IMS Explorer

IMS Application Development (AD) Challenges

Shrinking knowledge base around IMS & hierarchical data base model

Difficult to find DLI programmers

Fewer experienced COBOL and PL/I programmers

Lack of integrated development solutions and tools

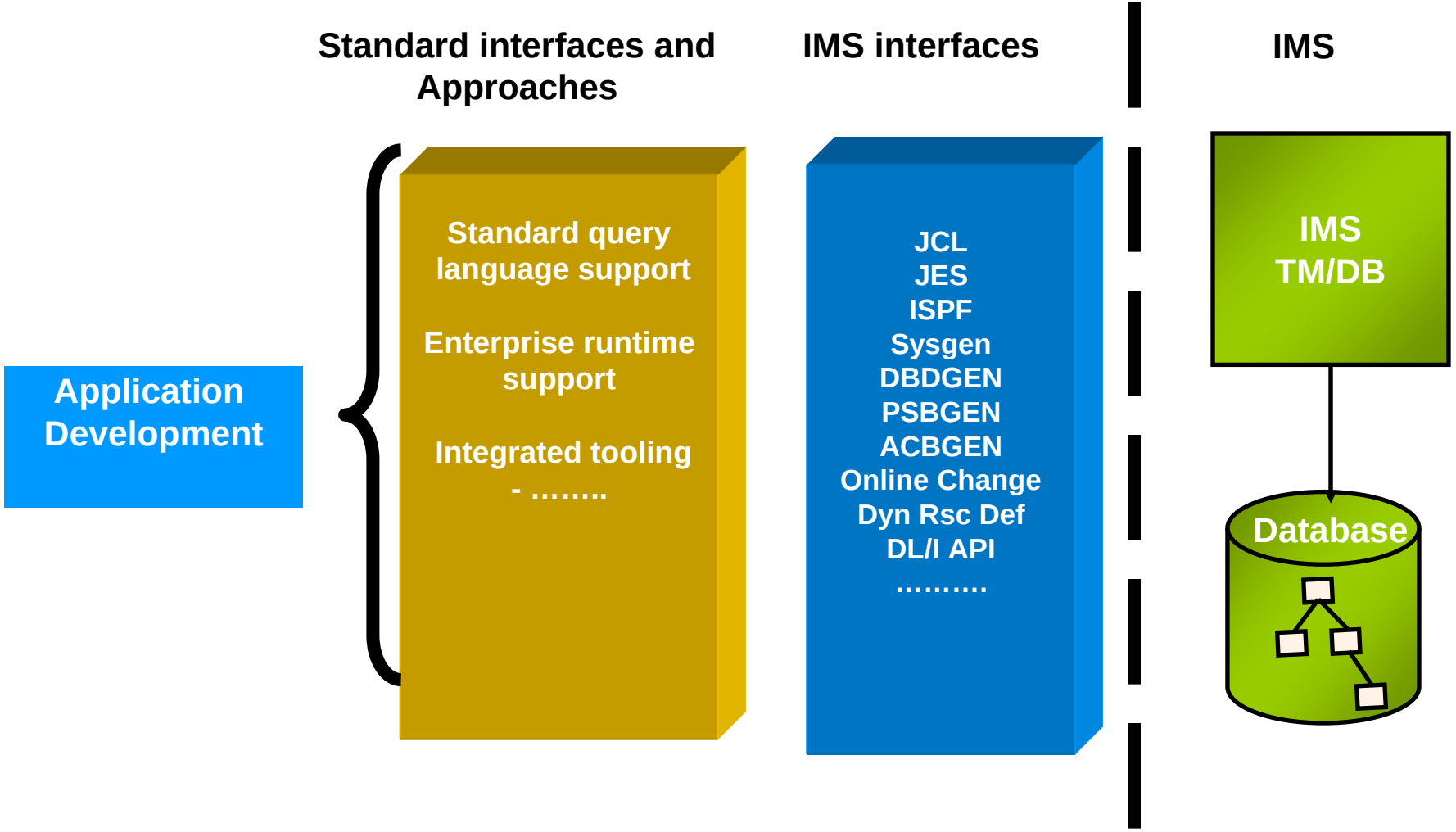
Difficult to test and deploy applications

IMS AD Simplification Strategy

Goal: Reduce programming effort and skills required to create and enhance IMS applications

- ✓ Using industry standards
- ✓ Task automation
- ✓ Consistent look and feel

IMS AD Simplification Strategy



What are the tools supporting our Strategy ?

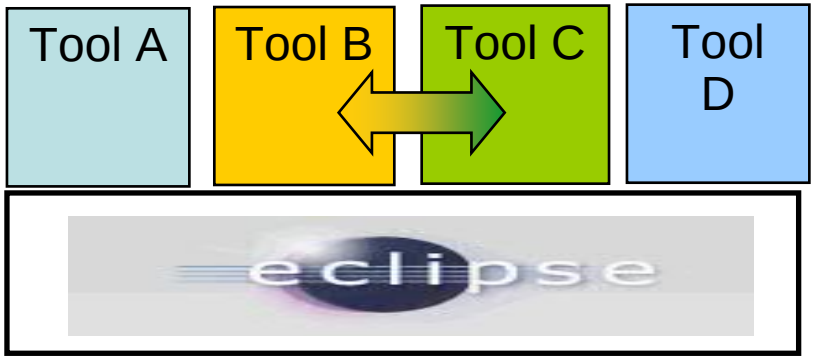
Eclipse is a software development environment comprising an integrated development environment (IDE)

And Plug-in and Shell-Sharing are…

Plug-in:

A software module that adds a specific feature or service to a larger system.

- Shell sharing:



Introducing IMS Explorer…
Simplifying IMS application development !

Easy-to-use interface

Same look and feel as other IBM products

Complements end-to-end IMS A/D task flow

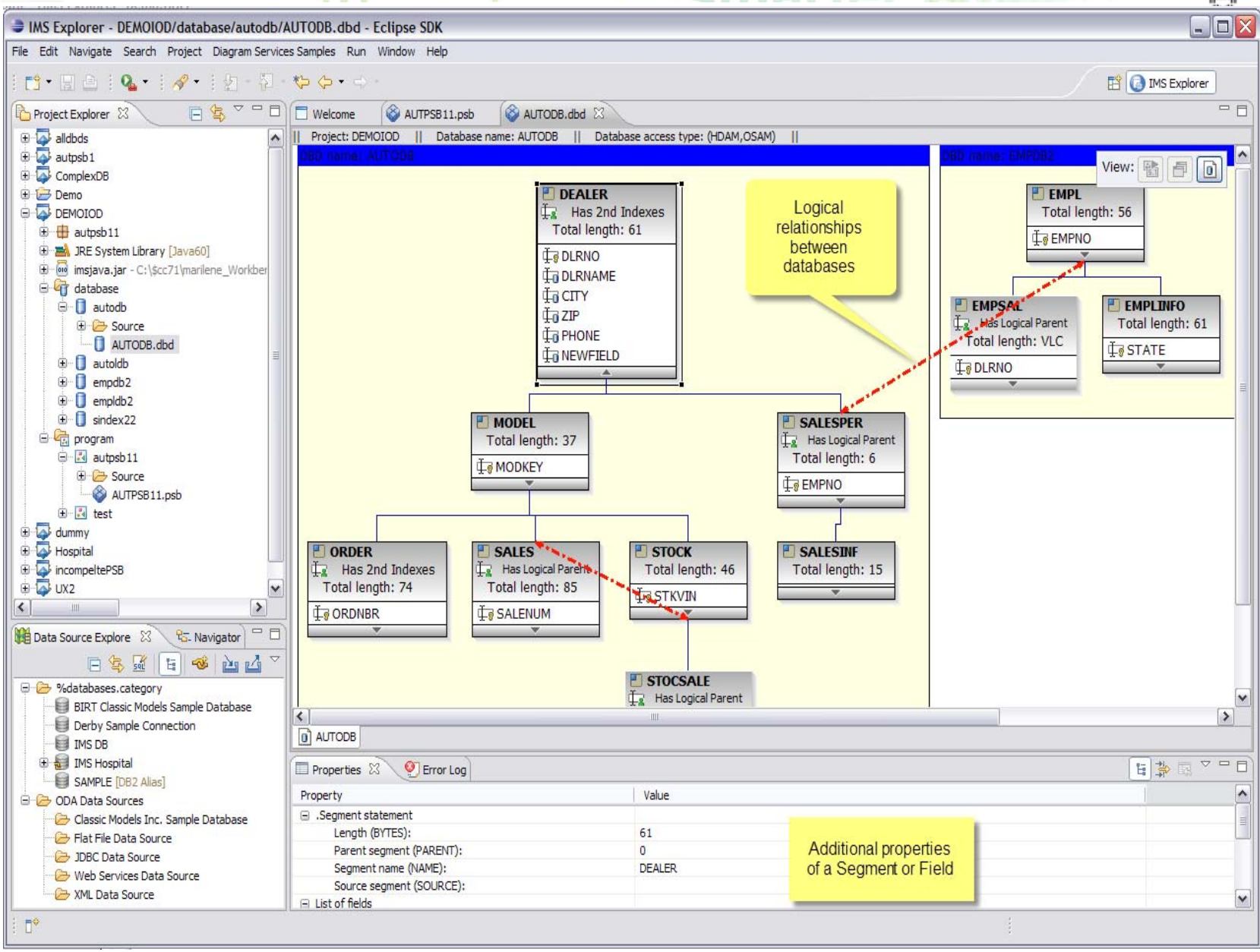
IMS Explorer Tech Preview

- New Face of IMS
  - GUI-based framework for consistent and integrated tools across environment
- Easier visualization and editing of IMS Database and Program Definitions
  - Graphical display of IMS segment hierarchy and database structure
  - Graphical editors to display/create IMS PSBs
  - Graphical editors to edit/add fields on a DBDs
  - Generation of DBD and PSB source
- Ability to easily access IMS data using SQL statements

