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(54) **MODULE SPECIFICATION LANGUAGE AND META-MODULE**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

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A language for the specification of object-oriented modules is disclosed. A meta-module for representation of module specifications as object-oriented data structures is disclosed. A parser for the language converts a human-readable textual expression compatible with the grammar of the language to an object-oriented data structure composed of instances of the classes specified in the meta-module. A module specification may include class specifications, host members specifications, and module predicates specifications. Class specifications may include class member specifications, class predicates specifications, and class specifications. Member specifications may include datum specifications and method specifications. Datum specifications include type specifications and optional datum predicate specifications. Method specifications include type specifications, argument specifications, and optional method predicate specifications. Argument specifications include type specifications and optional argument predicate specifications. Type specifications include value type specifications, reference type specifications, and compound type specifications. Compound type specifications include sequence type specifications, set type specifications, and map type specifications. Predicate specifications include qualifier specifications, singleton specifications, and plurality specifications. Singleton specifications include an object specification. Plurality specifications include one or more object specifications.

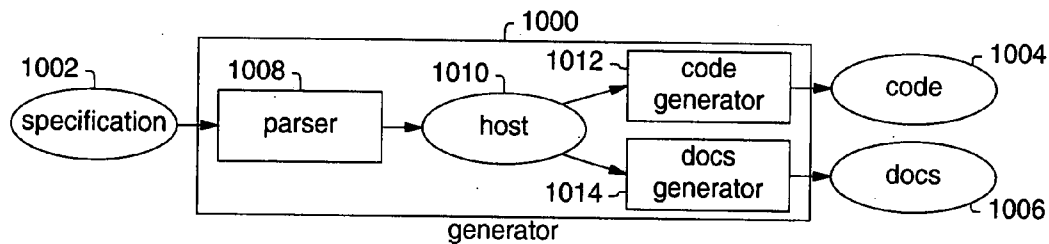


FIG. 1

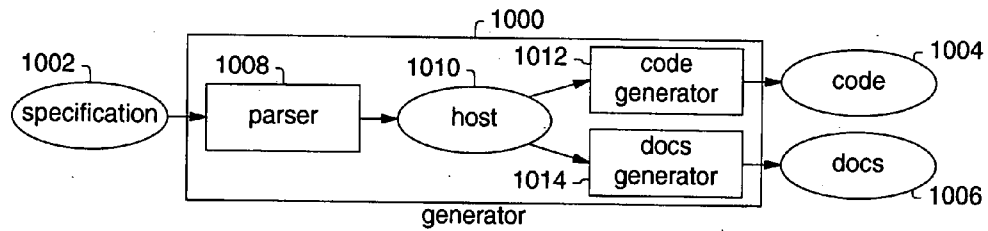


FIG. 2

```

dish1016 [ host dishHost1018 ] {
  Sequence<dishModule1028> modules1020 [meron];
  Sequence<dishType1054> types1022 [meron];
  dishElement1024 {
    dishEntity1026 {
      dishModule1028 {
        Sequence<dishClass1036> classes1030 [meron];
        Sequence<dishClass1036> forward_classes1032 [meron];
        dishHostClass1040 host1034 [meron];
      }
      dishClass1036 {
        Sequence<dishMember1046> members1038 [meron];
        dishHostClass1040 {}
      }
    }
    dishOperand1042 {
      dishArgument1044 {}
      dishMember1046 {
        dishMemberFunction1048 {
          Sequence<dishArgument1044> arguments1050 [meron];
        }
        dishMemberDatum1052 {}
      }
    }
  }
}
}
}

```

FIG. 3

```

dish1016:::dishElement1024 {
  dishType1054 {
    dishVoidType1056 {}
    dishValueType1058 {
      dishBitType1060 {}
      dishIntegerType1062 {}
      dishCardinalType1064 {}
      dishTextType1066 {}
    }
    dishReferenceType1068 {}
    dishCompoundType1070 {
      dishSequenceType1072 {
        dishValueSequenceType1074 {}
        dishReferenceSequenceType1076 {}
      }
      dishSetType1078 {
        dishValueSetType1080 {}
        dishReferenceSetType1082 {}
      }
      dishMapType1084 {
        dishIndexMapType1086 {}
        dishScaleMapType1088 {}
        dishBindMapType1090 {}
        dishConvertMapType1092 {}
      }
    }
  }
}
dish1016 { dimeLogger1094 } {}

```

FIG. 4

```

class dishHost1018 {
public: // features...
  Sequence<dishModule1028*> modules1020;
  dishModule1028* module1096(Text t);
  Map<Text, dishModule1028*> module_index1098;
  Boolean accept_module1100(dishModule1028* m);
  Sequence<dishType1054*> types1022;
  Boolean accept_type1102(dishType1054* arg_0);
};

```

FIG. 5

```
class dishElement1024 {  
public: // features...  
    Text source1104;  
};
```

FIG. 6

```
class dishEntity1026 : public dishElement1024 {  
public: // features...  
    Text id1106;  
    Text term1108;  
    Text title1110;  
    Text purpose1112;  
    Text passage1114;  
    Sequence<Text> remarks1116;  
    Sequence<Text> notes1118;  
};
```

FIG. 7

```

class dishModule1028 : public dishEntity1026 {
public: // features...
    Sequence<dishClass1036*> classes1030;
    Map<Text, dishClass1036*> class_index1120;
    Boolean accept_class1122(dishClass1036* c);
    dishClass1036* resolve_class1124(Text id);
    Boolean sort_classes1126(dimeLogger1094* arg_0);
    Sequence<dishClass1036*> forward_classes1032;
    Boolean accept_forward_class1128(dishClass1036* f);
    Sequence<dishClass1036*> root_classes1132;
    dishHostClass1040* host1034;
    Boolean accept_host1134(dishHostClass1040* h);
    Text viewer_id1136;
    Text editor_id1138;
    Text factory_id1140;
    Text factory_root_id1142;
    Text auditor_id1144;
    Text reflector_id1146;
    Text parser_id1148;
    Text resolver_id1150;
    Text resolver_root_id1154;
    Text resolver_id_field1152;
    Text acceptor_id1156;
    Text predicator_id1158;
    Text qualifier_id1160();
    Text singleton_id1162();
    Text plurality_id1164();
    Text predicator_sequence_id1166();
    Text promissary_reference_id1168();
    Text depository_id1170();
    Text predicator_host_id1172;
public: // cleanup...
    virtual ~dishModule1028() {
        /* cleanup classes1030 */
        /* cleanup forward_classes1032 */
        /* cleanup host1034 */
    }
};

```

FIG. 8

```

class dishClass1036 : public dishEntity1026 {
public: // features...
    dishModule1028* module1174;
    Sequence<dishClass1036*> genera1176;
    Sequence<dishMember1046*> members1038;
    Map<Text, dishMember1046*> member_index1178;
    Sequence<dishClass1036*> species1180;
    Sequence<dishClass1036*> genera_closure1182;
    Sequence<dishClass1036*> species_closure1184;
    Boolean is_module_root1186;
    Boolean constructs_markup_element1188;
    Boolean accepts_markup_element1190;
    Boolean accepts_markup_text1192;
    Boolean accepts_markup_predicate1194;
    Boolean markup_configure1196;
    Boolean markup_commit1198;
    Boolean is_pure_abstract1200;
    Boolean accept_member1202(dishMember1046* arg_0);
    Boolean provides_downcast1204;
    Sequence<Text> tags1206;
    Text acceptor_host_id1208();
    Sequence<Text> audit_requirements1210;
    Text auditor_context1214;
public: // cleanup...
    virtual ~dishClass1036() {
        /* cleanup members1038 */
    };
};

```

FIG. 9

```

class dishHostClass1040 : public dishClass1036 {};

```

FIG. 10

```

class dishOperand1042 : public dishEntity1026 {
public: // features...
    Text scope_handle1216;
    Boolean validate_handle1218(Text h);
    Boolean accept_scope_handle1220(Text h);
    Text scope_id1222;
    Boolean is_const1224;
    dishType1054* type1226;
};

```

FIG. 11

```
class dishArgument1044 : public dishOperand1042 {
public: // features...
    Cardinal position1228;
    Text arg_default1230;
};
```

FIG. 12

```
class dishMember1046 : public dishOperand1042 {
public: // features...
    dishClass1036* member_class1232;
};
```

FIG. 13

```
class dishMemberFunction1048 : public dishMember1046 {
public: // features...
    Boolean is_static1234;
    Boolean is_virtual1236;
    Boolean is_pure1238;
    Sequence<dishArgument1044*> arguments1050;
    Sequence<Text> inline_definition1240;
    Sequence<Text> definition1242;
    Text indicates1244;
public: // cleanup...
    virtual ~dishMemberFunction1048() {
        /* cleanup arguments1050 */
    };
};
```

FIG. 14

```

class dishMemberDatum1052 : public dishMember1046 {
public: // features...
    Boolean is_meron1246;
    Boolean is_mutable1248;
    Text init1250;
    Text predicator_class_id1252 ();
    Text promissary_class_id1254 ();
    Text acceptor_class_id1256 ();
    Text generic_acceptor_id1258 ();
    dishMemberFunction1048* acceptor1260;
    Boolean inhibit_predicator1262;
    Sequence<Text> tags1264;
    Sequence<Text> handles1266;
    Boolean accept_handle1268(Text t);
};

```

FIG. 15

```

class dishType1054 : public dishElement1024 {
public: // features...
    Text type_text1270 ();
    Boolean is_plural1272 ();
};

```

FIG. 16

```

class dishVoidType1056 : public dishType1054 {
public: // features...
    Text type_text1274 ();
};

```


FIG. 17

```
class dishValueType1058 : public dishType1054 {};
```

FIG. 18

```
class dishBitType1060 : public dishValueType1058 {  
public: // features...  
    Text type_text1276();  
};
```

FIG. 19

```
class dishIntegerType1062 : public dishValueType1058 {  
public: // features...  
    Text type_text1278();  
};
```

FIG. 20

```
class dishCardinalType1064 : public dishValueType1058 {  
public: // features...  
    Text type_text1280();  
};
```

FIG. 21

```
class dishTextType1066 : public dishValueType1058 {  
public: // features...  
    Text type_text1282();  
};
```

FIG. 22

```
class dishReferenceType1068 : public dishType1054 {  
public: // features...  
    Text reference_class_id1284;  
    Text type_text1286();  
};
```

FIG. 23

```

class dishCompoundType1070 : public dishType1054 {
public: // features...
    Sequence<dishType1054*> parameters1288;
    Text type_text1290 ();
    Text compound_text1292 ();
    Boolean is_plural1294 ();
    dishType1054* range1296;
};

```

FIG. 24

```

class dishSequenceType1072 : public dishCompoundType1070 {
public: // features...
    Text compound_text1298 ();
};

```

FIG. 25

```

class dishValueSequenceType1074 : public dishSequenceType1072 {
public: // features...
    dishValueType1058* value_range1300;
};

```

FIG. 26

```

class dishReferenceSequenceType1076 : public dishSequenceType1072 {
public: // features...
    dishReferenceType1068* reference_range1302;
};

```

FIG. 27

```
class dishSetType1078 : public dishCompoundType1070 {  
public: // features...  
    Text compound_text1304();  
};
```

FIG. 28

```
class dishValueType1080 : public dishSetType1078 {  
public: // features...  
    dishValueType1058* value_range1306;  
};
```

FIG. 29

```
class dishReferenceSetType1082 : public dishSetType1078 {  
public: // features...  
    dishReferenceType1068* reference_range1308;  
};
```

FIG. 30

```
class dishMapType1084 : public dishCompoundType1070 {
public: // features...
    dishType1054* domain1310;
    Text compound_text1312();
};
```

FIG. 31

```
class dishIndexMapType1086 : public dishMapType1084 {
public: // features...
    dishValueType1058* value_domain1314;
    dishReferenceType1068* reference_range1316;
};
```

FIG. 32

```
class dishScaleMapType1088 : public dishMapType1084 {
public: // features...
    dishReferenceType1068* reference_domain1318;
    dishValueType1058* value_range1320;
};
```

FIG. 33

```
class dishBindMapType1090 : public dishMapType1084 {
public: // features...
    dishReferenceType1068* reference_domain1322;
    dishReferenceType1068* reference_range1324;
};
```

FIG. 34

```
class dishConvertMapType1092 : public dishMapType1084 {
public: // features...
    dishValueType1058* value_domain1326;
    dishValueType1058* value_range1328;
};
```

FIG. 35

```
class dimeLogger1094 {};
```

FIG. 36

1002 Lexer INITIAL¹³⁴⁸ Matches

Match	Regexp	Terminal	Responder	Next
1356	#.*\$			
1358	[\t]+			
1360	\n		newline ¹³⁶²	
1364	"::"	SCOPE ¹³⁶⁶		
1368	"{"	OPEN_CURLY ¹³⁷⁰		
1372	"}"	CLOSE_CURLY ¹³⁷⁴		
1376	"["	OPEN_SQUARE ¹³⁷⁸		
1380	"]"	CLOSE_SQUARE ¹³⁸²		
1384	"("	OPEN_PAREN ¹³⁸⁶		
1388)"	CLOSE_PAREN ¹³⁹⁰		
1392	"<"	OPEN_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁴		
1396	">"	CLOSE_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁸		
1400	";"	SEMICOLON ¹⁴⁰²		
1404	","	COMMA ¹⁴⁰⁶		
1408	"\""		quote_open ¹⁴¹⁰	DOUBLE_QUOTE ¹³⁵⁰
1412	"'"		quote_open ¹⁴¹⁰	SINGLE_QUOTE ¹³⁵²
1414	"`"		quote_open ¹⁴¹⁰	MULTI_QUOTE ¹³⁵⁴
1416	[Vv]oid	VOID ¹⁴¹⁸	void_type ¹⁴²⁰	
1422	[Ii]nt(eger)?	INT ¹⁴²⁴	int_type ¹⁴²⁶	
1428	[Bb]it [Bb]ool(ean)?	BIT ¹⁴³⁰	bit_type ¹⁴³²	
1434	[Cc]ard(inal)?	CARD ¹⁴³⁶	card_type ¹⁴³⁸	
1440	[Tt]ext(ual)?	TEXT ¹⁴⁴²	text_type ¹⁴⁴⁴	
1446	[Ss]et	SET ¹⁴⁴⁸		
1450	[Mm]ap	MAP ¹⁴⁵²		
1454	[Ss]eq(uence)?	SEQ ¹⁴⁵⁶		
1458	[a-zA-Z0-9_]+	ID ¹⁴⁶⁰	id ¹⁴⁶²	
1464	.		bad_char ¹⁴⁶⁶	

FIG. 37

1002 Predicate Relations (1/2)

Match	Regexp	Terminal	Responder
1468	acceptor	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	acceptor_predicate ¹⁴⁷²
1474	acceptor-id	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	acceptor_id_predicate ¹⁴⁷⁶
1478	accept-element	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	accepts_markup_element_predicate ¹⁴⁸²
1484	accept-predicate	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	accepts_markup_predicate_predicate ¹⁴⁸⁶
1488	accept-text	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	accepts_markup_text_predicate ¹⁴⁹⁰
1492	default	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	arg_default_predicate ¹⁴⁹⁴
1496	predicator	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	predicator_id_predicate ¹⁴⁹⁸
1500	audit	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	audit_requirements_predicate ¹⁵⁰⁴
1506	require	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	audit_requirements_predicate ¹⁵⁰⁴
1508	auditor-context	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	auditor_context_predicate ¹⁵¹⁰
1512	auditor	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	auditor_id_predicate ¹⁵¹⁴
1516	construct-element	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	constructs_markup_element_predicate ¹⁵¹⁸
1520	definition	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	definition_predicate ¹⁵²²
1524	editor	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	editor_id_predicate ¹⁵²⁶
1528	factory	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	factory_id_predicate ¹⁵³⁰
1532	factory-root	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	factory_root_id_predicate ¹⁵³⁴
1536	forward	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	forward_classes_predicate ¹⁵³⁸
1540	handle	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	handles_predicate ¹⁵⁴²
1544	handles	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	handles_predicate ¹⁵⁴²
1546	host	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	host_predicate ¹⁵⁴⁸
1550	indicates	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	indicates_predicate ¹⁵⁵²
1554	inhibit-predicator	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	inhibit_predicator_predicate ¹⁵⁵⁶
1558	init	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	init_predicate ¹⁵⁶⁰
1562	inline	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	inline_definition_predicate ¹⁵⁶⁴

