

J-Spring
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# Mod4J Modeling for Java

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# JOS WARMER

- Evangelist for Model Driven Development
- One of the authors of the UML standard
- Author of books:
  - Praktisch UML
  - MDA Explained
  - Object Constraint Language
- Partner at Ordina
  - Responsible for MDD
  - Microsoft DSL Tools
  - Java Mod4j





#### **ENTERPRISE JAVA APPLICATIONS**

- Layered architecture
  - Complex
  - Error prone

#### Multi lingual

- Java .... +
- SQL, XML, HTML, JSP, Spring, Hibernate, ...
- Consistency

#### Agility

- Time consuming
- Time to market



## MODEL DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

- Localization of concerns
- Ease of Use
- Consistency and Quality in Architecture

Surviving Technology Changes

- Productivity
- Time to market



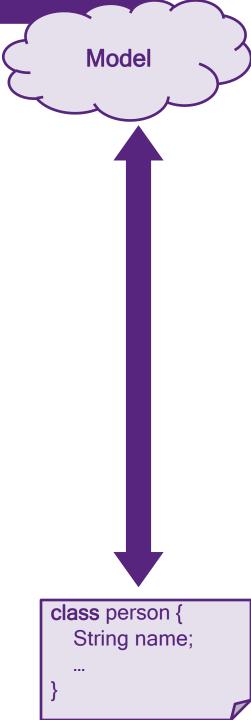
#### TRADITIONAL MDD

#### Traditional MDD

- Top down
- Use of UML

#### Problems

- Model ⇔ code gap too large
- UML too complex
- UML is monolithical, i.e. "Main Model"
- Inflexible code generators



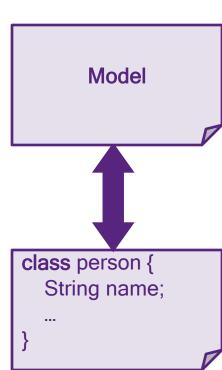
#### MODERN MDD

#### Modern MDD

- Bottom up
- Domain Specific Languages

#### Advantages

- Model ⇔ code : close relationship
- Small & simple models
- Flexible



#### Mod4J

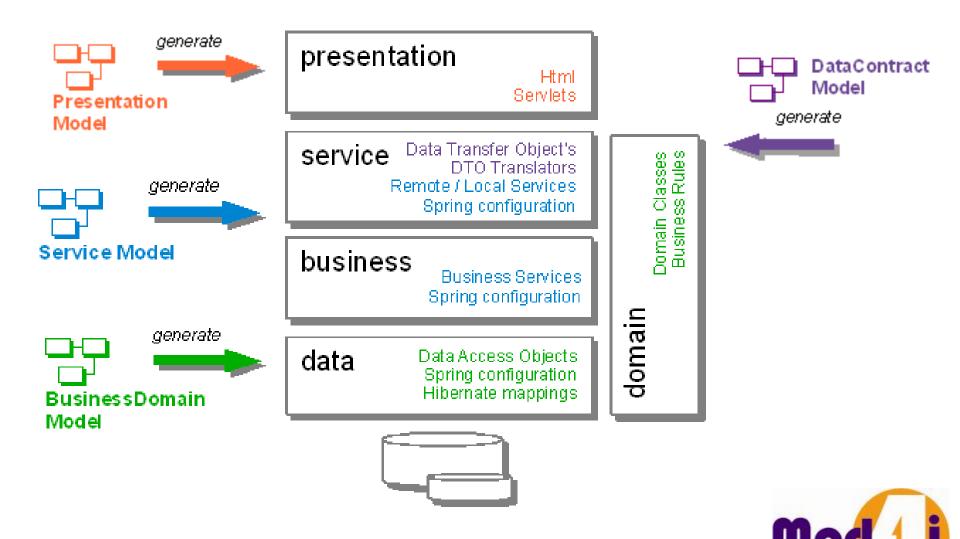
- Many small DSLs
- Small and flexible code generators
- Open source
  - Mandatory for flexibility
  - Change it yourself
  - Customer trust
- We have done this before
  - In other technology
  - Over two years of experience
  - Very successful
- One year investment
  - Three part-time developers, total 1 fte.



# Mod4J Architecture



## REFERENCE ARCHITECTURE



# **CODING ONLY**

Application concepts (Edit screen, Search screen, Business object, Business relation, CRUD services, ...) **Abstraction level** Code C Code Code Code 0 d Code Code Code e Code Code 0 d Code Code Code Cod Code e Cod Code Code Code e Code Generic programming language (Java, JSF, SQL, XML Config, ...)

Concepts do not exist in the language

GAP



**Abstraction level** 

Applicatie concepts (Edit screen, Search screen, Business object, Business relation, CRUD services, ...) **DSM DSM DSM DSM** Business Domain DSL code Code Code Presentation Data Co de Service Contract Code Code Code DSL Cod DS DSL code Code cod code Code Code Generic programming language (Java, JSF, SQL, XML Config, ...)

