

Fragments

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Why Fragments?

- ▶ **Android screen Sizes**
 - ▶ Multiple Screen sizes are available for phones.
 - ▶ New form factors emerging
 - ▶ Tablet
 - ▶ Auto
 - ▶ Wear
- ▶ **Activity not the best representative of the User Interface**
 - ▶ Activity treats the whole screen as a representation for a single screen and a single task that the user can accomplish.
 - ▶ Activity not a scalable and flexible mechanism for building apps across devices.

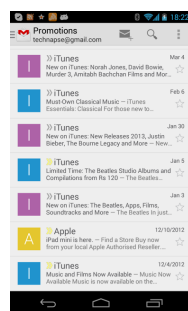
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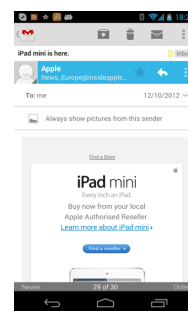
Why Fragments?

- ▶ **Activity and Phone**
 - ▶ Each Screen is represented by an Activity.
 - ▶ A user navigates between Activities.
 - ▶ On smaller device Activity navigation is fine.

Email List Activity



Email Detail Activity



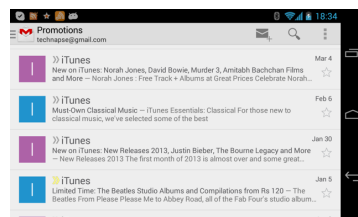
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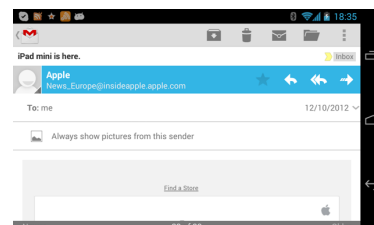
Why Fragments?

- ▶ **Activity and Tablet**
 - ▶ On tablets, Activity navigation is not the best use of Screen space

Email List Activity



Email Detail Activity

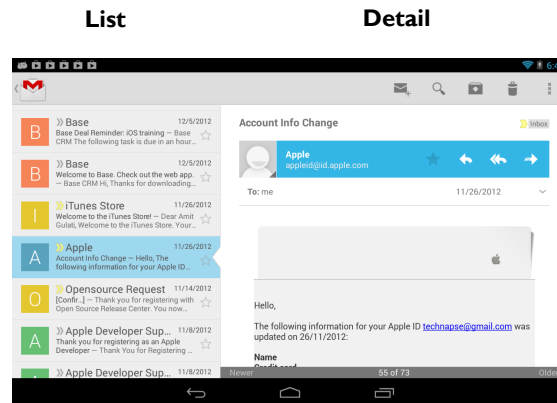


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Why Fragments?

- ▶ Activity and Tablet
 - ▶ Enough room to display multiple content in the same Screen



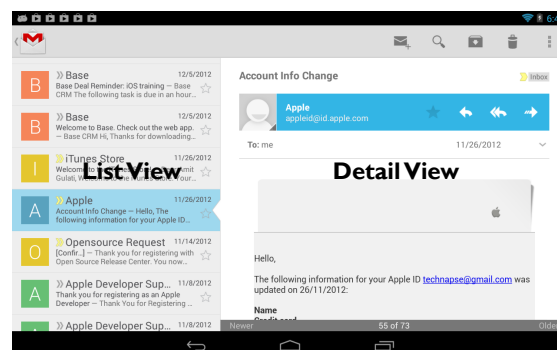
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Why Fragments?

- ▶ Activity and Tablet
 - ▶ Split screen configuration also possible via multiple Views in Activity

Email Split Activity



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Why Fragments?

▶ Activity and Tablet

- ▶ Disadvantages of Single Activity – multiple View for configuring split screen.
 - ▶ Single Activity class handles the logic for two Screens.
 - ▶ Activity code becomes large.
 - ▶ Reuse of View (part of the Activity) challenging.
 - ▶ Leads to code management issues.
- ▶ What is required is something like a mini-Activity or a sub-Activity
 - ▶ So that we will be able to split a Single Activity in to self contained sub-components.



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What is a Fragment?

▶ Fragment

- ▶ Represented by android.app.**Fragment** class
- ▶ More like a sub-activity
- ▶ Has its own XML layout, lifecycle, and receives its own input events.

