

Porting of VisualWorks® code to



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Nidea s.r.o.

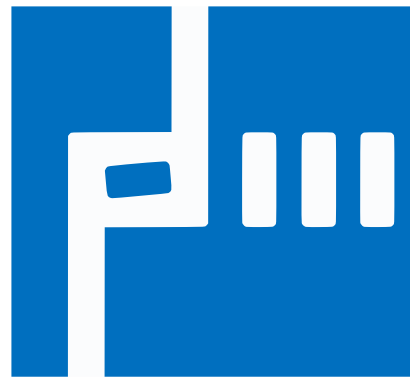


SCHMIDT

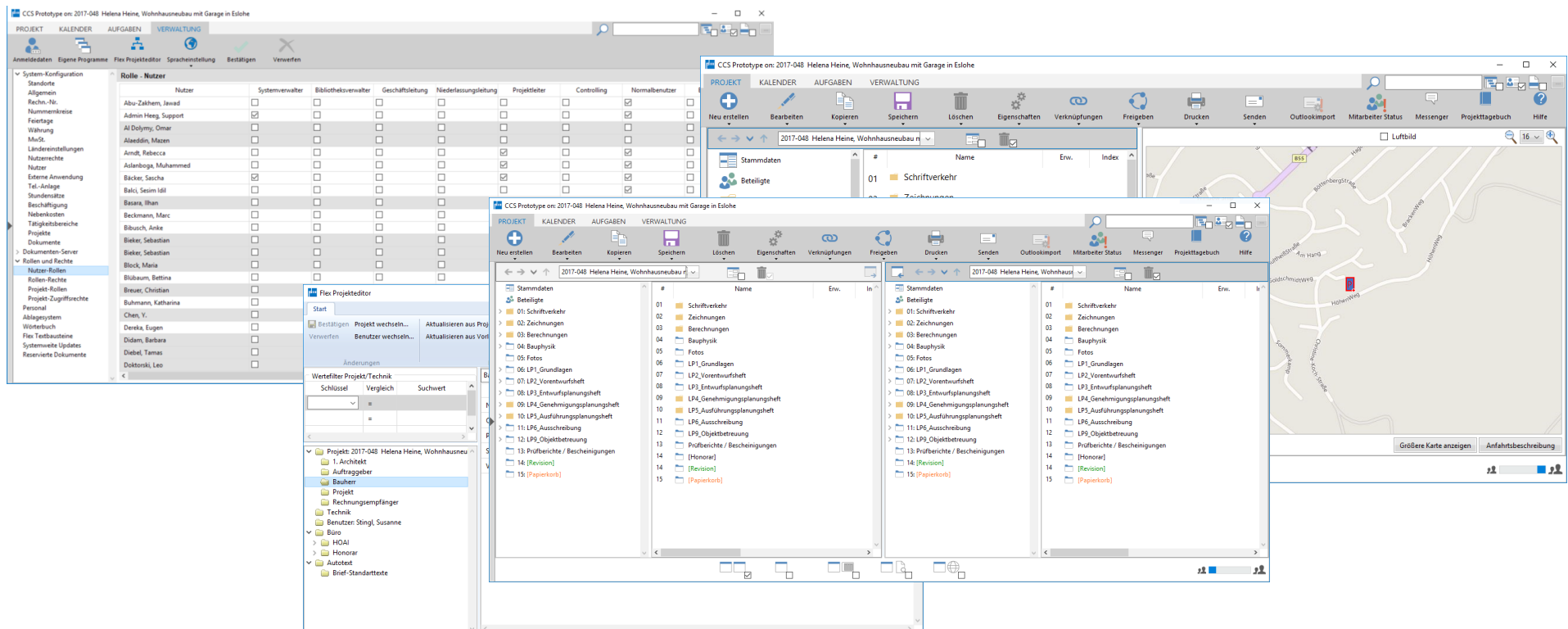
Ingenieurbüro für Bauwesen







per-documaps

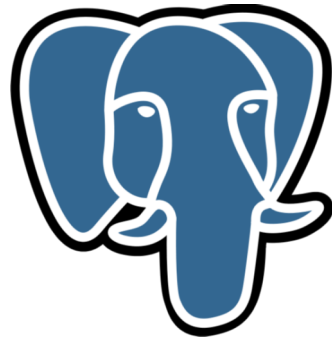


The screenshot displays the CCS Prototype application interface for a project named '2017-048 Helena Heine, Wohnhausneubau mit Garage in Eslohe'. The interface is divided into several panes:

