How did the code get this way?

source code history at your fingertips

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How did the code get this way?

Who last touched it, and when?

Why did they make that change?
How did the code get this way?

If you’re really lucky, comments tell you why...

```java
private void copyToClipboard(ITextSelection selection, boolean delete, StyledText textWidget) {
    String copyText = selection.getText();
    if (copyText == null) // selection.getText failed - backup using widget
        textWidget.copy();

    if (copyText != null && copyText.equals(textWidget.getSelectionText())) {
        /*
         * XXX: Reduce pain of https://bugs.eclipse.org/bugs/show_bug.cgi?id=64498
         * by letting the widget handle the copy operation in this special case.
         */
        textWidget.copy();
    } else if (copyText == null) {
        Clipboard clipboard = new Clipboard(textWidget.getDisplay());
```
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Eclipse’s “Show Annotations” feature can help to answer “who” and “when”...

... sometimes even “why”...

108258 [typing] Toggle Comment on folded Javadoc fails
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Current tools *can* help you answer these questions—but it's often cumbersome
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Idea: integrate answers right into editor with transparent overlay columns
case CUT:

    if (redraws()) {
        selection = (ITextSelection) getSelection();
        if (exposeModelRange(new Region(selection.getOffset(), selection.getLength())))
            return;

        if (selection.getLength() == 0)
            copyMarkedRegion(true);
        else
            copyToClipboard(selection, true, textWidget);

        Point range = textWidget.getSelectionRange();
        fireSelectionChanged(range.x, range.y);
    }
    break;

case COPY:

    if (redraws()) {
        selection = (ITextSelection) getSelection();
        if (selection.getLength() == 0)
            copyMarkedRegion(false);
        else
            copyToClipboard(selection, false, textWidget);
    }
    break;

case DELETE:

    if (redraws()) {
        try {
            selection = (ITextSelection) getSelection();
            
        }
    }
demo
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User study planned (fall 2010)

Volunteers wanted!

See me or email: awjb at cs dot ubc dot ca