FirstFragment.java

```
public class FirstFragment
    extends Fragment {
    public FirstFragment() {
    }
}
```

fragment_first.xml

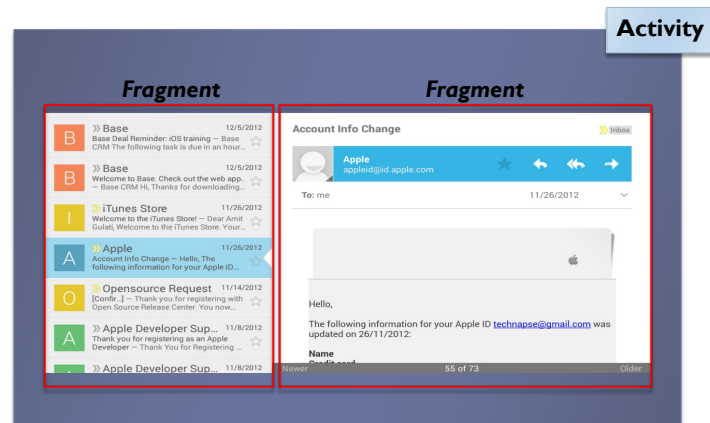


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What is a Fragment?

- **Fragment**
 - Fragments are always embedded inside an Activity



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What is a Fragment?

- **Fragment**
 - Fragments are not independent Android components.
 - Not registered in the manifest.
 - Cannot be launched via Intents.
 - Android Runtime is not even aware of Fragments
 - Fragments are always embedded inside an Activity
 - Activity provides a ViewGroup container in which the View of the Fragment is added.
 - For the Android View/Drawing System, Fragment loses its Identity once it is added to the Activity, as the View tree of Activity gets updated with the Fragments View Tree.



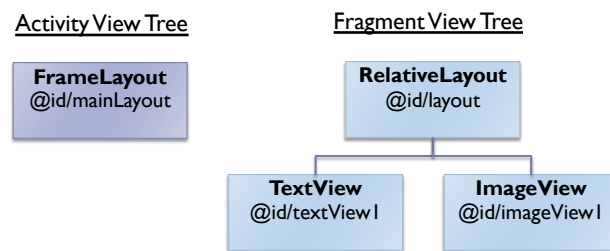
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What is a Fragment?

▶ Fragment

- ▶ Fragments are always embedded inside an Activity
- ▶ By default Activity View tree and Fragment View tree are independent entities.

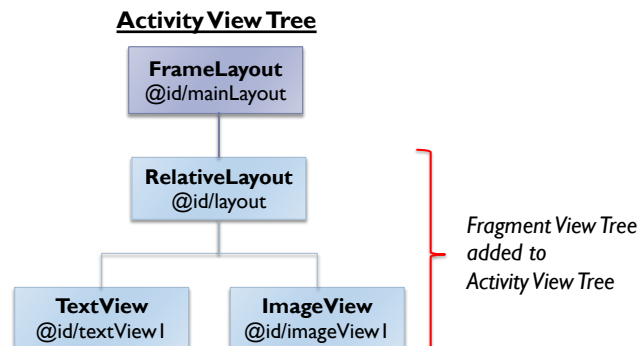


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What is a Fragment?

▶ Fragment

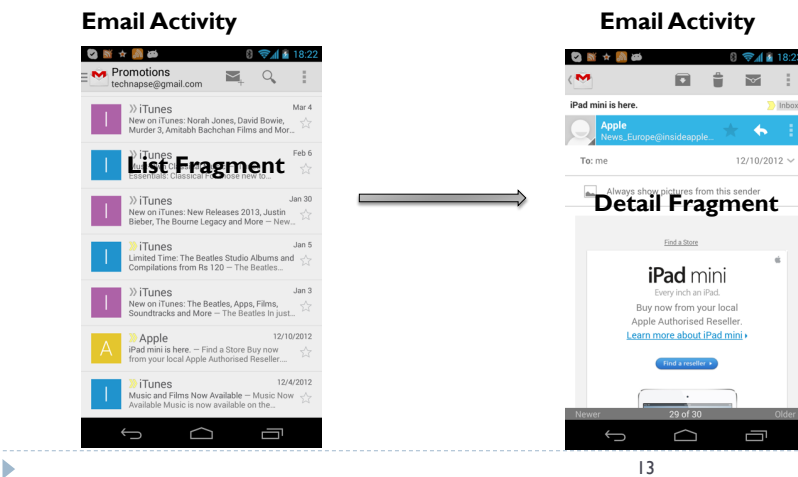
- ▶ Fragments are always embedded inside an Activity
- ▶ When Fragment is added to activity, activities view tree is updated with the fragment view tree.
- ▶ This is the only way to display Fragment on the Screen



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What is a Fragment?

