

This is the tutorial for IBM Debug Tool for z/OS[®], one of the IBM zSeries[®] problem determination tools.

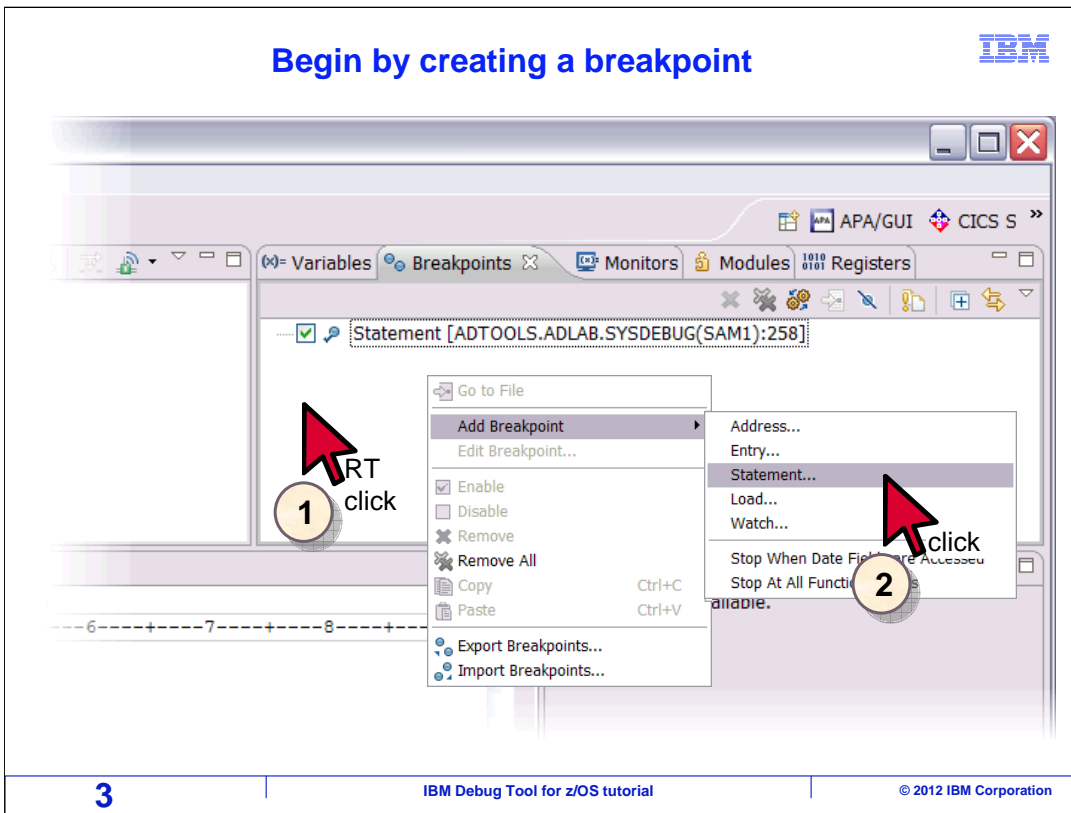
Using Debug Tool's graphical user interface

- Starting the debugger
- Debug perspective views and navigation
- Using the debugger
 - Stepping through statements and running the program
 - Program statement breakpoints
 - Monitoring variables
 - Making breakpoints conditional
 - Watch breakpoints
 - Program entry and exit breakpoints
 - Ending the debugging session
- Loading program debug files
 - Loading sysdebug, listings, dwarf, and source files
 - Loading LANGX files



In this section you will see how breakpoints can be made conditional, how to set watch breakpoints, how to set breakpoints that will stop when a program or sub-program is entered, and how to end a debugging session.

Begin by creating a breakpoint



To define a conditional breakpoint, right-click in the white area of the breakpoints view. Then select "add breakpoint", and select the type of breakpoint that you want to add. In this example a statement breakpoint is created.

Specify an expression to set a conditional breakpoint



1 click

2 click

Breakpoint is set for statement 404, only when CUST-ID = '11004'.

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Specify the statement where the breakpoint will be set, in this case "404", and click "next". In the second screen add a conditional expression. This expression specifies that CUST-ID must equal a specific value before the breakpoint can trigger. If CUST-ID does not match the value when statement 404 runs, the breakpoint will not trigger. Click Finish.

