



IBM Software Group | Rational software

IBM Rational Software Analyzer

Using Rational Software Analyzer

Rational software

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This module will cover how to use IBM Rational® Software Analyzer versions 7.0 and higher.

Module objectives

- **Topics covered in this module:**
 - ▶ **How to use Rational Software Analyzer**
 - Pop-up menu
 - Launch bar
 - Run menu
 - ▶ **What and where to scan**
 - Rational Software Analyzer Analyze Dialog
- **When you complete this module, you are able to:**
 - ▶ Access and use Rational Software Analyzer



This course covers two topics. The first topic provides you with information on how to use Rational Software Analyzer. The second topic covers “what and where to scan”. When you complete this module you will be able to access Rational Software Analyzer from three different places and run it.

How to use Rational Software Analyzer

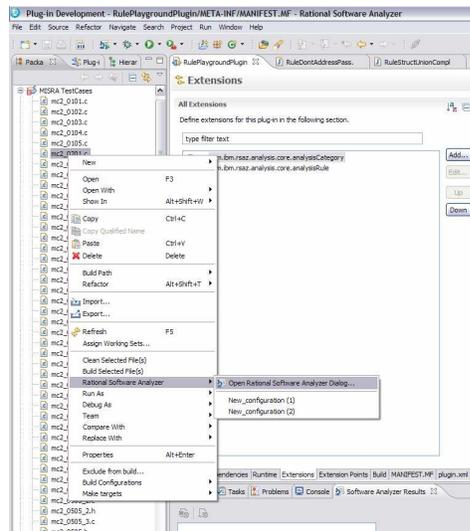
- **To access the Rational Software Analyzer menu there are three places in the Eclipse platform where it is available.**
 - ▶ **Pop-up menu**
 - This can be located by right clicking on the file, project, or other object in the navigation tree.
 - ▶ **Launch bar**
 - The launch menu always shows up at the top of the Eclipse workbench.
 - ▶ **Run menu**
 - The Run menu in the Eclipse shell will have run options for Rational Software Analyzer.



The three places to run Rational Software Analyzer rules are from the pop-up menu, launch bar and run menu. All the options bring up the same run dialog for Rational Software Analyzer. The point here is to make the analysis easy to run no matter who you are or what your role is.

Pop-up menu

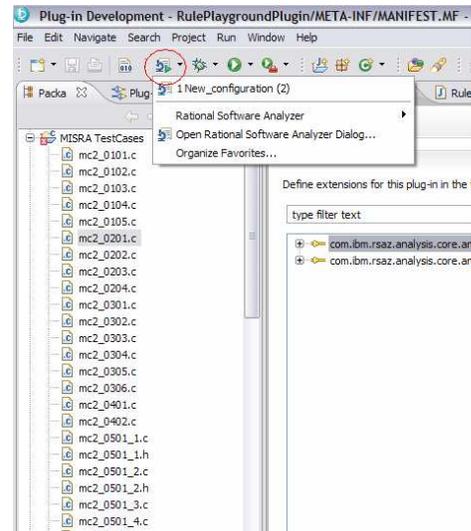
- The pop-up menu option shows up on the navigation tree objects that support the Rational Software Analyzer analyze menu



The pop-up menu shows up on the objects in the Navigation tree that support having the Rational Software Analyzer analyze menu. These can be individual files, folders, or even projects.

Launch bar

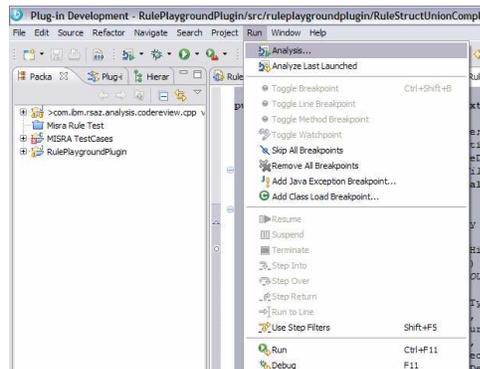
- The red circle to the right indicates the Rational Software Analyzer launch button



Rational Software Analyzer can also be launched from the launch bar in the Eclipse shell. The launch bar by default contains the Debug and Run buttons for Eclipse. It is generally found at the top of the Eclipse workbench. Rational Software Analyzer adds a button next to those that will work the same way that the existing Debug and Run buttons do.

