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## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Copyright</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 First Steps</strong></td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming with UNO</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fields of Application for UNO</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting Started</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Files</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation Sets</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuration</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Contact</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to get Objects in OpenOffice.org</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New objects</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document objects</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objects that are provided by other objects</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sets of objects</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working with Objects</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objects, Interfaces, and Services</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using Services</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example: Working with a Spreadsheet Document</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Types</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struct</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Element Access</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do I know Which Type I Have?</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example: Hello Text, Hello Table, Hello Shape</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Mechanisms for Text, Tables and Drawings</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating Text, Tables and Drawing Shapes</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 Professional UNO</strong></td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>API Concepts</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Types</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple Types</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Any Type</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfaces</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referencing Interfaces</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Constructors</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Including Properties</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referencing other Services</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Implementations in Components</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structs</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Predefined Values</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>const</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>constants</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enum</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequences</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modules</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptions</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singletons</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding the API Reference</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specification, Implementation and Instances</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object Composition</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNO Concepts</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNO Interprocess Connections</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting OpenOffice.org in Listening Mode</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Importing a UNO Object</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Characteristics of the Interprocess Bridge</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening a Connection</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating the Bridge</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mapping of Struct Types............................................................................................ 175
Mapping of Exception Types........................................................................................ 179
Mapping of Interface Types......................................................................................... 180
Mapping of UNOIDL...................................................................................................... 182
  Mapping of UNOIDL Typedefs .................................................................................. 182
  Mapping of Individual UNOIDL Constants ............................................................. 182
  Mapping of UNOIDL Constant Groups ...................................................................... 183
  Mapping of UNOIDL Modules .................................................................................. 183
Mapping of Services..................................................................................................... 183
Mapping of Singletons.................................................................................................. 185
Inexact approximation of UNO Value Semantics......................................................... 185
C++ Language Binding.................................................................................................. 186
  Library Overview .................................................................................................... 186
  System Abstraction Layer ....................................................................................... 188
  File Access ............................................................................................................. 188
  ThreadingReference Counting .................................................................................. 189
  Threads and Thread Synchronization ....................................................................... 189
  Socket and Pipe ....................................................................................................... 189
  Strings .................................................................................................................... 190
Establishing Interprocess Connections......................................................................... 190
Transparent Use of Office UNO Components.............................................................. 192
  The bootstrap function ............................................................................................ 192
  SDK tooling ............................................................................................................ 192
  Finding a UNO Installation ...................................................................................... 193
Type Mappings.............................................................................................................. 194
  Mapping of Simple Types ....................................................................................... 194
  Mapping of Type .................................................................................................... 196
  Mapping of Any ...................................................................................................... 196
Mapping of Struct Types............................................................................................... 197
Mapping of Interface Types........................................................................................... 199
Mapping of Sequence Types.......................................................................................... 200
  Mapping of Sequence Types ................................................................................... 202
Mapping of Services..................................................................................................... 203
Mapping of Singletons.................................................................................................. 205
Using Weak References............................................................................................... 205
Exception Handling in C++.......................................................................................... 206
OpenOffice.org Basic.................................................................................................... 208
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Defining a Service</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old-style Services</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defining a Sequence</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defining a Struct</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defining an Exception</td>
<td>316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Predefining Values</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Const and Constants</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enum</td>
<td>318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using Comments</td>
<td>319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singleton</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserved Types</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Array</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published Entities</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component Architecture</td>
<td>322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core Interfaces to Implement</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XInterface</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for queryInterface()</td>
<td>327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference Counting</td>
<td>328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XTypeProvider</td>
<td>328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provided Types</td>
<td>328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ImplementationID</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XServiceImpl</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation Name</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supported Service Names</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XWeak</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XComponent</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposing of an XComponent</td>
<td>332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XInitialization</td>
<td>332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XMain</td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XAggregation</td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XUnoTunnel</td>
<td>334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple Component in Java</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Definition with Helper Class</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XInterface, XTypeProvider and XWeak</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XServiceImpl</td>
<td>337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing Your Own Interfaces</td>
<td>337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing a Single Factory Using a Helper Method</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write Registration Info Using a Helper Method</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing without Helpers</td>
<td>342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XInterface</td>
<td>342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XTypeProvider</td>
<td>343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XComponent</td>
<td>343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storing the Service Manager for Further Use</td>
<td>345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create Instance with Arguments</td>
<td>345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possible Structures for Java Components</td>
<td>346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Implementation per Component File</td>
<td>347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation Class with Component Operations and Inner Implementation Class</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Implementations per Component File</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional UNO Types</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running and Debugging Java Components</td>
<td>354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register Component File</td>
<td>354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make Registration Available to OpenOffice.org</td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test the Registration</td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debugging</td>
<td>356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for GNU make</td>
<td>356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component Debugging</td>
<td>357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Java Environment in OpenOffice.org</td>
<td>358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troubleshooting</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check Registry Keys</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check the Java VM settings</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check the Manifest</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjust CLASSPATH for Additional Classes</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disable Debug Options</td>
<td>362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C++ Component</td>
<td>362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Definition with Helper Template Classes</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XInterface, XTypeProvider and XWeak</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XServiceInfo</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing your own Interfaces</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing a Single Factory Using a Helper Method</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write Registration Info Using a Helper Method</td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide Implementation Environment</td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing without Helpers</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XInterface Implementation</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XTypeProvider Implementation</td>
<td>371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing a Single Factory</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write Registration Info</td>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Storing the Service Manager for Further Use ..........................374
Create Instance with Arguments .............................................374
Multiple Components in One Dynamic Link Library ...............375
Building and Testing C++ Components .................................375
  Build Process ........................................................................375
  Test Registration and Use .....................................................376
Integrating Components into OpenOffice.org .........................377
Protocol Handler .....................................................................379
  Overview ..............................................................................379
Implementation .................................................................380
  Java Protocol Handler - vnd.sun.star.framework.ExampleHandler .383
  C++ Protocol Handler - org.openoffice.Office.addon.example 385
Configuration .......................................................................393
  Configuration for vnd.sun.star.framework.ExampleHandler .394
  Configuration for org.openoffice.Office.addon.example ..........395
Installation .........................................................................396
Jobs ....................................................................................396
Execution Environment .......................................................398
Implementation ..................................................................399
Initialization .......................................................................401
Returning Results ................................................................404
Configuration .....................................................................405
Installation .........................................................................408
Using the vnd.sun.star.jobs: URL Schema ..............................409
List of Supported Events ........................................................412
Add-Ons ..............................................................................413
  Overview ..............................................................................413
Guidelines ............................................................................414
  Add-Ons Submenu .............................................................414
  Custom Top-Level Menu ....................................................415
  Toolbar ................................................................................415
  Add-On Help menu ............................................................415
Configuration .....................................................................415
Menus ..................................................................................416
  Submenu in Tools - Add-Ons ..............................................417
  Top-level Menu ...................................................................420
Toolbars ...............................................................................422
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Images for Toolbars and Menus</td>
<td>425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help Integration</td>
<td>428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disable Commands</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuration</td>
<td>433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabling Commands at Runtime</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercepting Context Menus</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register and Remove an Interceptor</td>
<td>441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing an Interceptor</td>
<td>441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Querying a Menu Structure</td>
<td>442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changing a Menu</td>
<td>443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finishing Interception</td>
<td>444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File Naming Conventions</td>
<td>447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deployment Options for Components</td>
<td>449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background: UNO Registries</td>
<td>449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component Registration</td>
<td>451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command Line Registry Tools</td>
<td>451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component Registration Tool</td>
<td>452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNO Type Library Tools</td>
<td>453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manual Component Installation</td>
<td>454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manually Merging a Registry and Adding it to uno.ini or soffice.ini</td>
<td>454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bootstrapping a Service Manager</td>
<td>455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Service Manager Configurations</td>
<td>458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dynamically Modifying the Service Manager</td>
<td>458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating a ServiceManager from a Given Registry File</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The UNO Executable</td>
<td>461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standalone Use Case</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Server Use Case</td>
<td>465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using the UNO Executable</td>
<td>467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessing Dialogs</td>
<td>467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigning Component Methods to Control Events</td>
<td>468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using Dialogs in Components</td>
<td>469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instantiate and display a dialog</td>
<td>470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accept events created by dialog controls</td>
<td>472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Extensions</td>
<td>477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension Manager</td>
<td>477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deployment Items</td>
<td>478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installing Extensions for All or a Single User</td>
<td>478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension Manager in OpenOffice.org</td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
unopkg .................................................................................................................... 479
Location of Installed Extensions ........................................................................ 480
Extension Layers ............................................................................................... 481
    Unprocessed Content .................................................................................... 482
    The Future of Layers .................................................................................. 482
Checklist for Writing Extensions ..................................................................... 483
File Format ........................................................................................................ 484
    Runtime Libraries ....................................................................................... 485
    Shared Library UNO Components .............................................................. 485
    Shared Library UNO Components for particular Platforms ...................... 485
    RDB Type Library ...................................................................................... 486
    Jar Type Library ....................................................................................... 486
    Uno Jar Components .................................................................................. 486
    UNO Python Components ........................................................................ 487
    OpenOffice.org Basic Libraries .................................................................. 487
    Dialog Libraries ....................................................................................... 487
Configuration Data Files .................................................................................. 487
    Configuration Schema Files ...................................................................... 488
    Extension Tooltip Description .................................................................. 488
    Executable Files ....................................................................................... 488
description.xml ............................................................................................... 489
Description of XML Elements ......................................................................... 490
    Element /description ................................................................................ 490
    Element /description/identifier .................................................................. 491
    Element /description/version ..................................................................... 491
    Element /description/platform ................................................................... 491
    Element /description/registration ............................................................ 492
    Element /description/registration/simple-license ................................... 492
    Element /description/registration/simple-license/license-text ................ 494
    Element /description/dependencies .......................................................... 494
    Element /description/dependencies/OpenOffice.org-minimal-version .... 495
    Element /description/dependencies/OpenOffice.org-maximal-version ....... 495
    Element /description/update-information ................................................. 496
    Element /description/update-information/src ......................................... 496
    Element /description/publisher ................................................................. 497
    Element /description/publisher/name ....................................................... 497
    Element /description/release-notes ......................................................... 498
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Element /description/publisher</td>
<td>525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Element /description/publisher/name</td>
<td>525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Element /description/release-notes</td>
<td>526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Element /description/release-notes/src</td>
<td>526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of Atom Feed</td>
<td>527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examples</td>
<td>527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>description.xml Containing Direct Reference to the Update Information</td>
<td>527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using the Atom Feed</td>
<td>528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Options Dialog</td>
<td>529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available samples</td>
<td>530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating the GUI of the Options Page</td>
<td>530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saving and Reading Data for the Options Page</td>
<td>531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defining the Usage of Options Pages</td>
<td>541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Options Dialog of the Extension Manager</td>
<td>546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adding a Leaf to an Existing Node</td>
<td>546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adding Several Leaves</td>
<td>548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grouping of Leaves</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adding Nodes</td>
<td>551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adding Several Nodes</td>
<td>553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Position of Leaves</td>
<td>553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grouping of Nodes</td>
<td>554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigning Nodes to Modules</td>
<td>556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defining a Module</td>
<td>557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Position of Nodes</td>
<td>557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help Content</td>
<td>559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension help format</td>
<td>559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deployment</td>
<td>561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Error handling</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration into the OpenOffice.org help system</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help Viewer Contents page</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help Viewer Index page</td>
<td>563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help Viewer Find page</td>
<td>563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help Viewer Bookmarks page</td>
<td>564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Context sensitive help and extended tool tips</td>
<td>564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Links</td>
<td>564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Images</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File Format</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6 Office Development .................................................................................................. 607
OpenOffice.org Application Environment .................................................................. 607
Desktop Environment .................................................................................................. 608
Framework API ............................................................................................................ 609
Frame-Controller-Model Paradigm in OpenOffice.org .................................................. 610
Frames .......................................................................................................................... 611
  Linking Components and Windows .............................................................................. 611
  Communication through Dispatch Framework ............................................................ 613
  Components in Frames ............................................................................................... 613
Controllers ..................................................................................................................... 614
Windows ......................................................................................................................... 615
Dispatch Framework ....................................................................................................... 615
Using the Desktop ........................................................................................................... 616
Using the Component Framework ................................................................................... 622
Getting Frames, Controllers and Models from Each Other ............................................ 623
Frames .......................................................................................................................... 624
  XFrame ......................................................................................................................... 624
  Frame Hierarchies ......................................................................................................... 624
  Frame Actions ............................................................................................................... 627
  XFramesSupplier ............................................................................................................ 629
  XDispatchProvider and XDispatchProviderInterception ............................................ 629
  XStatusIndicatorFactory .............................................................................................. 630
Controllers ..................................................................................................................... 630
  XController .................................................................................................................. 630
  XDispatchProvider ........................................................................................................ 631
  XSelectionSupplier ........................................................................................................ 631
  XContextMenuInterception ........................................................................................... 631
  Document Specific Controller Services ....................................................................... 632
Models ............................................................................................................................ 633
  XModel .......................................................................................................................... 634
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XModifiable</td>
<td>635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XStorable</td>
<td>635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XPrintable</td>
<td>635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XEventBroadcaster</td>
<td>635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XEventsSupplier</td>
<td>636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XDocumentInfoSupplier</td>
<td>636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XViewDataSupplier</td>
<td>636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document Specific Features</td>
<td>637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Window Interfaces</td>
<td>638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XWindow</td>
<td>638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XTopWindow</td>
<td>639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XWindowPeer</td>
<td>639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating Frames Manually</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frame Creation</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigning Windows to Frames</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting Components into Frame Hierarchies</td>
<td>641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handling Documents</td>
<td>643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loading Documents</td>
<td>643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URL Parameter</td>
<td>651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target Frame</td>
<td>651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Documents</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reacting Upon Closing</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Trigger Closing</td>
<td>656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XCloseable</td>
<td>657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storing Documents</td>
<td>661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing Documents</td>
<td>663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using the Dispatch Framework</td>
<td>663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command URL</td>
<td>664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processing Chain</td>
<td>664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispatch Process</td>
<td>666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting a Dispatch Object</td>
<td>667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listening for Status Information</td>
<td>668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listening for Context Changes</td>
<td>669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispatching a Command</td>
<td>670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispatch Results</td>
<td>671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispatch Interception</td>
<td>672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Java Window Integration</td>
<td>674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Window Handle</td>
<td>674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using the Window Handle</td>
<td>675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Solution</td>
<td>676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More Remote Problems</td>
<td>678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filter Options for Lotus, dBase and DIF Filters</td>
<td>910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filter Options for the CSV Filter</td>
<td>910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing Spreadsheet Documents</td>
<td>912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printer and Print Job Settings</td>
<td>912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page Breaks and Scaling for Printout</td>
<td>914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print Areas</td>
<td>914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working With Spreadsheet Documents</td>
<td>915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document Structure</td>
<td>915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spreadsheet Services - Overview</td>
<td>919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capabilities of Spreadsheet</td>
<td>919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capabilities of SheetCellRange</td>
<td>921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capabilities of SheetCell</td>
<td>923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capabilities of SheetCellRanges Container</td>
<td>925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capabilities of Columns and Rows</td>
<td>927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spreadsheet</td>
<td>929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Properties of Spreadsheet</td>
<td>929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naming</td>
<td>929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inserting Cells, Moving and Copying Cell Ranges</td>
<td>929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page Breaks</td>
<td>930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Ranges</td>
<td>931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Properties of Cell Ranges</td>
<td>931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell and Cell Range Access</td>
<td>931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merging Cell Ranges into a Single Cell</td>
<td>933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Column and Row Access</td>
<td>933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Array</td>
<td>934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Address</td>
<td>934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fill Series</td>
<td>935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Operations</td>
<td>937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handling Array Formulas</td>
<td>938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cells</td>
<td>939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Properties of SheetCell</td>
<td>939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Formulas, Values and Errors</td>
<td>940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Text Content</td>
<td>941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Address</td>
<td>941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Annotations</td>
<td>942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Ranges and Cells Container</td>
<td>944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Properties of SheetCellRanges</td>
<td>945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Single Cell Ranges in SheetCellRanges Container</td>
<td>945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns and Rows</td>
<td>947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formatting</td>
<td>949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td>994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting Spreadsheets</td>
<td>995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheet Outline</td>
<td>995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detective</td>
<td>996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Table Operations</td>
<td>996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Validation</td>
<td>996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Consolidation</td>
<td>998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charts</td>
<td>999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenarios</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Document Features</td>
<td>1003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Styles</td>
<td>1003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page Styles</td>
<td>1005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Function Handling</td>
<td>1006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calculating Function Results</td>
<td>1006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information about Functions</td>
<td>1007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recently Used Functions</td>
<td>1008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settings</td>
<td>1009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spreadsheet Document Controller</td>
<td>1010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spreadsheet View</td>
<td>1010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>View Panes</td>
<td>1012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>View Settings</td>
<td>1012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range Selection</td>
<td>1013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spreadsheet Add-Ins</td>
<td>1015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Function Descriptions</td>
<td>1016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Names</td>
<td>1016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compatibility Names</td>
<td>1017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custom Functions</td>
<td>1017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variable Results</td>
<td>1017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawing Documents and Presentation Documents</td>
<td>1019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example: Creating a Simple Organizational Chart</td>
<td>1021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handling Drawing Document Files</td>
<td>1023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating and Loading Drawing Documents</td>
<td>1023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saving Drawing Documents</td>
<td>1024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storing</td>
<td>1024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exporting</td>
<td>1025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filter Options</td>
<td>1026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing Drawing Documents</td>
<td>1028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printer and Print Job Settings</td>
<td>1028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Print Settings</td>
<td>1030</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 10 Charts

Handling Chart Documents ............................................................. 1081
Creating Charts ............................................................................. 1081
Creating and Adding a Chart to a Spreadsheet .......................... 1082
Creating a Chart OLE Object in Draw and Impress .................... 1083
Setting the Chart Type .................................................................... 1085
Accessing Existing Chart Documents ........................................... 1086
Working With Charts ...................................................................... 1086
  Document Structure ...................................................................... 1086
Data Access .................................................................................... 1088
Chart Document Parts ................................................................... 1092
Common Parts of all Chart Types ................................................. 1093
  Diagram ...................................................................................... 1093
  Axis ............................................................................................ 1094
  Data Series and Data Points ....................................................... 1096
Features of Special Chart Types ................................................... 1098
Statistics ....................................................................................... 1098
3-D Charts ..................................................................................... 1099
Pie Charts ..................................................................................... 1101
Stock Charts .................................................................................. 1101
Chart Document Controller ........................................................... 1102
Chart Add-Ins ............................................................................... 1102
Prerequisites .................................................................................. 1103
How Add-Ins Work ....................................................................... 1103
How to Apply an Add-In to a Chart Document ......................... 1107

## 11 OpenOffice.org Basic

First Steps with OpenOffice.org Basic .......................................... 1110
  Step By Step Tutorial .................................................................. 1110
Creating a Module in a Standard Library .................................... 1110
Writing and Debugging a Basic UNO program .......................... 1112
Calling a Sub from the User Interface ......................................... 1114
Creating Dialogs ........................................................................ 1115
Adding Event Handlers ................................................................. 1117
AutoPilot Dialogs ........................................................................ 1119
OpenOffice.org Basic IDE ............................................................... 1120
Managing Basic and Dialog Libraries ....................................... 1121
OpenOffice.org Basic Macros Dialog ......................................... 1121
Displayed Information ................................................................. 1121
Buttons ......................................................................................... 1123
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transaction Handling</td>
<td>1298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stored Procedures</td>
<td>1299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Database Drivers</td>
<td>1300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDBC Driver</td>
<td>1301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driver Service</td>
<td>1302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connection Service</td>
<td>1303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XDatabaseMetaData Interface</td>
<td>1305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statements</td>
<td>1306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PreparedStatement</td>
<td>1306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result Set</td>
<td>1307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Scalar Functions</td>
<td>1307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Group CLI Numeric Functions</td>
<td>1307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Group CLI String Functions</td>
<td>1308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Group CLI Time and Date Functions</td>
<td>1309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Group CLI System Functions</td>
<td>1310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Group CLI Conversion Functions</td>
<td>1311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handling Unsupported Functionality</td>
<td>1311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Forms</td>
<td>1313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Models and Views</td>
<td>1314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Model-View Paradigm</td>
<td>1314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Models and Views for Form Controls</td>
<td>1315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model-View Interaction</td>
<td>1316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form Layer Views</td>
<td>1317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>View Modes</td>
<td>1317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locating Controls</td>
<td>1317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focusing Controls</td>
<td>1318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form Elements in the Document Model</td>
<td>1319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Hierarchy of Models</td>
<td>1319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FormComponent Service</td>
<td>1319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FormComponents Service</td>
<td>1319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logical Forms</td>
<td>1321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forms Container</td>
<td>1321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form Control Models</td>
<td>1322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control Models and Shapes</td>
<td>1323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programmatic Creation of Controls</td>
<td>1324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Form Components

- Control Models
- Forms
- HTML Forms
- Data Awareness
- Forms
- Forms as Row Sets
- Loadable Forms
- Sub Forms
- Filtering and Sorting
- Parameters
- Data Aware Controls
- Control Models as Bound Components
- Committing Controls
- External Value Suppliers
- Value Bindings
- Form Controls accepting Value Bindings
- External List Sources
- Validation
- Validation in OpenOffice.org
- Validation and Bindings
- Scripting and Events
- Common Tasks
- Initializing Bound Controls
- Automatic Key Generation
- Data Validation
- Programmatic Assignment of Scripts to Events

### 14 Universal Content Broker

- Capabilities
- Architecture
- Services and Interfaces
- Content Providers
- Using the UCB API
- Instantiating the UCB
- Accessing a UCB Content
- Executing Content Commands
- Obtaining Content Properties
- Setting Content Properties
- Folders
Accessing the Children of a Folder .................................................................1372
Documents........................................................................................................1375
  Reading a Document Content ....................................................................1375
  Storing a Document Content ....................................................................1377
Managing Contents.........................................................................................1378
Creating..........................................................................................................1379
Deleting..........................................................................................................1382
Copying, Moving and Linking.........................................................................1383
Configuration.................................................................................................1384
UCP Registration Information..........................................................................1384
Unconfigured UCBs.......................................................................................1385
Preconfigured UCBs.......................................................................................1387
Content Provider Proxies................................................................................1389

15 Configuration Management.........................................................................1391
  Capabilities....................................................................................................1391
  Architecture................................................................................................1391
  Object Model................................................................................................1395
Configuration Data Sources.............................................................................1397
Connecting to a Data Source...........................................................................1398
Using a Data Source.........................................................................................1402
Reading Configuration Data............................................................................1405
Updating Configuration Data...........................................................................1410
Customizing Configuration Data.....................................................................1423
Creating a Custom Configuration Schema.....................................................1423
  Known Issues regarding schema handling .................................................1425
Preparing a Custom Configuration Schema..................................................1425
Installing a Custom Configuration Schema....................................................1427
Adding a Backend Data Store.........................................................................1428

16 JavaBean for Office Components..............................................................1431
  Using the OOoBean.......................................................................................1431
  The OOoBean by Example..........................................................................1432
  API Overview..............................................................................................1434
  Configuring the Office Bean........................................................................1435
Default Configuration........................................................................................................1436
Customized Configuration..........................................................................................1437
Internal Architecture..............................................................................................1438
The Internal Office Bean API....................................................................................1438
OfficeConnection Interface......................................................................................1439
OfficeWindow Interface............................................................................................1440
ContainerFactory Interface.......................................................................................1441
LocalOfficeConnection and LocalOfficeWindow.....................................................1441

17 Accessibility..........................................................................................................1443
Overview..................................................................................................................1443
Bridges.......................................................................................................................1444
Accessibility Tree.......................................................................................................1445
Content Information...................................................................................................1446
Listeners and Broadcasters.......................................................................................1447
Implementing Accessible Objects..............................................................................1448
  Implementation Rules...............................................................................................1448
  Services.....................................................................................................................1449
Using the Accessibility API.......................................................................................1449
A Simple Screen Reader.............................................................................................1450
Features......................................................................................................................1452
Class Overview........................................................................................................1452
Putting the Accessibility Interfaces to Work.............................................................1454
XAccessibleContext..................................................................................................1454
XAccessibleComponent............................................................................................1457
XAccessibleExtendedComponent..............................................................................1459
XAccessibleText........................................................................................................1459
  Selection..................................................................................................................1460
  Text type................................................................................................................1460
  Caret and Text Indices............................................................................................1461
XAccessibleEditableText...........................................................................................1462
XAccessibleTable......................................................................................................1463
XAccessibleEventBroadcaster.....................................................................................1464
XAccessibleEventListener........................................................................................1466
XAccessibleSelection................................................................................................1468
XAccessibleRelationSet.............................................................................................1469
XAccessibleStateSet................................................................................................1470
XAccessibleValue......................................................................................................1471
XAccessibleImage.....................................................................................................1472
XAccessibleAction...................................................................................................1472
# 18 Scripting Framework

Structure of this Chapter ......................................................... 1475
Who Should Read this Chapter .................................................. 1476
Using the Scripting Framework .................................................. 1477
Running Macros ........................................................................ 1477
Editing, Creating and Managing Macros ................................. 1478
The Organizer dialogs for BeanShell and JavaScript ................ 1478
BeanShell Editor ...................................................................... 1479
JavaScript Editor .................................................................... 1480
Basic and Dialogs ..................................................................... 1481
Macro Recording ....................................................................... 1481
Writing Macros ........................................................................ 1482
- The HelloWorld macro ......................................................... 1482
- Using the OpenOffice.org API from macros ......................... 1483
- Handling arguments passed to macros ................................. 1484
- Creating dialogs from macros ............................................ 1484
- Compiling and Deploying Java macros ................................. 1485
How the Scripting Framework Works ...................................... 1486
Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component using the Java Helper Classes .................................................. 1488
- The ScriptProvider Abstract Base Class .............................. 1489
- Implementing the XScript Interface ..................................... 1491
- Implementing the ScriptEditor Interface .............................. 1493
- Building and Registering Your ScriptProvider .................... 1495
- Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component From Scratch .................................................. 1495
- Scripting Framework URI Specification .............................. 1496
- Storage of Scripts ................................................................ 1497
- Implementation ..................................................................... 1497
- Integration with Extension Manager ................................. 1501
  - Overview of how ScriptingFramework integrates with the Extension Manager API ........................................ 1502
  - Deregistration .................................................................... 1503
19 Graphical User Interfaces........................................................................................................1507
  Implementation Details ........................................................................................................1507
    Basic Concepts ..................................................................................................................1508
  Exception Handling ............................................................................................................1508
  Dialogs and Controls ..........................................................................................................1508
    Dialog Creation ................................................................................................................1509
  Instantiation of a Dialog .....................................................................................................1509
  Setting Dialog Properties ....................................................................................................1511
    Multi-Page Dialogs ...........................................................................................................1513
  Adding Controls to a Dialog ...............................................................................................1513
  Displaying Dialogs ..............................................................................................................1513
  Dialog Handling ..................................................................................................................1514
  Events ..................................................................................................................................1515
    Mouse Listeners ...............................................................................................................1516
    Keyboard Listener .............................................................................................................1517
    Focus Listener ..................................................................................................................1517
    Paint Listener ..................................................................................................................1517
    Control element-specific events .....................................................................................1518
  Dialog Controls ...................................................................................................................1518
  Common Properties ............................................................................................................1519
  Font-specific Properties .....................................................................................................1519
  Other Common Properties .................................................................................................1522
  Property Propagation Between Model and Control ............................................................1523
  Common Workflow to add Controls ...................................................................................1524
  The Example Listings ..........................................................................................................1524
    Label Field .........................................................................................................................1525
    Command Button ..............................................................................................................1527
      Graphics .........................................................................................................................1529
        Image Control ...............................................................................................................1530
    Check Box ..........................................................................................................................1533
    Radio Button ....................................................................................................................1535
    Scroll Bar ............................................................................................................................1537
    List Box ..............................................................................................................................1539
    Combo Box ........................................................................................................................1541
    Progress Bar .....................................................................................................................1542
    Horizontal/Vertical Line Control ......................................................................................1544
    Group Box ........................................................................................................................1545
20 OpenOffice.org API-Design-Guidelines..................................................1587
   General Design Rules........................................................................1588
      Universality ..............................................................................1588
      Orthogonality ..........................................................................1588
      Inheritance ..............................................................................1588
      Uniformity ................................................................................1589
      Correct English ........................................................................1589
      Identifier Naming Convention ..................................................1589
   Definition of API Elements.............................................................1590
   Attributes......................................................................................1590
      Naming .....................................................................................1591
      Usage .......................................................................................1591
   Methods.......................................................................................1591
      Naming .....................................................................................1591
Usage ................................................................................................................................. 1594
Interfaces .......................................................................................................................... 1594
  Naming ........................................................................................................................... 1594
  Usage ............................................................................................................................... 1595
Properties ........................................................................................................................... 1595
  Naming ........................................................................................................................... 1595
  Usage ............................................................................................................................... 1595
Events ................................................................................................................................. 1595
  Naming ........................................................................................................................... 1596
  Usage ............................................................................................................................... 1596
Services .................................................................................................................................. 1596
  Naming ........................................................................................................................... 1597
  Usage ............................................................................................................................... 1597
Exceptions ........................................................................................................................ 1597
  Naming ........................................................................................................................... 1597
  Usage ............................................................................................................................... 1597
Enums .................................................................................................................................... 1598
  Naming ........................................................................................................................... 1598
  Usage ............................................................................................................................... 1598
Typedefs ............................................................................................................................ 1599
  Naming ........................................................................................................................... 1599
  Usage ............................................................................................................................... 1599
Structs .................................................................................................................................. 1599
  Naming ........................................................................................................................... 1599
  Usage ............................................................................................................................... 1600
Parameter .......................................................................................................................... 1600
  Naming ........................................................................................................................... 1600
  Usage ............................................................................................................................... 1600
Special Cases ..................................................................................................................... 1601
  Error Handling (Exceptions/Error-Codes) ................................................................. 1601
  Collection Interfaces ................................................................................................. 1601
  Postfix Document for Document-like Components .................................................. 1601
  Postfixes Start/End vs. Begin/End ............................................................................. 1601
Abbreviations ................................................................................................................... 1602
Source Files and Types ...................................................................................................... 1602

21 IDL Documentation Guidelines .................................................................................. 1603
  Process ......................................................................................................................... 1603
  File Assembly ............................................................................................................. 1604
  Readable & Editable Structure .................................................................................. 1604
Contents .......................................................................................................................1604
File structure ................................................................................................................1605
General ...........................................................................................................................1605
Character Set and Special Characters .................................................................1605
Completeness of Sentences .....................................................................................1605
Indentation ....................................................................................................................1606
Delimiters .....................................................................................................................1606
File-Header ..................................................................................................................1606
File-Footer ....................................................................................................................1607
Element Documentation ............................................................................................1607
General Element Documentation ...........................................................................1607
Main Description .......................................................................................................1608
@-Tagged Part ...............................................................................................................1608
Example for a Major Element Documentation ......................................................1609
Example for a Minor Element Documentation .......................................................1609
Special Markups ..........................................................................................................1609
<atom> ........................................................................................................................1610
<type> ..........................................................................................................................1610
<member> ...................................................................................................................1610
<const> .......................................................................................................................1611
<TRUE/> , <FALSE/> ....................................................................................................1611
<NULL/> .....................................................................................................................1611
<void/> ........................................................................................................................1611
<code> ..........................................................................................................................1612
Special Documentation Tags ......................................................................................1612
@author Name of the Author .....................................................................................1612
@since Product Version ..............................................................................................1612
@see qualifiedIdentifier ...........................................................................................1613
@param ParameterName ..............................................................................................1613
@return/@returns ..........................................................................................................1614
@throws qualifiedException .......................................................................................1614
@version VersionNumber ...........................................................................................1614
Useful XHTML Tags .....................................................................................................1614
Paragraph: <p> ... </p> .................................................................................................1615
Line Break: <br/> ...........................................................................................................1615
Unordered List: <ul><li> ... </li>... </ul> ...........................................................................1615
Ordered List: <ol><li> ... </li>... </ol> ................................................................................1616
22 Universal Content Providers

The Hierarchy Content Provider

HCP Contents

Creation of New HCP Content

URL Scheme for HCP Contents

Commands and Properties

The File Content Provider

File Contents

Creation of New File Contents

URL Schemes for File Contents

The vnd.sun.star.wfs URL Scheme

Commands and Properties

The FTP Content Provider

FTP Contents

Creation of New FTP Content

URL Scheme for FTP Contents

Commands and Properties

The WebDAV Content Provider

DCP Contents

Creation of New DCP Contents

Authentication

Property Handling

Namespaces

DAV / UCB Property Mapping

URL Scheme for DCP Contents

Commands and Properties

The Package Content Provider

PCP Contents

Creation of New PCP Contents

URL Scheme for PCP Contents

Commands and Properties

The Help Content Provider

Help Content Provider Contents

URL Scheme for Help Contents
Properties and Commands ................................................................. 1637
Module Content .............................................................................. 1638
XHTML Content or Picture Content .............................................. 1640

23 UNOIDL Syntax Specification...................................................... 1641

24 Glossary .................................................................................. 1645
   A ................................................................................................. 1645
   B ................................................................................................. 1647
   C ................................................................................................. 1647
   D ................................................................................................. 1651
   E ................................................................................................. 1653
   F ................................................................................................. 1654
   G ................................................................................................. 1656
   H ................................................................................................. 1656
   I ................................................................................................. 1656
   J / K ........................................................................................... 1658
   L ................................................................................................. 1659
   M / N ....................................................................................... 1660
   O ................................................................................................. 1660
   P ................................................................................................. 1662
   Q ................................................................................................. 1662
   R ................................................................................................. 1662
   S ................................................................................................. 1663
   T ................................................................................................. 1665
   U ................................................................................................. 1666
   V ................................................................................................. 1668
   W ................................................................................................. 1668
   X / Y / Z .................................................................................... 1669
Preface

This guide provides.....
First Steps

This chapter shows you the first steps when using the OpenOffice.org API. Following these steps is essential to understand and use the chapters about OpenOffice.org documents such as Text Documents, Spreadsheet Documents, Drawing Documents and Presentation Documents. After you have successfully done the first steps, you can go directly to the other chapters of this manual. The focus of the first steps will be Java, but other languages are covered as well. If you want to use OpenOffice.org Basic afterwards, please refer to the chapters First Steps with OpenOffice.org Basic and UNO Language Bindings. The usage of C++ is described in C++ Language Binding.

Programming with UNO

UNO (pronounced ['ju:nou]) stands for Universal Network Objects and is the base component technology for OpenOffice.org. You can utilize and write components that interact across languages, component technologies, computer platforms, and networks. Currently, UNO is available on Linux, Solaris, Windows, Power PC, FreeBSD and Mac OS X. Other ports are still being developed at OpenOffice.org. The supported programming languages are Java, C++ and OpenOffice.org Basic. As well, UNO is available through the component technology Microsoft COM for many other languages. On OpenOffice.org there is also a language binding for Python available. With OpenOffice.org 2.0, UNO is also programmable with .NET languages using the new Common Language Infrastructure binding. In addition, the new scripting framework offers the use of the API through several scripting languages,
such as Javascript, Beanshell or Jython. See Scripting Framework for more details. UNO is used to access OpenOffice.org, using its Application Programming Interface (API). The OpenOffice.org API is the comprehensive specification that describes the programmable features of OpenOffice.org.

**Fields of Application for UNO**

You can connect to a local or remote instance of OpenOffice.org from C++, Java and COM/DCOM. C++ and Java Desktop applications, Java servlets, Java Server Pages, JScript and VBScript, and languages, such as Delphi, Visual Basic and many others can use OpenOffice.org to work with Office documents. It is possible to develop UNO Components in C++ or Java that can be instantiated by the office process and add new capabilities to OpenOffice.org. For example, you can write Chart Add-ins or Calc Add-ins, Add-ons, linguistic extensions, new file filters, database drivers. You can even write complete applications, such as a groupware client. UNO components, as JavaBeans, integrate with Java IDEs (Integrated Development Environment) to give easy access to OpenOffice.org. Currently, a set of such components is under development that will allow editing OpenOffice.org documents in Java Frames. OpenOffice.org Basic cooperates with UNO, so that UNO programs can be directly written in OpenOffice.org. With this method, you supply your own office solutions and wizards based on an event-driven dialog environment. The OpenOffice.org database engine and the data aware forms open another wide area of opportunities for database driven solutions.

**Getting Started**

A number of files and installation sets are required before beginning with the OpenOffice.org API.

**Required Files**

These files are required for any of the languages you use.
OpenOffice.org Installation

Install a copy of OpenOffice.org.

You can download OpenOffice.org from www.openoffice.org. StarOffice can be obtained from Sun Microsystems or through your distributors.

Note – This book focuses on the current version.

API Reference

The OpenOffice.org API reference is part of the Software Development Kit and provides detailed information about OpenOffice.org objects. The latest version can always be found online on api.openoffice.org.

Installation Sets

The following installation sets are useful to develop OpenOffice.org API applications with Java. This chapter describes how to set up a Java IDE for the OpenOffice.org API.

JDK

Java applications for OpenOffice.org require the Java Development Kit 1.3.1 or later. Download and install a JDK from java.sun.com. To get all features, Java 1.4.1_01 is required. The recommendation is to use always the latest official Java version, because of important bug fixes. And with Java 5 a lot of interesting and useful language features were introduced that can make a developer's life easier or at least more comfortable.

Java IDE

Download an Integrated Development Environment (IDE), such as NetBeans from www.netbeans.org or the Sun™ One Java Studio from Sun Microsystems. Other
IDEs can be used, but NetBeans/Sun One Java Studio offers the best integration. The integration of OpenOffice.org with IDEs such as NetBeans is an ongoing effort. Check the OpenOffice.org API Plugin for NetBeans homepage in the OpenOffice.org wiki to get more and detailed information about it.

**OpenOffice.org Software Development Kit (SDK)**

Obtain the OpenOffice.org Software Development Kit (SDK) from www.openoffice.org. It contains the build environment for the examples mentioned in this manual and reference documentation for the OpenOffice.org API, for the Java UNO runtime, and the C++ API. It also offers more example sources. By means of the SDK you can use GNU make to build and run the examples we mention here.

Unpack the SDK somewhere in your file system. The file index.html gives an overview of the SDK. For detailed instructions which compilers to use and how to set up your development environment, please refer to the SDK installation guide.

**Configuration**

**Enable Java in OpenOffice.org**

OpenOffice.org uses a Java Virtual Machine to instantiate components written in Java. From OpenOffice.org 2.0 on, Java is found automatically during startup, or latest when Java functionality is required. If you prefer to preselect a JRE or JDK, or if no Java is found, you can configure Java using the Tools – Options dialog in OpenOffice.org and select the section OpenOffice.org – Java section. In older versions of OpenOffice.org you can also easily tell the office which JVM to use: launch the jvmsetup executable from the programs folder under the OpenOffice.org, select an installed JRE or JDK and click OK. Close the OpenOffice.org including the Quickstarter in the taskbar and restart OpenOffice.org. Furthermore, open the Tools - Options dialog in OpenOffice.org, select the section OpenOffice.org - Security and make sure that the Java enable option is checked.
Using the Java UNO runtime and API in your IDE

Next, the OpenOffice.org API and Java UNO runtime class files must be made known to the Java IDE.

Prepare the NetBeans IDE

For NetBeans the necessary jar files are made available by simply installing the OpenOffice.org API Plugin for NetBeans. After the configuration the plugin installs a new library in NetBeans that can be used in projects directly. The library will be automatically added to new projects created with the project wizards coming with the plugin. The following steps show how to install the plugin in NetBeans 5.5 or higher and how to create a new UNO client application project.

1. Install and start NetBeans.

2. From the Tools menu, select Update center. check mark at least the NetBeans Update Center and press Next. Under Features search for the entry OpenOffice.org API Plugin, select the entry, Add it, press Next, accept the license and follow the next steps to install it completely.

3. A plugin specific configuration dialog comes up and required the input of a PATH to a valid office and SDK installation. After completion of this dialog the plugin is installed and configured correctly.

4. From the File menu, select New Project. Select OpenOffice.org category and select the OpenOffice.org Client Application. Follow the next step and finish the project wizard.

5. A new project with your specified name is created. The main function of a generated JAVA skeleton contains already the UNO bootstrap function that gives you access to an office context object as main entry point to get started with the OpenOffice.org API. The context object is from a remote office instance that is connected over a named pipe connection and the default office is started automatically if no instance is running.

Prepare the Eclipse IDE

For Eclipse the necessary jar files may be made available by defining a User Library.

1. Install and start Eclipse.

2. From the Window menu, select Preferences. On the dialog window, select Java
> Build Path > User Libraries. Press New to create a new User Library. The library's name might be OpenOffice.org Libraries [SDK 3.0.1]. Press OK.

3 Select the library and press Add JARs. On the JAR-Selection dialog you should add the necessary libraries. For a standard installation of OpenOffice.org 3.0.1 on unix, these are

a. /opt/openoffice.org/ure/share/java/juh.jar
b. /opt/openoffice.org/ure/share/java/jurt.jar
c. /opt/openoffice.org/ure/share/java/ridl.jar
d. /opt/openoffice.org/basis3.0/program/classes/unoil.jar

4 Press OK to save the User Library.


A standard installation of OpenOffice.org on unix is rooted as /opt. For other installations the libraries should be found at corresponding locations.

