

Open CASCADE Technology 7.7.0

Inspector

November 2, 2022

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1 Introduction

This manual explains how to use the Inspector.

1.1 Overview

Inspector is a Qt-based library that provides functionality to interactively inspect low-level content of the OCAF data model, OCCT viewer and Modeling Data. This component is aimed to assist the developers of OCCT-based applications to debug the problematic situations that occur in their applications.

Inspector has a plugin-oriented architecture. The current release contains the following plugins:

Plugin	OCCT component	Root class of OCCT investigated component
DFBrowser	OCAF	TDocStd_Application
VInspector	Visualization	AIS_InteractiveContext
ShapeView	Modeling Data	TopoDS_Shape
MessageView	Modeling Data	Message_Report

Each plugin implements logic of a corresponding OCCT component.

Each of the listed plugins is embedded in the common framework, thus it is possible to manage, which plugins should be loaded by the Inspector, and to extend their number by implementing a new plugin.

1.2 Getting started

There are two launch modes:

- 1. Launch **TinspectorEXE** executable sample. For more details see **TinspectorEXE** section;
- 2. Launch DRAW, load plugin INSPECTOR, and use *tinspector* command. For more details, see Launch in DRAW Test Harness section.

Note. If you have no Inspector library in your build directory, make sure that OCCT is compiled with *BUILD_Inspector* option ON. For more details see **Build procedure**.

2 Inspector Plugins 4

2 Inspector Plugins

2.1 Overview

Inspector consists of the following components:

- buttons to activate the corresponding plugin;
- view area to visualize the plugin content.

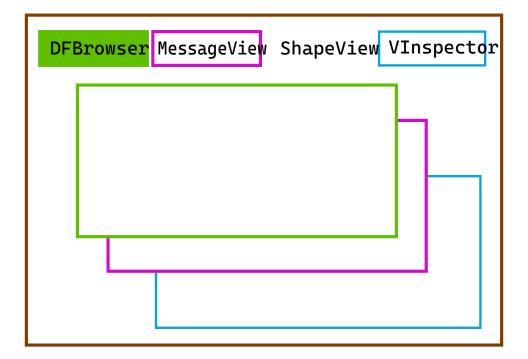


Figure 1: Plugins placement in Inspector

2.2 DFBrowser Plugin

2.2.1 Overview

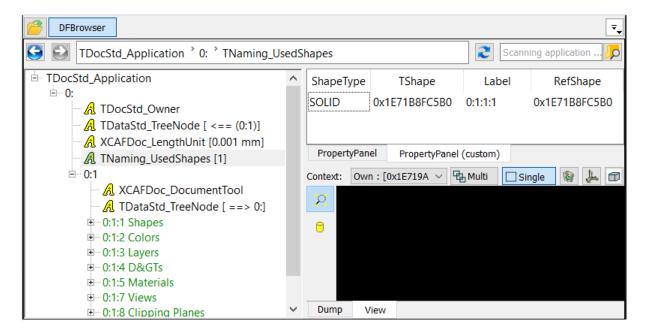


Figure 2: DFBrowser

This plugin visualizes the content of *TDocStd_Application* in a tree view. It shows application documents, the hierarchy of *TDF_Labels*, the content of *TDF_Attributes* and interconnection between attributes (e.g. references). Additionally there is a 3D view to visualize *TopoDS_Shape* elements stored in the document.

2.2.2 Elements

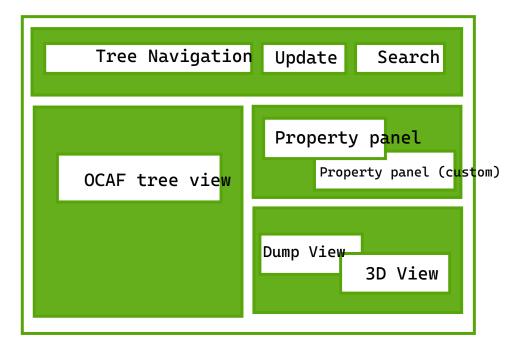


Figure 3: DFBrowser Elements

OCAF tree view

Each OCAF element has own tree view item:

Туре	Tree item	Text	Description
TDocStd_Application	Application	TDocStd_Application	The root of tree view. Its children are documents.
TDocStd_Document	Document	entry: name	A child of <i>Application</i> item. Its children are <i>Label</i> and <i>Attribute</i> items. Text view is an entry of the root label and the value of <i>TDataStd_</i> \leftarrow <i>Name</i> attribute for the label if it exists.
TDF_Label	Label	entry: name	A child of a <i>Document</i> or another <i>Label</i> item. Its children and text view are the same as for Document item.
TDF_Attribute	Attribute	attribute type [additional information]	A child of a <i>Label</i> . It has no children. Text view is the attribute type $*(DynamicType()->Name()* of T \hookrightarrow DF_Attribute)$ and additional information (a combination of attribute values).

