

IBM ILOG OPL V6.3 IBM ILOG OPL Getting Started with the OPL IDE

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Acknowledgement

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Getting Started with the OPL IDE

This manual starts with an *Introduction to the OPL IDE*, and continues with a *Getting Started tutorial* in which you launch the OPL IDE, create an empty project, enter a model, add data and a settings file, create run configurations and execute the final project.

In this section

Introduction to the OPL IDE

Provides an overview of important concepts and features of the OPL IDE that you should be familiar with before starting to work with it.

Getting Started tutorial

A tutorial in which you launch the IDE, create an empty project, enter a model, add data, add a settings file, create run configurations and execute them. More tutorials elaborate on IDE features in *IDE Tutorials*.

Introduction to the OPL IDE

Provides an overview of important concepts and features of the OPL IDE that you should be familiar with before starting to work with it.

In this section

Launching the OPL IDE

How to launch the OPL IDE, and descriptions of the Welcome window and the OPL main window.

Opening distributed examples in the OPL IDE

Instructions for browsing and opening the example projects and models distributed with OPL.

Opening projects in the OPL Projects Navigator

How to open OPL projects and work with them using the OPL Projects Navigator.

Important concepts and terms

Describes some of the terms and concepts that are important to understand about the OPL IDE.

The Problem Browser

Describes the features of the OPL Problem Browser.

Resizing, moving, and hiding IDE views

Shows how to customize the appearance of the OPL IDE.

Working with files in OPL

Shows how to open, edit, and work with files in the OPL IDE.

Executing OPL projectsDescribes the different ways of running and browsing OPL projects.

Launching the OPL IDE

How to launch the OPL IDE, and descriptions of the Welcome window and the OPL main window.

In this section

Starting the IDE

Starting OPL IDE from Windows.

The Welcome window

Describes the OPL Welcome screen and how to close it and begin working with OPL.

The Main window

Presents the Main window of the OPL IDE, and a brief description of its primary controls and elements.

Starting the IDE

You can start the IDE from the Windows Start menu, from Windows Explorer, or from the command line.

To launch the IDE from the Start Menu:

- 1. Click the Windows Start menu.
- 2. Select Programs > IBM > IBM ILOG OPL [version_number] > OPL IDE

To launch the IDE from Windows Explorer:

♦ Double-click the IDE executable oplide.exe in the <OPL_dir>\oplide directory, where <OPL dir> is your installation directory.

To launch the IDE from the command line:

- 1. Open a command prompt window.
- 2. Enter:

oplide

The Welcome window appears, as shown in the next section.

The Welcome window





The buttons in the Welcome window provide access to user guides, sample manuals, release notes, migration information and user forums.

To access the information on the Welcome window:

Move the mouse over a button to see the tooltip.



The buttons lead to information on the release and parts of the \mbox{OPL} documentation you might frequently refer to.

- ♦ **Overview** displays links to:
 - A quick start to OPL

- Migrating from previous versions of OPL
- ♦ Tutorials displays a set of links to different sections of the IDE Tutorials manual
- ♦ Samples displays a set of links to different sections of the Language and Interfaces Examples manual
- ♦ What's New displays a set of links to:
 - The *Release Notes*, which provide an overview of new and changed features in the IDE
 - This Introduction to the OPL IDE
 - A set of links to various OPL and ODM user forums. These links are driven by an RSS feed, so they are constantly updated to reflect the latest information on those forums.

To close the Welcome window and use the OPL IDE:

♦ Click the **X** in the Welcome window tab to close it.



• Or, click the **Workbench** icon at the top right of the Welcome window.



Closing the Welcome window using the second method displays a toolbar at the bottom of the IDE, in the Status Bar, as shown below.



Closing the Welcome window by clicking the X in the tab does not display this toolbar.

When you close the Welcome window using either method, the OPL Main window appears. It is described in the next section.

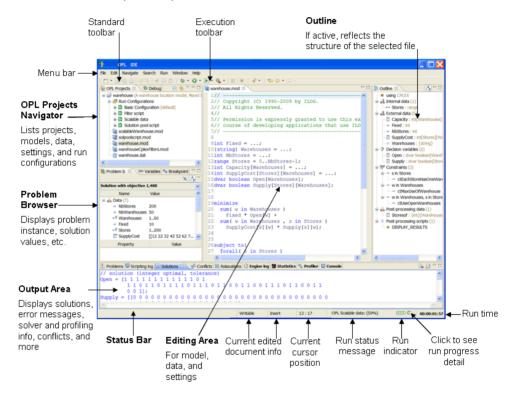
To return to the Welcome window from the OPL IDE:

- ♦ Choose **Help>Welcome** from the main menu.
- ♦ Or, click the **Restore Welcome** icon at the bottom right of the IDE. (It appears when you click the Workbench arrow.)



The Main window

The following illustration details the primary areas and controls of the Main window in the OPL IDE (Integrated Development Environment). Tooltips appear when you move the pointer over most elements (or views) of the main window.



Opening distributed examples in the OPL IDE

Instructions for browsing and opening the example projects and models distributed with OPL.

In this section

Why you should use the New Example wizard

Why using the New Example wizard is the recommended method of opening distributed examples.

Working with the New Example wizard

Instructions for using the New Example wizard to open the distributed examples.

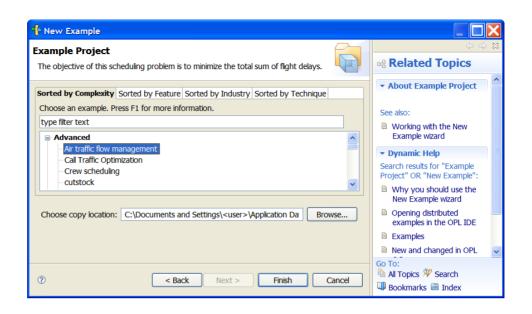
Why you should use the New Example wizard

Examples of OPL models are available in the installation directory and can be opened in the OPL IDE using **File > Import > Existing OPL 6.x projects** and the Import wizard that opens.

However, the recommended method of opening distributed examples is to use the **File > New > Example** menu command to launch the New Example wizard.

Benefits of using the New Example wizard:

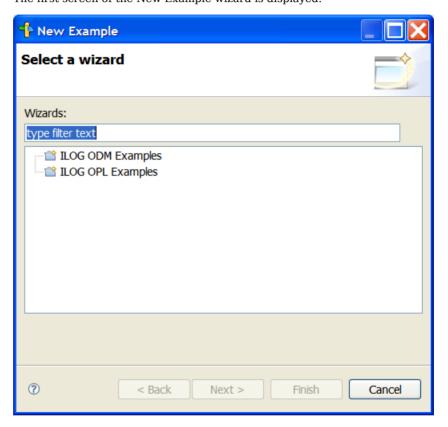
- ◆ Always working with a copy, not the original Opening examples using the New Example wizard ensures that you are always working with a copy of the example. Therefore, if you make changes and save them, the original example is always available to you in its original form.
- ♦ Flexibility of project destination Using the New Example wizard, you can specify any folder in your file system as the destination for the project. Using the Import wizard, you have only the choice of opening the project in your default Workspace or "in place," by opening the example in its original distribution directory. The latter risks the possibility of overwriting the distributed example by making changes and saving them, or of accidentally deleting the distributed example.
- ♦ Enhanced project descriptions Using the New Example wizard, you see longer, more explicit descriptions of each project. Using the Import wizard, you see only the name of each example.
- ♦ Enhanced sorting and display options The New Example wizard contains multiple tabs that allow you to view the examples sorted by complexity, feature being demonstrated, industry represented, and mathematical programming technique being used.
- ◆ **Built-in Help** By selecting an example and pressing **F1** or clicking the Help icon you can display the documentation for that example in the New Example wizard itself, and look it over before deciding to open the example.



Working with the New Example wizard

To open examples in the OPL IDE using the New Example wizard:

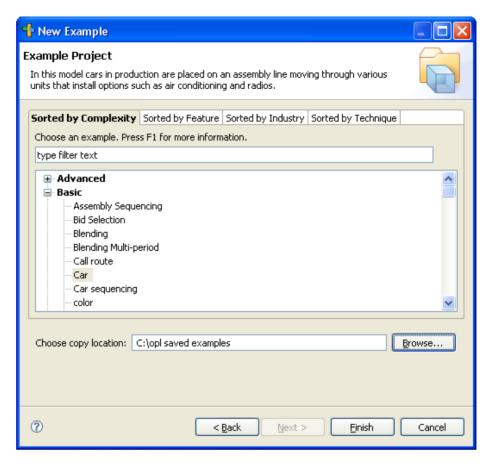
In the OPL IDE, choose File > New > Example from the main menu.
 The first screen of the New Example wizard is displayed:



Note: You can also access the New Example wizard by choosing File > Import > Example. This command launches the same wizard as File > New > Example.

Select the type of example you want to open — IBM ILOG OPL Examples or IBM ILOG ODM Examples — and click Next.

The next screen of the New Example wizard is displayed:



- **3.** To see the description of a project, select that project in the display area. A description of the selected project is shown at the top of the New Example wizard.
- **4.** To sort the list of examples, click one of the tabs:
 - ♦ Sorted by Complexity to display examples grouped by complexity (Basic, Intermediate, Advanced, Demo, etc.)
 - ♦ **Sorted by Feature** to display examples grouped by feature (OPL Model, OPL Project, OPL Script, etc.)
 - ♦ **Sorted by Industry** to display examples grouped by industry (Finance, Manufacturing, Transportation, etc.)
 - ◆ **Sorted by Technique** to display examples grouped by technique (Constraint Programming, Decomposition, Search, etc.)
- **5.** To filter the display, type the text you are looking for in the field at the top of the wizard. The display is filtered to display only examples that contain the text you enter.

- **6.** To obtain help for an example, select that example and press **F1** or click the **Help** icon to display the documentation for that example in the wizard.
- 7. To select a destination for the opened project, type a path into the Choose copy location field or use the Browse button to search for one. The default location is your workspace.
- **8.** When you click **Finish**, the example appears in the OPL Projects Navigator. Expand the project and double-click the model name to display the model contents.
- **Tip**: Once you begin working with the New Example wizard, if you already know the name of the example you are searching for and you always open examples in your default OPL IDE workspace, you will find that the fastest way to use it is the following:
 - 1. On the second screen of the New Example wizard (step #2 above), type the name of the example you are searching for in the filter field.
 - The example will be displayed in the selection window.
 - 2. If the example displayed in the selection window is the one you want, simply press **Enter** twice to open it in the OPL IDE.

