Reflective Language for Communications Systems

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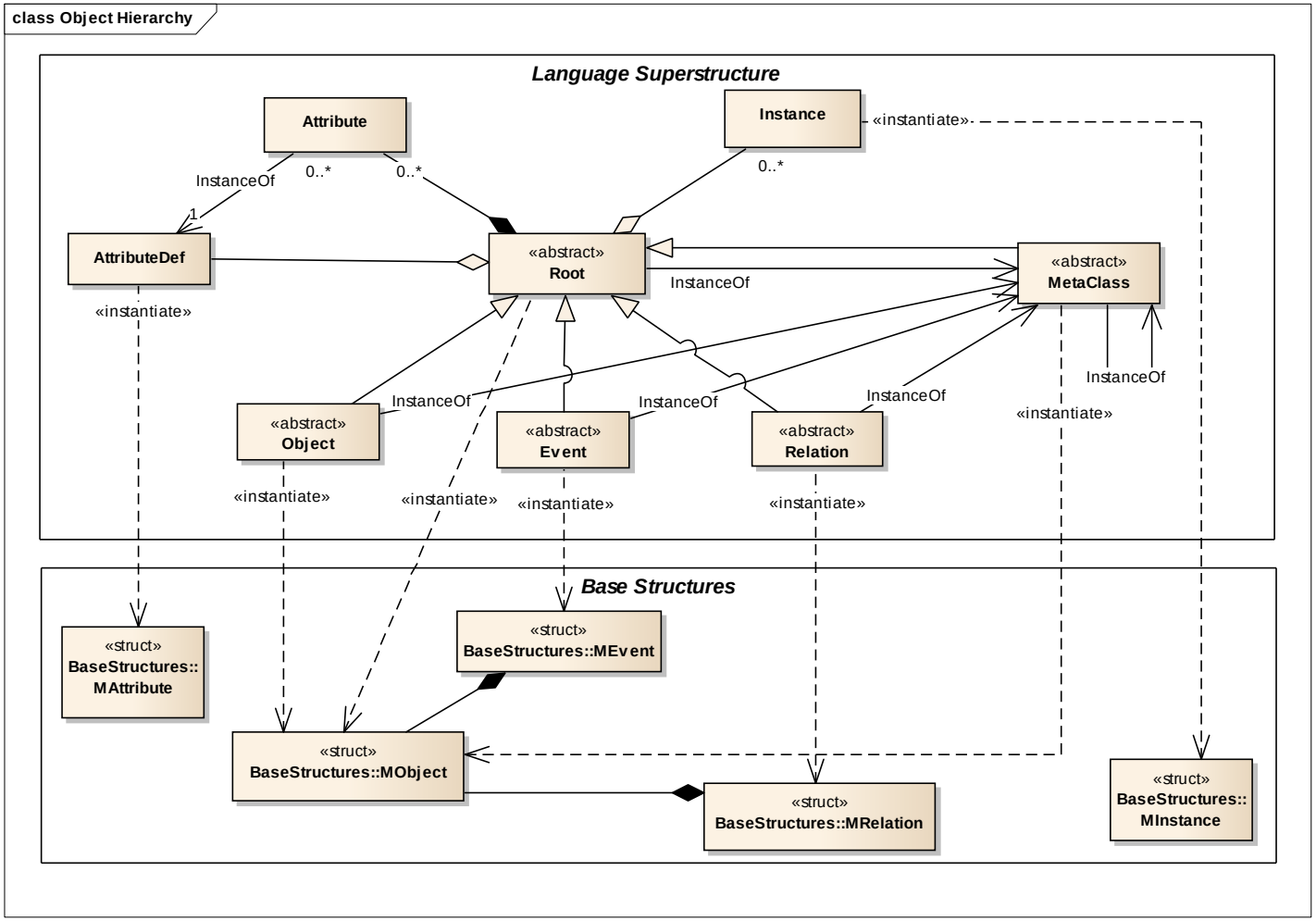
Origins

- **Prior experience in knowledge representation and reasoning, e.g. Frames, Conceptual Dependency, NETL, Cyc, OWL, etc.**
  - Expressive representation or reasoning capability but often limited in domain or scope.
- **Experience with object-oriented languages, e.g. LISP/Flavors, LOOPS, CLOS, Smalltalk, Simula, C++, Java, etc.**
  - Provides the association of state (variables) and behavior (methods) within the concept of an object but limited to current value.
- **Brittleness in existing programming languages, including OO languages.**
  - Weak or no built-in representation of context

