# Cybernetics Oriented Language (CYBOL)

An interpretable Knowledge Modelling- and Programming Language

# Christian Heller

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Companies using CYBOP ideas, CYBOL or CYBOI on a grand scale are asked to notify the author <christian.heller@tuxtax.de> and to consider donating some of their sales revenues, which will be used exclusively for the CYBOP and Res Medicinae free software projects.

Made in Germany, Europe, Planet Earth

To all Coders who stick to The Hacker Manifesto and devote their Playful Cleverness with great Enthusiasm to the Free Software Code Base of the Open Source Community

# **Contents**

Pr	eface			xi
1	Intro	oductio	n	1
	1.1	Theory	y	. 1
	1.2	Analog	gy	. 2
2	Defi	nition		3
	2.1	Syntax	x	. 3
	2.2	Vocab	pulary	. 4
		2.2.1	Document Type Definition	. 4
		2.2.2	XML Schema Definition	. 6
		2.2.3	Extended Backus Naur Form	. 6
	2.3	Seman	ntics	. 9
		2.3.1	Attributes	. 9
		2.3.2	Tags	. 10
		2.3.3	Tag-Attribute Swapping	. 11
3	Stat	e Mode	els	13
	3.1	User In	nterface	. 13
		3.1.1	Textual User Interface	. 13
		3.1.2	Graphical User Interface	
		3.1.3	Web User Interface	
4	Logi	c Mode	els	29
	4.1	Bit Ma	anipulation	. 29
		411	Shift	29

viii Contents

	4.1.2	Rotate	30
	4.1.3	Set Bit	32
	4.1.4	Reset Bit	33
	4.1.5	Get Bit	34
4.2	Boolea	an Logic	35
	4.2.1	NOT	35
	4.2.2	NEG	36
	4.2.3	AND	37
	4.2.4	OR	38
	4.2.5	XOR	39
4.3	Progra	am Flow	40
	4.3.1	Branch	40
	4.3.2	Loop	42
	4.3.3	Count	42
	4.3.4	Get	44
4.4	Compa	arison	45
	4.4.1	Compare	45
4.5	Arithm	netic	47
	4.5.1	Add	47
	4.5.2	Subtract	48
	4.5.3	Multiply	50
	4.5.4	Divide	51
4.6	Memo	ry Management	52
	4.6.1	Create	52
	4.6.2	Destroy	54
	4.6.3	Copy	54
	4.6.4	Move	55
4.7	Lifecyo	cle Management	56
	4.7.1	Startup	56
	4.7.2	Shutdown	58
	4.7.3	Exit	58
4.8	Comm	nunication	59
	4.8.1	Send	59
	4.8.2	Receive	62
	4.8.3	Interrupt	65

Contents

	4.9	Shell (	Commands	. 65
		4.9.1	Archive File	. 65
		4.9.2	Copy File	. 67
		4.9.3	Execute File	. 68
		4.9.4	List File	. 68
5	Eva			71
3	5.1	nples	Examples	
	J.1	5.1.1	Model-Part Relation	
		5.1.2	Meta Properties	
		5.1.2	·	
		5.1.4	External Resources	
		5.1.5		
	F 2		Meta Constraints	
	5.2	O	Examples	
		5.2.1	Operation Call	
		5.2.2	Algorithm Division	
		5.2.3 5.2.4	Simple Assignment	
		5.2.4	Loop as Operation	
	г э		Conditional Execution	
	5.3	•	Examples	
		5.3.1	Synchronous Execution	
		5.3.2	Presentation and Content	
		5.3.3	Hello World	
	5.4		ance as Property	
	5.5		iner Mapping	
	5.6	Hidder	n Patterns	. 87
6	Diag	grams		89
7	Ann	endices		93
•	7.1		viations	
	7.2		nces	
	7.3		S	
	7.4	O		
	7.5		v	
	7.6	-	es	
		LICCITO		. 100

<	Contents

	7.6.1	GNU General Public License
	7.6.2	GNU Free Documentation License
7.7	Index	

# **Preface**

# **Prologue**

After having had completed and published my book on the theory of *Cybernetics Oriented Programming* (CYBOP) [7], the next logical step was to closer inspect and define the features of the *Cybernetics Oriented Language* (CYBOL), in other words: to write a specification. This book tries to achieve this by:

- 1. explaining the CYBOL syntax, vocabulary and semantics
- 2. listing all currently interpretable CYBOL keywords
- 3. giving small CYBOL code examples

CYBOL is a growing language undergoing steady development. Hence, this book will not be the last version of the CYBOL specification. Also, it is not and doesn't claim to be free of mistakes. So, if you find errors of whatever kind or have any helpful ideas or constructive critics [12], then please contribute them to <christian.heller@tuxtax.de> or to the CYBOP developers mailing list <cybop-developers@lists.berlios.de>!

I am currently thinking about writing a third book dealing with the internal architecture of the *Cybernetics Oriented Interpreter* (CYBOI). However, this is an issue for the future.

# Stylistic Means and Notation

The language of choice in this document is *British English*, more precisely known as *Commonwealth English*. Exceptions are citations or proper names like *Unified Modeling Lan-*

xii Preface

guage, stemming from American English sources. (In Oxford English, Modelling would be written with double letter l).

Correctly, masculine *and* feminine forms are used in a work. When describing a person's address, for example, one would write: *his or her address*. In order to improve readability, and exclusively because of this reason, only masculine forms are used in this work.

Knowledge templates/ models or pieces thereof, as well as CYBOL keywords are displayed in Typewriter Typeface. Emphasised words are *italicised*.

Footnotes are not used on purpose. In my opinion, they only interrupt the flow-of-reading. Remarks are placed in context instead, sometimes enclosed in parentheses.

The Appendices (chapter 7) contain used abbreviations, references to literature and the usual lists of figures and tables, as well as the document's history and licences in full text. A glossary was omitted since this document does not want to be a lexicon. All terms are explained at their first appearance in the text. Caution! The page numbers behind an index entry at the end of this document refer to the Beginning of the section in which the entry appeared.

Kostrzyn Wielkopolska, Poland July 2007

 $Christian\ Heller < christian.heller@tuxtax.de>$ 

# 1 Introduction

The Cybernetics Oriented Language (CYBOL) is an interpretable knowledge modelling- and programming language. It is very flexible, has a simple syntax and is easy to learn. Hence, not only classical software designers- and developers, but also analysts and domain experts may have an interest in CYBOL.

Its simplicity is based on the fact that just one major concept needs to be understood: that of *Hierarchy*. Well, in fact CYBOL applies it in form of a *Double Hierarchy*, but is this not very difficult to grasp, as the code examples later in this document will show.

# 1.1 Theory

The theory behind CYBOL is called *Cybernetics Oriented Programming* (CYBOP). It describes the general concepts, software architecture and development principles that justify the existence of CYBOL. Besides CYBOL as language, CYBOP suggests the *Cybernetics Oriented Interpreter* (CYBOI).

Considering an overall computer system architecture, CYBOI as low-level software system is situated between the application knowledge existing in form of CYBOL templates and the Hardware controlled by an  $Operating\ System\ (OS)$ , as is shown in figure 1.1. CYBOI as active system process interprets the passive application knowledge provided in form of CYBOL files.

Design-time knowledge resides in CYBOL Knowledge Templates (files). While being instantiated, it gets transferred into runtime Knowledge Models that reside in a computer's Random Access Memory (RAM).

2 1 Introduction

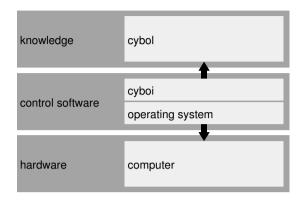


Figure 1.1: CYBOL Interpretation

# 1.2 Analogy

There are analogies to other systems run by language interpretation. Table 1.1 shows that between the *Java*- and *CYBOP* world. Both are based on a programming theory, have a language and interpreter, the latter sometimes being called a *Virtual Machine* (VM).

Criterion	Java World	CYBOP World
Theory	OOP in Java	CYBOP
Language	Java	CYBOL
Interpreter	Java VM	CYBOI

Table 1.1: Analogy between the Java- and CYBOP World

CYBOI provides low-level, platform-dependent system functionality, close to the OS, together with a unified knowledge schema which allows CYBOL applications to be truly portable, well extensible and easier to program, because developers need to concentrate on domain knowledge only. Since CYBOI may interpret CYBOL sources *live* at system runtime, without the need for previous compilation (as in Java), changes to CYBOL sources can get into effect right away, without having to restart the system.

# 2 Definition

This chapter defines the Syntax, Vocabulary and Semantics of the CYBOL language.

As already mentioned in chapter 1, CYBOL is based upon two kinds of hierarchies. One of them is representing Whole-Part relations (such as a graphical window consisting of a menu bar) and the other the Meta Data which a whole keeps about its parts (such as the size or colour of the menu bar). More details and the philosophical background are described in [7]. The syntax and semantics of CYBOL as new language must be rich enough to express abstract knowledge models using this kind of double hierarchy.

# 2.1 Syntax

CYBOL's syntax (grammar with rules for combining terms and symbols) is based on the well-known *Extensible Markup Language* (XML) [17]. It has a clear text representation, is flexible, extensible and easy to use.

To mention just two of the syntactical elements of XML, *Tag* and *Attribute* are considered here shortly. Tags are special, arbitrary keywords that have to be defined by the system working with an XML document. Attributes keep additional information about the contents enclosed by two tags. Two examples:

```
<tag attribute="value">
    contents
</tag>
<tag attribute1="value" attribute2="content"/>
```

4 2 Definition

A CYBOL knowledge template (XML document) carries a name and can thus represent a *Discrete Item*. Being a *Compound*, the template consists of parts – and, it can link to other templates (files) treated as its parts. That way, a whole hierarchy can be formed. Tag attributes can keep additional information about the linked parts. Most importantly, the hierarchical structure is based on tags, which may be used to store meta data about a part.

