

Laboratorio di Applicazioni Mobili Bachelor in Computer Science & Computer Science for Management

University of Bologna

Data Management

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- General purpose solution
- Lightweight database based on SQL
- Standard SQL syntax

SELECT name FROM table WHERE name = "Federico"

• Android gives a standard interface to SQL tables of other apps

For application tables no <u>content providers</u> are needed
 Why a local database? Since you can't assume connectivity
 Single Source of Truth: SSOT refers to the concept where certain data has only one official source to be used by data consumers (i.e. humans and software) for the true current version of that data (more on that later).



- A DBMS to store information
 - Useful for structured informations
- Create a DBHelper that extends SQLiteOpenHelper
- Fill it with methods for managing the database
- Better to use constants like
 - TABLE_GRADES
 - COLUMN_NAME
 - O ...

This is an overview of how it is done underneath for simple projects. For a structured approach, use **Room**



Our database will look like this:

grade table:

- id: integer, primary key, auto increment
- name: text, not null
- class: text, not null
- grade: integer, not null

Remember that database operations are **<u>potentially blocking</u>**! Remember to **<u>always use threads</u>** for them.



A best practice is to define constants that identify column titles...

Interface "BaseColumns" provides the field _ID required by CursorAdapter (see later)

companion object StudentContract {

// Table contents are grouped together in an anonymous object.
object StudentEntry : BaseColumns {
 const val TABLE_NAME = "students"
 const val COLUMN_NAME = "name"
 const val COLUMN_CLASS = "class"
 const val COLUMN_GRADE = "grade"



Create a class that extends SQLiteOpenHelper and implement its onCreate

method...

val dbHelper = DbHelper(context)

class DbHelper(context: Context) :

SQLiteOpenHelper(context, DATABASE_NAME, **null**, DATABASE_VERSION) {

```
override fun onCreate(db: SQLiteDatabase) {
```

db.execSQL(

"CREATE TABLE \${StudentEntry.TABLE_NAME} (\${BaseColumns._ID} INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, " + "\${StudentEntry.COLUMN_NAME} TEXT, \${StudentEntry.COLUMN_CLASS} TEXT," + "\${StudentEntry.COLUMN_GRADE} TEXT)"

companion object { const val DATABASE_NAME = "Students.db", const val DATABASE_VERSION = 1 }



Insert information into a database

val db = dbHelper.writableDatabase

```
val values = ContentValues().apply {
    put(StudentEntry.COLUMN_NAME, "Mario Rossi")
    put(StudentEntry.COLUMN_CLASS, "LAM")
    put(StudentEntry.COLUMN_GRADE, "30")
```

}

// Insert the new row, returning the primary key value of the new row
// Params are: the table, what to do in case of empty content values, the values to insert
val newRowId = db?.insert(StudentEntry.TABLE_NAME, null, values)



Update information in a database

```
val db = dbHelper.writableDatabase
```

```
val values = ContentValues().put(StudentEntry.COLUMN_GRADE, "29")
```

```
val selection = "${StudentEntry.COLUMN_NAME} LIKE ?" // arg injection (replacing the ?)
val selectionArgs = arrayOf("Mario Rossi")
val count = db.update(
    StudentEntry.TABLE_NAME,
    values,
    selection,
    selection,
    selectionArgs)
```



Delete information from a database

val db = dbHelper.readableDatabase

// Define 'where' part of a query.
val selection = "\${StudentEntry.COLUMN_NAME} LIKE ?"
// Specify arguments in placeholder order.
val selectionArgs = arrayOf("Mario Rossi")
// Issue SQL statement.
val deletedRows = db.delete(StudentEntry.TABLE_NAME, selection, selectionArgs)



Query information from a database

val db = dbHelper.readableDatabase

// Define a projection: the SELECT part of a query
val projection = arrayOf(BaseColumns._ID, StudentEntry.COLUMN_NAME)

```
val cursor = db.query(
    StudentEntry.TABLE_NAME,
    projection,
    "${StudentEntry.COLUMN_GRADE} = ?",
    arrayOf("30"),
    null,
    null,
    null,
```