Run the program



The screenshot displays the IBM Debug Tool for z/OS interface. At the top, a toolbar contains several icons, including a red square with a white 'R' (Resume) icon. A red arrow points to this icon with the text "click". Below the toolbar, the main window is divided into several panes. The top-left pane shows a list of breakpoints, with one entry circled in black: "Statement [ADTOOLS.ADLAB.SYSDEBUG(SAM1):40] (conditional: CUST-ID = ...". A callout box points to this entry with the text "Indicates that the breakpoint is conditional". The bottom-left pane shows a list of statements, with the following code visible:

```
PERFORM 915-CLOSE-CUST-FILE.  
  
110-PROCESS-CUSTFILE-RECORD.  
PERFORM 730-READ-CUSTOMER-FILE.  
IF WS-CUST-FILE-EOF NOT = 'Y'  
IF CUST-RECORD-TYPE = 'C'  
  ADD +1 TO NUM-CUSTOMER-RECS  
  SUBROUTINE SAM2 WILL COLLECT CUSTOMER STATISTICS  
  CALL 'SAM2' USING CUST-REC,  
    CUSTOMER-BALANCE-STATS  
  MOVE CUST-ID      TO RPT-CUST-ID  
  MOVE CUST-NAME    TO RPT-CUST-NAME  
  MOVE CUST-OCCUPATION TO RPT-CUST-OCCUPATION
```

The bottom-right pane shows a message: "An outline is not available." At the bottom of the window, there is a footer with the number "5", the text "IBM Debug Tool for z/OS tutorial", and the copyright notice "© 2012 IBM Corporation".

The breakpoint was added, and appears in the breakpoints view, and is shown to be conditional. Click “resume” to run the program.

The program stopped the next time it reached statement 404 and the condition was true



IBM CICS Explorer

Debug SAM1 [Incoming Remote Debug Session]
Platform: zOS 390X Connection: 9.30.128.24:12711
Thread:1 (Runnable)
SAM1 : 01
Process: 328254224 Program: SAM1

ADTOOLS.ADLAB.SYSDEBUG(SAM1) 81

```
Line 404 Column 1 Insert Browse
403 READ CUSTOMER-FILE
404 AI END MOVE 'Y' TO WS-CUST-FILE-EOF .
405 EVALUATE WS-CUSTFILE-STATUS
406 WHEN '00'
407 WHEN '04'
408 ADD +1 TO NUM-CUSTFILE-RECS
409 CONTINUE
410 WHEN '10'
411 MOVE 'Y' TO WS-CUST-FILE-EOF
412 WHEN OTHER
```

Adding CUST-ID to the monitor allows the value to be shown

The breakpoint triggered the next time the program reached statement 404 and the condition was true

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The program ran until it the next time that it reached statement 404 and the condition was true. Notice that CUST-ID, shown in the monitors view, has the right value to trigger the conditional breakpoint. In this example statement 404 ran several times when the condition was false, but it did not stop there until it was true.

Enter an expression to make a breakpoint conditional

- If an expression is entered, it is evaluated each time the breakpoint is encountered
 - The breakpoint triggers only if the condition is true
- Expression syntax:
 - Examples:
 - CUSTOMER-ID = '12345'
 - ACCOUNT-BALANCE > '1000'

Specifying an expression makes a breakpoint conditional. An expression has a variable name, an operator (<, >, =), and a comparator, which could be either a value or another variable.

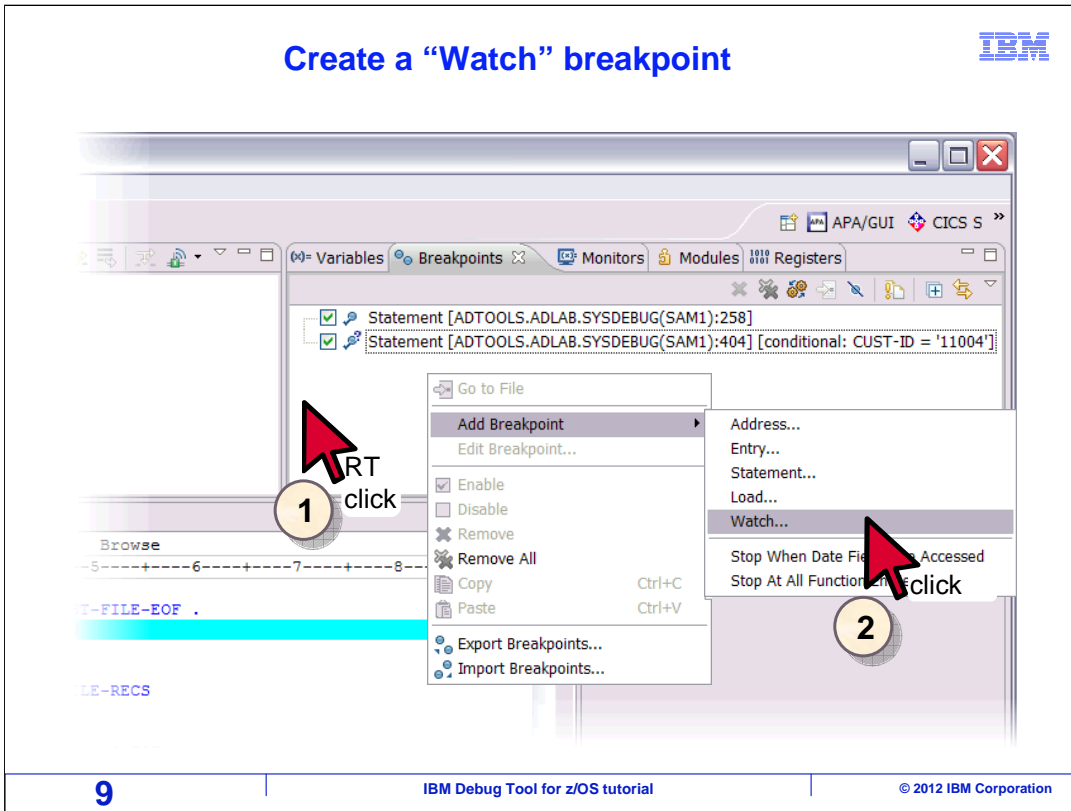
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Next, you will see how to set breakpoints that watch variables.