CYBOL, finally, is XML *plus* a defined set of tags, attributes and values used to structure and link documents meaningfully.

# 2.2 Vocabulary

The *Vocabulary* is what fills a language with life. It delivers the *Terms* and *Symbols* that are combined after the rules of a syntax.

XML allows to define and exchange the whole vocabulary of a language. It offers two ways in which a list of legal elements can be defined: The traditional *Document Type Definition* (DTD) and the more modern *XML Schema Definition* (XSD). Besides the vocabulary, DTD and XSD define the structure of an XML document and allow to typify, constrain and validate items. In addition to DTD and XSD, the *Extended Backus Naur Form* (EBNF) of CYBOL is given following.

# 2.2.1 Document Type Definition

A DTD represents the type definition of an XML document. It consists of a set of *Markup Tags* and their *Interpretation* [8]. DTDs can be declared inline, within a document, or as an external reference [15]. Figure 2.1 shows the DTD of the CYBOL language.

Following the pure hierarchical structure of CYBOL, it would actually suffice to use a DTD as simple as the one shown in figure 2.2. Since the three elements *part*, *property* and *constraint* (compare figure 2.1) have the same list of required attributes, they could be summarised under the name *part*, for example. Because the structure of a CYBOL model is non-ambiguous, the meaning of its elements can be guessed from their position within the model.

2.2 Vocabulary 5

```
<!ELEMENT model (part*)>
<!ELEMENT part (property*)>
<!ELEMENT property (constraint*)>
<!ELEMENT constraint EMPTY>
<!ATTLIST part
   name CDATA #REQUIRED
   channel CDATA #REQUIRED
   abstraction CDATA #REQUIRED
   model CDATA #REQUIRED>
<!ATTLIST property
   name CDATA #REQUIRED
   channel CDATA #REQUIRED
   abstraction CDATA #REQUIRED
   model CDATA #REQUIRED>
<!ATTLIST constraint
   name CDATA #REQUIRED
   channel CDATA #REQUIRED
   abstraction CDATA #REQUIRED
   model CDATA #REQUIRED>
```

Figure 2.1: Recommended CYBOL DTD

```
<!ELEMENT part (part*)>

<!ATTLIST part

name CDATA #REQUIRED

channel CDATA #REQUIRED

abstraction CDATA #REQUIRED

model CDATA #REQUIRED>
```

Figure 2.2: Simplified CYBOL DTD

6 2 Definition

For the purpose of expressing knowledge in accordance with the schema suggested by CY-BOP [13], a CYBOL knowledge template (file) does not need to have a root element. The file name clearly identifies it. For reasons of XML conformity, however, an extra root element called *model* was defined (figure 2.1). And for reasons of better readability and programmability, the three kinds of embedded elements were given distinct names.

#### 2.2.2 XML Schema Definition

XML Schema is an XML-based alternative to DTD [15], and XSD is its definition language. Figure 2.4 shows the XSD of the CYBOL language.

Figure 2.3: Simplified CYBOL XSD

Again, a simplified version of that XSD could be created (figure 2.3). But for reasons explained before, the recommended XSD is the one shown in figure 2.4.

#### 2.2.3 Extended Backus Naur Form

The EBNF adds regular expression syntax to the *Backus Naur Form* (BNF) notatation [1], in order to allow very compact specifications [9]. Figure 2.5 shows the EBNF of the CYBOL language.

2.2 Vocabulary 7

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<xs:schema xmlns:xs='http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema' targetNamespace='http://www.cybop.net'</pre>
   xmlns='http://www.cybop.net' elementFormDefault='qualified'>
   <xs:element name='model'>
       <xs:complexType>
           <xs:sequence>
                <xs:element ref='part' minOccurs='0' maxOccurs='unbounded'/>
           </xs:sequence>
        </xs:complexType>
    </xs:element>
    <xs:element name='part'>
       <xs:complexType>
           <xs:sequence>
                <xs:element ref='property' minOccurs='0' maxOccurs='unbounded'/>
           </xs:sequence>
           <xs:attribute name='name' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
           <xs:attribute name='channel' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
           <xs:attribute name='abstraction' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
            <xs:attribute name='model' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
        </xs:complexType>
    </xs:element>
    <xs:element name='property'>
       <xs:complexType>
           <xs:sequence>
                <xs:element ref='constraint' minOccurs='0' maxOccurs='unbounded'/>
           </xs:sequence>
           <xs:attribute name='name' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
            <xs:attribute name='channel' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
           <xs:attribute name='abstraction' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
           <xs:attribute name='model' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
        </xs:complexType>
    </xs:element>
    <xs:element name='constraint'>
        <xs:complexType>
           <xs:attribute name='name' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
           <xs:attribute name='channel' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
           <xs:attribute name='abstraction' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
            <xs:attribute name='model' type='xs:string' use='required'/>
        </xs:complexType>
    </xs:element>
</xs:schema>
```

Figure 2.4: Recommended CYBOL XSD

8 2 Definition

```
CYBOL
           = '<model>'
                   {part}
               '</model>':
           = '<part ' attributes '\>' |
part
               '<part 'attributes '>'
                   {property}
                '</part>';
           = ''roperty ' attributes '\>' |
property
               ''''''''''
                   {constraint}
               '</property>';
constraint = '<constraint ' attributes '\>';
attributes = name_attribute channel_attribute abstraction_attribute model_attribute
                      = 'name="' name '"';
name_attribute
channel_attribute
                      = 'channel="' channel '"';
abstraction_attribute = 'abstraction="' abstraction '"';
model_attribute
                       = 'model="' model '"';
          = description_sign;
name
           = description_sign;
abstraction = description_sign;
model
          = value_sign;
description_sign = { ( letter | number ) };
value_sign
                   = { ( letter | number | other_sign ) };
letter
               = small_letter | big_letter;
              = 'a' | 'b' | 'c' | 'd' | 'e' | 'f' | 'g' |
small_letter
                   'h' | 'i' | 'j' | 'k' | 'l' | 'm' | 'n' |
                   'o' | 'p' | 'q' | 'r' | 's' | 't' | 'u' |
                   'v' | 'w' | 'x' | 'y' | 'z';
               = 'A' | 'B' | 'C' | 'D' | 'E' | 'F' | 'G' |
big_letter
                   'H' | 'I' | 'J' | 'K' | 'L' | 'M' | 'N' |
                   '0' | 'P' | 'Q' | 'R' | 'S' | 'T' | 'U' |
                   'V' | 'W' | 'X' | 'Y' | 'Z';
               = ',' | '.' | '/', '+', '-', '*';
other_sign
               = '0' | '1' | '2' | '3' | '4' |
number
                   '5' | '6' | '7' | '8' | '9';
```

Figure 2.5: CYBOL in EBNF

2.3 Semantics 9

#### 2.3 Semantics

The meaning expressed by terms and sentences is their *Semantics* [2].

CYBOL files can be used to model *State Knowledge* (like a graphical window or a person's address) and *Logic Knowledge* (like an operation or algorithm or workflow) [7]. In both cases, the *same* syntax (document structure) with *identical* vocabulary (XML tags and -attributes) is applied. It is the attribute *Values* that make a difference in meaning.

The double hierarchy mentioned before is realised in CYBOL knowledge templates by using XML Attributes for representing the whole-part hierarchy, and XML Tags for representing the additional meta data that a whole model keeps about its part models.

#### 2.3.1 Attributes

Normally, an XML Attribute keeps meta information about the contents of an XML Tag. In CYBOL, however, three attributes keep meta information about a fourth attribute. The attributes, altogether, are:

- name
- channel
- abstraction
- model

The attribute of greatest interest is *model*. It contains a model either directly, or a path to one. The *channel* attribute indicates whether the *model* attribute's value is to be read from:

- inline
- file

The abstraction attribute specifies how to interpret the model pointed to by the model attribute's value. A model may be given in formats like for example:

- compound (a state- or logic compound model encoded in CYBOL format)
- operation (a primitive logic model)
- character

10 2 Definition

- double
- integer
- boolean

The *name* attribute, finally, provides the referenced model with an identifier that has to be unique within the *Whole* model the *Part* model belongs to.

While the interpretation of the *model* attribute's value depends on the *channel*- and *abstraction* attributes, the other three attributes (*name*, *channel*, *abstraction*) themselves always get interpreted as string of characters.

## 2.3.2 Tags

There are many kinds of meta data besides the above-mentioned attributes, that may be known about a model. These are given as special XML tags called *property* and *constraint*. As defined in section 2.2, a CYBOL knowledge template may use four kinds of XML tags:

- model
- part
- property
- constraint

The *model* tag appears just once. It is the root node which makes a CYBOL knowledge template a valid XML document.

Of actual interest are the *part* tags. They identify the models that the *whole* model described by the CYBOL knowledge template consists of.

A whole model may know a lot more about its part models, than is given by a part model's XML attributes. A spatial state model may know about the position and size of its parts, in space. A temporal model (such as a workflow) may have to know about the position of its parts in time, in order to be able to execute them in the correct order. Further, the temporal model needs to know about the input/output (i/o) state models which are to be manipulated by the corresponding logic operation (part model). The number of parts within a whole (compound) model may be limited. And so on. These additional information are provided by property tags whose number is conceptually unlimited.

2.3 Semantics 11

Not only parts need additional meta data; properties may need such data, too. The position or size as properties of a part may have to be constrained to certain values, such as a minimum or maximum. The values of the colour property of a part model may have to be chosen out of a pre-defined set called choice. Data of that kind are stated in constraint tags.

# 2.3.3 Tag-Attribute Swapping

CYBOL swaps the meaning attributes and tags traditionally have in XML documents, where tags represent elements that may be nested infinitely and attributes hold additional (meta) data about a tag. Following an example of how CYBOL might have looked that way:

The current final specification of CYBOL, on the contrary, uses attributes to define a nested element (part) and tags to give properties (meta information) about such a nested element, in the following way:

This is because:

12 2 Definition

 the number of attributes specifying a part in CYBOL is fixed, whereas the number of tags specifying a property of a part is not, and the number of XML tags is easier extensible than that of attributes;

- 2. that way it is also possible to specify a part without any properties in just one CYBOL code line, while otherwise four tags would always have to be given;
- 3. not only a part may be nested (consist of smaller parts), but also a property may be (for example a position consisting of three coordinates given as parts), which necessitates the four standard attributes to be given for properties and constraints as well.

# 3 State Models

## 3.1 User Interface

A *User Interface* (UI) provides functionality by which a user can communicate with a software system.

#### 3.1.1 Textual User Interface

Textual User Interface (TUI) is a synonym for character-based UI. Historically, the TUI (besides the simple command line) was the first kind of UI for computers. It mostly offers a menu with a list of possible choices that can be activated via the pressing of a special button on the keyboard. Figure 3.1 illustrates a typical, menu-based TUI.

#### Example

14 3 State Models

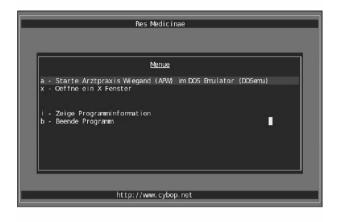


Figure 3.1: Textual User Interface

# **Position Property**

This property specifies the TUI element's origin.

