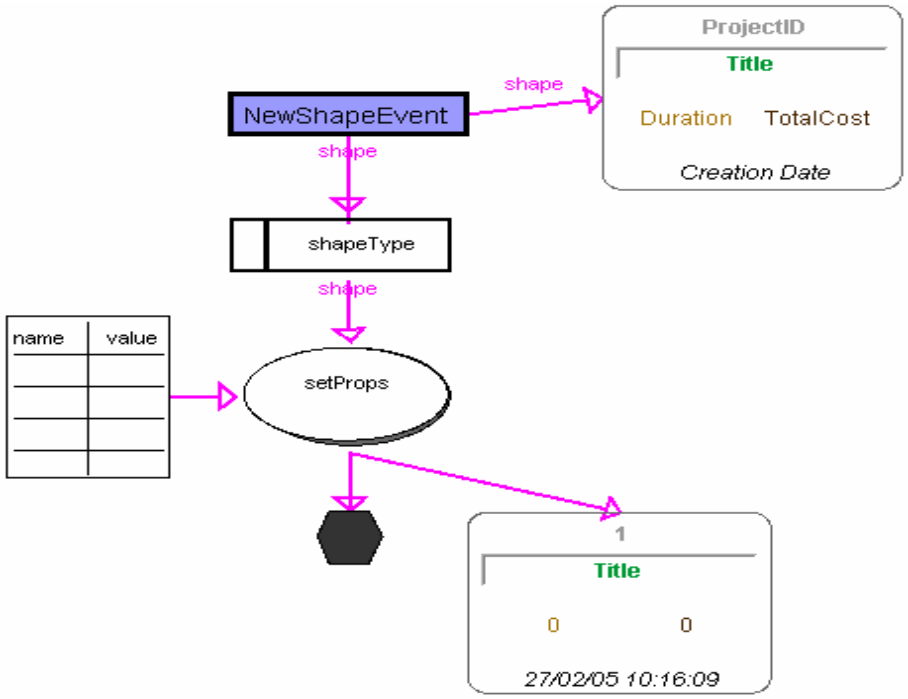
Marama Extensions

- Aim of section:
  - Look at work undertaken to extend Marama core features (recent and current)
  - Problems being addressed and solutions adopted
- Contents
  - Behaviour specification
    - Formulae
    - DSVL for event handling
  - Back end code/model import/export
  - Collaboration/awareness
  - Thin-client diagramming
  - Sketching-based input

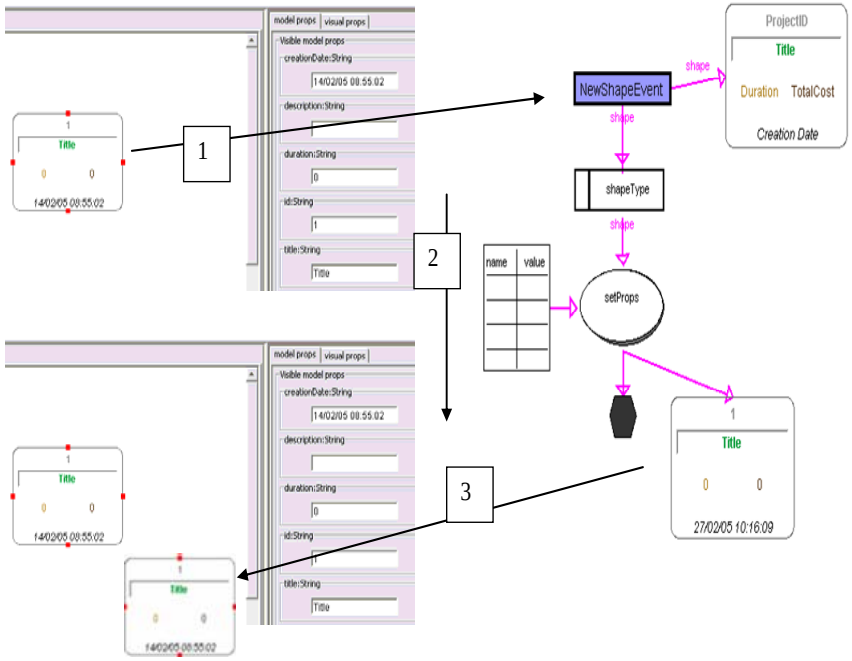
Behaviour specification

- **Problems**
  - Original event handler specification approach required sophisticated user
    - Understanding of Java
    - Familiarity with Marama API
  - Difficult to debug
- **Solutions**
  - Kaitiaki visual event handler specification tool (Karen Liu PhD)
    - Aimed at handlers for view manipulation
    - Debug view
  - Metamodel constraint language
    - Like OCL for specifying computations at meta model level (like spreadsheets at a type level)
- **Status**
  - Both projects completed by Karen Liu (PhD)
  - Formulae added to Marama meta-tools, Kaitiaki to come…