Additional information about TDF_Attributes:

Туре	Text
TDocStd_Owner	[storage format]
TDataStd_AsciiString,	[value]
TDataStd_Name,	
TDataStd_Real,	
other Simple type attributes	
TDataStd_BooleanList,	[value_1 value_n]
TDataStd_ExtStringList,	
other <i>List</i> attributes	
TDataStd_BooleanArray,	[value_1 value_n]
TDataStd_ByteArray,	
other Array type attributes	
TDataStd_TreeNode	[tree node ID ==> Father()->Label()] (if it has a father) or [tree node ID <== First()->Label()] (if it has NO father)
TDataStd_TreeNode(XDE)	[XDE tree node ID ==> Father()->Label()] (if it has a father),
	[XDE tree Node ID <== label_1,, label_n] (if it has NO father)
TNaming_NamedShape	[shape type : evolution]
TNaming_UsedShapes	[map extent]

Custom color of items:

OCAF element Type	Color	
TDF_Label	dark green, if the label has TDataStd_Name attribute,	
	light grey if the label is empty (has no attributes on all levels of hierarchy),	
	black otherwise.	
TNaming_NamedShape	dark gray for TopAbs_FORWARD orientation of TopoDS_Shape,	
	gray for TopAbs_REVERSED orientation of TopoDS_Shape,	
	black for other orientation.	

Context pop-up menu:

Action	Functionality
Expand	Expands the next two levels under the selected item.
Expand All	Expands the whole tree of the selected item.
Collapse All	Collapses the whole tree of the selected item.

Property Panel

Property panel is used to display the result of **TDF_Attribute::Dump()** or **TDF_Label::Dump()** of the selected tree view item. The information is shown in one table.

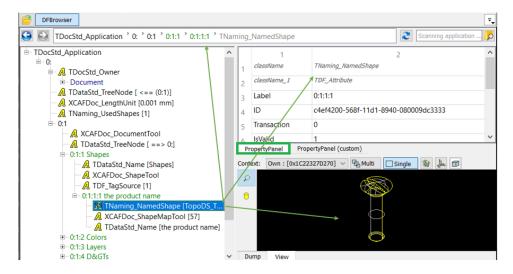


Figure 4: PropertyPanel

Property Panel (custom)

Property panel (custom) is used to display the content of *Label* or *Attribute* tree view items or Search result view. The information is usually shown in one or several tables.

TDF_Attribute has the following content in the Property Panel:

Туре	Description	Content
TDF_Label	a table of [entry or attribute name, value]	A TPrsStd_AlSviewer 0x5CE00B0 A TNaming_UsedStapes 4 A TDataStd_Name D A TDoctd_Owner MDTV-Standard
TDocStd_Owner, Simple type attributes, List type attributes	a table of [method name, value]	Get Sample string

Туре	Description	Content
TDataStd_BooleanArray, TDataStd_ByteArray, other Array type attributes	2 controls: - a table of [array bound, value], - a table of [method name, value]	Lower 1 Upper 2 Value (1) 0:1:2:3:2 Value (2) 0:1:2:3:1
TDataStd_TreeNode	2 controls: - a table of [Tree ID, value] (visible only if Tree ID() != ID()), - a tree view of tree nodes starting from Root() of the tree node. The current tree node has dark blue text.	GetDeFaultTreeID 2a96b621-ec8b-11d0-bee7-080009dc3333 ■ 0:2 ■ 0:2:1
TDataStd_NamedData	tab bar of attribute elements, each tab has a table of [name, value]	Integers Reals Strings Bytes ArraysOfintegers 4 1 1.1 1.2 2.2
TNaming_UsedShapes	a table of all shapes handled by the framework	ShapeType
TNaming_NamedShape	2 controls: - a table of [method name, value] including CurrentShape/OriginalShape methods result of <i>TNaming_Tools</i> , - an evolution table. Tables contain buttons for TopoDS_Shape export.	Version 1 Evolution GENERATED Shape 0x754E290 COMPOUND ↑
TNaming_Naming	2 controls: - a table of <i>TNaming_Name</i> values, - a table of [method name, value]	Type IDENTITY ShapeType EDGE StopNamedShape Argument 0:1:2:31:1:1:4:1:1

Dump view

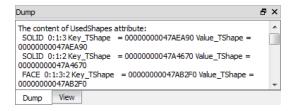


Figure 5: Dump of TDF_Attribute

Dump view shows the result of TDF_Attribute::Dump() or TDF_Label::Dump() of the selected tree view item.

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3D view

3D View visualizes *TopoDS_Shape* elements of OCAF attribute via AIS facilities.

DFBrowser creates two kinds of presentations depending on the selection place:

Kind	Source object	Visualization properties	View
Main presentation	Tree view item: TPrsStd_AIS← Presentation, TNaming_NamedShape, TNaming_Naming	Color: a default color for shape type of the current <i>TopoDS_Shape</i> .	Context: Own: (0x46E73A0) • Qb Multi snoke (St)
Additional presentation	References in Property panel	Color: white	Context: Ouns (0x49E73A0) • Qe Malis Sroke (8)

Tree Navigation

Tree Navigation shows a path to the item selected in the tree view. The path is a sequence of label entries and attribute type names. Each element in the path is selectable - simply click on it to select the corresponding tree view item.

Navigation control has buttons to go to the previous and the next selected tree view items.

Update Button

Update button synchronizes content of tree view to the current content of OCAF document that could be modified outside.

Search

The user can search OCAF element by typing:

- · TDF_Label entry,
- · TDF_Attribute name,
- TDataStd_Name and TDataStd_Comment attributes value.