Concepts exist in the DSLs



# Mod4J Principles



## Mod4J Principles

- DSL's are used by developers
  - Not by business people
- Modeling should be easier than coding
  - Usable by "average" developer
- Models are used in combination with code
  - Best of both worlds approach
- Many small DSLs that can be used independently
  - Flexible usage
  - No "all-or-nothing"



# Mod4J Principles (2)

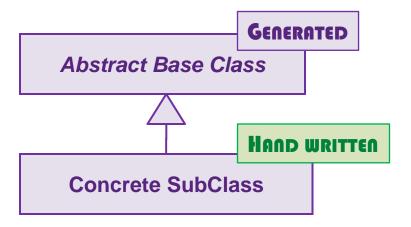
- Generated code is never changed manually
  - DSLs used in full application lifecycle
  - Can be extended / overridden at defined extension points
- Generated code must be readable
  - Quality, understanding, minimizing risk, debugging
- Resulting code is a "normal" Java application
  - Use of DSLs has no effect on production environment

- Flexibility: the world isn't static
  - DSLs will change, new DSLs will be created
  - New code generators for existing DSLs
  - Extension points



### CODE GENERATION FLEXIBILITY

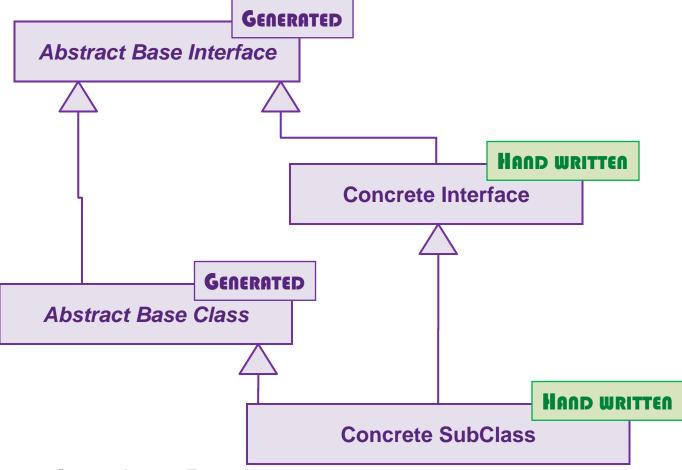
Extension Points



Generation Gap Pattern



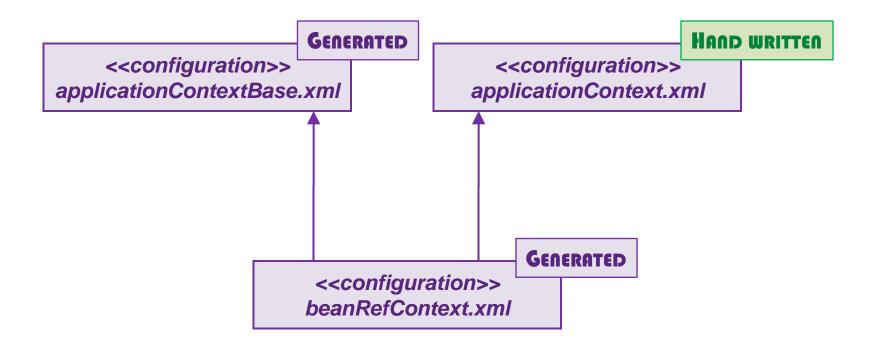
# CODE GENERATION FLEXIBILITY



Generation Gap Pattern



### CODE GENERATION FLEXIBILITY



Generation Gap Pattern



# Mod4J DSLs

The Current DSLs &

The Eclipse Integration



# **BUSINESS DOMAIN DSL**

StandardBreakfast

string name
decimal price
ServingStyle style

0..1 standard

<<enumeration>>
ServingStyle

SIMPLE GRAND DELUXE Visual (M)