// Returns a Cursor // The table to query // The array of columns to return (pass null to get all) // The columns for the WHERE clause // The values for the WHERE clause (injected args) // GROUP BY // FILTER BY // SORT



Parse a Cursor (a pointer to the obtained columns that starts from index -1)

```
val items = mutableListOf<String>()
with(cursor) {
    while (moveToNext()) {
        val item = getString(getColumnIndexOrThrow(StudentEntry.COLUMN_NAME))
        items.add(item)
    }
```

cursor.close()

You should leave the db connection open for as long as you need to access it

```
override fun onDestroy() {
   dbHelper.close()
   super.onDestroy()
```

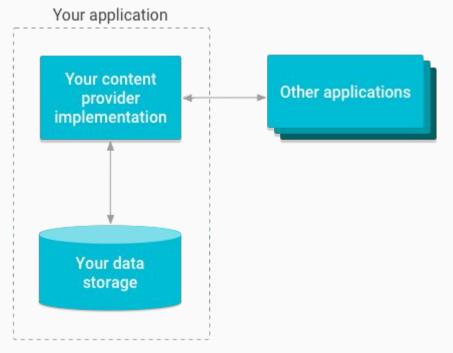


A system to access shared data Similar to a REST web service For each Content Provider, one or more URIs are assigned in the form:

content://<authority>/path

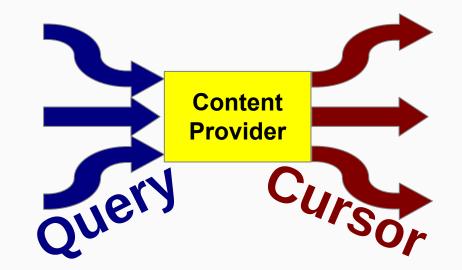
Be aware that some ContentProviders may request permissions

A Content Provider is seen by other applications as a DB interface that they can query.





- You need to get the URI
 - Usually this is declared as public inside the content provider class
 - URI = Table in the provider (authority = DB, path = table in the DB)
- Make a query, maybe adding some where clauses
 - You'll get a Cursor after that
 - Navigate the Cursor





Class	Description	As you can see, Content
AlarmClock	To interact with the alarm	Providers allow the acces
BlockedNumberContract	To get blocked numbers	Public Files in the Scoped Storage
Browser	To perform commands on the browser	Find them all at
CalendarContract	To handle calendar information	https://developer.android.
CallLog	Log of past calls	/reference/android/provid
ContactsContract	Get and add contacts	ackage-summary.html
DocumentsContract	Interact with documents	
DocumentsProvider	Interact with documents	
MediaStore	Access Video, Pictures, Audio and more	
Settings	Inquiry system settings	

allow the access to in the **Scoped** all at eloper.android.com android/provider/p <u>mmary.html</u>



Example: **Contacts** are exposed via a Content Provider, for which we need permission: <a href="https://www.searchitecontermission.cearchitecontermissicarchitecontermission.cearchiteco

// Does a query against the remote table and returns a Cursor object, this query is a "select all"
cursor = contentResolver.query(
 ContactsContract.Contacts.CONTENT_URI, // The content URI of the words table
 null, // The columns to return for each row [SELECT]
 null, // Either null or the clause [WHERE]
 null, // Either empty or the selection args
 null // The sort order for the returned rows

```
while (cursor.moveToNext()) {
```

val item = cursor.getString(cursor.getColumnIndexOrThrow(ContactsContract.Contacts.DISPLAY_NAME))



To create a Content Provider: create a class that extends android.content.ContentProvider and pick the URIs for your resources

```
class ExampleProvider : ContentProvider() {
    private val sUriMatcher = UriMatcher(UriMatcher.NO_MATCH).apply {
        addURI("com.example.app.provider", "table3", 1)
        addURI("com.example.app.provider", "table3/#", 2)
    }
```