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Opening projects in the OPL Projects Navigator

How to open OPL projects and work with them using the OPL Projects Navigator.

In this section

Importing existing projects into the workspace Shows how to load OPL projects into the OPL IDE.

Managing projects in the OPL Projects Navigator

Explains how to work with your projects once you have imported them.

Importing existing projects into the workspace

Use the following procedure to import an existing OPL project into the OPL Projects Navigator.

Note: This procedure is only for OPL projects. For importing projects from previous releases of OPL, see *Migrating from previous versions of OPL*.

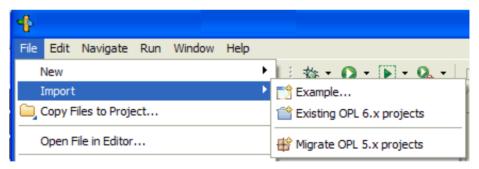
In addition to the procedures detailed below, you can double-click on the files contained in an OPL project folder to open that project in the OPL IDE:

- ♦ If the project has already been added to the OPL Projects Navigator, double-clicking any model (.mod), data (.dat), or settings (.ops) file will open that project in the OPL IDE.
- If the project has not already been added to the OPL Projects Navigator, double-clicking on the file oplproject in

```
<OPL dir>\examples\opl\<example name>
```

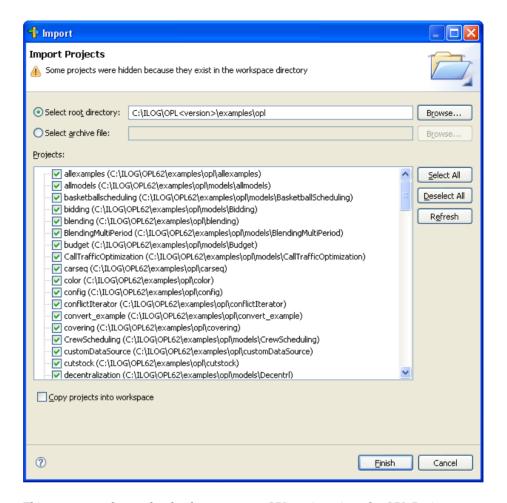
will launch the Import Wizard discussed in the following procedures.

1. To open an existing project from the OPL IDE, choose **File>Import**, or right-click in the OPL Projects Navigator and choose **Import**.



2. Select Existing OPL 6.x projects.

The first screen of the Import Wizard is displayed:



This screen can be used to load one or more OPL projects into the OPL Projects Navigator. The general procedure for doing this is to:

- ♦ Select a root directory (this is the directory on your file system where your existing OPL project is located). Alternatively you can select an archive file (JAR, ZIP, TAR) where the project has been stored.
- Select a project (or projects, if the root directory contains more than one project) to be imported.
- Indicate whether you want to copy the projects into the workspace. The default workspace is:

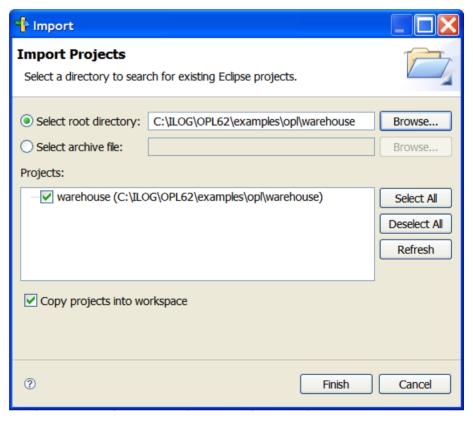
C:\Documents and Settings\<username>\Application Data\ILOG\OPL Studio
IDE\<version_number\<pre>cr_name>

Warning:

If you don't copy the project into a workspace and work with the original, there is a risk of modifying or deleting the original example.

The next steps walk you through each of the general procedures above, using the warehouse example from the OPL distribution.

- 3. In the Select root directory field, enter the pathname of the directory that contains the project(s) you want to import. You can type in the pathname or use the Browse button to search for it.
 - Alternatively, you can use the **Select archive file** field and enter the pathname of a JAR, ZIP, TAR or other compressed file that contains your project(s).
 - After you have selected a root directory (or archive file), the OPL projects under that directory that do not currently exist in your workspace are listed in the **Projects** view.
- **4.** Check the box of each of the projects you want to import. (In the example used in this procedure, there is only one, warehouse.)



5. Leave the **Copy projects into workspace** box unchecked if you want to work with the project "in place" in its current location, or check the box to copy it to your workspace (recommended), and click **Finish** to import the project(s) into your OPL Projects Navigator.

Managing projects in the OPL Projects Navigator

After you have migrated OPL 5.x projects or imported or created new OPL 6.x projects, you can leave them in your OPL Projects Navigator. If you exit from OPL, when you next launch the OPL IDE, they will be there, ready to use.

If you have loaded a number of projects and the OPL Projects Navigator starts to get "crowded," there are two ways to save memory or space in the Navigator window — by closing (collapsing) the projects or by deleting them.

Closing/Opening projects

Projects are either open or closed. When a project is closed, it cannot be changed, but its resources still reside on the local file system. Because they are not examined during builds, closed projects require less memory. Therefore, closing projects you are not working with can improve build time.

- ♦ Right-click on the project name and choose **Close project** from the context menu to close the project. The plus sign next to the project name disappears, but it remains in the OPL Projects Navigator.
- ◆ To reopen the project, right-click on the project name and choose **Open project** from the context menu.

Deleting projects

If you are not currently working with a project, you can also safely delete it from the OPL Projects Navigator, without deleting it from the file system.

To remove a project from the OPL Projects Navigator, right-click on the project name and choose **Delete** from the context menu.

A popup message appears asking whether you want to delete the project only from the navigator, or from the hard disk as well.

- ♦ If you do not check the box, you remove the project from the OPL Projects Navigator but leave it on the file system.
- ♦ If you check the box **Delete project contents on disk (cannot be undone)**, the project will be completely deleted, and cannot later be recovered using **Undo** or the **Import>Existing OPL 6.x projects** menu command.

Important concepts and terms

Describes some of the terms and concepts that are important to understand about the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{OPL}}$ IDE.

In this section

Resources

Describes what resources are in OPL.

Workspace

Describes the OPL workspace.

Views

Explains the different types of views in the OPL IDE.

Resources

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Resources refers to the projects, folders, and files that exist in the OPL IDE. The OPL Projects Navigator provides a hierarchical view of these resources and allows you to open them for editing.

There are three basic types of resources:

- **♦ Files** Similar to files in the file system.
- ♦ **Folders** Similar to folders in the file system.
- ♦ Projects Used for builds, version management, sharing, and resource organization. Projects are comprised of folders and files, and map to directories in the file system.

Workspace

The workspace is the working directory in which you store and work with your resources.

The workspace can be located anywhere on the file system, but its default location is C: Documents and $Settings \le Application Data ILOG OPL Studio IDE 6.x .$

Views

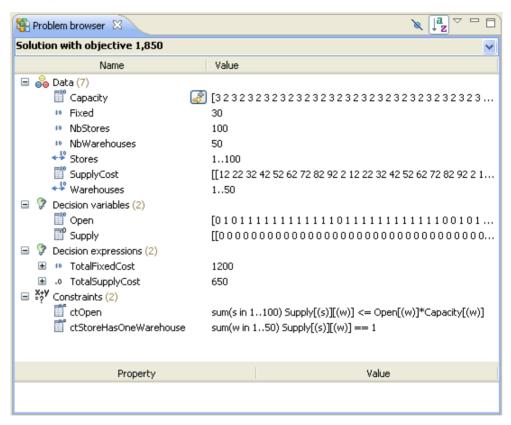
The various panes or windows within the OPL IDE are referred to as Views.

Views can be editors or navigators or provide alternative ways to visualize and work with your projects. For example, the OPL Projects Navigator view displays the resources in your OPL projects, and allows you to open them in editor views.

Views may also have their own menus and some views have their own toolbars.

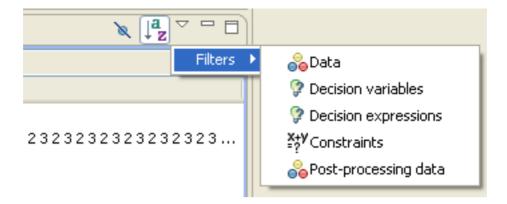
The Problem Browser

Describes the OPL Problem Browser.

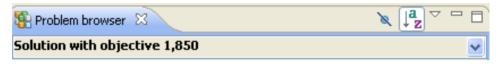


Some of the features of the Problem Browser are described briefly below:

- ♦ ► Hide the properties to conserve space.
- ightharpoonup Sort the items of each displayed element.
- ♦ Filter the displayed element types.



• See the solution status in the drop-down list at the top of the view.



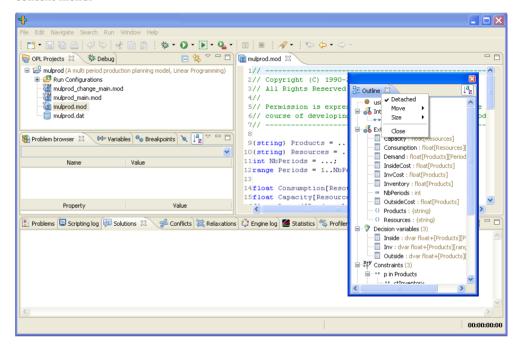
When solving MIP problems several solutions may be displayed in this drop-down list. Choosing one of them displays data for that solution in the lower part of the Problem Browser. A definition of MIP can be found in the Glossary: mixed integer programming (MIP).

- ♦ Tooltips show data that is too wide to display.
- ♦ Double-clicking on an item opens an editor for that item.
- For Decision Variables, some information formerly shown in the properties view has been moved to the editor view itself, so one can safely hide the properties view.

Resizing, moving, and hiding IDE views

All views are resizable, movable, and detachable. *Movable* means that you can drag a view from one location and drop it in another, even within another view. For example, you could drag the Outline view into the Output Area, and it would become another tab there.

Detachable means that you can drag a view outside the OPL IDE frame and it becomes its own standalone window. When you do this, to put the view back into the frame you need to right-click in the tab area of the detached view and uncheck the **Detached** item in the context menu:



When you do this, the detached view will return to the frame.

