Mobile Application Development



David Drohan (<u>ddrohan@wit.ie</u>)

Department of Computing & Mathematics Waterford Institute of Technology http://www.wit.ie



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Android Persistence





Agenda & Goals

- Be aware of the different approaches to data persistence in Android Development
- Be able to work with the SQLiteOpenHelper & SQLiteDatabase classes to implement an SQLite database on an Android device (to manage our Donations)
- Be able to work with SharedPreferences to manage our Login & Register screens



Main Idea – why do we need Persistence?

Android can shut down and restart your app

- When you rotate the screen
- When you change languages
- When your app is in background and Android is short on memory
- When you hit the Back button

Problem

You risk losing user changes and data

□ Solutions ??



Solutions

- Android provides several options for you to save persistent application data.
- The solution you choose depends on your specific needs, such as whether the data should be private to your application or accessible to other applications (and the user) and how much space your data requires.
- □ Android provides a way for you to expose your private data to other applications with a Content Provider.
 - A content provider is an optional component that exposes read/write access to your application data, subject to whatever restrictions you want to impose.



Data Storage Solutions *

□ Shared Preferences

• Store private primitive data in key-value pairs.

Internal Storage

- Store private data on the device memory.
- External Storage
 - Store public data on the shared external storage.

□ SQLite Databases

• Store structured data in a private database.

Network Connection

• Store data on the web with your own network server.



Data Storage Solutions *

Bundle Class

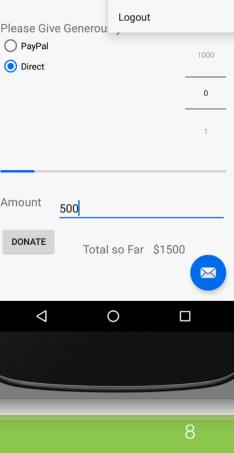
- A mapping from String values to various Parcelable types and functionally equivalent to a standard Map.
- Does not handle Back button scenario. App restarts from scratch with no saved data in that case.

Generation File

Use java.io.* to read/write data on the device's internal storage.

Case Study

- □ Donation an Android App to keep track of donations made to 'Homers Presidential Campaign '.
- □ App Features
 - Accept donation via number picker or typed amount
 - Keep a running total of donations
 - Display report on donation amounts and types
 - Display running total on progress bar



5554:Nexus_4_API_23

Report

Reset

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A m

Donation.4.0

PayPal O Direct

Amount

DONATE

 \leq

500

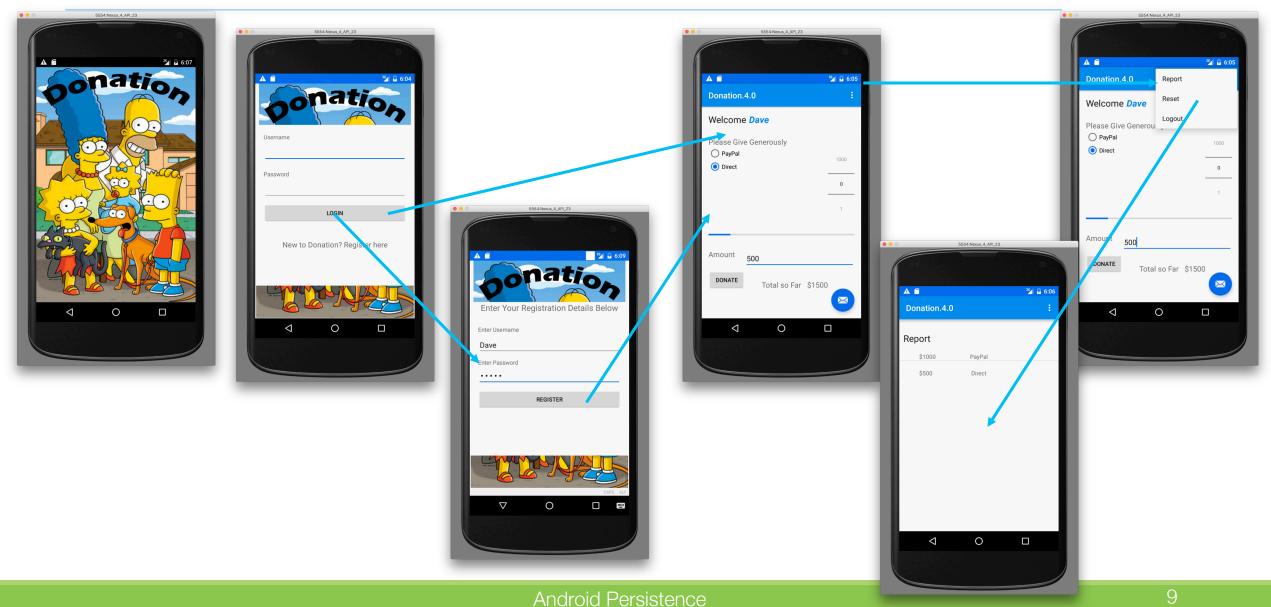
Welcome Dave



³⁶ 6:05



Ultimate Case Study – Donation 4.0



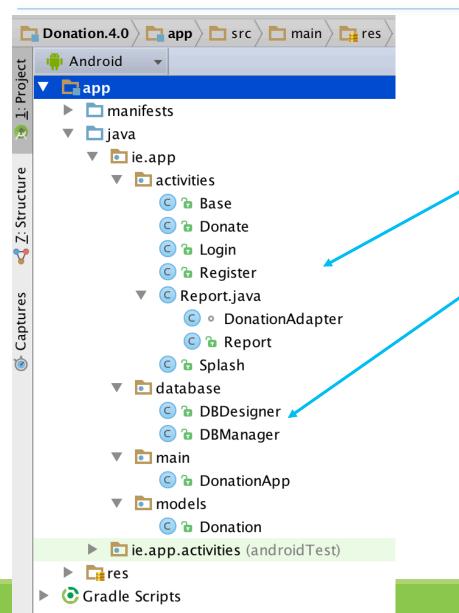


Donation.4.0

Using an SQLite Database

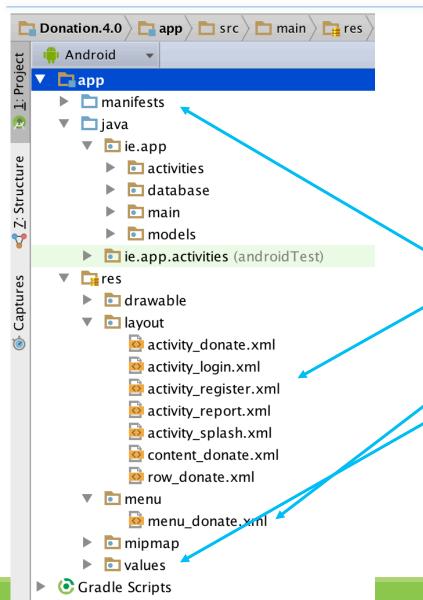


Donation 4.0 – Project Structure (Classes)