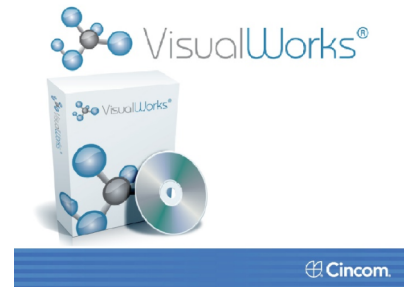
- User Management Table:** A table listing users and their roles. The columns include 'Rolle - Nutzer', 'Systemverwalter', 'Bibliotheksverwalter', 'Geschäftsleitung', 'Niederlassungsleitung', 'Projektleiter', 'Controlling', and 'Normalbenutzer'. Users listed include Abo-Zakhem, Admin Heeg, Al Dolyim, Alaaeddin, Amndt, Aslanboga, Bäcker, Balci, Basara, Beckmann, Bibusch, Bieker, Blübaum, Breuer, and Buhmann.
- File Browser:** A central pane showing a hierarchical file structure for the project, including folders for 'Stammdaten', 'Beteiligte', 'Schriftverkehr', 'Zeichnungen', 'Berechnungen', 'Bauphysik', 'Fotos', 'LPI_Grundlagen', 'LPI_Vorentwurfshft', 'LPI2_Vorentwurfshft', 'LPI3_Vorentwurfshft', 'LPI4_Genehmigungsplanungshft', 'LPI5_Ausführungsplanungshft', 'LPI6_Ausschreibung', 'LPI7_Objektbetreuung', 'LPI8_Objektbetreuung', 'LPI9_Objektbetreuung', 'Prüfberichte / Bescheinigungen', '[Honorar]', '[Revision]', and '[Papierkorb]'.
- Map View:** A map on the right side showing the project location in Eslohe, with a red marker indicating the site. The map includes street names like 'Pöhlbergstraße' and 'Hörsingweg'.
- System Configuration:** A left-hand pane with various settings like 'System-Konfiguration', 'Standorte', 'Anmeldedaten', and 'Rollen-Richte'.



per-documaps



GLORP



 DELTA
library

 Office

Why to keep VisualWorks?

- Solid Smalltalk implementation, long tradition
- Good database support
- Windows support (target platform for PDM)
- Native Windows UI (±), UI Designer
- Business ready, proven solution
- Vendor support
- Existing code



Why to leave VisualWorks?

- Slow progress
- Decreasing return value
- Loss of vendor interest
- Loss of developers interest
- Licensing politics



Alternative?



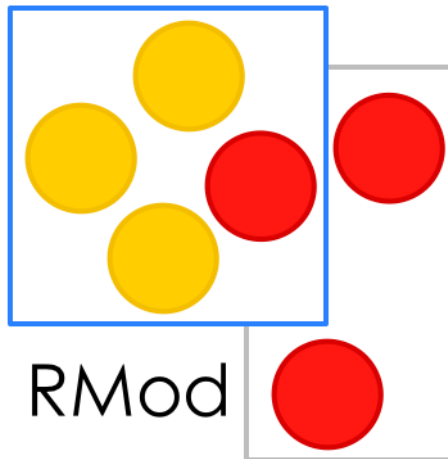
Alternative?

Phar 

Pharo as an alternative?

- Solid Smalltalk implementation, long tradition ?
- Good database support ?
- Windows support ?
- Native Windows UI, UI Designer ?
- Business ready, proven solution ?
- Vendor support ?
- Existing code X

Vendor support





...what is not, we will improve!

```

| result |
result := OrderedCollection new.
aspectConditionChanges keysAndValuesDo:
  [:k :condChange |
    (collectAll
      or: [part changedPartOrParentRecursively notNil or: [condChange isChanged]])
      ifTrue:
        [result add: (self
          createAnnouncedStateOn: (part inactivePartOrParentRecursively
            ifNil: [condChange])
          key: k
          type: #aspect)]].

aspectsFromPaths keysAndValuesDo:
  [:k :v |
    | targetPart targetAspect |
    walkPathResult := part walkPathFrom: (self partFromKey: k)
    targetPart := walkPathResult key.
    targetAspect := walkPathResult value first.
    (collectAll or:
      [targetPart changedPartOrParentRecursively notNil
        or: [targetPart partInterface aspectConditionHasChangedFor: targetAspect]])
      ifTrue:
        [result add: (self
          computeAnnouncedStateForKey: k
          targetPart: targetPart
          targetAspect: targetAspect)]].

aspectsRedirected keysAndValuesDo:
  [:k :redirected |
    | targetPart targetAspect |
    targetPart := redirected toPart.
    targetAspect := redirected remainingPath first.
    (collectAll or:
      [targetPart changedPartOrParentRecursively notNil
        or: [targetPart partInterface aspectConditionHasChangedFor: targetAspect]])

