDataMapRequest = PutDataMapRequest.create(BuildConfig.W_example_path_datamap);
           putDataMapRequest.getDataMap().putInt(BuildConfig.W_a_key, intent.getIntExtra(DATAMAP_INT, defaultValue: -1));
           putDataMapRequest.getDataMap().putIntegerArrayList(BuildConfig.W_some_other_key,
                                              intent.getIntegerArrayListExtra(DATAMAP INT ARRAYLIST));
           sendPutDataMapRequest(putDataMapRequest);
           break;
```



- Messages are processed by WearService in onMessageReceived()
 - Look for matching path
 - Send intent to activity → explicit intent in this example

WearService onMessageReceived()

Activity onCreate()

```
public class Second extends AppCompatActivity {
    TextView txt1;

@Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_second);
        txt1 = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.result);

        Bundle b1 = getIntent().getExtras();
        String s1 = b1.getString("message");
        txt1.setText(s1);
    }
}
```



- DataMaps are processed by WearService in onDataChanged()
 - Look for matching path
 - Extract fields from dataMap
 - Send intent to activity → implicit intent in this example



- The receiving activity should register for the broadcasted intent in onCreate()
- ...and override the onReceive() method

```
@Override
protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
    setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);

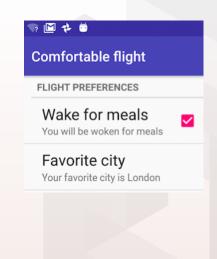
// Register for updates
LocalBroadcastManager.getInstance(this).registerReceiver(new BroadcastReceiver() {
    @Override
    public void onReceive(Context context, Intent intent) {
        Bundle b1 = getIntent().getExtras();
        int integer = b1.getInt(DATAMAP_INTEGER);
        ArrayList<Integer> arraylist = b1.getIntegerArrayList(DATAMAP_ARRAY);
    }
}, new IntentFilter(ACTION_RECEIVE_DATAMAP));
```



Outline of the class

- Firebase (Today's lab 5!)
- Shared Preferences (Lab 7)
 - Creating/saving/restoring prefs.
 - Setting UI
- Internal/External storage
 - Writing to files



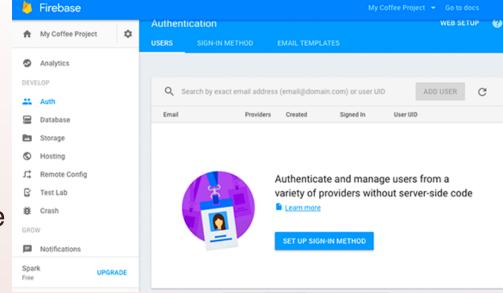






What is Firebase?

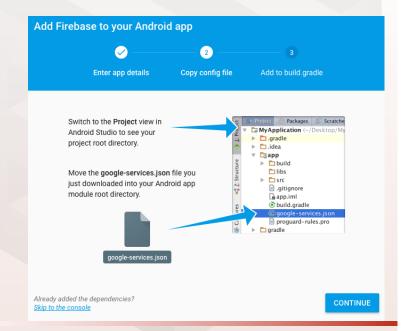
- Firebase is a platform that provides tools to help you
 - develop your app
 - grow your user base
 - earn money from your app
- We will show you how to use it to sync data to the cloud
 - Connect your app to your Firebase project
 - 2. Enable Firebase features in the console
 - 3. Add code to your app to interface Realtime and Storage databases





Firebase console

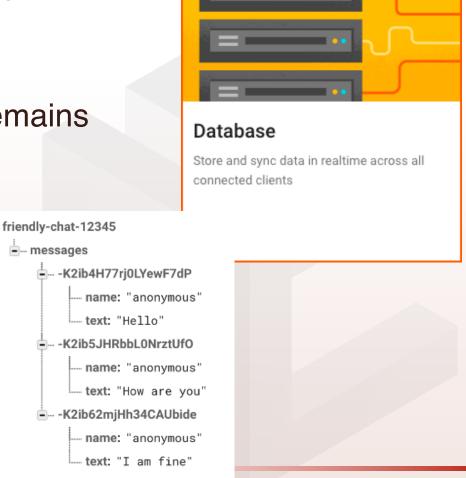
- Going to firebase.google.com
 - The console allows you to create new projects
 - Firebase creates a config file for your app
 - You can add the config file to your project
- All this happens automatically through Android Studio!
 - We will teach you how to do it, step by step, during the lab.





Using Firebase Database / Storage

- We will use Firebase Realtime Database and Cloud Storage features
- Data is synced across all clients, and remains available when your app goes offline
- Realtime Database for profiles
 - data synchronization with listeners
 - key-value database
- Cloud Storage for pictures



Interfacing with a Realtime database

- Your app is connected with Firebase using the GUI-based Firebase assistant
 - Detail in the Lab5 handout
- In your code, you can reference the database and create a key for a new entry via push():



Writing to a Realtime database

A transaction is run using the key