Resizing views

To resize views, click on one of its borders or corners and drag it to the desired size.

Or, to temporarily expand a view to the full size of the IDE frame, double-click its tab. Double-click again to shrink it back to original size.

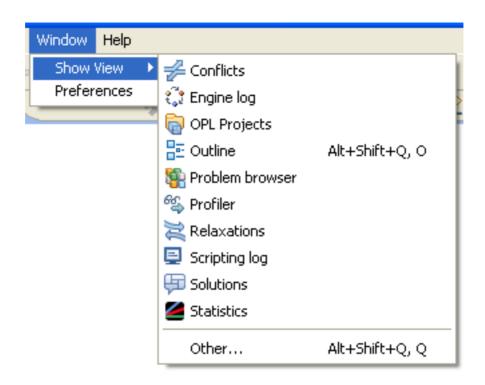
Moving views

To move a view, right-click its top border and drag it to the desired location. A black border appears as you drag the view around the frame, to tell you where the view will be placed if you release the mouse button in that location.

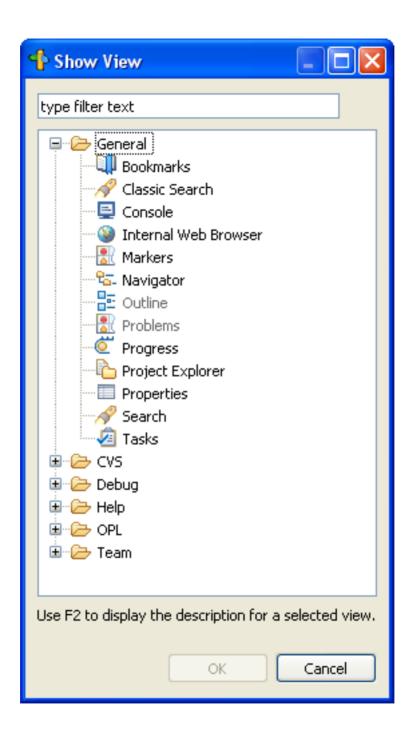
Hiding views

To hide a view, click its Close box ...

To display a view that has been closed, in the main menu choose **Window>Show View** and select the name of the view you want to display:



If the view you want to display is not shown in that menu, click **Other** to display more views:



Working with files in OPL

Shows how to open, edit, and work with files in the OPL IDE.

In this section

Adding existing files to a project

How to add files to your OPL project.

Ordering files within a run configuration

How to specify the order of data or settings files in a run configuration.

Opening files for editing

Shows how to open and edit your files in the OPL IDE.

Local History and its related features

How to track and compare different versions of your files as you edit them in the OPL IDE.

'Compare With' features

How to compare files with each other and with Local History.

'Replace With' features

How to compare files with each other and replace the contents from other versions of the file in Local History.

Adding existing files to a project

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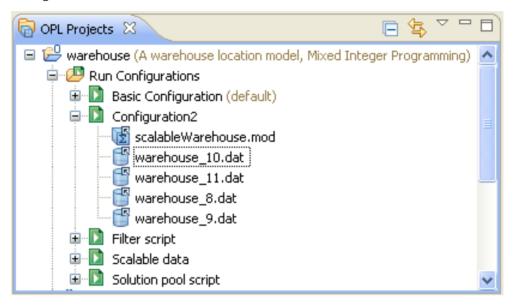
You can use the **File>Copy Files to Project** command to open a dialog box that allows you to open files and import them into selected projects.

You can also drag existing files from a Windows Explorer window and drop them onto the project folder in your OPL Projects Navigator. This is always a *copy* operation, not a move.

Ordering files within a run configuration

When you execute a run configuration, the order of the data or settings files relative to each other is important. Since some data in a .dat file may depend on other data in a different .dat file, if the data files are in the wrong order it may cause an error at execution time.

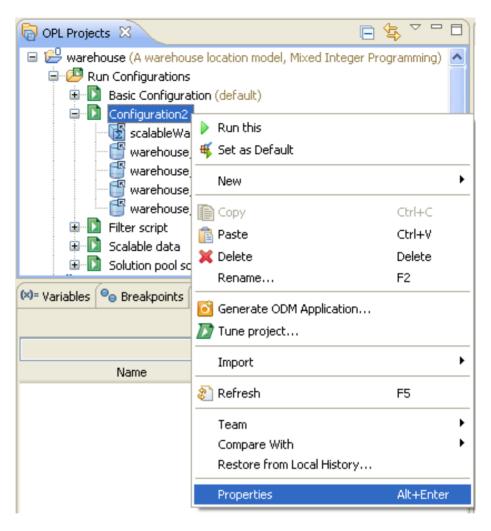
As an example of this, look at the following screenshot of a run configuration, **Configuration2**:



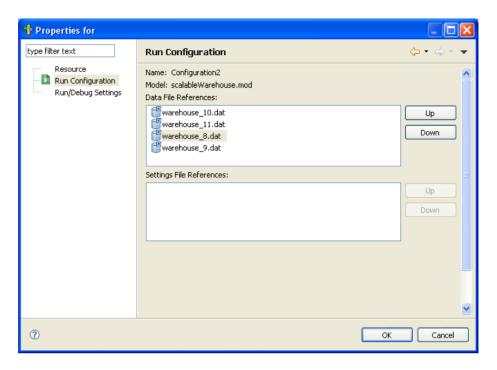
In **Configuration2**, the four data files are intended to be executed in numerical order. However, as you can see, they are sorted in ASCII order. This would cause them to be executed in the wrong sequence.

You can set the order of multiple data or settings files in a run configuration using the following procedure.

1. Right-click on the configuration name and choose **Properties** from the context menu:



2. A properties window appears for the run configuration:



You can use the \mathbf{Up} and \mathbf{Down} buttons to rearrange the order of your data files and settings files.

Opening files for editing

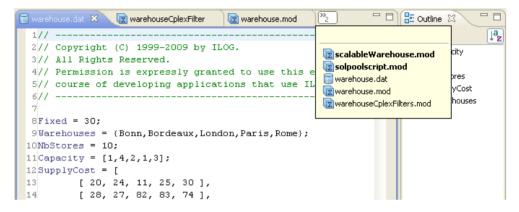
42

In general, you open your model files, data files and settings files for editing by double-clicking on the file in OPL Projects Navigator.

Several editors can be open in the Editing Area at once. You can switch back and forth between the open views by clicking the tabs of the views that are visible in the Editing Area.

If so many edit views are open that all of their tabs cannot be displayed, a "more views" icon

becomes visible. Click it and a list of the other views appears:



Click any of the views in the popup list to view them.

Line numbers in the Editor

By default, line numbers appear in the text editor. However, you can hide them in one of the following ways:

- ♦ From the menu bar select **Window>Preferences**, then **General>Editors>Text Editors**. Uncheck the box for **Show line numbers**.
- ♦ Inside the Editing Area, right-click and select **Preferences**, then **General>Editors>Text Editors**. Uncheck the box for **Show line numbers**.
- ♦ Inside the Editing Area, right-click in the left margin to display the popup that allows you to uncheck the option **Show line numbers**.

```
- F
🔯 warehouse.mod 🔀
 int Fixed = ...:
 {string} Warehouses = ...;
 int NbStores = ...;
 range Stores = 0..NbStores-1;
 int Capacity[Warehouses] = ...;
 int SupplyCost[Stores][Warehouses] = ...;
 dvar boolean Open[Warehouses];
 dvar boolean Supply[Stores][Warehouses];
 minimize
   sum( w in Warehouses )
     Fixed * Open[w] +
                             s in Stores )
  Toggle Breakpoint
                             ipply[s][w];
  Add Bookmark...
  Add Task...
  Show Ouick Diff
                 Ctrl+Shift+O
  Show Line Numbers
                             house:
  Preferences...
                             les )
          Supply[s][w]
 <
```

Opening external files in the Editor

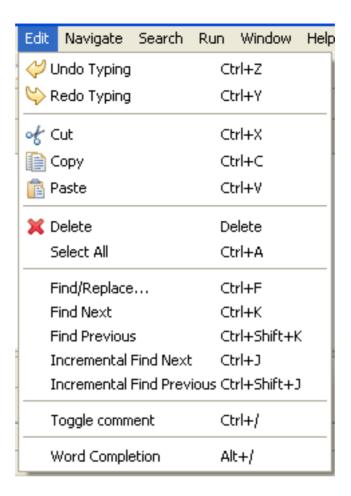
To open files that are not currently in any open project in OPL Projects Navigator, use the **File>Open File in Editor** menu command.

This does not add the files to any project, but allows you to view or edit them in the Editing Area. To add external files to a project, see the *Adding existing files to a project* section.

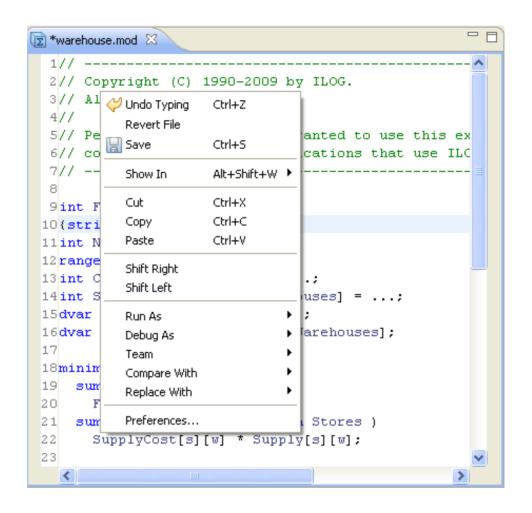
Editing commands and shortcuts

The common commands you need to use while editing can be found on two menus:

♦ The main menu **Edit** menu:



♦ The right-click context menu within the editor itself:



Local History and its related features

OPL 6.x provides a limited form of version control called **Local History** that allows you to track and compare different versions of your files as you edit them.

For example, if you edit the same model file several times, all versions of the file are still available to you. You can use the **Compare With** and **Replace With** commands to compare different versions of a file or revert to previous versions of a file or its contents.

Each of these features is described in the following sections.

