JADE Version Control

Introduction

JADE provides a variety of tools to assist with version control of JADE schemas.

- Deltas allow for methods to be checked in and out, enabling developers to lock methods while they are working on them.
- Patch versioning allows the setting of a patch version number that records all changes made to schema entities until a new patch version number is set.
- The JADE Git client allows for the use of the Git version control system to maintain a history of changes.

Deltas

Deltas are a tool used for managing changes to a JADE method so that when a method is checked out, any modifications can be reviewed. After review, the method can be accepted (with Check In) or reverted (with Undo Checkout).

A delta is essentially a list of changes to a method, and as such, is typically used to review changes during a development process; for example, ensuring that the scope of a change is limited to the intended scope so that no extraneous changes are unintentionally made during a method change.

The Compare Sources window provides this functionality, serving as an inbuilt diff tool and highlighting the parts of the method that have changed since checking out the method.
The following is an example of the Compare Sources window.

Note  A diff tool shows the differences between two text files. This becomes especially useful when there is a large amount of text and only a very small amount of it has been changed, as well as for verifying that no code has been changed unintentionally.

Deltas in JADE also provide the ability to lock methods while they are checked out. Checking the **Exclusive Check Out** check box when checking out a method prevents any other user from modifying the method until the method is checked back in or reverted.
Exercise 1 – Creating a Delta

In this exercise, you will create a delta and check out a method into it.

2. Add a class called ExampleClass to the VersionControlSchema.
3. Add a method called exampleMethod to the ExampleClass. For now, you don’t need to code anything in it.
4. Open the Delta Browser by selecting the Deltas command from the Browse menu or pressing CTRL+D.
5. Add a delta by selecting the Add command from the Delta menu or right-clicking in the Delta Browser and selecting Add.

Enter Delta1 in the Delta Id text box and My first Delta in the Description text box.
6. The delta is displayed in the list of deltas. Right-click on it and the select Set.
An arrow is then displayed in the **Set** column at the left of the delta name.

7. Navigate to the **exampleMethod**, right-click on it, and then select **Check Out** from the Delta menu.

8. Select the **Selected Method Only** option button and check the **Exclusive Check Out** check box, and then press **OK**.

**Note**  *Exclusive check out* means that the method will be locked, and other users cannot modify it until you check it back in or you undo the checkout.
9. Press Ctrl+D to reopen the Delta Browser. You will see that the checked-out method count is now set to 1.

10. Right-click the delta and then select **View Methods**. You will see a methods list containing all checked out methods (currently there is just the one).

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**Exercise 2 – Checking in from a Delta**

*Note* This exercise will be easiest if you open your JADE database in multiuser mode; that is, with a database server and two standard (fat) clients.
In this exercise, you will view the checked out method from another user’s perspective, modify it, and then check the method back in from the delta.

1. Log on to your JADE database with a different name than that with which you created the delta. (If you are running in single user mode, close and reopen the database or start a standard client if you have a database server and a standard client running.)

2. Navigate to the exampleMethod method. You will see that it is a violet color instead of the usual black.

3. Attempt to modify the method. You will see that you cannot enter any text into the method and that the status line reads **Cannot modify method**.
4. Open the database with your original user name and then modify the `exampleMethod` as follows.

```plaintext
exampleMethod();
vars
begin
  write "This method has now been modified."
end;
```

5. Right-click the `exampleMethod` in the Class Browser and then select the `Compare` command from the Delta menu.

The Compare Sources window shows the change or changes made to the method.

**Tip** This tool is useful when making changes to a large method, to ensure that you have changed only what you intended to.

6. Close the window, right-click the `exampleMethod` in the Class Browser, and then select the `Check in` command from the Delta menu. (Click `Yes` in the message box prompting you to confirm that you want to check in the method.)
7. Now that the method is checked back in, it is no longer locked. Open it in your other JADE client node to verify this.

Patch Versioning

Patch versioning allows for the setting of patch numbers for a JADE database and assigning a group of schema changes to that patch.

Bundling sets of changes into patches is a common software development technique, allowing for precision in the scope of changes to be deployed.

Note Patch versioning is completely distinct from deltas, and you can use either without the other. That said, a version control strategy often incorporates both.

