Research in Integrated Development Environments (IDEs)

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What Is an IDE?

• Integrated collection of tools.

- Basic components are:
 - o source code editor
 - o compiler/interpreter
 - o debugger

Advanced IDE Features

- multi-language support
- code browsing
- graphical views
- testing
- integrated version control

Earliest IDEs

• Lisp environments of the 1970s.

• First terminal-based, then GUI.

Research Heyday

• Mid-1980s.

• Pioneering environments like BALSA and PECAN.

Productization

• 1990s and 2000s have seen many commercial and open source products.

• Eclipse is noteworthy.

Latest Research

Focus on expanding IDE scope.

- Areas include:
 - o hypermedia
 - o collaborative work
 - o ubiquitous computing