

# Lab 3 – It's all about data - the Android SQLite Database

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## Getting started

This is the third in a series of labs that allow you to develop the MyRuns App. The goal of the app is to capture and display (using maps) walks and runs using your Android phone.

The third lab focuses on allowing the user to manually enter data associated with a workout (e.g., running) and then display the workout data that was entered. All workouts entered are stored (i.e., historical workouts) and can be displayed and deleted in need be.

Technically the lab focuses on how data is input, stored and retrieved using the SQLite database. Students will learn how to create a database and store and retrieve data.

This lab builds on existing activities we have already coded: specifically, the lab extends ActivityTabStart and ActivityTabHistory. It also creates two new activities to deal with user data input (ActivityManualInput) and display (ActivityDisplayEntry).. In addition, a new class is created to deal with the database operations (DatabaseActivity).

We also create a number of new screens for input and display – therefore, there are a number of new layouts for existing activities (ActivityTabStart screen's is defined in start.xml; ActivityTabHistory screen's is defined by history.xml) and new activities (ActivityManualInput screen's is defined by manualinput.xml; ActivityDisplayEntry screen's is defined by display\_entry.xml). We will discuss the design of the layout and functionally provided by each of the activities in what follows.

This lab builds on programming APIs we have used in previous labs; including intents, adapters, click on buttons, dialogs, and shared preferences.

This lab extends lab 2. So to start with create a copy of lab 2 and rename/refactor it and call it lab 3. That way you can extend the code in lab 3 and keep your original lab 2 untouched.

We are going to start this lab by having you download the lab 3 app from my website and install it on your emulator. Once you install it you can run it and play with the app. You can get a good sense of what is needed since your code will have

to functionally be the same – you can change the style or do more things but the downloaded app serves as a baseline for the design of your lab 2. Read Chapter 6 before starting this – specifically, the section called ‘creating and using databases’. SQLite is used heavily in industry so this is good experience, if a little Android specific. This is a challenging programming exercise. You will have to do some digging and self-learning using the book and web to craft your solution.

OK. Let’s get started.

## Play with the real app

You can run lab 3 by downloading the .apk file using the browser on your emulator (or phone if you have an Android phone) and installing it. Follow the notes in Lab 1 on loading the app. The apk is here:

[www.cs.dartmouth.edu/~campbell/lab3.apk](http://www.cs.dartmouth.edu/~campbell/lab3.apk)

## Create a new lab

We will create new activities to handle the extended UI – Figure 1 below shows the names of all the activities we need to code. The diagram also shows that we will be creating some new layout and xml files – we will come back to those.

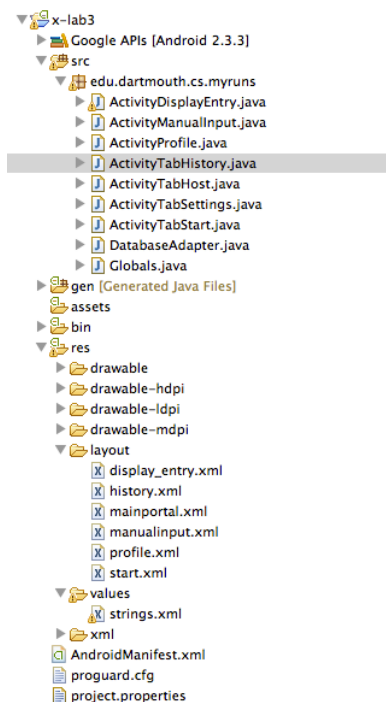
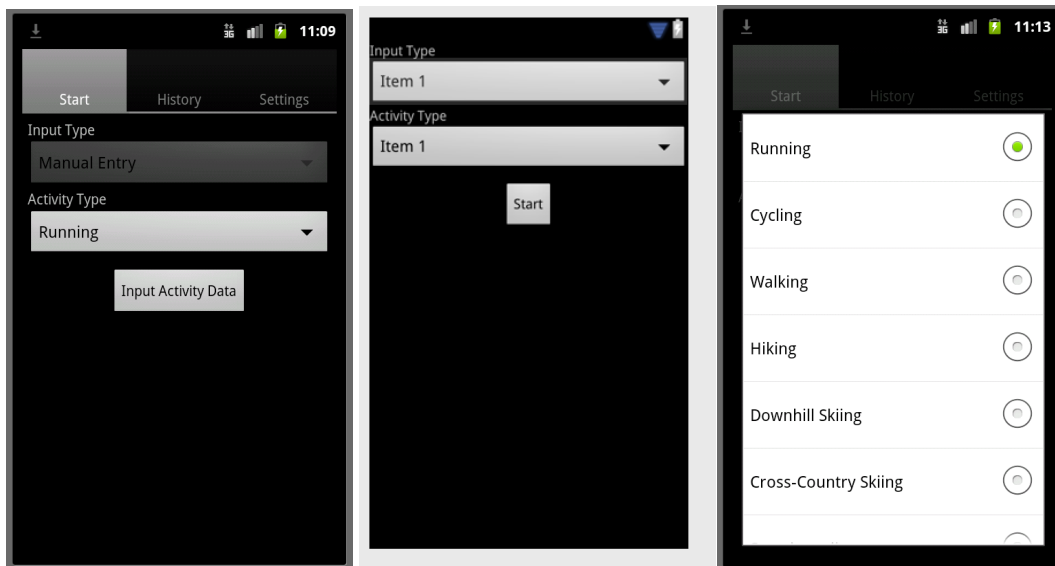