Create a "Watch" breakpoint



So far, you have seen how to set statement breakpoints. But there are other types of breakpoints. A "watch" breakpoint triggers when a variable's value changes. To add a watch breakpoint, right click in the breakpoints view, select "add breakpoint", and then "watch".

A Watch breakpoint triggers when a specified variable changes

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The “Add a Watch Breakpoint” dialog is displayed. At the top of the first screen enter the variable or expression that is to be watched, and click Next. The second screen has optional parameters that allow you to specify a frequency and optionally make the watch breakpoint conditional by entering an expression. In this example, the frequency is not changed and no expression is entered. Click "finish".

Watch breakpoint for variable NUM-CUSTFILE-RECS has been added



The screenshot shows the IBM CICS Explorer interface. The top-left pane displays the debug session details for SAM1. The top-right pane, titled 'Breakpoints', shows a list of breakpoints, with 'Watch [NUM-CUSTFILE-RECS]' highlighted by a black oval. The bottom pane shows the source code for ADTOOLS.ADLAB.SYSDEBUG(SAM1), with line 408 highlighted in blue. A yellow callout box with a black border points to the 'Variables' tab in the top-right pane, containing the text: 'Click the Variables tab to view the variable value'. The bottom of the screenshot features a footer with the number '11', the text 'IBM Debug Tool for z/OS tutorial', and the copyright notice '© 2012 IBM Corporation'.

The watch breakpoint was added, and is displayed in the breakpoints view.

Run the program



Click "Resume" to run until the breakpoint is triggered

The current value of the variable is 1

Name	Value
NUM-CUSTFILE-RECS	+000000001

```
ADTOOLS.ADLAB.SYSDEBUG(SAM1)
Line 407 Column 1 Insert Browse
-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----
404      EVALUATE WS-CUSTFILE-STATUS
405      WHEN '00'
406      WHEN '04'
407      ADD +1 TO NUM-CUSTFILE-RECS
408      CONTINUE
409      WHEN '10'
410      MOVE 'Y' TO WS-CUST-FILE-EOF
411      WHEN OTHER
412      MOVE 'N' TO WS-CUST-FILE-EOF
```

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Here, the variables view is selected, which is displaying the watched variable. The resume button is clicked.

The watch breakpoint triggered when the variable changed



The screenshot displays the IBM CICS Explorer interface. The top-left pane shows the debug session details for SAM1. The top-right pane, titled 'Variables', lists the variable NUM-CUSTFILE-RECS with a value of +000000002, which is circled in yellow. A callout box with an arrow pointing to this variable contains the text: "The breakpoint triggered when the variable value changed". The bottom pane shows the program's execution flow, with line 408 highlighted in cyan, indicating the current execution point. The code for line 408 is "CONTINUE".

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The watch breakpoint triggered. Notice that the value of the variable changed, and that the program is stopped at the next statement to run after the statement that changed the variable.

Watch breakpoints



- **Watch breakpoint**
 - Sets a breakpoint to trigger when a variable value changes
 - The program will stop when the variable's value changes with a subsequent Resume or Run-to-Location
- **Watch breakpoint with an expression**
 - Sets a conditional watch breakpoint
 - The program will stop when the variable's value changes with Resume or Run-to-Location, *and* the condition is true
 - Examples:
 - CUST-ID changes *and* CUST-ID = '12345'
 - CUST-ID changes *and* ACCT-BAL > 1000

A watch breakpoint will trigger when a variable value changes. Optionally, watch breakpoints can be made conditional by specifying an expression.

Performance tip



- For the best performance, use statement breakpoints instead of watch breakpoints
 - A statement breakpoint will trigger only when the statement is reached
 - A watch breakpoint makes the debugger check the value of the variable after every statement
- Use watch breakpoints if you do not know which statement will change or use the variable
- But if you do, set a statement breakpoint after the statement that causes the change
 - For example:
 - Statement breakpoint on 805 with expression CUST-ID = '12345'
 - will provide much better performance than:
 - Watch breakpoint on CUST-ID with expression CUST-ID = '12345'

When a watch breakpoint is set, the debugger must check the value of the watched variable after every statement runs. Keep this in mind when setting breakpoints, because it affects the performance of the debugger. If you have long running programs, and want to optimize the debugger's performance, there may be a better performing alternative.

