

Developing ColdFusion Applications with Eclipse

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CFEclipse Project

<http://www.cfeclipse.org>



Who am I?



- CFEclipse's Lead Developer
- A CFEclipse and ColdFusion Evangelist
- UK's ColdFusion User Group's Co-Manager
- Product Manager at Design UK (A London based New Media Agency)
- A ColdFusion Developer for 11 years, a web developer for 15 years



What is Eclipse?

● What is Eclipse?

- A Platform for building Rich Client Applications and IDE's
- Originally a Java Development Environment
- Originally developed by IBM (for WebSphere)
- Open Source
- Free
- Expandable using plugins

● Why is that good?

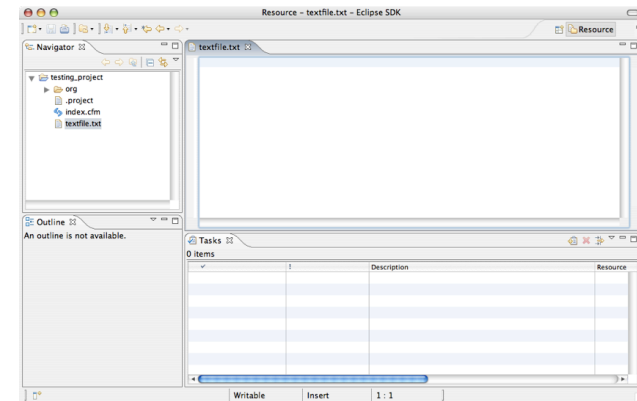
- Any one can contribute
- Lots of great tools already available (Version Control, Flex Builder, XML Editors, HTML, UML etc)



Getting Started – Eclipse



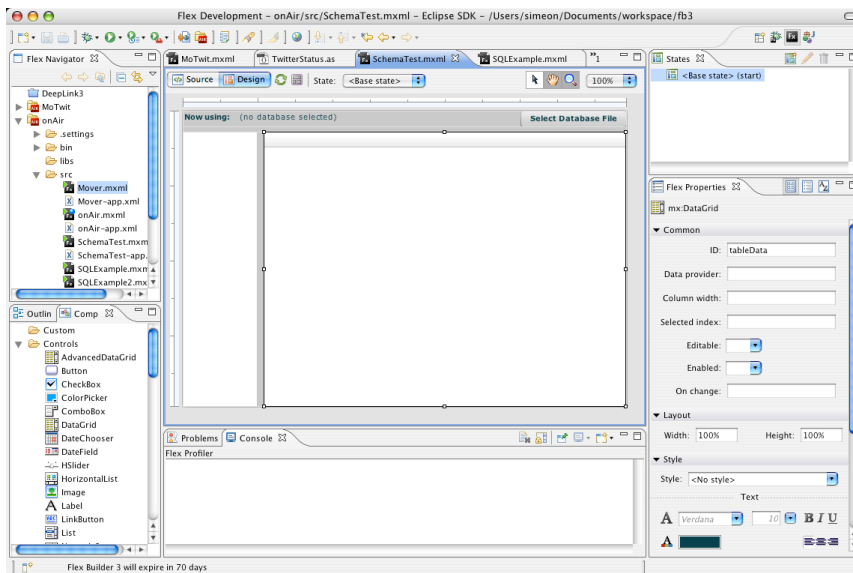
- Download from <http://www.eclipse.org>
- Or Install Adobe Flex Builder as Standalone



