Sphinx 0.7.0 Release Review

eclipse

Planned Review Date: 5th June 2013 Communcation Channel: eclipse.sphinx Dr. Stephan Eberle, Dr. Idrissa Dieng

Introduction

 Sphinx provides a platform for creating integrated modeling tool environments supporting individual or multiple modeling languages (which can be UMLbased or native DSLs).



Features

 This release is the first Eclipse-hosted release of Sphinx. It does not provide new end-user visible features in comparison to the initial contribution, but focuses on the usability of the API, robustness, performance optimization and bug fixes.



Non-Code Aspects

- Website: The website has been reworked for the release and reflects the latest information.
- Documentation: The website includes gettingstarted tutorials and user/developer documentation (Sphinx architecture, adopter/developer environment setup, and so on).
- Examples: Example plug-ins and features available for all components.



APIs

 The project leads certify that the requirements for Eclipse Quality have been met in this release.



Architectural Issues

- The architecture of Sphinx is extensible by a number of extension points.
- All Sphinx classes provide overriding points (protected methods) to Sphinx adopters.
- To honor user feedback, we need to rework the Sphinx architecture so as to
 - enable the usage model repositories instead of files in the workspace as persistence backend
 - make sure that Sphinx-enabled metamodel implementations can be used in Java standalone applications, i.e., do not imply any dependencies to the Eclipse Platform



Architectural Issues (cont'd)

To fully benefit of Sphinx capabilities (i.e., advanced proxy resolution and resource scoping), Sphinx-enabled metamodel implementations currently must use Sphinx' ExtendedEObjectImpl instead of EMF's EObjectImpl as EObject root class. This limits the applicability of Sphinx to existing metamodels, e.g., UML2, and will be addressed and improved in future releases.



Architectural Issues (cont'd)

The Sphinx validation view is a copy of the Problems view in Eclipse 3.3. We need to rework it by extending the Problems view in current Eclipse releases and removing all copied Eclipse Platform code.



Tool Usability

The Sphinx platform is easy to get started with. Users need to define their meta-model descriptors, and they can view/navigate models through the Sphinx Model Explorer or edit models using form editors and/or property sheets. See getting started tutorials on the Web page for more details:

http://www.eclipse.org/sphinx/documentation.php



End-of-Life

There are no features that are being end-of-life'd in this release.



Bugzilla (as of May 05, 2013)

STATUS

	NEW	ASSIGNED	REOPENED	RESOLVED	VERIFIED	CLOSE	TOTAL
BLOKER	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
CRITICAL	2	0	0	9	0	0	11
MAJOR	6	1	0	26	0	0	33
NORMAL	17	2	0	88	0	4	111
MINOR	0	0	0	3	0	1	4
TRIVIAL	2	0	0	1	0	0	3
ENHANCEMENT	7	1	1	71	0	1	81
TOTAL	34	4	1	199	0	7	245

S E V E R I T Y



UI Usability

 Sphinx 0.7.0 conforms to Eclipse User Interface Guidelines.



Schedule

 The initial release date and schedule had to be revised due to lack of time (commercial project deadlines).

Milestone builds are provided only for M7 onward.



Communities

- Sphinx has been presented at the EclipseCons in 2010 & 2012.
- There are regular bug reports to Eclipse Bugzilla by various adopters.
- Some questions have been posted to and discussed on the Sphinx forum.
- Many questions have been posted to and discussed on the Artop mailing list.



Communities

- Sphinx is used by the following downstream open source and R&D projects:
 - Artop, AUTOSAR tool platform, automotive industry (<u>http://www.artop.org/</u>)
 - Eatop, EAST-ADL tool platform, automotive industry (currently Eclipse Labs project, will be proposed as Eclipse project soon)
 - SAFE, Safety tool platform, automotive industry (<u>http://www.safe-project.eu/</u>)



IP Log

- The project leadership confirms that the Eclipse IP policies and procedures have been followed.
- A frozen copy of the reviewed-and-approved-by-Eclipse-legal IP Log is located at <u>https://bugs.eclipse.org/bugs/attachment.cgi?id=2297</u>69