**Add the API Reference to your IDE**

We recommend to add the API and the Java UNO reference to your Java IDE to get online help for the OpenOffice.org API and the Java UNO runtime. The generated reference documentation provides Javadoc conform index files that can be integrated in most Java IDEs. In NetBeans the IDL reference is automatically integrated with the installation of the [OpenOffice.org API Plugin](https://extensions.openoffice.org/). Using the reference in NetBeans is quite simple, type an IDL type in the editor and press **ALT + F1**. A further useful feature is the code completion feature that you get also automatically when you install the plugin.
First Contact

Getting Started

Since OpenOffice.org 2.0 it is very simple to get a working environment that offers a transparent use of UNO functionality and of office functionality. The following demonstrates how to write and build a small program that initializes UNO, which means that it internally connects to an office or starts a new office process if necessary and tells you if it was able to get the office component context that provides the office service manager object.

Start a Java IDE or source editor, and enter the source code for the FirstUnoContact class. In order to automate the build process one may use an Ant build script as shown below.

Using the NetBeans IDE

To create and run the example in the NetBeans IDE, use the following steps:

1. From the File menu, select New Project. Select OpenOffice.org category and select the OpenOffice.org Client Application. On the next wizard panel insert FirstUnoContact as project name and maybe change the package and/or the location path. Press Finish to create the project.

2. Navigate over the project node FirstUnoContact > Source Packages > ... to the generated FirstUnoContact.java skeleton.

3. Complete the generated source code as shown below

4. Build the project by pressing F11 and run it by pressing F6

Whereas in NetBeans the OpenOffice.org Client Application wizard prepares a working project environment for you, it should be easily possible to integrate the necessary steps in other IDEs as well or run an Ant script directly.

Using the Eclipse IDE

To create and run the example in the Eclipse IDE, use the following steps:

1. From the File menu, select New > Java Project. On the first wizard panel insert FirstUnoContact as project name. Press Next. On the next wizard panel check
that the default output folder is set to FirstUnoContact/bin. Select the Libraries
tab, where you may add the necessary libraries as described in section Prepare
the Eclipse IDE. Press Finish to create the project.

2 Right click on the project node FirstUnoContact, select New > Class to
generate the FirstUnoContact.java skeleton.

3 Complete the generated source code as shown below.

4 Right click on the project node FirstUnoContact, select New > File to create the
build.xml file.

5 Enter the code for the Ant build script as shown below.

6 From the Run menu, select External Tools > Open External Tools Dialog. On the
dialog select FirstUnoContract build.xml. On the JRE tab, select the option Run
in the same JRE as the workspace. Press Apply and Close. This option is
necessary for the Ant property eclipse.running to be set when the Ant build
script is run.

7 Build and run the project by using the build script.

An Ant build script

An example Ant build script could be as follows:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<project basedir="." default="all" name="FirstUnoContact">

    <!-- The following build script works with a standard installation of
    OpenOffice 3.0.1 and OpenOffice SDK 3.0.1 as described in section >Linux RPM-based
    Installation<
    of the document found at
    http://download.openoffice.org/common/instructions.html. -->

    <!-- This script is tested with the Eclipse IDE and stand-alone,
    without any IDE support. -->

    <!-- Paths based on the standard installation of OOo 3.0.1 and OOo SDK
    3.0.1 on unix -->
    <property name="OFFICE_ROOT" value="/opt/openoffice.org" />
    <property name="OFFICE_HOME" value="${OFFICE_ROOT}/basis3.0" />
    <property name="OO_SDK_HOME" value="${OFFICE_HOME}/sdk" />
    <property name="OO_URE_HOME" value="${OFFICE_ROOT}/ure" />

    <target name="init">
        <property name="OUT_DIR" value="${basedir}/build/example1/" />
        <!-- For eclipse we need to set the output folder to this path
        -->
    </target>

    <property name="BIN_DIR" value="${basedir}/bin/" />
</project>
```
<path id="office.class.path">
  <filelist dir="${OFFICE_HOME}/program/classes">
    "unoil.jar"
  </filelist>
  <filelist dir="${OO_URE_HOME}/share/java">
    "jurt.jar,ridl.jar,juh.jar"
  </filelist>
</path>

<fileset id="bootstrap.glue.code" dir="${OO_SDK_HOME}/classes">
  <patternset>
    <include name="com/sun/star/lib/loader/*.class"/>
  </patternset>
</fileset>

<!-- Since the Eclipse IDE has an incremental compiler build in we do not need to run the >compile< target in this case -->
<target name="compile" depends="init" unless="eclipse.running">
  <mkdir dir="${BIN_DIR}"/>
  <javac debug="true" deprecation="true" destdir="${BIN_DIR}" srcdir="."">
    <classpath refid="office.class.path"/>
  </javac>
</target>

<target name="jar" depends="init,compile">
  <mkdir dir="${OUT_DIR}"/>
  <jar basedir="${BIN_DIR}" compress="true" jarfile="${OUT_DIR}/FirstUnoContact.jar">
    <exclude name="**/*.java"/>
    <exclude name="*.jar"/>
    <fileset refid="bootstrap.glue.code"/>
    <manifest>
      <attribute name="Main-Class" value="com.sun.star.lib.loader.Loader"/>
      <section name="com/sun/star/lib/loader/Loader.class">
        <attribute name="Application-Class" value="de.ooo.devguide.example1.FirstUnoContact"/>
      </section>
    </manifest>
  </jar>
</target>

<target name="all" description="Build everything." depends="init,compile,jar">
  <echo message="Application built. FirstUnoContact!"/>
</target>

<target name="run" description="Try running it." depends="all">
  <java jar="${OUT_DIR}/FirstUnoContact.jar" failonerror="true" fork="true">
  </java>
</target>

<target name="cleanbin" description="Clean all binaries." unless="eclipse.running">
  <delete/>
</target>
This build script has been tested stand-alone and with the Eclipse IDE. For use with other IDEs it may have to be adapted. The comments and all targets that have an `unless` attribute with the value `eclipse.running` should give an idea about what might be necessary.

The script works with a standard installation on unix, which is rooted at `/opt`. For other installations the property `OFFICE_ROOT` has to be set accordingly.

### The FirstUnoContact class

The FirstUnoContact example that connects to the office with java:

```java
package de.ooo.devguide.example1;

public class FirstUnoContact {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        try {
            // get the remote office component context
            com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext xContext =
                bootstrap();
            System.out.println("Connected to a running office ...");
            com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory xMCF =
            xContext
                .getServiceManager();
            String available = (xMCF != null ? "available" : "not available");
            System.out.println("remote ServiceManager is "+
            available);
            
            } catch (java.lang.Exception e) {
                e.printStackTrace();
            } finally {
                System.exit(0);
            }
        }
    }
```
For an example that connects to the office with C++, see chapter C++ Language Binding. Accessing the office with OpenOffice.org Basic is described in First Steps with OpenOffice.org Basic. The next section describes what happens during the connection between a Java program and OpenOffice.org.

**Service Managers**

UNO introduces the concept of service managers, which can be considered as “factories” that create services. For now, it is sufficient to see services as UNO objects that can be used to perform specific tasks. Later on we will give a more precise definition for the term service. For example, the following services are available:

- **com.sun.star.frame.Desktop**
  
  maintains loaded documents: is used to load documents, to get the current document, and access all loaded documents

- **com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider**

  yields access to the OpenOffice.org configuration, for instance the settings in the Tools > Options dialog

- **com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext**

  holds databases registered with OpenOffice.org

- **com.sun.star.system.SystemShellExecute**

  executes system commands or documents registered for an application on the current platform

- **com.sun.star.text.GlobalSettings**

  manages global view and print settings for text documents
A service always has a *component context*, which consists of the service manager that created the service and other data to be used by the service.

The `FirstUnoContact` class above is considered a client of the OpenOffice.org process, OpenOffice.org is the server in this respect. The server has its own component context and its own service manager, which can be accessed from client programs to use the office functionality. The client program initializes UNO and gets the component context from the OpenOffice.org process. Internally, this initialization process creates a local service manager, establishes a pipe connection to a running OpenOffice.org process (if necessary a new process is started) and returns the remote component context. In the first step this is the only thing you have to know. The `com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.bootstrap()` method initializes UNO and returns the remote component context of a running OpenOffice.org process. You can find more details about bootstrapping UNO, the opportunities of different connection types and how to establish a connection to a UNO server process in the [UNO Concepts](http).

After this first initialization step, you can use the method `com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext:getServiceManager()` from the component
context to get the remote service manager from the OpenOffice.org process, which offers you access to the complete office functionality available through the API.

Failed Connections

A remote connection can fail under certain conditions:

- Client programs should be able to detect errors. For instance, sometimes the bridge might become unavailable. Simple clients that connect to the office, perform a certain task and exit afterwards should stop their work and inform the user if an error occurred.
- Clients that are supposed to run over a long period of time should not assume that a reference to an initial object will be valid over the whole runtime of the client. The client should resume even if the connection goes down for some reason and comes back later on. When the connection fails, a robust, long running client should stop the current work, inform the user that the connection is not available and release the references to the remote process. When the user tries to repeat the last action, the client should try to rebuild the connection. Do not force the user to restart your program just because the connection was temporarily unavailable.

When the bridge has become unavailable and access is tried, it throws a com.sun.star.lang.DisposedException. Whenever you access remote references in your program, catch this Exception in such a way that you set your remote references to null and inform the user accordingly. If your client is designed to run for a longer period of time, be prepared to get new remote references when you find that they are currently null.

A more sophisticated way to handle lost connections is to register a listener at the underlying bridge object. The chapter UNO Interprocess Connections shows how to write a connection-aware client.

How to get Objects in OpenOffice.org

An object in our context is a software artifact that has methods you can call. Objects are required to do something with OpenOffice.org. But where do you obtain them?
New objects

In general, new objects or objects which are necessary for a first access are created by service managers in OpenOffice.org. In the FirstLoadComponent example, the remote service manager creates the remote Desktop object, which handles application windows and loaded documents in OpenOffice.org:

```java
Object desktop = xRemoteServiceManager.CreateInstanceWithContext(
    "com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", xRemoteContext);
```

Document objects

Document objects represent the files that are opened with OpenOffice.org. They are created by the Desktop object, which has a loadComponentFromURL() method for this purpose.

Objects that are provided by other objects

Objects can hand out other objects. There are two cases:

- Features which are designed to be an integral part of the object that provides the feature can be obtained by get methods in the OpenOffice.org API. It is common to get an object from a get method. For instance, getSheets() is required for every Calc document, getText() is essential for every Writer Document and getDrawpages() is an essential part of every Draw document. After loading a document, these methods are used to get the Sheets, Text and Drawpages object of the corresponding document. Object-specific get methods are an important technique to get objects.

- Features which are not considered integral for the architecture of an object are accessible through a set of universal methods. In the OpenOffice.org API, these features are called properties, and generic methods are used, such as `getPropertyValue(String propertyName)` to access them. In some cases such a non-integral feature is provided as an object, therefore the method `getPropertyValue()` can be another source for objects. For instance, page styles for spreadsheets have the properties "RightPageHeaderContent" and "LeftPageHeaderContent", that contain objects for the page header sections of a spreadsheet document. The generic `getPropertyValue()` method can sometimes provide an object you need.
Sets of objects

Objects can be elements in a set of similar objects. In sets, to access an object you need to know how to get a particular element from the set. The OpenOffice.org API allows four ways to provide an element in a set. The first three ways are objects with element access methods that allow access by name, index, or enumeration. The fourth way is a sequence of elements which has no access methods but can be used as an array directly. How these sets of elements are used will be discussed later.

The designer of an object decides which of those opportunities to offer, based on special conditions of the object, such as how it performs remotely or which access methods best work with implementation.

Working with Objects

Working with OpenOffice.org API objects involves the following:

- First we will learn the UNO concepts of objects, interfaces, services, attributes, and properties, and we will get acquainted with UNO's method of using them.
- After that, we will work with a OpenOffice.org document for the first time, and give some hints for the usage of the most common types in OpenOffice.org API.
- Finally we will introduce the common interfaces that allow you to work with text, tables and drawings across all OpenOffice.org document types.

Objects, Interfaces, and Services

Objects

In UNO, an object is a software artifact that has methods that you can call and attributes that you can get and set. Exactly which methods and attributes an object offers is specified by the set of interfaces it supports.
Interfaces

An interface specifies a set of attributes and methods that together define one single aspect of an object. For instance, the interface

```
com.sun.star.resource.XResourceBundle specifies the attribute Parent and the
methods getLocale() and getDirectElement().
```

```
module com { module sun { module star { module resource { interface
XResourceBundle: com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess {
 [attribute] XResourceBundle Parent;
 com::sun::star::lang::Locale getLocale();
 any getDirectElement([in] string key);
};
}; }
}; }
```

To allow for reuse of such interface specifications, an interface can inherit one or more other interfaces (as, for example, `com.sun.star.resource.XResourceBundle` inherits all the attributes and methods of `com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess`). Multiple inheritance, the ability to inherit more than one interface, was introduced in OpenOffice.org 2.0.

Strictly speaking, interface attributes are not needed in UNO. Each attribute could also be expressed as a combination of one method to get the attribute's value, and another method to set it (or just one method to get the value for a read-only attribute). However, there are at least two good reasons for the inclusion of interface attributes in UNO: First, the need for such combinations of getting and setting a value seems to be widespread enough to warrant extra support. Second, with attributes, a designer of an interface can better express nuances among the different features of an object. Attributes can be used for those features that are not considered integral or structural parts of an object, while explicit methods are reserved to access the core features. Historically, a UNO object typically supported a set of many independent interfaces, corresponding to its many different aspects. With multiple-inheritance interfaces, there is less need for this, as an object may now support just one interface that inherits from all the other interfaces that make up the object's various aspects.

Services

Historically, the term “service” has been used with an unclear meaning in UNO. Starting with OpenOffice.org 2.0, the underlying concepts have been made cleaner. Unfortunately, this leaves two different meanings for the term “service” within UNO. In the following, we will use the term "new-style service" to denote an entity that conforms to the clarified, OpenOffice.org-2.0 service concept, while we use "old-style service" to denote an entity that only conforms to the historical, more vague concept. To make matters even more complicated, the term “service” is often used with still different meanings in contexts outside UNO.
Although technically there should no longer be any need for old-style services, the OpenOffice.org API still uses them extensively to remain backwards compatible. Therefore, be prepared to encounter uses of both service concepts in parallel when working with the OpenOffice.org API.

A **new-style service** is of the form

```java
module com { module sun { module star { module bridge {
    serviceUnoUrlResolver: XUnoUrlResolver;
}}}; }; }; }
```

and specifies that objects that support a certain interface (for example, `com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver`) will be available under a certain service name (e.g., "com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver") at a component context's service manager. (Formally, new-style services are called “single-interface–based services.”)

The various UNO language bindings offer special constructs to easily obtain instances of such new-style services, given a suitable component context; see [Java Language Binding](#) and [C++ Language Binding](#).

An **old-style service** (formally called an “accumulation-based service”) is of the form

```java
module com { module sun { module star { module frame {
    serviceFrame;
    interface XDesktop;
    interface XComponentLoader;
    interface com::sun::star::document::XEventBroadcaster;
}}}; }; }; }
```

and is used to specify any of the following:

- The general contract is that, if an object is documented to support a certain old-style service, then you can expect that object to support all interfaces exported by the service itself and any inherited services. For example, the method `com.sun.star.frame.XFrames:queryFrames` returns a sequence of objects that should all support the old-style service `com.sun.star.frame.Frame`, and thus all the interfaces exported by `com.sun.star.frame.Frame`.

- Additionally, an old-style service may specify one or more properties, as in

```java
module com { module sun { module star { module frame {
    interface com::sun::star::frame::XFrame;
    interface com::sun::star::frame::XDispatchProvider;
    // ...
    [property] string Title;
    [property, optional] XDispatchRecorderSupplier RecorderSupplier;
    // ...
}}}; }; }; }
```

Properties, which are explained in detail in the following section, are similar to...
interface attributes, in that they describe additional features of an object. The main difference is that interface attributes can be accessed directly, while the properties of an old-style service are typically accessed via generic interfaces like `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet`. Often, interface attributes are used to represent integral features of an object, while properties represent additional, more volatile features.

- Some old-style services are intended to be available at a component context’s service manager. For example, the service `com.sun.star.frame.Desktop` can be instantiated at a component context’s service manager under its service name "com.sun.star.frame.Desktop". (The problem is that you cannot tell whether a given old-style service is intended to be available at a component context; using a new-style service instead makes that intent explicit.)

- Other old-style services are designed as generic super-services that are inherited by other services. For example, the service `com.sun.star.document.OfficeDocument` serves as a generic base for all different sorts of concrete document services, like `com.sun.star.text.TextDocument` and `com.sun.star.drawing.DrawingDocument`. (Multiple-inheritance interfaces are now the preferred mechanism to express such generic base services.)

- Yet other old-style services only list properties, and do not export any interfaces at all. Instead of specifying the interfaces supported by certain objects, as the other kinds of old-style services do, such services are used to document a set of related properties. For example, the service `com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor` lists all the properties that can be passed to `com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader:loadComponentFromURL`.

A property is a feature of an object which is typically not considered an integral or structural part of the object and therefore is handled through generic `getPropertyValue()`/`setPropertyValue()` methods instead of specialized get methods, such as `getPrinter()`. Old-style services offer a special syntax to list all the properties of an object. An object containing properties only has to support the `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet` interface to be prepared to handle all kinds of properties. Typical examples are properties for character or paragraph formatting. With properties, you can set multiple features of an object through a single call to `setPropertyValue()`, which greatly improves the remote performance. For instance, paragraphs support the `setPropertyValue()` method through their `com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet` interface.

### Using Services

The concepts of interfaces and services were introduced for the following reasons:
Interfaces and services separate specification from implementation

The specification of an interface or service is abstract, that is, it does not define how objects supporting a certain functionality do this internally. Through the abstract specification of the OpenOffice.org API, it is possible to pull the implementation out from under the API and install a different implementation if required.

Service names allow to create instances by specification name, not by class names

In Java or C++ you use the new operator to create a class instance. This approach is restricted: the class you get is hard-coded. You cannot later on exchange it by another class without editing the code. The concept of services solves this. The central object factory in OpenOffice.org, the global service manager, is asked to create an object that can be used for a certain purpose without defining its internal implementation. This is possible because a service can be ordered from the factory by its service name and the factory decides which service implementation it returns. Which implementation you get makes no difference, you only use the well-defined interface of the service.

Interfaces

Abstract interfaces are more reusable if they are fine-grained, i.e., if they are small and describe only a single aspect of an object. To describe the many aspects of an object, objects can implement more than one of these fine-grained interfaces. Being able to implement multiple interfaces allows similar aspects of similar objects to be accessed with the same code. For example, many objects support text: text may be found in the body of a document, in text frames, in headers and footers, footnotes, table cells, and in drawing shapes. These objects all support the same interface, so a procedure can use, for example, getText() to retrieve text from any of these objects.

Services, interfaces, and methods are illustrated in the figure below for the old-style service com.sun.star.text.TextDocument, shown using UML notation. In this figure, services are shown on the left side. The arrow between services indicates that one service provided by the upper (arrowhead) service are inherited by the lower service. Interfaces exported by these services are shown on the right. All interface names in the OpenOffice.org API start with an X, so as to be distinguishable from the names of other entities. Each interface contains methods, which are listed beneath the interface.
A TextDocument object provides the com.sun.star.text.TextDocument service, which implements the interfaces, XTextDocument, XSearchable, and XRefreshable. These interfaces provide, for example, the methods getText(), for adding text to a document, and findAll(), for searching the document.

As indicated by the arrow, the com.sun.star.text.TextDocument service also inherits all the interfaces provided by the com.sun.star.document.OfficeDocument service, so these interfaces are also provided to a TextDocument object. These interfaces handle tasks common to the OpenOffice.org applications: printing, XPrintable; storing, XStorable; modifying, XModifiable; and model handling, XModel.

The interfaces shown in the figure are only the mandatory interfaces of a TextDocument object. A TextDocument has optional properties and interfaces, among them the properties CharacterCount, ParagraphCount and WordCount, and the interface XPropertySet, which must be supported if properties are present at all. The implementation of the TextDocument service in OpenOffice.org supports both required and all optional interfaces as well. The usage of a TextDocument is described thoroughly in Text Documents.
C++ and Java require that the interface name be provided when accessing a method. An old-style service may provide several interfaces to keep track of. New-style services are easier to use because, since they have just one interface, the multiple-inheritance interface, all the methods are accessed through the same interface.

Using Interfaces

The fact that every UNO object must be accessed through its interfaces has an effect in languages like Java and C++, where the compiler needs the correct type of an object reference before you can call a method from it. In Java or C++, you normally just cast an object before you access an interface it implements. When working with UNO objects this is different: You must ask the UNO environment to get the appropriate reference for you whenever you want to access methods of an interface which your object supports, but your compiler does not yet know about. Only then you can cast it safely.

The Java UNO environment has a method queryInterface() for this purpose. It looks complicated at first sight, but once you understand that queryInterface() is about safe casting of UNO types across process boundaries, you will soon get used to it. Take a look at the second example FirstLoadComponent.java (in the sample directory, if you have installed the SDK on your computer), where a new Desktop object is created and, afterwards, the queryInterface() method is used to get the com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader interface.

```java
Object desktop = xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
    "com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", xRemoteContext);
XComponentLoader xComponentLoader = (XComponentLoader)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponentLoader.class, desktop);
```

We asked the service manager to create a com.sun.star.frame.Desktop using its factory method createInstanceWithContext(). This method is defined to return a Java Object type, which should not surprise you—after all the factory must be able to return any type:

```java
java.lang.Object createInstanceWithContext(String serviceName,
    XComponentContext context)
```

The object we receive is a com.sun.star.frame.Desktop service. The point is, while we know that the object we ordered at the factory is a DesktopUnoUrlResolver and exports among other interfaces the interface XComponentLoader, the compiler does not. Therefore, we have to use the UNO runtime environment to ask or query for the interface XComponentLoader, since we want to use the loadComponentFromURL() method on this interface. The method queryInterface() makes sure we get a reference that can be cast to the needed interface type, no matter if the target object is a local or a remote object. There are two queryInterface definitions in the Java
UNO language binding:

```java
java.lang.Object UnoRuntime.queryInterface(java.lang.Class targetInterface, Object sourceObject)
java.lang.Object UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.uno.Type targetInterface, Object sourceObject)
```

Since `UnoRuntime.queryInterface()` is specified to return a `java.lang.Object` just like the factory method `createInstanceWithContext()`, we still must explicitly cast our interface reference to the needed type. The difference is that after `queryInterface()` we can safely cast the object to our interface type and, most important, that the reference will now work even with an object in another process. Here is the `queryInterface()` call, explained step by step:

```java
XComponentLoader xComponentLoader = (XComponentLoader)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponentLoader.class, desktop);
```

**XComponentLoader** is the interface we want to use, so we define a `XComponentLoader` variable named `xComponentLoader` (lower x) to store the interface we expect from `queryInterface`. Then we query our desktop object for the `XComponentLoader` interface, passing in `XComponentLoader.class` as target interface and `desktop` as source object. Finally we cast the outcome to `XComponentLoader` and assign the resulting reference to our variable `xComponentLoader`. If the source object does not support the interface we are querying for, `queryInterface()` will return null.

In Java, this call to `queryInterface()` is necessary whenever you have a reference to an object which is known to support an interface that you need, but you do not have the proper reference type yet. Fortunately, you are not only allowed to `queryInterface()` from `java.lang.Object` source types, but you may also query an interface from another interface reference, like this:

```java
// loading a blank spreadsheet document gives us its XComponent interface:
XComponent xComponent = xComponentLoader.loadComponentFromURL(
    "private:factory/scalc", "_blank", 0, loadProps);

// now we query the interface XSpreadsheetDocument from xComponent
XSpreadsheetDocument xSpreadsheetDocument =
    (XSpreadsheetDocument)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XSpreadsheetDocument.class, xComponent);
```

Furthermore, if a method is defined in such a way that it already returns an interface type, you do not need to query the interface, but you can use its methods right away. In the snippet above, the method `loadComponentFromURL` is specified to return an `com.sun.star.lang.XComponent` interface, so you may call the `XComponent` methods `addEventListener()` and `removeEventListener()` directly at the `xComponent` variable, if you want to be notified that the document is being closed. The corresponding step in C++ is done by a `Reference<>` template that takes the source instance as parameter:

```c++
// instantiate a sample service with the servicemanager.
Reference< XInterface > rInstance =
```
In OpenOffice.org Basic, querying for interfaces is not necessary; the Basic runtime engine takes care of that internally. With the proliferation of multiple-inheritance interfaces in the OpenOffice.org API, there will be less of a demand to explicitly query for specific interfaces in Java or C++. For example, with the hypothetical interfaces

```java
interface XBase1 {   void fun1();
}
interface XBase2 {   void fun2();
}
interface XBoth { // inherits from both XBase1 and XBase2   interface XBase1;   interface XBase2;
}
interface XFactory {   XBoth getBoth();
}
```

you can directly call both `fun1()` and `fun2()` on a reference obtained through `XFactory.getBoth()`, without querying for either `XBase1` or `XBase2`.

### Using Properties

An object must offer its properties through interfaces that allow you to work with properties. The most basic form of these interfaces is the interface `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet`. There are other interfaces for properties, such as `com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet`, that gets and sets a multitude of properties with a single method call. The `XPropertySet` is always supported when properties are present in a service.

In `XPropertySet`, two methods carry out the property access, which are defined in Java as follows:

```java
void setPropertyValue(String propertyName, Object propertyValue)   Object getPropertyValue(String propertyName)
```

In the FirstLoadComponent example, the `XPropertySet` interface was used to set the `CellStyle` property at a cell object. The cell object was a `com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCell` and therefore supports also the `com.sun.star.table.CellProperties` service which had a property `CellStyle`. The following code explains how this property was set:

```java
// query the XPropertySet interface from cell object   XPropertySet xCellProps =
```
You are now ready to start working with an OpenOffice.org document.

Example: Working with a Spreadsheet Document

In this example, we will ask the remote service manager to give us the remote Desktop object and use its loadComponentFromURL() method to create a new spreadsheet document. From the document we get its sheets container where we insert and access a new sheet by name. In the new sheet, we enter values into A1 and A2 and summarize them in A3. The cell style of the summarizing cell gets the cell style Result, so that it appears in italics, bold and underlined. Finally, we make our new sheet the active sheet, so that the user can see it. Add these import lines to the FirstConnection example above:

```java
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue;
import com.sun.star.lang.XComponent;
import com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetDocument;
import com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheets;
import com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet;
import com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetView;
import com.sun.star.table.XCell;
import com.sun.star.frame.XModel;
import com.sun.star.frame.XController;
import com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader;
```

Edit the useConnection method as follows:

```java
protected void useConnection() throws java.lang.Exception {
    try {
        // get the remote office component context
        xRemoteContext = com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.bootstrap();
        System.out.println("Connected to a running office ...");

        xRemoteServiceManager = xRemoteContext.getServiceManager();
    }
    catch( Exception e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
        System.exit(1);
    }

    try {
        // get the Desktop, we need its XComponentLoader interface to load a new document
        Object desktop = xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", xRemoteContext);
    }
```
Working with Objects

// query the XComponentLoader interface from the desktop
XComponentLoader xComponentLoader =
(XComponentLoader)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XComponentLoader.class, desktop);

// create empty array of PropertyValue structs, needed for
loadComponentFromURL
PropertyValue[] loadProps = new PropertyValue[0];

// load new calc file
XComponent xSpreadsheetComponent =
xComponentLoader.loadComponentFromURL(
    "private:factory/scalc", "_blank", 0, loadProps);

// query its XSpreadsheetDocument interface, we want to use
getSheets()
XSpreadsheetDocument xSpreadsheetDocument =
(XSpreadsheetDocument)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XSpreadsheetDocument.class, xSpreadsheetComponent);

// use getSheets to get spreadsheets container
XSpreadsheets xSpreadsheets = xSpreadsheetDocument.getSheets();

//insert new sheet at position 0 and get it by name, then query its
XSpreadsheet interface
xSpreadsheets.insertNewByName("MySheet", (short)0);
Object sheet = xSpreadsheets.getByName("MySheet");
XSpreadsheet xSpreadsheet = (XSpreadsheet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XSpreadsheet.class, sheet);

// use XSpreadsheet interface to get the cell A1 at position 0,0 and
enter 21 as value
XCell xCell = xSpreadsheet.getCellByPosition(0, 0);
xCell.setValue(21);

// enter another value into the cell A2 at position 0,1
xCell = xSpreadsheet.getCellByPosition(0, 1);
xCell.setValue(21);

// sum up the two cells
xCell = xSpreadsheet.getCellByPosition(0, 2);
xCell.setFormula("=sum(A1:A2)");

// we want to access the cell property CellStyle, so query the cell's
XPropertySet interface
XPropertySet xCellProps = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XPropertySet.class, xCell);

// assign the cell style "Result" to our formula, which is available
out of the box
xCellProps.setPropertyValue("CellStyle", "Result");

// we want to make our new sheet the current sheet, so we need to ask
the model
// for the controller: first query the XModel interface from our
spreadsheet component
XModel xSpreadsheetModel = (XModel)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XModel.class, xSpreadsheetComponent);
Alternatively, you can add FirstLoadComponent.java from the samples directory to your current project, it contains the changes shown above.

Common Types

Until now, literals and common Java types for method parameters and return values have been used as if the OpenOffice.org API was made for Java. However, it is important to understand that UNO is designed to be language independent and therefore has its own set of types which have to be mapped to the proper types for your language binding. The type mappings are briefly described in this section. Refer to Professional UNO for detailed information about type mappings.

Basic Types

The basic UNO types (where the term “basic” has nothing to do with OpenOffice.org Basic) occur as members of structs, as method return types or method parameters. The following table shows the basic UNO types and, if available, their exact mappings to Java, C++, and OpenOffice.org Basic types.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNO</th>
<th>Type description</th>
<th>Java</th>
<th>C++</th>
<th>Basic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>void</td>
<td>empty type, used only as method return type and in any</td>
<td>void</td>
<td>void</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Working with Objects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Java</th>
<th>C++</th>
<th>Basic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Boolean type; true and false</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>sal_Bool</td>
<td>Boolean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>byte</td>
<td>signed 8-bit integer type</td>
<td>byte</td>
<td>sal_Int8</td>
<td>Integer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short</td>
<td>signed 16-bit integer type</td>
<td>short</td>
<td>sal_Int16</td>
<td>Integer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned short</td>
<td>unsigned 16-bit integer type (deprecated)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>sal_uInt16</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>signed 32-bit integer type</td>
<td>int</td>
<td>sal_Int32</td>
<td>Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned long</td>
<td>unsigned 32-bit integer type (deprecated)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>sal_uInt32</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyper</td>
<td>signed 64-bit integer type</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>sal_Int64</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned hyper</td>
<td>unsigned 64-bit integer type (deprecated)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>sal_uInt64</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>float</td>
<td>IEC 60559 single precision floating point type</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>float (if appropriate)</td>
<td>Single</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>double</td>
<td>IEC 60559 double precision floating point type</td>
<td>double</td>
<td>double (if appropriate)</td>
<td>Double</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>char</td>
<td>16-bit Unicode character type (more precisely: UTF-16 code units)</td>
<td>char</td>
<td>sal_Unicode</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are special conditions for types that do not have an exact mapping in this table. Check for details about these types in the corresponding sections about type mappings in [UNO Language Bindings](#).

### Strings

UNO considers strings to be simple types, but since they need special treatment in some environments, we discuss them separately here.

- **UNO string**: Unicode string type (more precisely: strings of Unicode scalar values)
  - Java: `java.lang.String`
  - C++: `rtl::OUString`
  - Basic: `String`

In Java, use UNO strings as if they were native `java.lang.String` objects. In C++,
native char strings must be converted to UNO Unicode strings by means of SAL conversion functions, usually the function `createFromAscii()` in the `rtl::OUString` class:

```cpp
//C++
static OUString createFromAscii( const sal_Char * value ) throw();
```

In Basic, Basic strings are mapped to UNO strings transparently.

## Enum Types and Groups of Constants

The OpenOffice.org API uses many enumeration types (called enums) and groups of constants (called constant groups). **Enums** are used to list every plausible value in a certain context. The **constant groups** define possible values for properties, parameters, return values and struct members. For example, there is an enum

```cpp
com.sun.star.table.CellVertJustify
```

that describes the possible values for the vertical adjustment of table cell content. The vertical adjustment of table cells is determined by their property `com.sun.star.table.CellProperties:VertJustify`. The possible values for this property are, according to `CellVertJustify`, the values **STANDARD**, **TOP**, **CENTER** and **BOTTOM**.

```cpp
// adjust a cell content to the upper cell border
// The service com.sun.star.table.Cell includes the service
com.sun.star.table.CellProperties
// and therefore has a property VertJustify that controls the vertical cell adjustment
// we have to use the XPropertySet interface of our Cell to set it
xCellProps.setPropertyValue("VertJustify",
com.sun.star.table.CellVertJustify.TOP);
```

OpenOffice.org Basic understands enumeration types and constant groups. Their usage is straightforward:

```cpp
'OpenOffice.org Basic
```

In C++ enums and constant groups are used with the scope operator `::`

```cpp
//C++
rCellProps->setPropertyValue(OUString::createFromAscii( "VertJustify"),
::com::sun::star::table::CellVertJustify.TOP);
```
Struct

Structs in the OpenOffice.org API are used to create compounds of other UNO types. They correspond to C structs or Java classes consisting of public member variables only. While structs do not encapsulate data, they are easier to transport as a whole, instead of marshaling `get()` and `set()` calls back and forth. In particular, this has advantages for remote communication.

You gain access to struct members through the . (dot) operator as in:

```java
aProperty.Name = "ReadOnly";
```

In Java, C++ and OpenOffice.org Basic, the keyword `new` instantiates structs. In OLE automation, use `com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection` to get a UNO struct. Do not use the service manager to create structs.

```java
//In Java:
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue aProperty
    = new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue();

'In OpenOffice.org Basic
Dim aProperty as new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue
```

Any

The OpenOffice.org API frequently uses an `any` type, which is the counterpart of the `Variant` type known from other environments. The `any` type holds one arbitrary UNO type. The `any` type is especially used in generic UNO interfaces.

Examples for the occurrence of `any` are the method parameters and return values of the following, frequently used methods:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interface</th>
<th>returning an any type</th>
<th>taking an any type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XPropertySet</td>
<td>any getPropertyValue(string propertyName)</td>
<td>void setPropertyValue(any value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XNameContainer</td>
<td>any getName(string name)</td>
<td>void replaceByName (string name, any element)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIndexContainer</td>
<td>any getIndex(long index)</td>
<td>void replaceAtIndex (long index, any element)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XEnumeration</td>
<td>any nextElement()</td>
<td>void insertAtIndex(string name, any element)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter 1 · First Steps
The `any` type also occurs in the `com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue` struct.

This struct has two member variables, `Name` and `Value`, and is ubiquitous in sets of `PropertyValue` structs, where every `PropertyValue` is a name-value pair that describes a property by name and value. If you need to set the value of such a `PropertyValue` struct, you must assign an `any` type, and you must be able to interpret the contained `any`, if you are reading from a `PropertyValue`. How this is done depends on your language.

In Java, the `any` type is mapped to `java.lang.Object`, but there is also a special Java class `com.sun.star.uno.Any`, mainly used in those cases where a plain `Object` would be ambiguous. There are two simple rules of thumb to follow:

1. **When you are supposed to pass in an `any` value, always pass in a `java.lang.Object` or a Java UNO object.**

   For instance, if you use `setPropertyValue()` to set a property that has a non-interface type in the target object, you must pass in a `java.lang.Object` for the new value. If the new value is of a primitive type in Java, use the corresponding `Object` type for the primitive type:
   ```java
   xCellProps.setPropertyValue("CharWeight", new Double(200.0));
   ```

   Another example would be a `PropertyValue` struct you want to use for `loadComponentFromURL`:
   ```java
   aProperty.Name = "ReadOnly";
   aProperty.Value = Boolean.TRUE;
   ```

2. **When you receive an `any` instance, always use the `com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter` to retrieve its value.**

   The `AnyConverter` requires a closer look. For instance, if you want to get a property which contains a primitive Java type, you must be aware that `getPropertyValue()` returns a `java.lang.Object` containing your primitive type wrapped in an `any` value.
The com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter is a converter for such objects. Actually it can do more than just conversion, you can find its specification in the Java UNO reference. The following list sums up the conversion functions in the AnyConverter:

```java
static java.lang.Object toArray(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean toBoolean(java.lang.Object object)
static byte toByte(java.lang.Object object)
static char toChar(java.lang.Object object)
static double toDouble(java.lang.Object object)
static float toFloat(java.lang.Object object)
static int toInt(java.lang.Object object)
static long toLong(java.lang.Object object)
static java.lang.Object toObject(Class clazz, java.lang.Object object)
static java.lang.Object toObject(Type type, java.lang.Object object)
static short toShort(java.lang.Object object)
static java.lang.String toString(java.lang.Object object)
static Type toType(java.lang.Object object)
static int toUnsignedInt(java.lang.Object object)
static long toUnsignedLong(java.lang.Object object)
static short toUnsignedShort(java.lang.Object object)
```

Its usage is straightforward:

```java
import com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter;
    long cellColor =
          AnyConverter.toLong(xCellProps.getPropertyValue("CharColor"));
```

For convenience, for interface types you can directly use UnoRuntime queryInterface() without first calling AnyConverter.getObject():

```java
    Object ranges = xSpreadsheet.getPropertyValue("NamedRanges");
    XNamedRanges ranges1 = (XNamedRanges) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XNamedRanges.class, AnyConverter.toObject(XNamedRanges.class, r));
    XNamedRanges ranges2 = (XNamedRanges)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XNamedRanges.class, r);
```

In OpenOffice.org Basic, the any type becomes a Variant:

```java
'OpenOffice.org Basic
    Dim cellColor as Variant
    cellColor = oCellProps.CharColor
```

In C++, there are special operators for the any type:

```c++
//C++ has >>= and <<= for Any (the pointed brackets are always left)
    sal_Int32 cellColor;
    Any any;
    any = rCellProps-
            >>getPropertyValue(OUString::createFromAscii( "CharColor" ));
    // extract the value from any
    any >>= cellColor;
```
Sequence

A sequence is a homogeneous collection of values of one UNO type with a variable number of elements. Sequences map to arrays in most current language bindings. Although such collections are sometimes implemented as objects with element access methods in UNO (e.g., via the `com.sun.star.container.XEnumeration` interface), there is also the sequence type, to be used where remote performance matters. Sequences are always written with pointed brackets in the API reference:

```java
// a sequence of strings is notated as follows in the API reference
sequence< string > aStringSequence;
```

In Java, you treat sequences as arrays. (But do not use `null` for empty sequences, use arrays created via `new` and with a length of zero instead.) Furthermore, keep in mind that you only create an array of references when creating an array of Java objects, the actual objects are not allocated. Therefore, you must use `new` to create the array itself, then you must again use `new` for every single object and assign the new objects to the array. An empty sequence of ` PropertyValue` structs is frequently needed for `loadComponentFromURL`:

```java
// create an empty array of PropertyValue structs for loadComponentFromURL
PropertyValue[] emptyProps = new PropertyValue[0];
```

A sequence of ` PropertyValue` structs is needed to use loading parameters with `loadComponentFromURL()`. The possible parameter values for `loadComponentFromURL()` and the `com.sun.star.frame.XStorable` interface can be found in the service `com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor`.

```java
// create an array with one PropertyValue struct for loadComponentFromURL, it contains references only
PropertyValue[] loadProps = new PropertyValue[1];

// instantiate PropertyValue struct and set its member fields
PropertyValue asTemplate = new PropertyValue();
asTemplate.Name = "AsTemplate";
asTemplate.Value = Boolean.TRUE;

// assign PropertyValue struct to first element in our array of references to PropertyValue structs
loadProps[0] = asTemplate;

// load calc file as template
XComponent xSpreadsheetComponent = xComponentLoader.loadComponentFromURL(
"file:///X:/share/samples/english/spreadsheets/OfficeSharingAssoc.sxc",
"_blank", 0, loadProps);
```

In OpenOffice.org Basic, a simple `Dim` creates an empty array.

