

## IBM Integration Bus

# Message Modeling with DFDL

## Lab 2

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

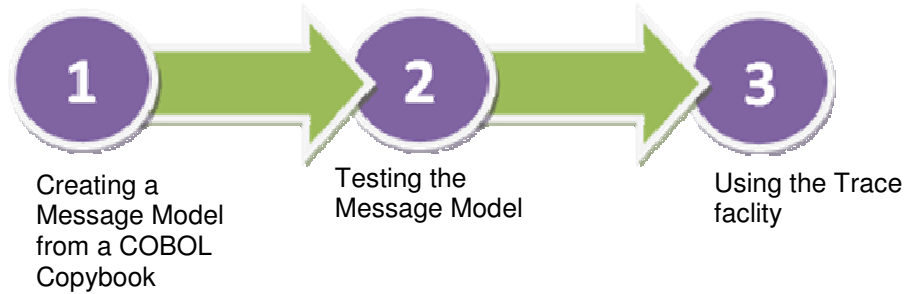
**June 2015**

Hands-on lab built at product  
Version 10.0.0.0

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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.

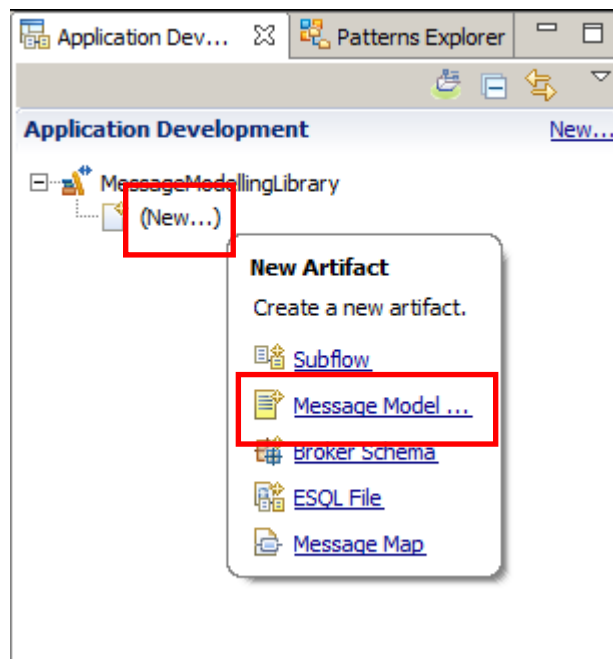
## 2. Creating a Message Model from a COBOL Copybook

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

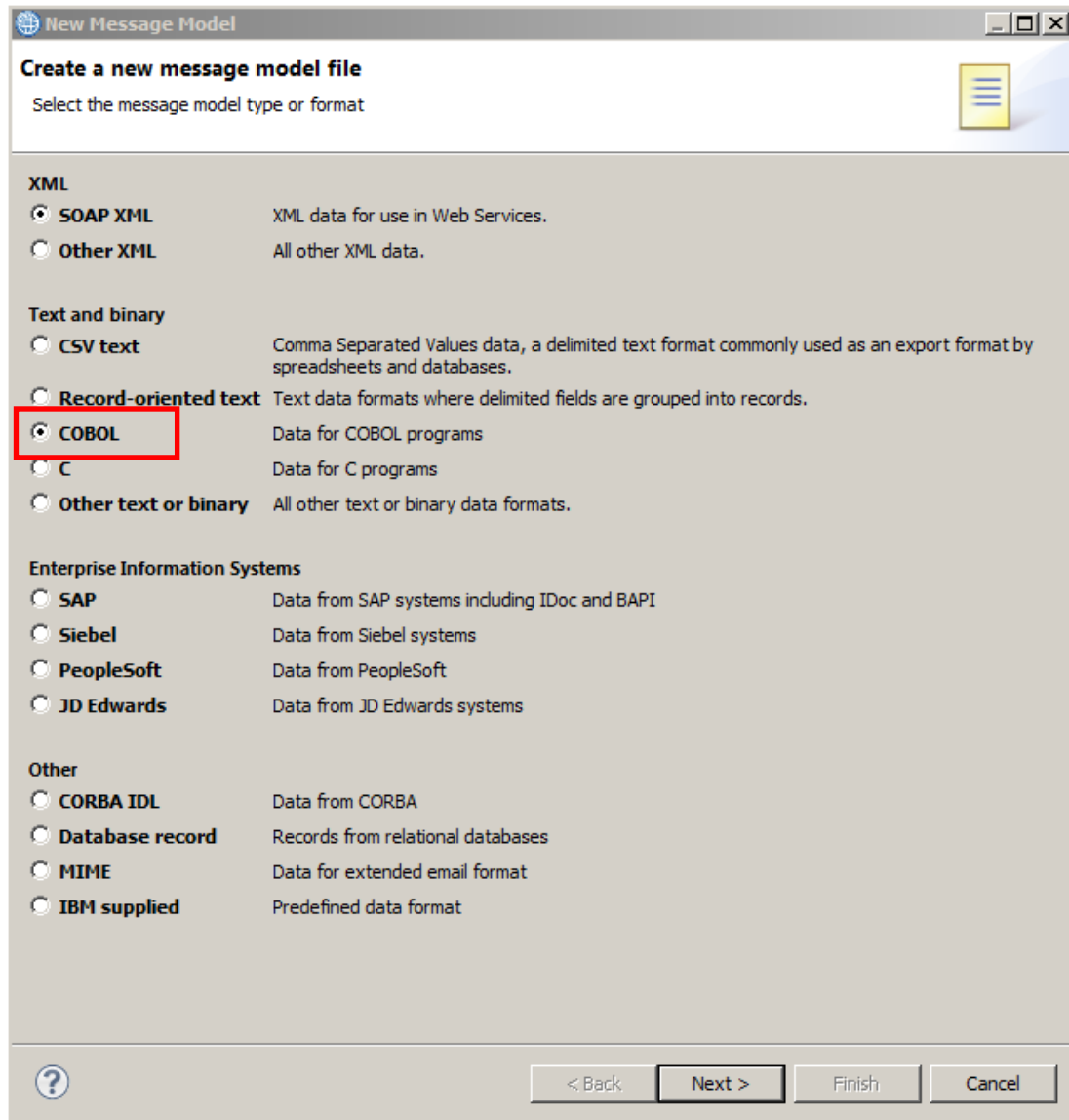
1. The first lab in this series created a CSV Message Model, so you should already have a Library created for this purpose. This lab uses the library called MessageModellingLibrary.