```
name='position'
abstraction='integer'
model=x, y, z coordinates
```

# Size Property

required

This property specifies the TUI element's extension.

```
required
name='size'
abstraction='integer'
model=x, y, z extensions
```

3.1 User Interface 15

# **Background Property**

This property specifies the background colour of the TUI.

```
required
```

```
name='background'
abstraction='character'
model='black' | 'red' | 'green' | 'yellow' | 'blue' | 'magenta' | 'cobalt' | 'white'
```

# **Foreground Property**

This property specifies the foreground colour of the TUI.

```
required
```

```
name='foreground'
abstraction='character'
model='black' | 'red' | 'green' | 'yellow' | 'blue' | 'magenta' | 'cobalt' | 'white'
```

## **Border Property**

This property specifies the kind of border of the TUI.

```
optional
```

```
name='border'
abstraction='character'
model='line' | 'round_line' | 'double_line'
```

#### **Hidden Property**

This property specifies whether or not to hide the TUI element.

```
optional
```

```
name='hidden'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

16 3 State Models

# **Inverse Property**

This property specifies whether or not to display the TUI element in inverse colours.

```
optional
name='inverse'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

# **Blink Property**

This property specifies whether or not the TUI element should blink.

```
optional
name='blink'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

## **Underline Property**

This property specifies whether or not to underline the TUI element's text.

```
optional
name='underline'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

#### **Bold Property**

This property specifies whether or not to display the TUI element's text in bold font.

```
optional
name='bold'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

3.1 User Interface 17

#### **Focus Property**

This property points to the TUI element (knowledge model) having focus. It is important to find out which TUI element a key press event relates to. The focus of a number of part elements should always be held by their corresponding whole (compound) element.

optional, only if TUI element should be able to react to button press events

```
name='focus'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

#### **Previous Property**

This property points to the previous TUI element (knowledge model) owning focus.

optional, only if TUI element should have a predecessor that may own the focus

```
name='previous'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

## **Next Property**

This property points to the next TUI element (knowledge model) receiving focus.

optional, only if TUI element should have a successor that may own the focus

```
name='next'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

# **Enter Property**

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the *Enter* button is pressed while the TUI element has focus.

optional, only if TUI element should react to button press event; a prerequisition is that the TUI element's focus property value is true

18 3 State Models

```
name='enter'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

#### **Escape Property**

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the Esc button is pressed while the TUI element has focus.

optional, only if TUI element should react to button press event; a prerequisition is that the TUI element's focus property value is true

```
name='escape'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

# Arrow Up Property

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the *arrow-up* button is pressed while the TUI element has focus.

optional, only if TUI element should react to button press event; a prerequisition is that the TUI element's focus property value is true

```
name='arrow_up'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

#### **Arrow Down Property**

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the *arrow-down* button is pressed while the TUI element has focus.

optional, only if TUI element should react to button press event; a prerequisition is that the TUI element's focus property value is true

```
name='arrow_down'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
```

3.1 User Interface 19

model=logic knowledge model

#### Arrow Left Property

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the *arrow-left* button is pressed while the TUI element has focus.

optional, only if TUI element should react to button press event; a prerequisition is that the TUI element's focus property value is true

```
name='arrow_left'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

#### Arrow Right Property

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the *arrow-right* button is pressed while the TUI element has focus.

optional, only if TUI element should react to button press event; a prerequisition is that the TUI element's focus property value is true

```
name='arrow_right'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

## 3.1.2 Graphical User Interface

A Graphical User Interface (GUI) is mostly based on so-called graphical Windows which may overlap, or be ordered side-by-side on a screen. Figure 3.2 illustrates a typical GUI.

#### Example

20 3 State Models

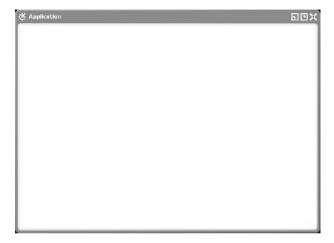


Figure 3.2: Graphical User Interface

# **Shape Property**

This property specifies the geometrical shape of the GUI.

```
required
name='shape'
abstraction='character'
model='rectangle' | 'circle' | 'polygon'
```

# **Layout Property**

This property specifies the kind of layout of the GUI.

required

3.1 User Interface 21

```
name='layout'
abstraction='character'
model='root' | 'coordinates' | 'compass'
```

#### **Cell Property**

This property specifies the cell ordering, if compass layout is used.

```
optional, only if layout property is <math>compass
```

```
name='cell'
abstraction='character'
model='north' | 'south' | 'west' | 'east' | 'centre'
```

#### **Position Property**

This property specifies the GUI element's origin.

optional, only if layout property is root or coordinates

```
name='position'
abstraction='integer'
model=x, y, z coordinates
```

#### Size Property

This property specifies the GUI element's extension.

```
required
name='size'
abstraction='integer'
model=x, y, z extensions
```

## **Background Property**

This property specifies the background colour of the GUI.

optional

22 3 State Models

```
name='background'
abstraction='character'
model='black' | 'red' | 'green' | 'yellow' | 'blue' | 'magenta' | 'cobalt' | 'white'
```

#### **Foreground Property**

This property specifies the foreground colour of the GUI.

```
optional
```

```
name='foreground'
abstraction='character'
model='black' | 'red' | 'green' | 'yellow' | 'blue' | 'magenta' | 'cobalt' | 'white'
```

## **Title Property**

```
This property specifies the GUI element's (window's) title.
```

```
optional, only if layout property is root
name='title'
abstraction='character'
model=window title
```

# **Icon Property**

```
This property specifies the GUI element's (window's) icon.
```

```
optional, only if layout property is root
name='icon'
abstraction='bmp' | 'jpeg' | 'png' | 'gif' | etc.
model=graphic file
```

#### **Expose Property**

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the GUI element is exposed, for example shown again after having been hidden before.

3.1 User Interface 23

```
optional, only if GUI element should react to expose event
name='expose'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

#### Mouse Over Property

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the mouse is moved over the GUI element.

optional, only if GUI element should react to mouse event name='mouse\_over' abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'

# Mouse Wheel Property

model=logic knowledge model

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the mouse wheel is scrolled while the mouse pointer is over the GUI element.

optional, only if GUI element should react to mouse event

```
name='mouse_wheel'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

#### Left Press Property

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the left mouse button is pressed.

optional, only if GUI element should react to mouse event

```
name='left_press'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

24 3 State Models

## Left Release Property

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the left mouse button is released.

optional, only if GUI element should react to mouse event

```
name='left_release'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

## Left Click Property

This property specifies the logic knowledge model to be executed if the left mouse button is clicked. A mouse click is the combination of a mouse press- and release event.

optional, only if GUI element should react to mouse event

```
name='left_click'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=logic knowledge model
```

#### 3.1.3 Web User Interface

A Web User Interface (WUI) is what is commonly also known as Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) file. HTML files get interpreted by a Web Browser which renders the graphical and textual information to display these as HTML page. Figure 3.3 shows an example WUI.

#### Example

3.1 User Interface 25

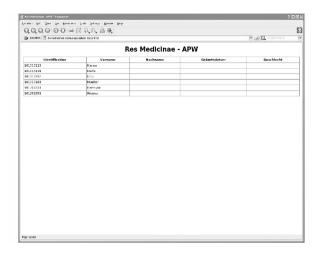


Figure 3.3: Web User Interface

## **Tag Property**

This property specifies the HTML tag to associate with the knowledge model.

```
required
name='tag'
abstraction='character'
model='html' | 'head' | 'meta' | 'body' | 'table' | 'tr' | etc.
```

## **XmIns Property**

This property specifies the XML namespace for the HTML page to be generated from the WUI.

```
optional, only for html tag
name='xmlns'
abstraction='character'
model='http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml'
```

26 3 State Models

## **HTTP-Equiv Property**

```
This property specifies the content type for the HTML page to be generated from the WUI.
```

```
optional, only for meta tag
name='http-equiv'
abstraction='character'
model='content-type'
```

## Name Property

This property specifies the name of a meta data entry for the HTML page to be generated from the WUI.

```
optional, only for meta tag
name='name'
abstraction='character'
model='author'
```

## **Content Property**

This property specifies the content of a meta data entry for the HTML page to be generated from the WUI.

```
optional, only for meta tag
name='content'
abstraction='character'
model='Generated by CYBOI'
```

## Align Property

```
This property specifies the alignment of the HTML heading.
```

```
optional, only for h1..6 tag
```

3.1 User Interface 27

```
name='align'
abstraction='character'
model='left' | 'right' | 'center'
```

### Width Property

This property specifies the width of the HTML table.

```
optional, only for table tag
name='width'
abstraction='character'
model=table width
```

### **Cellspacing Property**

This property specifies the spacing between the cells of the HTML table.

```
optional, only for table tag
name='cellspacing'
abstraction='character'
model=space between cells in pixels
```

### **Cellpadding Property**

This property specifies the space between an HTML table cell's border and its content.

```
optional, only for table tag
name='cellpadding'
abstraction='character'
model=space between cell border and content
```

### **Border Property**

This property specifies the width of the HTML table's border.

```
optional, only for table tag
```

28 3 State Models

```
name='border'
abstraction='character'
model=table border width
```

# **HRef Property**

This property specifies the reference (link) to be invoked when activating the HTML element.

```
optional, only for a tag
```

```
name='href'
abstraction='character'
model=an HTML reference
```

# 4.1 Bit Manipulation

## 4.1.1 Shift

This operation shifts the bits within the number by the given positions.