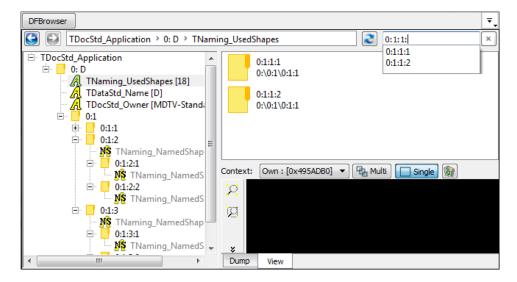


Figure 6: Search

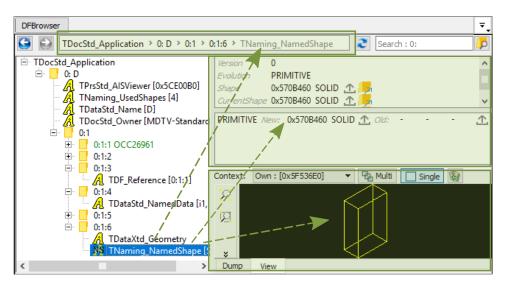
As soon as the user confirms the typed criteria, the Property panel is filled by all satisfied values. The user can click a value to highlight the corresponding tree view item. By double click the item will be selected.

2.2.3 Elements cooperation

Tree item selection

Selection of tree view item updates content of the following controls:

- · Navigation line;
- · Property Panel;
- 3D View (if it is possible to create an interactive presentation);
- Dump View.



Property Panel (custom) item selection

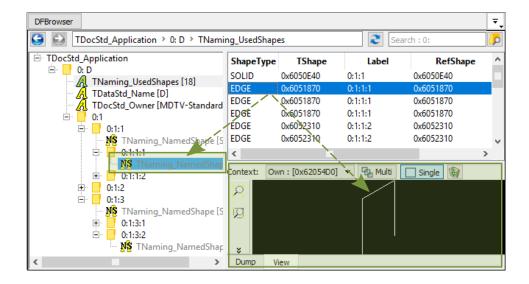
If the property panel (custom) shows content of TDF_Label:

· selection of the table row highlights the corresponding item in the tree view,

· double click on the table row selects this item in the tree view.

If the property panel (custom) shows content of *TDF_Attribute* that has reference to another attribute, selection of this reference:

- · highlights the referenced item in the tree view,
- · displays additional presentation in the 3D view if it can be created.



Attributes having references:

Туре	Reference	Additional presentation
TDF_Reference	TDF_Label	
TDataStd_ReferenceArray, TDataStd_ReferenceList, TNaming_Naming	One or several <i>TDF_Label</i> in a container.	
TDataStd_TreeNode	TDF_Label	
TNaming_NamedShape	TDF_Label in Evolution table	TopoDS_Shapes selected in the property panel tables.
TNaming_UsedShapes	one or several <i>TNaming_Named</i> → <i>Shape</i>	TopoDS_Shapes of the selected $T \leftarrow$ Naming_NamedShape.

2.2.4 TopoDS_Shape export

Property panel of *TNaming_NamedShape* attribute has controls to export *TopoDS_Shape* to:

- BREP. Save file dialog is open to enter the result file name,
- ShapeView plugin. The dialog for exporting element to ShapeView allows activating this plugin immediately.

2.3 VInspector Plugin

2.3.1 Overview

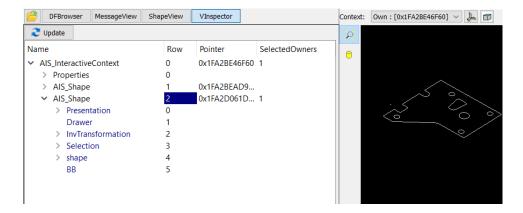


Figure 7: VInspector

This plugin visualizes interactive objects displayed in *AIS_InteractiveContext* in a tree view with computed selection components for each presentation. It shows the selected elements in the context and allows selecting these elements.

2.3.2 Elements

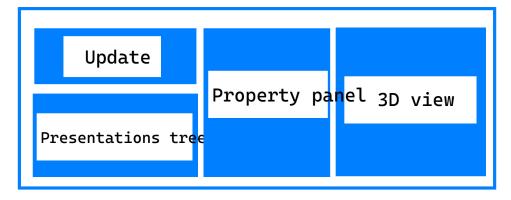


Figure 8: VInspector Elements

Presentations tree view

This view shows presentations and selection computed on them. Also, the view has columns with information about the state of visualization elements.

VInspector tree items.

Туре	Description
AIS_InteractiveContext	The root of tree view. Its children are interactive objects obtained by <i>Displayed Objects</i> and <i>ErasedObjects</i> methods.
AIS_InteractiveObject	A child of AIS_InteractiveContext item. Its children are SelectMgr_Selection obtained by iteration on CurrentSelection.
SelectMgr_Selection	A child of AIS_InteractiveObject. Its children are SelectMgr_SensitiveEntity obtaining by iteration on Sensitive.
SelectMgr_SensitiveEntity	A child of SelectMgr_Selection. Its children are SelectMgr_SensitiveEntity obtaining by iteration on Ownerld.
SelectBasics_EntityOwner	A child of SelectMgr_SensitiveEntity. It has no children.