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

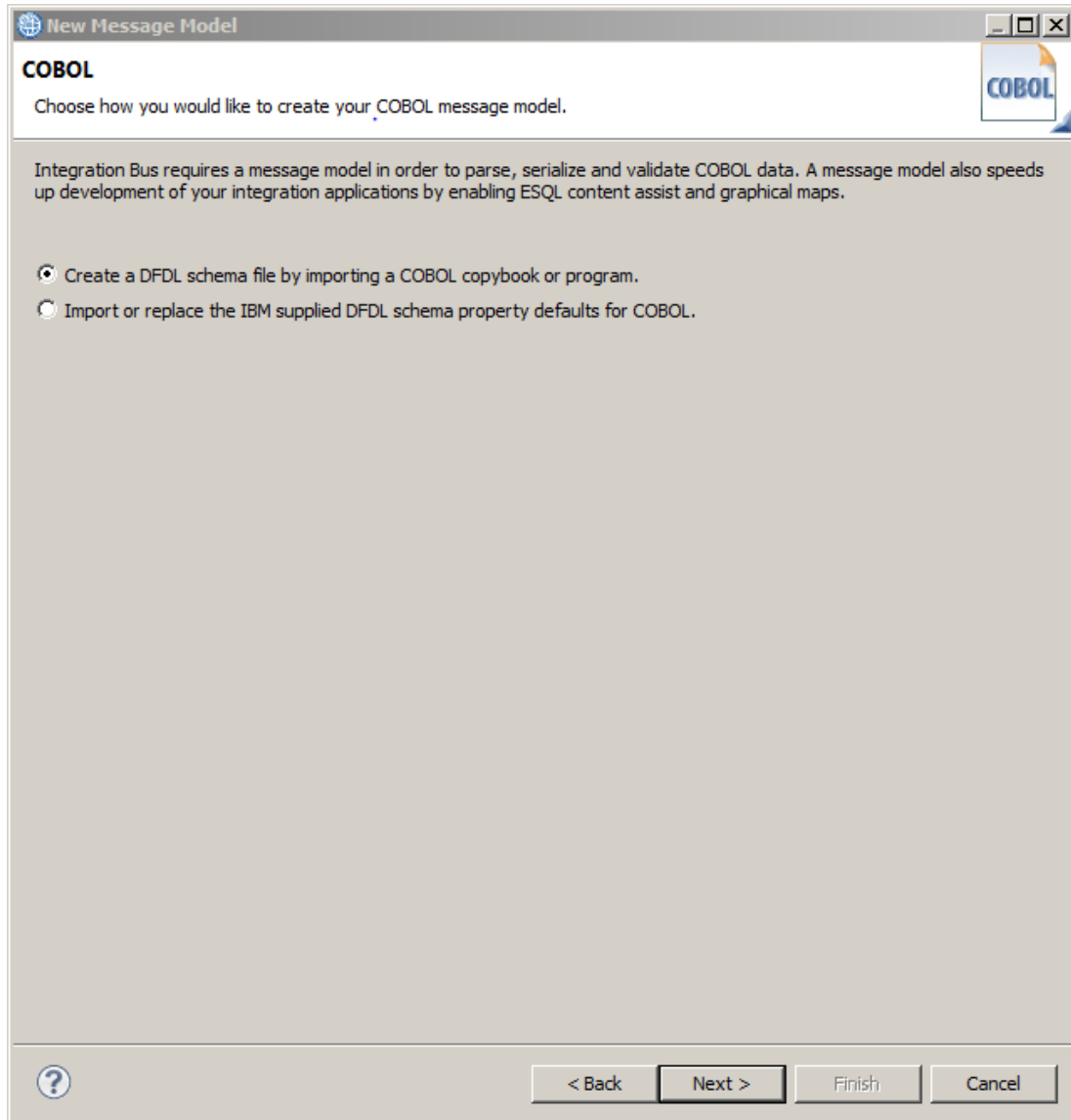
In this library, click "New...", and select Message Model.



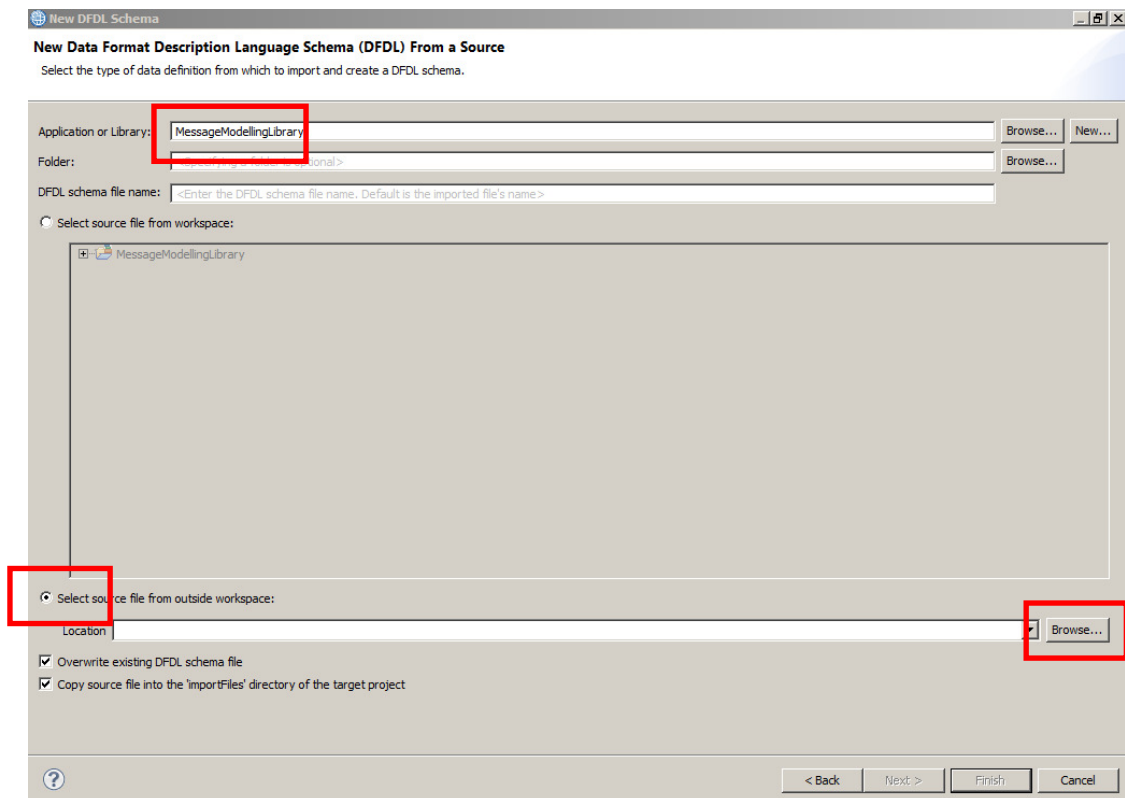
2. In the Message Model wizard, select COBOL and click Next.



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.



5. Browse in C:\student10\MessageModeling\resources\ and select the file "PURCHASES.cpy".

Click Next.

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: MessageModellingLibrary

Folder: <Specifying a folder is optional>

DFDL schema file name: PURCHASES.xsd

Select source file from workspace:

MessageModellingLibrary

Select source file from outside workspace:

Location: C:\student10\MessageModeling\resources\PURCHASES.cpy

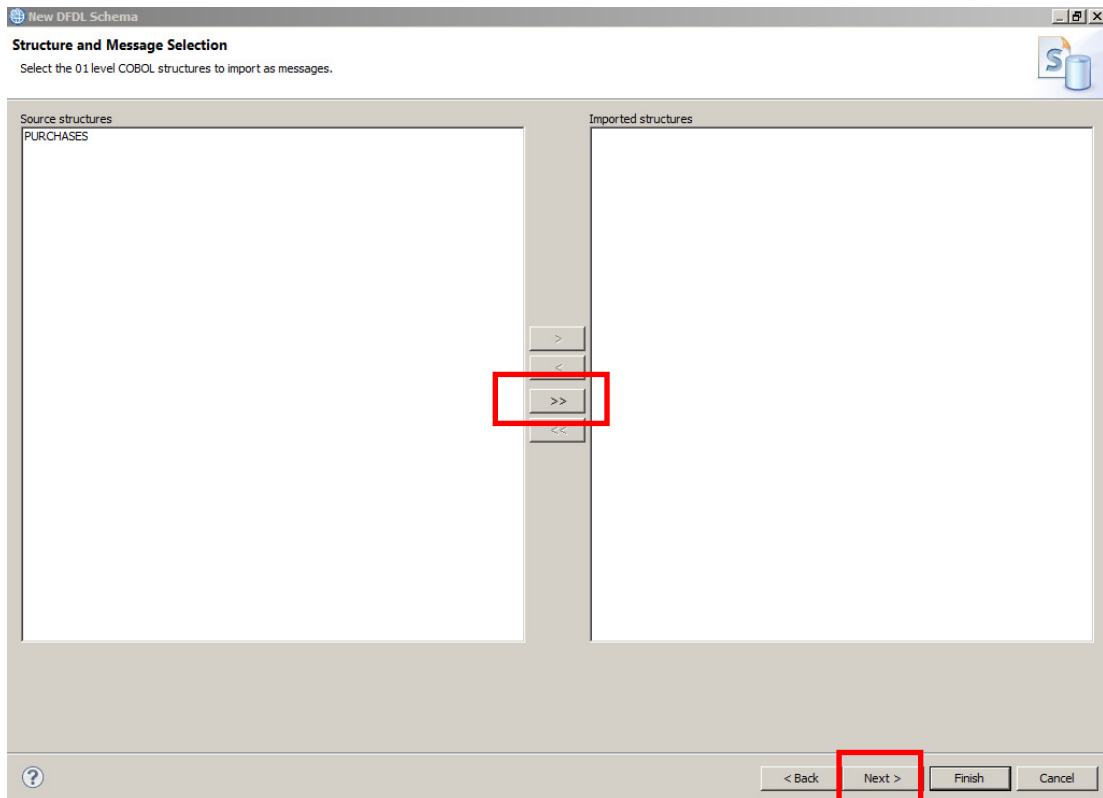
Overwrite existing DFDL schema file

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



- 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” and “Create value constraints from level 88 VALUE clauses”.