## Example

## **Number Property**

This property specifies the number whose bits are to be shifted.

```
required
name='number'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=the actual number (or knowledge model)
```

## **Direction Property**

The direction in which to shift.

```
required
name='direction'
abstraction='character'
model='left' | 'right'
```

## **Position Property**

The number of positions by which the bits of the given number are to be shifted.

```
required
name='position'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=number of positions to shift by
```

## Result Property

This is the result knowledge model in which to store the number whose bits were shifted.

```
required
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=result knowledge model
```

### **4.1.2** Rotate

This operation rotates the bits within the number by the given positions.

## Example

4.1 Bit Manipulation 31

### **Number Property**

This property specifies the number whose bits are to be rotated.

```
required
name='number'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=the actual number (or knowledge model)
```

### **Direction Property**

The direction in which to rotate.

```
required
name='direction'
abstraction='character'
model='left' | 'right'
```

## **Position Property**

The number of positions by which the bits of the given number are to be rotated.

```
required
name='position'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=number of positions to rotate by
```

## Result Property

This is the result knowledge model in which to store the number whose bits were rotated.

```
required
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=result knowledge model
```

### 4.1.3 Set Bit

This operation sets the bit at the given position within the given number. Set means setting the bit to true.

### Example

## **Number Property**

This property specifies the number of which one bit is to be set.

```
required
name='number'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=the actual number (or knowledge model)
```

## **Position Property**

model=position of the bit

```
The position of the bit whose value is to be set (set to true).

required

name='position'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
```

4.1 Bit Manipulation 33

### Result Property

This is the result knowledge model in which to store the number of which one bit was set (to true).

```
required
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=result knowledge model
```

## 4.1.4 Reset Bit

This operation resets the bit at the given position within the given number. Reset means setting the bit to false.

### Example

### **Number Property**

This property specifies the number of which one bit is to be reset.

```
required
name='number'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=the actual number (or knowledge model)
```

### **Position Property**

The position of the bit whose value is to be reset (set to false).

```
required
name='position'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=position of the bit
```

# **Result Property**

This is the result knowledge model in which to store the number of which one bit was reset (to false).

```
required
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=result knowledge model
```

#### 4.1.5 Get Bit

This operation retrieves the bit at the given position, within the given number.

## Example

## **Number Property**

This property specifies the number of which one bit is to be retrieved.

```
required
name='number'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=the actual number (or knowledge model)
```

4.2 Boolean Logic 35

## **Position Property**

The position of the bit whose value is to be retrieved.

```
required
name='position'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=position of the bit
```

## Result Property

This is the result knowledge model in which to store the value of the bit that was retrieved from the given number. It may be either *true* or *false*.

```
required
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=result knowledge model
```

# 4.2 Boolean Logic

#### 4.2.1 NOT

This operation applies the logic NOT operator to the given boolean operand.

#### Example

## **Operand Property**

This is the operand of the boolean operation.

```
required
name='operand'
abstraction='boolean' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=boolean value or knowledge model
```

## **Result Property**

This is the result of the boolean operation. It may be either true or false.

```
required
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model
```

# 4.2.2 NEG

This operation applies the logic NEG operator to the given boolean operand.

## Example

## **Operand Property**

This is the operand of the boolean operation.

required

4.2 Boolean Logic 37

```
name='operand'
abstraction='boolean' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=boolean value or knowledge model
```

### Result Property

This is the result of the boolean operation. It may be either true or false.

required

```
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model
```

### 4.2.3 AND

This operation applies the logic AND operator to the given boolean operands.

### Example

### Operand 1 Property

This is the first operand of the boolean operation.

```
required
```

```
name='operand_1'
abstraction='boolean' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=boolean value or knowledge model
```

## **Operand 2 Property**

This is the second operand of the boolean operation.

```
required
name='operand_2'
abstraction='boolean' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=boolean value or knowledge model
```

## **Result Property**

This is the result of the boolean operation. It may be either true or false.

```
required
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model
```

# 4.2.4 OR

This operation applies the logic OR operator to the given boolean operands.

### Example

## **Operand 1 Property**

This is the first operand of the boolean operation.

required

4.2 Boolean Logic 39

```
name='operand_1'
abstraction='boolean' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=boolean value or knowledge model
```

## **Operand 2 Property**

This is the second operand of the boolean operation.

required

```
name='operand_2'
abstraction='boolean' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=boolean value or knowledge model
```

## **Result Property**

This is the result of the boolean operation. It may be either true or false.

required

```
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model
```

## 4.2.5 XOR

This operation applies the logic XOR operator to the given boolean operands.

## Example

## **Operand 1 Property**

This is the first operand of the boolean operation.

```
required
name='operand_1'
abstraction='boolean' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=boolean value or knowledge model
```

## **Operand 2 Property**

This is the second operand of the boolean operation.

```
required
name='operand.2'
abstraction='boolean' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=boolean value or knowledge model
```

## Result Property

This is the result of the boolean operation. It may be either true or false.

```
required
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model
```

# 4.3 Program Flow

#### 4.3.1 Branch

This operation branches the program flow, depending on the given criterion flag. If the flag is true, another logic knowledge model may be executed than if the flag is false.

4.3 Program Flow 41

#### Example

### Criterion Property

This is the flag specifying which of the two models to execute.

```
required
name='criterion'
abstraction='boolean' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
```

model='true' | 'false' | knowledge model pointing to flag

## **True Property**

This is the logic knowledge model to be executed if the condition is true.

```
required
name='true'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model path if true
```

## **False Property**

This is the logic knowledge model to be executed if the condition is false.

```
required
name='false'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model path if false
```

## 4.3.2 Loop

This operation starts an endless loop that runs until the given break flag is set.

### Example

### **Model Property**

This is the knowledge model to be executed repeatedly by the loop.

```
required
name='model'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model
```

### **Break Property**

This is the break flag. Once set, the loop will be left (exited). It may be either true or false.

```
required
name='break'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model
```

## 4.3.3 Count

This operation counts those parts of the given whole (compound), that match the given filter criteria.

4.3 Program Flow 43

#### Example

## **Compound Property**

The compound whose parts are to be counted.

```
required

name='compound'

abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'

model=compound knowledge model
```

### Selection Property

This property selects the kind of filter to be applied for counting the compound's parts.

```
required
name='selection'
abstraction='character'
model='full' | 'prefix' | 'suffix' | 'part'
```

## Filter Property

The filter to compare the compound parts' names with. Only those parts will be counted whose name (full, prefix, suffix, part) matches the filter string.

```
required
name='filter'
abstraction='character'
model=filter string
```

## **Result Property**

The knowledge model in which to store the result.

```
required
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model
```

## 4.3.4 Get

### Example

## **Compound Property**

This is the compound whose element is to be retrieved.

```
required
name='compound'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model='integer' | 'character'
```

### **Index Property**

This is the index of the element to be retrieved, within the compound.

required

4.4 Comparison 45

```
name='index'
abstraction='integer'
model=position of element
```

### **Description Property**

This property determines which data of the compound's part to retrieve.

```
required
name='description'
abstraction='character'
```

model='name' | 'abstraction'

### Result Property

This is the result knowledge model in which to store the retrieved element.

```
required
name='result'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
```

model=result knowledge model

## 4.4 Comparison

### 4.4.1 Compare

This operation compares two given operands.

#### Example

</part>

### **Comparison Property**

This is the kind of comparison to be applied.

```
required
```

```
name='comparison'
abstraction='character'
model='equal' | 'smaller' | 'greater' | 'smaller_or_equal' | 'greater_or_equal'
```

## Left Side Property

This is the left side value of the comparison.

```
required
```

```
name='left_side'
abstraction='boolean' | 'integer' | 'float' | 'character' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=value or knowledge model
```

## Right Side Property

This is the right side value of the comparison.

```
required
```

```
name='right_side'
abstraction='boolean' | 'integer' | 'float' | 'character' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=value or knowledge model
```

### Result Property

This is the knowledge model in which the comparison result is stored.

required

4.5 Arithmetic 47

```
name='result'
abstraction='boolean' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=result knowledge model
```

### **Selection Property**

This property selects which part of two string values shall be compared.

 $optional, \ {\rm only} \ {\rm if} \ {\rm comparing} \ {\rm values} \ {\rm of} \ {\rm abstraction} \ "{\rm character}"$ 

```
name='selection'
abstraction='character'
model='full' | 'prefix' | 'suffix' | 'part'
```

### 4.5 Arithmetic

#### 4.5.1 Add

This operation is a simple addition of two numbers or strings.