```basic
'OpenOffice.org Basic
Dim loadProps() 'empty array
```

A sequence of structs is created using `new` together with `Dim`.
'OpenOffice.org Basic
Dim loadProps(0) as new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue 'one PropertyValue

In C++, there is a class template for sequences. An empty sequence can be created
by omitting the number of elements required.

//C++
Sequence< ::com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > loadProperties; // empty
sequence

If you pass a number of elements, you get an array of the requested length.

//C++
Sequence< ::com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > loadProps( 1 );
// the structs are default constructed
loadProps[0].Name = OUString::createFromAscii( "AsTemplate" );
loadProps[0].Handle <<= true;

Reference< XComponent > rComponent = rComponentLoader->loadComponentFromURL(
OUString::createFromAscii("private:factory/swriter"),
OUString::createFromAscii("_blank"),
0,
loadProps);

Element Access

We have already seen in the section How to get Objects in OpenOffice.org that sets
of objects can also be provided through element access methods. The three most
important kinds of element access interfaces are
com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer,
com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer and
com.sun.star.container.XEnumeration.

The three element access interfaces are examples of how the fine-grained interfaces
of the OpenOffice.org API allow consistent object design.

All three interfaces inherit from XElementAccess; therefore, they include the methods
type getElementType()
    boolean hasElements()

for finding out basic information about a set of elements. The method hasElements()
tells whether or not a set contains any elements at all; the method getElementType()
tells which type a set contains. In Java and C++, you can get information about a
UNO type through com.sun.star.uno.Type, cf, the Java UNO and the C++ UNO
reference.

The com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer and
The XIndexAccess/XNameAccess interfaces are about getting an element. The XIndexReplace/XNameReplace interfaces allow you to replace existing elements without changing the number of elements in the set, whereas the XIndexContainer/XNameContainer interfaces allow you to increase and decrease the number of elements by inserting and removing elements.

Many sets of named or indexed objects do not support the whole inheritance hierarchy of XIndexContainer or XNameContainer, because the capabilities added by every subclass are not always logical for any set of elements.

The XEnumerationAccess interface works differently from named and indexed containers below the XElementAccess interface. XEnumerationAccess does not provide single elements like XNameAccess and XIndexAccess, but it creates an enumeration of objects which has methods to go to the next element as long as there are more elements.
Sets of objects sometimes support all element access methods, some also support only name, index, or enumeration access. Always look up the various types in the API reference to see which access methods are available.

For instance, the method `getSheets()` at the interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetDocument` is specified to return a `com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheets` interface inherited from `XNameContainer`. In addition, the API reference tells you that the provided object supports the `com.sun.star.sheet.Spreadsheets` service, which defines additional element access interfaces besides `XSpreadsheets`.

Examples that show how to work with `XNameAccess`, `XIndexAccess`, and `XEnumerationAccess` are provided below.
Name Access

The basic interface which hands out elements by name is the com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface. It has three methods:

```java
any getName( [in] string name)
sequence< string > getElementNames()
boolean hasByName( [in] string name)
```

In the FirstLoadComponent.java example above, the method getSheets() returned a com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheets interface, which inherits from XNameAccess. Therefore, you could use `getByName()` to obtain the sheet "MySheet" by name from the XSpreadsheets container:

```java
XSpreadsheets xSpreadsheets = xSpreadsheetDocument.getSheets();
Object sheet = xSpreadsheets.getByName("MySheet");
XSpreadsheet xSpreadsheet = (XSpreadsheet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSpreadsheet.class, sheet);
// use XSpreadsheet interface to get the cell A1 at position 0,0 and enter 42 as value
XCell xCell = xSpreadsheet.getCellByPosition(0, 0);
```

Since `getByName()` returns an any, you have to use `AnyConverter.toObject()` and/or `UnoRuntime.queryInterface()` before you can call methods at the spreadsheet object.

Index Access

The interface which hands out elements by index is the com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess interface. It has two methods:

```java
any getIndex( [in] long index)
long getCount()
```

The FirstLoadComponent example allows to demonstrate XIndexAccess. The API reference tells us that the service returned by `getSheets()` is a com.sun.star.sheet.Spreadsheet service and supports not only the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheets, but XIndexAccess as well. Therefore, the sheets could have been accessed by index and not just by name by performing a query for the XIndexAccess interface from our xSpreadsheets variable:

```java
XIndexAccess xSheetIndexAccess = (XIndexAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XIndexAccess.class, xSpreadsheets);
Object sheet = XSheetIndexAccess.getByIndex(0);
```
Enumeration Access

The interface `com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess` creates enumerations that allow traveling across a set of objects. It has one method:

```java
com.sun.star.container.XEnumeration createEnumeration()
```

The enumeration object gained from `createEnumeration()` supports the interface `com.sun.star.container.XEnumeration`. With this interface we can keep pulling elements out of the enumeration as long as it has more elements. `XEnumeration` supplies the methods:

```java
boolean hasMoreElements()
any nextElement()
```

which are meant to build loops such as:

```java
while (xCells.hasMoreElements()) {
    Object cell = xCells.nextElement();
    // do something with cell
}
```

For example, in spreadsheets you have the opportunity to find out which cells contain formulas. The resulting set of cells is provided as `XEnumerationAccess`.

The interface that queries for cells with formulas is `com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangesQuery`, it defines (among others) a method `XSheetCellRanges queryContentCells(short cellFlags)` which queries for cells having content as defined in the constants group `com.sun.star.sheet.CellFlags`. One of these cell flags is `FORMULA`. From `queryContentCells()` we receive an object with a `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRanges` interface, which has these methods:

```java
XEnumerationAccess getCells()
String getRangeAddressesAsString()
sequence< com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress > getRangeAddresses()
```

The method `getCells()` can be used to list all formula cells and the containing formulas in the spreadsheet document from our FirstLoadComponent example, utilizing `XEnumerationAccess`.

```java
XCellRangesQuery xCellQuery = (XCellRangesQuery)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XCellRangesQuery.class, sheet);
XSheetCellRanges xFormulaCells = xCellQuery.queryContentCells((short)com.sun.star.sheet.CellFlags.FORMULA);
XEnumerationAccess xFormulas = xFormulaCells.getCells();
XEnumeration xFormulaEnum = xFormulas.createEnumeration();

while (xFormulaEnum.hasMoreElements()) {
    Object formulaCell = xFormulaEnum.nextElement();
    // do something with formulaCell
}
```
// do something with formulaCell
xCell = (XCell)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XCell.class, formulaCell);
XCellAddressable xCellAddress =
(XCellAddressable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XCellAddressable.class, xCell);
    System.out.print("Formula cell in column " +
    xCellAddress.getCellAddress().Column
    + ", row " + xCellAddress.getCellAddress().Row
    + " contains " + xCell.getFormula());

How do I know Which Type I Have?

A common problem is deciding what capabilities an object really has, after you receive it from a method. By observing the code completion in Java IDE, you can discover the base interface of an object returned from a method. You will notice that loadComponentFromURL() returns a com.sun.star.lang.XComponent.

By pressing Alt + F1 in the NetBeans IDE you can read specifications about the interfaces and services you are using.

However, methods can only be specified to return one interface type. The interface you get from a method very often supports more interfaces than the one that is returned by the method (especially when the design of those interfaces predates the availability of multiple-inheritance interface types in UNO). Furthermore, the interface does not tell anything about the properties the object contains.

Therefore you should use this manual to get an idea how things work. Then start writing code, using the code completion and the API reference.

In addition, you can try the InstanceInspector, a Java tool which is part of the OpenOffice.org SDK examples. It is a Java component that can be registered with the office and shows interfaces and properties of the object you are currently working with.

In OpenOffice.org Basic, you can inspect objects using the following Basic properties.

```
sub main
    oDocument = thiscomponent
    msgBox(oDocument.dbg_methods)
    msgBox(oDocument.dbg_properties)
    msgBox(oDocument.dbg_supportedInterfaces)
end sub
```

For a complex object, these msgBox calls will run right off the screen. Try the following, instead:
This produces a new Writer document, containing the retrieved information.

Example: Hello Text, Hello Table, Hello Shape

The goal of this section is to give a brief overview of those mechanisms in the OpenOffice.org API that are common to all document types. The three main application areas of OpenOffice.org are text, tables and drawing shapes. The point is: texts, tables and drawing shapes can occur in all three document types, no matter if you are dealing with a Writer, Calc or Draw/Impress file, but they are treated in the same manner everywhere. When you master the common mechanisms, you will be able to insert and use texts, tables and drawings in all document types.

Common Mechanisms for Text, Tables and Drawings

We want to stress the common ground, therefore we start with the common interfaces and properties that allow to manipulate existing texts, tables and drawings. Afterwards we will demonstrate the different techniques to create text, table and drawings in each document type.

The key interfaces and properties to work with existing texts, tables and drawings are the following: For text the interface `com.sun.star.text.XText` contains the methods that change the actual text and other text contents (examples for text contents besides conventional text paragraphs are text tables, text fields, graphic objects and similar things, but such contents are not available in all contexts). When we talk about text here, we mean any text - text in text documents, text frames, page headers and footers, table cells or in drawing shapes. `XText` is the key for text everywhere in OpenOffice.org.
The interface `com.sun.star.text.XText` has the ability to set or get the text as a single string, and to locate the beginning and the end of a text. Furthermore, `XText` can insert strings at an arbitrary position in the text and create text cursors to select and format text. Finally, `XText` handles text contents through the methods `insertTextContent` and `removeTextContent`, although not all texts accept text contents other than conventional text. In fact, `XText` covers all this by inheriting from `com.sun.star.text.XSimpleText` that is inherited from `com.sun.star.text.XTextRange`.

Text formatting happens through the properties which are described in the services `com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties` and `com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties`.

The following example method `manipulateText()` adds text, then it uses a text cursor to select and format a few words using `CharacterProperties`, afterwards it inserts more text. The method `manipulateText()` only contains the most basic methods of `XText` so that it works with every text object. In particular, it avoids `insertTextContent()`, since there are no text contents except for conventional text that can be inserted in all text objects.

```java
protected void manipulateText(XText xText) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
```

OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009
In *tables and table cells*, the interface `com.sun.star.table.XCellRange` allows you to retrieve single cells and subranges of cells. Once you have a cell, you can work with its formula or numeric value through the interface `com.sun.star.table.XCell`. 

```java
// simply set whole text as one string
xText.setString("He lay flat on the brown, pine-needled floor of the
forest, "+ "his chin on his folded arms, and high overhead the wind blew
in the tops "+ "of the pine trees.");

// create text cursor for selecting and formatting
XTextCursor xTextCursor = xText.createTextCursor();
XPropertySet xCursorProps = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XPropertySet.class, xTextCursor);

// use cursor to select "He lay" and apply bold italic
xTextCursor.goStart(false);
xTextCursor.goRight((short)6, true);
// from CharacterProperties
xCursorProps.setPropertyValue("CharPosture",
com.sun.star.awt.FontSlant.ITALIC);
xCursorProps.setPropertyValue("CharWeight",
new Float(com.sun.star.awt.FontWeight.BOLD));

// add more text at the end of the text using insertString
xTextCursor.goEnd(false);
xText.insertString(xTextCursor, " The mountainside sloped gently
where he lay; "+ "but below it was steep and he could see the dark of the oiled
road "+ "winding through the pass. There was a stream alongside the
road "+ "and far down the pass he saw a mill beside the stream and the
falling water "+ "of the dam, white in the summer sunlight.", false);
// after insertString the cursor is behind the inserted text, insert
more text
xText.insertString(xTextCursor, "\n \"Is that the mill?\" he
asked.", false);
} 
```
Table formatting is partially different in text tables and spreadsheet tables. Text tables use the properties specified in `com.sun.star.text.TextTable`, whereas spreadsheet tables use `com.sun.star.table.CellProperties`. Furthermore, there are table cursors that allow to select and format cell ranges and the contained text. But since a `com.sun.star.text.TextTableCursor` works quite differently from a `com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellICursor`, we will discuss them in the chapters about text and spreadsheet documents.

```java
protected void manipulateTable(XCellRange xCellRange) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    String backColorPropertyName = "";
    XPropertySet xTableProps = null;

    // enter column titles and a cell value
    // Enter "Quotation" in A1, "Year" in B1. We use setString because we want to change the whole
    // cell text at once
    XCell xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(0,0);
    XText xCellText = (XText)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XText.class, xCell);
    xCellText.setString("Quotation");
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(1,0);
    xCellText = (XText)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XText.class, xCell);
    xCellText.setString("Year");
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(1,1);
    xCell.setValue(1940);
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(2,0);
    xCell.setValue(1941);
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(2,1);
    xCell.setValue(1942);
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(3,0);
    xCell.setValue(1943);
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(3,1);
    xCell.setValue(1944);
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(4,0);
    xCell.setValue(1945);
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(4,1);
    xCell.setValue(1946);
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(5,0);
    xCell.setValue(1947);
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(5,1);
    xCell.setValue(1948);
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(6,0);
    xCell.setValue(1949);
    xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(6,1);
    xCell.setValue(1950);
}
```
// select the table headers and get the cell properties
XCellRange xSelectedCells = xCellRange.getCellRangeByName("A1:B1");
XPropertySet xCellProps = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XPropertySet.class, xSelectedCells);

// format the color of the table headers and table borders
// we need to distinguish text and spreadsheet tables:
// - the property name for cell colors is different in text and
sheet cells
// - the common property for table borders is
com.sun.star.table.TableBorder, but
// we must apply the property TableBorder to the whole text table,
// whereas we only want borders for spreadsheet cells with content.

// XServiceInfo allows to distinguish text tables from spreadsheets
XServiceInfo xServiceInfo = (XServiceInfo)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XServiceInfo.class, xCellRange);

// determine the correct property name for background color and the
XPropertySet interface
// for the cells that should get colored border lines
if (xServiceInfo.supportsService("com.sun.star.sheet.Spreadsheet")) {
    backColorPropertyName = "CellBackColor";
    // select cells
    xSelectedCells = xCellRange.getCellRangeByName("A1:B2");
    // table properties only for selected cells
    xTableProps = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XPropertySet.class, xSelectedCells);
}
else if (xServiceInfo.supportsService("com.sun.star.text.TextTable")) {
    backColorPropertyName = "BackColor";
    // table properties for whole table
    xTableProps = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XPropertySet.class, xCellRange);
}
// set cell background color
xCellProps.setPropertyValue(backColorPropertyName, new
Integer(0x99CCFF));

// set table borders
// create description for blue line, width 10
// colors are given in ARGB, comprised of four bytes for alpha-red-
green-blue as in 0xAARRGGBB
BorderLine theLine = new BorderLine();
theLine.Color = 0x000099;
theLine.OuterLineWidth = 10;
// apply line description to all border lines and make them valid
TableBorder bord = new TableBorder();
bord.VerticalLine = bord.HorizontalLine =
bord.LeftLine = bord.RightLine =
bord.TopLine = bord.BottomLine =
theLine;
bord.IsVerticalLineValid = bord.IsHorizontalLineValid =
bord.IsLeftLineValid = bord.IsRightLineValid =
bord.IsTopLineValid = bord.IsBottomLineValid =
true;
On drawing shapes, the interface com.sun.star.drawing.XShape is used to determine the position and size of a shape.

```
com.sun.star.drawing.XShape
<<interface>>

string getShapeType ()
com.sun.star.awt.Point getPosition ()
void setPosition (com.sun.star.awt.Point aPosition)
com.sun.star.awt.Size getSize ()
void setSize (com.sun.star.awt.Size aSize)
```

`XShape`

Everything else is a matter of property-based formatting and there is a multitude of properties to use. OpenOffice.org comes with eleven different shapes that are the basis for the drawing tools in the GUI (graphical user interface). Six of the shapes have individual properties that reflect their characteristics. The six shapes are:

- com.sun.star.drawing.EllipseShape for circles and ellipses.
- com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape for boxes.
- com.sun.star.drawing.TextShape for text boxes.
- com.sun.star.drawing.MeasureShape for metering.
- com.sun.star.drawing.ConnectorShape for lines that can be "glued" to other shapes to draw connecting lines between them.

Five shapes have no individual properties, rather they share the properties defined in the service com.sun.star.drawing.PolyPolygonBezierDescriptor:

- com.sun.star.drawing.LineShape is for lines and arrows.
- com.sun.star.drawing.PolyLineShape is for open shapes formed by straight lines.
- com.sun.star.drawing.PolyPolygonShape is for shapes formed by one or more polygons.
- com.sun.star.drawing.ClosedBezierShape is for closed bezier shapes.
- com.sun.star.drawing.PolyPolygonBezierShape is for combinations of multiple polygon and Bezier shapes.

All of these eleven shapes use the properties from the following services:

- com.sun.star.drawing.Shape describes basic properties of all shapes such as the layer a shape belongs to, protection from moving and sizing, style name, 3D transformation and name.
- com.sun.star.drawing.Text has no properties of its own, but includes:
1. `com.sun.star.drawing.TextProperties` that affects numbering, shape growth and text alignment in the cell, text animation and writing direction.

2. `com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties` is concerned with paragraph formatting.


- `com.sun.star.drawing.ShadowProperties` deals with the shadow of a shape.
- `com.sun.star.drawing.RotationDescriptor` sets rotation and shearing of a shape.
- `com.sun.star.drawing.FillProperties` is only for closed shapes and describes how the shape is filled.
- `com.sun.star.presentation.Shape` adds presentation effects to shapes in presentation documents.

Consider the following example showing how these properties work:

```java
protected void manipulateShape(XShape xShape) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // for usage of setSize and setPosition in interface XShape see method useDraw() below
    XPropertySet xShapeProps = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xShape);
    // colors are given in ARGB, comprised of four bytes for alpha-red-green-blue as in 0xAARRGGBB
    xShapeProps.setPropertyValue("FillColor", new Integer(0x99CCFF));
    xShapeProps.setPropertyValue("LineColor", new Integer(0x000099));
    // angles are given in hundredth degrees, rotate by 30 degrees
    xShapeProps.setPropertyValue("RotateAngle", new Integer(3000));
}
```

### Creating Text, Tables and Drawing Shapes

The three `manipulateXXX` methods above took text, table and shape objects as parameters and altered them. The following methods show how to create such objects in the various document types. Note that all documents have their own service factory to create objects to be inserted into the document. Aside from that it depends very much on the document type how you proceed. This section only demonstrates the different procedures, the explanation can be found in the chapters about Text, Spreadsheet and Drawing Documents.

First, a small convenience method is used to create new documents.

```java
protected XComponent newDocComponent(String docType) throws java.lang.Exception {
    String loadUrl = "private:factory/" + docType;
    xRemoteServiceManager = this.getRemoteServiceManager(unoUrl);
    Object desktop = xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", xRemoteContext);
    XComponentLoader xComponentLoader =
```
Text, Tables and Drawings in Writer

The method `useWriter` creates a writer document and manipulates its text, then uses the document's internal service manager to instantiate a text table and a shape, inserts them and manipulates the table and shape. Refer to `Text Documents` for more detailed information.

```java
protected void useWriter() throws java.lang.Exception {
    try {
        // create new writer document and get text, then manipulate text
        XComponent xWriterComponent = newDocComponent("swriter");
        XTextDocument xTextDocument = (XTextDocument)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextDocument.class, xWriterComponent);
        XText xText = xTextDocument.getText();
        manipulateText(xText);

        // get internal service factory of the document
        XMultiServiceFactory xWriterFactory = (XMultiServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiServiceFactory.class, xWriterComponent);

        // insert TextTable and get cell text, then manipulate text in cell
        Object table = xWriterFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.TextTable");
        XTextContent xTextContentTable = (XTextContent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextContent.class, table);
        xText.insertTextContent(xText.getEnd(), xTextContentTable, false);

        XCellRange xCellRange = (XCellRange)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XCellRange.class, table);
        XCell xCell = xCellRange.getCellByPosition(0, 1);
        XText xCellText = (XText)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XText.class, xCell);
        manipulateText(xCellText);
        manipulateTable(xCellRange);

        // insert RectangleShape and get shape text, then manipulate text
        Object writerShape = xWriterFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape");
    }
}
```
Text, Tables and Drawings in Calc

The method useCalc creates a calc document, uses its document factory to create a shape and manipulates the cell text, table and shape. The chapter Spreadsheet Documents treats all aspects of spreadsheets.

```java
protected void useCalc() throws java.lang.Exception {
    try {
        // create new calc document and manipulate cell text
        XComponent xCalcComponent = newDocComponent("scalc");
        XSpreadsheetDocument xSpreadsheetDocument =
            (XSpreadsheetDocument)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XSpreadsheetDocument.class, xCalcComponent);
        Object sheets = xSpreadsheetDocument.getSheets();
        XIndexAccess xIndexedSheets =
            (XIndexAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XIndexAccess.class, sheets);
        Object sheet = xIndexedSheets.getByIndex(0);
        //get cell A2 in first sheet
        XCellRange xSpreadsheetCells =
            (XCellRange)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XCellRange.class, sheet);
```
XCell xCell = xSpreadsheetCells.getCellByPosition(0, 1);
XPropertySet xCellProps = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xCell);
xCellProps.setPropertyValue("IsTextWrapped", new Boolean(true));

XText xCellText = (XText)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XText.class, xCell);
manipulateText(xCellText);
manipulateTable(xSpreadsheetCells);

// get internal service factory of the document
XMultiServiceFactory xCalcFactory = (XMultiServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiServiceFactory.class, xCalcComponent);
// get Drawpage
XDrawPageSupplier xDrawPageSupplier = (XDrawPageSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDrawPageSupplier.class, sheet);
XDrawPage xDrawPage = xDrawPageSupplier.getDrawPage();

// create and insert RectangleShape and get shape text, then
manipulateText() {
    Object calcShape = xCalcFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape");
    XShape xCalcShape = (XShape)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShape.class, calcShape);
    xCalcShape.setSize(new Size(10000, 10000));
    xCalcShape.setPosition(new Point(7000, 3000));
    xDrawPage.add(xCalcShape);

    XPropertySet xShapeProps = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, calcShape);
    // wrap text inside shape
    xShapeProps.setPropertyValue("TextContourFrame", new Boolean(true));

    XText xShapeText = (XText)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XText.class, calcShape);
    manipulateText(xShapeText);
    manipulateShape(xCalcShape);
}

} catch (com.sun.star.lang.DisposedException e) { // works from Patch 1
    xRemoteContext = null;
    throw e;
}
Drawings and Text in Draw

The method `useDraw` creates a draw document and uses its document factory to instantiate and add a shape, then it manipulates the shape. The chapter [Drawing Documents and Presentation Documents](#) casts more light on drawings and presentations.

```java
protected void useDraw() throws java.lang.Exception {
    try {
        // create new draw document and insert rectangle shape
        XComponent xDrawComponent = newDocComponent("sdraw");
        XDrawPagesSupplier xDrawPagesSupplier =
            (XDrawPagesSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XDrawPagesSupplier.class, xDrawComponent);

        Object drawPages = xDrawPagesSupplier.getDrawPages();
        XIndexAccess xIndexedDrawPages =
            (XIndexAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XIndexAccess.class, drawPages);
        Object drawPage = xIndexedDrawPages.getByIndex(0);
        XDrawPage xDrawPage =
            (XDrawPage)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDrawPage.class, drawPage);

        // get internal service factory of the document
        XMultiServiceFactory xDrawFactory =
            (XMultiServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XMultiServiceFactory.class, xDrawComponent);

        Object drawShape = xDrawFactory.createInstance(
            "com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape");
        XShape xDrawShape =
            (XShape)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShape.class, drawShape);
        xDrawShape.setSize(new Size(10000, 20000));
        xDrawShape.setPosition(new Point(5000, 5000));
        xDrawPage.add(xDrawShape);

        XText xShapeText = (XText)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XText.class, drawShape);
        XPropertySet xShapeProps =
            (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XPropertySet.class, drawShape);

        // wrap text inside shape
        xShapeProps.setPropertyValue("TextContourFrame", new Boolean(true));

        manipulateText(xShapeText);
        manipulateShape(xDrawShape);
    } catch( com.sun.star.lang.DisposedException e ) { //works from Patch 1
        xRemoteContext = null;
        throw e;
    }
```
Chapter 2: Professional UNO

This chapter provides in-depth information about UNO and the use of UNO in various programming languages. There are four sections:

- The Professional UNO - **Introduction** gives an outline of the UNO architecture.
- The section Professional UNO - **API Concepts** supplies background information on the API reference.
- The section Professional UNO - **UNO Concepts** describes the mechanics of UNO, i.e. it shows how UNO objects connect and communicate with each other.
- The section Professional UNO - **UNO Language Bindings** elaborates on the use of UNO from Java, C++, OpenOffice.org Basic, COM automation, and CLI.

**Introduction**

The goal of UNO (Universal Network Objects) is to provide an environment for network objects across programming language and platform boundaries. UNO objects run and communicate everywhere. UNO reaches this goal by providing the following fundamental framework:

- UNO objects are specified in an abstract meta language, called UNOIDL (UNO Interface Definition Language), which is similar to CORBA IDL or MIDL. From UNOIDL specifications, language dependent header files and libraries can be generated to implement UNO objects in the target language. UNO objects in the form of compiled and bound libraries are called components. Components must support certain base interfaces to be able to run in the UNO environment.
To instantiate components in a target environment UNO uses a factory concept. This factory is called the service manager. It maintains a database of registered components which are known by their name and can be created by name. The service manager might ask Linux to load and instantiate a shared object written in C++ or it might call upon the local Java VM to instantiate a Java class. This is transparent for the developer, there is no need to care about a component's implementation language. Communication takes place exclusively over interface calls as specified in UNOIDL.

UNO provides bridges to send method calls and receive return values between processes and between objects written in different implementation languages. The remote bridges use a special UNO remote protocol (URP) for this purpose which is supported for sockets and pipes. Both ends of the bridge must be UNO environments, therefore a language-specific UNO runtime environment to connect to another UNO process in any of the supported languages is required. These runtime environments are provided as language bindings.

Most objects of OpenOffice.org are able to communicate in a UNO environment. The specification for the programmable features of OpenOffice.org is called the OpenOffice.org API.

API Concepts

The OpenOffice.org API is a language independent approach to specify the functionality of OpenOffice.org. Its main goals are to provide an API to access the functionality of OpenOffice.org, to enable users to extend the functionality by their own solutions and new features, and to make the internal implementation of OpenOffice.org exchangeable.

A long term target on the OpenOffice.org roadmap is to split the existing OpenOffice.org into small components which are combined to provide the complete OpenOffice.org functionality. Such components are manageable, they interact with each other to provide high level features and they are exchangeable with other implementations providing the same functionality, even if these new implementations are implemented in a different programming language. When this target will be reached, the API, the components and the fundamental concepts will provide a construction kit, which makes OpenOffice.org adaptable to a wide range of specialized solutions and not only an office suite with a predefined and static functionality.

This section provides you with a thorough understanding of the concepts behind the OpenOffice.org API. In the API reference there are UNOIDL data types which are unknown outside of the API. The reference provides abstract specifications which sometimes can make you wonder how they map to implementations you can actually
The data types of the API reference are explained in Data Types. The relationship between API specifications and OpenOffice.org implementations is treated in Understanding the API Reference.

Data Types

The data types in the API reference are UNO types which have to be mapped to the types of any programming language that can be used with the OpenOffice.org API. In First Steps the most important UNO types were introduced. However, there is much more to be said about simple types, interfaces, properties and services in UNO. There are special flags, conditions and relationships between these entities which you will want to know if you are working with UNO on a professional level.

This section explains the types of the API reference from the perspective of a developer who wants to use the OpenOffice.org API. If you are interested in writing your own components, and you must define new interfaces and types, please refer to the chapter Writing UNO Components, which describes how to write your own UNOIDL specifications and how to create UNO components.

Simple Types

UNO provides a set of predefined, simple types which are listed in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNO Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>void</td>
<td>Empty type, used only as method return type and in any.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Can be true or false.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>byte</td>
<td>Signed 8-bit integer type (ranging from -128 to 127, inclusive).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short</td>
<td>Signed 16-bit integer type (ranging from −32768 to 32767, inclusive).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned short</td>
<td>Unsigned 16-bit integer type (deprecated).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>Signed 32-bit integer type (ranging from −2147483648 to 2147483647, inclusive).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned long</td>
<td>Unsigned 32-bit integer type (deprecated).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyper</td>
<td>Signed 64-bit integer type (ranging from −9223372036854775808 to 9223372036854775807, inclusive).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned hyper</td>
<td>Unsigned 64-bit integer type (deprecated).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>float</td>
<td>IEC 60559 single precision floating point type.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Simple Types

double  IEC 60559 double precision floating point type.
char   Represents individual Unicode characters (more precisely: individual UTF-16 code units).
string Represents Unicode strings (more precisely: strings of Unicode scalar values).
type Meta type that describes all UNO types.
any Special type that can represent values of all other types.

The chapters about language bindings Java Language Binding, C++ Language Binding, OpenOffice.org Basic and Automation Bridge describe how these types are mapped to the types of your target language.

The Any Type

The special type any can represent values of all other UNO types. In the target languages, the any type requires special treatment. There is an AnyConverter in Java and special operators in C++. For details, see UNO Language Bindings.

Interfaces

Communication between UNO objects is based on object interfaces. Interfaces can be seen from the outside or the inside of an object.

From the outside of an object, an interface provides a functionality or special aspect of the object. Interfaces provide access to objects by publishing a set of operations that cover a certain aspect of an object without telling anything about its internals.

The concept of interfaces is quite natural and frequently used in everyday life. Interfaces allow the creation of things that fit in with each other without knowing internal details about them. A power plug that fits into a standard socket or a one-size-fits-all working glove are simple examples. They all work by standardizing the minimal conditions that must be met to make things work together.

A more advanced example would be the "remote control aspect" of a simple TV system. One possible feature of a TV system is a remote control. The remote control functions can be described by an XPower and an XChannel interface. The illustration below shows a RemoteControl object with these interfaces:
The **XPower** interface has the functions `turnOn()` and `turnOff()` to control the power and the **XChannel** interface has the functions `select()`, `next()`, `previous()` to control the current channel. The user of these interfaces does not care if he uses an original remote control that came with a TV set or a universal remote control as long as it carries out these functions. The user is only dissatisfied if some of the functions promised by the interface do not work with a remote control.

From the *inside* of an object, or from the perspective of someone who implements a UNO object, interfaces are abstract specifications. The abstract specification of all the interfaces in the OpenOffice.org API has the advantage that user and implementer can enter into a contract, agreeing to adhere to the interface specification. A program that strictly uses the OpenOffice.org API according to the specification will always work, while an implementer can do whatever he wants with his objects, as long as he serves the contract.

UNO uses the *interface* type to describe such aspects of UNO objects. By convention, all interface names start with the letter X to distinguish them from other types. All interface types must inherit the com.sun.star.uno.XInterface root interface, either directly or in the inheritance hierarchy. **XInterface** is explained in Using UNO Interfaces. The interface types define *methods* (sometimes also called *operations*) to provide access to the specified UNO objects.

Interfaces allow access to the data inside an object through dedicated methods (member functions) which encapsulate the data of the object. The methods always have a parameter list and a return value, and they may define exceptions for smart error handling.

The exception concept in the OpenOffice.org API is comparable with the exception concepts known from Java or C++. All operations can raise <idl>com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException</idl> without explicit specification, but all other exceptions must be specified. UNO exceptions are explained in the section Exception Handling.
Consider the following two examples for interface definitions in UNOIDL (UNO Interface Definition Language) notation. UNOIDL interfaces resemble Java interfaces, and methods look similar to Java method signatures. However, note the flags in square brackets in the following example:

```java
// base interface for all UNO interfaces
interface XInterface
{
    any queryInterface( [in] type aType );
    [oneway] void acquire();
    [oneway] void release();
};

// fragment of the Interface com.sun.star.io.XInputStream
interface XInputStream: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    long readBytes( [out] sequence<byte> aData,
                     [in] long nBytesToRead )
        raises( com::sun::star::io::NotConnectedException,
                com::sun::star::io::BufferSizeExceededException,
                com::sun::star::io::IOException);
...}
```

The `oneway` flag indicates that an operation can be executed asynchronously if the underlying method invocation system does support this feature. For example, a UNO Remote Protocol (URP) bridge is a system that supports oneway calls.

**Warning** – Although there are no general problems with the specification and the implementation of the UNO `oneway` feature, there are several API remote usage scenarios where `oneway` calls cause deadlocks in OpenOffice.org. Therefore, do not introduce new `oneway` methods with new OpenOffice.org UNO APIs.

There are also parameter flags. Each parameter definition begins with one of the direction flags in, out, or inout to specify the use of the parameter:

- **in** specifies that the parameter will be used as an input parameter only
- **out** specifies that the parameter will be used as an output parameter only
- **inout** specifies that the parameter will be used as an input and output parameter

These parameter flags do not appear in the API reference. The fact that a parameter is an `out` or `inout` parameter is explained in the method details.

Interfaces consisting of methods form the basis for service specifications.
Services

We have seen that a single-inheritance interface describes only one aspect of an object. However, it is quite common that objects have more than one aspect. UNO uses multiple-inheritance interfaces and services to specify complete objects which can have many aspects.

OpenOffice.org objects can inherit services, including interfaces, from only one parent object. However, objects can implement multiple interfaces. Inherited methods can be provided by the parent of the object; implemented methods must be provided by the object itself. Although OpenOffice.org does not support true multiple-inheritance, objects can implement multiple interfaces, which gives them the appearance of having inherited methods from several other objects. When the term multiple-inheritance interface is used in OpenOffice.org, it actually refers to multiple interface implementation.

In a first step, all the various aspects of an object (which are typically represented by single-inheritance interfaces) are grouped together in one multiple-inheritance interface type. If such an object is obtainable by calling specific factory methods, this step is all that is needed. The factory methods are specified to return values of the given, multiple-inheritance interface type. If, however, such an object is available as a general service at the global component context, a service description must be provided in a second step. This service description will be of the new style, mapping the service name (under which the service is available at the component context) to the given, multiple-inheritance interface type.

For backward compatibility, there are also old-style services, which comprise a set of single-inheritance interfaces and properties that are needed to support a certain functionality. Such a service can include other old-style services as well. The main drawback of an old-style service is that it is unclear whether it describes objects that can be obtained through specific factory methods (and for which there would therefore be no new-style service description), or whether it describes a general service that is available at the global component context, and for which there would thus be a new-style service description.

From the perspective of a user of a UNO object, the object offers one or sometimes even several independent, multiple-inheritance interfaces or old-style services described in the API reference. The services are utilized through method calls grouped in interfaces, and through properties, which are handled through special interfaces as well. Because the access to the functionality is provided by interfaces only, the implementation is irrelevant to a user who wants to use an object.

From the perspective of an implementer of a UNO object, multiple-inheritance interfaces and old-style services are used to define a functionality independently of a
programming language and without giving instructions about the internal implementation of the object. Implementing an object means that it must support all specified interfaces and properties. It is possible that a UNO object implements more than one independent, multiple-inheritance interface or old-style service. Sometimes it is useful to implement two or more independent, multiple-inheritance interfaces or services because they have related functionality, or because they support different views to the object.

The RemoteControl service illustration shows the relationship between interfaces and services. The language independent specification of an old-style service with several interfaces is used to implement a UNO object that fulfills the specification. Such a UNO object is sometimes called a "component," although that term is more correctly used to describe deployment entities within a UNO environment. The illustration uses an old-style service description that directly supports multiple interfaces; for a new-style service description, the only difference would be that it would only support one multiple-inheritance interface, which in turn would inherit the other interfaces.

![RemoteControl Service Diagram]

Interfaces, services and implementation

The functionality of a TV system with a TV set and a remote control can be described in terms of service specifications. The interfaces XPower and XChannel described above would be part of a service specification RemoteControl. The new service TVSet consists of the three interfaces XPower, XChannel and XStandby to control the power, the channel selection, the additional power function standby() and a timer() function.
Referencing Interfaces

References to interfaces in a service definition mean that an implementation of this service must offer the specified interfaces. However, optional interfaces are possible. If a multiple-inheritance interface inherits an optional interface, or an old-style service contains an optional interface, any given UNO object may or may not support this interface. If you utilize an optional interface of a UNO object, always check if the result of queryInterface() is equal to null and react accordingly - otherwise your code will not be compatible with implementations without the optional interface and you might end up with null pointer exceptions. The following UNOIDL snippet shows a fragment of the specification for the old-style com.sun.star.text.TextDocument service in the OpenOffice.org API. Note the flag optional in square brackets, which makes the interfaces XFootnotesSupplier and XEndnotesSupplier non-mandatory.

```plaintext
// com.sun.star.text.TextDocument
service TextDocument
{
    ...
    interface com::sun::star::text::XTextDocument;
    interface com::sun::star::util::XSearchable;
    interface com::sun::star::util::XRefreshable;
    [optional] interface com::sun::star::text::XFootnotesSupplier;
    [optional] interface com::sun::star::text::XEndnotesSupplier;
    ...
};
```
Service Constructors

New-style services can have constructors, similar to interface methods:

```plaintext
service SomeService: XSomeInterface {
  create1();
  create2([in] long arg1, [in] string arg2);
  create3([in] any... rest);
};
```

In the above example, there are three explicit constructors, named `create1`, `create2`, and `create3`. The first has no parameters, the second has two normal parameters, and the third has a special `rest` parameter, which accepts an arbitrary number of any values. Constructor parameters may only be `[in]`, and a rest parameter must be the only parameter of a constructor, and must be of type `any`; also, unlike an interface method, a service constructor does not specify a return type.

The various language bindings map the UNO constructors into language-specific constructs, which can be used in client code to obtain instances of those services, given a component context. The general convention (followed, for example, by the Java and C++ language bindings) is to map each constructor to a static method (resp. function) with the same name, that takes as a first parameter an `<idls>com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext</idls>`, followed by all the parameters specified in the constructor, and returns an (appropriately typed) service instance. If an instance cannot be obtained, a `com.sun.star.uno.DeploymentException` is thrown. The above `SomeService` would map to the following Java 1.5 class, for example:

```java
public class SomeService {
  public static XSomeInterface create1(
      com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext context) { ... }
  public static XSomeInterface create2(
      com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext context, int arg1, String arg2) {
      ... }
  public static XSomeInterface create3(
      com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext context, Object... rest) { ... }
}
```

Service constructors can also have exception specifications ("`raises (Exception1, ...)""), which are treated in the same way as exception specifications of interface methods. (If a constructor has no exception specification, it may only throw runtime exceptions, `com.sun.star.uno.DeploymentException` in particular.)

If a new-style service is written using the short form, service `SomeService: XSomeInterface;` then it has an implicit constructor. The exact behavior of the implicit constructor is language-binding specific, but it is typically named `create`, takes no arguments besides the `<idls>com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext</idls>`, and may only throw runtime exceptions.
Including Properties

When the structure of the OpenOffice.org API was founded, the designers discovered that the objects in an office environment would have huge numbers of qualities that did not appear to be part of the structure of the objects, rather they seemed to be superficial changes to the underlying objects. It was also clear that not all qualities would be present in each object of a certain kind. Therefore, instead of defining a complicated pedigree of optional and non-optional interfaces for each and every quality, the concept of properties was introduced. Properties are data in an object that are provided by name over a generic interface for property access, that contains `getPropertyValue()` and `setPropertyValue()` access methods. The concept of properties has other advantages, and there is more to know about properties. Please refer to [Properties](#) for further information about properties.

Old-style services can list supported properties directly in the UNOIDL specification. A property defines a member variable with a specific type that is accessible at the implementing component by a specific name. It is possible to add further restrictions to a property through additional flags. The following old-style service references one interface and three optional properties. All known API types can be valid property types:

```idl
// com.sun.star.text.TextContent
service TextContent
{
    interface com::sun::star::text::XTextContent;
    [optional, property] com::sun::star::text::TextContentAnchorType AnchorType;
    [optional, readonly, property] sequence<com::sun::star::text::TextContentAnchorType> AnchorTypes;
    [optional, property] com::sun::star::text::WrapTextMode TextWrap;
};
```

Possible property flags are:

- **optional**
  
  The property does not have to be supported by the implementing component.

- **readonly**
  
  The value of the property cannot be changed using [IDL:com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet].

- **bound**
  
  Changes of property values are broadcast to `<idls>com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyChangeListener</idls>`, if any were registered through com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.

- **constrained**
The property broadcasts an event before its value changes. Listeners have the right to veto the change.

- maybeambiguous

Possibly the property value cannot be determined in some cases, for example, in multiple selections with different values.

- maybedefault

The value might be stored in a style sheet or in the environment instead of the object itself.

- maybevoid

In addition to the range of the property type, the value can be void. It is similar to a null value in databases.

- removable

The property is removable, this is used for dynamic properties.

- transient

The property will not be stored if the object is serialized

Referencing other Services

Old-style services can include other old-style services. Such references may be optional. That a service is included by another service has nothing to do with implementation inheritance, only the specifications are combined. It is up to the implemeker if he inherits or delegates the necessary functionality, or if he implements it from scratch.

The old-style service com.sun.star.text.Paragraph in the following UNOIDL example includes one mandatory service com.sun.star.text.TextContent and five optional services. Every Paragraph must be a TextContent. It can be a TextTable and it is used to support formatting properties for paragraphs and characters:

```idl
// com.sun.star.text.Paragraph
service Paragraph
{
    service com::sun::star::text::TextContent;
    [optional] service com::sun::star::text::TextTable;
    [optional] service com::sun::star::style::ParagraphProperties;
    [optional] service com::sun::star::style::CharacterProperties;
    [optional] service com::sun::star::style::CharacterPropertiesAsian;
    [optional] service com::sun::star::style::CharacterPropertiesComplex;
}```
If all the old-style services in the example above were multiple-inheritance interface types instead, the structure would be similar: the multiple-inheritance interface type Paragraph would inherit the mandatory interface TextContent and the optional interfaces TextTable, ParagraphProperties, etc.

Service Implementations in Components

A component is a shared library or Java archive containing implementations of one or more services in one of the target programming languages supported by UNO. Such a component must meet basic requirements, mostly different for the different target language, and it must support the specification of the implemented services. That means all specified interfaces and properties must be implemented. Components must be registered in the UNO runtime system. After the registration all implemented services can be used by ordering an instance of the service at the appropriate service factory and accessing the functionality over interfaces.

