
Lively Walk-Through: A Lightweight Formal Method in UI/UX Design

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Lively Walk-Through

What is Lively Walk-Through?

UI Prototyping environment built on
VDM-SL interpreter and Smalltalk system

Users:

VDM specifiers and UI/UX designers

Objective:

To better understand the system

To discuss and make agreements

Lively Walk-Through in Action

The screenshot displays the Squeak4.3-ja.image environment. The main window title is "Squeak4.3-ja.image" and the menu bar includes "プロジェクト ツール アプリ 特別 ウィンドウ ヘルプ". The search bar contains "検索:" and the system clock shows "6:56:19 pm".

VDM Browser

Counter	count	9
---------	-------	---

```
state counter of
count : int
init s == s = mk_counter(0)
end

operations
  get : () ==> int
```

Cut Browser

no undo for reset?
reset→walk→reset

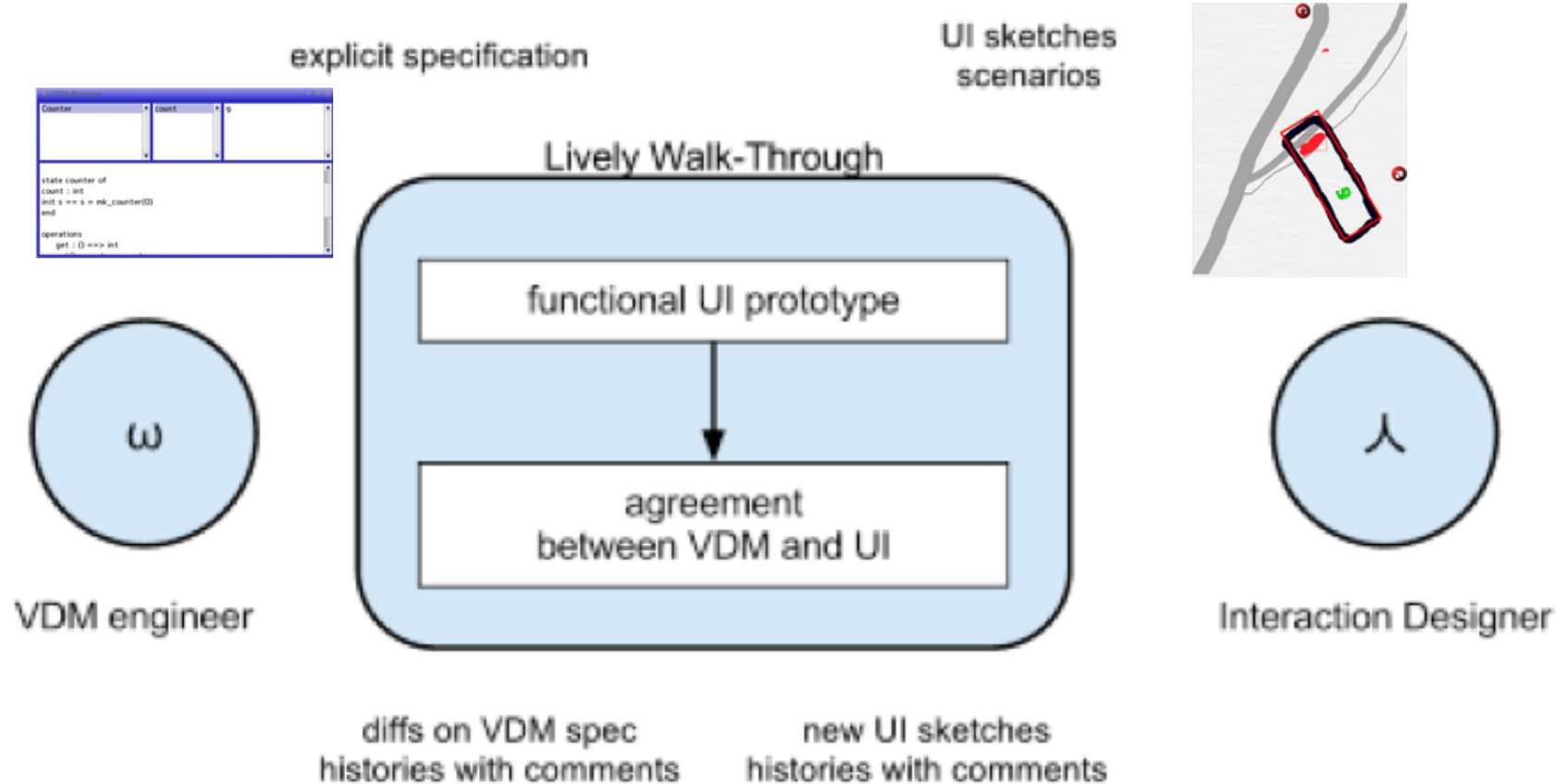
Events	Calls	States
15 January 2013 6:31 pm	EVENT : [リセット]	
15 January 2013 6:31 pm	State : {Counter: {	
15 January 2013 6:31 pm	VDM : Counter'get	
15 January 2013 6:31 pm	VDM : Counter'rese	

reset button is not undoable.
may need to undo when accidental reset.
... undo won't work because the user won't notice an accidental reset...

Lively Walk-Through

The graphical canvas shows a mobile phone UI with a red outline and a green button. A toolbar on the right contains various drawing tools like a pencil, eraser, and selection tools.

UI Prototyping with Lively Walk-Through



Story

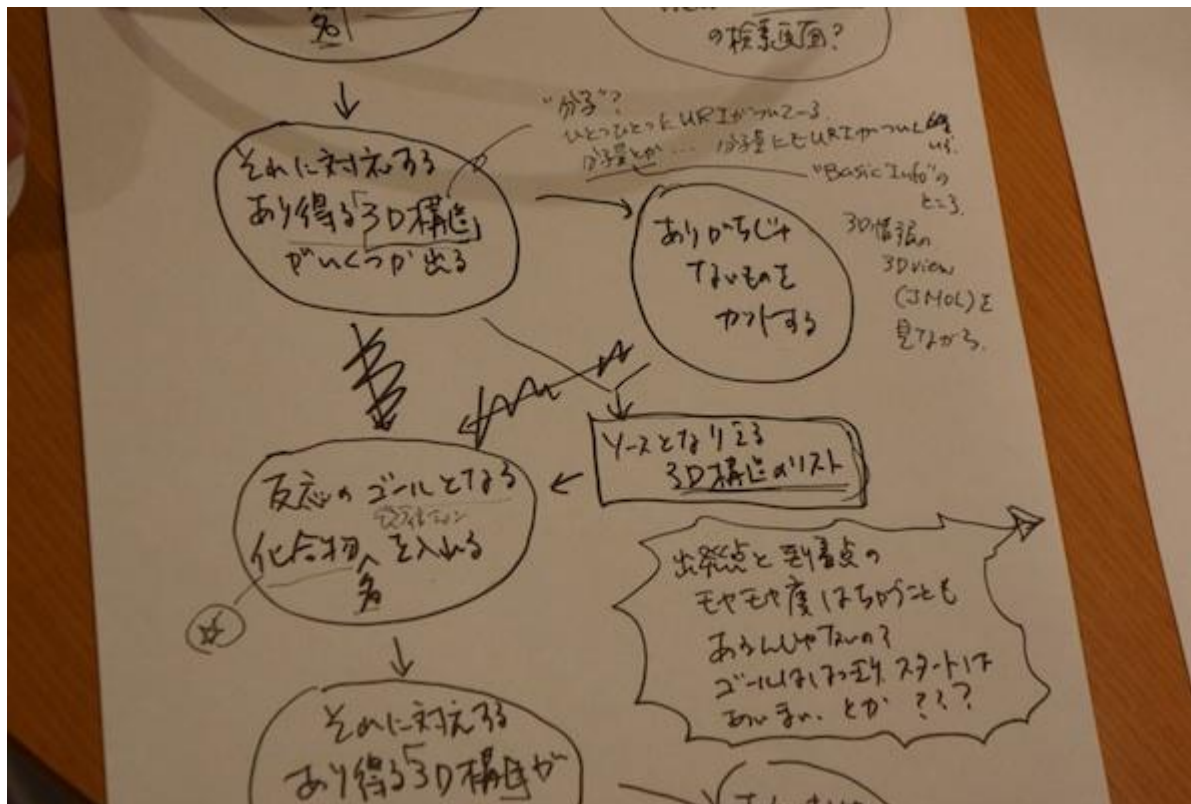
Case Story :