0..\* parts

Part integer quantity

parts

0..1

0..\*

comestible

**Comestible** 

string name integer miminalQualtity decimal price string transportForm



## **BUSINESS DOMAIN DSL**

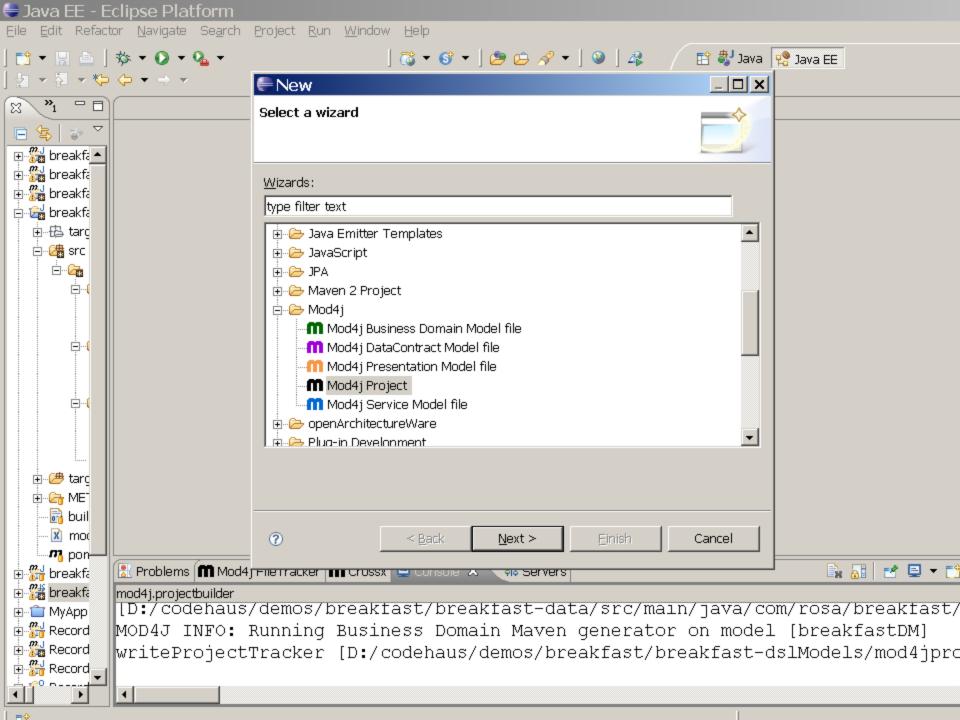
SIMPLE = 1;

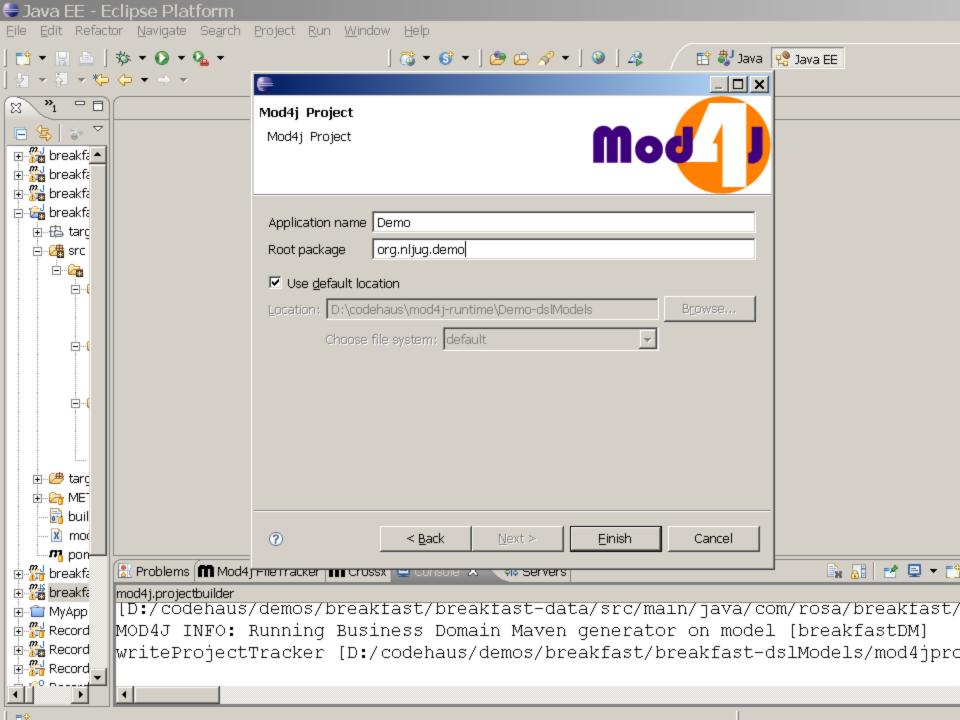
GRAND = 2;

