

Android for .NET Developers Series

Getting Started

Dalvik Debug Monitor Server (DDMS)

Jim Wilson

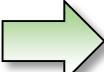
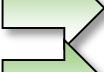
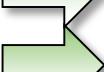
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Outline

-  **What is DDMS?**
-  **DDMS process visibility**
-  **DDMS architecture**
-  **DDMS process-oriented tools**
-  **DDMS device/AVD-oriented tools**

What is DDMS?

DDMS is a tool that provides a wide variety of debugging features

List of connected devices and AVDs

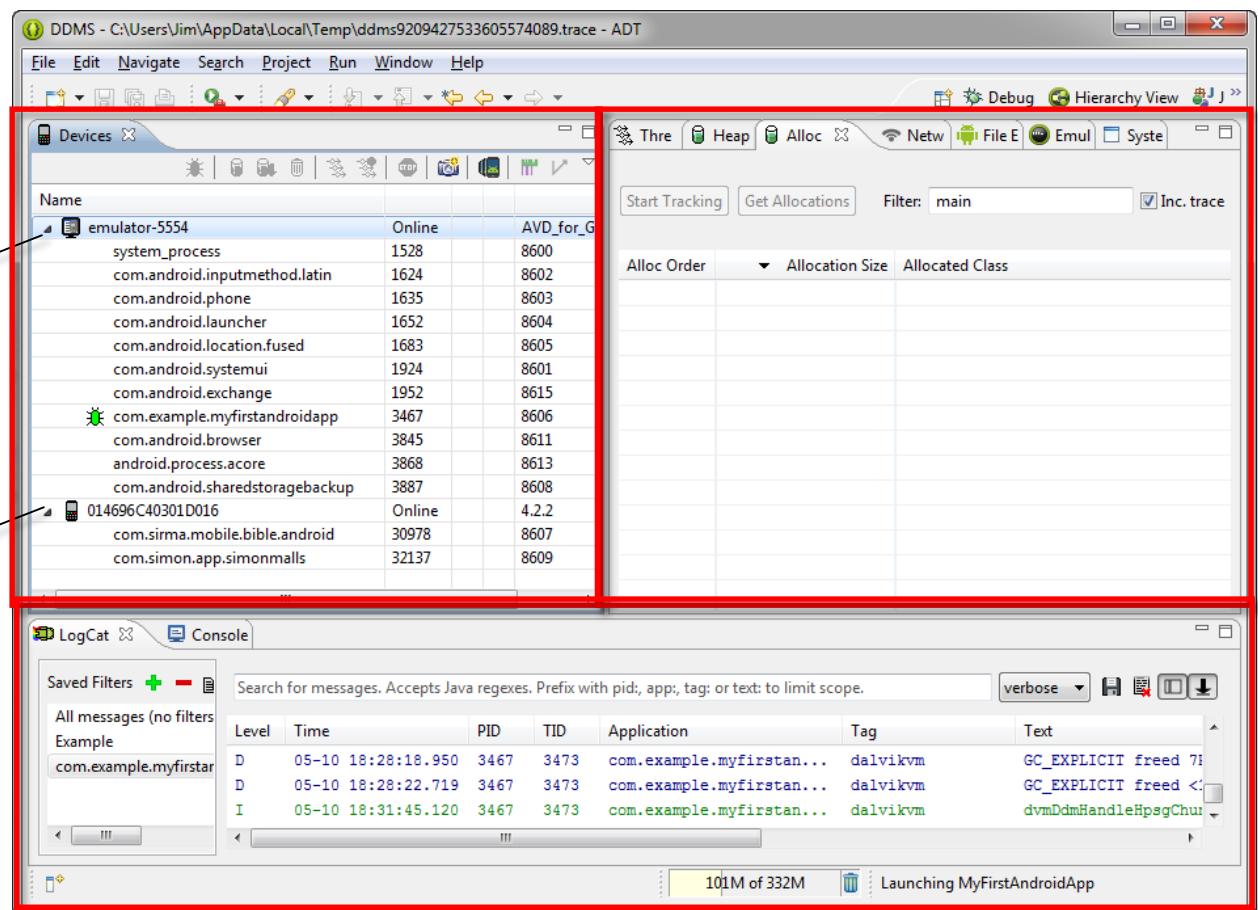
- Processes running on those devices/AVDs

Tools tabs

Logcat View

AVD

Device



DDMS process visibility

For processes to be visible, debugging must be enabled

- Most Android devices use a standard (non-debug) Android OS build
 - Only those processes marked as debuggable are visible

