

Android – Passing Java Object to Another Activity



We can pass simple "primitive" data type (String, int, double,...ect) to activities Passing Data to Another Activities. However, passing an object is a little bit different. Here we will see how to pass "Java" objects from current activity to another activites.

Objectives:

- How to pass Java Objects to other activities?
- How to put the data in Intent object?

Environment & Tools:

- Android Developer Tools (ADT) (or Eclipse + ADT plugin)
- AVD Nexus S Android 4.3 "emulator"
- Min SDK 8

(1) Create Android Application

- File >> New >> Android Application
- Enter Project name: android-pass-object-to-activity
- Pakcage: com.hmkcode.android
- Keep other defualt selections, go Next till you reach Finish

Before start creating the App we need to create POJO class "Person" which we will use to send object from one activity to another. Notice that the class is implementing Serializable interface.

```
2
 3
      import java.io.Serializable;
 4
 5
      public class Person implements Serializable{
 6
 7
          private static final long serialVersionUID = 1L;
 8
9
          private String name;
10
          private int age;
11
               // getters & setters....
12
13
14
          @Override
          public String toString() {
    return "Person [name=" + name + ", age=" + age + "]";
15
16
17
18
     }
```

(2) Two Layouts for Two Activities

• Define the layout for the first "main" activity "object sender and the second "another" activity "object receiver".

res/layout/activity_main.xml

• The layout contains two edit text to enter person name and age. Also, a button to pass person object to another activity.

```
<LinearLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"</pre>
 2
         xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
 3
         android:layout_width="match_parent"
         android:layout_height="match_parent"
 4
 5
         android:orientation="vertical
         tools:context=".MainActivity" >
 6
 7
 8
         <LinearLayout</pre>
9
             android:layout_width="fill_parent"
10
             android:layout_height="wrap_content"
11
             android:orientation="horizontal">
12
              <TextView
                  android:id="@+id/tvName"
13
                  android:layout_width="100dp"
14
                  android:layout_height="wrap_content"
15
16
                  android:layout_gravity="center"
                  android:gravity="center_horizontal"
17
18
                  android:text="Name" />
19
20
              <EditText
                  android:id="@+id/etName"
21
22
                  android:layout_width="wrap_content"
23
                  android:layout_height="wrap_content"
24
25
                  android:ems="10" >
26
                  <requestFocus />
27
              </EditText>
28
         </LinearLayout>
29
30
         <LinearLayout</pre>
               android:layout width="fill parent"
31
             android:layout_height="wrap_content"
32
33
             android:orientation="horizontal">
34
         <TextView
35
             android:id="@+id/tvAge"
             android:layout_width="100dp"
36
             android:layout_height="wrap_content"
37
             android:layout_gravity="center"
38
39
             android:gravity="center horizontal"
```

```
40
             android:text="Age" />
41
         <EditText
             android:id="@+id/etAge"
42
             android:layout_width="wrap_content"
43
             android:layout_height="wrap_content"
44
             android:ems="10" />
45
46
         </LinearLayout>
47
48
         <Button
49
             android:id="@+id/btnPassObject"
             android:layout_width="wrap_content"
50
             android:layout_height="wrap_content"
51
             android:layout_gravity="center_horizontal"
52
53
             android:text="Pass Object to Another Activity" />
54
55
     </LinearLayout>
```

res/layout/activity_another.xml

• The layout contains one TextView to display the object sent from the sender activity.

```
1
     <LinearLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"</pre>
 2
         xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
 3
         android:layout_width="match_parent"
 4
         android:layout_height="match_parent"
         android:orientation="vertical"
 6
 7
 8
         <TextView
 9
             android:id="@+id/tvPerson"
10
             android:layout_height="wrap_content"
             android:layout_width="fill_parent"
11
12
             android:layout_gravity="center"
             android:gravity="center_horizontal"
13
14
          />
15
16
     </LinearLayout>
```