Kaitiaki

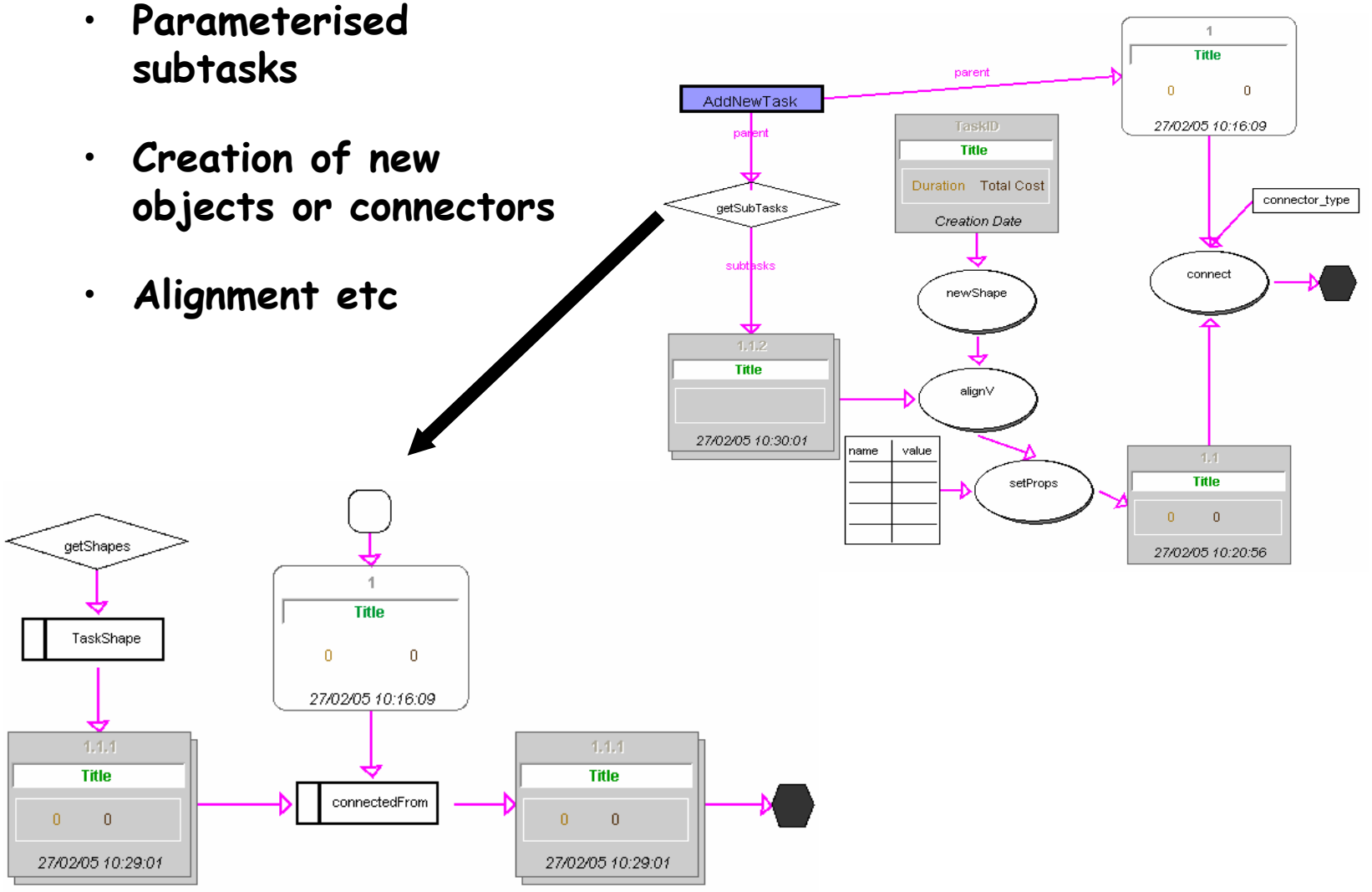


- Dataflow metaphor, but includes data push and pull
- Includes shape representations to give clarity