Figure 1: Lab 1 Project Files

## ActivityTabStart

We created ActivityTabStart in Lab 2 but it had no code – other than printing out a message to the screen. We extend this activity and capture the UI design in start.xml. The main goal of this activity is to allow the user to enter the ‘input type’, as shown in Figure 2(a) (i.e., GPS or Manual Entry). Note in this lab we only support manual input and we disable the spinner so it always shows Manual Entry as default; we will use the GPS sensor in a future lab. The user can also select the ‘activity Type’ from a ListView. Figure 2(a) currently shows running. If the user clicks on the ‘activity type’ spinner the UI will display the list of items as show in Figure 2(b).



**Figure 2(a):** The ActivityTabStart includes two spinners and button; **Figure 2(b)** is the start.xml for the two spinners and button; **Figure 2(c)** spinner activity showing all activity that the user can select from.

As shown in Figure 3 below: The top figure on the left is the start.xml – graphical view. The bottom left figure is strings.xml. The figure on the right is the string.xml where the item values are created. Once you have created the spinners for the input and activity types using the drag and drop of the graphical UI you can right click on an items and select “Edit Entries” to create string arrays; for example spinnerItemActivityType (defined using Edit Entries) is “connected” to the names of each item (shown in the start.xml) by adding item values to the string array (e.g., Running) in strings.xml. You should this for both spinners (i.e., input type and activity type). By putting the smarts into the xml we save writing code. The result of the above design is shown in Figure 2(c).