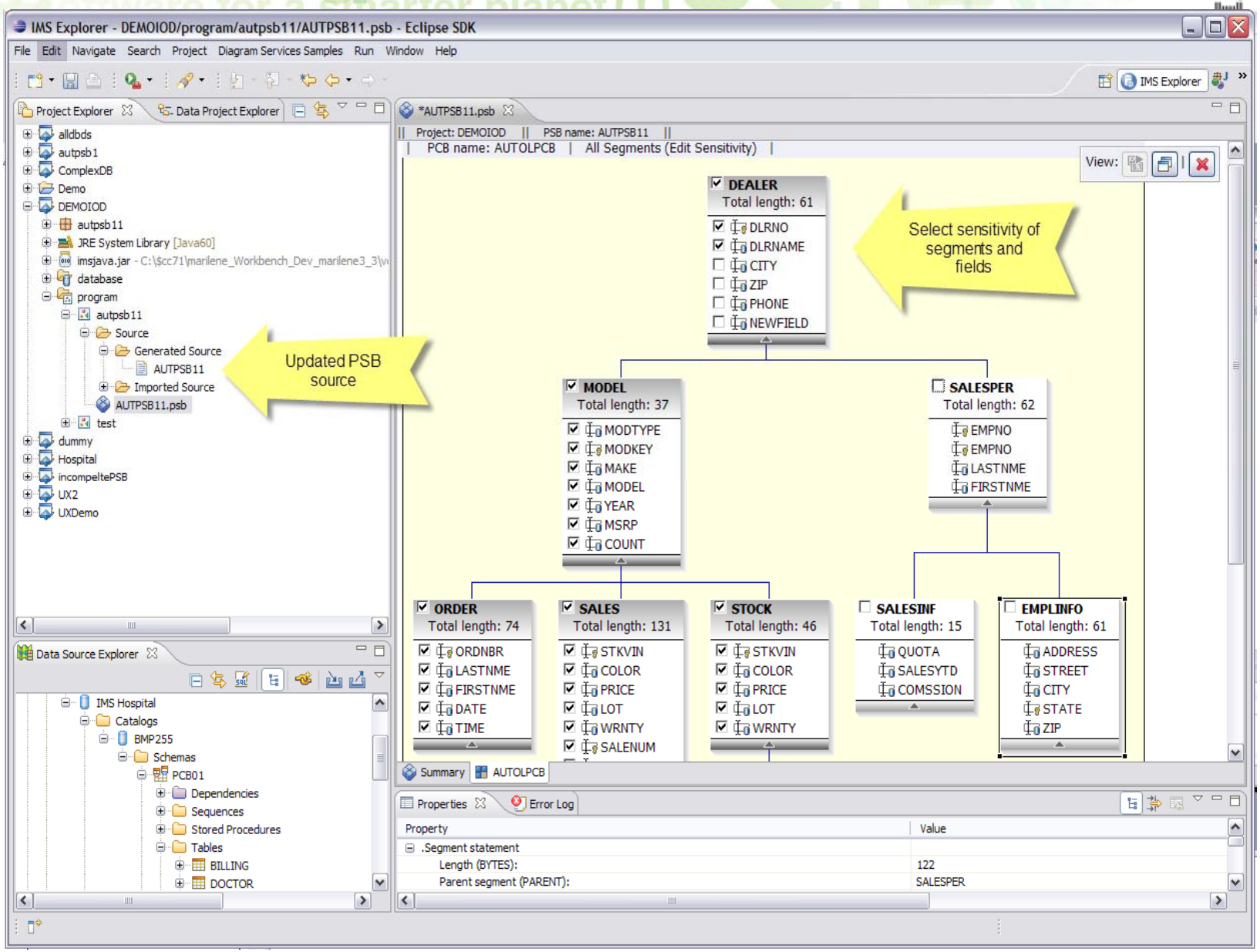
IMS Explorer Future Requirements

- Simplification of Application Development
  - Assistance for IMS Application Unit Test, by graphically helping the user to schedule and IMS App program
- Host Connectivity
  - Graphical assistance to FTP file to/from the Host PDS
- Cobol/PLI copybook/strut importers
  - Requires RDz