Custom color of tree view items:

OCAF element Type	Column	What	Color
AIS_InteractiveObject	0	Text	dark gray in ErasedObjects list of AIS_Interactive Context, black otherwise
AIS_InteractiveObject, SelectMgr_SensitiveEntity, SelectBasics_EntityOwner	1	Background	dark blue, if there is a selected owner under the item, black otherwise
SelectMgr_Selection, SelectMgr_SensitiveEntity, electBasics_EntityOwner	all	Text	dark gray, if SelectionState of SelectMgr_Selection is not SelectMgr_SOS_Activated, black otherwise

Context popup menu in tree view:

Action	Item	Functionality
Export to ShapeView	AIS_InteractiveObject	Exports <i>TopoDS_Shape</i> of the <i>AIS_Interactive</i> presentation to ShapeView plugin. It should be <i>AIS_Shape</i> presentation and ShapeView plugin should be registered in Inspector Dialog about exporting element to ShapeView is shown with a possibility to activate this plugin immediately.
Show	AIS_InteractiveObject	Displays presentation in AIS_InteractiveContext.
Hide	AIS_InteractiveObject	Erases presentation from AIS_InteractiveContext.

Update

This button synchronizes the plugin content with the current state of *AIS_InteractiveContext* and updates the presence of items and their current selection.

2.3.3 Elements cooperation

VInspector marks the presentations currently selected in AIS_InteractiveContext with a blue background in tree items. Use **Update** button to synchronize VInspector selected items state to the context.

It is also possible to perform selection in the context using "Selection controls" VInspector feature. However, this operation should be performed carefully as it clears the current selection in AIS_InteractiveContext.

Selection change:

From	То	Action	Result
AIS_InteractiveContext	VInspector	Performs selection in AIS←	Click Update button in V⇔
		_InteractiveContext.	Inspector and check Selec-
			tion column:
			AIS_InteractiveContext item
			contains some selected ob-
			jects,
			the value of some <i>AIS</i> _←
			InteractiveObject is filled if
			they are selected for this p-
			resentation or its entity own-
			er.
VInspector	AIS_InteractiveContext	Activates one of Selection	The objects become se-
		controls and selects one or	lected in <i>AIS_Interactive</i> ←
		several elements in the tree	Context.
		view.	

2.3.4 VInspector tree view columns

Use context pop-up menu on the tree view header to select, which columns should be displayed.

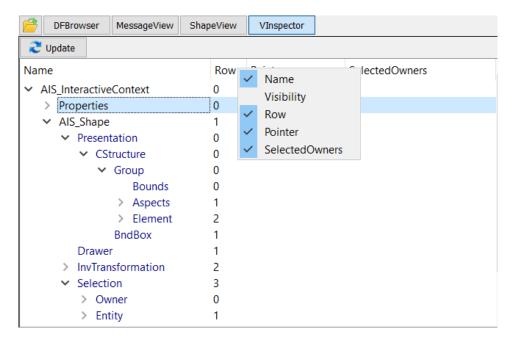


Figure 9: Vinspector tree header context menu

Use the setting Lights (position, color) in the view.

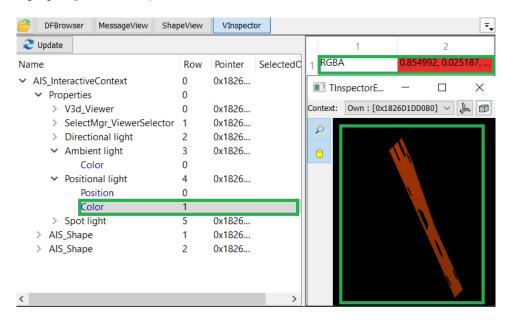


Figure 10: Vinspector light setting

2.3.5 Vinspector property panel

Property panel shows the result of AIS_InteractiveContext::Dump() or AIS_InteractiveObject::Dump().

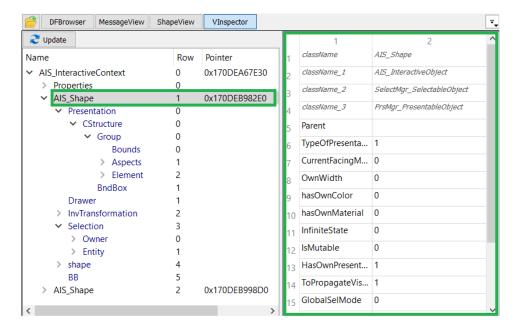


Figure 11: Vinspector property panel

2.4 ShapeView Plugin

2.4.1 Overview

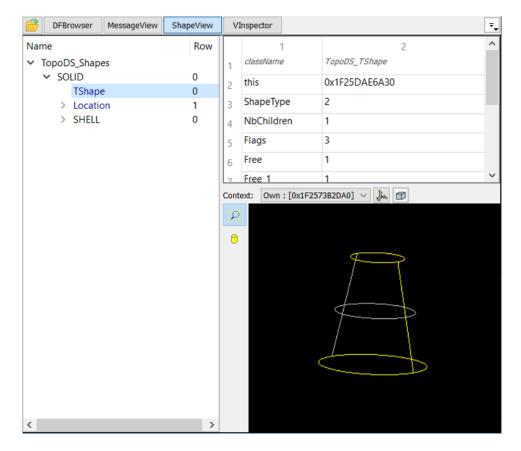


Figure 12: ShapeView

This plugin visualizes content of *TopoDS_Shape* in a tree view.

2.4.2 Property panel

Property panel shows properties for TopoDS_Shape based on DumpJson.