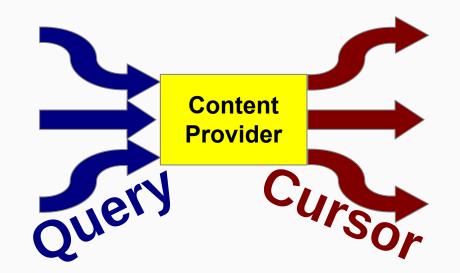
override fun query(uri: Uri?, projection: Array<out String>?, selection: String?, selectionArgs: Array<out String>?, sortOrder: String?): Cursor? {

```
when (sUriMatcher.match(uri)) {
    1 -> { ... }
    2 -> { ... }
```



Register the ContentProvider in the **manifest** using the **<provider>** tag and:

- <u>android:authorities</u> (unique name of the provider)
- <u>android:name</u> (Class that implements it)
- various permissions...





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You can easily share files using FileProvider (a special Content Provider)

```
<provider</pre>
    android:name="androidx.core.content.FileProvider"
    android:authorities="com.example.myapp.fileprovider"
    android:grantUriPermissions="true"
    android:exported="false">
    <meta-data
         android:name="android.support.FILE PROVIDER PATHS"
         android:resource="@xml/filepaths" />
</provider>
Create res/xml/filepaths.xml
                                                     Now other apps can access your file using
                                                     URI like
<paths>
    <files-path path="images/" name="myimages" />
                                                     content://com.example.myapp.fileprovider/myimages
</paths>
                                                     /default_image.jpg
```

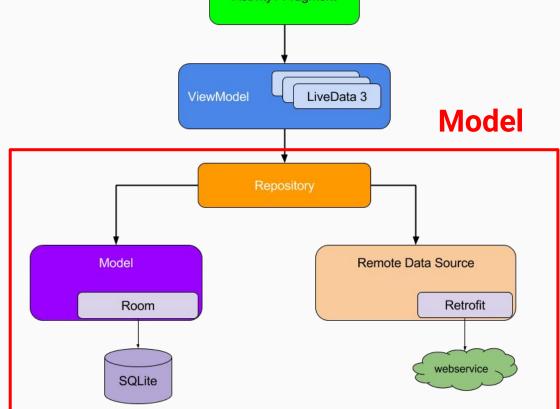


and remote data.

Room

Remember MVVM? Activity / Fragment Let us talk about the Model ViewModel The Model is whatever is persistent in out macro system, which includes persistent data in the local database Model Room

For the local database, the framework recommended by Android is **Room**

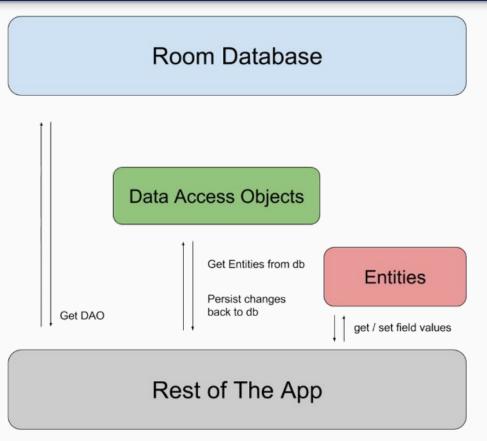






Room provides an abstraction layer over SQLite. You should always use Room if your project is sufficiently complex...

- Database
 - Contains the database holder
 - Main access point
- Data Access Objects (DAOs)
 - Interface with methods to access the database
- Entities
 - Database tables







Room is a generative library that generates code according to annotations.

Most probably, in order to use it properly, you will need to use KAPT (Kotlin Annotation Processing Tool) to be able to do it.

```
plugins {
    kotlin("kapt")
}
dependencies {
    implementation("androidx.room:room-ktx:2.6.1")
    kapt("androidx.room:room-compiler:2.6.1")
}
```





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It has to be an abstract class extending RoomDatabase

```
@Database(entities = [Entity1::class, Entity2::class], version = 1, exportSchema = false)
abstract class myDatabase : RoomDatabase() {
    abstract fun entity1Dao(): Entity1Dao
    abstract fun entity2Dao(): Entity2Dao
    abstract fun twoEntitiesDao(): TwoEntitiesDao
```

Why abstract?

Room implements the conversion from the database interactions to your app classes automatically. Just tell what you want in and out (DAOs are in fact abstract).