AVDs normally run a debug Android OS build

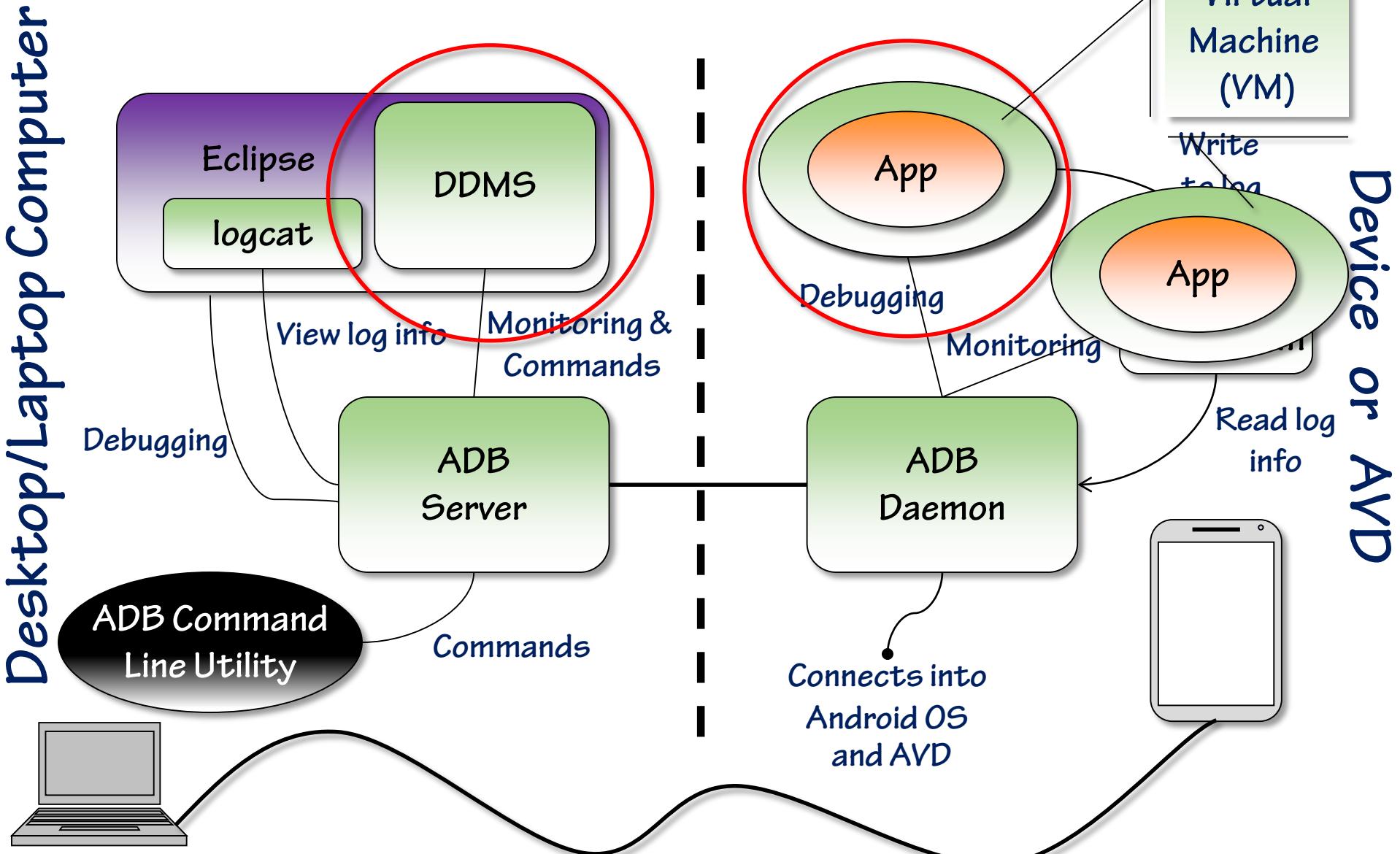
- All processes are visible

AVD
has debug
Android build

All processes
are visible

Name		Online	
emulator-5554		Online	AVD_for_Ga
system_process	1528	8600	
com.android.inputmethod.latin	1624	8602	
com.android.phone	1635	8603	
com.android.launcher	1652	8604	
com.android.location.fused	1683	8605	
com.android.systemui	1924	8601	
com.android.exchange	1952	8615	
com.example.myfirstandroidapp	3467	8606	
com.android.browser	3845	8611	
android.process.acore	3868	8613	
com.android.sharedstoragebackup	3887	8608	
014696C40301D016	Online	4.2.2	
com.sirma.mobile.bible.android	30978	8607	
com.simon.app.simonmalls	32137	8609	

Android tools architecture overview



DDMS tools

→ DDMS incorporates many tools

Process-oriented

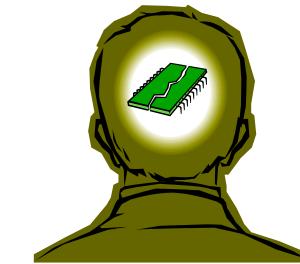
- Memory usage
- Thread activity
- Network activity

→ Device/AVD-oriented

- Access device/AVD file system
- Screen capture
- AVD control

→ Even more

- For more information: <http://bit.ly/12mdd5P>



Memory usage

→ DDMS provides two primary memory usage tools

→ Heap viewer

- Provides a high-level view of app's general memory usage

→ Allocation Tracker

- Detailed object by object memory allocation information

The screenshot shows the Allocation Tracker window with the following details:

Allocation Tracker

Buttons: Stop Tracking, Get Allocations, Filter: (empty), Inc. trace (checked)

Table Headers: Alloc Order, Allocation Size, Allocated Class, Thread Id, Allocated in

Data Rows (approximate values):

Alloc Order	Allocation Size	Allocated Class	Thread Id	Allocated in
229	48	char[]	1	java.lang.AbstractStringBuilder
216	48	java.util.regex.Matcher	1	java.util.regex.Pattern
209	48	char[]	1	java.lang.AbstractStringBuilder
205	48	java.util.HashMap	1	org.ccil.cowan.tagsoup.Parser
199	48	java.util.HashMap\$HashMapEntry[]	1	java.util.HashMap
176	48	android.text.SpannableStringBuilder	1	android.text.HtmlToSpannedConverter
149	48	char[]	1	java.lang.AbstractStringBuilder
140	48	char[]	1	java.lang.AbstractStringBuilder
76	48	char[]	1	java.lang.AbstractStringBuilder
59	48	java.lang.CharSequence[]	1	android.content.res.StringBlock
74	40	char[]	1	java.lang.CaseMapper

