

CS371m - Mobile Computing

Persistence - Web Based Storage

CHECK OUT

<https://developer.android.com/training/sync-adapters/index.html>

The Cloud



IBMCloud @IBMcloud · Aug 23

Hamsters: Cute, but dangerous. Trust us—you don't want to share your [#cloud](#) with a hamster:



38



8



Backend

- No clear definition of backend
- front end - user interface
- backend - data, server, programs the user does not interact with directly
- With 1,000,000s of mobile and web apps
...
- rise of Backend as a Service (Baas)
- Sometimes MBaaS, M for mobile

Back End As a Service - May Provide:

- cloud storage of data
- integration with social networks
- push notifications
 - server initiates communication, not the client
- messaging and chat functions
- user management
- user analysis tools
- abstractions for dealing with the backend⁴

Clicker

- How many Mobile Backend as a Service providers exist?
 - A. 1 or 2
 - B. about 5
 - C. about 10
 - D. about 20
 - E. 30 or more

<https://github.com/relatedcode/ParseAlternatives>

MBaaS



Data



Push



Analytics



Social



Cloud Code



Hosting

Some Examples of MBaaS

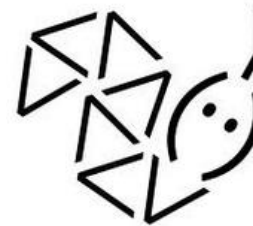
- Parse
- Firebase (Google)
- Amazon Web Services
- Google Cloud Platform
- Heroku
- PythonAnywhere
- Rackspace Cloud
- BaasBox (Open Source)
- Usergrid (Open Source)



firebase



amazon
web services™



Google Cloud Platform Live



RACKSPACE™
CLOUD SERVERS™



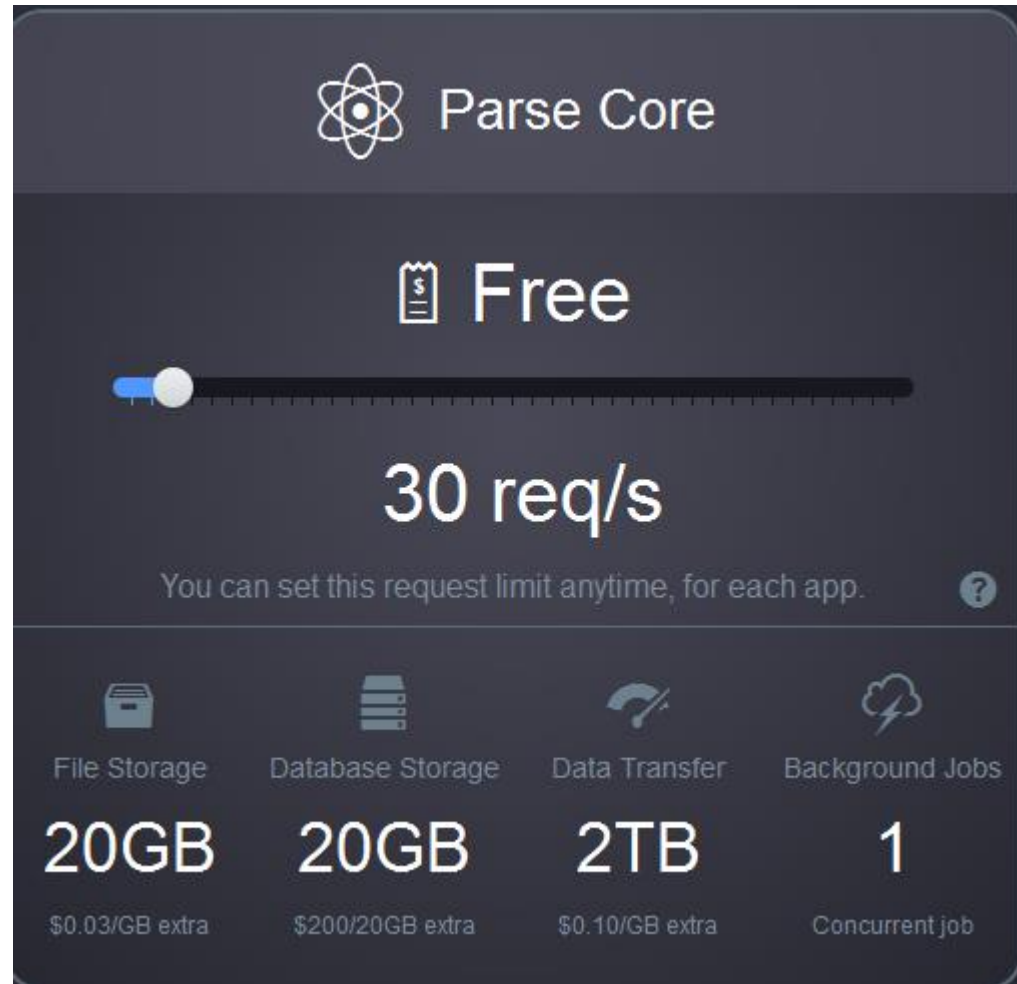
heroku



Parse

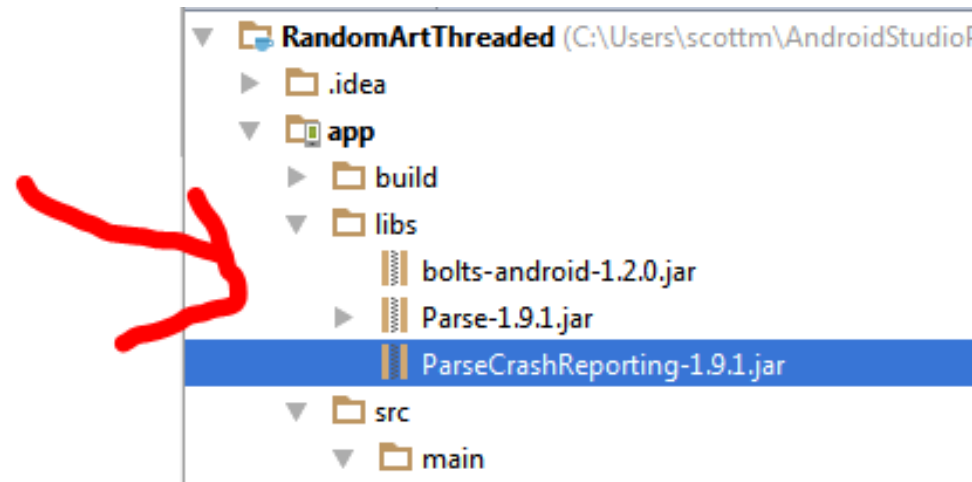
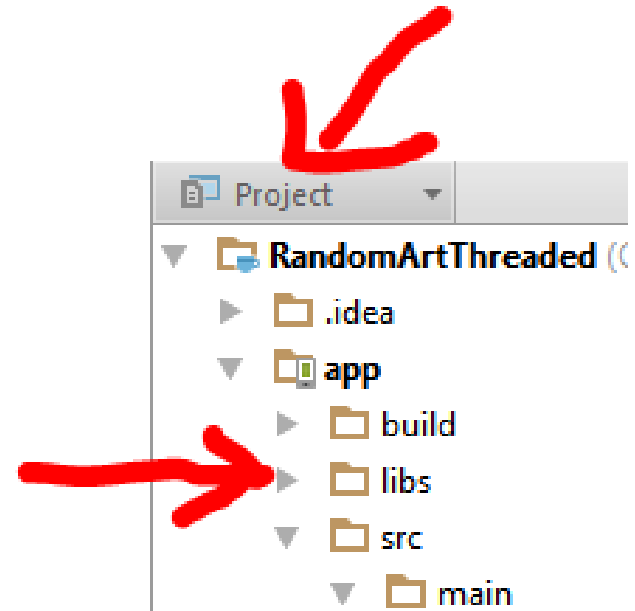
Examples of Using a MBaaS

- Parse
- www.parse.com
- various pricing models
- relatively easy to set up and use
- Going away 1/28/2017



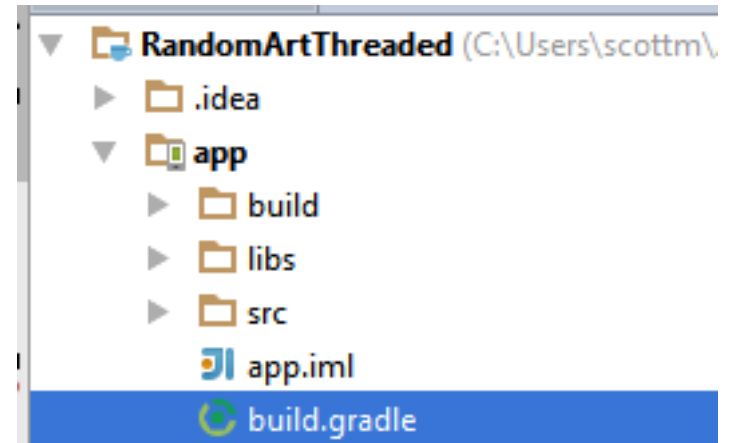
Parse Set Up in AndroidStudio

1. request api key
2. Download Parse SDK
3. Unzip files
4. Create libs directory in app directory (select Project view)
5. Drag jar files to libs directory