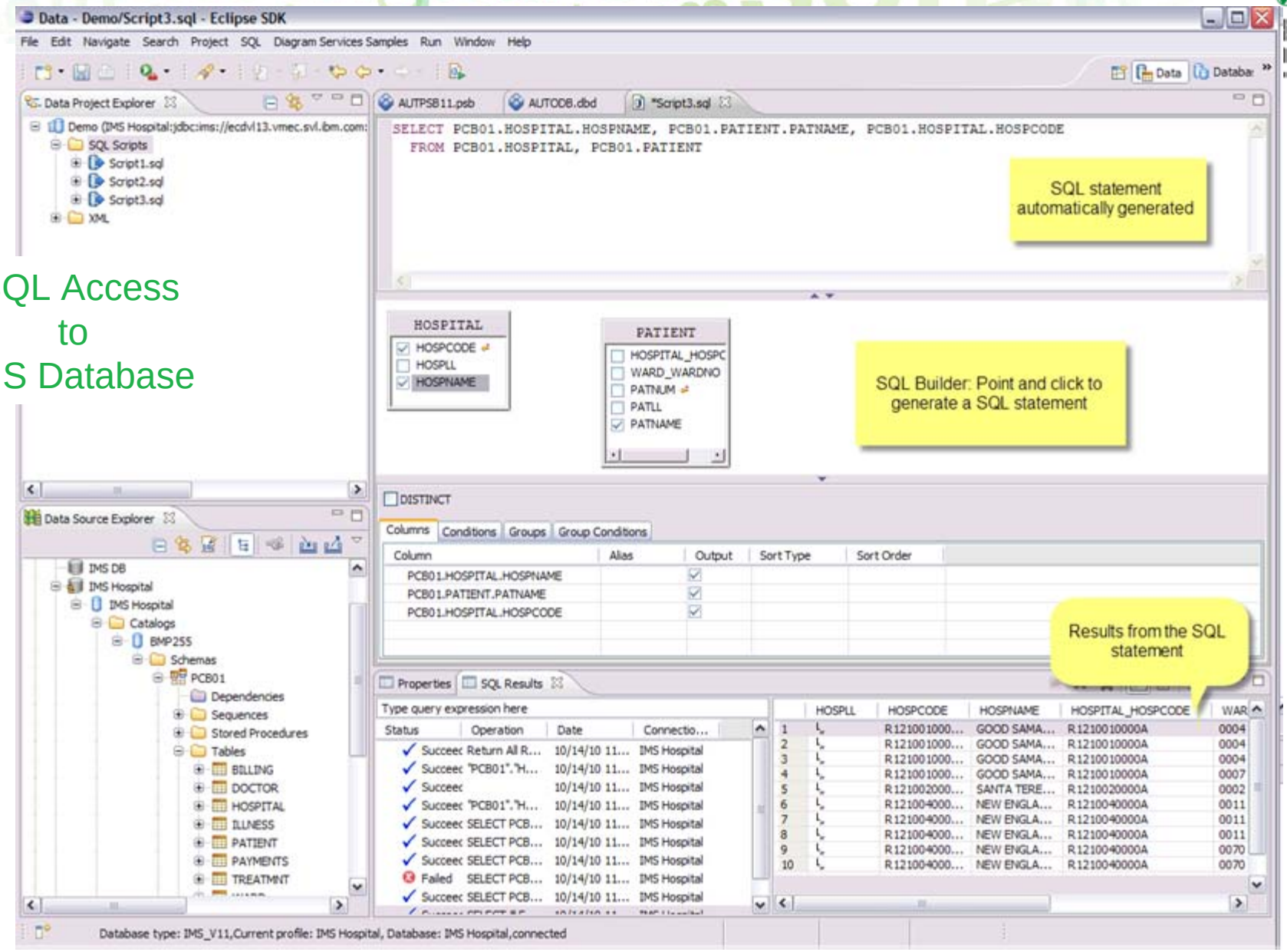
DBD Graphical Editor



PSB editor to edit Segment and Fields Sensitivity

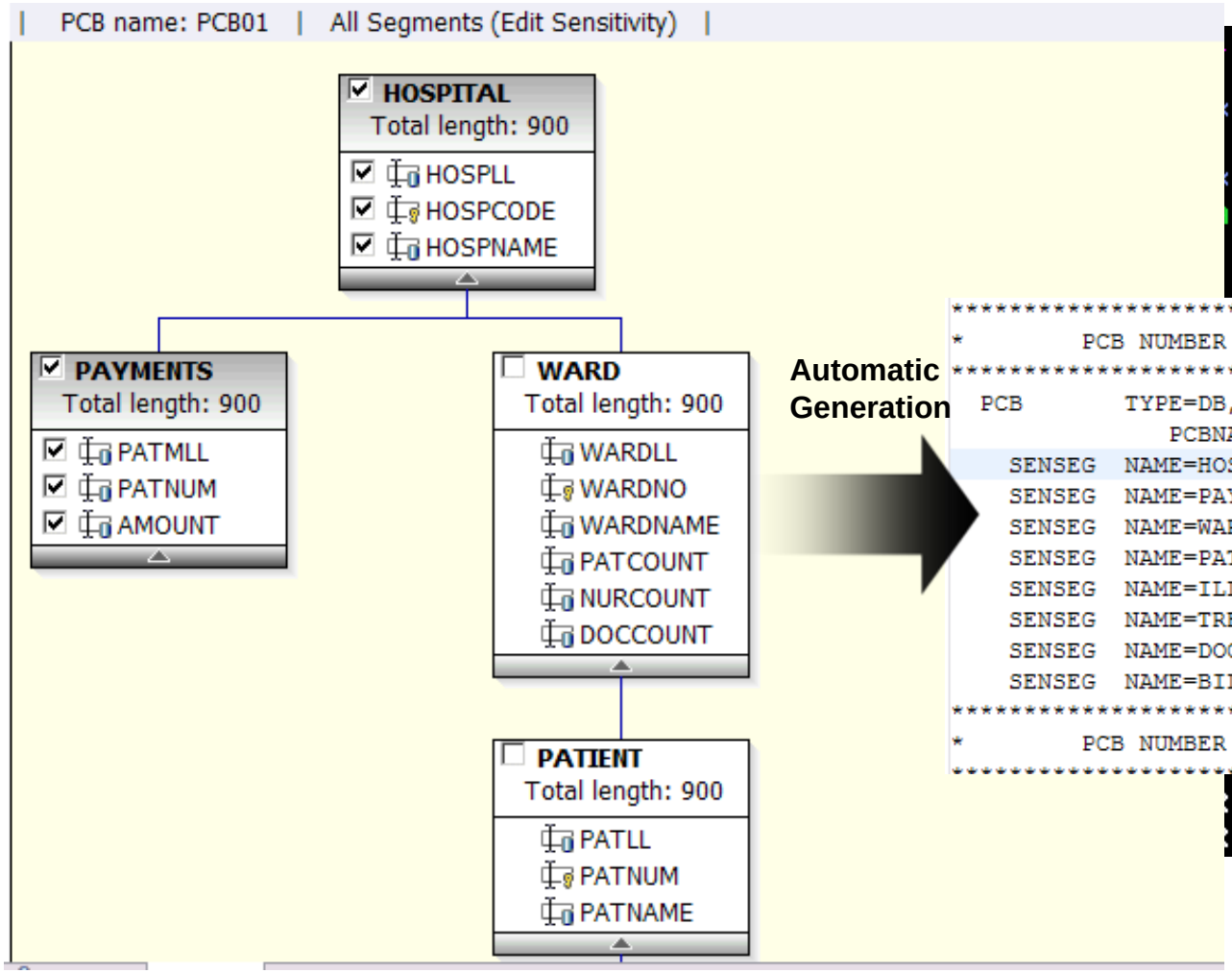


SQL Access to IMS Database



IMS Explorer – in practice

IMS Explorer…. In practice



Automatic Generation

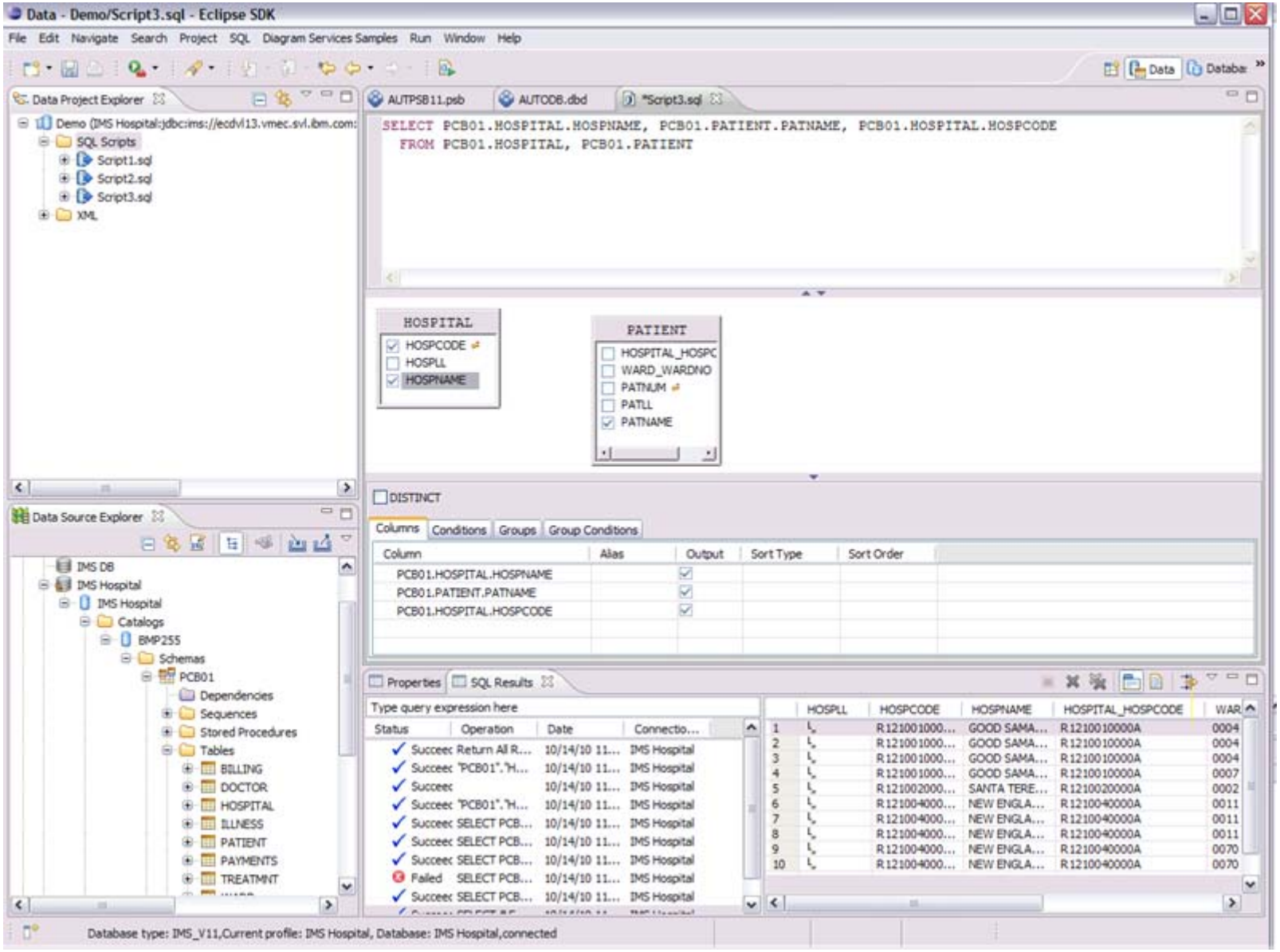
```
=1 Alt=0

**********************

**********************
,KEYLEN=26,          C
```

```
*****************************************************
*         PCB NUMBER 5       DB    DEDBJN21
*****************************************************
 PCB        TYPE=DB,DBNAME=DEDBJN21,POS=M,PROCOPT=A,KEYLEN
               PCBNAME=PCB01
   SENSEG   NAME=HOSPITAL,PARENT=0
   SENSEG   NAME=PAYMENTS,PARENT=HOSPITAL,
   SENSEG   NAME=WARD,PARENT=HOSPITAL
   SENSEG   NAME=PATIENT,PARENT=WARD
   SENSEG   NAME=ILLNESS,PARENT=PATIENT
   SENSEG   NAME=TREATMNT,PARENT=ILLNESS
   SENSEG   NAME=DOCTOR,PARENT=TREATMNT
   SENSEG   NAME=BILLING,PARENT=PATIENT
*****************************************************
*         PCB NUMBER 6       DB    IVPDB1
*****************************************************
```

```
EPEAT     6 ADD
IGHT     12 JOIN
```