- 9 java source files
 - Our Database classes
- 3 xml layouts
- 1 xml menu
- 6 xml files for resources
- 1 xml 'configuration' file

Donation 4.0 – Project Structure (Resources)



- 9 java source files
 - Our Database classes
- 7 xml layouts
 - 1 xml menu
 - 6 xml files for resources
 - 1 xml 'configuration' file



Idea

🗆 Goal

- Enhance Donation.3.0 by managing the Donations in an SQLite Database.
- Approach
 - Implement/extend specific classes to add the database functionality to the app.

Database Programming in Android *



- Android provides full support for SQLite databases. Any databases you create will be accessible by name to any class in the application, but not outside the application.
- The recommended method to create a new SQLite database is to create a subclass of
 SQLiteOpenHelper and override the
 onCreate() method, in which you can
 execute a SQLite command to create tables in
 the database. For example:

```
public class DictionaryOpenHelper extends SQLiteOpenHelper {
```

```
DictionaryOpenHelper(Context context) {
    super(context, DATABASE_NAME, null, DATABASE_VERSION);
}
```

```
@Override
```

```
public void onCreate(SQLiteDatabase db) {
    db.execSQL(DICTIONARY_TABLE_CREATE);
```

Database Programming in Android *

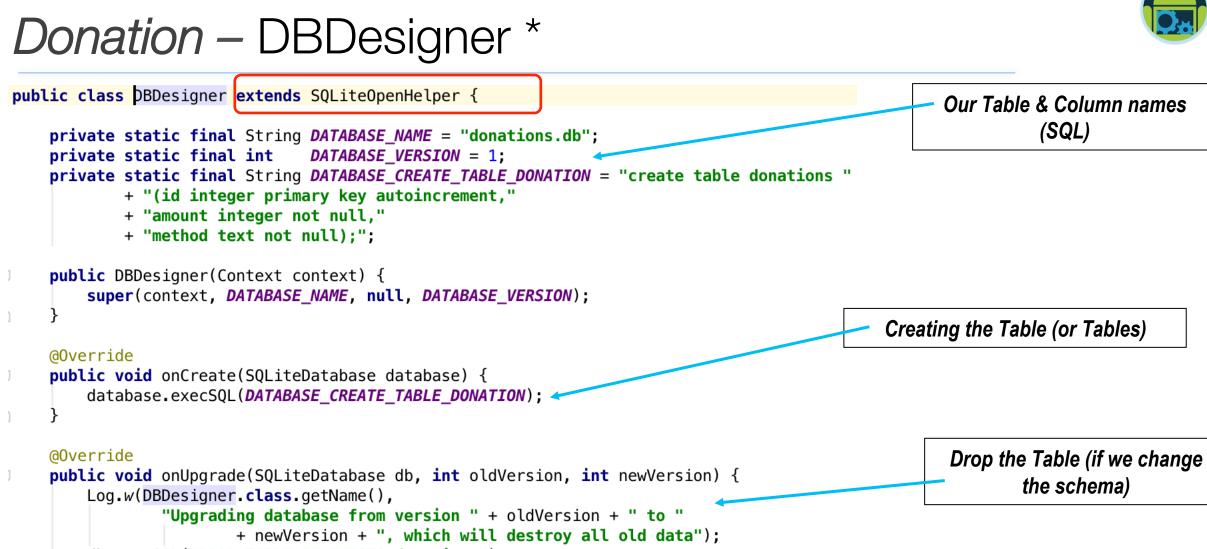


- You can then get an instance of your SQLiteOpenHelper implementation using the constructor you've defined. To write to and read from the database, call getWritableDatabase() and getReadableDatabase(), respectively. These both return a SQLiteDatabase object that represents the database and provides methods for SQLite operations.
- You can execute SQLite queries using the SQLiteDatabase query() methods, which accept various query parameters, such as the table to query, the projection, selection, columns, grouping, and others. For complex queries, such as those that require column aliases, you should use SQLiteQueryBuilder, which provides several convenient methods for building queries.
- Every SQLite query will return a Cursor that points to all the rows found by the query. The Cursor is always the mechanism with which you can navigate results from a database query and read rows and columns.

Database Programming in Android



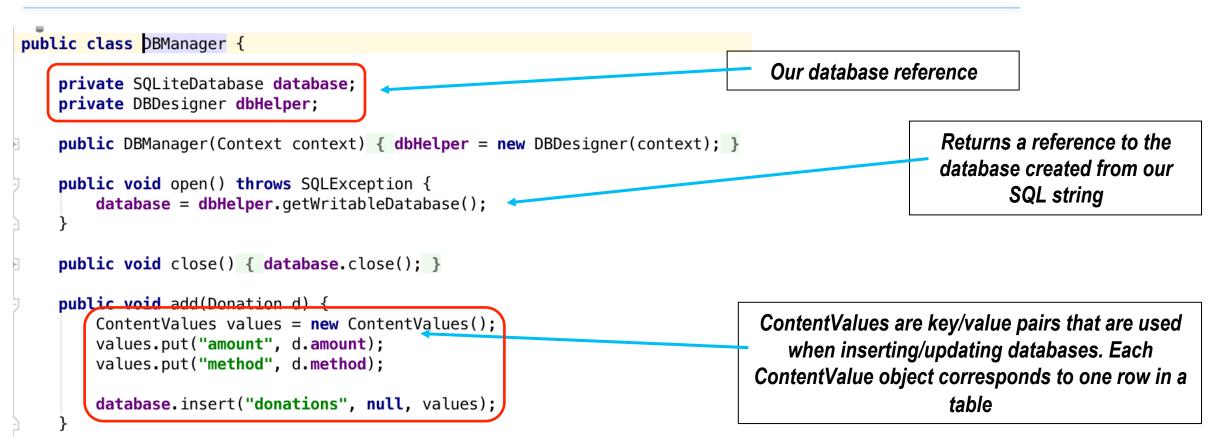
- With SQLite, the database is a simple disk file. All of the data structures making up a relational database tables, views, indexes, etc. - are within this file
- RDBMS is provided through the api classes so it becomes part of your app
- □ You can use the SQL you learned in a database module
- □ You should use DB best practices
 - Normalize data
 - Encapsulate database info in helper or wrapper classes
 - Don't store files (e.g. images or audio), Instead just store the path string



db.execSQL("DROP TABLE IF EXISTS donations");