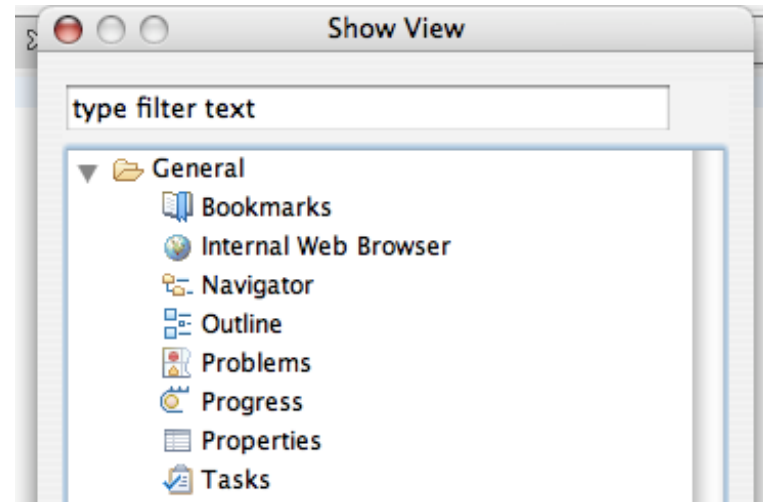
Or... Use Adobe Flex Builder



- Flex Builder is an Eclipse
 - Plugin Two installation modes
 - Standalone Flex Builder
 - Installs Basic Eclipse For you
 - Flex Builder Plugin
 - Add this into your existing Eclipse Install



- Cross Platform versions (Win/OS X/Linux etc)
- Out of the box Java Development
- Version control with CVS
- Ant task runner
- Generic text editor
- Web Browser
- Project based
- Search
- Customization of the workspace



- Lets look at some of the features of Eclipse





- A FREE plugin for Eclipse
- Adds ColdFusion specific features
- Open Source (like Eclipse)



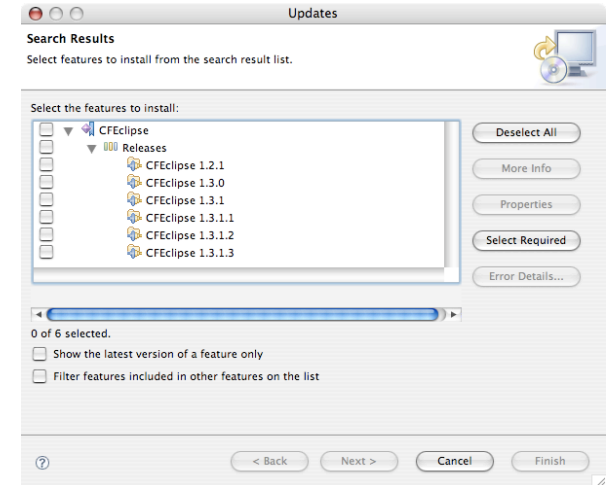
- 2003 Project Founded by Rob Rohan
- 2003 Oliver Tupman and Spike Milligan add tons of features
- 2004 Mark Drew adds F1 Help features and Nathan Strutz becomes webmaster
- 2005 Macromedia endorses project
- 2005 Adobe join Eclipse Foundation
- 2006 Flex Builder built on Eclipse
- 2006 RDS plugin for Eclipse
- 2007 CFEclipse 1.3 Released
- 2007 CF8 Extensions for Eclipse (RDS & Debugging)