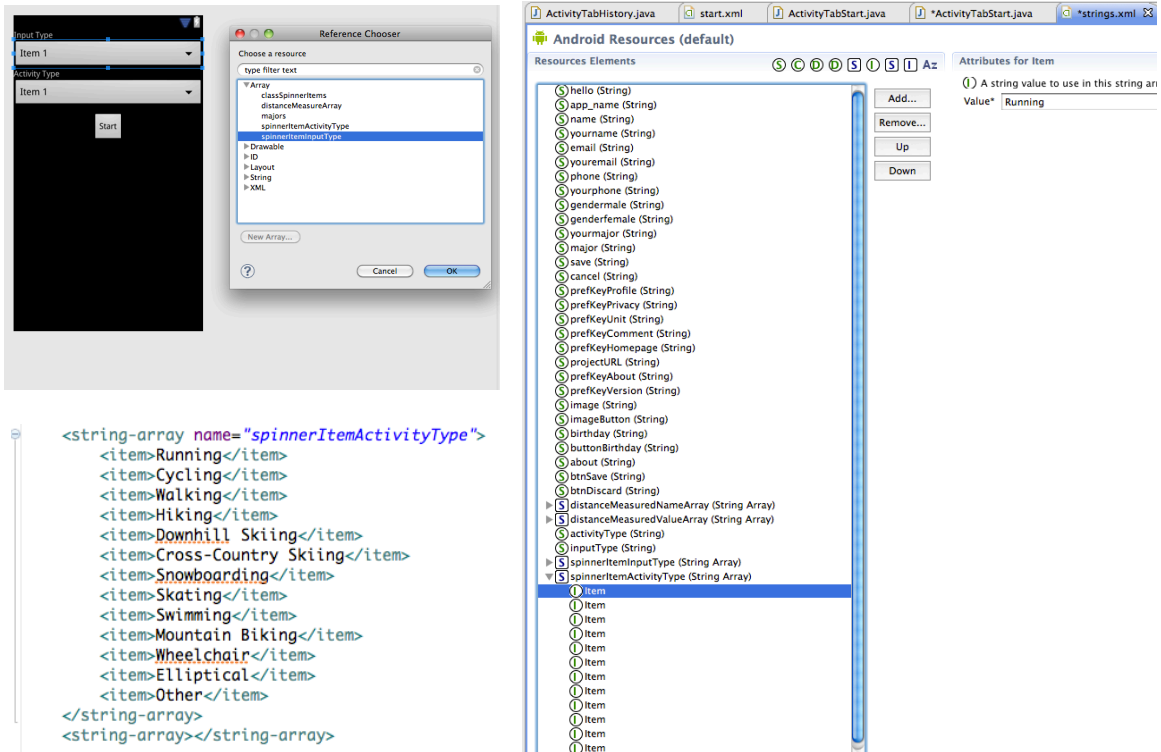


Figure 3: The two figures on the left are the start.xml – graphical and xml. And strings.xml where the item values for the arrays are defined.

The complete xml for start is shown in Figure 4. The spinners and button ids are updated.



Figure 4: start.xml showing the full layout.

Figure 5 shows a code snippet of ActivityTabStart that fires an intent to start ActivityManualInput. First, the code gets Ids for both spinner types – spinnerInputType and spinnerActivityType, then setSelected() on the spinnerInputType to 1 (which is Manual Entry, 0 represents GPS) and disables entry on that spinner – for now. This results in setting the input type default. Following this, it gets the button Id and updates the name of the button. The remainder of the snippet shows the onClickListener() for the button if pressed. The code gets the position of the selected item for input type (which is 1) and then creates a bundle to store the type and activity used to pass as ‘extras’ in the intent. The bundle is a means to pass data between activities. The extra is loaded up and the intent set before the startActivity is fired. Note, the activity started (the receiver of the intent) is ActivityManualInput. Note, this is only a snippet. The code is not complete.

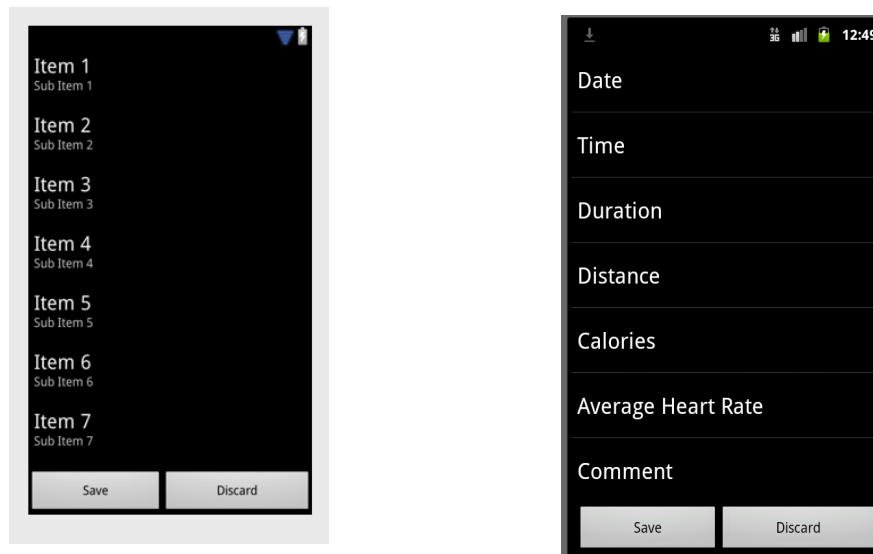
```
ActivityTabHistory.java | start.xml | ActivityTabStart.java | *ActivityTabStart.java
23 @Override
24 public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
25     super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
26
27     mContext = this; // set the context to this activity
28
29     setContentView(R.layout.start);
30
31     Log.d(Globals.TAG, "entered onCreate ActivityTabStart");
32
33     // disable the GPS section of Input Type so its only Manual Entry
34
35     spinnerInputType = ((Spinner) findViewById(R.id.spinnerInputType));
36     spinnerActivityType = ((Spinner) findViewById(R.id.spinnerActivityType));
37
38     spinnerInputType.setSelection(1); // set to manual entry
39     spinnerInputType.setEnabled(false); // disable entry
40
41     btn = ((Button) findViewById(R.id.buttonStart));
42     btn.setText("Input activity data");
43
44     View.OnClickListener myListener;
45
46     myListener = new View.OnClickListener() {
47         @Override
48         public void onClick(View v) {
49
50             // get current setting 1.0
51
52             int inputType = spinnerInputType.getSelectedItemPosition();
53
54             Bundle extras = new Bundle();
55
56             // get input selection (GPS, Manual)
57             extras.putInt("inputType", inputType);
58             // get input e.g., walking, cycling, etc.
59             extras.putInt("activityType",
60                 spinnerActivityType.getSelectedItemPosition());
61             Intent i;
62
63             if (inputType == 0) {
64                 // TODO GPS intent
65             } else {
66                 // Manual input
67                 i = new Intent(mContext, ActivityManualInput.class);
68                 i.putExtras(extras);
69                 startActivity(i);
70             }
71         }
72     }
```