If you know where in a program a target variable will be used, then you can set a statement breakpoint instead. Specify a conditional expression to check the value of the variable you want to watch at the right statement. Then the program will stop at the statement when the variable has a target value. This performs much better, since the debugger only checks for the condition when the specific statement runs, rather than checking if the variable changed after every statement.

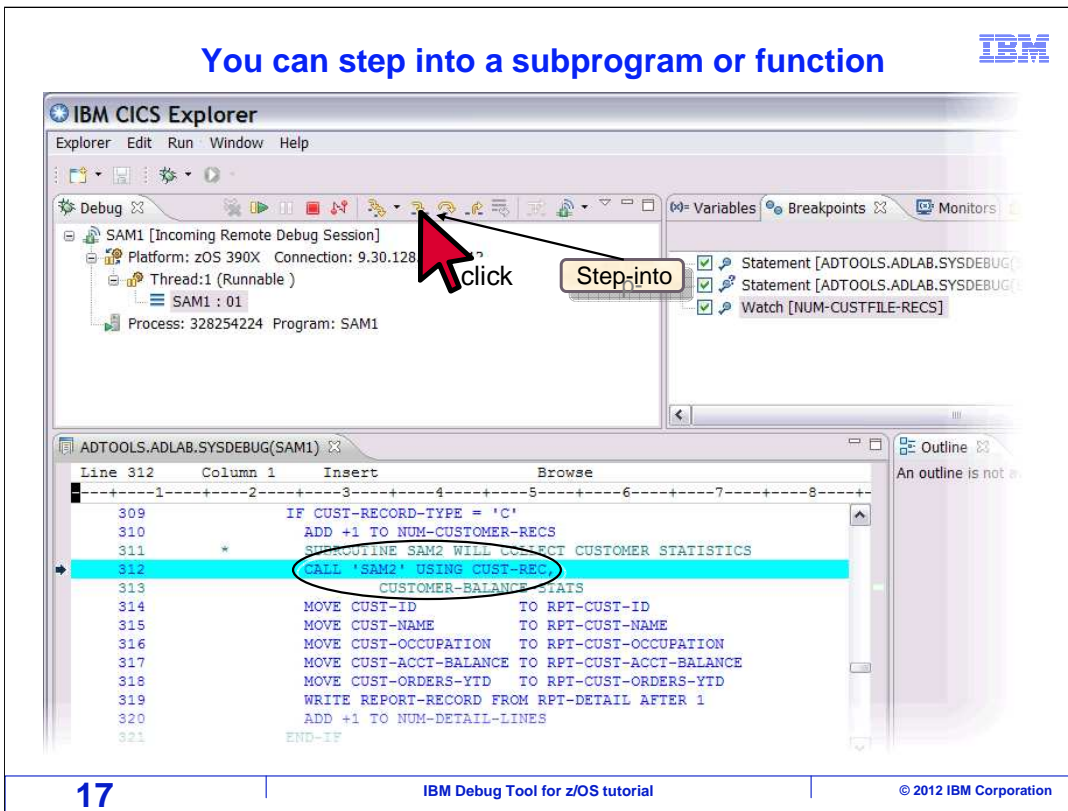
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So far, you have seen how to set statement and watch breakpoints. Next, you will see how to set breakpoints that trigger when a specific program or subprogram is entered.

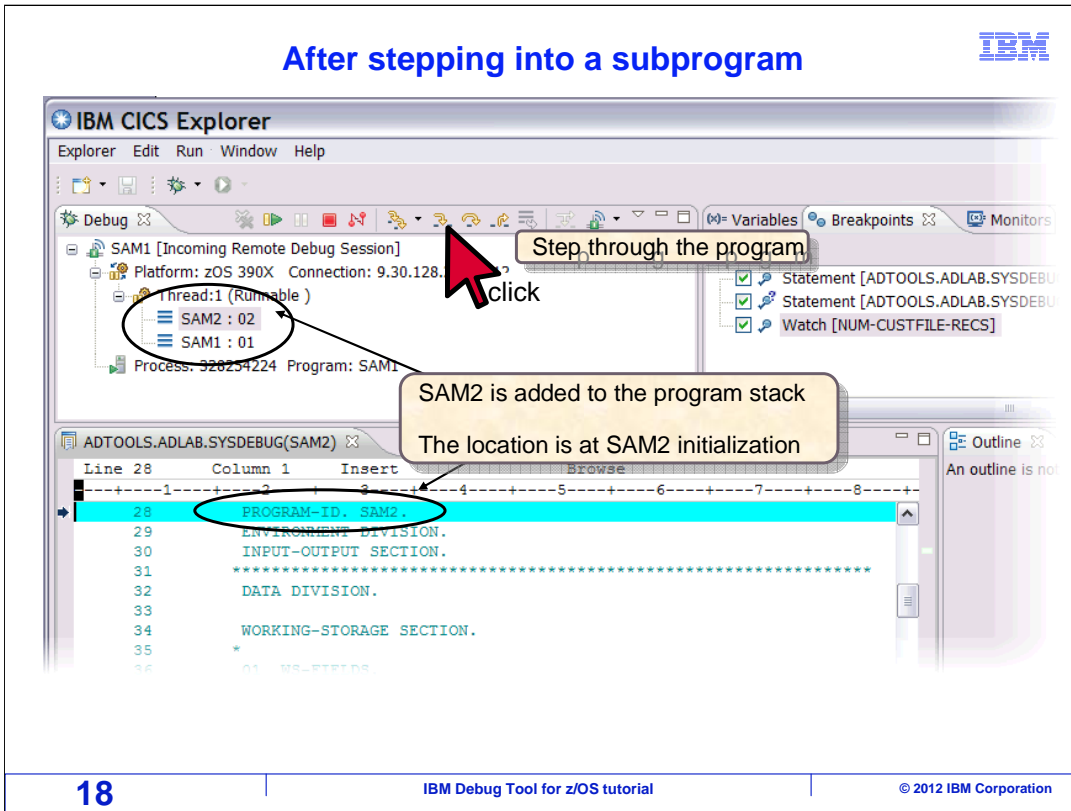
You can step into a subprogram or function