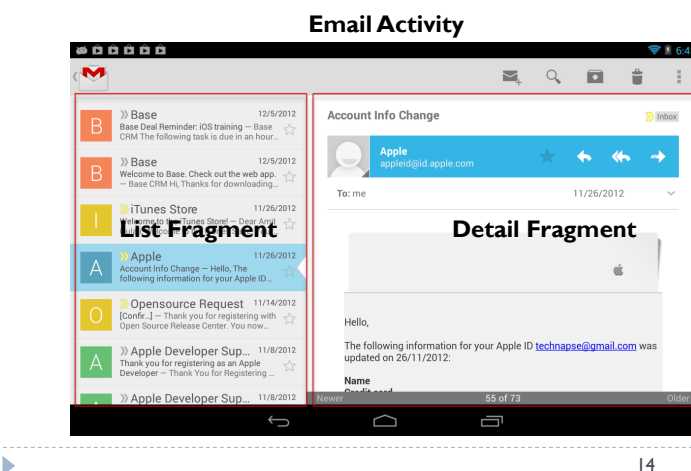
- ▶ Fragment
 - ▶ Application running on a phone



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What is a Fragment?

- ▶ Fragment
 - ▶ Application running on a tablet



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Fragments

- ▶ **Benefits Fragments?**
 - ▶ Light weight
 - ▶ Create flexible UI's that can be configured for Tablets and Handsets.
 - ▶ Smaller independent modules which are easier to manage and Re-use
 - ▶ Fragment represents an independent modular section of Activity.
 - ▶ Independent Fragments can be re-used in multiple projects.

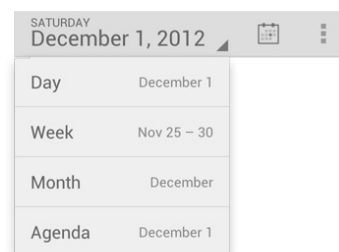
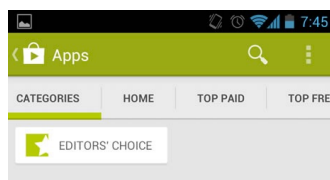
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Android and Fragments

- ▶ **Fragments are used all over the Android SDK**
 - ▶ Better Screen Navigation
 - ☐ ViewPager uses Fragments
 - ☐ Create Tabbed UI
 - ☐ Create Navigation List based Interface
 - ▶ Dialog Boxes
 - ▶ Preferences UI



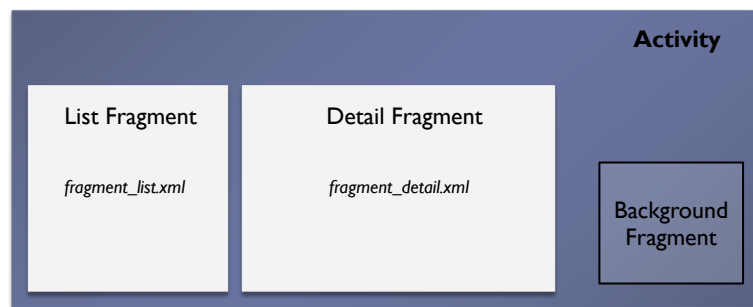
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Fragments

- Types of Fragments
 - **UI Fragments**, present a View on the screen.
 - **Background Fragments** do not present a View on the screen.