FIG. 38

1002 Predicate Relations (2/2)

Match	Regexp	Terminal	Responder
1566	const	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	is_const_predicate ¹⁵⁶⁸
1570	meron	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	is_meron_predicate ¹⁵⁷²
1574	mutable	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	is_mutable_predicate ¹⁵⁷⁶
1578	pure	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	is_pure_predicate ¹⁵⁸⁰
1582	static	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	is_static_predicate ¹⁵⁸⁴
1586	virtual	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	is_virtual_predicate ¹⁵⁸⁸
1590	commit	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	markup_commit_predicate ¹⁵⁹²
1594	configure	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	markup_configure_predicate ¹⁵⁹⁶
1598	note	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	notes_predicate ¹⁶⁰⁰
1602	notes	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	notes_predicate ¹⁶⁰⁰
1604	parser	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	parser_id_predicate ¹⁶⁰⁶
1608	passage	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	passage_predicate ¹⁶¹⁰
1612	downcast	QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	provides_downcast_predicate ¹⁶¹⁴
1616	purpose	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	purpose_predicate ¹⁶¹⁸
1620	reflector	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	reflector_id_predicate ¹⁶²²
1624	remark	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	remarks_predicate ¹⁶²⁶
1628	remarks	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	remarks_predicate ¹⁶²⁶
1630	resolver	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	resolver_id_predicate ¹⁶³²
1634	resolver-id-field	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	resolver_id_field_predicate ¹⁶³⁶
1638	resolver-root	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	resolver_root_id_predicate ¹⁶⁴⁰
1642	tag	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	tags_predicate ¹⁶⁴⁴
1646	tags	PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰²	tags_predicate ¹⁶⁴⁴
1648	term	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	term_predicate ¹⁶⁵⁰
1652	title	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	title_predicate ¹⁶⁵⁴
1656	viewer	SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰	viewer_id_predicate ¹⁶⁵⁸

FIG. 39

1002 Lexer DOUBLE_QUOTE¹³⁵⁰ Matches

Match	Regexp	Terminal	Responder	Next
1660	"\""	QUOTE ¹⁶⁶²	quote_close ¹⁶⁶⁴	INITIAL ¹³⁴⁸
1666	"\\\""		escape_doublequote ¹⁶⁶⁸	
1670	"\\n"		escape_newline ¹⁶⁷²	
1674	"\\t"		escape_tab ¹⁶⁷⁶	
1678	"\\\\"		escape_escape ¹⁶⁸⁰	
1682	\n		quote_newline ¹⁶⁸⁴	
1686	.		quote_accumulate ¹⁶⁸⁸	

FIG. 40

1002 Lexer SINGLE_QUOTE¹³⁵² Matches

Match	Regexp	Terminal	Responder	Next
1690	'"	QUOTE ¹⁶⁶²	quote_close ¹⁶⁶⁴	INITIAL ¹³⁴⁸
1692	"\\'"		escape_singlequote ¹⁶⁹⁴	
1696	"\\n"		escape_newline ¹⁶⁷²	
1698	"\\t"		escape_tab ¹⁶⁷⁶	
1700	"\\\\"		escape_escape ¹⁶⁸⁰	
1702	\n		quote_newline ¹⁶⁸⁴	
1704	.		quote_accumulate ¹⁶⁸⁸	

FIG. 41

1002 Lexer MULTI_QUOTE¹³⁵⁴ Matches

Match	Regexp	Terminal	Responder	Next
1706	"`)"	QUOTE ¹⁶⁶²	quote_close ¹⁶⁶⁴	INITIAL ¹³⁴⁸
1708	"\\`"		escape_backquote ¹⁷¹⁰	
1712	"\\n"		escape_newline ¹⁶⁷²	
1714	"\\t"		escape_tab ¹⁶⁷⁶	
1716	"\\\\\\\""		escape_escape ¹⁶⁸⁰	
1718	\\n		accum_newline ¹⁷²⁰	
1722	.		quote_accumulate ¹⁶⁸⁸	

FIG. 42

1002 Grammar Rules (1/5)

Rule	Production	Responder
1724	start ¹⁷²⁶ :	
1728	start ¹⁷²⁶ : start ¹⁷²⁶ module ¹⁷³⁰	accept_module ¹⁷³²
1734	start ¹⁷²⁶ : start ¹⁷²⁶ scoped_class ¹⁷³⁶	
1738	module ¹⁷³⁰ : module_body ¹⁷⁴⁰ CLOSE_CURLY ¹³⁷⁴	
1742	module_body ¹⁷⁴⁰ :	
	ID ¹⁴⁶⁰ optional_predicates ¹⁷⁴⁴ OPEN_CURLY ¹³⁷⁰	new_module ¹⁷⁴⁶
1748	module_body ¹⁷⁴⁰ : module_body ¹⁷⁴⁰ class ¹⁷⁵⁰	module_accept_class ¹⁷⁵²
1754	module_body ¹⁷⁴⁰ : module_body ¹⁷⁴⁰ members ¹⁷⁵⁶	module_accept_members ¹⁷⁵⁸
1760	module_body ¹⁷⁴⁰ : module_body ¹⁷⁴⁰ predicates ¹⁷⁶²	module_accept_predicates ¹⁷⁶⁴
1766	scoped_class ¹⁷³⁶ :	
	scoped_class_body ¹⁷⁶⁸ CLOSE_CURLY ¹³⁷⁴	
1770	scoped_class_body ¹⁷⁶⁸ :	
	ID ¹⁴⁶⁰ SCOPE ¹³⁶⁵ ID ¹⁴⁶⁰ OPEN_CURLY ¹³⁷⁰	resolve_scoped_class ¹⁷⁷²
1774	scoped_class_body ¹⁷⁶⁸ :	
	scoped_class_body ¹⁷⁶⁸ class ¹⁷⁵⁰	class_accept_class ¹⁷⁷⁶
1778	scoped_class_body ¹⁷⁶⁸ :	
	scoped_class_body ¹⁷⁶⁸ members ¹⁷⁵⁶	class_accept_members ¹⁷⁸⁰

FIG. 43

1002 Grammar Rules (2/5)

Rule	Production	Responder
1782	class ¹⁷⁵⁰ : class_body ¹⁷⁸⁴ CLOSE_CURLY ¹³⁷⁴	
1786	class_body ¹⁷⁸⁴ :	
	ID ¹⁴⁶⁰ optional_predicates ¹⁷⁴⁴ OPEN_CURLY ¹³⁷⁰	new_class ¹⁷⁸⁸
1790	class_body ¹⁷⁸⁴ : class_body ¹⁷⁸⁴ class ¹⁷⁵⁰	class_accept_class ¹⁷⁷⁶
1792	class_body ¹⁷⁸⁴ : class_body ¹⁷⁸⁴ members ¹⁷⁵⁶	class_accept_members ¹⁷⁸⁰
1794	class_body ¹⁷⁸⁴ : class_body ¹⁷⁸⁴ predicates ¹⁷⁶²	class_accept_predicates ¹⁷⁹⁶
1798	members ¹⁷⁵⁶ : members_body ¹⁸⁰⁰ SEMICOLON ¹⁴⁰²	
1802	members_body ¹⁸⁰⁰ : type ¹⁸⁰⁴ member ¹⁸⁰⁶	new_members ¹⁸⁰⁸
1810	members_body ¹⁸⁰⁰ :	
	members_body ¹⁸⁰⁰ COMMA ¹⁴⁰⁶ member ¹⁸⁰⁶	append_members ¹⁸¹²
1814	member ¹⁸⁰⁶ : datum ¹⁸¹⁶	
1818	member ¹⁸⁰⁶ : method ¹⁸²⁰	
1822	datum ¹⁸¹⁶ : ID ¹⁴⁶⁰ optional_predicates ¹⁷⁴⁴	new_datum ¹⁸²⁴
1826	method ¹⁸²⁰ : ID ¹⁴⁶⁰ args ¹⁸²⁸ optional_predicates ¹⁷⁴⁴	new_method ¹⁸³⁰
1832	args ¹⁸²⁸ : OPEN_PAREN ¹³⁸⁶ CLOSE_PAREN ¹³⁹⁰	empty_args ¹⁸³⁴
1836	args ¹⁸²⁸ : args_body ¹⁸³⁸ CLOSE_PAREN ¹³⁹⁰	
1840	args_body ¹⁸³⁸ : OPEN_PAREN ¹³⁸⁶ arg ¹⁸⁴²	new_args ¹⁸⁴⁴
1846	args_body ¹⁸³⁸ : args_body ¹⁸³⁸ COMMA ¹⁴⁰⁶ arg ¹⁸⁴²	append_args ¹⁸⁴⁸
1850	arg ¹⁸⁴² : type ¹⁸⁰⁴ optional_predicates ¹⁷⁴⁴	new_mod_arg ¹⁸⁵²
1854	arg ¹⁸⁴² : type ¹⁸⁰⁴ ID ¹⁴⁶⁰ optional_predicates ¹⁷⁴⁴	new_mod_arg_dummy ¹⁸⁵⁶

FIG. 44

1002 Grammar Rules (3/5)

Rule	Production	Responder
1858	optional_predicates ¹⁷⁴⁴ :	empty_predicates ¹⁸⁶⁰
1862	optional_predicates ¹⁷⁴⁴ : predicates ¹⁷⁶²	
1864	predicates ¹⁷⁶² : predicates_body ¹⁸⁶⁶ CLOSE_SQUARE ¹³⁸²	
1868	predicates_body ¹⁸⁶⁶ : OPEN_SQUARE ¹³⁷⁸ predicate ¹⁸⁷⁰	new_predicates ¹⁸⁷²
1874	predicates_body ¹⁸⁶⁶ :	
	predicates_body ¹⁸⁶⁶ SEMICOLON ¹⁴⁰² predicate ¹⁸⁷⁰	append_predicate ¹⁸⁷⁶
1878	predicates_body ¹⁸⁶⁶ : predicates_body ¹⁸⁶⁶ SEMICOLON ¹⁴⁰²	
1880	predicate ¹⁸⁷⁰ : qualifier ¹⁸⁸²	
1884	predicate ¹⁸⁷⁰ : singleton ¹⁸⁸⁶	
1888	predicate ¹⁸⁷⁰ : plurality ¹⁸⁹⁰	
1892	qualifier ¹⁸⁸² : QUALIFIER ¹⁴⁸⁰	
1894	singleton ¹⁸⁸⁶ : SINGLETON ¹⁴⁷⁰ object ¹⁸⁹⁶	singleton_object ¹⁸⁹⁸
1900	plurality ¹⁸⁹⁰ : PLURALITY ¹⁵⁰² object ¹⁸⁹⁶	plurality_object ¹⁹⁰²
1904	plurality ¹⁸⁹⁰ : plurality ¹⁸⁹⁰ COMMA ¹⁴⁰⁶ object ¹⁸⁹⁶	plurality_append_object ¹⁹⁰⁶
1908	plurality ¹⁸⁹⁰ : plurality ¹⁸⁹⁰ COMMA ¹⁴⁰⁶	
1910	object ¹⁸⁹⁶ : text ¹⁹¹²	
1914	object ¹⁸⁹⁶ : object ¹⁸⁹⁶ text ¹⁹¹²	append_object_text ¹⁹¹⁶
1918	text ¹⁹¹² : ID ¹⁴⁶⁰	
1920	text ¹⁹¹² : QUOTE ¹⁶⁶²	

FIG. 45

1002 Grammar Rules (4/5)

Rule	Production	Responder
1922	type ¹⁸⁰⁴ : VOID ¹⁴¹⁸	
1924	type ¹⁸⁰⁴ : compound_type ¹⁹²⁶	
1928	type ¹⁸⁰⁴ : reference_type ¹⁹³⁰	
1932	type ¹⁸⁰⁴ : value_type ¹⁹³⁴	
1936	reference_type ¹⁹³⁰ : ID ¹⁴⁶⁰	reference_type ¹⁹³⁸
1940	value_type ¹⁹³⁴ : BIT ¹⁴³⁰	
1942	value_type ¹⁹³⁴ : INT ¹⁴²⁴	
1944	value_type ¹⁹³⁴ : CARD ¹⁴³⁶	
1946	value_type ¹⁹³⁴ : TEXT ¹⁴⁴²	

FIG. 46

1002 Grammar Rules (5/5)

Rule	Production	Responder
1948	compound_type ¹⁹²⁶ : SEQ ¹⁴⁵⁶ OPEN_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁴ reference_type ¹⁹³⁰ CLOSE_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁸	reference_seq_type ¹⁹⁵⁰
1952	compound_type ¹⁹²⁶ : SEQ ¹⁴⁵⁶ OPEN_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁴ value_type ¹⁹³⁴ CLOSE_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁸	value_seq_type ¹⁹⁵⁴
1956	compound_type ¹⁹²⁶ : SET ¹⁴⁴⁸ OPEN_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁴ reference_type ¹⁹³⁰ CLOSE_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁸	reference_set_type ¹⁹⁵⁸
1960	compound_type ¹⁹²⁶ : SET ¹⁴⁴⁸ OPEN_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁴ value_type ¹⁹³⁴ CLOSE_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁸	value_set_type ¹⁹⁶²
1964	compound_type ¹⁹²⁶ : MAP ¹⁴⁵² OPEN_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁴ value_type ¹⁹³⁴ COMMA ¹⁴⁰⁶ reference_type ¹⁹³⁰ CLOSE_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁸	index_map_type ¹⁹⁶⁶
1968	compound_type ¹⁹²⁶ : MAP ¹⁴⁵² OPEN_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁴ value_type ¹⁹³⁴ COMMA ¹⁴⁰⁶ value_type ¹⁹³⁴ CLOSE_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁸	convert_map_type ¹⁹⁷⁰
1972	compound_type ¹⁹²⁶ : MAP ¹⁴⁵² OPEN_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁴ reference_type ¹⁹³⁰ COMMA ¹⁴⁰⁶ reference_type ¹⁹³⁰ CLOSE_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁸	bind_map_type ¹⁹⁷⁴
1976	compound_type ¹⁹²⁶ : MAP ¹⁴⁵² OPEN_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁴ reference_type ¹⁹³⁰ COMMA ¹⁴⁰⁶ value_type ¹⁹³⁴ CLOSE_ANGLE ¹³⁹⁸	scale_map_type ¹⁹⁷⁸

FIG. 47

```

# example module specification...
mscan1980 [ # example module predicates specification...
# example singleton predicate specification...
host [mscanHost];
viewer [mscanViewer]
] {
# example host member specification...
Set<mscanFile1984> _root_files1982 [meron];
# example class specification...
mscanFile1984 {
# example class members specification...
mscanDirectory1986 _parent1996;
Text _name1998;
# example class specification, indicating specialization...
mscanDirectory1986
# example class members specification,
# example member specification with member predicates specification...
Set<mscanFile1984> _files2000 [meron];
mscanTopDirectory1988 {}
}
mscanRegularFile1990 {
mscanAudioFile1992 {}
mscanVideoFile1994 {}
}
}
}

```

MODULE SPECIFICATION LANGUAGE AND META-MODULE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims the benefit of PPA Ser. No. 60/791,011 filed 2006-04-11 by the present inventor, and PPA Ser. No. 60/791,097 filed 2006-04-11 by the present inventor, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] This invention relates particularly to the specification of modules for object-oriented programming, and generally to software development tools generating object-oriented programming language code.

[0003] Object-oriented programming enjoys great popularity among programmers. However, in the development of a complex system, the programmer must attend to a vast collection of details. These details may easily obscure and complicate large-scale considerations of the interactions within and between program elements. Hence it would be beneficial to have the use of tools which reduce complexity by automatically handling various details, which may then be suppressed in favor of concise expressions of large-scale interactions.

[0004] Object-oriented programming tends to focus on classes, since classes are the most important component in object-oriented programming languages. In many applications, however, significant benefits may be gained by considering modules, which include collections of interrelated classes. Modules typically incorporate classes which are closely related to domain-specific categories. Relationships of generalizations and specialization among domain categories may be reflected in derivation relationships between categorical classes. It would be beneficial for modules to also include non-categorical classes which are specialized for hosting and processing data structures composed of instances from the categorical classes. It would also be beneficial to coordinate and systematize categorical and unitary non-categorical classes to enhance developer productivity, further relieving the developer from excessive attention to tedious details.

[0005] The problems of specifying suitable representations have led to enormous efforts in the provision of modeling languages, of which the most prominent may be the Unified Modeling Language (UML). UML is vast and comprehensive, with a scope that encompasses all aspects of object-oriented programming. The breadth of that scope limits the use of idioms, patterns, and other paradigms that are applicable in a narrower context of specific unitary and categorical classes. It would be beneficial to have methods of processing that were specifically directed to the narrower but still critical problems of the specification, construction, and processing of domain-specific object-oriented data structures.

[0006] A much-touted feature of UML is its graphical basis. Although graphical diagrams are cherished by some developers, others have found graphical representations of module specifications unintuitive, bulky, clumsy to edit, and inconvenient for automatic processing. Therefore it would be beneficial to have non-graphical means of module speci-

fication, especially if such means were intuitive, concise, easy to edit, and convenient for automatic processing.

SUMMARY

[0007] A language for the specification of object-oriented modules is disclosed. The language permits human-readable expression of module specifications. A module specification includes a module identifier and a module content specification. The module content specification includes at least one specification selected from the group consisting of a class specification and a host members specification.

[0008] The class specification includes a class identifier, a class open terminal, a class content specification, and a class close terminal. The class content specification optionally includes one or more specifications selected from the group consisting of the class specification and a class members specification.

[0009] The host members specification and the class members specification each include a type specification, a member specification, optional additional member specifications, and a members terminator terminal. The member specification is selected from the group consisting of a datum specification and a method specification. The datum specification includes a datum identifier. The method specification includes a method identifier and an arguments specification. The arguments specification includes an arguments open terminal, optional argument specifications, and an arguments close terminal. The argument specification, if any, includes the type specification and an optional argument identifier.