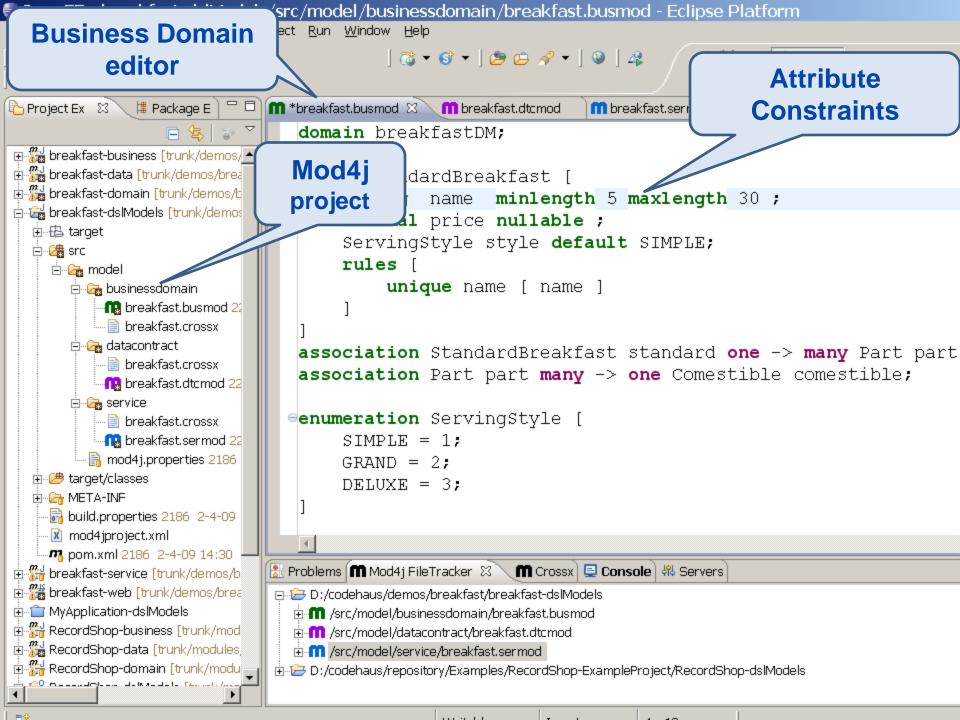
```
Textual Modaji
class StandardBreakfast [
  string name;
  decimal price;
  ServingStyle style;
class Part [
  integer quantity;
association StandardBreakfast standard one -> many Part parts;
enumeration ServingStyle [
```