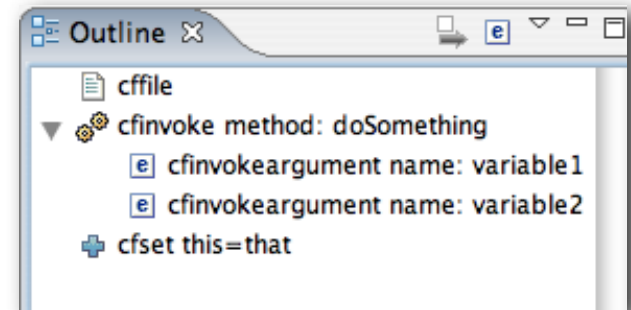
Getting CFEclipse



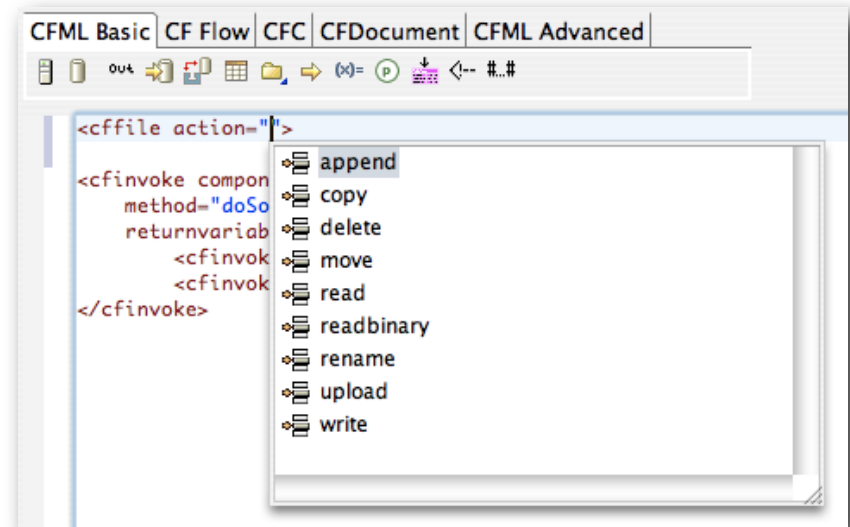
- Easily installed through Eclipse's Software Update mechanism
- Stable Build – Automatic Update
- <http://www.cfecclipse.org/update/>



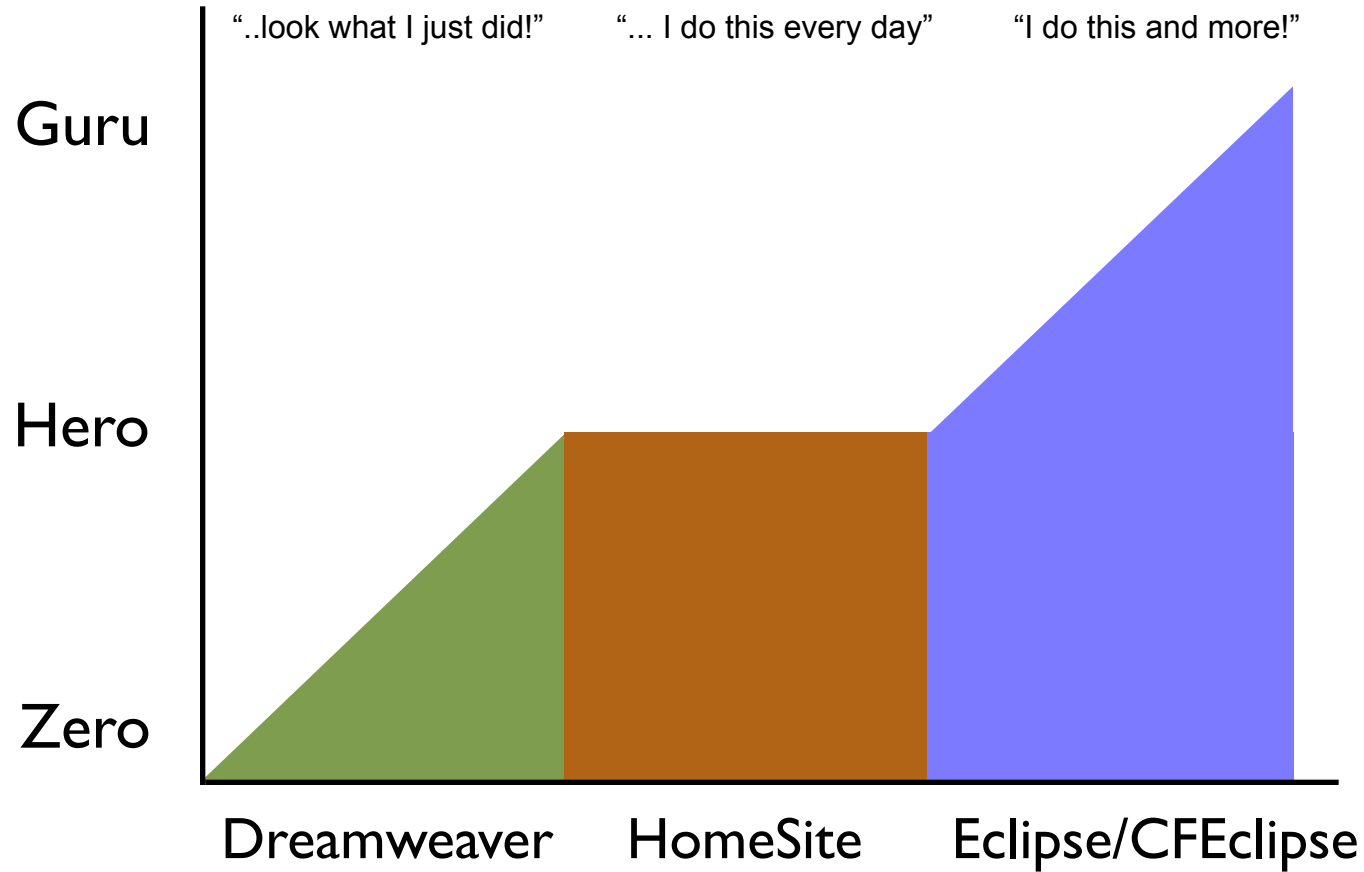
- Tag Completion
- Syntax Highlighting
- Outline
- Methods View
- Web based help within the IDE
- Snippets
- Scribble Pad
- Support for different versions of ColdFusion and CFML



