

Introduction to Mobile Programming

Android Programming

Chapter 5

Broadcasts Overview

1. Android apps can send or receive broadcast messages from the Android system and other Android apps, similar to the [publish-subscribe](#) design pattern. These broadcasts are sent when an event of interest occurs.
 1. System Broadcasts
 2. Custom Broadcasts

Background

Broadcast receivers are components in your Android application that listen in on broadcast messages(or events) from different outlets:

- From other applications
- From the system itself
- From your application

System Broadcasts

219 DIFFERENT SYSTEM BROADCASTS

1. BATTERY_CHANGED
2. BATTERY_LOW
3. BOOT_COMPLETED `android.intent.action.BOOT_COMPLETED`
4. ACTION_POWER_CONNECTED
5. AIRPLANE_MODE
6. SCREEN_OFF
7. SCREEN_ON
8. SMS_RECEIVED `android.provider.Telephony.SMS_RECEIVED`

Receiving Broadcasts / Manifest-Declared Registers

- If you declare a broadcast receiver in your manifest, the system launches your app (if the app is not already running) when the broadcast is sent
- If your app targets API level 26 or higher, you cannot use the manifest to declare a receiver for *implicit* broadcasts (broadcasts that do not target your app specifically)

```
<receiver android:name=".MyBroadcastReceiver" android:exported="true">
  <intent-filter>
    <action android:name="android.intent.action.BOOT_COMPLETED"/>
    <action android:name="android.intent.action.INPUT_METHOD_CHANGED" />
  </intent-filter>
</receiver>
```

```
public class MyBroadcastReceiver extends BroadcastReceiver {
    private static final String TAG = "MyBroadcastReceiver";
    @Override
    public void onReceive(Context context, Intent intent) {
        StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder();
        sb.append("Action: " + intent.getAction() + "\n");
        sb.append("URI: " + intent.toUri(Intent.URI_INTENT_SCHEME).toString() + "\n");
        String log = sb.toString();
        Log.d(TAG, log);
        Toast.makeText(context, log, Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();
    }
}
```

Receiving Broadcasts / Context-Registered Receiver

```
BroadcastReceiver br = new MyBroadcastReceiver();
```

```
IntentFilter filter = new IntentFilter(ConnectivityManager.CONNECTIVITY_ACTION);  
filter.addAction(Intent.ACTION_AIRPLANE_MODE_CHANGED);  
this.registerReceiver(br, filter);
```

```
unregisterReceiver(android.content.BroadcastReceiver)
```

- Context-registered receivers receive broadcasts as long as their registering context is valid. For an example, if you register within an [Activity](#) context, you receive broadcasts as long as the activity is not destroyed. If you register with the Application context, you receive broadcasts as long as the app is running.

```
onCreate(Bundle)
```

```
onDestroy()
```

```
onResume(),
```

```
onPause()
```

```
onSaveInstanceState(Bundle)
```


Effects on Process State

```
public class MyBroadcastReceiver extends BroadcastReceiver {
    private static final String TAG = "MyBroadcastReceiver";

    @Override
    public void onReceive(Context context, Intent intent) {
        final PendingResult pendingResult = goAsync();
        Task asyncTask = new Task(pendingResult, intent);
        asyncTask.execute();
    }

    private static class Task extends AsyncTask<String, Integer, String> {

        private final PendingResult pendingResult;
        private final Intent intent;

        private Task(PendingResult pendingResult, Intent intent) {
            this.pendingResult = pendingResult;
            this.intent = intent;
        }

        @Override
        protected String doInBackground(String... strings) {
            StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder();
            sb.append("Action: " + intent.getAction() + "\n");
            sb.append("URI: " + intent.toUri(Intent.URI_INTENT_SCHEME).toString() + "\n");
            String log = sb.toString();
            Log.d(TAG, log);
            return log;
        }

        @Override
        protected void onPostExecute(String s) {
            super.onPostExecute(s);
            // Must call finish() so the BroadcastReceiver can be recycled.
            pendingResult.finish();
        }
    }
}
```

Sending Broadcasts

1. `sendOrderedBroadcast`

This method sends broadcasts to one receiver at a time. As each receiver executes in turn, it can propagate a result to the next receiver, or it can completely abort the broadcast so that it won't be passed to other receivers. The order receivers run in can be controlled with the `android:priority` attribute of the matching intent-filter; receivers with the same priority will be run in an arbitrary order.