```
profileRef.runTransaction(new Transaction.Handler() {
    @NonNull
    @Override
    public Transaction.Result doTransaction(@NonNull MutableData
                                                     mutableData) {
        mutableData.child("username").setValue(userProfile.username);
        mutableData.child("password").setValue(userProfile.password);
        mutableData.child("height").setValue(userProfile.height cm);
        mutableData.child("weight").setValue(userProfile.weight kg);
        return Transaction.success(mutableData);
                                                    project-sports-tracker
                                                     profiles
                                                         -LPRawc-6u20SsS06zNe
                                                                height: 173
                                                                password: "YouMustNotStorePlainTextPasswords"
                                                                username: "Rose"
                                                                weight: 61.29999923706055
```



Reading from a Realtime database

- Attach addValueEventListener() to the reference
 - Example: the "username" for a give userID key

```
profileRef.child(userID).addValueEventListener(new ValueEventListener() {
    @Override
    public void onDataChange(@NonNull DataSnapshot dataSnapshot) {
        String user_db = dataSnapshot.child("username").getValue(String.class);
```

Interfacing with the Cloud storage

- Similar to the Realtime Database case
 - Get the reference to the Cloud storage with

Get the reference of the element we want to store

Writing and Reading the Cloud storage

Write

Send the data to Cloud Storage
UploadTask uploadTask = photoRef.putBytes(data);

 Use URI returned by the upload process to link the element in the Storage with the proper entry in the RealTime DB

```
userProfile.photoPath = uri.toString();
mutableData.child("photo").setValue(userProfile.photoPath);
```

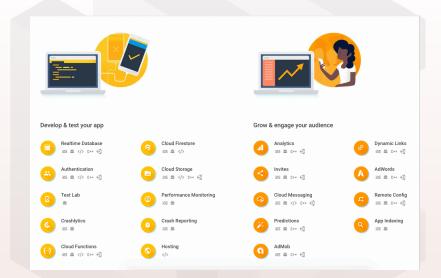
Read



Today's lab

- Exercising Firebase!
 - Connecting the sports-tracker app to Firebase
 - Adding real-time database to your app
 - Configure Firebase Database rules
- Writing/reading data from Firebase Realtime DBs and Cloud Storage



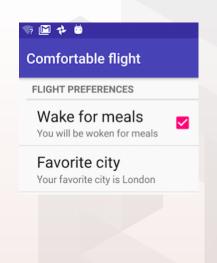




Outline of the class

- Firebase (Today's lab 5!)
- Shared Preferences (Lab 7)
 - Creating/saving/restoring prefs.
 - Setting UI
- Internal/External storage
 - Writing to files



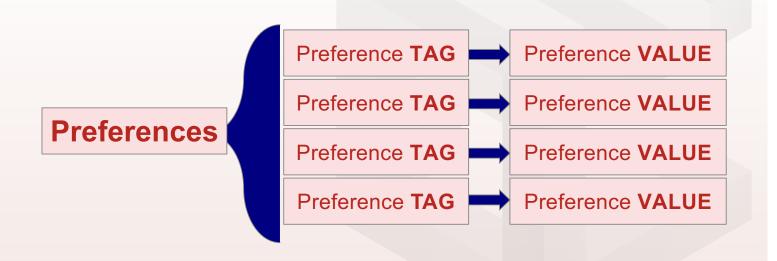






Shared Preferences

- Preferences are a convenient way to store config. parameters
- Read/write small amounts of data as key/value pairs
- Shared among Activities in an app





Creating Shared Preferences

- We need only one Share Preferences file per app.
- Name it with the package name of your app
 - Unique and easy way to associate it with an app.
 - MODE argument for getSharedPreferences() is for backward compatibility—use only MODE_PRIVATE