Chemical Reaction Database

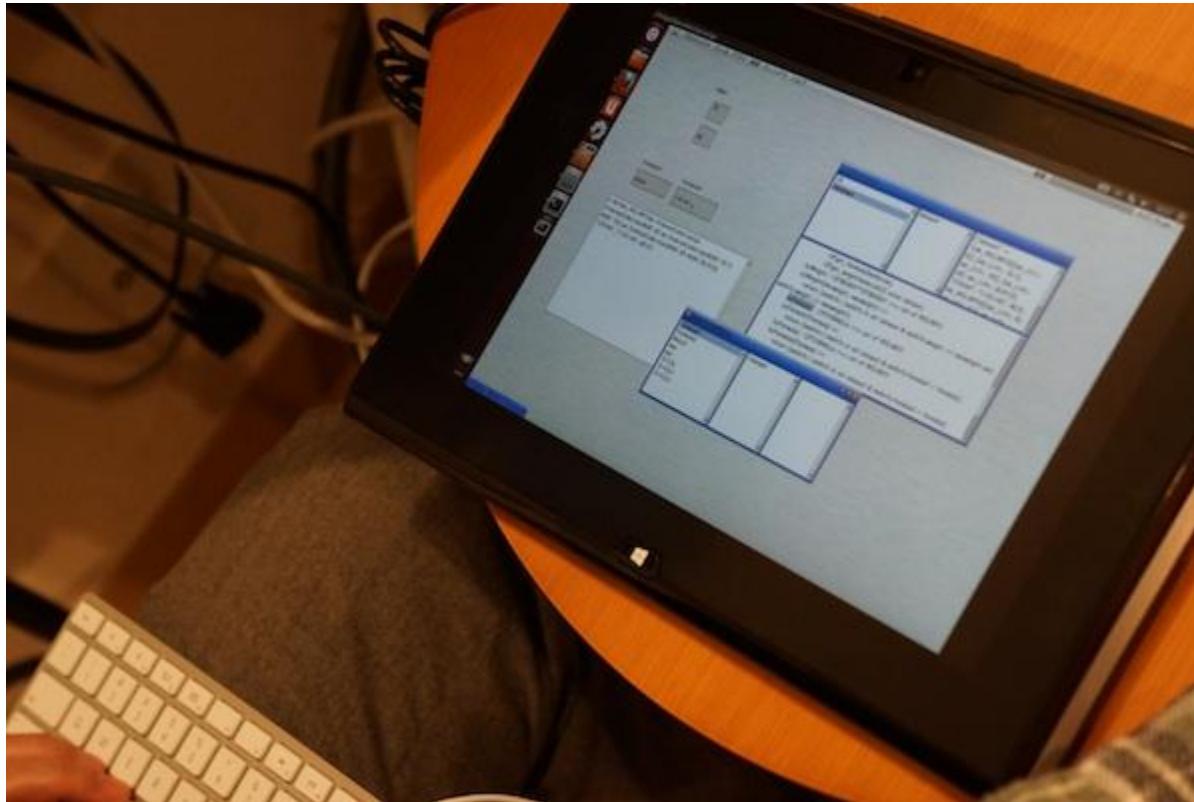
A VDM engineer and two UI designers is working together on the Chem DB project

