

Lab Exercise 06: Setting Up a Drools Project with VSCode

Objective

This lab exercise guides you through setting up a Drools project in VSCode using Maven. You'll install necessary extensions, configure your project, and test a basic Drools rule.

Prerequisites

- A Windows computer with internet access.
- Basic understanding of Java and VSCode.

Steps

Part 1: Setting Up the Environment

1. **Download and Install VSCode**
 - Visit [Visual Studio Code download page](#).
 - Download the Windows version.
 - Follow the installation instructions.
2. **Install VSCode Extensions**
 - Open VSCode.
 - Navigate to the 'Extensions' tab.
 - Search for and install the following extensions:
 - Drools
 - Extension Pack for Java
 - Restart VSCode after the installations are complete.

Part 2: Creating and Configuring the Java Project

3. **Create a Java Project**
 - In VSCode, go to 'Explorer'.
 - Select 'Create Java Project'.
 - Choose 'Maven' and then 'No Archetype'.
 - Set `GroupId` to `org.sw` and `ArtifactId` to `drools`.
 - Select a folder of your choice for the project.
4. **Configure pom.xml**
 - Locate the 'dependencies.docx' file (provided separately).
 - Open the `pom.xml` file in your project.
 - Replace its contents with the contents from 'dependencies.docx'.
5. **Set Up Project Structure**
 - Under `src/main/resources`, create two new folders:
 - `org.sw.rules`
 - `META-INF`
6. **Create and Configure Drools Rule File**
 - In the `org.sw.rules` folder, create a new file named `HelloWorld.drl`.
 - Open the 'SetupCodes.docx' file, and find the section 'Test Rule'.

- Copy its contents into the `HelloWorld.drl` file.
7. **Set Up `kmodule.xml`**
 - In the `META-INF` folder, create a new file named `kmodule.xml`.
 - Copy the contents from the 'SetupCodes.docx' file, section 'Session Setup', into `kmodule.xml`.
 8. **Configure the Main Java Class**
 - Find the section 'Main Java Class' in the 'SetupCodes.docx'.
 - Copy its contents into your project's main Java class.

Part 3: Building and Testing the Project

9. **Build the Project**
 - Open the Terminal in VSCode.
 - Navigate to the source folder of your project.
 - Run the command: `mvn clean install`.
10. **Test the Project**
 - Run your main Java class.
 - Verify that the setup is correct and the Drools rule executes as expected.

Conclusion

Congratulations! You have successfully set up a Drools project in VSCode using Maven. This project can now serve as a foundation for more complex Drools applications.