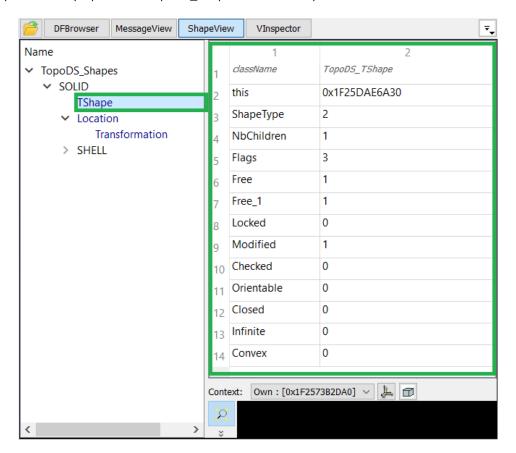


Figure 13: ShapeView Property panel

2.4.3 Elements

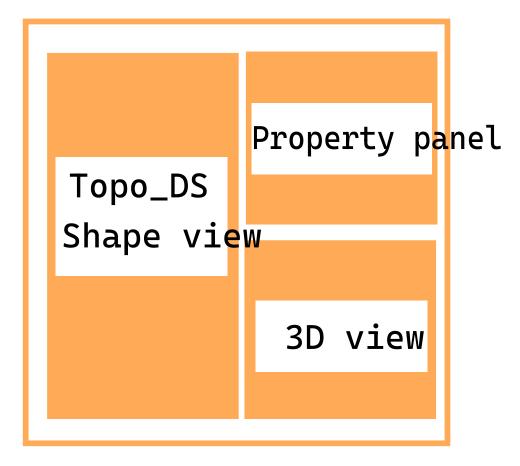


Figure 14: ShapeView Elements

TopoDS_Shape View

The view elements are *TopoDS_Shape* objects. The shape is exploded into sub-shapes using *TopoDS_Iterator* of the *TopoDS_Shape*. Children sub-shapes are presented in the view as children of the initial shape. By iterating recursively through all shapes we obtain a tree view of items shown in the ShapeView.

The columns of the View show some information about *TopoDS_Shape* of the item. The first column allows changing the visibility of the item shape in the 3D view.

Context pop-up menu in tree view:

Action	Functionality
Load BREP file	Opens the selected file and appends the resulting <i>TopoDS_Shape</i> into the tree view.
Remove all shape items	Clears tree view.
BREP view	Shows the text view with BREP content of the selected item. Creates the BREP file
	in a temporary directory of the plugin.
Close All BREP views	Closes all opened text views.
BREP directory	Displays the folder, where temporary BREP files have been stored.

2.4.4 Elements cooperation

Selection of one or several items in *TopoDS_Shape* View creates its *AIS_Shape* presentation and displays it in the 3D View.

2.4.5 ShapeView tree view columns

Use context pop-up menu on the tree view header to select, which columns should be displayed.

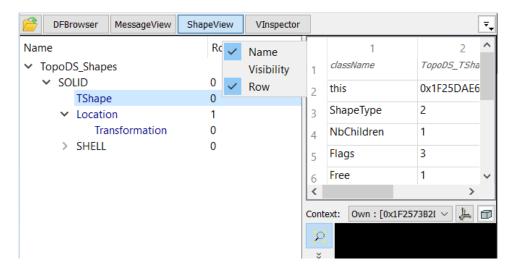


Figure 15: ShapeView tree header context menu

2.5 MessageView Plugin

MessageView plugin is used to display content of Message_Report.

2.5.1 Message report tree view

Message report tree view shows the content of the Message_Report.

Context pop-up menu in message report tree view:

Action	Functionality
Export Report	Exports the report as json file.
WallClock Metric statistic	Creates the table that sums the number of calls and the time spent on the functionality inside the value and shows it in Property panel (custom). It's necessary to activate "WallClock metric".
Preview children presentations	Displays presentations of children items of selected items if found.
Deactivate	Deactivates all types of metrics for the current report.
Activate	Appends items to activate report metrics.
Clear	Clears message report.
Activate metric	Switches active state in report for clicked type of metric.
Test metric	Sends several alerts to check metric of message-alert-tool mechanism.
Test Message_Messenger	Sends several alerts to check property panel/presentations of messenger- alert-tool mechanism.
Test Tree of messages	Sends several alerts to check tree of alerts.

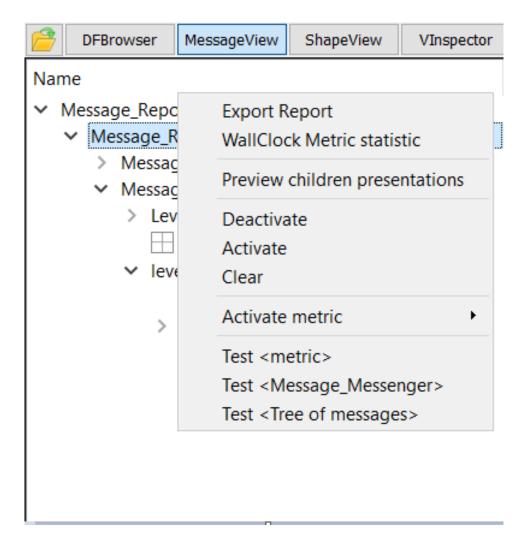


Figure 16: MessageView pop-up menu

2.5.2 3D View

3D View shows the selected item (TopoDS_Shape) in message report tree view.