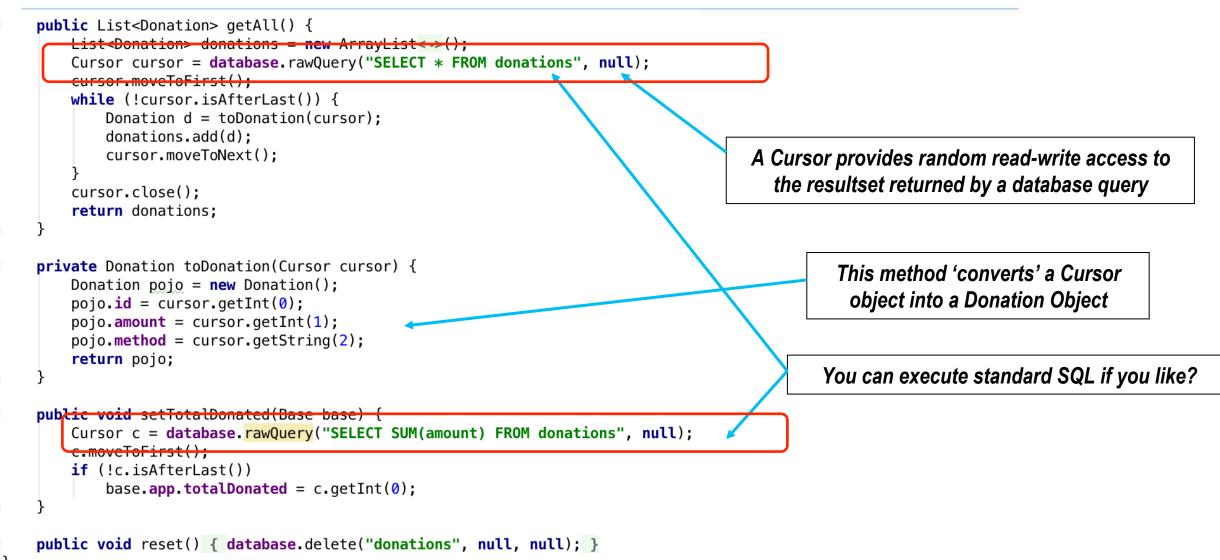


Donation – DBManager *



Donation – DBManager *







Other Cursor Functions

- moveToPrevious
- getCount
- getColumnIndexOrThrow
- getColumnName
- getColumnNames
- moveToPosition
- getPosition



Donation.4.0

Using the Application Object



Maintaining Global Application State

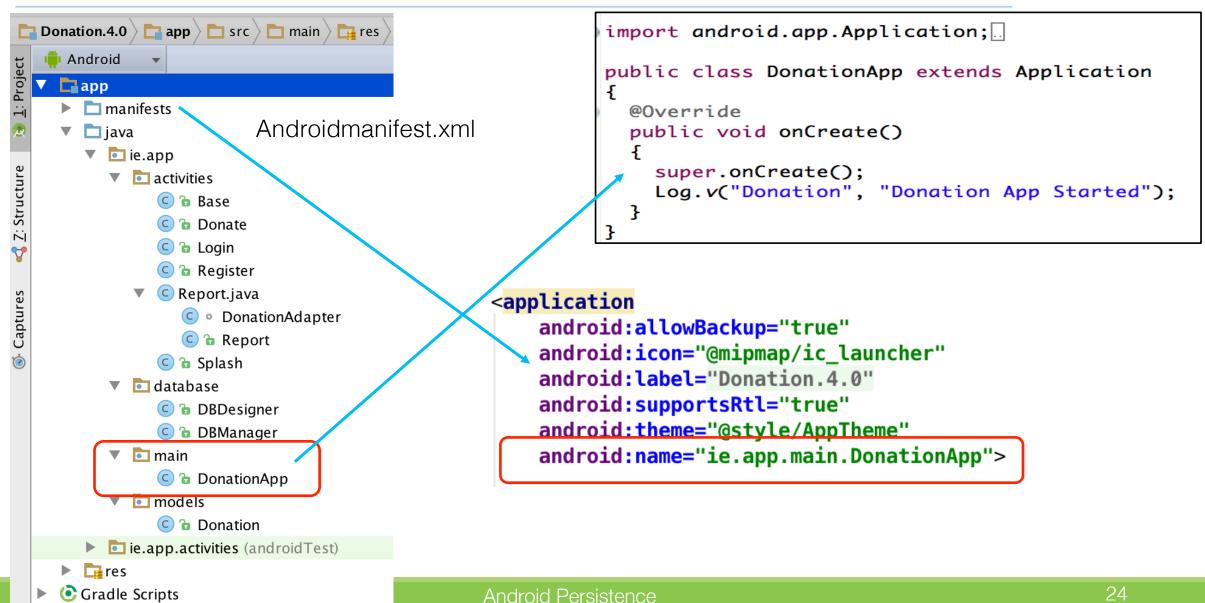
- Sometimes you want to store data, like global variables which need to be accessed from multiple Activities – sometimes everywhere within the application. In this case, the Application object will help you.
- Activities come and go based on user interaction
- Application objects can be a useful 'anchor' for an android app
- □ You can use it to hold information shared by all activities



- onConfigurationChanged() Called by the system when the device configuration changes while your component is running.
- onCreate() Called when the application is starting, before any other application objects have been created.
- onLowMemory() This is called when the overall system is running low on memory, and would like actively running processes to tighten their belts.
- onTerminate() This method is for use in emulated process environments. It will never be called on a production Android device, where processes are removed by simply killing them; no user code (including this callback) is executed when doing so.