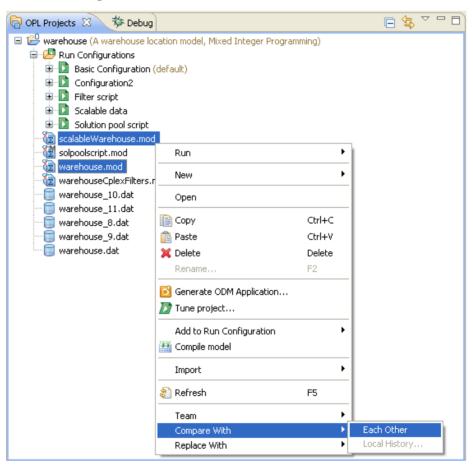
'Compare With' features

- ♦ Compare With Each Other
- ♦ Compare With Local History

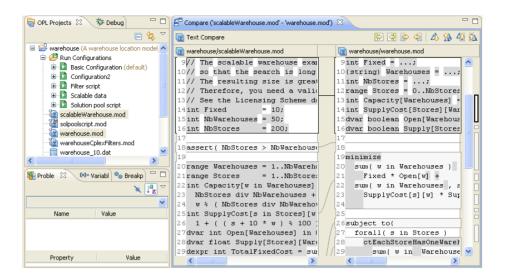
Compare With Each Other

To compare two files in the same project with each other:

1. In the OPL Projects Navigator, highlight the two files you want to compare, right-click and choose Compare With>Each Other.



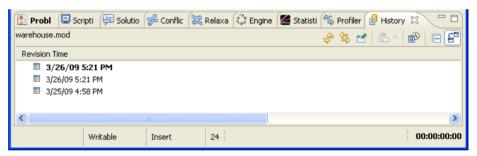
2. The files are opened in the Editing Area in a special view that allows you to see them side by side, with the differences between the two files highlighted:



Compare With Local History

To compare a file with another version of itself in Local History:

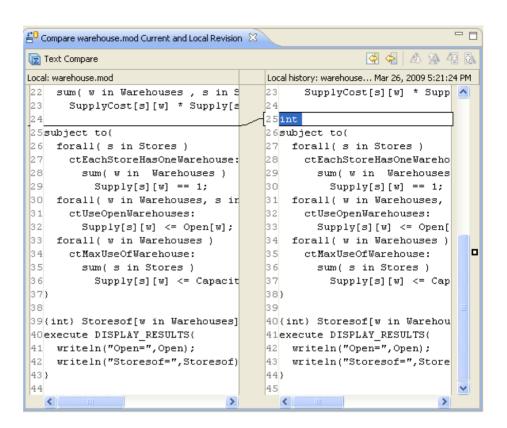
- 1. In the OPL Projects Navigator, highlight the file you want to compare with its own Local History versions, right-click and choose **Compare With>Local History**.
- 2. A list of the different versions of the file is displayed in the **History** tab.



3. Double-click on the version of the file that you want to compare with the current version.

The files are opened in the Editing Area in a special view that allows you to see them side by side, with the differences between the two versions highlighted.

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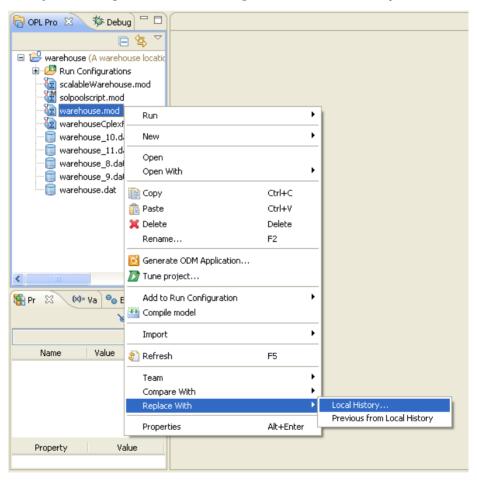
'Replace With' features

- ♦ Replace With Local History
- ♦ Replace With Previous Version

Replace With Local History

To replace a file with a selected version of itself from Local History:

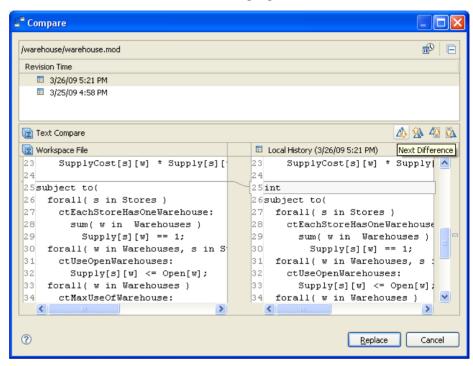
1. In the OPL Projects Navigator, highlight the file you want to revert to one of its Local History versions, right-click and choose **Replace With>Local History**.



2. A popup window appears in which you can view the different versions of this file in Local History.

Double-click on the version of the file that you want to compare with the current version and use as a candidate for replacement.

The files are opened in a special view that allows you to see them side by side, with the differences between the two versions highlighted.



You can use the icons that appear in the Text Compare area to move to the next and previous differences in the files, and thus determine whether you want to replace the contents of the current file with the contents of the version you are comparing it to.

Replace With Previous Version

To replace a file with its previous version in Local History:

- 1. In the OPL Projects Navigator, highlight the file you want to revert to its previous version, right-click and choose **Replace With>Previous Version**.
- 2. The file is automatically replaced with the version of the file from Local History that immediately precedes it. This creates a new version in Local History.

Executing OPL projects

Describes the different ways of running and browsing OPL projects.

In this section

The Run options

Explains how to use the menus to run projects in the OPL IDE.

The Status Bar

Describes the area that displays messages about the current execution status of the IDE and information about files being edited.

The execution toolbar options

Explains how to use the menus to run projects in the OPL IDE.

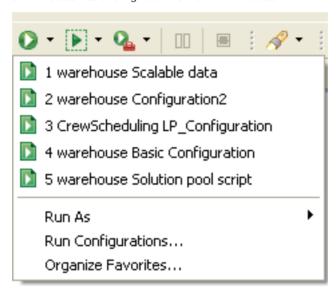
The Run options

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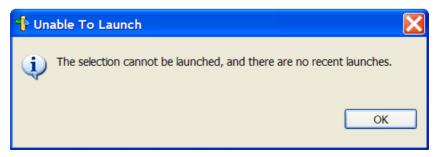
You can solve an OPL model by clicking the **Run** button in the execution toolbar. You can also use right-click *context menus*.

How the Run button works

The behavior of the **Run** button in the execution toolbar depends on your "run history."



♦ If you have just launched OPL and no model has been run yet, clicking the **Run** button for the first time may produce the following message:



In this case, you should try again by right-clicking on the run configuration name (left panel) and selecting \mathbf{Run} this.

◆ Once the list is populated, clicking the **Run** or button launches the most recently launched run configuration in the list, no matter what project is selected in the OPL Projects Navigator.

Note:

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Obviously, this does not make it possible to just click a project in the Projects Navigator and launch its default run configuration by simply clicking the **Run**

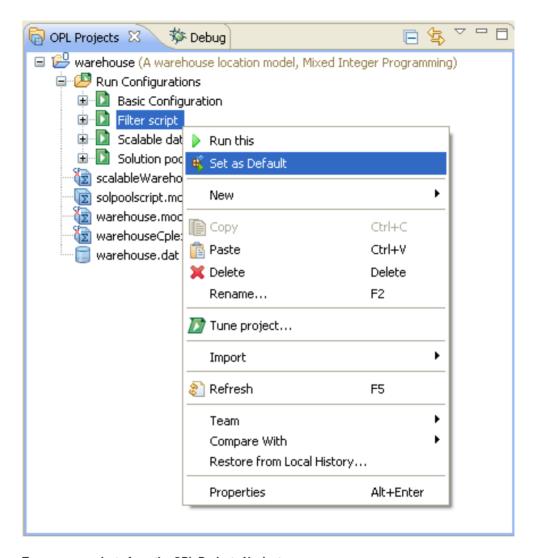
button. For this reason, many OPL users prefer the right-click context menus to launch their models.

The default behavior of the **Run** button is configurable. See *Run*, *Debug*, *Browse*, and *External Tools button options* for more information.

How the Run context menus work

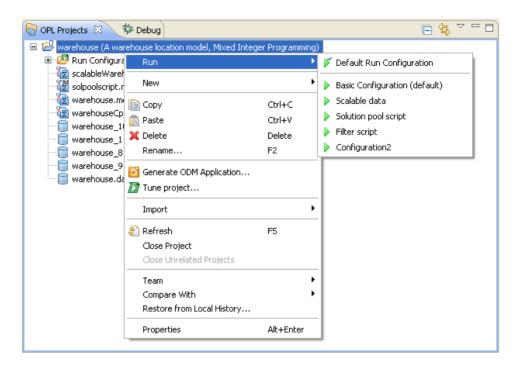
There are additional ways to run your projects in OPL. This section describes the context menu options that can be used to launch your projects directly from the OPL Projects Navigator.

To set a default run configuration, right-click a run configuration in the project folder and select **Set as Default**.



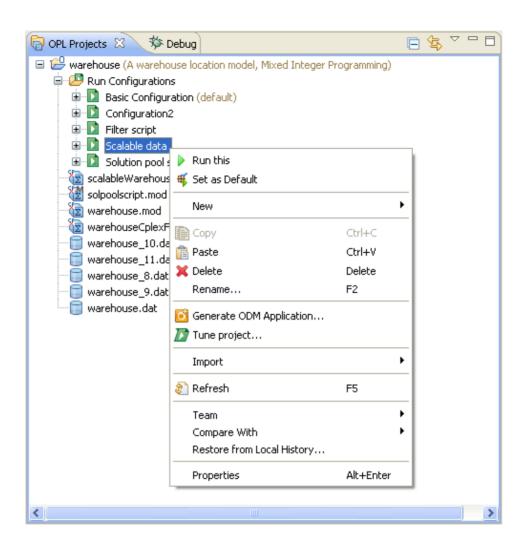
To run your projects from the OPL Projects Navigator:

♦ If you right-click on the project folder, you see the following context menu:



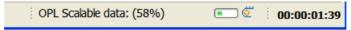
Two run options are listed:

- Run > Default Run Configuration this option executes the run configuration that is currently set as the default for this project.
- Run > configurations> this option displays *all* run configurations for the project, so that you can choose which one you want to launch, whether it is currently the default run configuration or not.
- ♦ If you right-click on an individual run configuration for a project, you see the option **Run this**, which enables you to run only that run configuration.