One advantage of employing a patch versioning strategy is that it will cause a history of changes to be generated over the development of a solution. This history can be viewed from the JADE development environment using the Compare Sources window, allowing you to identify what changed, who changed it, and when it changed. This can be useful if a method’s behavior changes unexpectedly.

Exercise 3 – Creating a Patch

In this exercise, you will create a patch for your database and add a number of changes to it.

1. Reopen your JADE database, but select the Administration option instead of the default Browse Classes option on the logon form.
2. The Jade Installation Preferences dialog is then displayed. This is similar to the User Preferences dialog except that it has a Painter sheet and menus - specifically the Patch menu.

3. Select the Set Patch Number command from the Patch menu.
Fill out the Patch Version Setup dialog that is then displayed as follows.

4. Click OK, then reopen the database in Browse Classes mode.
5. Navigate to the exampleMethod and then modify it as follows.

```java
exampleMethod();
vars
begin
  write "This method will have a patch history.";
end:
```

6. Save the exampleMethod, then close the database and reopen it in Administration mode (as you did in step 1 of this exercise).
In the Patch Version Setup dialog, change the new patch number to **1001**.

7. Click **OK**, then reopen the database in Browse Classes mode.
8. Navigate to the **exampleMethod** and modify it as follows.

   ```
   exampleMethod();

   vars

   begin
      write "This is the latest patch";
   end;
   ```

9. Right-click the **exampleMethod** then select **Show History**.
The Summary of Patches form is then displayed.

![Version Control Schema Summary of Patches](image)

**Note**  This feature is available only while patch versioning is enabled.

10. Double-click the second item in the list, to display the Compare Sources window.

![Compare Sources for Version Control Schema](image)
The Compare Sources window shows the differences between the current version of the method and the version as it was when the patch was set, the user who modified the method, and a timestamp of when it was modified.

11. In the combo box for the code source on the left, select the 18.0.01.1000 patch.

You will see the differences between the first patch and the current version.
Regular patching allows for the maintenance of a history of patches, documenting how the software has changed over its lifetime. In addition, clicking **Apply** reverts the current source to the source of the selected patch.

**Note**  The **18.0.01** prefix before the **1000** for the patch number is the version number of JADE itself; for example, **18.0.01** is the version number of the first release of JADE 2018.

## Git Integration

As of the 2018.0.01 release, JADE supports Git integration directly from the JADE development environment.

Git is a version control system in which the entire history of a repository is stored in each developer’s checkout. This allows for greater protection of source code, because even if the remote repository is damaged, each user has the complete source along with the complete version history.

Git has several common terms, some of which are specific to the Git technology and some common to version control systems in general. These include the following.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Git Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Branch</td>
<td>A copy of a software’s source code at a specific time, along with a history of all changes made up to that point. It is common to have multiple branches within a repository; for example, one of release quality and one with experimental changes or works in progress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repository</td>
<td>A collection of source branches. It is typically stored remotely using a service such as GitHub, with each developer also having a local copy on his or her device.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GitHub</td>
<td>A common provider of remote Git repository hosting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clone</td>
<td>To make a local copy of a remote repository.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commit</td>
<td>To save changes to a local branch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checkout</td>
<td>To create a new branch. It is initially a copy of a specific branch but diverges as changes are made to each.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pull</td>
<td>To update a local branch based on a remote branch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pull request</td>
<td>A request to merge changes from one branch into another. This typically involves discussion and review before confirmation of the merge and resolution of any conflicts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Push</td>
<td>To update a remote branch based on a local branch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merge</td>
<td>Incorporating changes from one branch to another, while resolving any conflicts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict</td>
<td>When two branches that are to be merged modify the same code in different ways.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
You can perform many of the functions in this table without leaving the JADE development environment, using the Git Source Control Client submenu of the Browse menu.

### Exercise 4 – Cloning a Repository

In this exercise, you will clone the Erewhon repository from the Jade Software public GitHub and load it into your database.

1. Select the **Preferences** command from the Options menu.
2. On the **Source Management** sheet, fill out the Source Control group box as follows.
   - For the **Committer Name**, enter your name
   - For the **Committer Email**, enter your e-mail address
   - For the **Working Directory**, select `C:/Erewhon`

   **Note** The name and e-mail address must be set. However, they are not validated unless you are attempting to push to the remote repository, which we will not be doing in this exercise.