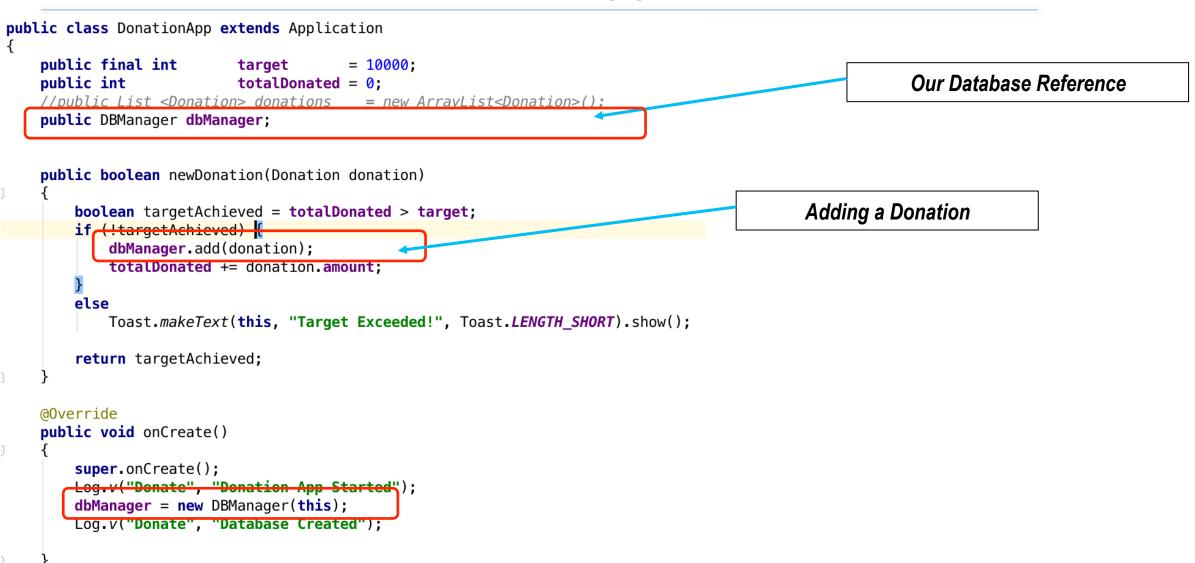


The Application Object *



Donation 4.0 – DonationApp Application Object *



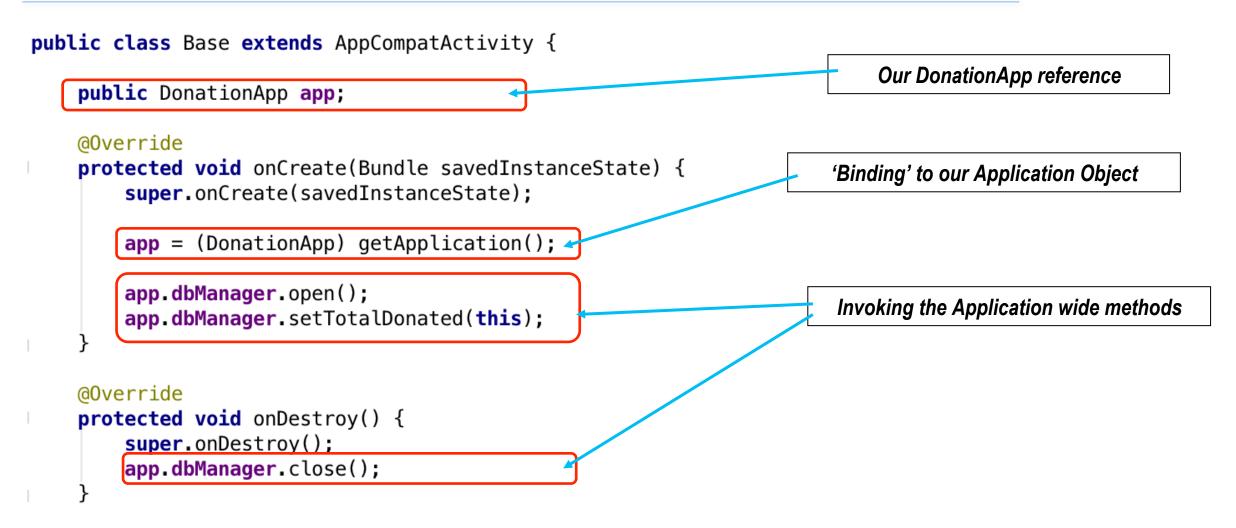


Refactor existing Activities/Classes

- □ In order to make full use of our Database and Application object we need to refactor the classes in the project.
- This will form part of the Practical Lab (Lab 5) but we'll have a quick look now at some of the refactoring that needs to be done.
- We also add in a new Menu option to 'Reset' the database once the target has been reached and keep track of the current total donated if the app is shut down are restarted.