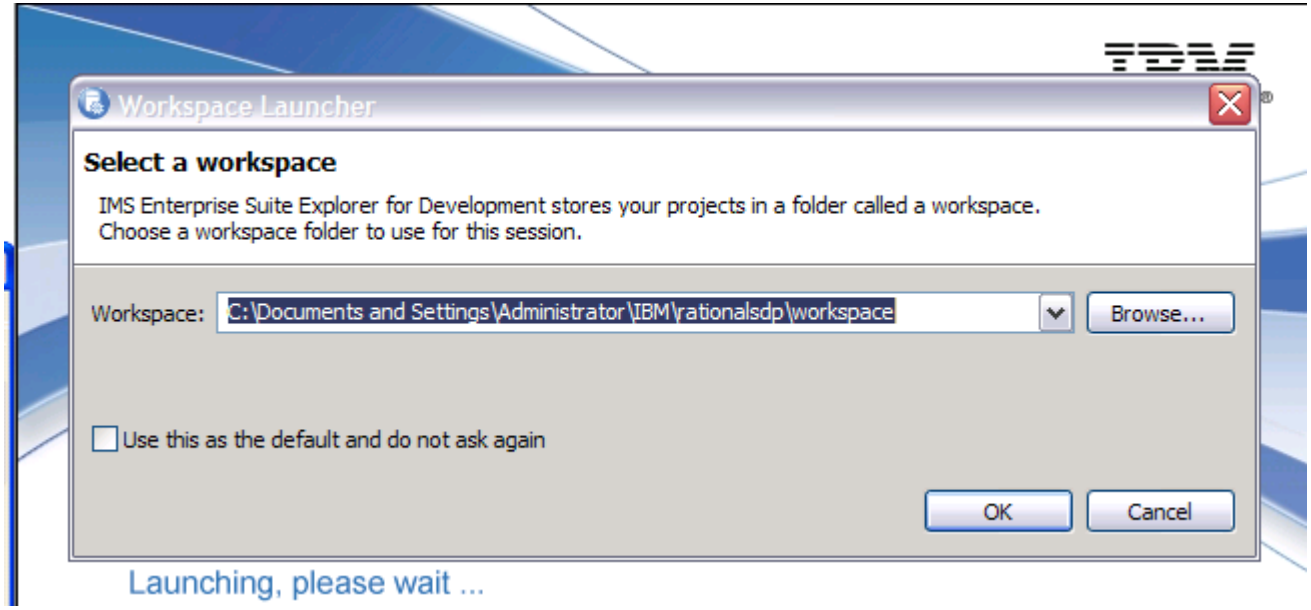
Generated PSB source

IMS Explorer…. In practice

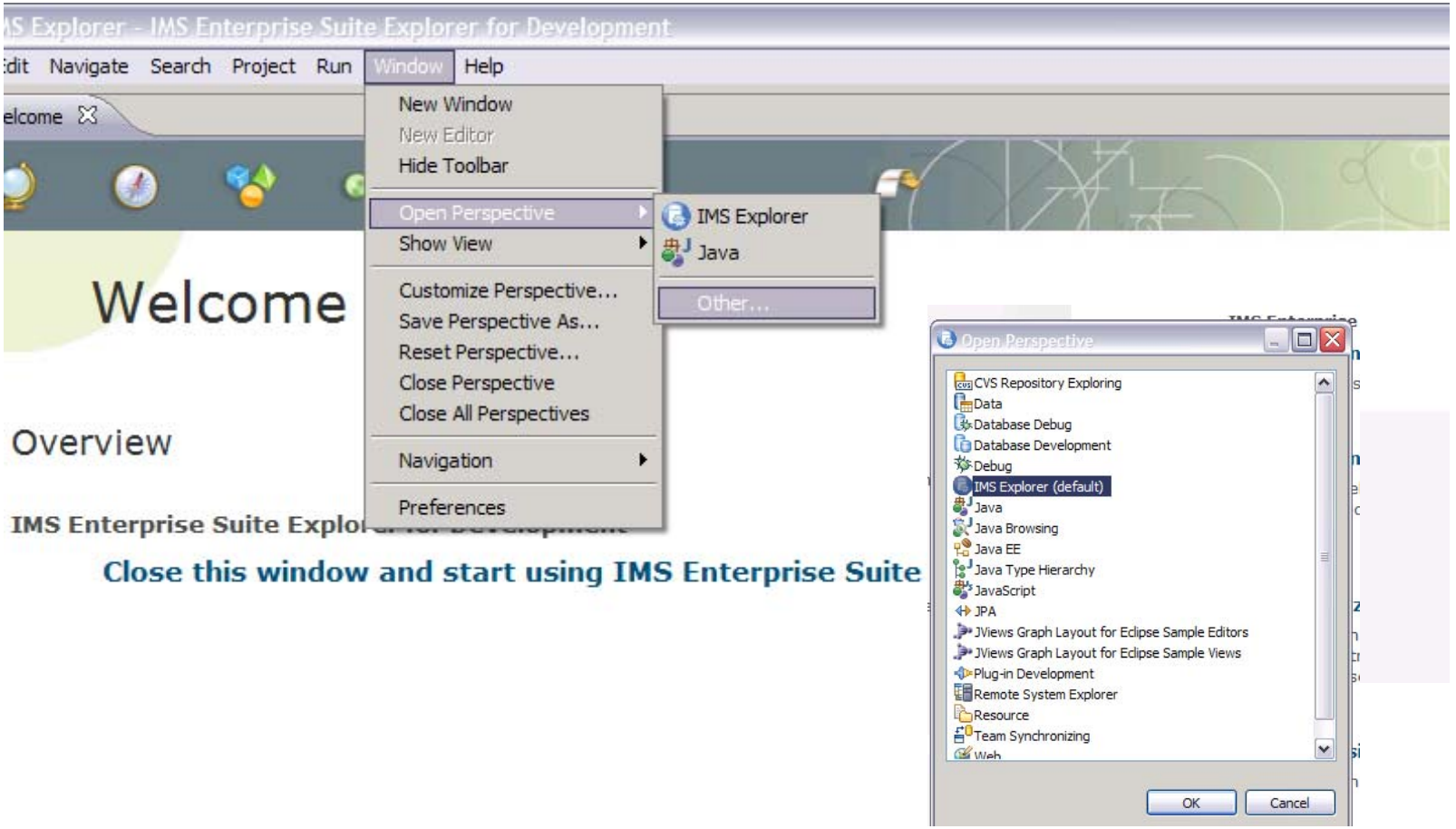


Start to Finish

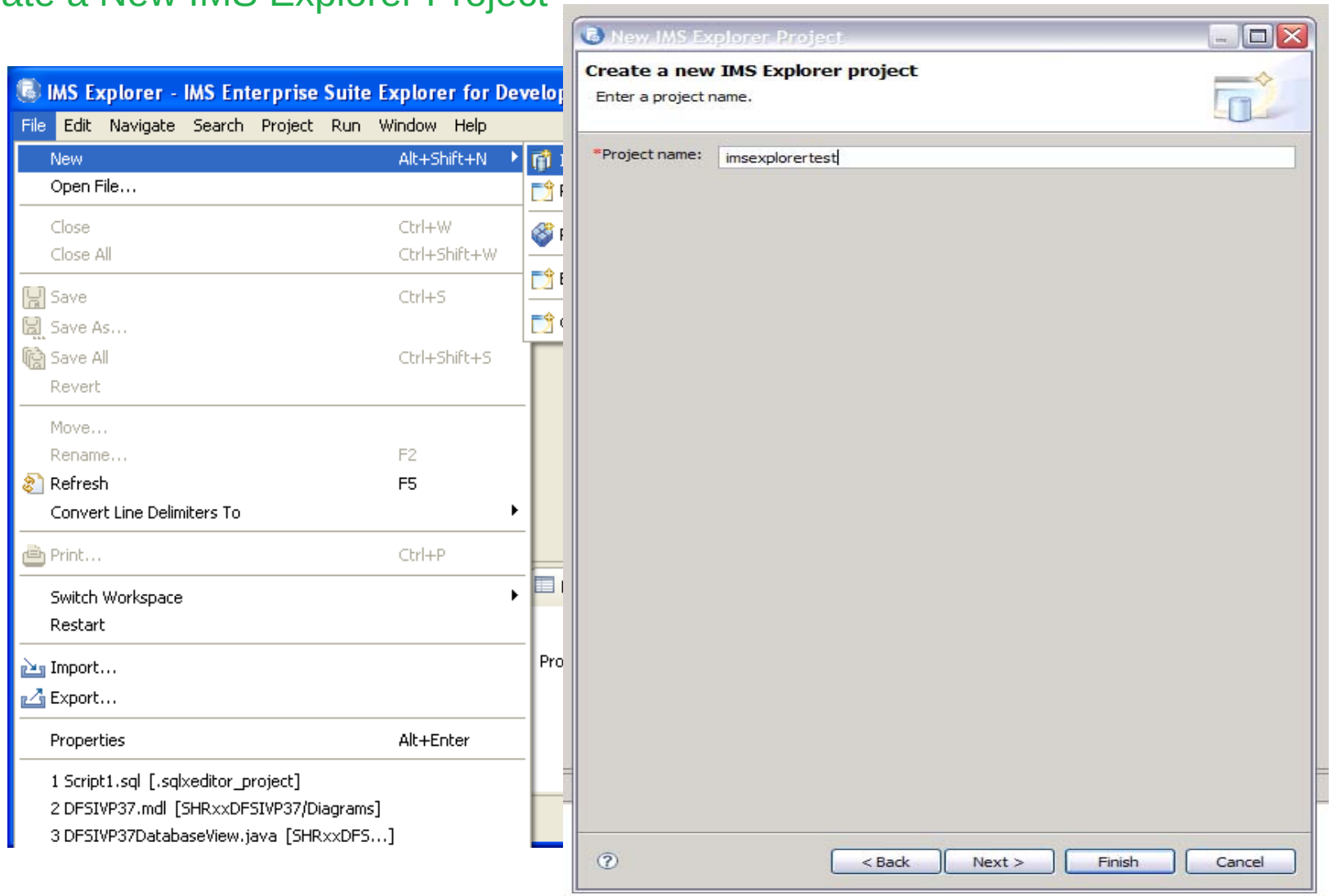
Start the IMS Explorer



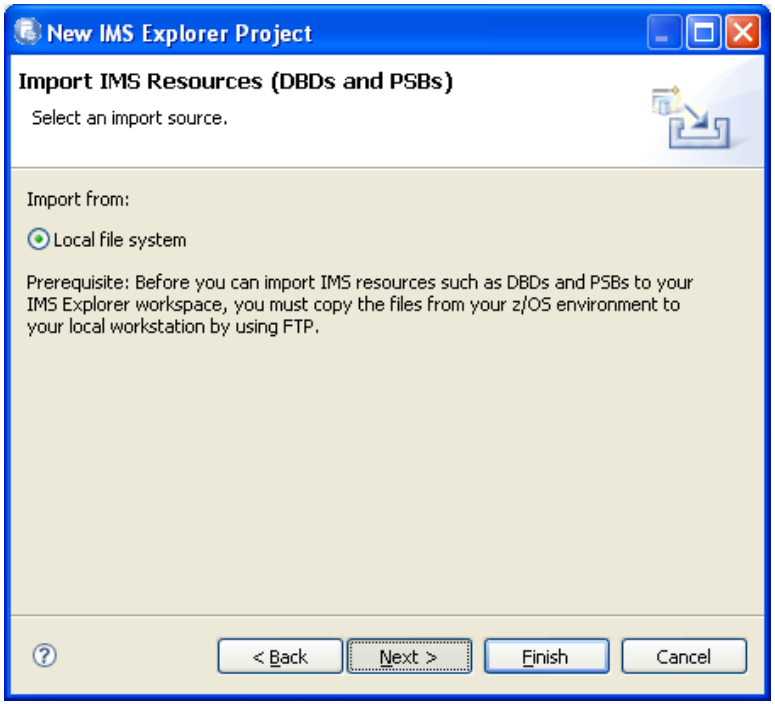
Open the IMS Explorer Perspective

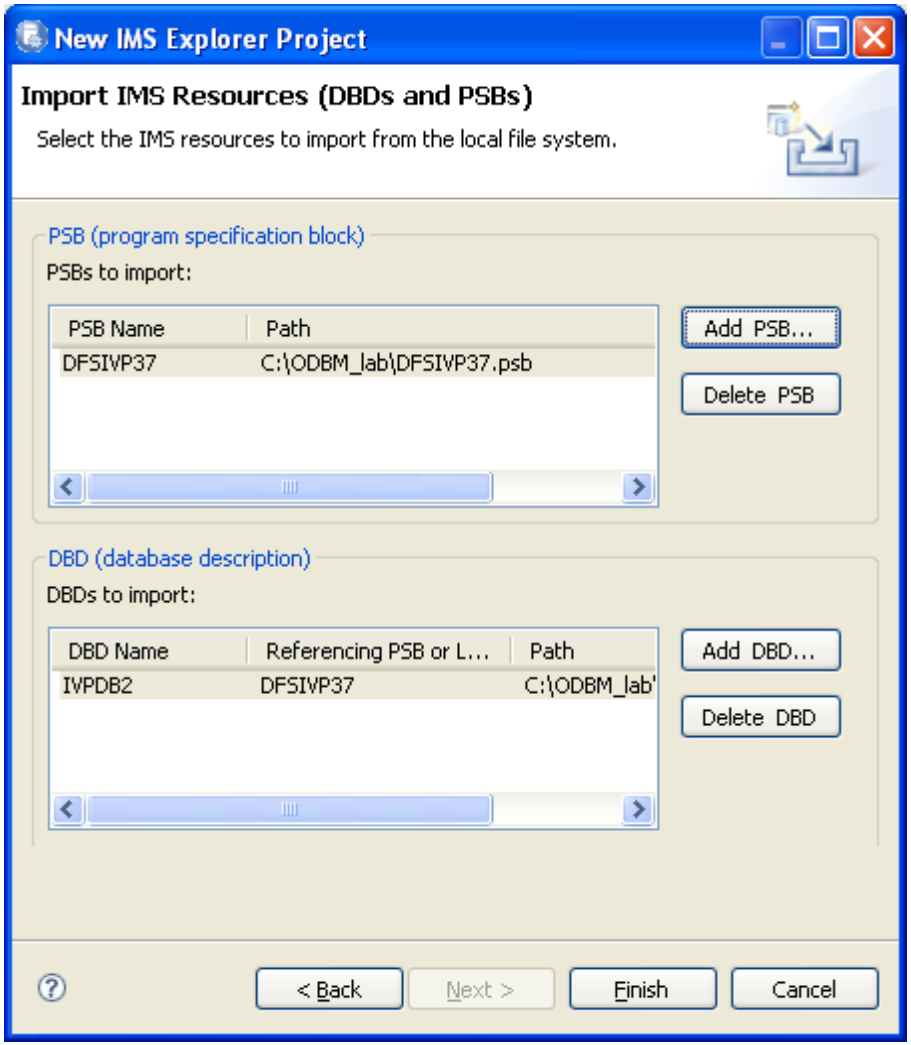


Create a New IMS Explorer Project

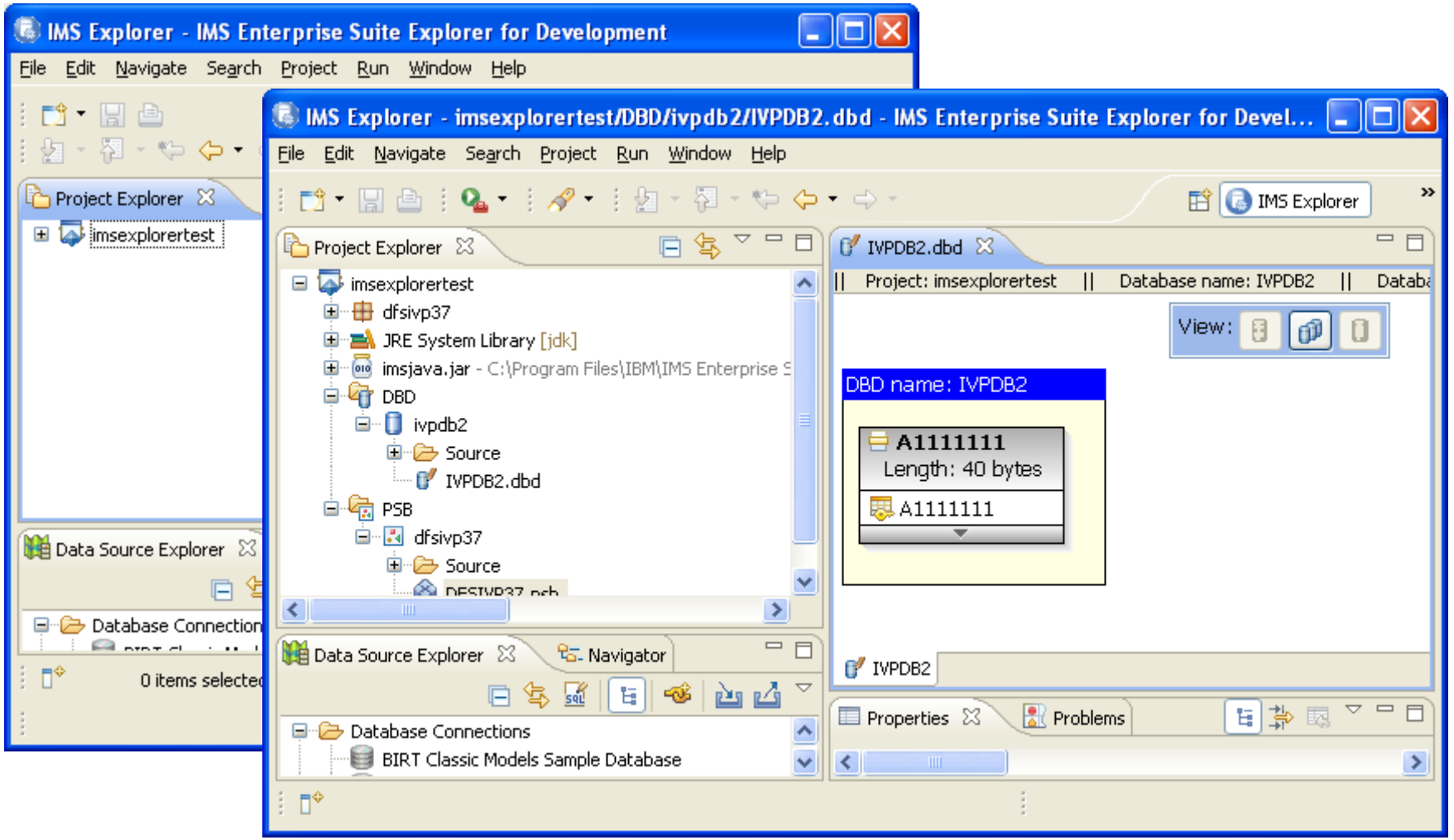


Import the IMS resources from a Local File system (assumes you previously retrieved the PSB and DBD sources from the mainframe)