Feb 2013, the first meeting of the VDM engineer and the UI designers

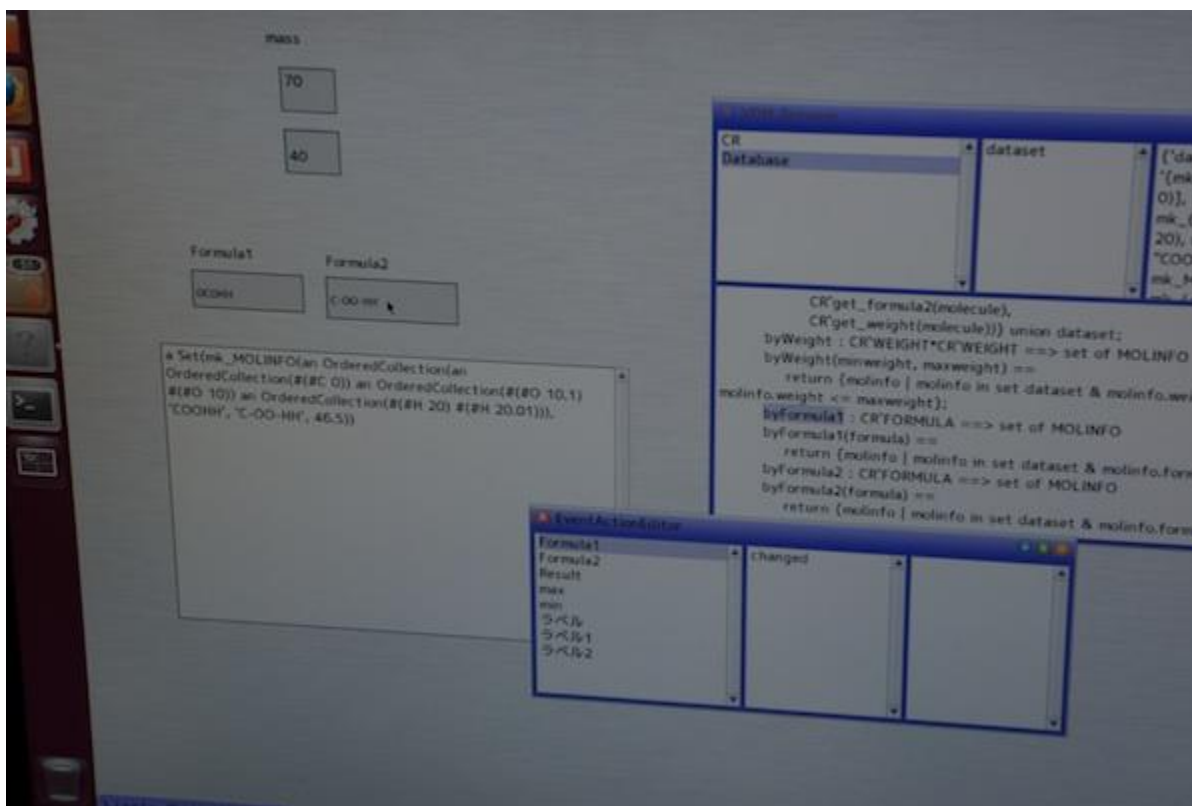
Overview of Customer's Requirements



VDMer explaining the spec of DB



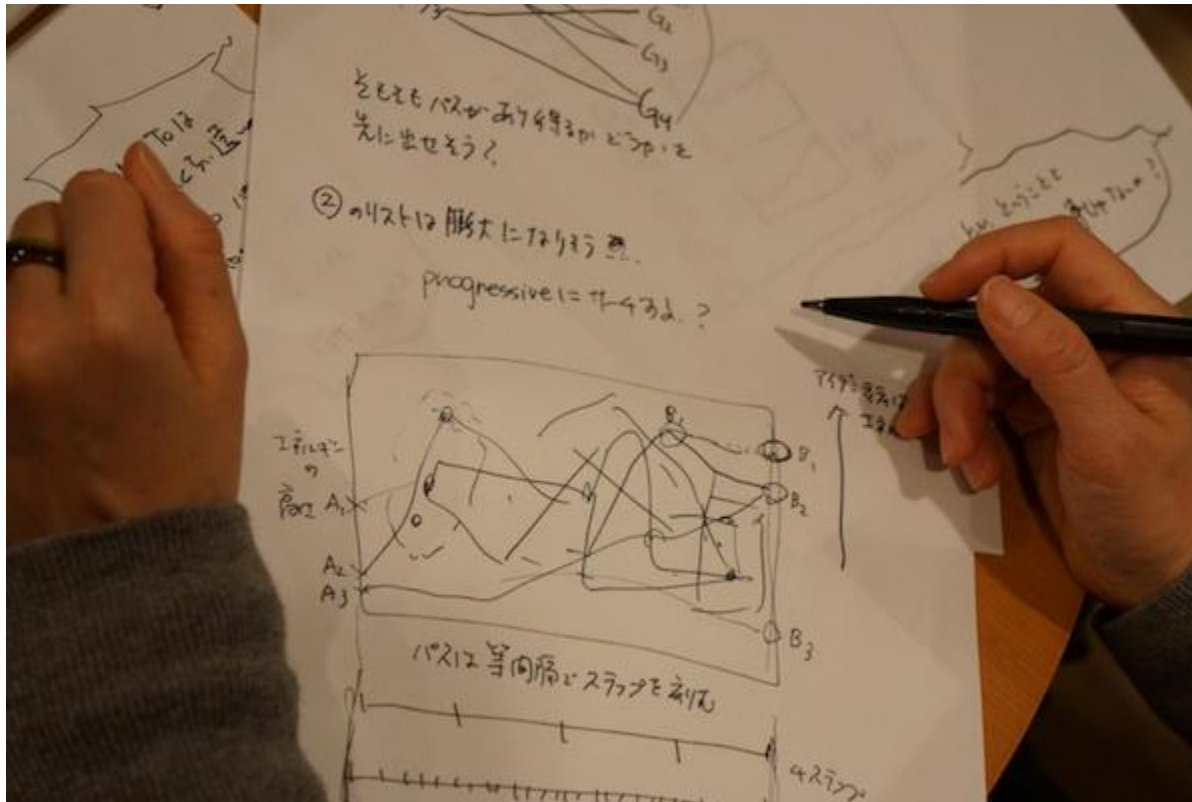
Simple GUI Prototype for Query



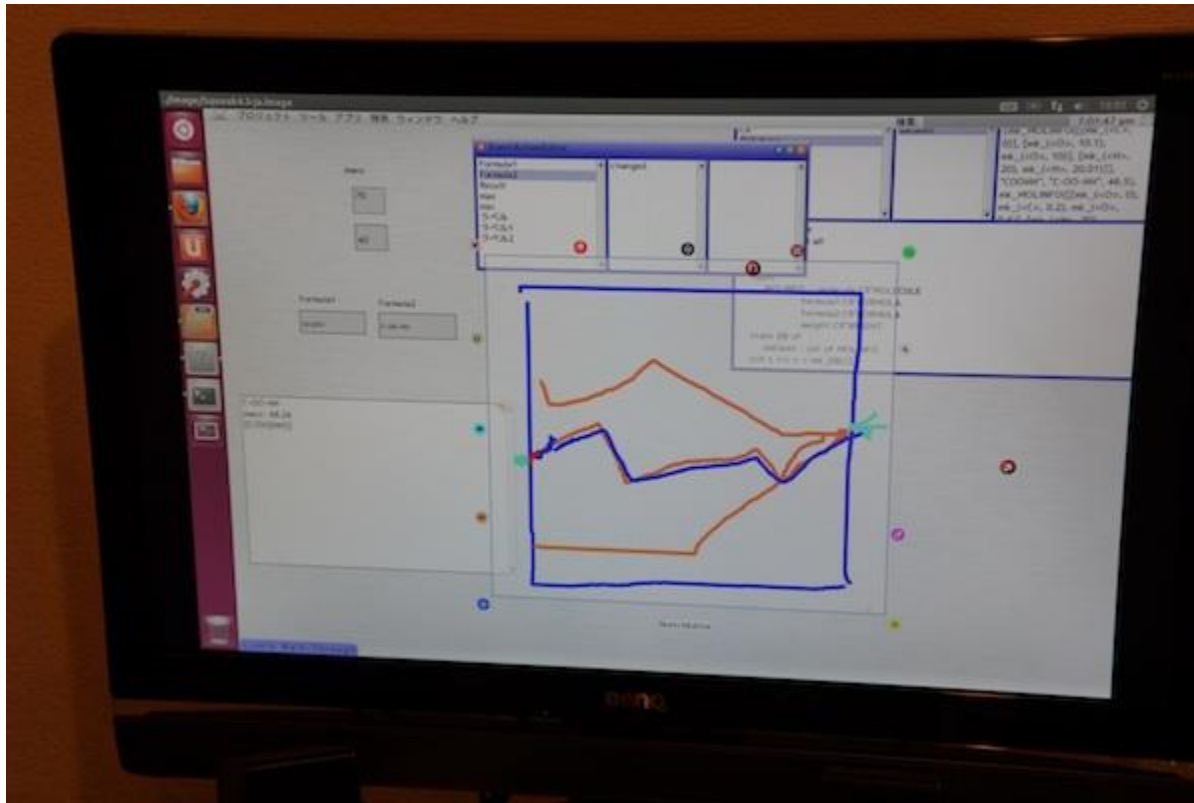
Sketching UI Design for Query



Sketching UI Design for Search Result



Putting the Sketch into the Prototype



Assignment for the next session



VDM: writes a VDM spec for "reaction path"
estimates computational complexity of
reachability test

UI: designs interactivity of energy-level graphs

Lively Walk-Through: System Design

Lively Walk-Through Prototyping Environment

The screenshot displays the Squeak4.3-ja.image development environment. The main workspace shows a mobile application prototype with a grey background and a yellow toolbar on the right. A red-outlined mobile phone is positioned in the center, with a red button and a green button visible. A red circle highlights a specific area on the phone's screen.

On the left, there are two windows:

- VDM Browser:** Shows the state of a counter object. The counter value is 9. Below the state, the code for the counter is displayed:

```
state counter of
count : int
init s == s = mk_counter(0)
end

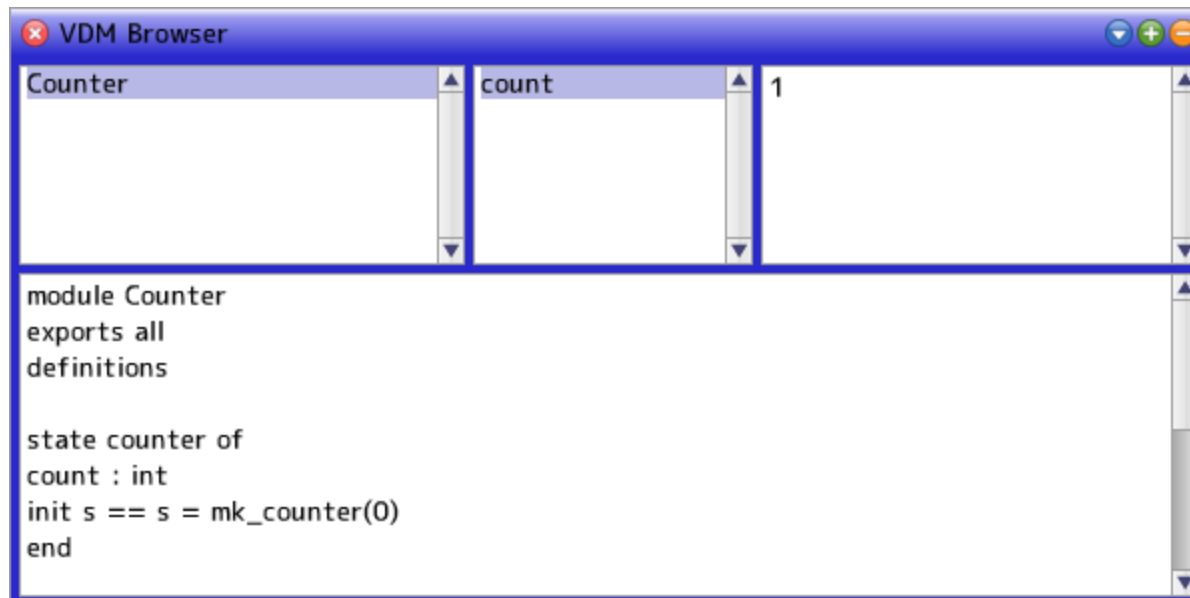
operations
  get : () ==> int
```
- Cut Browser:** Shows a sequence of events and states. The text "no undo for reset?" and "reset→walk→reset" is visible. Below, a table shows the sequence of events and states:

Events	Calls	States
15 January 2013 6:31 pm	EVENT : [リセット]	
15 January 2013 6:31 pm	State : {Counter: {	
15 January 2013 6:31 pm	VDM : Counter'get	
15 January 2013 6:31 pm	VDM : Counter'rese	

At the bottom left, a blue button labeled "Lively Walk-Through" is visible.