```

Existing code



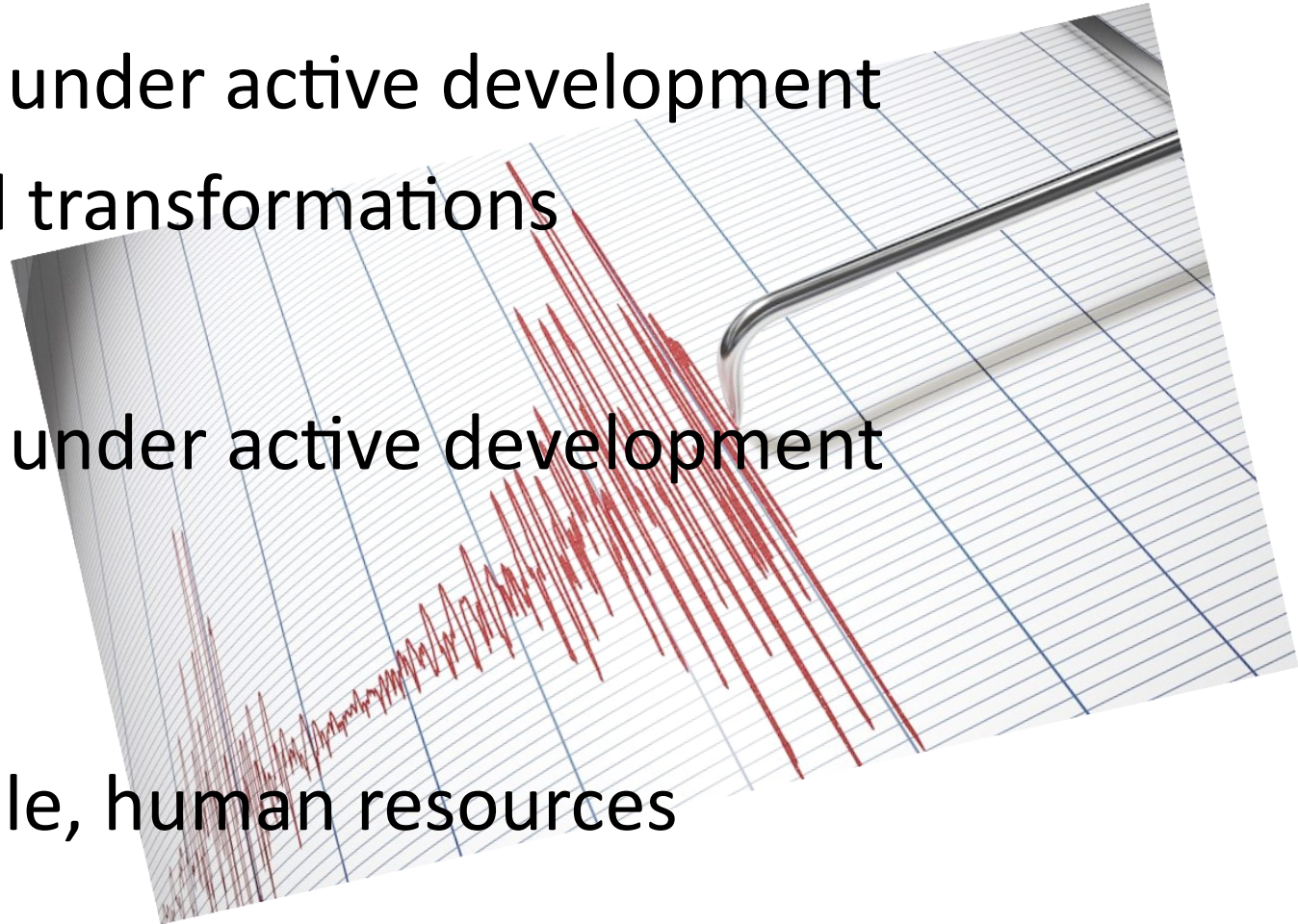
Code conversion challenges

- How to import code?
- Different VCS?
- Language differences?
- Semantics?
- Different UI frameworks?



Code conversion challenges

- Application still under active development
 - bi-directional transformations
- Target platform under active development
 - Spec2
- Limited timescale, human resources



Code import

- VW: XML based *.pst files
 - XML Parser
 - cannot be loaded directly
 - language differences
 - dependencies
 - system corruption risk
 - not stable order during saving
 - not suitable for versioning



Code import

- models using Ring 2
 - need of modified scanner & parser
 - allows code transformations
 - simple export to Tonel format
 - code management in Git
 - no risk of system corruption
 - tools
 - export to *.pst format



Language differences

- namespaces

```
Store.Model
UI.Model
```

- qualified literals

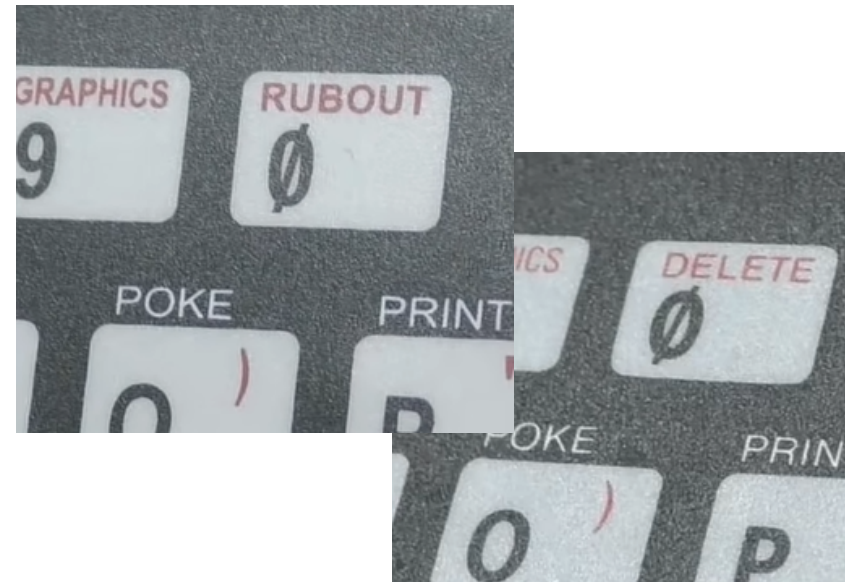
```
#{UI.CheckBoxSpec}
```

- shared variables

- class definitions

- FFI calls

```
<C:typedef int64_t (*callb_after_send_t)(unsigned char* handlerID, int
PortServerID, unsigned char* inputBuffer, int cbInput)>
```