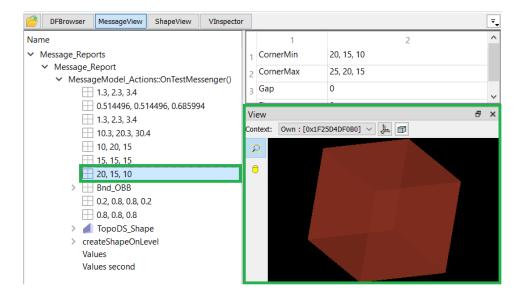


Figure 17: MessageView 3D View

2.5.3 Dump panel

Shows Dump() information of the selected item if the item has Dump().

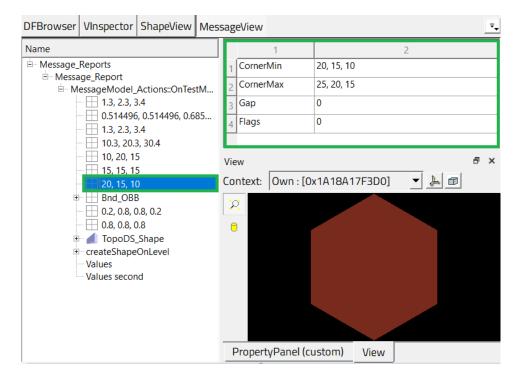


Figure 18: MessageView 3D View

2.5.4 Property panel (custom)

Shows the table for WallClock Metric statistic option.

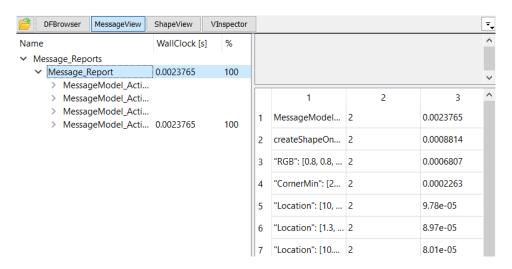


Figure 19: MessageView 3D View

2.5.5 Elements

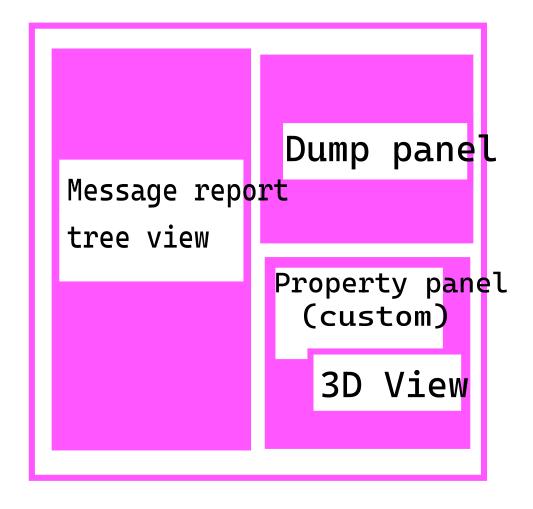


Figure 20: MessageView elements

3 Common controls 23

3 Common controls

3.1 Tree View

This control shows presentation hierarchy of the investigated OCCT element, e.g. $TDocStd_Application$ for DF \leftarrow Browser, see Overview. The first column contains the name, other columns are informative.

The tree view has a context menu with plugin-specific actions.

3.1.1 Tree View preferences

It is possible to define visibility and width of columns. This option is available in a view that contains more than one column, e.g. VInspector tree view columns and ShapeView tree view columns.

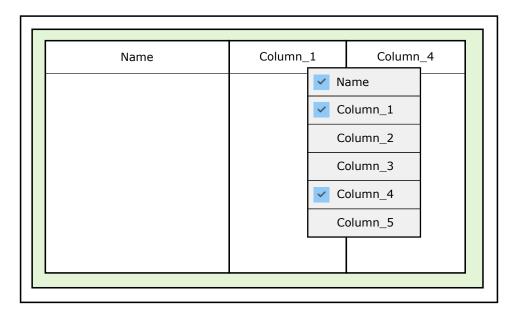


Figure 21: Preferences schema

3.2 3D View

3.2 3D View 24

3.2.1 Overview

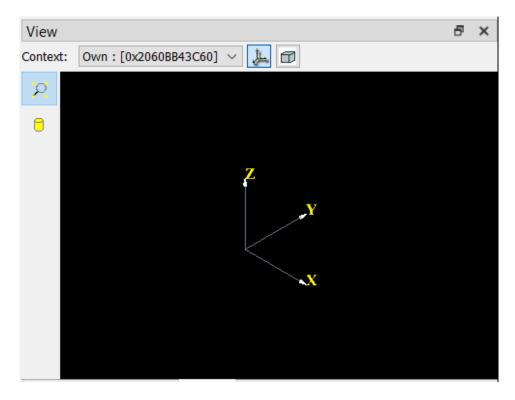


Figure 22: 3D View

This control for OCCT 3D viewer creates visualization view components and allows performing some user actions in the view.