[0010] The type specification is selected from the group consisting of a void type specification, a value type specification, a reference type specification, and a compound type specification. The reference type specification includes the class identifier. The compound type specification is selected from the group consisting of a reference sequence type specification, a value sequence type specification, a reference set type specification, a value set type specification, an index map type specification, a convert map type specification, a bind map type specification, and a scale map type specification.

[0011] The module specification optionally includes a module predicates specification. The module content specification optionally includes a module content predicates specification. The class specification optionally includes a class predicates specification. The class content specification optionally includes a class content predicates specification. The datum specification optionally includes a datum predicates specification. The method specification optionally includes a method predicates specification. The argument specification optionally includes an argument predicates specification.

[0012] The module predicates specification, the module content predicates specification, the class predicates specification, the class content predicates specification, the datum predicates specification, the method predicates specification, and the argument predicates specification, if any, each includes a predicate open terminal, a predicate specification, a predicate close terminal, and, optionally, additional predicate specifications. The predicate specifications are selected from the group consisting of a qualifier specification, a singleton specification, and a plurality specification. The qualifier specification includes a qualifier terminal. The singleton specification includes a singleton terminal and an

object expression. The object expression is selected from the group consisting of an identifier and a quote. The plurality specification includes a plurality terminal and at least one object expression.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0013] FIG. 1 depicts a generator which reads module specifications and writes programming language code and documentation corresponding to the specifications.

[0014] FIG. 2 begins the depiction of a summary specification of an exemplary object-oriented module suitable for representation of specifications of object-oriented modules (1/2).

[0015] FIG. 3 concludes the depiction of a summary specification of an exemplary object-oriented module suitable for representation of specifications of object-oriented modules (2/2).

[0016] FIG. 4 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing a unitary host element for representation of specifications of object-oriented modules.

[0017] FIG. 5 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing element elements.

[0018] FIG. 6 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing entity elements.

[0019] FIG. 7 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing module elements.

[0020] FIG. 8 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing class elements.

[0021] FIG. 9 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing host-class elements.

[0022] FIG. 10 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing operand elements.

[0023] FIG. 11 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing argument elements.

[0024] FIG. 12 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing member elements.

[0025] FIG. 13 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing member-function elements.

[0026] FIG. 14 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing member-datum elements.

[0027] FIG. 15 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing type elements.

[0028] FIG. 16 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing void-type elements.

[0029] FIG. 17 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing value-type elements.

[0030] FIG. 18 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing bit-type elements.

[0031] FIG. 19 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing integer-type elements.

[0032] FIG. 20 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing cardinal-type elements.

[0033] FIG. 21 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing text-type elements.

[0034] FIG. 22 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing reference-type elements.

[0035] FIG. 23 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing compound-type elements.

[0036] FIG. 24 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing sequence-type elements.

[0037] FIG. 25 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing value-sequence-type elements.

[0038] FIG. 26 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing reference-sequence-type elements.

[0039] FIG. 27 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing set-type elements.

[0040] FIG. 28 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing value-set-type elements.

[0041] FIG. 29 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing reference-set-type elements.

[0042] FIG. 30 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing map-type elements.

[0043] FIG. 31 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing index-map-type elements.

[0044] FIG. 32 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing scale-map-type elements.

[0045] FIG. 33 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing bind-map-type elements.

[0046] FIG. 34 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing convert-map-type elements.

[0047] FIG. 35 depicts an informal definition of an exemplary class representing logger elements.

[0048] FIG. 36 depicts exemplary lexical detectors for the initial state of a lexical analyzer for a language for module specification.

[0049] FIG. 37 depicts exemplary predicate relations of a lexical analyzer for a language for module specification.

[0050] FIG. 38 depicts additional exemplary predicate relations of a lexical analyzer for a language for module specification.

[0051] FIG. 39 depicts exemplary lexical detectors for the double-quote state of a lexical analyzer for a language for module specification.

[0052] FIG. 40 depicts exemplary lexical detectors for the single-quote state of a lexical analyzer for a language for module specification.

[0053] FIG. 41 depicts exemplary lexical detectors for the multi-quote state of a lexical analyzer for a language for module specification.

[0054] FIG. 42 depicts exemplary grammar rules for a language for module specification.

[0055] FIG. 43 depicts additional exemplary grammar rules for a language for module specification.

[0056] FIG. 44 depicts additional exemplary grammar rules for a language for module specification.

[0057] FIG. 45 depicts additional exemplary grammar rules for a language for module specification.

[0058] FIG. 46 depicts additional exemplary grammar rules for a language for module specification.

[0059] FIG. 47 depicts an exemplary module specification for an object-oriented module suitable for representation of media files in a file system.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

1 Terminology

[0060] The present invention concerns the specification of object-oriented modules. An object-oriented module, or, more simply, a module, is defined as a collection of inter-related object-oriented classes. Specification is a human-oriented activity by which the characteristics of a module may be conveniently expressed. This invention uses textual expressions for specification of modules. Textual expression are easily prepared. When such expressions are consistent with a formal grammar, they are also easily processed to construct object-oriented data structures, which are convenient to produce module definitions and other useful products.

[0061] The interrelated classes in a module may be usefully divided into categorical classes and unitary classes. A categorical class corresponds to a category in a domain-specific model. Thus categorical classes are largely determined by the requirements of the domain to which applications of the specified module are directed. Instances of a categorical class are typically unbounded in number. Categorical classes are usually arranged in a hierarchy or a directed acyclic graph, reflecting the relations of genera and species among the domain-specific categories.

[0062] Unitary classes relate to the module as a whole. A host is one important unitary class. The host for a module provides a unitary representation of what is typically a multiplicity of objects. The objects are instances of the categorical classes. The host provides access to individual and collected instances according to an organizational scheme which reflects the requirements of the domain. Together with the categorical instances, the host provides a domain-specific object-oriented data structure which is convenient as a target for construction and as a source for processing.

[0063] The categorical classes of a module, corresponding to the categories of a domain, are characterized by members, including both data and functions. The form of the member data is specified in the class but each instance has its own copy of member data elements. Member data is characterized by its type. Type is a complex property of data in many object-oriented programming languages. In the present invention, a simplified type system is used, permitting concise specification and enforcing consistency of usage. Types include value types, reference types, and compound types.

[0064] Value types correspond to scalar data, in which the value of the data accords with the meaning of the data. Scalar data is typically represented by built-in types of a programming language (e.g. int, float, char, in the C language) or by simple classes (e.g. string, date) which may be passed by value (copying elements or structures). Scalar data is used to represent properties of instances, such as identifiers and measured quantities.

[0065] Reference types correspond to references to instances of categories. Reference data is typically represented by pointers or references in a programming language. The value of a pointer is arbitrary and bears no relation to the meaning of the object the pointer represents. Reference data is typically passed by reference (i.e. by copying pointers, not structures). Reference data is used to implement associations among categories in which a first instance is associated with a second instance.

[0066] Compound types correspond to collections. Provision of collections varies widely in programming languages. However, for effective application programming, set, sequence, and map may be sufficient. A set is an unordered collection of elements which does not contain duplicates. A set provides efficient determination of the presence or absence of an element. A set also provide efficient insertion and deletion of an elements. Efficient iteration of the constituent elements of a set is another requirement. Efficient in this context means logarithmic in the number of contained elements for determination, insertion and deletion. Sets may contain reference or value data.

[0067] A sequence is an ordered collection which provides efficient insertion and deletion of elements at either end of the sequence, thus permitting stack, queue, and dequeue

functionality. A sequence may also provide efficient random access to individual elements by offset in the collection order. A sequence also provides efficient iteration of the elements in order. Sequences may contain reference or value data.

[0068] A map provides efficient association between domain and range elements. Given a domain element, a map efficiently produces a corresponding range element or indicates the absence of such an element. Maps must efficiently support insertion and deletion of domain, range pairs. Maps support all combinations of range and domain value and reference. An index denotes a map with a value domain and a reference range. A scale denotes a map with a reference domain and a value range. A binding denotes a map with reference domain and range. A conversion denotes a map with value domain and range.

[0069] Module definition requires specification of members and class relationships, but other useful information may also be present in module specifications. To permit specification of wide-ranging supplemental information on modules, classes, and members, a system of predicates is incorporated into the specification language. Predicates in general consist of a relation and, optionally, one or more objects. The context in which a predicate is expressed determines the subject to which the predicate applies. Predicates are classified as qualifier, singleton, or plurality predicates according to the variety of their objects. A qualifier does not accept any objects. A singleton accepts exactly one object. A plurality accepts one or more objects.

[0070] To permit construction of object-oriented data structures from textual expressions without undue difficulty, a formal grammar may be used to precisely characterize the permissible textual expressions. The use of formal grammars to process textual expressions is well known in the art; the relevant practice is designated syntax-directed translation. Excellent tools are available to facilitate the development of parsers which process textual expressions to generate computational operations in a systematic fashion. For the present invention, the tools utilized include flex, a lexical scanner generator, and bison, a generator providing a parser suitable for syntax-directed translation. Flex and bison are open-source tools which are readily available and in wide use.

[0071] Although syntax-directed translation is well known in the art, a quick review of the terminology is provided. A grammar consists of a collection of rules. Each rule relates a nonterminal token to a sequence (possibly empty) of terminal and nonterminal tokens. The tokens may be associated with data elements. Most convenient for the present invention is to associate tokens with instances of object-oriented classes. Terminal tokens are identified by lexical analysis of the textual expression which is being processed. Nonterminal tokens typically represent partially or fully constructed instances of domain-specific classes, or elements that are predecessors to such instances. Rules may be associated with processing steps, often facilitating the construction of the object-oriented data structure which is the product of parsing. The parsing proceeds by application of the rules; each application of a rule, denoted a production or reduction, may be usefully considered as an event, the

specific aspects of which are characterized by the data elements associated with the rule tokens at the time of the rule application.

2 System Overview

[0072] Refer to FIG. 1. A generator **1000** processes module specifications compatible with a grammar **1002** to produce generated-code **1004** and generated-documents **1006**. The specifications are processed by a parser **1008**, which constructs an object-oriented data structure encapsulated in a host **1010**. The host **1010** represents the specified modules as an object-oriented data structure. The constituent module specifications of the host **1010** are processed by a code-generator **1012** to provide the generated-code **1004**. The generated code includes software components written in a conventional object-oriented programming language. The constituent module specifications of the host **1010** are also processed by a document-generator **1014** to provide the generated-documents **1006**. The generated documentation includes descriptions and figures which characterize the specified modules.

[0073] The present invention is directed to the expression of module specifications using the language of the grammar **1002**, and to the processing of module specifications by the parser **1008** to produce an object-oriented data structure encapsulated by the host **1010**. Co-pending applications relate to the processing of the host **1010** to produce the generated-code **1004** and the generated-documents **1006**.

3 Module Specification Language Overview.

[0074] An exemplary language for the specification of object-oriented modules is characterized by the grammar **1002**. The grammar **1002** is realized by a parser **1008**. The parser **1008** includes lexical analysis to detect terminal tokens. The parser **1008** further includes syntax analysis in which terminal and nonterminal tokens are processed according to rules. Some tokens are associated with instances of classes specified by a meta-module; several classes specific to the processing requirements of the parser are also provided for association with tokens. The detection of lexical terminal tokens and the activation of syntax rules is associated with the actions of the parser. The parser operates on an instance of the meta-module host, assembling a data structure. The elements of the data structure are instances of the classes defined by the meta-module, including a module class, a host class, a class class, a datum class, a method class, and a type class. Certain attributes of the meta-module instances are specified through a predicate mechanism.

[0075] The grammar **1002** accepts expressions consisting of interspersed module specifications and class-scope specifications. A module specification corresponds to an instance of the module class and, optionally, an instance of the host class. A module specification includes an identifier, optional predicates, and a curly-bracket delimited module body. A class-scope specification corresponds to an instance of the class class. A class-scope specification includes a module identifier, a scope terminal, a class identifier, and a curly-bracket delimited class body.

[0076] Within the module body, classes, members, and predicates may be specified. A class specification corresponds to an instance of the class class. A class specification includes an identifier, optional predicates, and a curly-

bracket delimited class body. A member specification corresponds to an instance of the member class. A member specification includes a type, specification of one or more datum or methods, separated by commas, and a closing semicolon. A datum specification corresponds to an instance of the datum class. A datum specification includes an identifier and optional predicates. A method specification corresponds to an instance of the method class. A method specification includes an identifier, an argument list delimited by parentheses, and optional predicates. An argument list consists of zero or more argument specifications, separated by commas. An argument specification corresponds to an instance of the argument class. An argument includes a type, an optional identifier, and optional predicates.

[0077] Members specified in a module body are accumulated to an instance of the host class, if any. Likewise, predicates in a module body are accumulated to an instance of the host class. Classes specified in a module body are considered root classes; by default these classes do not have any genera.

[0078] Within a class body, classes, members, and predicates may be specified. The specifications of classes, members, and predicates in a class body are syntactically equivalent to respective specifications in a module body. However, classes specified in a class body are defined as species of the containing class. Members and predicates specified in a class body are associated with the containing class.

[0079] A type specification corresponds to an instance of the type class. Types are specified as void, value, reference, or compound types. Value types include bit, integer, cardinal, and text. Reference types refer to instances of module classes. Compound types define collections, including set, sequence, and map. Compound types include specification of the type of the collected elements.

[0080] Predicates are delimited by square brackets, defining a predicate scope. A predicate scope may specify one or more predicates. Each specified predicate includes a textual relation (corresponding to a keyword) and, optionally, one or more textual objects. Predicates are separated by semicolons. Objects are separated by commas. Predicates are further specialized to qualifiers, singletons, and pluralities. Qualifiers do not accept any objects. Singletons accept a single object. Pluralities accept multiple objects. Individual predicates are processed to instances of specializations of the predictor class; predictors are ultimately processed to perform editorial operations on instances of specializations of the entity class.

4 Meta-Module Description

[0081] Refer to FIG. 2. A discursive-model meta-module **1016** specifies classes for representation and processing of modules for object-oriented programming. The meta-module **1016** has a host class **1018**.

[0082] The host **1018** represents an instantiation of the module. A datum modules **1020** collects module specifications. A datum types **1022** collects types defined amongst modules for memory management.

[0083] A categorical class element **1024** defines a common base for parsed elements.

[0084] A categorical class entity **1026** represents named elements. The entity **1026** has genus element **1024**.

[0085] A categorical class module **1028** represents a collection of interrelated classes for object-oriented programming. The module **1028** has genus entity **1026**. A datum

classes **1030** represents the collection of classes within a module. A datum forward-classes **1032** represents related classes which are used within a particular module but are not defined in the module. A datum host **1034** represents a class, an instance of which encapsulates an application-specific object-oriented data structure corresponding to an instantiation of a module.

[0086] A categorical class class **1036** represents a class for object-oriented programming. The class **1036** has genus entity **1026**. A datum members **1038** represents the members of a particular class.

[0087] A categorical class host-class **1040** represents an instantiation of a module. The host-class **1040** has genus class **1036**.

[0088] A categorical class operand **1042** represents a typed entity in a scope. The operand **1042** has genus entity **1026**.

[0089] A categorical class argument **1044** represents an argument to a member function. The argument **1044** has genus operand **1042**.

[0090] A categorical class member **1046** represents a member in a class. The member **1046** has genus operand **1042**.

[0091] A categorical class member-function **1048** represents a member function in a class. The member-function **1048** has genus member **1046**. A datum arguments **1050** specifies the arguments to a member function.

[0092] A categorical class member-datum **1052** represents a member datum in a class. The member-datum **1052** has genus member **1046**.

[0093] Refer to FIG. 3. A categorical class type **1054** characterizes the typing of an operand. The type **1054** has genus element **1024**.

[0094] A categorical class void-type **1056** characterizes the absence of a type. The void-type **1056** has genus type **1054**.

[0095] A categorical class value-type **1058** characterizes a type which is passed by value. The value-type **1058** has genus type **1054**.

[0096] A categorical class bit-type **1060** represents a Boolean value, true or false. The bit-type **1060** has genus value-type **1058**.

[0097] A categorical class integer-type **1062** represents an integral value. The integer-type **1062** has genus value-type **1058**.

[0098] A categorical class cardinal-type **1064** represents a non-negative integral value. The cardinal-type **1064** has genus value-type **1058**.

[0099] A categorical class text-type **1066** represents a textual value. The text-type **1066** has genus value-type **1058**.

[0100] A categorical class reference-type **1068** characterizes a type which is passed by reference. The reference-type **1068** has genus type **1054**.

[0101] A categorical class compound-type **1070** characterizes a type which corresponds to a collection. The compound-type **1070** has genus type **1054**.

[0102] A categorical class sequence-type **1072** characterizes a sequence of elements. The sequence-type **1072** has genus compound-type **1070**.

[0103] A categorical class value-sequence-type **1074** characterizes a sequence of value-typed elements. The value-sequence-type **1074** has genus sequence-type **1072**.