- Room in fact sticks to the concept of **marshaling** and **unmarshaling** (like **serialization**):
 - "transforming the memory representation of an object into a data format suitable for storage or transmission and vice versa"





For each Entity, Room creates a database Table

Each field references a column, except for those marked with @lgnore

```
@Entity(tableName = "my_entity")  /* A table called my_entity with two columns: index and field1*/
class Entity1(
    @PrimaryKey
    @NonNull
    @ColumnInfo(name = "index")
    var id: String,
```

var field1: String,@Ignorevar temp: String

Tables and columns can have custom names by using tableName and ColumnInfo





Entities fields needs to public - you have to provide getters and setters Each entity needs at least one @PrimaryKey

• Primary keys can be defined with more than one field

@Entity(primaryKeys = {"firstName", "lastName"})

• The autoGenerate property automatically assigns IDs

```
@PrimaryKey(autoGenerate = true)
var id: String
```

• Speed up queries with indices

@Entity(indices = {@Index("name"), @Index(value = {"first_name", "last_name"})})





• Defining uniqueness:

@Entity(indices = {@Index(value = {"first_name", "last_name"}, unique = true)})

• Defining Relationships:

@Entity(foreignKeys = @ForeignKey(entity = User::class, parentColumns = "id", childColumns = "user_id"))

• Nested Objects

data class Material (val name : String, val weight: String)
@Entity
class myEntity (

```
...
@Embedded
var objectMaterial: Material,
```





• Defining relations:



Same as ForeignKey, but lets you make atomic queries (will see how) If many-to-many relationship, then specify two one-to-many relations





DAOs (Data Access Objects) embed the calls to the database.

- They are abstract classes or interfaces
 - Just specify what you want in and out and the query
 - Room generated an implementation at compile time, automatically handling the marshaling between entities and cursors.

```
@Dao
interface MyDao {
  @QueryType(params...)
  fun dbMethod(params...): ReturnType
```

// @QueryType can be: @Insert, @Update, @Delete, @Query





- A DAO can be either an interface or an abstract class
 - If Abstract class, it takes the DB as input in the constructor.
- DO NOT perform DAO operations in the main thread,
 - this is btw forbidden unless you specify it
 - Typically use Worker Threads (coroutines or a thread pool)
- DO NOT implement it



Room

@Insert	<pre>@Insert(onConflict = OnConflictStrategy.REPLACE) fun insertUser(user: User): Unit @Insert fun insertBothUsers(user1: User, user2: User) @Insert fun insertUsersAndFriends(user: User, friends: List<user>)</user></pre>
@Update	@ Update fun updateUser(user: User): Unit
@Delete	@ Delete fun deleteUser(user: User): Unit



Room

@Query	@ Query ("SELECT * FROM user") fun loadAllUsers(): List <user></user>
@Query + parameters	@ Query ("SELECT * FROM user WHERE age > :minAge") fun loadAllUsersOlderThan(minAge: Int): List <user></user>
<pre>@Query + LiveData</pre>	@ Query ("SELECT * FROM user") fun loadAllUsersObservable(): LiveData < List <user>></user>

The Room persistence library supports observable queries, which return LiveData objects.

- Observable queries are written as part of a DAO.
- Do not explicitly run them into a separate Thread (it is done by default).
- Changes in the Database are immediately notified to the LiveData.





• Query on multiple tables

@Query("SELECT * FROM book " + "INNER JOIN loan ON loan.book_id = book.id " +
 "INNER JOIN user ON user.id = loan.user_id " + "WHERE user.name LIKE :userName")
 fun findBooksBorrowedByNameSync(userName: String): List<Book>

• Query a relation

@Transaction
@Query("SELECT * FROM Entity1")
fun getRelations(): List<Entity1AndEntity2>

Filters only the object of Entity1 that have a respective on Entity2. The

(a) Transaction ensures that this is atomic as it would be 2 queries.



. . .