Pharo extensions

- dynamic arrays

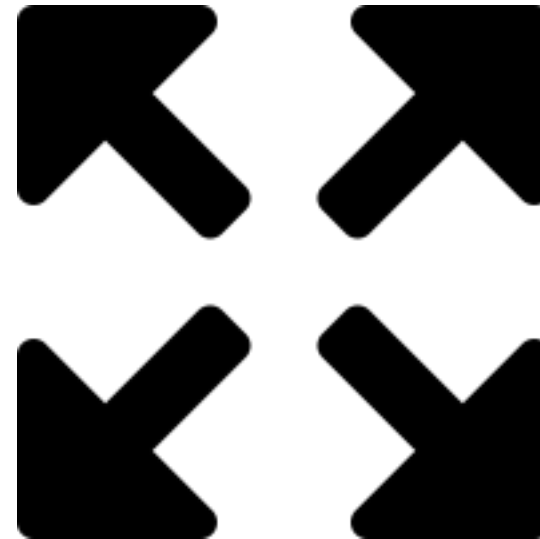
```
{1. 2. 1+2}
```

- traits

- slots

- comments

```
"Pharo has ""quotes"" inside comments"
```



Transformations

- hints as comments

```
login := Login new.  
"VW_TRANSLATION:Glorp.Login:Login"
```

- methods with metadata

```
visualWorksMetadata  
  ^ #(  
    'superclassNameSpace' 'UI'  
  )
```


Differences in semantics

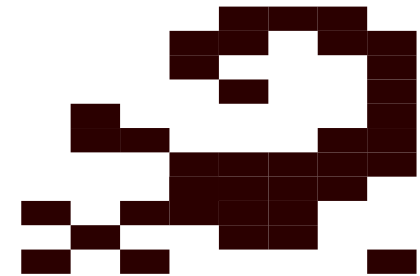


Differences in semantics

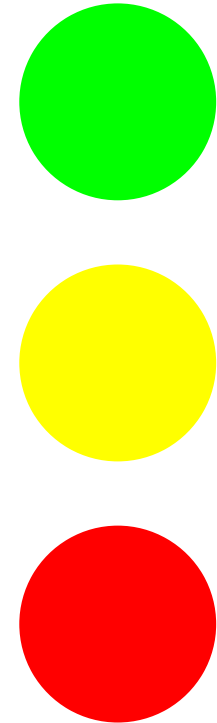
- object initialization (*new*)
 - inherit from class that behaves differently
- same methods with different behavior (`Pragma>>#selector`)
- dependencies mechanism
- no Wipe mechanism
- (`#Smalltalk = 'Smalltalk'`) = `false`
- `'asdf' readStream upToAll: 'd'; upToEnd`
 - `'f'` in Pharo, `'df'` in VisualWorks

Differences in semantics

- `nil` responds to `#size`
- `#(nil nil) asSet size` (VW: 0, Pharo: 1)
- `'ab' endsWith: $c` (VW: true)
- `1.0 == 1.0` (VW: false)
- `' ' asNumber` (VW: 0, Pharo: error)
- `method instVarNamed: 'sourceCode'`
- `Dictionary new keys` (VW: Set, Pharo: Array)



Tests!



- many small hidden incompatibilities
- hard to detect with static analysis
- good code coverage, mutation testing, UI tests
- useful for the platform updates too