Based on our example specifications for a TVSet and a RemoteControl service, a component RemoteTVImpl could simulate a remote TV system:

Such a RemoteTV component could be a jar file or a shared library. It would contain two service implementations, TVSet and RemoteControl. Once the RemoteTV component is registered with the global service manager, users can call the factory method of the service manager and ask for a TVSet or a RemoteControl service. Then they could use their functionality over the interfaces XPower, XChannel and XStandby. When a new implementation of these services with better performance or new
features is available later on, the old component can be replaced without breaking existing code, provided that the new features are introduced by adding interfaces.

## Structs

A struct type defines several elements in a record. The elements of a struct are UNO types with a unique name within the struct. Structs have the disadvantage not to encapsulate data, but the absence of `get()` and `set()` methods can help to avoid the overhead of method calls over a UNO bridge. UNO supports single inheritance for struct types. A derived struct recursively inherits all elements of the parent and its parents.

```cpp
// com.sun.star.lang.EventObject
/** specifies the base for all event objects and identifies the source of the event. */
struct EventObject
{
    /** refers to the object that fired the event. */
    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface Source;
};

// com.sun.star.beans.PropertyChangeEvent
struct PropertyChangeEvent : com::sun::star::lang::EventObject {
    stringPropertyName;
    boolean Further;
    long PropertyHandle;
    any OldValue;
    any NewValue;
};
```

A new feature of OpenOffice.org 2.0 is the polymorphic struct type. A polymorphic struct type template is similar to a plain struct type, but it has one or more type parameters, and its members can have these parameters as types. A polymorphic struct type template is not itself a UNO type - it has to be instantiated with actual type arguments to be used as a type.

```cpp
// A polymorphic struct type template with two type parameters:
struct Poly<T,U> {
    T member1;
    T member2;
    U member3;
    long member4;
};

// Using an instantiation of Poly as a UNO type:
interface XIfc { Poly<boolean, any> fn(); };
In the example, `Poly<boolean, any>` will be an instantiated polymorphic struct type with the same form as the plain struct type

```cpp
struct PolyBooleanAny {
    boolean member1;
    boolean member2;
    any member3;
    long member4;
};
```

Polymorphic struct types were added primarily to support rich interface type attributes that are as expressive as `maybeambiguous`, `maybedefault`, or `maybevoid` properties (see `com.sun.star.beans.Ambiguous`, `com.sun.star.beans.Defaulted`, `com.sun.star.beans.Optional`), but they are probably useful in other contexts, too.

## Predefined Values

The API offers many predefined values, that are used as method parameters, or returned by methods. In UNO IDL there are two different data types for predefined values: constants and enumerations.

### `const`

A `const` defines a named value of a valid UNO IDL type. The value depends on the specified type and can be a literal (integer number, floating point number or a character), an identifier of another const type or an arithmetic term using the operators: `+`, `-`, `*`, `/`, `&`, `|`, `%`, `^`, `<<`, `>>`.

Since a wide selection of types and values is possible in a const, const is occasionally used to build bit vectors which encode combined values.

```cpp
const short ID = 23;
const boolean ERROR = true;
const double PI = 3.1415;
```

Usually const definitions are part of a constants group.
constants

The constants type defines a named group of const values. A const in a constants group is denoted by the group name and the const name. In the UNO IDL example below, `ImageAlign.RIGHT` refers to the value 2:

```plaintext
constants ImageAlign {
    const short LEFT = 0;
    const short TOP = 1;
    const short RIGHT = 2;
    const short BOTTOM = 3;
};
```

enum

An enum type is equivalent to an enumeration type in C++. It contains an ordered list of one or more identifiers representing long values of the enum type. By default, the values are numbered sequentially, beginning with 0 and adding 1 for each new value. If an enum value has been assigned a value, all following enum values without a predefined value get a value starting from this assigned value.

```plaintext
// com.sun.star.uno.TypeClass
enum TypeClass {
    VOID,
    CHAR,
    BOOLEAN,
    BYTE,
    SHORT,
    ...
};

enum Error {
    SYSTEM = 10, // value 10
    RUNTIME, // value 11
    FATAL, // value 12
    USER = 30, // value 30
    SOFT // value 31
};
```

If enums are used during debugging, you should be able to derive the numeric value of an enum by counting its position in the API reference. However, never use literal numeric values instead of enums in your programs.

Warning – Once an enum type has been specified and published, you can trust that it is not extended later on, for that would break existing code. However, new const values may be added to a constant group.
**Sequences**

A sequence type is a set of elements of the same type, that has a variable number of elements. In UNO IDL, the used element always references an existing and known type or another sequence type. A sequence can occur as a normal type in all other type definitions.

```idl
sequence< com::sun::star::uno::XInterface >
    sequence< string > getNamesOfIndex( sequence< long > indexes );
```

**Modules**

Modules are namespaces, similar to namespaces in C++ or packages in Java. They group services, interfaces, structs, exceptions, enums, typedefs, constant groups and submodules with related functional content or behavior. They are utilized to specify coherent blocks in the API, this allows for a well-structured API. For example, the module `<idlmodule>com.sun.star.text</idlmodule>` contains interfaces and other types for text handling. Some other typical modules are `<idlmodule>com.sun.star.uno</idlmodule>`, `<idlmodule>com.sun.star.drawing</idlmodule>`, `<idlmodule>com.sun.star.sheet</idlmodule>` and `<idlmodule>com.sun.star.table</idlmodule>`. Identifiers inside a module do not clash with identifiers in other modules, therefore it is possible for the same name to occur more than once. The global index of the API reference shows that this does happen.

Although it may seem that the modules correspond with the various parts of OpenOffice.org, there is no direct relationship between the API modules and the OpenOffice.org applications Writer, Calc and Draw. Interfaces from the module `<idlmodule>com.sun.star.text</idlmodule>` are used in Calc and Draw. Modules like `<idlmodule>com.sun.star.style</idlmodule>` or `<idlmodule>com.sun.star.document</idlmodule>` provide generic services and interfaces that are not specific to any one part of OpenOffice.org.

The modules you see in the API reference were defined by nesting UNO IDL types in module instructions. For example, the module `<idlmodule>com.sun.star.uno</idlmodule>` contains the interface `XInterface`:

```idl
module com {
    module sun {
        module star {
            module uno {
                interface XInterface {
                    ...
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```
Exceptions

An exception type indicates an error to the caller of a function. The type of an exception gives a basic description of the kind of error that occurred. In addition, the UNO IDL exception types contain elements which allow for an exact specification and a detailed description of the error. The exception type supports inheritance, this is frequently used to define a hierarchy of errors. Exceptions are only used to raise errors, not as method parameters or return types.

UNO IDL requires that all exceptions must inherit from com.sun.star.uno.Exception. This is a precondition for the UNO runtime.

```java
// com.sun.star.uno.Exception is the base exception for all exceptions
element Exception {
    string Message;
    Xinterface Context;
};

// com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException is the base exception for serious problems
// occurring at runtime, usually programming errors or problems in the runtime environment
exception RuntimeException : com::sun::star::uno::Exception {
};

// com.sun.star.uno.SecurityException is a more specific RuntimeException
exception SecurityException : com::sun::star::uno::RuntimeException {
};
```

Exceptions may only be thrown by operations which were specified to do so. In contrast, com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeExceptions can always occur.

**Warning** – The methods acquire() and release of the UNO base interface com.sun.star.uno.XInterface are an exception to the above rule. They are the only operations that may not even throw runtime exceptions. But in Java and C++ programs, you do not use these methods directly, they are handled by the respective language binding.
Singletons

Singletons are used to specify named objects where exactly one instance can exist in the life of a UNO component context. A singleton references one interface type and specifies that the only existing instance of this singleton can be reached over the component context using the name of the singleton. If no instance of the singleton exists, the component context will instantiate a new one. An example of such a new-style singleton is

```java
module com { module sun { module star { module deployment { singleton thePackageManagerFactory: XPackageManagerFactory; } } } };
```

The various language bindings offer language-specific ways to obtain the instance of a new-style singleton, given a component context. For example, in Java and C++ there is a static method (resp. function) named get, that takes as its only argument an `<idls>com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext</idls>` and returns the (appropriately typed) singleton instance. If the instance cannot be obtained, a com.sun.star.uno.DeploymentException is thrown.

There are also old-style singletons, which reference (old-style) services instead of interfaces. However, for old-style services, the language bindings offer no get functionality.

Understanding the API Reference

Specification, Implementation and Instances

The API specifications you find in the API reference are abstract. The service descriptions of the API reference are not about classes that previously exist somewhere. The specifications are created first, then the UNO implementation is created according to the specification. That holds true even for legacy implementations that had to be adapted to UNO.

Moreover, since a component developer is free to implement services and interfaces as required, there is not necessarily a one-to-one relationship between a certain service specification and a real object. The real object can be capable of more things than specified in a service definition. For example, if you order a service at the factory
or receive an object from a getter or `getPropertyValue()` method, the specified features will be present, but there may be additional features. For instance, the text document model has a few interfaces which are not included in the specification for the `com.sun.star.text.TextDocument`.

Because of the optional interfaces and properties, it is impossible to comprehend fully from the API reference what a given instance of an object in OpenOffice.org is capable of. The optional interfaces and properties are correct for an abstract specification, but it means that when you leave the scope of mandatory interfaces and properties, the reference only defines how things are allowed to work, not how they actually work.

Another important point is the fact that there are several entry points where object implementations are actually available. You cannot instantiate every old-style service that can be found in the API reference by means of the global service manager. The reasons are:

- Some old-style services need a certain context. For instance, it does not make sense to instantiate a `com.sun.star.text.TextFrame` independently from an existing text document or any other surrounding where it could be of any use. Such services are usually not created by the global service manager, but by document factories which have the necessary knowledge to create objects that work in a certain surrounding. That does not mean you will never be able to get a text frame from the global service manager to insert. So, if you wish to use a service in the API reference, ask yourself where you can get an instance that supports this service, and consider the context in which you want to use it. If the context is a document, it is quite possible that the document factory will be able to create the object.

- Old-style services are not only used to specify possible class implementations. Sometimes they are used to specify nothing but groups of properties that can be referenced by other old-style services. That is, there are services with no interfaces at all. You cannot create such a service at the service manager.

- A few old-style services need special treatment. For example, you cannot ask the service manager to create an instance of a `com.sun.star.text.TextDocument`. You must load it using the method `loadComponentFromUrl()` at the desktop's `com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader` interface.

In the first and the last case above, using multiple-inheritance interface types instead of old-style services would have been the right design choice, but the mentioned services predate the availability of multiple-inheritance interface types in UNO.

Consequently, it is sometimes confusing to look up a needed functionality in the API reference, for you need a basic understanding how a functionality works, which services are involved, where they are available etc., before you can really utilize the reference. This manual aims at giving you this understanding about the OpenOffice.org document models, the database integration and the application itself.
Object Composition

Interfaces support single and multiple inheritance, and they are all based on com.sun.star.uno.XInterface. In the API reference, this is mirrored in the *Base Hierarchy* section of any interface specification. If you look up an interface, always check the base hierarchy section to understand the full range of supported methods. For instance, if you look up com.sun.star.text.XText, you see two methods, `insertTextContent()` and `removeTextContent()`, but there are nine more methods provided by the inherited interfaces. The same applies to exceptions and sometimes also to structs, which support single inheritance as well.

The service specifications in the API reference can contain a section *Included Services*, which is similar to the above in that a single included old-style service might encompass a whole world of services. However, the fact that a service is included has nothing to do with class inheritance. In which manner a service implementation technically includes other services, by inheriting from base implementations, by aggregation, some other kind of delegation or simply by re-implementing everything is by no means defined (which it is not, either, for UNO interface inheritance). And it is uninteresting for an API user – he can absolutely rely on the availability of the described functionality, but he must never rely on inner details of the implementation, which classes provide the functionality, where they inherit from and what they delegate to other classes.

UNO Concepts

Now that you have an advanced understanding of OpenOffice.org API concepts and you understand the specification of UNO objects, we are ready to explore UNO, i.e. to see how UNO objects connect and communicate with each other.

UNO Interprocess Connections

UNO objects in different environments connect via the interprocess bridge. You can execute calls on UNO object instances, that are located in a different process. This is done by converting the method name and the arguments into a byte stream representation, and sending this package to the remote process, for example, through a socket connection. Most of the examples in this manual use the interprocess bridge to communicate with the OpenOffice.org.
This section deals with the creation of UNO interprocess connections using the UNO API.

Starting OpenOffice.org in Listening Mode

Most examples in this developers guide connect to a running OpenOffice.org and perform API calls, which are then executed in OpenOffice.org. By default, the office does not listen on a resource for security reasons. This makes it necessary to make OpenOffice.org listen on an interprocess connection resource, for example, a socket. Currently this can be done in two ways:

- Start the office with an additional parameter:

  `soffice -accept=socket,host=0,port=2002;urp;`

  This string has to be quoted on unix shells, because the semicolon `;' is interpreted by the shells

- Place the same string without `-accept=' into a configuration file. You can edit the file

  `<OfficePath>/share/registry/data/org/openoffice/Setup.xcu`

  and replace the tag

  `<prop oor:name="ooSetupConnectionURL"/>`

  with

  `<prop oor:name="ooSetupConnectionURL">
    <value>socket,host=localhost,port=2002;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager</value>
  </prop>`

  If the tag is not present, add it within the tag

  `<node oor:name="Office"/>

  This change affects the whole installation. If you want to configure it for a certain user in a network installation, add the same tag within the node `<node oor:name="Office"/>` to the file `Setup.xcu` in the user dependent configuration directory `<OfficePath>/user/registry/data/org/openoffice/`

  Choose the procedure that suits your requirements and launch OpenOffice.org in listening mode now. Check if it is listening by calling `netstat -a` or `-na` on the command-line. An output similar to the following shows that the office is listening:

  `TCP <Hostname>:8100 <Fully qualified hostname>: 0 Listening`
If you use the -n option, netstat displays addresses and port numbers in numerical form. This is sometimes useful on UNIX systems where it is possible to assign logical names to ports.

If the office is not listening, it probably was not started with the proper connection URL parameter. Check the Setup.xcu file or your command-line for typing errors and try again.

**Note** – Note: In versions before OpenOffice.org 1.1, there are several differences. The configuration setting that makes the office listen every time is located elsewhere. Open the file `<OfficePath>/share/config/registry/instance/org/openoffice/Setup.xml` in an editor, and look for the element:

```
<ooSetupConnectionURL cfg:type="string"/>
```

Extend it with the following code:
```
<ooSetupConnectionURL cfg:type="string"
  socket,port=2083;urp;>
</ooSetupConnectionURL>
```

The commandline option -accept is ignored when there is a running instance of the office, including the quick starter and the online help. If you use it, make sure that no soffice process runs on your system.

The various parts of the connection URL will be discussed in the next section.

### Importing a UNO Object

The most common use case of interprocess connections is to import a reference to a UNO object from an exporting server. For instance, most of the Java examples described in this manual retrieve a reference to the OpenOffice.org ComponentContext. The correct way to do this is using the `com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver` service. Its main interface `com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver` is defined in the following way:

```java
interface XUnoUrlResolver: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface {  
    /** resolves an object on the UNO URL */ 
    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface resolve( [in] string sUnoUrl ) 
    raises (com::sun::star::connection::NoConnectException, 
        com::sun::star::connection::ConnectionSetupException, 
            com::sun::star::lang::IllegalArgumentException); 
};
```

The string passed to the `resolve()` method is called a *UNO URL*. It must have the following format:
Importing a UNO Object

A UNO URL scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>The URL schema uno:. This identifies the URL as UNO URL and distinguishes it from others, such as http: or ftp: URLs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>A string which characterizes the type of connection to be used to access the other process. Optionally, directly after this string, a comma separated list of name-value pairs can follow, where name and value are separated by a '='. The currently supported connection types are described in Opening a Connection. The connection type specifies the transport mechanism used to transfer a byte stream, for example, TCP/IP sockets or named pipes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>A string which characterizes the type of protocol used to communicate over the established byte stream connection. The string can be followed by a comma separated list of name-value pairs, which can be used to customize the protocol to specific needs. The suggested protocol is urp (UNO Remote Protocol). Some useful parameters are explained below. Refer to the document named UNO-URL at udk.openoffice.org for the complete specification.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>A process must explicitly export a certain object by a distinct name. It is not possible to access an arbitrary UNO object (which would be possible with IOR in CORBA, for instance).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following example demonstrates how to import an object using the UnoUrlResolver:

```java
XComponentContext xLocalContext =
    com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.createInitialComponentContext(null);

// initial serviceManager
XMultiComponentFactory xLocalServiceManager =
    xLocalContext.getServiceManager();

// create a URL resolver
Object urlResolver = xLocalServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xLocalContext);

// query for the XUnoUrlResolver interface
XUnoUrlResolver xUrlResolver =
    (XUnoUrlResolver) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XUnoUrlResolver.class, urlResolver);

// Import the object
Object rInitialObject = xUrlResolver.resolve(120)
```
The usage of the UnoUrlResolver has certain disadvantages. You cannot:

- be notified when the bridge terminates for whatever reasons
- close the underlying interprocess connection
- offer a local object as an initial object to the remote process

These issues are addressed by the underlying API, which is explained in Opening a Connection.

Characteristics of the Interprocess Bridge

The whole bridge is threadsafe and allows multiple threads to execute remote calls. The dispatcher thread inside the bridge cannot block because it never executes calls. It instead passes the requests to worker threads.

- A synchronous call sends the request through the connection and lets the requesting thread wait for the reply. All calls that have a return value, an out parameter, or throw an exception other than a RuntimeException must be synchronous.

- An asynchronous (or oneway) call sends the request through the connection and immediately returns without waiting for a reply. It is currently specified at the IDL interface if a request is synchronous or asynchronous by using the [oneway] modifier.

Warning – Although there are no general problems with the specification and the implementation of the UNO oneway feature, there are several API remote usage scenarios where oneway calls cause deadlocks in OpenOffice.org. Therefore do not introduce new oneway methods with new OpenOffice.org UNO APIs.

For synchronous requests, thread identity is guaranteed. When process A calls process B, and process B calls process A, the same thread waiting in process A will take over the new request. This avoids deadlocks when the same mutex is locked again. For asynchronous requests, this is not possible because there is no thread waiting in process A. Such requests are executed in a new thread. The series of calls between two processes is guaranteed. If two asynchronous requests from process A
are sent to process B, the second request waits until the first request is finished.

Although the remote bridge supports asynchronous calls, this feature is disabled by default. Every call is executed synchronously. The oneway flag of UNO interface methods is ignored. However, the bridge can be started in a mode that enables the oneway feature and thus executes calls flagged with the \texttt{oneway} modifier as asynchronous calls. To do this, the protocol part of the connection string on both sides of the remote bridge must be extended by \\
\texttt{',Negotiate=0,ForceSynchronous=0'}. For example:

\begin{verbatim}
soffice “-accept=socket,host=0,port=2002;urp,Negotiate=0,ForceSynchronous=0;”
\end{verbatim}

for starting the office and

\begin{verbatim}
"uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2002;urp,Negotiate=0,ForceSynchronous=0;StarOffice.ServiceManager"
\end{verbatim}

as UNO URL for connecting to it.

\section*{Warning –} The asynchronous mode can cause deadlocks in OpenOffice.org. It is recommended not to activate it if one side of the remote bridge is OpenOffice.org.

\section*{Opening a Connection}

The method to import a UNO object using the \texttt{UnoUrlResolver} has drawbacks as described in the previous chapter. The layer below the \texttt{UnoUrlResolver} offers full flexibility in interprocess connection handling.

UNO interprocess bridges are established on the \texttt{com.sun.star.connection.XConnection} interface, which encapsulates a reliable bidirectional byte stream connection (such as a TCP/IP connection).

\begin{verbatim}
interface XConnection: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    long read( [out] sequence < byte > aReadBytes , [in] long nBytesToRead )
        raises( com::sun::star::io::IOException );
    void write( [in] sequence < byte > aData )
        raises( com::sun::star::io::IOException );
    void flush( ) raises( com::sun::star::io::IOException );
    void close( ) raises( com::sun::star::io::IOException );
    string getDescription();
};
\end{verbatim}

There are different mechanisms to establish an interprocess connection. Most of these mechanisms follow a similar pattern. One process listens on a resource and
waits for one or more processes to connect to this resource.

This pattern has been abstracted by the services com.sun.star.connection.Acceptor that exports the com.sun.star.connection.XAcceptor interface and com.sun.star.connection.Connector that exports the com.sun.star.connection.XConnector interface.

```
interface XAcceptor: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    XConnection accept( [in] string sConnectionDescription )
    raises( AlreadyAcceptingException,
            ConnectionSetupException,
            com::sun::star::lang::IllegalArgumentException);

    void stopAccepting();
};

interface XConnector: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    XConnection connect( [in] string sConnectionDescription )
    raises( NoConnectException,ConnectionSetupException );
};
```

The acceptor service is used in the listening process while the connector service is used in the actively connecting service. The methods accept() and connect() get the connection string as a parameter. This is the connection part of the UNO URL (between uno: and ;urp).

The connection string consists of a connection type followed by a comma separated list of name-value pairs. The following table shows the connection types that are supported by default.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Connection type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>socket</td>
<td>Reliable TCP/IP socket connection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>host</td>
<td>Hostname or IP number of the resource to listen on/connect. May be localhost. In an acceptor string, this may be 0 (&quot;host=0&quot;), which means, that it accepts on all available network interfaces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>port</td>
<td>TCP/IP port number to listen on/connect to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tcpNoDelay</td>
<td>Corresponds to the socket option tcpNoDelay. For a UNO connection, this parameter should be set to 1 (this is NOT the default - it must be added explicitly). If the default is used (0), it may come to 200 ms delays at certain call combinations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pipe</td>
<td>A named pipe (uses shared memory). This type of interprocess connection is marginally faster than socket connections and works only if both processes are located on the same machine. It does not work on Java by default, because Java does not support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
named pipes directly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>name</td>
<td>Name of the named pipe. Can only accept one process on name on one machine at a time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tip** - You can add more kinds of interprocess connections by implementing connector and acceptor services, and choosing the service name by the scheme com.sun.star.connection.Connector.<connection-type>, where <connection-type> is the name of the new connection type.

If you implemented the service com.sun.star.connection.Connector.mytype, use the UnoUrlResolver with the URL uno:mytype,param1=foo;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager to establish the interprocess connection to the office.

Creating the Bridge

The interaction of services that are needed to initiate a UNO interprocess bridge. The interfaces have been simplified.

The XConnection instance can now be used to establish a UNO interprocess bridge on top of the connection, regardless if the connection was established with a Connector or Acceptor service (or another method). To do this, you must instantiate the service com.sun.star.bridge.BridgeFactory. It supports the
Creating the Bridge

```java
interface XBridgeFactory: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    XBridge createBridge(
        [in] string sName,
        [in] string sProtocol,
        [in] com::sun::star::connection::XConnection aConnection,
        [in] XInstanceProvider anInstanceProvider)
    raises (BridgeExistsException,
        com::sun::star::lang::IllegalArgumentException);
    XBridge getBridge([in] string sName);
    sequence < XBridge > getExistingBridges();
}
```

Note – In versions before OpenOffice.org 1.1, there are several differences.

The `BridgeFactory` service administrates all UNO interprocess connections. The `createBridge()` method creates a new bridge:

- You can give the bridge a distinct name with the `sName` argument. Later the bridge can be retrieved by using the `getBridge()` method with this name. This allows two independent code pieces to share the same interprocess bridge. If you call `createBridge()` with the name of an already working interprocess bridge, a `BridgeExistsException` is thrown. When you pass an empty string, you always create a new anonymous bridge, which can never be retrieved by `getBridge()` and which never throws a `BridgeExistsException`.
- The second parameter specifies the protocol to be used on the connection. Currently, only the 'urp' protocol is supported. In the UNO URL, this string is separated by two ';'. The urp string may be followed by a comma separated list of name-value pairs describing properties for the bridge protocol. The urp specification can be found on `udk.openoffice.org`.
- The third parameter is the `XConnection` interface as it was retrieved by `Connector/Acceptor` service.
- The fourth parameter is a UNO object, which supports the `com.sun.star.bridge.XInstanceProvider` interface. This parameter may be a null reference if you do not want to export a local object to the remote process.

```java
interface XInstanceProvider: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface getInstance([in] string sInstanceName)
    raises (com::sun::star::container::NoSuchElementException);
}
```

The `BridgeFactory` returns a `com.sun.star.bridge.XBridge` interface.

```java
interface XBridge: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    XInterface getInstance([in] string sInstanceName);
    string getName();
    string getDescription();
}
```
The `XBridge.getInstance()` method retrieves an initial object from the remote counterpart. The local `XBridge.getInstance()` call arrives in the remote process as an `XInstanceProvider.getInstance()` call. The object returned can be controlled by the string `sInstanceName`. It completely depends on the implementation of `XInstanceProvider`, which object it returns.

The `XBridge` interface can be queried for a `com.sun.star.lang.XComponent` interface, that adds a `com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener` to the bridge. This listener will be terminated when the underlying connection closes (see above). You can also call `dispose()` on the `XComponent` interface explicitly, which closes the underlying connection and initiates the bridge shutdown procedure.

## Closing a Connection

The closure of an interprocess connection can occur for the following reasons:

- The bridge is not used anymore. The interprocess bridge will close the connection when all the proxies to remote objects and all stubs to local objects have been released. This is the normal way for a remote bridge to destroy itself. The user of the interprocess bridge does not need to close the interprocess connection directly - it is done automatically. When one of the communicating processes is implemented in Java, the closure of a bridge is delayed to that point in time when the VM finalizes the last proxies/stubs. Therefore it is unspecified when the interprocess bridge will be closed.
- The interprocess bridge is directly disposed by calling its `dispose()` method.
- The remote counterpart process crashes.
- The connection fails. For example, failure may be due to a dialup internet connection going down.
- An error in marshaling/unmarshaling occurs due to a bug in the interprocess bridge implementation, or an IDL type is not available in one of the processes.

Except for the first reason, all other connection closures initiate an interprocess bridge shutdown procedure. All pending synchronous requests abort with a `com.sun.star.lang.DisposedException`, which is derived from the `com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException`. Every call that is initiated on a disposed proxy throws a `DisposedException`. After all threads have left the bridge (there may be a synchronous call from the former remote counterpart in the process), the bridge explicitly releases all stubs to the original objects in the local process, which were previously held by the former remote counterpart. The bridge then notifies all registered listeners about the disposed state using `com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener`. 
The example code for a connection-aware client below shows how to use this mechanism. The bridge itself is destroyed, after the last proxy has been released.

Unfortunately, the various listed error conditions are not distinguishable.

Example: A Connection Aware Client

The following example shows an advanced client which can be informed about the status of the remote bridge. A complete example for a simple client is given in First Steps.

The following Java example opens a small awt window containing the buttons new writer and new calc that opens a new document and a status label. It connects to a running office when a button is clicked for the first time. Therefore it uses the connector/bridge factory combination, and registers itself as an event listener at the interprocess bridge.

When the office is terminated, the disposing event is terminated, and the Java program sets the text in the status label to 'disconnected' and clears the office desktop reference. The next time a button is pressed, the program knows that it has to re-establish the connection.

The method getComponentLoader() retrieves the XComponentLoader reference on demand:

```
XComponentLoader _officeComponentLoader = null;

// local component context
XComponentContext _ctx;

protected com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader getComponentLoader()
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
         XComponentLoader officeComponentLoader = _officeComponentLoader;

         if (officeComponentLoader == null) {
             // instantiate connector service
             Object x = _ctx.getServiceManager().createInstanceWithContext(
                 "com.sun.star.connection.Connector", _ctx);
             XConnector xConnector = (XConnector)
                 UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XConnector.class, x);

             _officeComponentLoader = xConnector;
             UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XConnector.class, x);

             XComponentLoader _officeComponentLoader = xConnector;
             UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XConnector.class, x);

             // helper function to parse the UNO URL into a string array
             String a[] = parseUnoUrl(_url);
             if (null == a) {
                 throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception("Couldn't parse UNO URL "+
                     _url);
```
Example: A Connection Aware Client

```java
// connect using the connection string part of the UNO URL only.
XConnection connection = xConnector.connect(a[0]);

x = _ctx.getServiceManager().createInstanceWithContext(
    "com.sun.star.bridge.BridgeFactory", _ctx);

XBridgeFactory xBridgeFactory = (XBridgeFactory)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XBridgeFactory.class, x);

// create a nameless bridge with no instance provider
// using the middle part of the UNO URL
XBridge bridge = xBridgeFactory.createBridge("", a[1],
  connection, null);

// query for the XComponent interface and add this as event listener
XComponent xComponent = (XComponent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XComponent.class, bridge);
xComponent.addEventListener(this);

// get the remote instance
x = bridge.getInstance(a[2]);

// Did the remote server export this object?
if (null == x) {
  throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception(
      "Server didn't provide an instance for" + a[2], null);
}

// Query the initial object for its main factory interface
XMultiComponentFactory xOfficeMultiComponentFactory =
(XMultiComponentFactory)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiComponentFactory.class, x);

// retrieve the component context (it's not yet exported from the office)
// Query for the XPropertySet interface.
XPropertySet xPropertySet = (XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class,
  xOfficeMultiComponentFactory);

// Get the default context from the office server.
Object oDefaultContext =
  xPropertySet.getPropertyValue("DefaultContext");

// Query for the interface XComponentContext.
XComponentContext xOfficeComponentContext =
  (XComponentContext) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XComponentContext.class, oDefaultContext);

// now create the desktop service
// NOTE: use the office component context here!
Object oDesktop =
xOfficeMultiComponentFactory.createInstanceWithContext(
    "com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", xOfficeComponentContext);
```
Example: A Connection Aware Client

```java
officeComponentLoader = (XComponentLoader)
 UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XComponentLoader.class, oDesktop);

if (officeComponentLoader == null) {
    throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception(  
        "Couldn't instantiate com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", null);
}
_officeComponentLoader = officeComponentLoader;
return officeComponentLoader;
```

This is the button event handler:

```java
public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event) {
    try {
        String sUrl;
        if (event.getSource() == _btnWriter) {
            sUrl = "private:factory/swriter";
        } else {
            sUrl = "private:factory/scalc";
        }
        getComponentLoader().loadComponentFromURL(  
            sUrl, "_blank", 0,new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[0]);
        _txtLabel.setText("connected");
    } catch (com.sun.star.connection.NoConnectException exc) {
        _txtLabel.setText(exc.getMessage());
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception exc) {
        _txtLabel.setText(exc.getMessage());
        exc.printStackTrace();
        throw new java.lang.RuntimeException(exc.getMessage());
    }
}
```

And the disposing handler clears the `_officeComponentLoader` reference:

```java
public void disposing(com.sun.star.lang.EventObject event) {
    // remote bridge has gone down, because the office crashed or was
    // terminated.
    _officeComponentLoader = null;
    _txtLabel.setText("disconnected");
}
```

Service Manager and Component Context

This chapter discusses the root object for connections to OpenOffice.org (and to any UNO application) – the service manager. The root object serves as the entry point for every UNO application and is passed to every UNO component during instantiation.

Two different concepts to get the root object currently exist. StarOffice6.0 and
OpenOffice.org 1.0 use the previous concept. Newer versions or product patches use the newer concept and provide the previous concept for compatibility issues only. First we will look at the previous concept, the service manager as it is used in the main parts of the underlying OpenOffice.org implementation of this guide. Second, we will introduce the component context—which is the newer concept and explain the migration path.

**Service Manager**

The com.sun.star.lang.ServiceManager is the main factory in every UNO application. It instantiates services by their service name, to enumerate all implementations of a certain service, and to add or remove factories for a certain service at runtime. The service manager is passed to every UNO component during instantiation.

**XMultiServiceFactory Interface**

The main interface of the service manager is the com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface. It offers three methods: createInstance(), createInstanceWithArguments() and getAvailableServiceNames().

```java
interface XMultiServiceFactory: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface createInstance( [in] string aServiceSpecifier )
    raises( com::sun::star::uno::Exception );

    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface createInstanceWithArguments( [in] string ServiceSpecifier,
    [in] sequence<any> Arguments )
    raises( com::sun::star::uno::Exception );

    sequence<string> getAvailableServiceNames();
};
```

- **createInstance()** returns a default constructed service instance. The returned service is guaranteed to support at least all interfaces, which were specified for the requested servicename. The returned XInterface reference can now be queried for the interfaces specified at the service description.

  When using the service name, the caller does not have any influence on which concrete implementation is instantiated. If multiple implementations for a service
exist, the service manager is free to decide which one to employ. This in general does not make a difference to the caller because every implementation does fulfill the service contract. Performance or other details may make a difference. So it is also possible to pass the implementation name instead of the service name, but it is not advised to do so as the implementation name may change.

In case the service manager does not provide an implementation for a request, a null reference is returned, so it is mandatory to check. Every UNO exception may be thrown during instantiation. Some may be described in the specification of the service that is to be instantiated, for instance, because of a misconfiguration of the concrete implementation. Another reason may be the lack of a certain bridge, for instance the Java-C++ bridge, in case a Java component shall be instantiated from C++ code.

- `createInstanceWithArguments()` instantiates the service with additional parameters. A service signals that it expects parameters during instantiation by supporting the `com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization` interface. The service definition should describe the meaning of each element of the sequence. There maybe services which can only be instantiated with parameters.
- `getAvailableServiceNames()` returns every servicename the service manager does support.

**XContentEnumerationAccess Interface**

The `com.sun.star.container.XContentEnumerationAccess` interface allows the creation of an enumeration of all implementations of a concrete servicename.

```java
interface XContentEnumerationAccess: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    com::sun::star::container::XEnumeration createContentEnumeration( [in] string aServiceName );

    sequence<string> getAvailableServiceNames();
};
```

The `createContentEnumeration()` method returns a `com.sun.star.container.XEnumeration` interface. Note that it may return an empty reference in case the enumeration is empty.

```java
interface XEnumeration: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    boolean hasMoreElements();

    any nextElement() 
        raises( com::sun::star::container::NoSuchElementException, com::sun::star::lang::WrappedTargetException );
};
```
In the above case, the returned any of the method `XEnumeration.nextElement()` contains a `com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory` interface for each implementation of this specific service. You can, for instance, iterate over all implementations of a certain service and check each one for additional implemented services. The `XSingleServiceFactory` interface provides such a method. With this method, you can instantiate a feature rich implementation of a service.

**XSet Interface**

The `com.sun.star.container.XSet` interface allows the insertion or removal of `com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory` or `com.sun.star.lang.XSingleComponentFactory` implementations to the service manager at runtime without making the changes permanent. When the office application terminates, all the changes are lost. The object must also support the `com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo` interface that provides information about the implementation name and supported services of the component implementation.

This feature may be of particular interest during the development phase. For instance, you can connect to a running office, insert a new factory into the service manager and directly instantiate the new service without having it registered before.

The chapter [Special Service Manager Configurations](#) shows an example that demonstrates how a factory is inserted into the service manager.

**Component Context**

The service manager was described above as the main factory that is passed to every new instantiated component. Often a component needs more functionality or information that must be exchangeable after deployment of an application. In this context, the service manager approach is limited.

Therefore, the concept of the *component* context was created. In future, it will be the central object in every UNO application. It is basically a read-only container offering named values. One of the named values is the service manager. The component context is passed to a component during its instantiation. This can be understood as an environment where components live (the relationship is similar to shell
environment variables and an executable program).

ComponentContext and the ServiceManager

ComponentContext API

The component context only supports the com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext interface.

```plaintext
// module com::sun::star::uno
interface XComponentContext : XInterface
{
    any getValueByName( [in] string Name );
    com::sun::star::lang::XMultiComponentFactory getServiceManager();
};
```

The `getValueByName()` method returns a named value. The `getServiceManager()` is a convenient way to retrieve the value named `/singleton/com.sun.star.lang.theServiceManager`. It returns the ServiceManager singleton, because most components need to access the service manager. The component context offers at least three kinds of named values:

**Singletons (/singletons/...)**

The singleton concept was introduced in Professional UNO - API Concepts - Data Types. In OpenOffice.org 1.0.2 there is only the ServiceManager singleton. From OpenOffice.org 1.1, a singleton `/singletons/com.sun.star.util.theMacroExpander` has been added, which can be used to expand macros in configuration files. Other possible singletons can be found in the IDL reference.

**Implementation properties (not yet defined)**

These properties customize a certain implementation and are specified in the
module description of each component. A module description is an xml-based
description of a module (DLL or jar file) which contains the formal description of
one or more components.

_Service properties (not yet defined)_

These properties can customize a certain service independent from the
implementation and are specified in the IDL specification of a service. Note that
service context properties are different from service properties. Service context
properties are not subject to change and are the same for every instance of the
service that shares the same component context. Service properties are
different for each instance and can be changed at runtime through the
XPropertySet interface.

Note, that in the scheme above, the ComponentContext has a reference to the service
manager, but not conversely.

Besides the interfaces discussed above, the ServiceManager supports the
com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory interface.

```java
interface XMultiComponentFactory : com::sun::star::uno::XInterface {
    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface createInstanceWithContext(
        [in] string aServiceSpecifier,
        [in] com::sun::star::uno::XComponentContext Context 
    )
    raises (com::sun::star::uno::Exception);

    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
    createInstanceWithArgumentsAndContext(
        [in] string ServiceSpecifier,
        [in] sequence<any> Arguments,
        [in] com::sun::star::uno::XComponentContext Context 
    )
    raises (com::sun::star::uno::Exception);

    sequence< string > getAvailableServiceNames();
};
```

It replaces the XMultiServiceFactory interface. It has an additional
XComponentContext parameter for the two object creation methods. This parameter
enables the caller to define the component context that the new instance of the
component receives. Most components use their initial component context to
instantiate new components. This allows for context propagation.
The illustration above shows the context propagation. A user might want a special component to get a customized context. Therefore, the user creates a new context by simply wrapping an existing one. The user overrides the desired values and delegates the properties that he is not interested into the original C1 context. The user defines which context Instance A and B receive. Instance A and B propagate their context to every new object that they create. Thus, the user has established two instance trees, the first tree completely uses the context Ctx C1, while the second tree uses Ctx C2.

**Availability**

The final API for the component context is available in StarOffice 6.0 and OpenOffice 1.0. Use this API instead of the API explained in the service manager section. Currently, the component context does not have a persistent storage, so named values cannot be added to the context of a deployed OpenOffice.org. Presently, there is no additional benefit from the new API until there is a future release.
Compromise between service-manager-only and component context concept

As discussed previously, both concepts are currently used within the office. The ServiceManager supports the interfaces com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory and com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory. Calls to the XMultiServiceFactory interface are delegated to the XMultiComponentFactory interface. The service manager uses its own XComponentContext reference to fill the missing parameter. The component context of the ServiceManager can be retrieved through the XPropertySet interface as 'DefaultContext'.

```java
// Query for the XPropertySet interface.
// Note xOfficeServiceManager is the object retrieved by the
// UNO URL resolver
XPropertySet xPropertySet = (XPropertySet)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class,
    xOfficeServiceManager);

// Get the default context from the office server.
Object oDefaultContext =
    xpropertysetMultiComponentFactory.getPropertyValue("DefaultContext");

// Query for the interface XComponentContext.
xComponentContext = (XComponentContext) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XComponentContext.class, objectDefaultContext);
```

This solution allows the use of the same service manager instance, regardless if it uses the old or new style API. In future, the whole OpenOffice.org code will only use the new API. However, the old API will still remain to ensure compatibility.

**Note** – The described compromise has a drawback. The service manager now knows the component context, that was not necessary in the original design. Thus, every component that uses the old API (plain `createInstance()`) breaks the context propagation (see [Context propagation](#)). Therefore, it is recommended to use the new API in every new piece of code that is written.
Using UNO Interfaces

Every UNO object must inherit from the interface com.sun.star.uno.XInterface. Before using an object, know how to use it and how long it will function. By prescribing XInterface to be the base interface for each and every UNO interface, UNO lays the groundwork for object communication. For historic reasons, the UNOIDL description of XInterface lists the functionality that is associated with XInterface in the C++ (or binary UNO) language binding; other language bindings offer similar functionality by different mechanisms:

```cpp
// module com::sun::star::uno
interface XInterface
{
    any queryInterface( [in] type aType );
    [oneway] void acquire();
    [oneway] void release();
};
```

The methods acquire() and release() handle the lifetime of the UNO object by reference counting. Detailed information about Reference counting is discussed in Lifetime of UNO objects. All current language bindings take care of acquire() and release() internally whenever there is a reference to a UNO object.

The queryInterface() method obtains other interfaces exported by the object. The caller asks the implementation of the object if it supports the interface specified by the type argument. The type parameter must denote a UNO interface type. The call may return with an interface reference of the requested type or with a void any. In C++ or Java simply test if the result is not equal null.

Unknowingly, we encountered XInterface when the service manager was asked to create a service instance:

```java
XComponentContext xLocalContext =
    com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.createInitialComponentContext(null);
// initial serviceManager
XMultiComponentFactory xLocalServiceManager =
    xLocalContext.getServiceManager();
// create a urlresolver
Object urlResolver = xLocalServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
    "com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xLocalContext);
```

The IDL specification of XMultiComponentFactory shows:

```idl
// module com::sun::star::lang
interface XMultiComponentFactory : com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface createInstanceWithContext(
        [in] string aServiceSpecifier,
        [in] com::sun::star::uno::XComponentContext Context );
}
```
Using UNO Interfaces

raises (com::sun::star::uno::Exception);
...
}

The above code shows that `createInstanceWithContext()` provides an instance of the given service, but it only returns a `com.sun.star.uno.XInterface`. This is mapped to `java.lang.Object` by the Java UNO binding afterwards.