But first, here is a simple example of how you can follow the logic of an application from one program to another. A program named SAM1 is running. You can tell because the program name is highlighted in the debug view, and it is also displayed in the tab of the source view.

The next statement to run is line 312, which is a "CALL" statement that will pass control to another program named SAM2. It has not yet executed the CALL statement. To follow the logic into the subprogram, click "Step-into".

After stepping into a subprogram



That stepped into the subprogram, SAM2.

There are two cases when you are sitting on a "CALL" statement and step. Either the subprogram has been compiled for use with the debugger, or not. For example, in the case of an Enterprise COBOL subprogram, if it is compiled with the "TEST" compiler option, then it is compiled for the debugger. If it has been compiled with "NOTEST", then it is not.

In this example, the subprogram is compiled for use with the debugger, so it steps in. If this program had not been compiled for the debugger, then "STEP" would run the subprogram, but the debugger would not display it. The debugger would pause at the next statement after the "CALL" statement in the higher level program.

"Step-into" is clicked several times to step through the program.

You can STEP out of a subprogram or function



The screenshot shows the IBM CICS Explorer interface. The top toolbar contains various debug actions, with a red arrow pointing to the 'Step out of the program' button. The main window displays the source code for the subprogram ADTOOLS.ADLAB.SYSDEBUG(SAM2). Line 82, which contains the statement 'GOBACK.', is highlighted in cyan. The code includes comments and statements for program initialization and balance calculation.

```
Line 82      Column 1      Insert      Browse
-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----
75          000-MAIN.
76          MOVE 'PROGRAM STARTED' TO WS-PROGRAM-STATUS.
77          IF WS-FIRST-TIME-SW = 'Y'
78              PERFORM 500-INIT-STATISTICS.
79          PERFORM 100-CALC-BALANCE-STATISTICS.
80          MOVE 'N' TO WS-FIRST-TIME-SW
81          MOVE 'PROGRAM ENDED' TO WS-PROGRAM-STATUS.
82          GOBACK.
83
84          100-CALC-BALANCE-STATISTICS.
85          MOVE 'CALCULATING BALANCE STATS' TO WS-PROGRAM-STATUS.
86          *   *** Increment Record Count ***
87          ADD +1 TO BALANCE-COUNT
88          *   *** Add this customer's BALANCE to the grand total ***
89          COMPUTE BALANCE-TOTAL =
```

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After stepping or running through the program, the last statement in the subprogram is reached. "Step-into" is clicked again.

Returned to the calling program



IBM CICS Explorer

Debug

SAM1 [Incoming Remote Debug Session]

Platform: zOS 390X Connection: 9.30.128.24:12712

Thread:1 (Runnable)

SAM1 : 01

Process: 320254224 Program: SAM1

Statement [ADTOOLS.ADLAB.SYSDEBUG(SAM1)]

Statement [ADTOOLS.ADLAB.SYSDEBUG(SAM1)]

ADTOOLS.ADLAB.SYSDEBUG(SAM1)

Line 314 Column 1 Insert Browse

```
312 CALL 'SAM2' USING CUST-REC,
313     CUSTOMER-BALANCE-STATS
314 MOVE CUST-ID TO RPT-CUST-ID
315 MOVE CUST-NAME TO RPT-CUST-NAME
316 MOVE CUST-OCCUPATION TO RPT-CUST-OCCUPATION
317 MOVE CUST-ACCT-BALANCE TO RPT-CUST-ACCT-BALANCE
318 MOVE CUST-ORDERS-YTD TO RPT-CUST-ORDERS-YTD
319 WRITE REPORT-RECORD FROM RPT-DETAIL AFTER 1
320 ADD +1 TO NUM-DETAIL-LINES
321 END-IF
322 IF CUST-RECORD-TYPE = 'P'
323     SUBROUTINE SAM3 WILL COLLECT PRODUCT STATISTICS
```

