

minigameslib.de

MCLIB

Minigames Core Library – Eclipse plugins and Junit-Support

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2 Preamble

MinigamesLib was originally created by InstanceLabs. It was meant as a library to support some of the Minecraft Minigames he created for Bukkit. You can view his profile at github:

<https://github.com/instance01>

However, he decided to stop developing and supporting his work. As users, we felt sad about this and decided to ask him for overtaking the project. He agreed and so MysticCity became new project owner. I became main developer and contributor after some other guys developed only for some weeks but left the project. ***My nick name is mepeisen.***

While doing bug fixes and migration to newer Minecraft versions we decided to make a huge redesign and rework. We continued the work for version 2.0 of MinigamesLib. After doing some of the work we came up with the idea to create a common core library. It is some kind of managing different aspects of Minigames Lib that are not only related to Minigames. Did you ever ask yourself how to manage “game components”, “areas” or “multi lingual systems”?

The answer is the MCLIB (**M**inigames **C**ore Library).

Special thanks to all the users supporting the work. Every single review and feature wish was respected and hopefully will be part of the minigames system in version 2.0

3 License and usage scenarios

The library is built of multiple parts. We have client parts, support for testing and server libraries. You should read the following chapters carefully and decide which szenario fits your needs.

3.1 License

MCLIB contains a public part. It can always be used with GPLv3 in mind.

To fund the project, we decided to provide a commercial license. This is required because the commercial license may give more advanced warranty but does some restrictions to not break the warranty. The second cause are other commercial projects we might support. They are not happy with GPLs copy-left.

MCLIB and MinigamesLib itself will support some premium options that are covered by the commercial license too. More details will be part of future versions.

You are always allowed to fork the project under terms of GPL, specially while you always publish the source code. If you do not follow this license you are not allowed to modify the code in any way. But it is cleverer to ask us for feature requests directly or to contribute your work back to us. Contributing will guarantee that your feature is staying in the core lib and will be migrated to newer Minecraft versions from us.

3.2 Productional Server (Spigot)

It is fairly simple. The MCLIB is a plugin itself. Simply download the server jar from your favorite location and store the jar file into the plugins folder of your spigot server.

You need no special setup to work with MCLIB. It runs “out-of-the-box”. Some of the features may require additional setup to perform in a way you want them but this is mentioned in a detailed explanation of the features later on.

3.3 Developing (Eclipse-Setup)

We always wanted to have a smart IDE support. I decided to use eclipse for developing the minigames.

If you want to use MCLIB for developing within eclipse, we provide some detailed explanation in an extra chapter later on. There is some work to be done before using MCLIB in “eclipse way”.

We support both, client and server development in eclipse.

3.4 Client (Forge)

MCLIB has its own client mod. It is optional. You may use it for your work or simply ignore it. The MCLIB will always work without the forge mod. But there are some nice features we get with our forge mod.

One of the key features of the forge mod is called “Smart GUI”. It displays some nice GUI frontend with advanced widgets. The feature is somehow required to make administration of Minigames more intuitive. Administration via text chat console is complicated, error-prone and annoying. The GUI itself you can control via server is very limited as you know (anvil gui, containers with pre-defined icon sets etc.)

The premium part of our plugin will require the forge mod for some of the aspects.

3.5 Alternative client mods

We know that downloading and installing additional software on your PC and even on PC of your users is critical because hackers might introduce Trojan and some kind of virus. Some users do not like it and as long as MInigamesLib version 2 is new, users may be prejudiced.

MCLIB may support other clients in future versions as an alternative so that users will trust the MinigamesLib. However, the communication protocol itself and the MCLIB client mod will stay open sourced to increase trust.

4 Development setup

MCLIB includes eclipse plugins for supporting development with Minecraft and Spigot.

In this chapter I will show you how to install and use the eclipse plugins to develop your Minecraft plugins, server side and client side.

You will step per step learn how to create a simple hello world example.

4.1 Eclipse perquisites

We use the latest eclipse. The plugins were tested in eclipse NEON. You should use Eclipse Edition for Java EE developers. You can use the installer from <http://www.eclipse.org/downloads/>

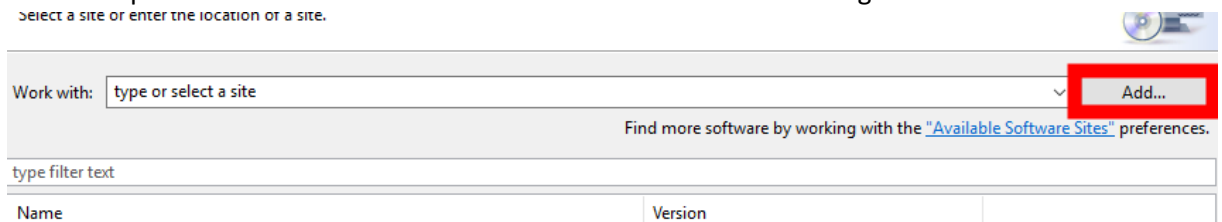
We use JDK 8 for development.

After installing eclipse, you need some more plugins and requirements. You will find them either in eclipse marketplace (see help menu) or by selecting “installing new software” from help menu and by using the eclipse NEON update site.

- “Buildship Gradle-Plugins”: used for client development with FORGE and available from marketplace.
- “Dynamic Languages Toolkit”: Available from NEON update site
- “ECLemma Java Code Coverage”: Optional for Junit Code coverage, available from marketplace
- “Java Web Developer Tools”: Available from NEON update site
- “Web developer tools”: Available from NEON update site
- “YEdit”: Available from marketplace

4.2 Eclipse setup

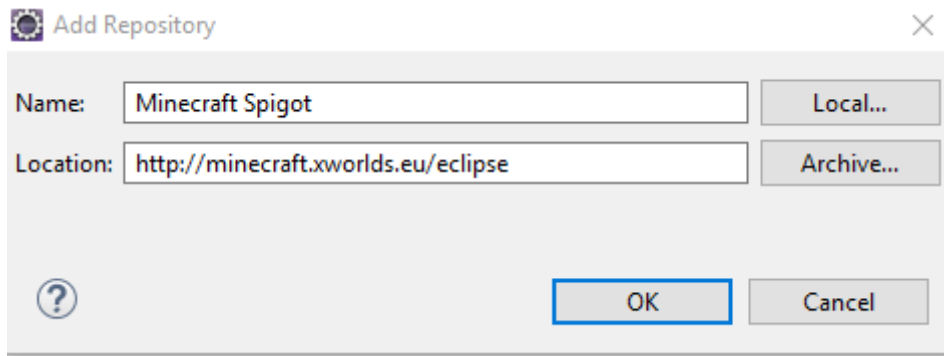
- 1) Go to “help” > “Install new software”. Select the “Add” button on the right.



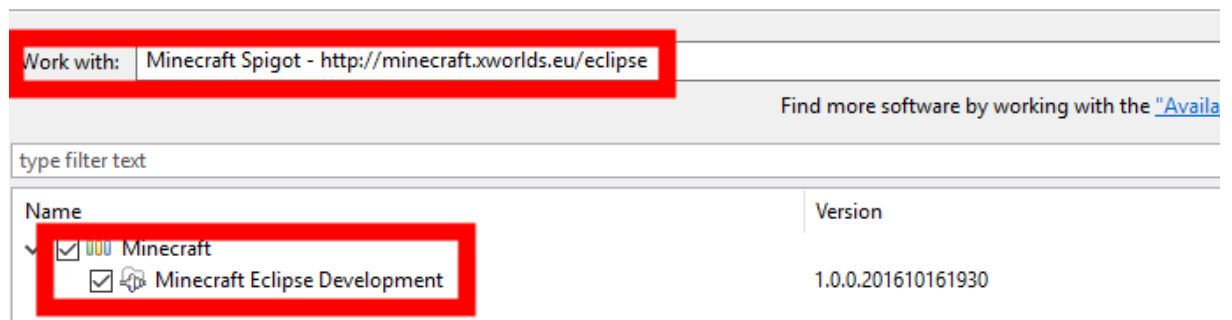
- 2) You can now enter a new update site with following values:

Name: Minecraft Spigot

Location: <http://minecraft.xworlds.eu/eclipse>



- 3) Select the site in drop down and select the minecraft spigot feature to install.
Check the items that you wish to install.



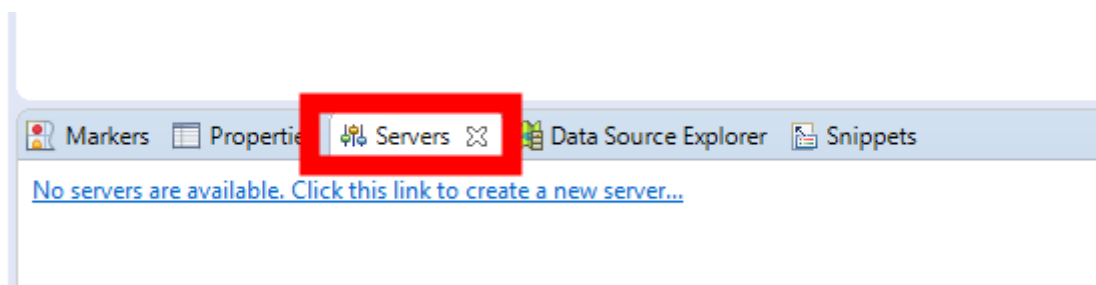
- 4) Follow the wizard steps and let eclipse install the plugins.

4.3 Setup spigot servers

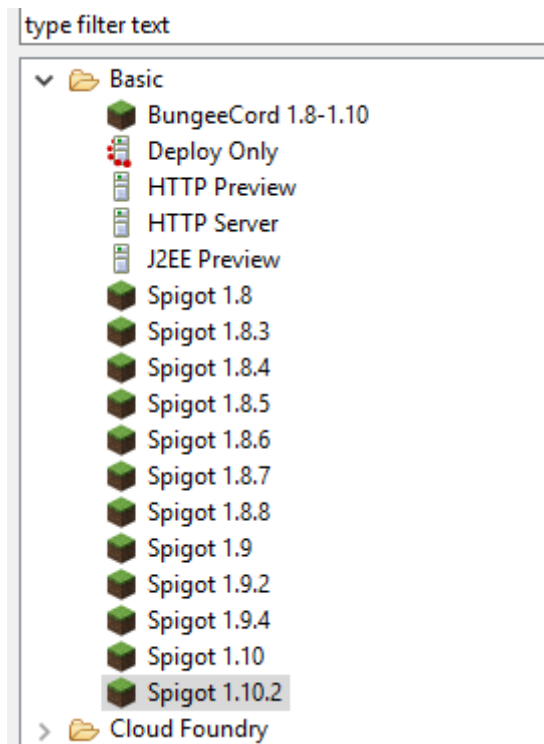
Some background information: Eclipse webtools divides servers and runtimes. A runtime is a location of your spigot server on your local hdd. A server holds all configurations, plugins and everything you need to start spigot.

If you are a developer of two plugins you can use the same runtime within two servers. It is one server for each plugin. Or you can use only one server for both. It is your choice.

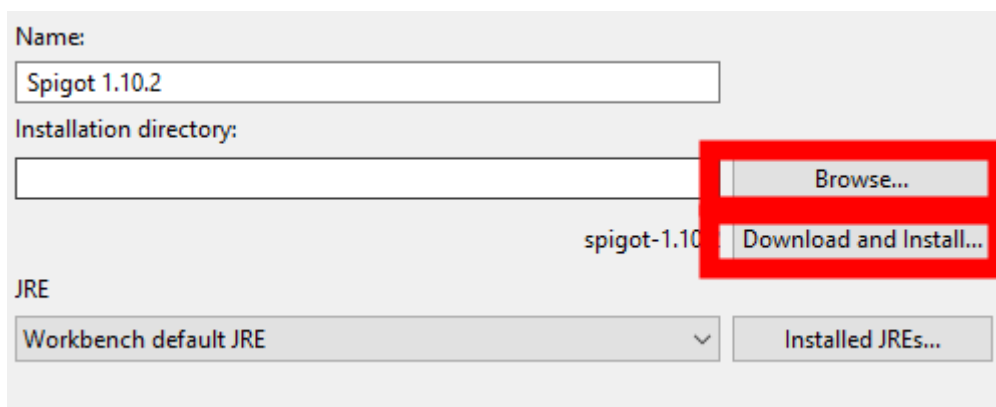
- 1) To create a server, go to the server view on the bottom of the java ee perspective or open it via "Window" -> "Show view":



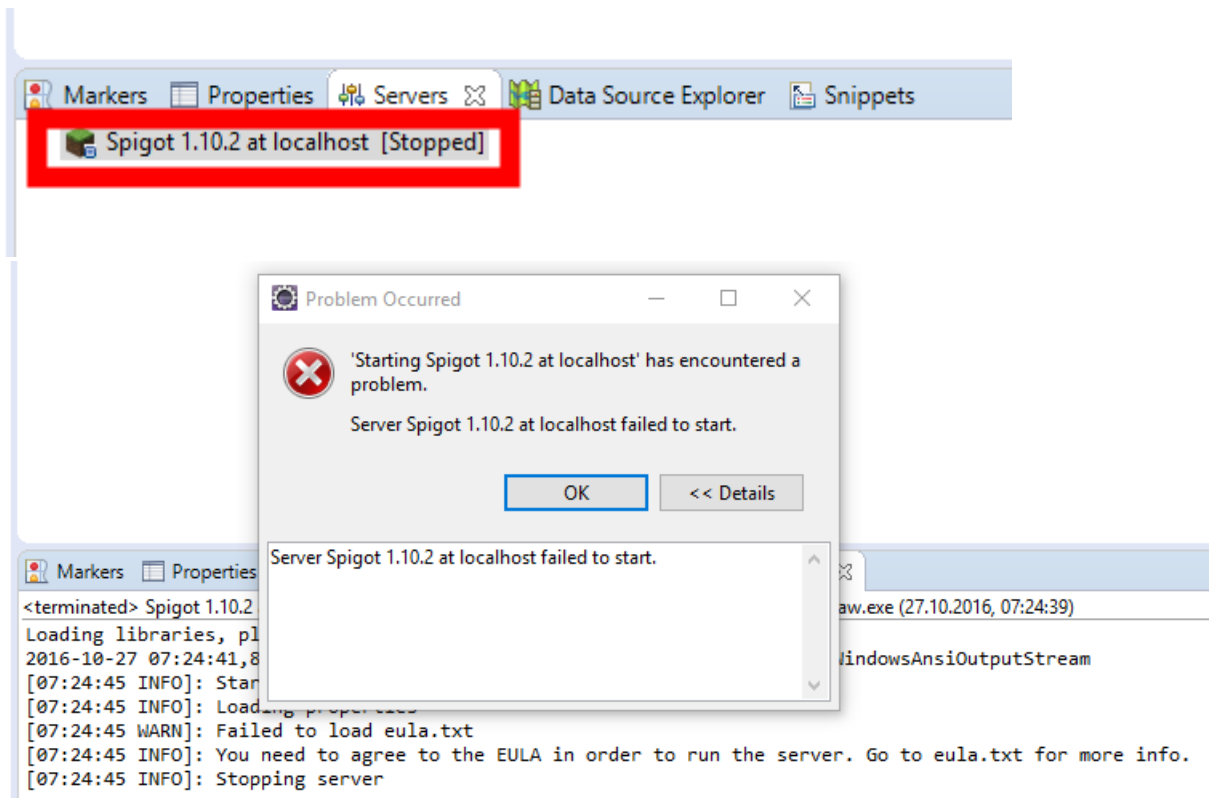
- 2) Click on the hyperlink. In the "new Server" wizard select the spigot server under category "Basic".