3 Layers for Animation

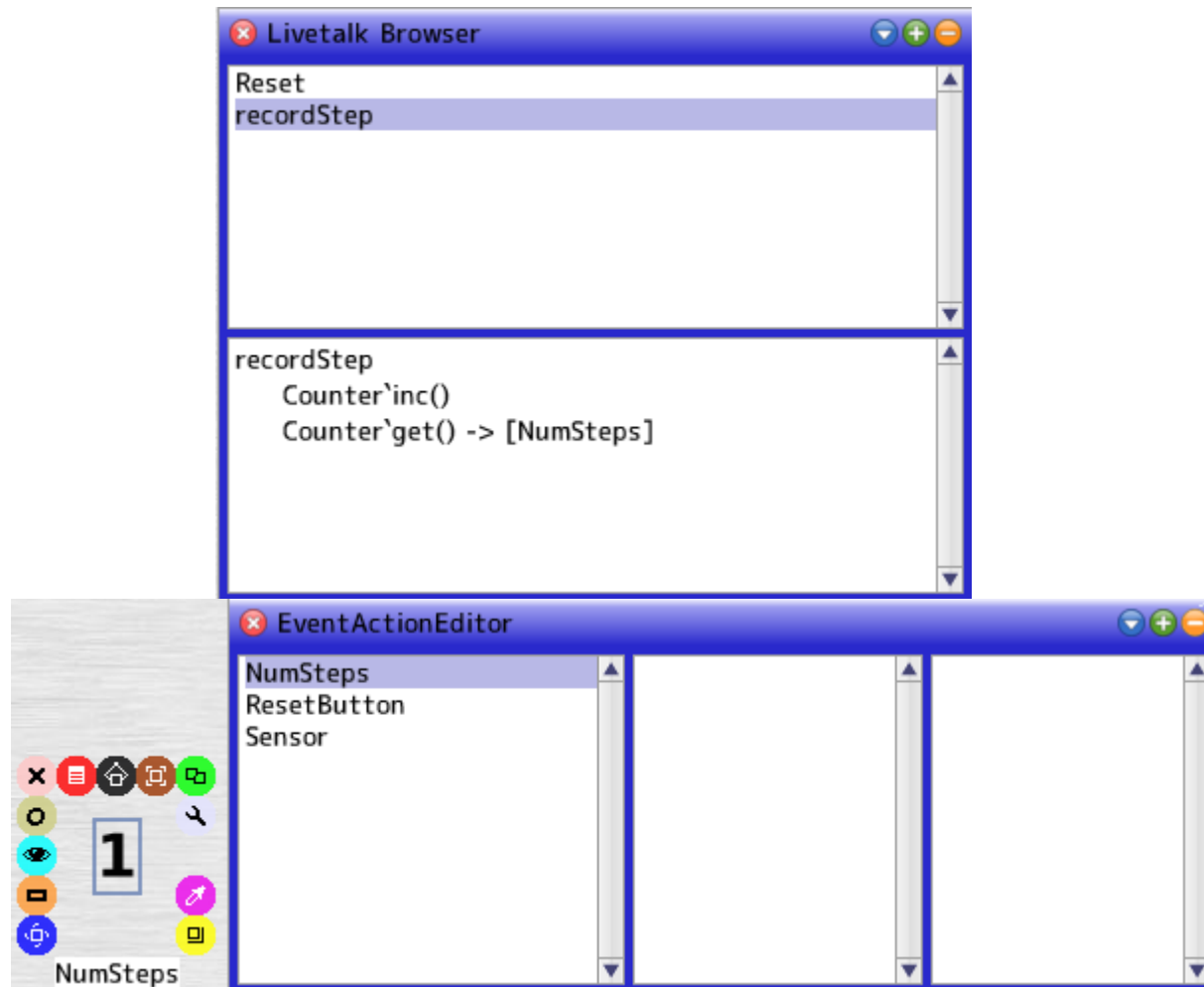
Top Layer: VDM Browser



Bottom Layer: UI Parts



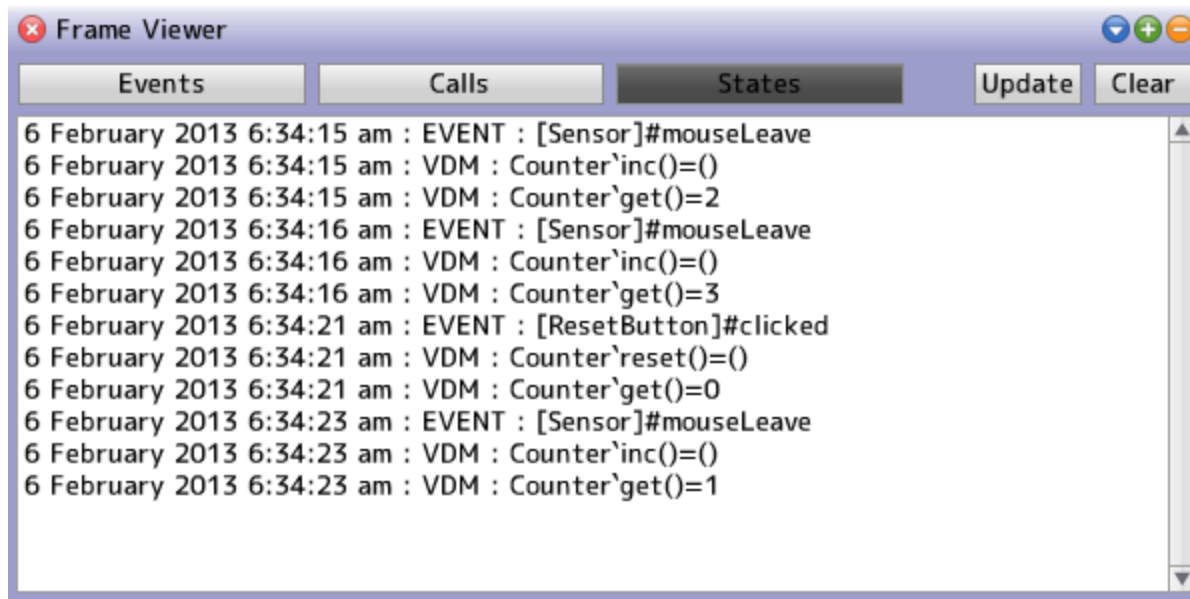
Middle Layer: Livetalk Browser and Event-Action Editor