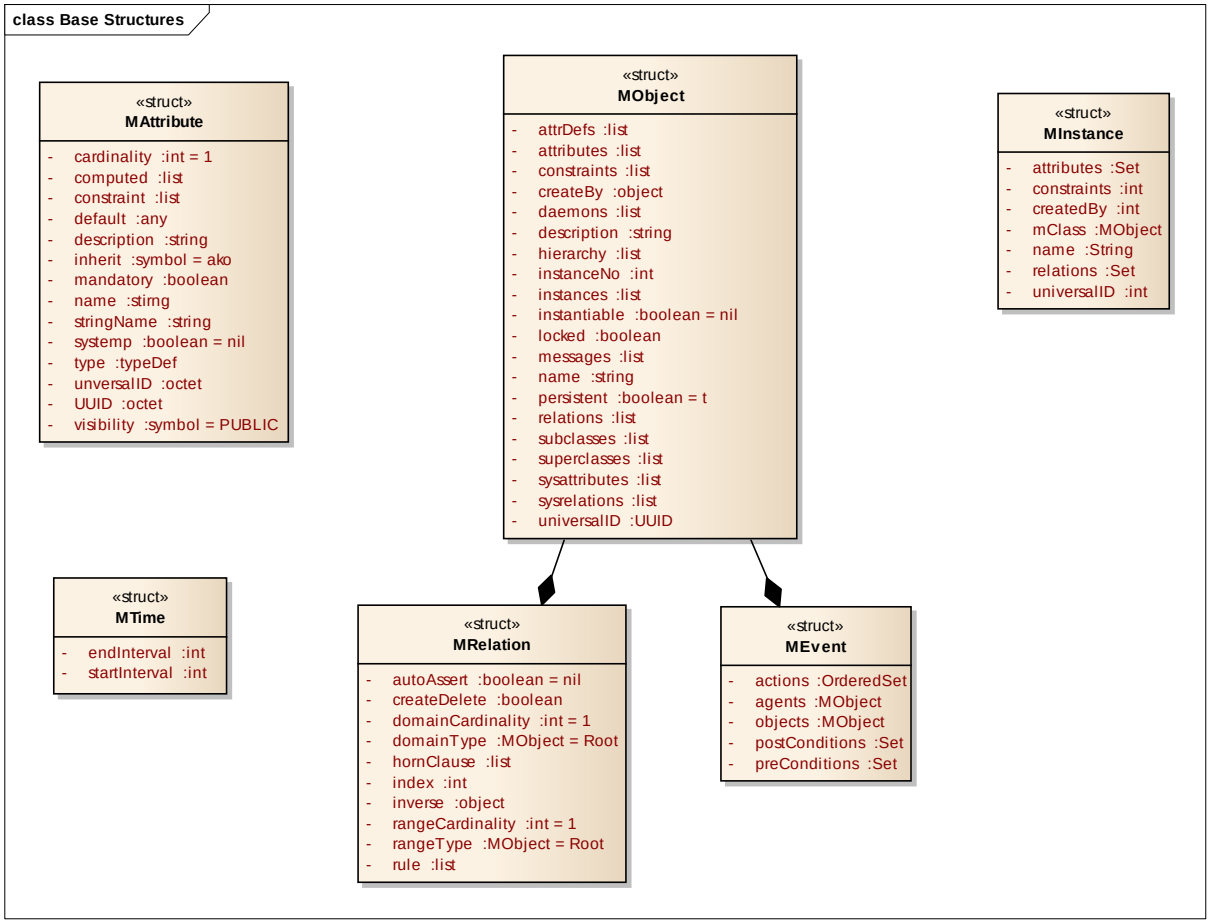
Basic Tenets/Objectives

- **Object-Oriented language paradigm but extended to represent relationships and events/actions as concrete entities.**
- **Incorporate a base set of objects, relations and events and common semantic interpretations within the base system.**
- **Prototype language as an extension of existing OO Language.**
- **Evolutionary optimization of low-level structural representation to improve performance.**
- **Provide capability to link to libraries for special purpose code, device drivers, etc.**