[0104] A categorical class reference-sequence-type **1076** characterizes a sequence of reference-typed elements. The reference-sequence-type **1076** has genus sequence-type **1072**.

[0105] A categorical class set-type **1078** characterizes a set of elements. The set-type **1078** has genus compound-type **1070**.

[0106] A categorical class value-set-type **1080** characterizes a set of value-typed elements. The value-set-type **1080** has genus set-type **1078**.

[0107] A categorical class reference-set-type **1082** characterizes a set of reference-typed elements. The reference-set-type **1082** has genus set-type **1078**.

[0108] A categorical class map-type **1084** characterizes a map associating pairs of elements. The map-type **1084** has genus compound-type **1070**.

[0109] A categorical class index-map-type **1086** characterizes a map, of which the range elements are of reference type and the domain elements are of value type. The index-map-type **1086** has genus map-type **1084**.

[0110] A categorical class scale-map-type **1088** characterizes a map, of which the range elements are of value type and the domain elements are of reference type. The scale-map-type **1088** has genus map-type **1084**.

[0111] A categorical class bind-map-type **1090** characterizes a map, of which both the range and domain elements are of reference type. The bind-map-type **1090** has genus map-type **1084**.

[0112] A categorical class convert-map-type **1092** characterizes a map, of which both the range and domain elements are of value type. The convert-map-type **1092** has genus map-type **1084**.

[0113] A categorical class logger **1094** provides logging services.

4.1 Host Class

[0114] Refer to FIG. 4. The host **1018** represents an instantiation of the module. The modules **1020** collects module specifications. The modules **1020** ranges over instances of the class module **1028**. The modules **1020** is a meron. A method module **1096** maps module identifiers to module specifications. A datum module-index **1098** maps module identifiers to module specifications. The module-index **1098** ranges over instances of the class module **1028**. A method accept-module **1100** accepts a module specification. The types **1022** collects types defined amongst modules for memory management. The types **1022** ranges over instances of the class type **1054**. The types **1022** is a meron. A method accept-type **1102** accepts a supplied type instance for accumulation in types **1022**. The accept-type **1102** always accepts the supplied type.

4.2 Element Categorical Class

[0115] Refer to FIG. 5. The element **1024** defines a common base for parsed elements. The element **1024** is a root-level class of the meta-module **1016**. A datum source **1104** identifies the source file and line from which the element was parsed. The source **1104** is useful for reporting errors. The source **1104** ranges over scalar text.

4.3 Entity Categorical Class

[0116] Refer to FIG. 6. The entity **1026** represents named elements. The entity **1026** has genus element **1024**. A datum

id **1106** uniquely identifies a particular entity in a global scope. The id **1106** is required. The id **1106** ranges over scalar text. A datum term **1108** provides a text-friendly identifier, not necessarily unique. The term **1108** is used in the generated particulars of an entity. The term **1108** is required. The term **1108** ranges over scalar text. A datum title **1110** provides a text-friendly phrase, suitable for heading a section or figure. The title **1110** ranges over scalar text. The title **1110** is currently ignored except for module and class. A datum purpose **1112** describes the purpose of a particular entity. The purpose **1112** should be a predicate corresponding to the entity as a subject. The purpose **1112** ranges over scalar text. A datum passage **1114** indicates the segment in which to present a particular entity. The passage **1114** ranges over scalar text. The passage **1114** should be restricted to the class **1036** and the module **1028**. A datum remarks **1116** provides primary supplemental descriptive information pertaining to a particular entity. The remarks **1116** should be a predicate corresponding to the entity as a subject. The remarks **1116** are presented at the beginning of the generated particulars of a particular entity. The remarks **1116** ranges over scalar text. A datum notes **1118** provides secondary supplemental descriptive information pertaining to a particular entity. The notes **1118** should be a predicate corresponding to the entity as a subject. The notes **1118** are presented at the end of the generated particulars of a particular entity. The notes **1118** ranges over scalar text.

4.4 Module Categorical Class

[0117] Refer to FIG. 7. The module **1028** represents a collection of interrelated classes for object-oriented programming. The module **1028** has genus entity **1026**. The classes **1030** represents the collection of classes within a module. The classes **1030** ranges over instances of the class class **1036**. The classes **1030** is a meron. A datum class-index **1120** associates a particular class **1036** with its unique id **1106**. The class-index **1120** ranges over instances of the class class **1036**. A method accept-class **1122** accepts an instance of the class **1036** as a constituent of a module. The accept-class **1122** updates the classes **1030** and the class-index **1120**. The accept-class **1122** fails on duplicate id **1106**. A method resolve-class **1124** resolves a textual identifier to an instance of the class **1036** which is a constituent of a module. The resolve-class **1124** uses the class-index **1120**. A method sort-classes **1126** performs topological sort of module classes to ensure that no class is defined before its genera. The forward-classes **1032** represents related classes which are used within a particular module but are not defined in the module. The forward-classes **1032** ranges over instances of the class class **1036**. The forward-classes **1032** is a meron. A method accept-forward-class **1128** accepts an instance of the class **1036** as a forward class definition. The accept-forward-class **1128** updates the forward-classes **1130** and the class-index **1120**. The accept-forward-class **1128** assumes memory management of the supplied class. A datum root-classes **1132** represents the collection of classes with a module which do not have any generalizations within the module. The root-classes **1132** is a subset of the classes **1030**. The root-classes **1132** ranges over instances of the class class **1036**. The host **1034** represents a class, an instance of which encapsulates an application-specific object-oriented data structure corresponding to an instantiation of a module. The host **1034** is the target for module-scoped member specifications. The host **1034** instance may

be denoted as a model object or a document object. The host **1034** may contain resolver, depository, factory, reflector, etc. according to specification. The host **1034** ranges over instances of the class host-class **1040**. The host **1034** is a meron. A method accept-host **1134** accepts an instance of the host-class **1040** for assignment to the host **1034**. The accept-host **1134** fails if the host class instance is already defined. A datum viewer-id **1136** specifies a view operator to be generated; the generated viewer provides a useful base class for read-only operators that process an instantiation of a module. The viewer-id **1136** ranges over scalar text. A datum editor-id **1138** specifies an edit operator to be generated; the generated editor provides a useful base class for write-capable operators that process an instantiation of a module. The editor-id **1138** ranges over scalar text. A datum factory-id **1140** specifies a factory operator to be generated; the generated factory provides text-driven instantiation of objects from the classes of a module. The factory-id **1140** is particularly useful for processing markup. The factory-id **1140** ranges over scalar text. A datum factory-root-id **1142** specifies the base class from which factory-generated classes must derive; cf. the factory-id **1140**. The factory-root-id **1142** ranges over scalar text. A datum auditor-id **1144** specifies an auditor operator to be generated; the generated auditor determines conformance with specified requirements. The auditor-id **1144** ranges over scalar text. A datum reflector-id **1146** specifies a reflector operator to be generated; the generated reflector provides a run-time representation of the specialization and generalization relationships of the classes of a module. The reflector-id **1146** ranges over scalar text. A datum parser-id **1148** specifies an external parser class, for which lexical responders shall be generated to facilitate generic processing of assignments from predicates. The parser-id **1148** ranges over scalar text. A datum resolver-id **1150** specifies a resolver operator to be generated; the generated resolver provides resolution of identifiers to instances. The resolver-id **1150** uses the member specified by the resolver-id-field **1152** of the class specified by the resolver-root-id **1154**. The resolver-id **1150** resolves identifiers to instances of the class specified by the resolver-root-id **1154**. The resolver-id **1150** ranges over scalar text. The resolver-id **1150** specializes the editor operator specified by the editor-id **1138**. A datum resolver-root-id **1154** specifies the common base class for resolution. The resolver-root-id **1154** must have a member datum or function corresponding to the resolver-id-field **1152**. The resolver-root-id **1154** ranges over scalar text. A datum resolver-id-field **1152** specifies the member of the class specified by the resolver-root-id **1154** which uniquely identifies instances of the class specified by the resolver-root-id **1154**. The resolver-id-field **1152** is used by the generated resolver. The resolver-id-field **1152** must be a member datum or member function of the class specified by the resolver-root-id **1154**. The resolver-id-field **1152** ranges over scalar text. A datum acceptor-id **1156** specifies an acceptor class to be generated; the generated acceptor serves as a genus class for specific acceptor classes, also to be generated. The acceptor-id **1156** is particularly useful for parsing and processing markup. The acceptor-id **1156** ranges over scalar text. A datum predicator-id **1158** specifies a predicator class to be generated; the generated predicator serves as a genus class for specific predicator classes, also to be generated. The predicator-id **1158** is particularly useful for parsing and processing markup. The predicator-id **1158** ranges over scalar text. A

method qualifier-id **1160** specifies a qualifier class, specializing the predicator, to be generated. A method singleton-id **1162** specifies a singleton class, specializing the predicator, to be generated. A method plurality-id **1164** specifies a plurality class, specializing the predicator, to be generated. A method predicator-sequence-id **1166** specifies a class providing a sequence of predicators, to be generated. A method promissory-reference-id **1168** specifies a class providing a deferred resolution of a textual reference. A method depository-id **1170** specifies a depository class, holding promissory references for eventual redemption. A datum predicator-host-id **1172** specifies a predicator host class to be generated; the generated predicator host serves predicators corresponding to predicates. The predicator-host-id **1172** is particularly useful for processing markup. The predicator-host-id **1172** ranges over scalar text.

4.5 Class Categorical Class

[0118] Refer to FIG. 8. The class **1036** represents a class for object-oriented programming. The class **1036** has genus entity **1026**. A datum module **1174** represents a particular instance of the module **1028** of which a particular class is a constituent. The module **1174** is complementary to the classes **1030**. The module **1174** ranges over instances of the class module **1028**. A datum genera **1176** represents the collection of classes from which a particular class is derived. The genera **1176** includes the closest generalizations of a particular class. The genera **1176** ranges over instances of the class class **1036**. The members **1038** represents the members of a particular class. The members **1038** may include data members and function members. The members **1038** ranges over instances of the class member **1046**. The members **1038** is a meron. A datum member-index **1178** associates members with their scoped identifiers. The member-index **1178** ranges over instances of the class member **1046**. A datum species **1180** represents the collection of classes which are derived from a particular class. The species **1180** are the closest specializations of a particular class. The species **1180** are useful for depth-first processing of classes in a module; cf. the root-classes **1132**. The species **1180** is complementary to the genera **1176**. The species **1180** ranges over instances of the class class **1036**. A datum genera-closure **1182** represents the totality of classes in the ancestry of a class. The genera-closure **1182** includes all the generalizations of a particular class. The genera-closure **1182** ranges over instances of the class class **1036**. A datum species-closure **1184** represents the totality of classes descending from a class. The species-closure **1184** includes all the specializations of a particular class. The species-closure **1184** is complementary to the genera-closure **1182**. The species-closure **1184** ranges over instances of the class class **1036**. A datum is-module-root **1186** indicates whether a particular class lacks any generalizations in its containing module **1028**. The is-module-root **1186** corresponds to membership in the root-classes **1132**. The is-module-root **1186** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum constructs-markup-element **1188** indicates responsiveness to element construction in processing markup. The constructs-markup-element **1188** is applicable to the host only. The constructs-markup-element **1188** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum accepts-markup-element **1190** indicates responsiveness to elements in processing markup. The accepts-markup-element **1190** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum accepts-markup-text **1192** indicates responsiveness to text in pro-

cessing markup. The accepts-markup-text **1192** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum accepts-markup-predicate **1194** indicates responsiveness to predicates in processing markup. The accepts-markup-predicate **1194** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum markup-configure **1196** indicates responsiveness to element configuration in processing markup. The markup-configure **1196** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum markup-commit **1198** indicates responsiveness to element commitment in processing markup. The markup-commit **1198** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum is-pure-abstract **1200** indicates whether class is not instantiable due to pure member functions. The is-pure-abstract **1200** is computed at module instantiation; do not set. The is-pure-abstract **1200** ranges over scalar boolean. A method accept-member **1202** accumulates a member. The accept-member **1202** updates the members **1038** and the member-index **1178**. The accept-member **1202** fails on duplicate scoped identifiers for members. A datum provides-downcast **1204** specifies the provision of a safe downcast to immediate species of a class. The provides-downcast **1204** is occasionally useful but easily abused; beware. The provides-downcast **1204** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum tags **1206** indicates generic textual identifiers usable for instantiation of a particular class. The tags **1206** are especially useful for parsing text and processing markup. The tags **1206** ranges over scalar text. A method acceptor-host-id **1208** specifies a class which maps tags to acceptors. A datum audit-requirements **1210** specifies boolean conditions that may be verified by a generated auditor as specified by the auditor-id **1212**. The audit-requirements **1210** ranges over scalar text. A datum auditor-context **1214** supplies reporting context for auditor. The auditor-context **1214** must evaluate to an instance of text. The auditor-context **1214** ranges over scalar text.

4.6 Host Class Categorical Class

[0119] Refer to FIG. 9. The host-class **1040** represents an instantiation of a module. The host-class **1040** represents the totality of an application-specific object-oriented data structure. The host-class **1040** corresponds to the host **1034**. The host-class **1040** typically occurs in a singleton instance per application. The host-class **1040** provides a useful target for parsing, markup, etc. The host-class **1040** has genus class **1036**.

4.7 Operand Categorical Class

[0120] Refer to FIG. 10. The operand **1042** represents a typed entity in a scope. The operand **1042** has genus entity **1026**. A datum scope-handle **1216** informally identifies an operand in a scope. The scope-handle **1216** ranges over scalar text. A method validate-handle **1218** ensures that a proposed handle does not conflict with C++ reserved words. A method accept-scope-handle **1220** provides an acceptor for the scope-handle **1216**. A datum scope-id **1222** uniquely identifies an operand in a scope. The scope-id **1222** is applicable to members in a class scope and arguments in a member function scope. The scope-id **1222** ranges over scalar text. A datum is-const **1224** indicates whether the operand may be modified in the scope. The is-const **1224**

ranges over scalar boolean. A datum type **1226** specifies the type of an operand. The type **1226** ranges over instances of the class type **1054**.

4.8 Argument Categorical Class

[0121] Refer to FIG. 11. The argument **1044** represents an argument to a member function. The argument **1044** has genus operand **1042**. A datum position **1228** indicates the position of the argument in the member function argument sequence. The position **1228** ranges over scalar cardinal. A datum arg-default **1230** indicates a default value for the argument. The arg-default **1230** ranges over scalar text.

4.9 Member Categorical Class

[0122] Refer to FIG. 12. The member **1046** represents a member in a class. The member **1046** has genus operand **1042**. A datum member-class **1232** identifies the class which specifies the member. The member-class **1232** ranges over instances of the class class **1036**.

4.10 Member Function Categorical Class

[0123] Refer to FIG. 13. The member-function **1048** represents a member function in a class. The member-function **1048** has genus member **1046**. A datum is-static **1234** indicates a class function. The is-static **1234** is invoked independently of any instance of the class. The is-static **1234** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum is-virtual **1236** indicates a virtual member function. The is-virtual **1236** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum is-pure **1238** indicates a pure virtual member function. The is-pure **1238** implies is-virtual **1236**, but not vice versa. The is-pure **1238** precludes instantiation of the containing class when set. The is-pure **1238** ranges over scalar boolean. The arguments **1050** specifies the arguments to a member function. The arguments **1050** ranges over instances of the class argument **1044**. The arguments **1050** is a meron. A datum inline-definition **1240** specifies the inline definition of a member function. The inline-definition **1240** ranges over scalar text. A datum definition **1242** specifies the definition of a member function. The definition **1242** precludes the inline definition of a member function. The definition **1242** ranges over scalar text. A datum indicates **1244** describes the meaning of the return value of a member function. The indicates **1244** should be a complement to “The member returns a [type], indicating . . .”. The indicates **1244** ranges over scalar text.

4.11 Member Datum Categorical Class

[0124] Refer to FIG. 14. The member-datum **1052** represents a member datum in a class. The member-datum **1052** has genus member **1046**. A datum is-meron **1246** indicates that a member datum is a meronym of the containing instance of the class to which it belongs. The is-meron **1246** indicates that the member datum is to be deleted on deletion of the containing instance. The is-meron **1246** indicates that, by default, viewers and editors of the module should recursively visit the member datum when visiting the containing instance. The is-meron **1246** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum is-mutable **1248** indicates that non-const access to a member datum is provided even when the containing instance is const. The is-mutable **1248** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum init **1250** indicates an initial value for the datum at instantiation. The init **1250** ranges over scalar text. A method predicator-class-id **1252** specifies an identifier for

a predicator class which will mediate transformation from a textual representation to a type-safe object-oriented element. The predicator-class-id **1252** identifies a class which is applicable for direct processing of scalars and meron references in predicates and attributes; a promissory reference is used to process non-meron references. A method promissory-class-id **1254** specifies an identifier for a promissory class which will mediate deferred transformation from a textual reference to a type-safe object-oriented element. The promissory-class-id **1254** identifies a class which is applicable for processing non-meron references in predicates and attributes. A method acceptor-class-id **1256** specifies an identifier for an acceptor class which will receive and assign instances. The acceptor-class-id **1256** identifies a class which is applicable for processing contained markup elements. A method generic-acceptor-id **1258** specifies an identifier for a member function which provides a uniform acceptance interface (assignment or accumulation) for elements of the proper type. The generic-acceptor-id **1258** identifies a member function which is required by acceptors and predicators. A datum acceptor **1260** specifies a member function to which assignment or accumulation of the datum is restricted. The acceptor **1260** ranges over instances of the class member-function **1048**. The acceptor **1260** should indicate a member function which returns a boolean indicating the success of the attempted assignment. A datum inhibit-predicator **1262** prevents automatic generation of a predicator for use in parsing and processing markup. The inhibit-predicator **1262** typically used with an acceptor where the underlying member datum is a secondary target, e.g., an index associated with a sequence. The inhibit-predicator **1262** ranges over scalar boolean. A datum tags **1264** specifies textual identifiers usable for instantiation of a particular class and subsequently for assignment to a particular member. The tags **1264** are especially useful for parsing text and processing markup. The tags **1264** ranges over scalar text. A datum handles **1266** permit scope-specific alternative identification. The handles **1266** must be unique in scope. The handles **1266** are used as identifiers in the generation of convenience member functions. The handles **1266** ranges over scalar text. A method accept-handle **1268** validates and accepts the supplied handle.