Parse Set Up in AndroidStudio

6. add dependencies to gradle build file under app



like so:

```
dependencies {  
    compile 'com.android.support:support-v4:18.0.0'  
    compile 'com.parse.bolts:bolts-android:1.+'  
    compile fileTree(dir: 'libs', include: 'Parse-*.jar')  
}
```

[https://www.parse.com/apps/quickstart#
parse_data/mobile/android/native/new](https://www.parse.com/apps/quickstart#parse_data/mobile/android/native/new)

Testing Parse

- Add permissions to manifest to access network state and use internet

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

- initialize Parse in onCreate method
- keys for account and app

```
public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
    Parse.initialize(this, "GACBq6Jwvf2PL7EIl3IRpvav7GEU
```

Testing Parse

- at the end of onCreate()
- create and send a test object to Parse

```
testParse();  
}
```

```
private void testParse() {  
    ParseObject testObject = new ParseObject("TestObject");  
    testObject.put("foo", "bar");  
    testObject.saveInBackground();  
}
```

- abstraction
 - handles doing this in the background, off the UI thread

Result of Test

Test

Congrats! You saved your first object:

```
{ "id": "HQZcs4g5vp", "created_at": "2014-11-11T21:34:19Z",  
  "updated_at": "2014-11-11T21:34:19Z", "foo": "bar" }
```

- JSON
 - JavaScript Object Notation

ParseObject

```
private void testParse() {  
    ParseObject testObject = new ParseObject("TestObject");  
    testObject.put("foo", "bar");  
    testObject.saveInBackground();  
}
```

- Local representation of data (on the device) that can be saved and retrieved from the Parse
- String in constructor is class name
 - like a table in a data base
- put to add key - value pairs
 - String - Object
 - keys must be alphanumeric
 - like a column in the row

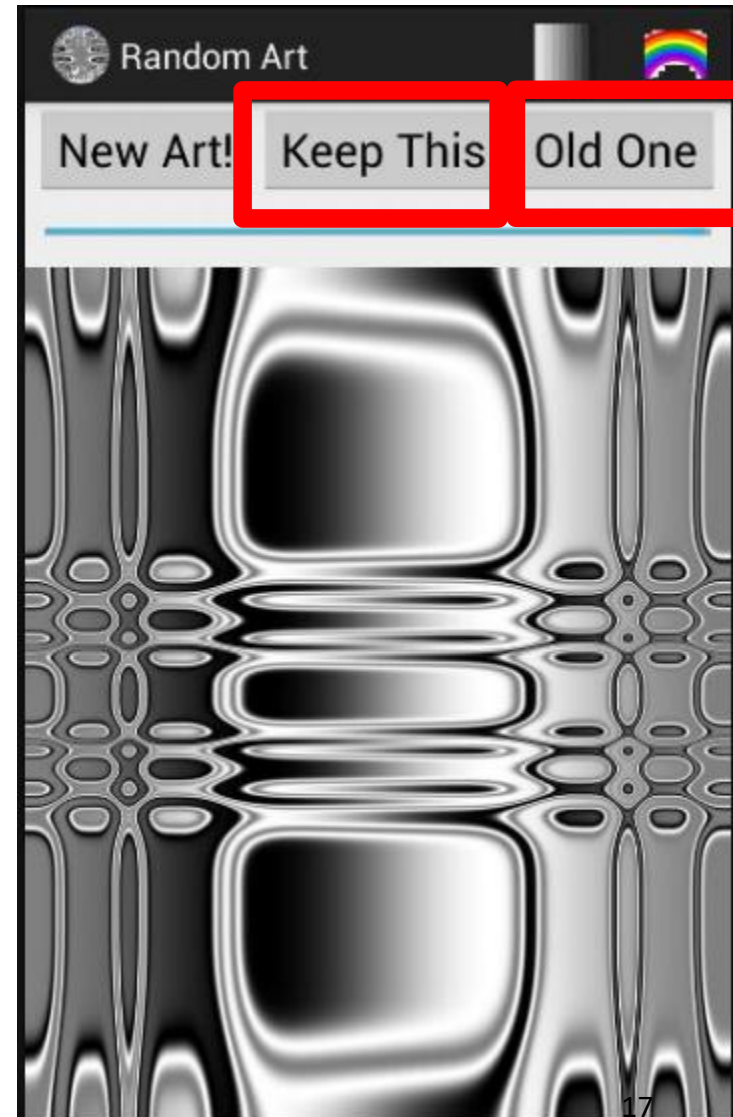
ParseObject

```
private void testParse() {  
    ParseObject testObject = new ParseObject("TestObject");  
    testObject.put("foo", "bar");  
    testObject.saveInBackground();  
}
```

- saveInBackground method saves object to Parse in a background thread
- multiple options for saving
 - saveAll(List)
 - saveEventually() - if server or network not available
 - saveInBackground(SaveCallback)

Parse and RandomArt

- add ability to save equations
- save to parse database
- allow multiple users to save equations
- functionality to display a random equation others liked
- up and down votes



onClick for Keep This

```
public void saveEquation(View v) {  
    if(exp != null) {  
        // should also check to ensure equation not already saved  
        final int[] count = {0};  
  
        ParseQuery<ParseObject> countQuery  
            = ParseQuery.getQuery("ArtExpressionCount");  
  
        countQuery.getFirstInBackground(new GetCallback<ParseObject>() {  
            @Override  
            public void done(ParseObject masterCount, ParseException e)  
                if(e == null) {  
                    count[0] = masterCount.getInt("TheCount");  
                    Log.d(TAG, "The Count via the master count object: " +  
                        masterCount.increment("TheCount"));  
                    masterCount.saveInBackground();  
                }  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

onClick for Save Equation - cont.