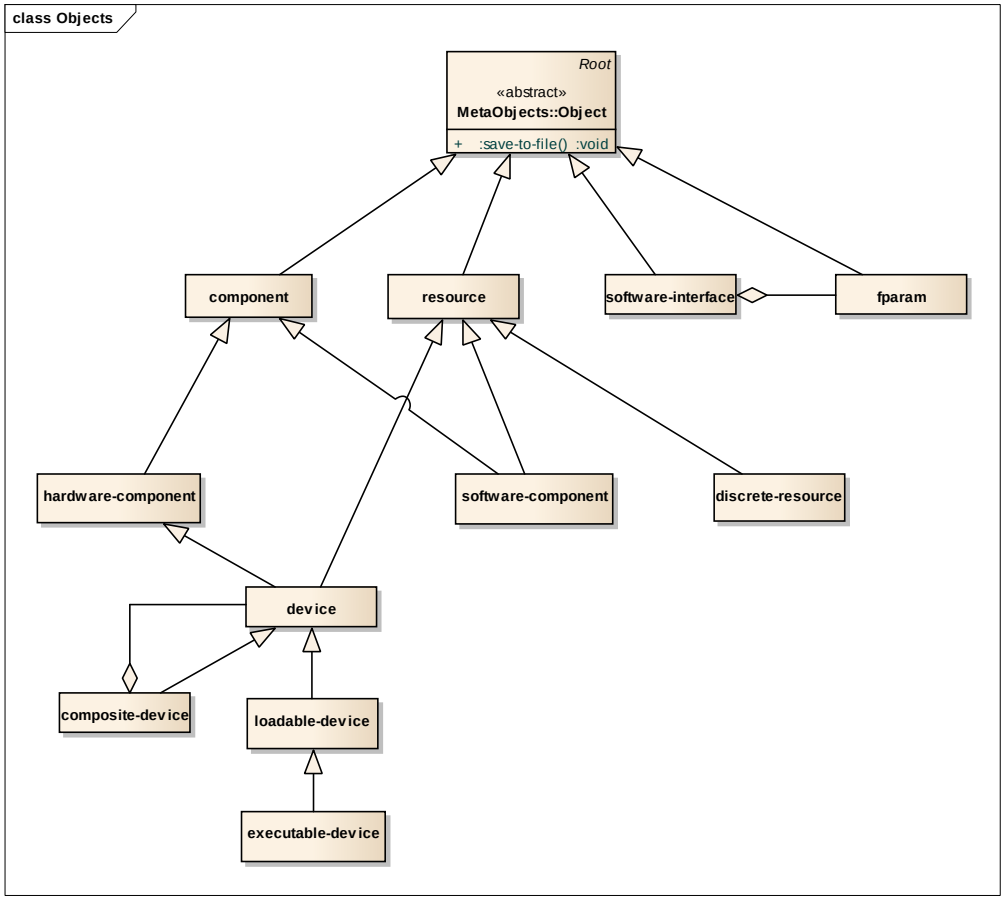
Language Superstructure



Base Structures



Base Object Hierarchy




```
(def-class resource object
   :name "Resource"
   :instantiable nil
   :description "A physical or logical
     element that is required or used by
     another element to provide some
     capability or function."
   :attributes (
         (id
            :cardinality 1
            :description "A unique identifier"
         )))
(def-method (resource :start) ()
   ; This would link to a .so or .dll library
     implementing the HW/Resource
     interface and logic
   (format t "Processing started for ~a~%"
     self))
```

Base Relation Hierarchy

(defrelation SWComponents logicalrelation

:name "->hasSWComponents->"

:description "Sub-components of this component"