- Updating APP's features may require updating the database
 - You add a UI field and need to add a DB field
 - \circ $\,$ You change the type of a field
 - You don't need anymore a field
- Room handles it providing the Migration environment
 - Remember:

@Database(entities = [Entity1::class, Entity2::class], version = 1, exportSchema = false)
abstract class myDatabase : RoomDatabase() {





Each Migration class defines a startVersion and endVersion

• At runtime, Room runs each migrate method in order

```
Room.databaseBuilder(context.applicationContext, myDatabase::class.java, "database-name")
.addMigrations(MIGRATION_1_2, MIGRATION_2_3).build();
```

```
companion object {
    val MIGRATION_1_2 = object: Migration(1, 2) {
        override fun migrate(database: SupportSQLiteDatabase) {
            database.execSQL("CREATE TABLE 'Fruit' ('id' INTEGER, 'name' TEXT, PRIMARY KEY('id'))")
        }
```

```
val MIGRATION_2_3 = ...
```





HTTP (HyperText Tranfer Protocol): Network protocol for exchange/transfer data (hypertext).

Request/Response Communication Model

- MAIN METHODS:
 - HEAD
 - GET
 - POST
 - PUT
 - DELETE
 - TRACE
 - CONNECT





Two implementations of HTTP Clients for Android historically:

- HTTPClient \rightarrow Complete extendable HTTP Client suitable for web browser (not supported starting from 6.0)
- HTTPUrlConnection → Light-weight implementation, suitable for client-server networking applications (recommended by Google, starting from 2.3)

In both cases, HTTP connections must be managed on a separate thread, e.g. using Thread Pool (not the UI thread!).



 $\mbox{HTTPUrlConnection} \rightarrow \mbox{HTTP}$ component to send and receive streaming data over the web.

1. Obtain a new HttpURLConnection by calling the URL.openConnection()

val url: URL = URL("http://www.android.com/")
val urlConnection: HttpURLConnection = url.openConnection() as HttpURLConnection

- 2. Prepare the request, set the options:
- session cookies
- credentials
- preferred content type

(e.g. setRequestProperty("Content-Type", "text/plain"))



HTTPUrlConnection \rightarrow HTTP component to send and receive streaming data over the web.

3. For POST commands, invoke setDoOutput(true). Transmit data by writing to the stream returned by getOutputStream().

urlConnection.doOutput = true
urlConnection.requestMethod = "POST"
urlConnection.setChunkedStreamingMode(0) // use setFixedLengthStreamingMode if size is known
val out: OutputStream = BufferedOutputStream(urlConnection.outputStream)
out.write("YourPostInput".toByteArray())



HTTPUrlConnection \rightarrow HTTP component to send and receive streaming data over the web.

4. Read the response (data+header). The response body may be read from the stream returned by getInputStream().

val inStream: InputStream = BufferedInputStream(urlConnection.inputStream);
// Do what you want with the InputStream

5. Close the session when ending reading the stream through disconnect().

urlConnection.disconnect()



HTTPUrlConnection \rightarrow HTTP component to send and receive streaming data over the web.

- use getErrorStream() in case of errors
 - $\circ~$ use the HttpsURLConnection in case of HTTPS URLs
- Can override the default HostnameVerifier
- Can override the SSLSocketFactory
- Can define a custom X509TrustManager to verify certificate chains
- use HttpResponseCache if you need to cache replies in order not to waste resources



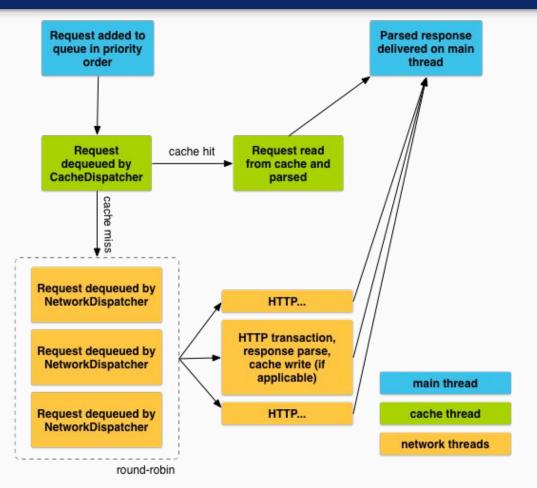


Volley \rightarrow HTTP library with caching mechanism and async calls

- Volley is an HTTP library
- Supports scheduling of network requests
- Can have concurrent connections and handles priorities
- Caching mechanism
- Can cancel requests
- Heavily customizable
- Request ordering
- Not suited for long download operations (keeps in memory all streaming content)



