

Polyphemos

Ease Virtual Machine Level Tooling



Pierre Misse-Chanabier
Theo Rogliano



Who Does Not Love Tools ?

Tooling Levels



Pharo Image

Language Level

VM Level

Pharo VM

Who Does Not Love Tools ?

Tools at the Language Level

Pharo Image

Language Level

VM Level

Pharo VM

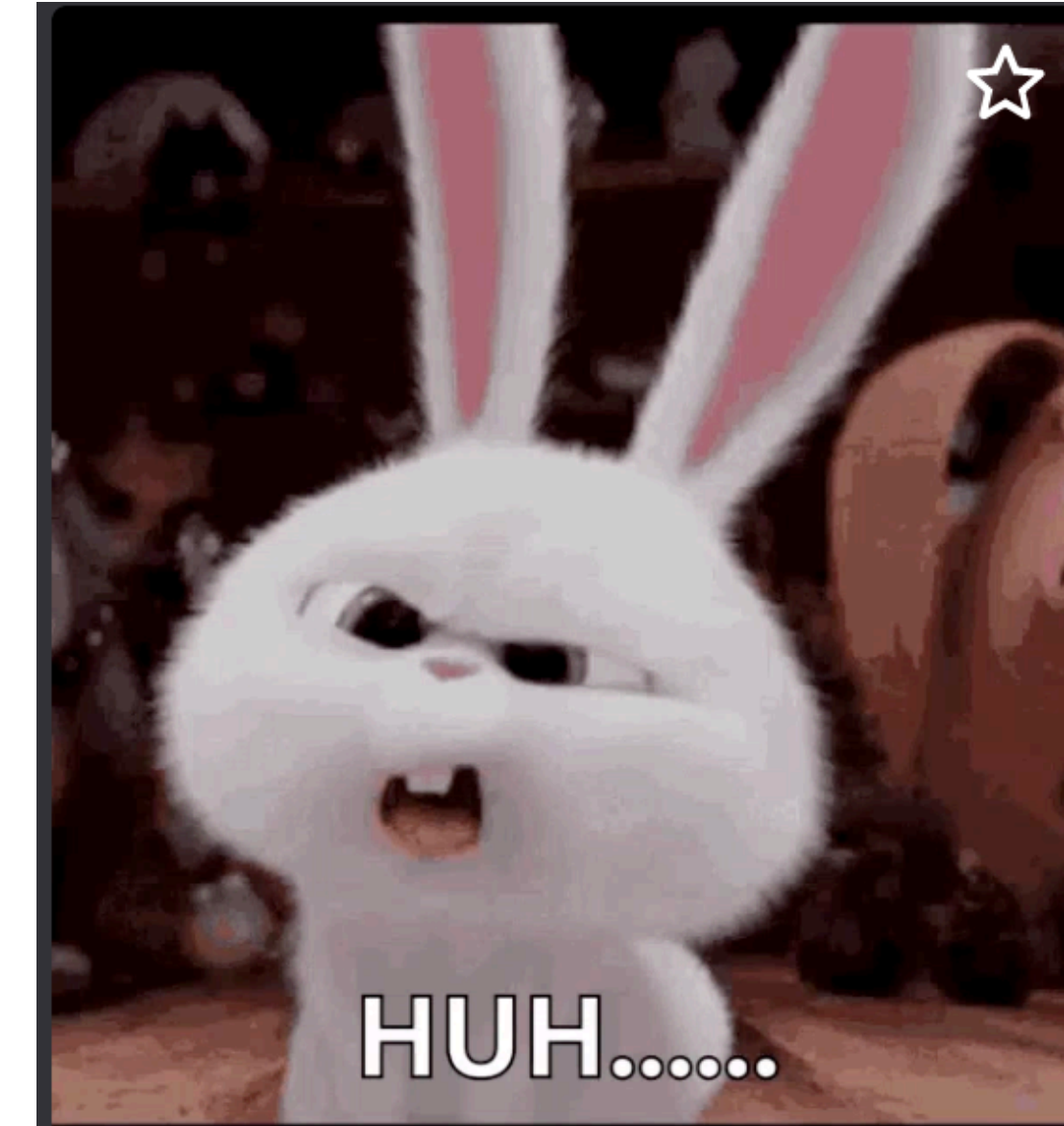
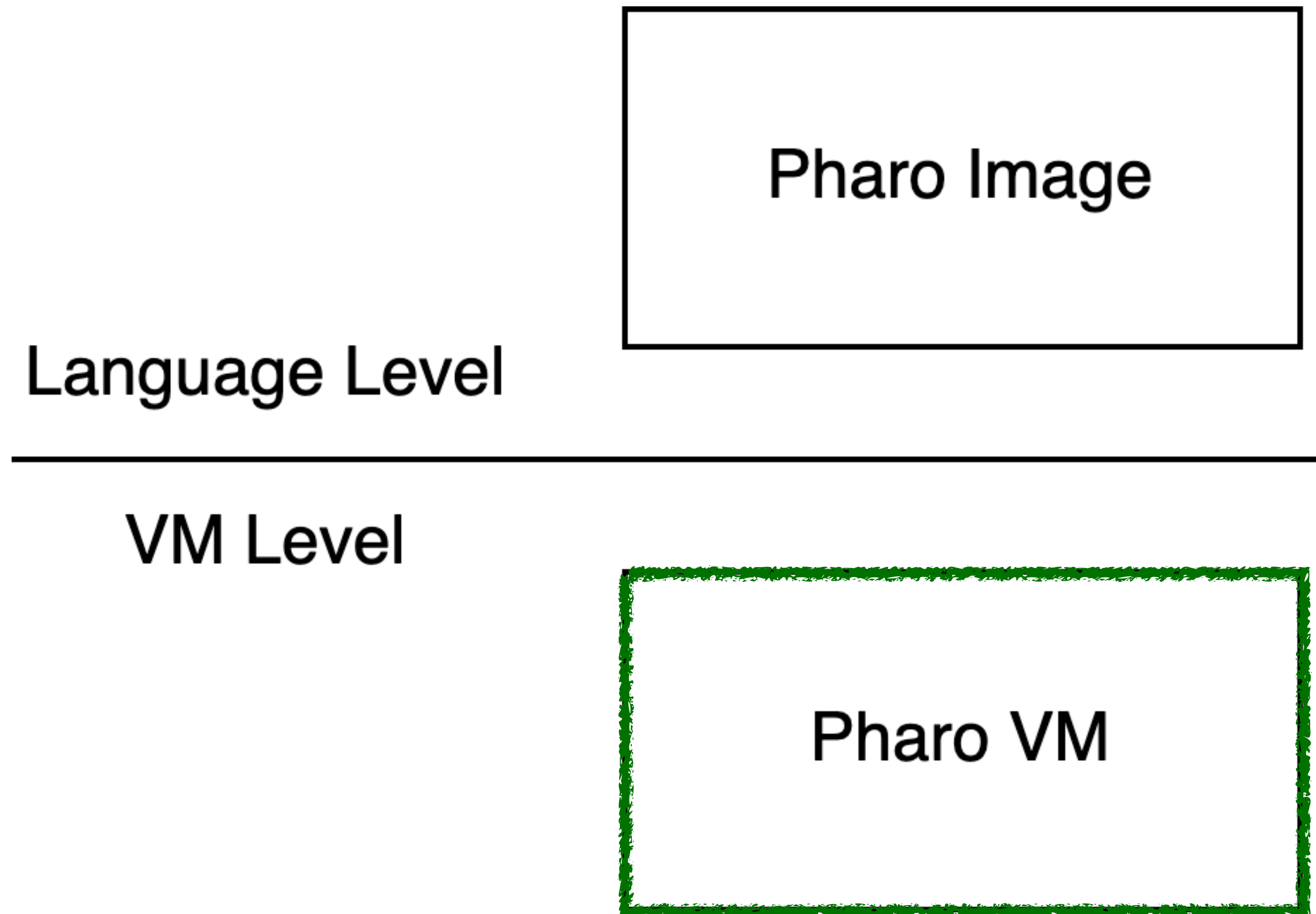
NewTools, Moose, Roassal,
Calypso, SUnit, Iceberg, Refactoring, Epicea