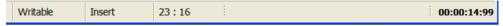
The Status Bar

As you solve, this area displays the execution status of projects being solved and the elapsed time of the solve.



Status Bar (partial view during a solve)

The Status Bar also shows the status of documents being edited in the Editing Area, and the current line and column number of the cursor.



Status Bar (partial view while editing)

The middle part of the Status Bar indicates that the file currently being edited is **Writable** (as opposed to **Read-Only**) and that the editor is in **Insert** mode (as opposed to **Overwrite** mode). The numbers indicate the line number and column number of the current cursor location in the file.

The box at the right of the Status Bar displays an animated graphic while a project is running, and a message is displayed beside the graphic indicating progress.

Run progress messages in the Status Bar

Whether the model is running in standard run mode or in debug, browse, or background mode, you can see messages about the progress of the run in the OPL IDE Status Bar:

- ♦ When the solve begins, a **Launching <run configuration name>** message appears at the right of the Status Bar.
- ◆ As the solve progresses, the message changes to **<run configuration name> <percent>**, with a percentage displayed to indicate progress.
- When the solve is finished, the message changes to <run configuration name> 100%, to indicate that the run has completed
- ♦ In addition, as the model is solving, the run indicator becomes animated.
- ◆ If you click the **Shows background operations** icon at the extreme right of the toolbar, a **Progress** tab appears in the Output Area. If the solve is still running, you see a display similar to the following:



When the solve has finished, you see a display similar to this:



The execution toolbar options

In addition to the Run context menu in the OPL Projects Navigator, there are buttons in the execution toolbar that can be used to run your projects in different ways. These are explained in the *IDE Reference Manual*; see *The execution toolbar*.

Getting Started tutorial

A tutorial in which you launch the IDE, create an empty project, enter a model, add data, add a settings file, create run configurations and execute them. More tutorials elaborate on IDE features in *IDE Tutorials*.

In this section

Prerequisites - before you start

Before you start the OPL IDE.

Creating a project

Walks you through creating a project file, adding model and data, and setting mathematical programming options.

Executing a project

Walks you through populating and executing the run configuration, creating a different configuration, and understanding project execution.

Examining a solution to the model

Explains how to read the solutions in the output tabs and read details of the executed model in the Problem Browser.

Prerequisites - before you start

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At this stage, it is assumed that you have already successfully installed IBM® ILOG® OPL on your platform.

At this point you are ready to launch the IBM ILOG OPL IDE (or the IDE for short) as explained in the *Launching the OPL IDE* section of *Introduction to the OPL IDE*.

Once the IDE is open, you can read:

- ♦ Tour of the OPL Graphical User Interface in the IDE Reference to discover the graphical user interface.
- Creating a project if you feel familiar enough with the interface and want to start working on a project immediately.

Other useful documents to read are:

- ♦ A quick start to OPL for an introduction to how OPL handles optimization problems.
- ♦ *Introduction to the OPL IDE*, the first section of this manual.
- ♦ How to read the OPL documentation for details of prerequisites, conventions, documentation formats, and other general information.

Creating a project

Walks you through creating a project file, adding model and data, and setting mathematical programming options.

In this section

Purpose

What you are going to do in the tutorial.

The pasta production example

Presents the production problem and shows the code for the model and data.

Creating an empty project

Walks you through creating a project "from scratch" and defining a model using the editing capabilities of the IDE.

Adding the model

Walks you through entering a model in an IDE project.

Dealing with errors

Describes how to take advantage of the automatic error detection feature.

Adding data

Explains how to add a data file to an OPL project and fill it with data.

Purpose

After launching the IBM® ILOG® OPL IDE as described in the *Launching the OPL IDE* section, you will want to solve a problem of your own. For this, you will first have to define a working document in the IDE. You can do this either by editing an existing project (see *Reusing existing files and projects* in the *IDE Reference*) or by starting your own project.

In this tutorial, you will start your own project. To do this, you will:

- ♦ Create a project: see *Creating an empty project*.
- ♦ Add an existing model or write a new one: see *The pasta production example*.
- ♦ Add one or more existing data files or write new ones: see *Adding data*.
- Set mathematical programming options, if applicable: see Changing an MP option value.

Once your project is built, you will populate a run configuration, execute it, and study the results as explained in *Executing a project* and *Examining a solution to the model*.

The pasta production example

You could write your own model from scratch by following the syntax rules from the *Language Reference Manual* and the *Language User's Manual*, but since this tutorial does not aim at teaching you the modeling or scripting languages, you are going to reuse the pasta production example, described in *A production problem* in the *Language User's Manual*, for the purpose of this exercise.

Note: The pasta production model is designed to be solved by the CPLEX® engine. However, the content of this section would be the same for a model solved by the CP Optimizer engine, except where explicitly mentioned.

The problem is as follows. To meet the demands of its customers, a company manufactures its products in its own factories (*inside* production) or buys the products from other companies (*outside* production).

The inside production is subject to resource constraints: each product consumes a certain amount of each resource. In contrast, the outside production is theoretically unlimited. The problem is to determine how much of each product should be produced inside the company and how much outside, while minimizing the overall production cost, meeting the demand, and satisfying the resource constraints.

The code extract below (product.mod file) shows an OPL model (the tuple version) for this example. This model is part of the production project, which is available at the following location:

```
<OPL dir>\examples\opl\production
```

where <OPL dir> is your installation directory.

OPL model for the production planning example (product.mod)

```
{string} Products = ...;
{string} Resources = ...;
tuple productData {
    float demand;
    float insideCost;
    float consumption[Resources];
}
productData Product[Products] = ...;
float Capacity[Resources] = ...;

dvar float+ Inside[Products];
dvar float+ Outside[Products];
execute CPX_PARAM {
    cplex.preind = 0;
    cplex.simdisplay = 2;
}
```

```
minimize
  sum( p in Products )
    (Product[p].insideCost * Inside[p] +
        Product[p].outsideCost * Outside[p] );
subject to {
  forall( r in Resources )
    ctInside:
        sum( p in Products )
        Product[p].consumption[r] * Inside[p] <= Capacity[r];
  forall( p in Products )
    ctDemand:
        Inside[p] + Outside[p] >= Product[p].demand;
}
```

The following code extract (product .dat file) shows the data declaration for the problem.

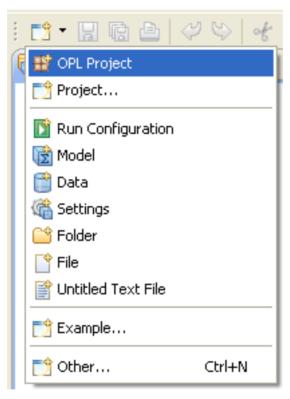
OPL data for the production planning example (product.dat)

```
Products = { "kluski", "capellini", "fettucine" };
Resources = { "flour", "eggs" };
Product = #[
    kluski : < 100, 0.6, 0.8, [ 0.5, 0.2 ] >,
    capellini : < 200, 0.8, 0.9, [ 0.4, 0.4 ] >,
    fettucine : < 300, 0.3, 0.4, [ 0.3, 0.6 ] >
    ]#;
Capacity = [ 20, 40 ];
```

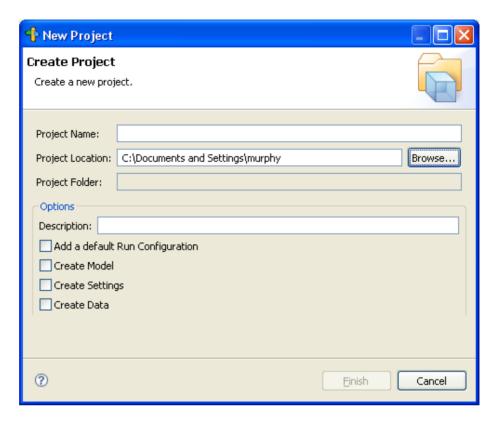
Creating an empty project

To start from an empty project:

 In the main menu, choose File>New>OPL Project, or click the New icon and select OPL Project.



2. The New Project wizard is displayed.



- **3.** Enter the following information in the New Project window:
 - ♦ Type myFirstProject as the **Project Name** of your new project.
 - ♦ Enter a destination **Project Location** for the project, *other* than the OPL examples directory. For example, create a directory named C:\OPL_projects and browse to select the directory.

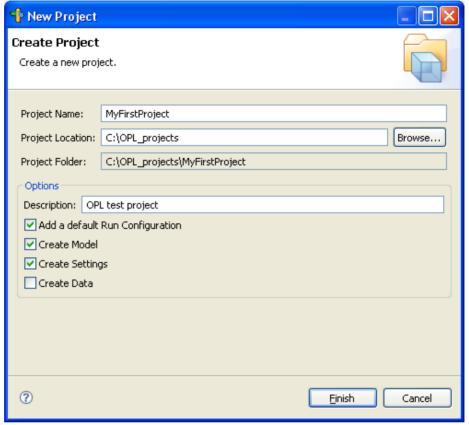
A folder with the project name is created in this directory.

♦ In the **Options** field:

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- Enter a **Description** for the project.
- Check all the boxes except Create Data, because you will later be adding existing data files to the project rather than creating an empty one.

Your window should look similar to the one shown below.

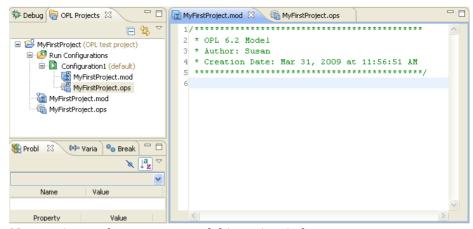


Creating a project

4. When you have entered all the information, click Finish.

Note: If a project with the same name already exists in OPL, a message warns you and the **Finish** button remains greyed out as long as you don't enter a unique name.

The project is created, containing the model and settings files you specified, and appears in the OPL Projects Navigator. The new empty model file is displayed in the Editing Area:



New project and new empty model in main window

Note that the <code>.mod</code> and <code>.ops</code> extensions are automatically appended to the file names in the OPL Projects Navigator and in Windows Explorer (see *File types* in the *IDE Reference* and *Understanding OPL projects* in *A quick start to OPL* for more information on file name extensions in OPL).