```
masterCount.saveInBackground();
```

```
ParseObject currentExpression  
    = new ParseObject("ArtExpression");
```

```
currentExpression.put("equation", exp.toString());
```

```
currentExpression.put("votes", 1);
```

```
currentExpression.put("index", count[0]);
```

```
currentExpression.saveInBackground();
```

```
} else {
```

```
    Log.d(TAG, "Unable to get count, not saving expressi
```

```
}
```

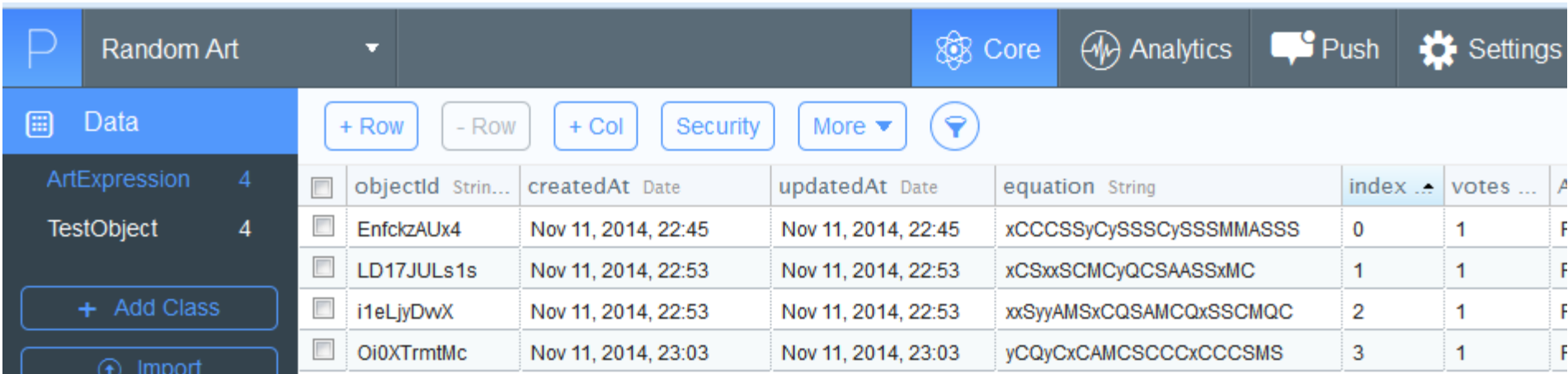
ParseObject allowed addition of any key value pair.
Keys must be Strings.

saveEquation

- Makes a query to get the number of rows in the expression table
 - uses another table with one row with one column (GACK, no auto increment function)
- callback method for completed query
- checks the count
- creates new ParseObject
- makes the index for this new expression the count (0 based indexing)
- saves the object and updates count object

Parse Dashboard

- Examine data uploaded from apps

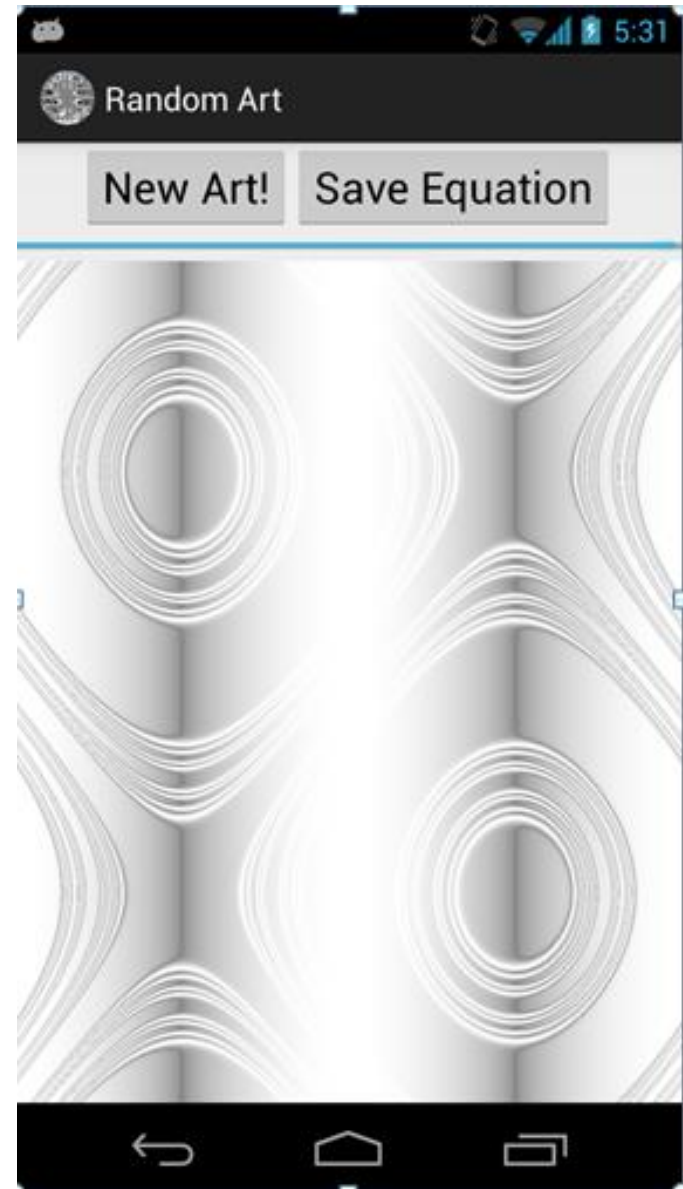


The screenshot shows the Parse Dashboard interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a 'Random Art' dropdown menu and buttons for 'Core', 'Analytics', 'Push', and 'Settings'. Below the navigation bar is a 'Data' section with a table of data. The table has columns for 'objectid', 'createdAt', 'updatedAt', 'equation', 'index', and 'votes'. The 'equation' column contains strings of alphanumeric characters. There are also buttons for '+ Row', '- Row', '+ Col', 'Security', 'More', and a funnel icon for filtering.

objectid	createdAt	updatedAt	equation	index	votes
EnfckzAUx4	Nov 11, 2014, 22:45	Nov 11, 2014, 22:45	xCCCSSyCySSSCySSSMMASSS	0	1
LD17JULs1s	Nov 11, 2014, 22:53	Nov 11, 2014, 22:53	xCSxxSCMCyQCSAASSxMC	1	1
i1eLjyDwX	Nov 11, 2014, 22:53	Nov 11, 2014, 22:53	xxSyyAMSxCQSAMCQxSSCMQC	2	1
Oi0XTrmtMc	Nov 11, 2014, 23:03	Nov 11, 2014, 23:03	yCQyCxCAMCSCCCxCCCSMS	3	1

equation
xCCCSSyCySSSCySSSMMASSS
xCSxxSCMCyQCSAASSxMC
xxSyyAMSxCQSAMCQxSSCMQC
yCQyCxCAMCSCCCxCCCSMS

demo Saving an Equation



Get Random Saved Art

- When user presses button pick a random saved expression and render that image
- We just save the expression so we must recreate image
 - time vs. space trade off
- check count of values and pick random index

getRandomGoodArt

```
public void getRandomGoodArt(View v) {
    pickRandomExpression = false;

    ParseQuery<ParseObject> countQuery
        = ParseQuery.getQuery("ArtExpressionCount");

    countQuery.getFirstInBackground(new GetCallback<ParseObject>() {
        @Override
        public void done(ParseObject masterCount, ParseException e) {
            if (e == null) {
                int count = masterCount.getInt("TheCount");
                int randomIndex = r.nextInt(count);
                Log.d(TAG, "The Count via the master count object: " + count);

                ParseQuery<ParseObject> query
                    = ParseQuery.getQuery("ArtExpression");
                query.whereGreaterThanOrEqualTo("index", randomIndex);
                query.getFirstInBackground(setRandomExpressionFromQuery);
            } else {
                Log.d(TAG, "Unable to get count to get random expression");
            }
        }
    });
};
```


callback object

- pull out the String from the returned object and build expression based on equation

```
private GetCallback<ParseObject> setRandomExpressionFromQuery
                                = new GetCallback<ParseObject>() {
public void done(ParseObject object, ParseException e) {
    if (e == null) {
        String equation = object.getString("equation");
        exp = new RandomExpression(equation);
        // now draw it
        Log.d(TAG, "equation: " + equation);
        Log.d(TAG, "index of expression: " + object.getInt("index"));
        new ArtTaskInner().execute(artImage.getWidth(), artImage.getHeight());
    } else {
        Log.d(TAG, "Unable to get the given random expression");
    }
}
};
```

good one logcat