3 Tools for Discussion

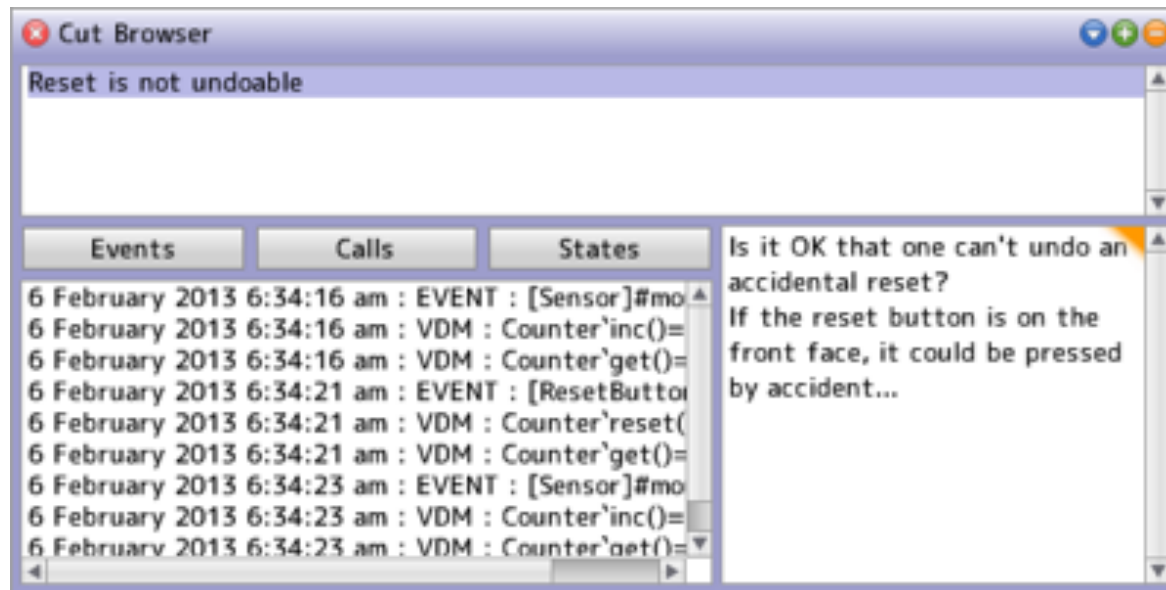
Frame Viewer

shows what's going on



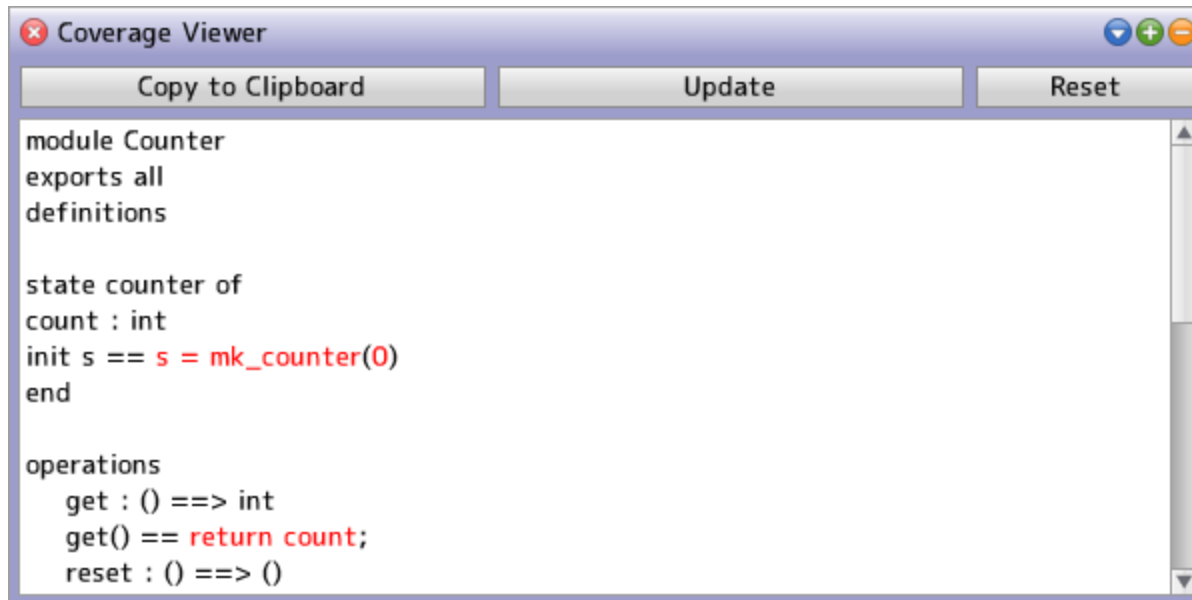
Cut Viewer

to note and review discussion



Coverage Viewer

shows what are unseen



The screenshot shows a window titled "Coverage Viewer" with three buttons: "Copy to Clipboard", "Update", and "Reset". The main area contains the following Verilog code:

```
module Counter
  exports all
  definitions

  state counter of
  count : int
  init s == s = mk_counter(0)
  end

  operations
  get : () ==> int
  get() == return count;
  reset : () ==> ()
```


System Requirements

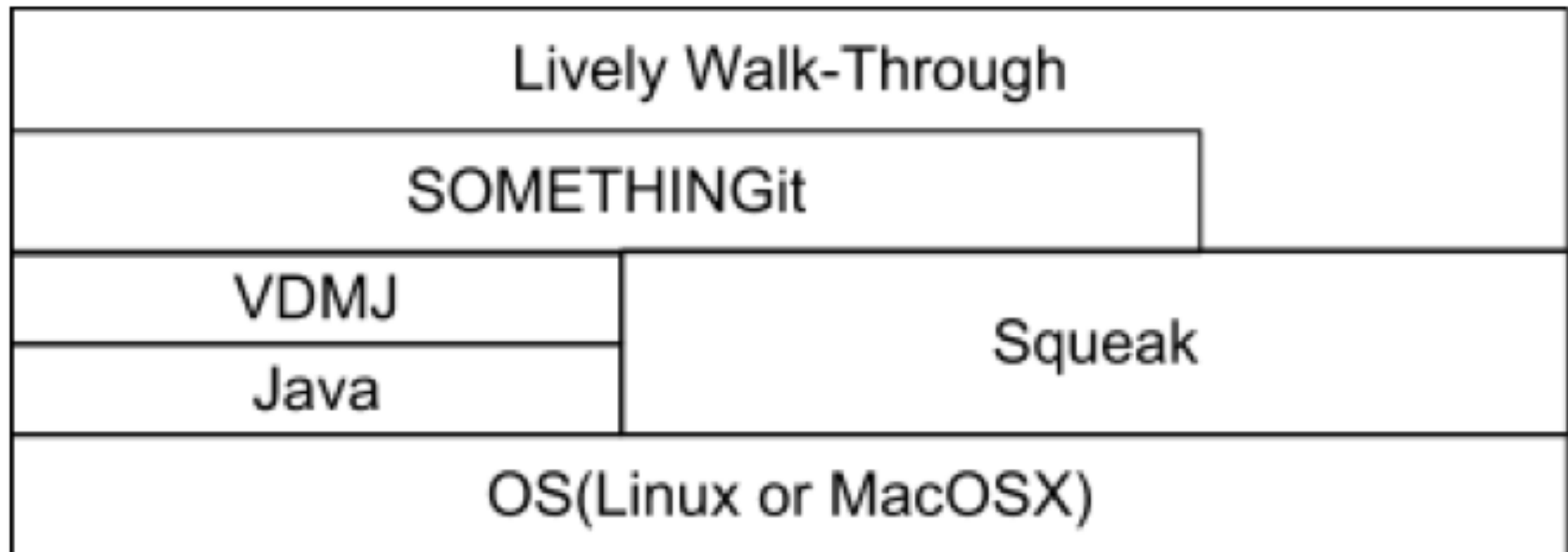
OS: Linux or MacOSX

Smalltalk System: Squeak 4.3 or higher

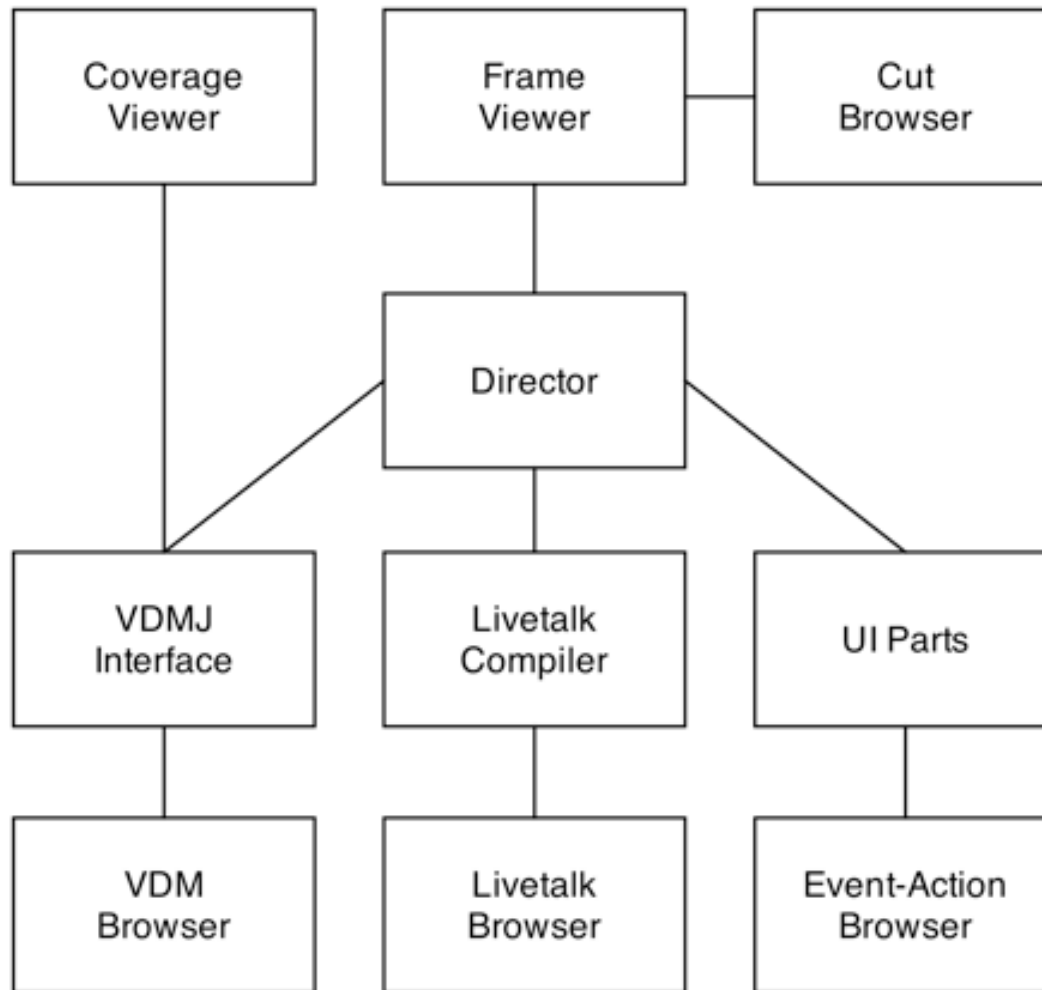
VDM interpreter: VDMJ-2.0.1

Libraries: SOMETHINGit, OSProcess

Architecture



Major Components



Lightweight Formal Methods

Why Lightweight?

Formal specs in ~~other~~ MORE than specification phase...

- requirement analysis
 - type checking, animation
 - design
 - reference, assertion
 - test
 - test oracles, test cases
-

Why Lightweight?

Formal specs in ~~other~~ MORE than specification phase...

- requirement analysis
 - type checking, animation
 - design
 - reference, assertion, unit test
 - test
 - test oracles, test cases
 - **UI/UX design**
 - **why not?**
-

Two Worlds

Why collaborate?