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

**Field names**  
Specify this option to stop upper-case COBOL field names being changed to lower-case. [More...](#)  
 Preserve the case of field names

Restore Defaults

< Back Next > Finish Cancel

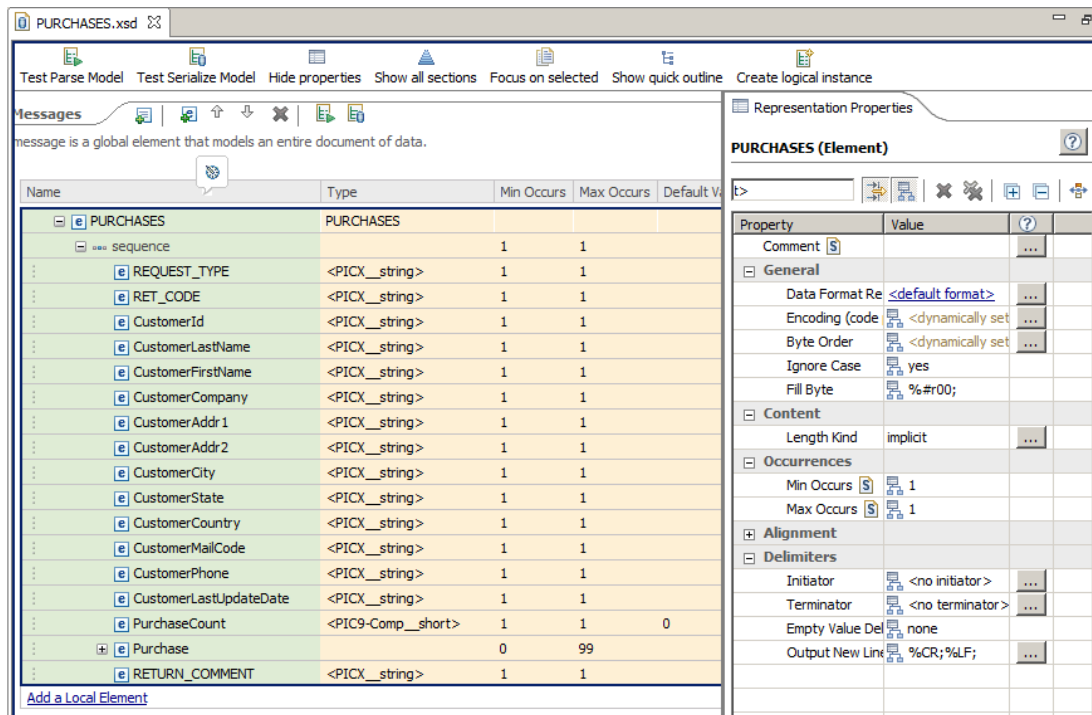
## 8. Leave all the defaults values, and click Finish.

The screenshot shows the 'New DFDL Schema' dialog box with the 'Import Options' tab selected. The dialog contains several sections of settings:

- 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: [dropdown]
- Compiler options:**
  - QUOTE:  DOUBLE  SINGLE
  - TRUNC:  STD  OPT  BIN
  - NSYMBOL:  NATIONAL  DBCS
- Restore Defaults** button

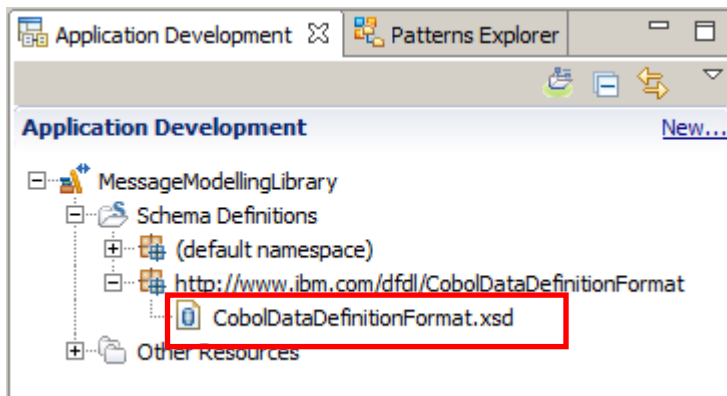
At the bottom right, the navigation buttons are '< Back', 'Next >', 'Finish', and 'Cancel'. The 'Finish' button is highlighted with a red rectangular box.

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



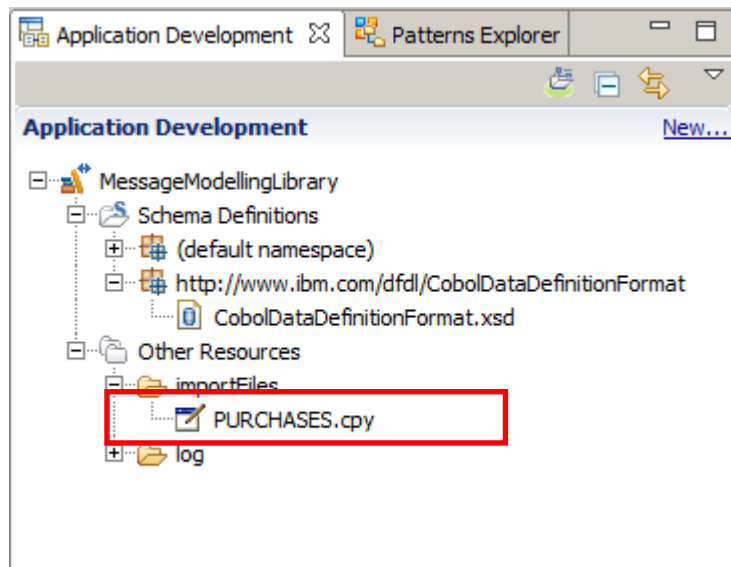
- Notice the wizard automatically added a file called "CobolDataDefinitionFormat.xsd" under the Schema Definitions in MessageModellingLibrary.

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.



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

Expand the "importFiles" folder and you will see the PURCHASES.cpy file that the wizard has automatically imported.



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

```

PURCHASES.xsd  PURCHASES.cpy
-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----
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).

```

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
PURCHASES	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. On the left, a tree view shows the 'PURCHASES' structure with 'CustomerLastName' selected and highlighted with a red box. On the right, the 'CustomerLastName (Element)' properties panel is open. The 'Content' section is also highlighted with a red box, showing the following properties:

- Representation: text
- Length Kind: explicit
- Length: 20
- Length Units: bytes

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:

The screenshot shows the DFDL Editor interface. On the left, a tree view shows the structure of the PURCHASES message, with the PurchaseCount field highlighted. On the right, the 'PurchaseCount (Element)' properties pane is open. The 'Content' section is expanded, showing 'Representation' set to 'binary', 'Length' set to '2', and 'Length Units' set to 'bytes'. The 'Binary Content' section is also expanded, showing 'Number Representation' set to 'binary'. Red boxes highlight these specific settings.

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 4 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 properties are as follows:

Property	Value
Comment	PIC 9(8)V9(2) display
<b>General</b>	
Data Format Reference	<default format>
Encoding (code page)	<dynamically set>
Byte Order	<dynamically set>
Ignore Case	yes
Fill Byte	%#r00;
<b>Content</b>	
Representation	text
Length Kind	explicit
Length	10
Length Units	bytes
Nullable	true
Default Value	0
Fixed Value	<unset>
<b>Text Content</b>	
Decimal Signed	no
Number Representation	zoned
Number Justification	right
Number Pad Character	0
Pad Kind	padChar
Trim Kind	padChar

Below the table, there is a section for 'Sample Test Data'.

