

## IBM Integration Bus

### Message Modeling with DFDL

#### Lab 2

#### Modeling fixed-length data using a COBOL copybook

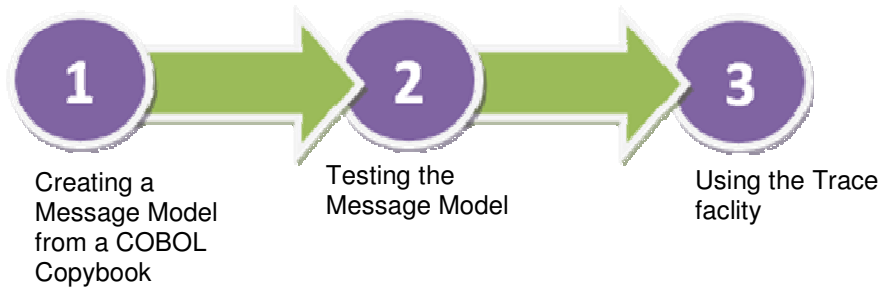
June, 2013

Hands-on lab built at product  
code level Version 9.0.0.0

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# 1. Introduction

In this lab, you will create a Message Model from a COBOL Copybook. Then you will test parse it against a valid data file and a malformed data file. In this last part you will be able to take a look at the trace facility.



This lab should be done after Lab 1, Message Modelling with CSV files.

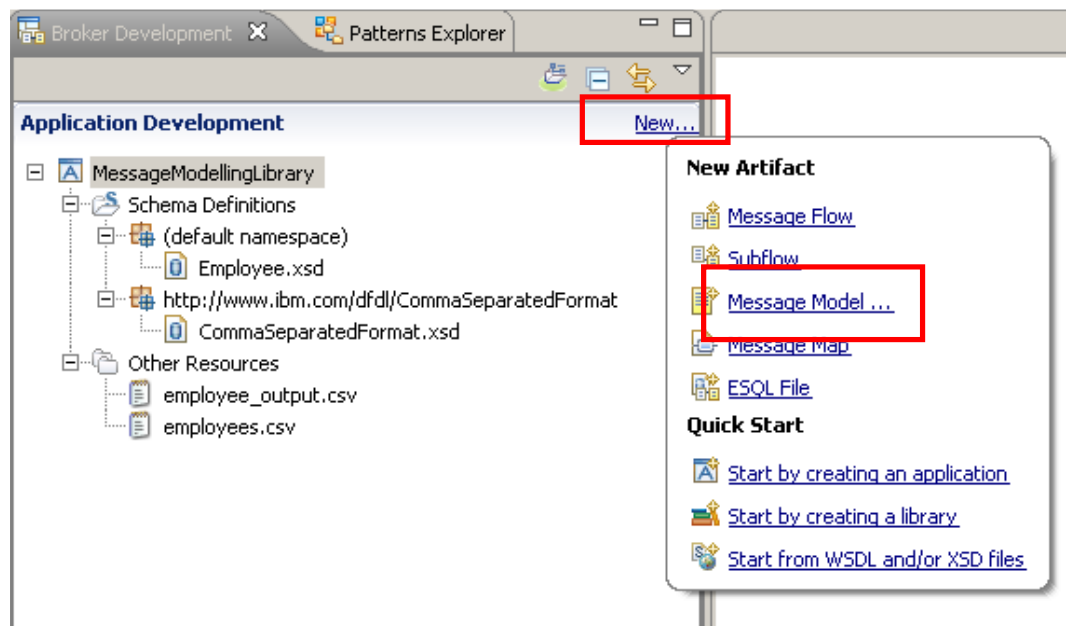
## 2. Creating a Message Model from a COBOL Copybook

This lab shows you how to create a Message Model based on a the fixed length COBOL Copybook format. To do that, you will use the message model wizard taking a .cpy file as input.

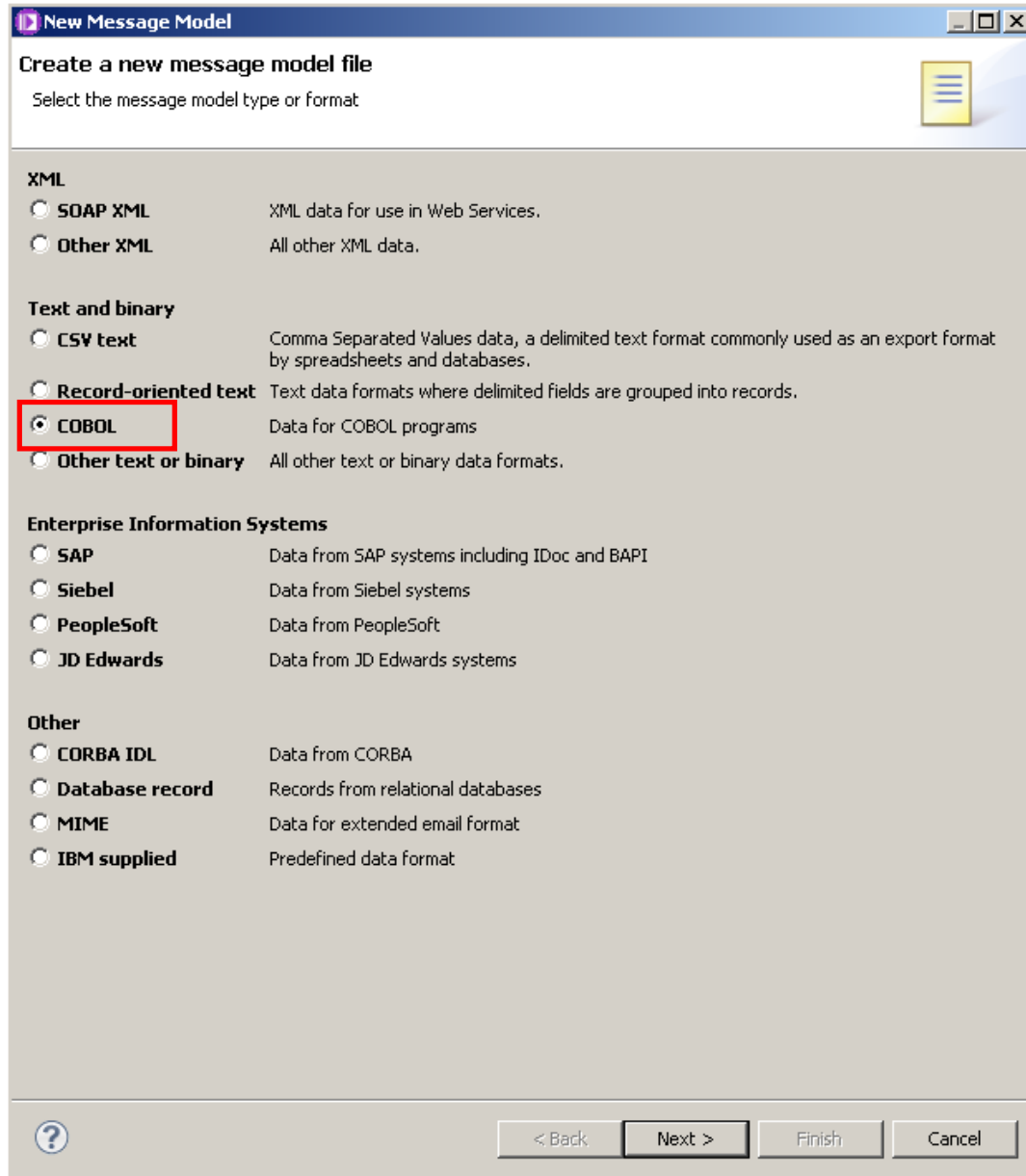
1. The first lab in this series created a CSV Message Model, so you should already have a Library created for this purpose. This lab uses the library called MessageModellingLibrary.

(If you didn't do that lab, create a new library now called MessageModellingLibrary).

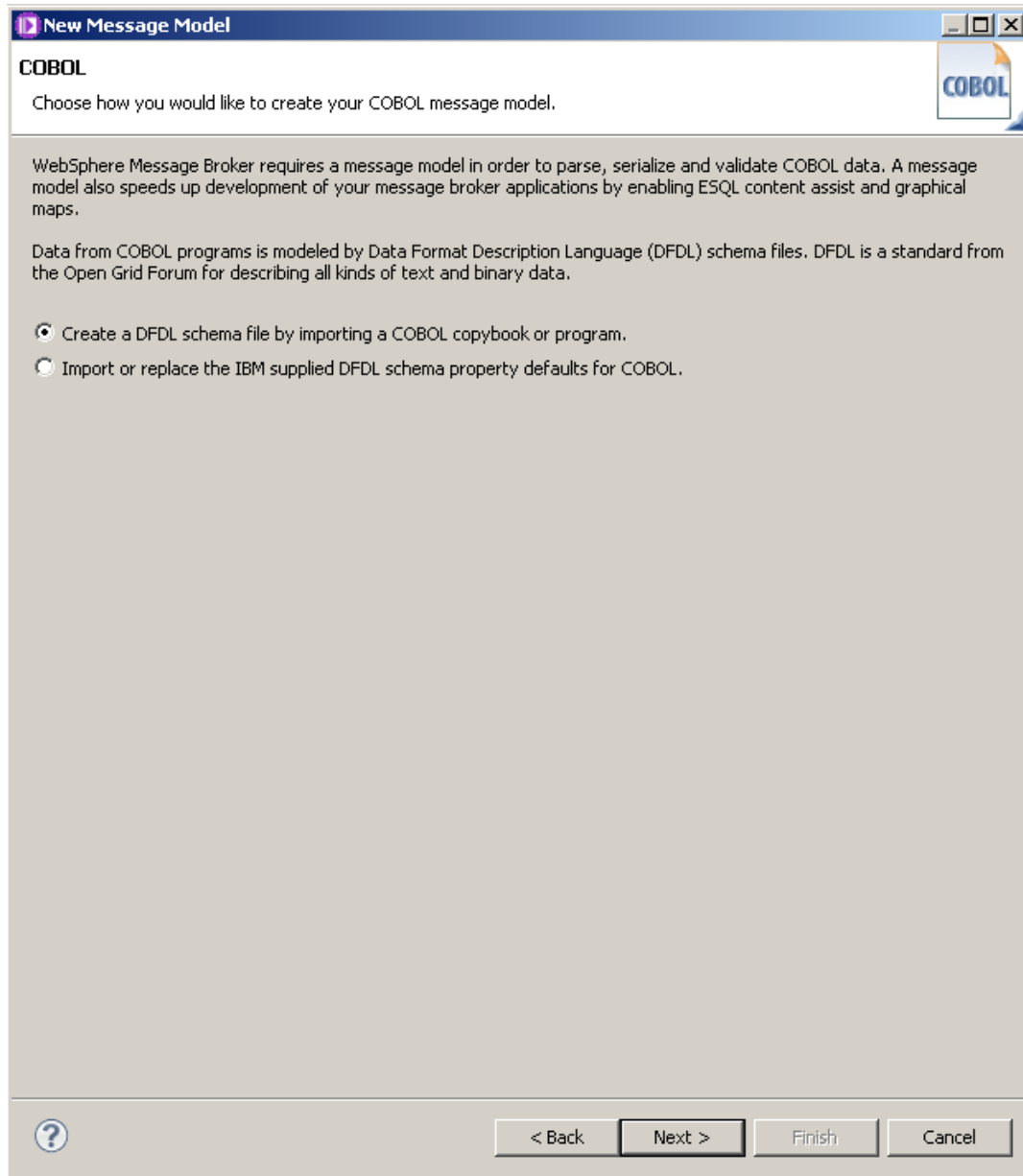
In this library, click "New...", and select Message Model.