Figure 5: code snippet for ActivityTabStart

OK. Let's discuss ActivityManualInput (activity) and manual.xml (layout) next.

## ActivityManualInput

The goal of ActivityManualInput is to allow the user to input data using the screen design in manual.xml. This activity is responsible for inserting items into the database. Therefore, it will create an instance of DatabaseActivity, discuss in the next section. Because the manual input includes a number of different input types: spinners for date and time; numeric for distance and duration, etc., the activity has to have corresponding code to deal with dialogs and entry for each input type. In what follows, we will discuss the design and give some code snippets to help things along.



**Figure 6: the graphical layout in manualinput.xml and the code updated labels for each of the entries**

Note that we do not show each and every dialog example for input. We discuss two examples of the UI and code for time and distance in Figure 9. We suggest that you run the application and note down each of the different input types of user entry and code up the corresponding dialogs.

Figure 7 and 8 shows the manualinput.xml and code snippet of ActivityManualInput, respectively. Note that ActivityManualInput extends ListActivity (shown in Figure 8) and can use adapters that understand the ListView structure (shown in Figure 7). Note, that the ListView id is updated to `@android:id/list`. This is important and necessary to display the correct list as discussed below. Also note (Figure 7) that the height is set to 0 and the weight to 1 in the xml for the ListView. This formats the screen correctly. The button text is also updated.

```
manualinput.xml
1 <LinearLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
2   android:layout_width="match_parent"
3   android:layout_height="match_parent"
4   android:orientation="vertical" >
5
6
7   <ListView
8     android:id="@android:id/list"
9     android:layout_width="match_parent"
10    android:layout_height="0dp"
11    android:layout_weight="1" >
12
13  </ListView>
14
15  <LinearLayout
16    android:id="@+id/linearLayout1"
17    android:layout_width="match_parent"
18    android:layout_height="wrap_content" >
19
20    <Button
21      android:id="@+id/btnSave"
22      android:layout_width="wrap_content"
23      android:layout_height="wrap_content"
24      android:layout_weight="1"
25      android:text="@string/btnSave" />
26
27    <Button
28      android:id="@+id/btnDiscard"
29      android:layout_width="wrap_content"
30      android:layout_height="wrap_content"
31      android:layout_weight="1"
32      android:text="@string/btnDiscard" />
33
34  </LinearLayout>
35
36 </LinearLayout>
```