The OPL Projects Navigator displays a minimal tree containing:

- an empty .mod file: you are going to fill it with OPL statements in the next step, Adding the model
- ♦ an .ops file containing the default values for MP and CP options, and OPL settings: see *Changing an MP option value* in this manual and *Setting programming options* in the *IDE Reference*.
- ♦ the Run Configurations folder

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 one run configuration (set to default) containing the model and settings files you have just created (see New project and new empty model in main window).

Important: The only mandatory component in a project or run configuration is a valid model file. A project can contain more than one model, but a run configuration can contain only one.

See also $\it The\ main\ window$ in the $\it IDE\ Reference$ for reference information on the graphical user interface.

Adding the model

You are going to copy-paste the pasta production model into the Editing Area.

To add the pasta production model to the project:

1. Choose File>Open File in Editor, and browse to

<OPL dir>\examples\opl\production\product.mod

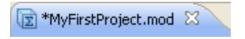
then double-click the filename in the dialog box or select it and click **Open**.

Note: There are two model files in this project. Make sure that you open product. mod and not production. mod.

The OPL statements of the product.mod file appear in the Editing Area, in a separate window. If you click the tab of the myFirstProject.mod file, you can see that your empty model is in a different editor.

- 2. Click in the product.mod window and press Ctrl-A to select all the text, then Ctrl-C to copy the contents of the file.
- 3. Click the tab of the myFirstProject.mod file to redisplay the empty editing window for your own project.
- **4.** Place your cursor after the header comments and press **Ctrl-V** to paste the copied statements into the file myfirstproject.mod.

Note that an asterisk (*) appears in the tab of this window.



This indicates that the file is unsaved. Click the **Save** button let to save the file.

5. Close the open window for the product.mod file in the Editing Area by clicking the button to the right of its tab. Leave the edit window for the myFirstProject.mod file open for the next exercise.

Dealing with errors

For this very first start with OPL, you have copied and pasted an existing model for quicker results. In your real business life, however, you will enter OPL statements from the keyboard. By default, the IDE checks for syntax and semantic errors automatically as you type and error messages are displayed in the **Problems** tab at the bottom of the IDE.

To observe the default behavior:

1. In the second line of product.mod displayed in the Editing Area, remove the "s" from the end of the word "Resources".

```
😰 *MyFirstProject.mod 🛭 🔪 😰 product.mod
 10// Permission is expressly granted to use this exampla
 11// course of developing applications that use ILOG pro
 13
 14 (string) Products = ...;
 15 (string) Resource = ...;
17 float demand;
 18 float insideCost;
 19     float outsideCost;

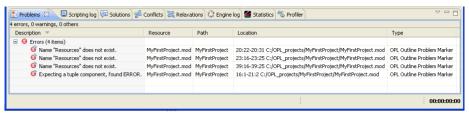
№20 float consumption[Resources];

 21}
 22 productData Product[Products] = ...;
24
 25dvar float+ Inside[Products];
 26dvar float+ Outside[Products];
 27
 28execute CPX PARAM {
 29 cplex.preind = 0;
 30 cplex.simdisplay = 2;
 31}
 32
 33
 34minimize
 35 sum( p in Products )
 36
      (Product[p].insideCost * Inside[p] +
      Product[p].outsideCost * Outside[p] );
 37
 38subject to {
40
      ctInside:
   <
                                                 >
```

A syntax error

The line containing the error is highlighted and for this line any other line affected by

the error, a red error symbol appears in the margin . The **Problems** tab immediately displays the corresponding error messages, indicating the description, location, and source.



Problems tab

- **2.** Remove the mistake. The error message disappears and the indicators in the editor disappear.
- **3.** Press **Ctrl+S** or choose **File>Save** or press the **Save** button in the standard toolbar to save your work.

In the next step, you will add two data files to the project.

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Adding data

You can add more than one data file to a project or run configuration. If you do so, their order is meaningful. See *Ordering files within a run configuration* in the *Introduction to the OPL IDE*. You can either add existing data files or create them as you add them. In this tutorial, you are going to add two existing data files to your project.

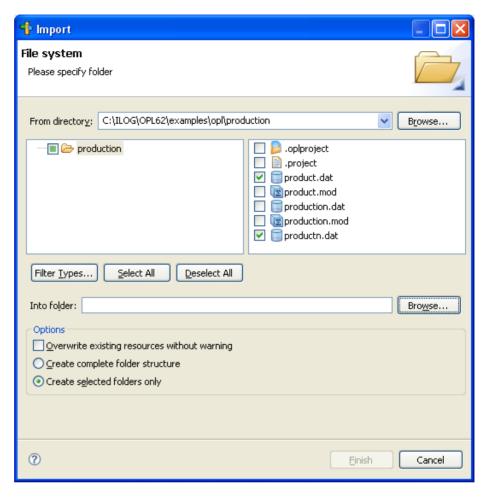
Note: 1. Until you add it to a project, a data file does not appear in the project tree.

2. All files pertaining to the same project must be stored within the same parent project directory.

This part of the tutorial assumes you have created a project and is meaningful only if the model is not empty.

To add a data file to the project:

1. Select **File>Copy Files to Project** to display the **Import** window.



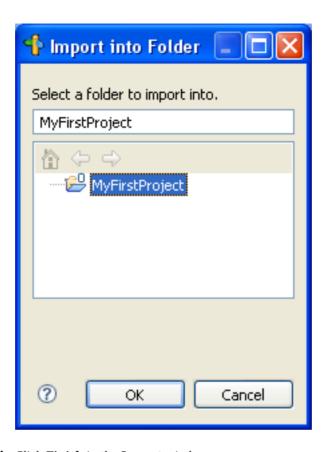
2. Navigate to the directory:

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<OPL dir>\examples\opl\production

Check the **production** folder box on the left. Uncheck all the boxes on the right except for product.dat and productn.dat.

3. Browse to select a folder to import into and click OK.

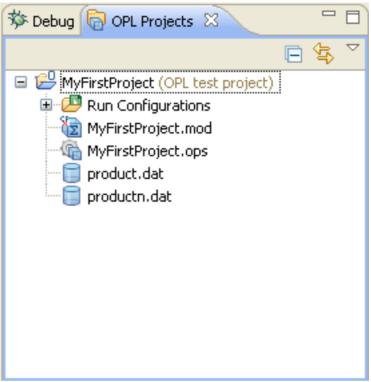


4. Click **Finish** in the **Import** window.

The data file is added to the project but is not automatically added to the run configuration. You will do this later, as described in *Populating and executing the run configuration*.

Note: You could also drag the data files file from Windows Explorer into the OPL Projects Navigator, and drop them in the **myFirstProject** project folder.

5. Your OPL Projects Navigator should now look like this:



Adding data files to a project

You are now going to execute your project. Later, you will modify the settings file so that you can use it to execute different run configurations of your project (see Creating and executing a different configuration).

Executing a project

Walks you through populating and executing the run configuration, creating a different configuration, and understanding project execution.

In this section

What you are going to do

Describes the purpose of this part of the tutorial.

Populating and executing the run configuration

Describes how to add files to a run configuration and execute that configuration.

Adding a settings file

Explains how to add a settings file to a project so as to be able to change the values of OPL options for language output, mathematical programming, or constraint programming.

Changing an MP option value

Gives an example of how to use the IDE settings editor to change an option value.

Creating and executing a different configuration

Describes how to create a second run configuration, then populate and execute it.

What you are going to do

The OPL IDE has a **Run** button which starts the solving engine to find a solution to the problem expressed in the active model. Solving a model in IBM® ILOG® OPL consists of executing the corresponding project, more precisely a run configuration of it; that is, a subset of the model, data, and settings files that make up your project.

Clicking the **Run** button executes the last run configuration launched.

If you want to execute any run configuration other than the last run configuration you launched, it is probably better to use the **Run** option of the right-click context menus in the OPL Projects Navigator to launch the exact run configuration you want. See *The Run options* section for more details.

Note: To execute a run configuration in debugging mode with breakpoints, you would use the **Debug** button instead of the **Run** button. See *Using IBM ILOG Script for OPL* in *IDE Tutorials*.

To continue with the production planning tutorial, you are now going to:

- ♦ Populate the run configuration of your project: see *Populating and executing the run configuration*
- ♦ Create more configurations to execute your model with different data and/or settings: see *Creating and executing a different configuration*
- ♦ Learn more about model solving: see also What happens when you execute a run configuration in the IDE Reference.

Populating and executing the run configuration

When you are finished creating an OPL project, the OPL Projects Navigator should typically look as shown in the figure. You have defined the project as a set of model, data, and settings but the run configuration contains only the .mod and .ops files. You need to add the data you want to try with your model. Populating a run configuration consists therefore in adding data and/or settings files to the run configuration subtree.

A run configuration must contain at least a model and can contain only one model.

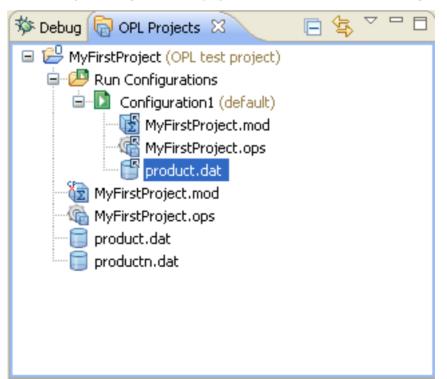
To populate a run configuration:

1. In the OPL Projects Navigator, drag and drop the product.dat file to the **Configuration1** run configuration.

Note:

If you inadvertently drop the wrong file or drop a file to the wrong place, you can at any time right-click it and choose **Delete**, then confirm. This does not remove the file from the disk.

2. The OPL Projects Navigator now displays the data file name in the run configuration:



Adding a data file to a run configuration

3. Right-click Run Configurations and select Run>Configuration1. Alternatively, right-click Configuration1 and select Run this.

Note:

A project can contain more than one run configuration. To make a configuration the default, right-click its name and choose **Set as Default**. But you can execute any of the other run configurations using the **Run** option.

You can also execute any run configuration, whether default or not, by

clicking the arrow next to the **Run** button and selecting its name from the **Run** option.

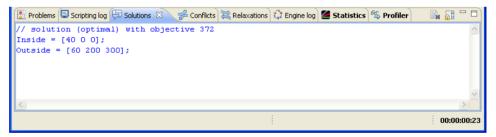
See *The Run options* for more information on running OPL models.

See *The Status Bar* for more information on obtaining run status information during the run.