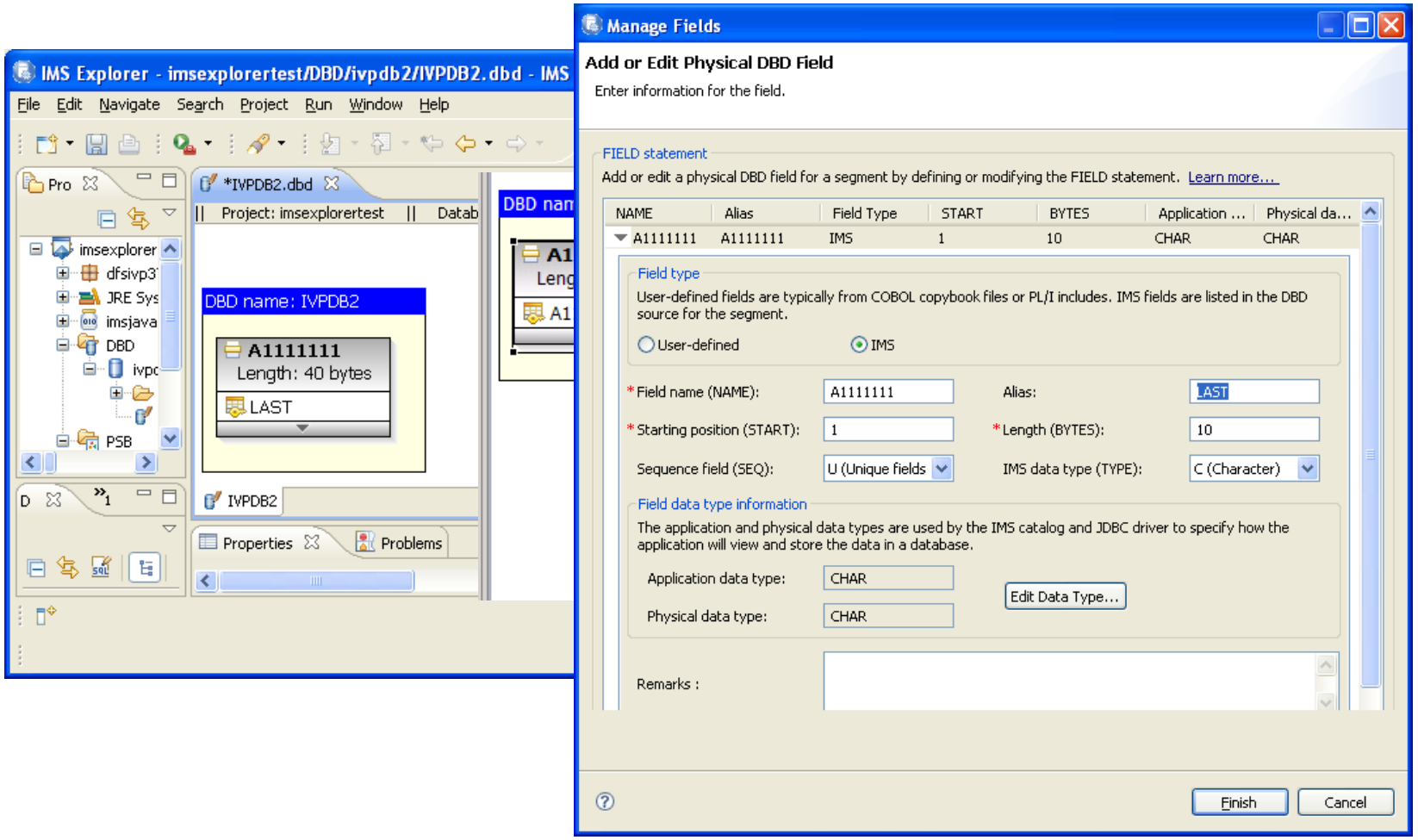




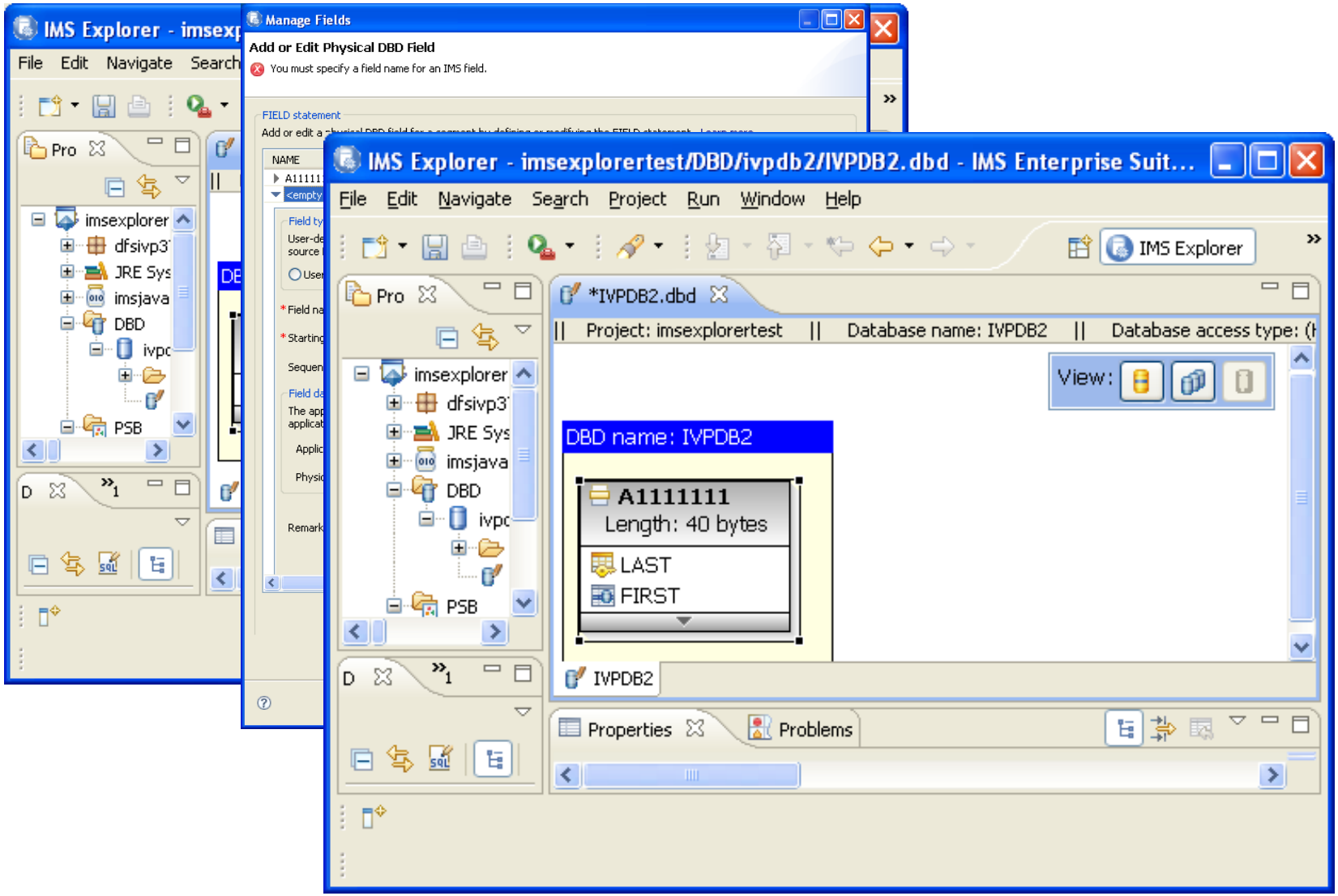
Open up the project you created and navigate to the DBD



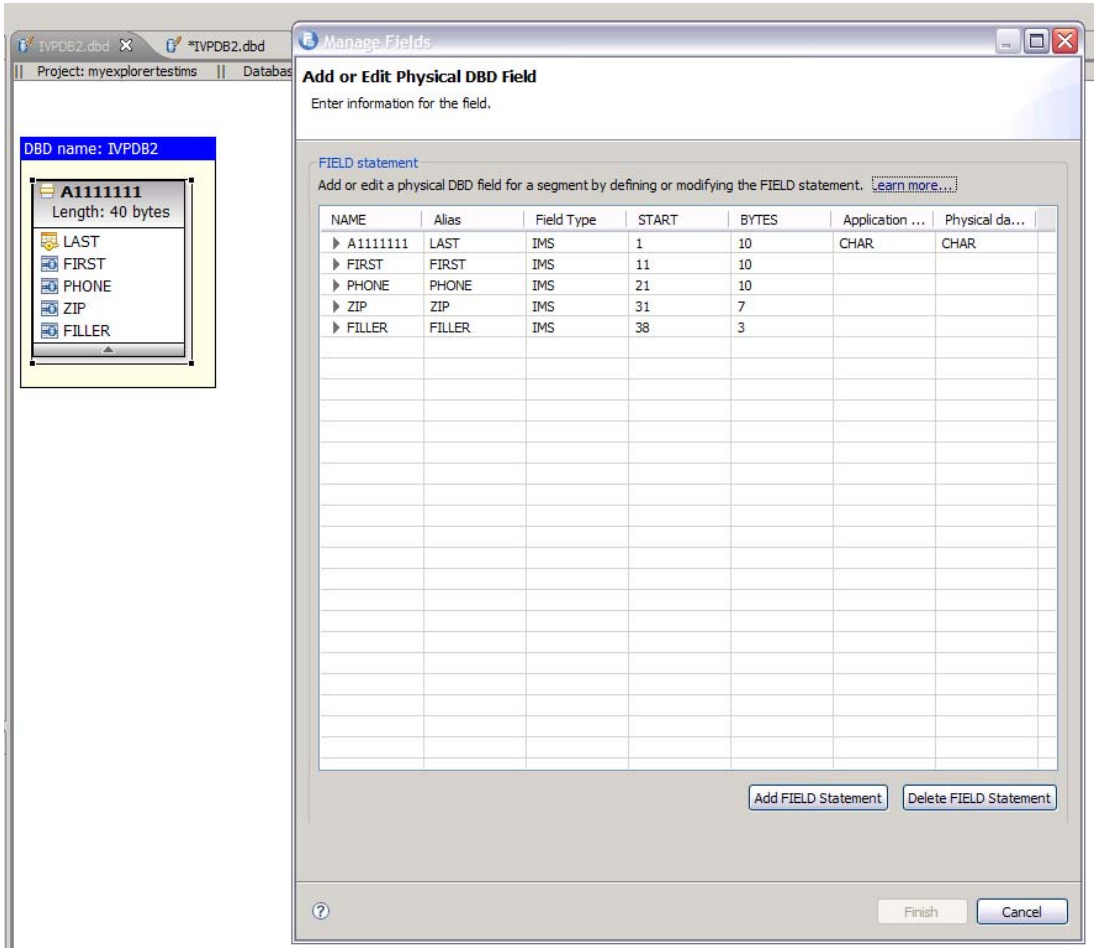
You can edit the information, e.g., rename an alias



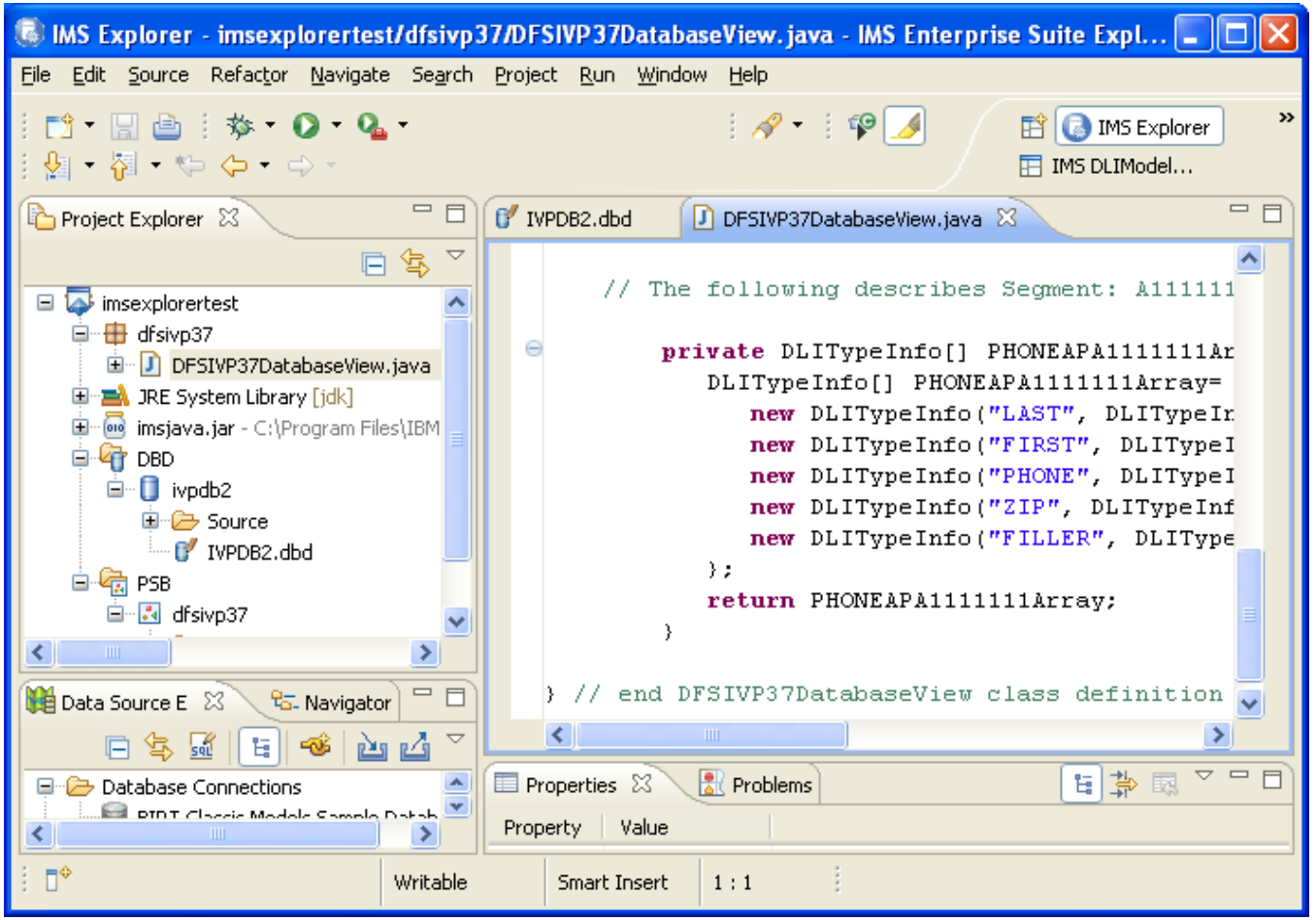
You can add fields to the segment that were not originally defined in the dbd