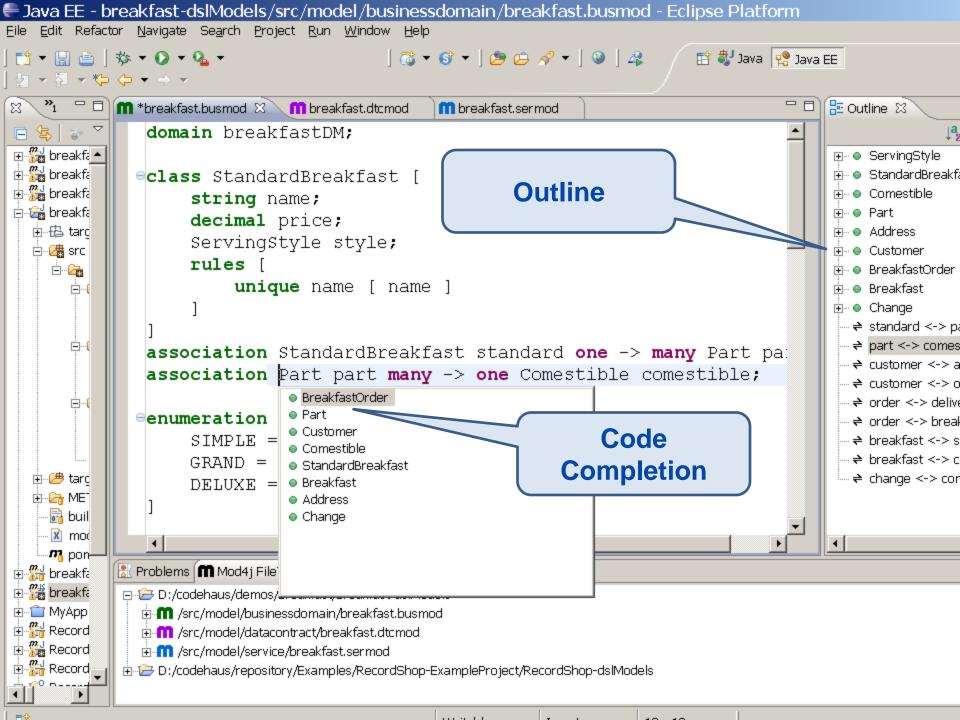
Model is a text file

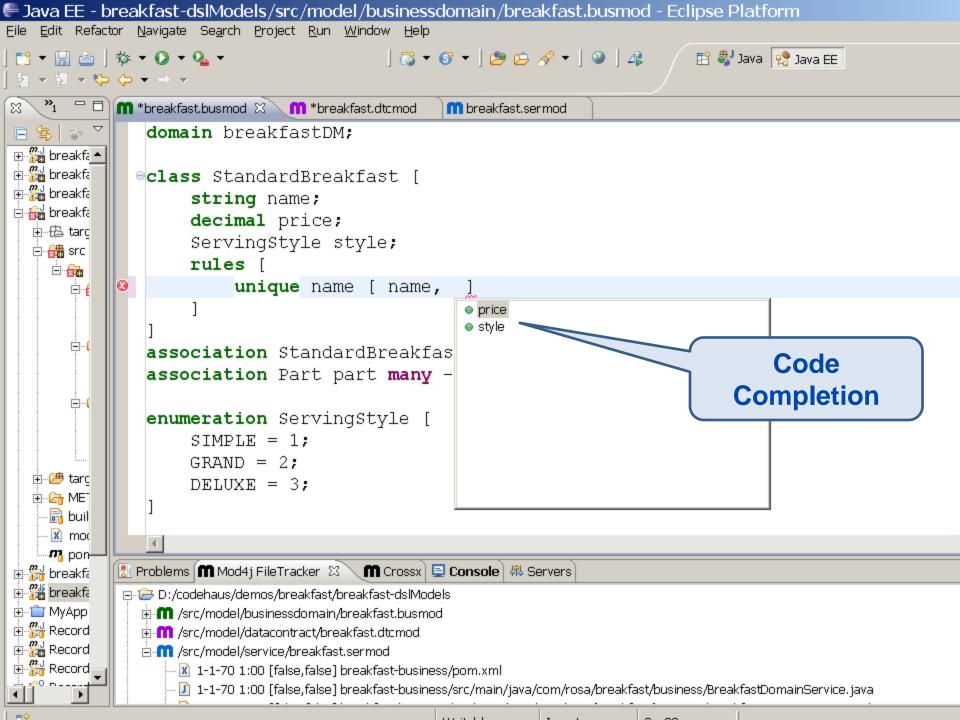


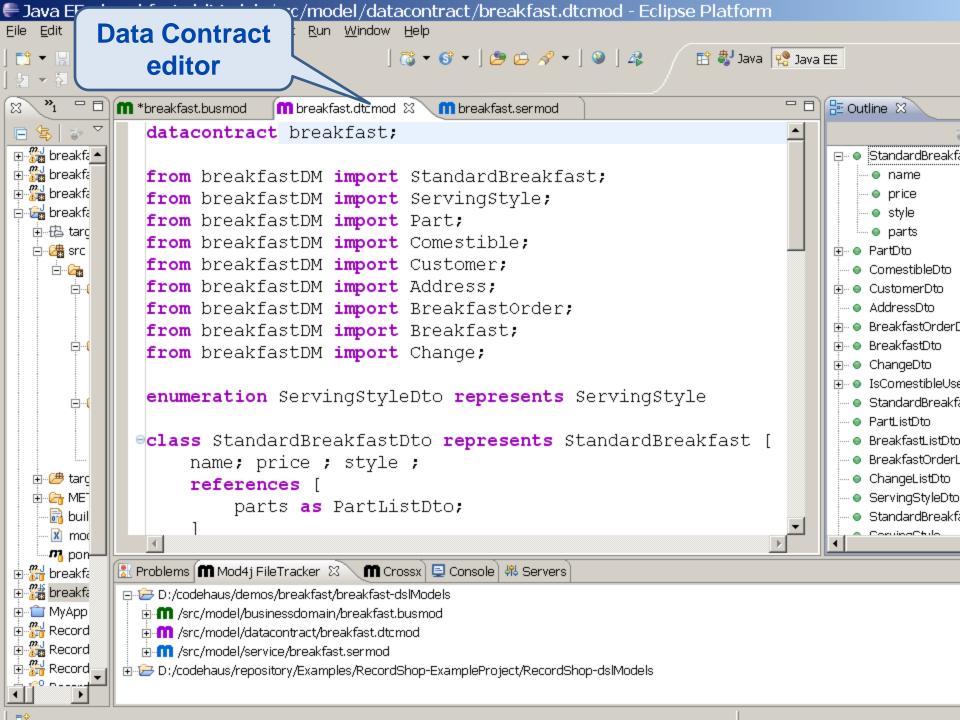


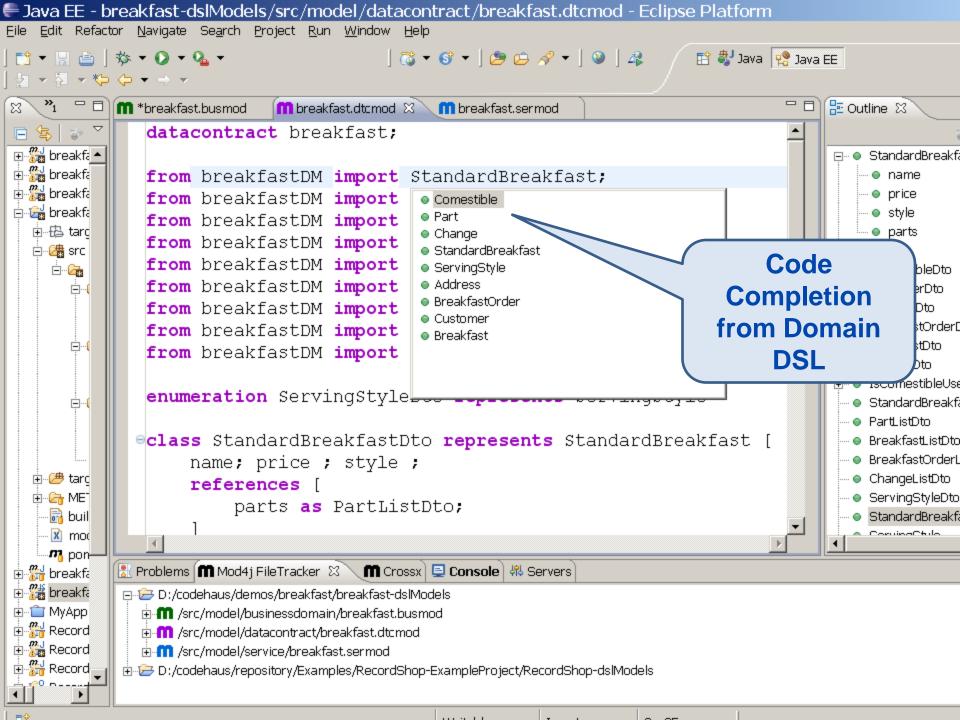


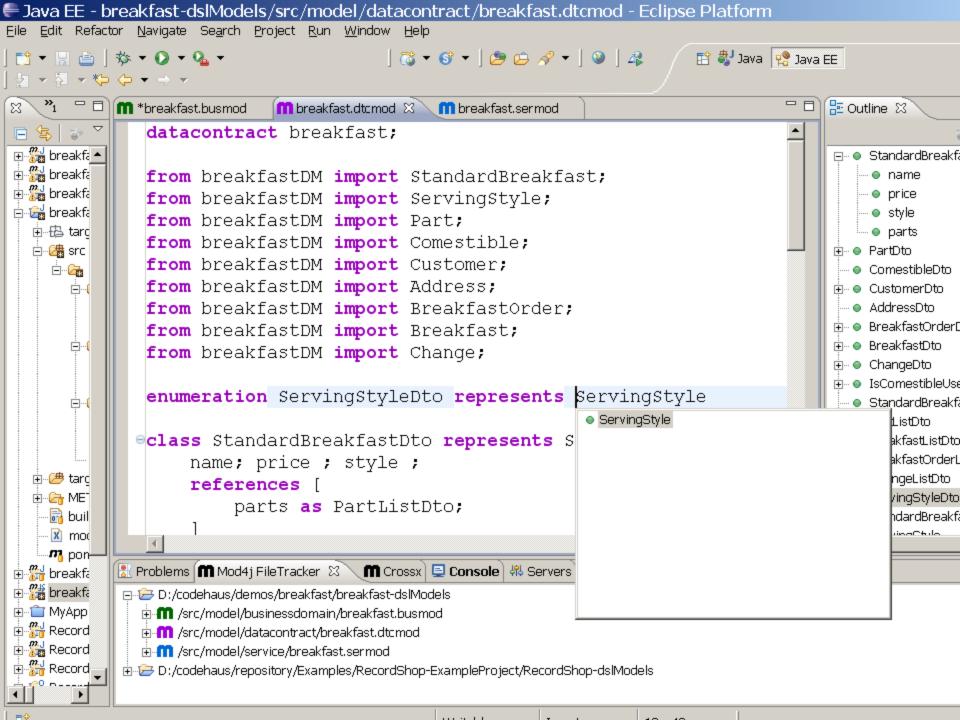


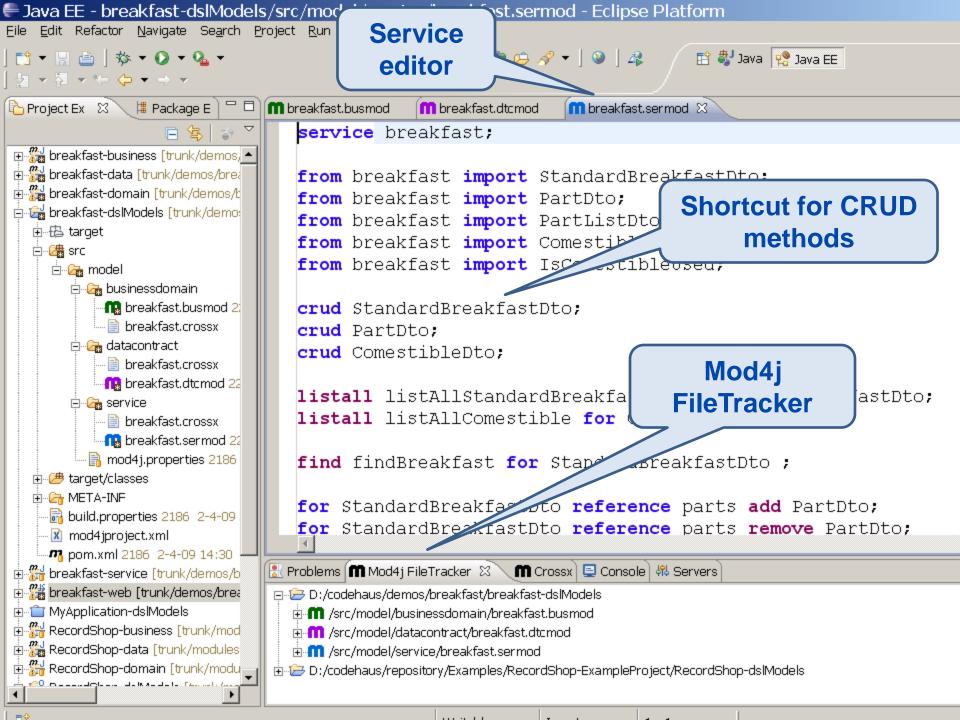


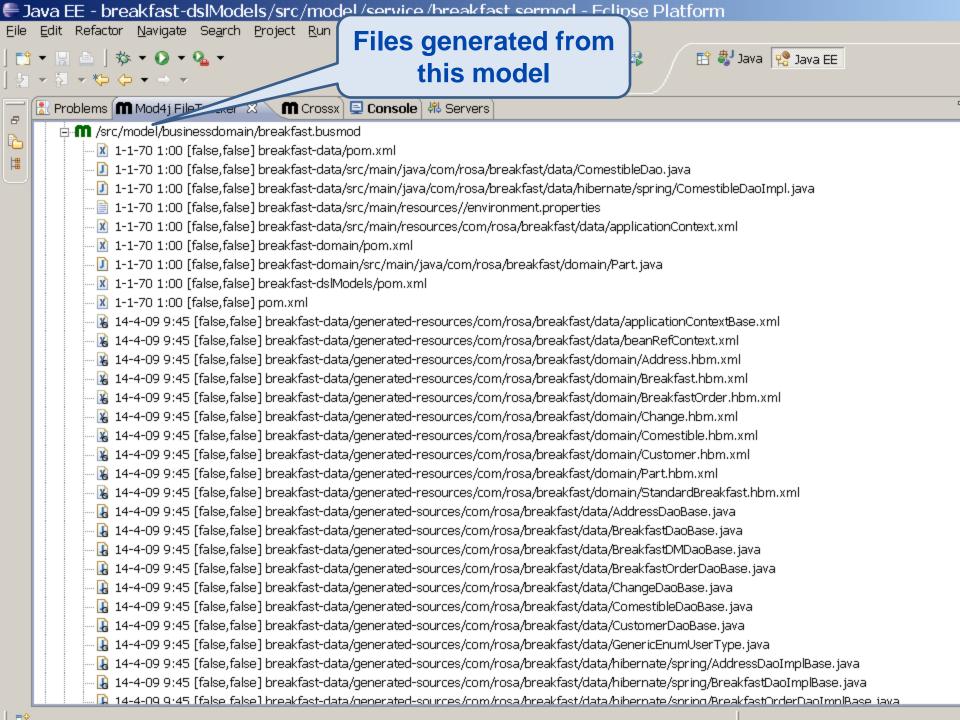


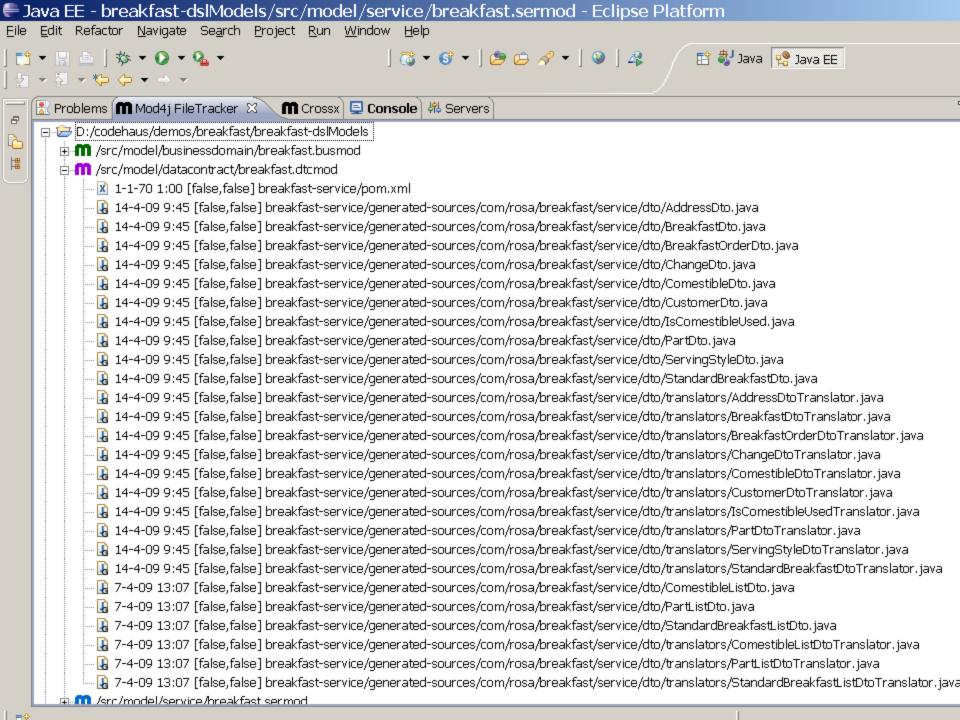


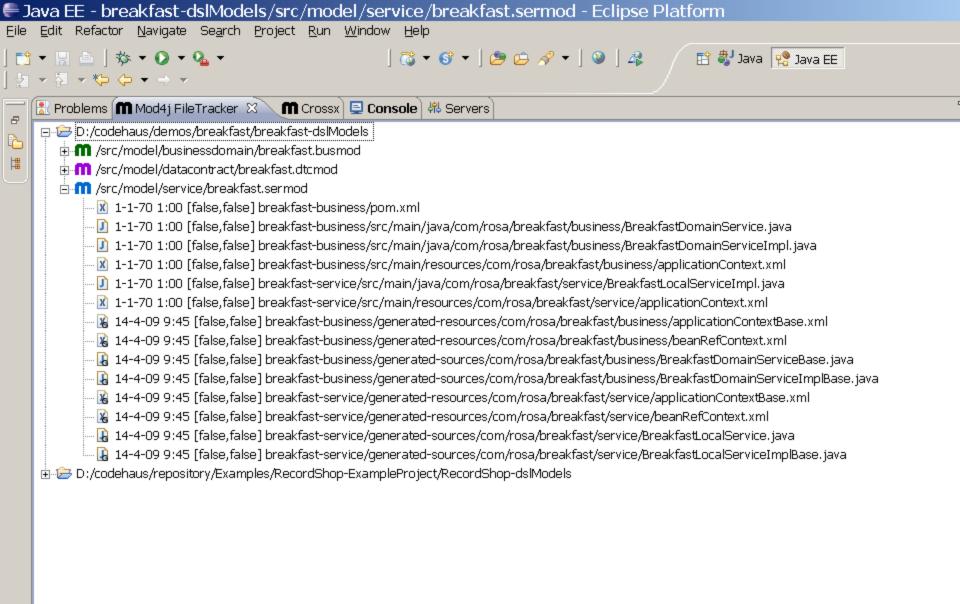












### A DSL Model ≈≈ Code File

#### Multi user aspects

- Is the unit of multi-user access and version control
- Use familiar and proven version control systems (e.g. SVN)