... ..



Who Does Not Love Tools ?

Tools at the VM Level

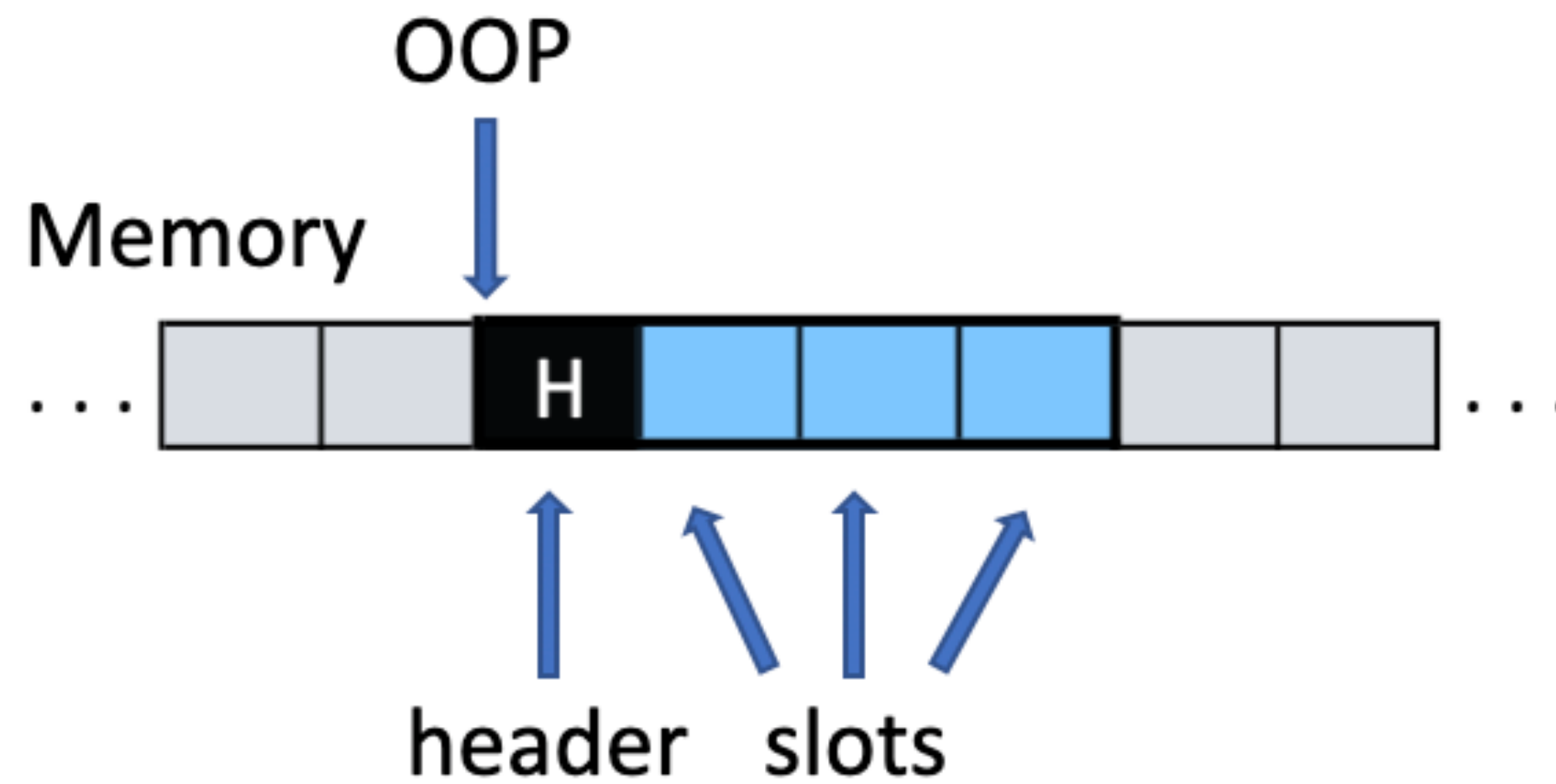


Bootstrap, VM machine code debugger
Others ?

Not many things a Pharo developer cares about !

Let's Code VM Level Tools !

What's an Ordinary Object Pointer (OOP)



Who Does Not Love Tools ?

Why Should we Care About VM Level Tools ?

```
Form >> #scaledByDisplayScaleFactor  
self halt.  
^ self scaledToSize: self extent * self currentWorld displayScaleFactor.
```

Who Does Not Love Tools ?

Don't Close the Image !



Form >> #scaledByDisplayScaleFactor

self halt.

^ self scaledToSize: self extent * self currentWorld displayScaleFactor.