3.2.2 Elements

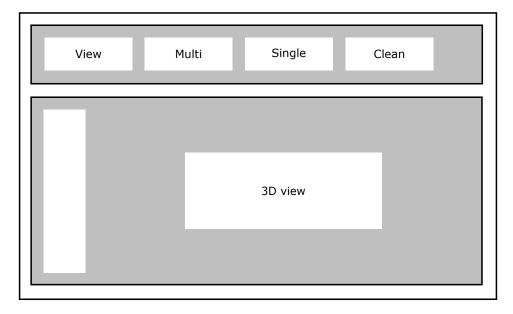


Figure 23: 3DView Elements

3.2 3D View 25

3D View contains the following elements:

Element	Functionality
3D view	V3d viewer with mouse events processing.
Context	Allows choosing another context that should be used in the plugin. The following contexts
	are available:
	Own - the context of this view,
	External - the context of the external application, which initializes the plugin,
	None - the visualization is not performed at all (useful if the presentation is too complex).
Multi/Single	The buttons define what to do with the previously displayed objects:
	Multi displays new presentations together with already displayed ones,
	Single removes all previously displayed presentations.
Clean	Removes all displayed presentations.
Trihedron display	Shows the trihedron.
View cube display	Shows the view cube.
Fit All	Scene manipulation actions
	(Fit All is checkable. If checked(by double click), display/hide of new objects will perform Fit
	All of the scene.)
Display Mode	Sets AIS_Shading or AIS_WireFrame display mode for all presentations.

Context popup menu:

Action	Functionality
Set View Orientation	Shows the list of available V3d_View projections. Selection of an item with change the
	view.

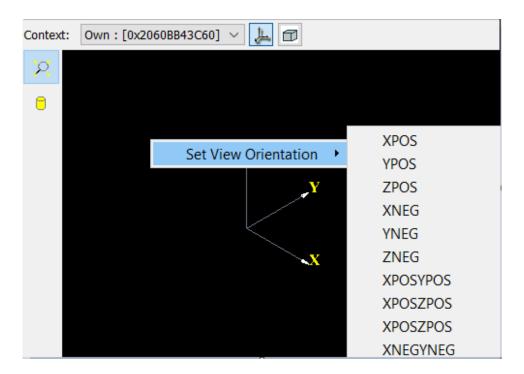


Figure 24: Set view orientation

3.2.3 3D View preferences.

View preferences store the current view orientation.

3.3 Preferences context menu

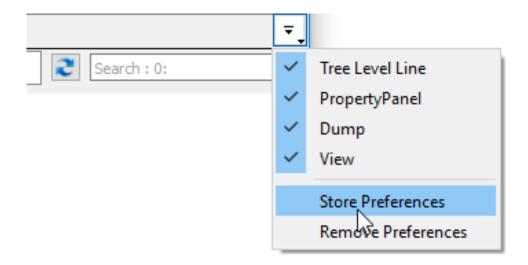


Figure 25: Plugin preferences

Context menu contains:

Element	Functionality
Tree Level Line,	Names of dock widgets in the active plugin. If the button is checked, dock widget is
PropertyPanel,	visible.
PropertyPanel (custom),	
Dump,	
View	
Store Preferences	Creates ".tinspector.xml" preferences file with the current settings for each plugin.
	This file is created in TEMP/TMP directory (by default) or in a user-defined directory.
Remove Preferences	Removes preferences file. After the Inspector is restarted, default values will be applied.

The following controls have store/restore preferences:

Element	Preferences
Geometry	Inspector window size and position.
	State of dockable widgets: visibility, position, size.
Tree View preferences	Columns visible in the tree view and their width.
3D View preferences	3D view camera direction.

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4 Getting Started

4.1 TinspectorEXE sample

This sample allows trying Inspector functionality.

Use inspector.bat script file placed in a binary directory of OCCT to launch it.

This script accepts the names of plugin's DLL that should be loaded. By default it loads all plugins described above.

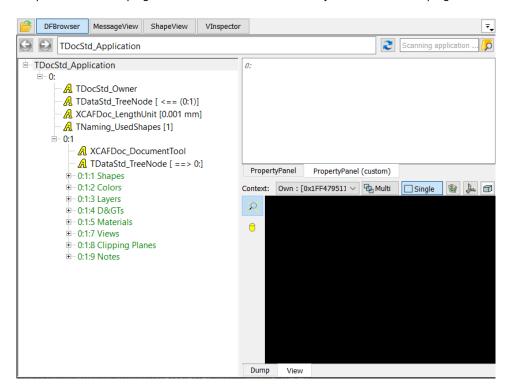
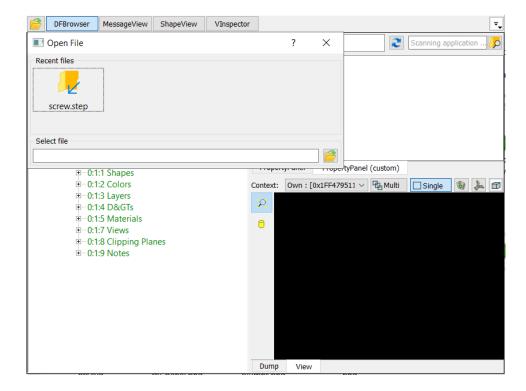


Figure 26: TStandaloneEXE

Click on the Open button shows the dialog to select a file.



Depending on the active plugin, it is possible to select the following files in the dialog:

· DFBRowser: OCAF document or STEP files;

VInspector: BREP files;

• ShapeView: BREP files.

Click the file name in the proposed directory and enter it manually or using **Browse** button.