```
public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {

   // Usually at the top of the class
   private String TAG = "MainActivity";
   SharedPreferences mPreferences;
   private String sharedPrefFile = "com.example.android.hellosharedprefs";

@Override
   protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
        TextView myxiew1 = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.my_text);
        String s = "This is my first app!";

        mPreferences = getSharedPreferences(sharedPrefFile, MODE_PRIVATE);
}
```



Saving preferences

- How to edit preferences? → using SharedPreferences.Editor
 - This takes care of all file operations
 - Careful! Overwrite in case the key already exists
- Be sure to commit operations at the end:
 - apply() saves asynchronously and safely

```
public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {
   // Usually at the top of the class
   private String TAG = "MainActivity";
   SharedPreferences mPreferences;
   private String sharedPrefFile = "com.example.android.hellosharedprefs";
    private int mCount;
    private int mCurrentColor;
   @Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
        TextView myview1 = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.my_text);
        String s = "This is my first app!";
        mPreferences = getSharedPreferences(sharedPrefFile, MODE PRIVATE);
    protected void onPause() {
        super.onPause();
        SharedPreferences.Editor preferencesEditor =
                mPreferences.edit();
        preferencesEditor.putInt("count", mCount);
        preferencesEditor.putInt("color", mCurrentColor);
        preferencesEditor.apply();
```

© FSL-EPFL



Restoring and clearing preferences

- Restore in onCreate() in Activity
 - Get methods take two arguments:
 - the key
 - the default value if the key cannot be found
 - Use default argument so you do not have to test whether the preference exists in the file
- Clearing:
 - Call clear() on the SharedPreferences.Editor and apply changes

```
public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {
    // Usually at the top of the class
   private String TAG = "MainActivity";
    SharedPreferences mPreferences;
    private String sharedPrefFile = "com.example.android.hellosharedprefs"
    private int mCount:
    private int mCurrentColor;
    @Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
        TextView myview1 = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.my_text);
        String s = "This is my first app!";
        mPreferences = getSharedPreferences(sharedPrefFile, MODE PRIVATE);
       if (savedInstanceState != null) {
           mCount = mPreferences.getInt("count", 1);
           //do something with mCount...
           mCurrentColor = mPreferences.getInt("color", mCurrentColor);
           //do something with the mCurrentColor..
           //...
          euse 1
                                                   Restore
           // no saved instance!
    @Override
    protected void onPause() {
        super.onPause();
        SharedPreferences.Editor preferencesEditor =
               mPreferences.edit();
        preferencesEditor.putInt("count", mCount);
        preferencesEditor.putInt("color", mCurrentColor);
       breferencesEditor.clear();
                                      Clear
        oreferencesEditor.apply();
```



Reading preferences

- Listening to changes on the application settings
 - Implement interface
 <u>SharedPreference.OnSharedPreferenceChangeListener</u>
 - Register listener with <u>registerOnSharedPreferenceChangeListener()</u>
 - Implement on onSharedPreferenceChanged() callback



Preference Activity

- Activity extending PreferenceActivity
- Link preference activity to the XML file
 - → R.xml.preferences
 - CheckBoxPreference
 - EditTextPreference
 - SwitchPreference

Use onSharedPreferenceChanged() as before

```
public class PrefsActivity extends PreferenceActivity
    implements SharedPreferences.OnSharedPreferenceChangeListener {
    @Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
    addPreferencesFromResource(R.xml.preferences);
```

preferences.xml

```
<PreferenceScreen
   xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
   android:layout_height="match_parent"
   android:layout_width="match_parent">