### Example

## **Abstraction Property**

This property specifies the abstraction of the properties summand\_1, summand\_2 and sum. In other words, the models of these properties have to have the same abstraction.

required

```
name='abstraction'
abstraction='character'
model='integer' | 'character'
```

### **Summand 1 Property**

The first summand for the addition.

required

```
name='summand_1'
abstraction='integer' | 'character' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=number or knowledge model path
```

## **Summand 2 Property**

The second summand for the addition.

```
required
```

```
name='summand_2'
abstraction='integer' | 'character' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=number or knowledge model path
```

## **Sum Property**

The sum resulting from the addition.

```
required
```

```
name='sum'
abstraction='integer' | 'character' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model path
```

### 4.5.2 Subtract

This operation subtracts one number from another which results in their difference.

4.5 Arithmetic 49

#### Example

## Minuend Property

This is the minuend, i.e. the number to be subtracted from.

```
required
```

```
name='minuend'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=number or knowledge model path
```

### **Subtrahend Property**

This is the subtrahend, i.e. the number to be subtracted.

```
required
```

```
name='subtrahend'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=number or knowledge model path
```

### Difference Property

This is the difference between minuend and subtrahend.

```
required
```

```
name='difference'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge model path
```

## 4.5.3 Multiply

This operation multiplies two numbers which results in the product.

### Example

## Factor 1 Property

This is the first factor of the multiplication.

```
required
name='factor.1'
abstraction='integer'
model=number or knowledge model
```

## Factor 2 Property

This is the second factor of the multiplication.

```
required
name='factor_2'
abstraction='integer'
model=number or knowledge model
```

### **Product Property**

This is the product as result of the multiplication.

required

4.5 Arithmetic 51

```
name='product'
abstraction='integer'
model=number or knowledge model
```

### 4.5.4 Divide

This operation divides one number by another, which results in the quotient. If the dividend is not a multiple of the divisor, then the operation will return the remainder as additional property.

## Example

## **Dividend Property**

This is the dividend, i.e. the number to be divided.

```
required
```

```
name='dividend'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated' model=number or knowledge model
```

### **Divisor Property**

This is the divisor, i.e. the number to be divided by.

```
required
```

```
name='divisor'
```

abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated' model=number or knowledge model

## **Quotient Property**

This is the quotient, i.e. the number resulting from the division.

```
required
name='quotient'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated' model=number or knowledge model
```

### Remainder Property

This is the remainder, i.e. the difference between dividend and quotient.

```
required
name='remainder'
abstraction='integer' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated' model=number or knowledge model
```

# 4.6 Memory Management

### 4.6.1 Create

This operation creates a new knowledge model in memory.

### Example

# Name Property

This is the name of the knowledge model to be created.

```
required
name='name'
abstraction='character'
model=knowledge model name
```

## **Abstraction Property**

This is the abstraction (type) of the knowledge model to be created.

```
required
name='abstraction'
abstraction='character'
model='boolean' | 'integer' | 'float' | 'character' | 'compound'
```

## **Element Property**

This property decides about the kind of element (knowledge model) to be created. A part element will be added to the model's part hierarchy; a meta element will be added to the model's details hierarchy.

```
required
name='element'
abstraction='character'
model='part' | 'meta'
```

### **Compound Property**

This property specifies the compound knowledge model to which to add to the new part/meta knowledge model.

```
required
name='compound'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=whole knowledge model path
```

## 4.6.2 Destroy

This operation destroys the given knowledge model and releases the memory that was occupied by it.

## Example

### **Model Property**

This is the knowledge model to be destroyed.

```
required
name='model'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model='knowledge model'
```

## 4.6.3 Copy

This operation copies a value with the given abstraction from the source- to the destination model.

## Example

## **Abstraction Property**

This is the abstraction of the values. CAUTION! It has to be identical for both, source- and destination value!

```
required
name='abstraction'
abstraction='character'
model='boolean' | 'integer' | 'character'
```

### **Source Property**

This is the source value.

```
required
name='source'
abstraction='boolean' | 'integer' | 'character' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=value or knowledge model
```

## **Destination Property**

This is the destination value.

```
required
name='destination'
abstraction='boolean' | 'integer' | 'character' | 'knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=value or knowledge model
```

### 4.6.4 Move

This operation moves the part knowledge model to a new whole (compound) knowledge model.

### Example

## Part Property

This is the part knowledge model that is to be moved.

```
required
name='part'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=part knowledge model
```

## Whole Property

This is the whole knowledge model to which to add to the part knowledge model.

```
required
name='whole'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=whole knowledge model
```

# 4.7 Lifecycle Management

## 4.7.1 Startup

This operation starts up the given service.

### Example

### Service Property

This is the service to be started up.

```
required
name='service'
abstraction='character'
model='signal' | 'shell' | 'standard_output' | 'gnu_linux_console' | 'x_window_system'
| 'www' | 'cyboi'
```

## Namespace Property

```
The namespace of the socket.
```

```
optional, only if service is www or cyboi
```

```
name='namespace'
abstraction='character'
model='local' | 'inet' | 'inet6' | 'ns' | 'iso' | 'ccitt' | 'implink' | 'route'
```

### Style Property

```
The style of socket communication.
```

```
optional, only if service is www or cyboi
```

```
name='style'
abstraction='character'
model='stream' | 'datagram' | 'raw'
```

## **Address Property**

```
This is the address of hosts communicating with this system via socket.
```

```
optional, only if service is www or cyboi
name='address'
abstraction='character'
model='loopback' | 'any'
```

## 4.7.2 Shutdown

This operation shuts down the given service.

## Example

### Service Property

This is the service to be shut down.

```
required
name='service'
abstraction='character'
model='signal' | 'shell' | 'standard_output' | 'gnu_linux_console' | 'x_window_system'
| 'www' | 'cyboi'
```

## 4.7.3 Exit

This operation initiates the shutdown sequence for the application system.

4.8 Communication 59

#### Example

```
<part name="exit_system" channel="inline" abstraction="operation" model="exit"/>
```

### 4.8 Communication

### 4.8.1 Send

This operation is able to send a message via textual, graphical or web user interface, or to the file system or also as shell output directly.

#### Example

### **Channel Property**

The channel via which to send the message.

```
required
```

```
name='channel'
abstraction='character'
model='inline' | 'file' | 'standard_output' | 'gnu_linux_console' | 'x_window_system'
| 'http'
```

### Language Property

The language into which to encode the message before sending it.

```
required
name='language'
abstraction='character'
model='tui' | 'gui' | 'wui'
```

### Mode Property

```
The mode of communication.
```

```
optional, only if channel is http
name='mode'
abstraction='character'
model='client' | 'server'
```

### Namespace Property

```
The namespace of the socket.
```

```
optional, only if channel is http
name='namespace'
abstraction='character'
```

model='local' | 'inet' | 'inet6' | 'ns' | 'iso' | 'ccitt' | 'implink' | 'route'

## Style Property

```
The style of communication.
```

```
optional, only if channel is http
name='style'
abstraction='character'
model='stream' | 'datagram' | 'raw'
```

## **Receiver Property**

The name of the system receiving the message.

4.8 Communication 61

```
required

name='receiver'

abstraction='character'

model=name of receiving system
```

## Message Property

The actual message to be sent to another system.

```
required
```

```
name='message'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=message knowledge model path
```

## **Area Property**

The user interface area to be repainted. It is normally just a part of the whole user interface model. This property helps to speed up repainting while avoiding user interface flickering.

```
optional
```

```
name='area'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated'
model=knowledge path to part model to be repainted
```

## Clean Property

This property indicates whether or not to clear the screen before painting a user interface.

```
optional
```

```
name='clean'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

62 4 Logic Models

## **New Line Property**

This property indicates whether or not to add a new line after having printed the message on screen.

```
optional
name='new_line'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

## 4.8.2 Receive

This operation receives data from the given data source.

## Example

## **Channel Property**

The channel via which to receive the message.

```
required
name='channel'
abstraction='character'
model='inline' | 'file'
```

## Language Property

This is the language (abstraction, type, structure) of the data received.

4.8 Communication 63

```
required
name='language'
abstraction='character'
model= 'boolean' | 'character' | 'wide_character' | 'integer' | 'unsigned_long' | 'double'
| 'fraction' | 'complex' | 'date_time' | 'yyyy-mm-dd_date_time' | 'cybol' | 'tui' | 'gui'
| 'wui' | 'ogg' | 'mp3' | 'jpeg' | 'png' | 'gif' | 'bmp' | 'cybop_model_diagram' | 'xdt' |
'hxp' | 'latex' | 'rtf' | 'sgml' | 'tex' | 'xhtml' | 'mpeg' | 'avi' | 'qt' | 'tar' | 'tgz'
| 'zip' | 'rar' | 'kwd' | 'odt' | 'sxw' | 'http' | 'https' | 'ftp'
```

### Message Property

This is the source (knowledge template) from where to receive data.

```
required
name='message'
abstraction='character'
model=path to a file
```

## **Model Property**

This is the compound model to be filled with the data received.

```
required
name='model'
abstraction='character'
model=knowledge model path
```

## **Details Property**

This is the compound details to be filled with the data received.

```
required
name='details'
abstraction='character'
model=knowledge model path
```

64 4 Logic Models

## **Root Property**

This property specifies the knowledge model that will serve as the root.

```
required
name='root'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated' model=root model knowledge path
```

### Style Property

This is the style of socket communication.

```
required
name='style'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated' model='stream' | 'datagram' | 'raw'
```

## **Commands Property**

This property specifies the knowledge model containing the commands that the user interface should react to.

```
optional, only if a user interface thread is to react to certain commands
```

```
name='commands'
abstraction='knowledge' | 'encapsulated' model=commands model knowledge path
```

### **Blocking Property**

This property specifies whether the receive process should be blocking. If it is, then application signals will not be processed while the receive operation is waiting for some message to arrive. Only if a message is actually received, the application will process it in form of a signal and then continue to wait.

```
optional
name='blocking'
abstraction='boolean' model='true' | 'false'
```

4.9 Shell Commands 65

### 4.8.3 Interrupt

This operation interrupts a running service. If the given service is not running, the operation will do nothing.