Call stack for selected allocation (Allocation Order 229):

```
at android.text.HtmlToSpannedConverter.<init> (Html.java:425)
at android.text.Html.fromHtml (Html.java:135)
at android.text.Html.fromHtml (Html.java:101)
at com.youversion.mobile.android.screens.fragments.TodayFragment.setVerseOfTheDay(TodayFragment.java:114)
at com.youversion.mobile.android.screens.fragments.TodayFragment.access$800 (TodayFragment.java:27)
at com.youversion.mobile.android.screens.fragments.TodayFragment$9.run (TodayFragment.java:107)
at android.os.Handler.handleCallback (Handler.java:725)
at android.os.Handler.dispatchMessage (Handler.java:92)
at android.os.Looper.loop (Looper.java:137)
at android.app.ActivityThread.main (ActivityThread.java:5041)
at java.lang.reflect.Method.invoke (Native Method)
at java.lang.reflect.Method.invoke (Method.java:511)
at com.android.internal.os.ZygoteInit$MethodAndArgsCaller.run (ZygoteInit.java:793)
at com.android.internal.os.ZygoteInit.main (ZygoteInit.java:560)
```

List of data types allocated

Distribution of Selected memory

List of memory "buckets" in the managed heap

Call stack where selected allocation occurred

Threads

→ Threads viewer

→ Shows threads running in app and each thread's current call stack

ID	Tid	Status	utime	stime	Name
1	2102	Native	1947	523	main
*2	2106	VmWait	1141	1018	GC
*3	2107	VmWait	2	3	Signal Catcher
*4	2108	Runnable	73	83	JDWP
*5	2109	VmWait	171	100	Compiler
*6	2110	Wait	3	1	ReferenceQueueDaemon
*7	2111	Wait	29	7	FinalizerDaemon
*8	2112	Wait	0	0	FinalizerWatchdogDaemon
9	2113	Native	2	1	Binder_1
10	2114	Native	3	0	Binder_2
11	2119	Wait	2	0	AsyncTask #1
12	2120	Wait	393	38	pool-1-thread-1
13	2121	Wait	639	399	pool-1-thread-2
*14	2122	Wait	0	0	RefQueueWorker@org.apache.http.impl.conn.ts...
15	2462	Wait	7	7	AmazeTools #2

List of threads

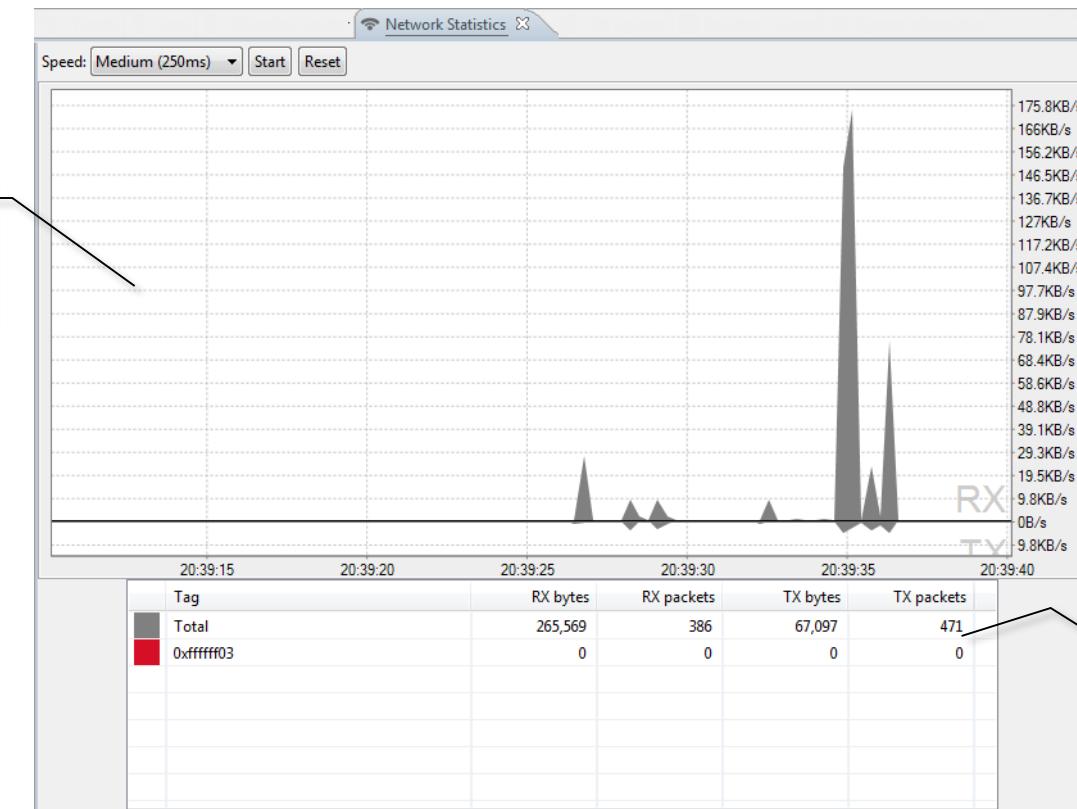
Call stack for selected thread

```
at android.util.SparseArray.clear(SparseArray.java:294)
at android.widget.RelativeLayout$DependencyGraph.findRoots(RelativeLayout.java:1555)
at android.widget.RelativeLayout$DependencyGraph.getSortedViews(RelativeLayout.java:1509)
at android.widget.RelativeLayout.sortChildren(RelativeLayout.java:343)
at android.widget.RelativeLayout.onMeasure(RelativeLayout.java:363)
at android.view.View.measure(View.java:15518)
at android.widget.RelativeLayout.measureChildHorizontal(RelativeLayout.java:681)
at android.widget.RelativeLayout.onMeasure(RelativeLayout.java:461)
at android.view.View.measure(View.java:15518)
at android.widget.RelativeLayout.measureChildHorizontal(RelativeLayout.java:681)
at android.widget.RelativeLayout.onMeasure(RelativeLayout.java:461)
at android.view.View.measure(View.java:15518)
at android.widget.RelativeLayout.measureChildHorizontal(RelativeLayout.java:681)
at android.widget.RelativeLayout.onMeasure(RelativeLayout.java:461)
```