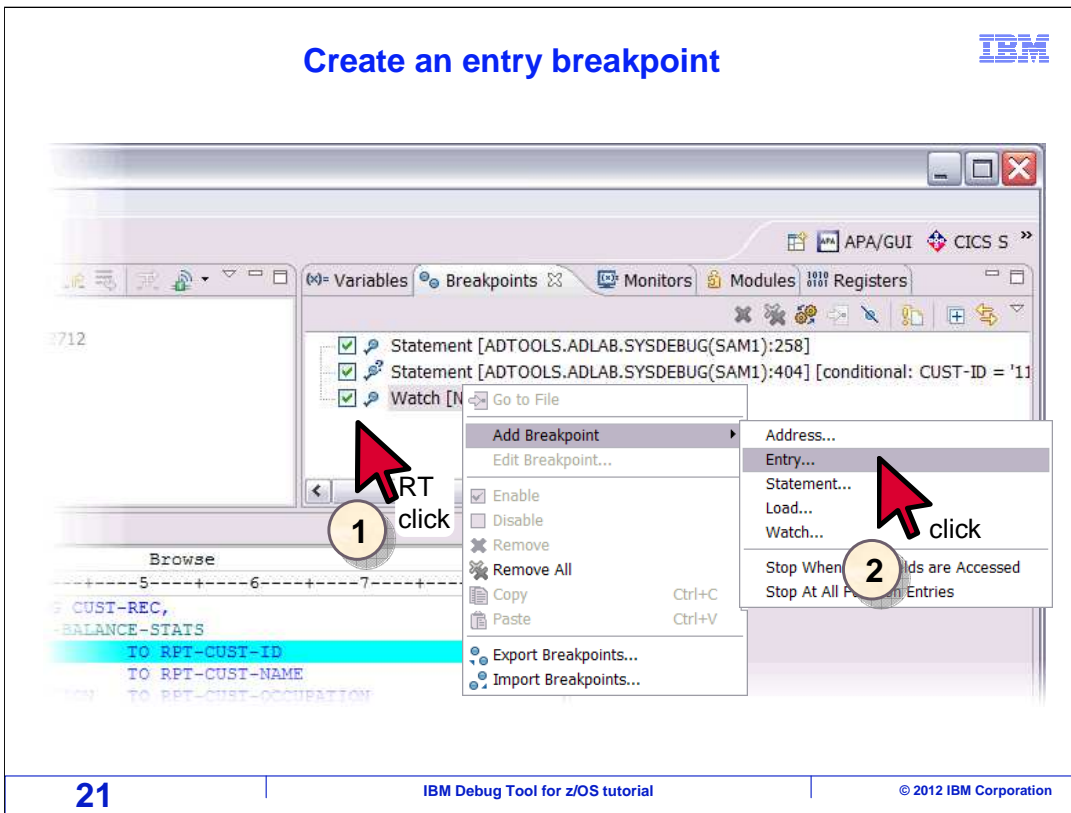
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After stepping, control is returned back to the higher level program. The debugger paused at the next logical statement, which is the statement after the CALL. Now you have seen one way to follow logic into a subprogram, step in and step out.