#### Example

## Service Property

The service to be interrupted.

```
required
name='service'
abstraction='character'
model='signal' | 'shell' | 'standard_output' | 'gnu_linux_console' | 'x_window_system'
| 'www' | 'cyboi'
```

## 4.9 Shell Commands

#### 4.9.1 Archive File

This operation archives the given files or directories. Internally, it just uses the corresponding shell command functionality.

### Example

66 4 Logic Models

```
</part>
```

#### Source Property

The path or shell expression pattern determining the directories and files to be compressed and/ or archived.

```
required
name='source'
abstraction='character'
model=directories and files to be compressed
```

## **Create Property**

This is the flag specifying whether or not to create the archive file, if it does not exist yet.

```
required
name='create'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

### **Update Property**

This property specifies whether or not to update the archive file, if it already exists.

```
required
name='update'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

### **Bzip2 Property**

This property specifies whether or not to use bzip2 (bz2) compression instead of the standard gzip (gz) compression.

4.9 Shell Commands 67

```
required
name='bzip2'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

## 4.9.2 Copy File

This operation copies the given files or directories. Internally, it just uses the corresponding shell command functionality.

#### Example

## Recursive Property

This is the flag specifying whether or not to copy recursively.

```
required
name='recursive'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

## **Source Property**

This property specifies the source file or -directory.

```
required

name='source'
abstraction='character'
model=source file or directory
```

68 4 Logic Models

## **Destination Property**

```
This property specifies the destination file or -directory.
```

```
required
name='destination'
abstraction='character'
model=destination file or directory
```

## 4.9.3 Execute File

This operation executes the given file.

## Example

### File Property

This is the file to be executed.

```
required
name='file'
abstraction='character'
model=executable file
```

## 4.9.4 List File

This operation lists the file content of the given directory. Internally, it just uses the corresponding shell command functionality.

4.9 Shell Commands 69

#### Example

## **Directory Property**

This is the flag specifying whether or not to list the entire directory contents.

```
required
name='all'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

## **All Property**

This is the flag specifying whether or not to list the entire directory contents.

```
required
name='all'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

## Long Listing Property

This property specifies whether or not to display the contents in form of a long listing, which also shows access rights etc.

```
required
name='long_listing'
abstraction='boolean'
model='true' | 'false'
```

## 5 Examples

The following examples demonstrate how CYBOL's constructs may be used in practice. Also, attention is payed to how control structures of classical programming languages may be implemented in CYBOL. Furthermore, this section discusses how inheritance, containers and software patterns were considered in the design of CYBOL.

## 5.1 State Examples

The creation of composed state models is quite straightforward and clear, as the following CYBOL knowledge templates show.

#### 5.1.1 Model-Part Relation

The DocBook DTD [16] is one of many well-known specifications for structuring documents. The Linux Documentation Project (TLDP) [10] makes heavy use of it. DocBook is based on numerous XML tags with defined meaning. The following example shows how parts of a *Text Document* can be modelled differently, with at most four tags, using CYBOL:

## 5.1.2 Meta Properties

When modelling *Graphical User Interfaces* (GUI), a speciality to take care about is the *Position* of GUI elements within their surrounding container. GUI components may have very different orderings and positions. The *Java Swing* framework [3], for example, offers *BorderLayout*, *BoxLayout*, *CardLayout*, *FlowLayout*, *GridBaqLayout* etc.

The following example of a GUI *Dialogue* assumes that an interpreter knows how to handle *Compass* layouts, which are the pendant of the above-mentioned *BorderLayout*:

Further meta information such as the *Colour* or *Size* of a GUI component may be given. The following example shows how a GUI *Button* may be modelled as part of some GUI panel. Again, properties like *size* are not modelled as part, because the button does not *consist* of them, in a structural way of thinking:

5.1 State Examples 73

#### 5.1.3 External Resources

A Text Document like the one shown in the example above often contains graphical illustrations called Figures, which it may include from external files. One common graphics format is Encapsulated PostScript (EPS), for example. Graphical User Interfaces (GUI) as modelled before do contain Icons; a GUI button may contain a Glyph and so forth. CYBOL therefore offers ways for linking external resources, given in various formats, as shown in the following hypothetical knowledge template:

#### 5.1.4 Serialised Model

A possible (but not necessarily recommended) alternative to the linking of external resources is to store such information (as binary code) *inline* in the CYBOL knowledge template. One case in which it is necessary to store all information inline in the model is *Serialisation*.

A CYBOL address management application that does not rely on the existence of a *Database Management System* (DBMS) probably has to store addresses in form of serialised files, such as the one shown following. It contains two parts representing dynamically extensible lists, one for *phone\_numbers* and another one for *addresses*:

The serialisation of CYBOL models causes one problem: Due to the double hierarchy to which belong *Whole-Part* relations (stored in XML attributes) and *Meta Information* (stored in XML tags), it is not possible to store CYBOL models in an XML-conform manner. Instead of referencing external files containing the corresponding CYBOL *Part* models, a serialised *Whole* model has to contain these inline.

While XML tags were invented as pairs consisting of a begin and an end tag, XML attribute values are enclosed by simple quotation marks. Hence, the beginning markup of an attribute value does not look any different than its ending markup. This is a true problem, because serialised whole-part hierarchies of CYBOL models, with attribute values containing complete sub models with their own attributes, would get completely mixed up in pure XML notation.

It was therefore inevitable to break XML-conformity and introduce two additional markup tokens "( and )", indicating the beginning and end of an XML attribute value. The tokens are extensions of the quotation marks of standard XML attributes, with one left/ right parenthesis, respectively. That way, the degree to which attributes are nested becomes countable and it is always clear to which tag an attribute belongs.

#### 5.1.5 Meta Constraints

The example of this section shows a possible *Debian GNU/Linux* [14] *Package* definition, written in CYBOL:

The part called *packages* in the example above references an external CYBOL knowledge template, which is displayed below. It represents a list of packages having different versions

5.2 Logic Examples 75

and varying strengths of dependency. The *strength* property of the last of these packages has the model value *suggests* and, it contains meta information about that property, namely a *constraint*. Constraints can be, for example: minima, maxima or a choice of possible values, as in this case.

```
<model>
   <part name="cyboi" channel="inline" abstraction="string" model="cyboi">
       <property name="strength" channel="inline" abstraction="string" model="depends"/>
       <property name="version" channel="inline" abstraction="string" model=">= 1.0.0.0"/>
      cyroperty name="conflicts" channel="inline" abstraction="string" model="< 1.0.0.0"/>
   <part name="cybol-healthcare" channel="inline" abstraction="string" model="cybol-healthcare">
       <property name="version" channel="inline" abstraction="string" model=">= 0.1.0.0"/>
   </part>
   <part name="resadmin" channel="inline" abstraction="string" model="resadmin">
      <property name="strength" channel="inline" abstraction="string" model="recommends"/>
       <part name="resmedicinae-doc" channel="inline" abstraction="string" model="resmedicinae-doc">
       cyroperty name="strength" channel="inline" abstraction="string" model="suggests">
          <constraint name="choice" channel="inline" abstraction="set" model="suggests,recommends"/>
       cyroperty name="version" channel="inline" abstraction="string" model=">= 0.1.0.0"/>
   </part>
</model>
```

## 5.2 Logic Examples

The CYBOL implementation of logic models needs more detailed explanation, in particular the use of special control structures as known from *Structured and Procedural Programming* (SPP).

## 5.2.1 Operation Call

As stated previously, logic models may access and manipulate state models. The simplest form of a logic model is an operation with associated input/ output (i/o) state models. The following CYBOL knowledge template calls an *add* operation, handing over i/o parameters as *properties* of the corresponding *part*:

The example nicely shows how state models can be given in various formats. The *summand\_1* is given as constant value, defined directly in the knowledge template. Its type of abstraction is *integer*. The *summand\_2*- and *sum* parameters, on the other hand, are given as dot-separated references to the runtime tree of knowledge models. Their type of abstraction is therefore *knowledge*.

## 5.2.2 Algorithm Division

Compound logic models like *Algorithms*, which SPP languages implement using nested *Blocks*, can be expressed in CYBOL as well. It does not provide blocks in the classical sense, but its hierarchical structure allows to subdivide compound knowledge templates, and to cascade compound logic as well as primitive operations. The following example calls an addition operation, before a compound algorithm, situated in an external CYBOL file, gets executed:

### 5.2.3 Simple Assignment

CYBOL does not know *Variables* as used in classical languages. All states a system may take on are represented by just one *Knowledge Tree*, which applications may access in a defined manner (dot-separated knowledge paths). Consequently, *Assignments* are done differently

5.2 Logic Examples 77

in CYBOL than in classical programming languages. All kinds of state changes go back to a manipulation of the one knowledge tree:

The first operation in the example above copies a value between two branches of the tree. Only primitive values can be copied. The second operation removes a whole tree branch (referenced by the *source* property) from one parent node, and adds it to another (referenced by the *destination* property).

## 5.2.4 Loop as Operation

*Looping* is a major technique for the effective processing of whole stacks of data. As many other control structures, it is simplified to a logic operation, in CYBOL.