Network activity

→ Network statistics

→ Data sent and received by app

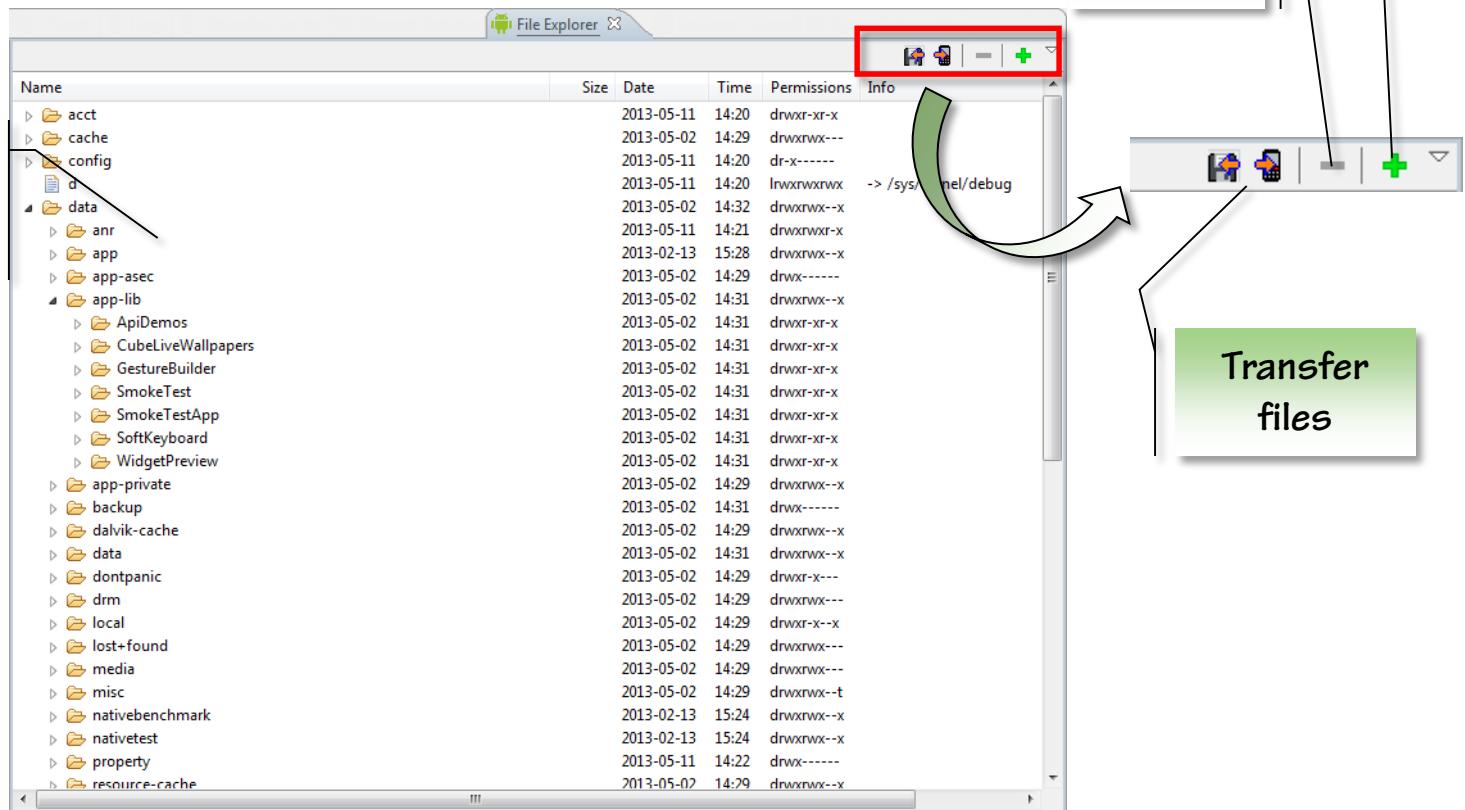


File system

File Explorer

- View and navigate file system
- Interact with file system

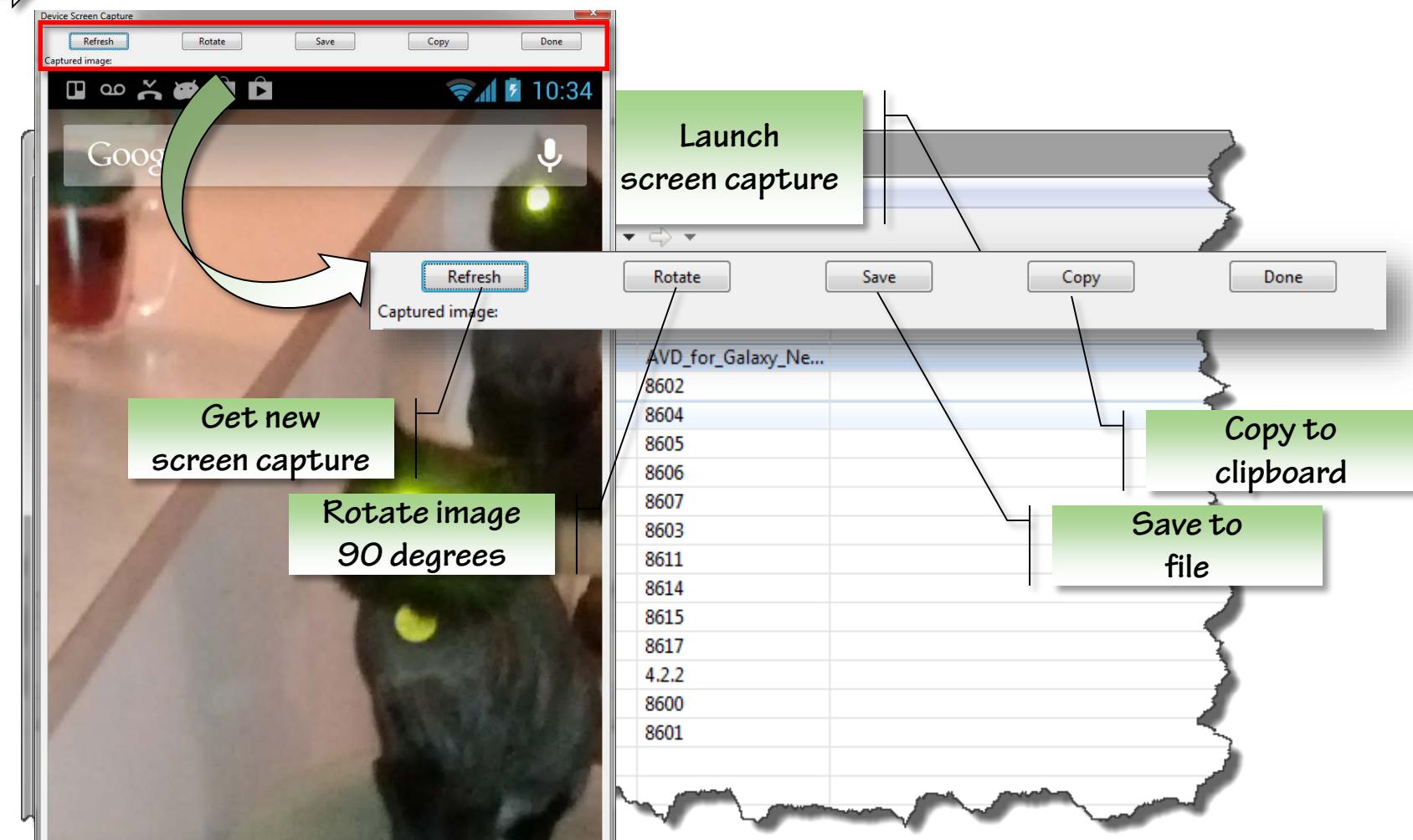
File system
of selected
device/avd



Screen shots

→ Screen capture

→ Creates a static image of the selected device or AVD screen

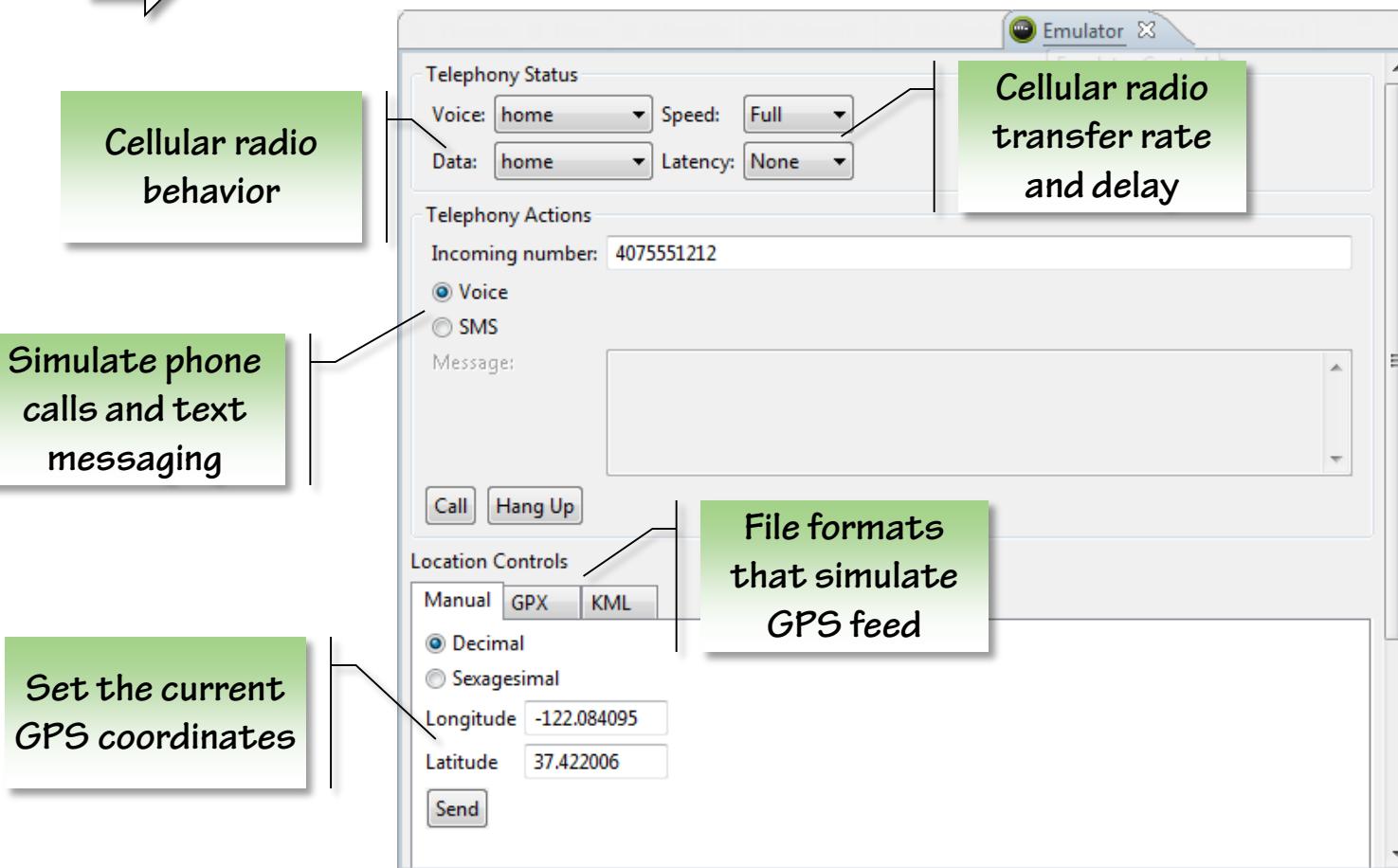


Emulator

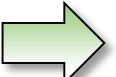
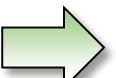
Emulator management

Modify the emulator environment