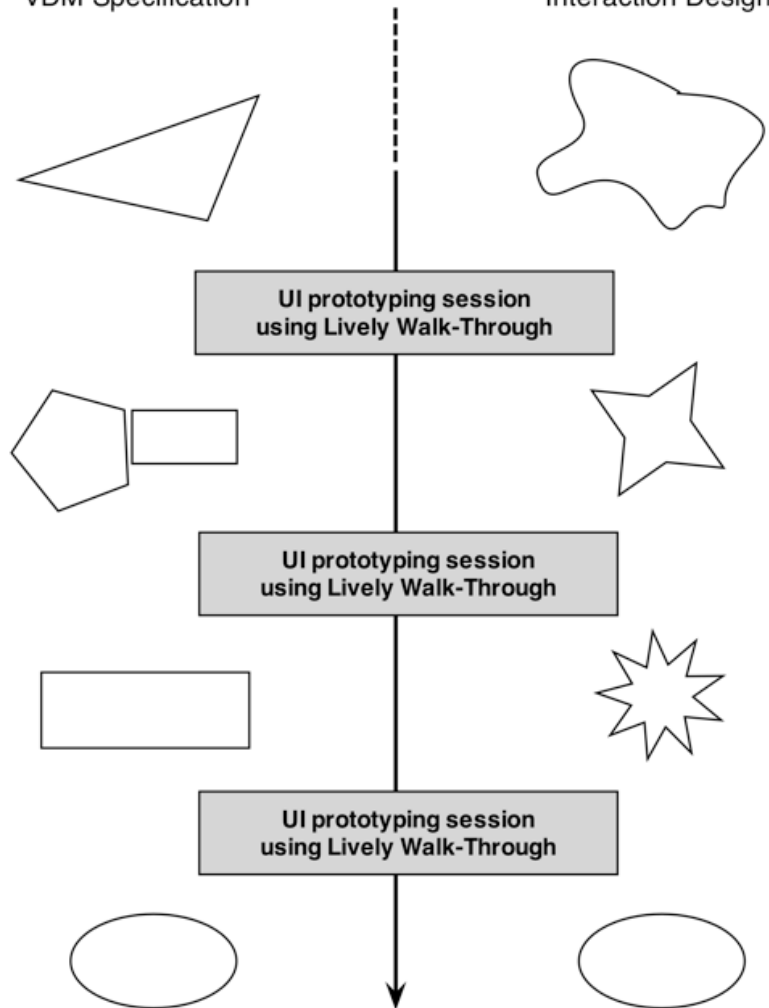
UI design without computer science may "create" an unfeasible UI.

Functional modeling without interaction design may "construct" a stressful system.

UI Prototyping Cycles

VDM Specification

Interaction Design



How to make this happen?

How to make this happen?

or

Why this does not happen often?

They are Different Animals

```
module Counter
  exports all
  definitions

  types
    count = nat

  state Count of
    steps : count
  init
    initSteps == initSteps = mk_Count(0)
  end

  operations
    step : () ==> ()
    step() == steps := steps + 1;

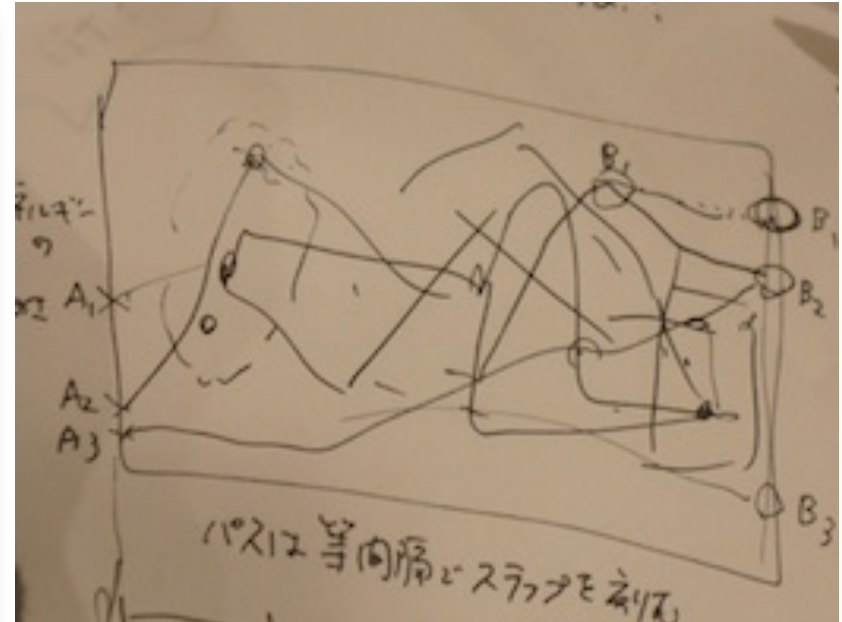
    reset : () ==> ()
    reset() == steps := 0;

    get : () ==> count
    get() == return steps;

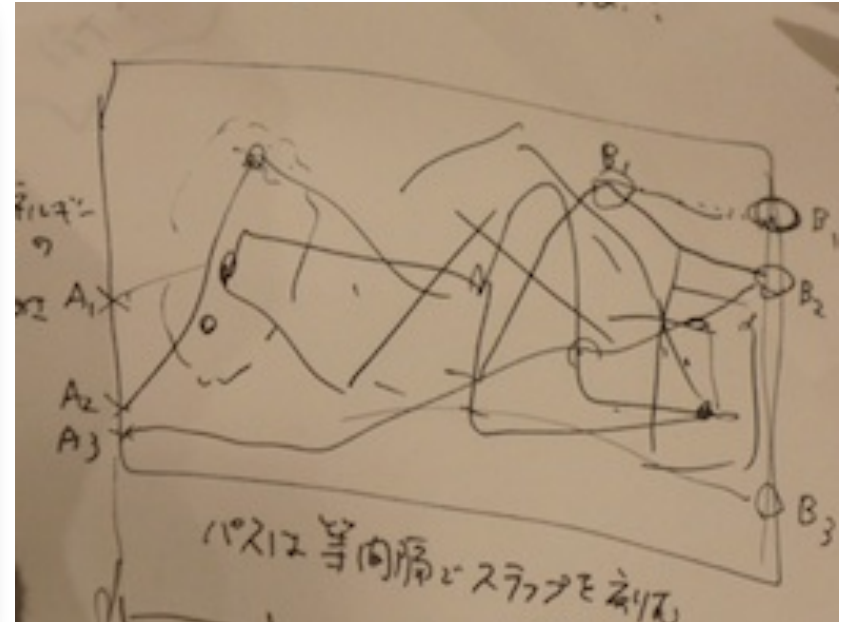
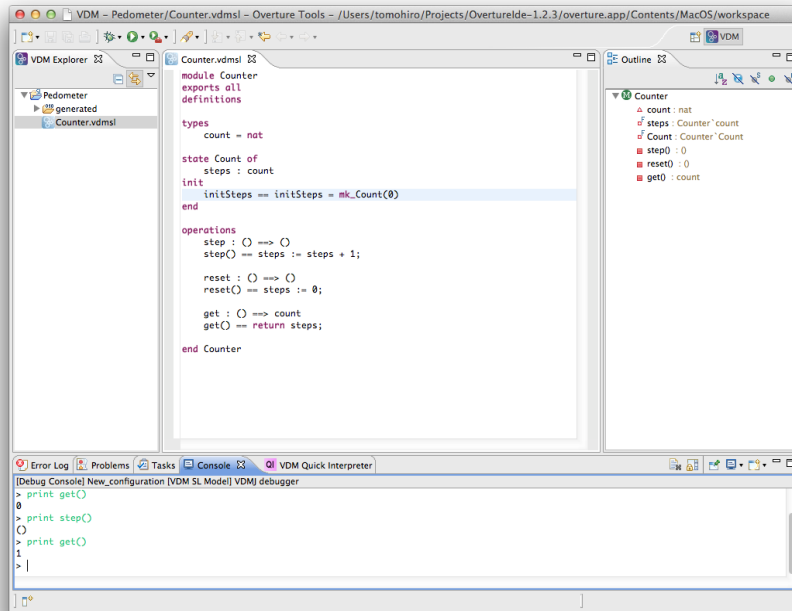
  end Counter
```

VDM Quick Interpreter

```
[Debug Console] New_configuration [VDM SL Model] VDMJ debugger
> print get()
0
> print step()
0
> print get()
1
>
```