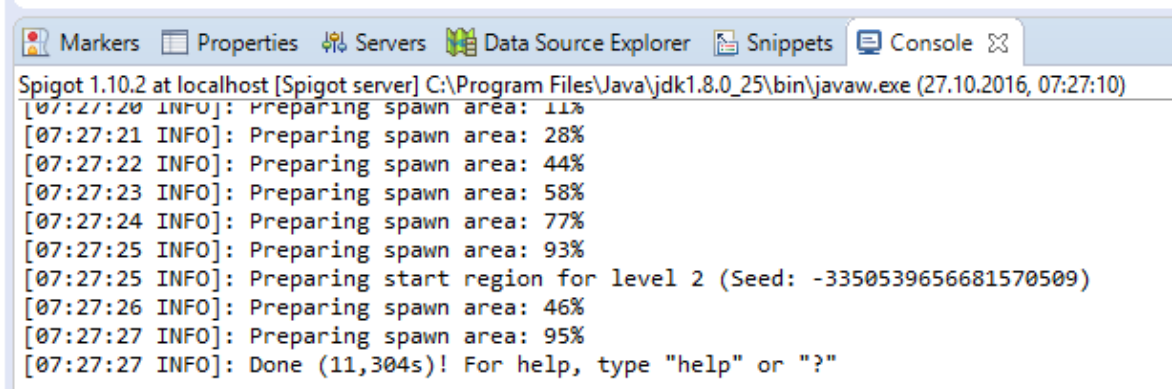
- 3) You will be forced to create a new runtime. Select either your existing installation or download it from our repository. The download versions are created using BuildTools. There is no secret within them.



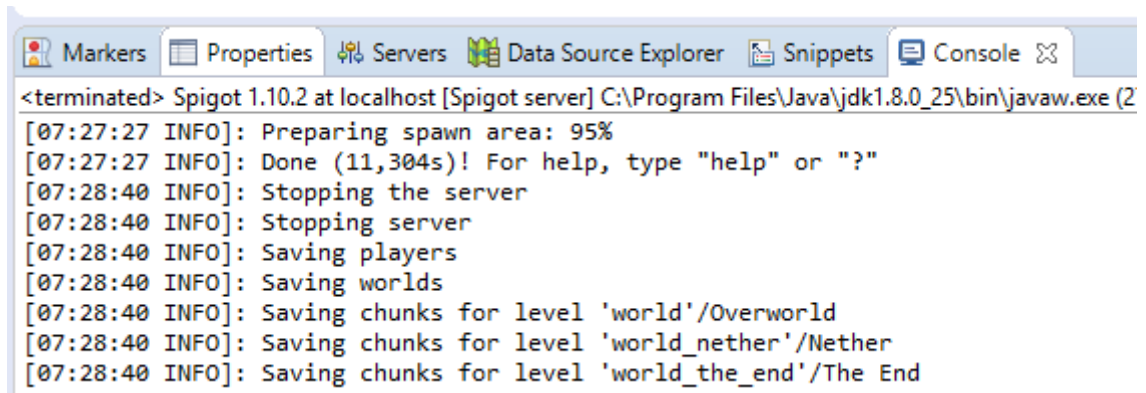
- 4) On the next wizard page, it will ask you which resources to add. The list is empty because we do not yet have any spigot plugin in our workspace. Simply ignore and click on “finish”.
- 5) Now you have a working spigot server. Right click or use the buttons on the right to start/debug it.



- 6) As you see it will fail. However, as an experienced minecraft/ spigot user you will know what to do. Have a look at your workspace and open the "Servers" projects. After doing a refresh (F5) you will see the eula.txt. Edit it, accept the eula and restart your server again. Now it will start without any error.



- 7) To shut down the server simply right click in the server view or type "stop" in the console. You may use your minecraft to connect to the server and type "/stop" in the chat as well.

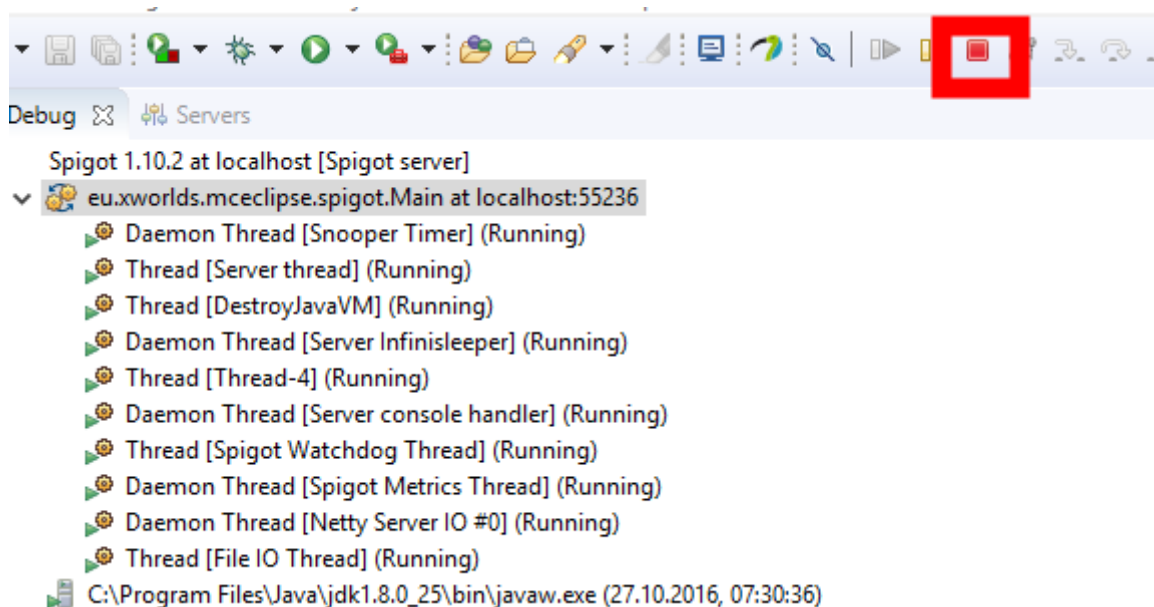
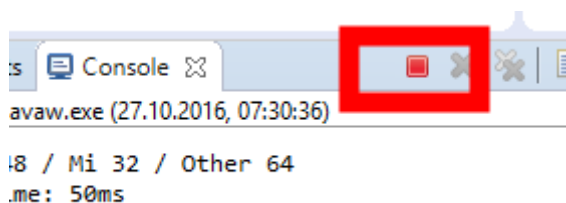


```

<terminated> Spigot 1.10.2 at localhost [Spigot server] C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0_25\bin\javaw.exe (2
[07:27:27 INFO]: Preparing spawn area: 95%
[07:27:27 INFO]: Done (11,304s)! For help, type "help" or "?"
[07:28:40 INFO]: Stopping the server
[07:28:40 INFO]: Stopping server
[07:28:40 INFO]: Saving players
[07:28:40 INFO]: Saving worlds
[07:28:40 INFO]: Saving chunks for level 'world'/Overworld
[07:28:40 INFO]: Saving chunks for level 'world_nether'/Nether
[07:28:40 INFO]: Saving chunks for level 'world_the_end'/The End


```

NOTICE: In the console view, there is a red terminate button. Do not use it. It will shut down the java VM immediately but does not save world data etc. You may use it if the spigot server crashed and does not respond. You should always prefer stopping the server by “stop” command or via “Server” view. The second non-preferred terminate button is inside debug view. Do not use the two buttons in the following screenshots.



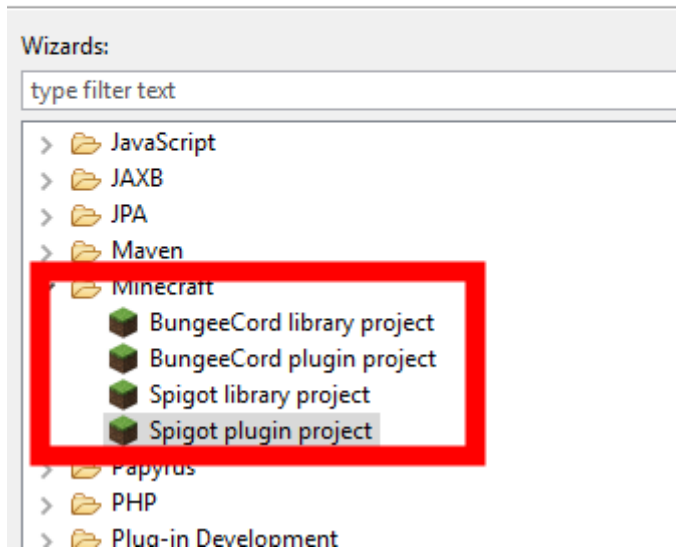
4.4 My first spigot plugin

- 1) Right click in the “project explorer” view and select “New” > “Project”. You will find a “Minecraft” category and the “Spigot plugin project” type.

 New Project

Select a wizard

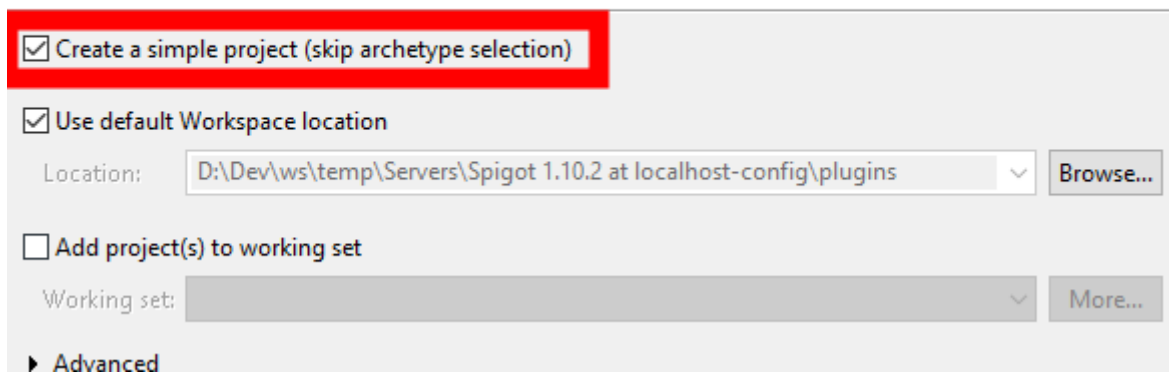
Create a new spigot plugin



- 2) Select the “Create a simple project” checkbox.

New Maven project

Select project name and location



- 3) Type a maven group id (typically a reversed internet domain you own). Type a maven artifact id and select “Finish”.

New Maven project

Configure project

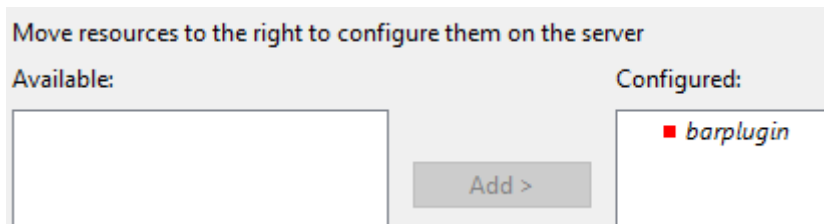
The screenshot shows the 'New Maven project' dialog box with the following fields and values:

- Artifact:**
 - Group Id: `org.example.foo`
 - Artifact Id: `barplugin`
 - Version: `0.0.1-SNAPSHOT`
 - Packaging: `jar`
 - Name: (empty)
 - Description: (empty)
- Parent Project:**
 - Group Id: (empty)
 - Artifact Id: (empty)
 - Version: (empty)
 - Browse... button
- Advanced:** (collapsed)
- Navigation:**
 - Back button
 - Next > button
 - Finish button** (highlighted with a red box)

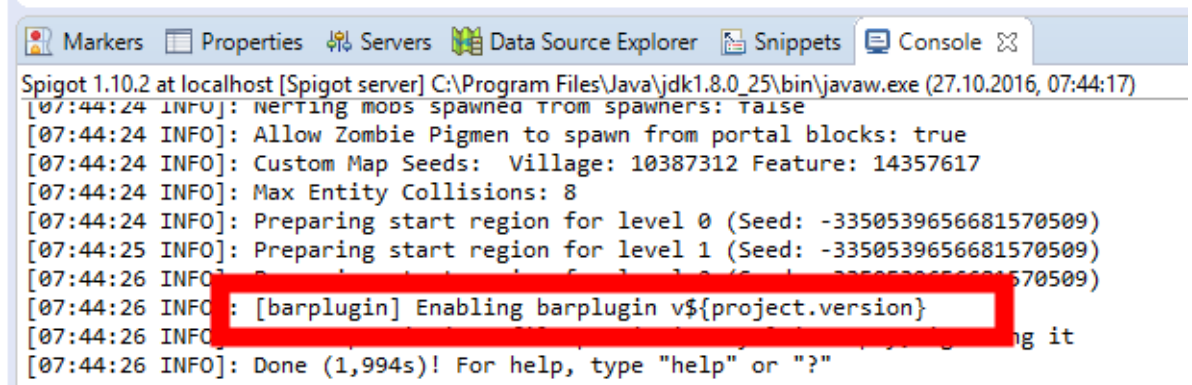
- 4) You now have a new spigot plugin within your workspace.

