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OVERVIEW



- Goal:
 - Provide an overview of the development tools provided to developers to debug an application
 - Illustrate the use of the development tools
- Development tools categories:
 - Runtime & Post-Mortem Debugging Tools
 - Memory Inspection Tools (debug memory corruption, leaks)
 - Static Analysis Tools
- The following icons are used in the next slides:
 - 💷 : tool only working on Simulator
 - : tool only working on the Device
 - No icon means that the tool is working on the Device and on the Simulator.
 - : This checkmark means the tool will be presented in this training.

DEVELOPMENT TOOLS OVERVIEW



TOOLS		RUNTIME & POST- MORTEM	MEMORY INSPECTION	STATIC ANALYSIS TOOLS	GUI DEBUGGING TOOLS
Core Engine VM Dump		×			
Debug on Device		×			
Debug on Simulator		×			
Port Qualification Tool (PQT)		×			
SystemView		×	×		×
Logging & Message Libraries		×			
Code Coverage		×			
Memory Map Analyzer			×		
Heap Dumper / Analyzer	•		×		
Heap Usage Monitoring			×		
Core Engine MEMORY integrity check	♥		×		
SonarQube / Klocwork (Java/C)				×	
Null Analysis	•			×	
UI Flush Visualizer					×
UI MWT & Widget Debug Utilities					×

PREREQUISITES



Hardware required:

- NXP i.MX RT1170 Evaluation Kit (EVKB) + micro-USB cable + RK055HDMIPI4MA0 display panel
- More information about the Evaluation Kit: NXP i.MX RT1170 User Manual

Environment Setup:

- Follow the NXP i.MX RT1170 Evaluation Kit Getting Started to setup your environment and run a demo application on the Virtual Device and on the i.MX RT1170 Evaluation Kit.
- Note: the next slides are using **IntelliJ IDEA** with **MicroEJ plugin for IntelliJ IDEA 1.3.1**. This training supports all other available IDEs (Android Studio, VS Code, ...)

This training requires the Getting Started to be completed until the **Run an Application on the i.MX RT1170 Evaluation Kit** section (included).

The path to the NXP i.MX RT1170 VEE Port sources should be as short as possible and contain **no** whitespace or **non-ASCII character.**

ENVIRONMENT SETUP (1/5)



GET TRAINING RESOURCES

- Download and extract the training resources provided with this training, it should contain:
 - example-java-widget/
 - o fill-array-mock/
 - o slide-container/
 - fill_array_heap_corruption.c
 - jdwp-server-1.0.4.jar

ENVIRONMENT SETUP (2/5)

AICROEJ

OPEN THE EXAMPLE-JAVA-WIDGET PROJECT

- Open IntelliJ IDEA.
- If no project is opened in your IDE yet, click on **Open**.
 Otherwise, go to **File > Open**.
- Browse to the VEE Port sources folder: example-java-widget
- Click on OK.
- The project sources appear in the Projects view.

Pro	Project ~				
~	C	example-java-widget [widget-examples]			
	>	:gradle			
	>	idea .idea			
	>	:vscode			
	>	□ bin			
	>	□ build			
	>	□ configuration			
		debugOnDevice			
	>	☐ gradle			
	>	□ src			
		\equiv .gh-copyright.template			
		⊘ .gitignore			
		\equiv .gitmodules			
		application.gif			
		ଛନ୍ତି build.gradle.kts			
		M↓ CHANGELOG.md			
		≥ gradlew			
		≡ gradlew.bat			
		∃ Jenkinsfile			
		□ LICENSE.txt			

ENVIRONMENT SETUP (3/5)



VEE PORT SELECTION

- Get the path to the **NXP i.MX RT1170 VEE Port** (e.g. C:\workspaces\training\nxpvee-mimxrt1170-evk\nxpvee-mimxrt1170-evk)
- Add the path to the VEE Port in the **settings.gradle.kts** file of the **example-java-widget** project:

```
rootProject.name = "widget-examples"
includeBuild("C:\\workspaces\\training\\nxpvee-mimxrt1170-evk\\nxpvee-mimxrt1170-evk")
```

In the **build.gradle.kts** file of the **example-java-widget** project, add the dependency to the VEE Port:

```
dependencies {
    implementation("ej.api:edc:1.3.5")

//Uncomment the microejVee dependency to set the VEE Port or Kernel to use
microejVee("com.nxp.vee.mimxrt1170:vee-port:3.0.0")
```

Reload the Gradle project to see the NXP i.MXRT1170 VEE Port project in the IDE:



ENVIRONMENT SETUP (4/5)



ADD CUSTOM MOCK

A native function needs to be implemented in a mock to run the sample with the simulator:

The mock is automatically built and added to the VEE port through a Gradle dependency in application

project.

```
\mathscr{E}_{\mathbb{K}}^{2} build.gradle.kts (widget-examples) \times
                                    © build.gradle.kts (:nxpvee-mimxrt1170-evk:vee-port:image-generator)
                                                                                                      ଛୈ build.gra ∨
                                                                                                           A2 × 2 ∧
      plugins {
           id("com.microej.gradle.application") version "1.3.1"
      group = "com.microej.example.ui"
      version = "1.0.0"
      microej {
           applicationEntryPoint = "com.microej.demo.widget.common.Navigation"
      dependencies {
           implementation("ej.api:edc:1.3.5")
           implementation("ej.api:microui:3.1.0")
           implementation("ej.api:drawing:1.0.2")
           implementation("ej.library.ui:widget:5.2.0")
           implementation("ej.library.runtime:basictool:1.5.0")
           implementation("ej.library.runtime:service:1.1.1")
           implementation("ej.library.eclasspath:collections:1.4.0")
           implementation("ej.library.eclasspath:stringtokenizer:1.2.0")
           microejVee("com.nxp.vee.mimxrt1170:vee-port:3.0.0")
           microejMock("com.microej.demo.widget.radiobutton.widget:fill-array-mock:1.0.0")
```

ENVIRONMENT SETUP (5/5)



ADD CUSTOM NATIVE FUNCTION

A native function needs to be implemented in the BSP to run the sample on the device:

- Copy/Paste **fill_array_heap_corruption.c** in the BSP project (e.g. copy it in *nxpvee-mimxrt1170-evk /bsp/vee/src/main*).
- Add it to **CMakeLists.txt** (*nxpvee-mimxrt1170-evk/bsp/vee/scripts/armgcc/CMakeLists.txt*):



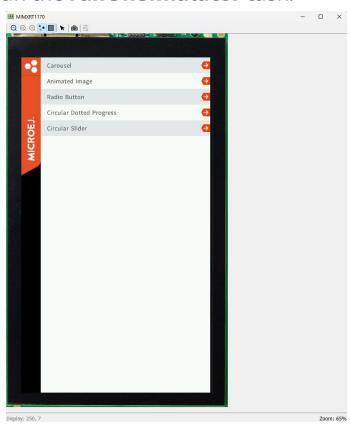


CHECK THE ENVIRONMENT SETUP



Run the sample on the Simulator and on the Device to make sure that the setup is correct:

- Go to the Gradle tasks view
- Run the runOnSimulator task:



 Run the runOnDevice task. Make sure the hardware is properly setup (cf. <u>Prerequisites</u>)





Example-Java-Widget Overview

Introduction to the Example-Java-Widget project

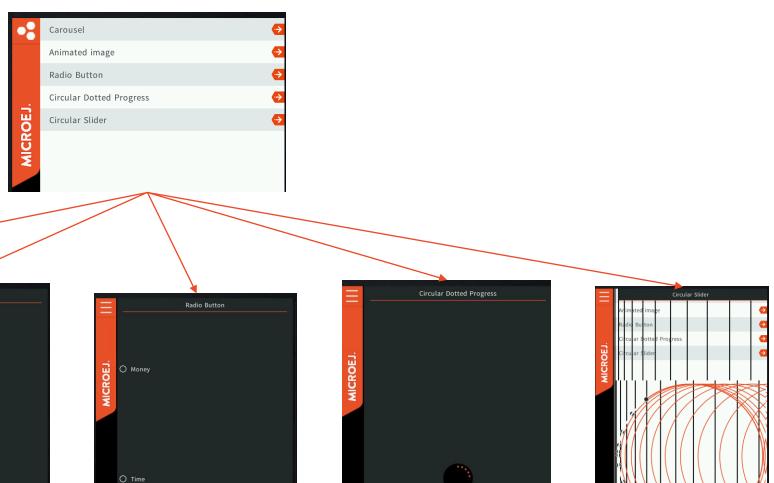
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GUI OVERVIEW

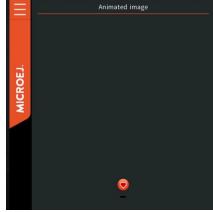


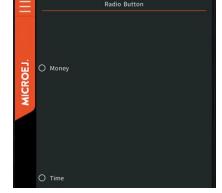
This project is a fork of Example Widget 8.1.0, bugs have been explicitly added.