```
18321 scottm.examples... Random Art Threaded equation: yCQyCxCAMCSCCCxCCCSMS
18321 scottm.examples... Random Art Threaded index of expression: 3
.....
```

	objectId	String	createdAt	Date	updatedAt	Date	equation	String	index
<input type="checkbox"/>	EnfckzAUx4		Nov 11, 2014, 22:45		Nov 11, 2014, 22:45		xCCCSSyCySSSCySSSMMASSS		0
<input type="checkbox"/>	LD17JULs1s		Nov 11, 2014, 22:53		Nov 11, 2014, 22:53		yCQyCxCAMCSCCCxCCCSMS		1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oi0XTrmtMc		Nov 11, 2014, 23:03		Nov 11, 2014, 23:03		yCQyCxCAMCSCCCxCCCSMS		3

More Parse

- Includes capability to do local data store
 - save objects on device, save to cloud later
 - abstracts away a lot of the details
 - [Kyle Norton](#) from Pariveda: "Assume you WON'T be connected to the network."
- Parse objects meant to be "small"
 - less than 128 kb
 - not for images
 - Parse files for large pieces of data
- Past semesters many groups used Parse successfully



FIREBASE

Firebase

- Yet another Backend as a Service (Baas)
- Designed for web and mobile
- Founded in 2011
- Initial product was backend so websites could easily host chat as part of site
- discovered developers were sending non chat data (such as game state) via the tool

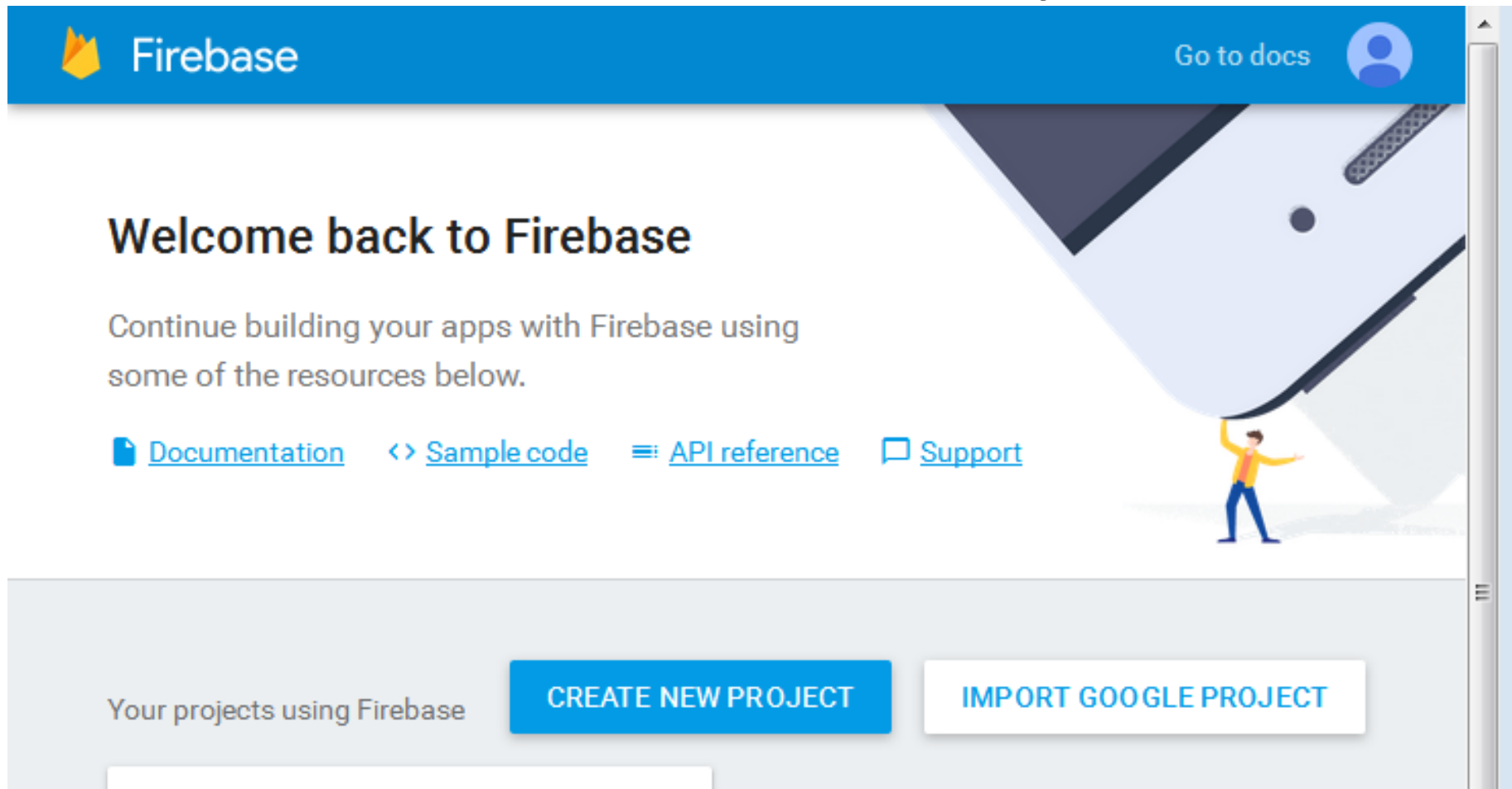


Firebase for Android

- Devices with Android 4.0 (ice cream sandwich) or higher
- Google play services SDK
 - same as fused location
- Android Studio 1.5 or higher
- Your Android studio project and package name
- Firebase Assistant in Android Studio 2.2 or higher
 - Tools -> Firebase

Firebase Project Set up

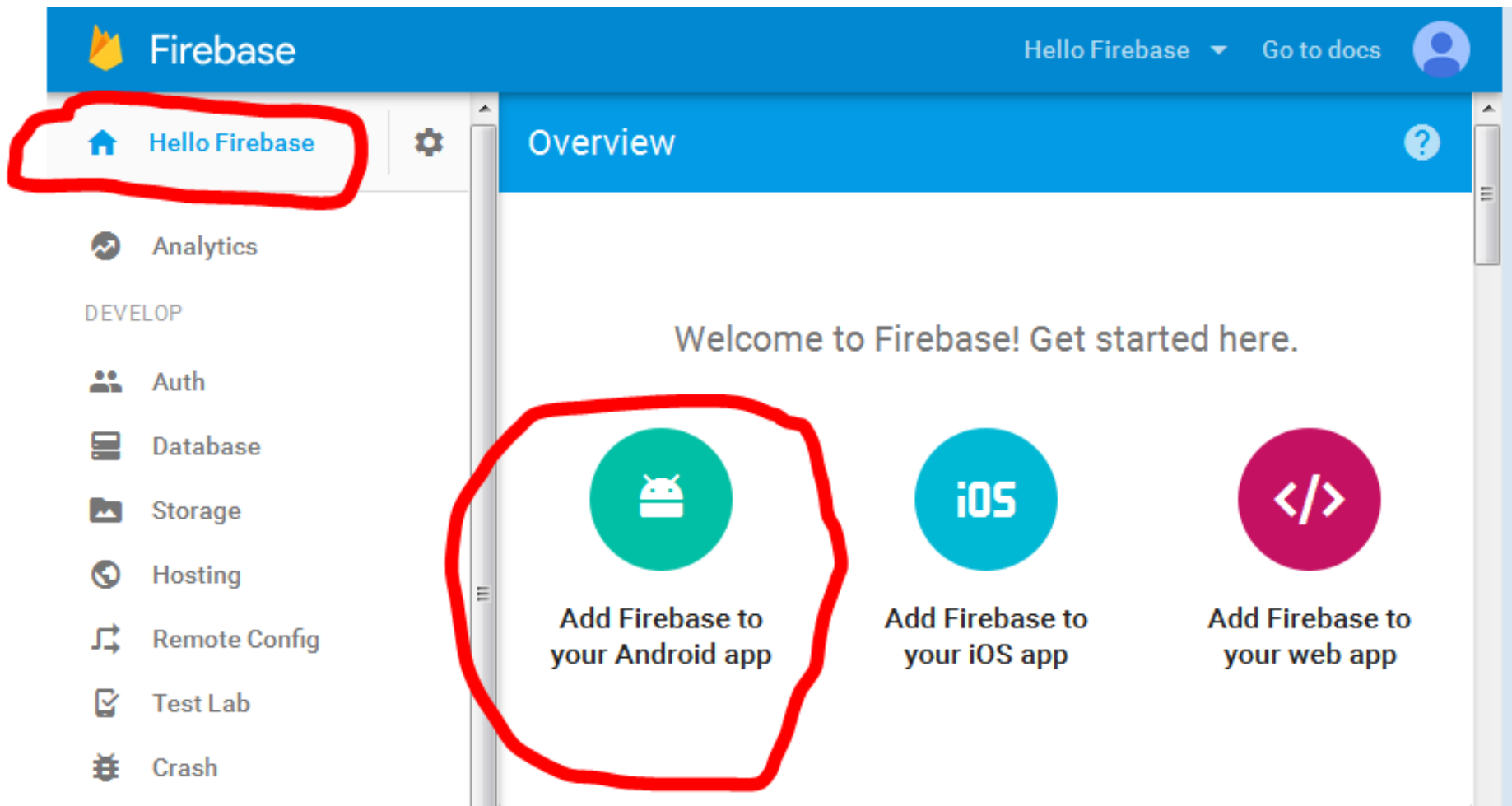
- Create Firebase project in [console](#)
- Just needs name and country



The screenshot shows the Firebase console homepage. At the top is a blue header with the Firebase logo and the text "Firebase". On the right side of the header, there is a "Go to docs" link and a user profile icon. Below the header, the main content area features the heading "Welcome back to Firebase" and a sub-heading "Continue building your apps with Firebase using some of the resources below." Below this, there are four links: "Documentation", "Sample code", "API reference", and "Support". On the right side of the main content area, there is an illustration of a person in a yellow shirt and blue pants standing next to a large, stylized blue and white shape that resembles a smartphone or tablet. At the bottom of the page, there is a light gray section with the text "Your projects using Firebase" on the left, and two buttons: "CREATE NEW PROJECT" (a blue button) and "IMPORT GOOGLE PROJECT" (a white button with a blue border).

Firebase Project Console

- After creating project, overview page:



Firebase for Android Project

- Adding Firebase to Android app
- Need package name (easy)
- Debug signing certificate SHA-1 hash (for use of some Firebase features)
- Uses the keytool program included with Java
 - "Manages a keystore (database) of cryptographic keys, X.509 certificate chains, and trusted certificates. "

Adding Firebase to Android App

Add Firebase to your Android app

1

Enter app details

2

Copy config file

3

Add to build.gradle

Package name [?](#)

examples.scottm.hellofirebase

Debug signing certificate SHA-1 (optional) [?](#)

6D:FD:E5:28:BA:C4:9D:36:5B:A3:53:9C:A8:34:0F:E6:AC:0F:56:B!

Required for Dynamic Links, Invites, and Google Sign-In support in Auth. Edit SHA-1s in Settings.

CANCEL

ADD APP

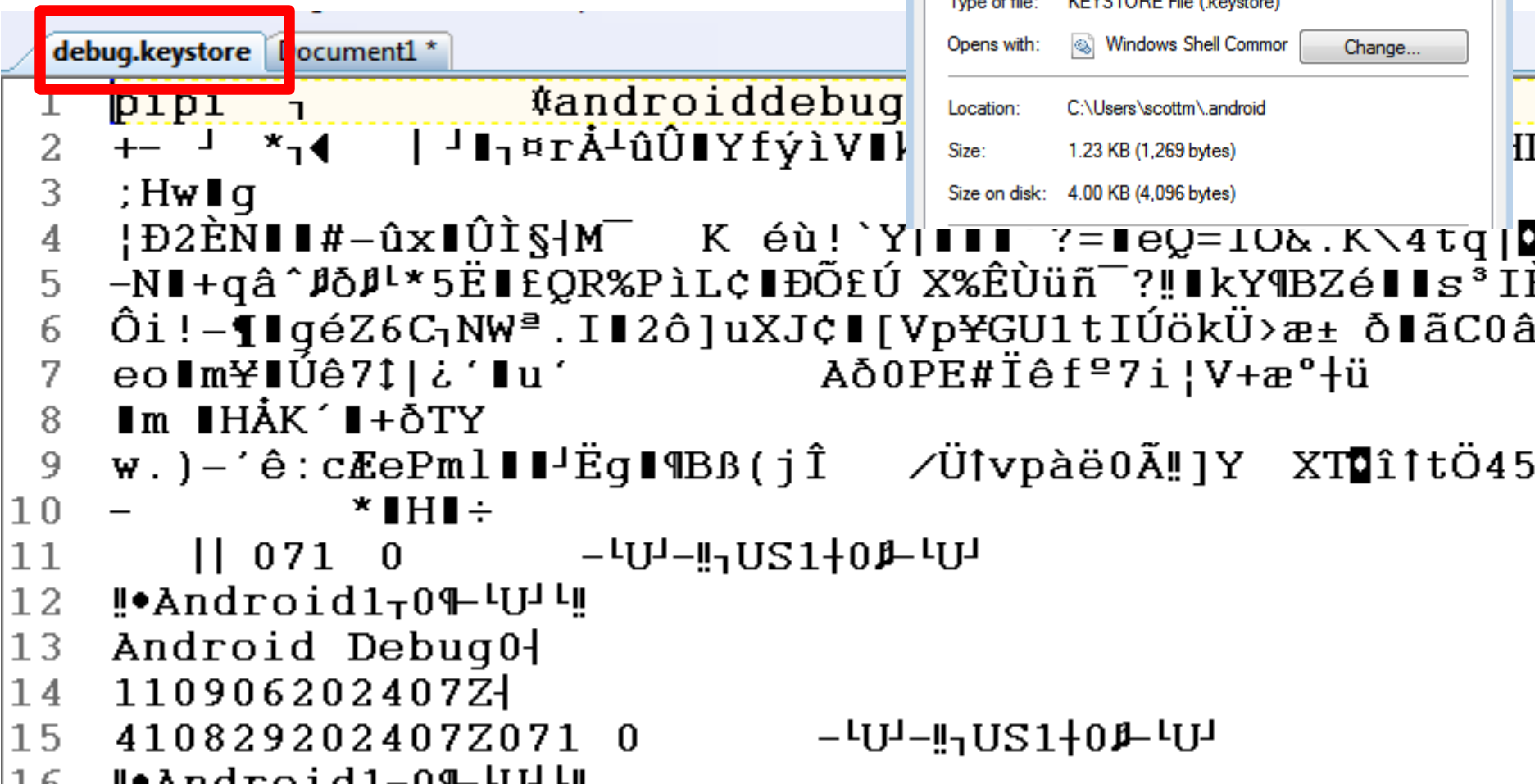
*downloads
google-services.json for
your app*

Using keytool

- Varies from system to system
- need location of debug signing certificate
 - created automatically when Android Studio installed
- typically,
<USER>/.android/debugkeystore

Debug Signing Certificate

- certificate not human readable



The image shows a text editor window with the file name 'debug.keystore' highlighted in a red box. The content of the file is garbled, but some recognizable text is visible, including 'androiddebug', 'Android1', and 'Android Debug'. To the right, a 'debug.keystore Properties' dialog box is open, showing the file's details:

debug.keystore Properties			
General	Security	Details	Previous Versions
debug.keystore			
Type of file:	KEYSTORE File (.keystore)		
Opens with:	Windows Shell Commor <input type="button" value="Change..."/>		
Location:	C:\Users\scottm\android		
Size:	1.23 KB (1,269 bytes)		
Size on disk:	4.00 KB (4,096 bytes)		

Running keytool

- Specifics vary from system to system

To get the debug certificate fingerprint:

MAC/LINUX

WINDOWS