In order to access a service, you need to know which interfaces the service exports. This information is available in the IDL reference. For instance, for the `com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver` service, you learn:

```java
// module com::sun::star::bridge
service UnoUrlResolver: XUnoUrlResolver;
```

This means the service you ordered at the service manager must support `com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver`. Next `query` the returned object for this interface:

```java
// query urlResolver for its com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver interface
XUnoUrlResolver xUrlResolver = (XUnoUrlResolver)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(UnoUrlResolver.class, urlResolver);
// test if the interface was available
if (null == xUrlResolver) {
    throw new java.lang.Exception(
        "Error: UrlResolver service does not export XUnoUrlResolver interface");
}
// use the interface
Object remoteObject = xUrlResolver.resolve(
    "uno:socket,host=0,port=2002;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager");
```

**Note** – For a new-style service like `com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver`, there is a superior way to obtain an instance of it, see [Mapping of Services](Mapping_of_Services) for Java and [Mapping of Services](Mapping_of_Services) for C++.

The object decides whether or not it returns the interface. You have encountered a bug if the object does not return an interface that is specified to be mandatory in a service. When the interface reference is retrieved, invoke a call on the reference according to the interface specification. You can follow this strategy with every service you instantiate at a service manager, leading to success.

With this method, you may not only get UNO objects through the service manager, but also by normal interface calls:

```java
// Module com::sun::star::text
interface XTextRange: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    XText getText();
    XTextRange getStart();
    ....
```
The returned interface types are specified in the operations, so that calls can be invoked directly on the returned interface. Often, an object implementing multiple interfaces are returned, instead of an object implementing one certain interface.

You can then query the returned object for the other interfaces specified in the given old-style service, here com.sun.star.drawing.Text.

UNO has a number of generic interfaces. For example, the interface com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader:

```java
// module com::sun::star::frame
interface XComponentLoader: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    com::sun::star::lang::XComponent loadComponentFromURL([in] string aURL,
       [in] string aTargetFrameName,
       [in] long nSearchFlags,
       [in] sequence<com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue> aArgs )
    raises( com::sun::star::io::IOException,
            com::sun::star::lang::IllegalArgumentException );
};
```

It becomes difficult to find which interfaces are supported beside XComponent, because the kind of returned document (text, calc, draw, etc.) depends on the incoming URL.

These dependencies are described in the appropriate chapters of this manual.

Tools such as the InstanceInspector component is a quick method to find out which interfaces a certain object supports. The InstanceInspector component comes with the OpenOffice.org SDK that allows the inspection of a certain objects at runtime. Do not rely on implementation details of certain objects. If an object supports more interfaces than specified in the service description, query the interface and perform calls. The code may only work for this distinct office version and not work with an update of the office!

**Note** – Unfortunately, there may still be bugs in the service specifications. Please provide feedback about missing interfaces to openoffice.org to ensure that the specification is fixed and that you can rely on the support of this interface.

There are certain specifications a queryInterface() implementation must not violate:

- If queryInterface() on a specific object returned a valid interface reference for a given type, it *must* return a valid reference for any successive queryInterface() calls on this object for the same type.
- If queryInterface() on a specific object returned a null reference for a given type, it *must* always return a null reference for the same type.
If queryInterface() on reference A returns reference B, queryInterface() on B for Type A must return interface reference A or calls made on the returned reference must be equivalent to calls made on reference A.

If queryInterface() on a reference A returns reference B, queryInterface() on A and B for XInterface must return the same interface reference (object identity).

These specifications must not be violated because a UNO runtime environment may choose to cache queryInterface() calls. The rules are basically identical to the rules of QueryInterface in MS COM.

Properties

Properties are name-value pairs belonging to a service and determine the characteristics of an object in a service instance. Usually, properties are used for non-structural attributes, such as font, size or color of objects, whereas get and set methods are used for structural attributes like a parent or sub-object.

In almost all cases, com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet is used to access properties by name. Other interfaces, for example, are com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyAccess which is used to set and retrieve all properties at once or com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet which is used to access several specified properties at once. This is useful on remote connections. Additionally, there are interfaces to access properties by numeric ID, such as com.sun.star.beans.XFastPropertySet.

The following example demonstrates how to query and change the properties of a given text document cursor using its XPropertySet interface:

```java
// get an XPropertySet, here the one of a text cursor
XPropertySet xCursorProps = (XPropertySet)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, mxDocCursor);

// get the character weight property
Object aCharWeight = xCursorProps.getPropertyValue("CharWeight");
float fCharWeight = AnyConverter.toFloat(aCharWeight);
System.out.println("before: CharWeight=", fCharWeight);

// set the character weight property to BOLD
xCursorProps.setPropertyValue("CharWeight", new
    Float(com.sun.star.awt.FontWeight.BOLD));

// get the character weight property again
aCharWeight = xCursorProps.getPropertyValue("CharWeight");
fCharWeight = AnyConverter.toFloat(aCharWeight);
System.out.println("after: CharWeight=", fCharWeight);
```
Properties

A possible output of this code could be:

before: CharWeight=100.0 after: CharWeight=150.0

Warning – The sequence of property names must be sorted.

The following example deals with multiple properties at once:

```java
// get an XMultiPropertySet, here the one of the first paragraph
XEnumerationAccess xEnumAcc = (XEnumerationAccess)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XEnumerationAccess.class, mxDocText);
XEnumeration xEnum = xEnumAcc.createEnumeration();
Object aPara = xEnum.nextElement();
XMultiPropertySet xParaProps = (XMultiPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XMultiPropertySet.class, aPara);

// get three property values with a single UNO call
String[] aNames = new String[3];
aNames[0] = "CharColor";
aNames[1] = "CharFontName";
aNames[2] = "CharWeight";
Object[] aValues = xParaProps.getPropertyValues(aNames);

// print the three values
System.out.println("CharColor=" + AnyConverter.toLong(aValues[0]));
System.out.println("CharFontName=" + AnyConverter.toString(aValues[1]));
System.out.println("CharWeight=" + AnyConverter.toFloat(aValues[2]));
```

Properties can be assigned flags to determine a specific behavior of the property, such as read-only, bound, constrained or void. Possible flags are specified in com.sun.star.beans.PropertyAttribute. Read-only properties cannot be set. Bound properties broadcast changes of their value to registered listeners and constrained properties veto changes to these listeners.

Properties might have a status specifying where the value comes from. See com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyState. The value determines if the value comes from the object, a style sheet or if it cannot be determined at all. For example, in a multi-selection with multiple values within this selection.

The following example shows how to find out status information about property values:

```java
// get an XPropertySet, here the one of a text cursor
XPropertySet xCursorProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XPropertySet.class, mxDocCursor);

// insert "first" in NORMAL character weight
mxDocText.insertString(mxDocCursor, "first ", true);
xCursorProps.setPropertyValue("CharWeight", new
Float(com.sun.star.awt.FontWeight.NORMAL));

// append "second" in BOLD character weight
```

Chapter 2 · Professional UNO 141
Orders

The property state of character weight is queried for a string like this:

first second

And the output is:

CharWeight property is NULL CharWeight property state has an ambiguous value

The description of properties available for a certain object is given by com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySetInfo. Multiple objects can share the same property information for their description. This makes it easier for introspective caches that are used in scripting languages where the properties are accessed directly, without directly calling the methods of the interfaces mentioned above.

This example shows how to find out which properties an object provides using com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySetInfo:

```java
try {
    // get an XPropertySet, here the one of a text cursor
    XPropertySet xCursorProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XPropertySet.class, mxDocCursor);

    // get the property info interface of this XPropertySet
    XPropertySetInfo xCursorPropsInfo = xCursorProps.getPropertySetInfo();

    // get all properties (NOT the values) from XPropertySetInfo
    Property[] aProps = xCursorPropsInfo.getProperties();
    int i;
```
for (i = 0; i < aProps.length; ++i) {
  // number of property within this info object
  System.out.print("Property #" + i);

  // name of property
  System.out.print(" Name<" + aProps[i].Name);

  // handle of property (only for XFastPropertySet)
  System.out.print(" Handle<" + aProps[i].Handle);

  // type of property
  System.out.print(" Type." + aProps[i].Type.toString());

  // attributes (flags)
  System.out.print(" Attributes<");
  short nAttribs = aProps[i].Attributes;
  if ((nAttribs & PropertyAttribute.MAYBEVOID) != 0)
    System.out.print("MAYBEVOID|");
  if ((nAttribs & PropertyAttribute.BOUND) != 0)
    System.out.print("BOUND|");
  if ((nAttribs & PropertyAttribute.CONSTRAINED) != 0)
    System.out.print("CONSTRAINED|");
  if ((nAttribs & PropertyAttribute.READONLY) != 0)
    System.out.print("READONLY|");
  if ((nAttribs & PropertyAttribute.TRANSIENT) != 0)
    System.out.print("TRANSIENT|");
  if ((nAttribs & PropertyAttribute.MAYBEAMBIGUOUS) != 0)
    System.out.print("MAYBEAMBIGUOUS|");
  if ((nAttribs & PropertyAttribute.MAYBEDEFAULT) != 0)
    System.out.print("MAYBEDEFAULT|");
  if ((nAttribs & PropertyAttribute.REMOVEABLE) != 0)
    System.out.print("REMOVEABLE|";
  System.out.println("0>");

  )
  catch (Exception e) {
    // If anything goes wrong, give the user a stack trace
    e.printStackTrace(System.out);
  }

The following is an example output for the code above. The output shows the names of the text cursor properties, and their handle, type and property attributes. The handle is not unique, since the specific object does not implement com.sun.star.beans.XFastPropertySet, so proper handles are not needed here.

Using default connect string: socket,host=localhost,port=8100 Opening an empty Writer document Property #0: Name<BorderDistance> Handle<93> Type<long> Attributes<MAYBEVOID|0> Property #1: Name<BottomBorder> Handle<93> Type<com.sun.star.table.BorderLine> Attributes<MAYBEVOID|0> Property #2: Name<BottomBorderDistance> Handle<93> Type<long> Attributes<MAYBEVOID|0> Property #3: Name<BreakType> Handle<81> Type<com.sun.star.style.BreakType> Attributes<MAYBEVOID|0> ...
Property #133: Name<TopBorderDistance> Handle<93> Type<long> Attributes<MAYBEVOID|0> Property #134: Name<UnvisitedCharStyleName> Handle<38> =Type<string> Attributes<MAYBEVOID|0> Property #135: Name<VisitedCharStyleName> Handle<38> Type<string> Attributes<MAYBEVOID|0>
In some cases properties are used to specify the options in a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue. See com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions or com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor for examples of properties in sequences. These are not accessed by the methods mentioned above, but by accessing the sequence specified in the language binding.

This example illustrates how to deal with sequences of property values:

```java
// create a sequence of PropertyValue
PropertyValue[] aArgs = new PropertyValue[2];

// set name/value pairs (other fields are irrelevant here)
aArgs[0] = new PropertyValue();
aArgs[0].Name = "FilterName";
aArgs[0].Value = "HTML (StarWriter)";
aArgs[1] = new PropertyValue();
aArgs[1].Name = "Overwrite";
aArgs[1].Value = Boolean.TRUE;

// use this sequence of PropertyValue as an argument
// where a service with properties but without any interfaces is specified
com.sun.star.frame.XStorable xStorable = (com.sun.star.frame.XStorable)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    com.sun.star.frame.XStorable.class, mxDoc);
xStorable.storeAsURL("file:///tmp/devmanual-test.html", aArgs);
```

Usually the properties supported by an object, as well as their type and flags are fixed over the lifetime of the object. There may be exceptions. If the properties can be added and removed externally, the interface com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyContainer has to be used. In this case, the fixed com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySetInfo changes its supplied information over the lifetime of the object. Listeners for such changes can register at com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyChangeListener.

**Tip** - If you use a component from other processes or remotely, try to adhere to the rule to use com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyAccess and com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet instead of having a separate call for each single property.

The following diagram shows the relationship between the property-related interfaces.
The relationship between property related interfaces

Starting with OpenOffice.org 2.0, interface attributes are comparable in expressiveness to the properties described above:

- A [property] T P (with type T and name P) corresponds to an [attribute] T P.

Interface attributes offer the following advantages compared to properties:

- The attributes an object supports follows directly from the description of the interface types the object supports.
- Accessing an interface attribute is type-safe, whereas accessing a property uses the generic any. This is an advantage mainly in statically typed languages like Java and C++, where accessing an interface attribute typically also requires less
code to be written than for accessing a generic property.

The main disadvantage is that the set of interface attributes supported by an object is static, so that scenarios that exploit the dynamic nature of XpropertySet, and so on, do not map well to interface attributes. In cases where it might be useful to have all the interface attributes supported by an object also accessible via XPropertySet etc., the Java and C++ language bindings offer experimental, not yet published support to do just that. See www.openoffice.org to find out more.

Collections and Containers

Collections and containers are concepts for objects that contain multiple sub-objects where the number of sub-objects is usually not predetermined. While the term collection is used when the sub-objects are implicitly determined by the collection itself, the term container is used when it is possible to add new sub-objects and remove existing sub-objects explicitly. Thus, containers add methods like insert() and remove() to the collection interfaces.

Interfaces in <idlmodule>com.sun.star.container</idlmodule>

In general, the OpenOffice.org API collection and container interfaces contain any type that can be represented by the UNO type any. However, many container instances can be bound to a specific type or subtypes of this type. This is a runtime and specification agreement, and cannot be checked at runtime.
The base interface for collections is com.sun.star.container.XElementAccess that determines the types of the sub-object, if they are determined by the collection, and the number of contained sub-objects. Based on XElementAccess, there are three main types of collection interfaces:

- com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess Offers direct access to the sub-objects by a subsequent numeric index beginning with 0.
- com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess Offers direct access to the sub-objects by a unique name for each sub-object.
- com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess Creates uni-directional iterators that enumerate all sub-objects in an undefined order.

com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess is extended by com.sun.star.container.XIndexReplace to replace existing sub-objects by index, and com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer to insert and remove sub-objects. You can find the same similarity for com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess and other specific collection types.

All containers support com.sun.star.container.XContainer that has interfaces to register com.sun.star.container.XContainerListener interfaces. This way it is possible for an application to learn about insertion and removal of sub-objects in and from the container.

**Note** – The com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess is appealing to programmers because in most cases, it is easy to implement. But this interface should only be implemented if the collection really is indexed.

Refer to the module `<idlmodule>com.sun.star.container</idlmodule>` in the API reference for details about collection and container interfaces.

The following examples demonstrate the usage of the three main collection interfaces. First, we iterate through an indexed collection. The index always starts with 0 and is continuous:

```java
// get an XIndexAccess interface from the collection
XIndexAccess xIndexAccess = (XIndexAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XIndexAccess.class, mxCollection);

// iterate through the collection by index
int i;
for (i = 0; i < xIndexAccess.getCount(); ++i) {
    Object aSheet = xIndexAccess.getByIndex(i);
    Named xSheetNamed = (XNamed) oRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class,
        aSheet);
    System.out.println("sheet #" + i + " is named "+ xSheetNamed.getName() + ":"");
}
```

Our next example iterates through a collection with named objects. The element
names are unique within the collection and case sensitive.

```java
// get an XNameAccess interface from the collection
XNameAccess xNameAccess = (XNameAccess)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameAccess.class, mxCollection);

// get the list of names
String[] aNames = xNameAccess.getElementNames();

// iterate through the collection by name
int i;
for (i = 0; i < aNames.length; ++i) {
    // get the i-th object as a UNO Any
    Object aSheet = xNameAccess.getByName( aNames[i] );

    // get the name of the sheet from its XNamed interface
    XNamed xSheetNamed = (XNamed) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class,
               aSheet);
    System.out.println("sheet \" + aNames[i] + \" is \" + i);
}
```

The next example shows how we iterate through a collection using an enumerator. The order of the enumeration is undefined. It is only defined that all elements are enumerated. The behavior is undefined, if the collection is modified after creation of the enumerator.

```java
// get an XEnumerationAccess interface from the collection
XEnumerationAccess xEnumerationAccess = (XEnumerationAccess)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XEnumerationAccess.class, mxCollection );

// create an enumerator
XEnumeration xEnum = xEnumerationAccess.createEnumeration();

// iterate through the collection by name
while (xEnum.hasMoreElements()) {
    // get the next element as a UNO Any
    Object aSheet = xEnum.nextElement();

    // get the name of the sheet from its XNamed interface
    XNamed xSheetNamed = (XNamed) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class,
               aSheet);
    System.out.println("sheet \" + xSheetNamed.getName() + \" ");
}
```

For an example showing the use of containers, see Styles where a new style is added into the style family ParagraphStyles.

---

### Event Model

Events are a well known concept in graphical user interface (GUI) models, although
they can be used in many contexts. The purpose of events is to notify an application about changes in the components used by the application. In a GUI environment, for example, an event might be the click on a button. Your application might be registered to this button and thus be able to execute certain code when this button is clicked.

The OpenOffice.org event model is similar to the JavaBeans event model. Events in OpenOffice.org are, for example, the creation or activation of a document, as well as the change of the current selection within a view. Applications interested in these events can register handlers (listener interfaces) that are called when the event occurs. Usually these listeners are registered at the object container where the event occurs or to the object itself. These listener interfaces are named X...Listener.

Event listeners are subclasses of com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener that receives one event by itself, the deletion of the object to which the listener is registered. On this event, the listener has to unregister from the object, otherwise it would keep it alive with its interface reference counter.

**Warning** – Implement the method disposing() to unregister at the object you are listening to and release all other references to this object.

Many event listeners can handle several events. If the events are generic, usually a single callback method is used. Otherwise, multiple callback methods are used. These methods are called with at least one argument: com.sun.star.lang.EventObject. This argument specifies the source of the event, therefore, making it possible to register a single event listener to multiple objects and still know where an event is coming from. Advanced listeners might get an extended version of this event descriptor struct.
Exception Handling

UNO uses *exceptions* as a mechanism to propagate errors from the called method to the caller. This error mechanism is preferred instead of error codes (as in MS COM) to allow a better separation of the error handling code from the code logic. Furthermore, Java, C++ and other high-level programming languages provide an exception handling mechanism, so that this can be mapped easily into these languages.

In IDL, an exception is a structured container for data, comparable to IDL structs. Exceptions cannot be passed as a return value or method argument, because the IDL compiler does not allow this. They can be specified in raise clauses and transported in an any. There are two kinds of exceptions, *user-defined* exceptions and *runtime* exceptions.

User-Defined Exceptions

The designer of an interface should declare exceptions for every possible error condition that might occur. Different exceptions can be declared for different conditions to distinguish between different error conditions.

The implementation may throw the specified exceptions and exceptions derived from the specified exceptions. The implementation must not throw unspecified exceptions, that is, the implementation must not throw an exception if no exception is specified. This applies to all exceptions except for RuntimeExceptions, described later.

When a user-defined exception is thrown, the object should be left in the state it was in before the call. If this cannot be guaranteed, then the exception specification must describe the state of the object. Note that this is not recommended.

Every UNO IDL exception must be derived from com.sun.star.uno.Exception, whether directly or indirectly. Its UNO IDL specification looks like this:

```idl
module com { module sun { module star { module uno {
    exception Exception {
        string Message;
        com::sun::star::uno::XInterface Context;
    };
    }; }; }; }
```

The exception has two members:
The message should contain a detailed readable description of the error (in English), which is useful for debugging purposes, though it cannot be evaluated at runtime. There is currently no concept of having localized error messages.

The Context member should contain the object that initially threw the exception.

The following .IDL file snippet shows a method with a proper exception specification and proper documentation.

```idl
module com { module sun { module star { module beans {
    interface XPropertySet: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface {
        /** @returns the value of the property with the specified name. 
          * @param PropertyName This parameter specifies the name of the property. 
          * @throws UnknownPropertyException if the property does not exist. 
          * @throws com::sun::star::lang::WrappedTargetException if the implementation has an internal reason for the exception. In this case the original exception is wrapped into that WrappedTargetException. 
          */
        any getPropertyValue( [in] string PropertyName ) raises( com::sun::star::beans::UnknownPropertyException, com::sun::star::lang::WrappedTargetException );
    }
}; }; }; };
```

**Runtime Exceptions**

Throwing a runtime exception signals an exceptional state. Runtime exceptions and exceptions derived from runtime exceptions cannot be specified in the raise clause of interface methods in IDL.

These are a few reasons for throwing a runtime exception are:

- The connection of an underlying interprocess bridge has broken down during the call.
- An already disposed object is called (see com.sun.star.lang.XComponent)
and the called object cannot fulfill its specification because of its disposed state.

- A method parameter was passed in an explicitly forbidden manner. For instance, a null interface reference was passed as a method argument where the specification of the interface explicitly forbids this.

Every UNO call may throw a com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException, except acquire and release. This is independent of how many calls have been completed successfully. Every caller should ensure that its own object is kept in a consistent state even if a call to another object replied with a runtime exception. The caller should also ensure that no resource leaks occur in these cases. For example, allocated memory, file descriptors, etc.

If a runtime exception occurs, the caller does not know if the call has been completed successfully or not. The com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException is derived from com.sun.star.uno.Exception. Note, that in the Java UNO binding, the com.sun.star.uno.Exception is derived from java.lang.Exception, while the com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException is directly derived from java.lang.RuntimeException.

A common misuse of the runtime exception is to reuse it for an exception that was forgotten during interface specification. This should be avoided under all circumstances. Consider, defining a new interface.

An exception should not be misused as a new kind of programming flow mechanism. It should always be possible that during a session of a program, no exception is thrown. If this is not the case, the interface design should be reviewed.

**Good Exception Handling**

This section provides tips on exception handling strategies. Under certain circumstances, the code snippets we call bad below might make sense, but often they do not.

- *Do not throw exceptions with empty messages*

Often, especially in C++ code where you generally do not have a stack trace, the message within the exception is the only method that informs the caller about the reason and origin of the exception. The message is important, especially when the exception comes from a generic interface where all kinds of UNO exceptions can be thrown.

When writing exceptions, put descriptive text into them. To transfer the text to another exception, make sure to copy the text.
- Do not catch exceptions without handling them

Many people write helper functions to simplify recurring coding tasks. However, often code will be written like the following:

```java
// Bad example for exception handling
public static void insertIntoCell( XPropertySet xPropertySet ) {
    [...] 
    try {
        xPropertySet.setPropertyValue("CharColor", new Integer(0));
    } catch (Exception e) { }
}
```

This code is ineffective, because the error is hidden. The caller will never know that an error has occurred. This is fine as long as test programs are written or to try out certain aspects of the API (although even test programs should be written correctly). Exceptions must be addressed because the compiler can not perform correctly. In real applications, handle the exception.

The appropriate solution depends on the appropriate handling of exceptions. The following is the minimum each programmer should do:

```java
// During early development phase, this should be at least used instead
public static void insertIntoCell(XPropertySet xPropertySet) {
    [...] 
    try {
        xPropertySet.setPropertyValue("CharColor", new Integer(0));
    } catch (Exception e) {
        e.dumpStackTrace();
    }
}
```

The code above dumps the exception and its stack trace, so that a message about the occurrence of the exception is received on stderr. This is acceptable during development phase, but it is insufficient for deployed code. Your customer does not watch the stderr window.

The level where the error can be handled must be determined. Sometimes, it would be better not to catch the exception locally, but further up the exception chain. The user can then be informed of the error through dialog boxes. Note that you can even specify exceptions on the main() function:

```java
// this is how the final solution could look like
public static void insertIntoCell(XPropertySet xPropertySet) throws
UnknownPropertyException,
        PropertyVetoException, IllegalArgumentException,
        WrappedTargetException {
    [...] 
    xPropertySet.setPropertyValue("CharColor", new Integer(0));
}
```

As a general rule, if you cannot recover from an exception in a helper function, let the
caller determine the outcome. Note that you can even throw exceptions at the \texttt{main()} method.

### Lifetime of UNO objects

The UNO component model has a strong impact on the lifetime of UNO objects, in contrast to CORBA, where object lifetime is completely unspecified. UNO uses the same mechanism as Microsoft COM by handling the lifetime of objects by reference counting.

Each UNO runtime environment defines its own specification on lifetime management. While in C++ UNO, each object maintains its own reference count. Java UNO uses the normal Java garbage collector mechanism. The UNO core of each runtime environment needs to ensure that it upholds the semantics of reference counting towards other UNO environments.

The last paragraph of this chapter explains the differences between the lifetime of Java and C++ objects in detail.

### acquire() and release()

Every UNO interface is derived from \texttt{com.sun.star.uno.XInterface}:

```java
// module com::sun::star::uno
interface XInterface
{
    any queryInterface( [in] type aType );
    [oneway] void acquire();
    [oneway] void release();
};
```

UNO objects must maintain an internal reference counter.Calling \texttt{acquire()} on a UNO interface increases the reference count by one. Calling \texttt{release()} on UNO interfaces decreases the reference count by one. If the reference count drops to zero, the UNO object may be destroyed. Destruction of an object is sometimes called \textit{death} of an object or that the object dies. The reference count of an object must always be non-negative.

Once \texttt{acquire()} is called on the UNO object, there is a \textit{reference} or a \textit{hard reference} to the object, as opposed to a weak reference. Calling \texttt{release()} on the object is
often called *releasing* or *clearing* the reference.

The UNO object does not export the state of the reference count, that is, `acquire()` and `release()` do not have return values. Generally, the UNO object should not make any assumptions on the concrete value of the reference count, except for the transition from one to zero.

The invocation of a method is allowed first when `acquire()` has been called before. For every call to `acquire()`, there must be a corresponding release call, otherwise the object leaks.

---

**Note** – The UNO Java binding encapsulates `acquire()` and `release()` in the `UnoRuntime.queryInterface()` call. The same applies to the `Reference<>` template in C++. As long as the interface references are obtained through these mechanisms, `acquire()` and `release()` do not have to be called in your programs.

---

**The XComponent Interface**

A central problem of reference counting systems is cyclic references. Assume Object A keeps a reference on object B and B keeps a direct or indirect reference on object A. Even if all the external references to A and B are released, the objects are not destroyed, which results in a resource leak.

![Cyclic Reference Diagram](image)

**Note** – In general, a Java developer does not have to be concerned about this kind of issue, as the garbage collector algorithm detects ring references. However, in the UNO world one never knows, whether object A and object B really live in the same Java virtual machine. If they do, the ring reference is really garbage collected. If they do not, the object leaks, because the Java VM is not able to inspect the object outside of the VM for its references.

In UNO, the developer must explicitly decide when to break cyclic references. To support this concept, the interface `com.sun.star.lang.XComponent` exists. When an `XComponent` is disposed of, it can inform other objects that have expressed interest to be notified.
Other objects can add themselves as com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener to an XComponent. When the dispose() method is called, the object notifies all XEventListeners through the disposing() method and releases all interface references, thus breaking the cyclic reference.

Object C calls dispose() on XComponent of Object B

A disposed object is unable to comply with its specification, so it is necessary to ensure that an object is not disposed of before calling it. UNO uses an owner/user concept for this purpose. Only the owner of an object is allowed to call dispose and there can only be one owner per object. The owner is always free to dispose of the object. The user of an object knows that the object may be disposed of at anytime. The user adds an event listener to discover when an object is being disposed. When the user is notified, the user releases the interface reference to the object. In this case, the user should not call removeEventListener(), because the disposed object releases the reference to the user.

**Warning** – One major problem of the owner/user concept is that there always must be someone who calls dispose(). This must be considered at the design time of the services and interfaces, and be specified explicitly.
This solves the problem described above. However, there are a few conditions which still have to be met.

B releases all interface references, which leads to destruction of Object A, which then releases its reference to B, thus the cyclic reference is broken.

If an object is called while it is disposed of, it should behave passively. For instance, if removeListener() is called, the call should be ignored. If methods are called while the object is no longer able to comply with its interface specification, it should throw a com.sun.star.lang.DisposedException, derived from com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException. This is one of the rare situations in which an implementation should throw a RuntimeException. The situation described above can always occur in a multithreaded environment, even if the caller has added an event listener to avoid calling objects which were disposed of by the owner.

The owner/user concept may not always be appropriate, especially when there is more than one possible owner. In these cases, there should be no owner but only users. In a multithreaded scenario, dispose() might be called several times. The implementation of an object should be able to cope with such a situation.

The XComponent implementation should always notify the disposing() listeners that the object is being destroyed, not only when dispose() is called, but when the object is deleted. When the object is deleted, the reference count of the object drops to zero. This may happen when the listeners do not hold a reference on the broadcaster object.

The XComponent does not have to be implemented when there is only one owner and no further users.
Children of the XEventListener Interface

The com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener interface is the base for all listener interfaces. This means that not only XEventListeners, but every listener must implement disposing(), and every broadcaster object that allows any kind of listener to register, must call disposing() on the listeners as soon as it dies. However, not every broadcaster is forced to implement the XComponent interface with the dispose() method, because it may define its own condition when it is disposed.

In a chain of broadcaster objects where every element is a listener of its predecessor and only the root object is an XComponent that is being disposed, all the other chain links must handle the disposing() call coming from their predecessor and call disposing() on their registered listeners.

Weak Objects and References

A strategy to avoid cyclic references is to use weak references. Having a weak reference to an object means that you can reestablish a hard reference to the object again if the object still exists, and there is another hard reference to it.

In the cyclic reference shown in the illustration Cyclic Reference, object B could be specified to hold a hard reference on object A, but object A only keeps a weak reference to B. If object A needs to invoke a method on B, it temporarily tries to make the reference hard. If this succeeds, it invokes the method and releases the hard reference afterwards.

To be able to create a weak reference on an object, the object needs to support it explicitly by exporting the com.sun.star.uno.XWeak interface. The illustration Object C calls dispose() on XComponent of Object B, depicts the UNO mechanism for weak references.

When an object is assigned to a weak reference, the weak reference calls queryAdapter() at the original object and adds itself (with the com.sun.star.uno.XReference interface) as reference to the adapter.
Weak Objects and References

The UNO weak reference mechanism

When a hard reference is established from the weak reference, it calls the `queryAdapted()` method at the `com.sun.star.uno.XAdapter` interface of the adapter object. When the original object is still alive, it gets a reference for it, otherwise a null reference is returned.

The adapter notifies the destruction of the original object to all weak references which breaks the cyclic reference between the adapter and weak reference.

*Writing UNO Components* describes the helper classes in C++ and Java that implement a `Xweak` interface and a weak reference.

### Differences Between the Lifetime of C++ and Java Objects

**Note** – Read [C++ Language Binding](#) and [Java Language Binding](#) for information on language bindings, and [C++ Component](#) and [Storing the Service Manager for Further Use](#) about component implementation before beginning this section.

The implementation of the reference count specification is different in Java UNO and C++ UNO. In C++ UNO, every object maintains its own reference counter. When you implement a C++ UNO object, instantiate it, acquire it and afterwards release it, the destructor of the object is called immediately. The following example uses the standard helper class `::cppu::OWeakObject` and prints a message when the destructor is called.

```cpp
class MyOWeakObject : public ::cppu::OWeakObject
```

---

[Diagram: UNO weak reference mechanism]

**Diagram Description:**
- **Object** connected by `XWeak` to `queryAdapted()`.
- **Adapter** connected by `XAdapter` to `queryAdapted()`, `addReference()`, `releaseReference()`.
- **Weak Reference** connected by `XReference` to `dispose()`.
Differences Between the Lifetime of C++ and Java Objects

```cpp
{  
    public:  
        MyOWeakObject() { fprintf( stdout, "constructed\n" ); }  
        ~MyOWeakObject() { fprintf( stdout, "destroyed\n" ); }  
};
```

The following method creates a new `MyOWeakObject`, acquires it and releases it for demonstration purposes. The call to `release()` immediately leads to the destruction of `MyOWeakObject`. If the `Reference<>` template is used, you do not need to care about `acquire()` and `release()`.

```cpp
void simple_object_creation_and_destruction()  
{  
    // create the UNO object  
    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface * p = new MyOWeakObject();  
  
    // acquire it  
    p->acquire();  
  
    // release it  
    fprintf( stdout, "before release\n" );  
    p->release();  
    fprintf( stdout, "after release\n" );
}
```

This piece of code produces the following output:

constructed before release destroyed after release

Java UNO objects behave differently, because they are finalized by the garbage collector at a time of its choosing. `com.sun.star.uno.XInterface` has no methods in the Java UNO language binding, therefore no methods need to be implemented, although `MyUnoObject` implements `XInterface`:

```java
class MyUnoObject implements com.sun.star.uno.XInterface {
    public MyUnoObject() {
    }

    void finalize() {
        System.out.println("finalizer called");
    }

    static void main(String args[]) throws java.lang.InterruptedIOException {
        com.sun.star.uno.XInterface a = new MyUnoObject();
        a = null;

        // ask the garbage collector politely
        System.gc();
        System.runFinalization();

        System.out.println("leaving");

        // It is java VM dependent, whether or not the finalizer was called
    }
}
```
The output of this code depends on the Java VM implementation. The output "finalizer called" is not a usual result. Be aware of the side effects when UNO brings Java and C++ together.

When a UNO C++ object is mapped to Java, a Java proxy object is created that keeps a hard UNO reference to the C++ object. The UNO core takes care of this. The Java proxy only clears the reference when it enters the `finalize()` method, thus the destruction of the C++ object is delayed until the Java VM collects some garbage.

When a UNO Java object is mapped to C++, a C++ proxy object is created that keeps a hard UNO reference to the Java object. Internally, the Java UNO bridge keeps a Java reference to the original Java object. When the C++ proxy is no longer used, it is destroyed immediately. The Java UNO bridge is notified and immediately frees the Java reference to the original Java object. When the Java object is finalized is dependent on the garbage collector.

When a Java program is connected to a running OpenOffice.org, the UNO objects in the office process are not destroyed until the garbage collector finalizes the Java proxies or until the interprocess connection is closed (see UNO Interprocess Connections).

Object Identity

UNO guarantees if two object references are identical, that a check is performed and it always leads to a correct result, whether it be true or false. This is different from CORBA, where a return of false does not necessarily mean that the objects are different.

Every UNO runtime environment defines how this check should be performed. In Java UNO, there is a static `areSame()` function at the `com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime` class. In C++, the check is performed with the `Reference<>::operator == ()` function that queries both references for `XInterface` and compares the resulting `XInterface` pointers.

This has a direct effect in the API design. For instance, look at `com.sun.star.lang.XComponent`:

```cpp
interface XComponent: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    void dispose();
    void addEventListener( [in] XEventListener xListener );
    void removeEventListener( [in] XEventListener aListener );
};
```
The method `removeEventListener()` that takes a listener reference, is logical if the implementation can check for object identity, otherwise it could not identify the listener that has to be removed. CORBA interfaces are not designed in this manner. They need an object ID, because object identity is not guaranteed.

UNO Language Bindings

This chapter documents the mapping of UNO to various programming languages or component models. This language binding is sometimes called a UNO Runtime Environment (URE). Each URE needs to fulfill the specifications given in the earlier chapters. The use of UNO services and interfaces are also explained in this chapter. Refer to Writing UNO Components for information about the implementation of UNO objects.

Each section provides detail information for the following topics:

- Mapping of all UNO types to the programming language types.
- Mapping of the UNO exception handling to the programming language.
- Mapping of the fundamental object features (querying interfaces, object lifetime, object identity).
- Bootstrapping of a service manager. Other programming language specific material (like core libraries in C++ UNO).

Java, C++, OpenOffice.org Basic, and all languages supporting MS OLE automation or the Common Language Infrastructure (CLI) on the win32 platform are currently supported. In the future, the number of supported language bindings may be extended.

Java Language Binding

The Java language binding gives developers the choice of using Java or UNO components for client programs. A Java program can access components written in other languages and built with a different compiler, as well as remote objects, because of the seamless interaction of UNO bridges.

Java delivers a rich set of classes that can be used within client programs or component implementations. However, when it comes to interaction with other UNO objects, use UNO interfaces, because only those are known to the bridge and can be mapped into other environments.
To control the office from a client program, the client needs a Java 1.3 (or later) installation, a free socket port, and the following jar files `juh.jar`, `jurt.jar`, `ridl.jar`, and `unoil.jar`. A Java installation on the server-side is not necessary. A step-by-step description is given in the chapter First Steps.

When using Java components, the office is installed with Java support. Also make sure that Java is enabled: there is a switch that can be set to achieve this in the Tools - Options - OpenOffice.org - Security dialog. All necessary jar files should have been installed during the OpenOffice.org setup. A detailed explanation can be found in the chapter Storing the Service Manager for Further Use.

The Java UNO Runtime is documented in the Java UNO Reference which can be found in the OpenOffice.org Software development Kit (SDK) or on api.openoffice.org.

### Getting a Service Manager

Office objects that provide the desired functionality are required when writing a client application that accesses the office. The root of all these objects is the service manager component, therefore clients need to instantiate it. Service manager runs in the office process, therefore office must be running first when you use Java components that are instantiated by the office. In a client-server scenario, the office has to be launched directly. The interprocess communication uses a remote protocol that can be provided as a command-line argument to the office:

```
soffice -accept=socket,host=localhost,port=8100;urp
```

The client obtains a reference to the global service manager of the office (the server) using a local com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver. The global service manager of the office is used to get objects from the other side of the bridge. In this case, an instance of the com.sun.star.frame.Desktop is acquired:

```java
import com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext;
import com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory;
import com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver;
import com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;

XComponentContext xcomponentcontext = Bootstrap.createInitialComponentContext(null);

// create a connector, so that it can contact the office
UnoUrlResolver urlResolver = UnoUrlResolver.create(xcomponentcontext);
Object initialObject = urlResolver.resolve(
```
As the example shows, a local component context is created through the `com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap` class (a Java UNO runtime class). Its implementation provides a service manager that is limited in the number of services it can create. The names of these services are:

- `com.sun.star.lang.ServiceManager`
- `com.sun.star.lang.MultiServiceFactory`
- `com.sun.star.loader.Java`
- `com.sun.star.loader.Java2`
- `com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver`
- `com.sun.star.bridge.BridgeFactory`
- `com.sun.star.connection.Connector`
- `com.sun.star.connection.Acceptor`

They are sufficient to establish a remote connection and obtain the fully featured service manager provided by the office.

**Tip** - The service manager of the local component context could create other components, but this is only possible if the service manager is provided with the respective factories during runtime. An example that shows how this works can be found in the implementation of the `Bootstrap` class in the project `javaunohelper`. There is also a service manager that uses a registry database to locate services. It is implemented by the class `com.sun.star.comp.helper.RegistryServiceFactory` in the project `javaunohelper`. However, the implementation uses a native registry service manager instead of providing a pure Java implementation.
Transparent Use of Office UNO Components

If some client code wants to use office UNO components, then a typical use case is that the client code first looks for an existing office installation. If an installation is found, the client checks if the office process is already running. If no office process is running, an office process is started. After that, the client code connects to the running office using remote UNO mechanisms in order to get the remote component context of that office. After this, the client code can use the remote component context to access arbitrary office UNO components. From the perspective of the client code, there is no difference between local and remote components.

The bootstrap method

Therefore, the remote office component context is provided in a more transparent way by the `com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.bootstrap()` method, which bootstraps the component context from a UNO installation. A simple client application may then look like:

```java
// get the remote office component context
XComponentContext xContext =
    com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.bootstrap();

// get the remote office service manager
XMultiComponentFactory xServiceManager =
    xContext.getServiceManager();

// get an instance of the remote office desktop UNO service
Object desktop =
    xServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(  
        "com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", xContext );
```

The `com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.bootstrap()` method first bootstraps a local component context and then tries to establish a named pipe connection to a running office. If no office is running, an office process is started. If the connection succeeds, the remote component context is returned.

**Note** – Note, that the `com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.bootstrap()` method is only available since OpenOffice.org 1.1.2.
SDK tooling

For convenience, the OpenOffice.org Software Development Kit (SDK) provides some tooling for writing Java client applications.

One of the requirements for a Java client application is that Java finds the com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap class and all the UNO types (for example, UNO interfaces) and other Java UNO language binding classes (for example, com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter) used by the client code. A natural approach would be to add the UNO jar files to the Java CLASSPATH, but this requires the knowledge of the location of a UNO installation. Other approaches would be to use the Java extension mechanism or to deploy the jar files containing the UNO types in the client jar file. Both of those approaches have several drawbacks, the most important one is the problem of type conflicts, for example, if a deployed component adds new UNO types. The SDK tooling therefore provides a more dynamic approach, namely a customized class loader. The customized class loader has an extended search path, which also includes the path to a UNO installation. The UNO installation is auto-detected on the system by using a search algorithm.

Customized Class Loader

The concept is based on the requirement that every class that uses UNO types, or other classes that come with a office installation, gets loaded by a customized class loader. This customized class loader recognizes the location of a UNO installation and loads every class from a jar or class file that belongs to the office installation. That means that the customized class loader must be instantiated and initialized before the first class that uses UNO is loaded.