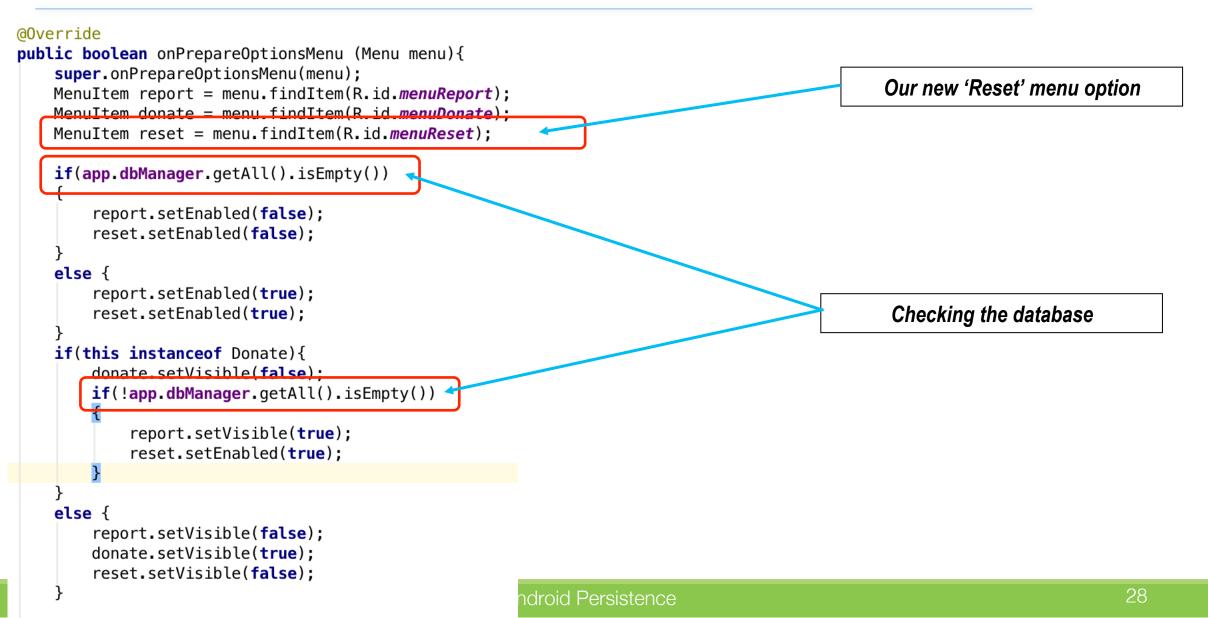


Donation 4.0 - Base (Refactored, extract) *



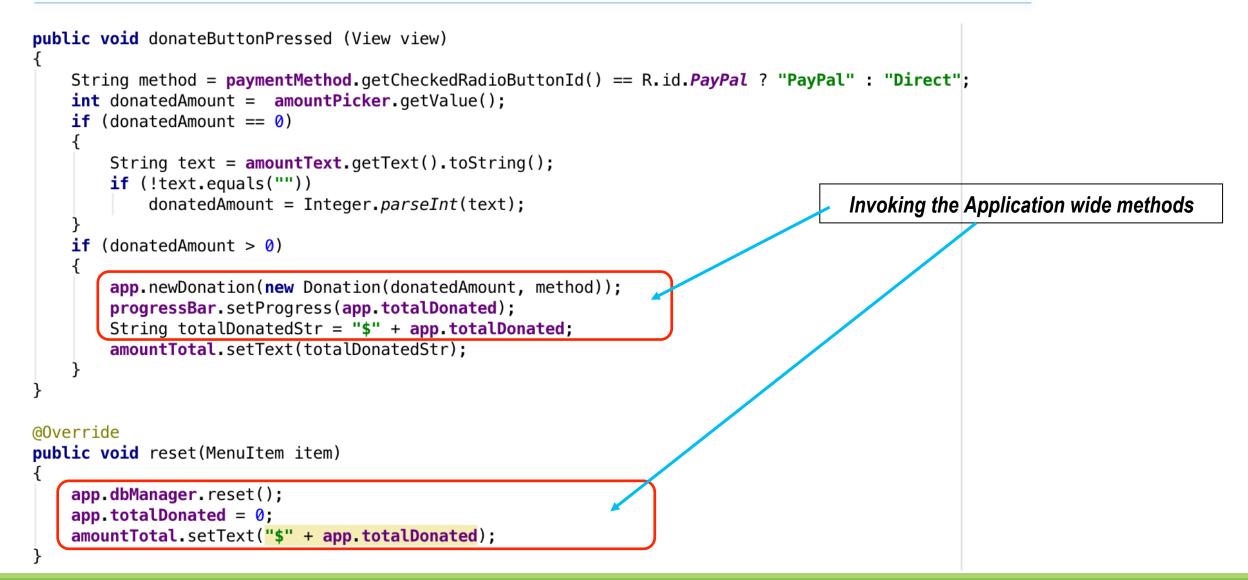


Donation 4.0 – Base (Refactored, extract) *



Donation 4.0 – Donate (Refactored) *





Donation 4.0 – DonationAdapter *



```
class DonationAdapter extends ArrayAdapter<Donation>
    private Context context;
    public List<Donation> donations;
    public DonationAdapter(Context context, List<Donation> donations)
        super(context, R.layout.row_donate, donations);
        this.context = context;
        this.donations = donations;
   @Override
    public View getView(int position, View convertView, ViewGroup parent)
        LayoutInflater inflater = (LayoutInflater) context.getSystemService(Context.LAYOUT INFLATER SERVICE);
        View
                            = inflater.inflate(R.layout.row_donate, parent, false);
                 view
                            = donations.get(position);
       Donation donation
        TextView amountView = (TextView) view.findViewById(R.id.row_amount);
        TextView methodView = (TextView) view.findViewById(R.id.row method);
        amountView.setText("$" + donation.amount);
        methodView.setText(donation.method);
        view.setId(donation.id); // setting the id of the 'row' to the id of the donation
        return view;
```

```
@Override
```



Donation 4.0 – Report

public class Report extends Base implements OnItemClickListener

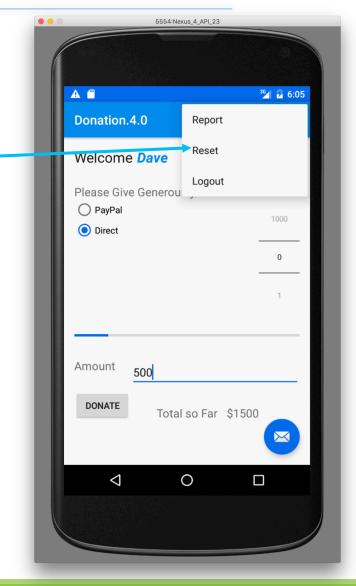
```
]{
    ListView listView:
    DonationAdapter adapter;
    @Override
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState)
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity report);
        listView = (ListView) findViewById(R.id.reportList):
        adapter = new DonationAdapter(this, app.dbManager.getAll());
        listView.setAdapter(adapter);
        listView.setOnItemClickListener(this);
    @Override
    public void onItemClick(AdapterView<?> arg0, View arg1, int pos, long id) {
        Toast.makeText(this, "You Selected Row [ " + pos + "]\n" +
                "For Donation Data [ " + adapter.donations.get(pos) + "]\n " +
                "With ID of [" + id + "]", loast.LENGIH LONG).show();
```



Donation 4.0 – 'Reset' Menu Item

<item

android:id="@+id/menuReset"
android:orderInCategory="100"
android:showAsAction="never"
android:title="@string/menuReset"
android:onClick="reset"/>



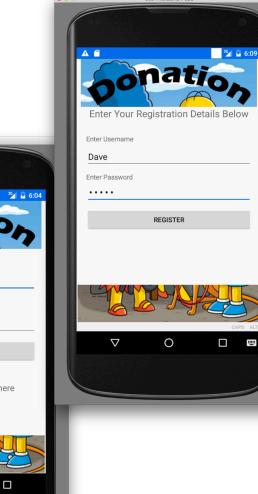


Using A Splash Screen, Login Screen / Register Screen &

Application Object

What do we want exactly?



