



<http://www.android.com/>

Interacting with servers
Consuming Webservices
XML vs. JSON
Using libraries

Communication with server



- Mobile apps frequently have a server connected component
 - The server access can provide many services as
 - Community collaboration, data backup, data feeds (in both ways), intensive processing etc.
- Android have good support for networking (java.net.*, javax.net.* and android.net.*)
 - SSL support for mobile, URL sanitizers etc.
- Querying the network status of the different interfaces with the **ConnectivityManager** and **NetworkInfo**
 - On Wi-Fi or mobile network, roaming, network available, etc.

```
// The ConnectivityManager can:  
// Monitor network connections (Wi-Fi, GPRS, UMTS, etc.)  
// Send broadcast intents when network connectivity changes  
// Attempt to "fail over" to another network when connectivity to a network is lost  
// Provide an API that allows applications to query the coarse-grained or fine-grained state of the available networks  
public boolean isNetworkAvailable() {  
    ConnectivityManager cm = (ConnectivityManager) getSystemService(Context.CONNECTIVITY_SERVICE);  
    NetworkInfo networkInfo = cm.getActiveNetworkInfo();  
    // if no network is available networkInfo will be null otherwise check if we are connected  
    if (networkInfo != null && networkInfo.isConnected()) {  
        return true;  
    }  
    return false;  
}
```

See the [utils.Connectivity](#) class in the [jsonokhttp.7z](#) app!

Server communication options

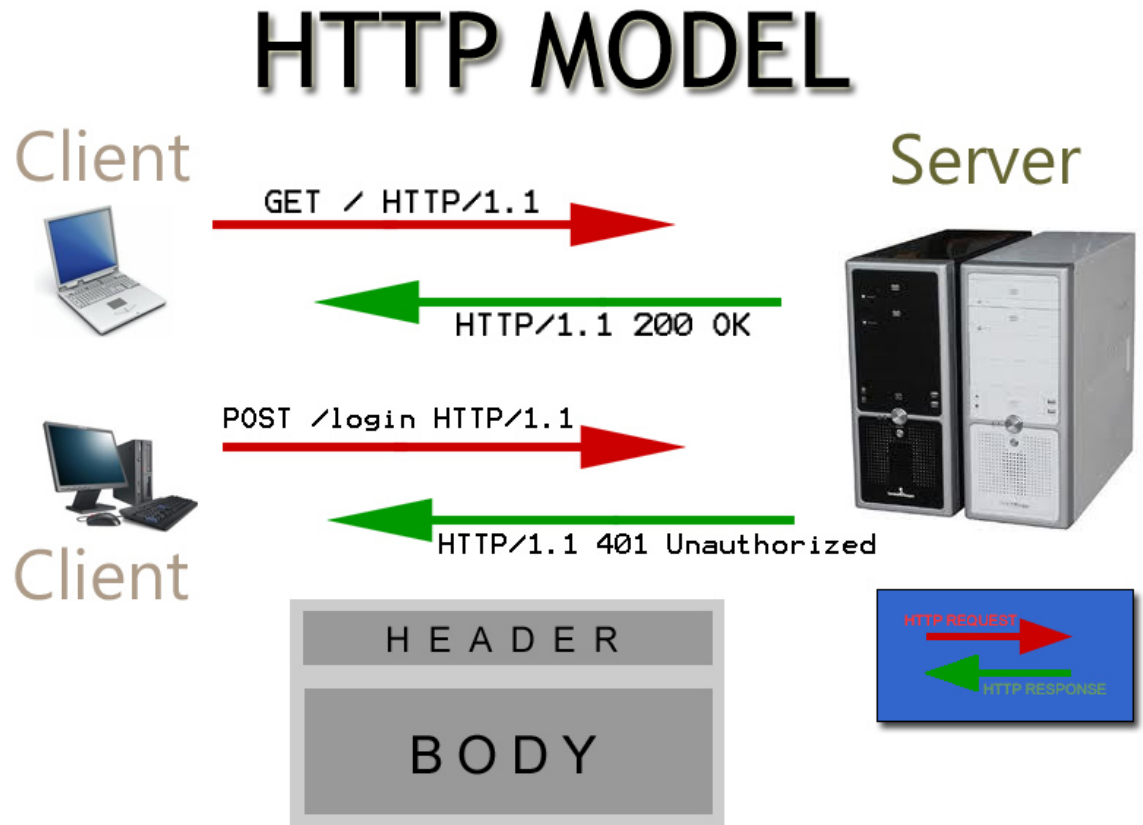


- Socket based communication (`java.net.socket`)
 - Direct control low-level
 - Any protocol can be implemented
- HTTP protocol
 - `java.net.HttpURLConnection` or `javax.net.ssl.HttpsURLConnection`
 - Note! `org.apache.http.*` is deprecated from API 23 and higher
- Web services
 - Widely adopted solution for InterApplication Communication (IAC)
 - Built on XML or JSON and HTTP communication
 - Android provides support for clients to Web services
 - Parsing and creating data-interchange via `org.json.*`, `android.util.Json***`, `org.xml.*`, `android.util.xml` and `javax.xml.*`

The HTTP protocol



- TCP/IP based request/response protocol
- HTTP requests (known as methods)
 - GET (retrive/select) or POST (create/insert)
- HTTP response
 - In all cases a resonse code
 - will be returned
- HTTP message
 - **Request/response line** - the http method/status
 - **Header variables** - request metadata
 - **Message body** - content of message



HTTP GET request and response

- The very first line of the request header is made up of three parts. The first is the verb (in this case GET) and the second is the URI/path (in this case / or the root path) and the third indicates which version of the HTTP protocol the machine understands (in this case HTTP 1.1)
- The second line of the request header indicates the HOST (in this case php.net). The next few lines tell us a little about the connection the client is trying to make, the User-Agent information supplied by the client and some acceptable attributes for the information they expect to receive back from the server. It may also include additional optional headers like a query string, cookies, etc...
- <http://wiki.hashphp.org/HttpPrimer>

GET / HTTP/1.1

Request header

Host: php.net

Connection: keep-alive

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64) AppleWebKit/535.1 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/14.0.835.163 Safari/535.1

Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8

Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate,sdch

Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7,*;q=0.3

Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.8

Cookie: COUNTRY=USA%2C0.0.0.0; LAST_LANG=en

Response header

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Date: Wed, 21 Sep 2011 09:48:13 GMT

Server: Apache/1.3.41 (Unix) PHP/5.2.17

X-Powered-By: PHP/5.2.17

Content-language: en

Last-Modified: Wed, 21 Sep 2011 12:41:39 GMT

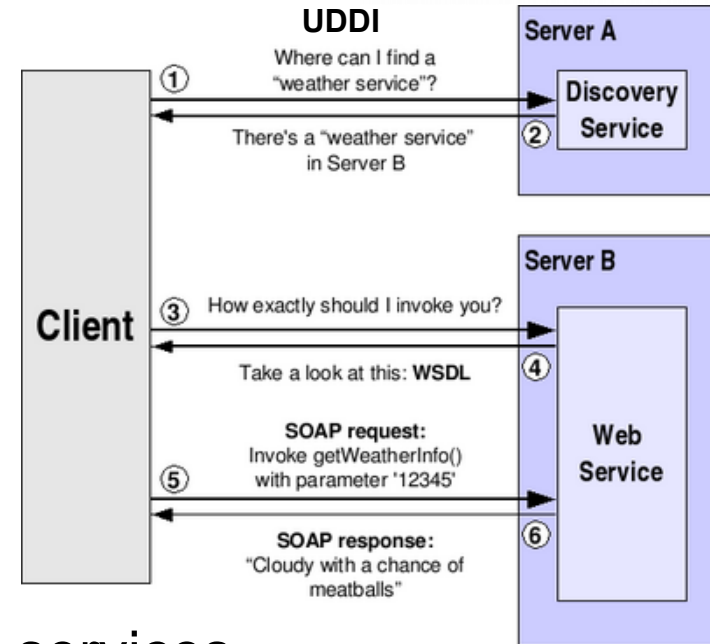
Connection: close

Transfer-Encoding: chunked

Web services



- Web services connect distributed applications
 - Interoperable, cross-platform, cost-effective, ...
- A web service can be regarded as a web application but without a view
 - The client is the view
- Two styles of web services
- Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) services
 - Highly structured XML messages communicated over HTTP
 - Clearly defined service interface published in WSDL
 - Ideally suited to integrating enterprise applications
- Representational State Transfer (REST) services
 - Lightweight informal services
 - Data typically in XML or JSON format
 - Easy to consume from Web browsers and mobile clients



