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OFFLINE MODE OF ANDROID APPS



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- Why offline mode?
- What it takes to build an offline mode
- Architecture & Code
- Network factors
- Testing
- Bugs & how to solve them
- Wrap up

WHY OFFLINE MODE?

- Lets understand by an example
- We can't always get connected to internet
- Mobile networks are not stable

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WHAT IT TAKES TO BUILD AN OFFLINE MODE

WHAT IT TAKES TO BUILD OFFLINE MODE

- UX
- Data
- Listening to network state updates
- Manage the network state
- Notifying user with the latest network state

USER EXPERIENCE



CAN NOT DO ANYTHING OFFLINE!



CAN DO SOMETHING!

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JSON files, sharedPreferences etc..

LISTEN FOR NETWORK CHANGE EVENTS



IDENTIFYING INTERNET CONNECTIVITY



Figure out current network state using the NetworkStateIdentifier

MANAGE NETWORK STATE



Update the network state

NOTIFYING USER WITH THE LATEST STATE



Update UI using the latest network state

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OFFLINE MODE ARCHITECTURE

ARCHITECTURE



BENEFITS OF THIS ARCHITECTURE

- Event driven architecture
- App always has the copy of latest connectivity state
- Utilising less resources
- User gets notified almost immediately

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CODE

User Permission

<uses-permission
android:name="android.permission.ACCESS_NETWORK_STATE"/>

Registering for network status change events

```
<receiver
android:name=".NetworkStateChangeReceiver"
android:exported="false">
<intent-filter>
<action android:name="android.net.conn.CONNECTIVITY_CHANGE"/>
</intent-filter>
</receiver>
```

Deprecated for Apps targeting to API 24

if (belowLollipop()) { ctx.registerReceiver(receiver, new IntentFilter(CONNECTIVITY_ACTION))

}

ctx.registerReceiver(receiver, new IntentFilter(WIFI_STATE_CHANGE_ACTION))

```
public class NetworkStateChangeReceiver extends BroadcastReceiver {
    @Override
    public void onReceive(Context context, Intent intent) {
        networkStateManager.refresh();
    }
```

}

```
NetworkCallback networkCallback = new NetworkCallback() {
 @Override
  public void onAvailable(Network network) {
    networkStateManager.refresh();
  }
 @Override
  public void onLost(Network network) {
    networkStateManager.refresh();
};
```

cm.registerNetworkCallback(networkRequest, networkCallback);

Managing network state

```
networkStateManager.refresh();
```

```
public void refresh() {
    updateNetworkState();
    broadcastNetworkChangeIntent();
}
```

Network state identifier

NetworkInfo networkInfo = cm.getActiveNetworkInfo(); networkInfo.isConnected();



NETWORK FACTORS



Flight Mode

Power Save Mode

Roaming



ARE YOU REALLY OFFLINE?











NetworkConnectivityIdentifier

NetworkCallback

Lets take a look at some of the common mistakes while using Android Network APIs

}

public boolean isConnectedToInternet() { NetworkInfo networkInfo = cm.getActiveNetworkInfo(); return networkInfo.isConnected();

NullPointerException!!

public boolean isConnectedToInternet() { NetworkInfo networkInfo = cm.getActiveNetworkInfo(); return networkInfo != null && networkInfo.isConnected(); }

What about multiple networks!!

```
public boolean isConnectedToInternet() {
   Network[] allNetworks = cm.getAllNetworks();
   for (Network network : allNetworks) {
      NetworkInfo networkInfo = cm.getNetworkInfo(network);
      if (networkInfo != null) {
        return networkInfo.isConnected();
      }
   }
   return false;
}
```

What about unwanted networks!!

private boolean isWifiOrMobile(NetworkInfo networkInfo) { List<Integer> networks = asList(TYPE_MOBILE, TYPE_WIFI); return networks.contains(networkInfo.getType()); }

WHAT DID WE DO

- Added null check for NetworkInfo
- Handled multiple networks
- Filtered WIFI and Mobile Data networks only

```
NetworkCallback networkCallback = new NetworkCallback() {
  @Override
  public void onAvailable(Network network) {
    networkStateManager.setConnectedToInternet(true);
  }
  @Override
  public void onLost(Network network) {
    networkStateManager.setConnectedToInternet(false);
  }
};
```

cm.registerNetworkCallback(networkRequest, networkCallback);

```
NetworkCallback networkCallback = new NetworkCallback() {
  @Override
  public void onAvailable(Network network) {
    networkStateManager.refresh();
  }
  @Override
  public void onLost(Network network) {
    networkStateManager.refresh();
  }
};
```

cm.registerNetworkCallback(networkRequest, networkCallback);

Is it good enough??

BE CAREFUL WITH NETWORK CALLBACK

```
NetworkCallback networkCallback = new NetworkCallback() {
  @Override
  public void onAvailable(Network network) {
     networkStateManager.refresh();
  }
```

```
@Override
public void onCapabilitiesChanged(Network n, NetworkCapabilities nc) {
    networkStateManager.refresh();
}
```

```
@Override
public void onLost(Network network) {
    networkStateManager.refresh();
};
```

cm.registerNetworkCallback(networkRequest, networkCallback);

HAVE WE SOLVED ALL THE PROBLEMS?

- Power Save Mode
- Handling on different devices
- Other random connectivity issues

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HANDLING ISSUES

UNDERSTANDING THE USER BEHAVIOUR



INCREASE TRIGGER POINTS



GIVE THE USER CHANCE TO GET OUT OF OFFLINE MODE





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SHOWCASE Tested by account in

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TESTING

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- Network state management logic
- Broadcasting network change event to the app
- Showing offline UI components



- Showing offline UI components on broadcast of network change event
- Content of UI components
- Interactions with offline components

AUTOMATION TESTING



TESTING USER JOURNEYS

- When user goes online to offline
- When user comes back online
- Interactions with offline components

adb shell svc wifi enable

adb shell svc wifi disable





WHY MANUAL TESTING?

- Low connectivity scenarios
- Combination of multiple networks
- Fluctuating network conditions











- Build something that is useful to the user
- Be careful while using android network API
- Always read the documentation of network APIs
- Understand user behaviour
- Manual testing
- Test with combination of mobile data and wifi
- Use automation testing to test offline UI components

THANK YOU

Questions? Feedback?

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