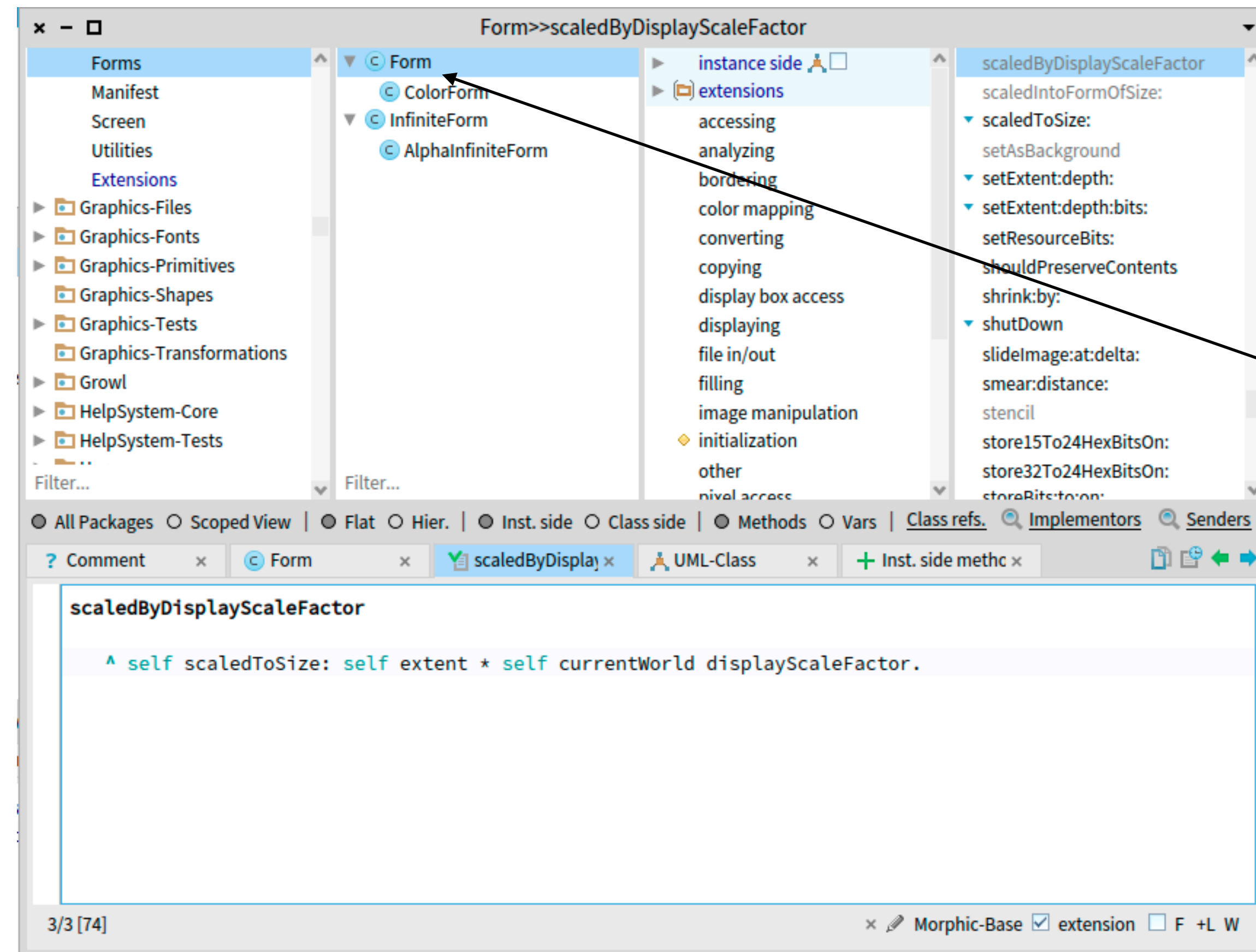
Who Does Not Love Tools ?

Too Late !

```
Halt
SmallInteger(Object)>>haltOnce
Form>>scaledByDisplayScaleFactor
ThemeIcons>>iconNamed:
MorphicRootRenderer(Object)>>iconNamed:
MorphicRootRenderer(OSWorldRenderer)>>setAttributesDefault
MorphicRootRenderer class(OSWorldRenderer class)>>forWorld:
[ :arg5 | tmp2 := arg5 forWorld: arg1 ] in AbstractWorldRenderere
FullBlockClosure(BlockClosure)>>cull:
[ :arg4 | (arg1 value: arg4) ifTrue: [ ^ arg2 cull: arg4 ] ] in
  arg2 cull...etc...
OrderedCollection>>do:
OrderedCollection(Collection)>>detect:ifFound:ifNone:
OrderedCollection(Collection)>>detect:ifFound:
AbstractWorldRenderer class>>detectCorrectOneForWorld:
```


Let's Code VM Level Tools !

Let's Find the Class Form ...



Found it !

Let's Code VM Level Tools !

Let's Find The Class Form ... But at the VM Level ...

a ByteArray [13107200 items]

Items	Raw	Breakpoints	Meta
Index	Value		
4676739	231		
4676740	14		
4676741	0		
4676742	0		
4676743	0		
4676744	0		
4676745	32		
4676746	55		
4676747	231		
4676748	14		
4676749	0		
4676750	0		
4676751	0		
4676752	0		
4676753	32		
4676754	55		
4676755	231		
4676756	14		
4676757	0		
4676758	0		
4676759	0		
4676760	0		

13 107 200 items

Let's Code VM Level Tools !

With the Help of the Simulator

```
findClassName: aClassName
| classNameIndex classNameOop className |
memory classTableEntriesDo: [ :aClassOop |
    aClassOop = memory nilOOP
    "ifTrue: [ not a class, nothing to do ]"
    ifFalse: [
        classNameIndex := memory classNameIndexForOop: aClassOop.
        classNameOop := memory fetchPointer: classNameIndex ofObject: aClassOop.
        className := memory convertStringOopToStringObject: classNameOop.
        className = aClassName ifTrue: [ ^ aClassOop ]]].
^ memory nilOOP
```

memory findClassName: Form >>> 406749864

Let's Code VM Level Tools !