**Figure 7: the manualinput.xml. Note that the ListView id is @android:id/list.**

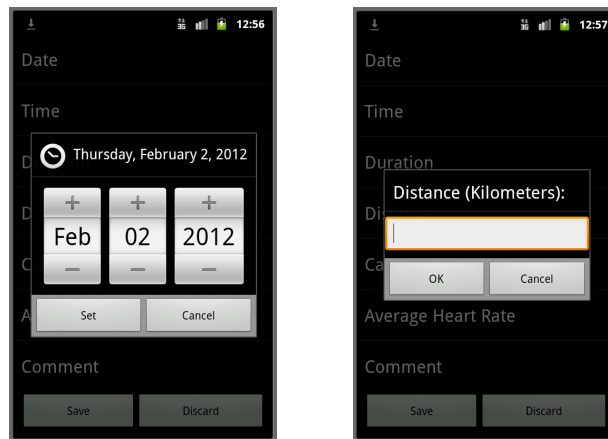
```

1 package edu.dartmouth.cs.myruns;
2
3 import java.util.Calendar;
4
21 public class ActivityManualInput extends ListActivity {
22
23     private static final int DIALOG_DATE_ID = 0;
24     private static final int DIALOG_TIME_ID = 1;
25     private static final int DIALOG_DURATION_ID = 2;
26     private static final int DIALOG_DISTANCE_ID = 3;
27     private static final int DIALOG_CALORIES_ID = 4;
28     private static final int DIALOG_HEARTRATE_ID = 5;
29     private static final int DIALOG_COMMENT_ID = 6;
30
31     private final String[] items = { "Date", "Time", "Duration", "Distance",
32         "Calories", "Heart Rate", "Comments" };
33
34     // Date member for exercise time.
35
36     private int mYear;
37     private int mMonth;
38     private int mDay;
39
40     private double mDistance;
41
42     @Override
43     protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
44         // TODO Auto-generated method stub
45         super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
46
47         setContentView(R.layout.manualinput);
48
49         setListAdapter(new ArrayAdapter<String>(this,
50             android.R.layout.simple_list_item_1, items));
51
52         // get todays date and update date members.
53
54         final Calendar c = Calendar.getInstance();
55         mYear = c.get(Calendar.YEAR);
56         mMonth = c.get(Calendar.MONTH);
57         mDay = c.get(Calendar.DAY_OF_MONTH);
58
59         Log.d("MyRuns", "Today's date " + mYear + " " + mMonth + " " + mDay);
60     }
61

```

**Figure 8: Snippet of ActivityManualInput setting up an adapter for simple\_list\_item\_1.**

Figure 8 shows that the screen is set using setContentView() as usual but setListAdapter() is used to create a ListView (the simple\_list\_item\_1) and initialize it with the ordered list given by the 'items' string array. Because this activity extends ListActivity and the ListView (shown in Figure 7) uses the id of '@android:id/list' the setListAdapter() method can initialize and render the list correctly.



**Figure 9: Dialogs for date and distance. Note, in the example, distance is determined from shared preferences input in settings.**

Figure 10 shows another code snippet of ActivityManualInput for setting up dialogs for the ListView. Because ActivityManualInput extends ListActivity it can override onItemClick() to showDialog(). The snippet shows the override for onCreateDialog() and the switch statement for each list item. This leads on to an example of a specific dialog set up for distance (DIALOG\_DISTANCE\_ID) in Figure 11, which shows construction of the dialog for distance and rendering it. Note, that an



internal variable `mDistance` always keeps the value in meters; that is because the database stores this in meters and uses the shared preference unit type (either miles or km) to scale it accordingly. This allows the code to have a single entry in the database regardless of what the unit is. The code sets up `onClick` and then builds the dialog box shown in Figure 9 (right).

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Figure 10: Snippet of `ActivityManualInput` for setting up dialogs for the `ListView`.

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```

Figure 11: Snippet of `ActivityManualInput` for constructing the dialog for distance and rendering it

ActivityManualInput writes all the input data from internal variables (e.g., mDateTime, mDuration) to the database. The SQLite database is used. All the direct interactions with SQLite are wrapped in the DatabaseAdapter, which we discuss in the next section.

The snippet of code shown in Figure 12 does the following. It creates an instance of DatabaseAdapter class. The db is then opened and the important method here is the insertEntry() – all of the input data (values in the variables) are inserted by this single method. Close then follows. The implementation of all the db methods is coded in the DatabaseAdapter class, which we discuss next.

```
        mInput, mDuration),
        DatabaseAdapter db = new DatabaseAdapter(mContext);
        db.open();
        long id = db.insertEntry(mInputType, mActivityType,
                                mDateTime, mDuration, mDistance, mCalories,
                                mComment);
        db.close();
        Toast.makeText(getApplicationContext(),
                        "Entry #" + id + " saved.", Toast.LENGTH_SHORT)
                .show();
        finish();
    }
```

Figure 12: Snippet of ActivityManualInput for creating a database issuing open(), insert() and close().

## DatabaseAdapter

As mentioned earlier Android uses the SQLite database. The database created in Figure 13 is only accessible by itself and not by other applications. In this lab you will need to write the code to create a database and you do that in the new DatabaseAdapter class.

