

Diving into Autofill Framework in Android with Jetpack Compose to Improve User Experience



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Overview

- What the Autofill Framework entails
- The Benefits of Using Autofill framework
- Components of the Autofill framework
- How to Integrate Autofill framework with your jetpack compose applications?
- How to test the Autofill framework integration?





The Autofill Framework

- Provides functionality for automatically filling out forms such as login, with user-related data
- The framework is available for android 8.0 and above
- The framework has two components: autofill service and autofill client





Benefits of Using Autofill in Your Jetpack Compose Apps

- Filling out forms is time consuming and error-prone
 - Autofill saves your users time from re-typing their information
 - Minimizing the need to type information minimizes errors in form of typos





The Autofill Framework: Autofill service

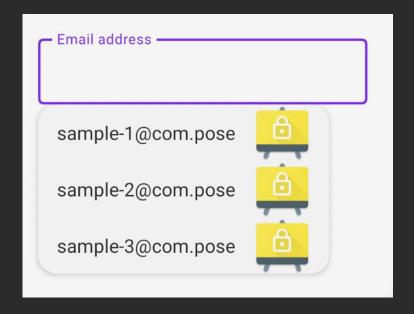
- The Autofill service is a service that saves, stores and provides user-related data to multiple apps, and the data is used to fill out forms in those apps.
 - By default Android phones come with a pre-installed google autofill service hence in most cases you don't need to create an autofill service and you can rely on the default one

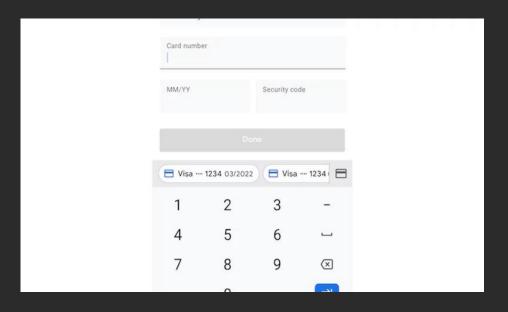




The Autofill Framework: Autofill client

 The Autofill client refers to application that has forms/edit texts that require to be filled out with user-related data such as password, username and email









Integrating Autofill framework with your jetpack compose applications

- Before the autofill service can provide suggestions to the client, the client needs to do several things:
 - The client needs to provide the autofill node
 - The client also has to specify the autofill hints
 - Then the client has to add the autofill node to the autofill tree
 - Lastly, the client needs to use the autofill node instance to request and cancel autofill action for the autofill node





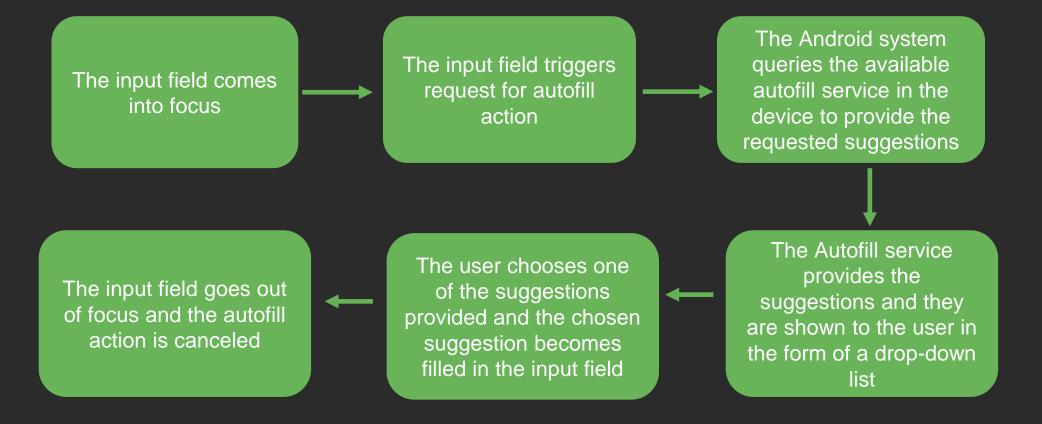
```
val email = remember{mutableStateOf("")}
AutofillNode(autofillTypes = listOf(AutofillType.EmailAddress),
onFill = { /* update the email textfield */ }) {autofillNode->
    TextField(modifier=Modifier.onGloballyPosition{
        autofillNode.boundingBox = it.boundsInWindow()
      }, onValueChanged = {email.value=it},
        onValue = email.value)
}
```

An example of autofill node

The autofill types are the types of data required by the autofill node, the onFill callback is the callback that will be called when the user selects on one of the suggestions and the boundingBox simply specifies the position of the suggestions drop down list



Autofill Workflow

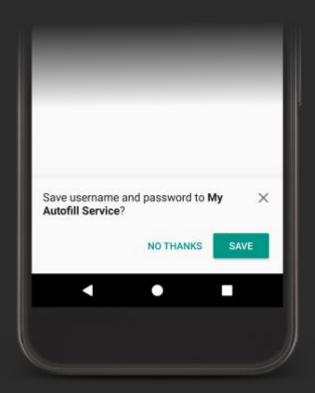






Autofill framework

- It is important to note several things when working with autofill
 - The device must have an existing autofill service and the service must be enabled on the user's device
 - The existing autofill service may or may not have the data requested by autofill client and this is because the user may have opted to not allow the autofill service to save the data required.

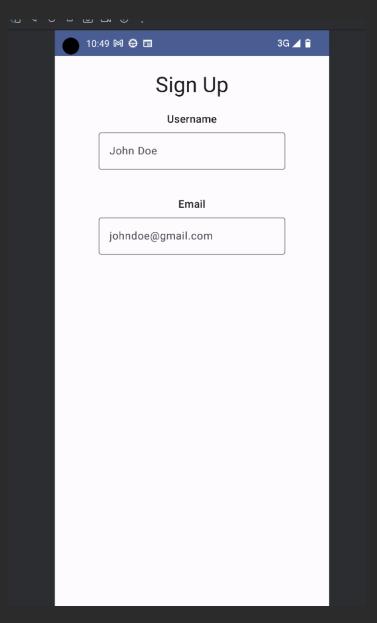






Sample App

- Sample app Overview
 - It contains a form that ought to be filled by the user
 - The goal is to intergrate the form's textfields with autofill framework so that the user does not have to fill each and every detail manually







Project Repository

- Explore the Starter project
 - Clone the project repository
 - Github repository link present in study materials of this course
 - Import the starter-project
 - Project Walk-through and explanation





Code Challenge

- In addition to the username and the email TextFields, it would be nice to have a phone number TextField.
- The challenge is to add a phone number TextField and intergrate the TextField with autofill framework





Code Challenge Solution

Get the code challenge solution in the Study Materials





Summary

- Learnt what the autofill framework entails and its components
- Learnt the benefits of using autofill framework in your applications
- Learnt how to integrate autofill framework with your TextFields
- Learnt how to test the autofill framework and verify its working







Thank You!



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