- Toolbars (just like Homesite!, kind of)
- Variable Insight
- Syntax checking
- SnipEx, distributed snippets server
- Support for XML based Frameworks
- Unit Testing (CFCUnit and CFUnit)



Where does it fit?



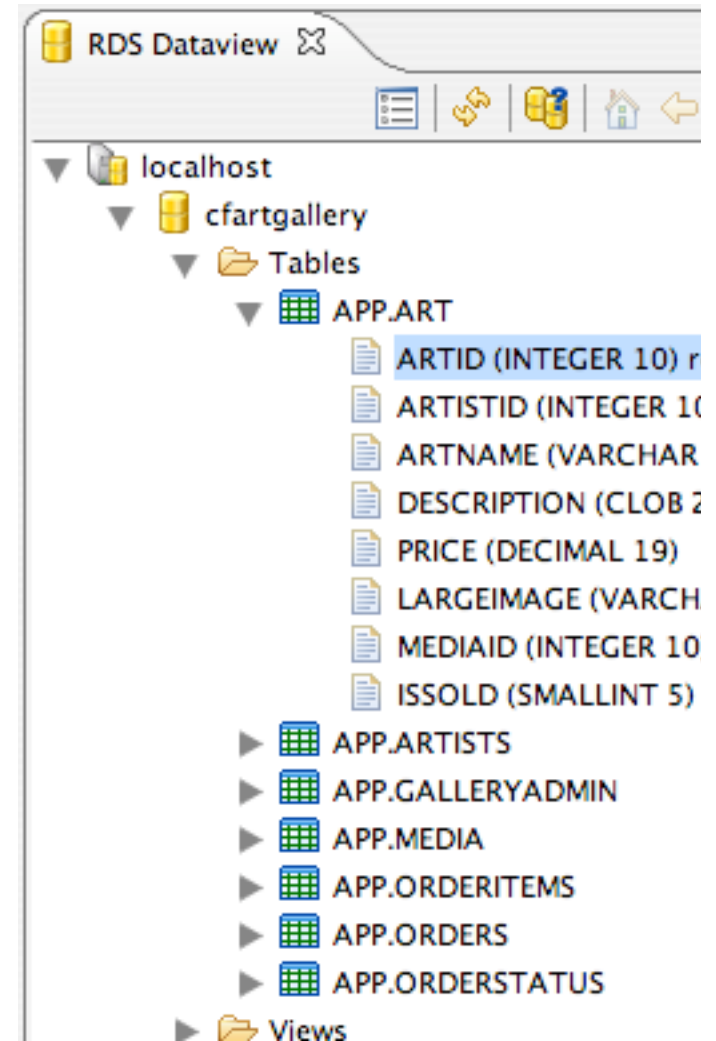
- CFEclipse in action



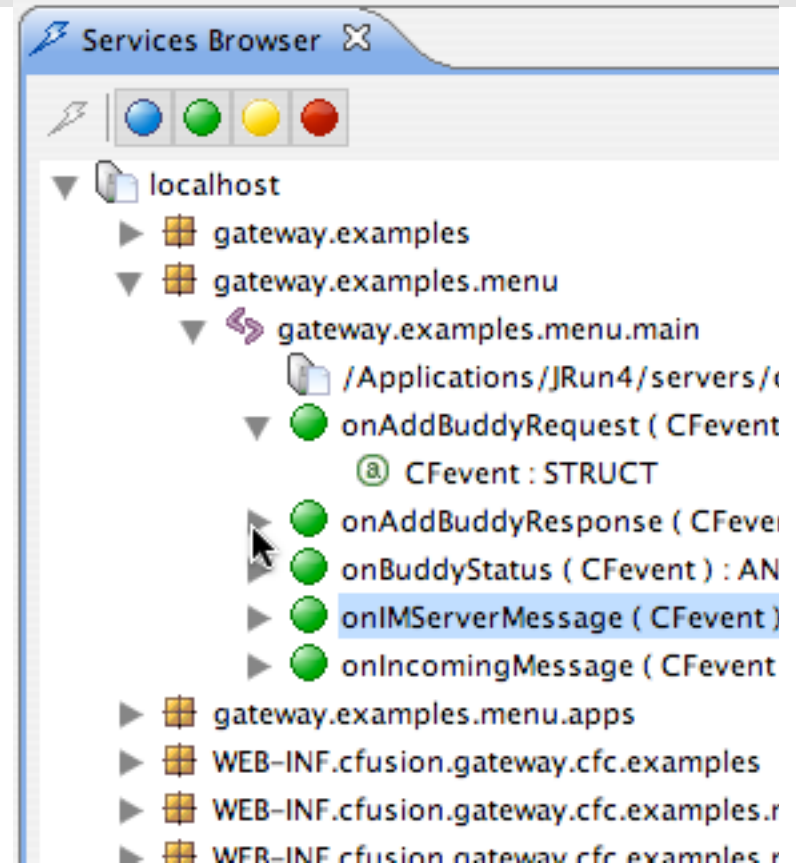
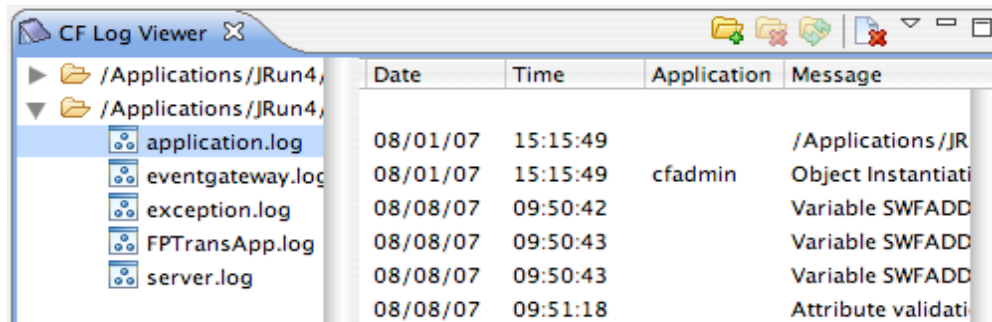
Working with ColdFusion Server

CF Extensions for Eclipse

- Eclipse RDS Support Panel
- ColdFusion/Flex Application wizard, which lets you create master and detail pages in an application to create, read, update, and delete records in a database.
- ColdFusion/Ajax Application wizard, which lets you create master and detail pages that use Ajax elements in an application to create, read, update, and delete records in a database.
- RDS CRUD wizard, which lets you dynamically create a ColdFusion component (CFC) based on a table that is registered in the ColdFusion Administrator on a ColdFusion server