The *loop* operation needs two parameters to be functional: a *break* flag as means of interruption and a logic *model* to be executed in each loop cycle (figure 5.1). An *index* counting loop cycles is not given, as it is in the responsibility of the logic *model* to manage that index, just like the setting of the *break* flag, internally. The following example dynamically creates a table consisting of a number of rows:

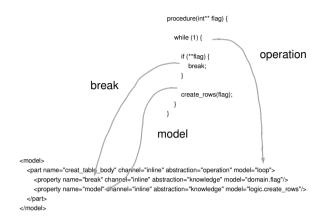


Figure 5.1: Loop Control Structure and Elements in C and CYBOL

### 5.2.5 Conditional Execution

An obviously presupposed part in the previous example is a logic setting the break condition (flag). If the break flag was not set, the loop would run endlessly. The following knowledge template therefore shows a comparison operation, as it could stand at the end of the loop's logic model, referenced by the model property in the previous example. After having compared the current loop index with a maximum loop count number, the break flag may or may not be set. When entering its next cycle, the loop operation checks whether the flag is set. If so, the loop is stopped:

Flags as one of the earliest techniques used in computing (in software as well as in hardware) are the perfect means for controlling the execution of primitive logic models, namely operations. They represent a condition set as result of another logic model – the latter often

5.2 Logic Examples 79

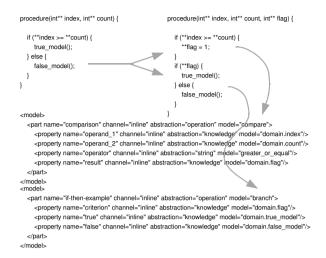


Figure 5.2: Condition Control Structure and Elements in C and CYBOL

being some kind of comparison operation. In order to execute code upon activation of a flag, a conventional comparison control structure needs to be split up into two independent blocks (figure 5.2), with the flag being the linking element. The flag which was set by a comparison operation is used for branching the control flow.

The second example shows how a classical *if-then* statement would be written in CYBOL. The corresponding operation is called *branch* and it expects three properties: a *criterion* flag and two models, of which one is executed in case the flag is *true* and the other is executed otherwise.

## 5.3 Special Examples

XML is used for representing data of very different domains, and a whole plethora of XML dialects exists. Two of them are mentioned following. The main purpose of the next examples, however, is to show how CYBOL can replace these.

## 5.3.1 Synchronous Execution

MusicXML [11] is a markup language designed to represent musical scores, specifically common western musical notation from the 17th century onwards. In principle, CYBOL could be used for this purpose as well. Of course, there are many details (additional properties) which would still have to be worked out in order to be able to correctly represent complete musical scores. As most models, the Musical Work displayed in figure 5.3 can be considered a hierarchy consisting of Parts (played/ sung by instruments/ voices). Parts in turn consist of Measures, which consist of Notes, which finally have a Pitch and sometimes Lyric.



Figure 5.3: Musical Score of Franz Schubert's Ave Maria [11]

The following knowledge templates deliver only short examples showing how music may be modelled in CYBOL. Their property names were taken over from MusicXML's element tags, as elaborated in [11]. Most are self-explanatory and shall not be further discussed here. The

5.3 Special Examples 81

first example template represents an extract from a complete musical *Work*, consisting of the two parts *Voice* and *Piano*:

One of the *Parts* is shown in the next template. It consists of several measures:

A Measure again consists of Notes:

An important property to note here is the *position* value. It is common that two notes have to be played at the same time, the notes then being called a *Chord*. In contrast to MusicXML which provides an own tag to denote notes belonging to the same chord, CYBOL suggests to use a *position* property having identical values for all notes in a chord. An interpreter program may thus not only read necessary sequence information, but can also figure out which of the notes have to be played *synchronously*.

A fourth example represents one *Note*, consisting of a *Pitch* and *Lyric* text, which are the final abstractions in this knowledge template:

### 5.3.2 Presentation and Content

The Mathematical Markup Language (MathML) [4] provides means for representing mathematical expressions, that is Content as well as Presentation of data. Both are discrete

5.3 Special Examples 83

models, comparable to the *Domain* and *User Interface* (UI) of a software application, which can be translated into each other.

CYBOL uses just four tags (section 2.3) but can represent mathematical expressions as well. What MathML calls *Content*, becomes a *Logic* knowledge template in CYBOL. The mathematical content of the formula  $(a + b)^2$  would be modelled as follows:

And the formula's *Presentation* would be defined by the following two CYBOL *State* knowledge templates, of which the second one represents the *Base* that is referenced by the first one:

#### 5.3.3 Hello World

Two possible CYBOL versions of the famous minimal *Hello*, *World!* program are given following. The first consists of only two operations: *send* and *exit*. The string message to be displayed on screen is handed over as *property* to the *send* operation, before the *exit* operation shuts down the system:

The second example template is slightly more complex. It starts with creating a domain model that consists of just one *greeting* string. That string is then sent as message to the human user via a *Textual User Interface* (TUI), just as in the first example. The difference is that now, the greeting is not handed over as hard-coded *string* value, but is read from the runtime knowledge model, which is indicated by its *abstraction* value:

```
<model>
    <part name="create_greeting" channel="inline" abstraction="operation" model="create">
       <property name="name" channel="inline" abstraction="character" model="greeting"/>
       cyroperty name="abstraction" channel="inline" abstraction="character" model="character"/>
       cyroperty name="element" channel="inline" abstraction="character" model="part"/>
       cyroperty name="whole" channel="inline" abstraction="knowledge" model=".app"/>
    <part name="receive_greeting" channel="inline" abstraction="operation" model="receive">
       <property name="channel" channel="inline" abstraction="character" model="inline"/>
       cyroperty name="language" channel="inline" abstraction="character" model="character"/>
       <property name="message" channel="inline" abstraction="character" model="Hello, World!"/>
       cyroperty name="model" channel="inline" abstraction="knowledge" model=".app.greeting"/>
   </part>
    <part name="send_model_to_output" channel="inline" abstraction="operation" model="send">
       <property name="language" channel="inline" abstraction="character" model="shell"/>
       cyroperty name="message" channel="inline" abstraction="knowledge" model="greeting"/>
    </part>
    <part name="destroy_greeting" channel="inline" abstraction="operation" model="destroy_part">
       cyroperty name="name" channel="inline" abstraction="knowledge" model="greeting"/>
    <part name="exit_application" channel="inline" abstraction="operation" model="exit"/>
</model>
```

The appearance of a *create*/ *destroy* pair in the second example already suggests how an application lifecycle with *startup-*, *runtime-* and *shutdown* phase could look like in CYBOL.

## 5.4 Inheritance as Property

One fundamental concept of Object Oriented Programming (OOP) is Inheritance. In principle, there is no problem with implementing inheritance in CYBOL. If done, however, it would differ from traditional class architectures as known from OOP. Classical OOP systems resolve inheritance relationships at runtime; CYBOP systems, on the other hand, would resolve them just once when creating a knowledge model (instance) from a knowledge template. After instantiation, all inheritance relationships are lost since instances are stored as purely hierarchical whole-part models in memory, without any links to super models.

The following knowledge template shows how inheritance could be realised in CYBOL. Contrary to OOP classes which hold a link to their corresponding *super* class as *intrinsic* property, a CYBOL knowledge template does not know itself from which *super* template to inherit from. That information is stored as *extrinsic* property outside the template instead, in other words in the *whole* template to which the inheriting template belongs.

One of the properties in the example template above carries the name *super*. Its model references another template which is treated as super template of the corresponding *part* the property belongs to. With slight modifications on the property name *super*, which has to be unique among all properties of a part, it would even be possible to implement *Multiple Inheritance*. Dependency complications are not to be expected because all inheritance relationships are forgotten in runtime models.

Although the described inheritance mechanism was tested successfully in an older prototype application, it has not been implemented in CYBOL. None of the created example

applications showed a need for it, nor did any of them promise more effective programming. The reuse of CYBOL templates is realised through composition only, that is fine-granular templates make up more coarse-grained ones. This counts for both, state- as well as logic models, since they are not bundled like in OOP. And polymorphism as effect does not have to be considered.

## 5.5 Container Mapping

State-of-the-art programming languages like Java offer a number of different container types (figure 5.4).

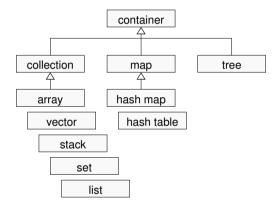


Figure 5.4: Classical Container Types in Java

CYBOI owns a *Knowledge Schema* which represents each item as *Hierarchy* by default, the result being that different types of containers are *not* needed any longer, that is are unified. Table 5.1 shows how the different kinds of container behaviour are implemented in CYBOL. As can be seen, CYBOL is able to represent many container types.

5.6 Hidden Patterns 87

Classical Container Type	Realisation in CYBOL Knowledge Template	
Tree	Hierarchical whole-part structure	
Table	Like a Tree, as hierarchy consisting of rows which consist	
	of columns	
Map	Parts have a name (key) and a model (value)	
List	Parts may have a position property	
Vector	A model attribute may hold comma-separated values; an	
	extra template holds a dynamically changeable number of	
	parts	
Array	Like a Vector; characters are interpreted as string	

Table 5.1: Mapping Classical Containers to CYBOL

## 5.6 Hidden Patterns

There are a number of software patterns that may not be obvious (hidden) at first sight, but have been considered in the design of the CYBOL language.

Most obviously, CYBOL knowledge templates follow the *Composite* pattern, in a simplified form. All templates represent a compound consisting of part templates, which leads to a tree-like structure. But this also means that related patterns like *Whole-Part* and *Wrapper* are representable by CYBOL knowledge templates. A template as whole wraps its parts.

Knowledge templates with similar granularity can be collected in one directory, in other words one common ontological level. Templates with smaller granularity, that is those that the more coarse-grained templates consist of, can be placed in another common layer and so forth. What comes out of it is a system of levels – one variant of the *Layers* pattern.

