**ECLIPSE:**

* **Eclipse** is an Integrated Development Environment (IDE) used in Computer programming, and is the most widely used Java IDE. It contains a base workspace and an extensible plug-in system for customizing the environment.
* Eclipse is written mostly in java and its primary use is for developing Java applications, but it may also be used to develop applications in other programming languages via plug-ins, including  Ada, ABAP, C, C++, C#,  COBOL, D, Fortran, Haskell,  JavaScript, Julia,  Lasso, Lua, NATURAL, Perl, PHP, Prolog, Python, R, Ruby (including Ruby on Rails framework), Rust, Scala, Clojure, Groovy, Scheme, and Erlang.
* It can also be used to develop documents with LaTeX (via a TeXlipse plug-in) and packages for the software Mathematica. Development environments include the Eclipse Java development tools (JDT) for Java and Scala, Eclipse CDT for C/C++ and Eclipse PDT for PHP, among others.
* **History of Eclipse:**
* Eclipse was inspired by the Smalltalk-based VisualAge family of integrated development environment (IDE) products. Although fairly successful, a major drawback of the VisualAge products was that developed code was not in a component-based software engineering model. Instead, all code for a project was held in a compressed lump (somewhat like a zip file but in a proprietary format called .dat). Individual classes could not be easily accessed, certainly not outside the tool. A team primarily at the IBM Cary NC lab developed the new product as a Java-based replacement. In November 2001, a consortium was formed with a board of stewards to further the development of Eclipse as open-source software. It is estimated that IBM had already invested nearly $40 million by that time. The original members were Borland, IBM, Merant, QNX Software Systems, Rational Software, Red Hat, SuSE, TogetherSoft, and WebGain. The number of stewards increased to over 80 by the end of 2003. In January 2004, the Eclipse Foundation was created.
* Eclipse 3.0 (released on 21 June 2004) selected the OSGi Service Platform specifications as the runtime architecture.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eclipse_(software)#cite_note-15)
* The [Association for Computing Machinery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Association_for_Computing_Machinery) recognized Eclipse with the 2011 [ACM Software Systems Award](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ACM_Software_Systems_Award) on 26 April 2012