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



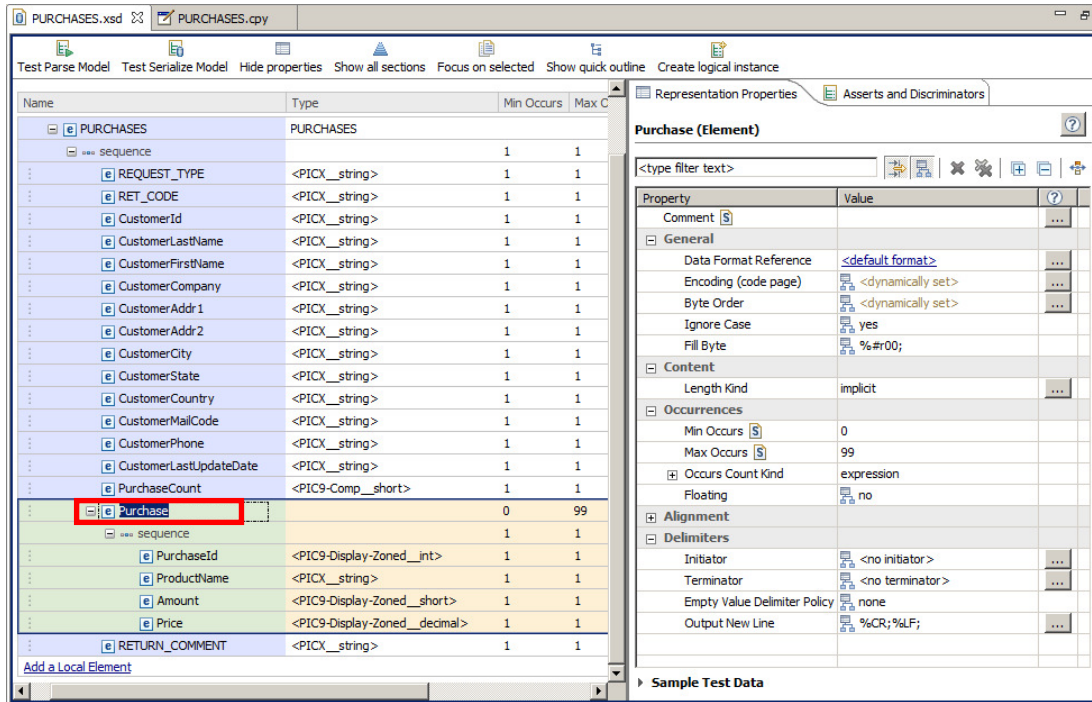
18. Look at the "Text Content" section of the properties view.

Property	Value
Text Content	
Decimal Signed	no
Number Representation	zoned
Number Check Policy	lax
Number Pattern	00000000V00+
Rounding	pattern
Sign Style	asciiStandard
Number Justification	right
Number Pad Character	0
Pad Kind	padChar
Trim Kind	padChar
Escape Scheme Reference	<no escape scheme>

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

The screenshot shows the IBM Integration Bus Message Modeler interface. The left pane displays a tree view of the message model. The 'Purchase' element is selected and highlighted in orange. The right pane shows the 'Purchase (Element)' properties view. The 'Occurrences' section is expanded, and the 'Occurs Count Kind' property is set to 'expression'. The 'Occurs Count' property is set to '{PurchaseCount}'. The 'Min Occurs' property is set to 0 and the 'Max Occurs' property is set to 99. The 'Purchase' element is also highlighted in the tree view.

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

1. fixed: uses the "maxOccurs" property
2. expression: uses the value defined by the expression in "occursCount" property.
3. parsed: the number of occurrences is determined by normal speculative parsing.
4. implicit: uses "minOccurs" and "maxOccurs" properties with 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.

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

### 3. Testing the Message Model

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

The screenshot shows the IBM Integration Bus Message Model Designer interface. The top menu bar includes options like 'Test Parse Model', 'Serialize Model', 'Hide properties', 'Show all sections', 'Focus on selected', 'Show quick outline', and 'Create logical instance'. The 'Test Parse Model' icon is highlighted with a red box. The main workspace is divided into two panes. The left pane displays a tree view of the message model elements for 'PURCHASES.xsd' and 'PURCHASES.cpy'. The right pane shows the 'Purchase (Element)' properties, including 'Data Format Reference', 'Encoding (code page)', 'Byte Order', 'Ignore Case', 'Fill Byte', 'Length Kind', 'Occurrences', 'Occurs Count Kind', 'Floating', 'Alignment', and 'Delimiters'.

Name	Type	Min Occurs	Max Occurs
PURCHASES	PURCHASES	1	1
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
sequence		1	1
PurchaseId	<PIC9-Display-Zoned_int>	1	1
ProductName	<PICX_string>	1	1
Amount	<PIC9-Display-Zoned_short>	1	1
Price	<PIC9-Display-Zoned_decimal>	1	1
RETURN_COMMENT	<PICX_string>	1	1

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

**Test Parse Model**

Message  
Select message for testing. [More...](#)  
Message name: \* PURCHASES

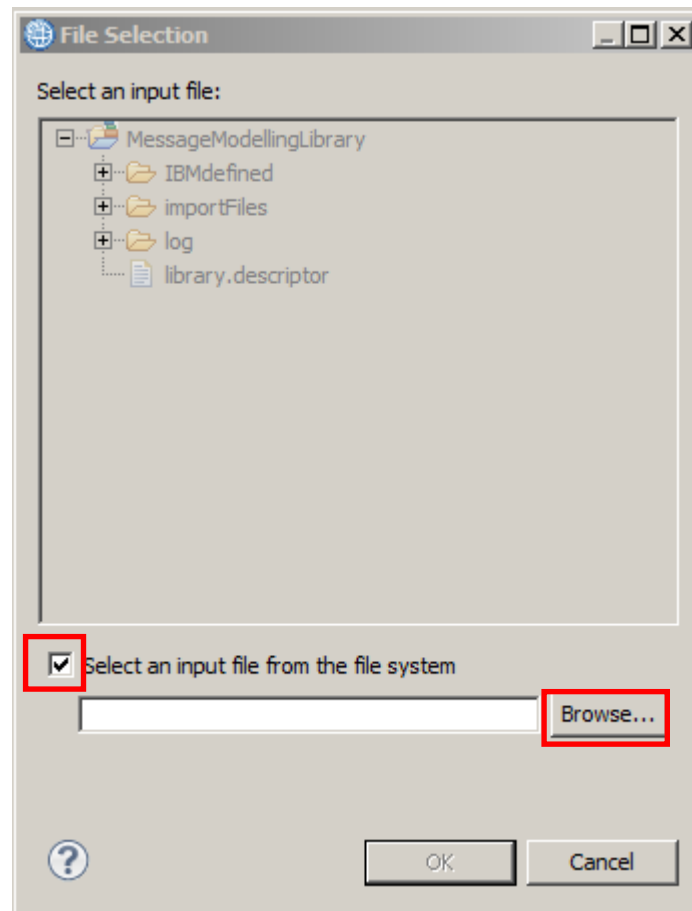
Parser Input  
Select content to be parsed against schema.  
 Content from 'DFDL Test - Serialize' view  
 Content from a data file  
Input file name: \*