- Can use standard text merging tools

#### Code generation aspects

- Is separately transformed to code
- Integrates in Eclipse build mechanism
- Is the source for continuous builds

#### User interface aspects

- Behaves very much like Java code in Eclipse
- Syntax highlighting
- Code completion
- Full validation over all DSL models



#### Mod4J

- Uses the Eclipse Modeling Project and oAW
  - Ecore / EMF, Xpand, Xtext / TMF, Checks / OCL, ...

- Fully "Mavenized"
  - No need for Eclipse
  - DSL models are the source for the continuous build
  - Everything runs under Maven



## **CURRENT STATUS**

- Release 1: three DSL's:
  - Business Domain
  - Data Contract
  - Service
- Next release
  - Presentation DSL (Jim van Dam)
  - First version already at Codehaus
  - and what is contributed by the community ....
- Committer on Eclipse "EMF Index" project
  - Mod4j Crossx component
    - Collaboration of independent DSLs
    - Essential for scaling up modeling
- Collaboration of emfvisualization project



# AND THEN ....

Mod4j is open source ... Where do we go from here ...



## Mod4J FAQ

Is Mod4j finished? No!

When will Mod4j be finished? Never!

Can everyone join Mod4j? Yes!

#### How can we collaborate on Mod4j?

- Use Mod4j & give feedback
- Enhance the current DSLs
- Write new code generator for current DSLs
- Develop new DSLs
- Make the Eclipse integration even better





#### DEMO? KOM NAAR DE MOD4J STAND

#### Tweede verdieping links



**Eric Jan Malotaux** 



Johan Vogelzang



#### OF NAAR DE INNOVEERJIJMEE SESSIE

- Maandag 27 April, 's avonds
- Ordina Nieuwegein
- Gratis
- Inschrijven via www.innoveerjijmee.nl



# INNOVEER JIJ MEE Mod4j









# www.mod4j.org

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