System design

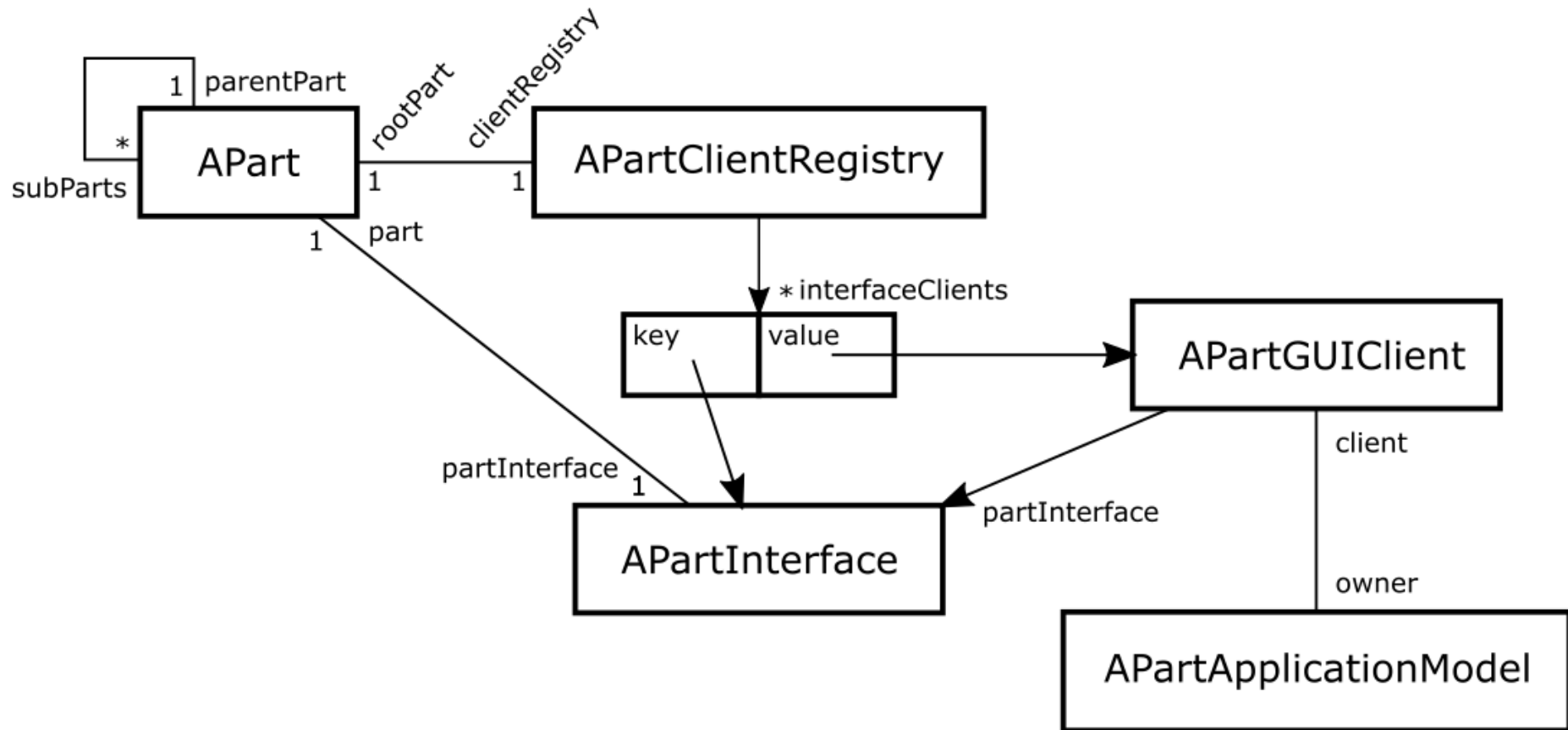


apart FRAMEWORK

- layers separation
- minimize redundancy, improve re-usability
- minimize work required for the UI and “glue” layers
- improve testability
- support for the common business application patterns
- ...

production quality small business application in few days

Clients separation



apart FRAMEWORK

- describes applications using well-defined first-class entities (parts, conditions, actions, use-cases...)

```
partInterface
```

```
    createAction: #submit
```

```
    do: [ self submit ]
```

```
    if: (APCondition on: [self isDirty] ifNot: #NoChange)
```

```
    helpText: 'Submit the form'.
```

- predefined parts (for lists, trees...)
- enumerations (combo-boxes, menus...)

apart FRAMEWORK

- aspects redirection

```
partInterface createAspectNamed: #statesList  
    redirectTo: #(state enumerationTextList).
```

- layouts, UI configurations

```
aValueConfiguration addConfigElement: (APValueConfigElementList  
    onPart: aValueConfiguration key: #options  
    preInit: [:el | el rawList: options; yourself]  
    postInit: [:el | el labelBefore: 'Options'];  
    expectedLines: 10; yourself])
```

apart FRAMEWORK

- generic UI clients
- interactions recording, automatic UI tests generation

```
self afterDoing: [  
    self setAspect: #stringField value: 'foo'. ]  
expectStates: [  
    APExpectedStates  
        expectAllInactive: (#clearNumber #confirmNumber #saveData)  
        expectAllActive: (#clearString #confirmString  
            #disableInput #intField #stringField) ].
```

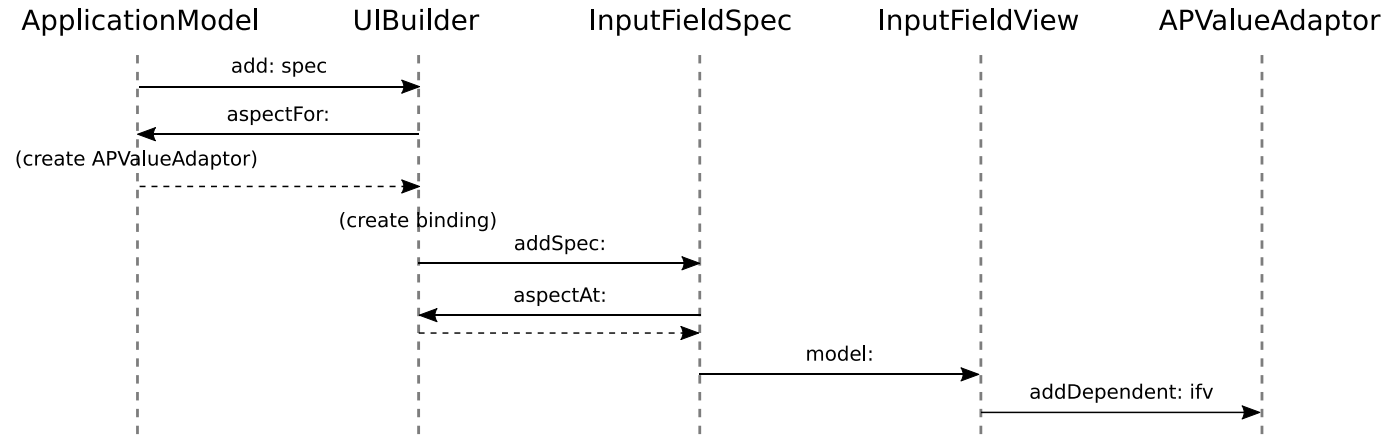
- prompts, modal windows
- Glorp, Trachel...