By default, TInspectorEXE opens the following files for plugins:

Plugin DLL library name	Files
TKDFBrowser	step/screw.step
TKVInspector	occ/hammer.brep
TKShapeView	occ/face1.brep, occ/face2.brep

These files are found relatively to CSF_OCCTDataPath.

4.1.1 TinspectorEXE preferences

The application stores recently loaded files. On the application start, the last file is activated. **Open file** dialog contains recently loaded files. Selection of a new file updates the container of recently loaded files and rewrites preferences.

Source code of *TIspectorEXE* is a good sample for using the Inspector in a custom application.

4.2 How to launch the Inspector in DRAW Test Harness

TKToolsDraw plugin provides DRAW commands for Qt tools. Use INSPECTOR parameter of pload command to

download the commands of this library. It contains *tinspector* command to start Inspector under DRAW. See more detailed description of the tinspector command.

The simple code to start Inspector with all plugins loaded:

pload INSPECTOR
tinspector

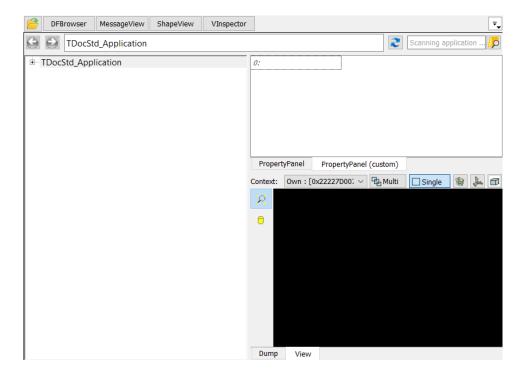


Figure 27: tinspector

This command does the following:

- all available Plugins are presented in the Inspector. These are DFBrowser, VInspector, ShapeView and MessageView;
- · DFBrowser is the active plugin;
- · OCAF tree is empty.

After this, we should create objects in DRAW and update *tinspector*. The examples of using Inspector in DRAW can be found in OCCT source directory /tests/tools.

4.3 How to use the Inspector in a custom application

The example of using the Inspector in a custom application is presented in OCCT qt sample - **FuncDemo**. For building qt samples, switch on *BUILD_SAMPLES_QT* variable in Configuration process.

In general, the following steps should be taken:

- Set dependencies to OCCT and Qt in the application (Header and Link);
- Create an instance of TInspector_Communicator,
- · Register the plugins of interest in the communicator by DLL library name;
- Initialize the communicator with objects that will be investigated;

· Set visible true for the communicator.

Here is an example of C++ implementation:

```
#include <inspector/TInspector_Communicator.hxx>

static TInspector_Communicator* MyTCommunicator;

void CreateInspector()
{
   NCollection_List<Handle(Standard_Transient)> aParameters;
   //... append parameters in the list

   if (!MyTCommunicator)
{
      MyTCommunicator = new TInspector_Communicator();

      MyTCommunicator->RegisterPlugin ("TKDFBrowser");
      MyTCommunicator->RegisterPlugin ("TKVInspector");
      MyTCommunicator->RegisterPlugin ("TKShapeView");
      MyTCommunicator->RegisterPlugin ("TKMessageView");

      MyTCommunicator->Init (aParameters);
      MyTCommunicator->Activate ("TKDFBrowser");
   }
   MyTCommunicator->SetVisible (true);
}
```

Give one the following objects for a plugin using a container of parameters:

Plugin	to be initialized by
TKDFBrowser	TDocStd_Application
TKVInspector	AIS_InteractiveContext
TKShapeView	TopoDS_TShape
TKMessageView	Message_Report

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5 Build procedure

5.1 Building with CMake within OCCT

By default the Inspector compilation is off. To compile it, set the *BUILD_Inspector* flag to "ON". See Configuration process.

When this option is switched ON, MS Visual Studio project has an additional tree of folders:

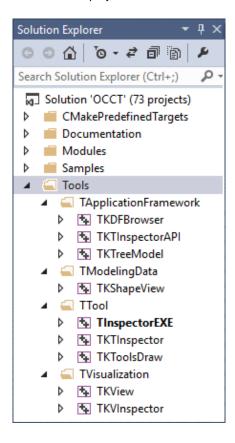


Figure 28: Inspector packages in MS Visual Studio

6 Sources and packaging

OCCT sources are extended by the /tools directory.

Distribution of plugin packages :

Source packages	Plugin
DFBrowser,	DFBrowser
DFBrowserPane,	
DFBrowserPaneXDE,	
TKDFBrowser	
VInspector,	VInspector
TKVInspector	
ShapeView,	ShapeView
TKShapeView	
MessageView,	MessageView
TKMessageView	

Other packages:

Source packages	Used in
TInspectorAPI,	Interface for connection to plugin.
TKInspectorAPI	
ViewControl,	Classes for property view, table, table model.
TKTreeModel	
TreeModel,	Items-oriented model to simplify work with GUI tree control.
TKTreeView	
View,	3D View component.
TKView	
TInspector,	Inspector window, where plugins are placed.
TKTInspector	
ToolsDraw,	Plugin for DRAW to start Inspector.
TKToolsDraw	

In MSVC studio, a separate folder contains Inspector projects.

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7 Glossary

- Component a part of OCCT , e.g. OCAF, VISUALIZATION, MODELING and others.
- Plugin a library that is loaded in some executable/library. Here, the plugins are:
 - DFBrowser,
 - ShapeView,
 - VInspector.