4. Observe the Output Area.

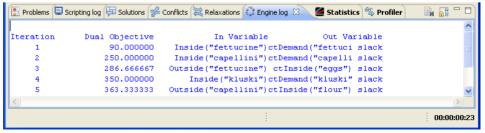
The highlighted tab names show which output panels have received content during execution. The pasta production model uses CPLEX® as the solving engine.

♦ The **Solutions** tab displays one solution.



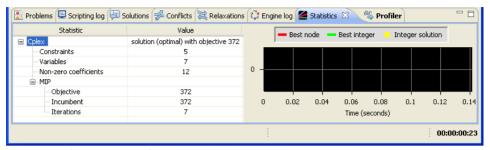
Solution for Configuration1

♦ The **Engine Log** tab displays details for each iteration.



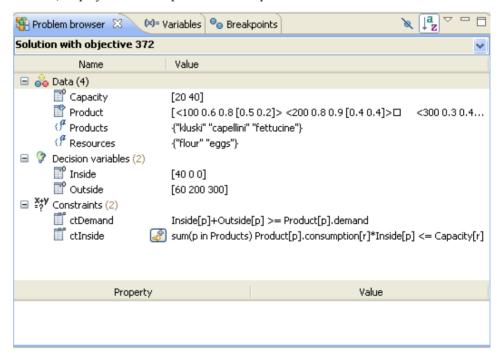
Engine Log for BasicConfiguration (MP)

♦ The **Statistics** tab shows, among other information, the algorithm and the number of iterations.



Statistics for BasicConfiguration (MP)

♦ Also, notice that the Problem Browser now contains data for the problem, including the solution, displayed in the drop-down at the top.



You will learn more about the Problem Browser in later sections of this tutorial and in the *IDE Tutorials*. See also *The Output Area* in the *IDE Reference*, and *Understanding solving statistics and progress (MP models)* in *IDE Tutorials*, for more information.

You can now continue with the tutorial and create another run configuration to learn more about project settings, or you may want to go first to *What happens when you execute a run configuration* in the *IDE Reference* to learn more on the execution process, then proceed to *Examining a solution to the model* to understand results.

Adding a settings file

A settings file is where you store user-defined values of OPL options for language output, mathematical programming, or constraint programming. It gives you access to the solver parameters and allows you to modify them. For more information, see *Preferences and options* in the *IDE Reference*.

Note: If your model contains a main flow control script, the OPL values you set in the .ops file, as well as the settings set within the main script, apply to the current model only, not to the submodels loaded and solved at execution time.

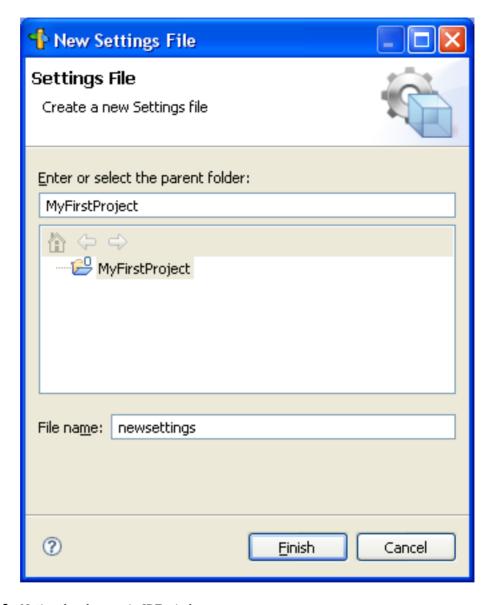
Because you left the **Create settings** option checked in Step 2 of *Creating an empty project*, a default settings file already exists for your project and this is the one you used in *Populating and executing the run configuration*.

To practice with a different run configuration without losing your default settings, you are now going to add a second settings file to your project and use it to set a different value to one mathematical programming option.

This stage of the tutorial assumes you have at least a model in your project and want to be able to modify OPL, CPLEX® , or CP Optimizer parameters.

To add a settings file to an existing project:

- Select the project name in the OPL Projects Navigator, then right-click and select New>Settings.
- 2. In the dialog box, select the parent project and provide a name for the new settings file. Then click **Finish**. The ops extension will be added automatically.



- 3. Notice the changes in IDE window:
 - ♦ The newsettings.ops file is added to the project in the OPL Projects Navigator.
 - ♦ The settings editor appears.
 - ♦ The Outline window displays the settings outline. You can later access the modified settings directly from this window.

Each option available in the settings file is documented individually in OPL language options, Constraint programming options, and Mathematical programming options, in the IDE Reference.

You are now ready to use the new settings file to set a mathematical programming option with which you will then execute the model.

Changing an MP option value

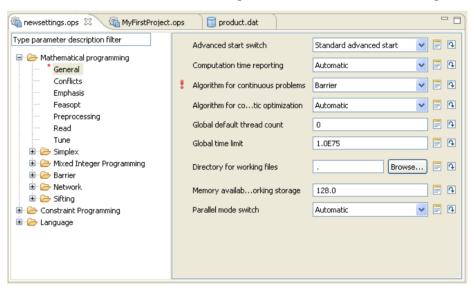
You are now going to modify the default value of one of the MP options.

To change an option value in the IDE:

- 1. Double-click the new .ops file in the OPL Projects Navigator, if it is not already open.

 The panel for mathematical programming options is displayed in the Editing Area.
- 2. In the Mathematical Programming /General category, choose Algorithm for continuous problems and select Barrier from the dropdown list.

Notice the red exclamation mark indicating that a default value has been changed.



3. Choose File>Save.

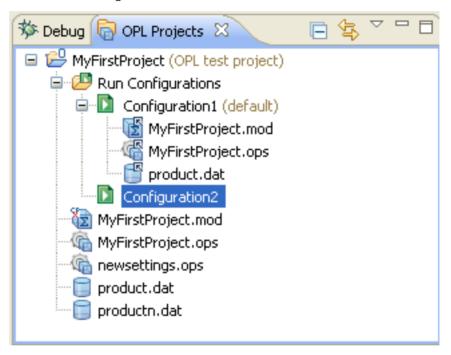
Your project now includes a model file, two data files, and two settings files. In the next step, *Creating and executing a different configuration*, you will create a second run configuration to execute the model with different data and different settings.

Creating and executing a different configuration

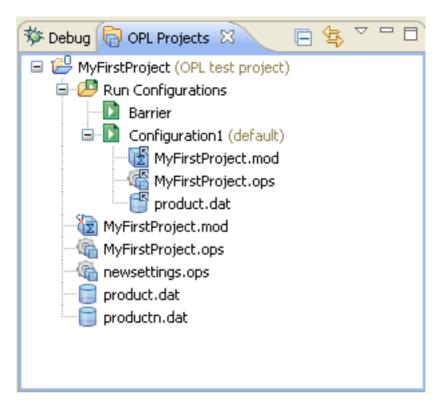
You will now create a second run configuration, then populate and execute it.

To create and execute a second run configuration:

In the selected project, right-click the Run Configurations folder and choose New > Run Configuration from the context menu. A new run configuration with the default name Configuration2 is added.

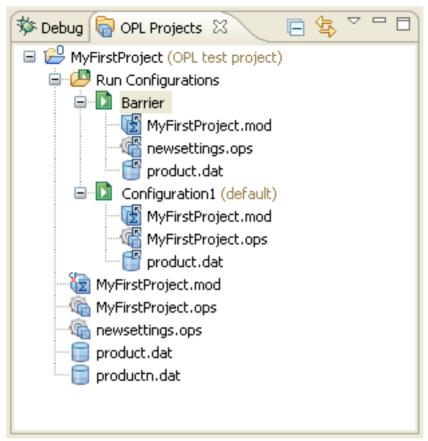


2. Optionally, rename the run configuration, by selecting it, right-clicking and choosing **Rename** from the context menu. In this example, **Configuration2** is renamed **Barrier**.



3. Drag and drop the files myFirstProject.mod, product.dat, and your new settings filenewsettings.ops into the new **Barrier** run configuration.

The OPL Projects Navigator should look like this.



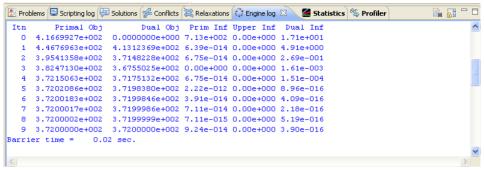
A run configuration with different settings

4. Right-click in the project and select **Run>Barrier** from the context menu to execute the model with changed settings.

The CPLEX@ engine now uses **Barrier** as the value of the algorithm for continuous problems.

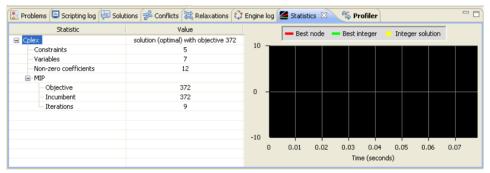
Observe the differences in the output tabs.

- ♦ The **Solutions** tab displays the same solution (see *Solution for Configuration1*).
- ♦ The **Engine Log** tab shows a different report.



Engine Log for Barrier configuration

♦ The **Statistics** tab shows a different algorithm (Barrier) and number of iterations.



Statistics for Barrier configuration

You can proceed to *Examining a solution to the model* to learn more about the execution process and its results.

See also:

- What happens when you execute a run configuration, in the IDE Reference, for details on the execution process.
- ♦ Examining the statistics and progress chart (MP) in IDE Tutorials.

Examining a solution to the model

Explains how to read the solutions in the output tabs and read details of the executed model in the Problem Browser.

In this section

Execution results

Explains how to examine the results in the IDE after executing a run configuration.

The Output tabs

Describes how the IDE output tabs reflect the result of project execution.

Understanding the Problem Browser

Describes the information displayed in the Problem Browser before and after execution.

Execution results

When you execute a run configuration to find the solutions to the problem expressed by the model, the IDE provides facilities for examining results — one for examining the solution and one for examining the details of your model.

◆ To examine the solution, browse the output tabs in the lower half of the main window, as explained in the next section *The Output tabs*.

You can customize the solution display: see OPL language options in the IDE Reference.

- ♦ To examine the structure of the model as solved by the engine, use the Problem Browser: see *Understanding the Problem Browser* and *Doing more with the Problem Browser* in the *IDE Reference*.
- ♦ **Tuning parameters:** When working on a MIP project, possibly by trying various run configurations, you may want to test the performance of your model before deployment. The **Tune model** button in the IDE standard toolbar offers a convenient way to do so. See *Using the performance tuning tool* in *IDE Tutorials*.

