Models, Generated Code, and Eclipse

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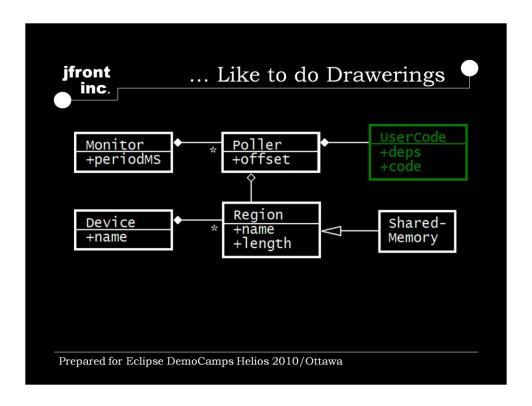
Who

Why:

More integration between Eclipse components; esp. EMF/CDT Some problems with the approach

How: Making use of extensibility of base Eclipse platform

What: Integrating EMF/CDT with a code generator



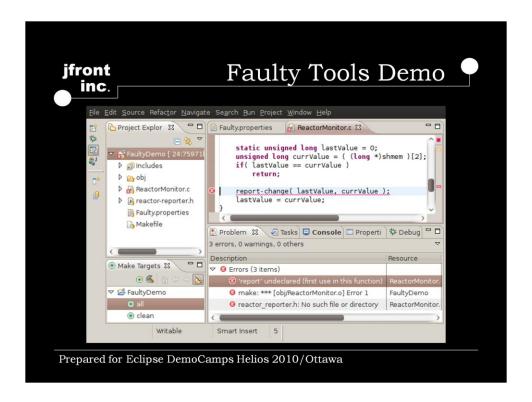
Users have their own code mixed with the rest of the generated code

jfront inc.

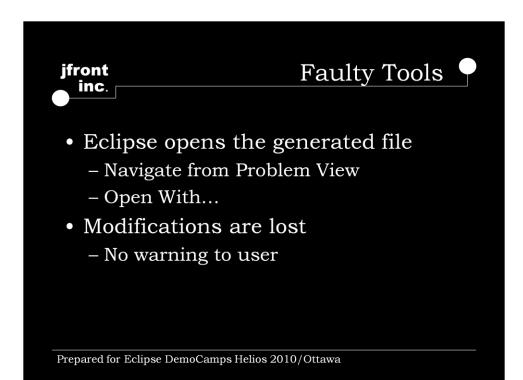
Generated Code



```
report_change( lastValue, currValue );
```



- Model is a .properties file no EMF in this demo
- The user has made a typo so the compiler complains
 - There is also a warning from the #include section



- The user sees the entire stack (Eclipse, EMF, CDT) as a single tool
- The user double-clicked a problem, fixed the error, saved their change
 - -- no feedback that this is a bad idea



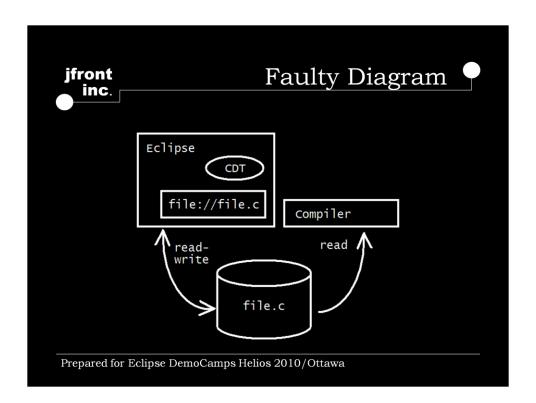
Faulty Fixes



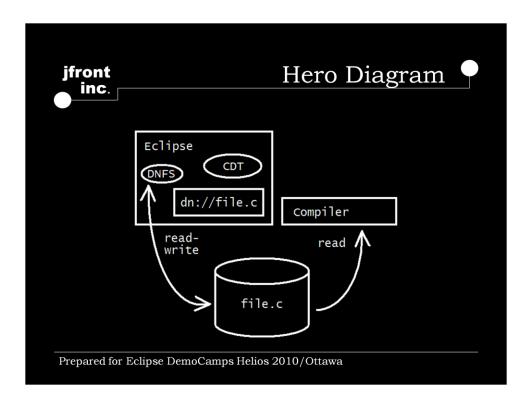
- Custom Editor
 - Bug 203640 (now fixed)
 - Open With...
- Read-only attribute on file
 - Reason for the flag is not obvious
 - User can reset it
 - Navigation still to the wrong place