Web service client



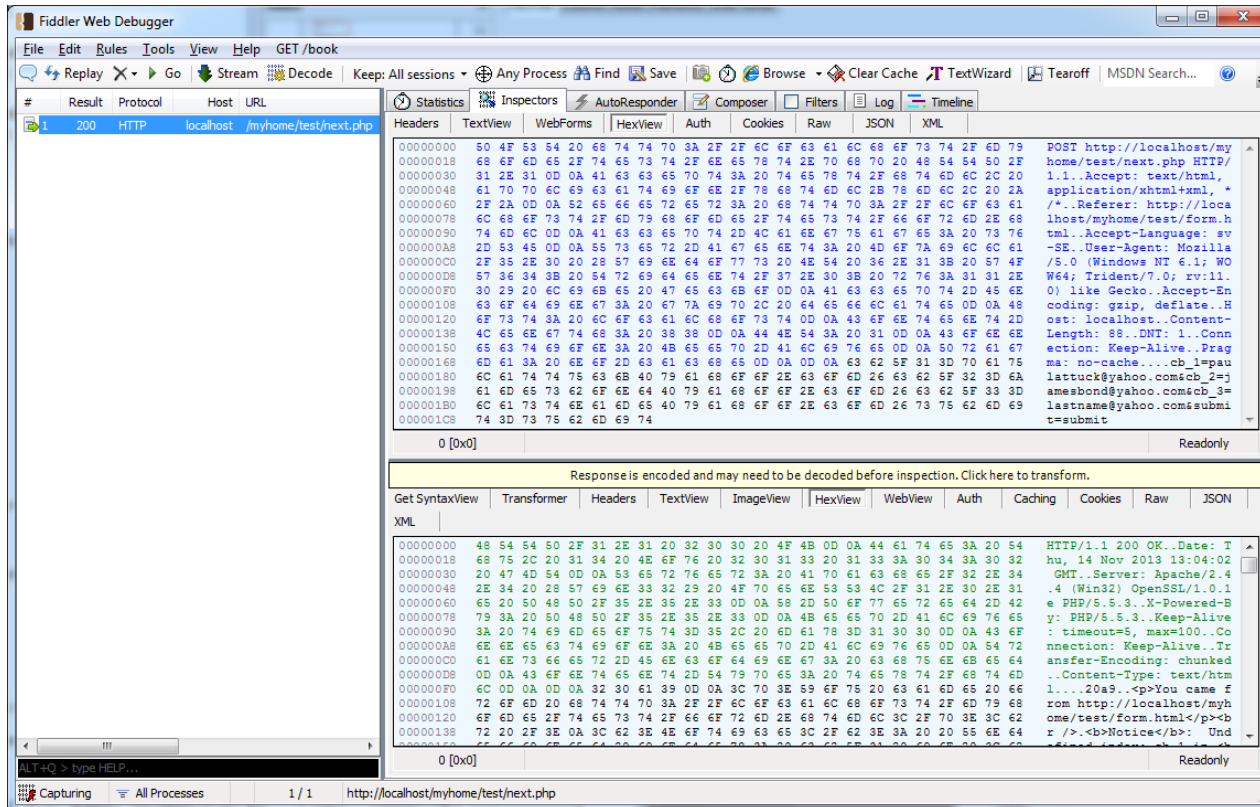
- Use a HTTP GET/POST capable client
- Create a valid request from application data
- Send the request and parse the results
 - Message data must be converted to/from Java data types
- Android have built-in support for both XML via
 - Standard Java XML processing as
 - SAX (Simple API for XML)
 - DOM (Document Object Model) and
 - XML Pull parsers
- and JSON via org.json classes
 - JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) is the most common for REST-based services
 - A lightweight data-interchange format which is completely language independent
 - Easy for humans to read and write and easy for machines to parse and generate

Debug with tools like



- Fiddler as proxy via device/emulator system settings
 - <http://docs.telerik.com/fiddler/configure-fiddler/tasks/ConfigureForAndroid>
 - Or use proxy settings in app for the connection

```
// http://stackoverflow.com/questions/1432961/how-do-i-make-httpurlconnection-use-a-proxy
URL url = new URL(urlString);
Proxy proxy = new Proxy(Proxy.Type.HTTP, new InetSocketAddress("130.243.36.55", 8888));
URLConnection conn = url.openConnection(proxy);
```



See the utils.MyProxy class used with OkHttp in the jsonokhttp.7z app!

Networking with



*Android
Volley*



- Behavior changes in Android for API levels
 - <https://developer.android.com/about/> > Behaviour Changes
- Since the Apache HttpClient removal from API-23 it is recommended to use the HttpURLConnection instead
 - <https://developer.android.com/reference/java/net/HttpURLConnection.html>
 - But it is not so convenient and easy to use in many use cases...
- If you are doing frequent networking with small traffic against a web service in your app it is more beneficial to use the Volley or OkHttp libraries instead
 - Volley may be a little hard to set up, but when it is done it is very easy to do networking
- If we don't need to handle requests in a queue, prioritize requests, or schedule requests, we could use OkHttp
 - OkHttp is a HTTP and HTTP/2 (former SPDY protocol) client, which processes, tokenizes, simplifies, and compresses HTTP requests

Networking with



- OkHttp is a robust and efficient HTTP Client
 - OkHttp perseveres when the network is troublesome: it will silently recover from common connection problems
 - https://github.com/codepath/android_guides/wiki/Using-OkHttp
 - <https://github.com/square/okhttp> and <http://square.github.io/okhttp/>
- Make **synchronous** lightweight network calls on a separate thread, background service or with AsyncTask
- Make **asynchronous** calls by creating a Call object, using the enqueue() method, and passing an anonymous Callback object that implements both onFailure() and onResponse(). You will need to use runOnUiThread() or some post() method to get the result back on the main thread
- Include this statement in your Android Studio build.gradle file

```
dependencies {  
    compile 'com.squareup.okhttp3:okhttp:3.9.0'  
}
```

For example usage of OkHttp, Retrofit, Picasso, GSON and org.json.* see the jsonokhttp.7z app!

```
// Synchronous GET example, download JSON string and return as JSONObject  
public static JSONObject getDataFromWeb() {  
    OkHttpClient client = new OkHttpClient();  
    Request request = new Request.Builder()  
        .url(URL_TO_THE_WEB_SERVICE)  
        .get()  
        .addHeader("cache-control", "no-cache")  
        .build();  
  
    try {  
        // synchronous network call  
        response = client.newCall(request).execute();  
        return new JSONObject(response.body().string());  
    }  
    catch (@NonNull IOException | JSONException e) {  
        Log.e(TAG, "" + e.getLocalizedMessage());  
    }  
    return null;  
}
```

Asynchronous OkHttp GET with proxy



```
public static void getDataFromWeb(Context ctx) {
    final Context context = ctx;
    client = new OkHttpClient.Builder()
        .connectTimeout(60, TimeUnit.SECONDS)
        .writeTimeout(60, TimeUnit.SECONDS)
        .readTimeout(60, TimeUnit.SECONDS)
        .proxy(new Proxy(Proxy.Type.HTTP, new InetSocketAddress(proxyHost, proxyPort)))
        .proxyAuthenticator(proxyAuthenticator)
        .build();
    Request request = new Request.Builder()
        .url(URL_TO_THE_WEB_SERVICE)
        .get()
        .addHeader("cache-control", "no-cache")
        .build();
    client.newCall(request).enqueue(new Callback()
    {
        @Override
        public void onFailure(Call call, IOException e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
            Log.e(TAG, "onFailure: " + e.toString());
        }
        @Override
        public void onResponse(Call call, final Response response) throws IOException
        {
            if (!response.isSuccessful()) {
                Log.e(TAG, "Unexpected code: " + response);
                throw new IOException("Unexpected code " + response);
            }
            // Read data on the OkHttp worker thread
            final String responseData = response.body().string();
            Log.d(TAG, "responseData: " + responseData);
            try {
                ((MainActivity) context).parseJson(new JSONObject(responseData));
            }
            catch (@NonNull JSONException e) {
                Log.e(TAG, "" + e.getLocalizedMessage());
            }
            // Run view-related code back on the main thread
            ((MainActivity) context).runOnUiThread(new Runnable() {
                @Override
                public void run() {
                    ((MainActivity) context).updateListView();
                }
            });
        }
    });
}
```