The DatabaseAdapter needs to: create a DatabaseHelper class as shown in Figure 13 – and discussed on page 218 of the textbook (chapter 4). The Database adapter needs to support a number of methods – the key set being open(), insertEntries(), fetchEntries() and close(). In what follows, we discuss some of methods and show some code snippets.

```

23 public class DatabaseAdapter {
24     private static final String DATABASE_NAME = "MyRunsDB";
25     private static final String TABLE_NAME_ENTRIES = "entries";
26
27     private static final int DATABASE_VERSION = 1;
28
29     public static final String KEY_ROWID = Globals.KEY_ROWID; // "_id";
30     public static final String KEY_INPUT_TYPE = Globals.KEY_INPUT_TYPE; // "input_type";
31     public static final String KEY_ACTIVITY_TYPE = Globals.KEY_ACTIVITY_TYPE; // "activity_type";
32     public static final String KEY_DATE_TIME = Globals.KEY_DATE_TIME; // "date_time";
33     public static final String KEY_DURATION = Globals.KEY_DURATION; // "duration";
34     public static final String KEY_DISTANCE = Globals.KEY_DISTANCE; // "distance";
35     public static final String KEY_AVG_PACE = Globals.KEY_AVG_PACE; // "avg_pace";
36     public static final String KEY_AVG_SPEED = Globals.KEY_AVG_SPEED; // "KEY_AVG_SPEED";
37     public static final String KEY_CALORIES = Globals.KEY_CALORIES; // "calories";
38     public static final String KEY_CLIMB = Globals.KEY_CLIMB; // "climb";
39     public static final String KEY_AVG_HEARTRATE = Globals.KEY_AVG_HEARTRATE; // "avg_hearttrate";
40     public static final String KEY_COMMENT = Globals.KEY_COMMENT; // "comment";
41     public static final String KEY_PRIVACY = Globals.KEY_PRIVACY; // "avg_privacy";
42     public static final String KEY_GPS_DATA = Globals.KEY_GPS_DATA; // "gps_data";
43
44     private static final String CREATE_TABLE_ENTRIES = "CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS "
45     + "entries (_id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY AUTOINCREMENT, "
46     + "input_type INTEGER NOT NULL, "
47     + "activity_type INTEGER NOT NULL, "
48     + "date_time DATETIME NOT NULL, "
49     + "duration INTEGER NOT NULL, "
50     + "distance FLOAT, "
51     + "avg_pace INTEGER, "
52     + "avg_speed INTEGER, "
53     + "calories INTEGER, "
54     + "climb INTEGER, "
55     + "avg_hearttrate INTEGER, "
56     + "comment TEXT, "
57     + "privacy INTEGER, " + "gps_data BLOB " + ");";
58
59     // Variable to hold the database instance
60     private SQLiteDatabase db;
61     // Context of the application using the database.
62     // private final Context context;
63     // Database open/upgrade helper
64     private DBHelper dbHelper;
65
66     public DatabaseAdapter(Context context) {
67         dbHelper = new DBHelper(context, DATABASE_NAME, null, DATABASE_VERSION);
68     }
69
70 }

```

**Figure 13: The DatabaseAdapter creates a database called MyRunsDB. Note, that we set up the pair/value names used to access elements in the database (e.g., key\_input\_type). The snippet also shows the**

When the private static class DBHelper is first created it will create the new database using `db.execSQL(create_table_entries)` in `onCreate()` as shown in Figure 14. The `onCreate()` method creates the new database if not present. The book also discusses a number of other methods such as `onUpgrade()` that you should also include for completeness.

We need to code methods for opening and closing the database as well as inserting and fetching. Because we only insert or fetch **all** entries there is not need to design and code methods for inserting or fetching specific items in this lab – unless you wish too. One exception to this is `removeEntry()`, which is needed because the user can delete a workout. We discuss this below.

```

132 private static class DBHelper extends SQLiteOpenHelper {
133
134     public DBHelper(Context context, String name, CursorFactory factory,
135                     int version) {
136         super(context, name, factory, version);
137     }
138
139     // Called when no database exists in disk and the helper class needs
140     // to create a new one.
141     @Override
142     public void onCreate(SQLiteDatabase db) {
143
144         try {
145             db.execSQL(CREATE_TABLE_ENTRIES);
146         } catch (SQLException e) {
147             e.printStackTrace();
148         }
149     }
150 }
151

```

Figure 14: Code snippet from DatabaseAdapter. When the private static class DBHelper is first created it will create the new database using db.execSQL(create\_table\_entries) in onCreate();

Figure 15 shows one of the important methods that fetches all entries. You will need to code open(), insertEntry(), fetchEntries(), removeEntry(), close() as the base set of methods in DatabaseAdapter. Note, that removeEntry() is needed because a user can delete a workout from the ActivityTabHistory, which we discuss next.

```

117 public Cursor fetchEntries() {
118     return db.query(TABLE_NAME_ENTRIES, new String[] { KEY_ROWID,
119                 KEY_ACTIVITY_TYPE, KEY_DATE_TIME, KEY_DURATION, KEY_DISTANCE },
120                 null, null, null, null, null);
121 }
122

```

Figure 15: Code snippet from DatabaseActivity that shows the fetchEntries() – getting all the entries for a specific row in the database.