The SDK tooling allows to build a client jar file, which can be invoked by the following:

```
java -jar SimpleBootstrap_java.jar
```

The client jar file contains the following files:

```
META-INF/MANIFEST.MF
com/sun/star/lib/loader/InstallationFinder$StreamGobbler.class
com/sun/star/lib/loader/InstallationFinder.class
com/sun/star/lib/loader/Loader$CustomURLClassLoader.class
com/sun/star/lib/loader/Loader.class com/sun/star/lib/loader/WinRegKey.class
com/sun/star/lib/loader/WinRegKeyException.class win/unowinreg.dll
SimpleBootstrap_java.class
```

A client application created by using the SDK tooling will automatically load the class com.sun.star.lib.loader.Loader, which sets up the customized class loader for loading the application class. In order to achieve this, the SDK tooling creates a manifest file that contains the following Main-Class entry
Main-Class: com.sun.star.lib.loader.Loader

The customized loader needs a special entry in the manifest file that specifies the name of the class that contains the client application code:

Name: com/sun/star/lib/loader/Loader.class Application-Class: SimpleBootstrap_java

The implementation of com.sun.star.lib.loader.Loader.main reads this entry and calls the main method of the application class after the customized class loader has been created and set up properly. The SDK tooling will take over the task of writing the correct manifest entry for the application class.

Finding a UNO Installation

The location of a UNO installation can be specified by the Java system property com.sun.star.lib.loader.unopath. The system property can be passed to the client application by using the -D flag, e.g

java -Dcom.sun.star.lib.loader.unopath=/opt/OpenOffice.org/program -jar SimpleBootstrap_java.jar

In addition, it is possible to specify a UNO installation by setting the environment variable UNO_PATH to the program directory of a UNO installation, for example,

setenv UNO_PATH /opt/OpenOffice.org/program

Warning – This does not work with Java 1.3.1 and Java 1.4, because environment variables are not supported in those Java versions.

If no UNO installation is specified by the user, the default UNO installation on the system is searched. The search algorithm is platform dependent.

On the Windows platform, the UNO installation is found by reading the default value of the key 'Software\OpenOffice.org\UNO\InstallPath' from the root key HKEY_CURRENT_USER in the Windows Registry. If this key is missing, the key is read from the root key HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE. One of those keys is always written during the installation of an office. In a single user installation the key is written to HKEY_CURRENT_USER, in a multi-user installation of an administrator to HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE. Note that the default installation is the last installed office, but with the restriction, that HKEY_CURRENT_USER has a higher priority than HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE. The reading from the Windows Registry requires that the native library unowinreg.dll is part of the application jar file or can be found in the java.library.path. The SDK tooling automatically will put the native library into the jar file containing the client application.
On the Unix/Linux platforms, the UNO installation is found from the PATH environment variable. Note that for Java 1.3.1 and Java 1.4, the installation is found by using the which command, because environment variables are not supported with those Java versions. Both methods require that the soffice executable or a symbolic link is in one of the directories listed in the PATH environment variable. For older versions than OpenOffice.org 2.0 the above described methods may fail. In this case the UNO installation is taken from the .sversionrc file in the user's home directory. The default installation is the last entry in the .sversionrc file which points to a UNO installation. Note that there won't be a .sversionrc file with OpenOffice.org 2.0 anymore.

**Handling Interfaces**

The service manager is created in the server process and the Java UNO remote bridge ensures that its XInterface is transported back to the client. A Java proxy object is constructed that can be used by the client code. This object is called the *initial object*, because it is the first object created by the bridge. When another object is obtained through this object, then the bridge creates a new proxy. For instance, if a function is called that returns an interface. That is, the original object is actually running in the server process (the office) and calls to the proxy are forwarded by the bridge. Not only interfaces are converted, but function arguments, return values and exceptions.

The Java bridge maps objects on a per-interface basis, that is, in the first step only the interface is converted that is returned by a function described in the API reference. For example, if you have the service manager and use it to create another component, you initially get a com.sun.star.uno.XInterface:

```java
XInterface xint = (XInterface) serviceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.Factory");
```

You know from the service description that Factory implements a com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface. However, you cannot cast the object or call the interface function on the object, since the object is only a proxy for just one interface, XInterface. Therefore, you have to use a mechanism that is provided with the Java bridge that generates proxy objects on demand. For example:

```java
XMultiServiceFactory xfac = (XMultiServiceFactory) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiServiceFactory.class, xint);
```

If xint is a proxy, then queryInterface() hands out another proxy for XMultiServiceFactory provided that the original object implements it. Interface proxies can be used as arguments in function calls on other proxy objects. For example:

```java
// client side
```
// obj is a proxy interface and returns another interface through its func() method
XSomething ret = obj.func();

// anotherObject is a proxy interface, too. Its method func(XSomething arg) // takes the interface ret obtained from obj
anotherObject.func(ret);

In the server process, the obj object would receive the original ret object as a function argument.

It is also possible to have Java components on the client side. As well, they can be used as function arguments, then the bridge would set up proxies for them in the server process.

Not all language concepts of UNO have a corresponding language element in Java. For example, there are no structs and all-purpose out parameters. Refer to Type Mappings for how those concepts are mapped.

Interface handling normally involves the ability of com.sun.star.uno.XInterface to acquire and release objects by reference counting. In Java, the programmer does not bother with acquire() and release(), since the Java UNO runtime automatically acquires objects on the server side when com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime queryInterface() is used. Conversely, when the Java garbage collector deletes your references, the Java UNO runtime releases the corresponding office objects. If a UNO object is written in Java, no reference counting is used to control its lifetime. The garbage collector takes that responsibility.

Sometimes it is necessary to find out if two interfaces belong to the same object. In Java, you would compare the references with the equality operator '=='. This works as long as the interfaces refer to a local Java object. Often the interfaces are proxies and the real objects reside in a remote process. There can be several proxies that belong to the same object, because objects are bridged on a per-interface basis. Those proxies are Java objects and comparing their references would not establish them as parts of the same object. To determine if interfaces are part of the same UNO object, use the method areSame() at the com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime class:

static public boolean areSame(Object object1, Object object2)
Type Mappings

Mapping of Simple Types

The following table shows the mapping of simple UNO types to the corresponding Java types.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNO</th>
<th>Java</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>void</td>
<td>void</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>boolean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>byte</td>
<td>byte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short</td>
<td>short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned short</td>
<td>short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>int</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned long</td>
<td>int</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyper</td>
<td>long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned hyper</td>
<td>long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>float</td>
<td>float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>double</td>
<td>double</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>char</td>
<td>char</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>string</td>
<td>java.lang.String</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>type</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>any</td>
<td>java.lang.Object/com.sun.star.uno.Any</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The mapping between the values of the corresponding UNO and Java types is obvious, except for a few cases that are explained in the following sections:

Mapping of Unsigned Integer Types

An unsigned UNO integer type encompasses the range from 0 to $2^N - 1$, inclusive, while the corresponding signed Java integer type encompasses the range from $-2^{N-1}$ to $2^{N-1} - 1$, inclusive (where $N$ is 16, 32, or 64 for unsigned short, unsigned long, or unsigned hyper, respectively). The mapping is done modulo $N$, that is: 0 is mapped to 0; $2^{N-1} - 1$ is mapped to $2^{N-1} - 1$; $2^{N-1}$ is mapped to $-2^{N-1}$; and $2^N - 1$ is mapped to $-1$.

Users should be careful when using any of the deprecated UNO unsigned integer types. A user is responsible for correctly interpreting values of signed Java integer types as unsigned integer values in such cases.
Mapping of String

The mapping between the UNO string type and java.lang.String is straightforward, except for three details:

- Only non-null references to java.lang.String are allowed in the context of UNO.
- The length of a string that can be represented by a java.lang.String object is limited. It is an error to use a longer UNO string value in the context of the Java language binding.
- An object of type java.lang.String can represent an arbitrary sequence of UTF-16 code units, whereas a value of the UNO string type is an arbitrary sequence of Unicode scalar values. This only matters in so far as some individual UTF-16 code units (namely the individual high- and low-surrogate code points in the range D800–DFFF) have no corresponding Unicode scalar values, and are thus forbidden in the context of UNO. For example, the Java string "\uD800" is illegal in this context, while the string "\uD800\uDC00" would be legal. See www.unicode.org for more information on the details of Unicode.

Mapping of Type

The Java class com.sun.star.uno.Type is used to represent the UNO type type; only non-null references to com.sun.star.uno.Type are valid. (It is a historic mistake that com.sun.star.Type is not final. You should never derive from it in your code.)

In many places in the Java UNO runtime, there are convenience functions that take values of type java.lang.Class where conceptually a value of com.sun.star.uno.Type would be expected. For example, there are two overloaded versions of the method com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime queryInterface, one with a parameter of type com.sun.star.uno.Type and one with a parameter of type java.lang.Class. See the documentation of com.sun.star.uno.Type for the details of how values of java.lang.Class are interpreted in such a context.

Mapping of Any

There is a dedicated com.sun.star.uno.Any type, but it is not always used. An any in the API reference is represented by a java.lang.Object in Java UNO. An Object reference can be used to refer to all possible Java objects. This does not work with
primitive types, but if you need to use them as an any, there are Java wrapper classes available that allow primitive types to be used as objects. Also, a Java Object always brings along its type information by means of an instance of java.lang.Class. Therefore a variable declared as:

    Object ref;

can be used with all objects and its type information is available by calling:

    ref.getClass();

Those qualities of Object are sufficient to replace the Any in most cases. Even Java interfaces generated from IDL interfaces do not contain Anys, instead Object references are used in place of Anys. Cases where an explicit Any is needed to not loose information contain unsigned integer types, all interface types except the basic XInterface, and the void type.

**Warning** – However, implementations of those interfaces must be able to deal with real Anys that can also be passed by means of Object references.

To facilitate the handling of the Any type, use the com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter class. It is documented in the Java UNO reference. The following list sums up its methods:

```java
static boolean isArray(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isBoolean(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isByte(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isChar(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isDouble(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isFloat(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isInt(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isLong(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isObject(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isShort(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isString(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isType(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean isVoid(java.lang.Object object)
static java.lang.Object toArray(java.lang.Object object)
static boolean toBoolean(java.lang.Object object)
static byte toByte(java.lang.Object object)
static char toChar(java.lang.Object object)
static double toDouble(java.lang.Object object)
static float toFloat(java.lang.Object object)
static int toInt(java.lang.Object object)
static long toLong(java.lang.Object object)
static java.lang.Object toObject(Type type, java.lang.Object object)
static short toShort(java.lang.Object object)
static java.lang.String toString(java.lang.Object object)
static Type toType(java.lang.Object object)
```

The Java com.sun.star.uno.Any is needed in situations when the type needs to be specified explicitly. Assume there is a C++ component with an interface function which is declared in UNOIDL as:

```cpp
```
The corresponding C++ implementation could be:

```cpp
void foo(const Any& arg)
{
    const Type& t = any.getValueType();
    if (t == cppu::UnoType<XReference>::get())
    {
        Reference<XReference> myref = *reinterpret_cast<const Reference<XReference>*>(arg.getValue());
        ...
    }
}
```

In the example, the any is checked if it contains the expected interface. If it does, it is assigned accordingly. If the any contained a different interface, a query would be performed for the expected interface. If the function is called from Java, then an interface has to be supplied that is an object. That object could implement several interfaces and the bridge would use the basic XInterface. If this is not the interface that is expected, then the C++ implementation has to call queryInterface to obtain the desired interface. In a remote scenario, those queryInterface() calls could lead to a noticeable performance loss. If you use a Java Any as a parameter for foo(), the intended interface is sent across the bridge.

It is a historic mistake that com.sun.star.uno.Any is not final. You should never derive from it in your code.

**Mapping of Sequence Types**

A UNO sequence type with a given component type is mapped to the Java array type with corresponding component type.

- UNO sequence<long> is mapped to Java int[].
- UNO sequence<sequence<long>> is mapped to Java int[][].

Only non-null references to those Java array types are valid. As usual, non-null references to other Java array types that are assignment compatible to a given array type can also be used, but doing so can cause java.lang.ArrayStoreExceptions. In Java, the maximal length of an array is limited; therefore, it is an error if a UNO sequence that is too long is used in the context of the Java language binding.
Mapping of Enum Types

An UNO enum type is mapped to a public, final Java class with the same name, derived from the class `com.sun.star.uno.Enum`. Only non-null references to the generated final classes are valid.

The base class `com.sun.star.uno.Enum` declares a protected member to store the actual value, a protected constructor to initialize the value and a public `getValue()` method to get the actual value. The generated final class has a protected constructor and a public method `getDefault()` that returns an instance with the value of the first enum member as a default. For each member of a UNO enum type, the corresponding Java class declares a public static member of the given Java type that is initialized with the value of the UNO enum member. The Java class for the enum type has an additional public method `fromInt()` that returns the instance with the specified value.

The following IDL definition for `com.sun.star.uno.TypeClass`:

```idl
module com { module sun { module star { module uno {

enum TypeClass {
    INTERFACE,
    SERVICE,
    IMPLEMENTATION,
    STRUCT,
    TYPEDEF,
    ...
};

}}};

}```

is mapped to:

```java
package com.sun.star.uno;

public final class TypeClass extends com.sun.star.uno.Enum {
    private TypeClass(int value) {
        super(value);
    }

    public static TypeClass getDefault() {
        return INTERFACE;
    }

    public static final TypeClass INTERFACE = new TypeClass(0);
    public static final TypeClass SERVICE = new TypeClass(1);
    public static final TypeClass IMPLEMENTATION = new TypeClass(2);
    public static final TypeClass STRUCT = new TypeClass(3);
    public static final TypeClass TYPEDEF = new TypeClass(4);
    ...
```
Mapping of Enum Types

```java
public static TypeClass fromInt(int value) {
    switch (value) {
    case 0:
        return INTERFACE;
    case 1:
        return SERVICE;
    case 2:
        return IMPLEMENTATION;
    case 3:
        return STRUCT;
    case 4:
        return TYPEDEF;
    }
}
```

Mapping of Struct Types

A plain UNO struct type is mapped to a public Java class with the same name. Only non-null references to such a class are valid. Each member of the UNO struct type is mapped to a public field with the same name and corresponding type. The class provides a default constructor which initializes all members with default values, and a constructor which takes explicit values for all struct members. If a plain struct type inherits from another struct type, the generated class extends the class of the inherited struct type.

```java
module com { module sun { module star { module chart {
    struct ChartDataChangeEvent: com::sun::star::lang::EventObject {
        ChartDataChangeType Type;
        short StartColumn;
        short EndColumn;
        short StartRow;
        short EndRow;
    }
    }}; }); }); }

is mapped to:

```java
package com.sun.star.chart;

public class ChartDataChangeEvent extends com.sun.star.lang.EventObject {
    public ChartDataChangeType Type;
    public short StartColumn;
    public short EndColumn;
    public short StartRow;
    public short EndRow;

    public ChartDataChangeEvent() {
    }
```

Similar to a plain struct type, a polymorphic UNO struct type template is also mapped to a Java class. The only difference is how struct members with parametric types are handled, and this handling in turn differs between Java 1.5 and older versions.

Take, for example, the polymorphic struct type template:

```java
module com { module sun { module star { module beans {

    struct Optional<T> {
        boolean IsPresent;
        T Value;
    };
};
}
}
```

In Java 1.5, a polymorphic struct type template with a list of type parameters is mapped to a generic Java class with a corresponding list of unbounded type parameters. For `com.sun.star.beans.Optional`, that means that the corresponding Java 1.5 class looks something like the following example:

```java
package com.sun.star.beans;

public class Optional<T> {
    public boolean IsPresent;
    public T Value;

    public Optional() {};
    public Optional(boolean IsPresent, T Value) {
        this.IsPresent = IsPresent;
        this.Value = Value;
    }
}
```

Instances of such polymorphic struct type templates map to Java 1.5 in a natural way. For example, UNO `Optional<string>` maps to Java `Optional<String>`. However,
UNO type arguments that would normally map to primitive Java types map to corresponding Java wrapper types instead:

- boolean maps to java.lang.Boolean
- byte maps to java.lang.Byte
- short and unsigned short map to java.lang.Short
- long and unsigned long map to java.lang.Integer
- hyper and unsigned hyper map to java.lang.Long
- float maps to java.lang.Float
- double maps to java.lang.Double
- char maps to java.lang.Character

For example, UNO Optional<long> maps to Java Optional<Integer>. Also note that UNO type arguments of both any and

com.sun.star.uno.XInterface
map to java.lang.Object, and thus, for example, both Optional<any> and
Optional<XInterface> map to Java Optional<Object>.

Still, there are a few problems and pitfalls when dealing with parametric members of default-constructed polymorphic struct type instances:

• One problem is that such members are initialized to null by the default constructor, but null is generally not a legal value in the context of Java UNO, except for values of any or interface type. For example, new Optional<PropertyValue>().Value is of type

com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue
(a struct type), but is a null reference. Similarly, new Optional<Boolean>().Value is also a null reference (instead of a reference to Boolean.FALSE, say). The chosen solution is to generally allow null references as values of Java class fields that correspond to parametric members of polymorphic UNO struct types. However, to avoid any problems, it is a good idea to not rely on the default constructor in such situations, and instead initialize any problematic fields explicitly. (Note that this is not really a problem for Optional, as Optional<T>().IsPresent will always be false for a default-constructed instance and thus, because of the documented conventions for

com.sun.star.beans.Optional
, the actual contents of Value should be ignored, anyway; in other cases, like with
com.sun.star.beans.Ambiguous
, this can be a real issue, however.)

• Another pitfall is that a parametric member of type any of a default-constructed polymorphic struct type instance (think new Optional<Object>().Value in Java 1.5,
Optional<Any> o; o.Value in C++ has different values in the Java language binding and the C++ language binding. In Java, it contains a null reference of type XInterface (i.e., the Java value null), whereas in C++ it contains void. Again, to avoid any problems, it is best not to rely on the default constructor in such situations.

In Java versions prior to 1.5, which do not support generics, a polymorphic struct type template is mapped to a plain Java class in such a way that any parametric members are mapped to class fields of type java.lang.Object. This is generally less favorable than using generics, as it reduces type-safety, but it has the advantage that it is compatible with Java 1.5 (actually, a single Java class file is generated for a given UNO struct type template, and that class file works with both Java 1.5 and older versions). In a pre-1.5 Java, the Optional example will look something like the following:

```java
package com.sun.star.beans;

public class Optional {
    public boolean IsPresent;
    public Object Value;

    public Optional() {}
    public Optional(boolean IsPresent, Object Value) {
        this.IsPresent = IsPresent;
        this.Value = Value;
    }
}
```

How java.lang.Object is used to represent values of arbitrary UNO types is detailed as follows:


- Values of the UNO types unsigned short, unsigned long, and unsigned hyper are represented by non-null references to the corresponding Java types java.lang.Short, java.lang.Integer, and java.lang.Long. Whether a value of such a Java type corresponds to a signed or unsigned UNO type must be deducible from context.

- Values of the UNO types string, type, any, and the UNO sequence, enum, struct, and interface types (which all map to Java reference types) are represented by their standard Java mappings.

- The UNO type void and UNO exception types cannot be used as type arguments of instantiated polymorphic struct types.

This is similar to how java.lang.Object is used to represent values of the UNO any type. The difference is that there is nothing like com.sun.star.uno.Any here, which is used to disambiguate those cases where different UNO types map to the same
subclass of `java.lang.Object`. Instead, here it must always be deducible from context exactly which UNO type a given Java reference represents.

The problems and pitfalls mentioned for Java 1.5, regarding parametric members of default-constructed polymorphic struct type instances, apply for older Java versions as well.

### Mapping of Exception Types

A UNO exception type is mapped to a public Java class with the same name. Only non-null references to such a class are valid.

There are two UNO exceptions that are the base for all other exceptions. These are the `com.sun.star.uno.Exception` and `com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException` that are inherited by all other exceptions. The corresponding exceptions in Java inherit from Java exceptions:

```java
module com { module sun { module star { module uno {
    exception Exception { string Message; XInterface Context; };
    exception RuntimeException { string Message; XInterface Context; };
    }
} }
```

The `com.sun.star.uno.Exception` in Java:

```java
package com.sun.star.uno;
public class Exception extends java.lang.Exception {
    public Object Context;
    public Exception() {}
    public Exception(String Message) {
        super(Message);
    }
    public Exception(String Message, Object Context) {
        super(Message);
        this.Context = Context;
    }
}
```

The `com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException` in Java:

```java
package com.sun.star.uno;
public class RuntimeException extends java.lang.RuntimeException {
    public Object Context;
    public RuntimeException() {}
    public RuntimeException(String Message) {
        super(Message);
    }
    public RuntimeException(String Message, Object Context) {
        super(Message);
        this.Context = Context;
    }
}
```

As shown, the `Message` member has no direct counterpart in the respective Java class. Instead, the constructor argument `Message` is used to initialize the base class, which is a Java exception. The message is accessible through the inherited
Mapping of Exception Types

getMessage() method. All other members of a UNO exception type are mapped to public fields with the same name and corresponding Java type. A generated Java exception class always has a default constructor that initializes all members with default values, and a constructor which takes values for all members.

If an exception inherits from another exception, the generated class extends the class of the inherited exception.

Mapping of Interface Types

A UNO interface type is mapped to a public Java interface with the same name. Unlike for Java classes that represent UNO sequence, enum, struct, and exception types, a null reference is actually a legal value for a Java interface that represents a UNO interface type - the Java null reference represents the UNO null reference.

If a UNO interface type inherits one or more other interface types, the Java interface extends the corresponding Java interfaces.

The UNO interface type com.sun.star.uno.XInterface is special: Only when that type is used as a base type of another interface type is it mapped to the Java type com.sun.star.uno.XInterface. In all other cases (when used as the component type of a sequence type, as a member of a struct or exception type, or as a parameter or return type of an interface method) it is mapped to java.lang.Object. Nevertheless, valid Java values of that type are only the Java null reference and references to those instances of java.lang.Object that implement com.sun.star.uno.XInterface.

A UNO interface attribute of the form

```
[attribute] Type Name {      get raises (ExceptionG1, ..., ExceptionGM); 
set raises (ExceptionS1, ..., ExceptionSM); }
```

is represented by two Java interface methods

```
Type getName() throws ExceptionG1, ..., ExceptionGM; 
void setName(Type value) throws ExceptionS1, ..., ExceptionSM;
```

If the attribute is marked readonly, then there is no set method. Whether or not the attribute is marked bound has no impact on the signatures of the generated Java methods.

A UNO interface method of the form

```
Type0 name([in] Type1 arg1, [out] Type2 arg2, [inout] Type3 arg3) 
raises (Exception1, ..., ExceptionN);
```
Mapping of Interface Types

is represented by a Java interface method

```
Type0 name(Type1 arg1, Type2[] arg2, Type3[] arg3) throws Exception1, ..., ExceptionN;
```

Whether or not the UNO method is marked oneway has no impact on the signature of the generated Java method. As can be seen, out and inout parameters are handled specially. To help explain this, take the example UNOIDL definitions

```
struct FooStruct {      long nval;     string strval; }
interface XFoo {     string funcOne([in] string value);     FooStruct funcTwo([inout] FooStruct value);     sequence<byte> funcThree([out] sequence<byte> value); }
```

The semantics of a UNO method call are such that the values of any in or inout parameters are passed from the caller to the callee, and, if the method is not marked oneway and the execution terminated successfully, the callee passes back to the caller the return value and the values of any out or inout parameters. Thus, the handling of in parameters and the return value maps naturally to the semantics of Java method calls. UNO out and inout parameters, however, are mapped to arrays of the corresponding Java types. Each such array must have at least one element (i.e., its length must be at least one; practically, there is no reason why it should ever be larger). Therefore, the Java interface corresponding to the UNO interface XFoo looks like the following:

```
public interface XFoo extends com.sun.star.uno.XInterface {      String funcOne(String value);     FooStruct funcTwo(FooStruct[] value);     byte[][] funcThree(byte[][] value); }
```

This is how FooStruct would be mapped to Java:

```
public class FooStruct {     public int nval;     public String strval; public FooStruct() {         strval="";     } public FooStruct(int nval, String strval) {         this.nval = nval;         this.strval = strval;     } }
```

When providing a value as an inout parameter, the caller has to write the input value into the element at index zero of the array. When the function returns successfully, the value at index zero reflects the output value, which may be the unmodified input value, a modified copy of the input value, or a completely new value. The object obj implements XFoo:

```
// calling the interface in Java
obj.funcOne(null);                          // error, String value is null
obj.funcOne("");                           // OK
FooStruct[] inoutstruct= new FooStruct[1]; obj.funcTwo(inoutstruct); // error, inoutstruct[0] is null
inoutstruct[0]= new FooStruct();           // now we initialize
inoutstruct[0] obj.funcTwo(inoutstruct);   // OK
```

When a method receives an argument that is an out parameter, upon successful return, it has to provide a value by storing it at index null of the array.
Mapping of Interface Types

```java
// method implementations of interface XFoo public String funcOne(/*in*/
String value) {  // assert value != null; otherwise, it is a bug of the caller return null;
  // error; instead use: return ""; }
public FooStruct funcTwo(/*inout*/ FooStruct[] value) {  // assert value !=
null && value.length >= 1 && value[0] != null; value[0] = null; // error; instead use: value[0] = new FooStruct(); return null;
  // error; instead use: return new FooStruct(); }
public byte[] funcThree(/*out*/ byte[][ ] value) {  // assert value != null &&
value.length >= 1; value[0] = null; // error; instead use: value[0] = new byte[0];
  // error; instead use: return new byte[0]; }
```

Mapping of UNOIDL

Mapping of UNOIDL Typedefs

UNOIDL typedefs are not visible in the Java language binding. Each occurrence of a typedef is replaced with the aliased type when mapping from UNOIDL to Java.

Mapping of Individual UNOIDL Constants

An individual UNOIDL constant

```java
module example { const long USERFLAG = 1; }
```

is mapped to a public Java interface with the same name:

```java
package example;
public interface USERFLAG { int value = 1; }
```

Note that the use of individual constants is deprecated.
Mapping of UNOIDL Constant Groups

A UNOIDL constant group

```java
module example {     constants User {         const long FLAG1 = 1;         const long FLAG2 = 2;         const long FLAG3 = 3;     };
}
```

is mapped to a public Java interface with the same name:

```java
package example;
public interface User {     int FLAG1 = 1;     int FLAG2 = 2;     int FLAG3 = 3; }
```

Each constant defined in the group is mapped to a field of the interface with the same name and corresponding type and value.

Mapping of UNOIDL Modules

A UNOIDL module is mapped to a Java package with the same name. This follows from the fact that each named UNO and UNOIDL entity is mapped to a Java class with the same name. (UNOIDL uses "::" to separate the individual identifiers within a name, as in “com::sun::star::uno”, whereas UNO itself and Java both use ".", as in “com.sun.star.uno”; therefore, the name of a UNOIDL entity has to be converted in the obvious way before it can be used as a name in Java.) UNO and UNOIDL entities not enclosed in any module (that is, whose names do not contain any "." or "::", respectively), are mapped to Java classes in an unnamed package.

Mapping of Services

A new-style services is mapped to a public Java class with the same name. The class has one or more public static methods that correspond to the explicit or implicit constructors of the service.

For a new-style service with a given interface type `XIfc`, an explicit constructor of the form

```java
name([in] Type1 arg1, [in] Type2 arg2) raises (Exception1, ..., ExceptionN);
```

is represented by the Java method

```java
public static XIfc name(com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext context, Type1
```
A UNO rest parameter \((\text{any...})\) is mapped to a Java rest parameter \((\text{java.lang.Object...})\) in Java 1.5, and to \(\text{java.lang.Object[]}\) in older versions of Java.

If a new-style service has an implicit constructor, the corresponding Java method is of the form

\[
\text{public static XIfc create(com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext context) \{ \ldots \}}
\]

The semantics of both explicit and implicit service constructors in Java are as follows:

- The first argument to a service constructor is always a \(\text{com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext}\), which must be non-null. Any further arguments are used to initialize the created service (see below).
- The service constructor first uses \(\text{com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext:getServiceManager}\) to obtain a service manager (a \(\text{com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory}\)) from the given component context.
- The service constructor then uses \(\text{com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory:createInstanceWithArgumentsAndContext}\) to create a service instance, passing it the list of arguments (without the initial \(\text{XComponentContext}\)). If the service constructor has a single rest parameter, its sequence of any values is used directly, otherwise the given arguments are made into a sequence of any values. In the case of an implicit service constructor, no arguments are passed, and \(\text{com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory:createInstanceWithContext}\) is used instead.
- If any of the above steps fails with an exception that the service constructor may throw (according to its exception specification), the service constructor also fails by throwing that exception. Otherwise, if any of the above steps fails with an exception that the service constructor may not throw, the service constructor instead fails by throwing a \(\text{com.sun.star.uno.DeploymentException}\). Finally, if no service instance could be created (because either the given component context has no service manager, or the service manager does not support the requested service), the service constructor fails by throwing a \(\text{com.sun.star.uno.DeploymentException}\). The net effect is that a service constructor either returns a non-null instance of the requested service, or throws an exception; a service constructor will never return a null instance.

Old-style services are not mapped into the Java language binding.
Mapping of Singletons

A new-style singleton of the form singleton Name: XIfc; is mapped to a public Java class with the same name. The class has a single method

```java
public static XIfc get(com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext context) { ... }
```

The semantics of such a singleton getter method in Java are as follows:

- The `com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext` argument must be non-null.
- The singleton getter uses `com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext.getValueByName` to obtain the singleton instance (within the "/singletons/" name space).
- If no singleton instance could be obtained, the singleton getter fails by throwing a `com.sun.star.uno.DeploymentException`. The net effect is that a singleton getter either returns the requested non-null singleton instance, or throws an exception; a singleton getter will never return a null instance.

Old-style singletons are not mapped into the Java language binding.

Inexact approximation of UNO Value Semantics

Some UNO types that are generally considered to be value types are mapped to reference types in Java. Namely, these are the UNO types string, type, any, and the UNO sequence, enum, struct, and exception types. The problem is that when a value of such a type (a Java object) is used:

- As the value stored in an any
- As the value of a sequence component
- As the value of a struct or exception member
- As the value of an interface attribute
- As an argument or return value in an interface method invocation
- As an argument in a service constructor invocation
- As a raised exception

then Java does not create a clone of that object, but instead shares the object via multiple references to it. If the object is now modified through any one of its references, all other references observe the modification, too. This violates the intended value semantics.

The solution chosen in the Java language binding is to forbid modification of any Java objects that are used to represent UNO values in any of the situations listed above.
Note that for Java objects that represent values of the UNO type string, or a UNO enum type, this is trivially warranted, as the corresponding Java types are immutable. This would also hold for the UNO type type, if the Java class `com.sun.star.Type` were final.

In the sense used here, modifying a Java object $A$ includes modifying any other Java object $B$ that is both (1) reachable from $A$ by following one or more references, and (2) used to represent a UNO value in any of the situations listed above. For a Java object that represents a UNO any value, the restriction to not modify it only applies to a wrapping object of type `com.sun.star.uno.Any` (which should really be immutable), or to an unwrapped object that represents a UNO value of type string or type, or of a sequence, enum, struct or exception type.

Note that the types `java.lang.Boolean`, `java.lang.Byte`, `java.lang.Short`, `java.lang.Integer`, `java.lang.Long`, `java.lang.Float`, `java.lang.Double`, and `java.lang.Character`, used to represent certain UNO values as any values or as parametric members of instantiated polymorphic struct types, are immutable, anyway, and so need not be considered specially here.

### C++ Language Binding

This chapter describes the UNO C++ language binding. It provides an experienced C++ programmer the first steps in UNO to establish UNO interprocess connections to a remote OpenOffice.org and to use its UNO objects.

### Library Overview

The illustration below gives an overview about the core libraries of the UNO component model.
These shared libraries can be found in the `<officedir>/program` folder of your OpenOffice.org installation. The label (C) in the illustration above means C linkage and (C++) means C++ linkage. For all libraries, a C++ compiler to build is required.

The basis for all UNO libraries is the sal library. It contains the system abstraction layer (sal) and additional runtime library functionality, but does not contain any UNO-specific information. The commonly used C-functions of the sal library can be accessed through C++ inline wrapper classes. This allows functions to be called from any other programming language, because most programming languages have some mechanism to call a C function.

The salhelper library is a small C++ library which offers additional runtime library functionality, that could not be implemented inline.

The cppu (C++UNO) library is the core UNO library. It offers methods to access the UNO type library, and allows the creation, copying and comparing values of UNO data types in a generic manner. Moreover, all UNO bridges (= mappings + environments) are administered in this library.

The examples `msci_uno.dll`, `libsunpro5_uno.so` and `libgcc2_uno.so` are only examples for language binding libraries for certain C++ compilers.

The cppuhelper library is a C++ library that contains important base classes for UNO objects and functions to bootstrap the UNO core. C++ Components and UNO
programs have to link the cppuhelper library.

All the libraries shown above will be kept compatible in all future releases of UNO. You will be able to build and link your application and component once, and run it with the current and later versions of OpenOffice.org.

### System Abstraction Layer

C++ UNO client programs and C++ UNO components use the system abstraction layer (sal) for types, files, threads, interprocess communication, and string handling. The sal library offers operating system dependent functionality as C functions. The aim is to minimize or to eliminate operating system dependent `#ifdef` in libraries above sal. Sal offers high performance access because sal is a thin layer above the API offered by each operating system.

**Note** – In OpenOffice.org GUI APIs are encapsulated in the vcl library.

Sal exports only C symbols. The inline C++ wrapper exists for convenience. Refer to the UNO C++ reference that is part of the OpenOffice.org SDK or in the References section of [udk.openoffice.org](http://udk.openoffice.org) to gain a full overview of the features provided by the sal library. In the following sections, the C++ wrapper classes will be discussed. The sal types used for UNO types are discussed in section [Type Mappings](#). If you want to use them, look up the names of the appropriate include files in the C++ reference.

### File Access

The classes listed below manage platform independent file access. They are C++ classes that call corresponding C functions internally.

- `osl::FileBase`
- `osl::VolumeInfo`
- `osl::FileStatus`
- `osl::File`
- `osl::DirectoryItem`
- `osl::Directory`

An unfamiliar concept is the use of absolute filenames throughout the whole API. In a multithreaded program, the current working directory cannot be relied on, thus
relative paths must be explicitly made absolute by the caller.

Threadsafe Reference Counting

The functions `osl_incrementInterlockedCount()` and `osl_decrementInterlockedCount()` in the global C++ namespace increase and decrease a 4-byte counter in a threadsafe manner. This is needed for reference counted objects. Many UNO APIs control object lifetime through refcounting. Since concurrent incrementing the same counter does not increase the reference count reliably, these functions should be used. This is faster than using a mutex on most platforms.

Threads and Thread Synchronization

The class `osl::Thread` is meant to be used as a base class for your own threads. Overwrite the `run()` method.

The following classes are commonly used synchronization primitives:
- `osl::Mutex`
- `osl::Condition`
- `osl::Semaphore`

Socket and Pipe

The following classes allow you to use interprocess communication in a platform independent manner:
- `osl::Socket`
- `osl::Pipe`
Strings

The classes rtl::OString (8-bit, encoded) and rtl::OUString (16-bit, UTF-16) are the base-string classes for UNO programs. The strings store their data in a heap memory block. The string is refcounted and incapable of changing, thus it makes copying faster and creation is an expensive operation. An OUString can be created using the static function OUString::createFromASCII() or it can be constructed from an 8-bit string with encoding using this constructor:

```
OUString( const sal_Char * value,           sal_Int32 length,
rtl_TextEncoding encoding,           sal_uInt32 convertFlags =
OSTRING_TO_OUSTRING_CVTFLAGS );
```

It can be converted into an 8-bit string, for example, for printf() using the rtl::OUStringToOString() function that takes an encoding, such as RTL_TEXTENCODING_ASCII_US.

For fast string concatenation, the classes rtl::OStringBuffer and rtl::OUStringBuffer should be used, because they offer methods to concatenate strings and numbers. After preparing a new string buffer, use the makeStringAndClear() method to create the new OUString or OString. The following example illustrates this:

```
sal_Int32 n = 42; double pi = 3.14159;
// create a buffer with a suitable size, rough guess is sufficient //
stringbuffer extends if necessary OUStringBuffer buf( 128 );
// append an ascii string buf.appendAscii( "pi ( here " );
// numbers can be simply appended buf.append( pi ); //
RTL_CONSTASCII_STRINGPARAM() // lets the compiler count the stringlength, so
this is more efficient than // the above appendAscii call, where the length of
the string must be calculated at // runtime
buf.appendAscii( RTL_CONSTASCII_STRINGPARAM(" ) multiplied with " ) );
buf.append( n ); buf.appendAscii( RTL_CONSTASCII_STRINGPARAM(" gives " ) );
buf.append( (double)( n * pi ) ); buf.appendAscii( RTL_CONSTASCII_STRINGPARAM( "." ) );
// now transfer the buffer into the string. // afterwards buffer is empty and
may be reused again ! OUString string = buf.makeStringAndClear();
// You could of course use the OStringBuffer directly to get an OString
OString oString = rtl::OUStringToOString( string ,
RTL_TEXTENCODING_ASCII_US );
// just to print something printf( "%s\n",oString.getStr() );
```

Establishing Interprocess Connections

Any language binding supported by UNO establishes interprocess connections using a local service manager to create the services necessary to connect to the office.
Refer to chapter **UNO Interprocess Connections** for additional information. The following client program connects to a running office and retrieves the

```
com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory
```

in C++:

```c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <cppuhelper/bootstrap.hxx> #include <com/sun/star/bridge/XUnoUrlResolver.hpp> #include <com/sun/star/lang/XMultiServiceFactory.hpp>
using namespace com::sun::star::uno; using namespace com::sun::star::lang; using namespace com::sun::star::bridge; using namespace rtl; using namespace cppu;

int main( ) {   // create the initial component context   Reference<XComponentContext> rComponentContext = defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext();
   // retrieve the service manager from the context   Reference<XMultiComponentFactory> rServiceManager = rComponentContext->getServiceManager();
   // instantiate a sample service with the service manager.   Reference<XInterface> rInstance = rServiceManager->createInstanceWithContext(OUString::createFromAscii("com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver" ), rComponentContext);
   // Query for the XUnoUrlResolver interface   Reference<XUnoUrlResolver> rResolver( rInstance, UNO_QUERY);
   if( ! rResolver.is() ) {   printf( "Error: Couldn't instantiate com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver service\n" );   return 1;   } try {   // resolve the uno-URL   rInstance = rResolver->resolve( OUString::createFromAscii( "uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2002;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager" ) );
   if( ! rInstance.is() )   {   printf("StarOffice.ServiceManager is not exported from remote process\n" );   return 1;   }   // query for the simpler XMultiServiceFactory interface, sufficient for scripting   Reference<XMultiServiceFactory> rOfficeServiceManager( rInstance, UNO_QUERY);
   if( ! rOfficeServiceManager.is() )   {   printf("XMultiServiceFactory interface is not exported\n" );
    return 1;   }
   printf("Connected successfully to the office\n");   } catch( Exception &e ) {   OString o = OStringToOString( e.Message, RTL_TEXTENCODING_ASCII_US );   printf("Error: %s\n", o.pData->buffer );
    return 1;   }   return 0; }
```
Transparent Use of Office UNO Components

When writing C++ client applications, the office component context can be obtained in a more transparent way. For more details see section Transparent Use of Office UNO Components (Java).

The bootstrap function

Also for C++, a bootstrap function is provided, which bootstraps the component context from a UNO installation. An example for a simple client application shows the following code snippet:

```cpp
// get the remote office component context Reference< XComponentContext > xContext( ::cppu::bootstrap() );
// get the remote office service manager Reference< XMultiComponentFactory > xServiceManager( xContext->getServiceManager() );
// get an instance of the remote office desktop UNO service // and query the XComponentLoader interface Reference < XComponentLoader > xComponentLoader( xServiceManager->createInstanceWithContext( OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM( "com.sun.star.frame.Desktop" ) ), xContext ), UNO_QUERY_THROW );
```

The `::cppu::bootstrap()` function is implemented in a similar way as the Java `com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.bootstrap()` method. It first bootstraps a local component context by calling the `::cppu::defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext()` function and then tries to establish a named pipe connection to a running office by using the `com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver` service. If no office is running, an office process is started. If the connection succeeds, the remote component context is returned.

Warning – The `::cppu::bootstrap()` function is only available since OpenOffice.org 2.0.

SDK tooling

For convenience the OpenOffice.org Software Development Kit (SDK) provides some tooling for writing C++ client applications.
Application Loader

A C++ client application that uses UNO is linked to the C++ UNO libraries, which can be found in the program directory of a UNO installation. When running the client application, the C++ UNO libraries are found only, if the UNO program directory is included in the PATH (Windows) or LD_LIBRARY_PATH (Unix/Linux) environment variable.

As this requires the knowledge of the location of a UNO installation, the SDK provides an application loader (unoapploader.exe for Windows, unoapploader for Unix/Linux), which detects a UNO installation on the system and adds the program directory of the UNO installation to the PATH / LD_LIBRARY_PATH environment variable. After that, the application process is loaded and started, whereby the new process inherits the environment of the calling process, including the modified PATH / LD_LIBRARY_PATH environment variable.