Interact with the emulator

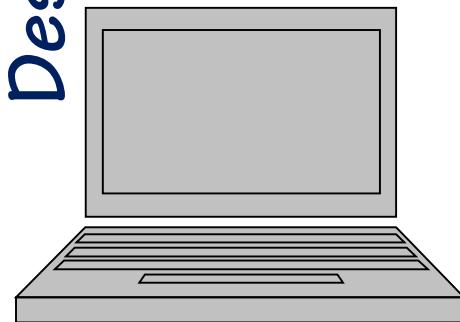


Summary

-  **DDMS is an essential debugging tool**
-  **Debugging must be enabled for DDMS to access a process**
 - On most devices, limited to those processes explicitly set to debuggable
 - On most AVDs, Android is debug-build making all processes visible
-  **DDMS provides rich process monitoring**
 - Memory
 - Threads
 - Network
-  **DDMS deeply interacts with devices and emulators (AVDs)**
 - File system management
 - Screen capture
 - Emulator control

.NET tools architecture overview

Desktop/Laptop Computer



Key Android debugging tools

→ Majority of Android development handled with 4 tools

- Android Debug Bridge (ADB)
- Eclipse
- Logcat
- Dalvik Debug Monitor Server (DDMS)
- Many more tools available
 - Complete list at <http://bit.ly/11Wd2PC>

Android Debug Bridge (ADB)

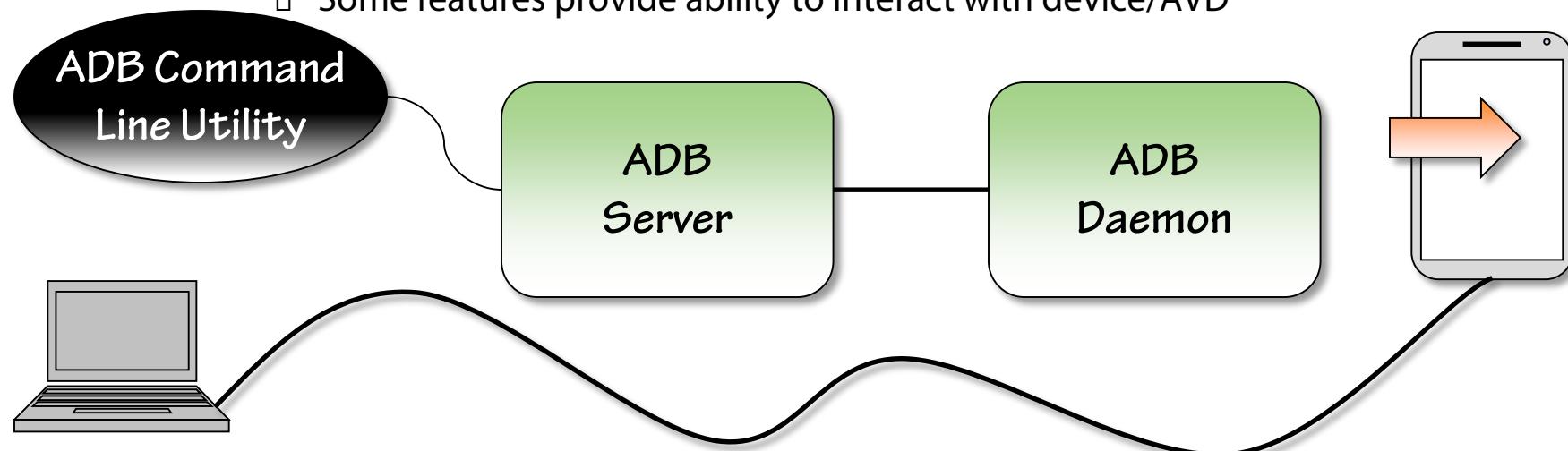
→ **Android Debug Bridge is the most important development tool**

→ Makes interaction between your desktop and device/AVD possible

- Daemon running on the device
- Server process running on your desktop
- If ADB isn't working, no aspect of debugging works