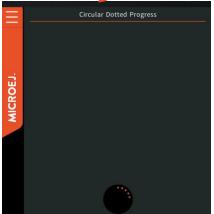
The next slides will present those bugs and explain how to fix them.









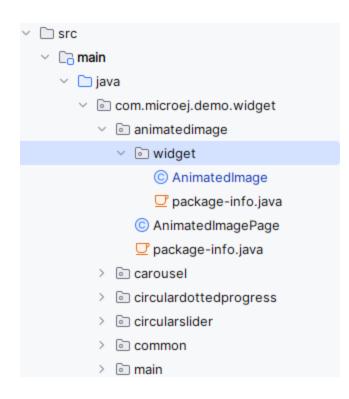




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PROJECT STRUCTURE





The application is composed of the following packages:

- Animated image: provides a page with an animated image widget producing a GUI freeze
- Carousel: typical page without bugs
- Circular Dotted Progress: provides a page that produces a memory leak
- Circular Slider: provides a page having a rendering issue
- Common: provides a navigation framework and common resources used by the application
- Main: main page of the application
- Radio Button: provides a page generating a heap memory corruption

Each package contains:

- A Page class, describing the layout of the page
- A Widget package containing the widgets of the page



Debug the BSP C Code

Start a Debug Session in VS Code

OVERVIEW



This section describes how to debug C code running on the NXP i.MXRT1170 using Visual Studio Code and GDB.

This section is not MicroEJ specific.

A GDB debugger will be required in the next slides.

You can skip those slides if you already have a GDB client world

You can skip those slides if you already have a GDB client working to debug the NXP i.MXRT1170.

Requirements:

- Install Visual Studio Code (https://code.visualstudio.com/)
- In VS Code, install the MCUXpresso extension for VS Code:



ENABLE THE DEBUG MODE



 Enable the DEBUG mode by setting CHOSEN_MODE in nxpvee-mimxrt1170evk\bsp\vee\scripts\set_project_env.bat:

```
REM 'set_project_env.bat' implementation

REM 'set_project_env' is responsible for
REM - checking the availability of required environment variables
REM - setting project local variables for 'build.bat' and 'run.bat'

REM Change the following variables according to your project

REM Set "evk" for MIMXRT1170-EVK board or "evkb" for MIMXRT1170-EVKB board

SET CHOSEN_BOARD=evkb

REM Set 1 for RELEASE mode and of for DEBUG mode

SET CHOSEN_MODE=0
```

BSP DEBUGGING IN VS CODE (1/2)



SELECT THE DEBUG BUILD MODE

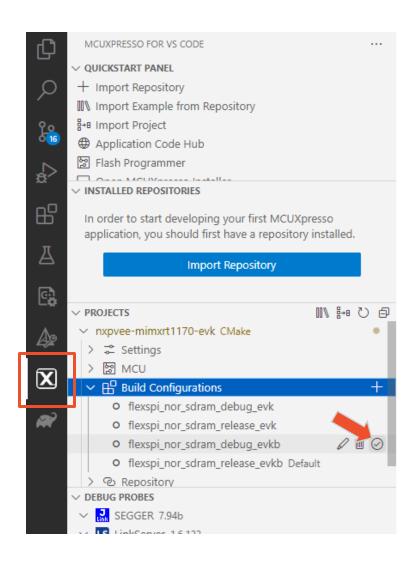
VS Code allows to build, flash and debug embedded projects.

Open the **NXP i.MX RT1170 VEE Port** project in VS Code:

- In VS Code, go to File > Open Folder...
- Browse to the VEE Port sources folder:
 nxpvee-mimxrt1170-evk
- Click on OK.

Once the project is opened:

- Open the MCUXpresso plugin view.
- Open the Build Configurations section in the PROJECTS view.
- Set flexspi_nor_sdram_debug_evkb as the default build configuration.

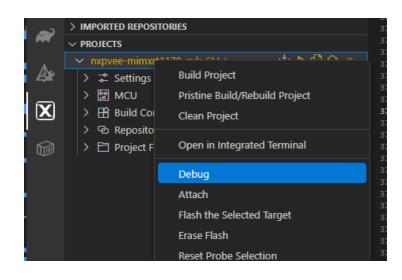


BSP DEBUGGING IN VS CODE (2/2)



With your project still in VSCode the project is opened:

- Open the MCUXpresso plugin view.
- Right-click on the project.
- Select **Debug** (as the application is already running on the device).



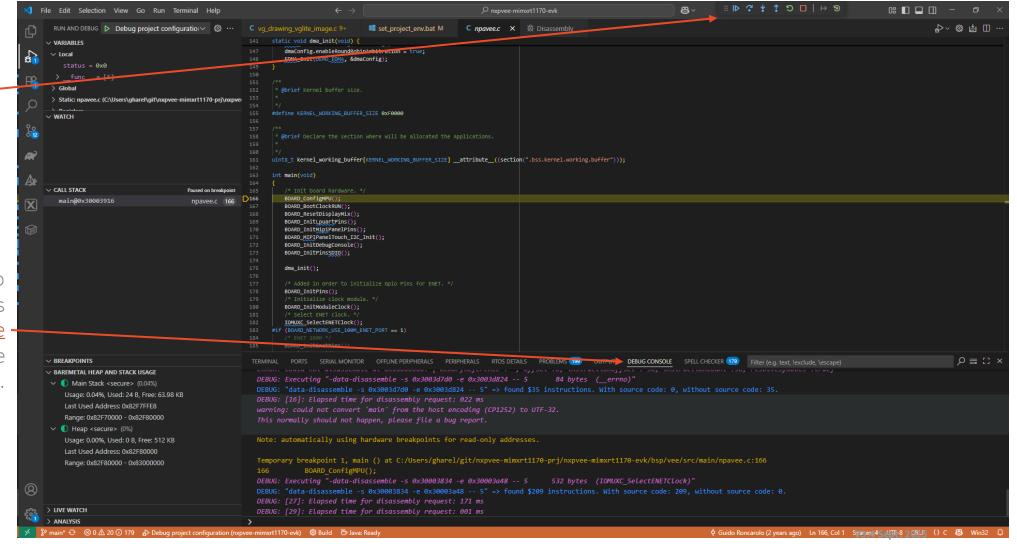
DEBUG VIEW IN VS CODE



The debug view opens and the application runs on the device:

A control bar is available to start/stop/pause the debugging

The Debug Console allows to type GDB commands
Refer to <u>VS Code</u> <u>documentation</u> for more information.



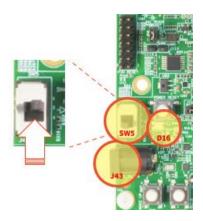
TROUBLESHOOTING

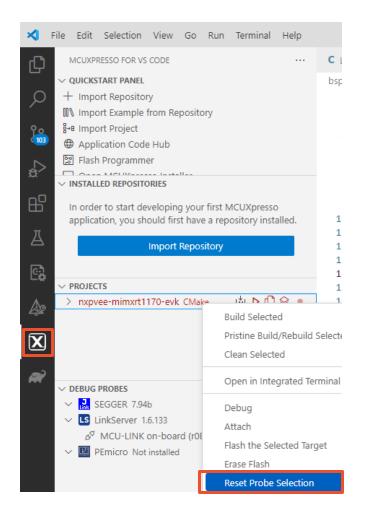


In case of connection issue to the target, reset the debug probe selection via the MCUXpresso plugin:

- Select the MCUXpresso plugin in the left banner.
- Right-click on the project name and select Reset Probe
 Selection.
- Start the debug again.