They are Different Animals



Formal specification

UI/UX design

the world of MAKING

the world of USING

They are Different Animals

```
module Counter
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  definitions

  types
    count = nat

  state Count of
    steps : count

  init
    initSteps == initSteps = mk_Count(0)
  end

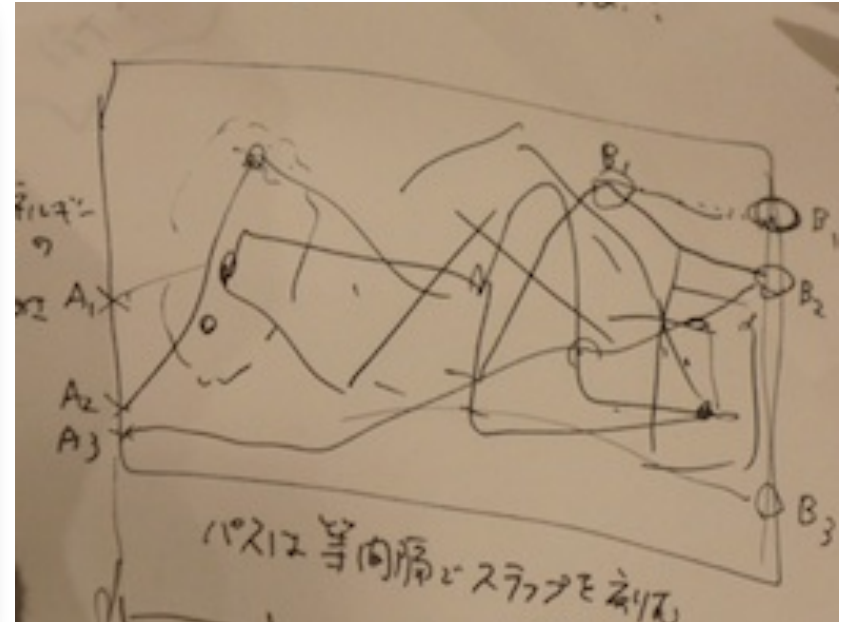
  operations
    step : () ==> ()
    step() == steps := steps + 1;

    reset : () ==> ()
    reset() == steps := 0;

    get : () ==> count
    get() == return steps;

  end Counter
```

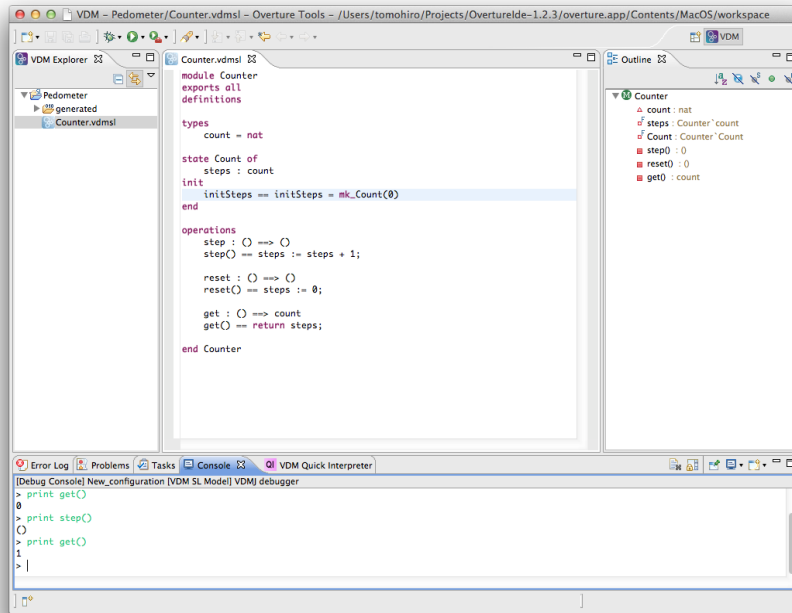
```
[Debug Console] New_configuration [VDM SL Model] VDMJ debugger
> print get()
0
> print step()
0
> print get()
1
> |
```



What is the system?

What the user interact with?

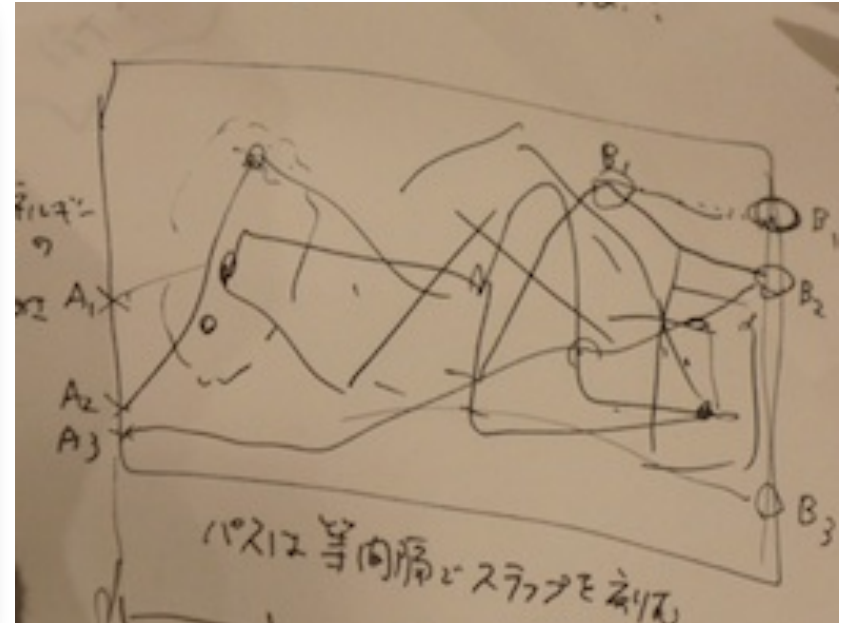
They are Different Animals



```
module Counter
  exports all
  definitions
  types
    count = nat
  state Count of
    steps : count
  init
    initSteps == initSteps = mk_Count(0)
  end
  operations
    step : () ==> ()
    step() == steps := steps + 1;
    reset : () ==> ()
    reset() == steps := 0;
    get : () ==> count
    get() == return steps;
  end Counter
```

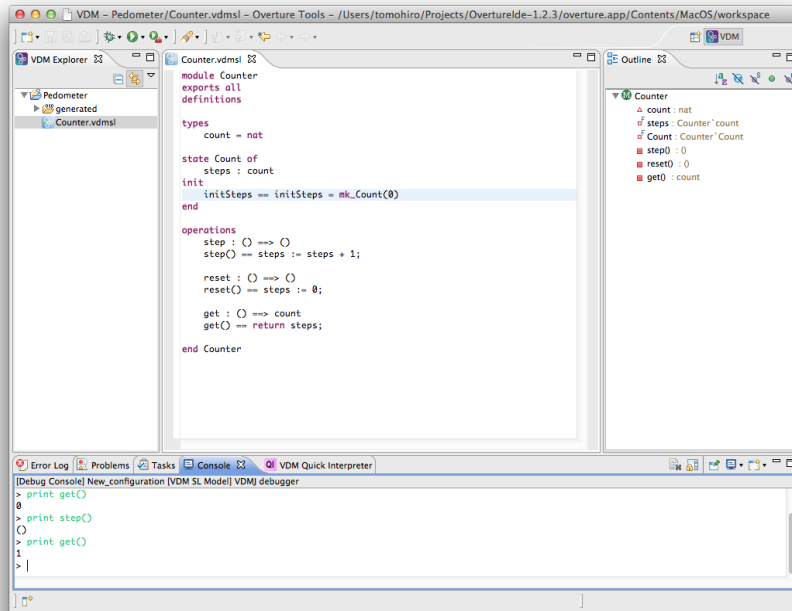
```
[Debug Console] New_configuration [VDM SL Model] VDMJ debugger
> print get()
0
> print step()
0
> print get()
1
> |
```

Logical soundness



Cognitive soundness

They are ~~Different~~ Similar Animals



```
module Counter
  exports all
  definitions

  types
    count = nat

  state Count of
    steps : count

  init
    initSteps == initSteps = mk_Count(0)
  end

  operations
    step : () ==> ()
    step() == steps := steps + 1;

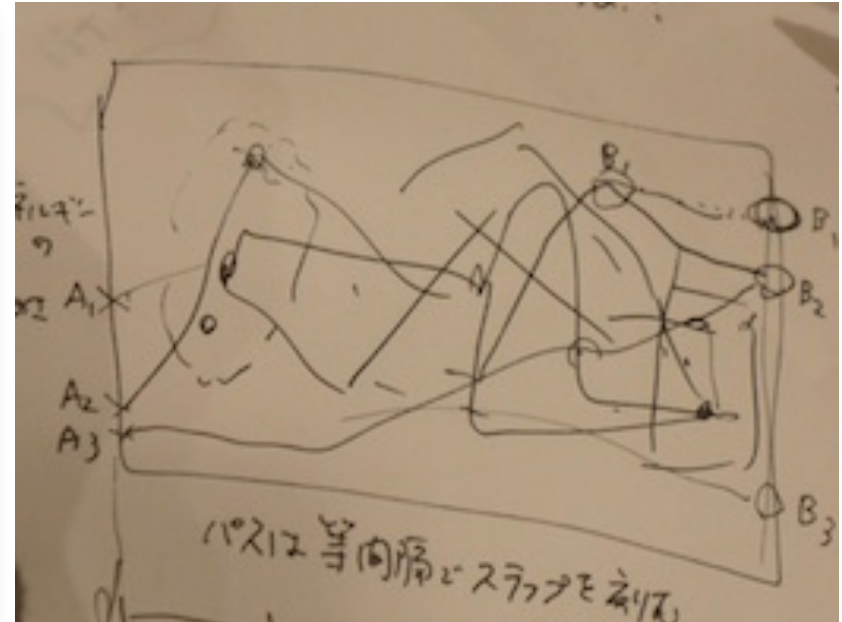
    reset : () ==> ()
    reset() == steps := 0;

    get : () ==> count
    get() == return steps;

  end Counter
```

