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CS 522
Homework 2
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This homework assignment took me quite a bit of time due to tons of debugging, a hardware issue, and it being the first real foray into Android. The first issues encountered came when implementing Parcelable for the Book and Author classes. When I attempted to build I would get a type intersection error. After consulting Stack Overflowing I was able to resolve it by using the write/create typed array methods rather than the read/write Parcelable methods. After this the next error came from improperly implementing the Author class. The Utils class called on an empty constructor that had to be added to the Author object. I also added a method to return all authors instead of just the default only returning the first one. This was used in the view book activity. The next slowdown for this app came from figuring out how to use the menus. I had issues at first since I was not extending AppCompatActivity. Once this was squared away I was able to use a floating context menu to view book details and delete. The add book and checkout activities use menus as well. Next I had to look up some methods in order to hide the text view that displayed "Cart is Empty". Another issue was that the view book activity was not listed on the manifest at first. Overall though the bookstore was not too bad.

The biggest issues encountered on the assignment came from the chat app. Despite it being much simpler I ran into trouble with running two emulators on my laptop at once. My laptop is rather old and becomes very slow when trying to run even a single emulator. When I attempted to run both apps the client would work as expected but the server would always hang up without hitting debug statements. This made me think I was doing something wrong but I checked the port using netstat and I could view messages that way. After struggling with this for a couple of days I decided to try running it on another computer. The app then worked as expected. I had to reference how datagrams work in Java and byte arrays for this as well. I setup Android Studio on my desktop as a backup in case my laptop continues to struggle with testing. Another issue was caused on the Client when I attempted to read in the String from the EditText and convert it to bytes in one line. It was returning the address rather than the String but worked with an intermediate String variable.

In the bookstore video I include my name as an Author in the first book and during checkout. In the chat app video it is in the second message sent.

I pledge my honor that I have abided by the Stevens Honor System. Michael Moschetti

References:

Android Developer Sites:
https://developer.android.com/guide/topics/ui/declaring-layout.html
https://developer.android.com/guide/components/activities/activity-lifecycle.html#saras
https://developer.android.com/reference/android/widget/ArrayAdapter.html
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https://developer.android.com/guide/topics/ui/notifiers/toasts.html
https://developer.android.com/guide/topics/ui/menus.html#FloatingContextMenu
https://developer.android.com/reference/android/widget/AdapterView.AdapterContextMenuInfo.html
https://developer.android.com/reference/android/os/Parcelable.html

Other:

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https://stackoverflow.com/questions/6653079/is-there-a-way-to-hide-text-in-a-textview
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