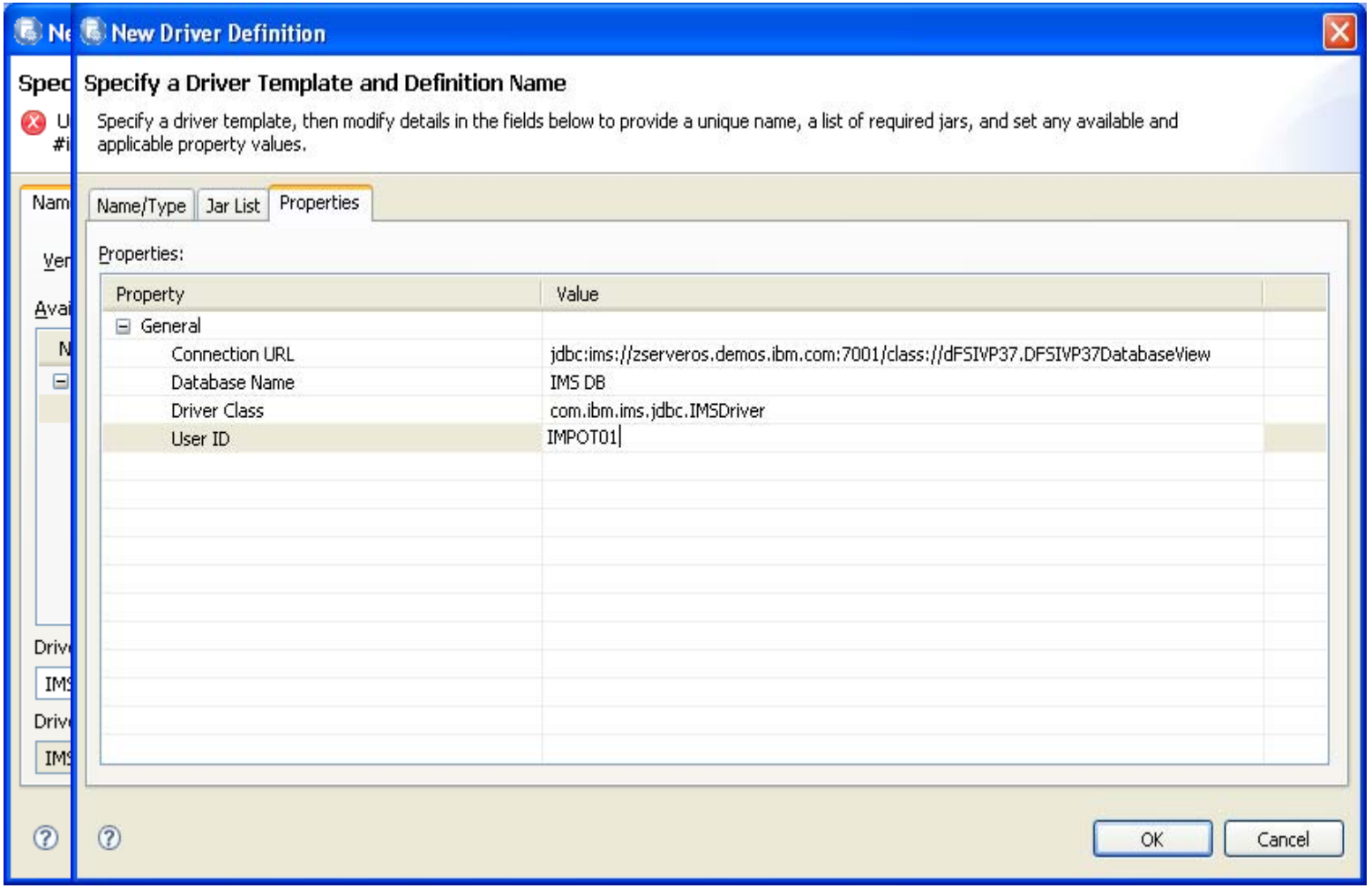
You can also define fields up to the segment size



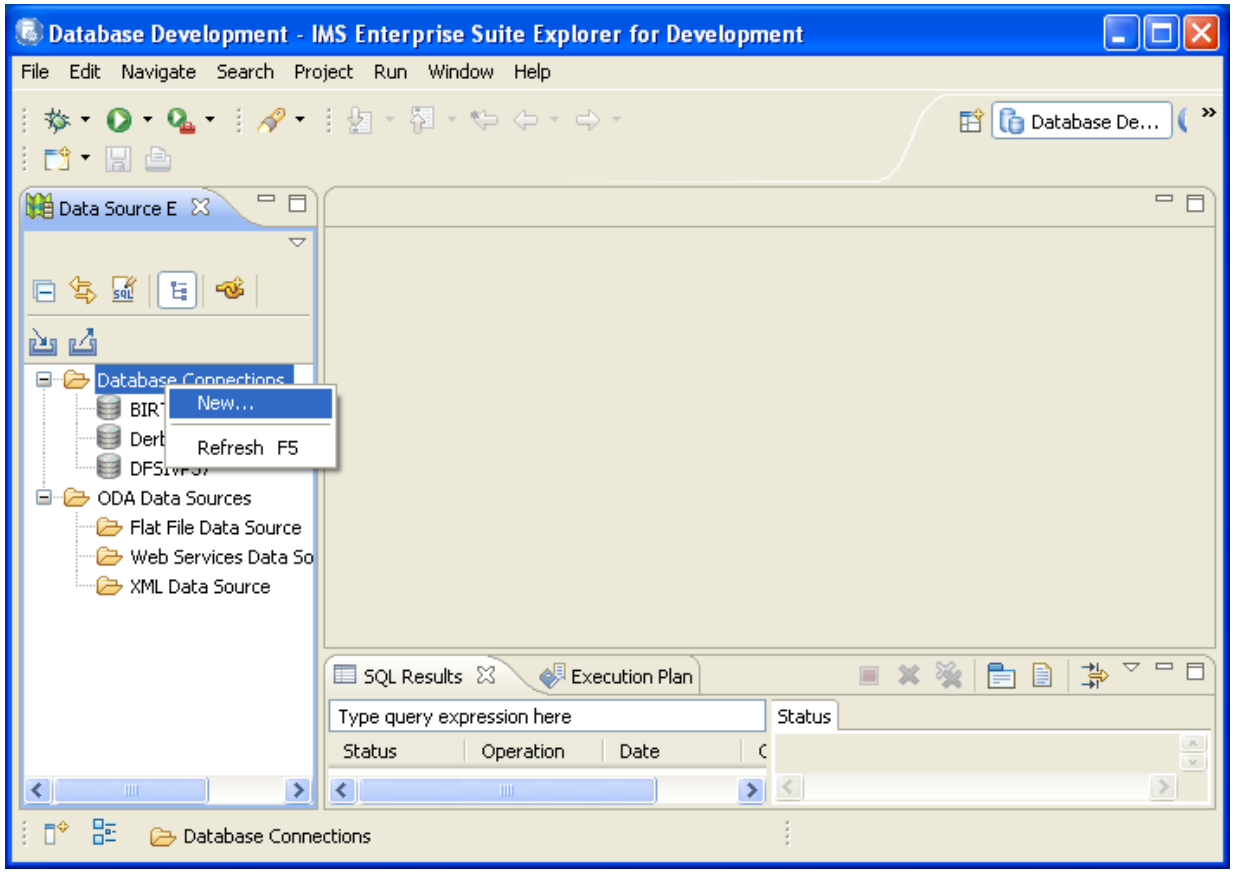
Which automatically generates the metadata



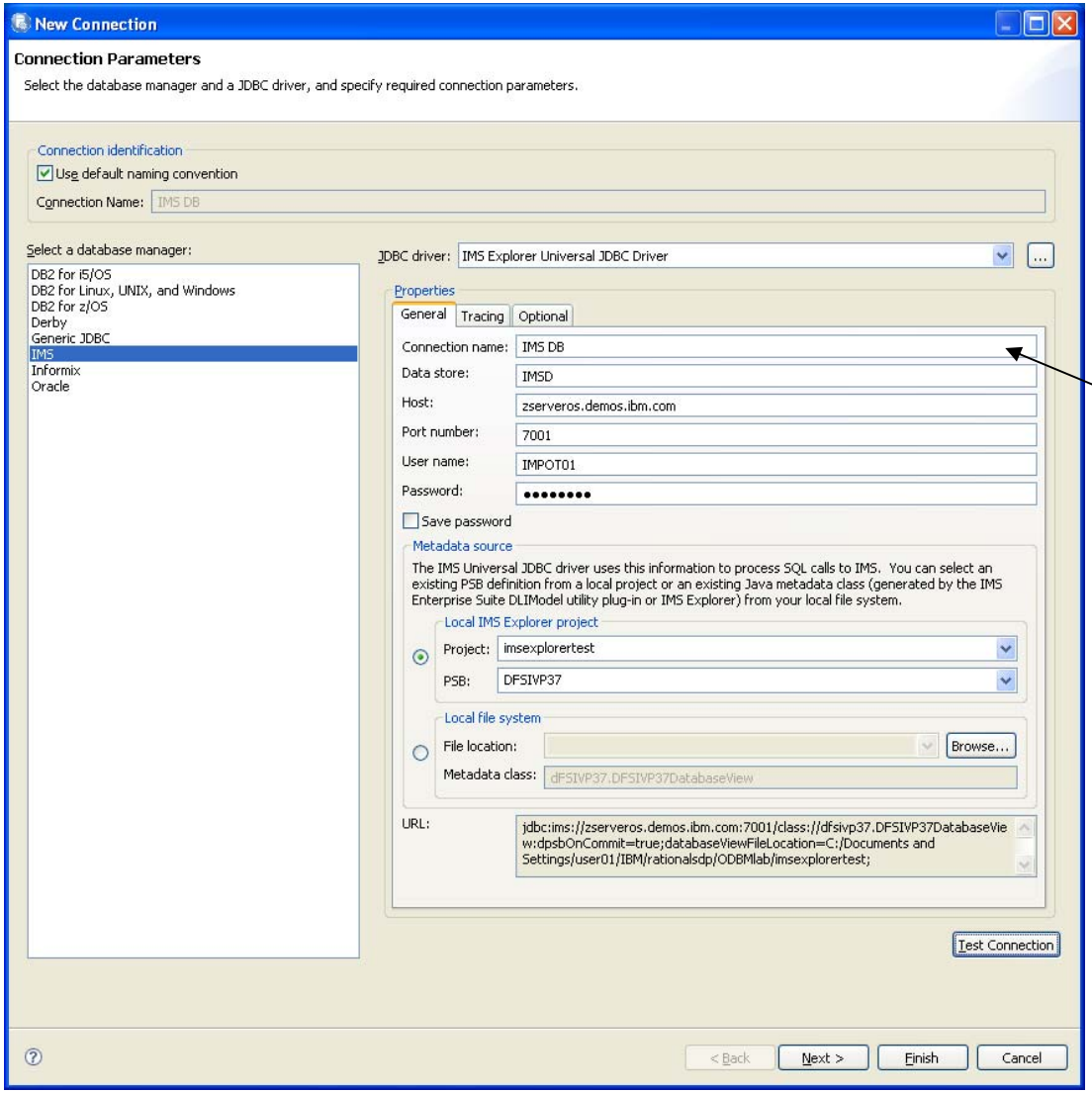
Now you need to add the IMS universal driver