Knowledge Gaps

```
findClassName: aClassName
| classNameIndex classNameOop className |
memory classTableEntriesDo: [ :aClassOop |
  aClassOop = memory nilOOP
  "ifTrue: [ not a class, nothing to do ]"
  ifFalse: [
    classNameIndex := memory classNameIndexForOop: aClassOop.
    classNameOop := memory fetchPointer: classNameIndex ofObject: aClassOop.
    className := memory convertStringOopToStringObject: classNameOop.
    className = aClassName ifTrue: [ ^ aClassOop ]].
^ memory nilOOP
```

VM level oop → `classNameOop`

Oop → `aClassOop`

Low level style → `classNameIndex`

Common API → `memory`

Let's Code VM Level Tools !

Knowledge gaps recaps

Issues

- Ordinary Object Pointers (OOP)
- Common API
- VM level information

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Introducing LLOOPs

Language level OOPs

Issues

- Ordinary Object Pointers (OOP)
- Common API
- VM level information

Solutions

- **Objects**
- Specialized API & Polymorphism
- VM and Language level information

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Tooling the OOPs Using LLOOPs

- Object specific behavior
 - Inspectors
 - Memory visualisation
 - Naming entities
-
- Depends on your imagination !

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Object Specific Behavior

- aClass subclasses
- aClassTablePage indexInClassTable
- anIndexableObject numberOfSlots

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Inspectors

LLOOP

Pharo Object

self	Form
superclass	DisplayMedium
{ } methodDict	a MethodDictionary [206 items] (size 206)
Σ format	65541
layout	a FixedLayout
organization	a ClassOrganization
commentSourcePointer	nil
{ } subclasses	an Array [6 items] (ColorForm Cursor DisplayScreen GlyphForm
name	Form
{ } classPool	a Dictionary [1 item] (#FloodFillTolerance->nil)
sharedPools	nil
{ } environment	a SystemDictionary [10453 items]
category	Graphics-Display Objects-Forms

Key	Value
address	406749864
printString	Form
header	10110000000000000111001100100000000100000000000011100110001
class	Form class
oopClassTag	1841
format	Non Indexable (1)
hash	1842
pinned	false
space	Old Space
immutable	false
numSlots	11
superclass	DisplayMedium
methodDict	Instance of MethodDictionary
format	65541
layout	Instance of FixedLayout
organization	Instance of ClassOrganization
subclasses	Instance of Array
name	Form
classPool	Instance of Dictionary
sharedPools	nilObject
environment	Instance of SystemDictionary
category	Graphics-Display Objects-Forms

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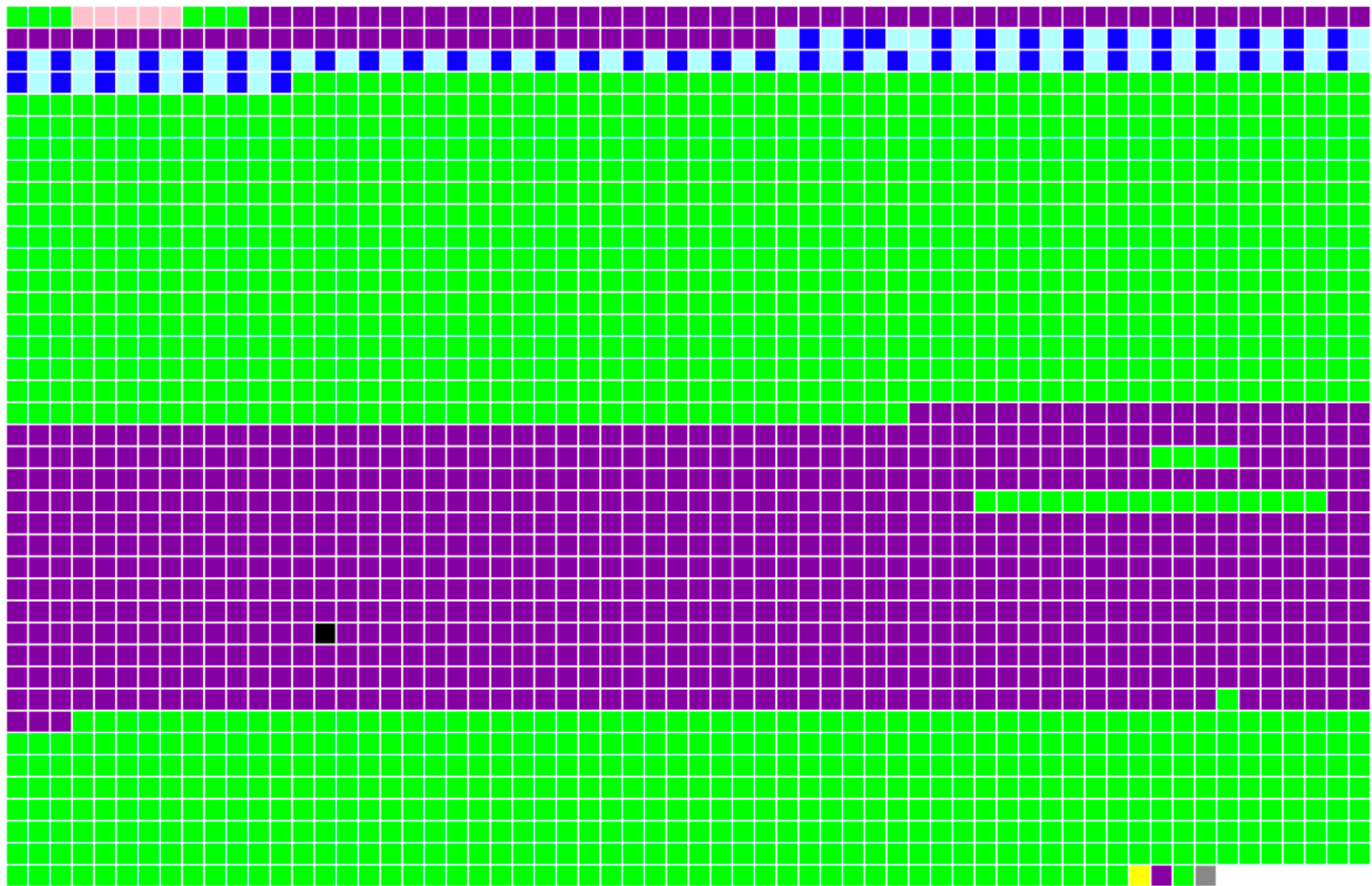
Inspectors #2

Compiled Method

address	8685808
printString	PCMessage >> #arguments
header	101000000000000000000000000000000011111000000000000010000011011
class	PCCompiledMethod
oopClassTag	1051
format	Compiled method (31)
hash	0
pinned	false
space	Old Space
immutable	false
selector	arguments
methodClass	PCMessage
numLiterals	2
literal 1	arguments
literal 2	Instance of PCAssociation