→ Provides a command-line interface through the adb utility

- Located in `<install-folder>\sdk\platform-tools`
 - Useful to add to your “path” environment variable
- Some features provide control over ADB processes & device/AVD connections
- Some features provide ability to interact with device/AVD



adb utility process control commands

adb utility manages ADB processes and device/AVD connections

One of the most important commands shows connected devices/AVDs

- Run adb passing the **devices** command
- Shows each device/AVD along with ADB assigned serial number

Controlling adb server lifetime

- Use **kill-server** command to signal current ADB server instance to be shutdown
 - If works correctly, provides no feedback
- ADB server will normally restart automatically when needed
- Can assure that an instance is running with **start-server** command

Real
Device

```
> adb devices
List of devices attached
00000X99999X123           device
emulator-5554               device
```

Emulator

```
> adb kill-server
```

5554:AVD_for_Galaxy_Nexus_by_Google2

adb utility device commands

adb utility can perform actions on device/AVD

Provides a rich set of features and capabilities

- Copy files between desktop & device/AVD
- Can install/uninstall app on device/AVD
- Much more – complete list at <http://bit.ly/11WGTHF>

Can open an interactive Linux shell on device

- Use **shell** command with no arguments

Can issue a command-line that runs within a Linux shell on the device

- Use **shell** command followed by Linux command-line
- Returns immediately

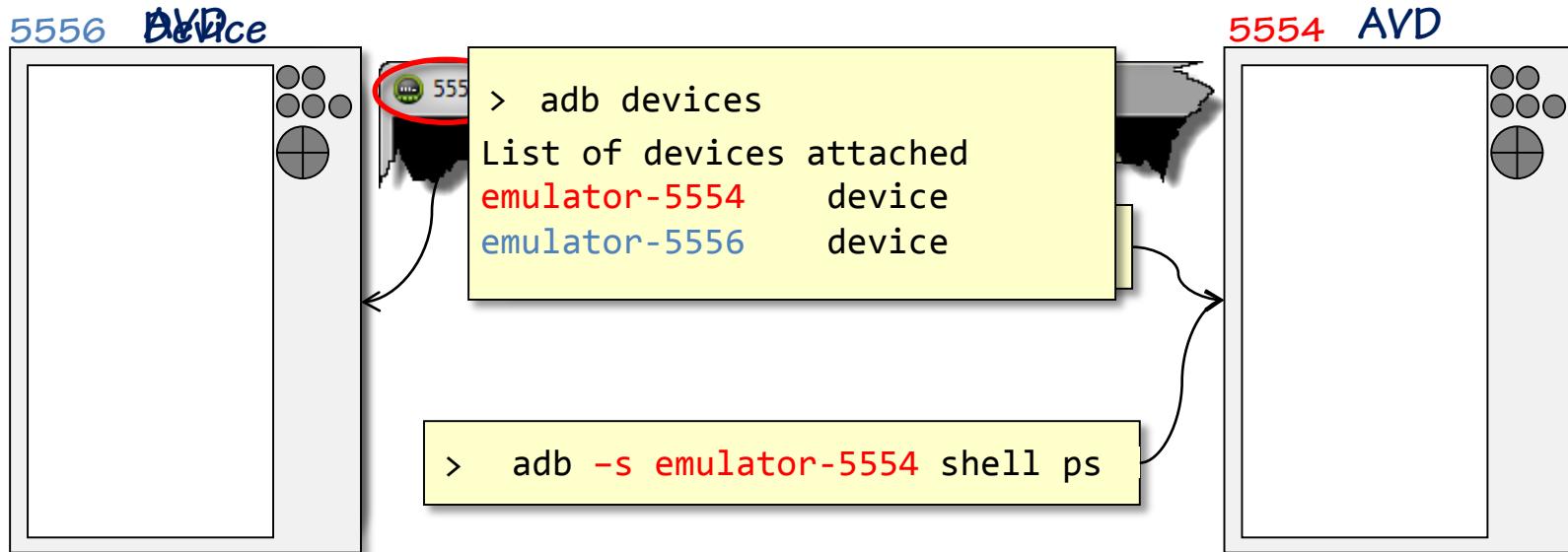
```
> adb shell  
shell@android:/ $ cd ~  
cd ~  
shell@android:/data $ ps  
ps  
... ... ... ... ...  
... ... ... ... ...  
shell@android:/data $ exit  
>
```

Running in a
Linux shell on
device/AVD

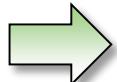
```
> adb shell ps  
... ... ... ...  
... ... ... ...  
>
```

Identifying the adb utility target

- Multiple connected devices/AVDs require special handling
 - When multiple connections, you must specify the adb command target
 - When only a device or only an AVD, target could be inferred
 - Provides short-hand for common scenarios
 - To target the only connected device, include **-d** prior to the command
 - To target the only open AVD, include **-e** prior to the command
 - Multiple connections of the same type, require explicit target
 - Use **-s** followed by the ADB assigned serial number