OkHttp 3.x POST



```
public static final MediaType MEDIA_JSON = MediaType.parse("application/json; charset=utf-8");  
/**  
http://stackoverflow.com/questions/23456488/how-to-use-okhttp-to-make-a-post-request  
http://stackoverflow.com/questions/34179922/okhttp-post-body-as-json  
*/
```

```
public static String postData(String jsonPostDataString,  
    String httpUrl)  
{  
    OkHttpClient client = new OkHttpClient();  
    /**  
    RequestBody formBody = new FormBody.Builder()  
        .add("message", postData)  
        .build();  
    */  
    RequestBody jsonBody = RequestBody.create(MEDIA_JSON,  
        jsonPostDataString);  
    Request request = new Request.Builder()  
        .url(httpUrl)  
        .post(jsonBody)  
        .build();  
    try {  
        // Synchronous POST example - upload the JSON string  
        Log.d(TAG, "client.newCall(request).execute()");  
        Response response =  
            client.newCall(request).execute();  
        // Do something with the response...  
        return response.toString();  
    } catch (IOException e) {  
        e.printStackTrace();  
    }  
    return null;  
}
```

```
// Builds a test JSONObject for POST request (jsonPostDataString)  
public static String jsonToString() {  
    try {  
        JSONObject jobject = new JSONObject();  
        jobject.put("DeviceId", "352957061403327");  
        jobject.put("AuthCode", "hjo@du.se");  
        jobject.put("FrictionValue", 0.5);  
        jobject.put("TimeStamp", "2015-12-24 08:14");  
        jobject.put("FileName", "20151224081425-a0ce4bbb-FRC.zip");  
        jobject.put("Bearing", 45.5);  
        jobject.put("GpsAccuracy", 4.5);  
        jobject.put("StartSpeed", 55.5);  
        jobject.put("EndSpeed", 25.5);  
        jobject.put("Altitude", 155.5);  
        // send thumbnail image  
        String encodedImage = getImageAsThumbnail(context);  
        jobject.put("ThumbnailImage", encodedImage);  
        // Location start  
        JSONObject jobjectLatStart = new JSONObject();  
        jobjectLatStart.put("LatStart", 81.3444);  
        JSONObject jobjectLngStart = new JSONObject();  
        jobjectLngStart.put("LngStart", 82.2323);  
        // Location end  
        JSONObject jobjectLatEnd = new JSONObject();  
        jobjectLatEnd.put("LatEnd", 81.3454);  
        JSONObject jobjectLngEnd = new JSONObject();  
        jobjectLngEnd.put("LngEnd", 82.2333);  
        JSONArray coordinates = new JSONArray();  
        coordinates.put(jobjectLatStart);  
        coordinates.put(jobjectLngStart);  
        coordinates.put(jobjectLatEnd);  
        coordinates.put(jobjectLngEnd);  
        jobject.put("Coordinates", coordinates);  
        Log.d(TAG, "toJson: " + jobject.toString());  
        return jobject.toString();  
    } catch (JSONException e) {  
        System.err.println(e.toString() + " : " + e.getMessage());  
        e.printStackTrace();  
    }  
    return null;  
}
```

Networking with



*Android
Volley*



- According to the official definition and list of features from <https://developer.android.com/training/volley/index.html>, “Volley is an HTTP library that makes networking for Android apps easier and most importantly, faster“ ...
- Volley offers the following benefits
 - Automatic scheduling of network requests
 - Multiple concurrent network connections
 - A transparent disk and memory response caching with a standard HTTP cache coherence
 - Support for request prioritization
 - Cancellation of request API; this means that you can cancel a single request, or set blocks or scopes of requests to cancel
 - Ease of customization; for example, for retry and backoff
 - Strong ordering, which makes it easy to correctly populate your UI with data fetched asynchronously from the network
 - Debugging and tracing tools

Networking with



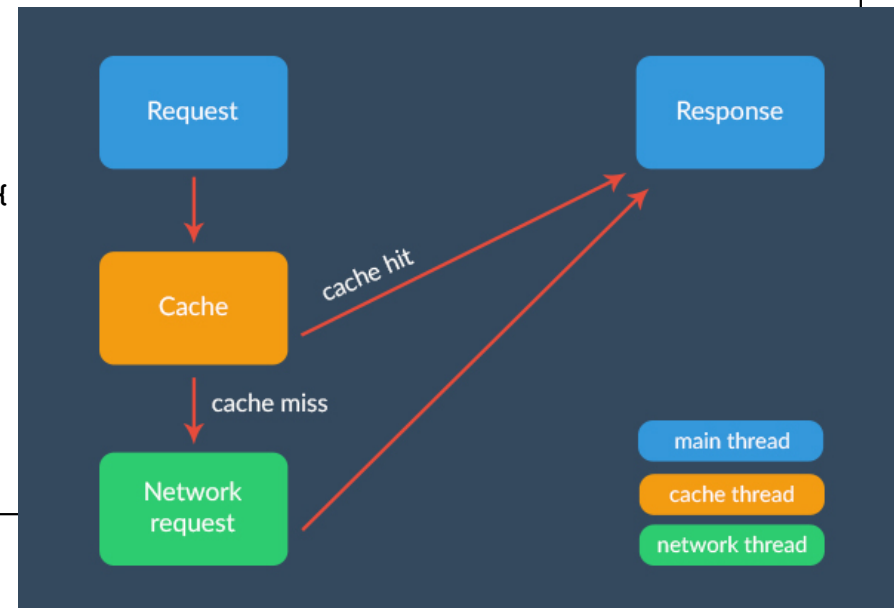
Android
Volley



- Example, but a lot of other things must be set up as well!

```
final TextView mTextView = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.text);
...
// Instantiate the RequestQueue
RequestQueue queue = Volley.newRequestQueue(this);
String url = "http://www.google.com";
// Request a string response from the provided URL
StringRequest stringRequest = new StringRequest(Request.Method.GET, url,
    new Response.Listener<String>() {
        @Override
        public void onResponse(String response) {
            // Display the first 500 characters of the response string
            mTextView.setText("Response is: "
                + response.substring(0, 500));
        }
    }, new Response.ErrorListener() {
        @Override
        public void onErrorResponse(VolleyError error) {
            mTextView.setText("That didn't work!");
        }
    });
// Add the request to the RequestQueue
queue.add(stringRequest);
```

Simplified
life of a Volley
request



Networking with



*Android
Volley*



- Include this statement in your Android Studio build.gradle file to use Volley dependencies

```
dependencies {  
    compile 'com.android.volley:volley:1.0.0'  
}
```
- Introduction tutorials to set up Volley correct
 - https://github.com/codepath/android_guides/wiki/Networking-with-the-Volley-Library
 - <http://code.tutsplus.com/tutorials/an-introduction-to-volley--cms-23800>
 - <http://androidsrc.net/android-volley-library-tutorial/>
- Example apps and source
 - An example application using Volley: <http://code.tutsplus.com/tutorials/creating-a-weather-application-for-mars-using-volley--cms-23812>
 - The source code is found here: <https://github.com/tutsplus/Android-VolleyWeatherOnMars>
 - **I have put some Volley projects in my example web folder as well:**
<http://users.du.se/~hjo/cs/common/androidexamples/> ... volley*.7zip

Networking with Retrofit v2+ 1

- A type-safe HTTP client which depends on OkHttp
 - <https://square.github.io/retrofit/>
- Turns your HTTP API into a Java interface and makes up/down-loading JSON and XML simple
- Uses "converters" to serialize and deserialize data into Java Objects
 - GSON, Jackson, Moshi, Simple XML library, ...
- Supports synchronously and asynchronously calls
- Calls can easily be canceled plus many other functions

```
dependencies {  
    // http://search.maven.org/#search%7Cga%7C1%7Ccom.google.code.gson  
    compile 'com.google.code.gson:gson:2.7'  
    // https://guides.codepath.com/android/Consuming-APIs-with-Retrofit  
    compile 'com.squareup.retrofit2:retrofit:2.3.0'  
    compile 'com.squareup.retrofit2:converter-gson:2.3.0'  
    provided 'org.glassfish:javax.annotation:10.0-b28'  
}
```

For example usage of OkHttp, Retrofit, Picasso, GSON and org.json.* see the jsonokhttp.7z app!

Networking with Retrofit v2+ 2

- Create your java model classes manually or automatically via jsonschema2pojo (Plain Old Java Objects): <http://www.jsonschema2pojo.org/>
- Create the Retrofit instance

```
// Trailing slash is needed
public static final String BASE_URL = "http://api.myservice.com/";
// To send out network requests to an API, we use the Retrofit builder class and specify the base URL for the service.
Retrofit retrofit = new Retrofit.Builder()
    .baseUrl(BASE_URL)
    .addConverterFactory(GsonConverterFactory.create())
    .build();
// construct a service leveraging the MyApiEndpointInterface interface with the defined endpoints
MyApiEndpointInterface apiService = retrofit.create(MyApiEndpointInterface.class);
```

- Define the endpoints (web service API/methods) in the interface

```
/* Annotation and Description
@Path - variable substitution for the API endpoint (i.e. username will be swapped for {username} in the URL endpoint).
@Query - specifies the query key name with the value of the annotated parameter.
@Body - payload for the POST call (serialized from a Java object to a JSON string)
@Header - specifies the header with the value of the annotated parameter */
public interface MyApiEndpointInterface {
    @Headers({"Cache-Control: max-age=640000", "User-Agent: My-App-Name"})
    // Request method and URL specified in the annotation
    @GET("users/{username}")
    Call<User> getUser(@Path("username") String username);
    @GET("group/{id}/users")
    Call<List<User>> groupList(@Path("id") int groupId, @Query("sort") String sort);
    @POST("users/new")
    Call<User> createUser(@Body User user);
}
```