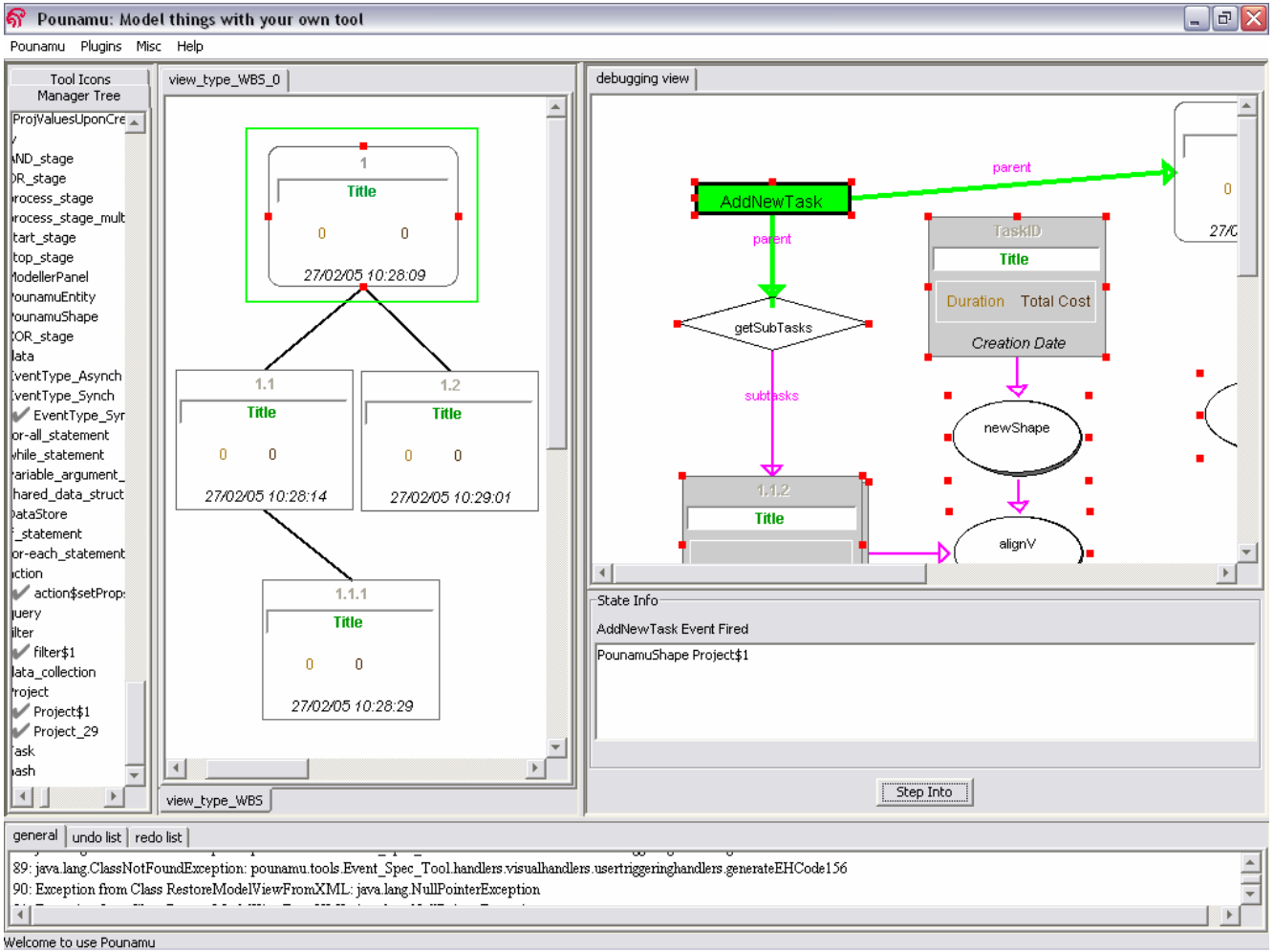


More complex example

- Parameterised subtasks
- Creation of new objects or connectors
- Alignment etc

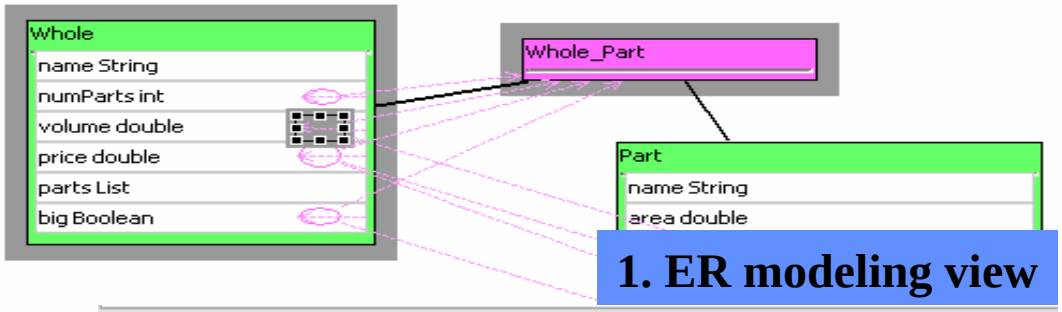


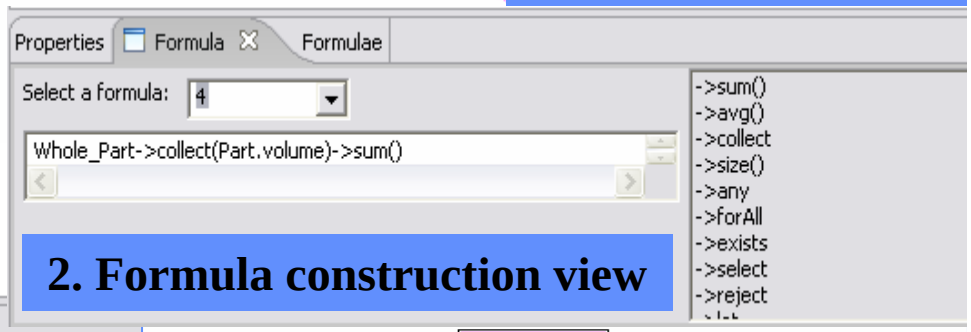
Kaitiaki Debug view

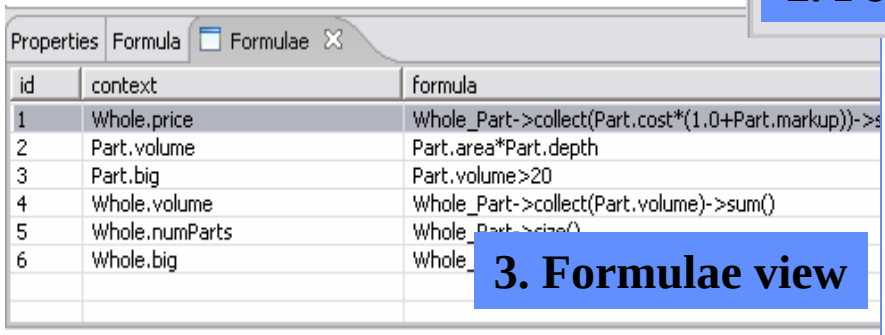


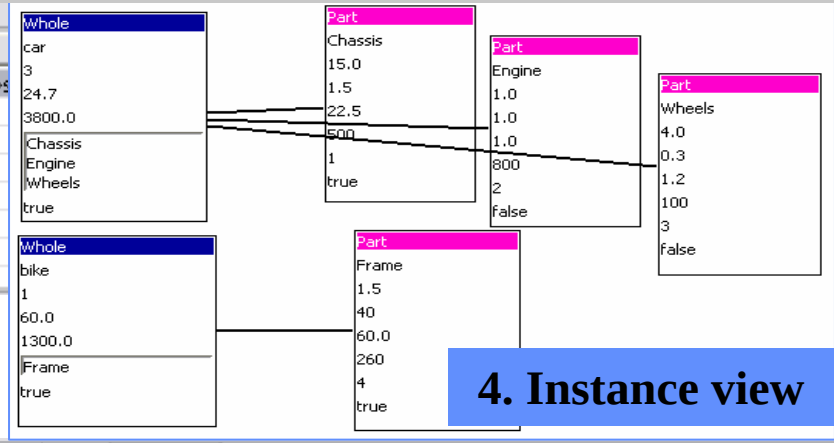
Formula definer for meta-model

- Design-time
  - ER modeling view
  - Formula construction view
  - Formulae view
- Run-time
  - Instance view
  - Master-details tabular view with an on-demand tooltip showing the underlying formula





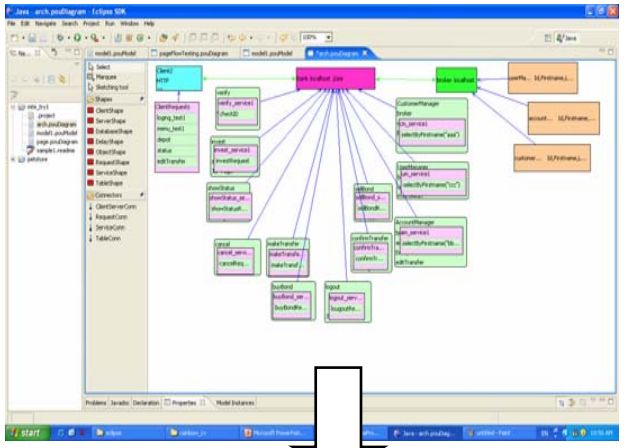




Back end code import/export

- **Problem**
  - Backend code generation and code import facilities require bespoke code for each generator/importer
- **Solutions**
  - Event handlers to walk EMF data structures & generate code OR create/modify EMF structures from parsed code
  - Used JET (Eclipse EMF) template-based code generator
  - Developed MaramaVMLPlus XSLT generator for complex data transformation
- **Status**
  - MaramaVMLPlus tool developed by Jun Huh
  - Being integrated into Marama meta-tools

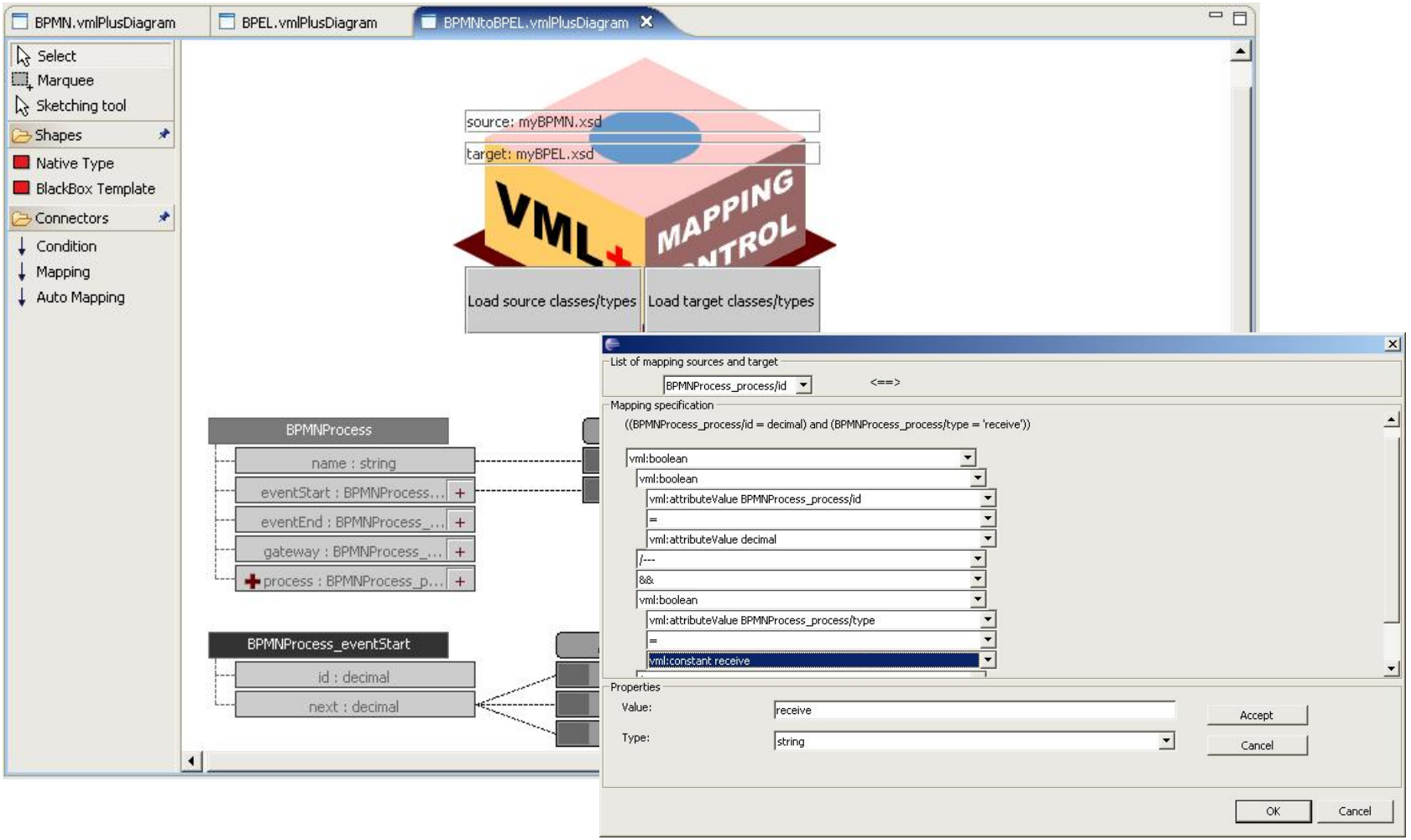
Code Export



```
<%@ jet package="nz.ac.auckland.cs.marama.userdirectory.tools.MaramaMTE.codegen"
imports="nz.ac.auckland.cs.marama.model.project.* java.util.* " class="BasicClientGen" %>

<% MaramaEntity client = (MaramaEntity) argument; %>

<%
String className = (String) client.getAttributeValue("name");
String threads = client.getAttributeValueAsString("threads");
if(threads == null)
threads = "1";
List services = client.getParentEntities("Services");

%>

import java.rmi.Naming;
import java.util.List;
import java.util.ArrayList;

public class <%=className%>
{

 // declare remote objects
<% for (int j=0; j < services.size(); j++) { %>
<% MaramaEntity service = (MaramaEntity) services.get(j); %>
<% String serviceName = service.getAttributeValueAsString("name"); %>
<% List requests = service.getParentEntities("Requests"); %>
<% for (int i=0; i < requests.size(); i++ ) { %>