The SDK tooling allows to build a client executable file (e.g. SimpleBootstrap_cpp for Unix/Linux), which can be invoked by

```
./SimpleBootstrap_cpp
```

In this case, the SimpleBootstrap_cpp executable is simply the renamed unoapploader executable. All the application code is part of a second executable file, which must have the same name as the first executable, but prefixed by a underscore '_' ; that means in the example above the second executable is named _SimpleBootstrap_cpp.

On the Unix/Linux platforms the application loader writes error messages to the stderr stream. On the Windows platform error messages are written to the error file <application name>-error.log in the application's executable file directory. If this fails, the error file is written to the directory designated for temporary files.

Finding a UNO Installation

A UNO installation can be specified by the user by setting the UNO_PATH environment variable to the program directory of a UNO installation, e.g.

```
setenv UNO_PATH /opt/OpenOffice.org/program
```

If no UNO installation is specified by the user, the default installation on the system is taken.

On the Windows platform, the default installation is read from the default value of the
key 'Software\OpenOffice.org\UNO\InstallPath' from the root key HKEY_CURRENT_USER in the Windows Registry. If this key is missing, the key is read from the root key HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE.

On the Unix/Linux platforms, the default installation is found from the PATH environment variable. This requires that the soffice executable or a symbolic link is in one of the directories listed in the PATH environment variable.

## Type Mappings

### Mapping of Simple Types

The following table shows the mapping of simple UNO types to the corresponding C++ types.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNO</th>
<th>C++</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>void</td>
<td>void</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>sal_Bool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>byte</td>
<td>sal_Int8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short</td>
<td>sal_Int16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned short</td>
<td>sal_uInt16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>sal_Int32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned long</td>
<td>sal_uInt32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyper</td>
<td>sal_Int64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned hyper</td>
<td>sal_uInt64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>float</td>
<td>float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>double</td>
<td>double</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>char</td>
<td>sal_Unicode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>string</td>
<td>rtl::OUString</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>type</td>
<td>com::sun::star::uno::Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>any</td>
<td>com::sun::star::uno::Any</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For historic reasons, the UNO type `boolean` is mapped to some C++ type `sal_Bool`, which has two distinct values `sal_False` and `sal_True`, and which need not be the C++ `bool` type. The mapping between the values of UNO boolean and `sal_False` and `sal_True` is straightforward, but it is an error to use any potential value of `sal_Bool` that is distinct from both `sal_False` and `sal_True`.

The UNO integer types are mapped to C++ integer types with ranges that are
guaranteed to be at least as large as the ranges of the corresponding UNO types. However, the ranges of the C++ types might be larger, in which case it would be an error to use values outside of the range of the corresponding UNO types within the context of UNO. Currently, it would not be possible to create C++ language bindings for C++ environments that offer no suitable integral types that meet the minimal range guarantees.

The UNO floating point types float and double are mapped to C++ floating point types float and double, which must be capable of representing at least all the values of the corresponding UNO types. However, the C++ types might be capable of representing more values, for which it is implementation-defined how they are handled in the context of UNO. Currently, it would not be possible to create C++ language bindings for C++ environments that offer no suitable float and double types.

The UNO char type is mapped to the integral C++ type sal_Unicode, which is guaranteed to at least encompass the range from 0 to 65535. Values of UNO char are mapped to values of sal_Unicode in the obvious manner. If the range of sal_Unicode is larger, it is an error to use values outside of that range.

For the C++ typedef types sal_Bool, sal_Int8, sal_Int16, sal_Int32, sal_Int64, and sal_Unicode, it is guaranteed that no two of them are synonyms for the same fundamental C++ type. This guarantee does not extend to the three types sal_uInt8, sal_uInt16, and sal_uInt32, however.

Mapping of String

The mapping between the UNO string type and rtl::OUString is straightforward, except for two details:

- The length of a string that can be represented by an rtl::OUString object is limited. It is an error to use a longer UNO string value in the context of the C++ language binding.
- An object of type rtl::OUString can represent an arbitrary sequence of UTF-16 code units, whereas a value of the UNO string type is an arbitrary sequence of Unicode scalar values. This only matters in so far as some individual UTF-16 code units (namely the individual high- and low-surrogate code points in the range D800-DFFF) have no corresponding Unicode scalar values, and are thus forbidden in the context of UNO. For example, the C++ string

  ```cpp
  static sal_Unicode const chars[] = { 0xD800 }; rtl::OUString(chars, 1);
  ```

  is illegal in this context, while the string

  ```cpp
  static sal_Unicode const chars[] = { 0xD800, 0xDC00 }; rtl::OUString(chars, 2);
  ```
would be legal. See www.unicode.org for more information on the details of Unicode.

Mapping of Type

The UNO type type is mapped to com::sun::star::uno::Type. It holds the name of a type and the com.sun.star.uno.TypeClass. The type allows you to obtain a com::sun::star::uno::TypeDescription that contains all the information defined in the IDL. For a given UNO type, a corresponding com::sun::star::Type instance can be obtained through the cppu::UnoType class template:

```cpp
// Get the UNO type long: com::sun::star::uno::Type longType = cppu::UnoType<sal_Int32>::get();
// Get the UNO type char: com::sun::star::uno::Type charType = cppu::UnoType<cppu::UnoCharType>::get();
// Get the UNO type string: com::sun::star::uno::Type stringType = cppu::UnoType<rtl::OUString>::get();
// Get the UNO interface type com.sun.star.container.XEnumeration: com::sun::star::uno::Type enumerationType = cppu::UnoType<com::sun::star::container::XEnumeration>::get();
```

Some C++ types that represent UNO types cannot be used as C++ template arguments, or ambiguously represent more than one UNO type, so there are special C++ types cppu::UnoVoidType, cppu::UnoUnsignedShortType, cppu::UnoCharType, and cppu::UnoSequenceType that can be used as arguments for cppu::UnoType in those cases.

The overloaded getCppuType function was an older mechanism to obtain com::sun::star::uno::Type instances. It is deprecated now (certain uses of getCppuType in template code would not work as intended), and cppu::UnoType should be used instead.

Mapping of Any

The IDL any is mapped to com::sun::star::uno::Any. It holds an instance of an arbitrary UNO type. Only UNO types can be stored within the any, because the data from the type library are required for any handling.

A default constructed Any contains the void type and no value. You can assign a value to the Any using the operator <<= and retrieve a value using the operator >>=.
The extraction operator `>>=` carries out widening conversions when no loss of data can occur, but data cannot be directed downward. If the extraction was successful, the operator returns `sal_True`, otherwise `sal_False`.

Instead of using the operator for extracting, you can also get a pointer to the data within the `Any`. This may be faster, but it is more complicated to use. With the pointer, care has to be used during casting and proper type handling, and the lifetime of the `Any` must exceed the pointer usage.

You can also construct an `Any` from a pointer to a C++ UNO type that can be useful. For instance:

```cpp
Any foo() {
    sal_Int32 i = 3;
    if( ... )
        i = ...;
    return Any( &i,
        cppu::UnoType< sal_Int32 >::get() );
}
```

### Mapping of Struct Types

A plain UNO struct type is mapped to a C++ struct with the same name. Each member of the UNO struct type is mapped to a public data member with the same name and corresponding type. The C++ struct provides a default constructor which initializes all members with default values, and a constructor which takes explicit values for all members. If a plain struct type inherits from another struct type, the generated C++ struct derives from the C++ struct corresponding to the inherited UNO struct type.

A polymorphic UNO struct type template with a list of type parameters is mapped to a
C++ struct template with a corresponding list of type parameters. For example, the C++ template corresponding to `com.sun.star.beans.Optional` looks something like

```cpp
template< typename T > struct Optional {     sal_Bool IsPresent;     T Value;
Optional(): IsPresent(sal_False), Value() {}     Optional(sal_Bool theIsPresent, T const & theValue): IsPresent(theIsPresent),     Value(theValue) {} ;
```

As can be seen in the example above, the default constructor uses default initialization to give values to any parametric data members. This has a number of consequences:

- Some compilers do not implement default initialization correctly for all types. For example, Microsoft Visual C++ .NET 2003 leaves objects of primitive types uninitialized, instead of zero-initializing them. (Which means, for example, that after `Optional<sal_Int32> o;` the expression `o.Value` has an undefined value, instead of being zero.)

- The default value of a UNO enum type is its first member. A (deprecated) feature of UNO enum types is to give specific numeric values to individual members. Now, if a UNO enum type whose first member has a numeric value other than zero is used as the type of a parametric member, default-initializing that member will give it the numeric value zero, even if zero does not correspond to the default member of the UNO enum type (it need not even correspond to any member of the UNO enum type).

- Another pitfall is that a parametric member of type any of a default-constructed polymorphic struct type instance (think `Optional<Any> o;` `o.Value` in C++, `new Optional<Object>().Value` in Java 1.5) has different values in the C++ language binding and the Java language binding. In C++, it contains void, whereas in Java it contains a null reference of type `XInterface`. To avoid any problems, it is best not to rely on the default constructor in such situations.

On some platforms, the C++ typedef types `sal_uInt16` (representing the UNO type `unsigned short`) and `sal_Unicode` (representing the UNO type `char`) are synonyms for the same fundamental C++ type. This could lead to problems when either of those types is used as a type argument of a polymorphic struct type. The chosen solution is to generally forbid the (deprecated) UNO types `unsigned short`, `unsigned long`, and `unsigned hyper` as type arguments of polymorphic struct types.

```cpp
getCppuType(static_cast< com::sun::star::beans::Optional< sal_Unicode > >(0))
```

and

```cpp
getCppuType(static_cast< com::sun::star::beans::Optional< sal_uInt16 > >(0))
```

cannot return different data for the two different UNO types (as the two function calls are to the same identical function on those platforms). The chosen solution is to generally forbid the (deprecated) UNO types `unsigned short`, `unsigned int`, and `unsigned long` as type arguments of polymorphic struct types.
Mapping of Interface Types

A value of a UNO interface type (which is a null reference or a reference to an object implementing the given interface type) is mapped to the template class:

```cpp
template< class t > com::sun::star::uno::Reference< t >
```

The template is used to get a type safe interface reference, because only a correctly typed interface pointer can be assigned to the reference. The example below assigns an instance of the desktop service to the `rDesktop` reference:

```cpp
// the xSMgr reference gets constructed somehow {     ...     // construct a
desktop object and acquire it     Reference< XInterface > rDesktop = xSMgr->createInstance(     OUString::createFromAscii("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop"));
... // reference goes out of scope now, release is called on the interface }
```

The constructor of `Reference` calls `acquire()` on the interface and the destructor calls `release()` on the interface. These references are often called *smart pointers*. Always use the `Reference` template consistently to avoid reference counting bugs.

The `Reference` class makes it simple to invoke `queryInterface()` for a certain type:

```cpp
// construct a desktop object and acquire it Reference< XInterface > rDesktop =
 xSMgr->createInstance(      OUString::createFromAscii("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop"));
// query it for the XFrameLoader interface Reference< XFrameLoader >
rLoader( rDesktop , UNO_QUERY );
// check, if the frameloader interface is supported if( rLoader.is() )
{     // now do something with the frame loader     ... }
```

The `UNO_QUERY` is a dummy parameter that tells the constructor to query the first constructor argument for the `XFrameLoader` interface. If the `queryInterface()` returns successfully, it is assigned to the `rLoader` reference. You can check if querying was successful by calling `is()` on the new reference.

Methods on interfaces can be invoked using the operator `->`:

```cpp
xSMgr->createInstance(...);
```

The operator `->()` returns the interface pointer without acquiring it, that is, without incrementing the refcount.

**Tip** - If you need the direct pointer to an interface for some purpose, you can also call `get()` at the reference class.

You can explicitly release the interface reference by calling `clear()` at the reference or by assigning a default constructed reference.
You can check if two interface references belong to the same object using the operator ==.

Mapping of Sequence Types

An IDL sequence is mapped to:

```cpp
template< class t > com::sun::star::uno::Sequence< t >
```

The sequence class is a reference to a reference counted handle that is allocated on the heap.

The sequence follows a copy-on-modify strategy. If a sequence is about to be modified, it is checked if the reference count of the sequence is 1. If this is the case, it gets modified directly, otherwise a copy of the sequence is created that has a reference count of 1.

A sequence can be created with an arbitrary UNO type as element type, but do not use a non-UNO type. The full reflection data provided by the type library are needed for construction, destruction and comparison.

You can construct a sequence with an initial number of elements. Each element is default constructed.

```cpp
{     // create an integer sequence with 3 elements, // elements default to zero.     Sequence< sal_Int32 > seqInt( 3 );
     // get a read/write array pointer (this method checks for // the refcount
     and does a copy on demand).     sal_Int32 *pArray = seqInt.getArray();
     // if you know, that the refcount is one // as in this case, where the
     sequence has just been // constructed, you could avoid the check, // which is a
     C-call overhead, // by writing sal_Int32 *pArray = (sal_Int32*)
     seqInt.getConstArray();
     // modify the members     pArray[0] = 4;     pArray[1] = 5;     pArray[2] = 3;
}
```

You can also initialize a sequence from an array of the same type by using a different constructor. The new sequence is allocated on the heap and all elements are copied from the source.

```cpp
{     sal_Int32 sourceArray[3] = {3,5,3};
     // result is the same as above, but we initialize from a buffer.     Sequence<
     sal_Int32 > seqInt( sourceArray , 3 ); }
```

Complex UNO types like structs can be stored within sequences, too:

```cpp
{     // construct a sequence of Property structs, // the structs are
default constructed     Sequence< Property > seqProperty(2);
}
seqProperty[0].Name = OUString::createFromAscii( "A" );
seqProperty[0].Handle = 0; seqProperty[1].Name =
OUString::createFromAscii( "B" ); seqProperty[1].Handle = 1;
// copy construct the sequence (The refcount is raised) Sequence< Property
> seqProperty2 = seqProperty;
// access a sequence for( sal_Int32 i = 0 ; i < seqProperty.getLength() ;
i ++ ) { // Please NOTE : seqProperty.getArray() would also work,
but // it is more expensive, because a // unnessecary copy
construction // of the sequence takes place. printf( "%d\n", seqProperty.getConstArray()[i].Handle ); }

The size of sequences can be changed using the realloc() method, which takes the
new number of elements as a parameter. For instance:

// construct an empty sequence Sequence < Any > anySequence;
// get your enumeration from somewhere Reference< XEnumeration > rEnum = ...;
// iterate over the enumeration while( rEnum->hasMoreElements() )
{ anySequence.realloc( anySequence.getLength() + 1 ); anySequence[anySequence.getLength()-1] = rEnum->nextElement(); }

The above code shows an enumeration is transformed into a sequence, using an
inefficient method. The realloc() default constructs a new element at the end of the
sequence. If the sequence is shrunk by realloc, the elements at the end are
destroyed.

The sequence is meant as a transportation container only, therefore it lacks methods
for efficient insertion and removal of elements. Use a C++ Standard Template Library
vector as an intermediate container to manipulate a list of elements and finally copy
the elements into the sequence.

Sequences of a specific type are a fully supported UNO type. There can also be a
sequence of sequences. This is similar to a multidimensional array with the exception
that each row may vary in length. For instance:

{ sal_Int32 a[] = { 1,2,3 }, b[] = {4,5,6}, c[] = {7,8,9,10};
 Sequence< Sequence< sal_Int32 > > aaSeq ( 3 ); aaSeq[0] = Sequence<
 sal_Int32 >( a , 3 ); aaSeq[1] = Sequence< sal_Int32 >( b , 3 );
 aaSeq[2] = Sequence< sal_Int32 >( c , 4 ); }

is a valid sequence of Sequence< sal_Int32 >.

The maximal length of a com::sun::star::uno::Sequence is limited; therefore, it is an
error if a UNO sequence that is too long is used in the context of the C++ language
binding.
Mapping of Sequence Types

An IDL sequence is mapped to:

```cpp
template< class t > com::sun::star::uno::Sequence< t >
```

The sequence class is a reference to a reference counted handle that is allocated on the heap.

The sequence follows a copy-on-modify strategy. If a sequence is about to be modified, it is checked if the reference count of the sequence is 1. If this is the case, it gets modified directly, otherwise a copy of the sequence is created that has a reference count of 1.

A sequence can be created with an arbitrary UNO type as element type, but do not use a non-UNO type. The full reflection data provided by the type library are needed for construction, destruction and comparison.

You can construct a sequence with an initial number of elements. Each element is default constructed.

```cpp
{     // create an integer sequence with 3 elements,     // elements default     to zero.     Sequence< sal_Int32 > seqInt( 3 );
// get a read/write array pointer (this method checks for     // the refcount     and does a copy on demand).     sal_Int32 *pArray = seqInt.getArray();
// if you know, that the refocunt is one     // as in this case, where the     sequence has just been     // constructed, you could avoid the check,     // which is a C-call overhead,     // by writing sal_Int32 *pArray = (sal_Int32*)     seqInt.getConstArray();
// modify the members     pArray[0] = 4;     pArray[1] = 5;     pArray[2] = 3;
}
```

You can also initialize a sequence from an array of the same type by using a different constructor. The new sequence is allocated on the heap and all elements are copied from the source.

```cpp
{     sal_Int32 sourceArray[3] = {3,5,3};
// result is the same as above, but we initialize from a buffer.     Sequence< sal_Int32 > seqInt( sourceArray , 3 ); }
```

Complex UNO types like structs can be stored within sequences, too:

```cpp
{     // construct a sequence of Property structs,     // the structs are     default constructed     Sequence< Property > seqProperty(2);
seqProperty[0].Name = OUString::createFromAscii( "A" );
seqProperty[0].Handle = 0;     seqProperty[1].Name =
OUString::createFromAscii( "B" );     seqProperty[1].Handle = 1;
// copy construct the sequence (The refcount is raised)     Sequence< Property > seqProperty2 = seqProperty;
// access a sequence     for( sal_Int32 i = 0 ; i < seqProperty.getLength() ;
i ++ )     {         // Please NOTE : seqProperty.getArray() would also work,
```
Mapping of Sequence Types

The size of sequences can be changed using the `realloc()` method, which takes the new number of elements as a parameter. For instance:

```c
// construct an empty sequence Sequence< Any > anySequence;
// get your enumeration from somewhere Reference< XEnumeration > rEnum = ...;
// iterate over the enumeration while( rEnum->hasMoreElements() )
{     anySequence.realloc( anySequence.getLength() + 1 );
     anySequence[anySequence.getLength()-1] = rEnum->nextElement(); }
```

The above code shows an enumeration is transformed into a sequence using an inefficient method. The `realloc()` default constructs a new element at the end of the sequence. If the sequence is shrunk by `realloc`, the elements at the end are destroyed.

The sequence is meant as a transportation container only, therefore it lacks methods for efficient insertion and removal of elements. Use a C++ Standard Template Library vector as an intermediate container to manipulate a list of elements and finally copy the elements into the sequence.

Sequences of a specific type are a fully supported UNO type. There can also be a sequence of sequences. This is similar to a multidimensional array with the exception that each row may vary in length. For instance:

```c
{     sal_Int32 a[ ] = { 1,2,3 }, b[ ] = {4,5,6}, c[ ] = {7,8,9,10};
     Sequence< Sequence< sal_Int32 > > aaSeq ( 3 );
     aaSeq[0] = Sequence< sal_Int32 >( a , 3 );
     aaSeq[1] = Sequence< sal_Int32 >( b , 3 );
     aaSeq[2] = Sequence< sal_Int32 >( c , 4 );
}
```

is a valid sequence of `sequence< sal_Int32 >`.

The maximal length of a `com::sun::star::uno::Sequence` is limited; therefore, it is an error if a UNO sequence that is too long is used in the context of the C++ language binding.

**Mapping of Services**

A new-style service is mapped to a C++ class with the same name. The class has one or more public static member functions that correspond to the explicit or implicit constructors of the service.

For a new-style service with a given interface type `XIfc`, an explicit constructor of the
Mapping of Services

form

```
name([in] Type1 arg1, [in] Type2 arg2) raises (Exception1, ..., ExceptionN);
```

is represented by the C++ member function

```
public: static com::sun::star::uno::Reference< XIfc >
name(
    com::sun::star::uno::Reference<
    com::sun::star::uno::XComponentContext > const & context,
    Type1 arg1,
    Type2 arg2)
    throw (Exception1, ..., ExceptionN,
    com::sun::star::uno::RuntimeException) { ... }
```

If a service constructor has a rest parameter (any...), it is mapped to a parameter of type
```
com::sun::star::uno::Sequence< com::sun::star::uno::Any > const &
```
in C++.

If a new-style service has an implicit constructor, the corresponding C++ member function is of the form

```
public: static com::sun::star::uno::Reference< XIfc >
create(     com::sun::star::uno::Reference<
    com::sun::star::uno::XComponentContext > const & context)
    throw (com::sun::star::uno::RuntimeException) { ... }
```

The semantics of both explicit and implicit service constructors in C++ are as follows. They are the same as for Java:

- The first argument to a service constructor is always a `com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext`, which must be a non-null reference. Any further arguments are used to initialize the created service (see below).
- The service constructor first uses `com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext::getServiceManager` to obtain a service manager (a `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory`) from the given component context.
- The service constructor then uses `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory::createInstanceWithArgumentsAndContext` to create a service instance, passing it the list of arguments without the initial `XComponentContext`. If the service constructor has a single rest parameter, its sequence of any values is used directly, otherwise the given arguments are made into a sequence of any values. In the case of an implicit service constructor, no arguments are passed, and `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory::createInstanceWithContext` is used instead.
- If any of the above steps fails with an exception that the service constructor may throw (according to its exception specification), the service constructor also fails by throwing that exception. Otherwise, if any of the above steps fails with an exception that the service constructor may not throw, the service constructor instead fails by throwing a `com.sun.star.uno.DeploymentException`. Finally, if no service instance could be created (because either the given component context has no service manager, or the service manager does not support the requested
service), the service constructor fails by throwing a com.sun.star.uno.DeploymentException. The net effect is that a service constructor either returns a non-null instance of the requested service, or throws an exception; a service constructor will never return a null instance.

Old-style services are not mapped into the C++ language binding.

Mapping of Singletons

A new-style singleton of the form singleton Name: XIfc; is mapped to a C++ class with the same name. The class has a single member function

```cpp
public: static com::sun::star::uno::Reference< XIfc >
get( com::sun::star::uno::Reference<
com::sun::star::uno::XComponentContext > const & context) throw
(com::sun::star::uno::RuntimeException) { ... }
```

The semantics of such a singleton getter function in C++ are as follows (they are the same as for Java):

- The com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext argument must be non-null.
- The singleton getter uses com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext:getValueByName to obtain the singleton instance (within the "/singletons/" name space).
- If no singleton instance could be obtained, the singleton getter fails by throwing a com.sun.star.uno.DeploymentException. The net effect is that a singleton getter either returns the requested non-null singleton instance, or throws an exception; a singleton getter will never return a null instance.

Old-style services are not mapped into the C++ language binding.

Using Weak References

The C++ binding offers a method to hold UNO objects weakly, that is, not holding a hard reference to it. A hard reference prevents an object from being destroyed, whereas an object that is held weakly can be deleted anytime. The advantage of weak references is used to avoid cyclic references between objects.

An object must actively support weak references by supporting the com.sun.star.uno.XWeak interface. The concept is explained in detail in chapter Lifetime of UNO objects.
Using Weak References

Weak references are often used for caching. For instance, if you want to reuse an existing object, but do not want to hold it forever to avoid cyclic references.

Weak references are implemented as a template class:

```cpp
template< class t > class com::sun::star::uno::WeakReference<t>
```

You can simply assign weak references to hard references and conversely. The following examples stress this:

```cpp
// forward declaration of a function that Reference< XFoo > getFoo();
int main() {     // default construct a weak reference. // this reference is empty     WeakReference < XFoo > weakFoo;     {         // obtain a hard reference to an XFoo object         Reference< XFoo > hardFoo = getFoo();         assert( hardFoo.is() );
            // assign the hard reference to weak reference count         weakFoo = hardFoo;
            // the hardFoo reference goes out of scope. The object itself // is now destroyed, if no one else keeps a reference to it. // Nothing happens, if someone else still keeps a reference to it };// now make the reference hard again Reference< XFoo > hardFoo2 = weakFoo;
// check, if this was successful if( hardFoo2.is() ) { // the object is still alive, you can invoke calls on it again hardFoo2->foo(); } else { // the object has died, you can't do anything with it anymore. }
```

A call on a weak reference can not be invoked directly. Make the weak reference hard and check whether it succeeded or not. You never know if you will get the reference, therefore always handle both cases properly.

It is more expensive to use weak references instead of hard references. When assigning a weak reference to a hard reference, a mutex gets locked and some heap allocation may occur. When the object is located in a different process, at least one remote call takes place, meaning an overhead of approximately a millisecond.

The XWeak mechanism does not support notification at object destruction. For this purpose, objects must export XComponent and add com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener.

**Exception Handling in C++**

For throwing and catching of UNO exceptions, use the normal C++ exception handling mechanisms. Calls to UNO interfaces may only throw the com::sun::star::uno::Exception or derived exceptions. The following example catches every possible exception:

```cpp
try {     Reference< XInterface > rInitialObject = xUnoUrlResolver-
```
Exception Handling in C++

```cpp
catch( com::sun::star::uno::Exception & e )
{
    OString o = OUStringToOString( e.Message, RTL_TEXTENCODING_ASCII_US );
    printf( "An error occurred: %s\n", o.pData->buffer );
}
```

If you want to react differently for each possible exception type, look up the exceptions that may be thrown by a certain method. For instance the `resolve()` method in `com.sun.star.bridge.X UnoUrlResolver` is allowed to throw three kinds of exceptions. Catch each exception type separately:

```cpp
try {
    Reference< XInterface > rInitialObject = xUnoUrlResolver->resolve( OUString::createFromAscii( "uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2002;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager" ) );
} catch( ConnectionSetupException & e ) {
    OString o = OUStringToOString( e.Message, RTL_TEXTENCODING_ASCII_US );
    printf( "%s\n", o.pData->buffer );
    printf( "couldn't access local resource ( possible security reasons )\n" );
} catch( NoConnectException & e ) {
    OString o = OUStringToOString( e.Message, RTL_TEXTENCODING_ASCII_US );
    printf( "%s\n", o.pData->buffer );
    printf( "no server listening on the resource\n" );
} catch( IllegalArgumentException & e ) {
    OString o = OUStringToOString( e.Message, RTL_TEXTENCODING_ASCII_US );
    printf( "%s\n", o.pData->buffer );
    printf( "uno URL invalid\n" );
} catch( RuntimeException & e ) {
    OString o = OUStringToOString( e.Message, RTL_TEXTENCODING_ASCII_US );
    printf( "%s\n", o.pData->buffer );
    printf( "an unknown error has occurred\n" );
}
```

When implementing your own UNO objects (see [C++ Component](#)), throw exceptions using the normal C++ throw statement:

```cpp
void MyUnoObject::initialize( const Sequence< Any > & args.getLength() )
throw( Exception )
{
    // we expect 2 elements in this sequence
    if( 2 != args.getLength() )
    {
        // create an error message
        OStringBuffer buf;
        buf.appendAscii( "MyUnoObject::initialize, expected 2 args, got " );
        buf.append( args.getLength() );
        buf.append( "." );
        // throw the exception
        throw Exception( buf.makeStringAndClear() , *this );
    }
    ...
}
```

Note that only exceptions derived from `com::sun::star::uno::Exception` may be thrown at UNO interface methods. Other exceptions (for instance the C++ `std::exception`) cannot be bridged by the UNO runtime if the caller and called object are not within the same UNO Runtime Environment. Moreover, most current Unix C++ compilers, for instance gcc 3.0.x, do not compile code. During compilation, exception specifications are loosen in derived classes by throwing exceptions other than the exceptions specified in the interface that it is derived. Throwing unspecified exceptions leads to a `std::unexpected` exception and causes the program to abort on Unix systems.
OpenOffice.org Basic

OpenOffice.org Basic provides access to the OpenOffice.org API from within the office application. It hides the complexity of interfaces and simplifies the use of properties by making UNO objects look like Basic objects. It offers convenient Runtime Library (RTL) functions and special Basic properties for UNO. Furthermore, Basic procedures can be easily hooked up to GUI elements, such as menus, toolbar icons and GUI event handlers.

This chapter describes how to access UNO using the OpenOffice.org Basic scripting language. In the following sections, OpenOffice.org Basic is referred to as Basic.

Handling UNO Objects

Accessing UNO Services

UNO objects are used through their interface methods and properties. Basic simplifies this by mapping UNO interfaces and properties to Basic object methods and properties.

First, in Basic it is not necessary to distinguish between the different interfaces an object supports when calling a method. The following illustration shows an example of an UNO service that supports three interfaces:
Handling UNO Objects

In Java and C++, it is necessary to obtain a reference to each interface before calling one of its methods. In Basic, every method of every supported interface can be called directly at the object without querying for the appropriate interface in advance. The '.' operator is used:

```basic
' Basic oExample = getExampleObjectFromSomewhere() oExample.doNothing() ' Calls method doNothing of XFoo1 oExample.doSomething() ' Calls method doSomething of XFoo2 oExample.doSomethingElse(42) ' Calls method doSomethingElse of XFoo2
```

Additionally, OpenOffice.org Basic interprets pairs of get and set methods at UNO objects as Basic object properties if they follow this pattern:

```basic
SomeType getSomeProperty() void setSomeProperty(SomeType aValue)
```

In this pattern, OpenOffice.org Basic offers a property of type `SomeType` named `SomeProperty`. This functionality is based on the com.sun.star.beans.Introspection service. For additional details, see [UNO Reflection API](http://docs.openoffice.org/api/).

The get and set methods can always be used directly. In our example service above, the methods `getIt()` and `setIt()`, or read and write a Basic property `It` are used:

```basic
Dim x as Integer x = oExample.getIt() ' Calls getIt method of XFoo3 ' is the same as x = oExample.It ' Read property It represented by XFoo3 oExample.setIt( x ) ' Calls setIt method of XFoo3 ' is the same as oExample.It = x ' Modify property It represented by XFoo3
```

If there is only a get method, but no associated set method, the property is considered to be read only.

```basic
Dim x as Integer, y as Integer x = oExample.getMore() ' Calls getMore method of XFoo1 y = oExample.getLess() ' Calls getLess method of XFoo1 ' is the same as x = oExample.More ' Read property More represented by XFoo1 y = oExample.Less ' Read property Less represented by XFoo1 ' but oExample.More = x ' Runtime error "Property is read only" oExample.Less = y ' Runtime error "Property is read only"
```

Properties an object provides through com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet are available through the '.' operator. The methods of com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet can be used also. The object `oExample2` in the following example has three integer properties `Value1`, `Value2` and `Value3`:

```basic
Dim x as Integer, y as Integer, z as Integer x = oExample2.Value1 y = oExample2.Value2 z = oExample2.Value3 ' is the same as x = oExample2.getPropertyValue( "Value1" ) y = oExample2.getPropertyValue( "Value2" ) z = oExample2.getPropertyValue( "Value3" )
```
Handling UNO Objects

' and
oExample2.Value1 = x oExample2.Value2 = y oExample2.Value3 = z
' is the same as
oExample2.setPropertyValue( "Value1", x )
oExample2.setPropertyValue( "Value2", y )
oExample2.setPropertyValue( "Value3", z )

Basic uses com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess to provide named elements in a collection through the . operator. However, XNameAccess only provides read access. If a collection offers write access through com.sun.star.container.XNameReplace or com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer, use the appropriate methods explicitly:

' oNameAccessible is an object that supports XNameAccess ' including the names "Value1", "Value2" x = oNameAccessible.Value1 y = oNameAccessible.Value2
' is the same as
x = oNameAccessible.getByName( "Value1" ) y = oNameAccessible.getByName( "Value2" )
' but
oNameAccessible.Value1 = x' Runtime Error, Value1 cannot be changed
oNameAccessible.Value2 = y' Runtime Error, Value2 cannot be changed
' oNameReplace is an object that supports XNameReplace ' replaceByName() sets the element Value1 to 42 oNameReplace.replaceByName( "Value1", 42 )

Instantiating UNO Services

In Basic, instantiate services using the Basic Runtime Library (RTL) function createUnoService(). This function expects a fully qualified service name and returns an object supporting this service, if it is available:


This call instantiates the com.sun.star.ucb.SimpleFileAccess service. To ensure that the function was successful, the returned object can be checked with the IsNull function:

bError = IsNull( oSimpleFileAccess )' bError is set to False
oNoService = CreateUnoService( "com.sun.star.nowhere.ThisServiceDoesNotExist" ) bError = IsNull( oNoService )' bError is set to True

Instead of using CreateUnoService() to instantiate a service, it is also possible to get the global UNO com.sun.star.lang.ServiceManager of the OpenOffice.org process by calling GetProcessServiceManager(). Once obtained, use createInstance() directly:

' is the same as
Instantiating UNO Services

```plaintext
```

The advantage of `GetProcessServiceManager()` is that additional information and pass in arguments is received when services are instantiated using the service manager. For instance, to initialize a service with arguments, the `createInstanceWithArguments()` method of `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory` has to be used at the service manager, because there is no appropriate Basic RTL function to do that. Example:

```plaintext
Dim args(1)  
args(0) = "Important information"  
args(1) = "Even more important information"  
oService = oServiceMgr.createInstanceWithArguments(  
  "com.sun.star.nowhere.ServiceThatNeedsInitialization",  
  args() )
```

The object returned by `GetProcessServiceManager()` is a normal Basic UNO object supporting `com.sun.star.lang.ServiceManager`. Its properties and methods are accessed as described above.

In addition, the Basic RTL provides special properties as API entry points. They are described in more detail in [Features of OpenOffice.org Basic](#).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OpenOffice.org Basic RTL Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ThisComponent</td>
<td>Only exists in Basic code which is embedded in a Writer, Calc, Draw or Impress document. It contains the document model the Basic code is embedded in.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Getting Information about UNO Objects

The Basic RTL retrieves information about UNO objects. There are functions to evaluate objects during runtime and object properties used to inspect objects during debugging.

### Checking for interfaces during runtime

Although Basic does not support the `queryInterface` concept like C++ and Java, it can...
be useful to know if a certain interface is supported by a UNO Basic object or not. The function `HasUnoInterfaces()` detects this.

The first parameter `HasUnoInterfaces()` expects the object that should be tested. Parameter(s) of one or more fully qualified interface names can be passed to the function next. The function returns `True` if all these interfaces are supported by the object, otherwise `False`.

```vba
Sub Main
    Dim oSimpleFileAccess
    Dim bSuccess
    Dim IfaceName1$, IfaceName2$, IfaceName3$
    IfaceName1$ = "com.sun.star.uno.XInterface"
    IfaceName2$ = "com.sun.star.ucb.XSimpleFileAccess2"
    IfaceName3$ = "com.sun.star.container.XPropertySet"
    bSuccess = HasUnoInterfaces( oSimpleFileAccess, IfaceName1$ )
    MsgBox bSuccess ' Displays True because XInterface is supported
    bSuccess = HasUnoInterfaces( oSimpleFileAccess, IfaceName1$, IfaceName2$ )
    MsgBox bSuccess ' Displays True because XInterface and XSimpleFileAccess2 are supported
    bSuccess = HasUnoInterfaces( oSimpleFileAccess, IfaceName3$ )
    MsgBox bSuccess ' Displays False because XPropertySet is NOT supported
    bSuccess = HasUnoInterfaces( oSimpleFileAccess, IfaceName1$, IfaceName2$, IfaceName3$ )
    MsgBox bSuccess ' Displays False because XPropertySet is NOT supported
End Sub
```

### Testing if an object is a struct during runtime

As described in the section [Mapping of Structs](#) above, structs are handled differently from objects, because they are treated as values. Use the `IsUnoStruct()` function to check if the UNO Basic object represents an object or a struct. This function expects one parameter and returns `True` if this parameter is a UNO struct, otherwise `False`. Example:

```vba
Sub Main
    Dim bIsStruct
    ' Instantiate a service
    Dim oSimpleFileAccess
    bIsStruct = IsUnoStruct( oSimpleFileAccess )
    MsgBox bIsStruct ' Displays False because oSimpleFileAccess is NOT struct
    ' Instantiate a Property struct
    Dim aProperty As New com.sun.star.beans.Property
    bIsStruct = IsUnoStruct( aProperty )
    MsgBox bIsStruct ' Displays True because aProperty is a struct
    bIsStruct = IsUnoStruct( 42 )
    MsgBox bIsStruct ' Displays False because 42 is NO struct
End Sub
```
Testing objects for identity during runtime

To find out if two UNO OpenOffice.org Basic objects refer to the same UNO object instance, use the function EqualUnoObjects(). Basic is not able to apply the comparison operator = to arguments of type object, for example, If Obj1 = Obj2 Then will produce a runtime error.

Sub Main     Dim bIdentical     Dim oSimpleFileAccess, oSimpleFileAccess2,
oSimpleFileAccess3         ' Instantiate a service     oSimpleFileAccess =
= oSimpleFileAccess ' Copy the object reference     bIdentical =
EqualUnoObjects( oSimpleFileAccess, oSimpleFileAccess2 )     MsgBox bIdentical
' Displays True because the objects are identical         ' Instantiate the
service a second time     oSimpleFileAccess3 =
CreateUnoService( "com.sun.star.ucb.SimpleFileAccess" )     bIdentical =
EqualUnoObjects( oSimpleFileAccess, oSimpleFileAccess3 )     MsgBox bIdentical
' Displays False, oSimpleFileAccess3 is another instance
bIdentical = EqualUnoObjects( oSimpleFileAccess, 42 )     MsgBox bIdentical ' Displays False, 42 is not even an object         ' Instantiate a Property
struct     Dim aProperty As New com.sun.star.beans.Property     Dim aProperty2
aProperty2 = aProperty ' Copy the struct     bIdentical =
EqualUnoObjects( aProperty, aProperty2 )     MsgBox bIdentical ' Displays False because structs are values         ' and so aProperty2 is a copy of
aProperty End Sub

Basic hides interfaces behind OpenOffice.org Basic objects that could lead to problems when developers are using API structures. It can be difficult to understand the API reference and find the correct method of accessing an object to reach a certain goal.

To assist during development and debugging, every UNO object in OpenOffice.org Basic has special properties that provide information about the object structure. These properties are all prefixed with Dbg_ to emphasize their use for development and debugging purposes. The type of these properties is String. To display the properties use the MsgBox function.

Inspecting interfaces during debugging

The Dbg_SupportedInterfaces lists all interfaces supported by the object. In the following example, the object returned by the function GetProcessServiceManager() described in the previous section is taken as an example object.

oSeronServiceManager = GetProcessServiceManager() MsgBox
oSeronServiceManager.Dbg_SupportedInterfaces

This call displays a message box:
Getting Information about UNO Objects

Dbg_SupportedInterfaces Property

The list contains all interfaces supported by the object. For interfaces that are derived from other interfaces, the super interfaces are indented as shown above for com.sun.star.container.XSet, which is derived from com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess based upon com.sun.star.container.XElementAccess.

Note – If the text "(ERROR: Not really supported!)" is printed behind an interface name, the implementation of the object usually has a bug, because the object pretends to support this interface (per com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider, but a query for it fails. For details, see UNO Reflection API).

Inspecting properties during debugging

The Dbg_Properties lists all properties supported by the object through com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet and through get and set methods that could be mapped to Basic object properties:

```plaintext
oServiceManager = GetProcessServiceManager() MsgBox oServiceManager.Ddbg_Properties
```

This code produces a message box like the following example:
Inspecting Methods During Debugging

The *Dbg_Methods* lists all methods supported by an object. Example:

```java
oServiceManager = GetProcessServiceManager() MsgBox oServiceManager.Dbg_Methods
```

This code displays:
Dbg_Methods

The notations used in Dbg_Properties and Dbg_Methods refer to internal implementation type names in Basic. The Sbx prefix can be ignored. The remaining names correspond with the normal Basic type notation. The SbxEMPTY is the same type as Variant. Additional information about Basic types is available in the next chapter.

Note – Basic uses the com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider interface to detect which interfaces an object supports. Therefore, it is important to support this interface when implementing a component that should be accessible from Basic. For details, see Writing UNO Components.

Mapping of UNO and Basic Types

Basic and UNO use different type systems. While OpenOffice.org Basic is compatible to Visual Basic and its type system, UNO types correspond to the IDL specification (see Data Types), therefore it is necessary to map these two type systems. This chapter describes which Basic types have to be used for the different UNO types.

Mapping of Simple Types

In general, the OpenOffice.org Basic type system is not rigid. Unlike C++ and Java, OpenOffice.org Basic does not require the declaration of variables, unless the Option Explicit command is used that forces the declaration. To declare variables, the Dim command is used. Also, a OpenOffice.org Basic type can be optionally specified through the Dim command. The general syntax is:

```
Dim VarName [As Type][, VarName [As Type]]...
```

All variables declared without a specific type have the type Variant. Variables of type Variant can be assigned values of arbitrary Basic types. Undeclared variables are Variant unless type postfixes are used with their names. Postfixes can be used in Dim commands as well. The following table contains a complete list of types supported by Basic and their corresponding postfixes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Postfix</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boolean</td>
<td></td>
<td>True or False</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>-32768 to 32767</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mapping of Simple Types

Long & -2147483648 to 2147483647
Single ! Floating point number
    negative: -3.402823E38 to -1.401298E-45
    positive: 1.401298E-45 to 3.402823E38
Double # Double precision floating point number
    negative: -1.79769313486232E308 to
    -4.94065645841247E-324
    positive: 4.94065645841247E-324 to
    1.79769313486232E308
Currency @ Fixed point number with four decimal places
    -922,337,203,685,477.5808 to 922,337,203,685,477.5807
Date 01/01/100 to 12/31/9999
Object Basic Object
String $ Character string
Variant arbitrary Basic type

Consider the following Dim examples.

Dim a, b ' Type of a and b is Variant Dim c as Variant ' Type of c is Variant
Dim d as Integer ' Type of d is Integer (16 bit!)
    ' The type only refers to the preceding variable Dim e, f as Double ' ATTENTION! Type of e is Variant! ' Only the type of f is Double
Dim g as String ' Type of g is String
Dim h as Date ' Type of h is Date
    ' Usage of Postfixes Dim i% ' is the same as Dim i as Integer
Dim d# ' is the same as Dim d as Double
Dim s$ ' is the same as Dim s as String

The correlation below is used to map types from UNO to Basic and vice versa.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNO</th>
<th>Basic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>void</td>
<td>internal type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Boolean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>byte</td>
<td>Integer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short</td>
<td>Integer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned short</td>
<td>internal type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned long</td>
<td>internal type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyper</td>
<td>internal type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned hyper</td>
<td>internal type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>float</td>
<td>Single</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>double</td>
<td>Double</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>char</td>
<td>internal type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>string</td>
<td>String</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>type</td>
<td>com.sun.star.reflection.XIdlClass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>any</td>
<td>Variant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The simple UNO type type is mapped to the
When UNO methods or properties are accessed, and the target UNO type is known, Basic automatically chooses the appropriate types:

```vba
' The UNO object oExample1 has a property "Count" of type short a% = 42
oExample1.Count = a% ' a% has the right type (Integer)
pi = 3.141593 oExample1.Count = pi ' pi will be converted to short, so Count will become 3
s$ = "111" oExample1.Count = s$ ' s$ will be converted to short, so Count will become 111
```

Occasionally, OpenOffice.org Basic does not know the required target type, especially if a parameter of an interface method or a property has the type any. In this situation, OpenOffice.org Basic mechanically converts the OpenOffice.org Basic type into the UNO type shown in the table above, although a different type may be expected. The only mechanism provided by OpenOffice.org Basic is an automatic downcast of numeric values:

Long and Integer values are always converted to the shortest possible integer type:

- to byte if -128 <= Value <= 127
- to short if -32768 <= Value <= 32767

The Single/Double values are converted to integers in the same manner if they have no decimal places.

This mechanism is used, because some internal C++ tools used to implement UNO functionality in OpenOffice.org provide an automatic upcast but no downcast. Therefore, it can be successful to pass a byte value to an interface expecting a long value, but not vice versa.

In the following example, oNameCont is an object that supports com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer and contains elements of type short. Assume FirstValue is a valid entry.