If the issue persists, unplug/plug the USB cable and turn OFF/ON the device:







Runtime & Post-Mortem Debugging Tools

Debug the Application code

RUNTIME & POST-MORTEM DEBUGGING TOOLS



Tools:

- Core Engine VM Dump
- Debug on Device
- Debug on Simulator
- Port Qualification Tools (qualify a VEE Port)
- **Event Tracing & Logging***
- Code Coverage*

Example:

Debug a deadlock in an application in the Simulator and on Device

GUI freeze when entering a page

Animated image

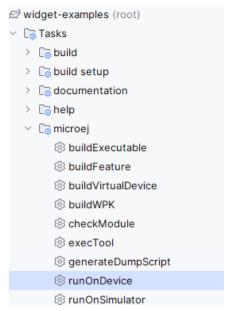
^{*} Tool not introduced in this presentation, visit <u>docs.microej.com</u> for more information.

DEBUG A DEADLOCK IN AN APPLICATION



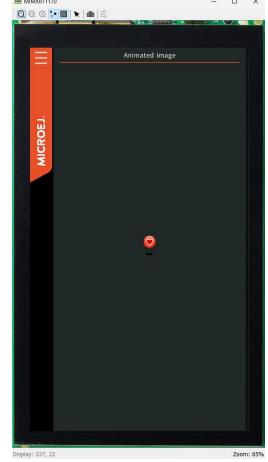
REPRODUCE THE ISSUE

 Run the example-java-widget project the on Device:



• Enter the **Animated Image** page.

The GUI should freeze after the screen transition:



CORE ENGINE VM DUMP (1/4)



• Core Engine VM Dump is a diagnose tool to investigate unexpected behavior occurring on the target.

When?

- Call the LLMJVM_dump() method in the Core Engine task at runtime to diagnose unexpected behavior (ex: UI freeze).
- Call the LLMJVM_dump() as a last resort in a fault handler to get a snapshot of the Core Engine, to check if the issue comes from a <u>LLAPI</u> or the underlying C code.

What?

- Prints the state of the MicroEJ Core Engine to the standard output stream.
- For each Java thread, the Java stack trace, the name, the state and the priority are printed.

• Requirements:

A way to read stdout (usually UART).

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CORE ENGINE VM DUMP (2/4)



HOW-TO?

Example of LLMJVM Dump triggered from a • Trigger the LLMJVM Dump from the fault handler:

```
fsl_component_exception_handling.c ×
bsp > sdk_overlay > core > components > exception_handling > cm7 > C fsl_c
324
      static void EXCEPTION StackFramePrint(void)
325
326
327
      #if (defined(EXCEPTION HANDLING LOG ENABLE) && (EXCEP
          (void) EXCEPTION PRINTF("\r\n--- Stack frame -----
328
329
          (void)EXCEPTION PRINTF(" IPSR= 0x%08X >>>>> ", g
330 >
          switch (g_exceptionStackStruct->IPSR & 0xFFU) ···
384
          (void)EXCEPTION PRINTF(" <<<<<\r\n");</pre>
385
386
          (void)EXCEPTION_PRINTF(" R0 = 0x%08X ", g_exce
387
          (void)EXCEPTION PRINTF(" R1 = 0x%08X ", g exce
388
          (void)EXCEPTION_PRINTF(" R2 = 0x%08X ", g_exce
389
          (void)EXCEPTION PRINTF(" R3 = 0x%08X\r\n", g exc
          390
          (void)EXCEPTION PRINTF(" LR = 0x%08X ", g exce
391
392
          (void)EXCEPTION PRINTF(" PC = 0x%08X ", g exce
          (void)EXCEPTION_PRINTF(" PSR = 0x%08X\r\n", g_exc
393
394
          (void)EXCEPTION PRINTF(" SP (when faulted) = 0x%
395
          (void) EXCEPTION PRINTF("\n--- System Control Bloc
396
          (void)EXCEPTION HardFaultRegisterPrint();
397
398
          EXCEPTION PRINTF("Launch LLMJVM_dump(), not worki
           #ifodof DEBUG_CONSOLE_TRANSFER_NON_BLOCKING
399
          LLMJVM_dump();
          EXCEPTION PRINTF("LLMJVM dump() DONE\n");
```

debugger (see next slide):

```
SERIAL MONITOR OFFLINE PERIPHERALS PERIPHERALS RTOS DETAILS PROBLEMS 35
[New Thread 3]
[New Thread 7]
[New Thread 6]
[New Thread 4]
[New Thread 2]
[New Thread 5]
2 received signal SIGINT, Interrupt.
[Switching to Thread 3]
0x3001a900 in cpuload idle () at C:/Users/gharel/git/nxpvee-mimxrt1170-prj/nxpvee-mimxrt1170-evk/bsp/vee/port
                cpuload idle counter++;
set $pc = __icetea__virtual__com_is2t_microjvm_IGreenThreadMicroJvm___dump
```

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CORE ENGINE VM DUMP (3/4)



TRIGGER THE LLMJVM DUMP FROM THE DEBUGGER (VS CODE / GDB)

- Start a serial terminal to get the application execution traces
- Start the debug session in VS Code
- Click the "Play" button to start the application
- Enter the Animated Image page
- Click the "Pause" button
- Run the following command in the **Debug Console**:

```
set $pc = __icetea__virtual__com_is2t_microjvm_IGreenThreadMicroJvm___dump
```

```
TERMINAL PORTS SERIAL MONITOR OFFLINE PERIPHERALS PERIPHERALS RTOS DETAILS PROBLEMS 33 OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE SPELL CHECKER 35 Filter (e.g. text.)

[New Thread 3]
[New Thread 6]
[New Thread 4]
[New Thread 2]
[New Thread 5]

Thread
2 received signal SIGINT, Interrupt.
[Switching to Thread 3]
0x3001a900 in cpuload_idle () at C:/Users/gharel/git/nxpvee-mimxrt1170-prj/nxpvee-mimxrt1170-evk/bsp/vee/port/cpuload/src/cpuload.c:3

> set $pc = _icetea_virtual_com_is2t_microjvm_IGreenThreadMicroJvm__dump
```

Termite 3.4 (by CompuPhase) COM28 115200 bps, 8N1, no handshake Java threads count: 2 Peak java threads count: 2 Total created java threads: 3 ast executed native function: 0x3002CE51 ast executed external hook function: 0x00000000 State: idle, not notified Java Thread[1538] name="Thread1" prio=5 state=MONITOR_QUEUED max_java_stack=492 current_java_stack=183 Locked on: @C:0x3012FD30@@0x800816C8 (owned by thread[1281]) @C:0x3012FDB0@@0x8008365C: at @C:0x30130F50@.@M:0x3014F8C8:0x3014F8FA@ Object References: -@C:0x30130F50@@0x800839E0 -@C:0x3012FD30@@0x800816CC - @C:0x3012FD30@@0x800816C8 at @C:0x30130CB0@.@M:0x30148338:0x3014837A@ Object References: - @C:0x30130CB0@@0x80083674 - @C:0x30130DD0@@0x80083608 -@C:0x30130CD0@@0x80083718 -@C:0x30130F50@@0x800839E0 at @C:0x30130DD0@.@M:0x301549A8:0x30154A7C@ Object References: -@C:0x30130DD0@@0x80083608 -@C:0x30130CB0@@0x80083674 -@C:0x30130CB0@@0x80083674 -@C:0x30130CD0@@0x80083718 @C:0y3012FDB0@@M:0y301529F4:0y30152A0A@

Click the "Play" button to resume the execution at the set symbol, the VM dump can be see in the serial terminal

CORE ENGINE VM DUMP (4/4)



EXAMPLE OF DUMP

- Use the <u>Stack Trace Reader</u> to decode the stack trace
- A dead lock is identified in the stack trace, lock between threads "Thread1" and "UI Pump"
- The UI Tread (UI Pump) is locked
 → GUI Freeze

Java threads count: 3

Peak java threads count: 3
Total created java threads: 4

Last executed native function: 0x9014DDFB

Last executed external hook function: 0x00000000

State: idle, not notified

Java Thread[1794]

name="Thread1" prio=5 state=MONITOR QUEUED max java stack=492 current_java_stack=183

Locked on: java/lang/Object@0xC0081C4C (owned by thread[1281])

java/lang/Thread@0xC0082150:

at com/microej/demo/widget/animatedimage/widget/AnimatedImage\$1.run(AnimatedImage.java:190) Object References:

- com/microej/demo/widget/animatedimage/widget/AnimatedImage\$1@0xC00821B0
- java/lang/Object@0xC0081C48
- java/lang/Object@0xC0081C4C

Java Thread[1281]

name="UIPump" prio=5 state=MONITOR QUEUED max iava stack=1296 current_java_stack=850

Locked on: java/lang/Object@0xC0081C48 (owned by thread[1794])

java/lang/Thread@0xC008047C:

at com/microej/demo/widget/animatedimage/widget/AnimatedImage.renderContent(AnimatedImage.java:233) Object References:

- com/microej/demo/widget/animatedimage/widget/AnimatedImage@0xC0081C2C
- ej/microui/display/GraphicsContext@0xC008042C
- java/lang/Object@0xC0081C4C
- java/lang/Object@0xC0081C48

SIMULATOR & DEVICE DEBUGGER



DEBUG ON SIMULATOR

- Use of JDWP (Java Debug Wire Protocol) to use Eclipse debugger
- Use mocks to simulate and debug corner cases of the target
- Debugger features:
 - Breakpoints
 - Step-by-step execution
 - Variables and fields value monitoring
 - Thread execution stacks list

DEBUG ON DEVICE

- Use of JDWP (Java Debug Wire Protocol) to use Eclipse debugger
- Need to setup the <u>VEE Debugger Proxy</u>
- Postmortem debug from a snapshot of the memory
- Debugger features:
 - Breakpoints
 - Step-by-step execution (planned)
 - Variables and fields value monitoring
 - Thread execution stacks list

Note: import the <u>Foundation Library Sources</u> to the debugger to get the exact source code which is executed.