- ✓ barplugin
 - ✓ src/main/java
 - ✓ org.example.foo
 - > BarpluginPlugin.java
 - ✓ src/main/resources
 - plugin.yml
 - > src/test/java
 - > src/test/resources
 - ✓ Maven Dependencies
 - > spigot-api-1.10.2-R0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar - C:\
 - > commons-lang-2.6.jar - C:\Users\mepeiser
 - > json-simple-1.1.1.jar - C:\Users\mepeisen\
 - > junit-4.10.jar - C:\Users\mepeisen\m2\ren

- 5) Go back to your server and right click on it. Select the “Add and remove” command. You will now see the barplugin being available for your spigot server. Move it to the right.

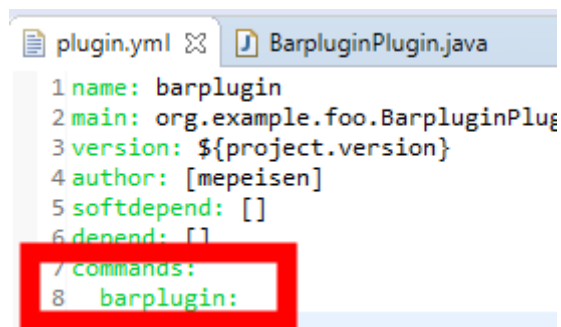


- 6) Restart the server and watch the console.



4.5 Hot code replacement.

Eclipse supports a feature called hot code replacement. That's useful during development. It allows you to change code without restarting the whole server. We will create a small useful example. Add a command by editing the plugin.yml and the BarpluginPlugin class.

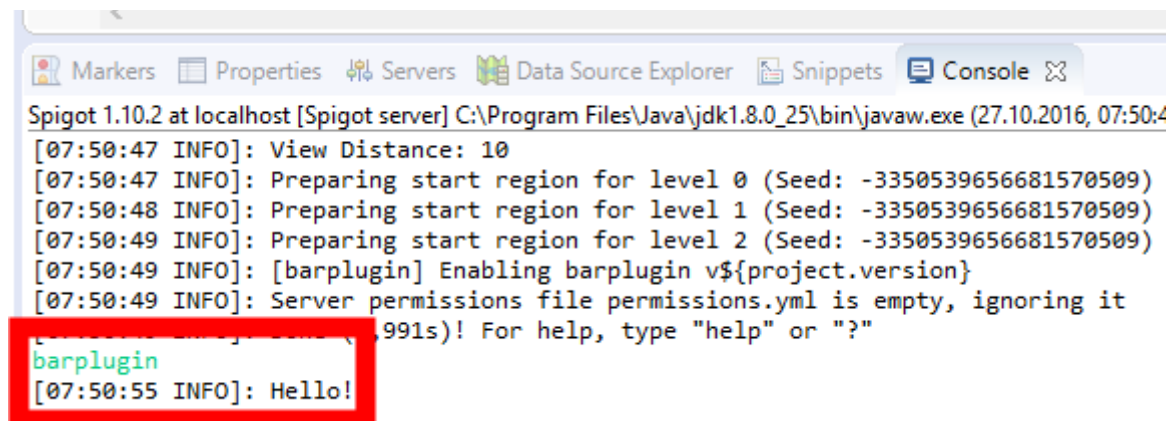


```

6
7 public class BarpluginPlugin extends JavaPlugin
8 {
9
10 public BarpluginPlugin()
11 {
12     // TODO Put in some initialization code.
13 }
14
15 @Override
16 public void onEnable()
17 {
18     // TODO Put in your activation code.
19 }
20
21 @Override
22 public void onDisable()
23 {
24     // TODO Put in your deactivation code.
25 }
26
27 @Override
28 public boolean onCommand(CommandSender sender, Command command, String label, String[] args)
29 {
30     switch (command.getName())
31     {
32     case "barplugin":
33         sender.sendMessage("Hello!");
34         break;
35     }
36     return false;
37 }
38
39 }

```

Now start the server and check your code.



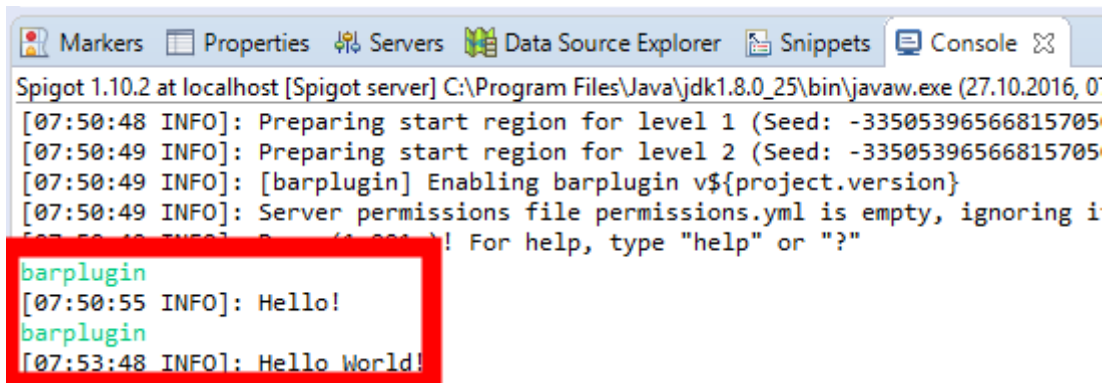
The screenshot shows the Spigot server console with the following output:

```

Spigot 1.10.2 at localhost [Spigot server] C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0_25\bin\javaw.exe (27.10.2016, 07:50:4
[07:50:47 INFO]: View Distance: 10
[07:50:47 INFO]: Preparing start region for level 0 (Seed: -3350539656681570509)
[07:50:48 INFO]: Preparing start region for level 1 (Seed: -3350539656681570509)
[07:50:49 INFO]: Preparing start region for level 2 (Seed: -3350539656681570509)
[07:50:49 INFO]: [barplugin] Enabling barplugin v${project.version}
[07:50:49 INFO]: Server permissions file permissions.yml is empty, ignoring it
[07:50:49 INFO]: (1991s)! For help, type "help" or "?"
barplugin
[07:50:55 INFO]: Hello!

```

It is working. But let us now use the hot code replacement. WIHTOUT restarting the server change the message in your code to "Hello World!". Save the java file and check the command again.



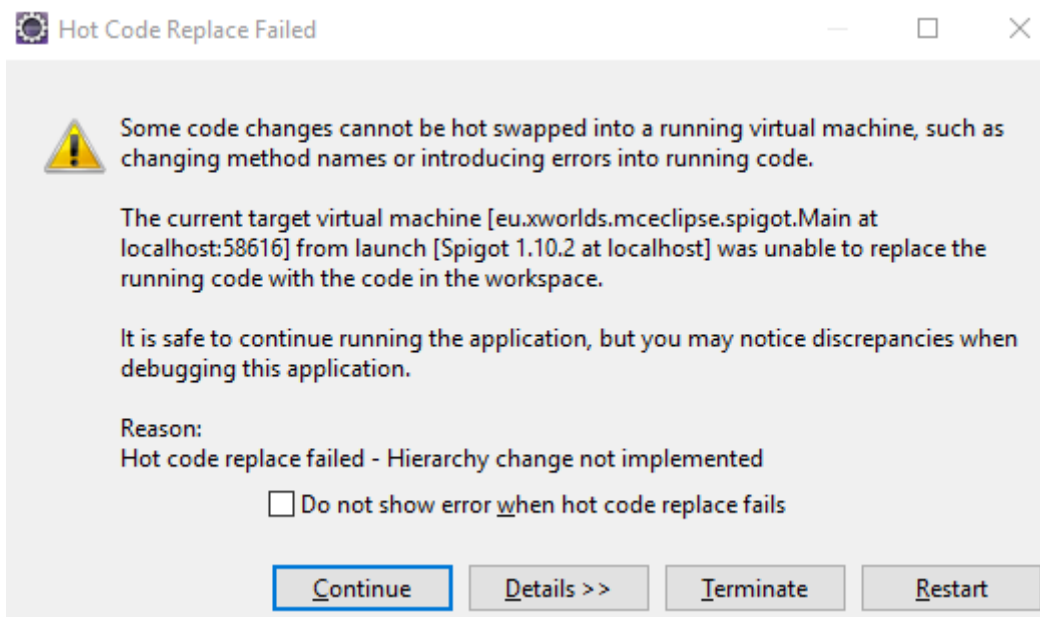
```

Markers Properties Servers Data Source Explorer Snippets Console
Spigot 1.10.2 at localhost [Spigot server] C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0_25\bin\javaw.exe (27.10.2016, 0'
[07:50:48 INFO]: Preparing start region for level 1 (Seed: -33505396566815705)
[07:50:49 INFO]: Preparing start region for level 2 (Seed: -33505396566815705)
[07:50:49 INFO]: [barplugin] Enabling barplugin v${project.version}
[07:50:49 INFO]: Server permissions file permissions.yml is empty, ignoring it
[07:50:49 INFO]: [barplugin] Hello!
[07:53:48 INFO]: [barplugin] Hello World!

```

The message changed. Without building jar files, without redeploying to server and without restarting the server.

The hot code replacement is limited. Changing class structures often result in warnings to restart the server. For example, let your plugin implement the bukkit listener interface. You will get the following warning.



Your spigot server is now out of sync. Restart it to get test the new code.

4.6 Advanced spigot topics

4.6.1 Junit support

- 1) Edit your pom.xml and add the following elements to dependencies and repositories section:


```
<dependency>
  <groupId>de.minigameslib.mclib</groupId>
  <artifactId>spigot-testsupport</artifactId>
  <version>0.0.1-SNAPSHOT</version>
  <scope>test</scope>
</dependency>

</dependencies>
<repositories>
  <repository>
    <id>mce-repo</id>
    <url>http://nexus.xworlds.eu/nexus/content/groups/mce</url>
  </repository>
```

- 2) Right click on “src/test/java” and create a JUnit class for testing (“New “ > “Other” > “Java” > “JUnit” > “JUnit Test Case”).

JUnit Test Case

Select the name of the new JUnit test case. You have the options to specify the class under test and on the next page, to select methods to be tested.



☐ New JUnit 3 test ☒ New JUnit 4 test

Source folder:

Package:

Name:


Superclass:

Which method stubs would you like to create?

☐ setUpBeforeClass() ☐ tearDownAfterClass()
☐ setUp() ☐ tearDown()
☐ constructor

Do you want to add comments? (Configure templates and default value [here](#))
☒ Generate comments

Class under test:



- 3) Add the annotations “RunWith” and “SpigotTest” at class level.

```

*/
@RunWith(SpigotJUnit4Runner.class)
@SpigotTest(versions = {SpigotVersion.V1_10_2})
public class BarpluginTest {

```

- 4) To access our spigot server during junit tests we need to add a variable annotated with “SpigotInject”.

```

@SpigotInject
private SpigotServer server;

```

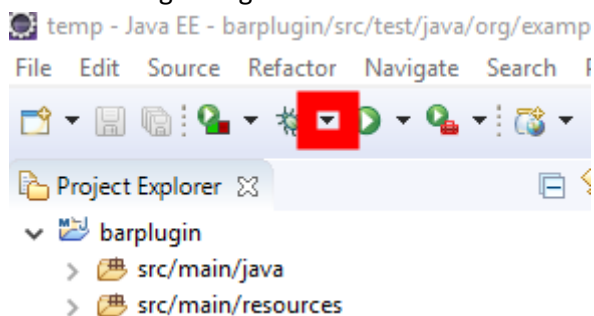
- 5) We are now ready to perform our test. As we already have a command we will simply test it:

```

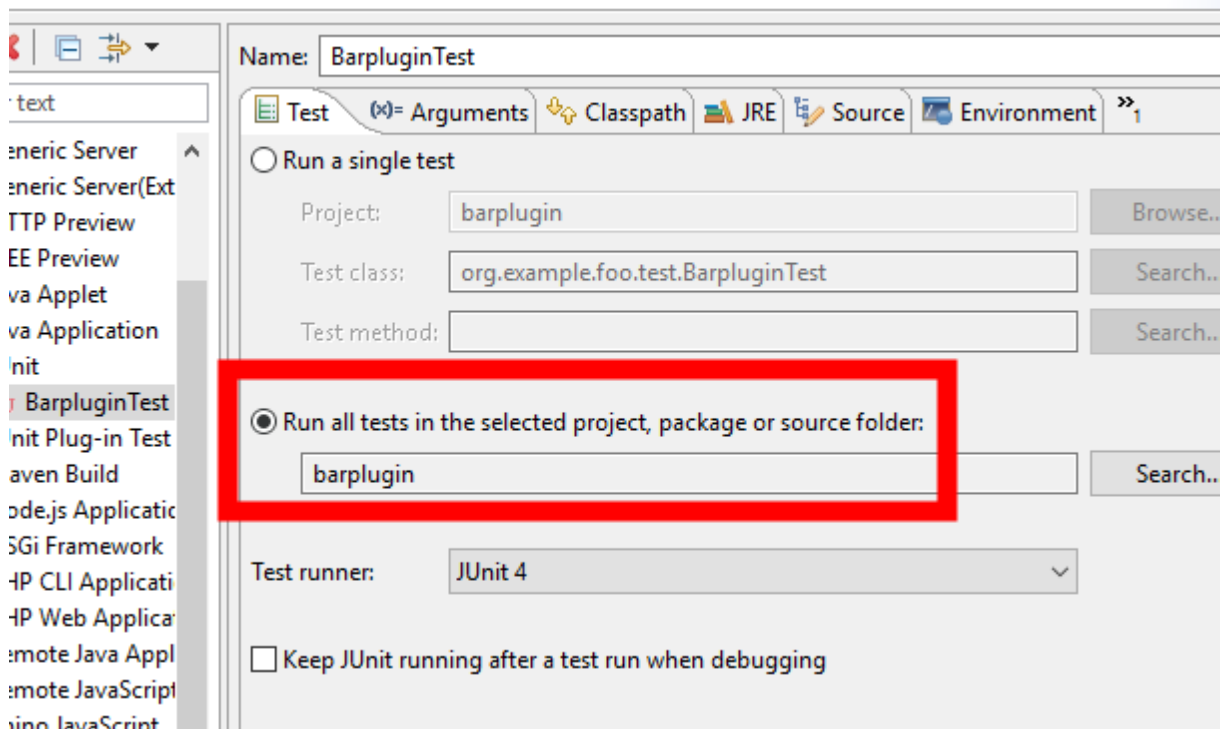
@Test
public void testBarpluginCommand() throws IOException
{
    this.server.clearConsole();
    this.server.sendCommand("barplugin");
    assertTrue(this.server.waitForConsole(".*Hello.*", 5000));
}

```

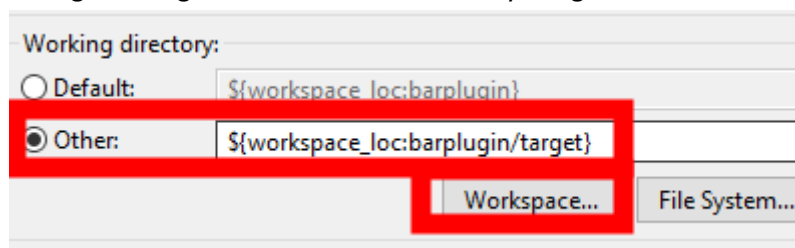
- 6) We now create a new debug profile via toolbar. Click the small arrow right from the bug and select “debug configurations...”.