```
keytool -exportcert -list -v \  
-alias androiddebugkey -keystore ~/.android/debug.keystore
```

The keytool utility prompts you to enter a password for the keystore. The default password for the debug keystore is `android`. The keytool then prints the fingerprint to the terminal. For example:

```
Certificate fingerprint: SHA1: DA:39:A3:EE:5E:6B:4B:0D:32:55:BF:EI
```

Firebase Config File for App

- After providing package name and SHA-1 fingerprint ...
- Firebase generates a JSON file named `google-services.json` specific for this project
 - multiple projects / apps -> repeat steps
- Download and add file to project

Firebase Config File for App

Add Firebase to your Android app



Enter app details



Copy config file



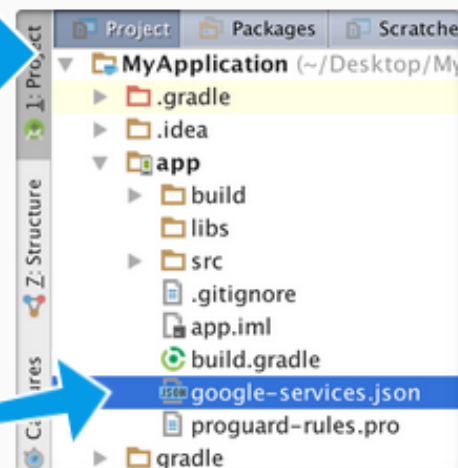
Add to build.gradle

Switch to the **Project** view in Android Studio to see your project root directory.

Move the `google-services.json` file you just downloaded into your Android app module root directory.



`google-services.json`



Already added the dependencies?
[Skip to the console](#)

CONTINUE

google-services.json

```
{  
  "project_info": {  
    "project_number": "489833291042",  
    "firebase_url": "https://hello-firebase-cb60f.firebaseio.co",  
    "project_id": "hello-firebase-cb60f",  
    "storage_bucket": "hello-firebase-cb60f.appspot.com"  
  },  
  "client": [  
    {  
      "client_info": {  
        "mobilesdk_app_id": "1:489833291042:android:69b93ad9212",  
        "android_client_info": {  
          "package_name": "examples.scottm.hellofirebase"  
        }  
      },  
      "oauth_client": [  
        {  
          "client_id": "489833291042-ecutirgvod48scbcs6obrllsaq",  
          "client_type": 1,  
          "android_info": {  
            "package_name": "examples.scottm.hellofirebase"  
          }  
        }  
      ]  
    }  
  ]  
}
```


Update Gradle Files

The Google services plugin for [Gradle](#) loads the `google-services.json` file you just downloaded. Modify your `build.gradle` files to use the plugin.

1. Project-level `build.gradle` (<project>/`build.gradle`):

```
buildscript {
    dependencies {
        // Add this line
        classpath 'com.google.gms:google-services:3.0.0'
    }
}
```

2. App-level `build.gradle` (<project>/<app-module>/`build.gradle`):

```
...
// Add to the bottom of the file
apply plugin: 'com.google.gms.google-services'
```

includes Firebase Analytics by default ⓘ

3. Finally, press "Sync now" in the bar that appears.

Gradle files have changed since last sync

Sync

- ▼ Gradle Scripts
 - build.gradle (Project: HelloFirebase)
 - build.gradle (Module: app)

Firebase Capabilities

- Firebase has a host of capabilities
- User authorization
- database storage
- storage for larger files
- cloud messaging
- push notifications
- analytics
- hosting of web content

Firestore Database

- With Parse offline, migrated Random Art database to Firestore
- The roots of the chat room are somewhat apparent
 - lots of chat examples
 - realtime updates
 - emphasis on authorized users



Default security rules require users to be authenticated

One More Setup Step

- To use Firebase databases in app, after previous setup steps:

Add the Realtime Database to your app

Add the dependency for Firebase Realtime Database to your app-level `build.gradle` file:

```
compile 'com.google.firebase:firebase-database:9.2.0'
```

Firestore Database Rules

- Firestore database rules
- Defines:
 - How data should be structured
 - How data should be indexed
 - When data can be read or written
 - Who can read and write data

Firestore Database Rules

```
// These rules require authentication
```

```
{  
  "rules": {  
    ".read": "auth != null",  
    ".write": "auth != null"  
  }  
}
```