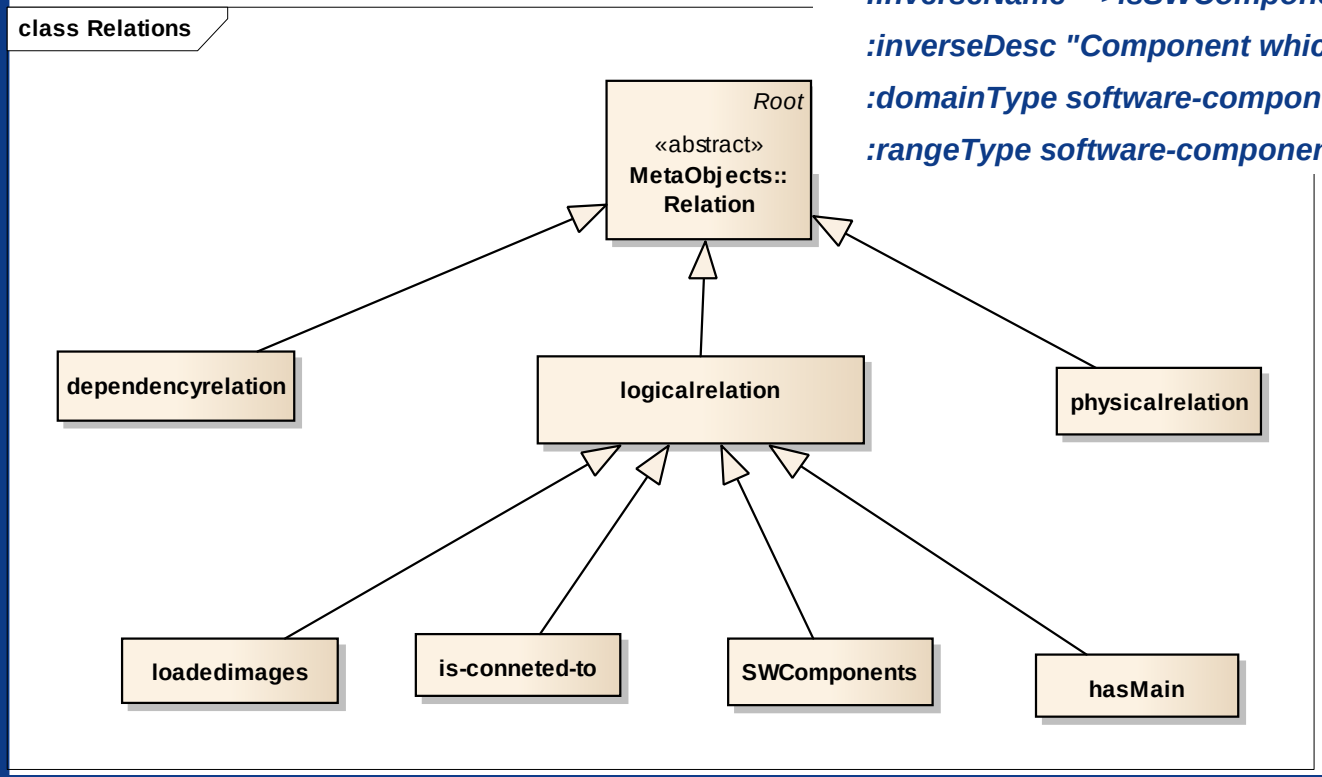
:inverse SwComponentOf

:inverseName "->isSWComponentOf->"

:inverseDesc "Component which this component is a part of"