4.12 Type Categorical Class

[0125] Refer to FIG. 15. The type **1054** characterizes the typing of an operand. The type **1054** has genus element **1024**. A method type-text **1270** provides a textual representation of a type. A method is-plural **1272** distinguishes plural from singleton types. The is-plural **1272** is false, by default; non-compound types are singular.

4.13 Void Type Categorical Class

[0126] Refer to FIG. 16. The void-type **1056** characterizes the absence of a type. The void-type **1056** has genus type **1054**. A method type-text **1274** returns “Void”.

4.14 Value Type Categorical Class

[0127] Refer to FIG. 17. The value-type **1058** characterizes a type which is passed by value. The value-type **1058** has genus type **1054**.

4.15 Bit Type Categorical Class

[0128] Refer to FIG. 18. The bit-type **1060** represents a Boolean value, true or false. The bit-type **1060** has genus value-type **1058**. A method type-text **1276** returns “Bit”.

4.16 Integer Type Categorical Class

[0129] Refer to FIG. 19. The integer-type **1062** represents an integral value. The integer-type **1062** has genus value-type **1058**. A method type-text **1278** returns “Integer”.

4.17 Cardinal Type Categorical Class

[0130] Refer to FIG. 20. The cardinal-type **1064** represents a non-negative integral value. The cardinal-type **1064** useful for counting. The cardinal-type **1064** has genus value-type **1058**. A method type-text **1280** returns “Cardinal”.

4.18 Text Type Categorical Class

[0131] Refer to FIG. 21. The text-type **1066** represents a textual value. The text-type **1066** has genus value-type **1058**. A method type-text **1282** returns “Text”.

4.19 Reference Type Categorical Class

[0132] Refer to FIG. 22. The reference-type **1068** characterizes a type which is passed by reference. The reference-type **1068** corresponds to a class. The reference-type **1068** has genus type **1054**. A datum reference-class-id **1284** identifies the class to which a reference type corresponds. The reference-class-id **1284** ranges over scalar text. A method type-text **1286** returns the reference-class-id **1284**.

4.20 Compound Type Categorical Class

[0133] Refer to FIG. 23. The compound-type **1070** characterizes a type which corresponds to a collection. The compound-type **1070** is parameterized by one or more subsidiary types. The compound-type **1070** has genus type **1054**. A datum parameters **1288** specifies the subsidiary types by which a compound type is parameterized. The parameters **1288** ranges over instances of the class type **1054**. A method type-text **1290** has unspecified purpose. A method compound-text **1292** specifies the particular compound, e.g. sequence, set, etc. A method is-plural **1294** has unspecified purpose. The is-plural **1294** is true, by default; compound types are plural. A datum range **1296** specifies the characteristic subsidiary type of the elements in the compound type. The range **1296** ranges over instances of the class type **1054**.

4.21 Sequence Type Categorical Class

[0134] Refer to FIG. 24. The sequence-type **1072** characterizes a sequence of elements. The sequence-type **1072** specifies a compound element that permits efficient addition or removal of elements at the front or back of the sequence. The sequence-type **1072** specifies a compound element that permits direct access to elements by position in the sequence. The sequence-type **1072** specifies a compound element that permits iteration of the elements in the sequence. The sequence-type **1072** has genus compound-

type **1070**. A method compound-text **1298** has unspecified purpose. The compound-text **1298** returns “Sequence”.

4.22 Value Sequence Type Categorical Class

[0135] Refer to FIG. 25. The value-sequence-type **1074** characterizes a sequence of value-typed elements. The value-sequence-type **1074** has genus sequence-type **1072**. A datum value-range **1300** specifies the value type of the sequence elements. The value-range **1300** ranges over instances of the class value-type **1058**.

4.23 Reference Sequence Type Categorical Class

[0136] Refer to FIG. 26. The reference-sequence-type **1076** characterizes a sequence of reference-typed elements. The reference-sequence-type **1076** has genus sequence-type **1072**. A datum reference-range **1302** specifies the reference type of the sequence elements. The reference-range **1302** ranges over instances of the class reference-type **1068**.

4.24 Set Type Categorical Class

[0137] Refer to FIG. 27. The set-type **1078** characterizes a set of elements. The set-type **1078** specifies a compound element that permits efficient determination of the presence or absence of a particular element in the set. The set-type **1078** specifies a compound element that permits iteration of elements in the set. The set-type **1078** has genus compound-type **1070**. A method compound-text **1304** has unspecified purpose. The compound-text **1304** returns “Set”.

4.25 Value Set Type Categorical Class

[0138] Refer to FIG. 28. The value-set-type **1080** characterizes a set of value-typed elements. The value-set-type **1080** has genus set-type **1078**. A datum value-range **1306** specifies the value type of the set elements. The value-range **1306** ranges over instances of the class value-type **1058**.

4.26 Reference Set Type Categorical Class

[0139] Refer to FIG. 29. The reference-set-type **1082** characterizes a set of reference-typed elements. The reference-set-type **1082** has genus set-type **1078**. A datum reference-range **1308** specifies the reference type of the set elements. The reference-range **1308** ranges over instances of the class reference-type **1068**.

4.27 Map Type Categorical Class

[0140] Refer to FIG. 30. The map-type **1084** characterizes a map associating pairs of elements. The map-type **1084** specifies a compound element that permits association of a range element with a supplied domain element. The map-type **1084** specifies a compound element that permits iteration of pairs. The map-type **1084** has genus compound-type **1070**. A datum domain **1310** specifies the subsidiary type of the domain elements. The domain **1310** ranges over instances of the class type **1054**. A method compound-text **1312** has unspecified purpose. The compound-text **1312** returns “Map”.

4.28 Index Map Type Categorical Class

[0141] Refer to FIG. 31. The index-map-type **1086** characterizes a map, of which the range elements are of reference type and the domain elements are of value type. The

index-map-type **1086** has genus map-type **1084**. A datum value-domain **1314** specifies the value type of the map domain. The value-domain **1314** ranges over instances of the class value-type **1058**. A datum reference-range **1316** specifies the reference type of the map range. The reference-range **1316** ranges over instances of the class reference-type **1068**.

4.29 Scale Map Type Categorical Class

[0142] Refer to FIG. 32. The scale-map-type **1088** characterizes a map, of which the range elements are of value type and the domain elements are of reference type. The scale-map-type **1088** has genus map-type **1084**. A datum reference-domain **1318** specifies the reference type of the map domain. The reference-domain **1318** ranges over instances of the class reference-type **1068**. A datum value-range **1320** specifies the value type of the map range. The value-range **1320** ranges over instances of the class value-type **1058**.

4.30 Bind Map Type Categorical Class

[0143] Refer to FIG. 33. The bind-map-type **1090** characterizes a map, of which both the range and domain elements are of reference type. The bind-map-type **1090** has genus map-type **1084**. A datum reference-domain **1322** specifies the reference type of the map domain. The reference-domain **1322** ranges over instances of the class reference-type **1068**. A datum reference-range **1324** specifies the reference type of the map range. The reference-range **1324** ranges over instances of the class reference-type **1068**.

4.31 Convert Map Type Categorical Class

[0144] Refer to FIG. 34. The convert-map-type **1092** characterizes a map, of which both the range and domain elements are of value type. The convert-map-type **1092** has genus map-type **1084**. A datum value-domain **1326** specifies the value type of the map domain. The value-domain **1326** ranges over instances of the class value-type **1058**. A datum value-range **1328** specifies the value type of the map range. The value-range **1328** ranges over instances of the class value-type **1058**.

4.32 Logger Categorical Class

[0145] Refer to FIG. 35. The logger **1094** provides logging services. The logger **1094** is a root-level class of the meta-module **1016**.

5 Module Specification Language

5.1 Parse Classes

[0146] The meta-module **1016** includes classes, instances of which may be associated with tokens in the grammar **1002**. The class module **1028** represents a collection of interrelated classes. The class class **1036** represents a class for object-oriented programming. The class member **1046** represents a member of an object oriented class, including a member datum and a member function. The class argument **1044** represents an argument to a member function. The class type **1054** represents the type of an operand, where operands include member data, member functions, and arguments to member functions. The class value-type **1058** represents a scalar type, instances of which are typically transferred by copying. The class reference-type **1068** rep-

resents a reference type, instances of which are typically transferred by copying a pointer.

[0147] The parser **1008** makes use of several parse-specific classes in processing specifications compatible with the grammar **1002**. A class parse-members **1330** represents a specified sequence of instances of the member **1046** sharing a common type. A class parse-arguments **1332** represents a sequence of instances of the argument **1044**, corresponding to the argument list of a member function. A class parse-identifier **1334** represents alphanumeric text identifying an entity, such as the name of a module, class, member, etc. A class parse-text **1336** represents arbitrary text in the parser, typically an object to a predicate.

[0148] The parser **1008** makes wide use of specializations of the class predicator **1338** for use in processing predicates. The predicator **1338** represents an abstract class which is capable of assigning a value (typically specified by a predicate object) to a member of a parse class. A class predicator-qualifier **1340**, specializing the predicator **1338**, represents an predicator which lacks an object. A class predicator-singleton **1342**, specializing the predicator **1338**, represents an predicator which operates on a single object. A class predicator-plurality **1344**, specializing the predicator **1338**, represents an predicator which operates on plural objects. A class predicator-sequence **1346** represents a sequence of instances of the predicator **1338**, corresponding to one or more predicates.

5.2 Lexical Analysis

[0149] FIG. 36 depicts lexical detectors for a state initial **1348** of the grammar **1002**. The initial **1348** corresponds to the initial, default, lexical analysis' state.

[0150] FIG. 37 and FIG. 38 depict lexical detectors for predicate relations in the initial **1348**. Each predicate relation corresponds to a particular specialization of the predicator **1338**.

[0151] FIG. 39 depicts lexical detectors for a state double-quote **1350** of the grammar **1002**. The double-quote **1350** corresponds to lexical processing inside a double-quoted string.

[0152] FIG. 40 depicts lexical detectors for a state single-quote **1352** of the grammar **1002**. The single-quote **1352** corresponds to lexical processing inside a single-quoted string.

[0153] FIG. 41 depicts lexical detectors for a state multi-quote **1354** of the grammar **1002**. The multi-quote **1354** corresponds to lexical processing inside a multi-line quoted string.

5.2.1 Lexical Analysis Initial State

[0154] Refer to FIG. 36. The state initial **1348** corresponds to the initial, default, lexical analysis state. The initial **1348** detects comments, punctuation, type primitives, reserved words, and identifiers.

[0155] A match **1356** detects shell-style comments, which are ignored in processing a module specification. A match **1358** detects white space, which is ignored. A match **1360** detects a newline. The match **1360** triggers a newline **1362**, which maintains an internal line count in the parser **1008**. The line count is useful for reporting errors and other status.

[0156] A match **1364** detects a scope symbol. The match **1364** returns a scope-terminal **1366**. The scope symbol permits a module specification to be distributed over mul-

tuple sections (and files). Each section specifies a scope, including a module scope or a class scope.

[0157] A match **1368** detects a left curly bracket, opening a module or class scope. The match **1368** returns an open-curly-terminal **1370**. The open-curly-terminal **1370** serves as a module open terminal and a class open terminal, depending on context.

[0158] A match **1372** detects a right curly bracket, closing a module or class scope. The match **1372** returns a close-curly-terminal **1374**. The open-curly-terminal **1370** serves as a module close terminal and a class close terminal, depending on context.

[0159] A match **1376** detects a left square bracket, opening a predicate scope. The match **1376** returns an open-square-terminal **1378**. The open-square-terminal **1378** serves as a predicates open terminal.

[0160] A match **1380** detects a right square bracket, closing a predicate scope. The match **1380** returns a close-square-terminal **1382**. The close-square-terminal **1382** serves as a predicates close terminal.

[0161] A match **1384** detects a left parenthesis, opening an argument list. The match **1384** returns an open-paren-terminal **1386**. The open-paren-terminal **1386** serves as an arguments open terminal.

[0162] A match **1388** detects a right parenthesis, closing an argument list. The match **1388** returns a close-paren-terminal **1390**. The close-paren-terminal **1390** serves as an arguments close terminal.

[0163] A match **1392** detects a left angle bracket, opening a type parameter sequence for a compound type. The match **1392** returns a open-angle-terminal **1394**. The open-angle-terminal **1394** serves as a parameters open terminal.

[0164] A match **1396** detects a right angle bracket, closing a type parameter sequence for a compound type. The match **1396** returns a close-angle-terminal **1398**. The close-angle-terminal **1398** serves as a parameters close terminal.

[0165] A match **1400** detects a semicolon, indicating the end of a sequence of member declarations or a predicate separator. The match **1400** returns a semicolon-terminal **1402**. The semicolon-terminal **1402** serves as a members terminator terminal.

[0166] A match **1404** detects a comma, separating member function arguments or predicate objects. The match **1404** returns a comma-terminal **1406**. The comma-terminal **1406** serves as a members separator terminal, as an arguments separator terminal, and as an objects separator terminal, according to context.

[0167] A match **1408** detects a double quote, indicating the beginning of double-quoted text. The match **1408** transfers the lexer state to the double-quote **1350**. The match **1408** triggers a quote-open **1410**, in which the parser **1008** will accumulate quoted text.

[0168] A match **1412** detects a single quote, indicating the beginning of single-quoted text. The match **1412** transfers the lexer state to the single-quote **1352**. The match **1412** triggers the quote-open **1410**, in which the parser **1008** will accumulate quoted text.

[0169] A match **1414** detects a multi-quote opening sequence, indicating the beginning of multi-line quoted text. Single and double-quoted text may not extend across line boundaries (following the convention of C and C++). A special multi-line quote is therefore provided to accommodate multi-line quoted text. The match **1414** transfers the lexer state to the multi-quote **1354**. The match **1414** triggers

the quote-open **1410**, in which the parser **1008** will accumulate quoted text, including newlines in the multi-quote **1354**.

[0170] A match **1416** detects void type keywords. The match **1416** returns a void-terminal **1418**. The void-terminal **1418** is associated with an instance of the type **1054**. The match **1416** triggers a void-type **1420**, which instantiates an instance of the void-type **1056**, a specialization of the type **1054**.

[0171] A match **1422** detects integer type keywords. The match **1422** returns a int-terminal **1424**. The int-terminal **1424** is associated with an instance of the value-type **1058**. The match **1422** triggers a int-type **1426**, which instantiates an instance of the integer-type **1062**, a specialization of the value-type **1058**.

[0172] A match **1428** detects boolean type keywords. The match **1428** returns a bit-terminal **1430**. The bit-terminal **1430** is associated with an instance of the value-type **1058**. The match **1428** triggers a bit-type **1432**, which instantiates an instance of the bit-type **1060**, a specialization of the value-type **1058**.

[0173] A match **1434** detects cardinal type keywords. The match **1434** returns a card-terminal **1436**. The card-terminal **1436** is associated with an instance of the value-type **1058**. The match **1434** triggers a card-type **1438**, which instantiates an instance of the cardinal-type **1064**, a specialization of the value-type **1058**.

[0174] A match **1440** detects text type keywords. The match **1440** returns a text-terminal **1442**. The text-terminal **1442** is associated with an instance of the value-type **1058**. The match **1440** triggers a text-type **1444** which instantiates an instance of the text-type **1066**, a specialization of the value-type **1058**.

[0175] A match **1446** detects set type keywords. The match **1446** returns a set-terminal **1448**.

[0176] A match **1450** detects map type keywords. The match **1450** returns a map-terminal **1452**.

[0177] A match **1454** detects sequence type keywords. The match **1454** returns a seq-terminal **1456**.

[0178] A match **1458** detects alphanumeric identifiers. The match **1458** returns a id-terminal **1460**. The id-terminal **1460** is associated with an instance of the parse-identifier **1334**. The match **1458** triggers an id **1462**, which instantiates an instance of the parse-identifier **1334** with its constituent text reflecting the detected identifier. The id-terminal **1460** serves as a module identifier, a class identifier, a datum identifier, a method identifier, and an object, according to context.