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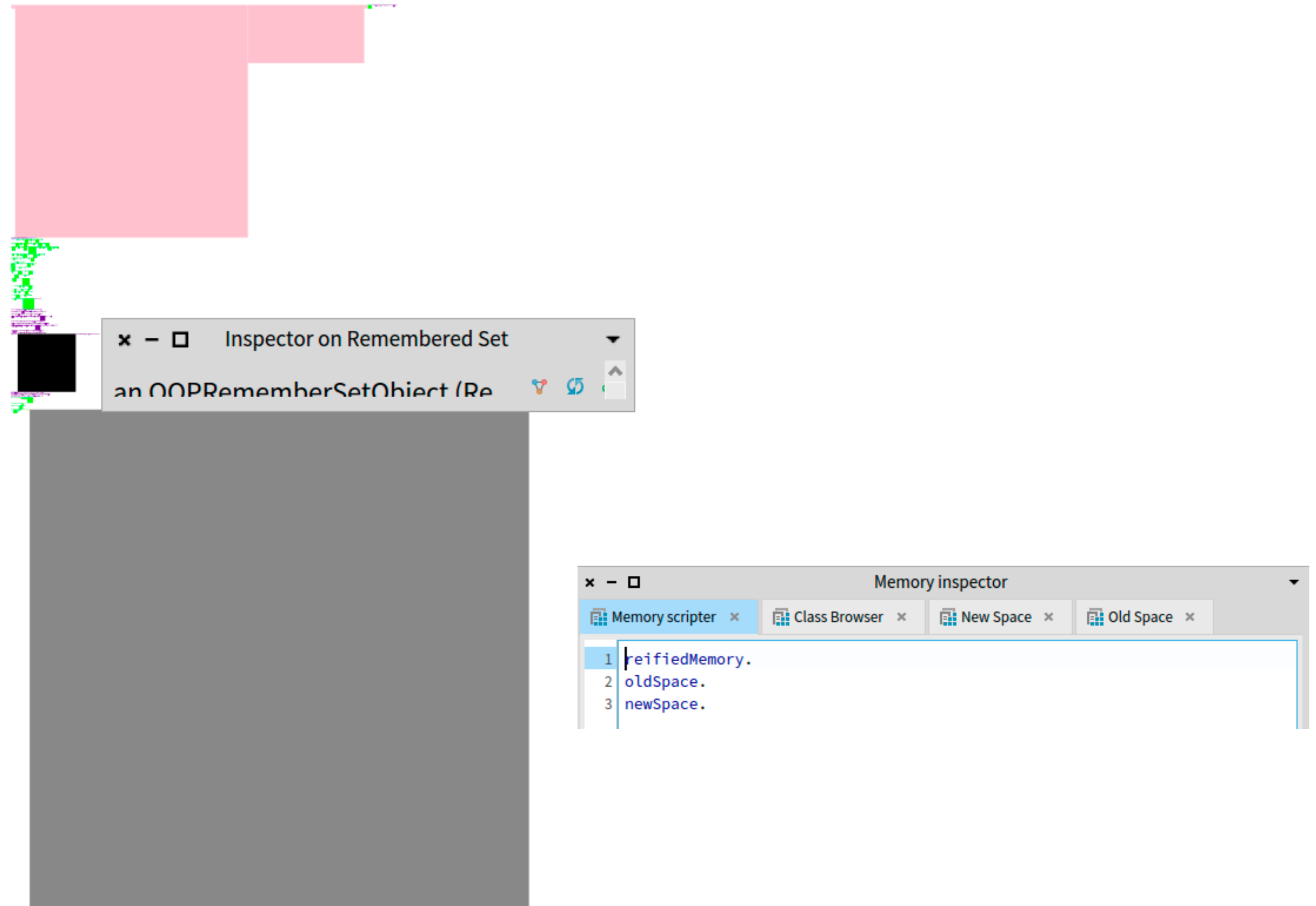
Memory visualisation



- 1 pinned object
- 895 compiled method
- 51 class
- 5 special object
- 1 context
- 1 free chunk
- 1468 regular object
- 51 metaclass

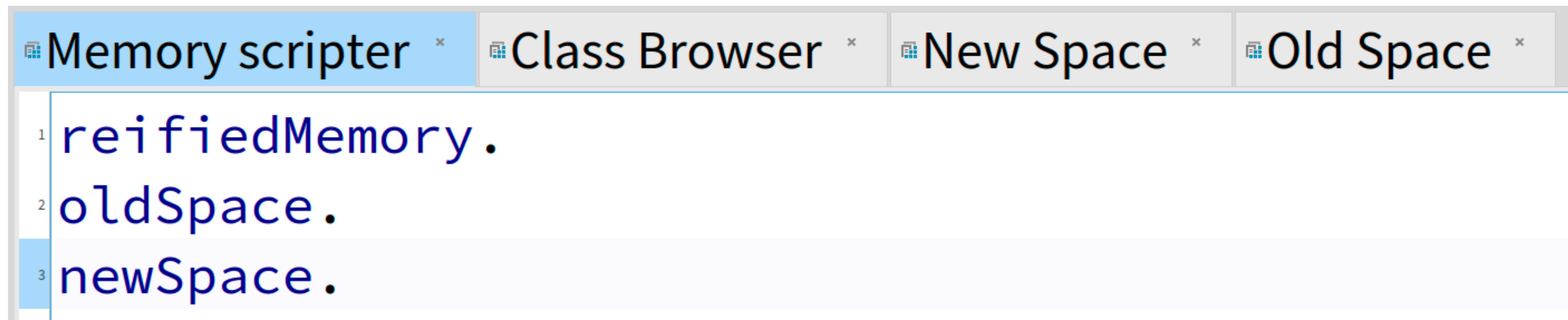
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What's That ?