Volley



- Make a request and add it.
- Then it moves through the pipeline
- Cache triages it
- If not found it's transferred to a network thread
- Response is sent back

Add the dependency in Gradle:

implementation("com.android.volley:volley:1.2.1")





Volley \rightarrow HTTP library with caching mechanism and async calls Make a request (verbose syntax):

```
val queue: RequestQueue = Volley.newRequestQueue(this)
val stringRequest: StringRequest = StringRequest(
    Request.Method.GET,
    MY_URL,
    Response.Listener<String>() {
        response -> // Do stuff to handle the response
    },
    Response.ErrorListener() {
        error -> // Do stuff in case of error
    }
}
```





$\textbf{Volley} \rightarrow \text{HTTP}$ library with caching mechanism and async calls

Custom headers can be added by overriding the getHeaders method like so:

```
{/* It is important to use the keyword object on StringRequest to be able to override this */
    override fun getHeaders(): MutableMap<String, String> {
        val headers = HashMap<String, String>()
        headers["Authorization"] = "Basic <<YOUR BASE64 USER:PASS>>"
        return headers
    }
}
```





- Retrofit is a type-safe HTTP client for Java (yet another one)
 - full doc <u>https://square.github.io/retrofit/</u>
- It translates automatically XML and JSON objects into POJO (Plain-Old Java Objects)
- It is very similar to Room, indeed it can use the same Entities
 - We can say it is its dual for remote resources
- Here we will just see some basic functionalities, you can then explore further...
- Import the necessary dependencies (for JSON in this example):

implementation("com.squareup.retrofit2:retrofit:2.3.0")
implementation("com.squareup.retrofit2:converter-gson:2.3.0")





Just design a normal data class Use the **SerializedName** to specify what name it has in the JSON/XML data frame.

data class RetroPhoto(
 @SerializedName("albumId")
 var AlbumId: Int,

@SerializedName("id")
var id: Int

Ideally I want to convert remote resources into RetroPhoto objects. In our case I am using <u>https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/photos</u>





Then set up the Retrofit client \rightarrow this one translates JSON





Then, just like with the DAOs, create an interface for each remote call
 Just like for the DAOs, they will be automatically implemented for you...

```
interface GetDataService {
    @GET("/photos")
    fun getAllPhotos(): Call<List<RetroPhoto>>
}
```

This will return a **Call** object: an instance of an interaction with the remote server. The Call needs to be effectively issued (asynchronously maybe) in order to be effective...





• Then, enqueue the call

```
val service = RetrofitClientInstance.getRetrofitInstance().create(GetDataService::class.java)
val call: Call<List<Todo>> = service.getAllPhotos()
call.enqueue(object : Callback<List<RetroPhoto>> {
    override fun onResponse
        ( call: Call<List<RetroPhoto>>, response: Response<List<RetroPhoto>> ) {
            val myList = response.body() /* Do your stuff with the result */
            }
            override fun onFailure(call: Call<List<RetroPhoto>>, t: Throwable?) {
            Log.e("RETROFIT", "something went wrong... but life goes on")
            }
        }
    }
}
```





Firebase is a Google app development platform that gives you an easy-to use and reactive backend for your app.

- Realtime Database:
 - The original database, a simple JSON tree, supporting easy queries and an easier startup.
 - Made for performance, low latency, few data
- Cloud Firestore:
 - JSON-like documents organized into collections, supporting more advanced queries and a lot more scalability.