<% MaramaEntity request = (MaramaEntity)requests.get(i); %>
<% if(request.getAttributeValueAsString("remoteObject") != null) { %>
public static <%=request.getAttributeValue("remoteObject")%>
<%=serviceName%>_<%=request.getAttributeValue("remoteObject")%>_<%=i%>;
<% } %>
<% } %>
<% } %>

...
```

```
import java.rmi.Naming;
import java.util.List;
import java.util.ArrayList;

public class Client1
{
// declare remote objects
                public static CustomerManager clientTest1_CustomerManager_0;
                public static CustomerManager clientTest1_CustomerManager_2;
 ...


public static void main(String args[])
{
                // threads = 10

                // look up remote objects...
                try {

 clientTest1_CustomerManager_0 = (CustomerManager)
                // need to put host name in...!

 clientTest1_CustomerManager_2 = (CustomerManager)
                // need to put host name in...!
                Naming.lookup("localhost/CustomerManager");

 ClientTest2_UserManager_1 = (UserManager)
                // need to put host name in...!
                Naming.lookup("localhost/UserManager");
ClientTest2_CustomerManager_2 = (CustomerManager)
                // need to put host name in...!
                Naming.lookup("localhost/CustomerManager");

...
}

                // start the client threads & wait until they have all have finished...

                for(int i=0; i < 10; i++) {
                                Thread thread = (Thread) threads.get(i);
                                thread.start();
                }

                long startTime = System.currentTimeMillis();

                // wait on the client threads to finish

                for(int i=0; i < 10; i++) {
                                Client1Thread thread = (Client1Thread) threads.get(i);
                                thread.doWait();
                }

                long endTime = System.currentTimeMillis();

                System.out.println("Time taken = "+(endTime-startTime));
```