2. In the Message Model wizard, select COBOL and click Next.



3. Leave the default option selected, and click Next.



4. Set the "Application or Library" to MessageModellingLibrary, by using the Browse button.

Select "Select source file from outside workspace". Click the Browse button.

**New DFDL Schema**

**New Data Format Description Language Schema (DFDL) From a Source**

Select the type of data definition from which to import and create a DFDL schema.

Application or Library:

Folder:

DFDL schema file name:

Select source file from workspace:

Select source file from outside workspace:

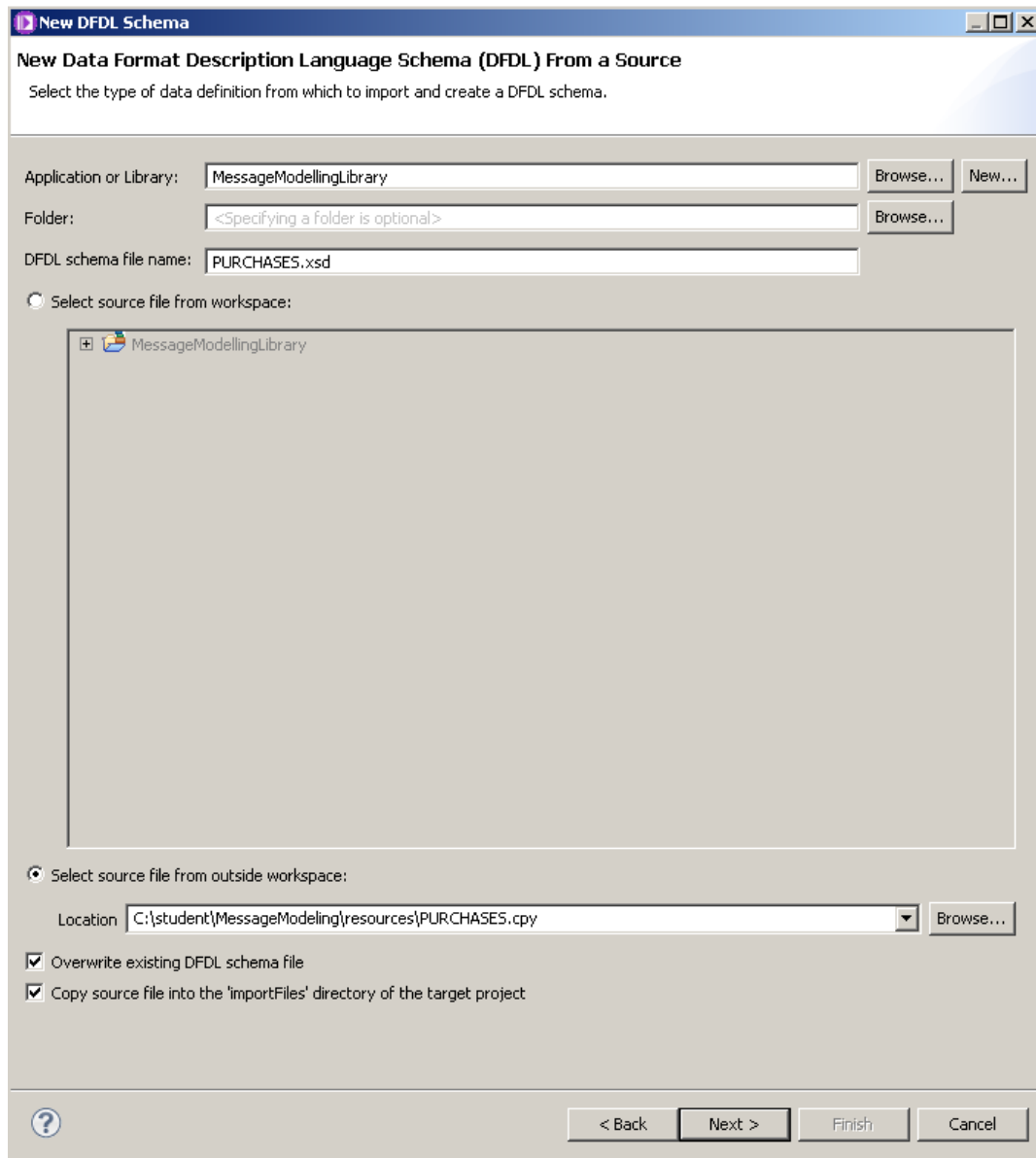
Location

Overwrite existing DFDL schema file

Copy source file into the 'importFiles' directory of the target project

5. Browse in C:\student\MessageModeling\resources\ and select the file "PURCHASES.cpy".

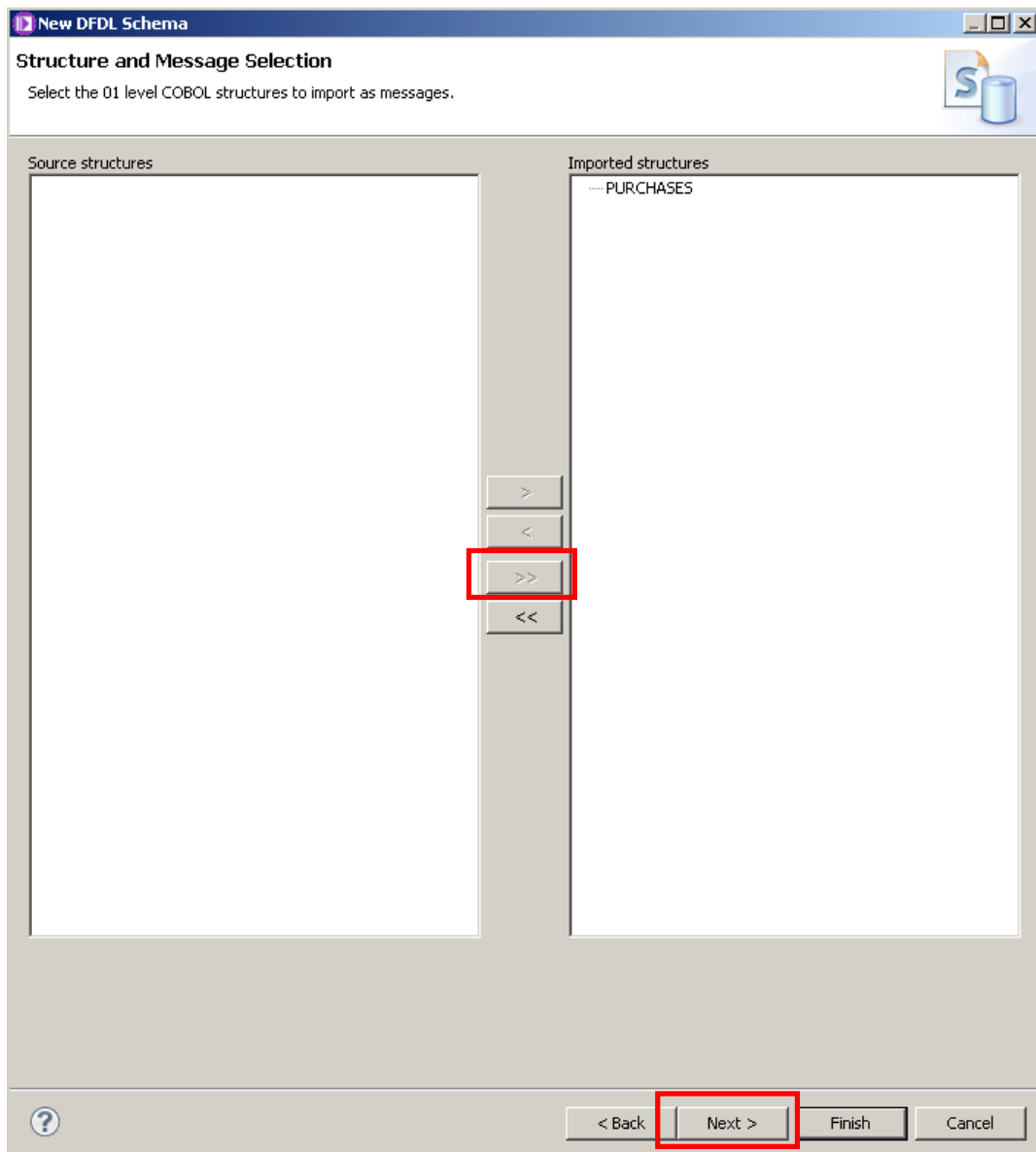
Click Next.





6. Click on the ">>" button to select all found objects (just one in this case) and click Next.

Do not click Finish.



7. Leave most of the default values, but select “Recognize null values for all fields”.

Click Next.

**New DFDL Schema**

**Import Options**  
Optionally override defaults for generation of DFDL schema from COBOL import.

**Default values**  
Specify these options if you want default values to be created for each field.  
 Create default values from initial VALUES

**Null values**  
Specify this option if you want the processor to recognize fields as logically null when the value is SPACES, HIGH-VALUES or LOW-VALUES. [More...](#)  
 Recognize null values for all fields  
strings: SPACES numbers: LOW-VALUES

**Pad character**  
Specify the character to be used by the processor when padding field values on output, and when trimming field values on input.  
strings: SPACE numbers: '0'

**Value constraints**  
Specify this option if you want fields to be given value constraints whenever possible. [More...](#)  
 Create value constraints from level 88 VALUE clauses

[Restore Defaults](#)

[?<](#) [< Back](#) [Next >](#) [Finish](#) [Cancel](#)

8. Leave all the defaults values, and click Finish.

**New DFDL Schema**

**Import Options**

Specify settings that describe the COBOL data as it appears on the target system.