Networking with Retrofit v2+ 3

- Accessing the API asynchronously and synchronously request
 - Retrofit will download and parse the API data on a background thread, and then deliver the results back to the UI thread via the onResponse or onFailure method. **User user is the parsed ready to use object!**

```
String username = "hans"; // API call will be: http://api.myservice.com/users/hans
Call<User> call = apiService.getUser(username);
call.enqueue(new Callback<User>() {
    @Override
    public void onResponse(Call<User> call, Response<User> response) {
        int statusCode = response.code();
        User user = response.body();
    }
    @Override
    public void onFailure(Call<User> call, Throwable t) {
        // Log error here since request failed http://api.myservice.com/users/hans
    }
});
```

```
String username = "hans"; // A synchronous call
Call<User> call = apiService.getUser(username);
User user = response.body();
```

- Introduction tutorials to set up and use Retrofit v2+
 - <https://guides.codepath.com/android/Consuming-APIs-with-Retrofit>
 - <https://inthecheesefactory.com/blog/retrofit-2.0/en>

Picasso



- Image downloading library with automatic RAM memory and disk caching
- One line of code is often enough to load a remote image into a `ImageView`
 - Supports resizing, cropping, placeholders, `autofit`, `rotate`, ..., etc.

```
Picasso.with(context).load(item.getProfilePic() /* Uri, File, Res, String, ... */)
    .placeholder(R.mipmap.ic_launcher)
    .error(R.mipmap.ic_launcher)
    .into(imageView);
```

- The global default Picasso instance
 - This instance is automatically initialized with defaults that are suitable to most implementations
 - Three download threads for disk and network access
- Use a custom Picasso instance for non-standard cases

```
// create a Picasso.Builder object
Picasso.Builder picassoBuilder = new Picasso.Builder(context);
// make your adjustments to Picasso here
// PicassoBuilder creates the Picasso object to do the actual requests
Picasso picasso = picassoBuilder.build();
picasso.load("file:///android_asset/myPic.png").into(imageView);
```

Be lazy and productive!



- During the Android application development there is many useful tools which could be found handy
- Android layout finder which eliminate all the findViewById() boilerplate code
 - <https://www.buzzingandroid.com/tools/android-layout-finder/>
- JSON validator and viewer
 - <http://jsonlint.com/> and <http://jsonviewer.stack.hu/>
- JSON to POJO Creator
 - The JsonSchema2Pojo tool converts JSON to Java classes
 - <http://www.jsonschema2pojo.org/>
- Android DPI calculator, Gradle Please dependency finder, Postman – Rest client, Android Asset Studio, ...
- And many more essential tools listed here (16+ tools)
 - <http://www.technotalkative.com/lazy-android-part-7-useful-tools/>

JSON format



- JSON is built on two structures
 - A collection of name/value pairs as in an object
 - If using an automatic de/serializer keep the exact names in the class
 - An ordered list of values as in an array
- Objects
 - Begins with and ends with (`{ }`)
- Object members
 - Consist of strings and values separated by colon (`:`)
 - Members are separated by commas
- Arrays
 - Begin and end with brackets (`[]`) and contain values
 - Values are separated by commas

```
{
  "homeMobileCountryCode": 310,
  "homeMobileNetworkCode": 260,
  "radioType": "gsm",
  "carrier": "T-Mobile",
  "cellTowers": [
    {
      "cellId": 39627456,
      "locationAreaCode": 40495,
      "mobileCountryCode": 310,
      "mobileNetworkCode": 260,
      "age": 0,
      "signalStrength": -95
    }
  ],
  "wifiAccessPoints": [
    {
      "macAddress": "01:23:45:67:89:AB",
      "signalStrength": 8,
      "age": 0,
      "signalToNoiseRatio": -65,
      "channel": 8
    },
    {
      "macAddress": "01:23:45:67:89:AC",
      "signalStrength": 4,
      "age": 0
    }
  ]
}
```

JSON processing



- Values
 - Can be a string, a number, an object, byte data as images etc. needs to be Base64 encoded/decoded, an array, true/false or null
- Strings
 - Surrounded by double quotes
 - Contain Unicode characters or common backslash escapes
- JSON data is represented by JSONObject
 - A property map – name value pairs
- JSON array data by Arrays
 - An array of JSONObject
- JSON data can be parsed by JSONObject
- JSON data can be created by calling the toString() method on JSONObject

```
{
  "homeMobileCountryCode":310,
  "homeMobileNetworkCode":260,
  "radioType":"gsm",
  "carrier":"T-Mobile",
  "cellTowers":@[
    @{...}
  ],
  "wifiAccessPoints":@[
    @{...},
    @{...}
  ]
}
```

Create a JSON message



- The JSON API is guaranteed to create syntactically correct JSON strings – check against a JSON validator
- To convert data (app variables) to JSON
 - Create a JSONObject
 - Put required data into the internal map
 - Call toString() which performs serialization

```
public JSONObject expenseToJson(Expense exp)
{
    JSONObject obj = new JSONObject();
    try{
        // populate the map
        // a JSONObject, JSONArray, String, Boolean, Integer, Long, Double, NULL, or null.
        obj.put("description", exp.description);
        obj.put("amount", exp.amount);
        obj.put("expenseDate", exp.expenseDate);
    }
    catch(JSONException e){
        Log.d(TAG, "JSONException", e);
    }
    return obj;
}

Expense expensObj = new Expense();
// convert expense object to JSONObject then call toString()
String json = expenseToJson(expensObj).toString();
```

```
class Expense{
    String description;
    float amount;
    String expenseDate;
}
```


Create JSON from array data



- To convert array data to JSON
 - Convert each object in the array you got to JSONObject
 - Put the object into a JSONArray
 - Serialize to JSON by calling toString on the JSONArray
 - Check result against JSON validator

```
List<Expense> expenses = new ArrayList<Expense>(3);
expenses.add(expensObj);
```

```
JSONArray jArray = new JSONArray();
```

```
for(Expense exp : expenses){
    // Appends value to the end of this array. In this case a JSONObject
    // a JSONObject, JSONArray, String, Boolean, Integer, Long, Double, NULL, or null.
    jArray.put(expenseToJson(exp));
}
```

```
// Serialize to JSON
String jsonArray = jArray.toString();
```

```
class Expense{
    String description;
    float amount;
    String expenseDate;
}
```

Create JSON from byte data



- How to convert an image to string data for JSON

```
/**
 * Decode the result at: https://www.base64decode.org/
 * https://stackoverflow.com/questions/4830711/how-to-convert-a-image-into-base64-string
 * https://stackoverflow.com/questions/2577221/android-how-to-create-runtime-thumbnail
 * https://stackoverflow.com/questions/30598357/who-is-adding-n-in-base64-encoded-image-when-i-write-it-in-a-file-java
 */
private static String getImageAsThumbnailTest(Context context)
{
    final int THUMB_SIZE = 48;
    final int THUMB_QUALITY = 80;
    // String fileName = Environment.getExternalStorageDirectory() + "/understanding.jpg";
    // Bitmap ThumbImage = ThumbnailUtils.extractThumbnail(BitmapFactory.decodeFile(fileName),
    // THUMB_SIZE, THUMB_SIZE /*, Bitmap.Config.ARGB_8888*/);
    Bitmap ThumbImage = ThumbnailUtils.extractThumbnail(BitmapFactory.decodeResource(context.getResources(),
    R.raw.understanding), THUMB_SIZE, THUMB_SIZE /*, Bitmap.Config.ARGB_8888 */);
    if (ThumbImage != null) {
        ByteArrayOutputStream baos = new ByteArrayOutputStream();
        ThumbImage.compress(Bitmap.CompressFormat.JPEG, THUMB_QUALITY, baos);
        byte[] bytes = baos.toByteArray();
        String imageStr = Base64.encodeToString(bytes, Base64.NO_WRAP);
        Log.d(TAG, "imageStr.Length(): " + imageStr.Length());
        Log.d(TAG, "THUMB_SIZE=48px: " + imageStr);
        return imageStr;
    }
    else {
        Log.d(TAG, "ThumbImage is NULL");
        return "";
    }
}
```

Send message, get response and process JSON 1



- To send data use the POST method
 - Specify the MIME type of the content
 - "application/json; charset=utf-8" for JSON data
 - Add the JSON data to the request as an entity
- Process JSON
 - Construct a JSONTokener around the response data
 - Get the JSONObject or JSONArray by calling nextValue()
 - Returns null if no more data
 - Iterate through JSONArrays if necessary
 - Extract data from JSONObject
 - Call the XXX getXXX(String name) methods
 - XXX is JSONObject, JSONArray, String, Boolean, Long, Double, Int, etc.
 - Parsing code normally makes assumptions about data structure
 - Catch and log exceptions in case data is wrong