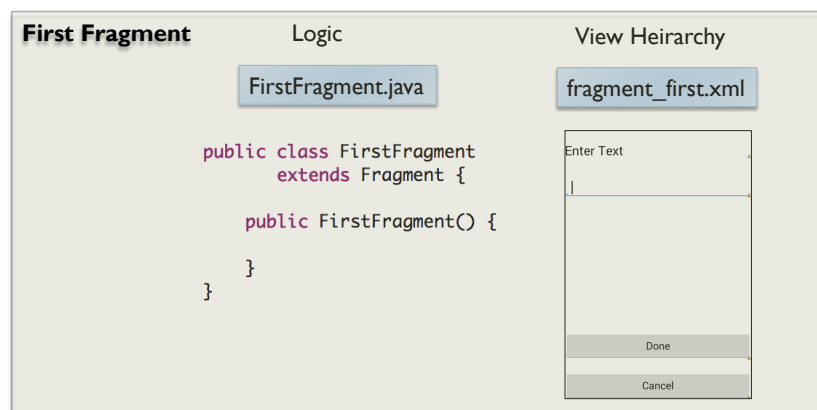


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Fragments

- UI Fragments
 - A UI Fragment requires a Java class and XML Layout.



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Fragments

- ▶ **Background Fragments**
 - ▶ A Background Fragment only requires a Java class.

Background Fragment

Logic

FirstFragment.java

```
public class FirstFragment
    extends Fragment {
    public FirstFragment() {
    }
}
```



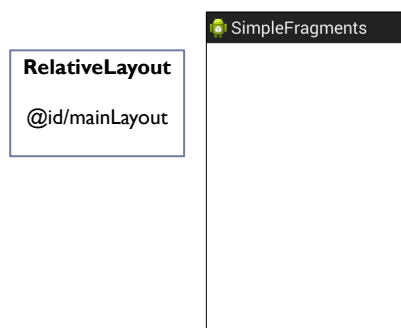
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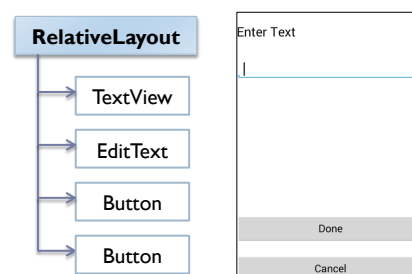
Fragments

- ▶ **UI Fragments**
 - ▶ Activity provides a container in its View hierarchy where the Fragments View hierarchy can be attached.

Activity View Hierarchy



Fragment View Hierarchy



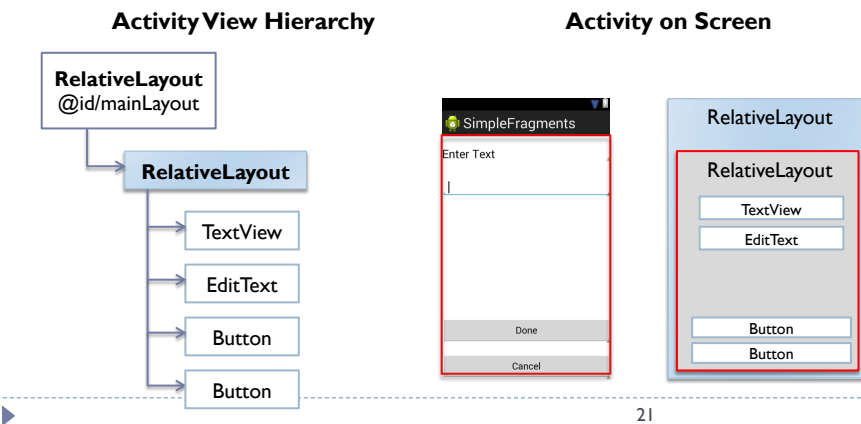
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Fragments

▶ UI Fragments

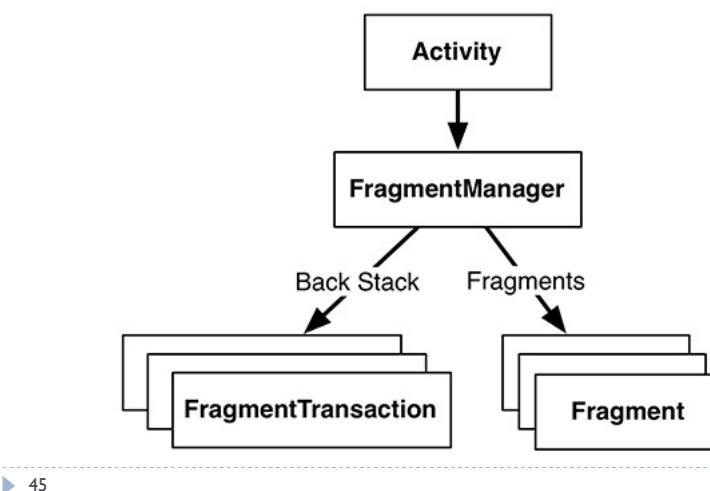
- ▶ When a Fragments View is to be displayed on the screen it is **attached** to the Activity's hierarchy.



