

Networking in Android

[Group 1]Linh Duong

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1 Chapter Objectives

- Review the knowledge of computer network
- Understand the basic knowledge of network in android
- Be able to apply networking in android to practical work

2 Network

1. Definition

Network is a set of machines connected together

2. Purpose:

- Transfrom infomation (Example: file, image, video, audio, ...)
- Store data (Example: Network attached storage)
- Super computer (a large number of small machines connected together that work very fast)

3. OSI model (network layers)

- Application: end to end
- Presentation: how you encapsulate data in each application (Example: wrap inside xml content)
- Session: TCP layer make connection over there (Example: Request something from Facebook: first it has to connect here)
- Transport: Lower layer that can only transport (no error check - error checked in session)

4. Network in Android

- TCP: Transmission Control Protocol
- IP: Internet Protocol
- UDP: User Datagram Protocol
- Protocol: HTTP / FTP / SIP / SMTP / IMAP /...

3 Permission

1. Definition

- Each app has its own user ID and group ID
- Without root account, one app cannot access to folder of another
- So the app will crash without permission

2. Why?

Privacy is very important

3. 2 types of permission

- safe: not affect user ID
- dangertous: affect user ID (Example: camera capture your face, SD card upload photo)

4. How?

- Define what permissions are needed in the manifest
- For internet access: uses-permission android:name="android.permission.INTERNET"

4 Embedded package

1. Create URL from string

specify protocol (Example: usth.edu.vn)

2. Make a request to server

3. Receive response

Example: OK:200, Error:4--, Error from server:5--)

4. Process response

Example: Facebook: connect to server

if people online: encapsulated in xml, tranfer avatar

image response: decode data to bitmap, show it and disconnect

5 External library

1. Volley:

- An Android HTTP Client library
- Made within AOSP [Android OpenSource Project]

2. Why?

- Simple to use
- Powerful
- Extendable
- Cache
- Maintained by Google

3. How?

- Add INTERNET permission
- Clone volley repository: `git clone https://android.googlesource.com/platform/frameworks/volley`
- Add volley as module
- Right click project, open module settings, “+”
- Import Gradle Project
- Create request queue (one per app)
- Create request with listeners
- Add request to queue

6 Data representation

1. JSON

- Can represent structured data
- Simple to use
- Less verbose
- Getting more attraction

2. Example: Yahoo Weather service

- Getting JSON data from server
- Built-in JSONObject / JSONArray
- Google’s GSON
- JsonPath
- JSON data