And connect to the IMS database



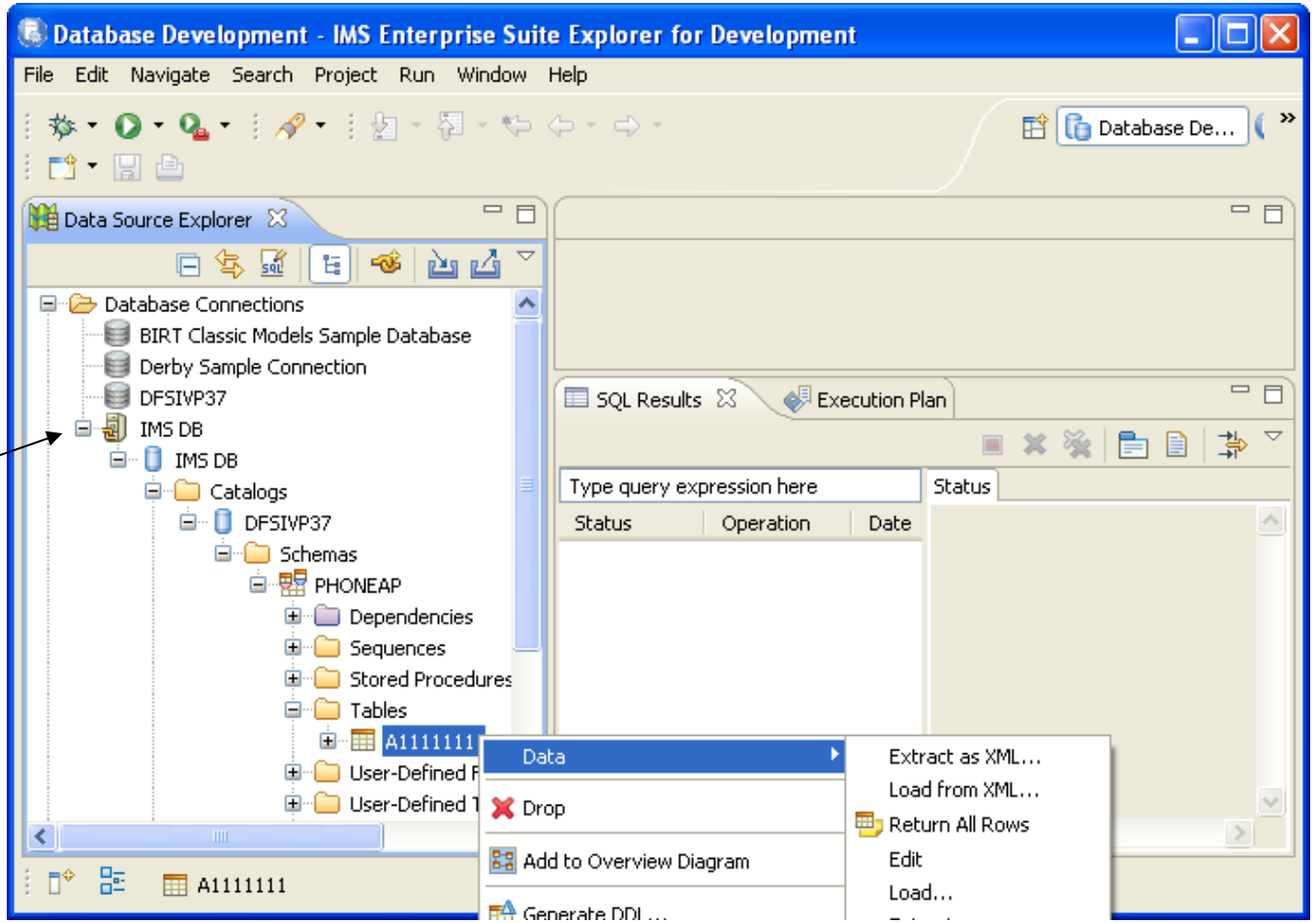
Select IMS as the database manager and choose the driver you defined



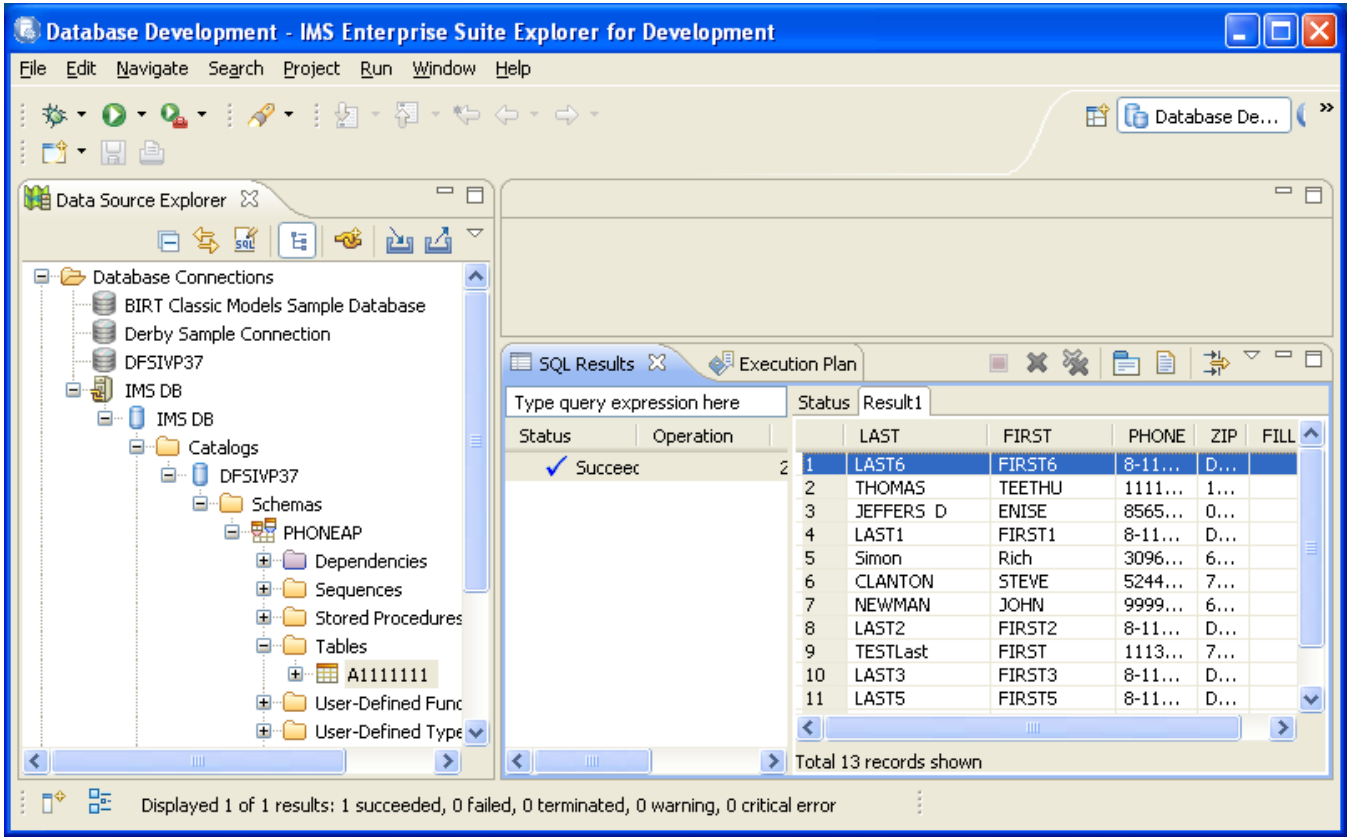
Note the Connection name that you specify

The connection is shown in the Data Source Explorerer (DSE) window and In this example the specific example

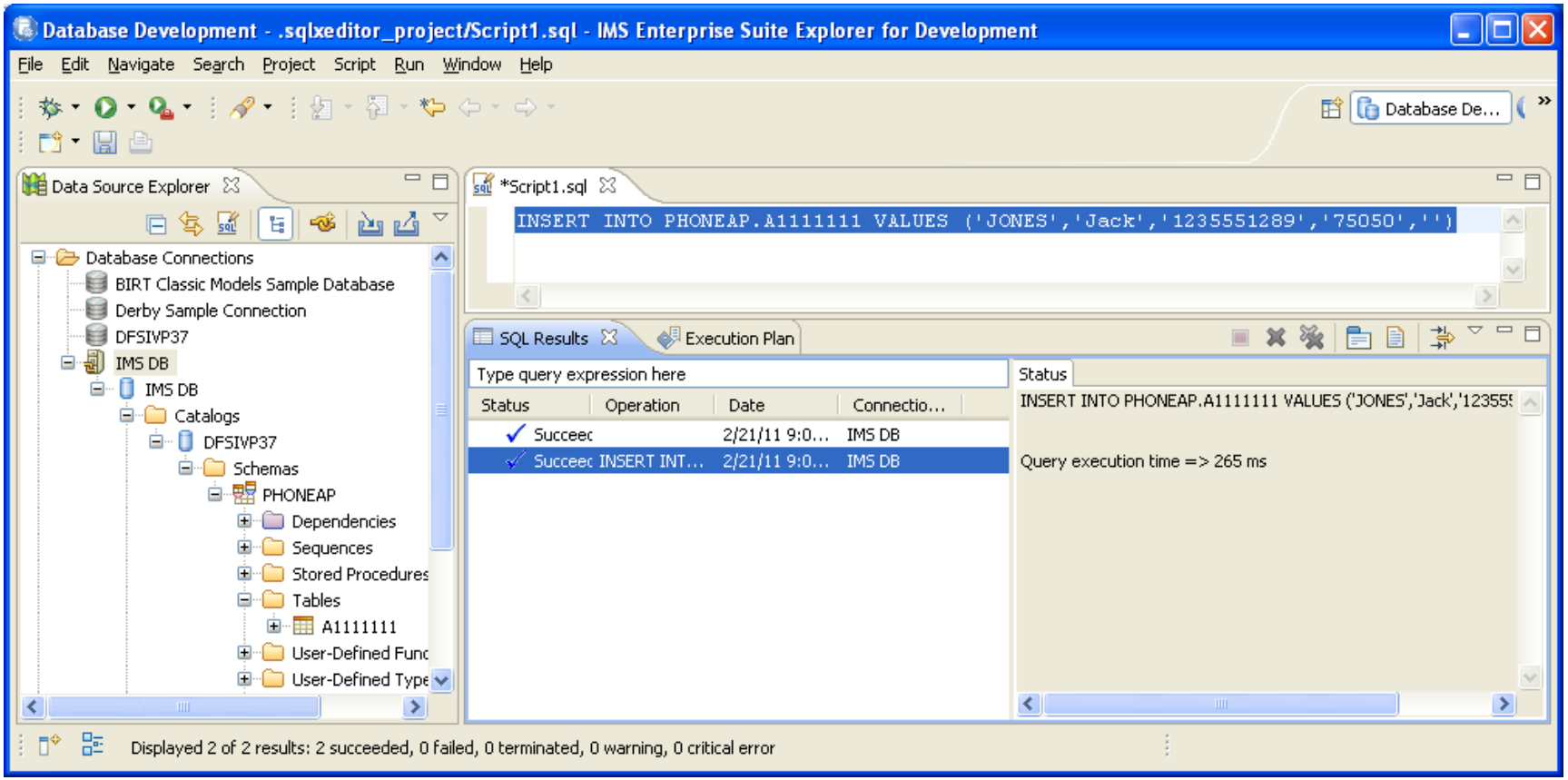
Connection name that you specified earlier