Create an entry breakpoint

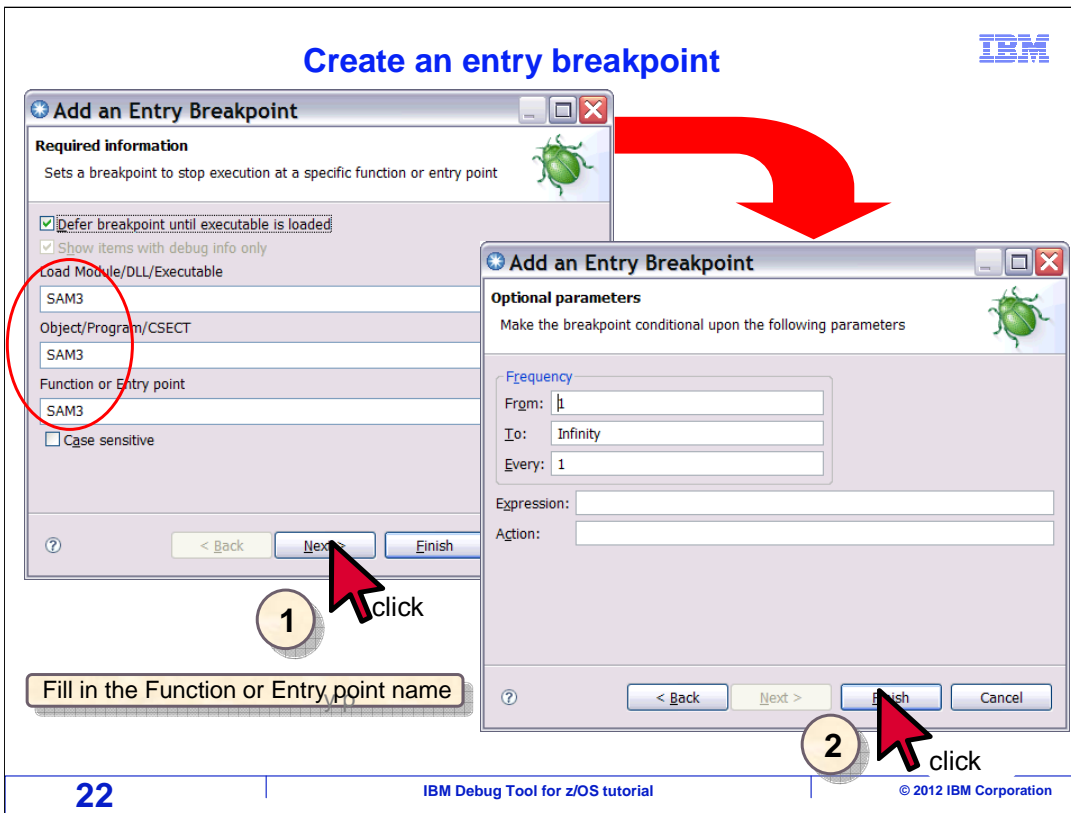


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But it can be cumbersome to have to step into every subprogram that you want to debug. So there is a simpler way to pause when a specific subprogram is entered – an "entry" breakpoint. To set an entry breakpoint, right click in the Breakpoints view, and select "Add Breakpoint" and then "Entry".



The “Add an Entry Breakpoint” pop-up appears. If the sub program has not been called yet, then it may not be loaded in memory. If that is the case, click the check box labeled “Defer breakpoint until executable is loaded”. If you are not sure, check the box anyway. The breakpoint will still trigger if the module already happens to be loaded. Enter the full names of the load module, CSECT or program name, and entry point name, and click "next".

On the next page, you can optionally specify a frequency or an expression to make the breakpoint conditional. Click "finish".

Create an entry breakpoint



click

Click "Resume" to run the program until the breakpoint is triggered

The entry breakpoint has been added
Deferred: The breakpoint is deferred until the source is loaded

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The breakpoint is added, and appears in the breakpoints view. Click "resume" to run the program.

After stopping at the entry breakpoint



The program stopped at the entry to SAM3

```
ADTOOLS.ADLAB.SYSDEB(SAM3)
Line 21 Column 1 Insert Browse
22 PROGRAM-ID, SAM3.
23 ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
24 INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
25 DATA DIVISION.
26
27 WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
28 *
29 01 WS-FIELDS.
30 05 WS-PROGRAM-STATUS PIC X(30) VALUE SPACES.
31 05 WS-FIRST-TIME-SW PIC X VALUE 'Y'.
32 05 WS-WORK-NUM-1 PIC S9(7) COMP-3 VALUE +0.
33 05 WS-WORK-NUM-2 PIC S9(7) COMP-3 VALUE +0.
34 05 WS-WORK-NUM-3 PIC S9(7) COMP-3 VALUE +0.
```

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The breakpoint triggered when the program was entered. It is paused the at the entry, and you can follow the logic by stepping in.

▪ **Entry breakpoint**

- Will stop when a named subprogram is entered with a subsequent Resume or Run-to-Location
- Another option:
 - **Stop at all function entries** sets an entry breakpoint for all programs
 - Right-click the program in the debug view to see this option
- Considerations:
 - With most compilers, the entered program must be compiled for debugging for the entry breakpoint to trigger
 - Exceptions include debugging in disassembly mode
 - Defer the breakpoint if the program is not already loaded

An entry breakpoint gives you an easy way to run the application until it reaches a specific program. With most compilers, the subprogram must be compiled for debugging for the entry breakpoint to trigger. Do not forget to click the “Defer breakpoint until executable is loaded” check box when setting the breakpoint, if you are not sure that the module is already in memory.

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Next, you will see options available to end a debugging session.

Termination action buttons



Immediately terminate the application using action buttons

Terminate: Immediate termination of the application. No more program statements run. RC=0 is returned to the environment.
Tip: CTRL+F2 is the shortcut

Disconnect: Disconnect Debug Tool from the application. The program continues to run from the current location without the debugger.

```
Line 90      Column 48      Insert      Browse
-----*A-1-B-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7--|-----
          COMPUTE BALANCE-TOTAL =
          BALANCE-TOTAL + CUST-ACCT-BALANCE
          *** Calculate Average ***
          COMPUTE BALANCE-AVERAGE =
```

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When you click "resume", the application runs until the next breakpoint is triggered. However, if the program does not reach or trigger any breakpoints, it will run to termination. That is one way to end your debugging session, just run the program until it finishes.