The importer compiles the supplied COBOL file in order to create the DFDL schema. Some compiler options may be changed on this page. A full set of compiler options may be found in the Preferences settings [here](#).

Specifying target platform affects selection of the encoding options.

Platform: Win32

**Encoding options**

Dynamic - provided to the processor by the application at runtime

Fixed - provided below

Encoding (code page): ISO-8859-1

Floating point format: IEEE Non-Extended

Byte order:  Little endian  Big endian

**External (zoned) decimal**

Use EBCDIC sign characters with ASCII numbers

EBCDIC encoding (code page) for sign characters(1):

**Compiler options**

QUOTE:  DOUBLE  SINGLE

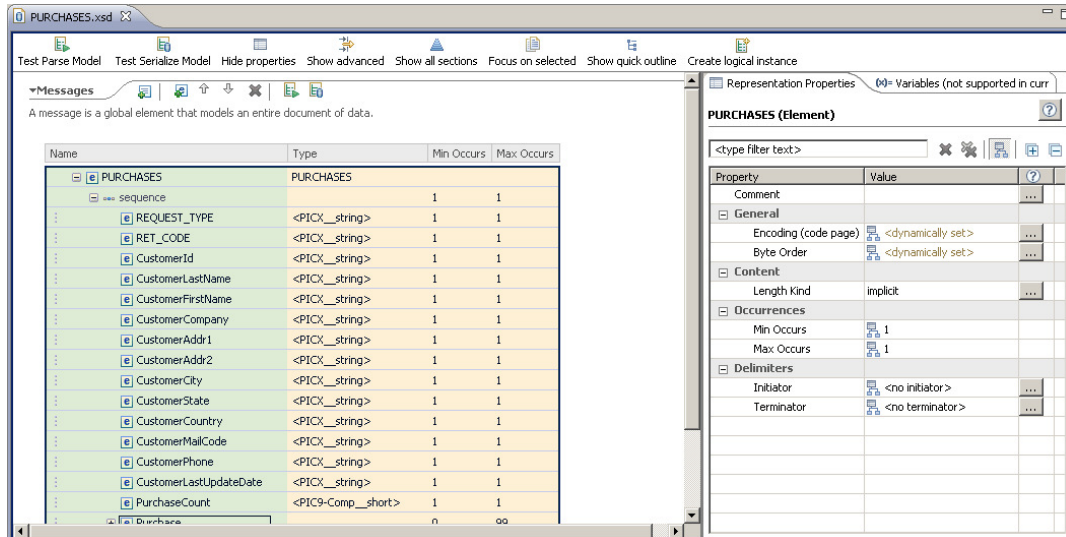
TRUNC:  STD  OPT  BIN

NSYMBOL:  NATIONAL  DBCS

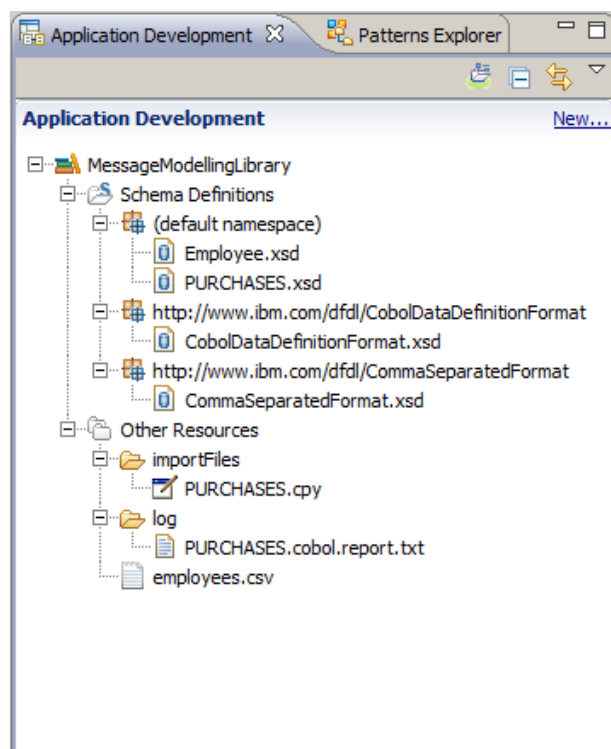
Restore Defaults

< Back Next > **Finish** Cancel

9. The DFDL editor opens with the newly created DFDL message model called PURCHASES.xsd.

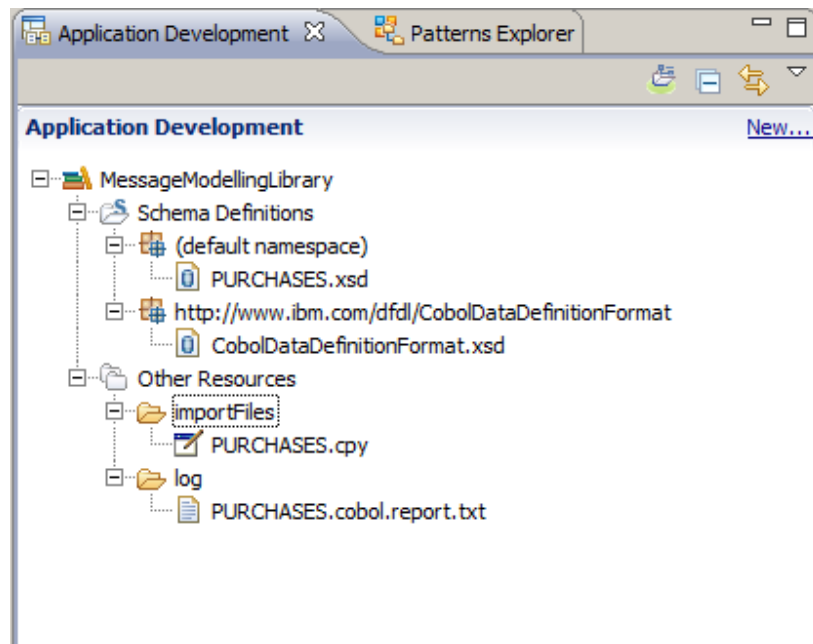


10. Notice the wizard automatically added a file called "CobolDataDefinitionFormat.xsd" under the Schema Definitions in MessageModellingLibrary. This file is referenced by PURCHASES.xsd as a schema import, and it contains COBOL-specific defaults for all the DFDL properties, and some pre-defined simple types.



11. Expand the "Other Resources" folder under the MessageModellingLibrary library.

Expand the "importFiles/student/MessageModeling/resources" folder and you will find the PURCHASES.cpy file that the wizard has automatically imported. (You will also see resources that you created in earlier DFDL labs).



12. Double-click on PURCHASES.cpy to open it in the editor.

```

Line 1      Column 1      Insert
-----+*A-1-B-----+-----2-----+-----3-----+-----4-----+-----5-----+-----6-----+-----7--|-----8
01 PURCHASES.
   03 REQUEST-TYPE          PIC X.
   03 RET-CODE              PIC XX.
   03 CustomerId           PIC X(8) .
   03 CustomerLastName     PIC X(20) .
   03 CustomerFirstName    PIC X(20) .
   03 CustomerCompany      PIC X(30) .
   03 CustomerAddr1       PIC X(30) .
   03 CustomerAddr2       PIC X(30) .
   03 CustomerCity        PIC X(20) .
   03 CustomerState       PIC X(20) .
   03 CustomerCountry     PIC X(30) .
   03 CustomerMailCode    PIC X(20) .
   03 CustomerPhone       PIC X(20) .
   03 CustomerLastUpdateDate PIC X(8) .
   03 PurchaseCount       PIC 9(3) USAGE COMP.
   03 Purchase OCCURS 0 TO 99 TIMES
      DEPENDING ON PurchaseCount.
      04 PurchaseId       PIC 9(5) .
      04 ProductName     PIC X(30) .
      04 Amount          PIC 9(2) .
      04 Price           PIC 9(8)V99.
   03 RETURN-COMMENT     PIC X(50) .
  
```

This is a simple copybook with:

- 14 string fields
- PurchaseCount: binary field with the number of the Purchase structure occurrences
- Purchase: Repeating structure
  - PurchaseId, Amount: numeric fields.
  - Price: numeric field with 2 decimal places.

- Switch to the DFDL editor. For the PURCHASES.xsd This shows the string fields, defined as "PICX\_string" by the import wizard:

Name	Type	Min Occurs	Max Occurs
<b>PURCHASES</b>	PURCHASES		
sequence		1	1
REQUEST_TYPE	<PICX_string>	1	1
RET_CODE	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerId	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerLastName	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerFirstName	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerCompany	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerAddr1	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerAddr2	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerCity	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerState	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerCountry	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerMailCode	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerPhone	<PICX_string>	1	1
CustomerLastUpdateDate	<PICX_string>	1	1
PurchaseCount	<PIC9-Comp_short>	1	1
Purchase		0	99
RETURN_COMMENT	<PICX_string>	1	1

[Add a Local Element](#)

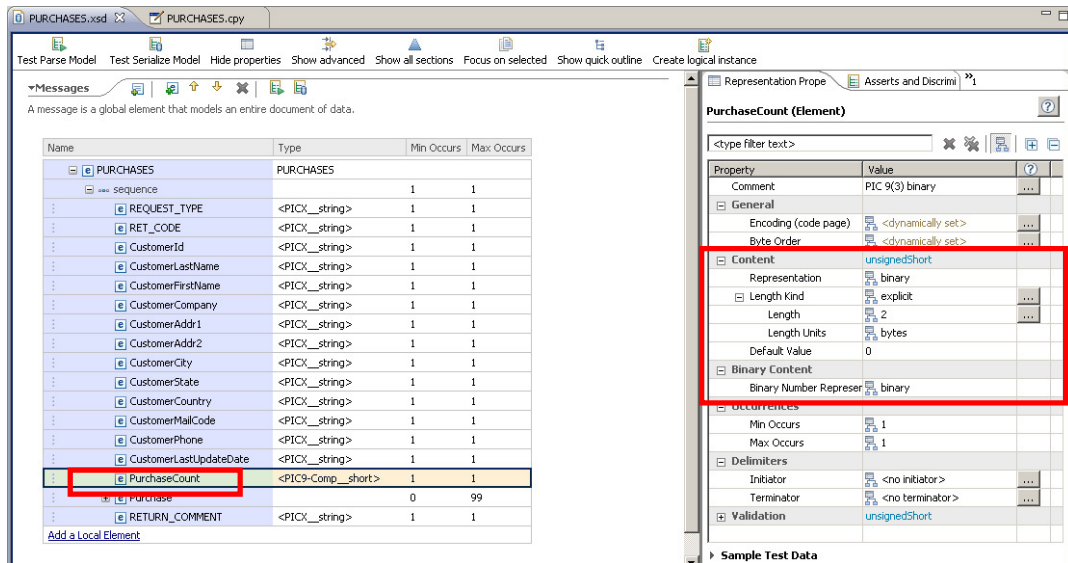
- In the DFDL Editor click on the "CustomerLastName" field to see its properties:

The screenshot shows the DFDL Editor interface. The left pane displays the schema tree with 'CustomerLastName' selected. The right pane shows the 'CustomerLastName (Element)' properties. The 'Content' section is expanded and highlighted with a red box, showing the following settings:

- Content: string
- Representation: text
- Length Kind: explicit
- Length: 20
- Length Units: bytes
- Default Value: (empty)

In the properties view, look for the "Content" section. Note that the field was modeled as "text" representation, with a fixed (explicit) Length of 20 bytes, because the cpy file defined it as a "PIC X(20)"

15. In the DFDL Editor, click on the PurchaseCount field to see its properties:



This field, which was defined as binary in the copybook file ("PIC 9(3) USAGE COMP"), was created as "PIC9\_Comp\_short" by the Import wizard.