## ActivityTab History

We extend the ActivityTabHistory to list each of the different **workouts** saved as a ListView, as shown in Figure 16 (right). Figure 16 (left) shows an example where two different runs (or workouts) are saved. If the user clicks on an entry then the data is read from the database (using fetchEntries() as shown in Figure 17) and then the ActivityDisplayEntry is fired using an intent. Note, in this case we pass the data fetched from the database with the intent. When ActivityDisplayEntry is stated it displays the actual data to the user the new screen defined by display\_entry.xml.

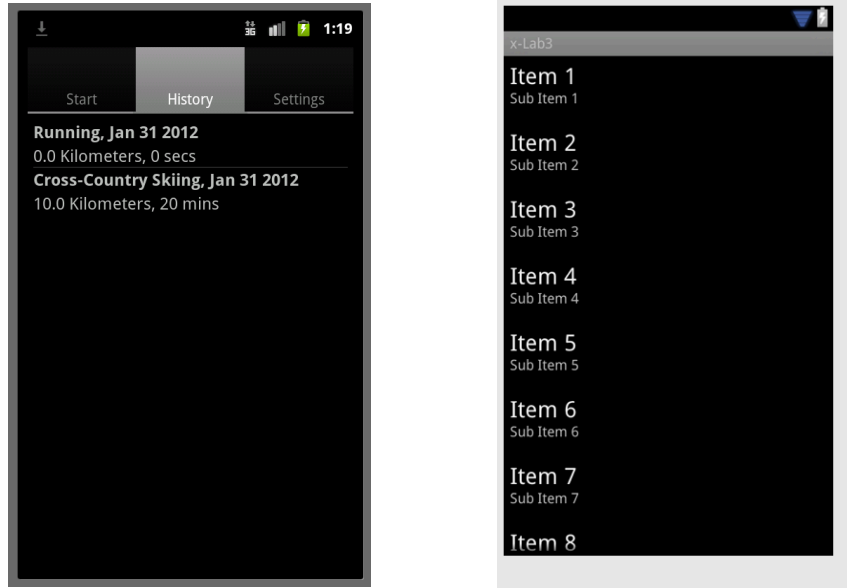


Figure 16: ActivityTabHistory screen with two example workouts and the history.xml for ListView.

ActivityTabHistory interacts with the database and fetches all entries using a cursor object, as shown in Figure 17. Note, it uses a cursor adapter and setListAdapter(). Figure 18 shows how the data is packed into extras and passed in the intent before the ActivityDisplayEntry is fired.

```

ActivityTabHistory.java  ActivityManualInput.java  DatabaseAdapter.java  history.xml  display_entry.xml
27
28 public class ActivityTabHistory extends ListActivity {
29
30     private DatabaseAdapter mDb;
31     private Context mContext;
32     private ActivityEntriesCursorAdapter mAdapterer;
33     private Cursor mActivityEntryCursor;
34
35     private int mRowIdIndex;
36     private int mActivityIndex;
37     private int mTimeIndex;
38     private int mDurationIndex;
39     private int mDistanceIndex;
40
41
42 @Override
43 public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
44     super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
45
46     setContentView(R.layout.history);
47     mContext = this;
48
49     mDb = new DatabaseAdapter(this);
50     mDb.open();
51     mActivityEntryCursor = mDb.fetchEntries();
52
53     mRowIdIndex = mActivityEntryCursor.getColumnIndex(DatabaseAdapter.KEY_ROWID);
54     mActivityIndex = mActivityEntryCursor.getColumnIndex(DatabaseAdapter.KEY_ACTIVITY_TYPE);
55     mTimeIndex = mActivityEntryCursor.getColumnIndex(DatabaseAdapter.KEY_DATE_TIME);
56     mDurationIndex = mActivityEntryCursor.getColumnIndex(DatabaseAdapter.KEY_DURATION);
57     mDistanceIndex = mActivityEntryCursor.getColumnIndex(DatabaseAdapter.KEY_DISTANCE);
58
59     startManagingCursor(mActivityEntryCursor);
60     mAdapterer = new ActivityEntriesCursorAdapter(
61         this, mActivityEntryCursor);
62     setListAdapter(mAdapterer);
63 }
64