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Managing Fragments

▶ FragmentManager



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Managing Fragments

- ▶ **FragmentManager**
 - ▶ Every Activity (beginning Android Honeycomb 3.0) has a Fragment Manager.
 - ▶ Used for Managing Fragments in the Activity.
 - ▶ Common tasks for which FragmentManager object is used for
 - ▶ Finding Fragments in an Activity, given a tag or id.
 - ▶ Creating a Fragment Transaction, so that Fragments can be added/removed/replaced from the Activity.
 - ▶ Managing the Fragments in the Activity back-stack.



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Managing Fragments

- ▶ **FragmentManager**
 - ▶ Get access to the FragmentManager

FragmentManager **getFragmentManager()**

package **android.app;**

- ▶ Example

```
FragmentManager manager =
    getFragmentManager();
```

FragmentManager **getSupportFragmentManager()**

- ▶ Example

package **android.support.v4.app;**

```
FragmentManager manager =
    getSupportFragmentManager();
```



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Managing Fragments

▶ FragmentManager

- ▶ Begin a Fragment Transaction, to dynamically add/remove/replace Fragment from an Activity

FragmentManager **beginTransaction()**

- ▶ Any changes to Fragments in an Activity can be made only after this method call.
- ▶ A fragment transaction can only be created/committed prior to an activity saving its state.
 - Do not commit a Transaction, before onStart(), or onResume(), or After onPause() or onStop().



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Fragment Operations

▶ FragmentTransaction

- ▶ Allows us to dynamically add/remove/replace Fragments from an Activity.
- ▶ Provides ability to save the Fragment operations on the Back stack so that user can navigate back.
- ▶ FragmentTransaction is created using the FragmentManager.

```
FragmentManager manager =
    getSupportFragmentManager();

    FragmentTransaction trans = manager.beginTransaction();
```



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Fragment Operations

▶ FragmentTransaction

▶ Adding UI Fragment to Activity

FragmentTransaction **add**(int *containerViewId*, Fragment *fragment*, String *tag*)

<u><i>containerViewId</i></u> ,	Id of the container in the Activity, where Fragments View will be added.
<u><i>fragment</i></u> ,	Fragment object to be added to Activity.
<u><i>tag</i></u> ,	Tag to be attached to the Fragment.



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Fragment Operations

▶ FragmentTransaction

▶ Adding Background Fragment to Activity

FragmentTransaction **add**(Fragment *fragment*, String *tag*)

<u><i>fragment</i></u> ,	Fragment object to be added to Activity.
<u><i>tag</i></u> ,	Tag to be attached to the Fragment.

- ▶ Background Fragment does not have a View.
- ▶ Hence, it does not require the Id of the container in Activity.



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Fragment Operations

▶ FragmentTransaction

▶ Removing a Fragment from Activity

FragmentTransaction **remove**(Fragment fragment)

fragment, Fragment object to be removed from Activity.

- ▶ Removing a Fragment from Activity, lead to destroying of the FragmentView and Fragment object itself
- ▶ Fragment object is detached from Activity.



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Fragment Operations

▶ FragmentTransaction

▶ Detach a Fragment from User Interface

FragmentTransaction **detach**(Fragment fragment)

fragment, Fragment object to be removed from Activity.

- ▶ Fragment's View is removed from ActivityView container.
- ▶ Fragment's View gets destroyed.
- ▶ Fragment object is not removed from Activity.
- ▶ Same as when a Fragment is put on the back stack.
 - Fragment is removed from the UI, however its state is still being actively managed by the fragment manager.



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Fragment Operations

▶ FragmentTransaction

- ▶ Attach a previously detached Fragment to the User interface

FragmentTransaction **attach**(Fragment fragment)

fragment, Fragment object to be Attached .

- ▶ Re-attach a fragment after it had previously been detached from the UI with detach(Fragment).
- ▶ View hierarchy is re-created, attached to the UI, and displayed.