Debug Console: New_configuration [VDM SL Model] VDMJ debugger

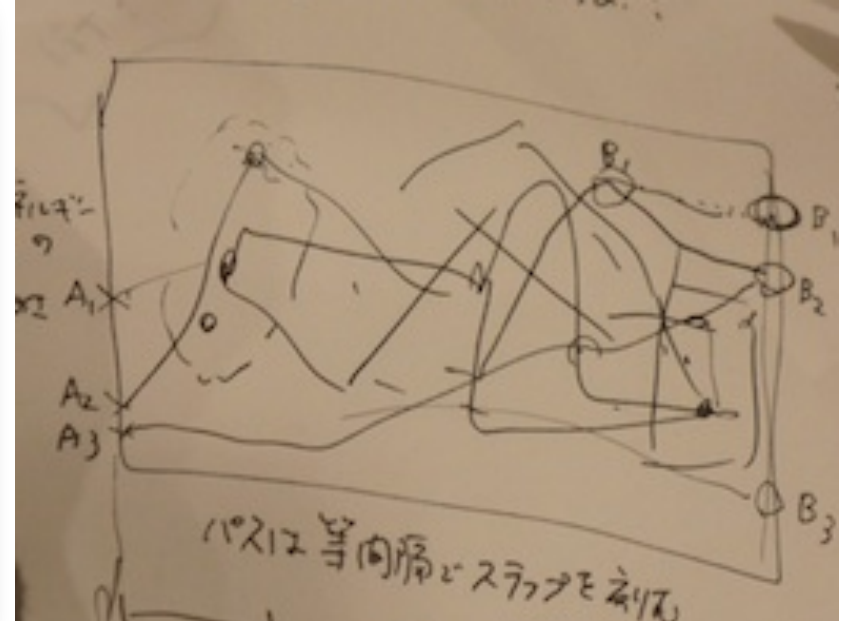
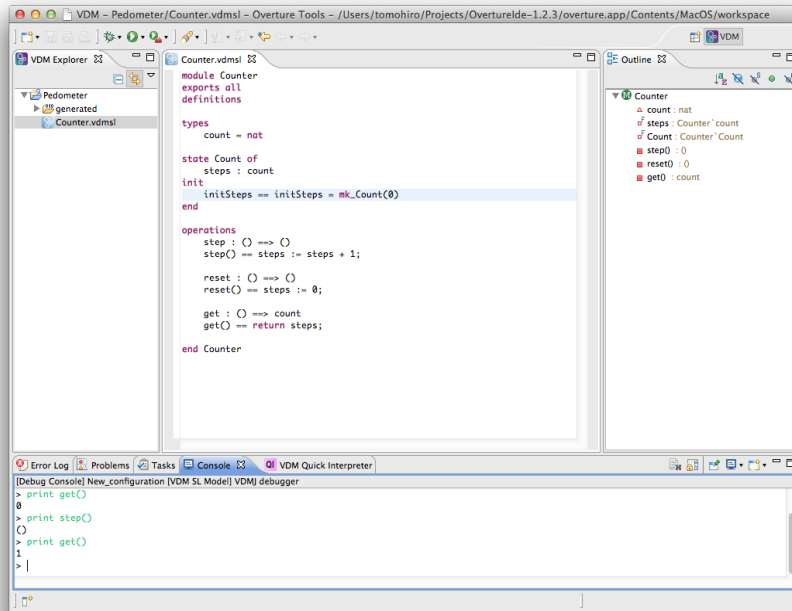
```
> print get()
0
> print step()
0
> print get()
1
>
```



Understand by writing

Understand by sketching

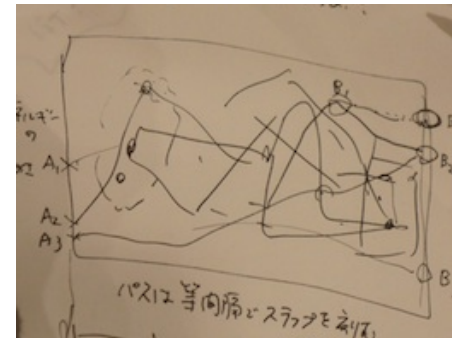
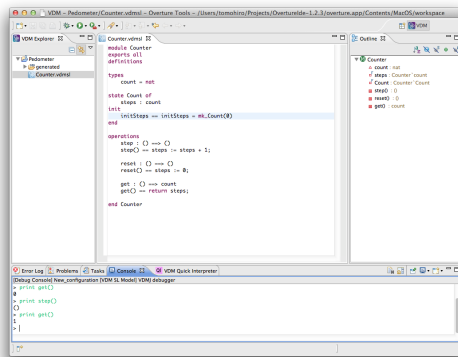
They are ~~Different Animals~~ Friends



Animating the system makes formal engineers and UI/UX designers understand their design artifacts

They are Good Friends

VDM spec gives a functional basis
VDM animation gives motion to sketches



UI sketch gives a context of functions
UI animation gives user's perception

How to make this happen?

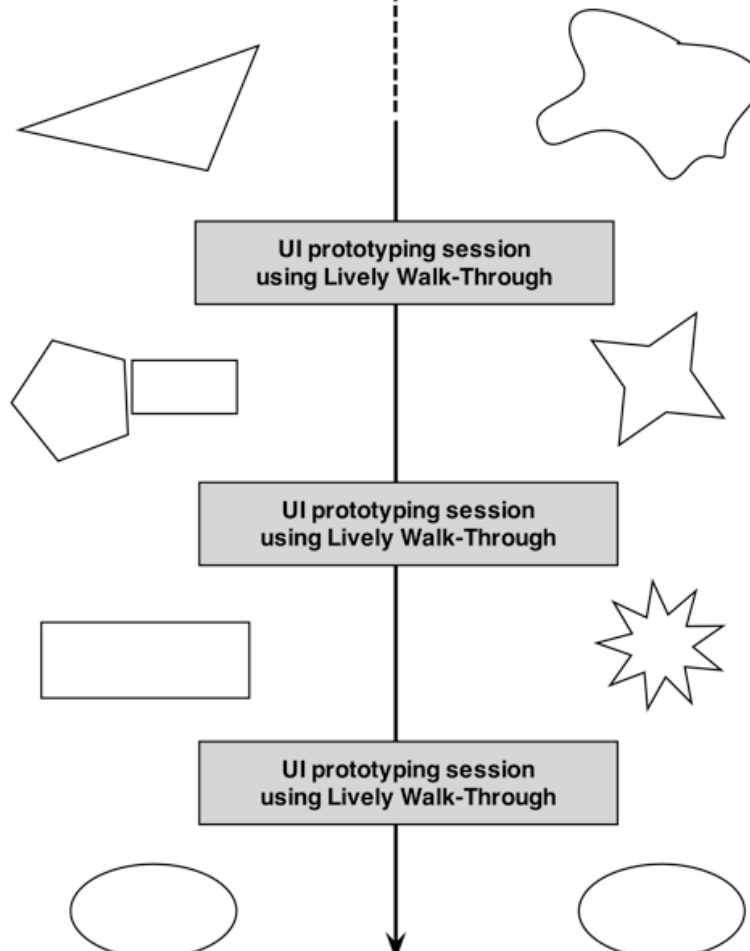
How to make this happen?

Animation

Animation And Discussion Drive UI Prototyping Cycles

VDM Specification

Interaction Design



Live Demo

Conclusion

- Lively Walk-Through bridges between functional modeling and UI/UX design
 - VDM animation gives motion to a UI sketch.
 - UI animation gives user's perception.

Future Work

- Image processing (animating a sketch)
 - Support for post-session tasks
 - for VDM engineers
 - for UI designers
-