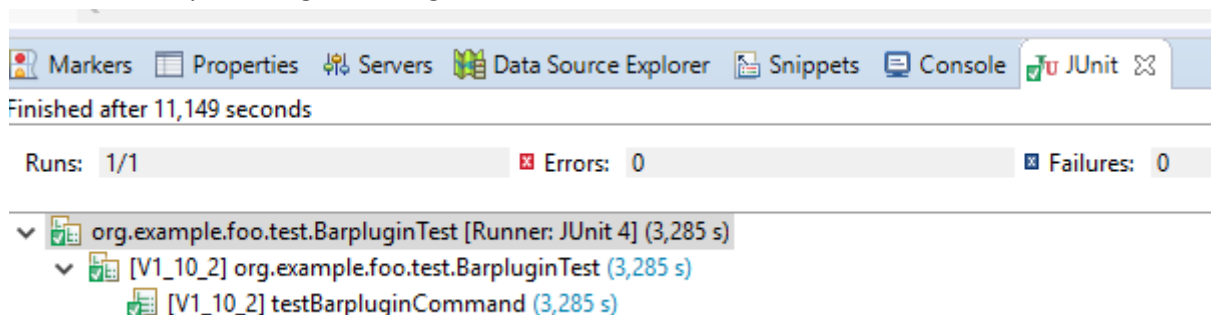
- 7) Right click on “JUnit” and select “New”. Change the properties to run all tests from your project.



- 8) Change the arguments to start in directory “target”.



- 9) Start the test by selecting the debug button.



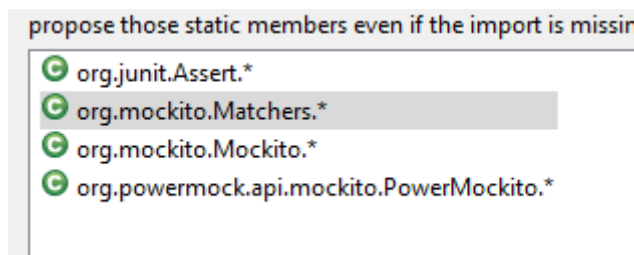
Hint: We do not really need our own debug configuration for the whole project and with folder “target”.

You can simply run your tests by right clicking the class and select “Run as JUnit test”.

However, eclipse always chooses to use the projects root directory. You may be messed up with log files, configuration files etc.

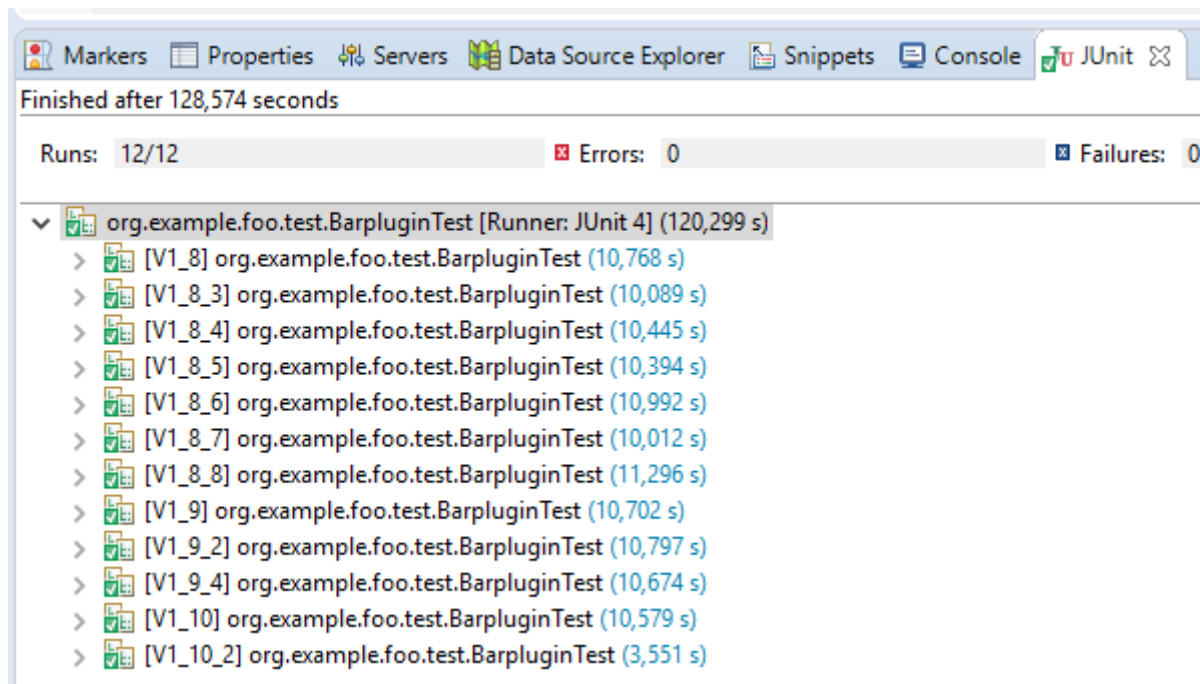
Typically, in scm (SVN or GIT) you will never commit the target directory because it is known as maven build directory. Choosing the target directory as test working directory will automatically hide all the test files from scm.

Hint: We use a static import “assertTrue” in our sample code. Eclipse is able to automatically import statics but the feature is somehow hard to find. Go the “Window” > “Preferences” > “Java” > “Editor” > “Content Assist” > “Favorites”. Add the following by selecting the “New Type” button:



Now you can type “assertTrue” in the java code editor and press “Ctrl+Space” for content assist and creating a static import.

Hint: As you see the SpigotTest annotation controls the servers you want to test. You can add more servers or even simply set “all” to true. See what happens if we test all the versions:



4.6.2 Installing third party plugins

You might try to install third party plugins directly by adding them into the plugins folder. Like you do in productional environments. The plugin does not support it this way.

But there is an alternative. You may add them to your own plugin as dependency or you may create your own java project.

4.6.2.1 *Java project for dependencies*

- 1) Create a simple standard java project.
- 2) In project properties go to “Project facets” and click on the link “Convert to faceted project”.
- 3) After the project was converted activate the “Spigot library” facet.
- 4) Now you can add this library project to the server.
- 5) Every jar file you add to the classpath of this project will now be loaded by eclipse plugins. The eclipse plugin automatically detect that you added a plugin jar file and performs the setup.

4.6.2.2 *Plugin dependencies*

Sometimes you want to invoke code on other plugins.

Doing this will be simple if you are familiar with maven. All you have to do is adding a dependency to the other plugin. Edit your pom.xml and add the following code to the dependencies section:

```
<dependency>
  <groupId>de.minigameslib.mclib</groupId>
  <artifactId>mclib-api</artifactId>
  <version>0.0.1-SNAPSHOT</version>
  <scope>provided</scope>
</dependency>
<dependency>
  <groupId>de.minigameslib.mclib</groupId>
  <artifactId>mclib</artifactId>
  <version>0.0.1-SNAPSHOT</version>
  <scope>runtime</scope>
</dependency>
```

You will notice that there are some things going on and that eclipse tries to download MCLIB. There is a complete chapter explaining the background later on.

For the moment simply notice that eclipse makes MCLIB available from your project.

Restarting the server will show you that it now loads the MCLIB because you declared a dependency on it. Very magical and fairly simple if you understand it.

4.6.3 Server administration

You already found the eula.txt on the first start. If you take a closer look you will see a complete spigot folder with all the files you already know from productive servers.

There is a plugin folder. Do not mind the “*.eclipseproject” or “*.jar” files within this folder. But you will find all the sub folders holding the data files from your plugins. Everything you are knowing from productive servers.

4.7 Server project setup scenarios

I showed you how to write a sample plugin. Some kind of Hello-World including Junit tests.

Within this chapter, you will learn some more detailed background on dependencies. I will give you some suggestion on a favorite maven setup for NMS projects and API-aware projects, such as MCLIB.

4.7.1 Dependency background

First of all, some theory of how maven manages dependencies. The most important thing is the dependency scope.

You can read details on the following web page:

<https://maven.apache.org/guides/introduction/introduction-to-dependency-mechanism.html>

We are focusing on three scopes: compile, provided, runtime.

The compile scope is the default. We use it for all non-minecraft jar files. For example you can add apaches commons-mail. Adding it with compile scope (default) will cause the eclipse plugin to add it to the plugin classpath.

The provided classpath is more special. We use it for all plugins and plugin apis that are minecraft related. Provided classpath causes maven to add it during compile time (you can use it) but not to the classpath itself. We use this scope for spigot-api itself too. Everything that is not part of your plugin will at least use “provided” or “runtime”.

The runtime classpath is only a hint for maven that this dependency must be used while running the server.

4.7.2 How does eclipse minecraft plugin use the scopes?

It is really simple:

- 1) All external jar files are using no scope/ “compile” scope.
- 2) All Plugin APIs or Plugin Jars you need during compile will use “provided” scope.
- 3) All Plugin Jars implementing a plugin API will use “runtime” scope.

Some simple example:

```
<dependency>
  <groupId>org.apache.commons</groupId>
  <artifactId>commons-email</artifactId>
  <version>1.4</version>
```

```

</dependency>
<dependency>
  <groupId>de.minigameslib.mclib</groupId>
  <artifactId>mclib-api</artifactId>
  <version>0.0.1-SNAPSHOT</version>
  <scope>provided</scope>
</dependency>
<dependency>
  <groupId>de.minigameslib.mclib</groupId>
  <artifactId>mclib</artifactId>
  <version>0.0.1-SNAPSHOT</version>
  <scope>runtime</scope>
</dependency>

```

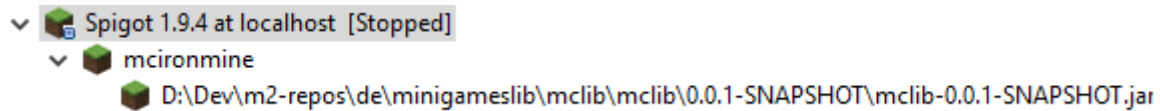
What do we do here?

First we add the apache mailing library. It is a compile library and we like to embed it into our plugin.

As second dependency we add minigames mclib. It uses provided scope. We will see it during compile time so we can develop against it. But we do not want it to be part of our plugin. Instead the api will be shipped with mclib jar and the user of our plugin will have to install both, our plugin and mclib.

At third position we give maven and the eclipse plugin some hint. We require the presence of “mclib” during runtime. We do not compile against it but we need it to work.

Let us view the result:



The eclipse plugin will automatically detect the dependencies. It will see that you use some other plugin in the dependencies and it will automatically install both plugins in your server.

4.7.3 Some word about maven-shade plugin

For spigot it is recommended to distribute a single jar file to your users containing everything that is relevant.

Given our previous example we want maven to build a jar file containing everything but mclib.

Add the following section to your pom.xml:

```

<build>
  <plugins>
    <plugin>
      <groupId>org.apache.maven.plugins</groupId>
      <artifactId>maven-shade-plugin</artifactId>
      <version>2.4.3</version>
      <executions>
        <execution>
          <phase>package</phase>
          <goals><goal>shade</goal></goals>
          <configuration>
            <artifactSet>
              <excludes>

```



```

        <exclude>de.minigameslib.mclib:*</exclude>
    </excludes>
</artifactSet>
</configuration>
</execution>
</executions>
</plugin>
</plugins>
</build>

```

If you now invoke the maven build it will create a single jar file containing all the needed dependencies. But it excludes the mclib plugin.

4.7.4 NMS classes

I have seen many plugins from users of different skill levels. I do not want to flame other developers. They are doing a nice job. As long as they are active.

But there are two problems:

- 1) Developers may become inactive
- 2) Developers may come back months later

Every time those two things happen we experience a problem: No one understands the original code. Even the original developer is unfamiliar with their own code.

Seeing MinigamesLib code from InstanceLabs and seeing other plugins found out that plugin developers tend to use Reflection to call the vanilla code. I really hate reflection. Yes, I hate it and you will learn to hate it too.

At first everything seems to be OK. And yeah, it seems to be clever that you do not need multiple projects and dependencies. It seems to be clever that your code works on different Minecraft versions without any change. But hey, vanilla is obfuscated. You know about methods with Names “a”, “b” or “A_”.

If you use reflection your java compiler will have no chance to detect changed signatures or changed method names. Your code will do strange things and you even do not know what is broken till you see some exception at runtime.

Calling the vanilla code without reflection is not fail-safe but it gives you a higher chance to see changes in method names during compilation time. In my 15 years of java experience I always prefer if compiler can detect problems for me.

4.7.5 Multi-project setup for NMS

The solution around this problem is a multi-project setup.

- 1) Create an API project only using the newest spigot API. This API project will hold interfaces of all things you will call version dependent code. Even if you use classes like “CraftWorld” from Bukkit, do never call it directly within your plugin but call it via your NMS API.

- 2) Create a NMS project for each version you like to support. One Project per version. If you want to support 1.8 to 1.11 you will need:
 - a. 1.8R1
 - b. 1.8R2
 - c. 1.8R3
 - d. 1.9R1
 - e. 1.9R2
 - f. 1.10R1
 - g. 1.11R1
- 3) Now place your NMS code for each version in the corresponding project. Use package names to divide them, for example “.....v1_8R1....”
- 4) At last add the API and the NMS modules to your main plugin project to make them available. Detect the proper version and use the classes from the target NMS project. Version detection is really simple in MCLIB. See Chapter 5.4 for details.
- 5) The maven shade plugin will do the rest. It will package all your nms projects within a simple jar file during build.

4.7.6 Plugin API vs. Implementation

Looking at MCLIB and MinigamesLib you will find out that we have a huge API. This API is divided from plugin implementation.