Send message, get response and process JSON 2 (Apache HTTP client)



```
public void postDataJSON(String uri, String jsonArray)
{
    // Create a new HttpClient and Post Header
    HttpClient client = new DefaultHttpClient();
    HttpPost post = new HttpPost(uri);
    Log.d(TAG, uri.toString());
    try {
        // Add your data
        // set MIME type
        post.addHeader("Content-Type", "application/json; charset=utf-8");
        // add the JSON data as an entity
        post.setEntity(new StringEntity(jsonArray));
        // Handler that encapsulates the process of generating a response object from a HttpResponse.
        ResponseHandler<String> responseHandler = new BasicResponseHandler();
        // Execute HTTP Post Request
        String jsonResponse = client.execute(post, responseHandler);
        Log.d(TAG, jsonResponse.toString());
        // parse the response
        parseJSON(jsonResponse);
    }
    catch (ClientProtocolException e) {
        Log.d(TAG, "ClientProtocolException", e);
    }
    catch (IOException e) {
        Log.d(TAG, "IOException", e);
    }
    catch (Exception e) {
        Log.d(TAG, "Exception", e);
    }
    finally{
        client.getConnectionManager().shutdown();
    }
}
```

If you do not use any modern network library you must use either [java.net.HttpURLConnection](http://java.net) or [javax.net.ssl.HttpsURLConnection](http://javax.net)

Send message, get response and process JSON 3



```
public void parseJSON(String jsonString)
{
    // response string could look like this
    jsonString = "{\"expense\":[" +
        "{\"description\":\"Severn bridge toll\",\"amount\":\"15.0\",\"expenseDate\":\"1305876297746\"},\" +
        "{\"description\":\"Slap up lunch\",\"amount\":\"2000.0\",\"expenseDate\":\"1396250633843\"}]}";

    JSONTokener tokenizer = new JSONTokener(jsonString);

    try{
        // Returns the next value from the input.
        JSONObject wrapper = (JSONObject) tokenizer.nextValue();
        // Returns the value mapped by name if it exists and is a JSONArray.
        JSONArray expenses = wrapper.getJSONArray("expense");
        for(int i=0; i < expenses.length(); i++)
        {
            // Returns the value mapped by name if it exists, coercing it if necessary.
            String value =
                expenses.getJSONObject(i).getString("description");
            Log.d(TAG, "description: " + value);
        }
    }
    catch(JSONException e){
        Log.d(TAG, "JSONException", e);
    }
}
```

```
{
  "expense": [
    {
      "description": "Severn bridge toll",
      "amount": "15.0",
      "expenseDate": "1305876297746"
    },
    {
      "description": "Slap up lunch",
      "amount": "2000.0",
      "expenseDate": "1396250633843"
    }
  ]
}
```

```
{
  "expense": [
    {
      "description": "Severn bridge toll",
      "amount": "15.0",
      "expenseDate": "1305876297746"
    },
    {
      "description": "Slap up lunch",
      "amount": "2000.0",
      "expenseDate": "1396250633843"
    }
  ]
}
```

JsonParsing and XmlParsing example



- Full sample on JSON and XML parsing and network
 - Source in examples
- <http://www.androidhive.info/2011/11/android-xml-parsing-tutorial/>
- <http://www.androidhive.info/2012/01/android-json-parsing-tutorial/>

A screenshot of an Android application titled "XmlParsing". The interface shows a list of pizza items, each with its name, price, and description. The items are: Margherita (Rs. 155, Single cheese topping), Double Cheese Margherita (Rs. 225, Loaded with Extra Cheese), Fresh Veggie (Rs. 110, Onion and Crisp capsicum), Peppy Paneer (Rs. 155, Paneer, Crisp capsicum and Red pepper), Mexican Green Wave (Rs. 445, Onion, Crisp capsicum, Tomato with mexican herb), Deluxe Veggie (Rs. 190, Onion, crisp capsicum, Mashroom, Corn), and Barbeque Chicken (Rs. 200, Onion, Crisp capsicum, Mashroom, Corn).

Name	Price	Description
Margherita	Rs. 155	Single cheese topping
Double Cheese Margherita	Rs. 225	Loaded with Extra Cheese
Fresh Veggie	Rs. 110	Onion and Crisp capsicum
Peppy Paneer	Rs. 155	Paneer, Crisp capsicum and Red pepper
Mexican Green Wave	Rs. 445	Onion, Crisp capsicum, Tomato with mexican herb
Deluxe Veggie	Rs. 190	Onion, crisp capsicum, Mashroom, Corn
Barbeque Chicken	Rs. 200	Onion, Crisp capsicum, Mashroom, Corn

A screenshot of an Android application titled "JsonParsing". The interface shows a list of celebrities, each with their name, email address, and phone number. The celebrities are: Ravi Tamada (ravi@gmail.com, +91 0000000000), Johnny Depp (johnny_depp@gmail.com, +91 0000000000), Leonardo Dicaprio (leonardo_dicaprio@gmail.com, +91 0000000000), John Wayne (john_wayne@gmail.com, +91 0000000000), Angelina Jolie (angelina_jolie@gmail.com, +91 0000000000), Dido (dido@gmail.com, +91 0000000000), and Adele (adele@gmail.com, +91 0000000000).

Name	Email	Phone
Ravi Tamada	ravi@gmail.com	+91 0000000000
Johnny Depp	johnny_depp@gmail.com	+91 0000000000
Leonardo Dicaprio	leonardo_dicaprio@gmail.com	+91 0000000000
John Wayne	john_wayne@gmail.com	+91 0000000000
Angelina Jolie	angelina_jolie@gmail.com	+91 0000000000
Dido	dido@gmail.com	+91 0000000000
Adele	adele@gmail.com	+91 0000000000

XML vs. JSON 1



- Anyone who has done programming in recent years has encountered XML (eXtensible Markup Language) - which is self-describing
- XML must follow certain rules and guidelines
 - A XML schema is a document that describes the structure of a particular XML file
 - CDATA tags within an XML document can contain any kind of data (binary data)
- Example packaging data into an XML structure and placing it within the response element
 - An API call might request a customer record with a last name equaling Mott
- XML is usually the default format for "heavier" web services

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes"?>
<request>
  <query>
    <lastname>Mott</lastname>
    <maxhits>100</maxhits>
  </query>
</request>

-----

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes"?>
<response>
  <returncode>200</returncode>
  <query>
    <lastname>Mott</lastname>
    <hits>1</hits>
  </query>
  <data>
    <![CDATA[
      <contact>
        <firstname>Troy</firstname>
        <lastname>Mott</lastname>
        <age>not telling</age>
      </contact>
    ]]>
  </data>
</response>
```

XML vs. JSON 2



- Many Internet API providers offers JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) as a data-format option for light web services
 - Usually used in AJAX (Asynchronous JavaScript and XML) web-programming technology which enables web pages to update dynamically by refreshing data in selected pockets on the page
 - Because less data is transferred – and much less data is parsed – an AJAX-enabled application can provide a much better user experience than a traditional web application - no web page reloads
- A sample response from an application responding to a query as
 - `http://yourserver/app/searchcontact?Mott`
 - The response is a string representation of a JavaScript object - a JSON string – translate methods: `JSON.parse(string)`, `JSON.stringify(object)`
 - `[{"firstname":"Troy","lastname":"Mott","age":"don't ask!"}]`
- In summary, JSON is
 - A data-interchange format to encode JavaScript objects as strings
 - Limited to text/numeric values - binary values are not permitted!
 - More economical than XML in terms of data size, at the expense of readability – data is accessible thru object property dot notation

XML and JSON Twitter RSS feeds



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<statuses type="array">
  <status>
    <created_at>Thu Apr 29 05:25:29 +0000 2010</created_at>
    <id>13052369631</id>
    <text>Wrapping up new article on JSON for Android
    programmers...</text>
    <source>
      <a href="http://www.linkedin.com/" rel="nofollow">
        LinkedIn</a>
    </source>
    <truncated>false</truncated>
    <in_reply_to_status_id />
    <in_reply_to_user_id />
    <favorited>false</favorited>
    <in_reply_to_screen_name />
    <user>
      <id>15221439</id>
      <name>fablesn</name>
      <screen_name>fablesn</screen_name>
      <location>Byram Township, NJ</location>
      <description />
      <profile_image_url>http://a3.twimg.com/profile_images/260492935
      /bookcover_normal.jpg</profile_image_url>
      <url>http://msiservices.com</url>
      <protected>false</protected>
      <followers_count>52</followers_count>
      <profile_background_color>
        9ae4e8
      <profile_text_color>000000</profile_text_color>
      <profile_link_color>0000ff</profile_link_color>
      <profile_sidebar_fill_color>e0ff92
      <profile_sidebar_border_color>87bc44
      <friends_count>10</friends_count>
      <created_at>Tue Jun 24 17:04:11 +0000 2008</created_at>
      <favourites_count>0</favourites_count>
      <utc_offset>-18000</utc_offset>
      <time_zone>Eastern Time (US & Canada)</time_zone>
      <profile_background_image_url>http://s.twimg.com/a/1272044617/
      images/themes/theme1/bg.png</profile_background_image_url>
      <profile_background_tile>>false</profile_background_tile>
      <notifications>false</notifications>
      <geo_enabled>false</geo_enabled>
      <verified>false</verified>
      <following>false</following>
      <statuses_count>91</statuses_count>
      <lang>en</lang>
      <contributors_enabled>false</contributors_enabled>
    </user>
    <geo />
    <coordinates />
    <place />
    <contributors />
  </status>
</statuses>
```

```
[
  {
    "in_reply_to_status_id":null,
    "favorited":false,
    "created_at":"Thu Apr 29 05:25:29 +0000 2010",
    "in_reply_to_screen_name":null,
    "geo":null,
    "source":"<a href=\"http://www.linkedin.com/\" rel=\"nofollow\">
    LinkedIn</a>",
    "contributors":null,
    "place":null,
    "truncated":false,
    "coordinates":null,
    "user":
    {
      "friends_count":10,
      "description":"",
      "lang":"en",
      "statuses_count":91,
      "time_zone":"Eastern Time (US & Canada)",
      "profile_link_color":"0000ff",
      "favourites_count":0,
      "created_at":"Tue Jun 24 17:04:11 +0000 2008",
      "contributors_enabled":false,
      "profile_sidebar_fill_color":"e0ff92",
      "following":null,
      "geo_enabled":false,
      "profile_background_image_url":"http://s.twimg.com/a/1272044617/i
      /theme1/bg.png",
      "profile_image_url":"http://a3.twimg.com/profile_images/260492935
      /bookcover_normal.jpg",
      "notifications":null,
      "profile_sidebar_border_color":"87bc44",
      "url":"http://msiservices.com",
      "verified":false,
      "profile_background_tile":false,
      "screen_name":"fablesn",
      "protected":false,
      "location":"Byram Township, NJ",
      "profile_background_color":"9ae4e8",
      "name":"fablesn",
      "followers_count":52,
      "id":15221439,
      "utc_offset":-18000,
      "profile_text_color":"000000"
    },
    "in_reply_to_user_id":null,
    "id":13052369631,
    "text":"Wrapping up new article on JSON for Android programmers..."
  }
]
```