MaramaVMLPlus

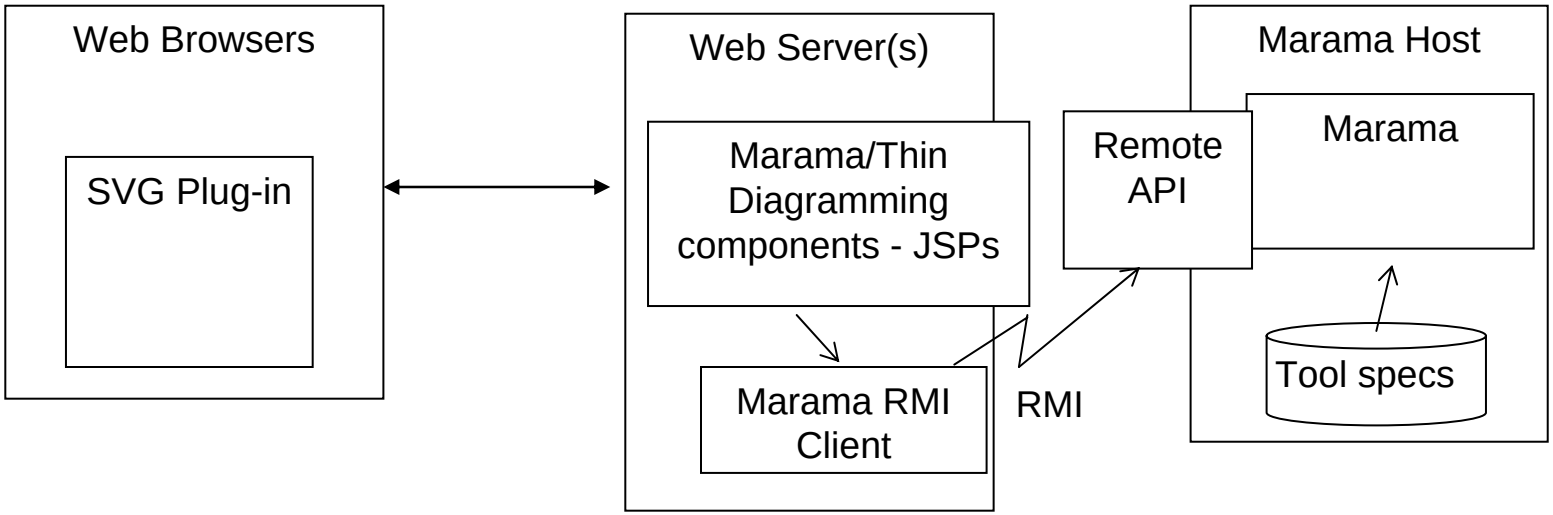


Thin-client/Remote interfaces

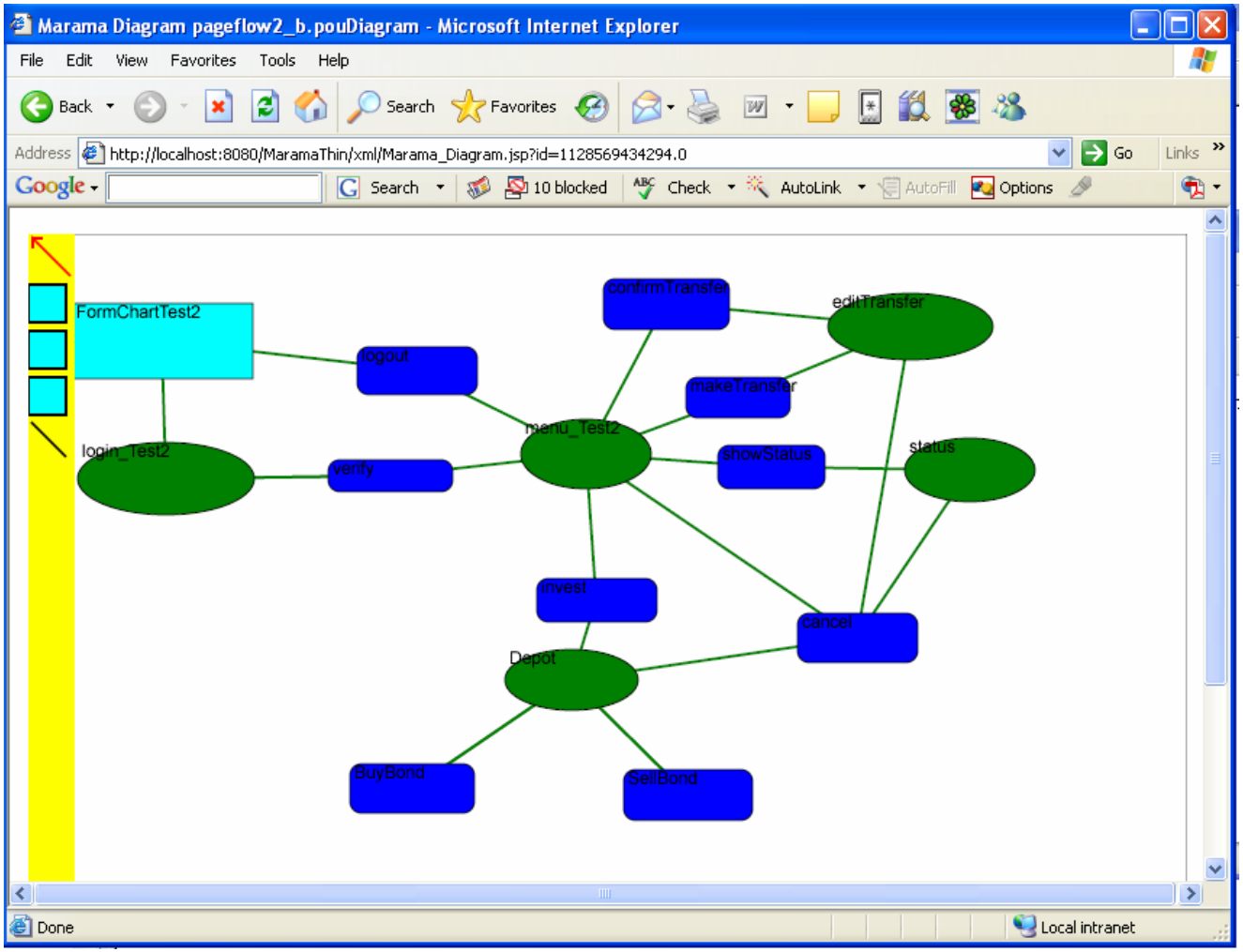
- **Problems**
  - Need to access Marama tools remotely on a variety of different devices
  - Need to drive Marama remotely
- **Solutions**
  - RMI interface to Marama API
  - Thin client interface for web browser interaction with any Marama generated tool (Penny Cao MSc thesis done)
  - Mobile phone interface for Marama generated tools (Joe Zhao MSc thesis done)
  - Generalise framework and add VRML interface (Joe Zhao done)
  - Add games engine interface (Mek Bhumiwat & Joseph Shi 2005 SE Part 4 project done)