Run menu

- The Analyze option shows up under the Run menu in the Eclipse shell



The final way to access the Rational Software Analyzer rules is under the Run menu in the Eclipse shell. This extends the same menu as the Run and Debug options. It will bring up the Rational Software Analyzer dialog when selected.

What and where to scan

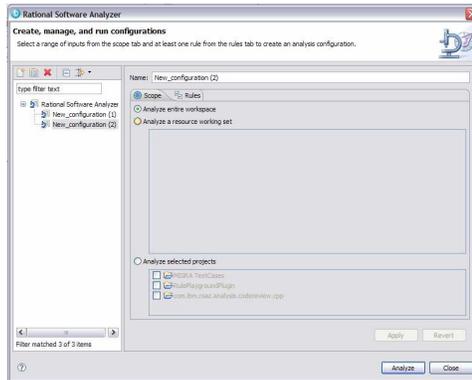
- Rational Software Analyzer Analyze dialog
 - ▶ Selecting the Rational Software Analyzer dialog option brings up the dialog menu
 - ▶ The dialog dictates what is scanned and what you are scanning for
 - ▶ The dialog for Rational Software Analyzer has two main tabs, Scope and Rules
 - ▶ The name field saves whatever options you have selected so the next run will run with the same options



Various methods of getting the Rational Software Analyzer Analyze Dialog have been covered in the previous slides. The next few slides discuss “what is in it”. The Analyze dialog holds all the options for actually doing the analysis. The dialog allows you to set what should be scanned and what you are scanning for. Additionally it allows you to save whatever options you have selected for future runs.

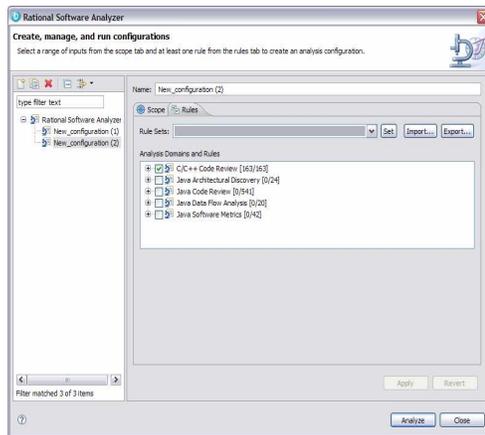
The scope tab

- The granularity of the scan is adjustable from the workspace level to the project level



In the Rational Software Analyzer dialog there is a tab for Scope. From the scope tab, you can control what the scope of the code scan is that Rational Software Analyzer runs. The scope tab is where the granularity of the analysis scan is determined. The scope selection is saved for the next time the scan is run.

The rules tab



- This tab controls what rules are looked at during the analyze
- The rules are broken down into different categories which can be selected at the category level or all the way down to the individual step

The other tab is the Rules tab. This controls what specific rules the scan is looking for. Just like the Scope tab, the selection here is remembered for the next time this particular scan is run. On a best practice note, make sure that you only select those rules that you are interested in. Running all the rules at once can generate so many results that it is difficult to filter the noise from the real results. To avoid this situation make sure you select the minimum rule filter you can.

Summary

- There are three ways to access Rational Software Analyzer. The pop-up menu, the run menu, and the launch bar
- The scope and rules tab define what and where to scan



This module provided an overview of accessing Rational Software Analyzer from three different places and running it. You are now familiar with launching Rational Software Analyzer from the pop-up menu, the run menu and the launch bar.

Additional resources

- **Additional resources on ibm.com**

<http://www-01.ibm.com/software/awdtools/swanalyzer/enterprise/index.html>

<http://www-01.ibm.com/software/awdtools/swanalyzer/enterprise/support/>

http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/rational/library/08/0429_gutz1/index.html?S_TACT=105AGX54&S_CMP=B0612



Additional resources can be found on the ibm.com Web site and in the Whitepaper on “**Static analysis IBM Rational Software Analyzer: Getting started**”.

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