XML SAX parser 1



- <http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/xml/library/x-andbene1/>

See the XML vs JSON example

```
void examineXMLFile()
{
    try {
        // get the XML file from internal resource
        InputSource is = new InputSource(getResources()
            .openRawResource(R.raw.xmltwitter));
        // create the factory
        SAXParserFactory factory =
            SAXParserFactory.newInstance();
        // create a parser
        SAXParser parser = factory.newSAXParser();
        // create the reader (scanner)
        XMLReader xmlreader = parser.getXMLReader();
        // instantiate our handler
        TwitterFeedHandler tfh = new TwitterFeedHandler();
        // assign our handler
        xmlreader.setContentHandler(tfh);
        // perform the synchronous parse
        xmlreader.parse(is);
        // should be done... let's display our results
        tvData.setText(tfh.getResults());
    }
    catch (Exception e) {
        tvData.setText(e.getMessage());
    }
}
```



XML SAX parser 2

TwitterFeedHandler



```
public class TwitterFeedHandler extends DefaultHandler {
    StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder("");
    String ret = "";
    boolean bStore = false;
    int howMany = 0;

    TwitterFeedHandler() {
    }

    String getResults(){
        return "XML parsed data.\nThere are [" + howMany +
            "] status updates\n\n" + ret;
    }

    @Override
    public void startDocument() throws SAXException {
        // Receive notification of the beginning of the document
    }

    @Override
    public void endDocument() throws SAXException {
        // Receive notification of the end of the document
    }

    // Receive notification of the start of an element
    @Override
    public void startElement(String namespaceURI, String localName,
        String qName, Attributes atts) throws SAXException {
        try {
            if (localName.equals("status")) {
                sb.delete(0, sb.length());
                bStore = true;
            }
            // turn off handling of the user element
            if (localName.equals("user")) {
                bStore = false;
            }

            if (localName.equals("text")) {
                sb.delete(0, sb.length());
            }

            if (localName.equals("created_at")) {
                sb.delete(0, sb.length());
            }
        }
    }
}
```

```
    } catch (Exception e) {
        Log.d("error in startElement", e.getStackTrace().toString());
    }
}

// Receive notification of the end of an element.
@Override
public void endElement(String namespaceURI, String localName,
    String qName) throws SAXException {
    if (bStore) {
        // store Date
        if (localName.equals("created_at")) {
            ret += "Date: " + sb.toString() + "\n";
            sb.delete(0, sb.length());
            return;
        }
        // turn on handling after the user element
        if (localName.equals("user")) {
            bStore = true;
        }
        // store the Post (text)
        if (localName.equals("text")) {
            ret += "Post: " + sb.toString() + "\n\n";
            sb.delete(0, sb.length());
            return;
        }
    }
}

// count the number of status elements
if (localName.equals("status")) {
    howMany++;
    bStore = false;
}

// Receive notification of character data inside an element
@Override
public void characters(char ch[], int start, int length) {
    if (bStore) {
        String theString = new String(ch, start, length);
        this.sb.append(theString);
        Log.d("xmlvsjson", "characters() " + theString);
    }
}
}
```

JSON Array/Object parser

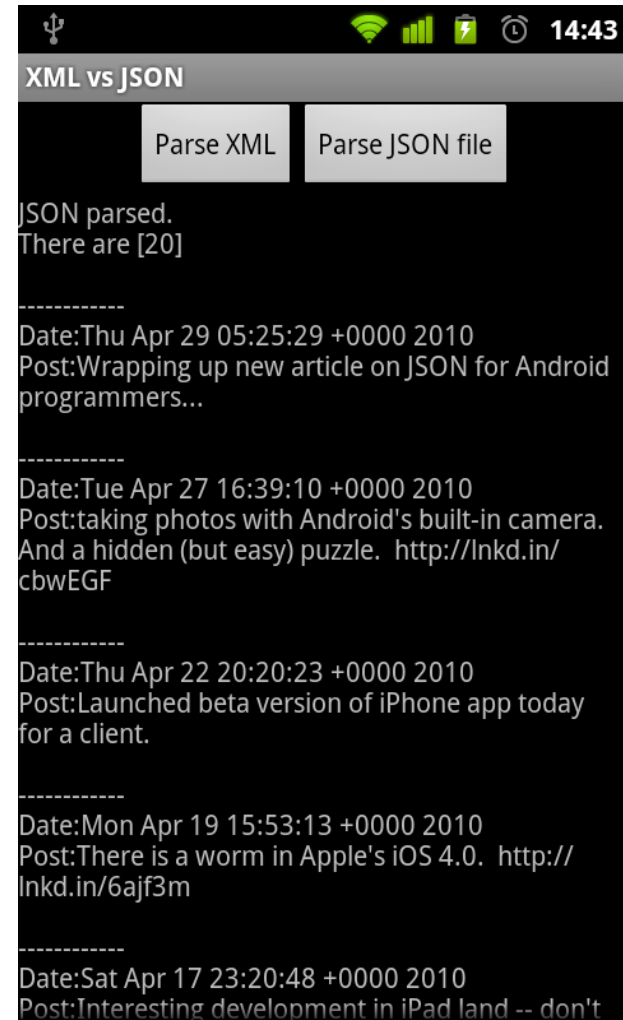


- <http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/xml/library/x-andbene1/>

```
void examineJSONFile ()
{
    try{
        String x = "";
        // get the JSON file from internal resource
        InputStream is = this.getResources()
            .openRawResource(R.raw.jsontwitter);
        byte [] buffer = new byte[is.available()];
        while (is.read(buffer) != -1)
            ;
        String jsontext = new String(buffer);
        JSONArray entries = new JSONArray(jsontext);

        x = "JSON parsed.\nThere are [" + entries.length() + "]\n\n";

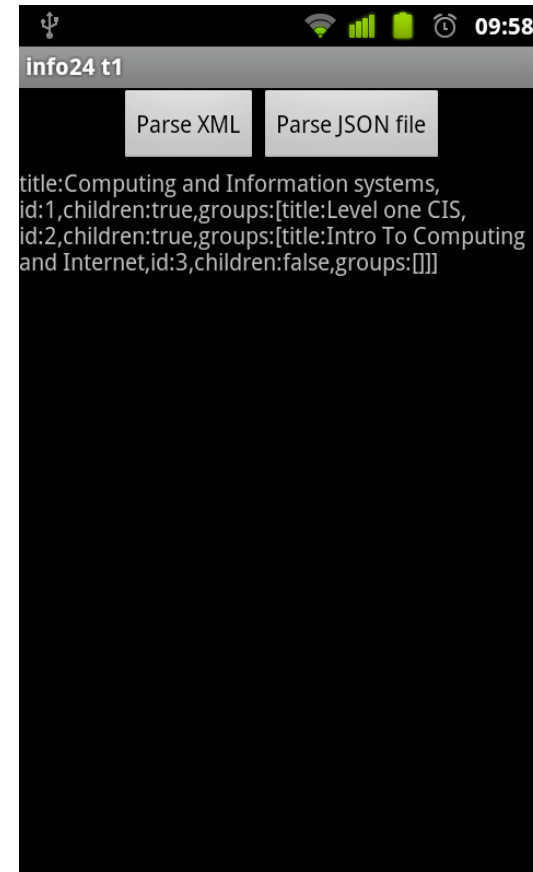
        for (int i=0; i<entries.length(); i++)
        {
            JSONObject post = entries.getJSONObject(i);
            x += "-----\n";
            x += "Date:" + post.getString("created_at") + "\n";
            x += "Post:" + post.getString("text") + "\n\n";
        }
        tvData.setText(x);
    }
    catch (Exception e){
        tvData.setText("Error w/file: " + e.getMessage());
    }
}
```