Main goal is to let developers develop against a very stable API. They should not even see the implementation details. Many big projects have divided API modules from implementation modules. Developers of libraries are more flexible. They are careful and do not change API often. But they are flexible to change implementation details since it is not expected that anyone depend on them.

I already explained some background in the dependencies chapter how to add plugins as scope “provided” or scope “runtime”.

4.8 Forge client

TODO

5 Developing against MCLIB (Spigot server)

5.1 Dependencies

Edit your pom.xml and add the following dependencies:

```
<dependency>
  <groupId>de.minigameslib.mclib</groupId>
  <artifactId>mclib-api</artifactId>
  <version>0.0.1-SNAPSHOT</version>
  <scope>provided</scope>
</dependency>
<dependency>
  <groupId>de.minigameslib.mclib</groupId>
  <artifactId>mclib</artifactId>
  <version>0.0.1-SNAPSHOT</version>
  <scope>runtime</scope>
</dependency>
```

We already mentioned the dependencies in the previous chapters. It will add the MCLIB api for compiling (scope Provided) and the MCLIB plugin itself on your spigot server (scope Runtime).

You will not have to include MCLIB into your plugin. So do not add it to the shade plugin. It will remain an independent plugin the server administrator must install along with your plugin.

Edit your plugin.yml and add the following line:

```
depend: [mclib]
```

This will tell spigot that you depend on MCLIB bringing the plugins in the right order during startup.

5.2 onEnable

During startup, we need to tell MCLIB what we want to do. Although some of the methods are always working at a later point this behavior may change in future versions. Simply do all your setup code in the “onEnable” method of your plugin.

I will explain the needed setup in the following chapters about the features.

If you require to access the MCLIB Api during “onEnable” ensure that the setup of your plugin is finished.

5.3 onDisable

MCLIB requires to perform some termination during “onDisable”. You should follow the instructions in the following chapters.

If you do not follow them there may be unexpected behavior while disabling and reloading plugins.

5.4 Version detection

To check the Minecraft version, you can use the following code fragment:

```

switch (McLibInterface.instance().getMinecraftVersion)
{
default:
    throw new IllegalStateException("Unsupported minecraft version");
case V1_11:
case V1_11_R1:
    // do whatever you like for V1.11
    break;
case V1_10:
case V1_10_R1:
    // do whatever you like for V1.10
    break;
}

```

Java is nice. It will even compile and execute this switch if the installed MCLIB is older than the version you compile against. But be aware of other constructs. The following may compile but on runtime it can lead to a “NoSuchFieldException”.

```

if (McLibInterface.instance().getMinecraftVersion().isAfter(
    MinecraftVersionsType.V1_11)

```

To solve this problem, you should always check the API-Version of MCLIB before doing any other things. For example, the following code will always succeed without runtime errors.

```

if (McLibInterface.instance().getApiVersion() !=
    McLibInterface.APIVERSION_1_0_0)
{
    throw new IllegalStateException("Incompatible Version");
}

```

Checking the MCLIB API-Version and the Minecraft Server Version during “onEnable” is recommended. If there are unexpected versions do not enable your plugin or the features using MCLIB.

But when does the API version change? We are always changing the api version as a new Minecraft/spigot version arrives. Any other api version change will be communicated.

5.5 Enumerations and their benefits

MCLIB uses java enumerations and interface default methods in many situations, for example for the multi-language system, configuration options and many other things.

We will explain the details later on.

Using the system is fairly simple. You declare a java enumeration that implements the interface. Some of the features will require some additional Annotations.

The most important thing happens in your “onEnable” method. There you will have to register the enumerations. For example:

```
EnumServiceInterface.instance().registerEnumClass(this, MyMessages.class);
EnumServiceInterface.instance().registerEnumClass(this, MyConfig.class);
```

Within the “onDisable” method we remove the enumeration classes.

```
EnumServiceInterface.instance().unregisterAllEnumerations(this);
```

Using enumerations have a major benefit: They are unique, they can be used as map keys without caring about the details. And they can be used in switch statements or with “==” (equals) operator etc.

The most important benefit is relay simple: You do not depend on string constants. A string constant may be misspelled and you may be confused. If you use misspell the wrong enumeration value name, the compiler detects it. MCLIB supports this in a flexible way. Removing configuration options will remove them in the config.yml automatically. Nothing you need care about.

5.5.1 Identifying plugin from enumeration

The EnumServiceInterface provides a method “getPlugin”. It tries to detect the plugin that registered an enumeration value.

If this method returns NULL, the numeration value was not registered. This method can be useful in many situations. For example, MinigamesLib has a feature to disable a minigame and thus it requires to disable arena types (which are enumerations) by plugin. Even if the plugin itself is not stopped.

Thus, the second method “getEnumValues” has signatures where the plugin is given. Interested API users can query the enum service for all enumeration values a plugin registered.

For example, the following code returns the Multi-Language nodes:

```
final Set<LocalizedMessageInterface> messages =
    EnumerationServiceInterface.instance().getEnumValues(
        LocalizedMessageInterface.class);
```

The following snippet returns all messages of “myPlugin”.

```
final Set<LocalizedMessageInterface> messages =
    EnumerationServiceInterface.instance().getEnumValues(
        myPlugin, LocalizedMessageInterface.class);
```

5.5.2 Building your own enumerations

MCLIB is not limited to enumerations of their own API. You can at least use any enumeration with it.

- 1) You should first declare an interface to let the system work correctly.

```
Public interface MySpecialEnum
{
    default void sysout()
    {
        System.out.println("Called sysout from " + this.getClass().getName() +
            "." + this.name());
    }
    String name(); // enumeration value name
}
```

- 2) Now build some enumerations using this interface.

```
public enum MyEnum1 implements MySpecialEnum
{
    MyValue1A,
    MyValue1B
}
public enum MyEnum2 implements MySpecialEnum
{
    MyValue2A,
    MyValue2B
}
```

- 3) Register the enumerations with MCLIB during "onEnable" method.

```
EnumServiceInterface.instance().registerEnumClass(this, MyEnum1.class);
EnumServiceInterface.instance().registerEnumClass(this, MyEnum2.class);
```

- 4) Now let us invoke sys out on all special enums the MCLIB knows about.

```
EnumerationServiceInterface.instance().getEnumValues(
    MySpecialEnum.class).forEach(MySpecialEnum::sysout);
```

As you will see it will print out the sysout for all four enumeration values. Pretty cool, isn't it?

And you are always allowed to do something like this:

```
If (myValue == MyEnum1.MyValue1A) ...
```

Or something like that:

```
MyEnum1.MyValue1A.sysout();
```

5.5.3 Child enumerations

Structuring your code and having multiple enumerations can be confusing. You can split your enumerations into several pieces to structure the code. You already have seen that you can register multiple enumeration classes implementing the same interface. There is no limitation.

Hiding enumeration complexity from your plugin main class (onEnable) is really simple. You can use the “@ChildEnum” annotation.

```
@ChildEnum({MyEnum1.class, MyEnum2.class})
public enum MyCoreEnum implements MySpecialEnum
{
    CoreValue,
    CoreFoo,
    MyValue
}
public enum MyEnum1 implements MySpecialEnum
{
    MyValue1A,
    MyValue1B
}
public enum MyEnum2 implements MySpecialEnum
{
    MyValue2A,
    MyValue2B
}
```

Now you only need to register “MyCoreEnum”. The enumerations “MyEnum1” and “MyEnum2” are registered automatically.

When to use this feature? I think the most common use case is the Multi-Language system. There may be common messages used by your plugin in different situations. But most of the time you declare a message to be used once somewhere deep inside the code. Personally, I use to declare the Message enumeration within the class I use it. So, to say: Having the message texts exactly on the same place they are used.

But I cannot say you MUST split of your enumerations or even you MUST use the ChildEnum feature. Use it whenever you like or do not. It is up to you.

5.6 Multi-language and customizable messages

InstanceLabs already followed the principle to customize every message the user is seeing. Because a developer should not decide and hard code user experience. If an administrator likes to customize messages he should do it. We followed this principle.

On top of this principle we added a multi-language system. The administrator decides which languages he likes and the users decide which they are using during runtime. This requires us to build some localization into MCLIB.

Looking at some solutions did not satisfy all of our needs. We require:

- Dividing multiple languages
- Let the administrator change values in messages.yml files
- Divide user messages from admin/operator messages
- Let the administrator choose a default language
- Let the user choose their favorite language
- Support Minecraft color encodings
- Support raw messages
- Let the administrator install language packs.

Before losing our brain, we decided to create our own message system. I hope it is both, simple and powerful.

5.6.1 Servers default locale

First of all, we support a default locale. Whenever a user did not make a choice for his favorite language this default language is chosen.

You can receive or change the value through `McLibInterface`:

```
McLibInterface.instance().getDefaultLocale();
McLibInterface.instance().setDefaultLocale(...);
```

Setting the default locale programmatically is possible but not recommended. Because a plugin should not change the value. Instead it is up to the administrator, to either change `config.yml` or to use a chat command to change the value.

5.6.2 Users preferred locale

The users preferred locale can be received and set through `getPreferredLocale` or `setPreferredLocale`.

```
final McPlayerInterface player = ...;
player.getPreferredLocale();
player.setPreferredLocale(...);
```

Once again setting the preferred locale programmatically is not recommended. Instead the players should choose the preferred locale through chat api.

The users preferred locale may be `NULL`. This means the user is using the servers default.

5.6.3 Declaring messages

For an example have a look at the “CommonMessages” enumeration. It is part of the API. You can declare your own message enumeration. Remember to register it in your “onEnable” method.

```
@LocalizedMessages("some.path")
public enum MyMessages implements LocalizedMessageInterface
{
    @LocalizedMessage(
        defaultMessage = "Hello World!",
        defaultAdminMessage = "Hello Operator!",
        severity = MessageSeverityType.Success
    )
    HelloWorld
}
```

What have we done?

- 1) The class level annotation “@LocalizedMessages” is required. It holds some useful information. First of all, the path within messages.yml. If you are using multiple message enumerations each one should have different paths to not have conflicts.

In this sample, we do not override the default language. If you add the defaultLocale attribute it will override the language of your default values. It may be not clever to override the default locale except for some private plugins you only use on your server. Keep in mind that on public servers the administrators assume that at least one language is supported: English or “en”. If you try to share your plugins with public keep this in mind.

- 2) The enumeration implements “LocalizedMessageInterface” for using the message in the API and for having some additional methods on it.
- 3) The enumeration value uses one of two required annotations: “@LocalizedMessage” for a single line message.

It contains a user message and an (optional) administrator message. It declares a message severity causing some nice coloring of the message.

5.6.4 Using the message

The simplest use case is to send the message to players. Looking at the McPlayerInterface” you will find the method “sendMessage”.

```
final McPlayerInterface player = ...;
player.send(MyMessages.HelloWorld);
```

That’s all the magic. You do not need to ask for locales nor to check if the player is an operator or a normal user. No coloring questions. Simply send the message and let MCLIB do the rest.

A second option is to encode the message into a java string array (one entry per line). This is done at the McPlayerInterface too.

```
final McPlayerInterface player = ...;
final String[] msgArr = player.encodeMessage(MyMessages.HelloWorld);
```

5.6.5 Message arguments

Each message can contain arguments. Argument substitution is done through Javas String format. See <http://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/Formatter.html#syntax> for syntax details.

Here is a small example using two arguments.

```
@LocalizedMessage(
    defaultMessage = "Hello %1$s!",
    defaultAdminMessage = "Hello %1$s (%2$s)!",
    severity = MessageSeverityType.Success
)
HelloWorld
```

This example uses two arguments. At first the players name and at second the players uuid. Only administrators will see their uuid. Now let us send this message along.

```
final McPlayerInterface player = ...;
player.send(MyMessages.HelloWorld,
    player.getBukkitPlayer().getDisplayName(),
    player.getPlayerUUID().toString());
```

As you can see you do not need to wonder about the arguments and even if the server administrators like them. Simply pass them to the send method and let MCLIB do the rest.

The arguments are limited to Serializables.

5.6.6 Nesting messages

Sometimes you want to nest messages. That means pass a message as an argument to other messages. Here is a real-world example passing a proper welcome message depending on the current time.

First, we declare the messages.

```
@LocalizedMessage(
    defaultMessage = "%1$s %2$s!",
    defaultAdminMessage = "%1$s %2$s (%3$s)!",
    severity = MessageSeverityType.Success
)
```

```

HelloWorld,

@LocalizedMessage(
    defaultMessage = "Hello"
    severity = MessageSeverityType.Neutral
)
HelloDay,

@LocalizedMessage(
    defaultMessage = "Good morning"
    severity = MessageSeverityType.Neutral
)
HelloMorning

```

Now let us send the messages.

```

final McPlayerInterface player = ...;
final LocalTime time = LocalTime.now();
LocalizedMessageInterface greeting = MyMessages>HelloDay;
if (time.getHour() > 6 && time.getHour() < 11)
    greeting = MyMessages>HelloMorning;
player.send(MyMessages>HelloWorld,
    greeting.toArg(),
    player.getBukkitPlayer().getDisplayName(),
    player.getPlayerUUID().toString());

```

The most important thing is to convert the nested message to a serializable by using method “toArg”.

Hint: The nested message has its own argument list. Pass arguments to method “toArg”. The nested message does NOT use the arguments of the container message.

5.6.7 Multi line messages

MCLIB supports messages over multiple lines. You do not have to take care about number of lines. If an administrator likes he can add as many lines as he wants to.

You can use every parameter in each line.

```

@LocalizedMessageList(
    value = {"Hello, %1$s.",
        "Your name is %1$s.",
        "You are welcome to this Minecraft world.",
        "Your UUID is %2$s."}
    severity = MessageSeverityType.Success
)
HelloMultiline

```

You can use this multi-line message like any other single line message.

```
final McPlayerInterface player = ...;
player.send(MyMessages.HelloMultiLine,
    player.getBukkitPlayer().getDisplayName(),
    player.getPlayerUUID().toString());
```

5.6.8 Language packs

TODO

5.6.9 Exceptions with messages

In many situations, you are able to throw a `McException`. For example, to show up that a chat command is invalid.

If you have a look at the constructors, you will see all constructors taking localized messages as arguments. The reason is simple. Exceptions may not only be caught and logged into the server logs. They may be used to report the errors to the users too.

Keep in mind: Every time you throw a `McException` a user may read the message of the exception.

There is a good default message (see following chapters) you may use as a wrapper. It simply says “internal error” for normal users and print some useful information for administrators. You can use them for wrapping other exceptions, for example a `SQLException` from JDBC.