   <PreferenceCategory
   android:title="@string/inline_preferences">

        <CheckBoxPreference
   android:key="checkbox_preference"
   android:title="@string/title_checkbox_preference"
   android:summary="@string/summary_checkbox_preference" />

   </PreferenceCategory

   <PreferenceCategory
   </pre>
```

Reminders

Enable reminders

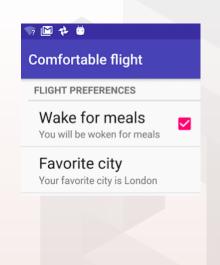




Outline of the class

- Firebase (Today's lab 5!)
- Shared Preferences (Lab 7)
 - Creating/saving/restoring prefs.
 - Setting UI
- Internal/External storage
 - Writing to files









The Android FileSystem

• Internal storage -- Private directories just for your app

- Always available
- Uses device's filesystem
- Only your app can access files, unless explicitly set to be readable or writable
- On app uninstall, system removes all app's files from internal storage

External storage -- Public directories

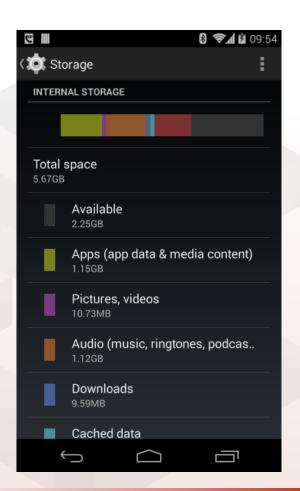
- Not always available, can be removed
- Uses device's file system or physically external storage like SD card
- World-readable, so any app can read
- On uninstall, system does not remove files private to app



Internal storage

- Uses private directories just for your app
- App always has permission to read/write
 - Where? /data/data/<package>/files
 - How? Use standard java I/O classes
 - Permanent storage directory—<u>getFilesDir()</u>
 - Temporary storage directory—<u>getCacheDir()</u>

```
inFile = new File(getFilesDir(), child: "inFile");
outFile = new File(getFilesDir(), child: "outFile");
InputStream in = null;
OutputStream out = null;
try {
    in = new FileInputStream(outFile);
    out = new FileOutputStream(outFile);
    // Transfer bytes from in to out
    byte[] buf = new byte[1024];
    int len;
    while ((len = in.read(buf)) > 0) {
        out.write(buf, off: 0, len);
    }
} catch (IOException e) {
    //...
```





External storage

- On device or SD card
 - Where? Environment.getExternalStorageDirectory()
 - How? Use standard java I/O classes
- 1. Set permissions in Android Manifest
 - Write permission includes read permission
- 2. Check availability of storage
- 3. Get the path to storage folder and create a file

```
<uses-permission
    android:name="android.permission.WRITE_EXTERNAL_STORAGE" />
<uses-permission
    android:name="android.permission.READ_EXTERNAL_STORAGE" />
```

```
public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {
   // Usually at the top of the class
   private String TAG = "MainActivity";
   @Override
   protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
       super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
       setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
       TextView myview1 = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.my_text);
       String s = "This is my first app!";
       if (isExternalStorageWritable()) {
            File path = Environment.getExternalStoragePublicDirectory(
                    Environment.DIRECTORY PICTURES);
            File file = new File(path, "DemoPicture.jpg");
    public boolean isExternalStorageWritable() {
       String state = Environment.getExternalStorageState();
        if (Environment.MEDIA_MOUNTED.equals(state)) {
            return true:
        return false:
```



Further notes about storage

- What happens if there is not enough space?
 - If there is not enough space, Android throws IOException
 - If you know the size of the file, check against space
 - getFreeSpace()
 - getTotalSpace().
 - If you do not know how much space is needed
 - try/catch <u>IOException</u>
- When the user uninstalls your app, your app's private storage directory and all its contents are deleted



- Firebase (Today's lab 5!)
- Shared Preferences (Lab 7)
 - Creating/saving/restoring prefs.
 - Setting UI
- Internal/External storage
 - Writing to files

Questions?





© ESL-EPFL

33