UI layers adoption

- VW: Aspect adaptors
 - closer relationship between the model and a widget
- Pharo: Value holders (in Slots)
- Different dependencies management

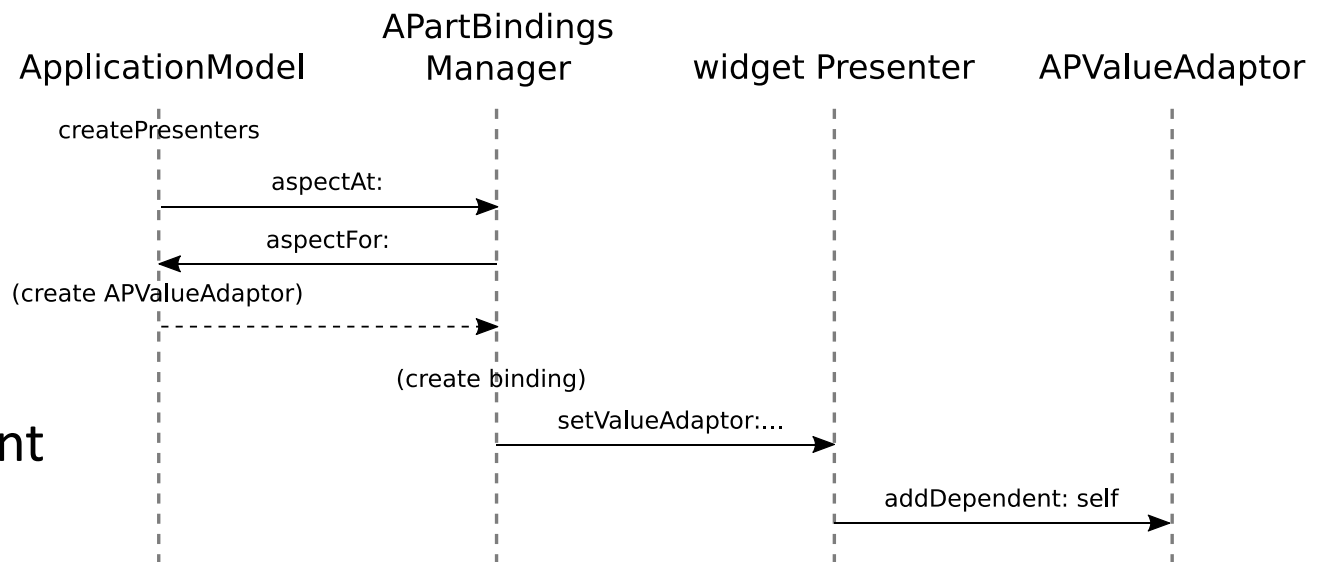
UI layers adoption

■ VisualWorks



■ Pharo

- “compatible” ApplicationModel
- UIBuilder replacement



Bindings

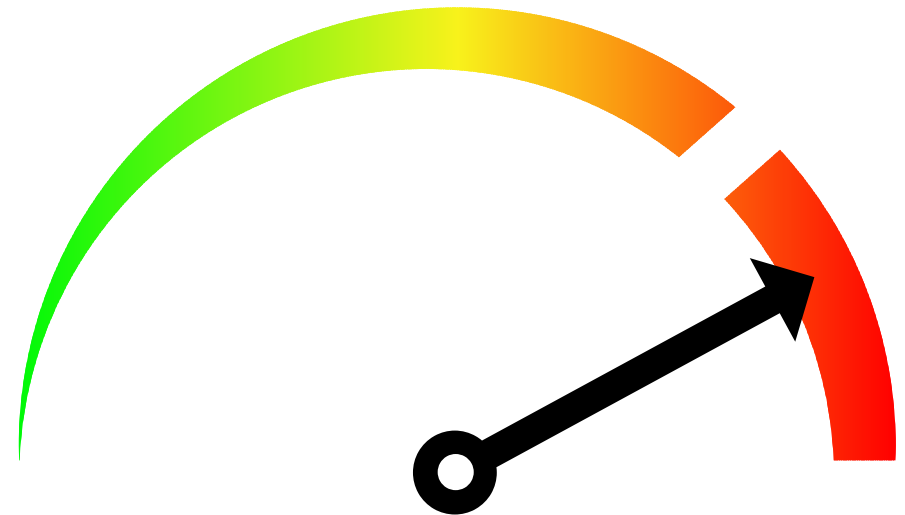
- Delta library
 - Bernd Elkemann
 - polling as intermediate step