Eclipse

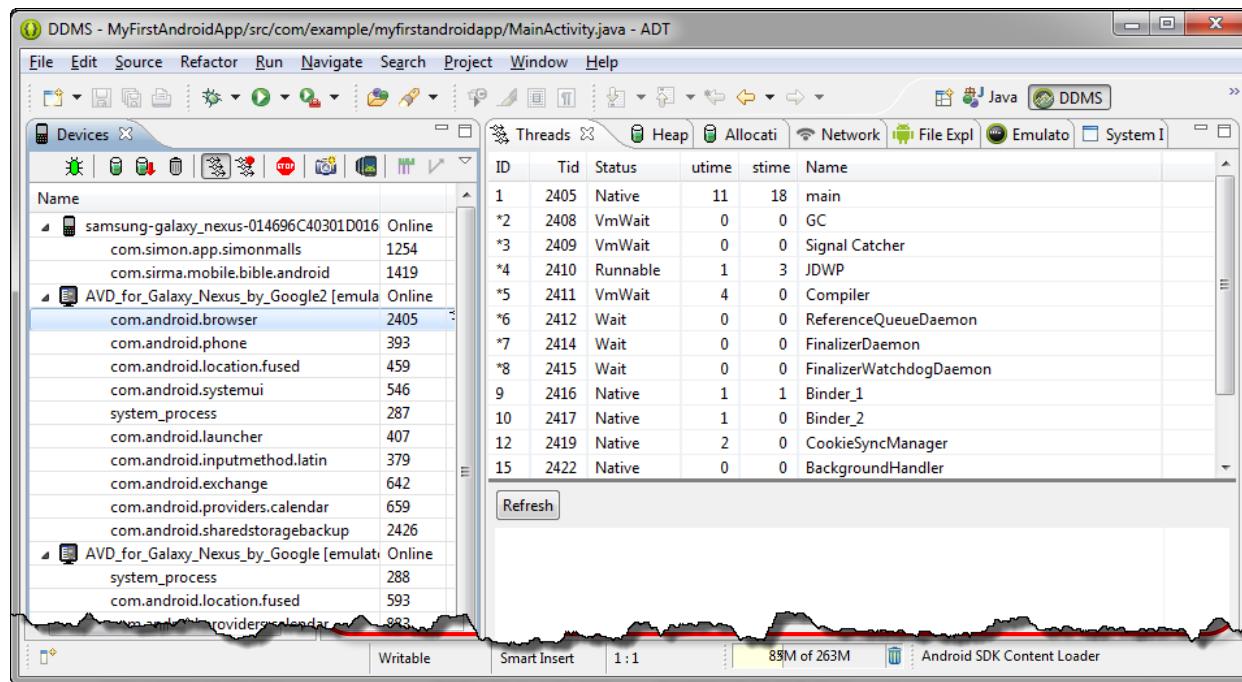
 Eclipse is the hub of your development work

 Serves as the editor, source code debugger, project manager

 It is truly the Integrated Development Environment

 Serves as the host user interface for other Android tools

-  Logcat is available as a console-style View
-  DDMS is available as Perspective



Logcat

→ Logcat is the Android logging system

→ Serves as a message repository

- Records information about system events
- Apps can write messages



→ Messages written to logcat using android.util.Log class static methods

→ Can be easily read and filtered

- Available via logcat view within Eclipse
- Accessible through adb utility using **logcat** command

```
Log.e("MyApp", "Something's wrong");
```



Logcat structure

Logcat information is stored as a consistent structured

Level

- Indicates importance/severity

Time stamp

Process and thread id

Name of source Application

Tag

- Application defined label
- Intended to identify system, component or method

Text

Level	Time	PID	TID	Application	Tag	Text
D	05-02 18:48:51.671	642	737	com.android.exchange	ExchangeService	Received deviceId from Email app: null
D	05-02 18:48:51.671	642	737	com.android.exchange	ExchangeService	!!! deviceId unknown; stopping self and retrying
D	05-02 18:48:56.748	642	642	com.android.exchange	ExchangeService	!!! EAS ExchangeService, onStartCommand, startingUp = f
W	05-02 18:48:56.780	287	476	system_process	ActivityManager	Unable to start service Intent { act=com.android.email.
D	05-02 18:48:56.780	642	657	com.android.exchange	ExchangeService	!!! Email application not found; stopping self
W	05-02 18:48:56.808	287	427	system_process	ActivityManager	Unable to start service Intent { act=com.android.email.
E	05-02 18:48:56.808	642	642	com.android.exchange	ActivityThread	Service com.android.exchange.ExchangeService has leaked

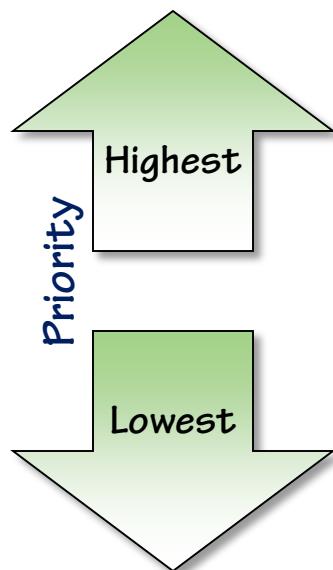
Logcat levels

→ Levels are important to both creating a viewing logcat entries

→ Indicate the relative importance of message

→ Managed as a hierarchy

- Setting view filter to a level includes the level and all higher levels



Level	Label	Log method
Silent		FILTER ONLY
Assert	A	Log.wtf
Error	E	Log.e
Warning	W	Log.w
Info	I	Log.i
Debug	D	Log.d
Verbose	V	Log.v

No messages
Can be written
at this level

What a
Terrible
Failure

Logcat buffers

Logcat segments messages into buffers

Overwhelming majority of messages go into the “main” buffer

- Standard Log class method calls write here
- All messages viewed from Eclipse are read from the “main” buffer

Two special purpose buffers available

- events: Shows all system events
- radio: Shows activity of system radios (cellular, etc.)

Only accessible through adb command-line utility

- Use **logcat** command with **-b** option followed by the buffer name

DDMS tools

→ DDMS incorporates many tools

- Process-oriented
 - Memory usage
 - Thread activity
 - Method profiling
 - Network activity

Device/AVD-oriented

- Access device/AVD file system
- Screen capture
- AVD control
- Even more
 - For more information <http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=ddms+tools&btnG=Search&tbo=uf>