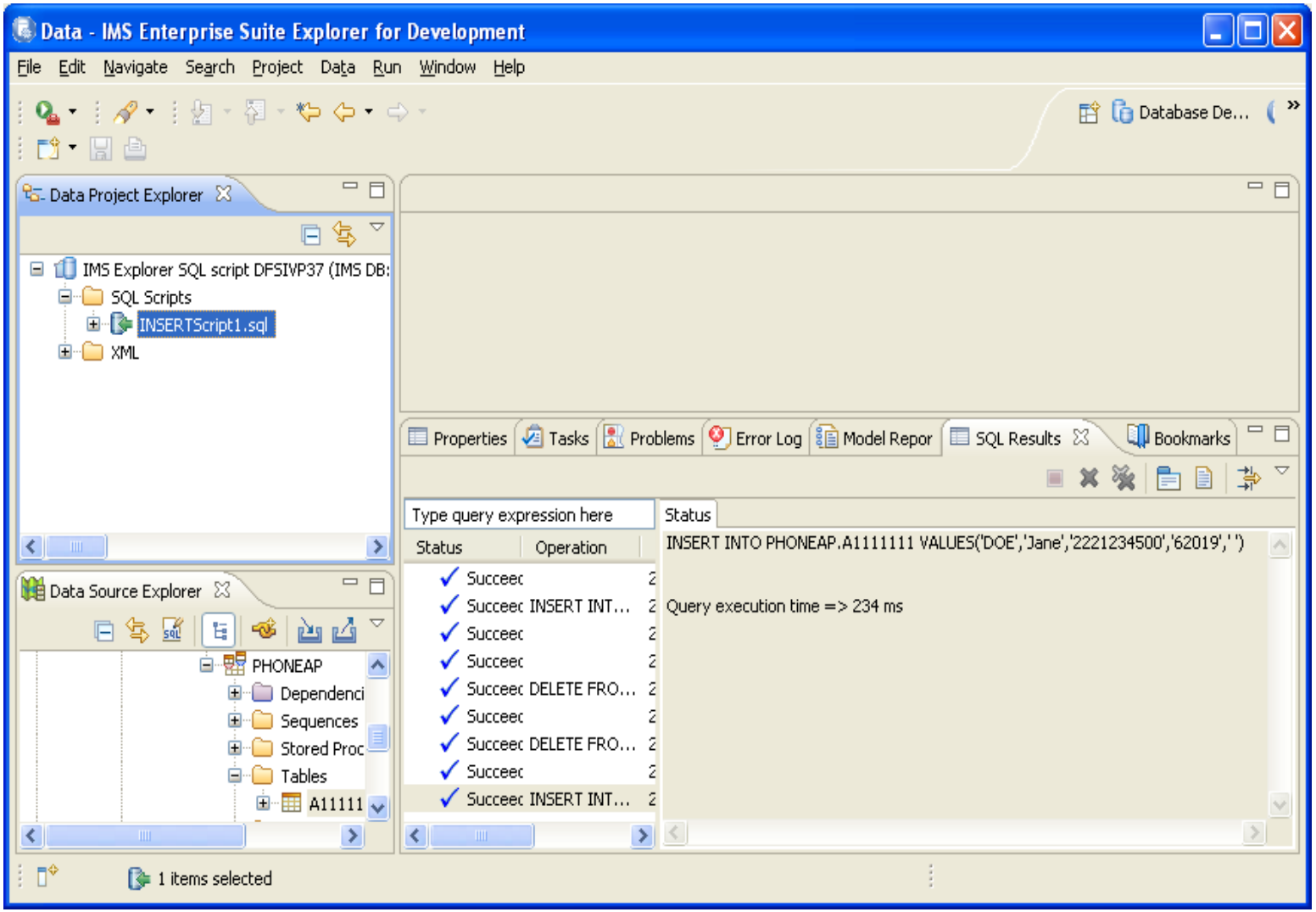
Select “sample contents”

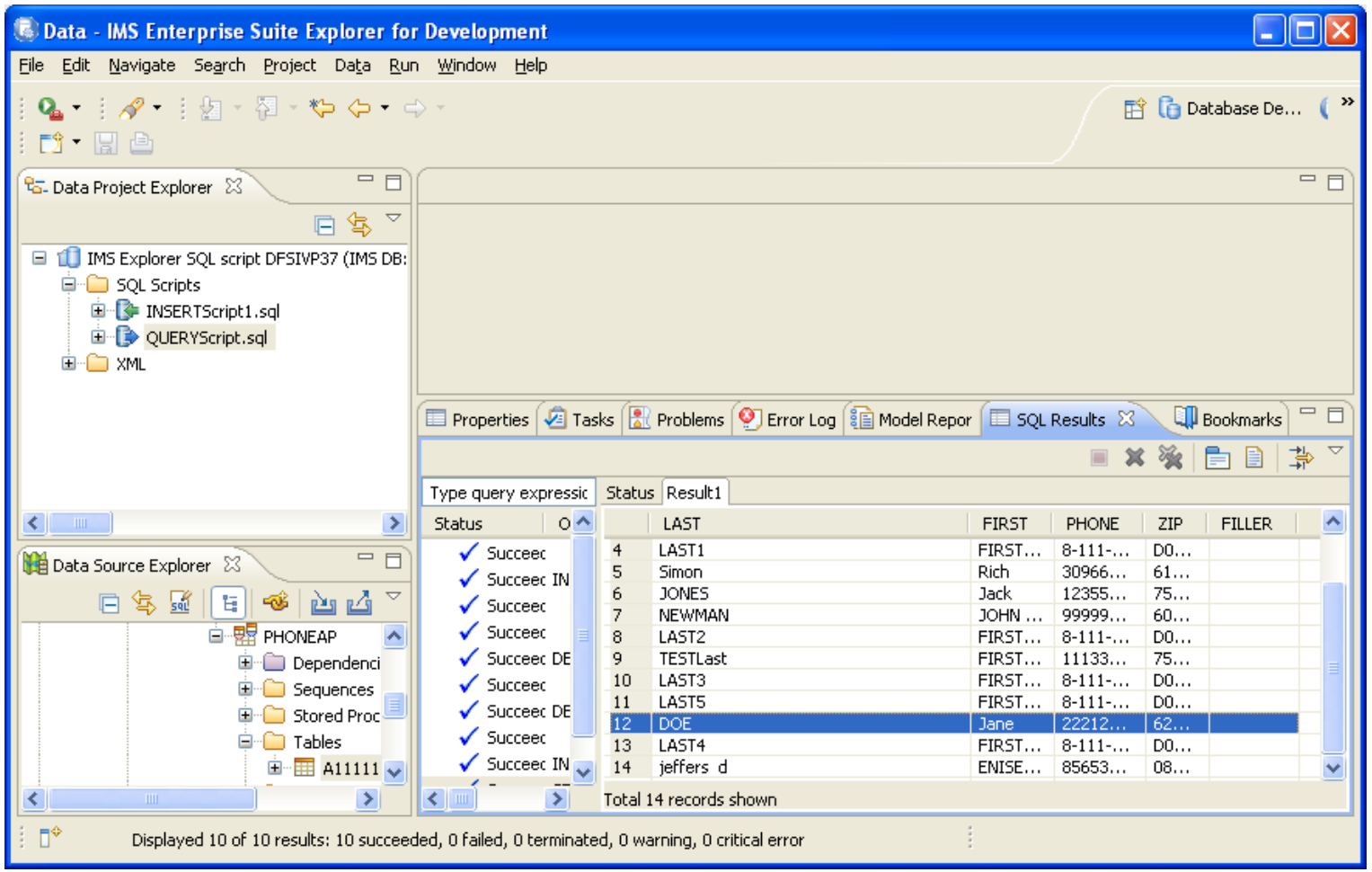


highlight the database connection, right mouse click and select **New SQL Script.**
When the window opens, key in a request, e.g.
INSERT INTO PHONEAP.A1111111 VALUES (‘xxxxx’,’yyyyy’,’1234567890’,’11111’,’ ‘)

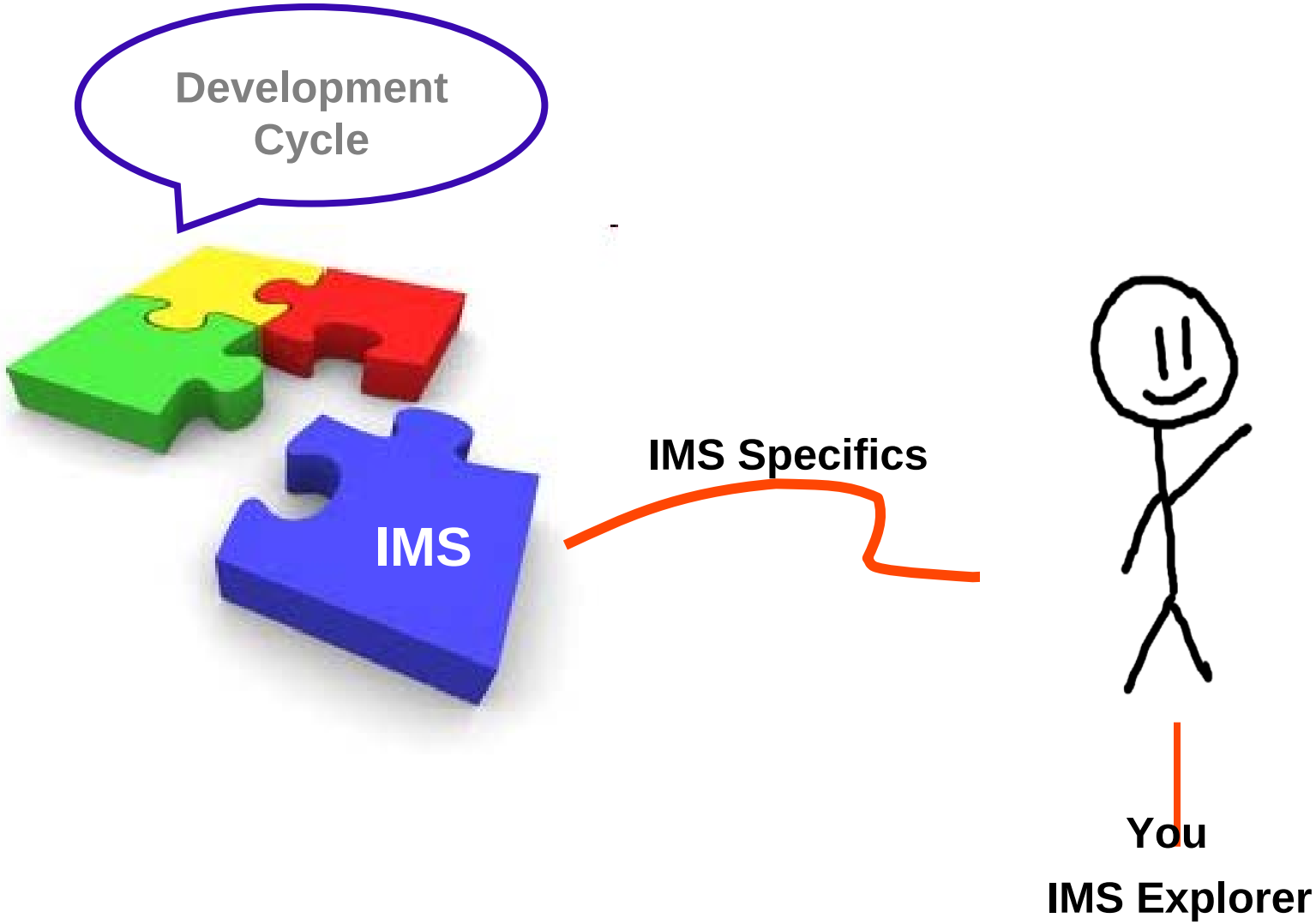


You can also create a data explorer project and create scripts that are saved





IMS Explorer in the bigger AD picture!



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