IN BOTH CASES YOU CAN PERFORM QUERIES AND OBSERVE THEM AS THE DATABASE IS **REACTIVE**



Firebase

📙 Firebase	AHTWP4Demo 👻	Vai alla documentazione	50
🔒 Panoramica del proget 🔅	Realtime Database		?
Creazione	Dati Regole Backup Utilizzo		
Authentication	💡 Proteggi le tue risorse di Realtime Database da comportamenti illeciti, come fatturazione fraudolenta o phishing Configura App Check 🗙		
App Check			
🗢 Firestore Database			
🚍 🛛 Realtime Database	GD https://ahtwp4demo-default-rtdb.firebaseio.com		
Extensions	https://ahtwp4demo-default-rtdb.firebaseio.com/	A	
🖾 Storage	 Temperature 		
S Hosting	Temperature — -Mlt2wnDJn1T5-vxMw9r		
(···) Functions	timestamp: "2021-10-13T11:50:48.507454"		
💮 Machine Learning	value; 26.525516422207232		
Rilascio e monitoraggio			
Crashlytics, Performance, Test La	value: 23.36199306879651		
Analisi	 Mlt2ztq2viotGJwdjXB 		
	 — -Mlt323hg0BoIEEQiVUd 		
. Dashboard			
S Realtime			
Second			
Conversions	Hlt35PyX01wEmmYdswW Second Secon		
≟ ≡ Audiences	•Mlt35WAIVNC_cE7iKB3		
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Firebase

Add the dependency: implementation("com.google.firebase:firebase-database-ktx:20.3.1")

Observe the query from your ViewModel (the result get passed to a LiveData so we have two nested listeners).

val mDatabase: FirebaseDatabase =
FirebaseDatabase.getInstance("https://wp4demo-default-rtdb.firebaseio.com")
/* Let's assume we have a simple data class TemperatureDataPoint */
val tempPoint = MutableLiveData<TemperatureDataPoint>()
mDatabase.getReference("Temperature").addChildEventListener(object: ChildEventListener {
 override fun onChildAdded(snapshot: DataSnapshot, previousChildName: String?) {
 tempPoint.postValue(snapshot.getValue(TemperatureDataPoint::class.java))
 }
 /* TODO implement other members ... */





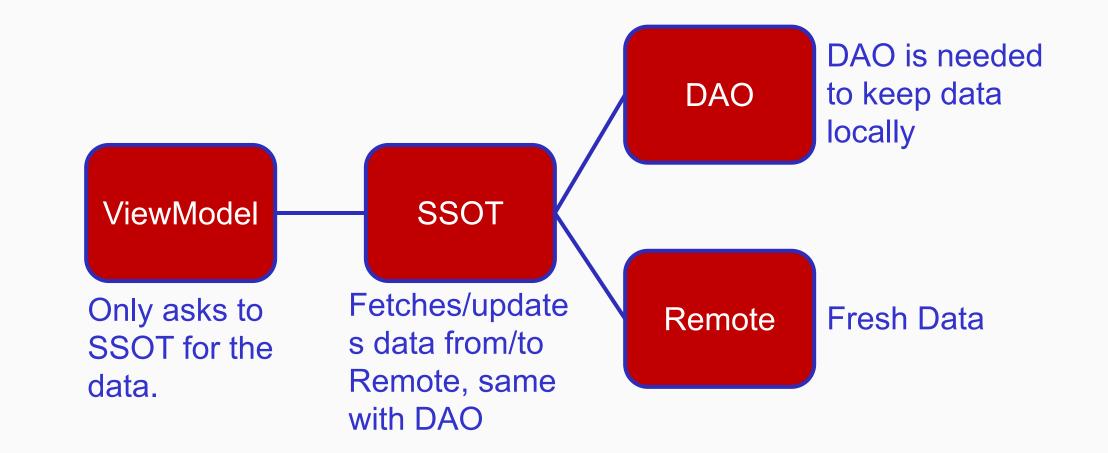
SSOT model (**Single Source of Truth**) ensures that the request for the data is **ALWAYS** made against a single source

 \rightarrow With Room and LiveData, your single source may be the Room Database

- IDEA: when requesting remote data, ALWAYS save it to your database and provide the LiveData returned by the database, so the ViewModel does not know who updated it.
- This is why you need an intermediate Repository class that handles all the different calls to data sources.



SSOT







SSOT model \rightarrow Let's get back to the retrofit call

When you ask for all the photos from the ViewModel:



Questions?

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