[0179] A match **1464** matches any character. This detector indicates an error (unexpected character). The match **1464** triggers a bad-char **1466**, which results in a parse failure.

[0180] Refer to FIG. 37. The grammar **1002** includes relations which are associated with lexer keywords. Each relation implies a specialization of the predicator **1338**, which is created in the particular lexical responder. Predicate relations participate in qualifier specifications, singleton specifications, and plurality specifications.

[0181] A match **1468** detects the reserved word "acceptor," representing a singleton predicate relation. The match **1468** returns a singleton-terminal **1470**. The singleton-terminal **1470** is associated with an instance of the predicator-singleton **1342**. The match **1468** triggers an acceptor-predicate **1472**, which provides an instance of a specialization of

the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum acceptor 1260 of the class member-datum 1052.

[0182] A match 1474 detects the reserved word “acceptor-id,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1474 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1474 triggers an acceptor-id-predicate 1476, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum acceptor-id 1156 of the class module 1028.

[0183] A match 1478 detects the reserved word “accept-element,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match 1478 returns a qualifier-terminal 1480. The qualifier-terminal 1480 is associated with an instance of the predicator-qualifier 1340. The match 1478 triggers an accepts-markup-element-predicate 1482, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum accepts-markup-element 1190 of the class class 1036.

[0184] A match 1484 detects the reserved word “accept-predicate,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match 1484 returns the qualifier-terminal 1480. The match 1484 triggers an accepts-markup-predicate-predicate 1486, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum accepts-markup-predicate 1194 of the class class 1036.

[0185] A match 1488 detects the reserved word “accept-text,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match 1488 returns the qualifier-terminal 1480. The match 1488 triggers an accepts-markup-text-predicate 1490, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum accepts-markup-text 1192 of the class class 1036.

[0186] A match 1492 detects the reserved word “default,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1492 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1492 triggers an arg-default-predicate 1494, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum arg-default 1230 of the class argument 1044.

[0187] A match 1496 detects the reserved word “predicator,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1496 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1496 triggers an predicator-id-predicate 1498, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum predicator-id 1158 of the class module 1028.

[0188] A match 1500 detects the reserved word “audit,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match 1500 returns a plurality-terminal 1502. The plurality-terminal 1502 is associated with an instance of the predicator-plurality 1344. The match 1500 triggers an audit-requirements-predicate 1504, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum audit-requirements 1210 of the class class 1036.

[0189] A match 1506 detects the reserved word “require,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match 1506 returns the plurality-terminal 1502. The match 1506 triggers the audit-requirements-predicate 1504, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum audit-requirements 1210 of the class class 1036.

[0190] A match 1508 detects the reserved word “auditor-context,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The

match 1508 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1508 triggers an auditor-context-predicate 1510, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum auditor-context 1214 of the class class 1036.

[0191] A match 1512 detects the reserved word “auditor,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1512 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1512 triggers an auditor-id-predicate 1514, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum auditor-id 1144 of the class module 1028.

[0192] A match 1516 detects the reserved word “construct-element,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match 1516 returns the qualifier-terminal 1480. The match 1516 triggers a constructs-markup-element-predicate 1518, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum constructs-markup-element 1188 of the class class 1036.

[0193] A match 1520 detects the reserved word “definition,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match 1520 returns the plurality-terminal 1502. The match 1520 triggers a definition-predicate 1522, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum definition 1242 of the class member-function 1048.

[0194] A match 1524 detects the reserved word “editor,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1524 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1524 triggers an editor-id-predicate 1526, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum editor-id 1138 of the class module 1028.

[0195] A match 1528 detects the reserved word “factory,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1528 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1528 triggers a factory-id-predicate 1530, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum factory-id 1140 of the class module 1028.

[0196] A match 1532 detects the reserved word “factory-root,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1532 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1532 triggers a factory-root-id-predicate 1534, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum factory-root-id 1142 of the class module 1028.

[0197] A match 1536 detects the reserved word “forward,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match 1536 returns the plurality-terminal 1502. The match 1536 triggers a forward-classes-predicate 1538, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum forward-classes 1032 of the class module 1028.

[0198] A match 1540 detects the reserved word “handle,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match 1540 returns the plurality-terminal 1502. The match 1540 triggers a handles-predicate 1542, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum handles 1266 of the class member-datum 1052.

[0199] A match 1544 detects the reserved word “handles,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match 1544

returns the plurality-terminal **1502**. The match **1544** triggers the handles-predicate **1542**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum handles **1266** of the class member-datum **1052**.

[0200] A match **1546** detects the reserved word “host,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match **1546** returns the singleton-terminal **1470**. The match **1546** triggers a host-predicate **1548**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum host **1034** of the class module **1028**.

[0201] A match **1550** detects the reserved word “indicates,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match **1550** returns the singleton-terminal **1470**. The match **1550** triggers an indicates-predicate **1552**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum indicates **1244** of the class member-function **1048**.

[0202] A match **1554** detects the reserved word “inhibit-predicator,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match **1554** returns the qualifier-terminal **1480**. The match **1554** triggers an inhibit-predicator-predicate **1556**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum inhibit-predicator **1262** of the class member-datum **1052**.

[0203] A match **1558** detects the reserved word “init,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match **1558** returns the singleton-terminal **1470**. The match **1558** triggers an init-predicate **1560**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum init **1250** of the class member-datum **1052**.

[0204] A match **1562** detects the reserved word “inline,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match **1562** returns the plurality-terminal **1502**. The match **1562** triggers an inline-definition-predicate **1564**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum inline-definition **1240** of the class member-function **1048**.

[0205] Refer to FIG. **38**. A match **1566** detects the reserved word “const,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match **1566** returns the qualifier-terminal **1480**. The match **1566** triggers an is-const-predicate **1568**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum is-const **1224** of the class operand **1042**.

[0206] A match **1570** detects the reserved word “meron,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match **1570** returns the qualifier-terminal **1480**. The match **1570** triggers an is-meron-predicate **1572**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum is-meron **1246** of the class member-datum **1052**.

[0207] A match **1574** detects the reserved word “mutable,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match **1574** returns the qualifier-terminal **1480**. The match **1574** triggers an is-mutable-predicate **1576**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum is-mutable **1248** of the class member-datum **1052**.

[0208] A match **1578** detects the reserved word “pure,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match **1578** returns the qualifier-terminal **1480**. The match **1578** triggers an is-pure-predicate **1580**, which provides an instance of a

specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum is-pure **1238** of the class member-function **1048**.

[0209] A match **1582** detects the reserved word “static,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match **1582** returns the qualifier-terminal **1480**. The match **1582** triggers an is-static-predicate **1584**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum is-static **1234** of the class member-function **1048**.

[0210] A match **1586** detects the reserved word “virtual,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match **1586** returns the qualifier-terminal **1480**. The match **1586** triggers an is-virtual-predicate **1588**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum is-virtual **1236** of the class member-function **1048**.

[0211] A match **1590** detects the reserved word “commit,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match **1590** returns the qualifier-terminal **1480**. The match **1590** triggers a markup-commit-predicate **1592**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum markup-commit **1198** of the class class **1036**.

[0212] A match **1594** detects the reserved word “configure,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match **1594** returns the qualifier-terminal **1480**. The match **1594** triggers a markup-configure-predicate **1596**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum markup-configure **1196** of the class class **1036**.

[0213] A match **1598** detects the reserved word “note,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match **1598** returns the plurality-terminal **1502**. The match **1598** triggers a notes-predicate **1600**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum notes **1118** of the class entity **1026**.

[0214] A match **1602** detects the reserved word “notes,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match **1602** returns the plurality-terminal **1502**. The match **1602** triggers the notes-predicate **1600**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum notes **1118** of the class entity **1026**.

[0215] A match **1604** detects the reserved word “parser,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match **1604** returns the singleton-terminal **1470**. The match **1604** triggers a parser-id-predicate **1606**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum parser-id **1148** of the class module **1028**.

[0216] A match **1608** detects the reserved word “passage,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match **1608** returns the singleton-terminal **1470**. The match **1608** triggers a passage-predicate **1610**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum passage **1114** of the class entity **1026**.

[0217] A match **1612** detects the reserved word “downcast,” representing a qualifier predicate relation. The match **1612** returns the qualifier-terminal **1480**. The match **1612** triggers a provides-downcast-predicate **1614**, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator **1338** suitable for assignment to the member datum provides-downcast **1204** of the class class **1036**.

[0218] A match 1616 detects the reserved word “purpose,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1616 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1616 triggers a purpose-predicate 1618, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum purpose 1112 of the class entity 1026.

[0219] A match 1620 detects the reserved word “reflector,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1620 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1620 triggers a reflector-id-predicate 1622, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum reflector-id 1146 of the class module 1028.

[0220] A match 1624 detects the reserved word “remark,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match 1624 returns the plurality-terminal 1502. The match 1624 triggers a remarks-predicate 1626, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum remarks 1116 of the class entity 1026.

[0221] A match 1628 detects the reserved word “remarks,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match 1628 returns the plurality-terminal 1502. The match 1628 triggers the remarks-predicate 1626, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum remarks 1116 of the class entity 1026.

[0222] A match 1630 detects the reserved word “resolver,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1630 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1630 triggers a resolver-id-predicate 1632, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum resolver-id 1150 of the class module 1028.

[0223] A match 1634 detects the reserved word “resolver-id-field,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1634 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1634 triggers a resolver-id-field-predicate 1636, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum resolver-id-field 1152 of the class module 1028.

[0224] A match 1638 detects the reserved word “resolver-root,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1638 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1638 triggers a resolver-root-id-predicate 1640, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum resolver-root-id 1154 of the class module 1028.

[0225] A match 1642 detects the reserved word “tag,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match 1642 returns the plurality-terminal 1502. The match 1642 triggers a tags-predicate 1644, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum tags 1206 of the class class 1036.

[0226] A match 1646 detects the reserved word “tags,” representing a plurality predicate relation. The match 1646 returns the plurality-terminal 1502. The match 1646 triggers the tags-predicate 1644, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum tags 1206 of the class class 1036.

[0227] A match 1648 detects the reserved word “term,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1648 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1648 triggers a term-predicate 1650, which provides an instance of a

specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum term 1108 of the class entity 1026.

[0228] A match 1652 detects the reserved word “title,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1652 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1652 triggers a title-predicate 1654, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum title 1110 of the class entity 1026.

[0229] A match 1656 detects the reserved word “viewer,” representing a singleton predicate relation. The match 1656 returns the singleton-terminal 1470. The match 1656 triggers a viewer-id-predicate 1658, which provides an instance of a specialization of the predicator 1338 suitable for assignment to the member datum viewer-id 1136 of the class module 1028.

5.2.2 Lexical Analysis Double-Quote State

[0230] Refer to FIG. 39. The state double-quote 1350 corresponds to specialized lexical analysis in the context of double-quoted text.

[0231] A match 1660 detects a closing double quote. The match 1660 returns a quote-terminal 1662. The quote-terminal 1662 is associated with an instance of the parse-text 1336. The match 1660 transfers the lexer state to the initial 1348. The match 1660 triggers a quote-close 1664, which terminates accumulation of quote text, associating the accumulated quote text with the instance of the parse-text 1336.

[0232] A match 1666 detects an escaped double quote. The match 1666 triggers an escape-double-quote 1668, which accumulates a literal double quote to the quote text.

[0233] A match 1670 detects a C-style escape code for a newline. The match 1670 triggers an escape-newline 1672 which accumulates a newline to the quote text.

[0234] A match 1674 detects a C-style escape code for a tab. The match 1674 triggers an escape-tab 1676, which accumulates a tab to the quote text.

[0235] A match 1678 detects a C-style escape code for a backslash (the escape character). The match 1678 triggers an escape-escape 1680, which accumulates a literal backslash to the quote text.

[0236] A match 1682 detects a newline, which is invalid. The match 1682 triggers a quote-newline 1684, which results in a parse error.

[0237] A match 1686 matches any character. The match 1686 triggers a quote-accumulate 1688, which accumulates the matched character to the quote text.

5.2.3 Lexical Analysis Single-Quote State

[0238] Refer to FIG. 40. The state single-quote 1352 corresponds to specialized lexical analysis in the context of single-quoted text.

[0239] A match 1690 detects a closing single quote. The match 1690 returns the quote-terminal 1662. The match 1690 transfers the lexer state to the initial 1348. The match 1690 triggers the quote-close 1664, which terminates accumulation of quote text, associating the accumulated quote text with the instance of the parse-text 1336 associated with the quote-terminal 1662.

[0240] A match 1692 detects an escaped single quote. The match 1692 triggers an escape-single-quote 1694, which accumulates a literal single quote to the quote text.

[0241] A match 1696 detects a C-style escape code for a newline. The match 1696 triggers the escape-newline 1672, which accumulates a newline to the quote text.

[0242] A match 1698 detects a C-style escape code for a tab. The match 1698 triggers the escape-tab 1676, which accumulates a tab to the quote text.

[0243] A match 1700 detects a C-style escape code for a backslash (the escape character). The match 1700 triggers the escape-escape 1680, which accumulates a literal backslash to the quote text.

[0244] A match 1702 detects a newline, which is invalid. The match 1702 triggers the quote-newline 1684, which results in a parse error.

[0245] A match 1704 matches any character. The match 1704 triggers the quote-accumulate 1688, which accumulates the matched character to the quote text.

5.2.4 Lexical Analysis Multiline-Quote State

[0246] Refer to FIG. 41. The state multi-quote 1354 corresponds to specialized lexical analysis in the context of a multi-line quote.

[0247] A match 1706 detects the terminator of a multi-line quote. The match 1706 returns the quote-terminal 1662. The match 1706 transfers the lexer state to the initial 1348. The match 1706 triggers the quote-close 1664, which terminates accumulation of quote text, associating the accumulated quote text with the instance of the parse-text 1336 associated with the quote-terminal 1662.

[0248] A match 1708 detects a C-style escape for a backquote. The match 1708 triggers an escape-backquote 1710, which accumulates a literal backquote to the quote text.

[0249] A match 1712 detects a C-style escape code for a newline. The match 1712 triggers the escape-newline 1672, which accumulates a newline to the quote text.

[0250] A match 1714 detects a C-style escape code for a tab. The match 1714 triggers the escape-tab 1676, which accumulates a tab to the quote text.

[0251] A match 1716 detects a C-style escape code for a backslash (the escape character). The match 1716 triggers the escape-escape 1680, which accumulates a literal backslash to the quote text.

[0252] A match 1718 detects a newline, which is permissible in a multi-line quote. The match 1718 triggers an accumulate-newline 1720, which increments the parser's internal line counter and accumulates a newline to the quote text.

[0253] A match 1722 matches any character. The match 1722 triggers the quote-accumulate 1688, which accumulates the matched character to the quote text.

5.3 Grammar

[0254] FIG. 42 begins a depiction of exemplary grammar rules for the grammar 1002.

[0255] A rule 1724 produces a start 1726 from an empty expression. The rule 1724 indicates that the empty expression is a valid expression in the grammar 1002.

[0256] A rule 1728 produces the start 1726. The rule 1728 consumes the start 1726 and a module 1730. The rule 1728 indicates a valid expression followed by a module 1730 is a valid expression in the grammar 1002. The module 1730 corresponds to a module specification. The module 1730

represents an instance of the module 1028. The rule 1728 triggers an accept-module 1732, which clears the internal module scope.

[0257] A rule 1734 produces the start 1726. The rule 1734 consumes the start 1726 and a scoped-class 1736. The rule 1734 indicates that a valid expression followed by a scoped-class 1736 is a valid expression. The scoped-class 1736 corresponds to a class scope specification. The scoped-class 1736 represents an instance of the class 1036. This rule permits the specification of a module and even a class to be distributed across several expressions (an thus across several files).

[0258] A rule 1738 produces the module 1730. The rule 1738 consumes a module-body 1740 and the close-curly-terminal 1374. The rule 1738 indicates the successful termination of a module-body 1740 by close-curly-terminal 1374. The module-body 1740 corresponds to an unclosed module specification, capable of accepting class specifications, host member specifications, class predicate specifications, or a module close terminal. The module-body 1740 represents an instance of the module 1028.

[0259] A rule 1742 produces the module-body 1740. The rule 1742 consumes the id-terminal 1460, an optional-predicates 1744, and the open-curly-terminal 1370. The optional-predicates 1744 represents an instance of the predicator-sequence 1346. The rule 1742 triggers a new-module 1746, retrieves a previously specified module identified by the id-terminal 1460), or, lacking a prior specification, instantiates a new instance of the module 1028. The module-body 1740 corresponds to the module identifier, optional predicates, and module open terminal of a module specification. The module-body 1740 corresponds to an unclosed module specification, capable of accepting class specifications, host member specifications, class predicate specifications, or a module close terminal. The new-module 1746 applies the predicator-sequence 1346, if any. The module instance is assigned to a current module scope in the parser 1008, and is associated with the left-hand side module-body 1740.