- C#, MS Office connection to Pharo
 - Benedikt Ehl



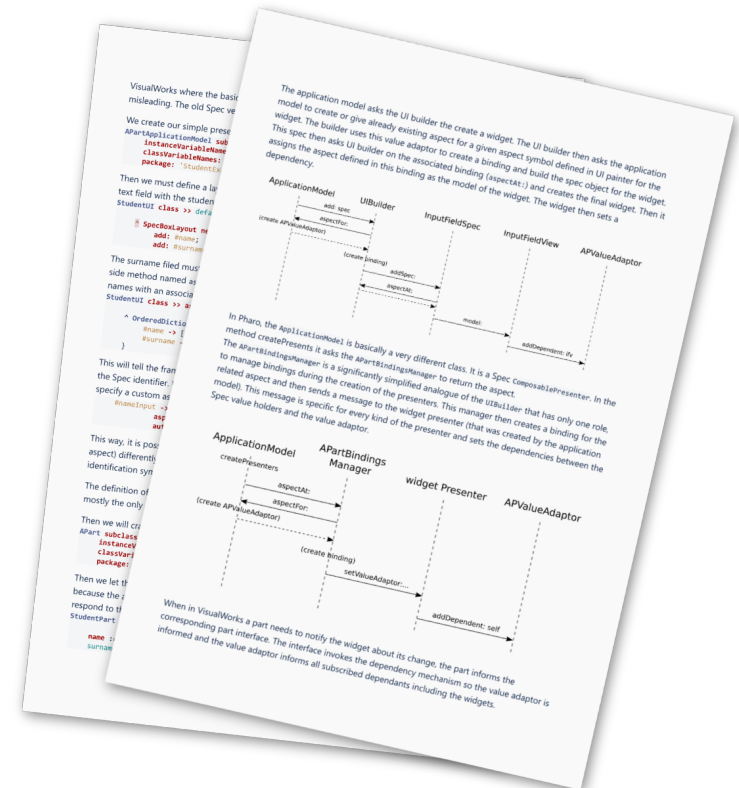
Acceleration of infrastructure improvements

- Consortium:
 - Threaded FFI
 - Spec 2
 - GTK for Spec 2
 - Better Windows VM
 - Headless VM
 - ...



apart FRAMEWORK

- will be open-sourced
- user-friendly documentation
- complex examples with Glorp