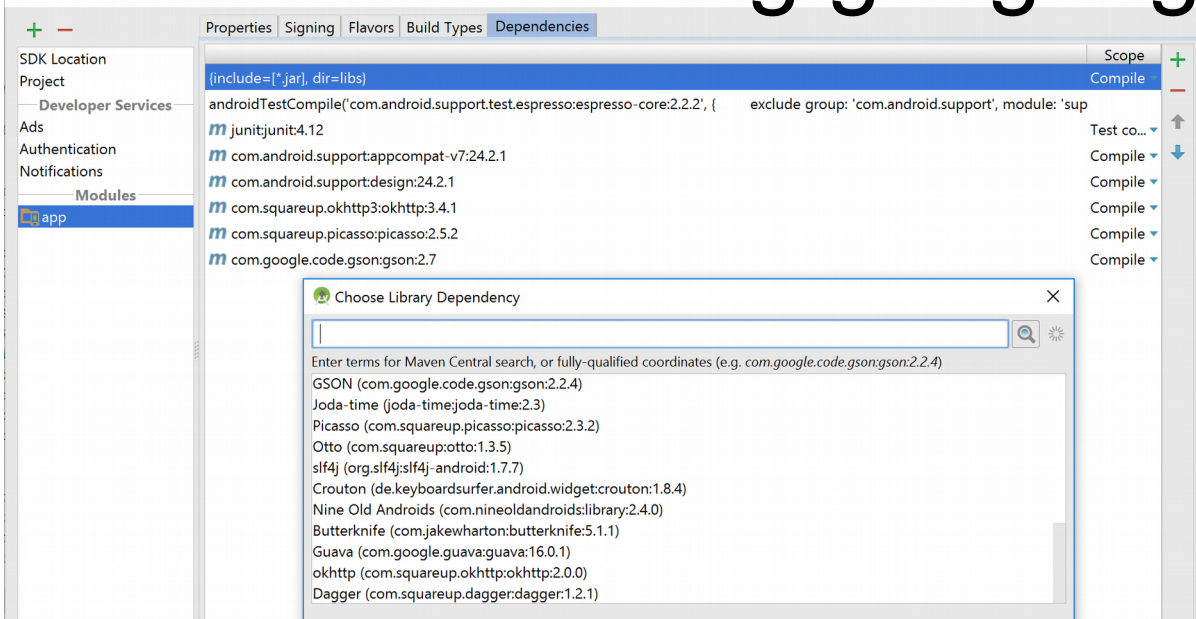
JSON > Java using google-gson 1



```
// http://stackoverflow.com/questions/1688099/converting-json-to-java/1688182
public void gsonTest() {
    try {
        InputStream is = getResources().openRawResource(R.raw.gsonjson);
        byte [] buffer = new byte[is.available()];
        while (is.read(buffer) != -1)
            ;
        String json = new String(buffer);
/*
        String json =
            "{"
                + "'title': 'Computing and Information systems',"
                + "'id' : 1,"
                + "'children' : 'true',"
                + "'groups' : [{"
                    + "'title' : 'Level one CIS',"
                    + "'id' : 2,"
                    + "'children' : 'true',"
                    + "'groups' : [{"
                        + "'title' : 'Intro To Computing and Internet',"
                        + "'id' : 3,"
                        + "'children': 'false',"
                        + "'groups':[]"
                    + "}"
                + "}"
            + "}";
*/
        Log.d(TAG + " gsonTest", json);
        // Now do the magic - http://code.google.com/p/google-gson/
        GsonData gdata = new Gson().fromJson(json, GsonData.class);
        tvData.setText(gdata.toString());
        // translate back to json
        String jsonStr = new Gson().toJson(gdata);
    }
    catch (Exception e) {
        tvData.setText(e.getMessage() + e.getStackTrace().toString());
    }
}
```



JSON > Java using google-gson 2



Benchmarks

<https://github.com/eishay/jvm-serializers/wiki/>

```
public class GsonData {
    private String title;
    private Long id;
    private Boolean children;
    private List<GsonData> groups;

    public String getTitle() { return title; }
    public Long getId() { return id; }
    public Boolean getChildren() { return children; }
    public List<GsonData> getGroups() { return groups; }

    public void setTitle(String title) { this.title = title; }
    public void setId(Long id) { this.id = id; }
    public void setChildren(Boolean children) { this.children = children; }
    public void setGroups(List<GsonData> groups) { this.groups = groups; }

    public String toString() {
        return String.format("title:%s,id:%d,children:%s,groups:%s", title, id, children, groups);
    }
}
```

Note!

Variable names must match exactly between JSON and the Java class

JSON org.codehaus.jackson



- Jackson offers 3 alternative methods for processing JSON
 - Streaming API (aka "Incremental parsing/generation") reads and writes JSON content as discrete events
 - Tree Model provides a mutable in-memory tree representation of a JSON document
 - Data Binding converts JSON to and from POJOs (Plain Old Java Objects) based either on property accessor conventions or annotations

```
// http://wiki.fasterxml.com/JacksonInFiveMinutes
// http://wiki.fasterxml.com/JacksonDownload
public void jacksontest(){
    try {
        InputStream is = getResources().openRawResource(R.raw.jacksonjson);
        byte [] buffer = new byte[is.available()];
        while (is.read(buffer) != -1)
            ;

        String jsonin = new String(buffer);
        Log.d(TAG+" jacksontest", jsonin);

        // It takes two lines of Java to turn it into a User instance
        ObjectMapper mapper = new ObjectMapper(); // can reuse, share globally
        User user = mapper.readValue(jsonin, User.class);

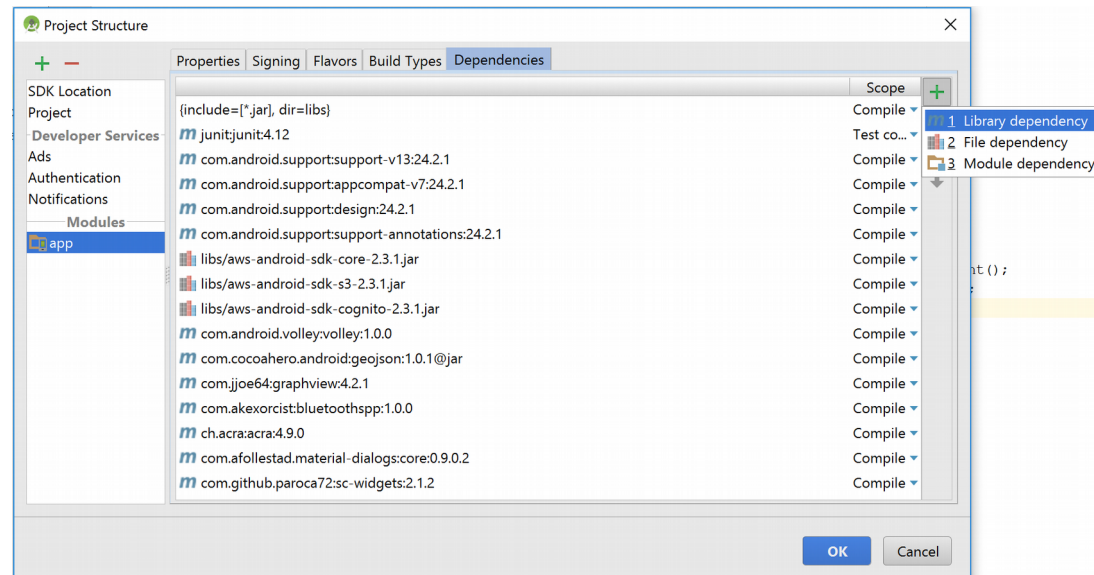
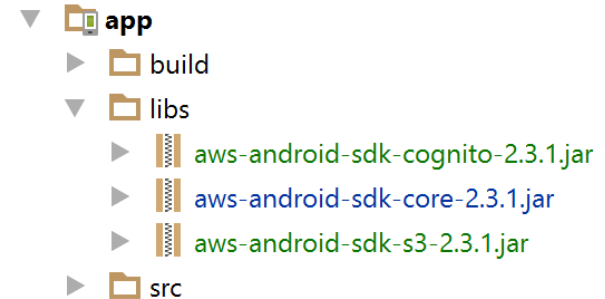
        // Marshalling back to JSON is similarly straightforward
        String jsonout = mapper.writeValueAsString(user);
        tvData.setText(jsonin + "\n\n" + jsonout);
    }
    catch (Exception e) {
        tvData.setText(e.getMessage() + e.getStackTrace().toString());
    }
}
```



Using libraries



- Libraries is either distributed as built-in or external Jar files
- Or as source (Module dependency)
- Android Libraries
 - GUI
 - Game engines
 - Charts
 - Social (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
 - RPC (JSON/XML)
 - Contacts
 - NFC
 - Networking protocols
 - ...