[0260] A rule 1748 produces the module-body 1740. The rule 1748 consumes the module-body 1740 and a class 1750. The class 1750 represents an instance of the class 1036. The rule 1748 corresponds to the selection of a class specification for the module content of a module specification. The rule 1748 triggers a module-accept-class 1752, which takes note that the class instance associated with the class 1750 is a root class of the module instance associated with the module-body 1740.

[0261] A rule 1754 produces the module-body 1740. The rule 1754 consumes the module-body 1740 and a members 1756. The members 1756 represents an instance of the parse-members 1330. The rule 1754 corresponds to the selection of a host member specification for the module content of a module specification. The rule 1754 triggers a module-accept-members 1758, which accumulates the associated instance of the parse-members 1330 to the module member datum host 1034, an instance of the host-class 1040. Members specified in module scope are thus accumulated to the module host.

[0262] A rule 1760 produces the module-body 1740. The rule 1760 consumes the module-body 1740 and a predicates 1762. The predicates 1762 represents an instance of the predicator-sequence 1346. The rule 1760 corresponds to the selection of a module predicates specification for the module content of a module specification. The rule 1760 triggers a

module-accept-predicates 1764, which applies the associated instance of the predicator-sequence 1346 to the instance of the host-class 1040 indicated by the host 1034 of the instance of the module 1028 associated with the module-body 1740. Thus predicates specified in module scope are applied to the module host.

[0263] A rule 1766 produces the scoped-class 1736. The rule 1766 consumes a scoped-class-body 1768 and the close-curly-terminal 1374. The scoped-class 1736 corresponds to a class scope specification. The scoped-class-body 1768 represents an instance of the class 1036. The rule 1766 indicates the closing of a class scope.

[0264] A rule 1770 produces the scoped-class-body 1768. The rule 1770 consumes the id-terminal 1460, the scope-terminal 1366, the id-terminal 1460, and the open-curly-terminal 1370. The scoped-class-body 1768 corresponds to the scope module identifier, scope terminal, scope class identifier, and class open terminal of a class scope specification. The scoped-class-body 1768 is capable of accepting members specifications, and class specifications. In an alternative embodiment, class predicate specifications could also be accepted. The rule 1770 indicates the opening of a class scope. The rule 1770 triggers a resolve-scoped-class 1772, which resolves the first id-terminal 1460 to a module. The second id-terminal 1460 is then resolved to a class in the resolved module. The resolved class is associated with the left-hand side scoped-class-body 1768. The resolved module is assigned to the current module scope.

[0265] A rule 1774 produces the scoped-class-body 1768. The rule 1774 consumes the scoped-class-body 1768 and the class 1750. The rule 1774 corresponds to the selection of a class specification in a class content specification. The rule 1774 indicates the specification of a class within a class scope, thus providing genus-species associations between the containing and contained class. The rule 1774 triggers a class-accept-class 1776, which takes note of the genus-species relationships by assignments to the genera 1176 of the contained class (associated with the class 1750 and the species 1180 of the containing class (associated with the scoped-class-body 1768).

[0266] A rule 1778 produces the scoped-class-body 1768. The rule 1778 consumes the scoped-class-body 1768 and the members 1756. The rule 1778 corresponds to the selection of a members specification in a class content specification. The rule 1778 indicates the specification of members within a class scope. The rule 1778 triggers a class-accept-members 1780, which accumulates the members associated with the members 1756 to the class associated with the scoped-class-body 1768.

[0267] Refer to FIG. 43. A rule 1782 produces the class 1750. The rule 1782 consumes a class-body 1784 and the close-curly-terminal 1374. The class 1750 corresponds to a class specification. The class-body 1784 represents an instance of the class 1036. The rule 1782 indicates the closing of a class scope.

[0268] A rule 1786 produces the class-body 1784. The rule 1786 consumes the id-terminal 1460, the optional-predicates 1744, and the open-curly-terminal 1370. The class-body 1784 corresponds to an unclosed class specification, capable of accepting a class members specification, a class specification, and a class predicates specification. The rule 1782 indicates the opening of a class scope. The rule 1786 triggers a new-class 1788, creates a new instance of the class 1036, accumulates the class to the prevailing module scope, and

applies the associated predicates, if any, to the new class. The newly created class is associated with the left-hand side class-body 1784.

[0269] A rule 1790 produces the class-body 1784. The rule 1790 consumes the class-body 1784 and the class 1750. The rule 1790 corresponds to the selection of a class specification in a class content specification. The rule 1790 indicates the specification of a class within a class scope, as already described for the rule 1774. The rule 1790 triggers the class-accept-class 1776.

[0270] A rule 1792 produces the class-body 1784. The rule 1792 consumes the class-body 1784 and the members 1756. The rule 1792 corresponds to the selection of a members specification in a class content specification. The rule 1792 indicates the specification of members within a class scope, as already described for the rule 1778. The rule 1792 triggers the class-accept-members 1780.

[0271] A rule 1794 produces the class-body 1784. The rule 1794 consumes the class-body 1784 and the predicates 1762. The rule 1794 corresponds to the selection of a class predicates specification in a class content specification. The rule 1794 triggers a class-accept-predicates 1796, which applies the associated predicates to the associated class.

[0272] A rule 1798 produces the members 1756. The rule 1798 consumes a members-body 1800 and the semicolon-terminal 1402. The members 1756 corresponds to a host members specification and a class member specification. The members-body 1800 represents an instance of the parse-members 1330. The rule 1798 indicates the termination of the specification of one or more members.

[0273] A rule 1802 produces the members-body 1800. The rule 1802 consumes a type 1804 and a member 1806. The type 1804 represents an instance of the type 1054. The members-body 1800 corresponds to an unclosed members specification, capable of accepting a member specification. The rule 1802 corresponds to the acceptance of a member specification by a host members specification and a class members specification. The rule 1802 indicates the specification of one or more members. The member 1806 represents an instance of the member 1046. The rule 1802 triggers a new-members 1808, which creates an instance of the parse-members 1330. The associated type initializes the new instance of the parse-members 1330. The new instance of the parse-members 1330 is associated with the left-hand side members-body 1800. The instance of the member 1046 associated with the member 1806 is accumulated to the new instance of the parse-members 1330.

[0274] A rule 1810 produces the members-body 1800. The rule 1810 consumes the members-body 1800, the comma-terminal 1406, and the member 1806. The rule 1810 corresponds to the acceptance of an additional member specification by a host members specification and a class members specification. The rule 1810 indicates an additional member specification sharing a type specification with the preceding member specification. The rule 1810 triggers a append-members 1812, which accumulates the instance of the member 1046 associated with the member 1806 to the instance of the parse-members 1330 associated with the right-hand-side members-body 1800.

[0275] A rule 1814 produces the member 1806. The rule 1814 consumes a datum 1816. The datum 1816 corresponds to a datum specification. The rule 1814 corresponds to the selection of a datum specification for a member specifica-

tion. The datum **1816** represents an instance of the member **1046**. The rule **1814** indicates the acceptability of a member datum as a member.

[0276] A rule **1818** produces the member **1806**. The rule **1818** consumes a method **1820**. The method **1820** corresponds to a method specification. The rule **1818** corresponds to the selection of a method specification for a member specification. The method **1820** represents an instance of the member **1046**. The rule **1818** indicates the acceptability of a member function as a member.

[0277] A rule **1822** produces the datum **1816**. The rule **1822** consumes the id-terminal **1460** and the optional-predicates **1744**. The datum **1816** corresponds to a datum specification. The optional-predicates **1744** corresponds to an optional datum predicates specification. The rule **1822** indicates the specification of a member datum. The rule **1822** triggers a new-datum **1824**, which instantiates a new instance of the member-datum **1052**, which is associated with the datum **1816**. The associated predicates, if any, are applied to the new datum.

[0278] A rule **1826** produces the method **1820**. The rule **1826** consumes the id-terminal **1460**, a args **1828**, and the optional-predicates **1744**. The method **1820** corresponds to a method specification. The args **1828** corresponds to an arguments specification. The optional-predicates **1744** corresponds to an optional method predicates specification. The args **1828** represents an instance of the parse-arguments **1332**. The rule **1826** indicates the specification of a member function. The rule **1826** triggers a new-method **1830**, which instantiates a new instance of the member-function **1048**, which is associated with the method **1820**. The associated predicates, if any, are applied to the new member function.

[0279] A rule **1832** produces the args **1828**. The rule **1832** consumes the open-paren-terminal **1386** and the close-paren-terminal **1390**. The args **1828** corresponds to an arguments specification. The rule **1832** indicates the acceptability of an empty arguments list. The rule **1832** triggers an empty-args **1834**, which creates a new instance of the parse-arguments **1332**. The new instance of the parse-arguments **1332** is associated with the args **1828**.

[0280] A rule **1836** produces the args **1828**. The rule **1836** consumes a args-body **1838** and the close-paren-terminal **1390**. The args **1828** corresponds to an arguments specification. The args-body **1838** corresponds to an unclosed arguments specification, capable of accepting an argument specification. The args-body **1838** represents an instance of the parse-arguments **1332**. The rule **1836** indicates the closing of a non-empty arguments list.

[0281] A rule **1840** produces the args-body **1838**. The rule **1840** consumes the open-paren-terminal **1386** and a arg **1842**. The arg **1842** corresponds to an argument specification. The args-body **1838** corresponds to an unclosed arguments specification, capable of accepting an argument specification. The rule **1840** indicates the opening of a non-empty arguments list. The arg **1842** represents an instance of the argument **1044**. The rule **1840** triggers a new-args **1844**, which creates a new instance of the parse-arguments **1332**. The associated instance of the argument **1044** is accumulated to the new instance of the parse-arguments **1332**. The new instance of the parse-arguments **1332** is associated with the args-body **1838**.

[0282] A rule **1846** produces the args-body **1838**. The rule **1846** consumes the args-body **1838**, the comma-terminal **1406**, and the arg **1842**. The arg **1842** corresponds to an

argument specification. The args-body **1838** corresponds to an unclosed arguments specification, capable of accepting an argument specification. The rule **1846** indicates the continuation of a non-empty arguments list. The rule **1846** triggers an append-args **1848**, which accumulates the instance of the argument **1044** associated with the arg **1842** to the instance of the parse-arguments **1332** associated with the right-hand-side args-body **1838**. The instance of the parse-arguments **1332** is associated with the left-hand-side args-body **1838**.

[0283] A rule **1850** produces the arg **1842**. The rule **1850** consumes the type **1804** and the optional-predicates **1744**. The arg **1842** corresponds to an argument specification. The type **1804** corresponds to a type specification. The optional-predicates **1744** corresponds to an optional argument predicates specification. The rule **1850** indicates the specification of a new argument. The rule **1850** triggers a new-mod-arg **1852**, which creates a new instance of the argument **1044**. The associated instance of the type **1054** is assigned to the type **1226** of the new instance of the argument **1044**. The predicates, if any, are applied to the new instance of the argument **1044**. The new instance of the argument **1044** is associated with the arg **1842**.

[0284] A rule **1854** produces the arg **1842**. The rule **1854** consumes the type **1804**, the id-terminal **1460**, and the optional-predicates **1744**. The arg **1842** corresponds to an argument specification. The type **1804** corresponds to a type specification. The optional-predicates **1744** corresponds to an optional argument predicates specification. The rule **1854** indicates the specification of a new argument with a dummy identifier. The rule **1854** triggers a new-mod-arg-dummy **1856**, which creates a new instance of the argument **1044**. The associated instance of the type **1054** is assigned to the type **1226** of the new instance of the argument **1044**. The predicates, if any, are applied to the new instance of the argument **1044**. The text of the id-terminal **1460** is assigned to the scope-id **1222**. The new instance of the argument **1044** is associated with the arg **1842**.

[0285] Refer to FIG. 44. A rule **1858** produces the optional-predicates **1744**. The rule **1858** indicates the acceptability of the absence of predicates. The optional-predicates **1744** corresponds to an optional module predicates specification, to an optional class predicates specification, to an optional datum predicates specification, to an optional method predicates specification, and an optional arguments predicates specification. The rule **1858** triggers an empty-predicates **1860**, which associates a null pointer with the optional-predicates **1744**.

[0286] A rule **1862** produces the optional-predicates **1744**. The rule **1862** consumes the predicates **1762**. The predicates **1762** corresponds to a predicates specification. The instance of the predictor-sequence **1346** associated with the predicates **1762** is associated with the optional-predicates **1744**.

[0287] A rule **1864** produces the predicates **1762**. The rule **1864** consumes a predicates-body **1866** and the close-square-terminal **1382**. The predicates **1762** corresponds to a predicates specification. The predicates-body **1866** corresponds to an unclosed predicates specification, capable of accepting a predicate specification. The rule **1864** indicates the completion of a predicates specification. The predicates-body **1866** represents an instance of the predictor-sequence **1346**, which is associated with the predicates **1762**.

[0288] A rule **1868** produces the predicates-body **1866**. The rule **1868** consumes the open-square-terminal **1378** and

a predicate **1870**. The predicates-body **1866** corresponds to an unclosed predicates specification, capable of accepting a predicate specification. The predicate **1870** corresponds to a predicate specification, which is accepted by the unclosed predicates specification. The rule **1868** indicates the opening of a predicate scope. The predicate **1870** represents an instance of the predicator **1338**. The rule **1868** triggers a new-predicates **1872**, which creates a new instance of the predicator-sequence **1346**, and accumulates the associated instance of the predicator **1338** to the new instance of the predicator-sequence **1346**. The new instance of the predicator-sequence **1346** is associated with the predicates-body **1866**.

[0289] A rule **1874** produces the predicates-body **1866**. The rule **1874** consumes the predicates-body **1866**, the semicolon-terminal **1402**, and the predicate **1870**. The predicates-body **1866** corresponds to an unclosed predicates specification, capable of accepting an additional predicate specification. The predicate **1870** corresponds to an additional predicate specification, which is accepted by the unclosed predicates specification. The rule **1874** indicates the specification of an additional predicate in a predicate scope. The rule **1874** triggers an append-predicate **1876**, which accumulates the instance of the predicator **1338** associated with the predicate **1870** to the instance of the predicator-sequence **1346** associated with the right-hand-side predicates-body **1866**. The instance of the predicator-sequence **1346** is associated with the left-hand-side predicates-body **1866**.

[0290] A rule **1878** produces the predicates-body **1866**. The rule **1878** consumes the predicates-body **1866** and the semicolon-terminal **1402**. The rule **1878** indicates the acceptability of a trailing semicolon, normally a separator. This is “syntactic sugar” provided for the convenience of the developer.

[0291] A rule **1880** produces the predicate **1870**. The rule **1880** consumes a qualifier **1882**. The predicate **1870** corresponds to a predicate specification. The qualifier **1882** corresponds to a qualifier specification. The rule **1880** corresponds to the selection of a qualifier specification for a predicate specification and for an additional predicate specification. The rule **1880** indicates the acceptability of a qualifier as a predicate. The qualifier **1882** represents an instance of the predicator-qualifier **1340**. The instance of the predicator-qualifier **1340** is associated with the predicate **1870**.

[0292] A rule **1884** produces the predicate **1870**. The rule **1884** consumes a singleton **1886**. The predicate **1870** corresponds to a predicate specification. The singleton **1886** corresponds to a singleton specification. The rule **1884** corresponds to the selection of a singleton specification for a predicate specification and for an additional predicate specification. The rule **1884** indicates the acceptability of a singleton as a predicate. The singleton **1886** represents an instance of the predicator-singleton **1342**. The instance of the predicator-singleton **1342** is associated with the predicate **1870**.

[0293] A rule **1888** produces the predicate **1870**. The rule **1888** consumes a plurality **1890**. The predicate **1870** corresponds to a predicate specification. The plurality **1890** corresponds to a plurality specification. The rule **1888** corresponds to the selection of a plurality specification for a predicate specification and for an additional predicate specification. The rule **1888** indicates the acceptability of a

plurality as a predicate. The plurality **1890** represents an instance of the predicator-plurality **1344**. The instance of the predicator-plurality **1344** is associated with the predicate **1870**.

[0294] A rule **1892** produces the qualifier **1882**. The rule **1892** consumes the qualifier-terminal **1480**. The qualifier **1882** corresponds to a qualifier specification. The associated instance of the predicator-qualifier **1340** represented by the qualifier-terminal **1480** is associated with the qualifier **1882**.

[0295] A rule **1894** produces the singleton **1886**. The rule **1894** consumes the singleton-terminal **1470** and a object **1896**. The singleton **1886** corresponds to a singleton specification. The object **1896** corresponds to an object expression. The object **1896** represents an instance of the parse-text **1336**. The rule **1894** triggers a singleton-object **1898**, which assigns the object text to the instance of the predicator-singleton **1342** associated with the singleton-terminal **1470**. The instance of the predicator-singleton **1342** is associated with the singleton **1886**.

[0296] A rule **1900** produces the plurality **1890**. The rule **1900** consumes the plurality-terminal **1502** and the object **1896**. The plurality **1890** corresponds to a plurality specification. The object **1896** corresponds to an object expression. The rule **1900** triggers a plurality-object **1902**, which accumulates the object text to the instance of the predicator-plurality **1344** associated with the plurality-terminal **1502**. The instance of the predicator-plurality **1344** is associated with the plurality **1890**.