Thin client interface

- Originally developed by Penny Cao (MSc thesis) for Pounamu
- New version developed for Marama by John G
  - Uses RMI API to generate SVG version of Marama model views
  - Can interact with these to perform editing actions
  - Support multi-user interaction with Marama tools

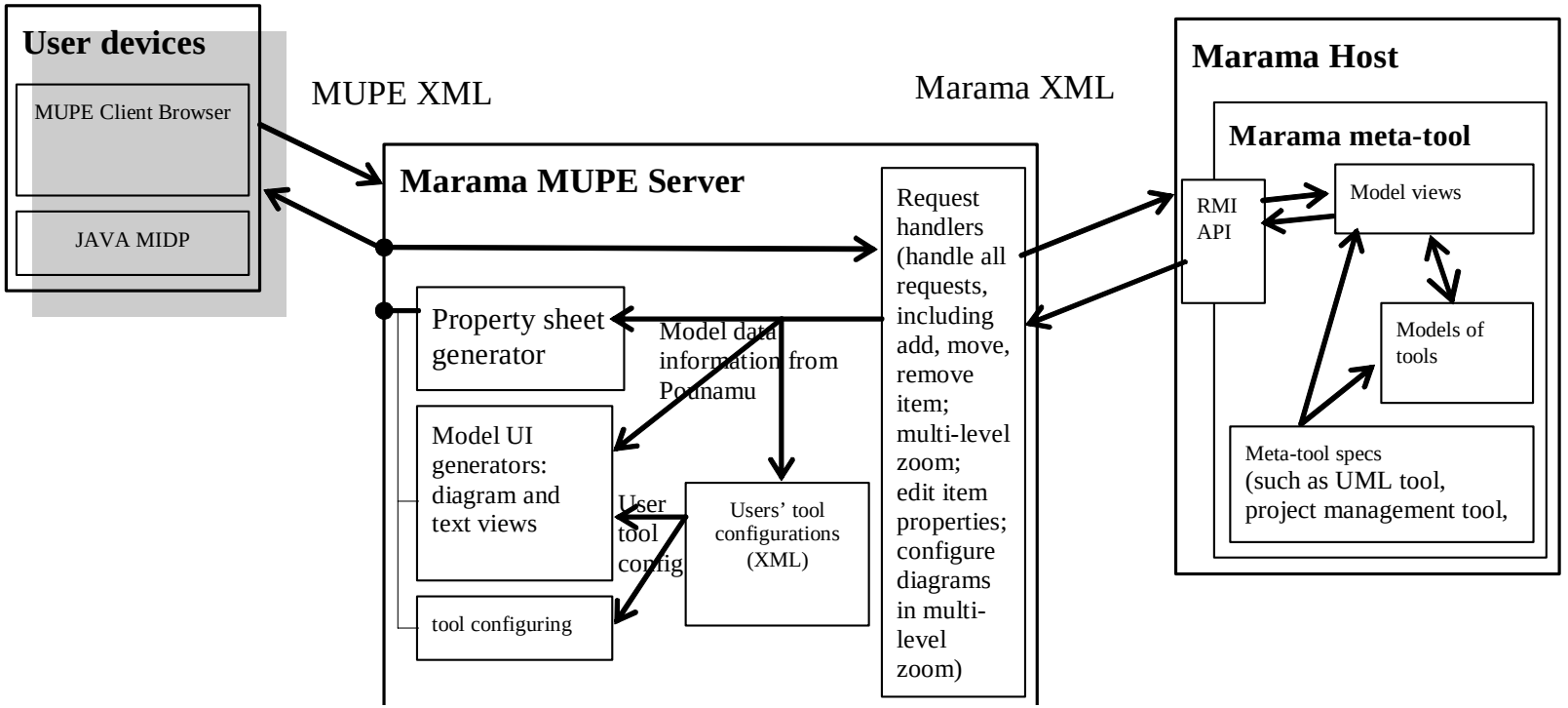


Thin client interface example

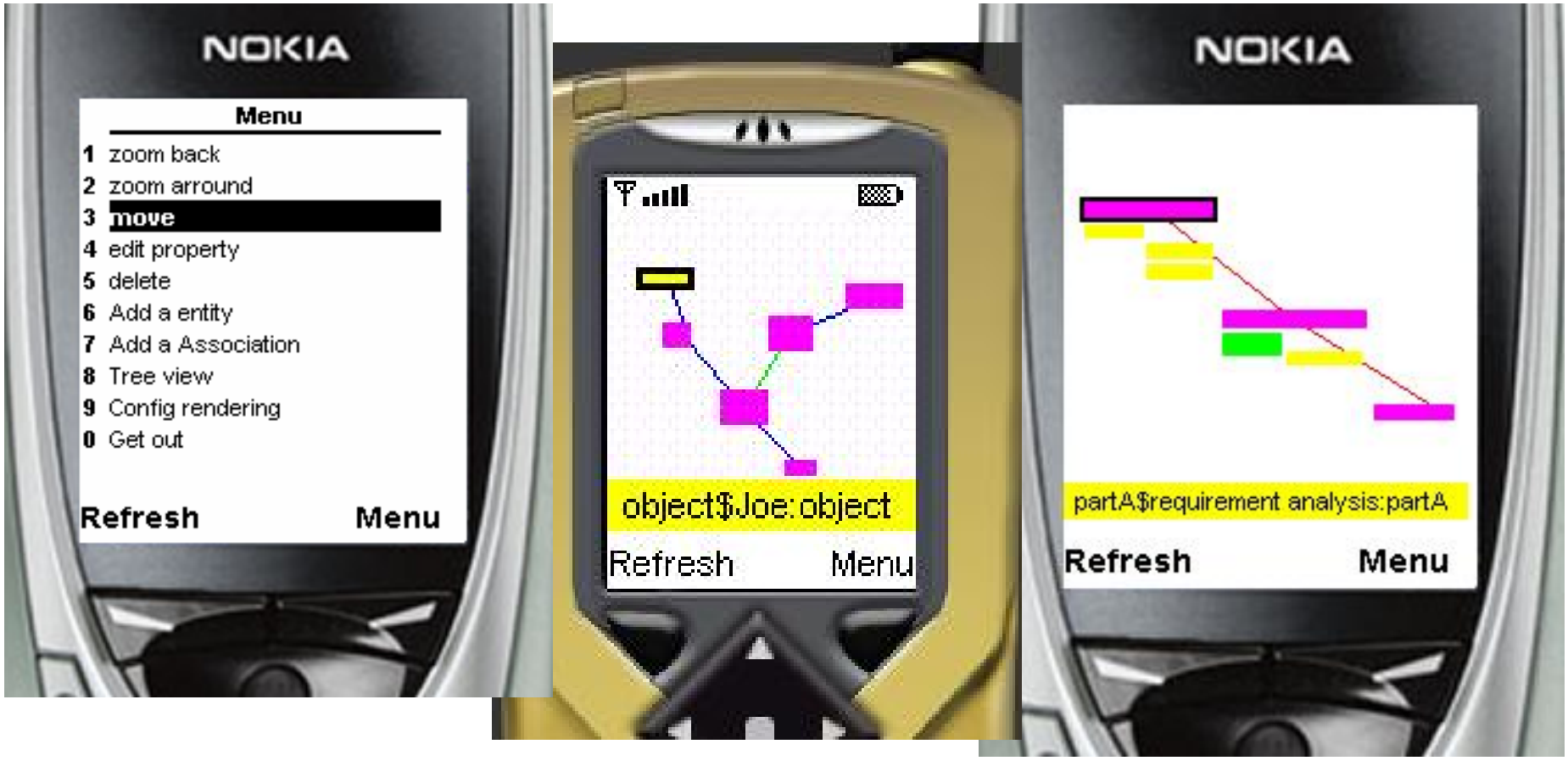


MUPE interface

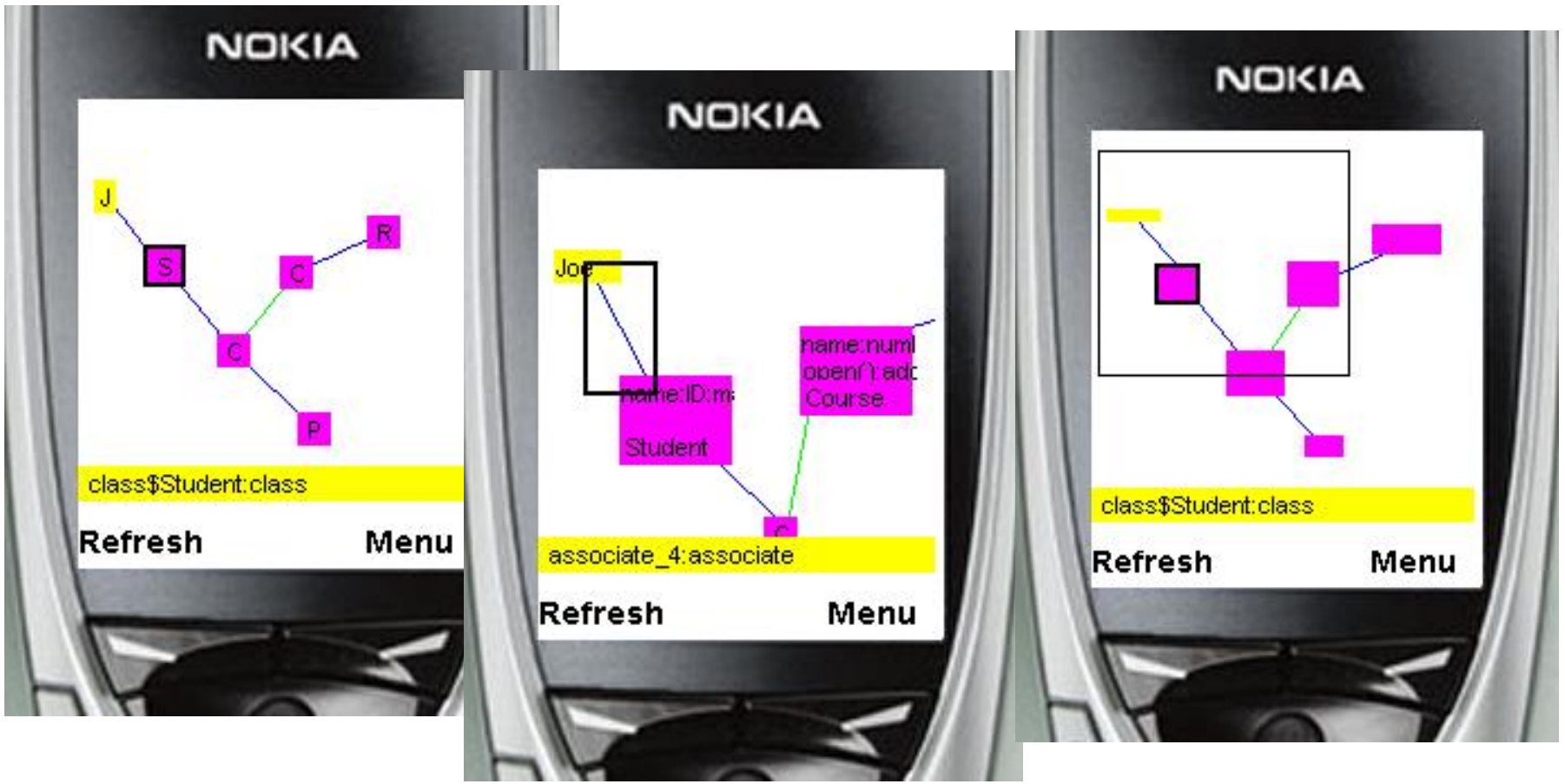
- Support for viewing and editing Pounamu & Marama tool views on cellphones
- Uses Nokia's MUPE open source mobile collaboration server plus MUPE client on phone
- Has several features for semantic zooming to allow diagrams to be sensibly visualised/edited on small screen