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Debug on Device

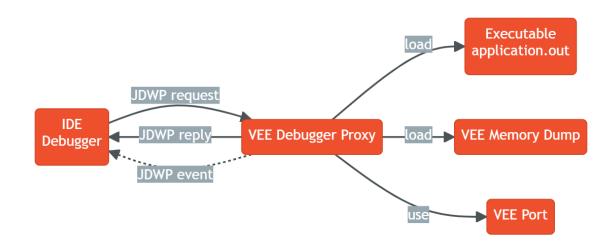
Debug the Application Code on the Device

VEE DEBUGGER PROXY PRINCIPLE



The <u>VEE Debugger Proxy</u> is an implementation of the Java Debug Wire protocol (JDWP) for debugging Applications executed by MICROEJ VEE.

• VEE Debugger Proxy principle:



Available since Architecture 8.1

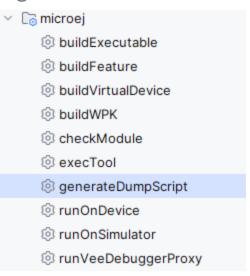
- No VEE Port update required
- Steps:
 - 1. Generate a VEE memory dump script for the target / toolchain
 - 2. Run the application Executable on target
 - Dump the memory of the running Executable using the C Debugger using the VEE memory dump script
 - 4. Run the VEE Debugger Proxy in a Command Prompt
 - 5. On the MicroEJ Simulator, run a Remote Java Application Debugging session

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GENERATE THE VEE MEMORY DUMP SCRIPT (1/2)



- The VEE Debugger Proxy tool jdwp-server-1.0.4
 is required to generate the VEE memory dump
 script.
 - The tool is provided in the training package.
- The example-java-widget project provides the generateDumpScript task that allows the user to generate the VEE memory dump script:



This task is declared in the **build.gradle.kts**, it is based on the command line provided in the <u>VEE</u>

<u>Debugger Proxy</u> documentation:

```
### Display of the path of the
```

Note that this task is configured to generate a **GDB** dump script.

GENERATE THE VEE MEMORY DUMP SCRIPT (2/2)



Run the **generateDumpScript** task:

- The application is built and flashed on the device,
- The dump script is generated in the build/generated folder:



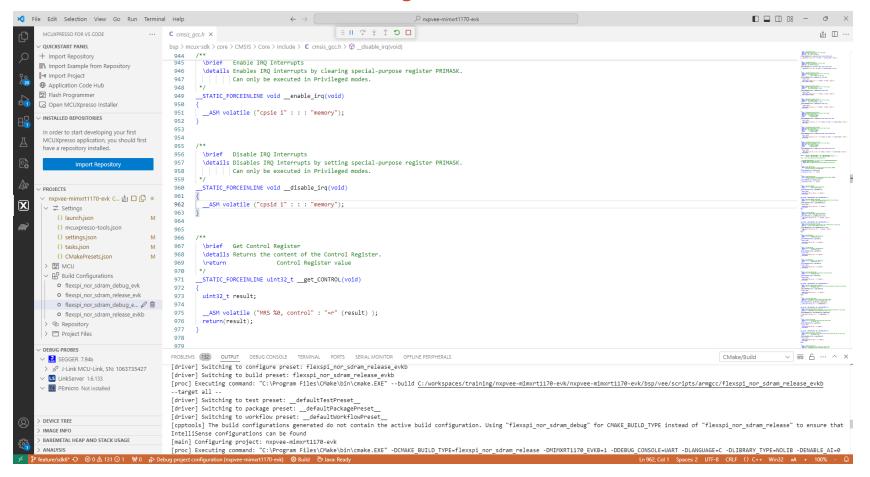


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DUMP THE DEVICE MEMORY (1/3)

MICROEJ.

- Once the vee-memory-dump.gdb file is generated, open VS Code.
- Attach to the device in VS Code (cf. <u>Debug the BSP C Code</u>).

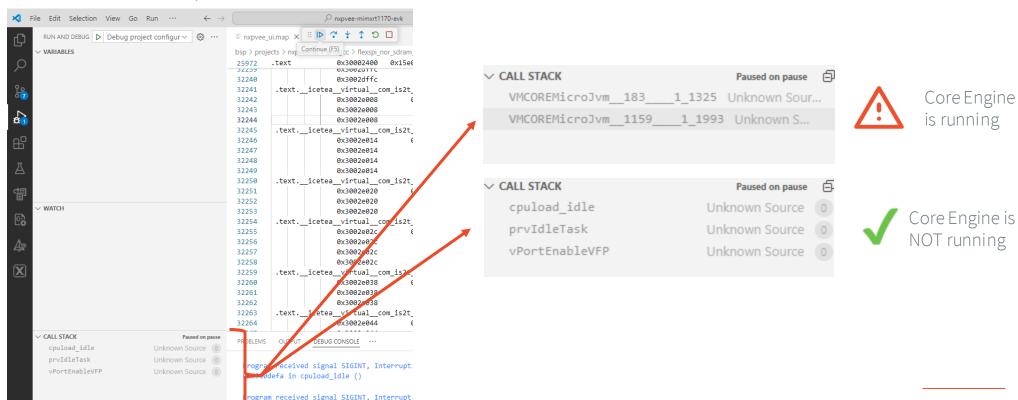


DUMP THE DEVICE MEMORY (2/3)



- To make sure that the Core engine is not running when the dump is performed, it is recommended to <u>create a breakpoint at a specific safe point</u> (Core Engine hooks or native function).
- Otherwise, make sure that the Core engine is not running when **pausing** the debugger (see Call Stack section in VS Code):

300037f0 in vApplicationIdleHook ()

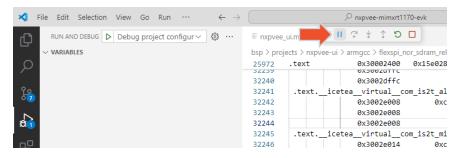


DUMP THE DEVICE MEMORY (3/3)

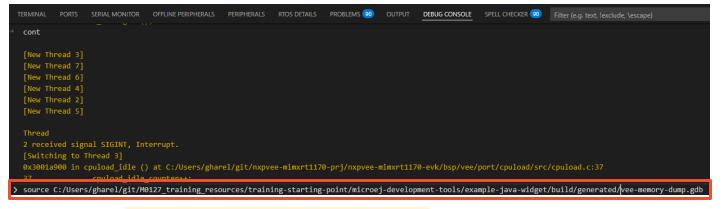


In VS Code, run the **vee-memory-dump.gdb** script file to dump the memory:

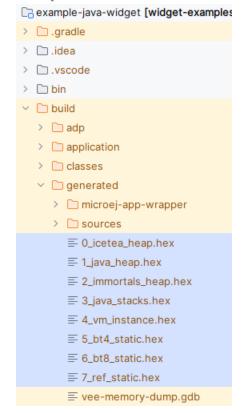
Pause the debugger:



Run the following command in the **Debug Console** view: source C:/[YOUR PATH]/vee-memory-dump.gdb



Heap dumps are generated in the output folder:

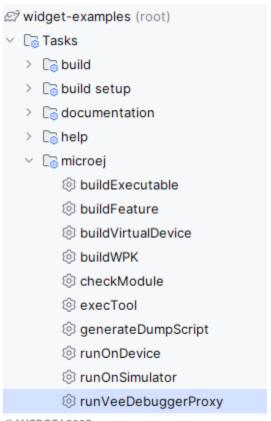


Note: the output folder is specified when generating the vee-memorydump.gdb script.