2. `sendBroadcast`

This method sends broadcasts to all receivers in an undefined order. This is called a Normal Broadcast. This is more efficient, but means that receivers cannot read results from other receivers, propagate data received from the broadcast, or abort the broadcast.

3. `LocalBroadcastManager.sendBroadcast`

This method sends broadcasts to receivers that are in the same app as the sender. If you don't need to send broadcasts across apps, use local broadcasts. The implementation is much more efficient (no interprocess communication needed) and you don't need to worry about any security issues related to other apps being able to receive or send your broadcasts.

Starting Services from a Receiver

```
COPY XML
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<manifest
xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
package="de.vogella.android.ownservice.local"
android:versionCode="1"
android:versionName="1.0" >

    <uses-sdk android:minSdkVersion="10" />

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

    <application
        android:icon="@drawable/icon"
        android:label="@string/app_name" >
        <activity
            android:name=".ServiceConsumerActivity"
            android:label="@string/app_name" >
            <intent-filter>
                <action
android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN" />

                <category
android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER" />
            </intent-filter>
        </activity>

        <receiver android:name="MyScheduleReceiver" >
            <intent-filter>
                <action
android:name="android.intent.action.BOOT_COMPLETED" />
            </intent-filter>
        </receiver>
        <receiver
android:name="MyStartServiceReceiver" >
        </receiver>
    </application>

</manifest>
```

```
COPY JAVA
import android.content.BroadcastReceiver;
import android.content.Context;
import android.content.Intent;

public class MyReceiver extends BroadcastReceiver {

    @Override
    public void onReceive(Context context, Intent
intent) {
        // assumes WordService is a registered service
        Intent intent = new Intent(context,
WordService.class);
        context.startService(intent);
    }
}
```


Register a Receiver for Incoming Phone Calls

```
package de.vogella.android.receiver.phone;

import android.content.BroadcastReceiver;
import android.content.Context;
import android.content.Intent;
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.telephony.TelephonyManager;
import android.util.Log;

public class MyPhoneReceiver extends BroadcastReceiver
{
    @Override
    public void onReceive(Context context, Intent
intent) {
        Bundle extras = intent.getExtras();
        if (extras != null) {
            String state =
extras.getString(TelephonyManager.EXTRA_STATE);
            Log.w("MY_DEBUG_TAG", state);
            if
(state.equals(TelephonyManager.EXTRA_STATE_RINGING)) {
                String phoneNumber = extras
.getString(TelephonyManager.EXTRA_INCOMING_NUMBER);
                Log.w("MY_DEBUG_TAG", phoneNumber);
            }
        }
    }
}
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<manifest
xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/and
roid"
    package="de.vogella.android.receiver.phone"
    android:versionCode="1"
    android:versionName="1.0" >

    <uses-sdk android:minSdkVersion="15" />

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

    <application
        android:icon="@drawable/icon"
        android:label="@string/app_name" >
        <activity
            android:name=".MainActivity"
            android:label="@string/title_activity_main" >
            <intent-filter>
                <action
                    android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN" />

                <category
                    android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER" />
            </intent-filter>
        </activity>

        <receiver android:name="MyPhoneReceiver" >
            <intent-filter>
                <action
                    android:name="android.intent.action.PHONE_STATE" >
                </action>
            </intent-filter>
        </receiver>
    </application>

</manifest>
```

Sending Broadcast

```
Intent intent = new Intent();  
intent.setAction("com.example.broadcast.MY_NOTIFICATION");  
intent.putExtra("data", "Notice me senpai!");  
sendBroadcast(intent);
```

★ **Note:** Although intents are used for both sending broadcasts and starting activities with [startActivity\(Intent\)](#), these actions are completely unrelated. Broadcast receivers can't see or capture intents used to start an activity; likewise, when you broadcast an intent, you can't find or start an activity.

Restricting Broadcasts with Permissions

Sending with permissions

```
sendBroadcast(new Intent("com.example.NOTIFY"),  
              Manifest.permission.SEND_SMS);
```