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

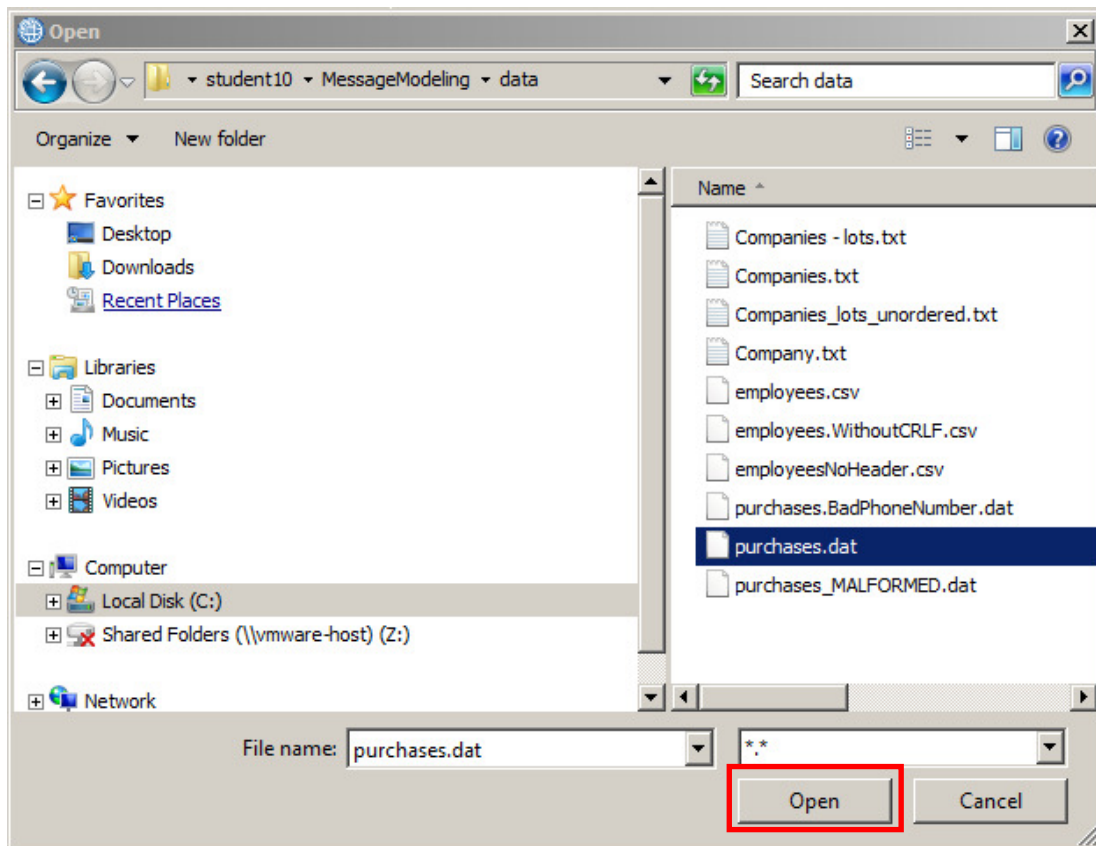
Runtime validation  
 Validate data against schema [More...](#)

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

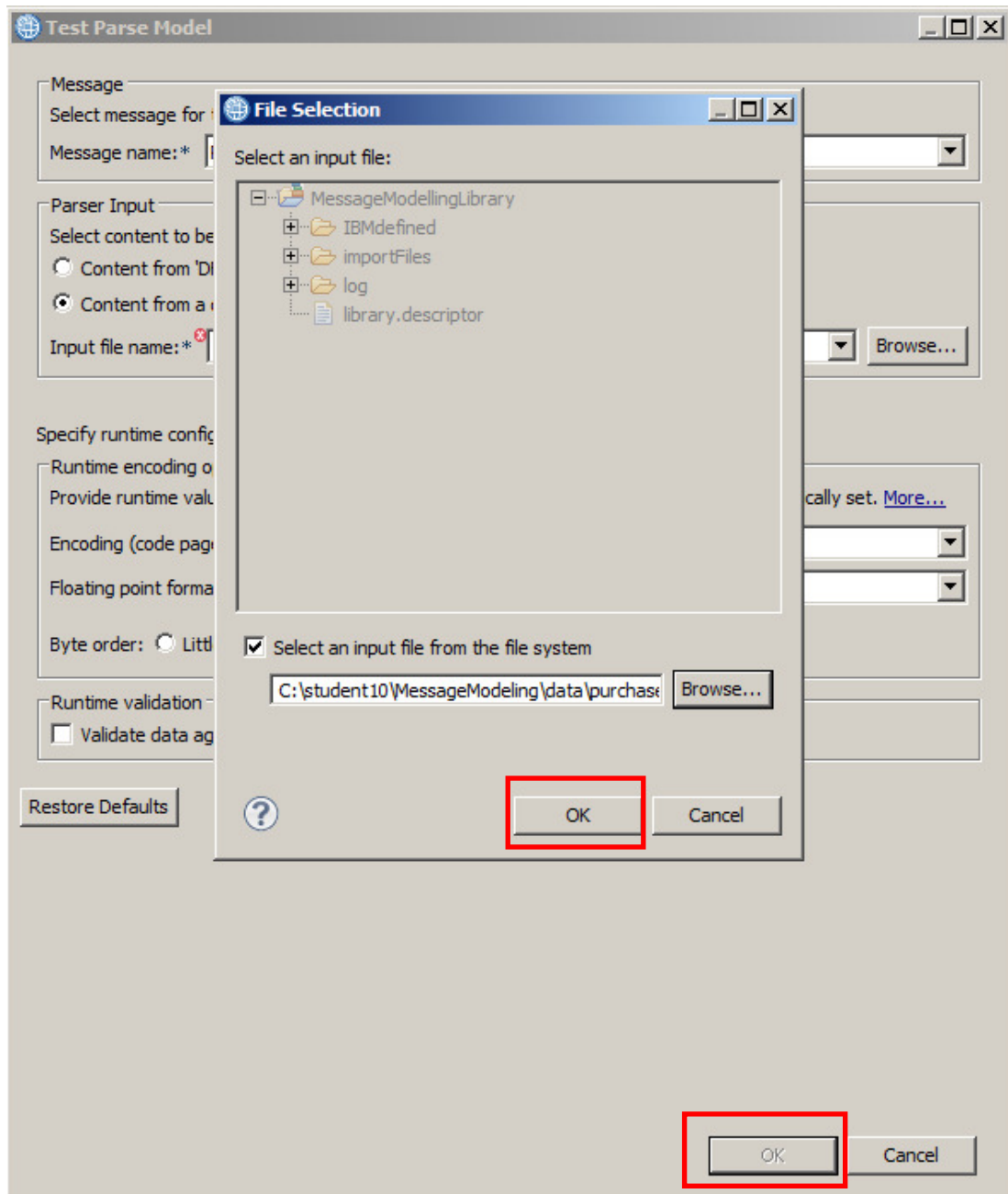


4. Navigate to "C:\student10\MessageModeling\data\" and select the "purchases.dat" file.

Click the Open button.

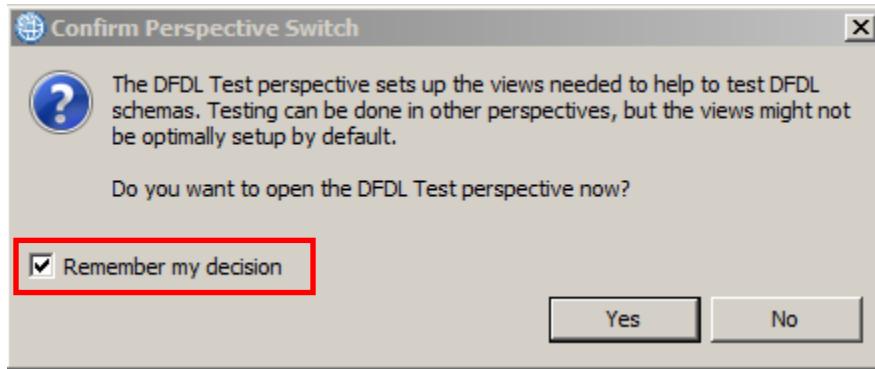


- 5. Click OK on both windows.