```
1 // These rules give anyone, even people who are not users of your app,  
2 // read and write access to your database
```

```
3 {  
4   "rules": {  
5     ".read": true,  
6     ".write": true  
7   }  
8 }  
9
```

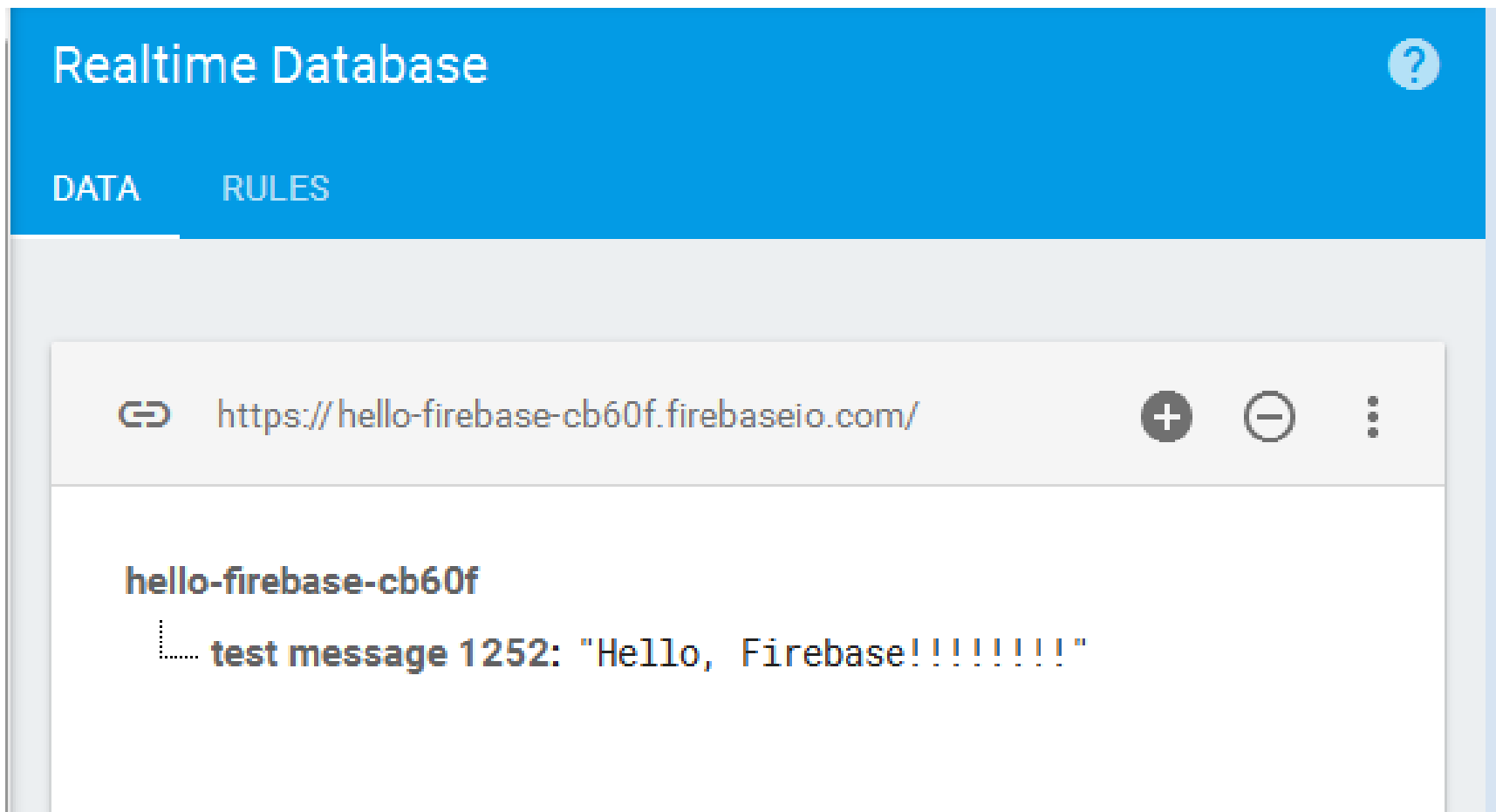
Hello Firebase

- In app, called from onCreate of Activity

```
private void testFirestore() {  
    // Write a message to the database  
    FirebaseDatabase database  
        = FirebaseDatabase.getInstance();  
    DatabaseReference myRef  
        = database.getReference("test message 1252");  
  
    myRef.setValue("Hello, Firestore!!!!!!!");  
}
```

Result When App Run

- Immediately writes to database if network connections exists:



The screenshot displays the Firebase Realtime Database interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the text "Realtime Database" and a help icon. Below the header, there are two tabs: "DATA" and "RULES". The "DATA" tab is selected. The main content area shows a browser-like address bar with the URL "https://hello-firebase-cb60f.firebaseio.com/". Below the address bar, the database path "hello-firebase-cb60f" is shown, followed by a test message: "test message 1252: 'Hello, Firebase!!!!!!!!!!'".

Firestore database

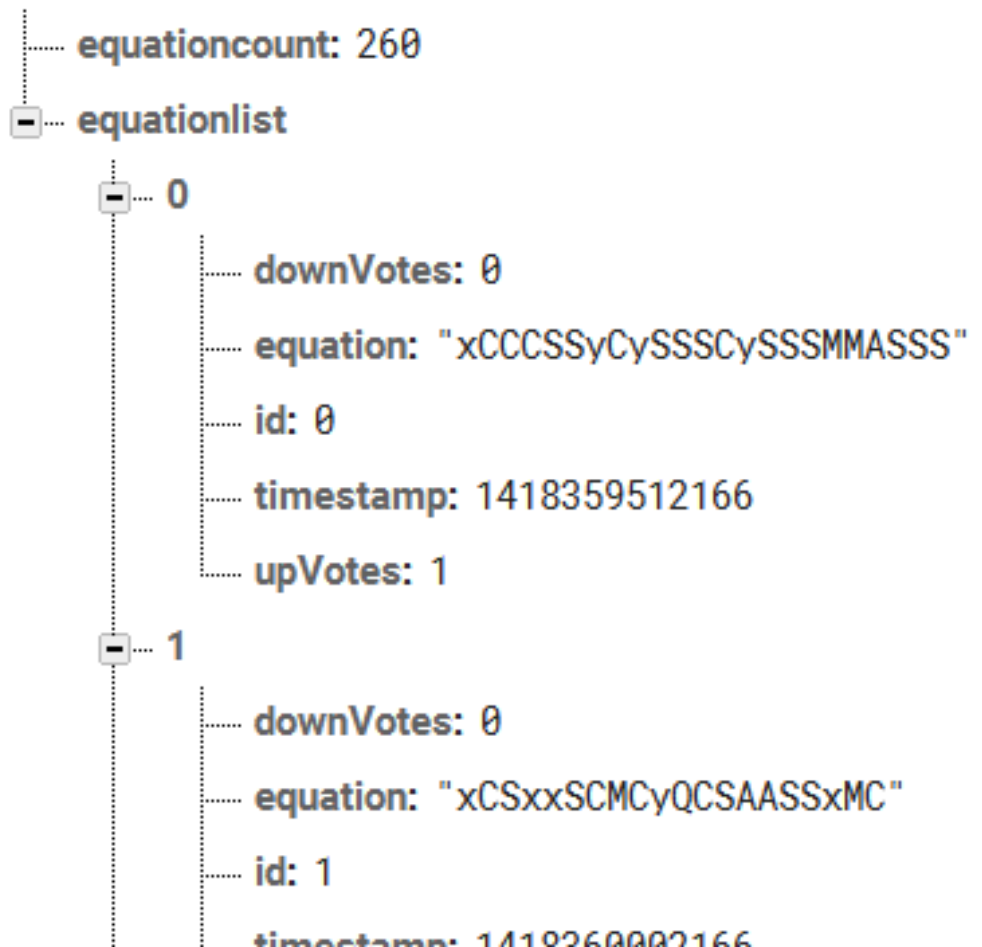
- Not traditional tables
- "Everything is a JSON! tree"
- Children of main tree are like "tables" in traditional database
- Children of children are typically (but not always) like rows in a traditional table

Random Art Data on Firebase

- equation count child to assign ids and pick random equation
- equation list with children for each equation

<https://random-art-e7498.firebaseio.com/>

random-art-e7498



Random Art

- App keeps track of current equation count
- First value from database and listener so whenever count changes, local copy is updated

Random Art

- Keep references to parts of JSON tree
- Update values (equation count)
- add children (new, good equations)
- pull random children (old, good equations)
- In main Random Art Activity

```
private DatabaseReference equationListDatabase;  
private DatabaseReference equationCountDatabase;  
private int equationCount;
```

Random Art - Count Listener

