

GILD Infrastructure

- Purpose – present “infrastructure” that has potential for the GILD project
- Java, “open-source”, mature
- Eclipse plug-ins or non-plug-ins

Overview

- Eclipse Platform Infrastructure
 - User Assistance/Help
 - Markers
 - Decorators
 - Project Nature
- Koi – Collaborative Infrastructure (Eclipse plug-in)
- ANTS – Collaborative Infrastructure (not plug-in)
- Development Tools

Eclipse User Assistance/Help

- Integrated, Stand-alone, or Infocenter
- “Doc” plug-ins (zip file)
- Browser-based (HTML, etc)
 - IE (best), Mozilla (better), others (ok)
- Navigation tree from XML, can merge
 - hypermedia
- Text Search (powered by Lucene)

Eclipse User Assistance/Help cont...

- Context-sensitive help
 - Info pops (F1): description and links (XML)
- Active Help
 - JavaScript link in HTML help file
 - Launches workbench actions

Eclipse Markers

- Resource annotation
- Currently: problems, tasks, bookmarks, breakpoints
- Can extend from these
- Can control “pop-up”
- GILD Markers?

Eclipse Decorators

- Visual cues, useful state information
- 2 types
 - Text label decorations (prefix and suffix)
 - Image decorations (superimposed image on an icon)
- GILD Decorators?

Eclipse Project Nature

- Concrete link between a project and tools or feature set
- Ex. Java Nature > JDT
- Determines lifecycle of tool's interaction with a project
- Icons, actions, etc, reflect project nature
- Can control under what circumstances a project nature enabled

Koi

- Collaborative Infrastructure for Eclipse (?)
 - Connections of pieces through *extensions*
- client/server (JDBC DB for persistence)
- Web Services RPC communications model > SOAP
- core services: user, permission, message, storage
- Good docs, but "prototype"
- Server security = "none"

ANTS Collaborative Framework

- Not "ANT", not eclipse plugin
- Session, places (rooms), links (portals), users (avatars), models (things)
- uses J2EE app server (*Orion*), JavaBeans, etc
- 3 years old, Beta 4, Java, open-source
- good docs, research papers, sample apps
- ants.etse.urv.es

Development Tools

- Eclipse + plug-ins
 - EASIE
 - Eclipse plugin for managing a J2EE application server from within Eclipse
 - www.genuitec.com/products_easie.htm
- IBM's WSAD – an extension of eclipse (free for us?)
- Others

Discussion

- What's missing?
- What about the infrastructure contained **within** existing tools?
- What makes something "Eclipse?"
- Do we need client-server, peer-to-peer, or both?
- What can we learn from existing CSCL (Computer Supported Collaborative Learning) tools?