Example MUPE interface usage



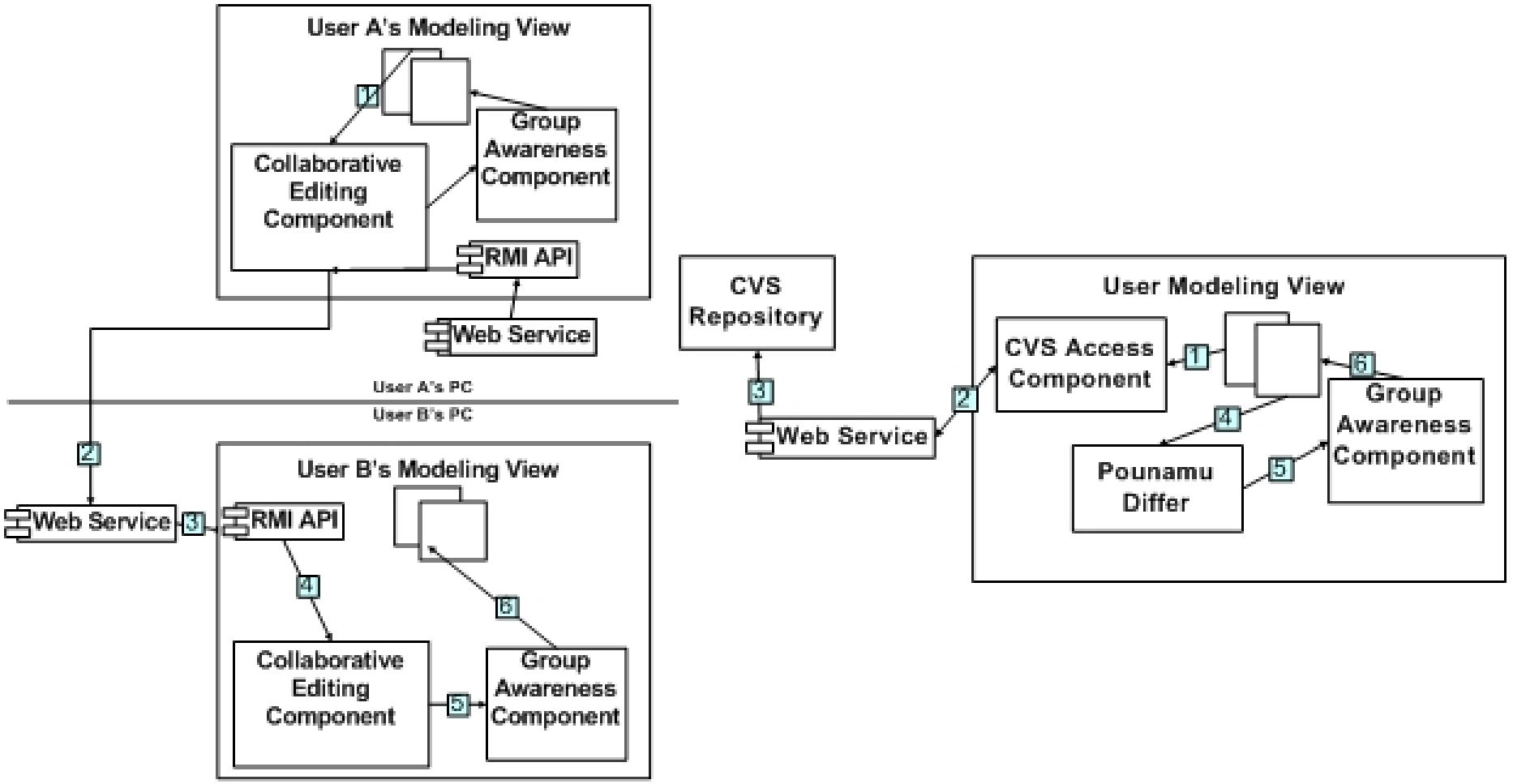
Element zooming and overview



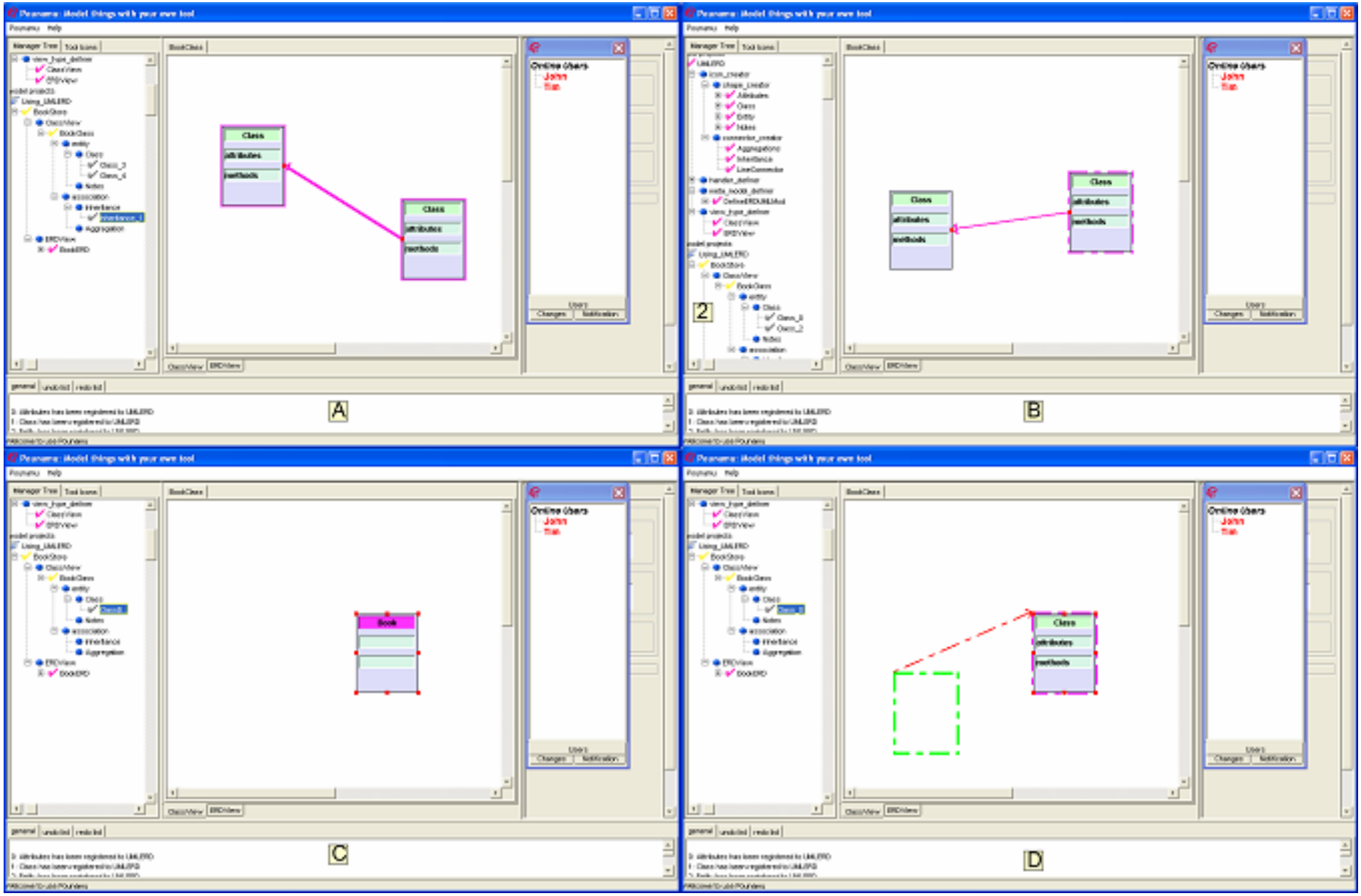
Collaboration support

- **Problems**
  - Want to use Marama tools in collaborative situations & hence need support for both synchronous and asynchronous collaboration
- **Solutions**
  - Pounamu - web service based collaboration plug in provides synch and asynch multi user support (Akhil Mehra 780 project)
  - Pounamu - web service based group awareness and CVS plugins extend to provide visual indication of other users' actions when collaboratively editing and shared document versioning (Akhil Mehra MSc thesis)
  - Marama – use of CVS via Eclipse workspace
  - Marama – differ & merger for DSVLs