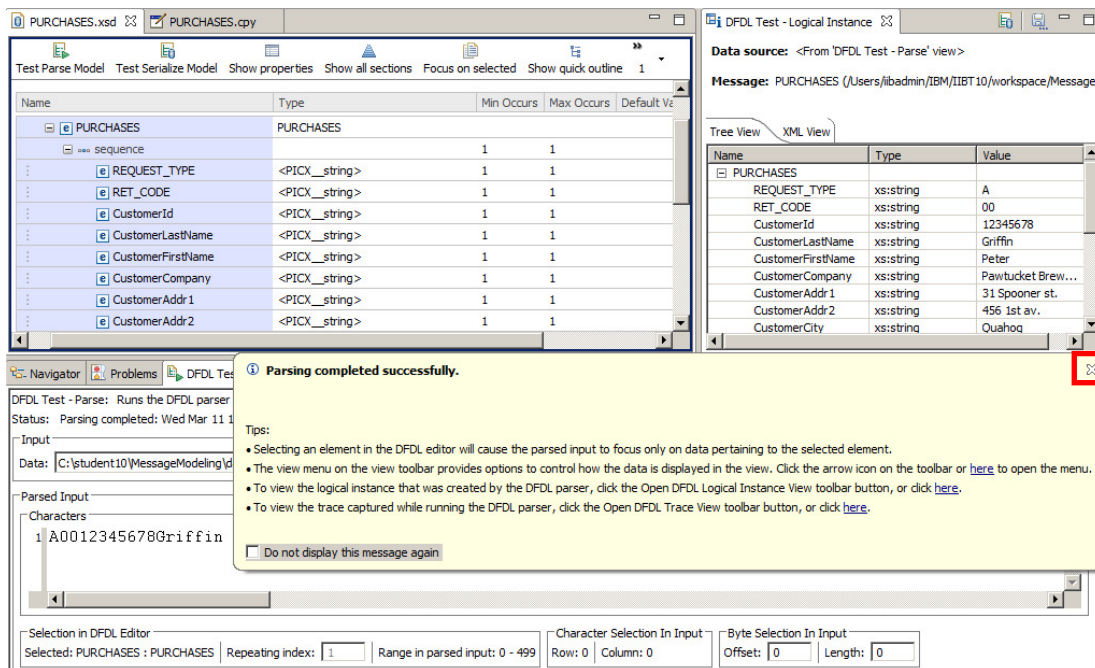
- Click on the checkbox "Remember my decision", and click Yes.



- 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.

DFDL Test - Logical Instance

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

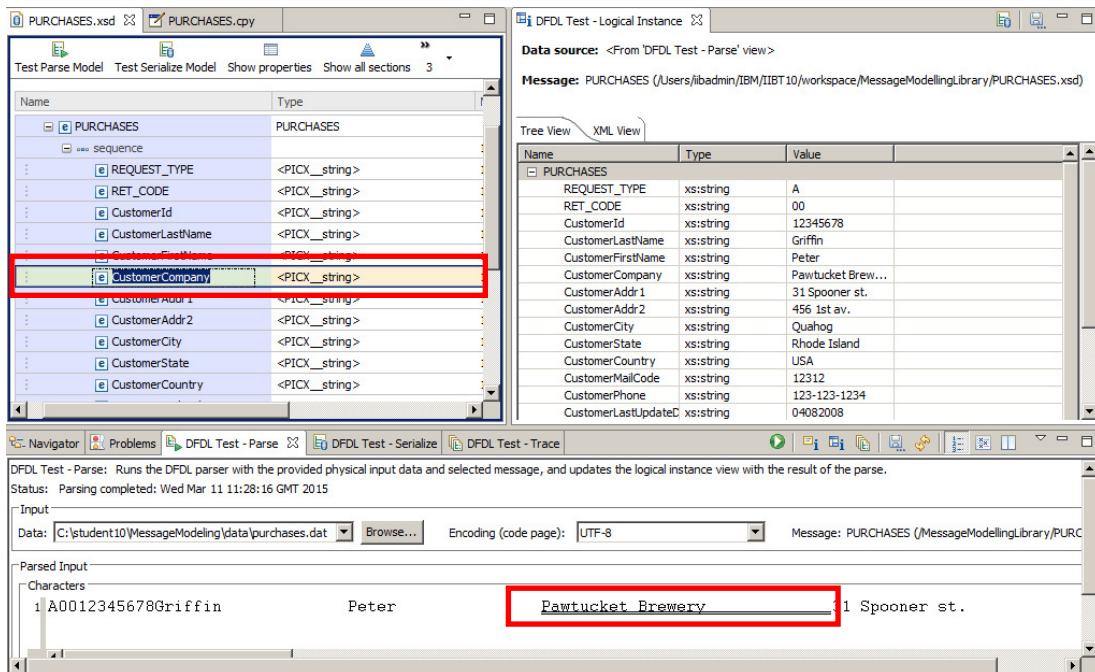
**Message:** PURCHASES (/Users/iibadmin/IBM/IIBT10/workspace/MessageModellingLibrary/PURCHASES.xsd)

Tree View XML View

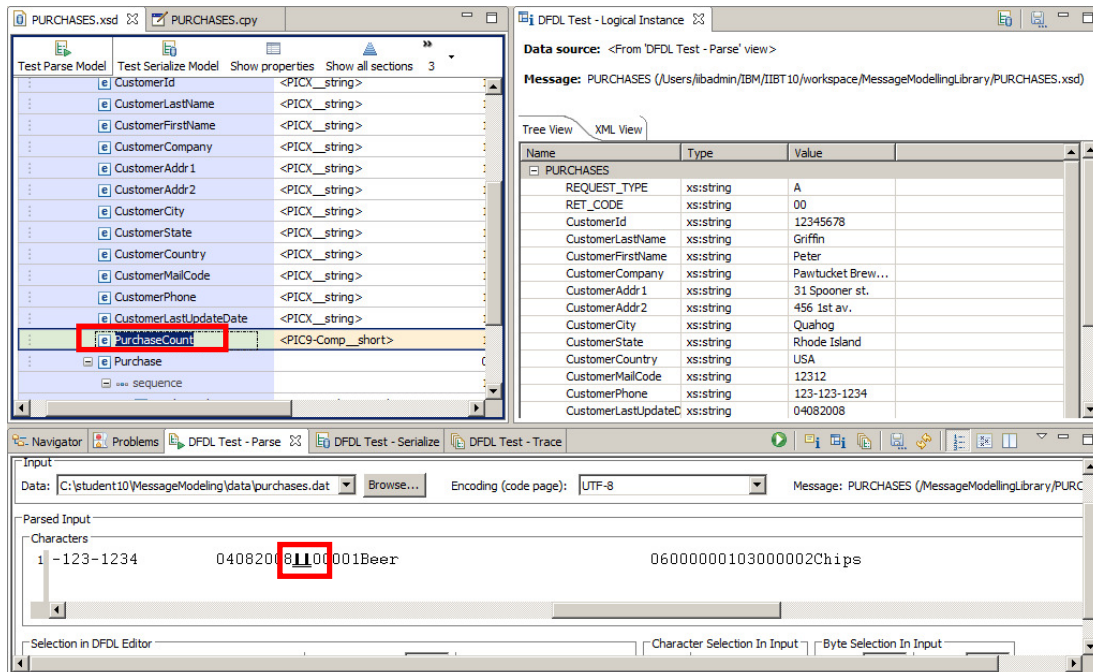
Name	Type	Value
[-] PURCHASES		
REQUEST_TYPE	xs:string	A
RET_CODE	xs:string	00
CustomerId	xs:string	12345678
CustomerLastName	xs:string	Griffin
CustomerFirstName	xs:string	Peter
CustomerCompany	xs:string	Pawtucket Brew...
CustomerAddr1	xs:string	31 Spooner st.
CustomerAddr2	xs:string	456 1st av.
CustomerCity	xs:string	Quahog
CustomerState	xs:string	Rhode Island
CustomerCountry	xs:string	USA
CustomerMailCode	xs:string	12312
CustomerPhone	xs:string	123-123-1234
CustomerLastUpdateD	xs:string	04082008
PurchaseCount	xs:unsignedShort	4
[-] Purchase		
PurchaseId	xs:unsignedInt	1
ProductName	xs:string	Beer
Amount	xs:unsignedShort	6
Price	xs:decimal	10.30
[-] Purchase		
PurchaseId	xs:unsignedInt	2
ProductName	xs:string	Chips
Amount	xs:unsignedShort	1
Price	xs:decimal	2.25
[+] Purchase		
[+] Purchase		
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:

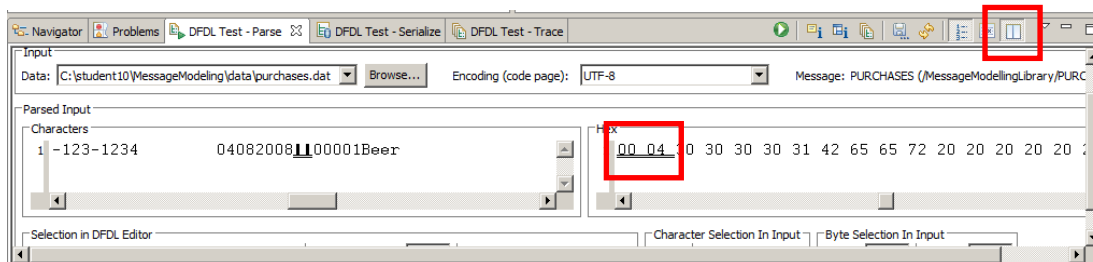


10. Now click on the PurchaseCount element.



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

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



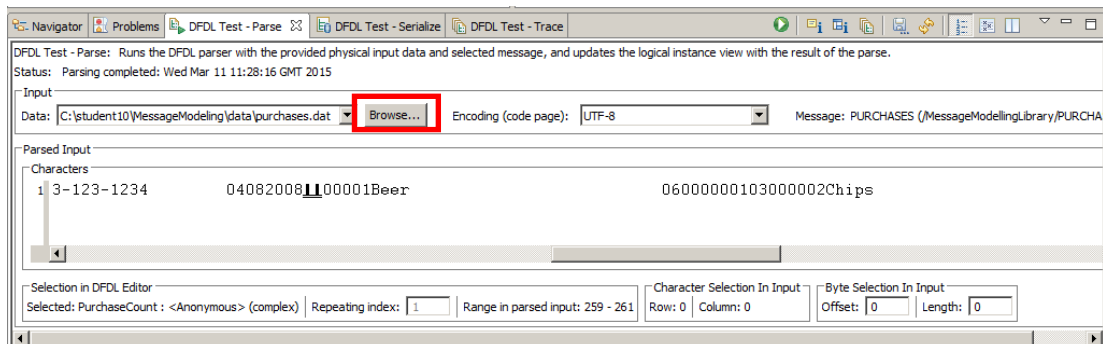
Notice that the binary field is now readable, and has a value of "00 04" which corresponds to the 4 occurrences of the "purchase" element.

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

## 4. Using the Trace facility

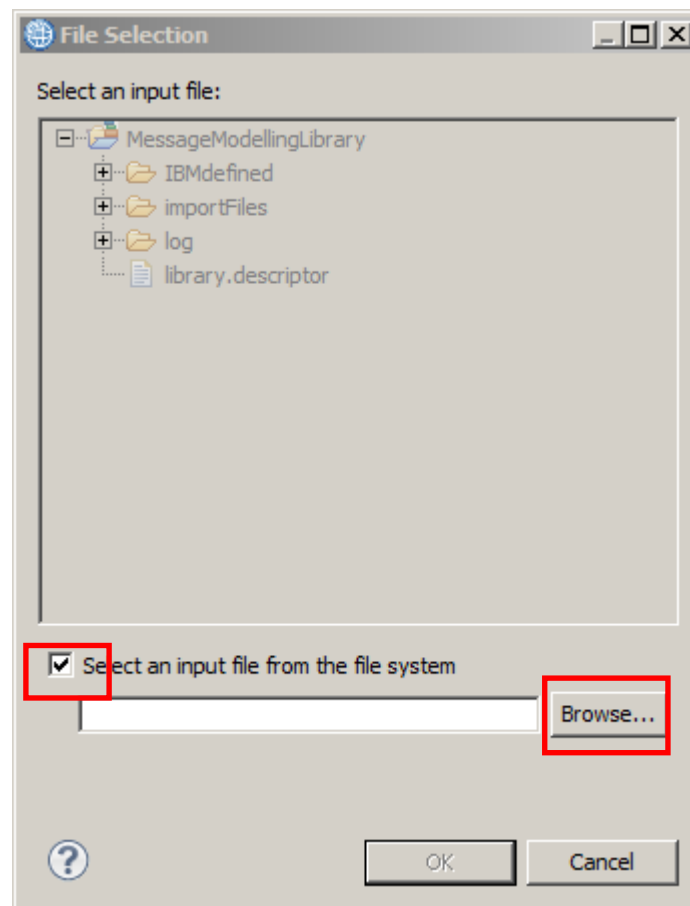
1. Next you are going to test the message model using a malformed message.

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

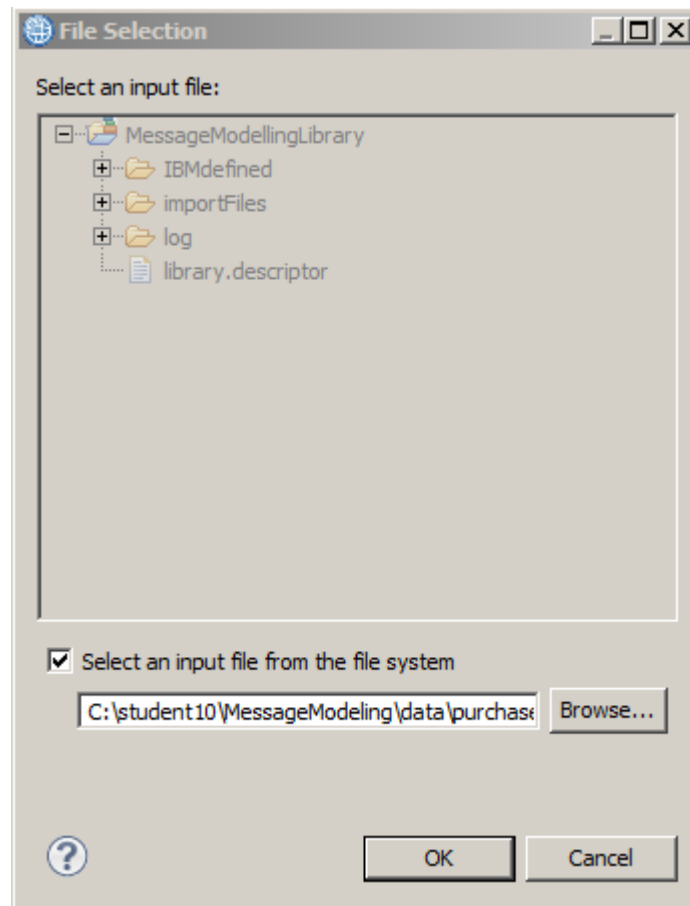


2. In the File Selection dialog, select the "Select an input file from the file system" option.

Click on the Browse button.



3. Navigate to the "C:\student10\MessageModeling\data" directory and select the "purchases\_MALFORMED.dat" file.

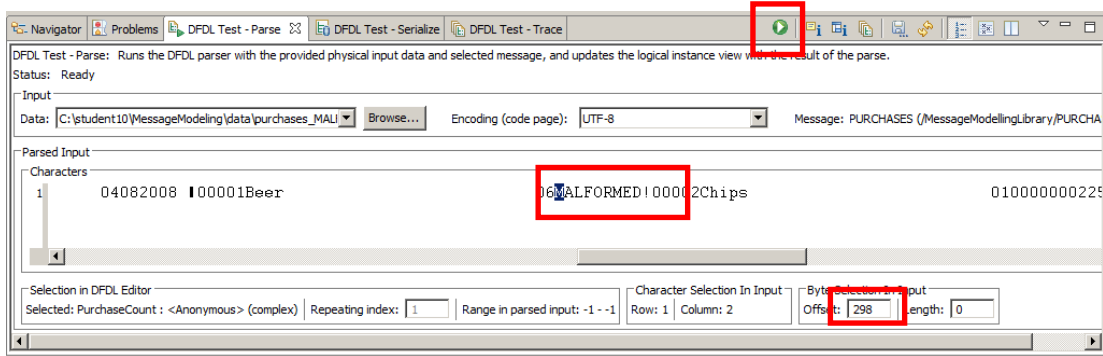


Click OK.