(3) Two Activity Classes

- src/com/hmkcode/android/ActivityMain.java
- **MainActivity.java** is a simple "sender" activity class implementing **OnClickListener** to handle button click event.
- When user click on the button we call **onClick**
- Within the onClick method we create the intent, Person object, put person into the intent and pass
 it to startActivity(intent) method.

```
1
     package com.hmkcode.android;
2
3
     import android.os.Bundle;
4
     import android.app.Activity;
5
     import android.content.Intent;
6
     import android.view.View;
7
     import android.view.View.OnClickListener;
8
     import android.widget.Button;
9
     import android.widget.EditText;
10
11
     public class MainActivity extends Activity implements OnClickListener {
12
13
         Button btnPassObject;
         EditText etName, etAge;
14
15
         @Override
         protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
16
```

```
17
             super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
18
             setContentView(R.layout.activity main);
19
             btnPassObject = (Button) findViewById(R.id.btnPassObject);
20
             etName = (EditText) findViewById(R.id.etName);
21
22
             etAge = (EditText) findViewById(R.id.etAge);
23
24
             btnPassObject.setOnClickListener(this);
25
         }
26
27
         @Override
28
         public void onClick(View view) {
29
30
             // 1. create an intent pass class name or intnet action name
31
             Intent intent = new Intent("com.hmkcode.android.ANOTHER_ACTIVITY");
32
33
             // 2. create person object
34
             Person person = new Person();
             person.setName(etName.getText().toString());
35
36
             person.setAge(Integer.parseInt(etAge.getText().toString()));
37
38
             // 3. put person in intent data
39
             intent.putExtra("person", person);
40
41
             // 4. start the activity
42
             startActivity(intent);
43
         }
44
45
     }
```

src/com/hmkcode/android/AnotherActivity.java

- **AnotherActivity.java** is the activity we want to start to receive the person object. It has one text view to display person object "Person.toString()" sent from the starter activity.
- We can access to the sent data by getting a reference to the sent intent using **getIntent()**;
- Once we get the intent we can extract the object by calling intent.getSerializableExtra("person").
- Down cast the extracted object to the required type "(Person)".

```
1
     package com.hmkcode.android;
 2
 3
     import android.app.Activity;
 4
     import android.content.Intent;
 5
     import android.os.Bundle;
 6
     import android.widget.TextView;
 7
 8
     public class AnotherActivity extends Activity {
9
10
         TextView tvPerson;
11
         @Override
12
13
         protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
14
             // TODO Auto-generated method stub
15
             super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
16
             setContentView(R.layout.activity another);
17
18
             // 1. get passed intent
19
             Intent intent = getIntent();
20
21
             // 2. get person object from intent
22
             Person person = (Person) intent.getSerializableExtra("person");
23
24
             // 3. get reference to person textView
25
             tvPerson = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.tvPerson);
26
27
             // 4. display name & age on textView
28
             tvPerson.setText(person.toString());
29
30
         }
     }
```

(4) Define Activities in the Manifest XML File

• All activity should be defined with in the manifest.xml file

AndroidManifest.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
 1
 2
     <manifest xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"</pre>
 3
         package="com.hmkcode.android"
 4
         android:versionCode="1"
 5
         android:versionName="1.0" >
 6
 7
         <uses-sdk
 8
              android:minSdkVersion="8"
 9
              android:targetSdkVersion="17" />
10
11
         <application
12
              android:allowBackup="true"
              android:icon="@drawable/ic_launcher"
android:label="@string/app_name"
13
14
              android:theme="@style/AppTheme" >
15
16
17
              <activity
18
                  android:name="com.hmkcode.android.MainActivity"
19
                  android:label="@string/app_name" >
20
                  <intent-filter>
                      <action android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN" />
21
22
23
                      <category android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER" />
24
                  </intent-filter>
25
              </activity>
26
27
              <activity
                  android:name="com.hmkcode.android.AnotherActivity"
28
                  android:label="@string/app_name" >
29
30
                  <intent-filter>
31
                      <action android:name="com.hmkcode.android.ANOTHER ACTIVITY" />
32
                      <category android:name="android.intent.category.DEFAULT" />
33
                  </intent-filter>
34
              </activity>
35
         </application>
36
     </manifest>
37
```

This entry was posted in Android and tagged activity, android on September 18, 2013 [http://hmkcode.com/android-passing-java-object-another-activity/] .