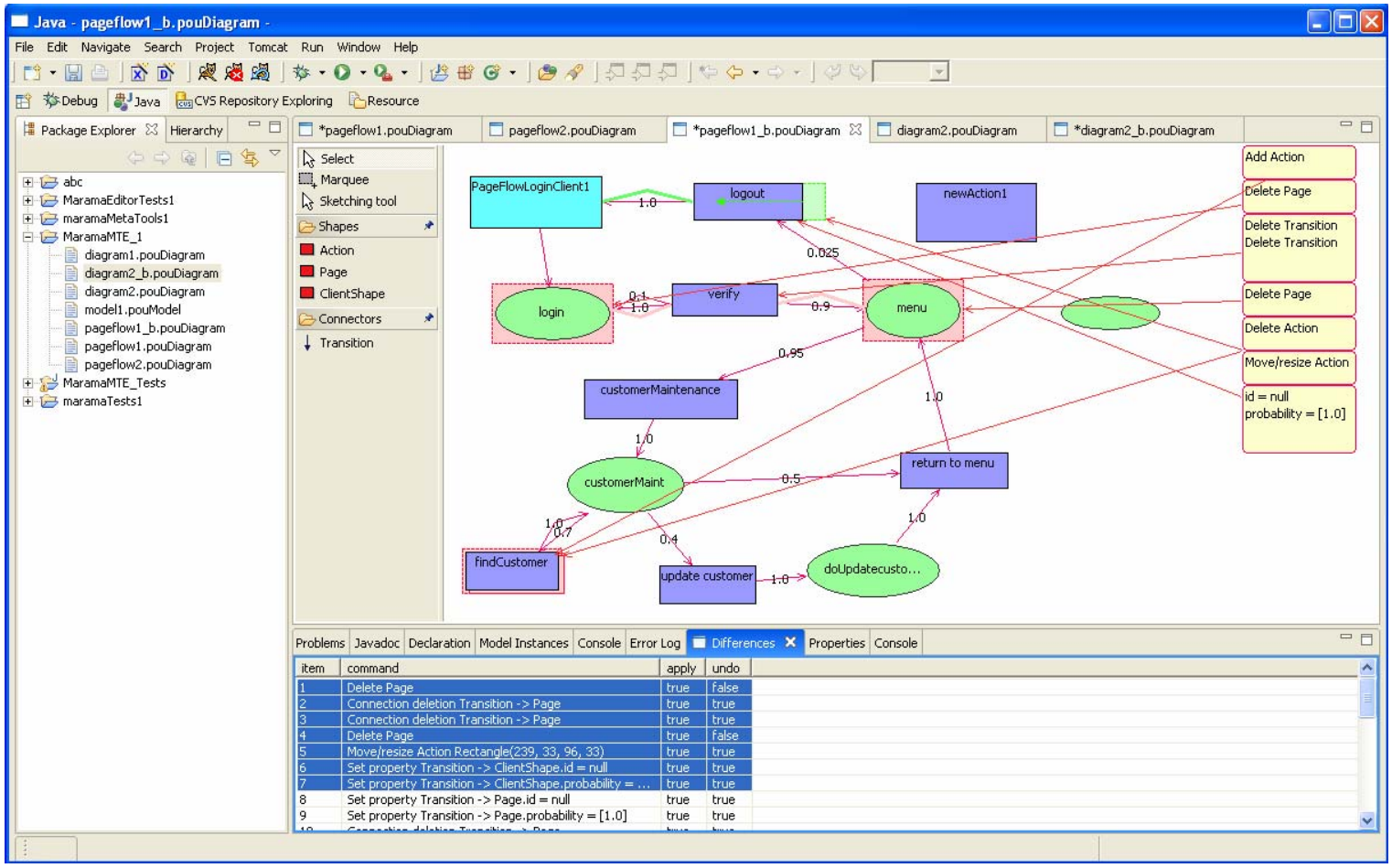
General collaboration architecture



Group Awareness Example - Pounamu



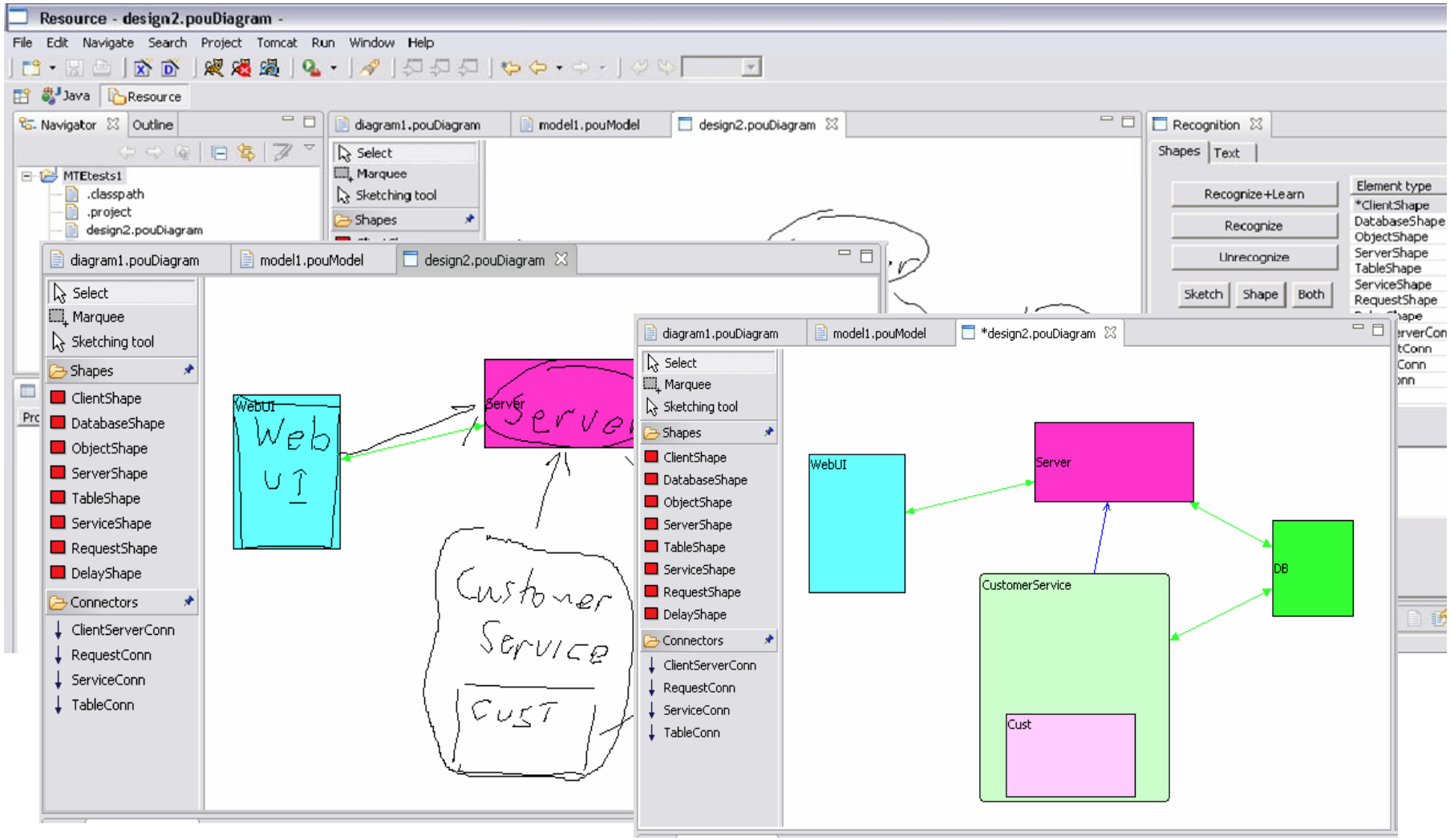
Visual Differ Example - Marama



Sketching-based UI

- **Problems**
  - Classical tool bar-mouse interaction
  - Want to support more flexible input of DSVL elements
  - Want to support pen-based interaction e.g. TabletPC, stylus on Palm/PDAs, large E-whiteboards, touch screens…
- **Solutions**
  - MaramaSketch plug-in
  - Augments Marama editor to support pen-based editing
  - Training set of shapes/text specified by users
  - Works for any Marama-implemented DSVL tool

MaramaSketch interface



Summary

- Marama is an evolving tool that has itself been developed out of earlier tool projects (MViews, JViews, Pounamu)
- Very much a research prototype to provide proof of concept implementation of research ideas
  - However, now developed to a level of semi-robustness
  - Fifth year of use in 732!
- Plenty of scope to undertake projects/theses developing or applying Marama