5.6.10 messages.yml and Message comments

TODO

5.6.11 Predefined messages

All predefined messages are present in enumeration `CommonMessages` within the API.

5.6.11.1 *Command handling messages*

5.6.11.1.1 `InvokeIngame`

Command invocations may be written from players within chat or from console. Sometime you require that a player is executing a command.

Class `AbstractCompositeCommand` already has some example code to use it:

```
command.when(c -> !c.isPlayer()).thenThrow(CommonMessages.InvokeIngame);
```

5.6.11.1.2 `NoPermissionForCommand`

Use this message if a player has no permission to use a command. An example code fragment:

```
if (!player.checkPermission(MyPermission.DoSomething))
    throw new McException(CommonMessages.NoPermissionForCommand,
        "do something");
```

```
command.permThrowException(MyPermission.GreetMe, command.getCommandPath());
```

5.6.11.1.3 CommandDisabled

This message indicates that something is disabled.

```
command.when(c -> myConfig.enabled.getBoolean()).
    thenThrow(CommonMessages.CommandDisabled, command.getCommandPath());
```

5.6.11.1.4 TooManyArguments

Usually commands take arguments. If you get too many arguments from user, you can use this message.

```
if (command.getArgs().length != 2)
    command.send(CommonMessages.TooManyArguments);
```

5.6.11.2 Other messages

5.6.11.2.1 InternalError

If something goes terribly wrong, for example you caught an exception you normally do not get use this message. Sample code from exception handling:

```
catch (Exception ex)
{
    // do not forget to log this exception for stack trace etc.
    throw new McException(CommonMessages.InternalError, ex.getMessage());
}
```

5.7 Command handling

MCLIB contains a small but powerful API for command handling. It helps you to pretty print your commands including help pages.

5.7.1 onCommand method

As usual override the “onCommand” method of your plugin. Use the following code snippet to handle the commands.

```
public boolean onCommand(CommandSender sender, Command command, String label,
String[] args)
{
    // maybe divide multiple commands if your plugin as more than one command.
    final CommandImpl cmd = new CommandImpl(
        sender, command, label, args,
        “/mycommand”);
    try
    {
```

```

        McLibInterface.instance().runInNewContext(() -> {
            McLibInterface.instance().setContext(McPlayerInterface.class,
                cmd.getPlayer());
            this.myCommand.handle(cmd);
        });
    }
    catch (McException ex)
    {
        cmd.send(e.getErrorMessage(), e.getArgs());
    }
    return true;
}

```

There is happening some magic. At first a `CommandImpl` is created. This is a helper class for the command handling. It contains some useful things like sending localized messages to player/console.

At second step, we invoke “`runInNewContext`”. Do not wonder about this step if you do not understand it yet. The context handling is explained later in its own chapter.

The important line is “`this.myCommand.handle(cmd)`”. Here we delegate the work to a specific command handler. The command handler can be a simple variable created in constructor or “`onEnable`”. I will now explain what type of command handlers can be used.

You may implement your own command handler of course.

5.7.2 onTabComplete command

MCLIB requires tab completion and it is always a good help for players to support this in your command handlers.

Use the following snippet:

```

public boolean onTabComplete(CommandSender sender, Command command, String alias,
String[] args)
{
    // maybe divide multiple commands if your plugin as more than one command.
    String lastArg = null;
    String[] newArgs = null;
    if (args.length > 0)
    {
        lastArg = args[args.length - 1].toLowerCase();
        newArgs = Arrays.copyOf(args, args.length - 1);
    }

    final CommandImpl cmd = new CommandImpl(
        sender, command, null, args,
        "/mycommand");
    final String last = lastArg;
    try
    {

```

```

        McLibInterface.instance().runInNewContext(() -> {
            McLibInterface.instance().setContext(McPlayerInterface.class,
                cmd.getPlayer());
            return this.myCommand.onTabComplete(cmd, last);
        });
    }
    catch (McException ex)
    {
        cmd.send(e.getErrorMessage(), e.getArgs());
    }
    return Collections.emptyList();
}

```

5.7.3 AbstractCompositeCommandHandler

Whenever you like to have sub commands inherit this class.

In Constructor, you can add your sub commands and in Usage method you can send a usage information to users that do not know how to use this command. The usage is displayed if either

- No command arguments are given
- An invalid sub command is given

Example constructor:

```

this.subCommands.put("help", new HelpCommandHandler(this));
this.subCommands.put("foo", new FooCommandHandler());
this.subCommands.put("bar", new BarCommandHandler());

```

Here we have three sub commands. The help sub command uses another default class from API: The HelpCommandHandler. The other two sub commands are your own classes. They implement SubCommandHandlerInterface.

5.7.4 SubCommandHandlerInterface

Building commands from sub commands requires you to create classes that implement this interface.

By default, all commands are always visible. You may override method "visible" to change this behavior. For example, let a command only be visible if a plyer has a permission. But remember to always check for the permission in method "handle" too. It increases your security doing this.

In method "handle" you place your regular code to handle the command, pass the arguments and do anything you like to do. Remember to notify the user about succeeding commands so he knows everything was ok. If you simple do something but not send any information to users they may be confused. You can always throw a McException to interrupt your work. The message text will be caught within your "onCommand" method of the Plugin class.

The method “onTabComplete” is required. If you do not have any completions for your command simply return “Collections.emptyList()”. Many commands take arguments, for example some text that can be auto completed. Pass the list of strings you allow at next. Notice: You should filter the result for all strings beginning with text “lastArg”.

The method “getShortDescription” is used by the help command. It displays a one line help text what this command does.

The method “getDescription” is meant for multi-line help texts. It is used by the help command too.

5.7.5 AbstractPageableCommandHandler

Many commands may display a variable list of entries. For example, a command to display the friends of a user.

Inherit this class to help you with paging.

There are three methods you need to implement. First of all, “getHeader”. This is used to build a nice header. Return a message identifying the list or your command.

Within “getListCount” you will have to do a count on your lines. Returns the number of lines the command will return.

The method “getLines” will return the text of the actual lines, starting at index “start”.

That’s it. As you see you only need to concentrate how many lines you have and what lines to return. The rest is done by MCLIB.

5.8 Context sensitive execution

In previous chapters, you already found out that there is a feature to run code within a context. This feature is a light weight option to store objects within the current execution context and get them back whenever you like. No need to pass the objects as method arguments.

The most common use case is to set the current user within this context. In other words: You say to the context: “Here is the user that is invoking everything.”

The MclibInterface (and some others) own the methods I am talking about. They are called “getContext” or “setContext”. The first one receives a context variable and the second one sets it.

5.8.1 The default get implementations

5.8.1.1 *getCurrentCommand*

TODO

5.8.1.2 *getCurrentComponent*

TODO

5.8.1.3 *getCurrentEvent*

TODO

5.8.1.4 *getCurrentPlayer*

TODO

5.8.1.5 *getCurrentZone*

TODO

5.8.2 Pushing and resetting the context

TODO

5.8.3 Variable substitution

TODO

5.9 Configuration Framework and DataFragments

5.9.1 Using configuration files

You need the following steps to use the configuration API:

- 1) Create an enumeration holding your configuration variables. Let the enumeration implement `ConfigurationValueInterface`.
- 2) Add the `@ConfigurationValues` annotation at enum type level.
- 3) Add enumeration values. Each enumeration value represents one entry in your configuration file.
- 4) Add the enumeration in your plugins “onEnable” method (see the chapter about enumerations).

Here is a simple example with a simple Boolean configuration option.

```

@ConfigurationValues(path = "core")
public enum MyConfig implements ConfigurationValueInterface
{
    @ConfigurationBool(defaultValue = true)
    MyCommandEnabled
}

```

To access the configuration value simply invoke the corresponding getter:

```
MyConfig.MyCommandEnabled.getBoolean();
```

That's it.

5.9.2 Changing configuration options

Each configuration value has corresponding setters. Simply invoke them and call save.

```
MyConfig.MyCommandEnabled.setBoolean(false);
MyConfig.MyCommandEnabled.saveConfig();
```

Hint: You can change multiple values and only call “saveConfig” on any of the value. It may be confusing that we put this method in the interface and that you invoke it on a single configuration value. But that was the only way to hide the complex implementation from your code. Simply keep in mind: Whenever calling “saveConfig” the whole config file will be saved.

5.9.3 Using multiple files

Per default everything goes to “config.yml” of your plugin. If you tend to split your config in multiple files you can have a look at the `@ConfigurationValues` annotation.

Override the file variable to declare a second configuration with some other name.

5.9.4 Valid data types

You will find tons of getters and setters. Here is a table of all variable types we support out-of-the-box.

Java type	Getter	Setter	Annotation class
boolean	getBoolean	setBoolean	ConfigurationBool
boolean[]	getBooleanList	setBooleanList	ConfigurationBoolList
byte	getByte	setByte	ConfigurationByte
byte[]	getByteList	setByteList	ConfigurationByteList
char	getCharacter	setCharacter	ConfigurationCharacter
char[]	getCharacterList	setCharacterList	ConfigurationCharacterList
ConfigColorData	getColor	setColor	ConfigurationColor
ConfigColorData[]	getColorList	setColorList	ConfigurationColorList
double	getDouble	setDouble	ConfigurationDouble
double[]	getDoubleList	setDoubleList	ConfigurationDoubleList
float	getFloat	setFloat	ConfigurationFloat
float[]	getFloatList	setFloatList	ConfigurationFloatList
int	getInt	setInt	ConfigurationInt
int[]	getIntList	setIntList	ConfigurationIntList
ConfigItemStackData	getItemStack	setItemStack	ConfigurationItemStack
ConfigItemStackData[]	getItemStackList	setItemStackList	ConfigurationItemStackList

long	getLong	setLong	ConfigurationLong
long[]	getLongList	setLongList	ConfigurationLongList
DataFragment	getObjectt	setObject	ConfigurationObject
DataFragment[]	getObjectList	setObjectList	ConfigurationObjectList
McPlayerInterface	getPlayer	setPlayerList	ConfigurationPlayer
McPlayerInterface[]	getPlayerList	setPlayerList	ConfigurationPlayerList
short	getShort	setShort	ConfigurationShort
short[]	getShortList	setShortList	ConfigurationShortList
String	getString	setString	ConfigurationString
String[]	getStringList	setStringList	ConfigurationStringList
ConfigVectorData	getVector	setVector	ConfigurationVector
ConfigVectorData[]	getVectorList	setVectorList	ConfigurationVectorList

5.9.5 String substitution in paths

TODO

5.9.6 DataFragment

The configuration framework is able to wrap complex objects to configuration files. If you want to create your own complex object you will have to implement the DataFragment interface.

5.9.6.1 Implementing DataFragment

A DataFragment is made of three methods:

- read
- write
- test

The read method is responsible to read the data fragment from given DataSection. The write method stores the data into the given DataSection.

The test method will be called to check if the DataSection is valid and holds the attributes to read.

You can assume that the DataSection is only used by this single DataFragment. There are no naming conflicts. Simply read and write to the section by using the keys you like.

5.9.6.2 Using Plan objects with AnnotatedDataFragment

There is a default implementation you can use. It is very easy to handle. Simply inherit AnnotatedDataFragment and tag your fields with annotation @PersistentField. The class does all the magic. See the following example as a starting point:

```
public class MyConfigObject extends AnnotatedDataFragment
{
    @PersistentField
    protected final int i;

    public MyConfigObject()
    {
        this.i = -1;
    }
}
```

```

    public MyConfigObject(int i)
    {
        this.i = i;
    }

    public int getI()
    {
        return this.i;
    }

}

```

Your data fields should be protected. If you decide to use inheritance the protected keyword prevents naming conflicts.

You always need a constructor without arguments is needed by the framework. Reading objects from config will always use this constructor.

The following data types are allowed within AnnotatedDataFragment (primitives are allowed as java primitives or as Object; “lower Cased” boolean as well as “upper Cased” Boolean).

String	Boolean	Byte	Short
Integer	Long	Float	Double
LocalDateTime	LocalDate	LocalTime	Character
VectorDataFragment	PlayerDataFragment	ItemStackDataFragment	ColorDataFragment
DataSection *)	List **)	Map **)	DataFragment

*) DataSection is a wrapper around any kind of unstructured data.

**) Lists of DataFragment or any of the “java primitives” (including String, LocalDate/Time). Maps can hold string keys and as values any DataFragment or “java primitive”.

Hint: The java serialization ensures that the same instance is not serialized two times. But mclib does NOT work in this way. If the same object instance is used in several attributes and you store the object to config it will break up the object instances into multiple ones. This means: Re-reading the object you will have multiple instances of this objects.

5.9.6.3 Inheritance and versions

Mclib does not directly support inheritance or version systems, nor does it hold hints which object type you are storing to database. If you have two classes, both having an int field called “i” it is possible for the framework to read both of them. The caller of getDataFragment decides which class to use.

If you require hints which object type is stored in config you will have to store this hint in a separate field.

The same solution should be used for versions. Maybe one day you are extending your plugin. You decide to introduce new fields into an existing DataFragment. Doing this you should always store a

version number in the config. That you are able to detect which version of your DataFragment was stored into config.

5.9.7 ConfigurationSection and sub path handling

TODO

5.9.8 File comments

Using file comments on configuration enums is easy. Simply add the `@ConfigComment` annotation. It takes a string list with each string representing a single line.

Here is an example how to use it:

```
@ConfigurationValues(path = "core")
public enum MyConfig implements ConfigurationValueInterface
{
    @ConfigurationBool(defaultValue = true)
    @ConfigComment({
        "this is the first line",
        "some other comment line"
    })
    MyCommandEnabled
}
```

The comment will be placed into the configuration file if there is no existing comment. You can add the comments to describe valid values and the meaning of your configuration value. This helps administrators editing your files.

A second option is to check the DataSection (f.e. in your own custom DataFragment implementation). If the DataSection is implementing CommentableDataSection you can cast it and use the methods "setSectionComments" or "setValueComments" to set a comment within your configuration file.

5.10 Storages

A storage is a light weight option to save and receive values with associated objects. A simple example is found in the McPlayerInterface class. Look at the method `getPersistentStorage`. It returns an McStorage object.

Here you find a getter and a setter. The meaning of these methods should be clear.

The only limitation is that you can only store exactly one object per class within a single storage. For storing your information first create your DataFragment implementation, for example by using AnnotatedDataFragment (see chapter 5.9.6.2 Using Plan objects with AnnotatedDataFragment for details).