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Fragment Operations

▶ FragmentTransaction

- ▶ Commit a Fragment transaction

FragmentTransaction **commit**()

- ▶ Schedules a commit of the fragment transaction.
- ▶ The commit does not happen immediately; it will be scheduled as work on the main thread to be done the next time that thread is ready.

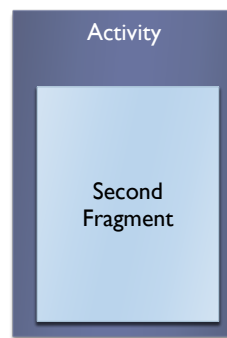


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Fragment Transaction and Back

- ▶ **Fragments are not aware of Back button**
 - ▶ Activity is removed from the Stack if back button is pressed.
 - ▶ This can cause disconnected User Experience.
 - ▶ Example



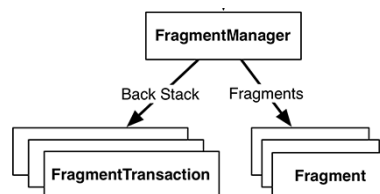
What happens when the user presses the back button?

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Fragment Transaction and Back

- ▶ **Fragments can be added to the FragmentManager back stack.**
 - ▶ FragmentManager not only manages Fragments but also a Fragment back stack.
 - ▶ Fragment Back Stack contains Fragment Transactions.
 - ▶ Fragment Manager first unwinds the FragmentTransactions in the back stack when back button is pressed.



▶ 59

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Fragment Transaction and Back

- ▶ Saving the FragmentTransaction to the Back Stack
 - ▶ Method in FragmentTransaction class that adds the transaction to the back stack

FragmentTransaction **addToBackStack**(String *name*)

name, An optional name for this back stack state, or null.

- ▶ Must be called before **commit**.



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Navigating the Back Stack

- ▶ FragmentManager allows you to programmatically control the back stack.
 - ▶ Get a count of items in the Back Stack

public int **getBackStackEntryCount** ()

- ▶ Pop the Back Stack

public void **popBackStack** ()



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Navigating the Back Stack

- ▶ **FragmentManager** allows you to programmatically control the back stack.
- ▶ Pop the Back Stack

```
public void popBackStack (String name, int flags)
```

name, Name of the transaction to pop from back stack.
flag, 0, or POP_BACK_STACK_INCLUSIVE



```
FragmentManager manager =  
    getFragmentManager();  
manager.popBackStack("Second", 0);
```

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Fragment State

- ▶ **Saving / Restoring State of Fragment**
- ▶ Fragments can be retained so that Fragment is not destroyed even when the enclosing Activity is destroyed.

```
public void setRetainInstance (boolean retain)
```

retain, if true, Fragment object is not destroyed.

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Fragment Life-Cycle

▶ Life-Cycle of Fragment

- ▶ Mostly follows the Life-Cycle of an Activity
- ▶ Lifecycle callback methods are called by the hosting Activity rather than the Android System.
 - ▶ Activity callbacks are called by the ActivityManager (Android System component)
- ▶ Fragment object may be in 4 different states
 - ▶ Simple Java Object
 - ▶ Attached to an Activity
 - ▶ Displayed in Activity
 - ▶ Destroyed



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Fragment Life-Cycle

▶ Fragment Object

- ▶ Statically – Using XML file
 - ▶ <fragment> tag is parsed, Fragment object is created
 - ▶ **onInflate()** method is called.

```
public void onInflate (Context cxt, AttributeSet attrs, Bundle savedInstanceState)
```

cxt, Context that is inflating the Fragment.