3. Navigate to the **C:/** drive in your file system and add a new directory of **C:/Erewhon**. This will be the directory of your local repository.
4. Select the **Clone** command from the Git Source Control Client submenu of the Browse menu.
In the Git Clone dialog that is then displayed, enter the following.

Click **Clone**. The Git Clone Progress dialog is then displayed.

5. Navigate to the **C:\Erewhon** folder. You will see that the Erewhon files have been cloned into the directory.

6. Select the **Load** command from the Schema menu.
7. On the Load Options dialog, check the **Load Multiple Schemas** check box, click **Browse** at the right of the **Multi Extract File Name**, and then select **ErewhonInvestments.mul** in the **C:\Erewhon\Erewhon** directory. Click **OK**.

The Erewhon schemas are large, so it may take around a minute to load, at which point the following message box is displayed.
Exercise 5 – Checking Out a Branch in Git

In this exercise, you will check out a new local branch, modify this branch, and then merge it back into the main branch.

1. Select the **Checkout** command from the Git Source Control Client submenu of the Browse menu.

   - Uncheck the **Track Remote Branch** check box
   - Enter **MyNewBranch** in the **Create New Branch** text box
   - Click **Checkout**

The following confirmation message box is displayed upon success.
2. In the **ErewhonInvestmentsModelSchema**, create a JadeScript method called **newMethod**. This method does not need any code, as it is needed only to make an arbitrary change to the schema.

3. Right-click **ErewhonInvestmentsModelSchema** in the Schema Browser and then select **Extract**.

4. On the **Schema Options** sheet, uncheck the **Create Command File** check box.

![Schema Options](image)

5. On the **Extract Options** sheet, check the **Extract Forms/Data as XML (ddx file)** check box, click **Browse** at the right of the **Schema File Name** text box, and then select `C:\Erewhon\Erewhon` as the target directory. Click **OK**.

![Extract Options](image)
6. Select the **Commit** command from the Git Source Control Client submenu of the Browse menu.

The Git Commit dialog displays the files that have changed since the last commit action and allows you to stage some or all changes and then commit them. Right-clicking any of the unstaged changes allows you to stage the specific file, and clicking **Stage All** or **Stage All Changes** selects all files for the commit. When you are happy with the files to be committed, enter a commit message describing what has changed and why. The **Commit** button is then enabled.

**Note**  The difference between **Stage All** and **Stage All Changes** is that the **Stage All Changes** action stages only those files that already exist in the repository and have been changed, whereas **Stage All** includes files that are newly created and do not yet exist in the repository.
7. Stage all changes, enter any message you like as the commit message, then click **Commit**.

![Git Commit Progress](image)

**Exercise 6 – Back to the Master Branch**

In this exercise, you will check out back to the master branch, effectively reverting the changes made while in the **MyNewBranch** branch.

1. Select the **Checkout** command from the Git Source Control Client submenu of the Browse menu.

![Git Checkout](image)
2. Click **Checkout**, to switch back to master.

![Git Checkout Progress]

Click **Browse** at the right of the **Schema File Name** text box, navigate to the `ErewhonInvestmentsModelSchema.scm` file in `C:\Erewhon\Erewhon`, and then click **OK**.

3. Select the Load command from the Schema menu.

![Load Options]

Click **Browse** at the right of the **Schema File Name** text box, navigate to the `ErewhonInvestmentsModelSchema.scm` file in `C:\Erewhon\Erewhon`, and then click **OK**.
4. Part-way through the load process, the following message box is displayed. Click Yes, to remove the JadeScript newMethod method from the schema.

```
Confirm Deletion

The following item is not defined in the schema file:
Method newMethod of JadeScript
Do you want to delete it?
```

This change causes the schema to be versioned.

```
Schema Versioned

Schema ErewhonInvestmentsModelSchema has been versioned.
```

Clicking OK results in the display of the following message box.

```
Warning

The following schema needs reorg
ErewhonInvestmentsModelSchema
```

OK
5. Click the **Reorg** toolbar button in the Class Browser and click **Reorg** in the Classes Needing Reorg dialog that is then displayed.

![Classes Needing Reorg dialog]

6. When the reorganization completes, navigate to the **JadeScript** class within **ErewhonInvestmentsModelSchema**.

You will see that the **newMethod** method has been removed; that is, the schema has reverted to the state it was when you switched from the master branch to the **MyNewBranch** branch.