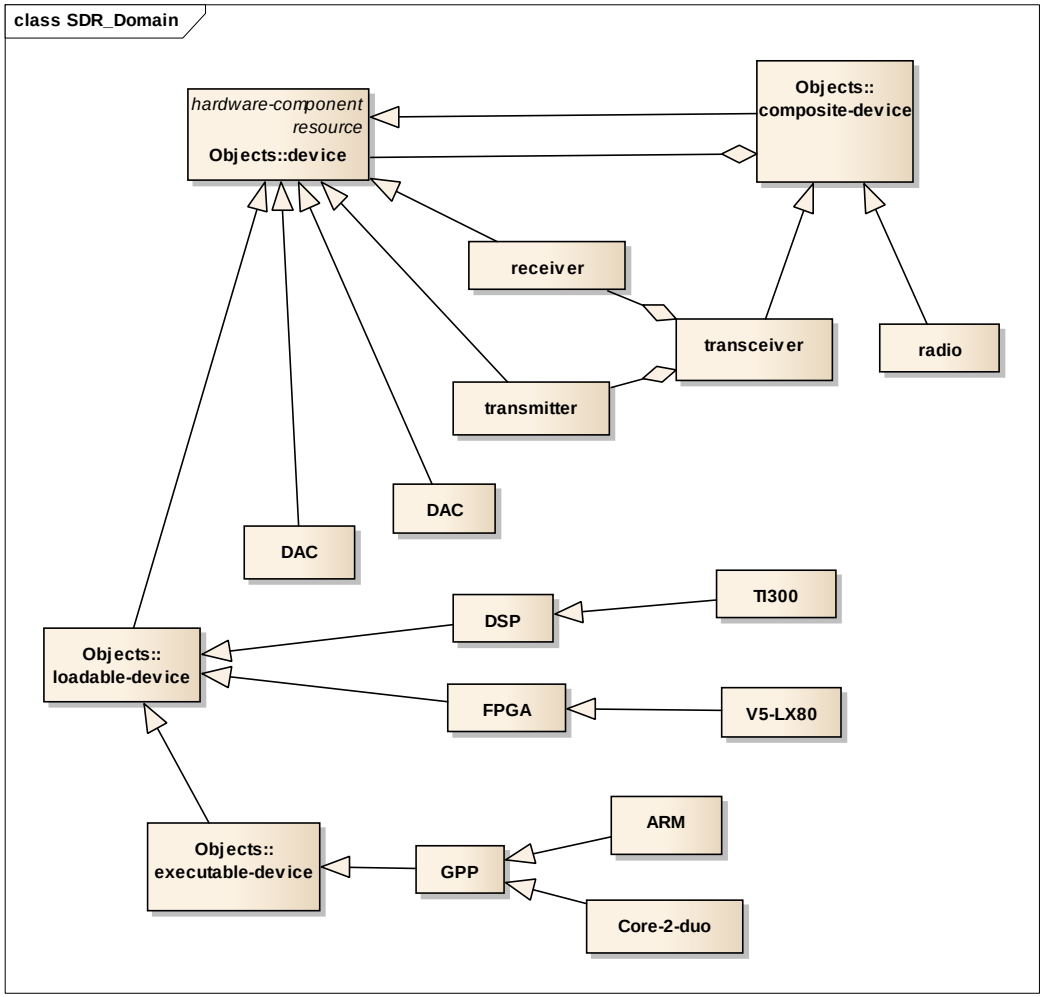
:domainType software-component

:rangeType software-component)



So, what does any of this have to do with communications systems?

Radio Domain Objects



- **Radio hardware components are defined as subclasses of a device.**
- **The composite-device provides a simple but effective characterization of a hierarchical collection of components.**

Define Software Components

```
(setf swc-1
   (tell 'software-component :new
      :props '(
         (name "Math Library")
         (size 800000)
         (language "C")
         )))

(setf swc-2
   (tell 'software-component :new
      :props '(
         (name "Tracking Main")
         (size 2000)
         (language "C")
         )))

(setf swc-3
   (tell 'software-component :new
      :props '(
         (name "IO Library")
         (size 3400)
         (language "ASM")
         )))

(setf swc-4
   (tell 'software-component :new
      :props '(
         (name "Rate 1/2 Viterbi Decoder")
         (size 3000)
         (language "VHDL")
         )))
```

Software Component Definition

(tell loaddev-1 :load swc-4)

(tell loaddev-1 :describe)

BeginInstance=SOFTWARE-COMPONENT-4

InstanceOf->SOFTWARE-COMPONENT

Name=*"SOFTWARE-COMPONENT-4"*

Attributes:

NAME=*"Rate 1/2 Viterbi Decoder"*

SIZE=3000

LANGUAGE=*"VHDL"*

Relations:

LOADEDON->(V5-LX80-1)

EndInstance=SOFTWARE-COMPONENT-4

Define Software Components

```
(tell swc-2 :assert 'swcomponents swc-1)
(tell swc-2 :assert 'swcomponents swc-3)

(setf testapp
   (tell 'application :new
      :props '(
         (name "Tracking Application")
         )))

(tell testapp :assert 'hasMain swc-2)
```

Define Software Components

(tell testapp :describe)

BeginInstance=APPLICATION-1

InstanceOf->APPLICATION

Name=*"APPLICATION-1"*

Attributes:

NAME=*"Tracking Application"*

Relations:

HASMAIN->(SOFTWARE-COMPONENT-2)

EndInstance=APPLICATION-1

Software Application Main

(tell swc-2 :describe)

BeginInstance=SOFTWARE-COMPONENT-2

InstanceOf->SOFTWARE-COMPONENT

Name=*"SOFTWARE-COMPONENT-2"*

Attributes:

NAME=*"Tracking Main"*

SIZE=2000

LANGUAGE=*"C"*

Relations:

SWCOMPONENTS->(SOFTWARE-COMPONENT-1 SOFTWARE-COMPONENT-3)

ISMAINOF->(APPLICATION-1)

EndInstance=SOFTWARE-COMPONENT-2

Hardware Component Definition

```
(def-class V5-LX80 FPGA
   :name "Virtex 5 LX80"
   :description "A model of FPGA"
   :instantiable t
   :attributes (
      (numgates
         :default 60000)
      (maxClockRate
         :default 240)
      (maxImage
         :default 10000)
      (availImage
         :default 10000)
      ))
```

```
(setf loaddev-1
   (tell 'V5-LX80 :new))

(tell loaddev-1 :describe)
BeginInstance=V5-LX80-1
 InstanceOf->V5-LX80
       Name="V5-LX80-1"
Attributes:
 Relations:
 EndInstance=V5-LX80-1

(tell loaddev-1 :get 'maximage)
10000
```