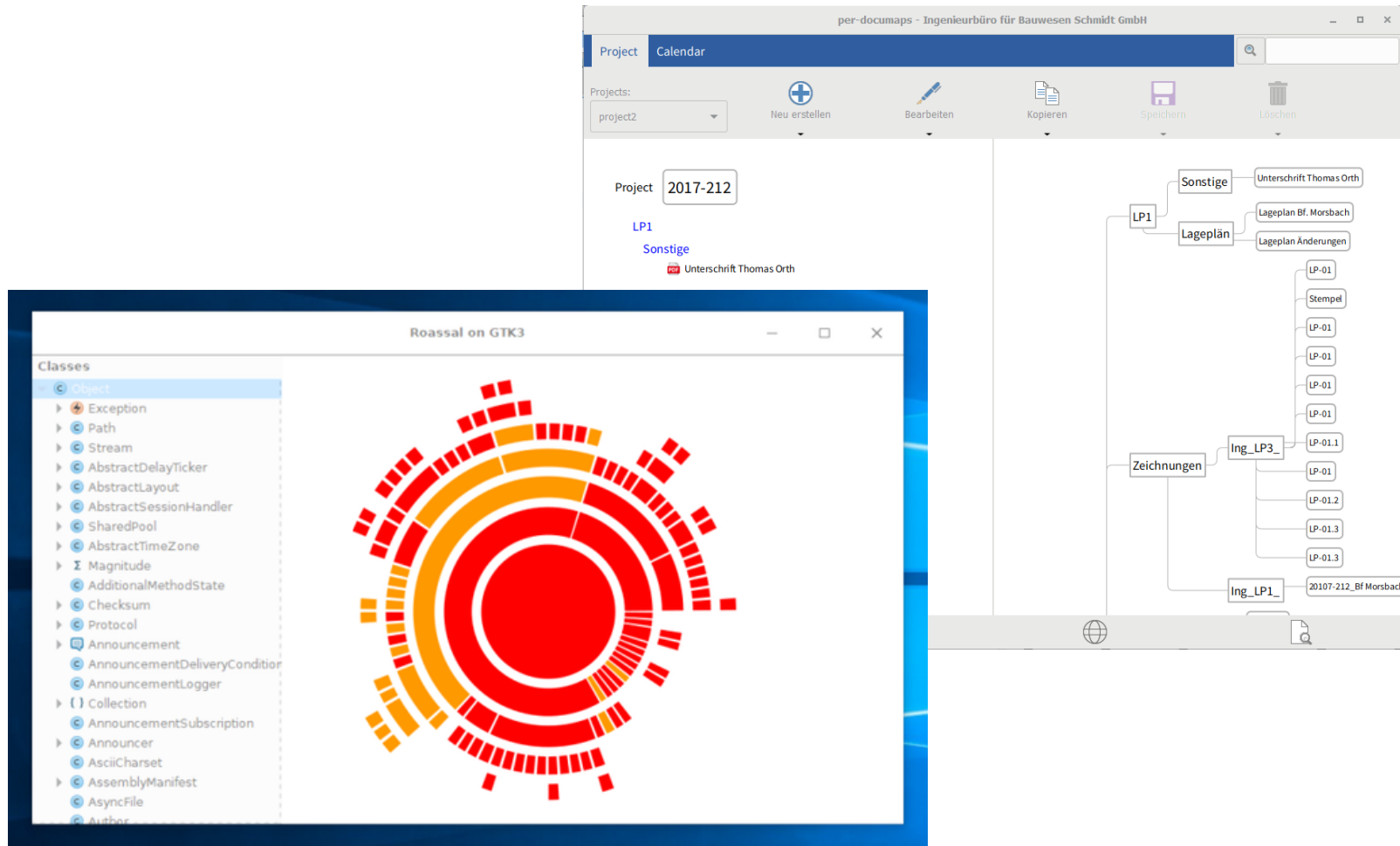


Glorp

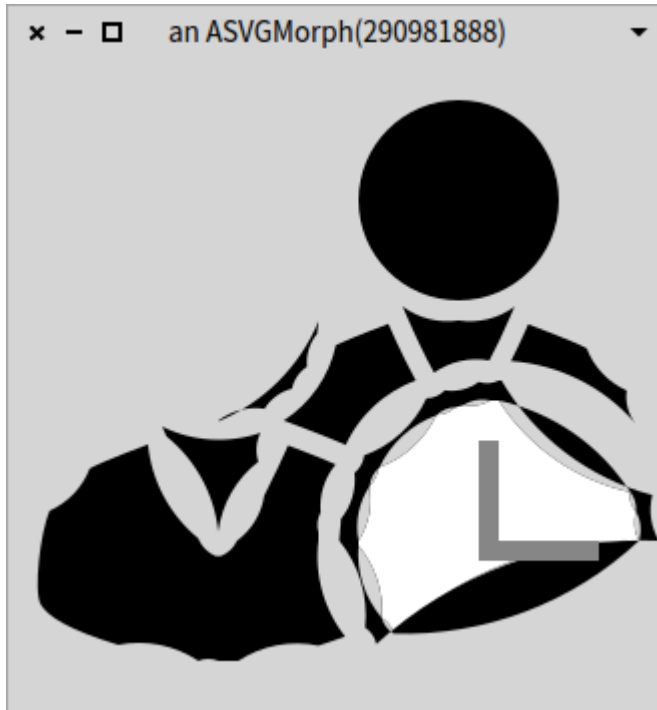
| Pharo | PDM (VW) | latest (VW) |
|-------|----------|-------------|
| 8.0.1 | 8.2 | 8.3.1-23 |

- Pharo version repackaging to fit VW structure again
- Pharo changes analysis, formatting
- VisualWorks code conversion
- merging
- testing

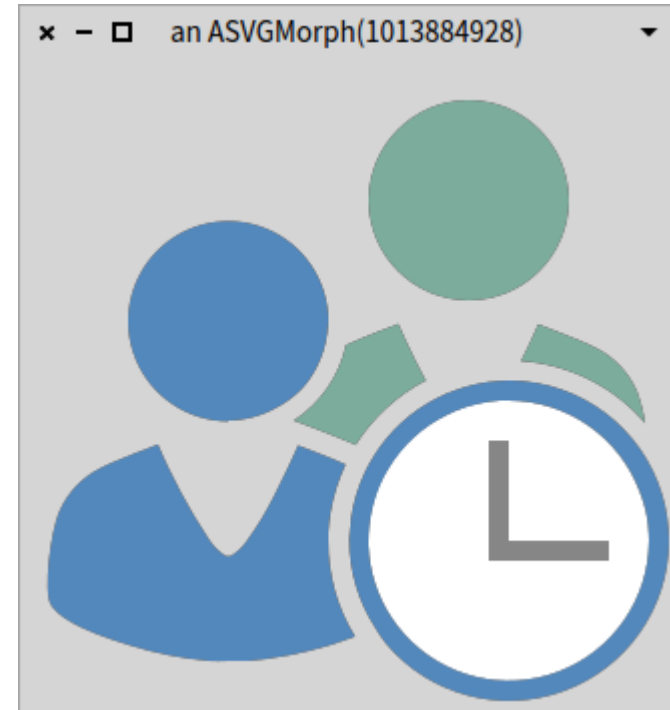
Trachel/Roassal on GTK



SVG support



original



fixed in PDM
(CSS parsing, arcs)

Read-only image mode

- Multiple headless instances of the same image (specialized workers)
- Seamless connections
- TaskIt futures

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Pharo Cog Spur Virtual Machine (9) | 34.5% |
| Pharo Cog Spur Virtual Machine | 0% |
| Pharo.exe | 0.7% |
| Pharo.exe | 1.2% |
| Pharo.exe | 0.9% |
| Pharo.exe | 0.9% |
| Pharo.exe | 0.4% |
| Pharo.exe | 1.0% |
| Pharo.exe | 1.6% |
| Pharo.exe | 27.8% |

Gettext - update

- Pharo library for locale-aware translations of strings that use standard GNU gettext file formats

Metacello new

```
baseline: 'Gettext';
```

```
repository: 'github://pharo-contributions/Gettext/source';
```

```
load.
```



Do you want to port your application to Pharo?

- improve your tests
- clean your architecture
- tell us about your needs
- participate
- Pharo is not just a free alternative...

```
converter := VWToToneIConverter new.  
converter  
  convert: files  
  into: 'result' asFileReference.
```

Pharo  **is yours**



PharO better
for you business