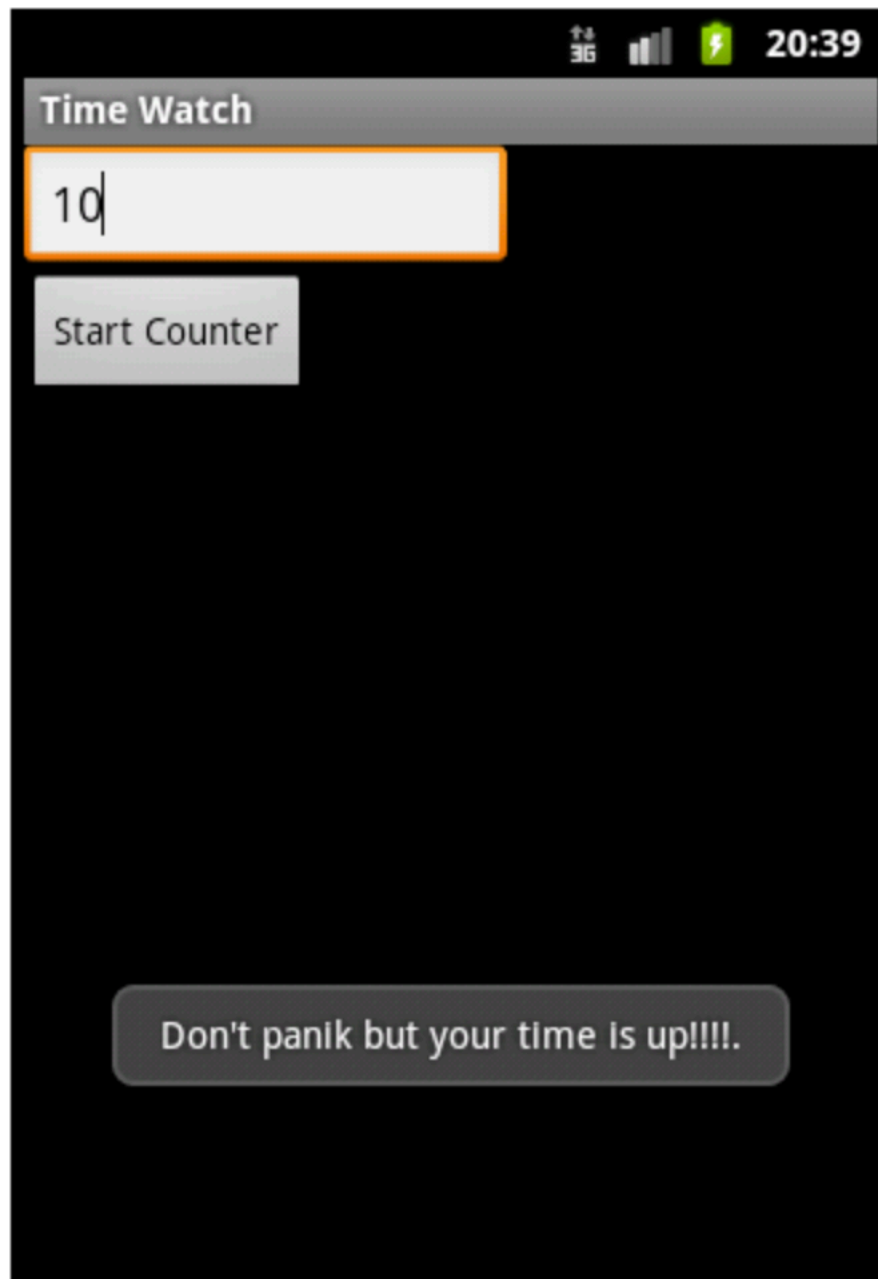
```
<uses-permission android:name="android.permission.SEND_SMS" />
```

Receiving with permissions

```
<receiver android:name=".MyBroadcastReceiver"  
          android:permission="android.permission.SEND_SMS">  
    <intent-filter>  
        <action android:name="android.intent.action.AIRPLANE_MODE" />  
    </intent-filter>  
</receiver>
```

```
IntentFilter filter = new IntentFilter(Intent.ACTION_AIRPLANE_MODE_CHANGED);  
registerReceiver(receiver, filter, Manifest.permission.SEND_SMS, null );
```


Broadcast Receiver Exercise



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<LinearLayout
xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/and
roid"
    android:layout_width="match_parent"
    android:layout_height="match_parent"
    android:orientation="vertical" >

    <EditText
        android:id="@+id/time"
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:hint="Number of seconds"
        android:inputType="numberDecimal" >
    </EditText>

    <Button
        android:id="@+id/ok"
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:onClick="startAlert"
        android:text="Start Counter" >
    </Button>