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Scripter

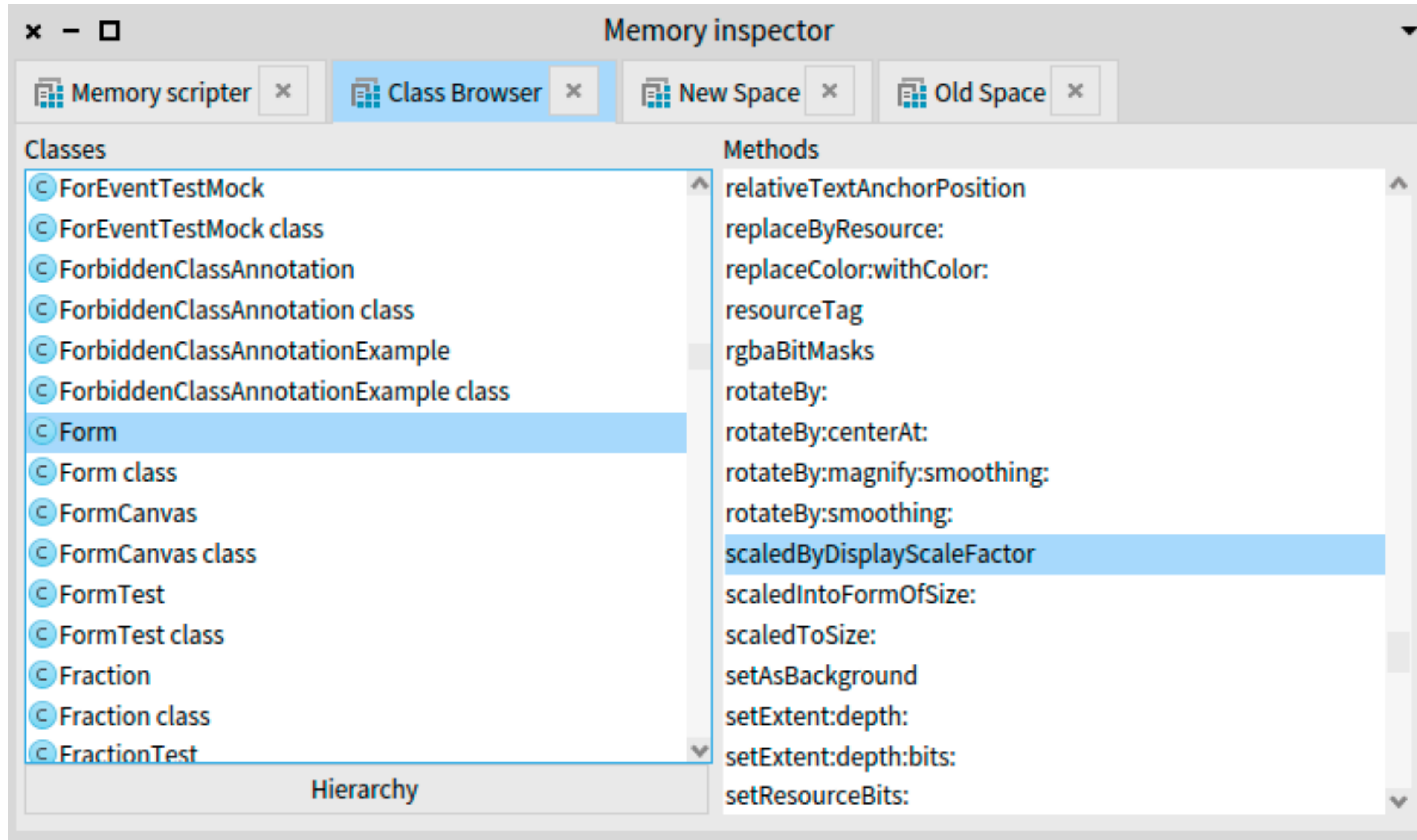


The screenshot shows the Polyphemus Scripter interface. At the top, there are four tabs: "Memory scripter" (active), "Class Browser", "New Space", and "Old Space". Below the tabs is a code editor with three lines of JavaScript code:

```
1 reifiedMemory.  
2 oldSpace.  
3 newSpace.
```

Polyphemus

Memory Visualisation #2



Real World Bug Fix #1

Remember This ?



Form >> #scaledByDisplayScaleFactor

self halt.

^ self scaledToSize: self extent * self currentWorld displayScaleFactor.



Real World Bug Fix #1

A Meta-Error Fix

Inspector on Form >> #scaledByDisplayScaleFactor

an OOPCompiledMethod (Form ...)

Oop Raw Breakpoints Meta

Key	Value
address	Form >> #scaledByDisplayScaleFactor
header	10100001000001100011011111010001100
class	CompiledMethod
oopClassTag	3101
format	Compiled method (24)
hash	1074045
pinned	false
space	Old Space
immutable	false
selector	scaledByDisplayScaleFactor
methodClass	Form
numLiterals	7
literal 1	haltOnce
literal 2	extent
literal 3	currentWorld
literal 4	displayScaleFactor
literal 5	scaledToSize:
literal 6	Instance of AdditionalMethodState
literal 7	Instance of GlobalVariable

```
1 self allBytecodes
2 "#(81 128 216 76 76 129 76 130 131 104 148 92 36 159 7
  253)"
```

Inspector on Form >> #scaledByDisplayScaleFactor

an OOPCompiledMethod (Form ...)