- 203640 is fixed for 3.6, doesn't help with older (3.3. and 3.4) installations
 - -- user can circumvent custom editor with 'Open With...'
- other locks are confusing, the user can see the error and knows the fix, why can't it be applied?
 - -- there's no feedback at the point in time when the user is trying to make the change

Eclipse platform has an extension-point for this



- In the faulty approach, Eclipse sees the generated content as a simple file, and says "I know what to do with files"



Using the EFS, the content gets wrapped in our own code, this allows hooks for reads and writes

In this case the DemoNightFileSystem takes ownership of putting the file on disk for the compiler to find



EFS – The Hero

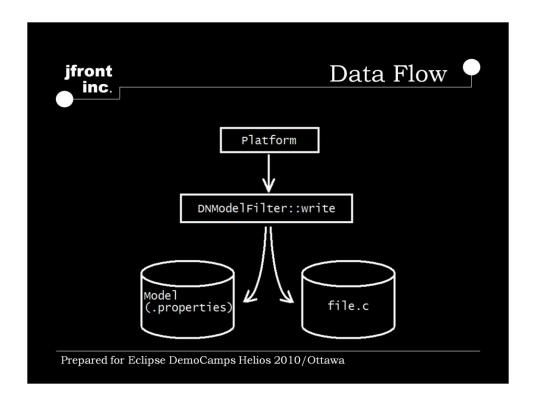


- URIs as demonight://path/file.c
- · Provides read and write hooks
 - Write: parse content, update model
 - Read: regenerate from model
- Benefits
 - Transparent to CDT
 - Agnostic to how file is accessed

- The code generator produces files with the needed URI
- Our FileSystem implementation uses the URI to implement a write hook
 - the hook parses the content, and writes changes back to the source model
 - marker comments are used to associate code regions with model attributes

```
Write Hook
jfront
   inc.
 @override
 public OutputStream openOutputStream(
              int options, IProgressMonitor monitor )
 {
   // Pass the new content through a filter that will
   // update the .properties file with changes to
   // designated regions.
   return
       new DemoNightModelFilter(
           new FileOutputStream(
               toLocalFile( options, monitor ) );
 }
Prepared for Eclipse DemoCamps Helios 2010/Ottawa
```

- The FileStore returns a stream that is used by the Platform to write the updated content
- This stream includes a parser, which looks for the special marker tags, and updates the .properties file
- The stream also writes the content to disk, for the compiler to find
 - Eclipse doesn't know anything about the on-disk version



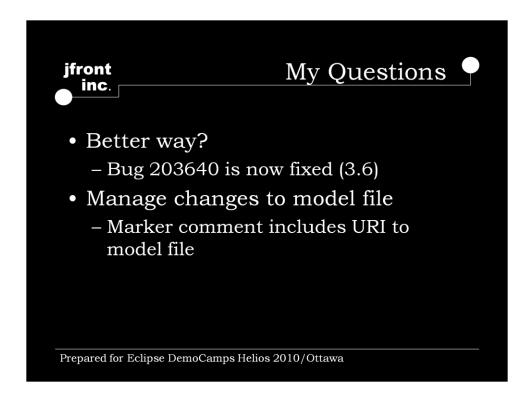
- -The content is written to disk for the compiler, it's not needed by any of the Eclipse elements
 - DNModelFilter::read could generate content from the Model, or from the file on disk

jfront inc. EFS



- Hook for save file
 - Provided with the new content
 - Parse the content, commit changes back to the source model
- Hook for open file
 - Could regenerate the file whenever it is read





- Basic problem is that the user should be aware of when their work could be lost
- When the model file changes the generated source still has marker comments to the old location