<https://android-arsenal.com/>

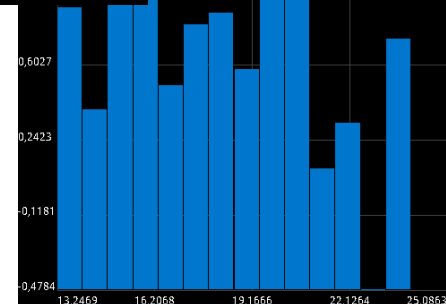
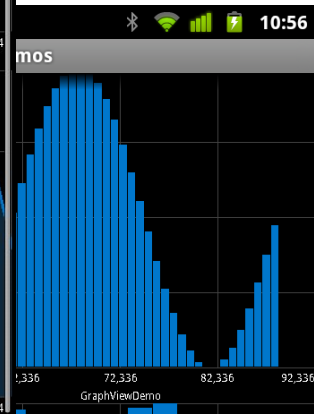
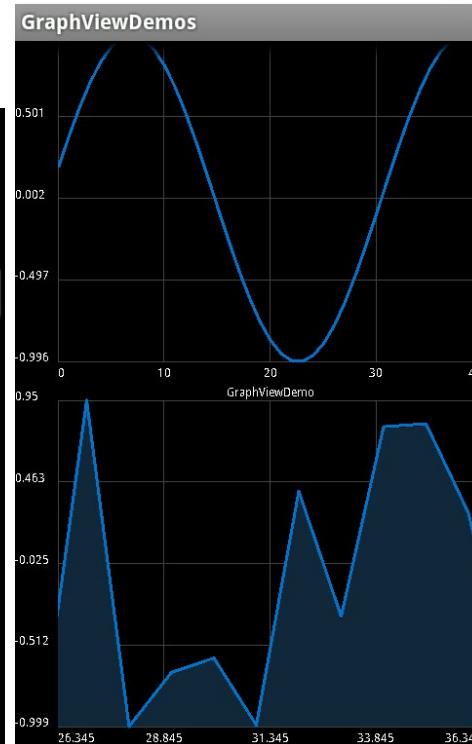


**ANDROID
ARSENAL**

Libraries



Android-Universal-Image-Loader
<https://github.com/nostra13/Android-Universal-Image-Loader>

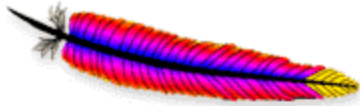


GraphView
<http://android-graphview.org/>

Internet protocols simple



commons
net™



Apache Commons™
<http://commons.apache.org/>

Last Published: 08 June 2013 | Version: 3.3

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[Migration How-to](#)

[FAQ](#)

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[Javadoc 1.4.1 \(Java 1.3\)](#)

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[Coding Specifications](#)

[Mailing lists](#)

[Issue Tracking](#)

[SVN repository](#)

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▼ Project Information

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► [Dormant](#)

Apache Commons Net

Apache Commons Net™ library implements the client side of many basic Internet protocols. The purpose of the library is to provide fundamental protocol access, not higher-level abstractions. Therefore, some of the design violates object-oriented design principles. Our philosophy is to make the global functionality of a protocol accessible (e.g., TFTP send file and receive file) when possible, but also provide access to the fundamental protocols where applicable so that the programmer may construct his own custom implementations (e.g, the TFTP packet classes and the TFTP packet send and receive methods are exposed).

Features

Supported protocols include:

- FTP/FTPS
- FTP over HTTP (experimental)
- NNTP
- SMTP(S)
- POP3(S)
- IMAP(S)
- Telnet
- TFTP
- Finger
- Whois
- rexec/rcmd/rlogin
- Time (rdate) and Daytime
- Echo
- Discard
- NTP/SNTP

Building Apache HTTP clients



- **Deprecated!**
- The core Apache HTTP components provides a set of classes and interfaces for the HTTP protocol in `org.apache.http.*`
 - **HttpRequest** – the request or response message (`HttpPost` or `HttpEntity`)
 - **Header** – wrappers for the HTTP message headers
 - **HttpEntity** – the body of a message when supplied
 - **HttpConnection** – the underlying network connection
- Use of the API is simplified by using the `org.apache.http.impl.*` classes
 - The **DefaultHttpClient** which extends **AbstractHttpClient** provides a implementation of all the needed interfaces
- If you want to continue use Apache HttpClient you need to have this statement in your Android Studio `build.gradle` file

```
android {  
    useLibrary 'org.apache.http.legacy'  
}
```

If you do not use any modern network library you must use either `java.net.HttpURLConnection` or `javax.net.ssl.HttpsURLConnection`

Simple Apache HTTP GET



```
// basic Apache HTTP GET
// http://www.vogella.com/articles/HttpClient/article.html
public void httpGet(String uri)
{
    HttpClient client = new DefaultHttpClient();
    HttpGet request = new HttpGet(uri);
    try{
        HttpResponse response = client.execute(request);
        // Get the response, getEntity() obtains the message entity of this response, if any
        BufferedReader rd =
            new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(response.getEntity().getContent()));
        String line = "";
        while ((line = rd.readLine()) != null) {
            textView.append(line + "\n");
            Log.d(TAG, line);
        }
    }
    catch(IOException e) {
        Log.d(TAG, "IOException", e);
    }
    catch(Exception e) {
        Log.d(TAG, "Exception", e);
    }
    finally{
        client.getConnectionManager().shutdown();
    }
}
```

Build and make a Apache HTTP request



- Build a HTTP request
- Create a handler class to process the response (optional)
 - `ResponseHandler<T>` class is used to process the server response
 - Convert error status codes to `ClientProtocolException`
 - Convert the response data into an object of type `T`
- Create a `DefaultHttpClient` and execute the request
 - Get a server response
 - A `ClientProtocolException` is thrown if error
- Shut down the connection
- If not using a `ResponseHandler` you must handle the response

```
HttpResponse response = client.execute(post);
BufferedReader rd = new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(response.getEntity().getContent()));
String line = "";
while ((line = rd.readLine()) != null) {
    Log.d(TAG, line);
    if (line.startsWith("Error")) {
        String key = line.substring(5);
        Toast.makeText(this, key, Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();
        // Do something with the key
    }
}
```

Apache POST with a ResponseHandler



```
// basic Apache form data urlencoded HTTP POST with a ResponseHandler
public void postData(String uri) {
    // Create a new HttpClient and Post Header
    HttpClient client = new DefaultHttpClient();
    HttpPost post = new HttpPost(uri); // "https://www.google.com/accounts/ClientLogin"
    try { // Add your data
        List<NameValuePair> nameValuePairs = new ArrayList<NameValuePair>(5);
        nameValuePairs.add(new BasicNameValuePair("Email", "youremail"));
        nameValuePairs.add(new BasicNameValuePair("Passwd", "yourpassword"));
        nameValuePairs.add(new BasicNameValuePair("accountType", "GOOGLE"));
        nameValuePairs.add(new BasicNameValuePair("source", "Google-cURL-Example"));
        nameValuePairs.add(new BasicNameValuePair("service", "ac2dm"));
        post.setEntity(new UrlEncodedFormEntity(nameValuePairs));
        // Handler that encapsulates the process of generating a response object from a HttpResponse.
        ResponseHandler<String> responseHandler = new BasicResponseHandler();
        // Execute HTTP Post Request
        String responseBody = client.execute(post, responseHandler);
        Log.d(TAG, responseBody.toString());
        // TODO parse the responseBody
    }
    catch (ClientProtocolException e) {
        Log.d(TAG, "ClientProtocolException", e);
    }
    catch (IOException e) {
        Log.d(TAG, "IOException", e);
    }
    catch (Exception e) {
        Log.d(TAG, "Exception", e);
    }
    finally{
        client.getConnectionManager().shutdown();
    }
}
```