However, you can end a debugging session at any time with the terminate or disconnect buttons. "Terminate" stops the application immediately. No more statements run, and the application is given a zero return code. "Disconnect" ends the debugging session, but allows the application to run normally, continuing from the current statement.

Click the "Terminate" button



Click the "Terminate" button

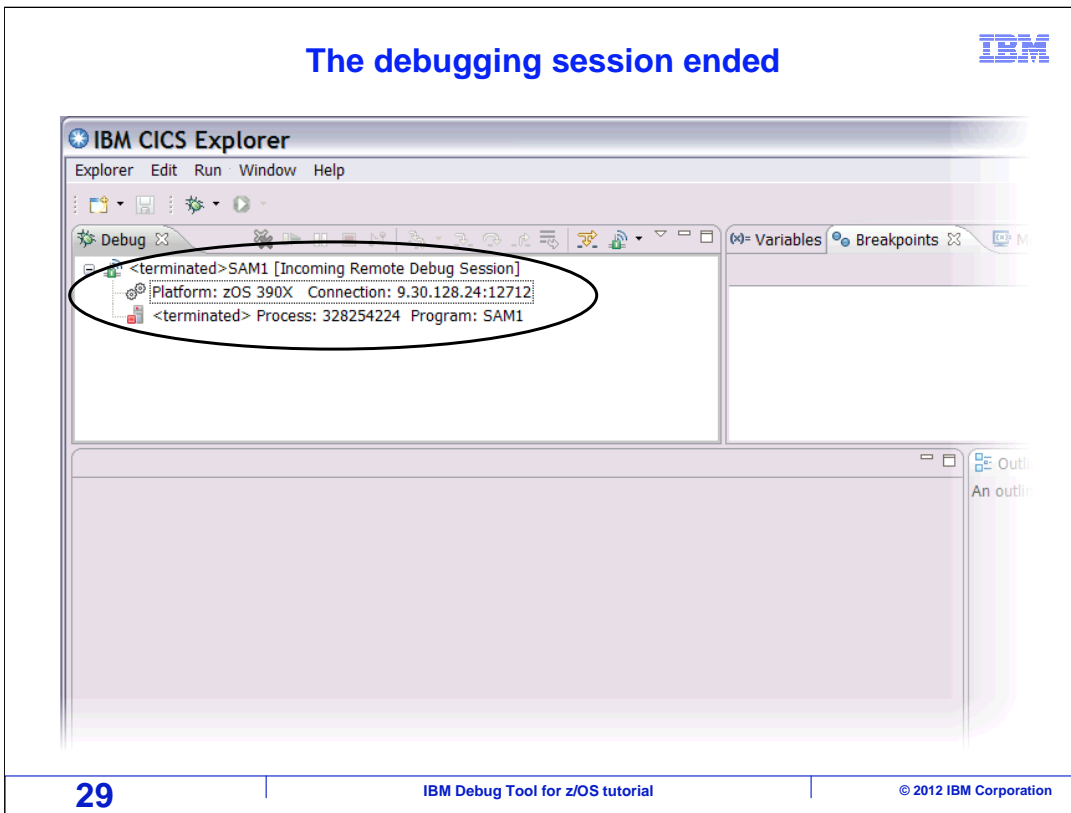
CTRL+F2 is the hotkey

```
Line 90      Column 48      Insert      Browse
-----*A-1-B-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7--|-----
          COMPUTE BALANCE-TOTAL =
          BALANCE-TOTAL + CUST-ACCT-BALANCE
          *   *** Calculate Average ***
          COMPUTE BALANCE-AVERAGE =
```

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The "terminate" button is clicked.

The debugging session ended



The application was terminated immediately, and the debugging session ended. The debugger is now ready for the next debugging session to start, if needed.

Force an immediate termination with abend



The screenshot shows the IBM Debug Tool for z/OS interface. A right-click context menu is open over the debug view, with the 'Options' sub-menu selected and 'Terminate and abend' highlighted. A red arrow points to the 'Options' menu item, and another red arrow points to the 'Terminate and abend' option. A callout box on the right explains the action and lists use cases.

1 Right click

2 click

Terminate and abend Terminates the program and forces an abend.

Consider using this option to:

- Capture the abend with IBM Fault Analyzer for z/OS (if installed)
- Avoid running subsequent steps in a multi-step job
- Roll back database updates

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Another way to end a session is to right click in the white space of the debug view, and select “Options” and then “Terminate and Abend”. This forces the program to terminate with an abend. Consider doing this if you want the system to collect a dump. If you have IBM’s Fault Analyzer product, perhaps you plan to use it to see a detailed analysis. In some cases, forcing an abend can prevent subsequent steps in a batch job from running. And in some applications an abend will force changes made to databases to be rolled back.

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