You can see the details of this field in the properties view, where its length is set to "2", its Length Units to "bytes" and its representation to "binary".

Also, in the "Binary Content" section, its Binary Number Representation is set to binary. This property can take 3 different values:

- packed: represented as a packed decimal. Each byte contains 2 decimal digits except for the least significant byte, which contains a sign in the least significant nibble
- bcd: represented as a binary coded decimal with 2 digits per byte.
- binary: represented as 2' complement for signed types and unsigned binary for unsigned types.
- ibm4690Packed: used by the IBM 4690 retail store devices

16. Now click on the Price field, in the Purchase structure.

...	[-] e Purchase		0	99
...	[-] sequence		1	1
...	e PurchaseId	<PIC9-Display-Zoned__int>	1	1
...	e ProductName	<PICX_string>	1	1
...	e Amount	<PIC9-Display-Zoned__short>	1	1
...	e Price	<PIC9-Display-Zoned__decimal>	1	1
...	e RETURN_COMMENT	<PICX_string>	1	1



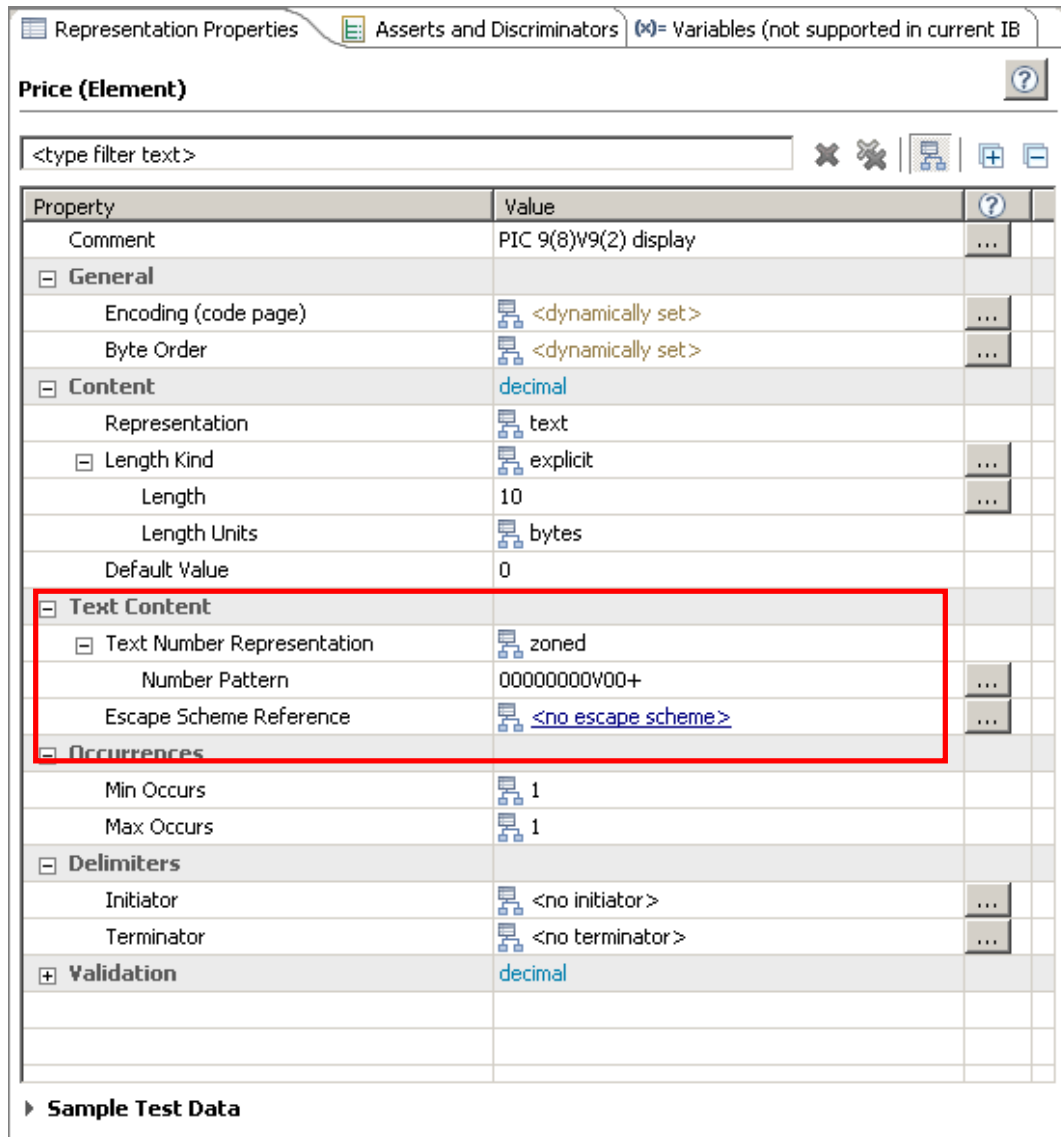
17. In the properties view, look at the "Content" section.

The screenshot shows the 'Price (Element)' properties view. The 'Content' section is highlighted with a red box. The 'Content' section contains the following properties:

Property	Value
Comment	PIC 9(8)V9(2) display
<b>Content</b>	decimal
Representation	text
Length Kind	explicit
Length	10
Length Units	bytes
Default Value	0
<b>Text Content</b>	
Text Number Representation	zoned
Number Pattern	00000000V00+
Escape Scheme Reference	<no escape scheme>
<b>Occurrences</b>	
Min Occurs	1
Max Occurs	1
<b>Delimiters</b>	
Initiator	<no initiator>

Note that it is defined as a decimal field, with text representation and a length of 10 bytes (8 integers and 2 decimal places).

18. Look at the "Text Content" section of the properties view.



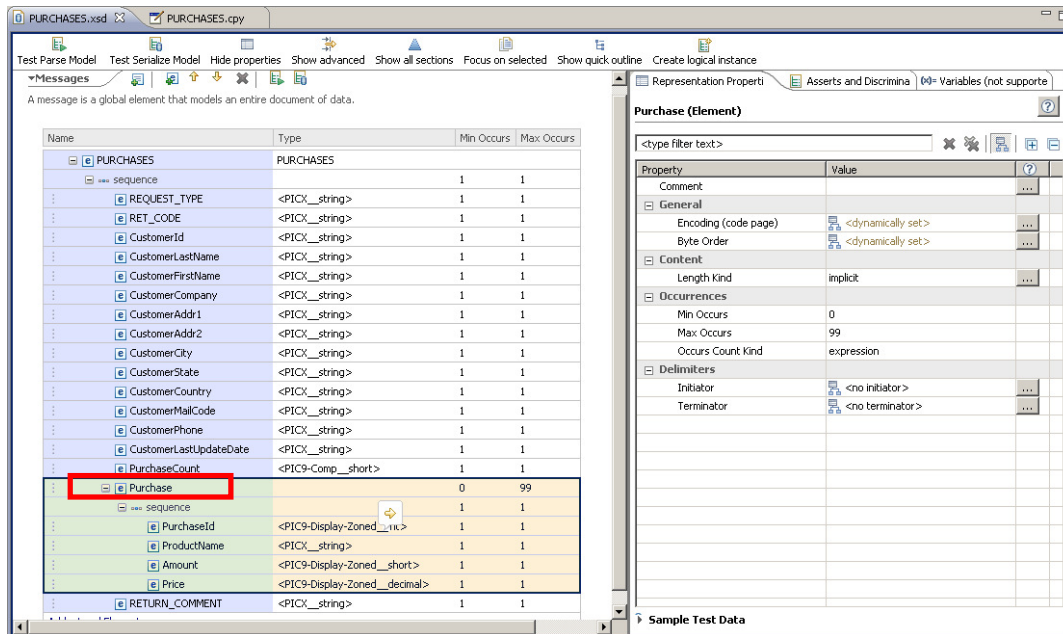
Property	Value	
Comment	PIC 9(8)V9(2) display	...
<b>General</b>		
Encoding (code page)	<dynamically set>	...
Byte Order	<dynamically set>	...
<b>Content</b>		
Representation	decimal	
Representation	text	
<b>Length Kind</b>		
Length Kind	explicit	...
Length	10	...
Length Units	bytes	
Default Value	0	
<b>Text Content</b>		
<b>Text Number Representation</b>		
Text Number Representation	zoned	
Number Pattern	00000000V00+	...
Escape Scheme Reference	<no escape scheme>	...
<b>Occurrences</b>		
Min Occurs	1	
Max Occurs	1	
<b>Delimiters</b>		
Initiator	<no initiator>	...
Terminator	<no terminator>	...
<b>Validation</b>		
Validation	decimal	

▶ **Sample Test Data**

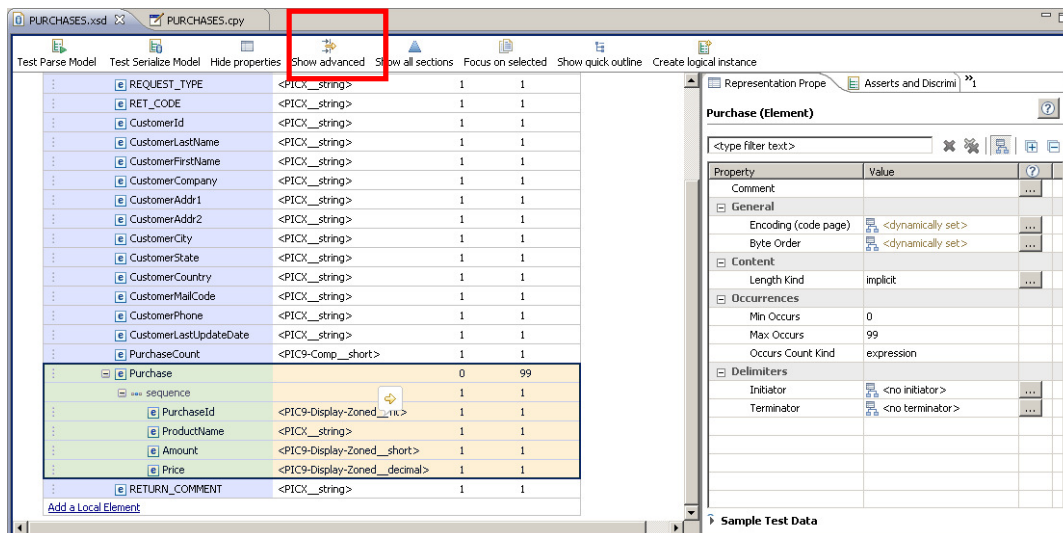
Note that the "text number representation" is defined as "zoned", with a pattern of 8 integer numbers and 2 decimal places.