```
ValueEventListener postListener = new ValueEventListener() {  
    @Override  
    public void onDataChange(DataSnapshot dataSnapshot) {  
        // Get Post object and use the values to update the  
        Log.d(TAG, "onDataChanged call for Value Event Listener  
        equationCount = ((Long) dataSnapshot.getValue()).intValue()  
    }  
  
    @Override  
    public void onCancelled(DatabaseError databaseError) {  
        // Getting Post failed, log a message  
        Log.w(TAG, "loadPost:onCancelled", databaseError.toString());  
        // ...  
    }  
};  
equationCountDatabase.addValueEventListener(postListener);
```

Random Art - Save Equation

```
currentExpressionIsNew = false;
int newCount = equationCount + 1;
Log.d(TAG, "Setting new count. Old count: " + equationCount + ", ne
equationCountDatabase.setValue(newCount);
String equation = exp.toString();
// Add current equation to Firestore database
EquationForStorage newExpression
    = new EquationForStorage(equation, newCount, 1, 0, System.c
equationListDatabase.child("" + newCount).setValue(newExpression);
```

- setValue method to add child
- Firebase data: String, Long, Double, Boolean, Map<String, Object>, List<Object>
- any custom object with 0 argument constructor and public getters for properties

Random Art - Get Equation

- Pick random child based on current number of equations

```
int randomID = r.nextInt(equationCount);
equationListDatabase.child(randomID + "").addListenerForSingleValueEvent(
    new ValueEventListener() {
        @Override
        public void onDataChange(DataSnapshot dataSnapshot) {
            // Get user value
            EquationForStorage eq
                = dataSnapshot.getValue(EquationForStorage.class);
            Log.d(TAG, "read expression: " + eq.getEquation());
            exp = new RandomExpression(eq.getEquation());
            // now draw it
            Log.d(TAG, "index / id of expression: " + eq.getId());
            new ArtTaskInner().execute(artImage.getWidth(), artImage.ge

        }

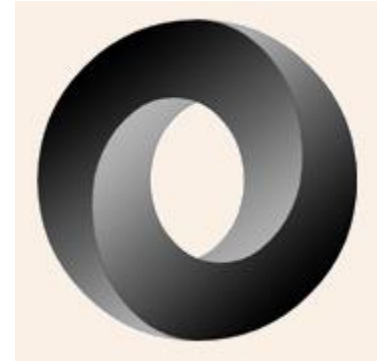
        @Override
        public void onCancelled(DatabaseError databaseError) {
            Log.w(TAG, "getUser:onCancelled", databaseError.toException()