## 6 Diagrams

Because of the different programming philosophy behind CYBOP, standard *Unified Modeling Language* (UML) diagrams cannot be used unalteredly for the design of CYBOL applications. Some of them, however, could be quite useful, when adapted a bit. For creating CYBOL applications, the following four can be considered sufficient. They model the structure of:

- 1. Template Diagram (TD): one design-time template (hierarchical, ontological concept), with purely unidirectional relations; does not illustrate relations between different concepts, as these are only established by logic models at runtime; could look like a UML class diagram (CsD) or a tree, only that a template may not only represent states, but also logic (algorithms, workflows) (figure 6.1)
- Model Diagram (MD): the runtime model tree; comparable to UML object diagram, but a simple tree with named nodes would suffice; is important because input/output parameters of operations are given as dot-separated paths to runtime knowledge tree models (figure 6.2)
- 3. Organisation Diagram (OD): template directories; could look like a UML componentor package diagram or a simple tree (figure 6.3)
- 4. Communication Diagram (CD): a network of communicating systems, which may run on the same or on different physical machines (nodes); could look like a UML distribution diagram; not to be mixed up with UML collaboration diagram (figure 6.4)

90 6 Diagrams

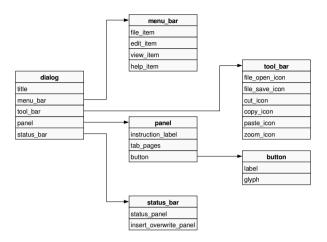


Figure 6.1: CYBOL Template Diagram (TD) Proposal

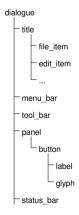


Figure 6.2: CYBOL Model Diagram (MD) Proposal

6 Diagrams 91

As said above, the four diagrams may look similar to their corresponding UML pendant. One possible proposal is given for each diagram type. The TD in figure 6.1 illustrates a graphical dialogue. The diagram looks pretty similar to a UML CsD. Attributes and methods are not bundled in one concept though, and inheritance does not exist. Associations are drawn if a concept links to an external concept which may reside in another file (like the menu\_bar), for example. If a part (like the title) is hold inline in the concept, on the other hand, an association is not displayed. Upon clicking on a part in a concept box, a dialogue opens up that allows the entry of meta data like the part's channel, abstraction, model and further properties (details).

The MD in figure 6.2 displays the runtime models that were instantiated with knowledge templates providing the initial values. Again, the parts of a graphical dialogue were used.

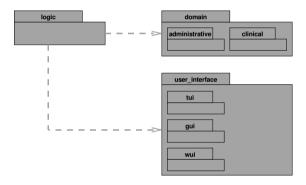


Figure 6.3: CYBOL Organisation Diagram (OD) Proposal

The OD in figure 6.3 shows packages into which CYBOL knowledge templates may be organised. Packages do normally correspond to directories on file system level. The figure contains a domain package consisting of two sub packages, one containing knowledge templates for administrative patient data and the other holding templates for clinical data of a patient. Also, there is a User Interface (UI) package containing three sub packages, for: Textual UI (TUI), Graphical UI (GUI) and Web UI (WUI). Both, domain- as well as user\_interface packages may be accessed from the operations residing in the logic package.

92 6 Diagrams

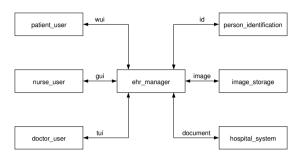


Figure 6.4: CYBOL Communication Diagram (CD) Proposal

The CD in figure 6.4, finally, shows a number of independent systems communicating with each other. An *Electronic Health Record* (EHR) manager application may be found in the center of the figure. Patients communicate with it using a WUI; nurses using a GUI and doctors using a TUI (for better performance). A patient gets identified by asking a *person\_identification* service. Documents may be exchanged with a *hospital\_system* and images with a special *image\_storage* system.

# 7 Appendices

## 7.1 Abbreviations

BNF Backus Naur Form

CD Communication Diagram

CsD Class Diagram

CYBOI Cybernetics Oriented Interpreter
CYBOL Cybernetics Oriented Language
CYBOP Cybernetics Oriented Programming

DB Database

DBMS DB Management System
DTD Document Type Definition

EBNF Extended BNF

EHR Electronic Health Record

EPS Encapsulated PS

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GUIGraphical UI HTMLHypertext ML i/o input/ output MathML Mathematical ML MDModel Diagram MLMarkup Language OD Organisation Diagram OO Object Oriented

94 7 Appendices

(Object Orientation)

OOP OO Programming
OS Operating System

PS PostScript

RAM Random Access Memory

SPP Structured and Procedural Programming

TD Template Diagram

TUI Textual UI
UI User Interface

UML Unified Modeling Language
UNIX Universal Interactive Executive

(Uniplexed Information and Computing System)

VM Virtual Machine

WUI Web UI

XML Extensible ML

XSD XML Schema Definition

7.2 References 95

#### 7.2 References

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 7.3 Figures
 97

# 7.3 Figures

1.1	CYBOL Interpretation	2		
2.1	Recommended CYBOL DTD	5		
2.2	Simplified CYBOL DTD	5		
2.3	Simplified CYBOL XSD	6		
2.4	Recommended CYBOL XSD	7		
2.5	CYBOL in EBNF	8		
3.1	Textual User Interface	14		
3.2	Graphical User Interface	20		
3.3	Web User Interface	25		
5.1	Loop Control Structure and Elements in C and CYBOL	78		
5.2	Condition Control Structure and Elements in C and CYBOL			
5.3	Musical Score of Franz Schubert's Ave Maria [11]	80		
5.4	Classical Container Types in Java	86		
6.1	CYBOL Template Diagram (TD) Proposal	90		
6.2	CYBOL Model Diagram (MD) Proposal	90		
6.3	CYBOL Organisation Diagram (OD) Proposal	91		
6.4	CYBOL Communication Diagram (CD) Proposal	92		

7.4 Tables 99

1.1	Analogy between the Java- and CYBOP World	 2
5.1	Mapping Classical Containers to CYBOL	 87

7.5 History 101

## 7.5 History

## TODO

- Rename and reduce standard tags: model, part, property, constraint into just: compound, part, meta

- Rename two of the four standard attributes: name, channel, abstraction, model into: name, channel, language, message

## 2.0 (2007-07-31)

- Release CYBOL definition as independent specification document
- Split "receive" operation: a model has to be created with "create" first before it can be handed over to "receive", to be filled with data
- Change many properties of state- and logic models

## 1.0 (2005-12-12)

- Release initial CYBOL definition within the CYBOP book [7]

#### 0.x (2002 to 2004)

- Publicise paper on CYBOL [6]
- Experiment with several XML representation formats
- Introduce first CYBOP ideas to the public [5]

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## 7.7 Index

abstraction Attribute, 4, 9 Definition, 3 Add. 47 Destroy, 54 Algorithm Division Example, 76 Diagrams, 89 Analogy between CYBOP and Java, 2 Divide. 51 AND, 37 DocBook DTD, 71 Archive File, 65 Document Type Definition, 4 Arithmetic, 47 DTD, 4 Attributes, 9 EBNF, 4, 6 Backus Naur Form, 6 Encapsulated PostScript, 73 EPS, 73 Bit Manipulation, 29 BNF, 6 Examples, 71 Boolean Logic, 35 Execute File, 68 Branch, 40 Exit, 58 Extended Backus Naur Form, 4, 6 CD, 89 Extensible Markup Language, 3, 4, 6, 9 channel Attribute, 4, 9 External Resources Example, 73 Communication, 59 Communication Diagram, 89 Get. 44 Compare, 45 Get Bit, 34 Comparison, 45 Grammar, 3 Conditional Execution Example, 78 Graphical User Interface, 19, 72 constraint Tag, 4, 10 GUI, 72 Containers in CYBOL, 86 GUI Layouts, 72 Copy, 54 Hello, World Copy File, 67 Example, 84 Count, 42 Hidden Patterns in CYBOL, 87 Create, 52 History, 101 CYBOI as Virtual Machine. 2 HTTP, 73 CYBOL Logic Example Constructs, 75 Hyper Text Transfer Protocol, 73 CYBOL Special Example Constructs, 80 CYBOP, 1 Inheritance as CYBOL Property, 85 CYBOP-Java Analogy, 2 Interrupt, 65 Introduction, 1 Debian GNU/Linux Package Definition, 74

Java Swing Framework, 72 Patterns in CYBOL, 87 Java-CYBOP Analogy, 2 Presentation and Content Example, 82 Program Flow, 40 Lifecycle Management, 56 property Tag, 4, 10 List File, 68 Receive, 62 Logic Knowledge Modelling, 9 Reset Bit, 33 Logic Models, 29 Rotate, 30 Loop, 42 Loop as Operation Example, 77 Semantics, 9 Send, 59 Mapping Containers to CYBOL, 86 Serialised Model Example, 73 Markup Tag, 4 Set Bit, 32 Mathematical Markup Language, 82 Shell Commands, 65 MathML, 82 Shift, 29 MD. 89 Shutdown, 58 Memory Management, 52 Simple Assignment Example, 76 Meta Constraints Example, 74 Startup, 56 Meta Data Hierarchy, 3 State Examples, 71 Meta Property Example, 72 State Knowledge Modelling, 9 model Attribute, 4, 9 State Models, 13 Model Diagram, 89 Subtract, 48 model Tag, 4, 10 Model-Part Relation Example, 71 Symbols, 4 Synchronous Execution Example, 80 Move, 55 Syntax, 3 Multiply, 50 MusicXML, 80 Tag-Attribute Swapping, 11 Tags, 10 name Attribute, 4, 9 TD, 89 NEG, 36 Template Diagram, 89 NOT, 35 Terms, 4 OD, 89 Textual User Interface, 13 Operation Call Example, 75 The Linux Documentation Project, 71 OR, 38 Theory, 1 Organisation Diagram, 89 TLDP, 71

UML, 89

part Tag, 4, 10

7.7 Index 123

Unified Modeling Language, 89

User Interface, 13

Vocabulary, 4

Web User Interface, 24

Whole-Part Hierarchy, 3

XML, 3, 4, 6, 9

XML Attribute, 3, 9

XML Schema, 6

XML Schema Definition, 4, 6

XML Tag, 3, 9

XOR, 39

XSD, 4, 6