The letter "V" in the Number Pattern is an implied decimal point (common in COBOL copybooks).

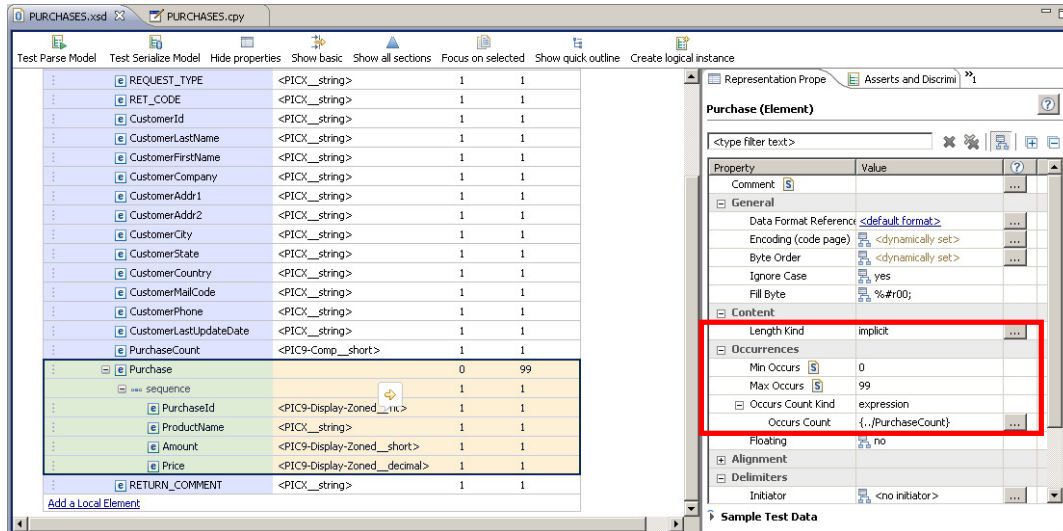
19. Click on the "Purchase" element to open its properties.



20. Click on the "Show advanced" icon, to show the advanced properties.



21. Look for the "Occurrences" section inside the properties view, and expand the "Occurs Count Kind" property.



This property, as defined by the DFDL specification, can take different values:

- fixed: uses the "maxOccurs" property.
- expression: uses the value defined by the expression in "occursCount" property.
- parsed: the number of occurrences is determined by normal speculative parsing.

In this case, the "OccursCountKind" property is set to "expression", and "occursCount" is set to point to the "PurchaseCount" element. This means that the number of occurrences of the "Purchase" repeating structure will be defined by the PurchaseCount element.

This was defined by the Import wizard to reflect the cpy file, which stated:

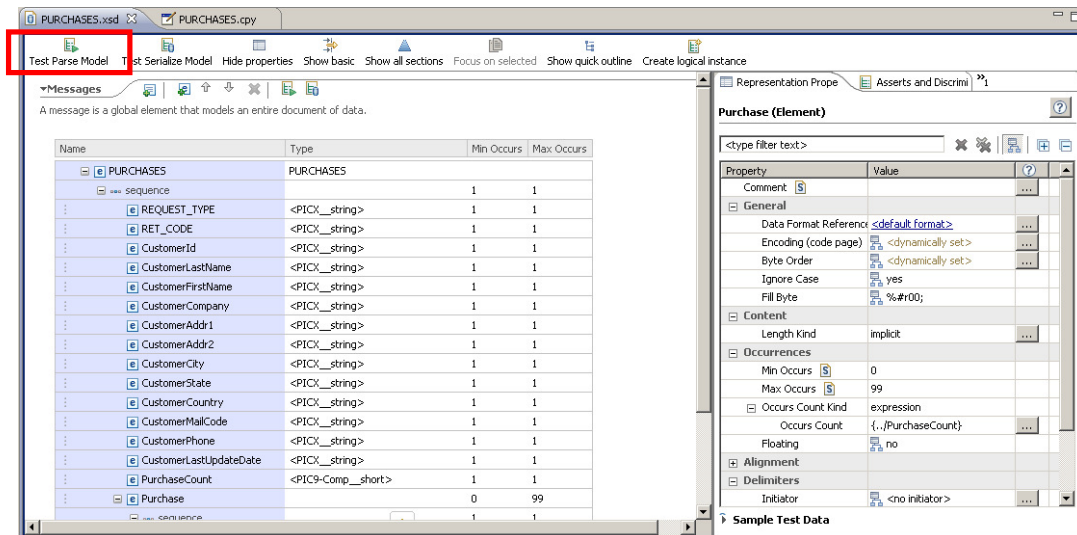
Purchase OCCURS 0 TO 99 TIMES DEPENDING ON PurchaseCount.

Notice also that the MinOccurs property is set to "0" and the MaxOccurs property is set to "99", as the cpy file stated.

22. Save your message model (PURCHASES.xsd) by pressing Ctrl+S, or File->Save.

### 3. Testing the Message Model

1. Now you will test that the message model correctly models the COBOL data. Click the "Test Parse Model" icon.

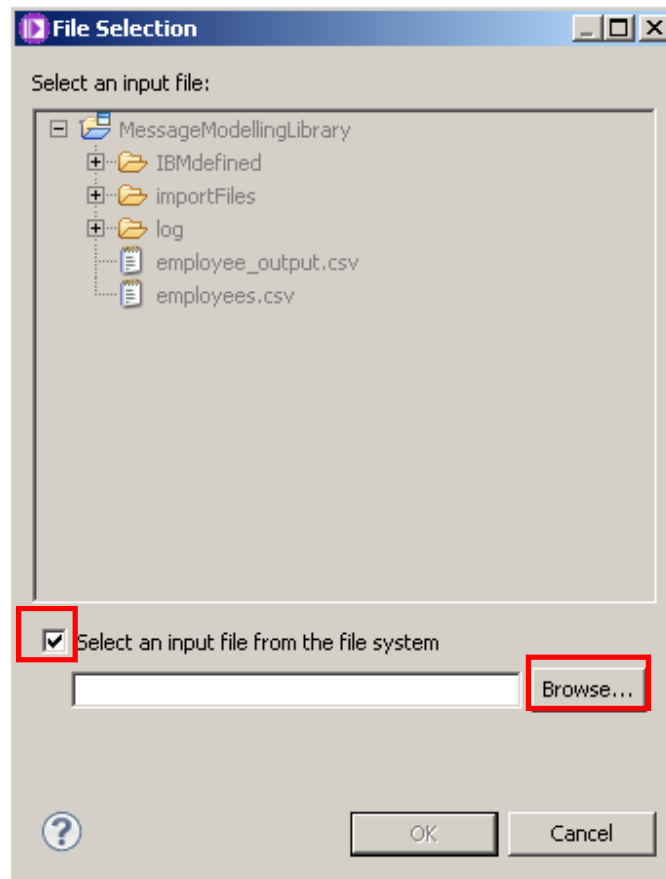


2. In the Parser Input section, select "Content from a data file" and click the Browse button.

The screenshot shows the 'Test Parse Model' dialog box with the following configuration:

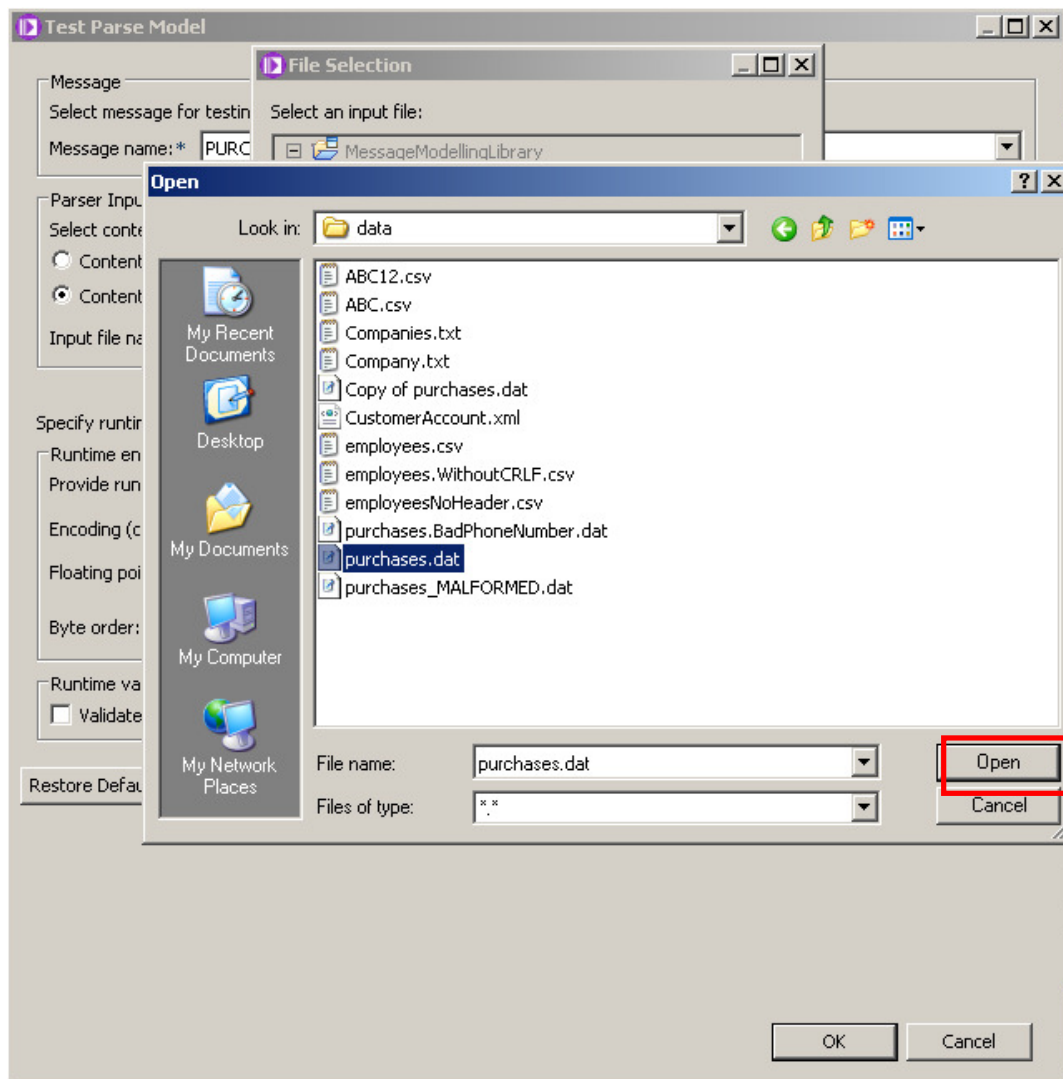
- Message:** Select message for testing. [More...](#)  
Message name: \* PURCHASES
- Parser Input:** Select content to be parsed against schema.
  - Content from 'DFDL Test - Serialize' view
  - Content from a data fileInput file name: \* [Browse...](#)
- Specify runtime configuration:**
  - Runtime encoding options:** Provide runtime values for properties which have been configured in the model to be dynamically set. [More...](#)
    - Encoding (code page): UTF-8
    - Floating point format: IEEE Non-Extended
    - Byte order:  Little endian  Big endian
  - Runtime validation:**  Validate data against schema [More...](#)
- [Restore Defaults](#)
- Buttons:** OK, Cancel