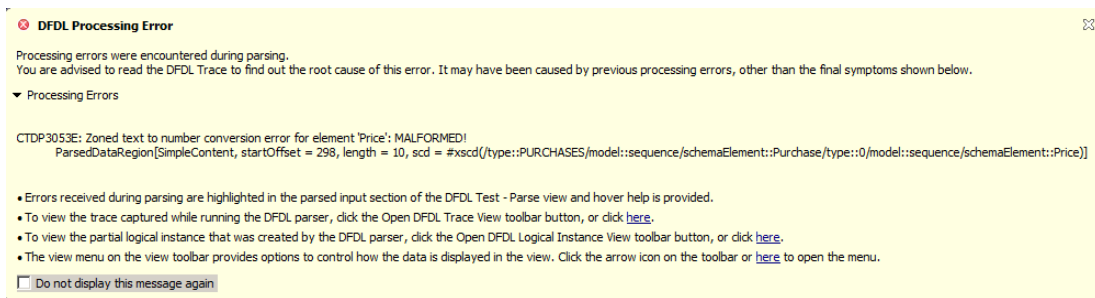
- In the "Offset" textbox, enter "298", and scroll right to find the highlighted character (byte 298 will be highlighted in blue).

Note that at this position (the "Price" element 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.

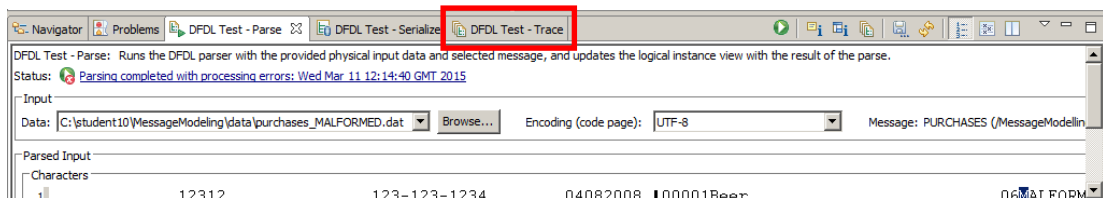
Go to the Purchase element, expand it, and check that it was correctly parsed until the "Amount" element. The following field "Price" is empty.

Tree View XML View

Name	Type	Value
[-] PURCHASES		
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
CustomerLastUpdateD	xs:string	04082008
PurchaseCount	xs:unsignedShort	8196
[-] Purchase		
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.

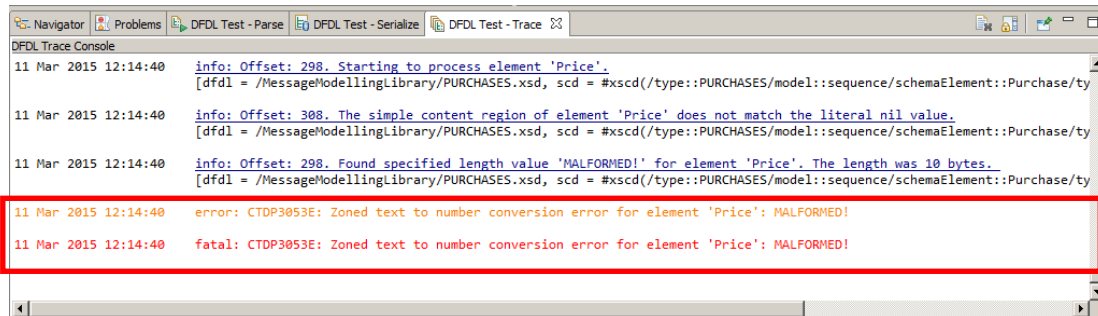
Click on the "DFDL Test - Trace" view.



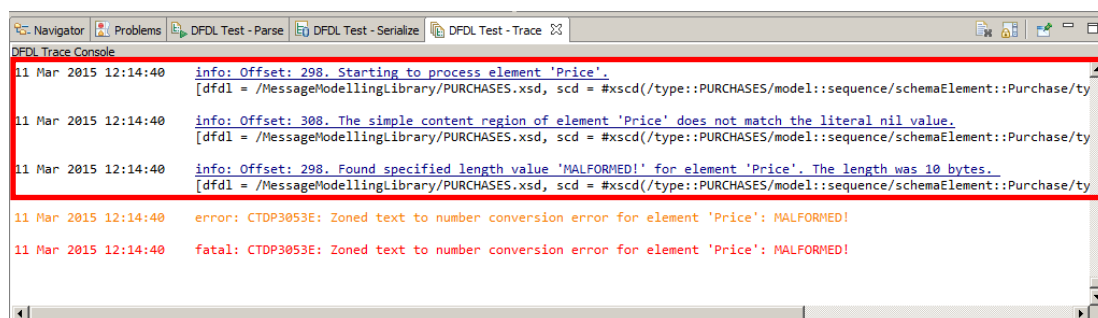


8. In the "DFDL Test - Trace" view, you will find an execution log of the parsing activities.

At the end of the trace, there are colored lines with the found error.



9. Look at the lines before the error:



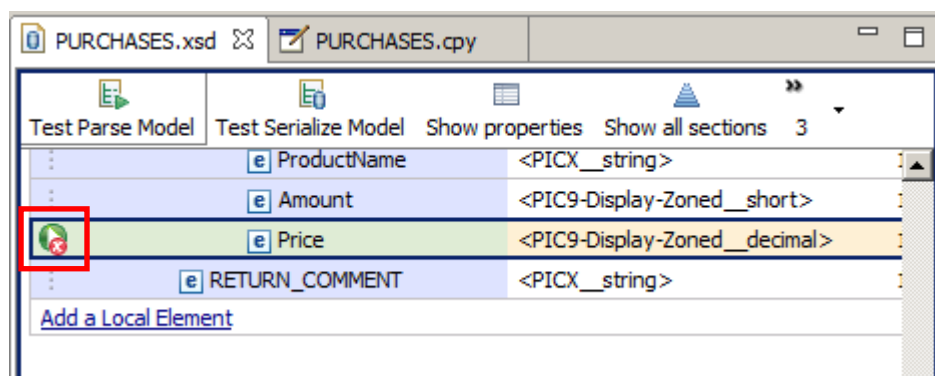
The first line states that it is starting to process the Price element.

In the third, it has found a string "MALFORMED!" as the value of the element.

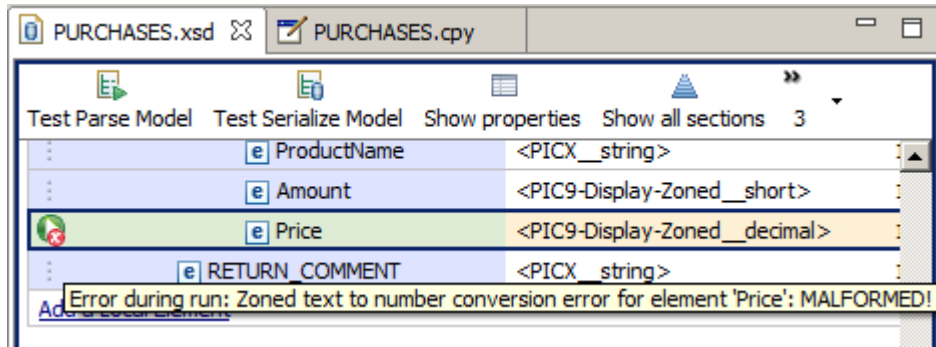
Then the parser tries to convert the string to a decimal number, and an error appears.

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

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



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



END OF LAB GUIDE