RUN THE VEE DEBUGGER PROXY (1/2)



The **example-java-widget** project provides the **generateDumpScript** task that allows the user to run the VEE debugger proxy:



This task is declared in the **build.gradle.kts**, it is based on the command line provided in the <u>VEE</u>

<u>Debugger Proxy</u> documentation:

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   ⇔
                                          task<Exec>( name: "runVeeDebuggerProxy") {
                                                                  group="microej"
   64
                                                                  commandLine( ...arguments:
                                                                                             "java",
                                                                                             "-DveePortDir=$veePortPath",
                                                                                             "-Ddebugger.out.path=$executablePath",
   68
   69
                                                                                             "-Ddebugger.out.hex.path=$debugOutputFolderPath/0_icetea_heap.hex,$debugOu
                                                                                             "-Ddebugger.port=8000",
                                                                                             "-Ddebugger.out.format=elf",
                                                                                            "-Ddebugger.out.bigEndianness=false",
   72
                                                                                             "-jar", veeDebuggerProxyPath,
   74
  75
```

The tool takes the dumped .hex files as input.

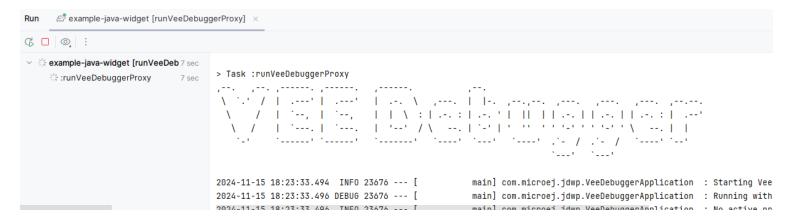
© MICROEJ 2025 V3.4 Sept. 2025 V3.4 Sept. 2025

RUN THE VEE DEBUGGER PROXY (2/2)

MICROEJ.

Run the **runVeeDebuggerProxy** task:

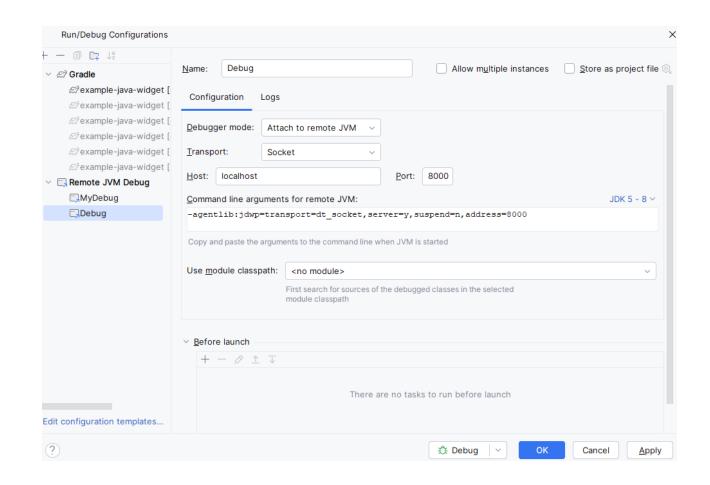
The tool is launched in the console:



RUN A REMOTE JAVA APPLICATION DEBUG SESSION

In IntelliJ IDEA:

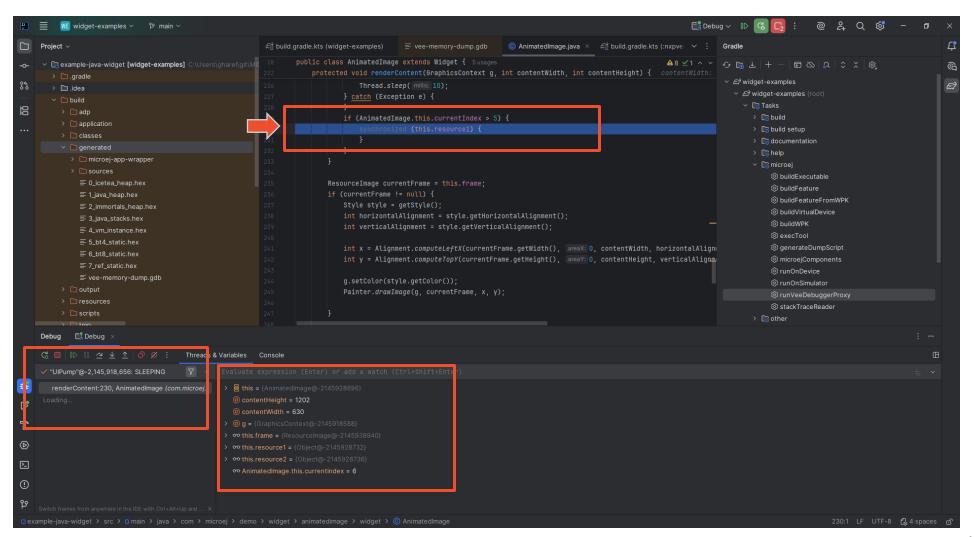
- Click on Run > Edit Configurations....
- Click on + button (Add New Configuration).
- Select Remote JVM Debug.
- Click on the New launch configuration button.
- Give a name to the launcher in the Name field.
- Set the debug host to localhost and port to 8000.
- Click on the **Debug** button.



GET THE POST-MORTEM DEBUGGING STATE (1/2)



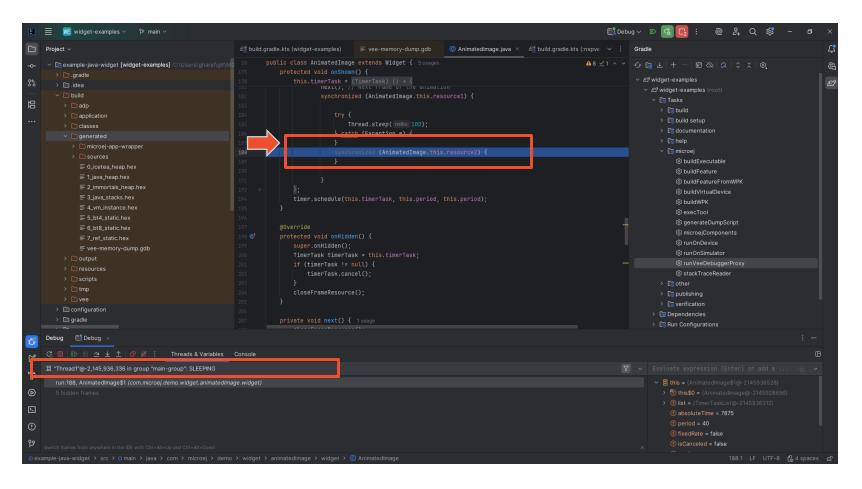
Click on the pause button and the following debug state and the thread call stack can be seen:



GET THE POST-MORTEM DEBUGGING STATE (2/2)



The 2nd Thread state can also be seen:





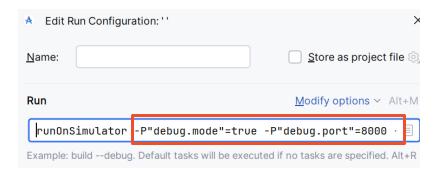
Debug on Simulator

Debug the Application Code on the Simulator

DEBUG ON THE SIMULATOR (1/2)



- Execute the runOnSimulator Gradle task with the following options:
 - -P"debug.mode"=true -P"debug.port"=8000

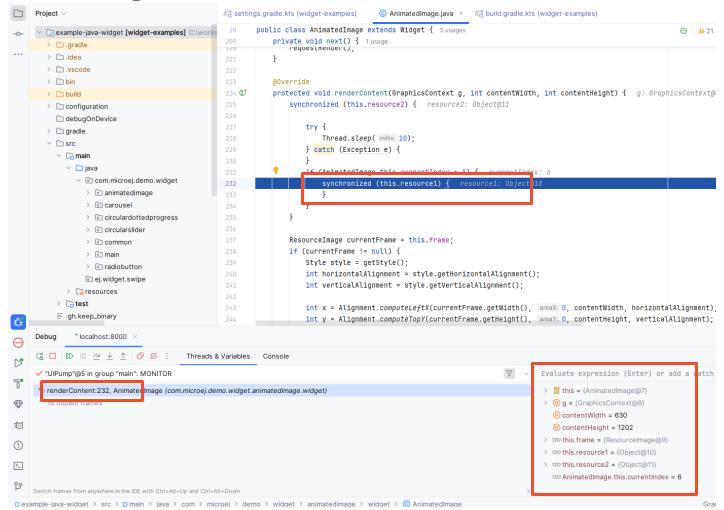


• The console opens with the following message, click on Attach debugger to start the debug session:

DEBUG ON THE SIMULATOR (2/2)



- Pause the Debugger once the freeze occurs.
- The same state that the debug on device view can be seen



ISSUE ANALYSIS & FIX



The interlock is caused by the synchronization of **resource1** and **resource2** objects on 2 different Threads:

- The renderContent method is called in the UIPump thread context
 - Note: this method is called at every animation frame of the animated image
- The onShown method creates a TimerTask that is executed in the context of the Timer thread
 - Note: this method is called once, when the Animated Page is shown