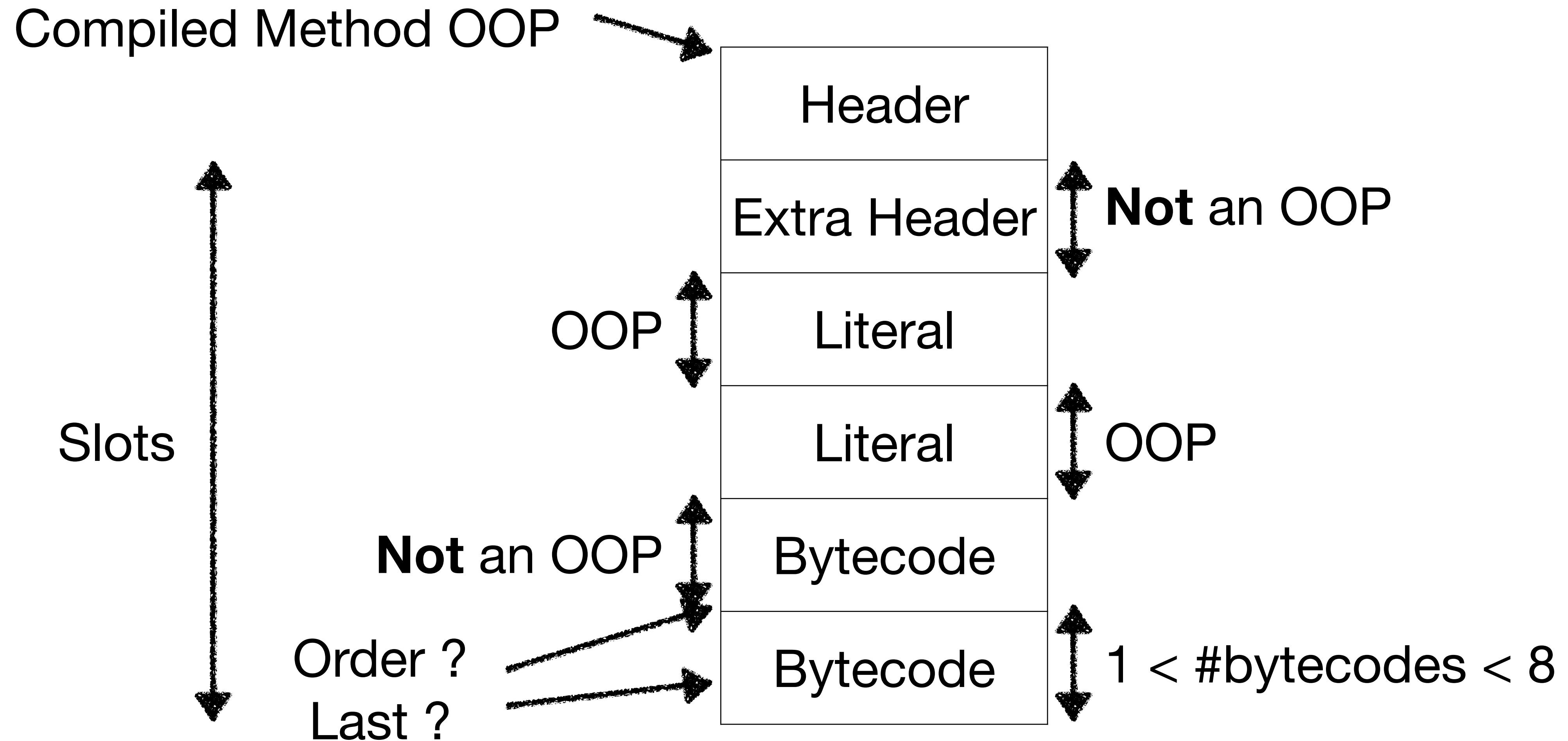
Oop Raw Breakpoints Meta

Key	Value
address	Form >> #scaledByDisplayScaleFactor
header	10010000001011000111011111011000110110
class	CompiledMethod
oopClassTag	3101
format	Compiled method (27)
hash	182139
pinned	false
space	Old Space
immutable	false
selector	scaledByDisplayScaleFactor
methodClass	Form
numLiterals	6
literal 1	extent
literal 2	currentWorld
literal 3	displayScaleFactor
literal 4	scaledToSize:
literal 5	scaledByDisplayScaleFactor
literal 6	Instance of GlobalVariable

```
1 self allBytecodes
2 "#(76 76 128 76 129 130 104 147 92 16 152 150 252)"
3
```

Real World Bug Fix #1

A Meta-Error Fix Analysis



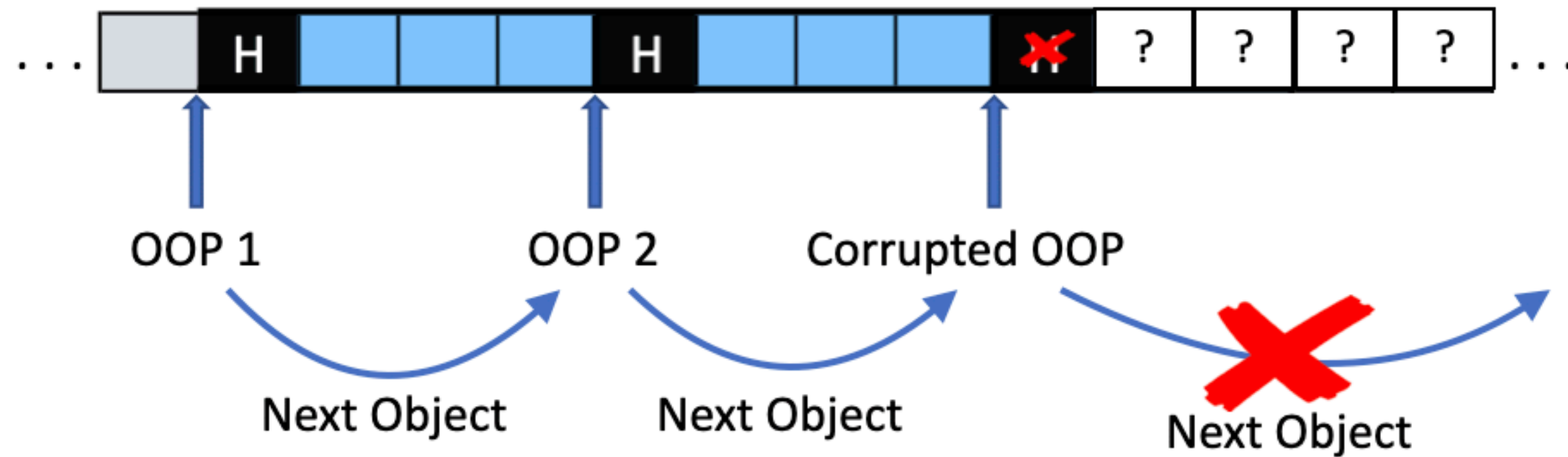
Real World Bug Fix #2

A Memory Corruption

Oop Oop Oop Oop ?