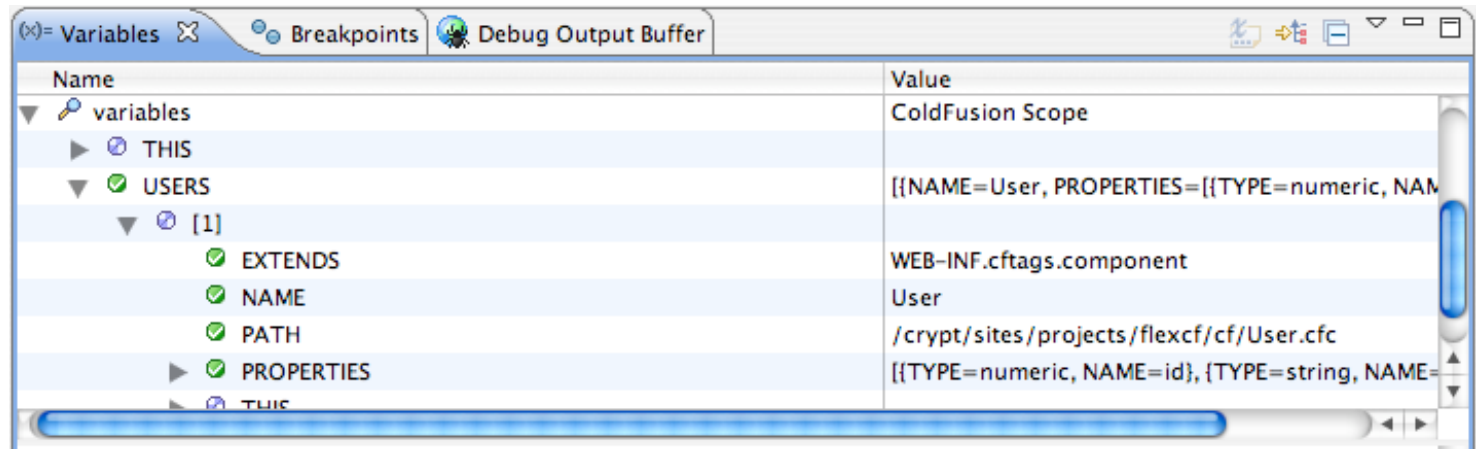
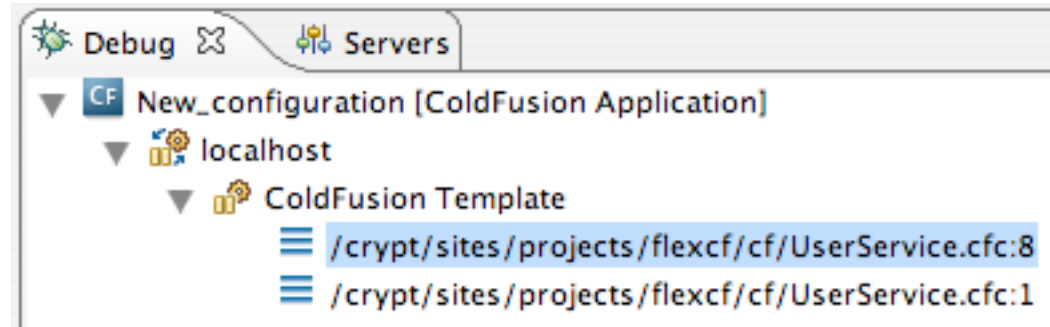


- **ActionScript to CFC wizard**, which lets you create a CFC based on an ActionScript class file.
- **CFC to ActionScript wizard**, which lets you create an ActionScript file based on a CFC Value Object
- **Services Browser**, which lets you browse CFCs, manage a list of web services, and generate the CFML code to invoke a web service.
- **Log Viewer**, it works like the Unix tail function



■ ColdFusion Debug Support

- Breakpoint and code evaluation inside Eclipse
- Step Over, Step Into, Step Return support
- Works on CFM files and CFC files called from flex
- Introspect variables from most ColdFusion scopes



- How do you get them?
 - ColdFusion 8 Install
 - Flex Builder
 - CFReports.com

■ ColdFusion Extensions in Action



- Use Eclipse 3.3 with Windows Vista
 - CF Extensions require update from cfreport.org to work in 3.3
- Use Eclipse 3.2 or Better on OS X
- Flex Builder 3 compatible with Eclipse 3.3
- Other Plugins:
 - Aptana
 - MyEclipse IDE
 - QuantumDB
 - Flex Builder
 - JSEclipse

- Eclipse Foundation
 - <http://www.eclipse.org>
- CFEclipse
 - <http://www.cfecclipse.org>
- Mailing List:
 - <http://groups.google.com/group/cfecclipse-users>
- Eclipse Plugin Central:
 - <http://www.eclipseplugincentral.com/>
- My Blog
 - <http://www.markdrew.co.uk>

- Questions/Ideas/Suggestions?



Thank you!