```
QOverride
protected void renderContent(GraphicsContext q, int contentWidth, int contentHeight) {

synchronized (this.resource2) {

try {

Thread.sleep( millis: 10);
} catch (Exception e) {
}

if (AnimatedImage.this.currentIndex > 5) {

synchronized (this.resource1) {
}

synchronized (this.resource1) {
}

}
```

Fix: this code has been written for training purpose, remove it to unlock the application.

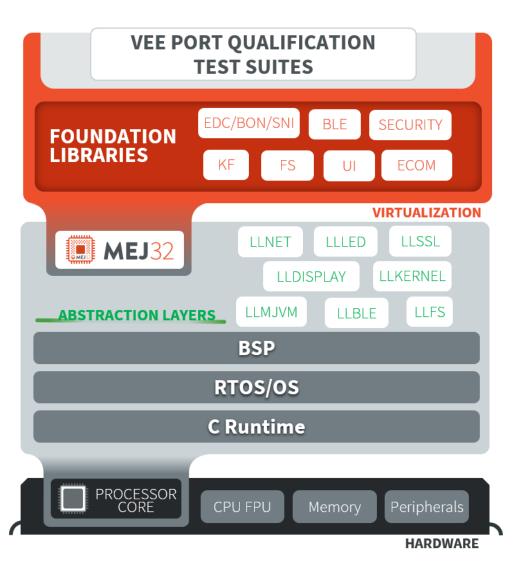


VEE Port Qualification Tool

VEE PORT QUALIFICATION TOOL (1/3)



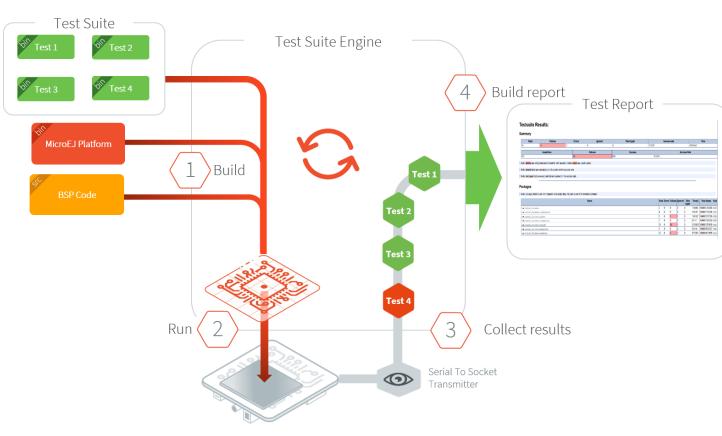
- The VEE Port Qualification Tool (PQT) project provides the tools required to validate each component of a MicroEJ VEE Port.
- After porting or adding a <u>Foundation Library</u> to a MicroEJ VEE Port, it is necessary to validate its integration.
- For each Low Level API, an Abstraction Layer implementation is required. The validation of the Abstraction Layer implementation is performed by running tests at two-levels:
 - o In C, by calling Low Level APIs (usually manually).
 - In Java, by calling Foundation Library APIs (usually automatically using <u>Platform Test Suite</u>).
- PQT tests can be extended by the developer to support custom Foundation Libraries.
- Please refer to the <u>Platform Qualification</u> documentation for more information.



VEE PORT QUALIFICATION TOOL (2/3)



- PQT tests are provided with a Test Suite project, to run tests automatically (CI or locally)
 - → Agility in the development flow
- A Test Suite contains one or more tests. For each test, the Test Suite Engine will:
 - o Build a MicroEJ Firmware for the test.
 - Program and Run the MicroEJ
 Firmware onto the device.
 - Retrieve the execution traces.
 - Analyze the traces to determine whether the test has PASSED or FAILED.
 - Append the result to the Test Report.
 - Repeat until all tests of the Test Suite have been executed.



VEE Port Testsuite on Device Overview

VEE PORT QUALIFICATION TOOL (3/3)



- The VEE Port Template GitHub repository holds the configuration necessary to pass tests on VEE ports:
 - https://github.com/MicroEJ/Tool-Project-Template-VEEPort/tree/master/vee-port/validation
- The validation folder provides configuration files for each test suite.
- Execute the **test** Gradle task on the Test Suite Project either in Command Line or via the IDE to launch the corresponding test suite.

KEY TAKEWAYS



- PQT: validate the vertical integration: Foundation Library > Abstraction Layer > C Library >
 Driver
- 2. Event Tracing & Logging: instrument the application with debug logs
- 3. Core Engine VM Dump: diagnosis tool to display the state of the MicroEJ Runtime and the MicroEJ threads on target (name, priority, stack trace, etc.)
- 4. Debugger (on device & simulator): analysis of an applicative issue



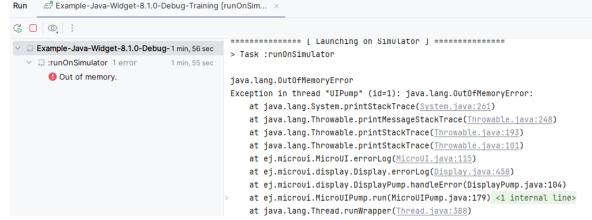
Memory Inspection Tools

MEMORY INSPECTION TOOLS



- Tools:
 - Memory Map Analyzer*
 - Heap Dumper & Heap Analyzer
 - Core Engine Memory integrity check
 - Heap Usage Monitoring Tool*
- Examples:
 - Investigate memory leaks
 - Detect memory corruption of the Core Engine heap





Out Of Memory exception in a GUI application

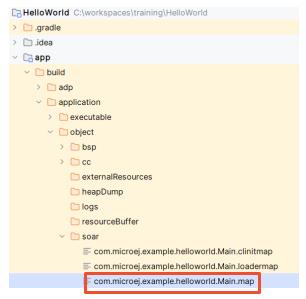
^{*} Tool not introduced in this presentation, visit <u>docs.microej.com</u> for more information.

MEMORY MAP ANALYZER



PRINCIPLE

When the Executable of an Application is built, a Memory Map file is generated:



This file can be visualized with the Memory Map Analyzer, an Eclipse IDE plugin. It displays the memory consumption of different features in the RAM and ROM.

USAGE

.map files can be opened using the Memory Map Analyzer plugin. Make sure the Eclipse IDE is installed with the required plugin, then launch it

In Eclipse IDE, click on File > Open File... to open the .map file:

Name	Image Size	Runtime Size	
> • All	14.6 KB	206.5 KB	
> • ApplicationCode	61 B	0 B	
> • ApplicationImmutables	36 B	0 B	
> • ApplicationStrings	1.7 KB	0 B	
> ● BSP	540 B	130.4 KB	
> • ClassNames	104 B	0 B	
> • CoreEngine	596 B	7.5 KB	
> • CoreEngineAllocator	0 B	68.0 KB	
> O LibFoundationEDC	7.2 KB	0 B	
> O LibFoundationSNI	254 B	0 B	
> • NativeStackMicroUI	616 B	540 B	
> • RuntimeTables	1.0 KB	0 B	
> • Statics	0 B	68 B	
> • Types	2.4 KB	0 B	

Note: it does not include the memory usage of the BSP project (or MicroEJ native code). Only the content of microejapp.o is displayed.

HEAP DUMPER & HEAP ANALYZER (1/8)



- Heap Dumper is a tool that takes a snapshot of the heap.
 Generated files (.heap extension) are available in the application output folder.
- Heap Analyzer is a tool that allows to inspect the heap dumps.
 It provides the following features:
 - Memory leaks detection
 - Objects instances browse
 - Heap usage optimization (using immortal or immutable objects)
 - Comparison between Heap Dumps
- To generate .heap dump files, **System.gc()** must be called explicitly in the application code.
- .heap dump files can be generated in **simulation** and also **dumped from the device**.

HEAP DUMPER & HEAP ANALYZER (2/8)



USAGE

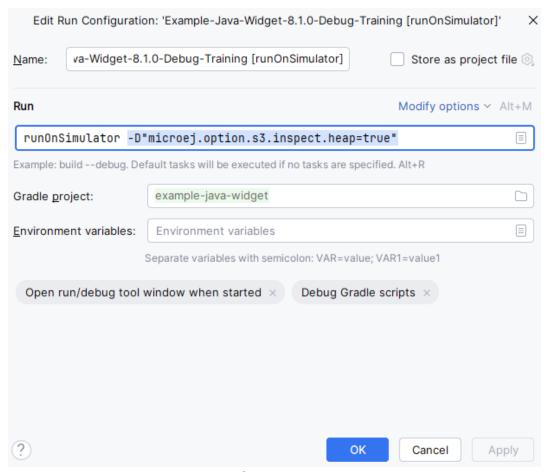
Heap Dumper is a tool that allows to get a snapshot of the heap of an Application running on the Simulator or on a device.

To run the Heap Dumper on Simulator (IntelliJ IDEA / Android Studio):

- Right-Click on the **runOnSimulator** task.
- Click on Modify Run Configuration...
- Add the following option:
 - -D"microej.option.s3.inspect.heap=true"
- Click on Run.

Or use this command line:

- .\gradlew.bat runOnSimulator
- -D"microej.option.s3.inspect.heap=true"



Run Configuration options

HEAP DUMPER & HEAP ANALYZER (3/8)

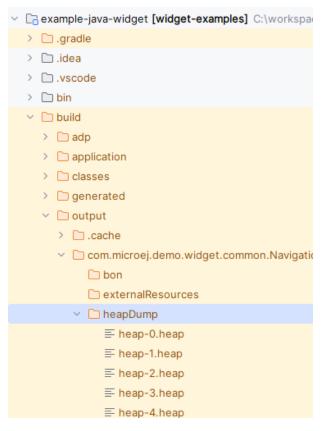


REPRODUCE THE ISSUE

- Once the Simulator is started, enter / leave the Circular Dotted Progress page
 ~10 times
- Get the error trace in the console:

```
======= [ Initialization Stage ] ========
WARNING: This Java version (17.0.10) is not officially supported becau
======= [ Converting fonts ] ========
======= [ Converting images ] =========
======= [ Launching on Simulator ] ========
iava.lang.OutOfMemorvError
Exception in thread "UIPump" (id=1): java.lang.OutOfMemoryError:
   at java.lang.System.printStackTrace(System.java:261)
   at java.lang.Throwable.printMessageStackTrace(Throwable.java:248)
   at java.lang.Throwable.printStackTrace(Throwable.java:193)
   at java.lang.Throwable.printStackTrace(Throwable.java:101)
   at ej.microui.MicroUI.errorLog(MicroUI.java:109)
   at ej.microui.display.Display.errorLog(Display.java:463)
   at ej.microui.display.DisplayPump.handleError(DisplayPump.java:116
   at ej.microui.MicroUIPump.run(MicroUIPump.java:184) <1 internal li
   at java.lang.Thread.runWrapper(Thread.java:388)
```

- Close the Simulator.
- Heap Dumps are generated in the build/output/<fqnMainClass>/heapDump/ folder of the project, where <fqnMainClass> is the Fully Qualified Name of the Application Main class.



Generated Heap Dump files

V3.4 Sept. 2025 56

HEAP DUMPER & HEAP ANALYZER (4/8)



IMPORT THE HEAP DUMPS

Heap Dumps can be opened using the Heap Analyzer plug-in. Make sure the Eclipse IDE is installed with the required plugin, then launch it.

In **Eclipse IDE**, create a new empty Project:

- Go to File > New > Project...
- Select **General > Project.**
- Give it a name and click **Finish**.
- Copy paste the generated Heap Dumps into this project:



HEAP DUMPER & HEAP ANALYZER (5/8)



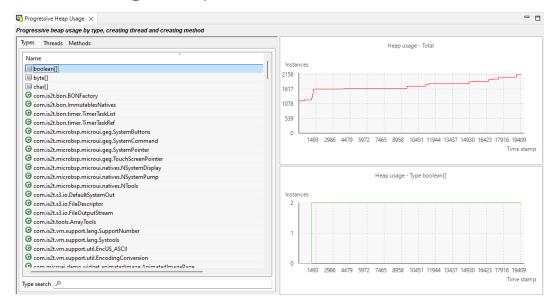
PROGRESSIVE HEAP USAGE ANALYSIS

The progressive heap usage tool allows to see the number of instances over time.

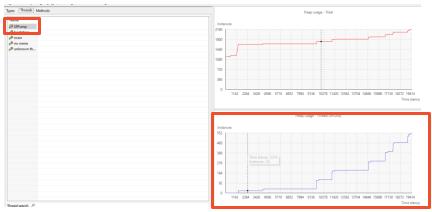
To use the tool:

- Select the last .heap file (e.g. **heap-5.heap**)
- Right-click on it and select
 Heap Analyzer > Show progressive heap usage

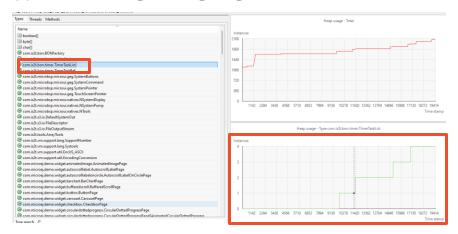
The following view opens:



In the Threads tab, we can clearly notice that the memory leak is coming from the **UIThread**:



Browsing the types, we notice that the instances of some types are also growing (e.g. **TimerTaskList**):



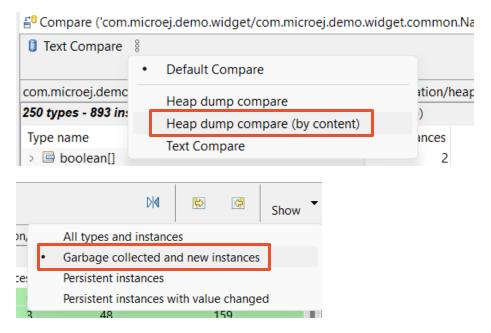
Next step: compare 2 consecutive heap dumps focusing v_{3.4 Sept. 2025} 58 the types that are growing continuously.

HEAP DUMPER & HEAP ANALYZER (6/8)



COMPARE THE HEAP DUMPS

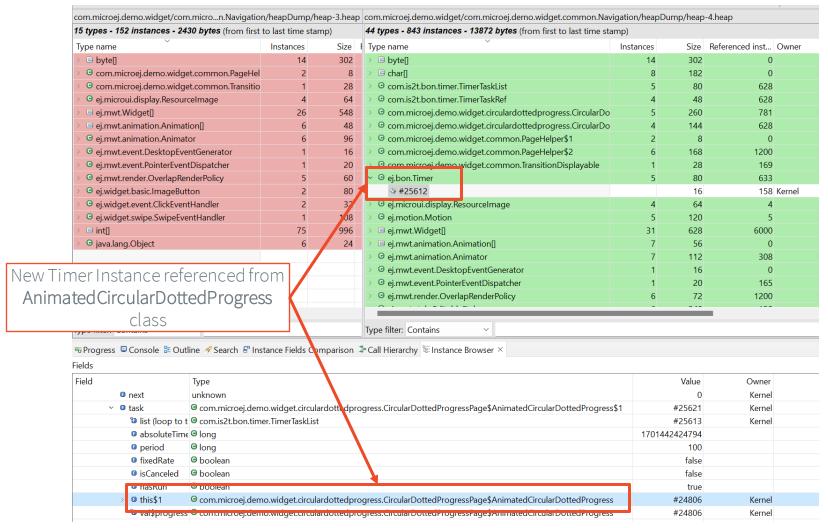
- Right-Click on 2 consecutive .heap files.
 Preferably the ones generated just before the Out Of Memory error.
- Click on Compare With → Each Other.
- The Heap Viewer opens, select the following configuration:



HEAP DUMPER & HEAP ANALYZER (7/8)



Heap Compare between .heap-3 and .heap-4:



Guidelines:

- Lots of new objects have been created (691 new instances)
- Use the compare by content option to discard objects that moved but have the same content
- Look for new objects that can have an impact (Thread, Timer, Page, Widget, StyleSheet)
 - → knowledge of the application required, need to understand the objects hierarchy
- Once an object has been picked, look its parent in the Instance
 Browser

HEAP DUMPER & HEAP ANALYZER (8/8)



ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

New Timer instance created each time the **Circular Dotted Progress Page** is shown:

```
    CircularDottedProgressPage.java

                  @Override
82 of
                  protected void onShown() {
83
                      this.startTime = Util.platformTimeMillis();
                      final AnimatedCircularDottedProgress progress = this;
                      Timer timer = new Timer();
                      TimerTask task = () → { progress.tick(); };
                      timer.schedule(task, delay: 0, period: 100);
```

→ Memory leak is due to the useless Timer instances keeping a reference on the widget AnimatedCircularDottedProgress Also, the TimerTask is never canceled

FIX

- Retrieve a global Timer instance (defined at application startup)
- Cancel the TimerTask once the **CircularDottedProgressPage** is hidden

```
@Override
protected void onShown() {
  System.qc();
  this.startTime = Util.platformTimeMillis();
  final AnimatedCircularDottedProgress progress = this;
  Timer timer = ServiceFactory.getService(Timer.class, Timer.class);
  this.task - new TimerTask() {
    @Override
    public void run() {
     progress.tick();
  timer.schedule(this.task, 0, 100);
@Override
protected void onHidden(){
  if(this.task != null){
   this.task.cancel();
  this.task = null;
```

CORE ENGINE MEMORY INTEGRITY CHECK (1/3)



- The **LLMJVM_checkIntegrity** API checks the internal memory structure integrity of the Core Engine with the <u>LLMJVM_checkIntegrity API</u> to detect memory corruptions in native functions.
- This feature is for Applications deployed on hardware devices only:
 - If an integrity error is detected, the LLMJVM_on_CheckIntegrity_error hook is called and this method returns 0.
 - o If no integrity error is detected, a non-zero checksum is returned.

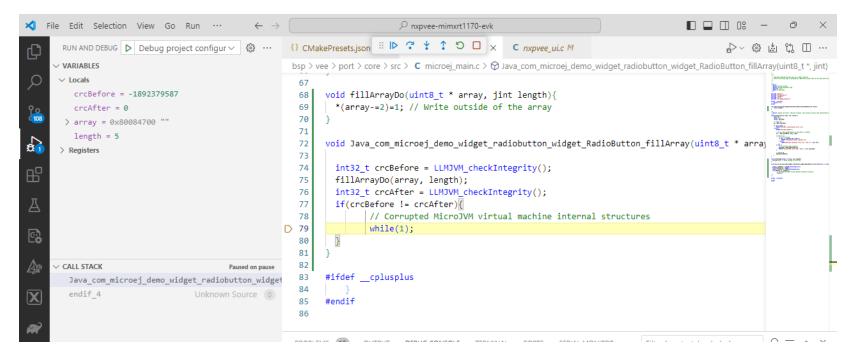
Note: this function affects performance and should only be used for debug purpose.

CORE ENGINE MEMORY INTEGRITY CHECK (2/3)



REPRODUCE THE ISSUE

- Run the **example-java-widget** application on the device
- Enter the Radio Button page, click on one of the buttons
- The GUI should freeze, the Heap is corrupted
- Run the <u>BSP Debug</u>, the execution is stuck in a while loop because the CRC check of the VEE Heap failed:



CORE ENGINE MEMORY INTEGRITY CHECK (3/3)



ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

FIX

- The **fillArrayDo** native function writes outside the array memory area:
- Fix the implementation of **fillArrayDo**.

KEY TAKEWAYS



- Heap Dumper:
 - Generates heap dumps (.heap file) on System.gc() execution
- Heap Analyzer features:
 - Compare: compares two heap dumps, showing which objects were created, or garbage collected, or have changed values
 - → useful for memory leaks detection
 - Heap Viewer: shows which instances are in the heap, when they were created, and attempts to identify problematic areas
 - → useful for memory optimization
- Core Engine Memory Integrity Check: detect memory corruptions in native functions.
- Heap Usage Monitoring Tool: estimate the heap requirements of an application.



Static Analysis Tools

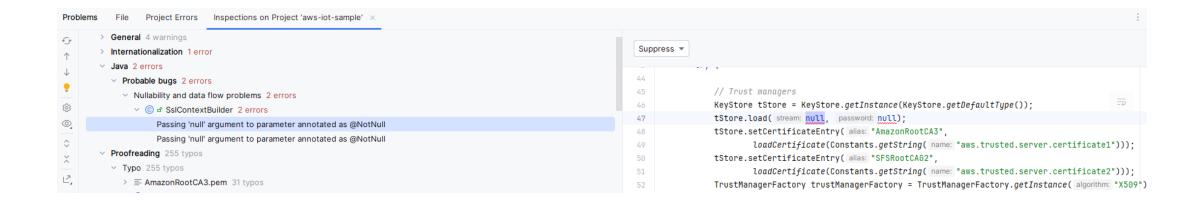
STATIC ANALYSIS TOOLS (1/3)



NULL ANALYSIS

Static analysis tools are helpful allies to prevent several classes of bugs.

• Use the <u>Null Analysis tool</u> to detect and prevent <u>NullPointerException</u>, one of the most common causes of runtime failure of Java programs.



STATIC ANALYSIS TOOLS (2/3)



SONARQUBE

- <u>SonarQube™</u> is an open source platform for continuous inspection of code quality. SonarQube offers reports on duplicated code, coding standards, unit tests, code coverage, code complexity, potential bugs, comments, and architecture.
- SonarQube can be integrated with CI tools to monitor code quality during the project life.
- To set it up on your MicroEJ application project, please refer to <u>this documentation</u>. (configures the set of rules relevant to the context of MicroEJ Application development)



SonarQube code analysis performed inside Eclipse IDE



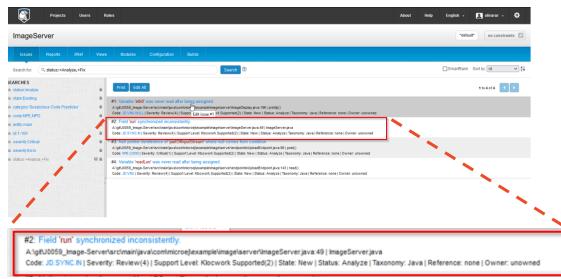
SonarQube code analysis performed on SonarQube server

STATIC ANALYSIS TOOLS (3/3)

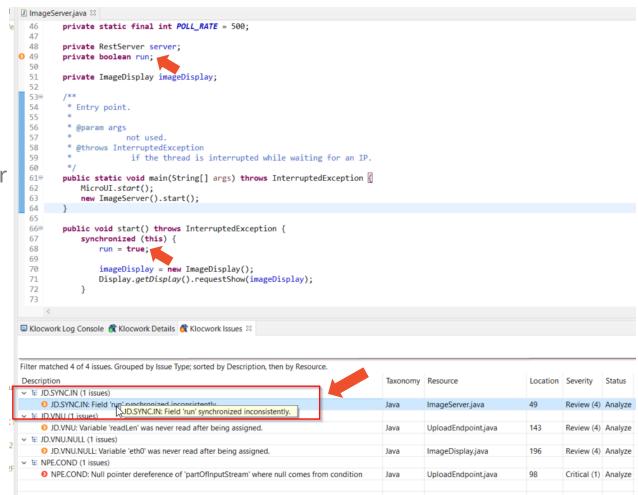


KLOCWORK

- Klocwork is another code analysis platform that can be integrated to MICROEJ SDK.
 Documentation can be found here.
- Klocwork can be integrated with CI tools to monitor code quality during the project life.



Klocwork code analysis performed on Klocwork server



Klocwork code analysis performed inside Eclipse IDE

FOLLOW-UP: UI SPECIFIC TOOLS AND SYSTEMVIEW



- UI specific tools are explained in **Mastering UI Development Tools** training course. It is tailored towards UI application debugging and improvements:
 - GUI Performances Improvements (bottlenecks identification with SystemView)
 - GUI Rendering Issues Debug
- While centered around a UI profiling use case, the SystemView training teaches skills that could be applied around debugging any performance issues.

THANK YOU

for your attention!



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