```

Figure 17: The ActivityTabHistory uses a cursor and adapter to manage data and list data as shown in the code snippet.

```

83 @Override
84 protected void onItemClick(ListView l, View v, int position, long id) {
85
86     String activityTypes[] = getResources().getStringArray(R.array.spinnerItemActivityType);
87
88     mActivityEntryCursor.moveToPosition(position);
89
90     int i = mActivityEntryCursor.getInt(mActivityEntryCursor
91         .getColumnIndex(Globals.KEY_ACTIVITY_TYPE));
92
93     Bundle extras = new Bundle();
94
95     extras.putLong(Globals.KEY_ROWID, mActivityEntryCursor.getLong(mRowIndex));
96     extras.putString(Globals.KEY_ACTIVITY_TYPE, parseActivityType(mActivityEntryCursor.getInt(mActivityIndex)));
97     extras.putString(Globals.KEY_DATE_TIME, parseTime(mActivityEntryCursor.getLong(mTimeIndex), false));
98     extras.putString(Globals.KEY_DURATION, parseDistance(mActivityEntryCursor.getDouble(mDistanceIndex)));
99     extras.putString(Globals.KEY_DISTANCE, parseDuration(mActivityEntryCursor.getInt(mDurationIndex)));
100
101     Intent intent = new Intent(mContext, ActivityDisplayEntry.class);
102     intent.putExtras(extras);
103
104     startActivity(intent);
105
106

```

Figure 18: Code snippet from ActivityTabHistory that shows the fetchEntries() – getting all the entries for a specific row in the database. This data is fired with the intent.

## ActivityDisplayEntry

The final activity we create is the ActivityDisplayEntry. Figure 19(a) shows an example screen -- one workout is displayed. Figure 19(b) shows the display\_entry xml which is a simple linear layout with textview and editview pairs – the delete button is not shown (need to update this figure).

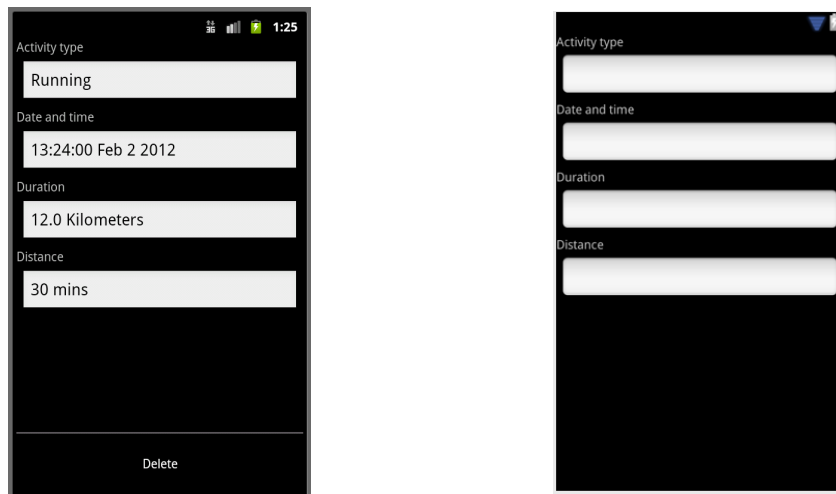


Figure 19(a): The ActivityDisplayEntry example screen shows one workout displayed on the left. Figure 19(b) shows the display\_entry xml, which is a simple linearlayout with textview and editview pairs.

The main goal of this activity is to display the data in the intent. In addition, note that there is a “Delete” button. If the user clicks the delete button the entry should be deleted from the database and not rendered on history. Use the db removeEntry() method to do this.

## Tips

**Don't miss this step:** Download the real app to your emulator and play with it

**Use command shift f** to correctly format your code

**Use command shift o** to import classes automatically

**Reading:** Generally keep reading through the book but for this lab make sure you cover Chapter 6 – specifically, the section called 'creating and using databases'.

**Debugging:** Use `Log.d()` as `printf` style debugging to start with. It helps answer the obvious problems. You can print out data using `Log.d()`. More sophisticated debugging would help in addition start getting use to the messages printed out on LogCat.