









Programming with Android: System Services

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System Services

- > There is a wide list of services available
 - ➤ Power Service
 - ➤ KeyGuard Service
 - ➤ Vibrator Service
 - > Alarm Service
 - > Sensor Service
 - > Audio Service
 - > Telephony Service
 - ➤ Connectivity Service
 - ➤ Wi-Fi Service



Power Service

- Android runs on limited capabilities devices
- It is crucial to use the battery wisely
- The power service gives us informations about the power of the system
- Get it with:

PowerManager pm = (PowerManager) getSystemService(Context.POWER_SERVICE);



Vibrator Service

- Manages the vibration service
- Get it with

Vibrator vibrator = (Vibrator)getSystemService(Context.VIBRATOR_SERVICE);

- Some methods:
 - vibrate(long time);
 - cancel();
 - vibrate(long[] pattern, int repeat);
- Needs android.permission.VIBRATE



Alarm Service

- Fires an Intent in the future
- Get it with

AlarmManager as = (AlarmManager) getSystemService(Context.ALARM_SERVICE); // set(int type, long triggerAtTime, PendingIntent operation);

- type is one of:
 - ELAPSED_REALTIME
 - ELAPSED_REALTIME_WAKEUP
 - RTC
 - RTC_WAKEUP

SystemClock.elapsedRealTime()

System.currentTimeMillis()



Alarm Service

More methods

- setRepeating(int type, long triggerAtTime, long interval, PendingIntent operation);
 - Can use INTERVAL_HOUR, INTERVAL_HALF_DAY
- cancel(PendingIntent operation);
 - Match with filterEquals(Intent anotherIntent);



Sensor Service

- Interaction with sensors
- Get it with

SensorManager sm = (SensorManager) getSystemService(Context.SENSOR_SERVICE);

- Various kind of sensors
 - Accelerometer
 - Gyroscope
 - Light
 - _

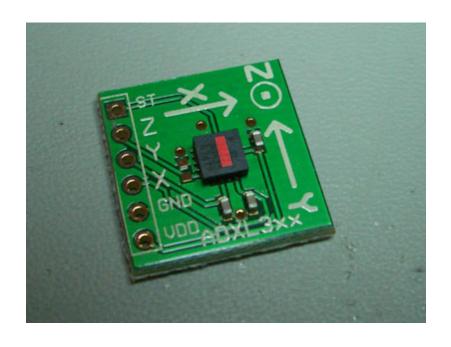


Accelerometer

To measure acceleration

Given with 3-axes values

Useful to inspect movements



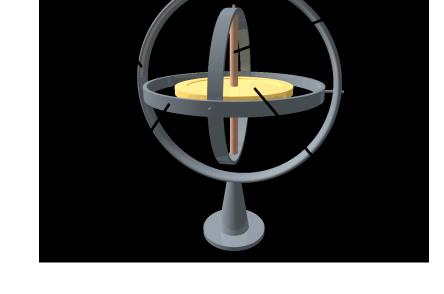


Gyroscope

To measure orientation

Usually a spinning wheel or a spinning disk

Gives angular speed



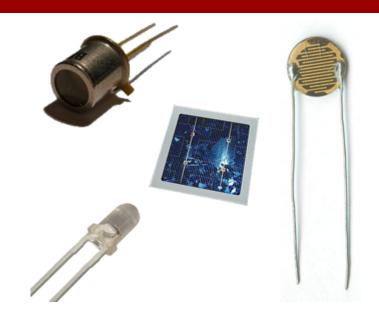
Not so common in smartphones



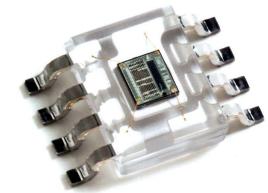
Light sensor

Usually a photodiode

When exposed to light, they create a current



More current, more light







Proximity sensor

To measure distance from objects

Useful to understand when the smartphone is in, for instance, a pocket

Used to switch off screen during calls







Sensors

Not all smartphones are created equal

Some carry a set of sensors some others don't

How to know which sensors does your smartphone have?



Sensors List

- public List<Sensor> getSensorList(int type);
- type is one of:
 - TYPE_ACCELEROMETER
 - TYPE GYROSCOPE
 - TYPE_LIGHT
 - TYPE MAGNETIC FIELD
 - TYPE ORIENTATION
 - TYPE PRESSURE
 - TYPE_PROXIMITY
 - TYPE TEMPERATURE
 - TYPE_ALL



How to "use" a Sensor

- Each Sensor contains information about the vendor, type and others
- Implement SensorEventListener
 - onAccuracyChanged(Sensor sensor, int accuracy)
 - onSensorChanged(SensorEvent event)
 - registerListener(SensorEventListener listener, Sensor sensor, int rate)
 - rate is one of
 - SENSOR_DELAY_NORMAL
 - SENSOR_DELAY_FASTEST (default)



Audio Service

Able to

- select a stream and control sound
- adjust the volume
- change ring type
- play effects



Telephony Service

- Interacts with calls
- Get it with

TelephonyManager tm = (TelephonyManager) getSystemService(Context.TELEPHONY_SERVICE);

- Ask the device about call information
 - getCallState()
 - getDataState()
 - getDataActivity()
 - getNetworkType()
 - isNetworkRoaming()



SMS Service

- Send text messages
- Get it with

SmsManager sms = SmsManager.getDefault();

- To send a message call:
 - sendTextMessage(String dest, String sc, String text, PendingIntent sent, PendingIntent delivery);
 - sent and delivery: two intents to be fired when the message is sent and/or delivered



Connectivity Service

- Check device network state
- Get it with

String serId = Context.CONNECTIVITY_SERVICE;
ConnectivityManager cm = (ConnectivityManager) Context.getSystemService(serId);

- Check WI-FI, GPRS
- Notify connection changes
- ❖ Needs
 - android.permission.ACCESS_NETWORK_STATE
 - android.permission.CHANGE_NETWORK_STATE



Wi-Fi Service

- Manages the Wi-Fi connection
- Get it with

WifiManager wfm = (WifiManager) getSystemService(Context.WIFI_SERVICE)

- Check Wi-Fi
 - getWifiState()
 - Returns WIFI_STATE_DISABLED, WIFI_STATE_DISABLING, WIFI_STATE_ENABLED, WIFI_STATE_ENABLING, WIFI_STATE_UNKNOWN
 - isWifiEnabled() / setWifiEnabled()
- Lists all the configured wifi connections
 - getConfiguredNetworks()



Wi-Fi Service

- Check/edit wi-fi connection
 - addNetwork(WifiConfiguration config)
 - updateNetwork(WifiConfiguration config)
 - removeNetwork(int netid)
- Scan for wi-fi networks
 - startScan()
- Be notified about wi-fi changes
 - Broadcast Intent: SCAN_RESULTS_AVAILABLE_ACTION
 - Call getScanResults()