

DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF ANDROID STUDIO IN EECS1022

With bleeding edge technologies such as mobile, change is the norm, so programming tools and environments get revamped and updated very frequently. In the case of Android Studio [AS] and this course, we now have two versions to deal with:

- The **Lab Version** (3.1.4 – Summer 2018). This is the version installed in the EECS labs (and the one you will be tested on) and the one discussed in the textbook.
- The **Latest Version** (3.5.3 – Summer 2019). This is the version that you will have if you download AS on your personal computer.

As far as this course is concerned, the differences between these two versions are trivial, but they can be confusing at first. To overcome this, you have two options:

1. Download the **Latest Version** from [this site](#) and install it on your personal computer. Then, read [this document](#) which cross-references the book's version with this version.
2. Download our VBox appliance which has the **Lab Version** already installed and configured and you can install it on your personal computer. To pursue this, follow [this link](#).

The first option provides the latest environment, and once you read the x-ref document linked above, you can easily transition from one version to the next. But because of the complexity of AS (IDE, gradle, sdk, jdk, compilers, ADB, etc.), the installation is not always smooth.

The second option is simpler because its installation is typically smooth on most machines, and it gives you an environment that is identical to the one in the lab and which matches the textbook. But because it is a virtual environment, it does not support emulation, and it tends to be slow.

It is recommended that you start with the first option (and do seek help if you encounter issues). But if you can't get it to work by the second week of the term then go with the second option. And in either case, do benefit from the weekly lab sessions.