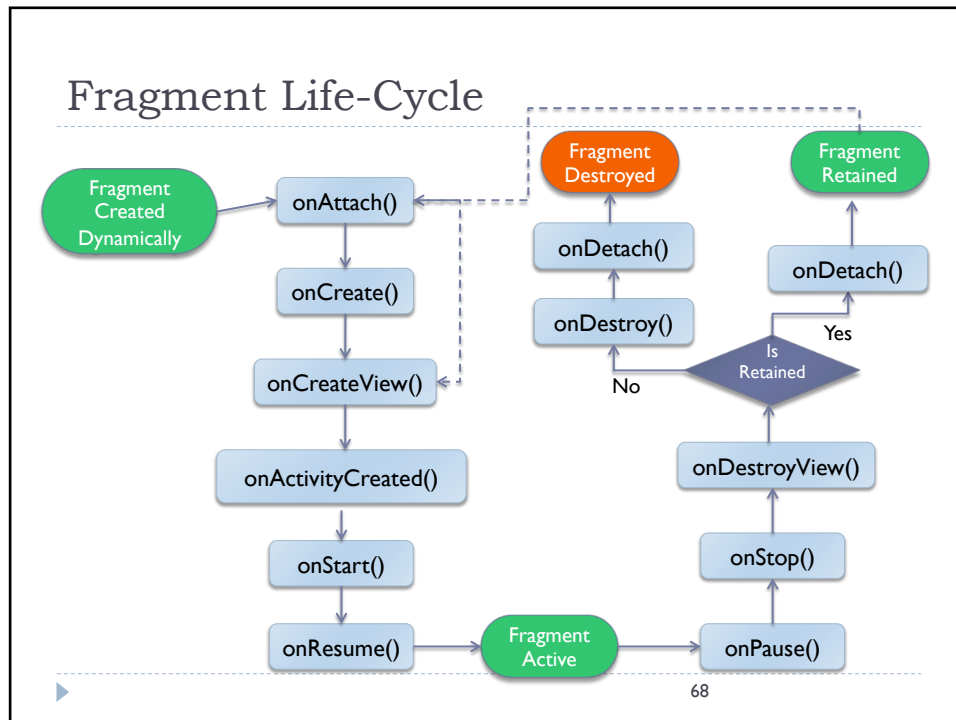
AttributeSets, Attributes of fragment element that was used for inflating the fragment.

savedInstanceState, In case fragment is being recreated by system, the bundle object will contain the saved values.

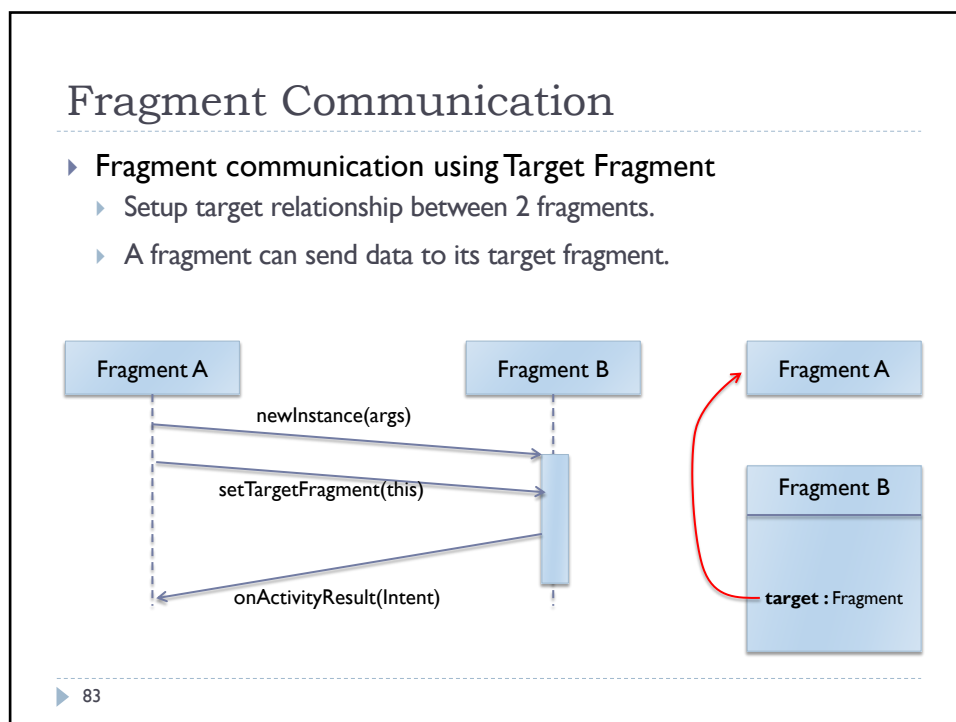


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Fragment Communication

- ▶ Fragment communication using Target Fragment
 - ▶ Method used for setting up target relationship

```
void setTargetFragment (Fragment fragment, int requestCode)
```

fragment,

The fragment that is the target of this one.

requestCode,

Optional request code

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