Subject: Re: Code Metrics tools for IDL
Posted by Liam E. Gumley on Thu, 28 Aug 2003 17:05:56 GMT

"John" <jgreive@starband.net> wrote in message
news:c53c914e.0308280754.25f84ccb@posting.google.com...
> Hello,
>   Does anyone know of any tools to calculate quality metrics for IDL
> code. For example, does anyone have a tool that would calculate
> cyclomatic complexity metrics?

See "Code Complete" by Steve McConnell, pp 394-396. To paraphrase:

The McCabe complexity for a routine may be estimated as follows:

(1) Start with 1 for the straight path through the routine

(2) Add 1 for each of the following control statements: IF, WHILE, REPEAT,
FOR, AND, OR

(3) Add 1 for each case in a CASE statement

Guidelines: if the complexity is
0-5   The routine is probably fine
6-10   Think about ways to simplify the routine
10+   Break part(s) of the routine into smaller routines which can be
called from within the parent routine

No doubt you could write a shell script to parse an IDL source file and
compute the total complexity.

Cheers,
Liam.
Practical IDL Programming
http://www.gumley.com/