        }
    });
```

JSON



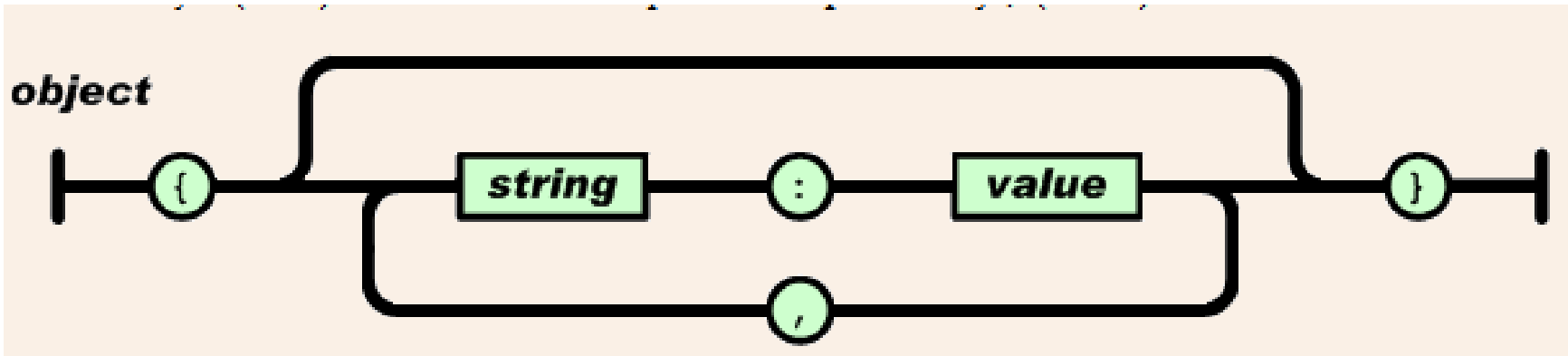
JSON



- JavaScript Object Notation
- a way to represent JavaScript objects as Strings
- alternative to XML for passing data between servers and clients
- designed for data interchange format that humans can also read and write

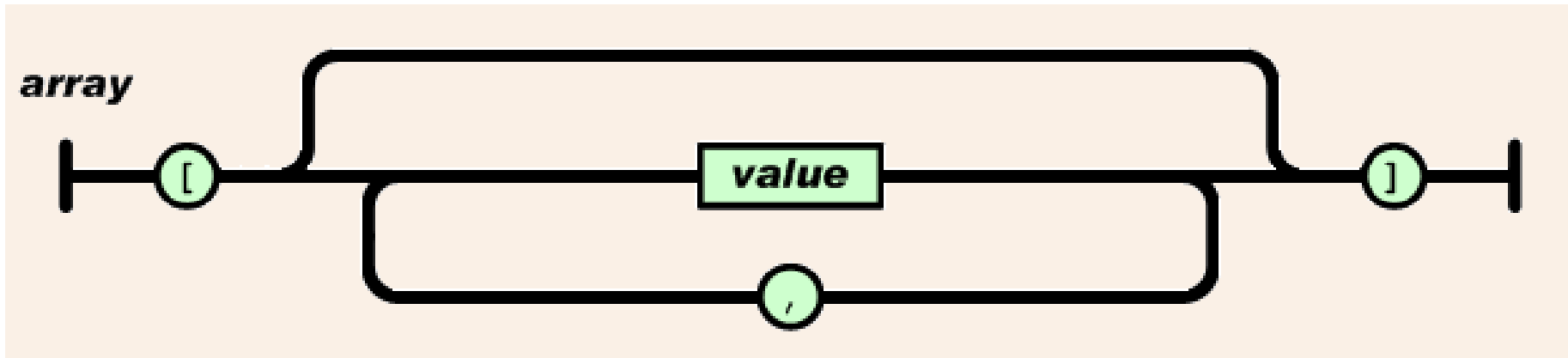
JSON Format

- Built on two structures
 - collection of name-value pairs: a.k.a. objects, records, structs, etc.
 - an ordered list of values: a.k.a. an array
- objects



JSON Format

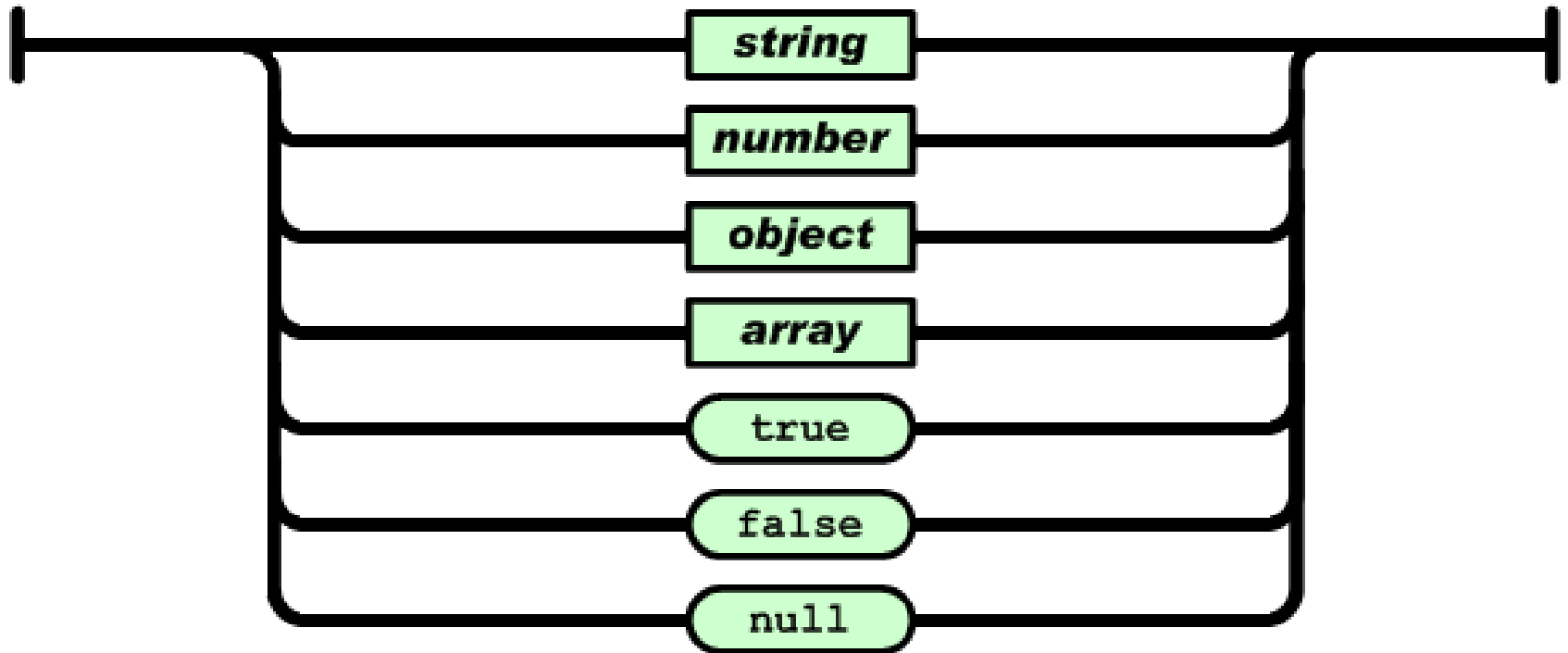
- arrays



- values
 - string, number, object, array, true, false, null

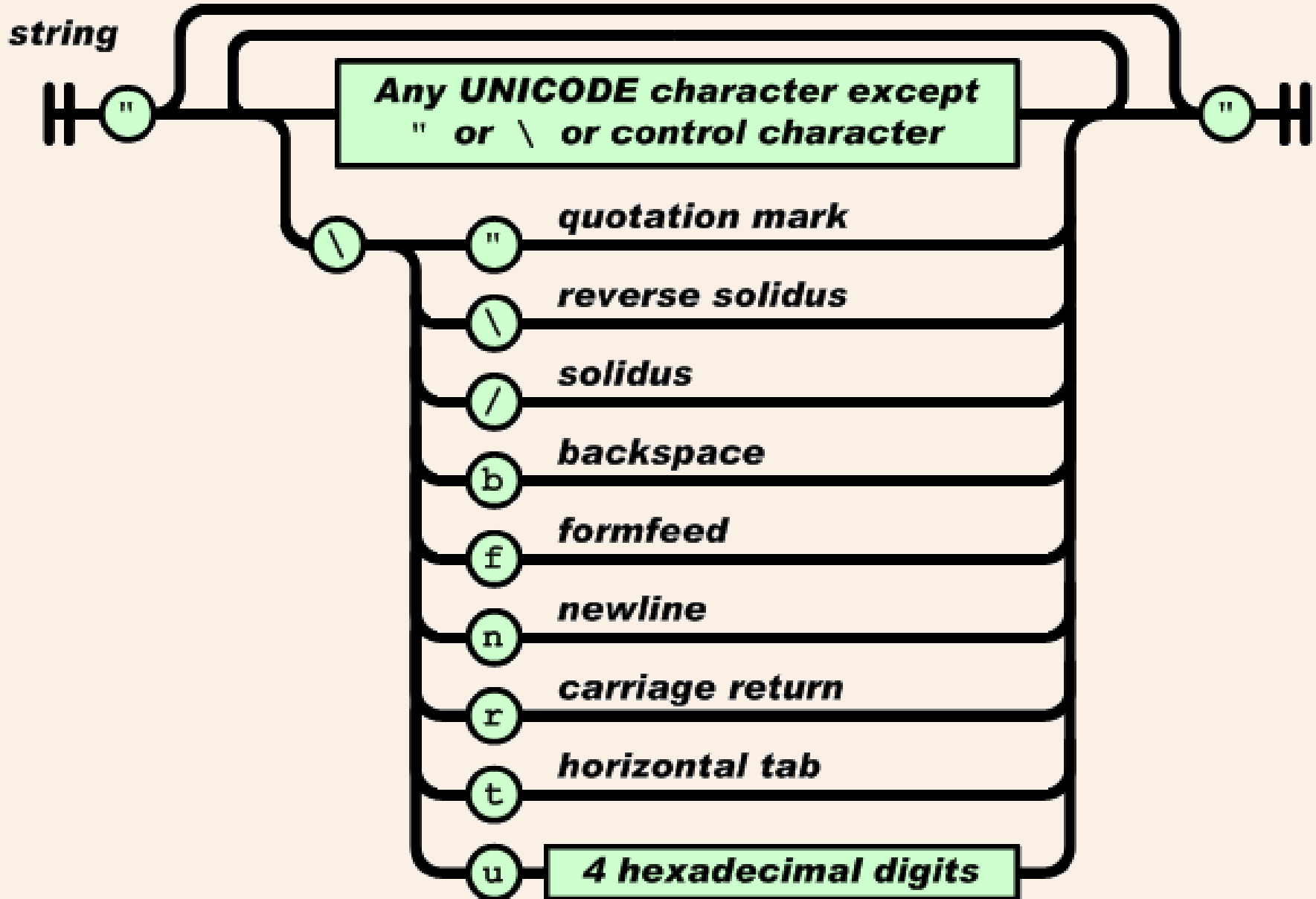
JSON Values

value

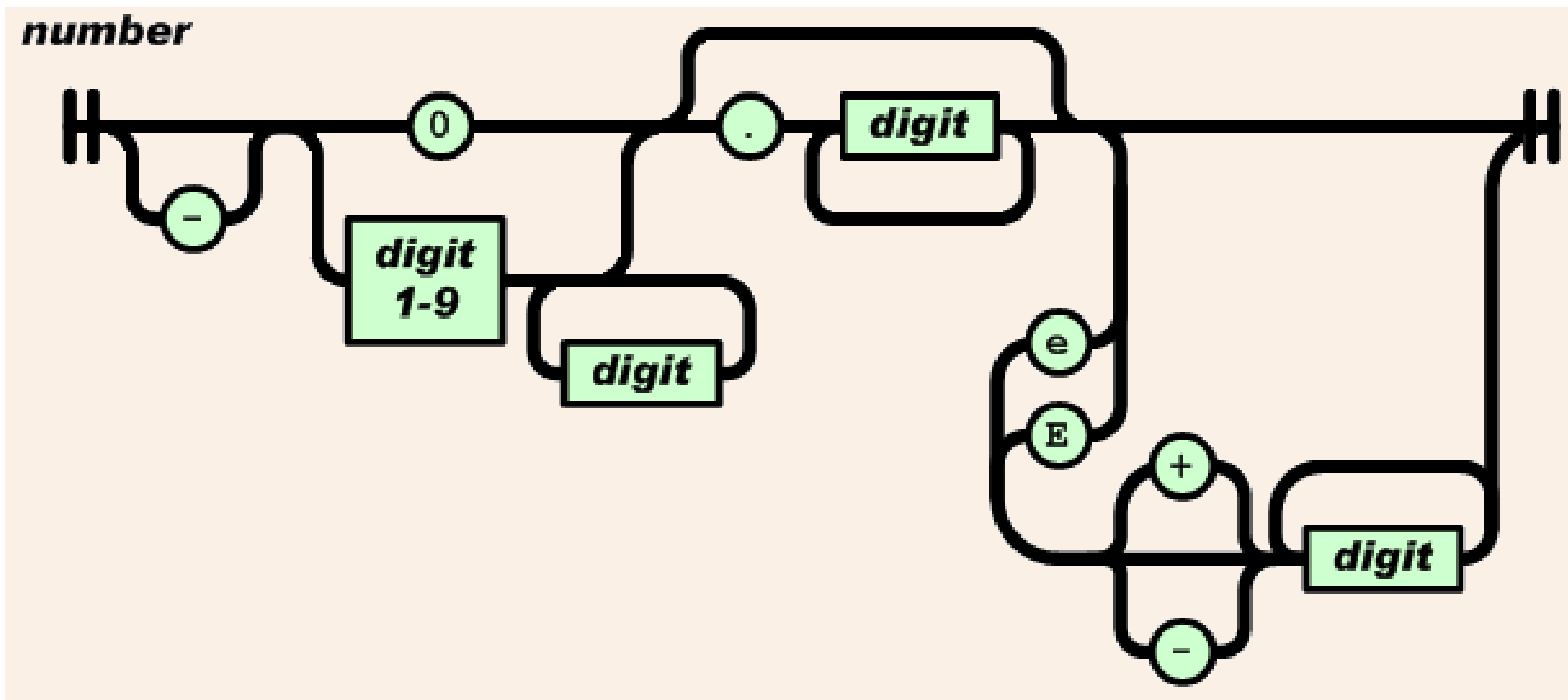


Syntax Diagrams for string and number: <http://www.json.org/>

JSON Strings



JSON Numbers



JSON Examples

- value (String):
 - "Round Rock"
- array:
 - ["Round Rock", "Dallas", "Houston"]
- object
 - {"height":70,"weight":165}