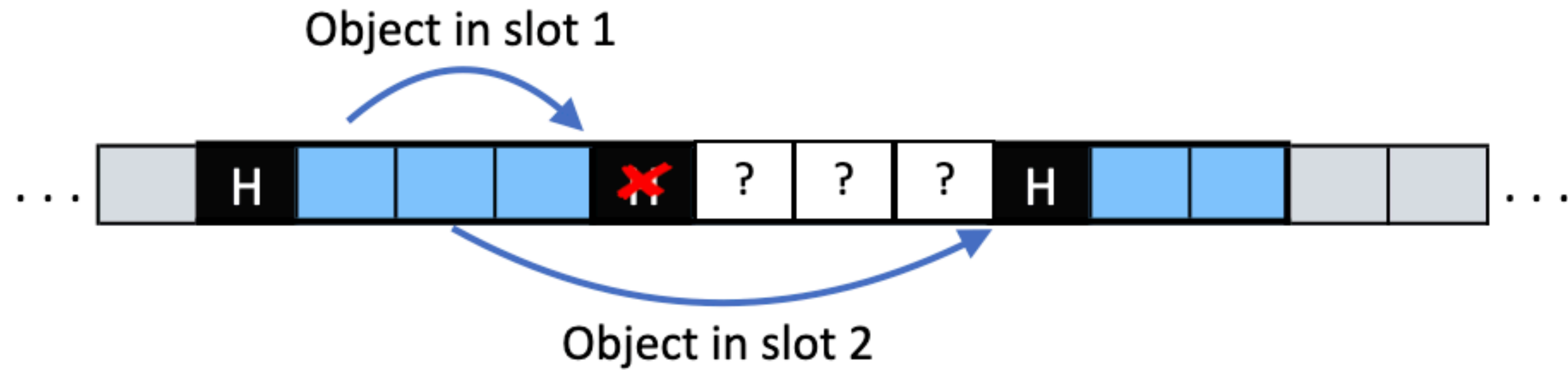
Real World Bug Fix #2

Iterating the Corrupted Memory



Real World Bug Fix #2

Recovering Objects



Real World Bug Fix #2

Cleansing The Corruption

Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	F	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop
F	Oop	Oop	F	Oop	F	Oop	Oop	F	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop
Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	F	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop
Oop	Oop	Oop	F	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop	Oop

Real World Bug Fix #2

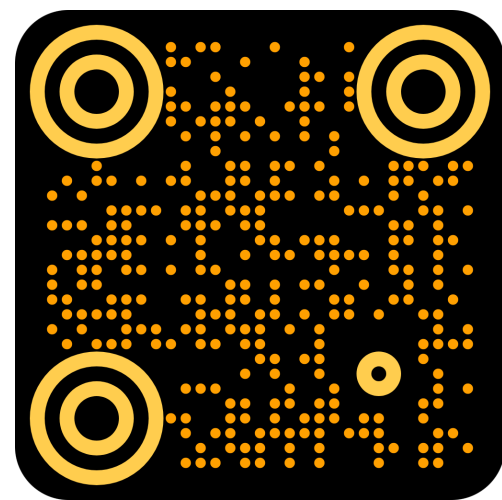
Corruption Cleansing Analysis

- Objects' slots iteration
- Reference patching
- Re-computation of the free lists/tree
- Focus on learning rather than how to look



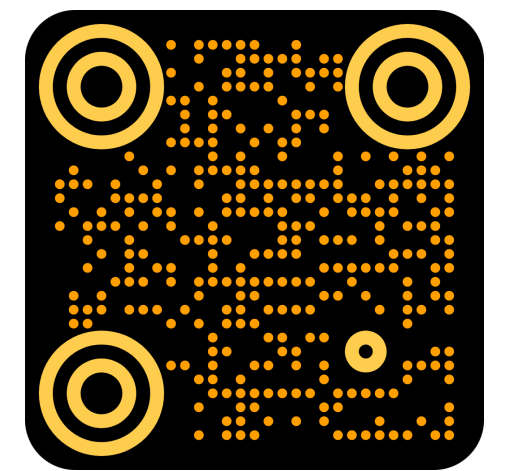
Conclusion

Github

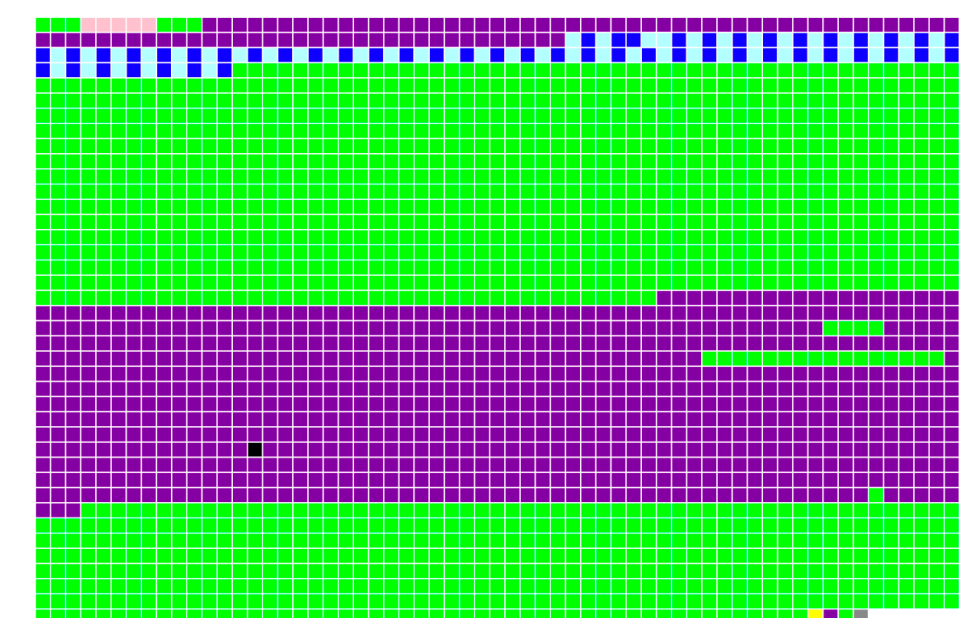


- Tooling at the VM level **was** hard
- LLOOP eases VM level tooling
- Validated with multiple custom tools
- Zombie Pharo images are now a thing

VMIL Paper
preprint



Visualization



- | | | |
|------|---|-----------------|
| 1 | ■ | pinned object |
| 895 | ■ | compiled method |
| 51 | ■ | class |
| 5 | ■ | special object |
| 1 | ■ | context |
| 1 | ■ | free chunk |
| 1468 | ■ | regular object |
| 51 | ■ | metaclass |

* Key	* Value
address	406749864
printString	Form
header	1011000000000000001111001100100000001000000000000011110110001
class	Form class
oopClassTag	1841
format	Non Indexable (1)
hash	1842
pinned	false
space	Old Space
immutable	false
numSlots	11
superclass	DisplayMedium
methodDict	Instance of MethodDictionary
format	65541
layout	Instance of FixedLayout
organization	Instance of ClassOrganization
subclasses	Instance of Array
name	Form
classPool	Instance of Dictionary
sharedPool	nilObject
environment	Instance of SystemDictionary
category	Graphics-Display Objects-Forms



Pierre Misse-Chanabier
pierre_misse25@msn.com
github.com/hogoww
Discord tag: hogo#8547