3. In the File Selection dialog, select the "Select an input file from the file system" option.  
Click on the Browse button.



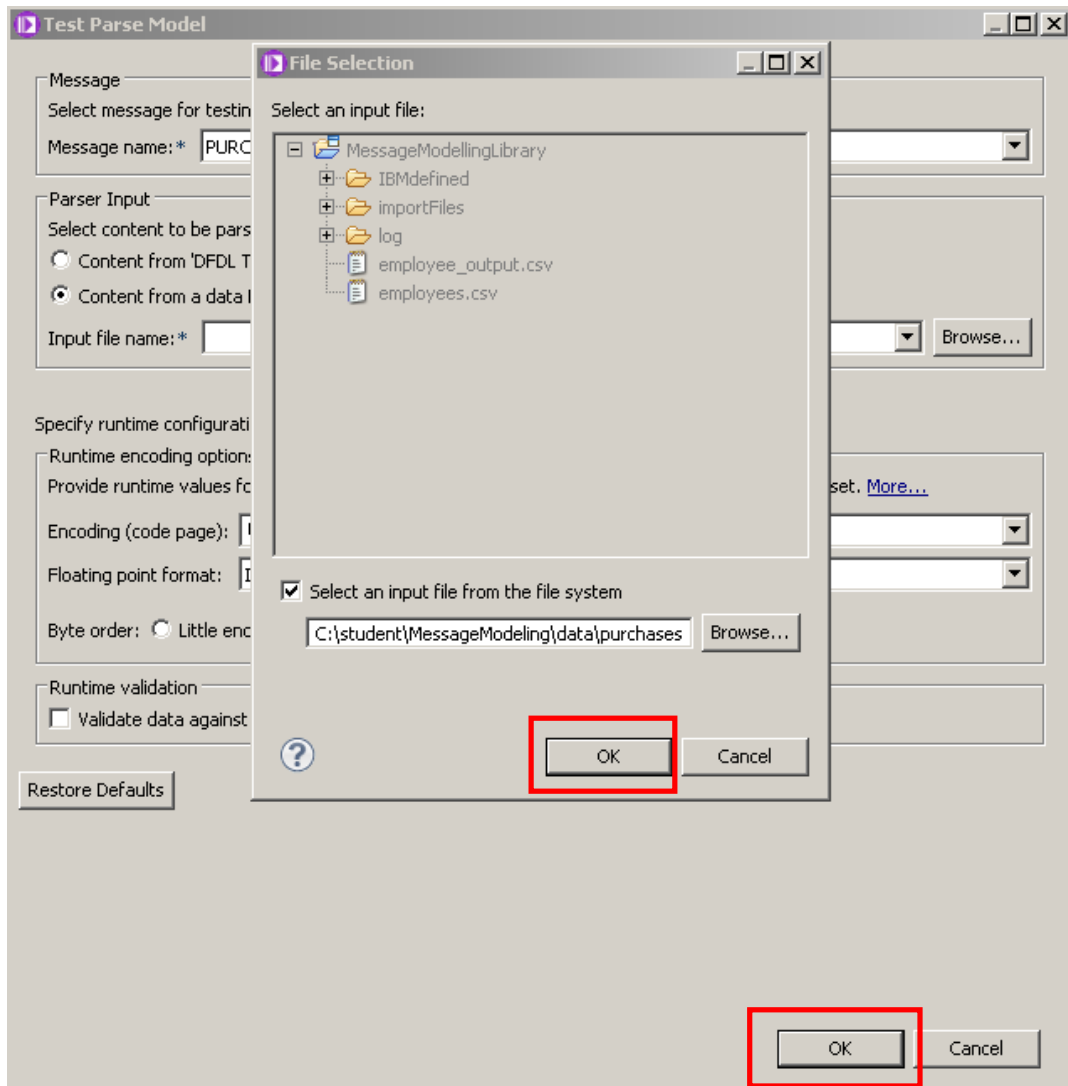
4. Navigate to "C:\student\MessageModeling\data\" and select the "purchases.dat" file.

Click the Open button.

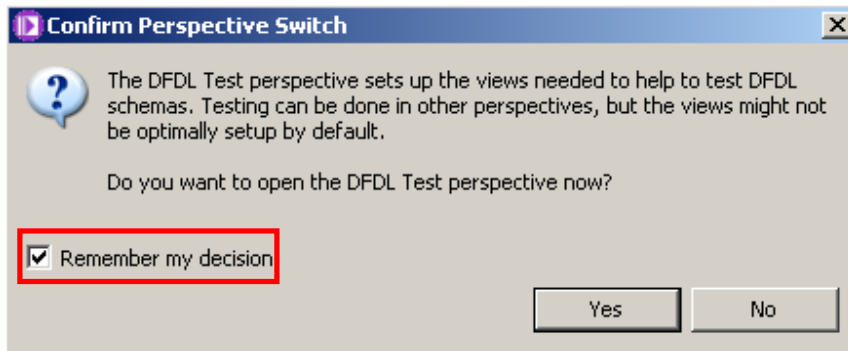




- 5. Click OK on both windows.



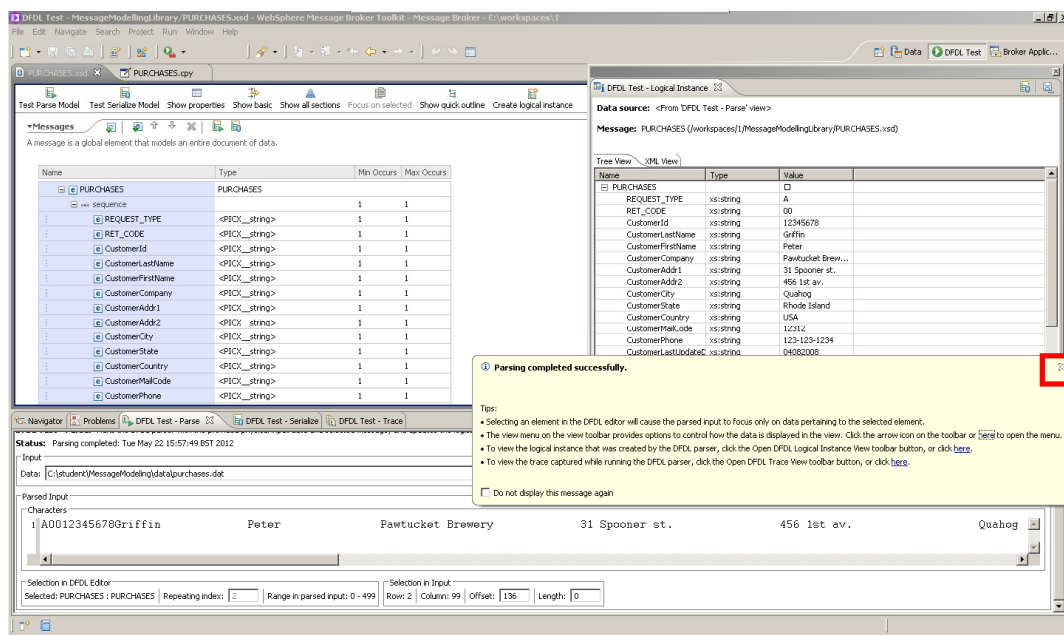
- Click on the checkbox "Remember my decision", and click Yes.



- The DFDL Test perspective will open, with the Test Parse view in focus.

A message balloon will appear, indicating the parsing was successful.

Close it by clicking on the "x", or by clicking anywhere else in the workbench.



8. Inspect the "Test - Logical Instance" view. Navigate through the message tree parsed from the input file.

**Data source:** <From 'DFDL Test - Parse' view>

**Message:** PURCHASES (/workspaces/1/MessageModellingLibrary/PURCHASES.xsd)

Tree View XML View

Name	Type	Value
REQUEST_TYPE	xs:string	A
RET_CODE	xs:string	00
CustomerId	xs:string	12345678
CustomerLastName	xs:string	Griffin
CustomerFirstName	xs:string	Peter
CustomerCompany	xs:string	Pawtucket Brew...
CustomerAddr1	xs:string	31 Spooner st.
CustomerAddr2	xs:string	456 1st av.
CustomerCity	xs:string	Quahog
CustomerState	xs:string	Rhode Island
CustomerCountry	xs:string	USA
CustomerMailCode	xs:string	12312
CustomerPhone	xs:string	123-123-1234
CustomerLastUpdateC	xs:string	04082008
PurchaseCount	xs:unsignedShort	4
[-] Purchase		<input type="checkbox"/>
PurchaseId	xs:unsignedInt	1
ProductName	xs:string	Beer
Amount	xs:unsignedShort	6
Price	xs:decimal	10.30
[-] Purchase		<input type="checkbox"/>
PurchaseId	xs:unsignedInt	2
ProductName	xs:string	Chips
Amount	xs:unsignedShort	1
Price	xs:decimal	2.25
[+] Purchase		<input type="checkbox"/>
[+] Purchase		<input type="checkbox"/>
RETURN_COMMENT	xs:string	none

Note that the parser shows "10.30" (2 decimal places) because the COBOL field was defined as PIC 9(8)V99.