You can use the storage in your custom code:

```

final McPlayerInterface player = -.....;
final MyDataFragment data = .....;
player.getPersistentStorage().set(MyDataFragment.class, data);

// do whatever you like

final MyDataFragment data = player.getPersistentStorage().
    get(MyDataFragment.class);
if (data != null)
{
    // do whatever you like
}

```

Hint: The Storage is really meant to be light weight. Do not store tons of data in it. This may slow down the whole system.

Currently the following storages are known:

5.10.1 McPlayerInterface.getPersistentStorage

This storage is persistent. You can store data that needs to be available even during server restarts. The storage may be present in data files in the mclib configuration folder or maybe present in databases. This depends on configuration of mclib.

As a plugin writer, you currently do not care about the location or system the storage is stored to.

5.10.2 McPlayerInterface.getSessionStorage

The session storage holds data in memory. It is valid till the player goes offline. You can use it for data only needed during online sessions.

Hint: Teleporting players over bungee networks will cause them being offline of the source server. Remember that the data becomes invalid. It is not yet possible to catch the “goes offline from bungee server” event to invalidate your data. If you need to store data even if the player only switches to a new server within the same network, you will currently have to use the persistent storage.

5.10.3 McPlayerInterface.getContextStorage

The context storage holds data during the current execution context. The context feature is explained in chapter 5.8 Context sensitive execution.

The data is lost as soon as the context is left. For example, execution of a command is wrapped into his own execution context. Using the context storage allows you to set data only visible during this command execution.

5.10.4 GuiSessionInterface.getGuiStorage

This storage is a special in memory storage. It is valid during gui sessions. In other words: As soon as the gui is closed or the user is going offline, this storage will be cleared up.

This storage can be useful if you want to create complex guis menus that need to hold additional information.

5.11 Extension handling

TODO

5.12 Simple GUI

The simple gui is a wrapper around nms classes and Minecraft builtin features to build simple in game guis. The GUI is limited and not that smart but it works for the most common solutions.

However, the most important thing is that the simple gui even works if the user does not have any other client mods. You should always choose between the several gui options carefully. Not all users like to install client mods to use your plugin.

5.12.1 Open a click gui (inventory)

First of all, you will have to create a unique id for your gui. If you have multiple guis you will need to separate them.

So, let us create an enumeration and register it within your plugins onEnable method.

```
public enum MyClickGuis implements ClickGuiId
{
    MySampleGui
}

// somewhere in onEnable
EnumServiceInterface.instance().registerEnumClass(this, MyClickGuis.class);
```

The next step is to implement ClickGuiInterface. You will have to return number of lines, gui id and the first initial page. The number of lines must be a value between 1 and 6. The simplest way is to use the default implementation SimpleClickGui and SimpleClickPage. Here is a code example:

```
final ClickGuiInterface gui = new SimpleClickGui(
    MyGlickGuis.MySampleGui,
    new SimpleClickPage(MyMessages.MyClickGuiName, 3)
        .setItem(0, 0, someItem)
        .setItem(1, 0, secondRowItem)
        .setItem(2, 0, thirdRowLeftItem)
        .setItem(2, 8, thirdRowRightItem),
    3);
player.openClickGui(gui);
```

The items are made of ClickGuiItem objects. They contain an item stack for representation, a localized message for display title and a handler to invoke if the player clicks the item.

A simple example to echo and close the gui:

```

final ClickGuiItem thirdRowItem = new ClickGuiItem(
    new ItemStack(Material.REDSTONE_BLOCK),
    MyMessages.GreetAndCloseGui,
    (p, s, g) -> {
        .p.sendMessage(MyMessages.Greet);
        s.close();
    });

```

5.12.2 Open Anvil Gui (text input)

Similar to ClickGui we will first create an enumeration to identify our text input.

```

public enum MyAnvilGuis implements AnvilGuiId
{
    MySampleAnvil
}

// somewhere in onEnable
EnumServiceInterface.instance().registerEnumClass(this, MyAnvilGuis.class);

```

Second step is to create the anvil gui itself. We need to implement AnvilGuiInterface. Similar to the click gui there is a simple class you can use: SimpleAnvilGui.

Here is an example to fetch an email address:

```

final ItemStack stack = new ItemStack(Material.NAME_TAG);
final ItemMeta meta = stack.getItemMeta();
meta.setDisplayName(player.encodeMessage(MyMessages.EnterEmailAdress)[0]);
stack.setItemMeta(meta);
final SimpleAnvilGui gui = new SimpleAnvilGui(
    MyAnvilGuis.MySampleAnvil,
    stack,
    str -> checkAndUse(str),
    () -> doSomethingOnCancel()
);
player.openAnvilGui(gui);

```

The method doSomethingOnCaancel is invoked if the player does not finish the input. For example, he pressed ESCAPE. It is optional.

The method checkAndUse gets the user input and checks it. For our email check, it could be the following code:

```

public void checkAndUse(String email) throws McException
{
    if (!EmailValidation.isValidEmail(email))
    {
        throw new McException(MyMessages.InvalidEmail);
    }
}

```



```

    // do something nice with the email here
}

```

Hint: The anvil gui will remain open if you throw an exception because exceptions indicate errors or invalid input. If you do not throw an exception the anvil gui will close.

5.12.3 Raw messages

Although not being a regular “gui” you can use the chat console of the player. The McPlayerInterface contains method “sendRaw”. It takes a RawMessage that can be used for many different things.

To construct a RawMessage simply invoke the constructor and use one or multiple of the add methods. Notice: The first parameter (message) must always be a single line message.

5.12.3.1 *addMsg: add preformatted text*

To add simple or preformatted text you can use the addMsg method. It will add the message text as it would appear directly sending it to the player.

5.12.3.2 *addHover: add a text hover*

You can add a text showing a tooltip as soon as the mouse cursor is over it.

5.12.3.3 *addCommand: add a clickable text invoking a command*

Clicking the given text will invoke a command. Either the command is written to the chat console that a player can influence it or it is invoked directly.

5.12.3.4 *addHandler: add a clickable text invoking code*

A special variant of clickable command is to directly invoke your command handler/ java code. This is useful if you do not have chat command handlers you want to invoke but if you directly invoke code. McLib will generate a unique handler id and tunnel the event through its own chat commands.

You should be aware that the player may click the text hours later (as long as he stays online). Therefore the method gets a timestamp when the handler is expired and will be cleared.

5.12.3.5 *addUrl: add a clickable url*

This method adds a clickable url to open in player’s favorite browser.

5.12.3.6 *addTargetSelection: influence player’s target*

Let’s the player select a target once he clicks on the text.

The method can take players as well as entities.

5.12.3.7 *addClickableHover*

This method combines addHover and addCommand/addHandler. It will both, display a hover if mouse cursor enters the text and invoke a command/ handler if the plyer clicks it.

5.12.3.8 *Add: Raw json text*

You can always add raw json components. Hiwever this manual does not cover how the json texts are built.

5.13 Permissions

You can create permissions by using McLib enumerations. McLib currently only allows simple yes/no permissions.

5.13.1 Creating and using permissions enumeration

First of all, we need to create an enumeration implementing `PermissionsInterface` and annotated with `@Permissions`.

```
@Permissions("myplugin")
public enum MyPermissions implements PermissionsInterface
{
    @Permission
    Admin

}

// somewhere in onEnable
EnumServiceInterface.instance().registerEnumClass(this, MyPermissions.class);
```

The `McPlayerInterface` has a simple Method called `checkPermission`. It returns true if the player has the permission.

5.13.2 String substitution in paths

TODO

5.14 Objects framework

McLib handles many different instrumentations of Minecraft “things”. We call them objects. Objects can listen for events they are involved in. For example, a block can listen for a break event.

5.14.1 Components

Components are used for blocks or more generally for locations. You can think of instrumented blocks.

In the following example, we will create a simple warp utility.

5.14.1.1 Create a component type.

First, we need a component type. As you might suppose we will create an enumeration and register it during `onEnable`.

```
public enum MyComponents implements ComponentTypeId
{
    Warp

}

// somewhere in onEnable
EnumServiceInterface.instance().registerEnumClass(this, MyComponents.class);
```

The component type is only a marker for McLib to identify the component as a warp point.

5.14.1.2 Register a component handler during startup

Second step is to register a handler.

```
// somewhere in onEnable
EnumServiceInterface.instance().registerEnumClass(this, MyComponents.class);
ObjectServiceInterface.instance().register(MyComponents.Warp,
    WarpPoint.class);
```

The WarpPoint class implements ComponentHandlerInterface. This class is instantiated for each warp point or in other words for each single component of type “Warp”.

The handler can hold custom data if we need it. For us this is a string with the warp points name. We extend AnnotatedDataFragment and add a name field:

```
public class WarpPoint extends AnnotatedDataFragment
    implements ComponentHandlerInterface
{
    @PersistentField
    private String name;

    public WarpPoint()
    {
    }

    public WarpPoint(String name)
    {
        this.name = name;
    }

    public String getName()
    {
        return this.name;
    }
}
```

Now we have a warp point that is able to persist its name. Let’s go on and implement the needed methods. At first, we implement onCreate. This method is called as soon as the warp point is created by our chat command handler later on. We will save the component id for later use.

```
private ComponentIdInterface id;

@Override
public void onCreate(ComponentInterface component)
```

```

{
    this.id = component;
}

```

Same code will be placed in `onResume`. This method will be called if the server starts and the already existing warp points are read from McLibs storage.

```

@Override
public void onResume(ComponentInterface component)
{
    this.id = component;
}

```

Now let us focus on object deletion. For warp points, there is no logic we need. If they are deleted it is fine for us. But there may be other components that we do not want to delete without checking some constraints. For example, MinigamesLib only allows deletion of objects if the owning arena is in maintenance mode. The check for arena state is placed in “`canDelete`” method.

```

@Override
public void canDelete() throws McException
{
    // throw McException if constraints are violated
}

@Override
public void onDelete()
{
    // perform additional cleanup if needed
}

```

Same logic goes with location changes. There is a method to check for constraint violations (`canChangeLocation`) and a method to perform additional cleanup after the location was changed.

```

@Override
public void canChangeLocation(Location newValue) throws McException
{
    // throw McException if constraints are violated
}

@Override
public void onLocationChange(Location newValue)
{
    // perform additional cleanup if needed
}

```

The last method is `onPause`. It will be invoked if your plugin gets disabled. You may do some cleanup, for example cancel tasks you started with `onCreate/onResume`.

```

@Override
public void onPause()
{
    // perform additional cleanup if needed
}

```

Now let us add some utility methods for a handy use.

```

public ComponentInterface getComponent()
{
    return ObjectServicesInterface.instance().findComponent(this.id);
}

public static WarpPoint byName(String name)
{
    final Collection<ComponentInterface> warps =
        ObjectServiceInterface.instance().findComponents(MyComponents.Warp));
    final Optional<WarpPoint> warp = warps.stream()
        .map(w -> (WarpPoint) w.getHandler())
        .filter(w -> name.equals(w.getName()))
        .findFirst();
    return warp.isPresent() ? warp.get() : null;
}

```

Hint: Warp points are only markers in the meaning that it is always safe to create other components on the same location. But sometimes you do not like it. You can override method “checkCreation” and throw an exception if you do not like the creation of other components on the same location. Remember to check if there is already another component at same location in your command handler (see below) as well.

5.14.1.3 Resume objects during startup

We have to tell McLib when to finish object loading for our plugin. After we registered all enumerations and handlers we will invoke resumeObjects:

```

// somewhere in onEnable
EnumServiceInterface.instance().registerEnumClass(this, MyComponents.class);
ObjectServiceInterface.instance().register(MyComponents.Warp,
    WarpPoint.class);
ObjectServiceInterface.instance().resumeObjects(this);

```

The method resumeObjects will load McLibs storage and it will try to create the handlers. However, there may be things going terribly wrong. The method resumeObjects will NOT throw exceptions. Instead it will return a ResumeReport. Why? With resumeReport you may investigate what went wrong. You can decide to accept it or to drop the failing components/ stop your plugin.

5.14.1.4 Build a command handler

We now create a command handler for three commands:

- The use sub command will teleport the player to a warp by name.
- The add sub command will create a new warp point at the current player position.
- The remove sub command will delete an existing warp point by name.

We will use base class `AbstractCompositeCommandHandler`.

```
public class WarpCommand extends AbstractCompositeCommandHandler
{
    public WarpCommand()
    {
        this.subCommands.put("help", new HelpCommandHandler(this));
        this.subCommands.put("add", new WarpAddCommand());
        this.subCommands.put("remove", new WarpRemoveCommand());
        this.subCommands.put("use", new WarpUseCommand());
    }

    @Override
    protected void sendUsage(CommandInterface cmd)
    {
        cmd.send(MyMessages.WarpUsage);
    }
}
```

In the following chapter, we will implement the three commands add, remove and use.

5.14.1.5 Create "addWarp" command

Adding a warp takes one argument: the name of the warp. First of all let us add method "visibility" for security reasons.

```
public class WarpAddCommand implements SubCommandHandlerInterface
{
    @Override
    public boolean visible(CommandInterface command)
    {
        return command.isPlayer() ? command.isOp() ||
            command.getPlayer().checkPermissions(MyPermissions.AddWarp) : false;
    }
}
```

This method makes the command invisible on program console because we cannot add warps without having an online player's location. The second check will go for a permission. Only operators or support people should be able to add new warps.

Now let us create the handle method. First it checks for security and then for correct arguments. If the arguments are passed it will check for duplicate names.

```

@Override
public void handle(CommandInterface command) throws McException
{
    // not valid on console
    command.when(CommandInterface::isPlayer)._elseThrow(
        MyMessages.NoConsole);
    // check for permission or operator flag
    command.permOpThrowException(MyPermissions.AddWarp, "add-warp");

    if (command.getArgs().length != 1)
        throw new McException(MyMessages.MissingWarpName);
    final String name = command.getArgs()[0].trim();
    if (name.length() < 3)
        throw new McException(MyMessages.WarpNameTooShort);

    // check for duplicate name
    final WarpPoint existing = WarpPoint.forName(name);
    if (existing != null)
        throw new McException(MyMessages.WarpExists, name);

    // create it
    final Location l = command.getPlayer().getBukkitPlayer().getLocation();
    final WarpPoint warp = new WarpPoint(name);
    ObjectServicesInterface.instance().createComponent(
        MyComponents.Warp,
        l,
        warp,
        true);

    // success
    command.send(WarpCreated, name);
}

```

As you can see creating a component is easy. You need a location (a single block) and the handler class we created before. Notice the true flag at the end of createComponent invocation. This flag makes the warp point persistent, meaning to be stored in McLibs storage. If you have your own storage set this to false but remember to reload and recreate your warp points during onEnable manually.