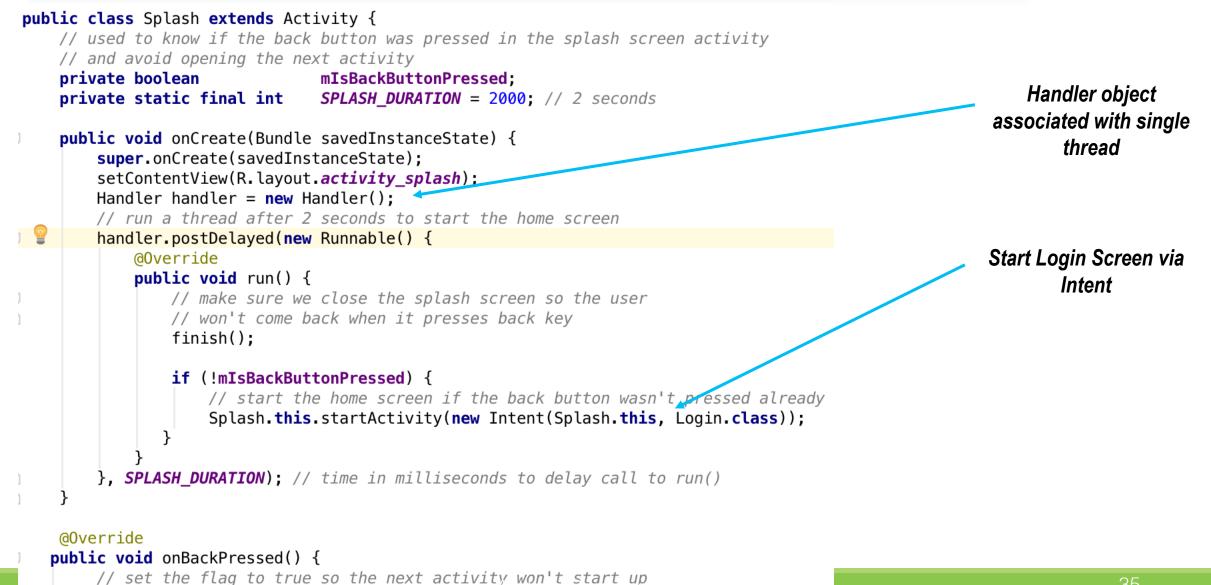


Display Splash Screen for a few seconds Display Login Screen □ Allow User to Register Only show Home Screen once valid details entered Logout Menu Option AND Manage our DB via **Application Object**

Donation 4.0 - Splash

mIsBackButtonPressed = true;





Update Manifest File

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<manifest xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
 package="ie.app" >

<application

plication

android:allowBackup="true"
android:icon="@mipmap/ic_launcher"
android:label="Donation.4.0"
android:supportsRtl="true"
android:theme="@style/AppTheme"
android:name="ie.app.main.DonationApp">

<activity

android:name=".activities.Splash" android:configChanges="orientation|keyboardHidden" android:screenOrientation="portrait" android:theme="@android:style/Theme.NoTitleBar" > <intent-filter> <action android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN" /> <category android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER" /> </intent-filter> </activity>

<activity...>

```
<activity android:name=".activities.Report"
android:label="Donation.4.0">
</activity>
<activity android:name=".activities.Login"
android:label="Donation.4.0">
</activity>
```

Activity to Launch





Using SharedPreferences



SharedPreferences (1)

- Three forms:
 - Share across all components in an application
 - getSharedPreferences("SomeString",Activity.MODE_PRIVATE);
 - Store only data needed by this Activity
 - getPreferences(Activity.MODE_PRIVATE);
 - Store only data needed by this Activity when Activity becomes inactive (but not when finished)
 - Eg. Orientation change from portrait to landscape
 - use Bundle in onSaveInstanceState / onRestoreInstanceState / onCreate

SharedPreferences (2)



□ Create your SharedPreferences instance

```
SharedPreferences settings
```

= this.getSharedPreferences("Demo", MODE_PRIVATE);

SharedPreferences.Editor editor = settings.edit();

Add data in the form : <String Key,String Value>

editor.putString("name", "value");
editor.commit();

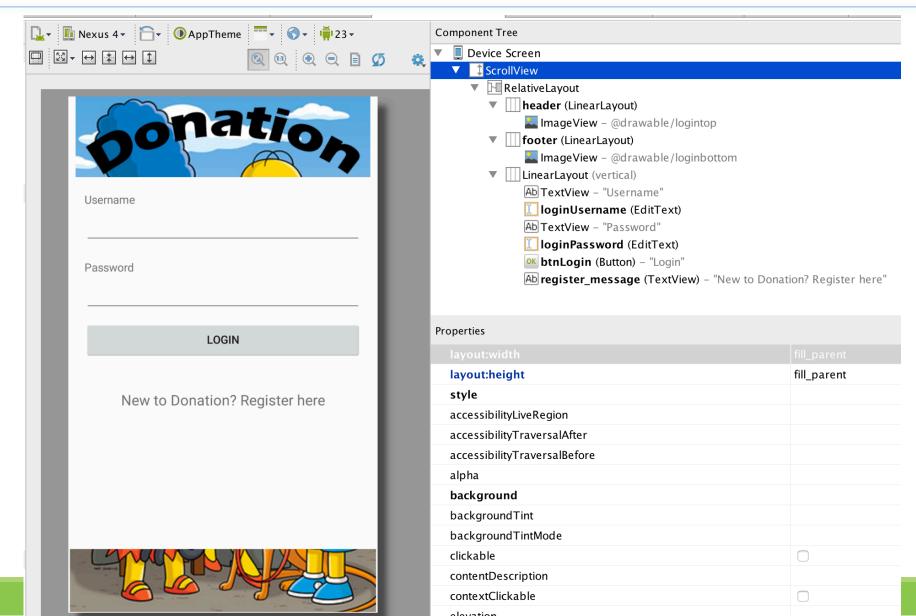
Use 'Key' to get 'Value'
String str = settings.getString("name", "defaultValue");
Reset the preferences (clear)

editor.clear().commit();



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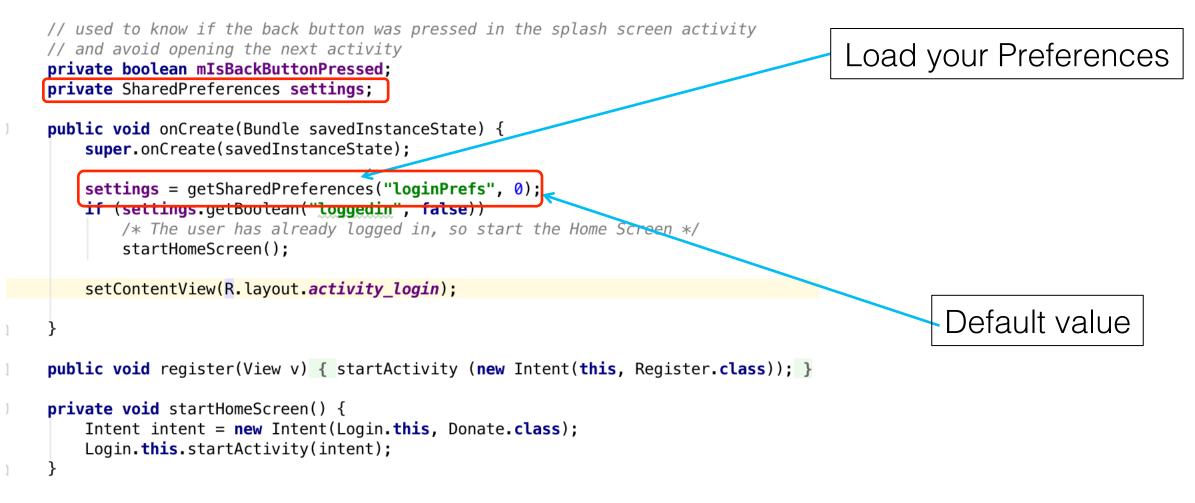
Donation 4.0 – activity_login.xml