“Defining” a Radio

```
(def-class lmr-radio radio
   :name "Land Mobile Radio"
   :description "A trunked, handheld radio used by public safety and first responders."
   :instantiable t
   :attributes (
      (minFreq
         :description "Minimum operating frequency"
         :cardinality 1
         :default 250.1
         :units MHz)
      (maxFreq
         :description "Maximum operating frequency"
         :cardinality 1
         :default 338.0
         :units MHz)))

(tell 'lmr-radio :assert 'parts '(arm TI300 transceiver))
(tell 'receiver :assert 'parts 'ad-24)
(tell 'transmitter :assert 'parts 'class-c-PA)
```

“Defining” a Radio

BeginClass:LMR-RADIO

SuperClass->(RADIO)

ClassType=CLASS

ClassName=*"Land Mobile Radio"*

isLocked=NIL

isInstantiable=T

isPersistent=T

InstancesCount=0

AttributeDefinitions:

MAXFREQ:

Description=*"Maximum operating frequency"*

Cardinality=1

DefaultValue=338.0

InheritRel=AKO

DataType=NIL

MINFREQ:

Description=*"Minimum operating frequency"*

Cardinality=1

DefaultValue=250.1

InheritRel=AKO

DataType=NIL

Attributes:

Relations:

PARTS->(ARM TI300 TRANSCEIVER)

EndClass:LMR-RADIO

Defining a Radio

(tell 'lmr-radio :print-hierarchy)

PARTS hierarchy of:

LMR-RADIO - *"Land Mobile Radio"*

..ARM **-** *"ARM Processor"*

..TI300 **-** *"Texas Instruments 300 DSP"*

..TRANSCEIVER **-** *"Transceiver"*

....V5-LX80 **-** *"Virtex 5 LX80"*

....ARM **-** *"ARM Processor"*

....TI300 **-** *"Texas Instruments 300 DSP"*

....TRANSMITTER **-** *"Transmitter"*

......CLASS-C-PA **-** *"Class C Power Amplifier"*

....RECEIVER **-** *"Receiver"*

......AD-24 **-** *"24 bit ADC"*

Instantiating a Radio

(setf lmr1 (tell 'lmr-radio :new))

BeginClass:LMR-RADIO

SuperClass->(RADIO)

ClassType=CLASS

ClassName=*"Land Mobile Radio"*

isLocked=NIL

isInstantiable=T

isPersistent=T

InstancesCount=1

AttributeDefinitions:

MAXFREQ:

Description=*"Maximum operating frequency"*

Cardinality=1

DefaultValue=338.0

InheritRel=AKO

DataType=NIL

MINFREQ:

Description=*"Minimum operating frequency"*

Cardinality=1

DefaultValue=250.1

InheritRel=AKO

DataType=NIL

Attributes:

LAST-INSTANCE=LMR-RADIO-1

Relations:

PARTS->(ARM TI300 TRANSCEIVER)

EndClass:LMR-RADIO

Instantiating a Radio

(tell lmr1 :print-hierarchy)

PARTS hierarchy of:

LMR-RADIO-1 - *"LMR-RADIO-1"*

..ARM-1 **-** *"ARM-1"*

..TI300-1 **-** *"TI300-1"*

..TRANSCEIVER-1 **-** *"TRANSCEIVER-1"*

....V5-LX80-2 **-** *"V5-LX80-2"*

....ARM-2 **-** *"ARM-2"*

....TI300-2 **-** *"TI300-2"*

....TRANSMITTER-1 **-** *"TRANSMITTER-1"*

....RECEIVER-1 **-** *"RECEIVER-1"*

Summary

- **Objective is to extend the expressiveness of an executable language to incorporate:**
  - Objects, Relations and Events as first-class objects in the system.
  - Context – expressed as the set of relationships asserted for an object
    - Logical, physical, spatial, temporal
  - State – The value of the properties for an object.
    - Incorporate historical values enabling the ability to query an object about it's state at a given point in time or in relation to an event.
  - Inference and Reasoning – Representing heuristics as a set of conditions tied to assertions or action via relationships.
  - Hypotheses – The ability to define a set of assumptions or assertions that allow exploration of alternatives concurrently within the same knowledge space.