

IBM Research

Remote Development with CDT

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Existing Remote Development Environment



Existing Remote Development Status

- Editing (including content assist, call hierarchy, search, index view, navigation, etc.) assumes local filesystem
- Build (managed and standard) assumes local filesystem
- Cross-compiler must be used to support different architecture
- Can separate build environment using NFS, Samba, etc., but all operations still performed locally
- Remote launch/debug using gdbserver only



Proposed Remote Development Environment



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Requirements for RDE

- Goal: provide a seamless and transparent remote development environment
- Abstraction layers so that key services can be provided locally or remotely
 - EFS for file services
 - Remote search/index service to support efficient content assist, call hierarchy, search, index view, navigation, etc.
 - Remote build service to support environments where cross-compiling is not desired/practical
 - Remote launch service to support running on a variety of architectures
 - Remote debug service to support non-gdbserver debug environments
- Local service implementations to preserve status quo
- Reference implementations against remote service provider (e.g. RSE)



Requirements for CDT

- Minimal impact on existing performance
- Preserve existing workflows and UI interfaces
- No added dependencies
- Out-of-box experience should not be degraded



EFS Integration

- IPath no longer refers to an actual filesystem object; URI does this now
- IResouce.getLocation() can return null
- Use URI and IFileStore instead of IPath.toFile()
- Need to use IResource whenever possible
 - Can no longer use File objects or java.io.File unless it is known that the resource is local
- A Path object can be constructed with any String, however a URI can only be constructed with a valid URI
- How to deal with
 - Case sensitive file system
 - Interpretation of characters in file names (e.g. ':' under Windows vs. Unix)
 - Mapping remote paths into workspace locations (e.g. ErrorParser)
- Responsiveness
 - Must assume any file operation could be long running or can fail

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EFS Integration (cont...)

- 3,173 uses of IPath
- 793 uses of Path
 - 20 uses of Path followed by isValidPath()
- 595 uses of java.io.File
- 140 uses of IPath.toFile()

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EFS Conversion Progress (~2 weeks)

- Added a filesystem combo to new project wizard when 'use default location' is unselected
- Removed File dependencies from
 - {GNU,Posix}Makefile classes
 - Makefile creation
 - Checksums
- IPath to URI
 - ProblemMarkerInfo
 - Breakpoint problem markers
 - Scanner config marker generator
 - Build output console parser
 - Build directory lookup
 - CdtMacroSupplier
 - PDOMIndexerTask
- Started conversion of ErrorParser
 - Issues still need to be addressed (e.g. Cygwin)

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Demo...

10



Remote Indexing

- Remote indexing framework will be moved to PTP or new RDT
- Some changes still needed in CDT to allow code-reuse of views
 - Model-View-Controller pattern
- New remote versions of views to be created in PTP or RDT
- Remote back-ends for index based services to be contributed to PTP or RDT, providing a reference implementation of remote services using RSE.



Remote Build

- Phase 1:
 - Remote version of standard make builder will be created that uses RSE shell protocol to invoke the build
 - The usual error parsers, scanner discovery will be run on the output
 - Planning to do this for Ganymede
- Phase 2:
 - Remote service for build so that Scanner Discovery can be run out output to feed remote indexer.
- Phase 3:

12

Remote Managed Build with new Remote Builder (similar to internal builder)



Remote Launch

13

- PTP provides remote services abstraction
 - Allows different remote service providers to be used
 - Currently RSE, but a lightweight provider is being contributed
- Using this to launch PTP agent
- Assumption is launch/debug are remote



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Remote Debug

- DSF
- PTP
- CDT/gdbserver

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15

Remote Development Tools Project?





RDT Progress

- IBM and HP have been holding discussions about proposing a Remote Development Tools project (RDT)
- Charter would be to handle remote development tools frameworks and solutions for various languages
 - Plan to collaborate on remote development tools solution for C/C++ using CDT and RSE
 - Remote tools for Fortran?
 - Remote tools for Java?
- Currently trying to gather momentum leading up to a project proposal at Eclipse.org