Note: For demonstration purposes, the illustrations used in this section are taken from various code samples from the product distribution. However, you can continue with the project you have just created.

The Output tabs

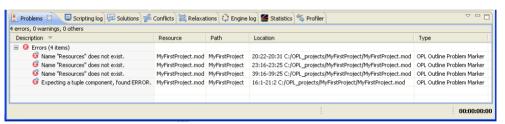
After you execute a run configuration, the solving engine searches for the optimal solution, and when execution is complete, the IDE displays several output tabs in the main window.

These tabs are:

- ♦ Problems
- ♦ Scripting log
- ♦ Solutions
- ♦ Conflicts
- ♦ Relaxations
- ♦ Engine Log
- ♦ Statistics
- ♦ Profiler

Problems

The **Problems** tab displays semantic and syntax errors as you type when you write a model manually, and internal errors, such as scripting or algorithm errors, when you solve a model.



Problems tab

How to read messages:

- ♦ The **Description** column guides the user as to the nature of the error.
- ◆ The **Resource** column indicates which resource the error occurred in.
- ♦ The **Path** column provides the path to the current file.
- ♦ The **Location** column reflects the line that's affected by the error.

Scripting log

The **Scripting log** tab shows execution output related to the IBM® ILOG Script main or execute or prepare blocks of the model (if applicable).

Scripting log tab (transp4.mod)

Solutions

The **Solutions** tab displays the final solution to a model and, if applicable, any intermediate feasible solutions found.

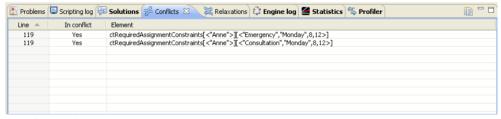
```
| Problems | Scripting log | Solutions | Profilets | Relaxations | Image: Engine log | Statistics | Profiler | Relaxations | Profiler | Relaxations | Relaxa
```

Solutions tab (basic configuration of product.mod)

By default the variables are displayed as well. You can disable this display, see OPL language options in the IDE Reference.

Conflicts

When a CPLEX® model proves infeasible, the **Conflicts** tab shows the places where you can change the data or the way filtering constraints are expressed so as to remove the incompatibilities that made the model infeasible. See *Relaxing infeasible models* in *IDE Tutorials* for details.



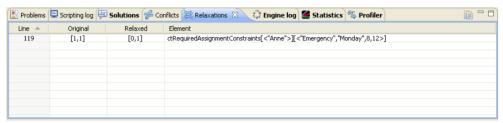
Conflicts tab (nurses project)

The **Conflicts** tab is empty after execution of product.mod because that project is not designed as infeasible.

Note: There is no support for conflicts in models solved by the CP Optimizer engine.

Relaxations

When a CPLEX model proves infeasible, the **Relaxations** tab shows the places that constraints can be relaxed to remove the incompatibilities that made the model infeasible. See *Relaxing infeasible models* in *IDE Tutorials* for details.



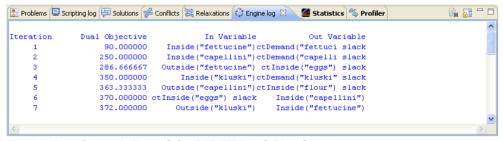
Relaxations tab (nurses project)

The **Relaxations** tab is empty after execution of product.mod because that project is not designed as infeasible.

Note: There is no support for relaxations in models solved by the CP Optimizer engine.

Engine Log

The **Engine Log** tab displays information from the solving engine (CPLEX for product.mod) on the solving process and on the objective function (in this example, a minimize statement).



Engine Log for an MP model - CPLEX Dual Simplex (product.mod)

CPLEX® users may recognize this information as what they see when executing CPLEX Interactive.

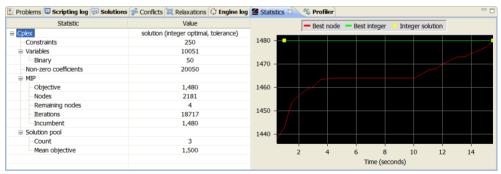
For comparison, the **Engine Log** for a constraint programming model looks like this:

```
🖫 Problems 🖳 Scripting log 💬 Solutions 🤗 Conflicts 📚 Relaxations 🗯 Engine log 🗯 💆 Statistics 🤏 Profiler
 ! Minimization problem - 222 variables, 22,202 constraints, 1 phase
                     = 50
 ! Initial process time : 0.02s (0.00s extraction + 0.02s propagation)
   . Log search space : 1,952.1 (before), 1,363.8 (after)
   . Memory usage
                   : 5.9 Mb (before), 8.4 Mb (after)
    Branches Non-fixed
                                      Branch decision
                                                                        Best
              172
          50
                                     where#41 != 32
         100
                    126
                                    where#100 !=
                                                   17
         150
                   88
                                    where#101 !=
                                                   46
              0.08s
        166
                                     where#87 =
 ! Search terminated, replaying optimal solution
                        : Terminated normally, optimal found (tol. = 0)
 ! Number of branches
                        : 166
 ! Number of fails
                       : 35
 ! Total memory usage
                      : 9.7 Mb (9.5 Mb CP Optimizer + 0.2 Mb Concert)
! Time spent in solve : 0.11s (0.11s engine + 0.00s extraction)
 ! Search speed (br. / s) : 1,517.7
```

Engine Log for a CP model (steelmill project)

Statistics

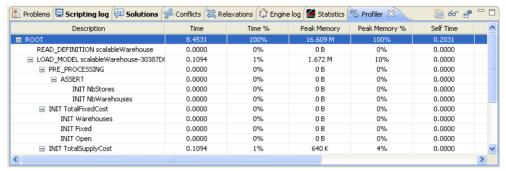
The **Statistics** tab shows details of the algorithm used by the solving engine.



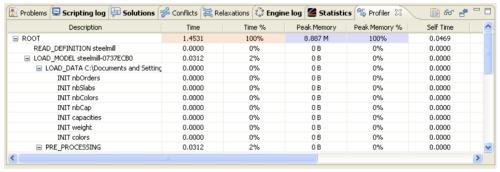
Statistics for an MP model (scalable configuration of warehouse project)

Profiler

The profiling tool computes the time and memory used by each execution step listed in the **Pescription** tree on the right and displays it as a table in the **Profiler** tab of the Output Area. You can use this information to improve the model so that it executes faster and consumes less memory. The Profiler table also displays details of model extraction and engine search during the solving phase. See *Profiling the execution of a model* in *IDE Tutorials*.



Profiler table for an MP model (scalable configuration of warehouse project)



Profiler table for a CP model (steelmill.mod)

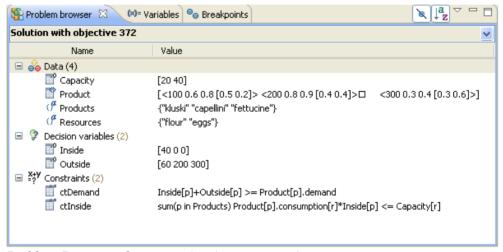
Understanding the Problem Browser

The Problem Browser shows a structured view of the problem expressed by the model. See *The Problem browser* in the *IDE Reference* and *Doing more with the Problem Browser* in the *IDE Reference* for a complete presentation.

When you first open a project, the Problem Browser is empty. You can use it to browse the model before any execution and to examine the values after execution.

When you execute a run configuration, the Problem Browser provides a way for you to examine the solution to your model, in addition to what you see in *The Output tabs*. It summarizes information about the data structures defined in the model to express the optimization problem.

As an example, you can open the production project and run the **Named data** configuration. After the execution, the Problem Browser displays values for the model elements.

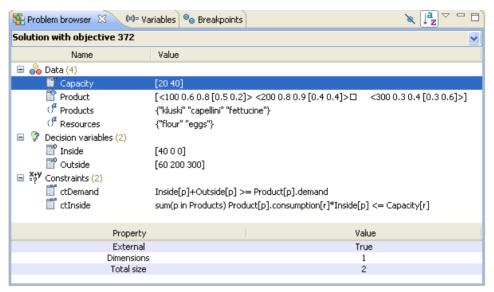


Problem Browser after execution (product.mod)

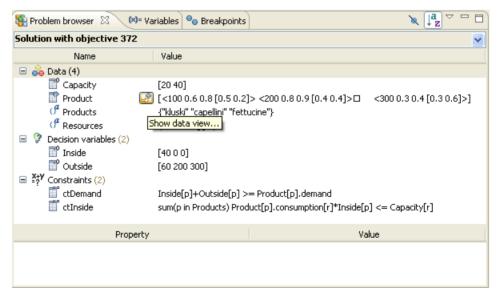
Observe the Problem Browser window.

- ♦ The drop-down list at the top displays the final solution, which is the only solution it contains after the execution of the **Named data** run configuration. For run configurations that generate more than one solution, the list displays the solution pools that were computed by the engine. Selecting one of these solutions from the drop-down list displays data for that solution in the lower part of the Problem Browser. See *Working with the solution pool* in *IDE Tutorials*.
- The categories in the Name column (Data, Decision Variables, Constraints) are populated with model objects and expanded to show the corresponding values. The order within each category is alphabetical.
- ♦ The **Value** column shows values for the model objects. The Property name and Property value columns remain empty until you select a model element.

♦ If you select an item in the main Problem Browser window (in this case, **Capacity**), properties for that object are shown in the lower part of the window. This area may be hidden by using the Hide Properties button.



♦ If you slide the cursor over a data object (in this case, **Products**), a Show data view button appears (shown below with its tooltip visible):



Clicking this button displays the data view in the main editing area:

■ Value for Product ⊠						
	Values					
↓ Products (size 3)	↓ demand	↓ insideCost	↓ outsideCost	consumption		
"kluski"	100	0.6	0.8	[0.5 0.2]		
"capellini"	200	0.8	0.9	[0.4 0.4]		
"fettucine"	300	0.3	0.4	[0.3 0.6]		

For a large tuple set, the values may not all be visible within the window. In this case, an ellipsis appears at the end of the cell. Pass the cursor over the column to display all the values in a tooltip.

Note: If the model has only unlabeled constraints, the **Constraints** line is empty. To observe this, comment out the constraint labels and execute the project again. See *Constraint labels* in the *Language Reference Manual*.

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