- In the DFDL Editor, click on any element on the Message Model and you will see the relevant data underlined in the input text below:

The screenshot displays the DFDL Editor interface. On the left, a tree view shows the message model structure for 'PURCHASES'. The 'CustomerCompany' element is highlighted with a red box. On the right, a 'Logical Instance' view shows the corresponding data elements, with 'CustomerCompany' also highlighted. At the bottom, the 'Parsed Input' section shows the text 'Pawtucket Brewery' underlined, with a red box around it. The status bar at the bottom indicates the selected element is 'CustomerCompany' and provides details about the selection in the input.

Name	Type	Min Occurs	Max Occurs
PURCHASES	PURCHASES		
sequence		1	1
REQUEST_TYPE	<PIOC_string>	1	1
RET_CODE	<PIOC_string>	1	1
CustomerId	<PIOC_string>	1	1
CustomerLastName	<PIOC_string>	1	1
CustomerCompany	<PIOC_string>	1	1
CustomerAddr1	<PIOC_string>	1	1
CustomerAddr2	<PIOC_string>	1	1
CustomerCity	<PIOC_string>	1	1
CustomerState	<PIOC_string>	1	1
CustomerCountry	<PIOC_string>	1	1
CustomerMailcode	<PIOC_string>	1	1
CustomerPhone	<PIOC_string>	1	1
CustomerLastUpdateDate	<PIOC_string>	1	1

Tree View - XML View

Name	Type
REQUEST_TYPE	xs:string
RET_CODE	xs:string
CustomerId	xs:string
CustomerLastName	xs:string
CustomerFirstName	xs:string
CustomerCompany	xs:string
CustomerAddr1	xs:string
CustomerAddr2	xs:string
CustomerCity	xs:string
CustomerState	xs:string
CustomerCountry	xs:string
CustomerMailcode	xs:string
CustomerPhone	xs:string
CustomerLastUpdateDate	xs:string
PurchaseCount	xs:unsignedShort
Purchase	xs:string
PurchaseId	xs:unsignedInt
Product	xs:string

Status: Parsing completed: Tue May 22 15:57:49 BST 2012

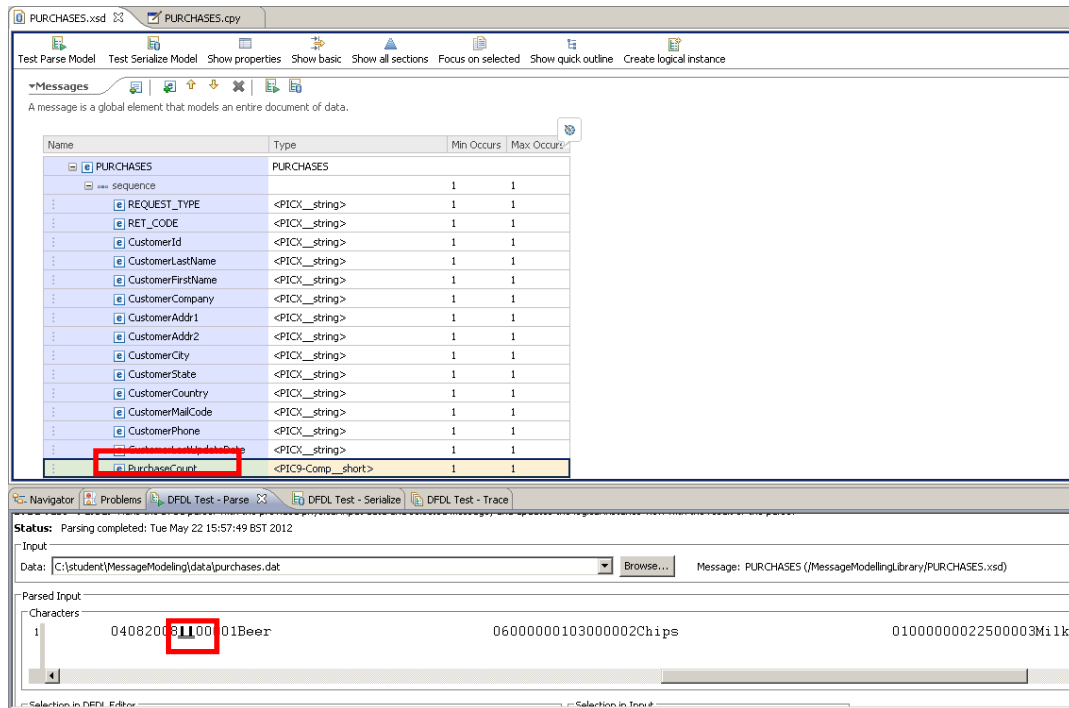
Input: C:\student\MessageModeling\data\purchases.dat Message: PURCHASES (MessageModelingLibrary\PURCHASES.xsd)

Parsed Input

Characters: 1 | A0012345678Griffin Peter Pawtucket Brewery 31 Spooner st. 456 1st av. Quahog

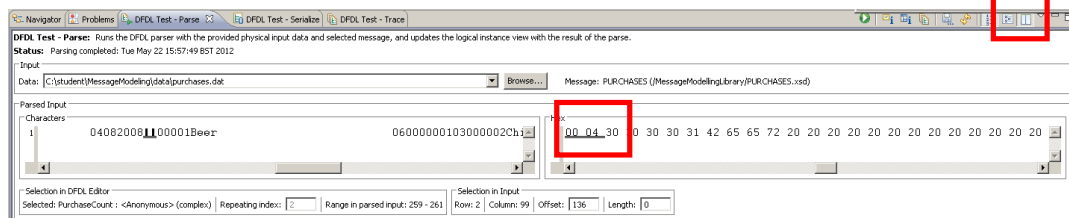
Selection in DFDL Editor: Selected: CustomerCompany : <Anonymous> (complex) Repeating index: 2 Range in parsed input: 51 - 81 Selection in Input: Row: 2 Column: 99 Offset: 136 Length: 0

10. Now click on the PurchaseCount element.



Since it's a binary field, the highlighted value isn't readable with this editor.

11. Now click on the "Show hex" button (top right of the lower pane, as highlighted below).



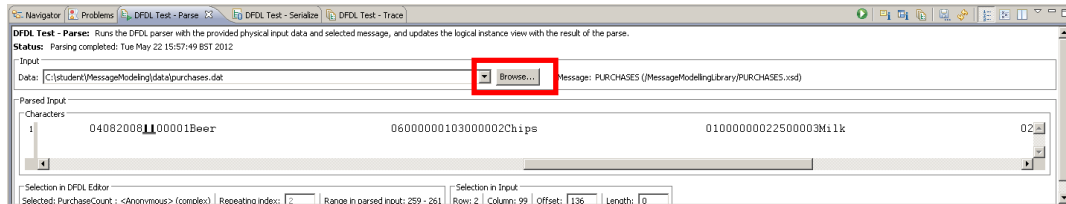
Notice that the binary field is now readable, and has a value of "00 04" which corresponds to the 4 occurrences of the "purchase" element.

Click the "Show Hex" to revert to normal display.

## 4. Using the Trace facility

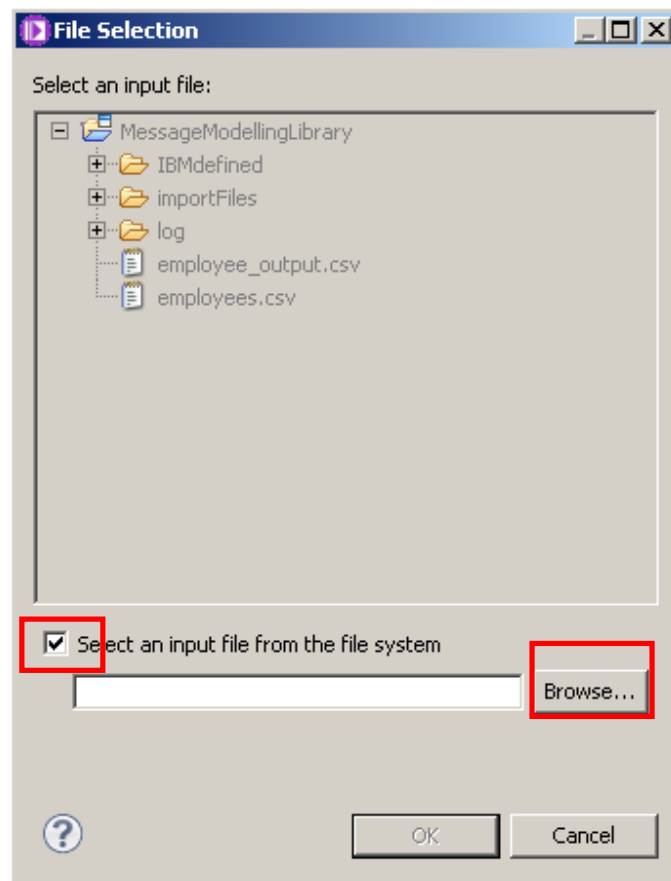
1. Next you are going to test the message model using a malformed message.

In the DFDL Test perspective, "DFDL Test - parse" view, click on the Browse button.

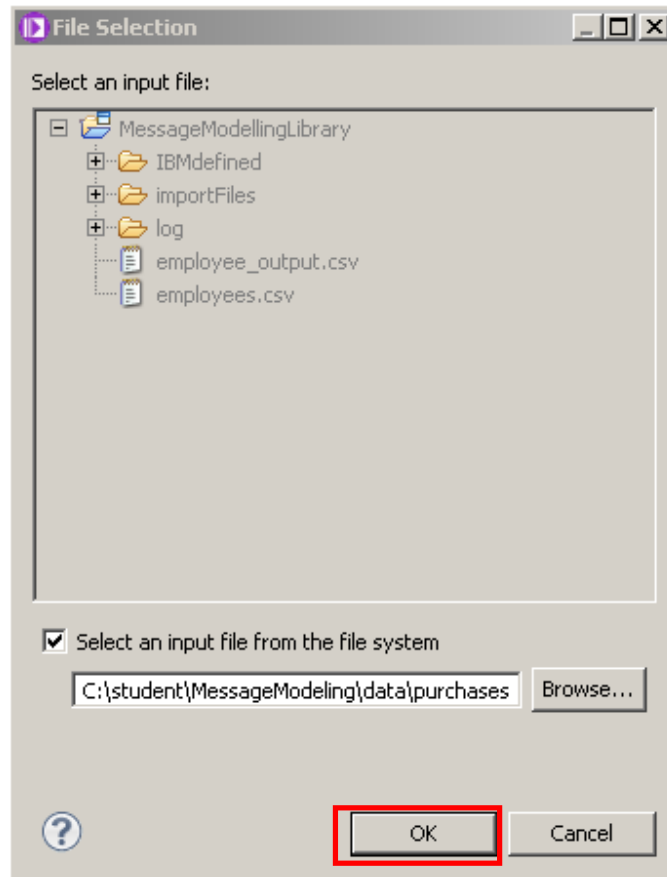


2. In the File Selection dialog, select the "Select an input file from the file system" option.

Click on the Browse button.