Donation 4.0 - Login *

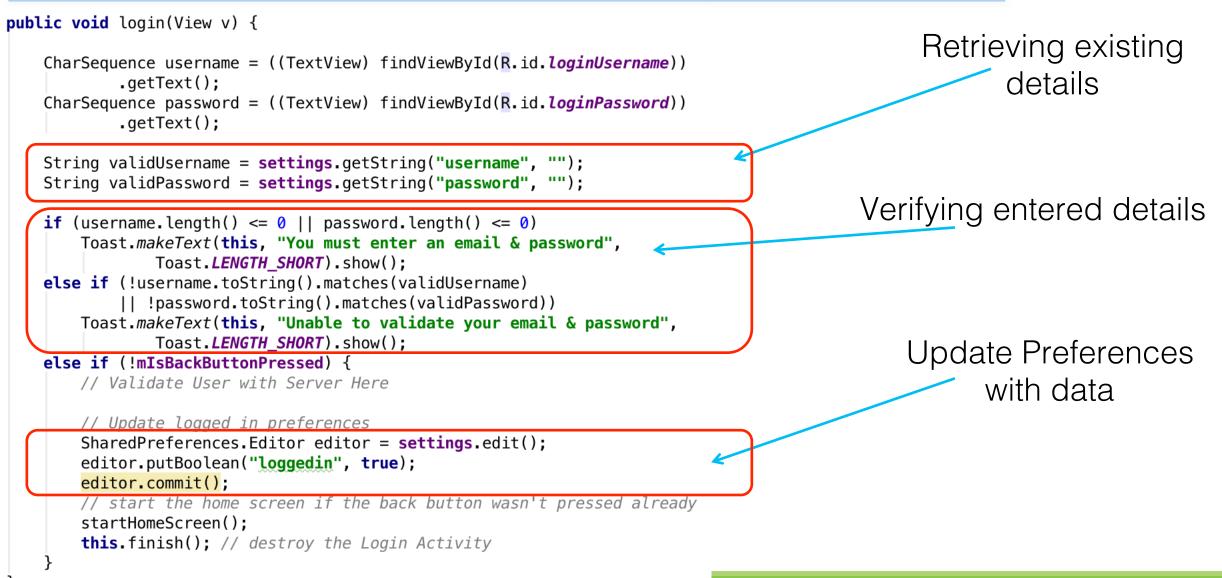


public class Login extends Activity {



Donation – Login *







Donation 4.0 – Register *

public class Register extends Activity {
 private boolean mIsBackButtonPressed;
 private SharedPreferences settings;

public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
 super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
 setContentView(R.layout.activity_register);

settings = getSharedPreferences("loginPrefs", 0);

```
Retrieving existing prefs file
```

```
public void register(View v) {
```

```
CharSequence username = ((TextView) findViewById(R.id.registerUsername))
    .getText();
```

```
CharSequence password = ((TextView) findViewById(R.id.registerPassword))
    .getText();
```

```
if (username.length() <= 0 || password.length() <= 0)
Toast.makeText(this, "You must enter an email & password",
Toast.LENGTH_SHORT).show();</pre>
```

```
else if (!mIsBackButtonPressed) {
```

```
// Update logged in preferences
SharedPreferences.Editor editor = settings.edit();
editor.putBoolean("loggedin", true);
editor.putString("username", username.toString());
editor.putString("password", password.toString());
editor.commit();
```

```
// start the home screen if the back button wasn't pressed already
startHomeScreen();
this.finish(); // destroy the Register Activity
```

Update Preferences with new data



Donation 4.0 – Logout method (in Base)

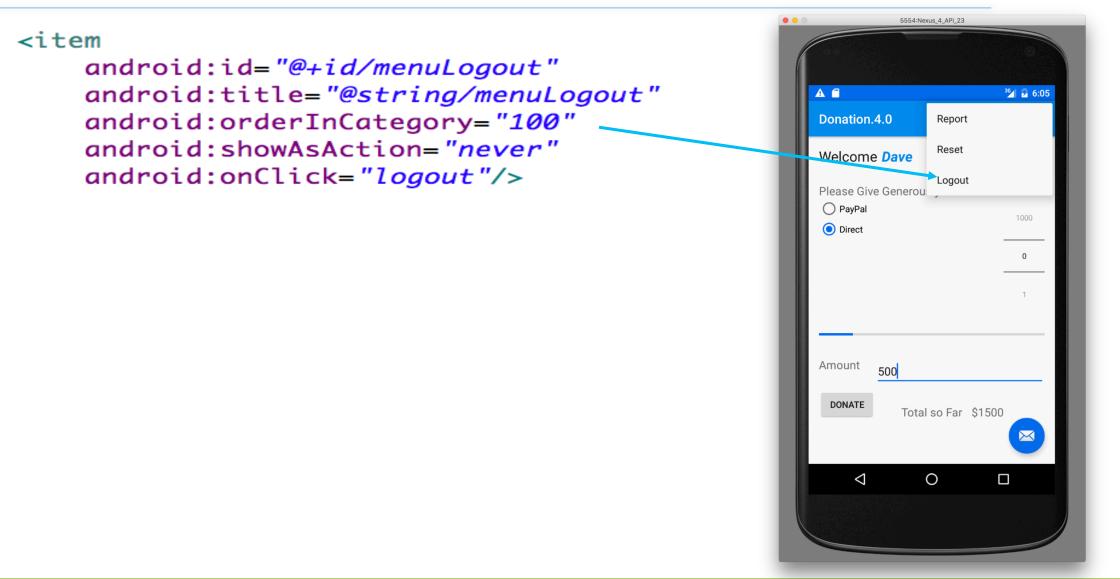
Resetting 'loggedin' to false

```
public void logout(MenuItem item) {
    SharedPreferences.Editor editor = getSharedPreferences("loginPrefs", 0).edit();
    editor.putBoolean("loggedin", false);
    editor.commit();
    startActivity(new Intent(Base.this,Login.class)
        .setFlags(Intent.FLAG_ACTIVITY_NEW_TASK | Intent.FLAG_ACTIVITY_CLEAR_TASK));
    finish();
}
```

```
Returning to the 'Login' screen
```