You will have to implement more methods.

```

@Override
public List<String> onTabComplete(CommandInterface command, String lastArg)
{
    // add Warp has no tab completion
    return Collections.emptyList();
}

@Override
public LocalizedMessageInterface getShortDescription(CommandInterface command)
{

```

```

        return MyMessages.AddWarpShortDescription;
    }

    @Override
    public LocalizedMessageInterface getDescription(CommandInterface command)
    {
        return MyMessages.AddWarpDescription;
    }

```

Method onTabComplete should be self-explained. The other two methods are used to build the help. As you can see we force each plugin writer to return some help text. We think that providing good help texts for chat command is always the best choice.

5.14.1.6 Create “removeWarp” command

Remove help command takes one argument: The name of the warp to be removed. We focus on two methods: handle and onTabComplete.

First the handle method that will fetch the warp point and delete it. It is very similar to addWarp except it deleted and not creates things.

```

@Override
public void handle(CommandInterface command) throws McException
{
    // removing is valid on console! No Exception on console!
    // check for permission or operator flag
    command.permOpThrowException(MyPermissions.RemoveWarp, “remove-warp”);

    if (command.getArgs().length != 1)
        throw new McException(MyMessages.MissingWarpName);
    final String name = command.getArgs()[0].trim();
    if (name.length() < 3)
        throw new McException(MyMessages.WarpNameTooShort);

    // check for existence
    final WarpPoint existing = WarpPoint.forName(name);
    if (existing == null)
        throw new McException(MyMessages.WarpNotFound, name);

    // delete it
    existing.getComponent().delete();

    // success
    command.send(WarpDeleted, name);
}

```

As you can see we directly call the delete method on the component. The framework is doing the rest.

Now let us create a `onTabComplete` method returning the warp point names.

```
@Override
public List<String> onTabComplete(CommandInterface command, String lastArg)
{
    final Collection<ComponentInterface> warps =
        ObjectServiceInterface.instance().findComponents(MyComponents.Warp));
    return warps.stream()
        .map(w -> (WarpPoint) w.getHandler())
        .map(WarpPoint::getName)
        .filter(w -> w.startsWith(lastArg))
        .sorted()
        .collect(Collectors.toList);
}
```

This method filters the warp points by given “lastArg” and returns a sorted list. This is also a nice sample how to use the java8 features.

5.14.1.7 Create “useWarp” command

Using a warp point causes the player to teleport to this warp point. The `onTabComplete` method is the same than the one taken from `removeWarp` command. We will concentrate on the `handle` method.

We have to check for the warp point and let the player teleport to this location.

```
@Override
public void handle(CommandInterface command) throws McException
{
    // not valid on console
    command.when(CommandInterface::isPlayer)._elseThrow(
        MyMessages.NoConsole);
    // check for permission or operator flag
    command.permOpThrowException(MyPermissions.UseWarp, “use-warp”);

    if (command.getArgs().length != 1)
        throw new McException(MyMessages.MissingWarpName);
    final String name = command.getArgs()[0].trim();
    if (name.length() < 3)
        throw new McException(MyMessages.WarpNameTooShort);

    // check for existence
    final WarpPoint existing = WarpPoint.forName(name);
    if (existing == null)
        throw new McException(MyMessages.WarpNotFound, name);

    // teleport
    command.getPlayer().getBukkitPlayer().teleport(
        existing.getComponent().getLocation());

    // success
}
```

```

        command.send(WarpUsed, name);
    }

```

5.14.2 Signs

Signs are special component variants used by Minecraft signs. They are only valid on Minecraft signs. So before creating them in code you need to create a bukkit sign and after it create a sign component on it.

The second difference is that signs listen for break events. Breaking signs will cause to check for deletion. If the deletion is allowed the sign break event is OK. If the deletion is disallowed the break event is cancelled.

However, the signs may get broken because the block they are connected to is broken. In this case the sign will be deleted even if your code does not like it. Be aware of this situation.

Relocating sign objects is only valid if the new location represents a sign.

5.14.3 Entities

TODO

5.14.4 Zones

Where a component represents a single block a zone is made of several blocks. The zone contains a low location and a high location forming a cuboid. Everything within both locations (inclusive) is meant to be inside the zone.

Hint: The cuboid always normalizes the lower and higher location. Means that the lower location will always contain the lowest coordinates. Simple example:

```

final World world = ...;
final Location low = new Location(world, 1, 3, 5);
final Location high = new Location(world, 6, -4, 12);
final Cuboid cub = new Cuboid(low, high);
assertEquals(1, cub.getLowLoc().getX());
assertEquals(-4, cub.getLowLoc().getY());
assertEquals(5, cub.getLowLoc().getZ());
assertEquals(6, cub.getHighLoc().getX());
assertEquals(3, cub.getHighLoc().getY());
assertEquals(12, cub.getHighLoc().getZ());

```

The red lines show the normalization.

Hint: Cuboids with low location/ high location in different Minecraft worlds are NOT allowed. The locations must always be in the same world.

Hint: Working with zones should always use zone type ids. If multiple plugins use McLib and a zone of plugin1 shares a location with a zone from plugin2 you might get unexpected results while checking the zones.

5.14.4.1 *Zones sharing same locations*

Zones may overlap each other. McLib does not check if one zone overlaps another one. You are free to create multiple zones with same cuboid or with overlapping cuboid.

The handling from players point of view is described in the following chapter.

If you do not like overlapping zones you will have to check for overlapping zones before creating or before moving the cuboid.

5.14.4.1.1 “Matching” zones

We call two zones that have identical cuboids “matching zones”. Example:

```
final Cuboid cub1 = zone1.getCuboid();
final Cuboid cub2 = zone2.getCuboid();
final isMatching = cub1.equals(cub2);
```

5.14.4.1.2 “Child” zones and “Parent” zones

If zone1 is completely surrounded by zone2 we call zone1 the child and zone2 the parent. In other word: All blocks within the child zone are contained in parent’s zone.

TODO Screenshot/ Graphics

```
final Cuboid cub1 = zone1.getCuboid();
final Cuboid cub2 = zone2.getCuboid();
final isZone1Child = cub1.isChild(cub2);
final isZone1Parent = cub1.isParent(cub2);
```

5.14.4.1.3 “Overlapping” zones

If zone1 and zone2 share locations but are not child or parent for each other they are called “overlapping”.

TODO Screenshot/ Graphics

```
final Cuboid cub1 = zone1.getCuboid();
final Cuboid cub2 = zone2.getCuboid();
final isOverlapping = cub1.isOverlapping(cub2);
```

5.14.4.2 *Players current zone*

The player always has maximum of one primary zone he is located in. This zone is returned by McPlayerInterface.getZone.

If the player enters a new zone an event will be fired. If the player leaves the zone another event will be fired. If the player switches zones (leaves one zone and directly enters another zone) the two corresponding events will be fired. First the leave event and after it the enter event.

It will be more difficult if you think of overlapping or child/parent zones.

The player maybe within more than one zone. To find all the zones he entered you should invoke `McPlayerInterface.getZones`. This will return the primary zone as well as all other zones the player is in.

Understanding the zone concept is important if you watch for zone events.

5.14.4.2.1 Entering/leaving matching zones

Assume that zone1 and zone2 are matching zones.

If a player enters the zones, there will be an enter zone event for both zones. But the ordering of the events is random. Maybe one time the zone1 event is fired first, maybe in another situation the zone2 event is fired first.

It is not guaranteed which zone becomes the primary one for the player. It maybe zone1 or maybe zone2.

5.14.4.2.2 Entering/Leaving parent child zones

Assume that childZone is a child of parentZone.

McLib ensures that the player always enters the parent zone first. Even if the player is teleported inside the child zone. You can trust in the following event order:

```
ZoneEnterEvent(parent)
parent becomes primary zone
ZoneEnterEvent(child)
child becomes primary zone
ZoneLeaveEvent(child)
parent becomes primary zone
ZoneLeaveEvent(parent)
```

5.14.4.2.3 Entering/Leaving overlapping zones

This is more difficult. Let us assume the player walks from zone1 into the shared locations and leaves zone2 after leaving the shared locations. This will result in the following events:

```
ZoneEnterEvent(zone1)
zone1 becomes primary zone
ZoneEnterEvent(zone2)
zone2 becomes primary zone
ZoneLeaveEvent(zone1)
zone2 is still the primary zone
ZoneLeaveEvent(zone2)
```

If the player directly walks into the shared locations area the event ordering is random as of entering/leaving matching zones.

5.14.4.3 Finding zones by type

The `ObjectServiceInterface` contains various methods for finding zones by type. First of all, a simple `findZones` taking only a zone type id as argument. It will return all zones of a given type.

The other methods are variants of the methods without type argument. See the following chapters and keep in mind that there is always an option to find the zones either by type or without type filter.

5.14.4.4 Finding zones by location

Searching zones by location means: Search a zone that includes the location within its cuboid.

If you use method `findZone`, it will return the first zone it finds. It is random. The method `findZones` (plural) will return all matching zones.

5.14.4.5 Finding zones by location without Y coordinate

Sometimes you do not want to check for y coordinate. For example, if you want to check if a player is somewhere above or below a zone you can use `findZoneWithoutY` or `findZonesWithoutY`.

But be aware that there are no bukkit events if a player simply is above or below a zone but not inside the zone.

5.14.4.6 Finding zones by location without Y coordinate including 2 blocks

The third variant are methods `findZoneWithoutYD` and `findZonesWithoutYD`. They ignore Y coordinate and they add 2 to the zones boundary.

The effect is that they find zones the player is above, below or nearby.

5.14.4.7 Finding zones by cuboid

Finding zones by cuboid is similar than finding zones by location. You need to pass parameter cuboid as well as a cuboid search mode.

The search mode influences the type of cuboids returned. See the chapters about matching/child/parent/overlapping zones for details.

There are more handy methods within the `ZoneInterface`. For example, to find child zones you can invoke `ZoneInterface.getChildZones`.

5.15 Event framework

TODO

5.16 Things to be done in future releases

Our major TODO list...

- Optimize bungee cord support (have a bungeecord plugin supporting communication even if no one is online on a server)
- Entity-Support
- Optimize and describe client development (forge)
- Support language packs
- Support extensions (already present in API)
- Performance tuning
- Tune smart gui widgets
- Event handling for components, zones etc.
- Simple/Smart Gui for editing messages and config options.
- Testing support (fakeplayer etc.)
- Scoreboards
- Titles
- Holographics

6 Developing against MCLIB (Forge clients)

TODO

7 BungeeCord-Clusters and Client/Server

7.1 Communication channels

McLib support communication between multiple servers (BungeeCord networks) or from client to server and vice-versa.

7.1.1 Registering communication channels on server side

To use this feature first create a communication channel. Like other features you will have to create and register an enumeration.

```
public enum MyChannels implements CommunicationEndpointId
{
    SomeChannel
}

// somewhere in onEnable
EnumServiceInterface.instance().registerEnumClass(this, MyChannels.class);
```

After registering the enumeration, you must invoke `registerBungeeHandler` and/or `registerPeerHandler` on `ServerCommunicationServiceInterface` depending whether you are expecting messages from client or other bungee servers.

In your `onDisable` method you should invoke `removeAllCommunicationEndpoints` to get a clear shutdown.

7.1.2 Registering communication channels on client side

TODO

7.1.3 Preparing messages

Messages are created by using data sections. For simplicity, you can use `DataFragments` with `AnnotatedDataFragment` base class.

```
final DataFragment myFragment = ...;
final DataSection dataSection = new MemoryDataSection();
dataSection.set("myData", myFragment);
```

7.1.4 Sending messages to the “other side”

The communication endpoint comes with an option to send messages to the other side. Being on client it will send the message to the server. Being on server side it will send the message to the the client of the current player (see chapter 5.8.1.4 `getCurrentPlayer`).

```
MyChannels.SomeChannel.send(dataSection);
```


Another way to send messages directly to the client is done by invoking `sendToClient` on `McPlayerInterface`.

If you want to broadcast to all connected clients, you can use method `broadcastClients` on `McLibInterface`.

7.1.5 Sending messages within bungee network

Sending within bungee network is simple. First identify the spigot server you want to send a message to. You will find the servers by name in `BungeeServerInterface`.

```
final BungeeServerInterface target =  
    BungeeServiceInterface.instance().getServer("lobby");  
target.send(MyChannels.SomeChannel, dataSection);
```

If you want to broadcast to all connected bungee servers, you can use method `broadcastServers` on `McLibInterface`.

8 Smart GUI

The smart gui is a feature based on client mods. It helps you to display nicer guis. For example, list views, trees etc.

To work the player must install the mclib client mod. See chapter 4.8 Forge client for installation details.

8.1 Initializing the smart gui.

Within McPlayerInterface invoke the method `hasSmartGui` for cheking and then method `openSmartGui`.

```
if (!player.hasSmartGui())
    player.sendMessage(MyMessges.PleaseInstallSmartGui);
else
{
    final GuiSessionInterface gui = player.openSmartGui();
    // do whatever you like (see the following chapters)
}
```

8.2 Buttons

Many sgui elements allow buttons. A button is created by method `sguiCreateButton`.

```
final okButton = gui.createButton(
    MyMessages.OkButton, null);
```

To listen for button clicks add a consumer function taking `SGuiInterface` and `DataSection`. The `SGuiInterface` leads to the gui itself. The `DataSection` may be null if the button is placed outside forms (error popups etc.) or it contains the form data if invoked within forms.

```
final okButton = gui.createButton(
    MyMessages.OkButton, null,
    this::onButtonClicked);
```

It is assumed that the buttons will always close the dialog. If you do not want this behavior pass false at the end.

```
final okButton = gui.createButton(
    MyMessages.OkButton, null,
    this::onButtonClicked,
    false);
```

8.3 Display simple message popups

8.3.1 Display error message

First you need to create an ok button and then invoke `sguiDisplayError`.

Code example:

```
final okButton = gui.createButton(  
    MyMessages.OkButton, null);  
gui.sguiDisplayError(  
    MyMessages.ErrorTitle, null,  
    MyMessages.SomeErrorText, null,  
    okButton);
```

Now the error message is displayed.

TODO Screenshot

If you want to perform some code once the player clicks the ok button you can pass

9 Advanced testing

9.1 spigot-testsupport TODO

9.2 fakeplayer TODO