3. Navigate to the "C:\student\MessageModeling\data" directory and select the "purchases\_MALFORMED.dat" file.

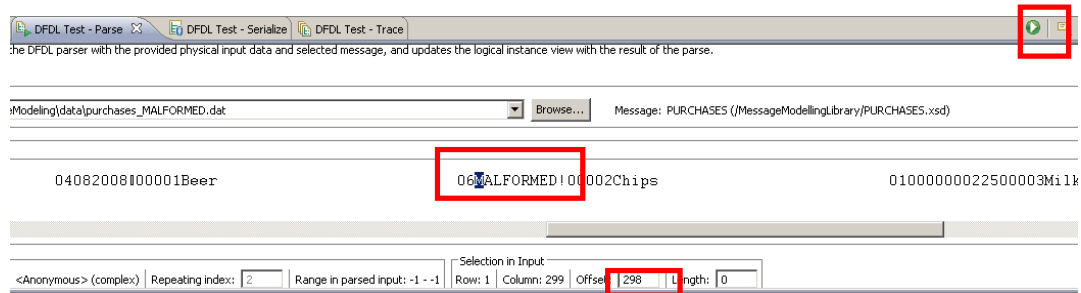


Click OK.

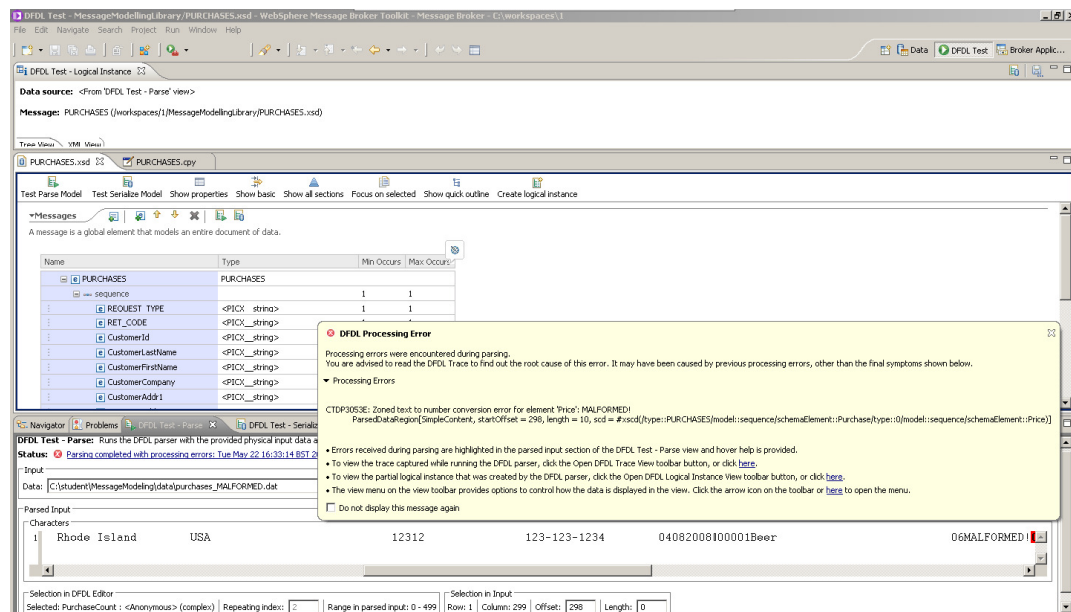
- In the "Offset" textbox, enter "298", and scroll right to find the highlighted character (byte 298 will be highlighted in blue).

Note that at this position ("Price" field's position) there is a string "MALFORMED!" instead of the expected decimal number.

Now click on the "Run parser" button to test the message model (green arrow as highlighted below).



- An error message will appear with the cause of the failed parsing.





- Inspect the "DFDL Test - Logical Instance", you will see that the parsed tree is not complete.

Go to the Purchase element, expand it, and check that it was correctly parsed until the "Amount" element. The following field "Price" is empty.

Data source: <From 'DFDL Test - Parse' view>  
 Message: PURCHASES (/workspaces/20130530/MessageModellingLibrary/PURCHASES.xsd)

Name	Type	Value
<b>PURCHASES</b>		
REQUEST_TYPE	xs:string	A
RET_CODE	xs:string	00
CustomerId	xs:string	12345678
CustomerLastName	xs:string	Griffin
CustomerFirstName	xs:string	Peter
CustomerCompany	xs:string	Pawtucket Brew...
CustomerAddr 1	xs:string	31 Spooner st.
CustomerAddr 2	xs:string	456 1st av.
CustomerCity	xs:string	Quahog
CustomerState	xs:string	Rhode Island
CustomerCountry	xs:string	USA
CustomerMailCode	xs:string	12312
CustomerPhone	xs:string	123-123-1234
CustomerLastUpdateC	xs:string	04082008
PurchaseCount	xs:unsignedShort	8196
<b>Purchase</b>		
PurchaseId	xs:unsignedInt	1
ProductName	xs:string	Beer
Amount	xs:unsignedShort	6

- Now you will use the "DFDL Test - Trace" view, to better understand what the problem was.

Click on the "DFDL Test - Trace" view.

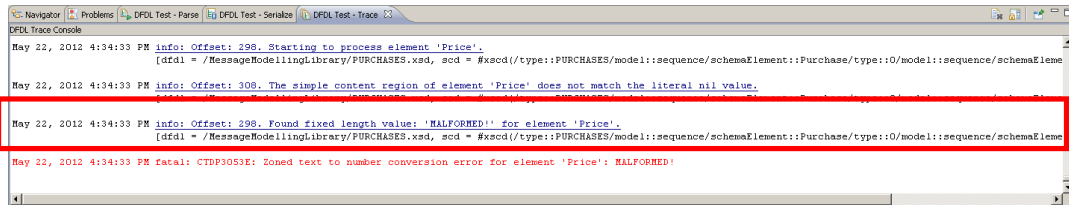
DFDL Test - Parse: Run the DFDL parser with the provided physical input data or selected message. Updates the logical instance view with the result of the parse.  
 Status: Parsing completed with processing errors: Tue May 22 16:34:33 BST 2012

Char index	Character	Column	Offset	Length	Other
1	Rhode Island	USA	12312	123-123-1234	04082008100001Beer
					06MALFORMED

Selection in DFDL Editor: Selected: PURCHASES : PURCHASES | Repeating index: | Range in parsed input: 0 - 499 | Selection in Input: Row: 1 | Column: 299 | Offset: | 298 | Length: | 0

8. In the "DFDL Test - Trace" view, you will find an execution log of the parsing activities.

At the end of the trace, there is a red colored line with the found error.



9. Look at the 2 lines before the error:

```

06-03-2011 10:18:41      info: Offset: 298 Starting to process element "/PURCHASES[1]/Purchase[1]/Price[1]".
                        [dfdl = /MessageModellingLibrary/broker/PURCHASES.xsd, scd = #xscd(/type::PURCHASES/model::
06-03-2011 10:18:41      info: Offset: 298 Found fixed length value: "MALFORMED!" for element "Price".
                        [dfdl = /MessageModellingLibrary/broker/PURCHASES.xsd, scd = #xscd(/type::PURCHASES/model::
06-03-2011 10:18:41      fatal: CTD3053E: Zoned text to number conversion error for element "Price": "MALFORMED!"
    
```

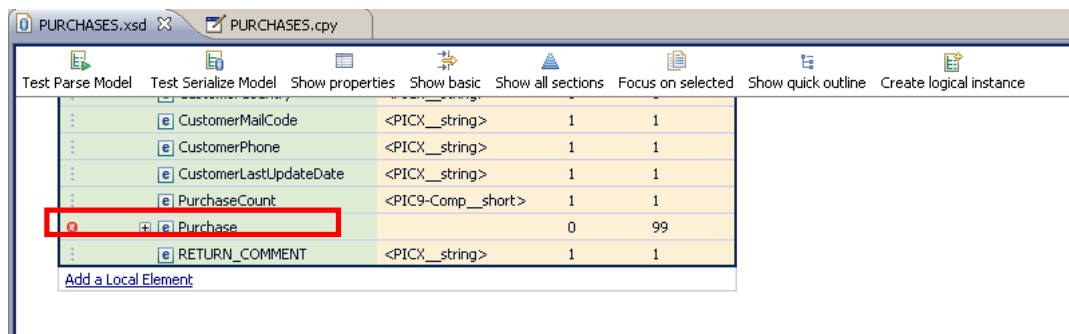
The first line states that it is starting to process the Price element.

Then in the second, it has found a string "MALFORMED!" as the value of the element.

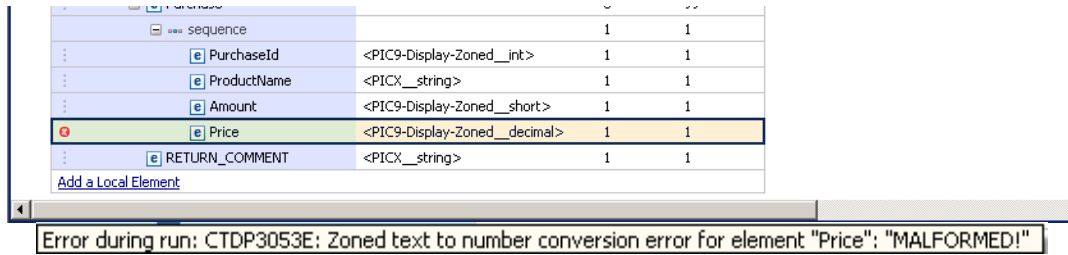
Then the parser tries to convert the string to a decimal number, and an error appears.

10. Back in the DFDL Editor, scroll to the "Price" element.

Note that it has an error icon next to its name.



- Place the cursor on the error icon and a message will appear, showing the same error cause you saw in the trace view.



This concludes the COBOL Message Modeling lab.