

# Software Development for Mobile Devices

## Submission for Assignment A4.2P

Why is the intent messaging facility considered as a late run-time binding between components?

Because Intent object is used to start a new Activity in Android. Therefore, it cannot run during compile time but instead it runs when an Activity creates an Intent and invokes `startActivity()`. Thereafter, The Android System looks for the intent-filter which best matches the intent to start the matching activity. (Intent 2018)

What are the contents of the passive data structure (of an intent)?

The contents of Intent are action and data (Intent 2018).

Action: The action that we want to perform. For example, `ACTION_VIEW` tel: 111 is used to display a phone dialer and fill in given number.

Data: The data that the Intent instance is going to operate such as Activity and Url.

Why is the word “passive” used for the intent data structure?

Because Intent object does not have any threads executing any operations on it. We create it and let the Activity execute it.

Use an example to better explain the sentence “abstract description of an operation to be performed”.

Example

```
startActivity(new Intent(Intent.ACTION_VIEW, Uri.parse("http://9news.com.au")));
```

In this example, the Intent is an “abstract description”, in which Android system will handle everything behind the scenes, and then they display a popup asking us to select the appropriate web browsers that we want to open the Url.

## References

*Intent*, viewed 22 August 2018,

<<https://developer.android.com/reference/android/content/Intent#intent-structure>>.