</LinearLayout>
```


Broadcast Receiver Exercise

```
package de.vogella.android.alarm;

import android.app.Activity;
import android.app.AlarmManager;
import android.app.PendingIntent;
import android.content.Intent;
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.view.View;
import android.widget.EditText;
import android.widget.Toast;

public class AlarmActivity extends Activity {
    /** Called when the activity is first created. */
    @Override
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.main);
    }

    public void startAlert(View view) {
        EditText text = (EditText)
        findViewById(R.id.time);
        int i =
        Integer.parseInt(text.getText().toString());
        Intent intent = new Intent(this,
        MyBroadcastReceiver.class);
        PendingIntent pendingIntent =
        PendingIntent.getBroadcast(
            this, 234324243, intent, 0);
        AlarmManager alarmManager = (AlarmManager)
        getSystemService(ALARM_SERVICE);
        alarmManager.set(AlarmManager.RTC_WAKEUP,
        System.currentTimeMillis()
            + (i * 1000), pendingIntent);
        Toast.makeText(this, "Alarm set in " + i + "
        seconds",
            Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();
    }
}
```


Broadcast Receiver Exercise

```
package de.vogella.android.alarm;

import android.content.BroadcastReceiver;
import android.content.Context;
import android.content.Intent;
import android.os.Vibrator;
import android.widget.Toast;

public class MyBroadcastReceiver extends
BroadcastReceiver {
    @Override
    public void onReceive(Context context, Intent
intent) {
        Toast.makeText(context, "Don't panik but your
time is up!!!!.",
                        Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();
        // Vibrate the mobile phone
        Vibrator vibrator = (Vibrator)
context.getSystemService(Context.VIBRATOR_SERVICE);
        vibrator.vibrate(2000);
    }
}
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<manifest
xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/and
roid"
    package="de.vogella.android.alarm"
    android:versionCode="1"
    android:versionName="1.0" >

    <uses-sdk android:minSdkVersion="15" />

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

    <application
        android:icon="@drawable/icon"
        android:label="@string/app_name" >
        <activity
            android:name=".AlarmActivity"
            android:label="@string/app_name" >
            <intent-filter>
                <action
android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN" />

                <category
android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER" />
            </intent-filter>
        </activity>

        <receiver android:name="MyBroadcastReceiver" >
        </receiver>
    </application>

</manifest>
```


Stick (Broadcast) Intents

```
// Register for the battery changed event
IntentFilter filter = new
IntentFilter(Intent.ACTION_BATTERY_CHANGED);

// Intent is sticky so using null as receiver works fine
// return value contains the status
Intent batteryStatus = this.registerReceiver(null,
filter);

// Are we charging / charged?
int status =
batteryStatus.getIntExtra(BatteryManager.EXTRA_STATUS,
-1);
boolean isCharging = status ==
BatteryManager.BATTERY_STATUS_CHARGING
|| status == BatteryManager.BATTERY_STATUS_FULL;

boolean isFull = status ==
BatteryManager.BATTERY_STATUS_FULL;

// How are we charging?
int chargePlug =
batteryStatus.getIntExtra(BatteryManager.EXTRA_PLUGGED,
-1);
boolean usbCharge = chargePlug ==
BatteryManager.BATTERY_PLUGGED_USB;
boolean acCharge = chargePlug ==
BatteryManager.BATTERY_PLUGGED_AC;
```

Important Notes

Gotchas And Things To Pay Attention To

- Do not send sensitive data through an implicit broadcast, because any application listening in for it, will receive it. You can prevent this by either specifying a package or attaching a permission to the broadcast
 - Don't start activities from a broadcast received as the user experience is lacking. Choose to display a notification instead.
-
- **7.0 and Up (API level 24)** - Two system broadcasts have been disabled, Action_New_Picture and Action_New_Video (but they were brought back in Android O for registered receivers)
 - **8.0 and Up (API level 26)** - Most implicit broadcasts need to be registered to dynamically and not statically (in your manifest). You can find the broadcasts that were whitelisted in this [link](#).
 - **9.0 and Up (API level 28)** - Less information received on Wi-Fi system broadcast and Network_State_Changed_Action.

Alternatives to Broadcast Receivers

- ***LocalBroadcastManager*** - As I mentioned above, this is valid only for broadcasts within your application
- ***Scheduling A Job*** - A job can be run depending on a signal or trigger received, so you may find that the broadcast you were listening on can be replaced by a job. Furthermore, the JobScheduler, will guarantee your job will finish, but it will take into account various system factors(time and conditions)to determine when it should run. When creating a job, you will override a method called ***onStartJob***. This method runs on the main thread, so make sure that it finishes its work in a limited amount of time. If you need to perform complex logic, consider starting a background task. Furthermore, the return value for this method is a boolean, where true denotes that certain actions are still being performed, and false means the job is done