[0297] A rule **1904** produces the plurality **1890**. The rule **1904** consumes the plurality **1890**, the comma-terminal **1406**, and the object **1896**. The plurality **1890** corresponds to a plurality specification. The object **1896** corresponds to an additional object expression. The rule **1904** triggers a plurality-append-object **1906**, which accumulates the object text to the instance of the predicator-plurality **1344** associated with the right-hand-side plurality **1890**. The instance of the predicator-plurality **1344** is associated with the left-hand-side plurality **1890**.

[0298] A rule **1908** produces the plurality **1890**. The rule **1908** consumes the plurality **1890** and the comma-terminal **1406**. The rule **1908** indicates the acceptability of a trailing comma, normally a separator. This is “syntactic sugar” provided for the convenience of the developer.

[0299] A rule **1910** produces the object **1896**. The object **1896** corresponds to an object expression. The rule **1910** consumes a text **1912**. The text **1912** represents an instance of the parse-text **1336**.

[0300] A rule **1914** produces the object **1896**. The rule **1914** consumes the object **1896** and the text **1912**. The object **1896** corresponds to an object expression. The rule **1914** triggers an append-object-text **1916**, which accumulates the text associated with the text **1912** to the text of the object **1896**. This permits C-style string concatenation when adjacent strings are separated only by white space.

[0301] A rule **1918** produces the text **1912**. The rule **1918** consumes the id-terminal **1460**.

[0302] A rule **1920** produces the text **1912**. The rule **1920** consumes the quote-terminal **1662**.

[0303] Refer to FIG. 45. A rule **1922** produces the type **1804**. The type **1804** corresponds to a type specification. The rule **1922** consumes the void-terminal **1418**. The rule **1922** indicates the acceptability of a void type as a type.

[0304] A rule **1924** produces the type **1804**. The rule **1924** consumes a compound-type **1926**. The type **1804** corre-

sponds to a type specification. The compound-type 1926 corresponds to a compound type specification. The compound-type 1926 represents an instance of the type 1054. The rule 1924 indicates the acceptability of a compound type as a type.

[0305] A rule 1928 produces the type 1804. The rule 1928 consumes a reference-type 1930. The type 1804 corresponds to a type specification. The reference-type 1930 corresponds to a reference type specification. The reference-type 1930 represents an instance of the reference-type 1068. The rule 1928 indicates the acceptability of a reference type as a type.

[0306] A rule 1932 produces the type 1804. The rule 1932 consumes a value-type 1934. The type 1804 corresponds to a type specification. The value-type 1934 corresponds to a value type specification. The value-type 1934 represents an instance of the value-type 1058. The rule 1932 indicates the acceptability of a value type as a type.

[0307] A rule 1936 produces the reference-type 1930. The rule 1936 consumes the id-terminal 1460. The rule 1936 triggers a reference-type 1938, which creates a new instance of the reference-type 1068. The text associated with the id-terminal 1460 is assigned to the reference-class-id 1284 of the new instance of the reference-type 1068. The new instance of the reference-type 1068 is associated with the reference-type 1930.

[0308] A rule 1940 produces the value-type 1934. The rule 1940 consumes the bit-terminal 1430. The rule 1940 indicates the acceptability of a bit type as a value type.

[0309] A rule 1942 produces the value-type 1934. The rule 1942 consumes the int-terminal 1424. The rule 1942 indicates the acceptability of an integer type as a value type.

[0310] A rule 1944 produces the value-type 1934. The rule 1944 consumes the card-terminal 1436. The rule 1944 indicates the acceptability of a cardinal type as a value type.

[0311] A rule 1946 produces the value-type 1934. The rule 1946 consumes the text-terminal 1442. The rule 1946 indicates the acceptability of a text type as a value type.

[0312] Refer to FIG. 46. A rule 1948 produces the compound-type 1926. The rule 1948 consumes the seq-terminal 1456, the open-angle-terminal 1394, the reference-type 1930, and the close-angle-terminal 1398. The rule 1948 corresponds to acceptance of a reference sequence type specification. The rule 1948 indicates the acceptability of a reference sequence type as a compound type. The rule 1948 triggers a reference-seq-type 1950, which creates a new instance of the reference-sequence-type 1076. The reference-range 1302 of the new instance of the reference-sequence-type 1076 is assigned from the instance of the reference-type 1068 associated with the reference-type 1930. The new instance of the reference-sequence-type 1076 is associated with the compound-type 1926.

[0313] A rule 1952 produces the compound-type 1926. The rule 1952 consumes the seq-terminal 1456, the open-angle-terminal 1394, the value-type 1934, and the close-angle-terminal 1398. The rule 1952 corresponds to acceptance of a reference value type specification. The rule 1952 indicates the acceptability of a value sequence type as a compound type. The rule 1952 triggers a value-seq-type 1954, which creates a new instance of the value-sequence-type 1074. The value-range 1300 of the new instance of the value-sequence-type 1074 is assigned from the instance of the value-type 1058 associated with the value-type 1934. The new instance of the value-sequence-type 1074 is associated with the compound-type 1926.

[0314] A rule 1956 produces the compound-type 1926. The rule 1956 consumes the set-terminal 1448, the open-angle-terminal 1394, the reference-type 1930, and the close-angle-terminal 1398. The rule 1956 corresponds to acceptance of a reference set type specification. The rule 1956 indicates the acceptability of a reference set type as a compound type. The rule 1956 triggers a reference-set-type 1958, which creates a new instance of the reference-set-type 1082. The reference-range 1308 of the new instance of the reference-set-type 1082 is assigned from the instance of the reference-type 1068 associated with the reference-type 1930. The new instance of the reference-set-type 1082 is associated with the compound-type 1926.

[0315] A rule 1960 produces the compound-type 1926. The rule 1960 consumes the set-terminal 1448, the open-angle-terminal 1394, the value-type 1934, and the close-angle-terminal 1398. The rule 1960 corresponds to acceptance of a value set type specification. The rule 1960 indicates the acceptability of a value set type as a compound type. The rule 1960 triggers a value-set-type 1962, which creates a new instance of the value-set-type 1080. The value-range 1306 of the new instance of the value-set-type 1080 is assigned from the instance of the value-type 1058 associated with the value-type 1934. The new instance of the value-set-type 1080 is associated with the compound-type 1926.

[0316] A rule 1964 produces the compound-type 1926. The rule 1964 consumes the map-terminal 1452, the open-angle-terminal 1394, the value-type 1934, the comma-terminal 1406, the reference-type 1930, and the close-angle-terminal 1398. The rule 1964 corresponds to acceptance of an index map type specification. The rule 1964 indicates the acceptability of an index map type as a compound type. The rule 1964 triggers an index-map-type 1966, which creates a new instance of the index-map-type 1086. The value-domain 1314 of the new instance of the index-map-type 1086 is assigned from the instance of the value-type 1058 associated with the value-type 1934. The reference-range 1316 of the new instance of the index-map-type 1086 is assigned from the instance of the reference-type 1068 associated with the reference-type 1930. The new instance of the index-map-type 1086 is associated with the compound-type 1926.

[0317] A rule 1968 produces the compound-type 1926. The rule 1968 consumes the map-terminal 1452, the open-angle-terminal 1394, the value-type 1934, the comma-terminal 1406, the value-type 1934, and the close-angle-terminal 1398. The rule 1968 corresponds to acceptance of a convert map type specification. The rule 1968 indicates the acceptability of a conversion map type as a compound type. The rule 1968 triggers a convert-map-type 1970, which creates a new instance of the convert-map-type 1092. The value-domain 1326 of the new instance of the convert-map-type 1092 is assigned from the instance of the value-type 1058 associated with the first value-type 1934. The value-range 1328 of the new instance of the convert-map-type 1092 is assigned from the instance of the value-type 1058 associated with the second value-type 1934. The new instance of the convert-map-type 1092 is associated with the compound-type 1926.

[0318] A rule 1972 produces the compound-type 1926. The rule 1972 consumes the map-terminal 1452, the open-angle-terminal 1394, the reference-type 1930, the comma-terminal 1406, the reference-type 1930, and the close-angle-terminal 1398. The rule 1972 corresponds to acceptance of

a bind map type specification. The rule 1972 indicates the acceptability of a binding map type as a compound type. The rule 1972 triggers a bind-map-type 1974, which creates a new instance of the bind-map-type 1090. The reference-domain 1322 of the new instance of the bind-map-type 1090 is assigned from the instance of the reference-type 1068 associated with the first reference-type 1930. The reference-range 1324 of the new instance of the bind-map-type 1090 is assigned from the instance of the reference-type 1068 associated with the second reference-type 1930. The new instance of the bind-map-type 1090 is associated with the compound-type 1926.

[0319] A rule 1976 produces the compound-type 1926. The rule 1976 consumes the map-terminal 1452, the open-angle-terminal 1394, the reference-type 1930, the comma-terminal 1406, the value-type 1934, and the close-angle-terminal 1398. The rule 1976 corresponds to acceptance of a scale map type specification. The rule 1976 indicates the acceptability of a scale map type as a compound type. The rule 1976 triggers a scale-map-type 1978, which creates a new instance of the scale-map-type 1088. The reference-domain 1318 of the new instance of the scale-map-type 1088 is assigned from the instance of the reference-type 1068 associated with the reference-type 1930. The value-range 1320 of the new instance of the scale-map-type 1088 is assigned from the instance of the value-type 1058 associated with the value-type 1934. The new instance of the scale-map-type 1088 is associated with the compound-type 1926.

6 Example Module Specification

[0320] A module specification suitable for a simple application demonstrates the module specification language. The demonstration application recursively scans one or more file-system directories looking for media files. The media files which are detected are presented in a collection of interlinked HTML pages. The pages of the presentation reflect the directory organization of the scanned directories. Each discovered media file is presented in a hypertext link. The pages of the presentation are suitable for service by a web server running on a dedicated media device, such as a digital video recorder. Activation of a link presenting a particular media file generates a request to play the associated media on the dedicated media device. The application may form a potentially useful element for remote, web-oriented management of a dedicated media device.

[0321] The demonstration application uses a representation of media files in a file system. The representation uses an object-oriented module including a family of interrelated classes. The classes represent files and directories. The object-oriented module is specified using a module specification language.

[0322] Refer to FIG. 47, which depicts a module specification represented according to the module specification language. An example module specification specifies the module media-scanner 1980, which represents media files arranged in a file system. The module specification includes an module predicates specification, specifying a host and a viewer singleton predicates.

[0323] Inside the module scope, an example host members specifications is exemplified by a root-files 1982, which is specified to have a reference set type. The root-files 1982, specifies a set of instances of the file 1984. The root-files 1982 represents the top-level collection of files in a scan.

The root-files 1982 is specified as a meron, providing an example of a qualifier predicate specification.

[0324] The example specification includes several examples of class specifications. A class file 1984 represents a file in a file system, including regular files and directories. The file 1984 is specified in the module scope and hence has no genera. A class directory 1986 represents a file system directory, potentially containing files, some of which may themselves be directories. The directory 1986 is an example of a class specification in a class scope, thus indicating the directory 1986 is a specialization of the file 1984.

[0325] A class top-directory 1988 represents a topmost directory from which a scan has been initiated. The top-directory 1988 specializes the directory 1986. A class regular-file 1990 represents a regular file, i.e. a file which is not a directory. The regular-file 1990 specializes the file 1984. A class audio-file 1992 represents an audio file. The audio-file 1992 specializes the regular-file 1990. A class video-file 1994 represents a video file. The video-file 1994 specializes the regular-file 1990.

[0326] Other member data specifications include, for the file 1984, a member datum parent 1996 and a member datum name 1998. The parent 1996 represents the directory containing a particular file. The name 1998 represents the name associated with a particular file in a particular directory. For the directory 1986, a member datum files 2000 is specified. The files 2000 represents the collection of files contained in a particular directory.

7 Alternative Embodiments

[0327] The exemplary grammar 1002 is presented in a form which is convenient for ease of processing, but which may be less convenient for human readability. The provision of syntax-directed translation is eased by structuring the grammar so that responders are provided with a single element per response, with that element fully specialized. For human readability, however, it may be more convenient to specify a sequence of possibly heterogenous elements.

[0328] In particular, a module specification consists of a module identifier, a module open terminal, an optional module predicate specification, a module content specification, and a module close terminal. The module content specification consists of a mixture of class specifications, module predicate specifications, and host members specifications. The preceding description may be convenient for a human reader, but for syntax directed translation, it is convenient to structure the grammar so the mixture of class specifications, module predicate specifications, and host member specifications is implicitly represented as a collection of rules, each rule having a representation of an "unclosed module" and a particular element to accept.

[0329] Thus a rule for a module to accept a class specification consumes an unclosed module and a class specification, producing the unclosed module, which is then available for additional augmentation or closure. Likewise, a rule for a module to accept a host members specification consumes an unclosed module and a members specification, producing the unclosed module, which is then available for additional augmentation or closure. Likewise for the module predicates specification. Thus the heterogenous collection of the module content is transformed to a family of homogenous, singular rules each of which operates with an unclosed module and a particular accepted element.

[0330] The pattern of replacing a heterogeneous collection with a family of homogeneous, singleton rules operating on an unclosed container is replicated for the module specification, the class specification, the members specification, and the predicates specification. In an alternative embodiment, the grammar could directly accept the corresponding heterogeneous collections, but this would necessitate additional complexity in the responders to the grammar.

[0331] The exemplary grammar does not accept class predicates in a class scope specification; an alternative embodiment accepts class predicates in a class scope specification.

[0332] The specializations of the value-type **1058** in the exemplary embodiment are representative but far from comprehensive. In an alternative embodiments, value types representing integers, floating point numbers, dates, times, geographical positions, etc. could be provided. The specializations of the compound-type **1070** in the exemplary embodiment are sufficient for a wide range of applications, but additional compound types could be provided in an alternative embodiment. Compound types representing lists, heaps, multimaps, multisets, graphs, vectors, matrices, etc. could be provided in an alternative embodiment. Provision for compound types of compound types could also be provided in an alternative embodiment. The effect of nested compound types is readily obtained by providing categorical classes which simply contain the nested type.

[0333] In the exemplary embodiments of the categorical classes, member data has been exhibited in a public scope. The exemplary parser responders utilize categorical class data accordingly. Exhibition of member data in a public scope enhances clarity and save space in exposition. In an alternative embodiment, member data would be defined in a private scope, and access methods (member functions) would be provided to manipulate member data indirectly, in accordance with normal practice in object-oriented programming.

I claim:

1. A human-readable module specification capable of representation as computer-readable data stored on a computer-readable medium, comprising:

a module identifier, a module open terminal, a module content specification, and a module close terminal;

said module content specification having at least one specification selected from the group consisting of a class specification, and a host members specification;

said class specification having a class identifier, a class open terminal, a class content specification, and a class close terminal;

said class content specification optionally having one or more specifications selected from the group consisting of said class specification, and a class members specification;

said host members specification and said class members specification each having a type specification, a member specification, at least one optional additional member specification,

said additional member specification, if any, having a preceding member specification, and said additional

member specification separated from said preceding member specification by a member separator terminal, and

and a members terminator terminal;

said member specification selected from the group consisting of a datum specification and a method specification;

said datum specification having a datum identifier;

said method specification having a method identifier and an arguments specification,

said arguments specification having an arguments open terminal, at least one optional argument specification, and an arguments close terminal; and

said argument specification, if any, having said type specification and an optional argument identifier.

2. The module specification of claim 1, additionally comprising:

said type specification selected from the group consisting of a void type specification, a value type specification, a reference type specification, and a compound type specification; and

said reference type specification having said class identifier.

3. The module specification of claim 2, additionally comprising:

said compound type specification selected from the group consisting of a reference sequence type specification, a value sequence type specification, a reference set type specification, a value set type specification, an index map type specification, a convert map type specification, a bind map type specification, and a scale map type specification.

4. The module specification of claim 1, additionally comprising:

said module specification optionally having a module predicates specification;

said module content specification optionally having a module content predicates specification;

said class specification optionally having a class predicates specification;

said class content specification optionally having a class content predicates specification;

said datum specification optionally having a datum predicates specification;

said method specification optionally having a method predicates specification,

said argument specification optionally having an argument predicates specification;

said module predicates specification, said module content predicates specification, said class predicates specification, said class content predicates specification, said datum predicates specification, said method predicates specification, and said argument predicates specification, if any, each having a predicate open terminal, a predicate specification, a predicate close terminal, and, optionally, at least one additional predicate specification,

said additional predicate specification, if any, having a preceding predicate specification, and said additional predicate specification separated from said preceding predicate specification by a predicate separator terminal; and

said predicate specification and said additional predicate specification, if any, selected from the group consisting

of a qualifier specification, a singleton specification, and a plurality specification,
said qualifier specification having a qualifier terminal,
said singleton specification having a singleton terminal and an object expression,
said object expression selected from the group consisting of an identifier and a quote, and
said plurality specification having a plurality terminal and at least one of said object expressions, said object expressions separated by an object separator terminal.

5. The module specification of claim 1, additionally comprising:

a class scope specification having a scope module identifier corresponding to said module identifier; a scope terminal; a class scope identifier corresponding to said class identifier; said class open terminal; said class content specification; and said class close terminal.

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