IDEs and Debugging

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Outline

IDEs

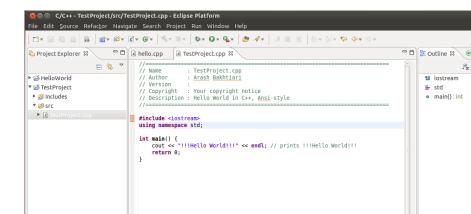
Introduction To Eclipse CDT

Debugging Concepts And Vocabulary

What are IDFs

IDE(Integrated development environment):

- collection of facilities with graphical interface (Text Editor, Compile and Build, Debugging Tools)
- examples: Eclipse, Code::Blocks, NetBeans, Qt Creator, MS Visual Studio



Advantages and Disadvantages

Advantages:

- less time and effort: helps you organize resources, prevent mistakes, and provide shortcuts
- project management: (documentation tools, visual presentation of resources)

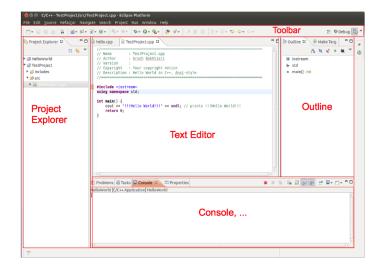
Disadvantage:

- using graphical interface requires more memory and processing power
- will not fix bad code, practices, or design(sometimes cause bad code!!!)

Installing Eclipse CDT

- ► Eclipse CDT: provides a fully functional C and C++ IDE based on the Eclipse platform.
- Installing on Ubuntu:
 - sudo apt-get install eclipse-cdt
- Installing on Windows:
 - go to the link: http://www.eclipse.org/downloads/
 - download "Eclipse IDE for C/C++ Developers"

Eclipse User Interface Overview



Perspective

- Perspective: a visual container for a set of window parts.
- eclipse uses perspectives to arrange windows parts for different development tasks
- ▶ switch Perspectives via the Window → Open Perspective
- change the layout and content within a Perspective

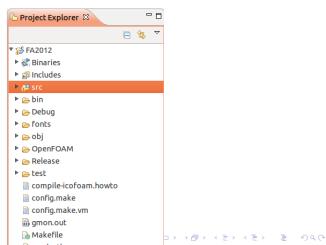
Toolbar

contains actions which you typically perform



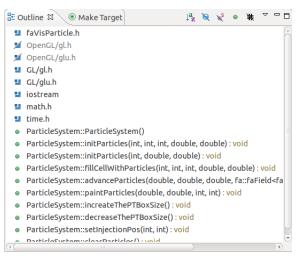
Project Explorer

- browse the structure of your projects and to open files via double-click
- change the structure of your project, e.g. you can rename files or move files or folder via drag and drop.



Outline View

shows the structure of the currently selected source file



Some Cool Features of Eclipse

- Code Auto-completion: Ctrl Space
- Code Formatting: Ctrl Shift f
- Code Refactoring (Renaming): Shift Alt r
- Commenting a block of code: Ctrl /
- and many others ...

Create Your First C++ Program in Eclipse

DEMO

What is Debugging?

- debugging is the process of locating and fixing bugs (errors)
- normally no way to see the source code of a program while the program is running!!!!
- by using debuggers we can look under the covers while the program is running

Why we need debuggers?

A debugger enables you:

- seeing the source code during the execution of a statement
- pause the execution at any place in the source code
- see and change the internal state of the program while the program is paused
- continue the execution
- Some of the basic debugging concepts: call stack, (conditional) breakpoint, stepping

Call Stack

- programs generally call functions
- one function can call another, or a function can call itself (recursion)
- chain of called functions as a stack of executing functions (call stack)
- currently running function is the topmost one on the stack
- For each function on the call stack, the system maintains a data area → stack frame
 - contains the function's parameters, local variables, return value and information needed to manage the call stack

Breakpoint

- a breakpoint is where the execution of the program should break off (stop)
- you can take over control of the program's execution after the program reached the breakpoint
- you can add and remove as many breakpoints as you like
- in addition to normal breakpoints: conitional breakpoints and watchpoints

Conditional Breakpoints

- ► Normal Breakpoints: program execution should stop when a certain point in the code is reached
- Watchpoints: program execution should stop when a data value is changed
 - useful when a variable receives a wrong value and it's hard to track down where this happens just by looking at the code
- ► Conditional Breakpoints: program execution should stop at the breakpoint only if a certain condition is met (for example X > 100)
 - useful for example in a loop: allow a loop to run 100 times before breaking.

Stepping

- Stepping is the process of running one statement at a time
- ► Step Into: Executes the current statement if the current statement is a function, then the debugger steps into that function otherwise it stops at the next statement
- Step Over: Executes the current statement If the current statement is a function, then the debugger executes the whole function, and it stops at the next statement after the function call.
- Step Out: Steps out of the current function and up one level if the function is nested
- Continue: Continues execution to the end, or to the next breakpoint

Using Eclipse For Debugging