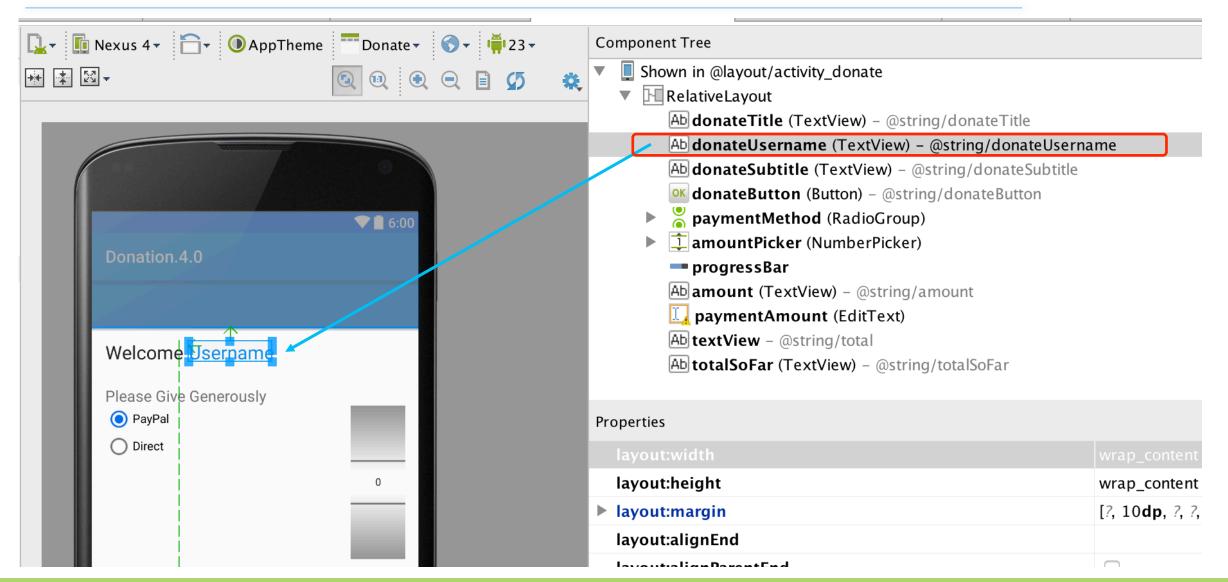


Donation 4.0 – 'Logout' Menu Item



Donation – activity_donate.xml





Android Persistence



Donation 4.0 - Donate 'onCreate()' extract *

Retrieving existing Username from Prefs file

settings = getSharedPreferences("loginPrefs", 0); String username = settings.getString("username", "");

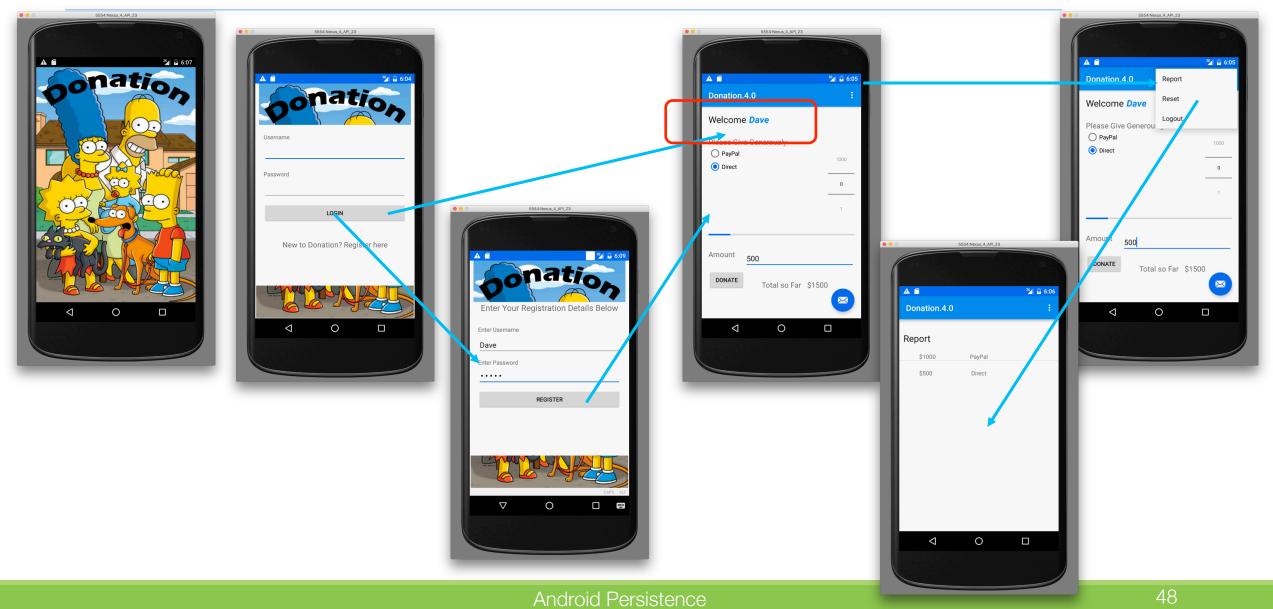
TextView donateUsername = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.donateUsername);

SpannableString spanString = new SpannableString(username);
//spanString.setSpan(new UnderlineSpan(), 0, spanString.length(), 0);
spanString.setSpan(new StyleSpan(Typeface.BOLD), 0, spanString.length(), 0);
spanString.setSpan(new StyleSpan(Typeface.ITALIC), 0, spanString.length(), 0);
donateUsername.setText(spanString);

Applying some 'styling' and updating our TextView



End Result – Donation 4.0





More Reading

JavaDoc: Activity

- http://developer.android.com/reference/android/app/ Activity.html
 - Introductory parts give lots of details
- Chapters
 - Handling Activity Lifecycle Events and
 - Handling Rotation
 - From The Busy Coder's Guide to Android Development by Mark Murphy.
 - http://commonsware.com/Android/



Questions?