```vba
a% = 42 oNameCount.replaceByName( "FirstValue", a% ) ' Ok, a% is downcasted to type byte
b% = 123456 oNameCount.replaceByName( "FirstValue", b% ) ' Fails, b% is outside the short range
```

The method call fails, therefore the implementation should throw the appropriate exception that is converted to a OpenOffice.org Basic error by the OpenOffice.org Basic RTL. It may happen that an implementation also accepts unsuitable types and does not throw an exception. Ensure that the values used are suitable for their UNO target by using numeric values that do not exceed the target range or converting...
them to the correct Basic type before applying them to UNO.

Always use the type Variant to declare variables for UNO Basic objects, not the type Object. The OpenOffice.org Basic type Object is tailored for pure OpenOffice.org Basic objects and not for UNO OpenOffice.org Basic objects. The Variant variables are best for UNO Basic objects to avoid problems that can result from the OpenOffice.org Basic specific behavior of the type Object:

```basic
Dim oService1 ' Ok oService1 = CreateUnoService( "com.sun.star.anywhere.Something" )
Dim oService2 as Object ' NOT recommended oService2 = CreateUnoService( "com.sun.star.anywhere.SomethingElse" )
```

### Mapping of Sequences and Arrays

Many UNO interfaces use sequences, as well as simple types. The OpenOffice.org Basic counterpart for sequences are arrays. Arrays are standard elements of the Basic language. The example below shows how they are declared:

```basic
Dim a1( 100 ) ' Variant array, index range: 0-100 -> 101 elements
Dim a2%( 5 ) ' Integer array, index range: 0-5 -> 6 elements
Dim a3$( 0 ) ' String array, index range: 0-0 -> 1 element
Dim a4&( 9, 19 ) ' Long array, index range: (0-9) x (0-19) -> 200 elements
```

Basic does not have a special index operator like [] in C++ and Java. Array elements are accessed using normal parentheses ():

```basic
Dim i%, a%( 10 ) for i% = 0 to 10           ' this loop initializes the array
   a%(i%) = i% next i%
Dim s$ for i% = 0 to 10           ' this loop adds all array elements to a string
   s$ = s$ + " " + a%(i%) next i% msgbox s$     ' Displays the string containing all array elements
Dim b( 2, 3 ) b( 2, 3 ) = 23 b( 0, 0 ) = 0 b( 2, 4 ) = 24     ' Error "Subscript out of range"
```

As the examples show, the indices in Dim commands differ from C++ and Java array declarations. They do not describe the number of elements, but the largest allowed index. There is one more array element than the given index. This is important for the mapping of OpenOffice.org Basic arrays to UNO sequences, because UNO sequences follow the C++/Java array semantic.

When the UNO API requires a sequence, the Basic programmer uses an appropriate array. In the following example, oSequenceContainer is an object that has a property TheSequence of type sequence<short>. To assign a sequence of length 10 with the values 0, 1, 2, ... 9 to this property, the following code can be used:
Dim i%, a%(9) ' Maximum index 9 -> 10 elements for i% = 0 to 9 ' this loop initializes the array a%(i%) = i% next i% oSequenceContainer.TheSequence = a%()
' If “TheSequence” is based on XPropertySet alternatively
oSequenceContainer.setPropertyValue("TheSequence", a%)()

The Basic programmer must be aware of the different index semantics during programming. In the following example, the programmer passed a sequence with one element, but actually passed two elements:

' Pass a sequence of length 1 to the TheSequence property: Dim a%(1) ' WRONG: The array has 2 elements, not only 1! a%(0) = 3 ' Only Element 0 is initialized,
' Element 1 remains 0 as initialized by Dim
' Now a sequence with two values (3,0) is passed what ' may result in an
ero or an unexpected behavior!
oSequenceContainer.setPropertyValue("TheSequence", a%())

Note – When using Basic arrays as a whole for parameters or for property access, they should always be followed by '()' in the Basic code, otherwise errors may occur in some situations.

It can be useful to use a OpenOffice.org Basic RTL function called Array() to create, initialize and assign it to a Variant variable in a single step, especially for small sequences:

Dim a ' should be declared as Variant a = Array(1, 2, 3)
' is the same as
Dim a(2) a(0) = 1 a(1) = 2 a(2) = 3

Sometimes it is necessary to pass an empty sequence to a UNO interface. In Basic, empty sequences can be declared by omitting the index from the Dim command:

Dim a%() ' empty array/sequence of type Integer
Dim b$() ' empty array/sequence of String

Sequences returned by UNO are also represented in Basic as arrays, but these arrays do not have to be declared as arrays beforehand. Variables used to accept a sequence should be declared as Variant. To access an array returned by UNO, it is necessary to get information about the number of elements it contains with the Basic RTL functions LBound() and UBound().

The function LBound() returns the lower index and UBound() returns the upper index. The following code shows a loop going through all elements of a returned sequence:

Dim aResultArray ' should be declared as Variant aResultArray = oSequenceContainer.TheSequence
dim i%, iFrom%, iTo% iFrom% = LBound(aResultArray()) iTo% = UBound(aResultArray()) for i% = iFrom% to iTo% ' this loop displays all
array elements msgbox aResultArray(i%) next i%

The function LBound() is a standard Basic function and is not specific in a UNO
context. Basic arrays do not necessarily start with index 0, because it is possible to write something similar to:

```basic
Dim a (3 to 5)
```

This causes the array to have a lower index of 3. However, sequences returned by UNO always have the start index 0. Usually only `UBound()` is used and the example above can be simplified to:

```basic
Dim aResultArray ' should be declared as Variant aResultArray = oSequenceContainer.TheSequence
Dim i%, iTo% iTo% = UBound(aResultArray()) For i% = 0 To iTo% ' this loop displays all array elements  MsgBox aResultArray(i%) Next i%
```

The element count of a sequence/array can be calculated easily:

```basic
u% = UBound(aResultArray()) ElementCount% = u% + 1
```

For empty arrays/sequences `UBound` returns -1. This way the semantic of `UBound` stays consistent as the element count is then calculated correctly as:

```basic
ElementCount% = u% + 1' = -1 + 1 = 0
```

**Note** – The mapping between UNO sequences and Basic arrays depends on the fact that both use a zero-based index system. To avoid problems, the syntax

```basic
Dim a (IndexMin to IndexMin)
```

or the Basic command `Option Base 1` should not be used. Both cause all Basic arrays to start with an index other than 0.

UNO also supports sequences of sequences. In Basic, this corresponds with arrays of arrays. Do not mix up sequences of sequences with multidimensional arrays. In multidimensional arrays, all sub arrays always have the same number of elements, whereas in sequences of sequences every element sequence can have a different size. Example:

```basic
Dim aArrayOfArrays ' should be declared as Variant aArrayOfArrays = oExample.ShortSequences ' returns a sequence of sequences of short
Dim i%, NumberOfSequences% Dim j%, NumberOfElements% Dim aElementArray
NumberOfSequences% = UBound(aArrayOfArrays()) + 1 For i% = 0 to NumberOfSequences% - 1' loop over all sequences aElementArray = aArrayOfArrays(i%) NumberOfElements% = UBound(aElementArray()) + 1 For j% = 0 to NumberOfElements% - 1' loop over all elements MsgBox aElementArray(j%) Next j% Next i%
```

To create an array of arrays in Basic, sub arrays are used as elements of a master array:

```basic
' Declare master array Dim aArrayOfArrays(2)
' Declare sub arrays Dim aArray0(3) Dim aArray1(2) Dim aArray2(0)
' Initialise sub arrays aArray0(0) = 0 aArray0(1) = 1 aArray0(2) = 2
  aArray0(3) = 3
aArray1(0) = 42 aArray1(1) = 0 aArray1(2) = -42
```
Mapping of Sequences and Arrays

aArray2( 0 ) = 1
' Assign sub arrays to the master array aArrayOfArrays( 0 ) = aArray0()
aArrayOfArrays( 1 ) = aArray1() aArrayOfArrays( 2 ) = aArray2()
' Assign the master array to the array property oExample.ShortSequences = aArrayOfArrays()

In this situation, the runtime function `Array()` is useful. The example code can then be written much shorter:

' Declare master array Dim aArrayOfArrays( 2 )
' Create and assign sub arrays aArrayOfArrays( 0 ) = Array( 0, 1, 2, 3 )
aArrayOfArrays( 1 ) = Array( 42, 0, -42 ) aArrayOfArrays( 2 ) = Array( 1 )
' Assign the master array to the array property oExample.ShortSequences = aArrayOfArrays()

If you nest `Array()`, more compact code can be written, but it becomes difficult to understand the resulting arrays:

' Declare master array variable as variant Dim aArrayOfArrays
' Create and assign master array and sub arrays aArrayOfArrays = Array( Array( 0, 1, 2, 3 ), Array( 42, 0, -42 ), Array( 1 ) )
' Assign the master array to the array property oExample.ShortSequences = aArrayOfArrays()

Sequences of higher order can be handled accordingly.

Mapping of Structs

UNO struct types can be instantiated with the `Dim As New` command as a single instance and array.

' Instantiate a Property struct Dim aProperty As New com.sun.star.beans.Property
' Instantiate an array of Locale structs Dim Locales(10) As New com.sun.star.lang.Locale

For instantiated polymorphic struct types, there is a special syntax of the `Dim As New` command, giving the type as a string literal instead of as a name:

Dim o As New "com.sun.star.beans.Optional<long>"

The string literal representing a UNO name is built according to the following rules:

- The strings representing the relevant simple UNO types are "boolean", "byte", "short", "long", "hyper", "float", "double", "char", "string", "type", and "any", respectively.
- The string representing a UNO sequence type is "[]" followed by the string representing the component type.
The string representing a UNO enum, plain struct, or interface type is the name of that type.

The string representing an instantiated polymorphic struct type is the name of the polymorphic struct type template, followed by "<", followed by the representations of the type arguments (separated from one another by ","), followed by ">".

No spurious spaces or other characters may be introduced into these string representations.

UNO struct instances are handled like UNO objects. Struct members are accessed using the . operator. The Dbg_Properties property is supported. The properties Dbg_SupportedInterfaces and Dbg_Methods are not supported because they do not apply to structs.

```
' Instantiate a Locale struct Dim aLocale As New com.sun.star.lang.Locale
' Display properties MsgBox aLocale.Dbg_Properties
' Access "Language" property aLocale.Language = "en"
```

Objects and structs are different. Objects are handled as references and structs as values. When structs are assigned to variables, the structs are copied. This is important when modifying an object property that is a struct, because a struct property has to be reassigned to the object after reading and modifying it.

In the following example, oExample is an object that has the properties MyObject and MyStruct.

- The object provided by MyObject supports a string property ObjectName.
- The struct provided by MyStruct supports a string property StructName.

Both oExample.MyObject.ObjectName and oExample.MyStruct.StructName should be modified. The following code shows how this is done for an object:

```
' Accessing the object Dim oObject oObject = oExample.MyObject
oObject.ObjectName = "Tim" ' Ok!
' or shorter
oExample.MyObject.ObjectName = "Tim" ' Ok!
```

The following code shows how it is done correctly for the struct (and possible mistakes):

```
' Accessing the struct Dim aStruct aStruct = oExample.MyStruct ' aStruct is a copy of oExample.MyStruct! aStruct.StructName = "Tim" ' Affects only the property of the copy!
' If the code ended here, oExample.MyStruct wouldn't be modified!
oExample.MyStruct = aStruct ' Copy back the complete struct! Now it's ok!
' Here the other variant does NOT work at all, because ' only a temporary copy of the struct is modified! oExample.MyStruct.StructName = "Tim" ' WRONG!
oExample.MyStruct is not modified!
```
Mapping of Enums and Constant Groups

Use the fully qualified names to address the values of an enum type by their names. The following examples assume that oExample and oExample2 support com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet with a property Status of the enum type com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState:

```vbnet
Dim EnumValue EnumValue = com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState.DEFAULT_VALUE
MsgBox EnumValue ' displays 1
oExample.Status = com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState.DEFAULT_VALUE
```

Basic does not support Enum types. In Basic, enum values coming from UNO are converted to Long values. As long as Basic knows if a property or an interface method parameter expects an enum type, then the Long value is internally converted to the right enum type. Problems appear with Basic when interface access methods expect an Any:

```vbnet
Dim EnumValue EnumValue = oExample.Status ' EnumValue is of type Long
' Accessing the property implicitly oExample2.Status = EnumValue ' Ok!
EnumValue is converted to the right enum type
' Accessing the property explicitly using XPropertySet methods
oExample2.setPropertyValue( "Status", EnumValue ) ' WRONG! Will probably fail!
```

The explicit access could fail, because EnumValue is passed as parameter of type Any to setPropertyValue(), therefore Basic does not know that a value of type PropertyState is expected. There is still a problem, because the Basic type for com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState is Long. This problem is solved in the implementation of the com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface. For enum types, the implicit property access using the Basic property syntax Object.Property is preferred to calling generic methods using the type Any. In situations where only a generic interface method that expects an enum for an Any, there is no solution for Basic.

Constant groups are used to specify a set of constant values in IDL. In Basic, these constants can be accessed using their fully qualified names. The following code displays some constants from com.sun.star.beans.PropertyConcept:

```vbnet
MsgBox com.sun.star.beans.PropertyConcept.DANGEROUS ' Displays 1 MsgBox com.sun.star.beans.PropertyConcept.PROPERTYSET ' Displays 2
```

A constant group or enum can be assigned to an object. This method is used to shorten code if more than one enum or constant value has to be accessed:

```vbnet
Dim oPropConcept oPropConcept = com.sun.star.beans.PropertyConcept msgbox oPropConcept.DANGEROUS ' Displays 1 msgbox oPropConcept.PROPERTYSET ' Displays 2
```
Case Sensitivity

Generally Basic is case insensitive. However, this does not always apply to the communication between UNO and Basic. To avoid problems with case sensitivity write the UNO related code as if Basic was case sensitive. This facilitates the translation of a Basic program to another language, and Basic code becomes easier to read and understand. The following discusses problems that might occur.

Identifiers that differ in case are considered to be identical when they are used with UNO object properties, methods and struct members.

```vba
Dim ALocale As New com.sun.star.lang.Locale alocale.language = "en"     ' Ok
MsgBox aLocale.Language     ' Ok
```

The exceptions to this is if a Basic property is obtained through com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess as described above, its name has to be written exactly as it is in the API reference. Basic uses the name as a string parameter that is not interpreted when accessing com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess using its methods.

```vba
' oNameAccessible is an object that supports XNameAccess
' including the names "Value1", "Value2" x = oNameAccessible.Value1 ' Ok y =
' Value2 ' Runtime Error, Value2 is not written correctly
' is the same as
x = oNameAccessible.getByName( "Value1" ) ' Ok y =
oNameAccessible.getByName( "VaLUe2" ) ' Runtime Error, Value2 is not written correctly
```

Exception Handling

Unlike UNO, Basic does not support exceptions. All exceptions thrown by UNO are caught by the Basic runtime system and transformed to a Basic error. Executing the following code results in a Basic error that interrupts the code execution and displays an error message:

```vba
Sub Main     Dim oLib     oLib =
BasicLibraries.getByName( "InvalidLibraryName" ) End Sub
```

The BasicLibraries object used in the example contains all the available Basic libraries in a running office instance. The Basic libraries contained in BasicLibraries is accessed using com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess. An exception was provoked by trying to obtain a non-existing library. The BasicLibraries object is explained in more detail in Advanced Library Organization.
The call to `getByName()` results in this error box:

![OpenOffice.org 1.1.0](image)

**Unhandled UNO Exception**

However, the Basic runtime system is not always able to recognize the Exception type. Sometimes only the exception message can be displayed that has to be provided by the object implementation.

Exceptions transformed to Basic errors can be handled just like any Basic error using the `On Error GoTo` command:

```vba
Sub Main
    On Error Goto ErrorHandler ' Enables error handling
    Dim oLib
    oLib = BasicLibraries.getByName( "InvalidLibraryName" )
    MsgBox "After the Error" Exit Sub
    ' Label ErrorHandler: MsgBox "Error code: " + Err + Chr$(13) + Error$
    Resume Next ' Continues execution at the command following the error command
End Sub
```

When the exception occurs, the execution continues at the `ErrorHandler` label. In the error handler, some properties are used to get information about the error. The `Err` is the error code that is 1 for UNO exceptions. The `Error$` contains the text of the error message. Executing the program results in the following output:

![soffice](image)

**Handled UNO Exception**

Another message box "After the Error" is displayed after the above dialog box, because `Resume Next` goes to the code line below the line where the exception was thrown. The `Exit Sub` command is required so that the error handler code would not be executed again.
Listeners

Many interfaces in UNO are used to register listener objects implementing special listener interfaces, so that a listener gets feedback when its appropriate listener methods are called. OpenOffice.org Basic does not support the concept of object implementation, therefore a special RTL function named `CreateUnoListener()` has been introduced. It uses a prefix for method names that can be called back from UNO. The `CreateUnoListener()` expects a method name prefix and the type name of the desired listener interface. It returns an object that supports this interface that can be used to register the listener.

The following example instantiates an `com.sun.star.container.XContainerListener`. Note the prefix `ContListener_`:

```vbnet
Dim oListener oListener = CreateUnoListener( "ContListener_", "com.sun.star.container.XContainerListener" )
```

The next step is to implement the listener methods. In this example, the listener interface has the following methods:

### Methods of `com.sun.star.container.XContainerListener`

- **disposing()**

- **elementInserted()**

- **elementRemoved()**

- **elementReplaced()**

In the example, `ContListener_` is specified as a name prefix, therefore the following subs have to be implemented in Basic.

- `ContListener_disposing`
- `ContListener_elementInserted`
- `ContListener_elementRemoved`
- `ContListener_elementReplaced`

Every listener type has a corresponding `Event` struct type that contains information about the event. When a listener method is called, an instance of this `Event` type is passed as a parameter. In the Basic listener methods these `Event` objects can be
Listeners

evaluated by adding an appropriate \texttt{Variant} parameter to the procedure header. The following code shows how the listener methods in the example could be implemented:

\begin{verbatim}
Sub ContListener_disposing( oEvent )     MsgBox "disposing"     MsgBox oEvent.Dbg_Properties End Sub
Sub ContListener_elementInserted( oEvent )     MsgBox "elementInserted"     MsgBox oEvent.Dbg_Properties End Sub
Sub ContListener_elementRemoved( oEvent )     MsgBox "elementRemoved"     MsgBox oEvent.Dbg_Properties End Sub
Sub ContListener_elementReplaced( oEvent )     MsgBox "elementReplaced"     MsgBox oEvent.Dbg_Properties End Sub
\end{verbatim}

It is necessary to implement \textit{all} listener methods, including the listener methods of the parent interfaces of a listener. Basic runtime errors will occur whenever an event occurs and no corresponding Basic sub is found, especially with \texttt{disposing()}, because the broadcaster might be destroyed a long time after the Basic program was ran. In this situation, Basic shows a "Method not found" message. There is no indication of which method cannot be found or why Basic is looking for a method.

We are listening for events at the basic library container. Our simple implementation for events triggered by user actions in the \textbf{Tools - Macro - Organizer} dialog displays a message box with the corresponding listener method name and a message box with the \texttt{Dbg\_Properties} of the event struct. For the \texttt{disposing()} method, the type of the event object is \texttt{com.sun.star.lang.EventObject}. All other methods belong to \texttt{com.sun.star.container.XContainerListener}, therefore the type of the event object is \texttt{com.sun.star.container.ContainerEvent}. This type is derived from \texttt{com.sun.star.lang.EventObject} and contains additional container related information.

If the event object is not needed, the parameter could be left out of the implementation. For example, the \texttt{disposing()} method could be:

\begin{verbatim}
' Minimal implementation of Sub disposing Sub ContListener_disposing End Sub
\end{verbatim}

The event objects passed to the listener methods can be accessed like other struct objects. The following code shows an enhanced implementation of the \texttt{elementRemoved()} method that evaluates the \texttt{com.sun.star.container.ContainerEvent} to display the name of the module removed from \texttt{Library1} and the module source code:

\begin{verbatim}
sub ContListener_ElementRemoved( oEvent )     MsgBox "Element " + oEvent.Accessor + " removed"     MsgBox "Source =" + Chr$(13) + Chr$(13) + oEvent.Element End Sub
\end{verbatim}

When the user removes Module1, the following message boxes are displayed by \texttt{ContListener\_ElementRemoved()}:
When all necessary listener methods are implemented, add the listener to the broadcaster object by calling the appropriate add method. To register an XContainerListener, the corresponding registration method at our container is `addContainerListener()`:

```
Dim oLib oLib = BasicLibraries.Library1 ' Library1 must exist!
oLib.addContainerListener( oListener ) ' Register the listener
```

**Tip** - The naming scheme `XSomeEventListener <> addSomeEventListener()` is used throughout the OpenOffice.org API.

The listener for container events is now registered permanently. When a container event occurs, the container calls the appropriate method of the `com.sun.star.container.XContainerListener` interface in our Basic code.

## Automation Bridge

The OpenOffice.org software supports Microsoft's *Automation* technology. This offers programmers the possibility to control the office from external programs. There is a range of efficient IDEs and tools available for developers to choose from.

Automation is language independent. The respective compilers or interpreters must, however, support Automation. The compilers transform the source code into
Automation compatible computing instructions. For example, the string and array types of your language can be used without caring about their internal representation in Automation, which is BSTR and SAFEARRAY. A client program that controls OpenOffice.org can be represented by an executable (Visual Basic, C++) or a script (JScript, VB Script). The latter requires an additional program to run the scripts, such as Windows Scripting Host (WSH) or Internet Explorer.

UNO was not designed to be compatible with Automation and COM, although there are similarities. OpenOffice.org deploys a bridging mechanism provided by the Automation Bridge to make UNO and Automation work together. The bridge consists of UNO services, however, it is not necessary to have a special knowledge about them to write Automation clients for OpenOffice.org. For additional information, see The Bridge Services.

Different languages have different capabilities. There are differences in the manner that the same task is handled, depending on the language used. Examples in Visual Basic, VB Script and JScript are provided. They will show when a language requires special handling or has a quality to be aware of. Although Automation is supposed to work across languages, there are subtleties that require a particular treatment by the bridge or a style of coding. For example, JScript does not know out parameters, therefore Array objects have to be used. Currently, the bridge has been tested with C++, JScript, VBScript and Visual Basic, although other languages can be used as well.

The name Automation Bridge implies the use of the Automation technology. Automation is part of the collection of technologies commonly referred to as ActiveX or OLE, therefore the term OLE Bridge is misleading and should be avoided. Sometimes the bridge is called COM bridge, which is also wrong, since the only interfaces which are processed by the bridge are IUnknown and IDispatch.

Requirements

The Automation technology can only be used with OpenOffice.org on a Windows platform (Windows 95, 98, NT4, ME, 2000, XP). There are COM implementations on Macintosh OS and UNIX, but there has been no effort to support Automation on these platforms.

Using Automation involves creating objects in a COM-like fashion, that is, using functions like CreateObject() in VB or CoCreateInstance() in C. This requires the OpenOffice.org automation objects to be registered with the Windows system registry. This registration is carried out whenever an office is installed on the system. If the registration did not take place, for example because the binaries were just
copied to a certain location, then Automation clients will not work correctly or not at all. Refer to The Service Manager Component for additional information.

A Quick Tour

The following example shows how to access OpenOffice.org functionality through Automation. Note the inline comments. The only automation specific call is WScript.CreateObject() in the first line, the remaining are OpenOffice.org API calls. The helper functions createStruct() and insertIntoCell() are shown at the end of the listing

```vbscript
This is a VBScript example 'The service manager is always the starting point
' If there is no office running then an office is started up Set
objServiceManager= WScript.CreateObject("com.sun.star.ServiceManager")
' Create the CoreReflection service that is later used to create structs Set
objCoreReflection= objServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection")
' Create the Desktop Set objDesktop= objServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop")
' Open a new empty writer document Dim args() Set objDocument= objDesktop.loadComponentFromURL("private:factory/swriter", "_blank", 0, args)
' Create a text object Set objText= objDocument.getText
' Create a cursor object Set objCursor= objText.createTextCursor
' Inserting some Text objText.insertString objCursor, "The first line in the newly created text document." & vbLf, false
' Inserting a second line objText.insertString objCursor, "Now we're in the second line", false
' Create instance of a text table with 4 columns and 4 rows Set objTable= objDocument.createInstance( "com.sun.star.text.TextTable") objTable.initialize 4, 4
' Insert the table objText.insertTextContent objCursor, objTable, false
' Get first row Set objRows= objTable.getRows Set objRow= objRows.getByIndex( 0)
' Set the table background color objTable.setPropertyValue "BackTransparent", false objTable.setPropertyValue "BackColor", 13421772
' Set a different background color for the first row objRow.setPropertyValue "BackTransparent", false objRow.setPropertyValue "BackColor", 6710932
' Fill the first table row insertIntoCell "A1","FirstColumn", objTable // insertIntoCell is a helper function, see below insertIntoCell "B1","SecondColumn", objTable insertIntoCell "C1","ThirdColumn", objTable insertIntoCell "D1","SUM", objTable
objTable.getCellByName("A2").setValue 22.5
objTable.getCellByName("B2").setValue 5615.3
objTable.getCellByName("C2").setValue -2315.7
objTable.getCellByName("D2").setFormula"sum ", objTable
objTable.getCellByName("A3").setValue 21.5
```
This script created a new document and started the office, if necessary. The script also wrote text, created and populated a table, used different background and pen colors. Only one object is created as an ActiveX component called com.sun.star.ServiceManager. The service manager is then used to create
additional objects which in turn provided other objects. All those objects provide functionality that can be used by invoking the appropriate functions and properties. A developer must learn which objects provide the desired functionality and how to obtain them. The chapter First Steps introduces the main OpenOffice.org objects available to the programmer.

The Service Manager Component

Instantiation

The service manager is the starting point for all Automation clients. The service manager requires to be created before obtaining any UNO object. Since the service manager is a COM component, it has a CLSID and a programmatic identifier which is com.sun.star.ServiceManager. It is instantiated like any ActiveX component, depending on the language used:

C++:
```cpp
IDispatch* pdispFactory= NULL;  CLSID clsFactory=
{0x82154420,0x0FBF,0x11d4,{0x83, 0x13,0x00,0x50,0x04,0x52,0x6A,0xB4}};  hr=
CoCreateInstance( clsFactory, NULL, CLSCTX_ALL, __uuidof(IDispatch),
(void**)&pdispFactory);
```

In Visual C++, use classes which facilitate the usage of COM pointers. If you use the Active Template Library (ATL), then the following example looks like this:

```cpp
CComPtr<IDispatch> spDisp;
if( SUCCEEDED( spDisp.CoCreateInstance("com.sun.star.ServiceManager")))
{     // do something }
```

JScript:
```javascript
var objServiceManager= new ActiveXObject("com.sun.star.ServiceManager");
```

Visual Basic:
```vbnet
Dim objManager As Object Set objManager=
CreateObject("com.sun.star.ServiceManager")
```
The Service Manager Component

**VBScript with WSH:**

```
Set objServiceManager= WScript.CreateObject("com.sun.star.ServiceManager")
```

**JScript with WSH:**

```
var objServiceManager= WScript.CreateObject("com.sun.star.ServiceManager");
```

The service manager can also be created remotely, that is, on a different machine, taking the security aspects into account. For example, set up launch and access rights for the service manager in the system registry (see DCOM).

The code for the service manager resides in the office executable `soffice.exe`. COM starts up the executable whenever a client tries to obtain the class factory for the service manager, so that the client can use it.

**Registry Entries**

For the instantiation to succeed, the service manager must be properly registered with the system registry. The keys and values shown in the tables below are all written during setup. It is not necessary to edit them to use the Automation capability of the office. Automation works immediately after installation. There are three different keys under HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT that have the following values and subkeys:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLSID{82154420-0FBF-11d4-8313-005004526AB4}</td>
<td>&quot;StarOffice Service Manager (Ver 1.0)&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LocalServer32</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NotInsertable</td>
<td>&quot;&lt;OfficePath&gt;\program\soffice.exe&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ProgIDcom.sun.star.ServiceManager.1</td>
<td>&quot;com.sun.star.ServiceManager.1&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programmable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VersionIndependentProgID</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.ServiceManager</td>
<td>&quot;StarOffice Service Manager&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| CLSID              | "\{82154420-0FBF-11d4-8313-005004526AB4}"
| CurVer             | "combination:com.sun.star.ServiceManager.1" |

OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009
com.sun.star.ServiceManager.1   "StarOffice Service Manager (Ver 1.0)"
Sub Keys
CLSID                      "{82154420-0FBF-11d4-8313-005004526AB4}"

The value of the key CLSID\{82154420-0FBF-11d4-8313-005004526AB4}\LocalServer32 reflects the path of the office executable.

All keys have duplicates under HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes\. The service manager is an ActiveX component, but does not support self-registration. That is, the office does not support the command line arguments -RegServer or -UnregServer.

The service manager, as well as all the objects that it creates and that originate from it indirectly as return values of function calls are proper automation objects. They can also be accessed remotely through DCOM.

### From UNO Objects to Automation Objects

The service manager is based on the UNO service manager and similar to all other UNO components, is not compatible with Automation. The service manager can be accessed through the COM API, because the service manager is an Active X component contained in an executable that is the OpenOffice.org. When a client creates the service manager, for example by calling CreateObject(), and the office is not running, it is started up by the COM system. The office then creates a class factory for the service manager and registers it with COM. At that point, COM uses the factory to instantiate the service manager and return it to the client.

When the function IClassFactory::CreateInstance is called, the UNO service manager is converted into an Automation object. The actual conversion is carried out by the UNO service com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.BridgeSupplier (see The Bridge Services). The resulting Automation object contains the UNO object and translates calls to IDispatch::Invoke into calls to the respective UNO interface function. The supplied function arguments, as well as the return values of the UNO function are converted according to the defined mappings (see Type Mappings). Returned objects are converted into Automation objects, so that all objects obtained are always proper Automation objects.
Using UNO from Automation

With the IDL descriptions and documentation, start writing code that uses an interface. This requires knowledge about the programming language, especially how UNO interfaces can be accessed in that language and how function calls work.

In some languages, such as C++, the use of interfaces and their functions is simple, because the IDL descriptions map well with the respective C++ counterparts. For example, the syntax of functions are similar, and interfaces and out parameters can also be realized. The C++ language is not the best choice for Automation, because all interface calls have to use `IDispatch`, which is difficult to use in C++. In other languages, such as VB and JScript, the `IDispatch` interface is hidden behind an object syntax that leads to shorter and more understandable code.

Different interfaces can have functions with the same name. There is no way to call a function which belongs to a particular interface, because interfaces can not be requested in Automation. If a UNO object provides two functions with the same name, it is undefined which function will be called. A solution for this issue is planned for the future.

Not all languages treat method parameters in the same manner, especially when it comes to input parameters that are reused as output parameters. From the perspective of a VB programmer an out parameter does not look different from an in parameter. However, to realize out parameters in JScript, use an `Array` or `Value Object` that is a special construct provided by the Automation bridge. JScript does not support out parameters through calls by reference.

Calling Functions and Accessing Properties

The essence of Automation objects is the `IDispatch` interface. All function calls, including the access to properties, ultimately require a call to `IDispatch::Invoke`. When using C++, the use of `IDispatch` is rather cumbersome. For example, the following code calls `createInstance("com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection");`:

```c++
OLECHAR* funcname = L"createInstance"; DISPID id; IDispatch* pdispFactory= NULL; CLSID clsFactory= {0x82154420,0x0FBF,0x11d4,{0x83, 0x13,0x00,0x50,0x04,0x52,0x6A,0xB4}}; HRESULT hr= CoCreateInstance( clsFactory, NULL, CLSCTX_ALL, __uuidof(IDispatch), (void**)&pdispFactory); if( SUCCEEDED(pdispFactory->GetIDsOfNames( IID_NULL, &funcName, 1, LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, &id))) { VARIANT param1; VariantInit( &param1); param1.vt= VT_BSTR; param1.bstrVal= SysAllocString( L"com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection"); DISPPARAMS
```
Calling Functions and Accessing Properties

First the COM ID for the method name `createInstance()` is retrieved from `GetIdsOfNames`, then the ID is used to `invoke()` the method `createInstance()`.

Before calling a certain function on the `IDispatch` interface, get the DISPID by calling `GetIDsOfNames`. The DISPIDs are generated by the bridge, as required. There is no fixed mapping from member names to DISPIDs, that is, the DISPID for the same function of a second instance of an object might be different. Once a DISPID is created for a function or property name, it remains the same during the lifetime of this object.

Helper classes can make it easier. The next example shows the same call realized with helper classes from the Active Template Library:

```cpp
CComDispatchDriver spDisp(pdispFactory); CComVariant param(L"com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection"); CComVariant result; hr = spUnk.Invoke1(L"createInstance", param, result);
```

Some frameworks allow the inclusion of COM type libraries that is an easier interface to Automation objects during development. These helpers cannot be used with UNO, because the SDK does not provide COM type libraries for UNO components. While COM offers various methods to invoke functions on COM objects, UNO supports `IDispatch` only.

Programming of Automation objects is simpler with VB or JScript, because the `IDispatch` interface is hidden and functions can be called directly. Also, there is no need to wrap the arguments into `VARIANTs`.

```vb
//VB Dim objRefl As Object Set objRefl= dispFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection")
//JScript var objRefl= dispFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection");
```

Pairs of get/set functions following the pattern `SomeType getSomeProperty() void setSomeProperty(SomeType aValue)` are handled as COM object properties.

Accessing such a property in C++ is similar to calling a method. First, obtain a DISPID, then call `IDispatch::Invoke` with the proper arguments.

```cpp
DISPID dwDispID; VARIANT value; VariantInit(&value); OLECHAR* name = L"AttrByte"; HRESULT hr = pDisp->GetIDsOfNames(IID_NULL, &name, 1, LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, &dwDispID); if (SUCCEEDED(hr)) {       // Get the property DISPPARAMS dispparamsNoArgs = {NULL, NULL, 0, 0};   pDisp->Invoke(dwDispID, IID_NULL,LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, DISPATCH_PROPERTYGET, &dispparamsNoArgs, &value, NULL, NULL);       // The VARIANT value contains the value of the property       // Set the property       VARIANT value2;       VariantInit( value2);
```
value2.vt= VT_UI1; value2.bval= 10; 
DISPPARAMS dispparams; dispparams.rgvarg = &value2; DISPID dispidPut = DISPID_PROPERTYPUT; dispparams.rgdispidNamedArgs = &dispidPut; 
pDisp->Invoke(dwDispID, IID_NULL,LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, DISPATCH_PROPERTYPUT, &dispparams, NULL, NULL, NULL); }

When the property is an IUnknown*, IDispatch*, or SAFEARRAY*, the flag DISPATCH_PROPERTYPUTREF must be used. This is also the case when a value is passed by reference (VARIANT.vt = VT_BYREF | ...).

The following example shows using the ATL helper it looks simple:

CComVariant prop; CComDispatchDriver spDisp( pDisp); // get the property
spDisp.GetPropertyByName(L"AttrByte",&prop); //set the property CComVariant
newVal( (BYTE) 10); spDisp.PutPropertyByName(L"AttrByte",&newVal);

The following example using VB and JScript it is simpler:

//VB Dim prop As Byte prop= obj.AttrByte
Dim newVal Prop As Byte newVal Prop= 10 obj.AttrByte= newVal 'or obj.AttrByte= 10
//JScript var prop obj Prop= obj.AttrByte; obj.Prop= 10;

Service properties are not mapped to COM object properties. Use interfaces, such as com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet to work with service properties.

Return Values

There are three possible ways to return values in UNO:

- function return values
- inout parameters
- out parameters

Return values are commonplace in most languages, whereas inout and out parameters are not necessarily supported. For example, in JScript.

To receive a return value in C++ provide a VARIANT argument to IDispatch::Invoke:

//UNO IDL long func();
// DISPPARAMS dispparams = { NULL, 0, 0, 0}; VARIANT result;
VariantInit( &result); hr= pdisp->Invoke( dispid, IID_NULL, LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, DISPATCH_METHOD, &dispparams, &result, NULL, 0);

The following example shows using VB and JScript this is simple:

//VB Dim result As Long result= obj.func
//JScript var result= obj.func
When a function has inout parameters then provide arguments by reference in C++:

```c++
//UNO IDL void func([inout] long val);
//C++ long longOut=10; VARIANT var; VariantInit(&var); var.vt=VT_BYREF | VT_I4; var.plVal=&longOut;
DISPPARAMS dispparams= { &var, 0, 1, 0}; hr= pdisp->Invoke( dispid, IID_NULL, LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, DISPATCH_METHOD, &dispparams, NULL, NULL, 0);

//The value of longOut will be modified by UNO function.
```

The above VB code is written like this, because VB uses call by reference by default. After the call to `func()`, value contains the function output:

```vb
Dim value As Long
value=10
obj.func value
```

The type of argument corresponds to the UNO type according to the default mapping, cf. **Type Mappings**. If in doubt, use `VARIANTs`.

```vb
Dim value As Variant
value=10
obj.func value
```

However, there is one exception. If a function takes a character (`char`) as an argument and is called from VB, use an `Integer`, because there is no character type in VB. For convenience, the COM bridge also accepts a `String` as `inout` and `out` parameter:

```vb
//VB Dim value As String // string must contain only one character
value= "A"
obj.func value
```

JScript does not have `inout` or `out` parameters. As a workaround, the bridge accepts JScript `Array` objects. Index 0 contains the value.

```jscript
var inout= new Array(); inout[0]=123; obj.func( inout);
var value= inout[0];
```

Out parameters are similar to `inout` parameters in that the argument does not need to be initialized.

```c++
//C++ long longOut; VARIANT var; VariantInit(&var); var.vt=VT_BYREF | VT_I4; var.plVal=&longOut;
DISPPARAMS dispparams= { &var, 0, 1, 0}; hr= pdisp->Invoke( dispid, IID_NULL, LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, DISPATCH_METHOD, &dispparams, NULL, NULL, 0);

//VB Dim value As Long
value=obj.func value
//JScript var out= new Array();
//out[0]=123; obj.func( out);
//var value= out[0];
```
Usage of Types

Interfaces

Many UNO interface functions take interfaces as arguments. If this is the case, there are three possibilities to get an instance that supports the needed interface:

- Ask the service manager to create a service that implements that interface.
- Call a function on a UNO object that returns that particular interface.
- Provide an interface implementation if a listener object is required. Refer to Automation Objects with UNO Interfaces for additional information.

If `createInstance()` is called on the service manager or another UNO function that returns an interface, the returned object is wrapped, so that it appears to be a COM dispatch object. When it is passed into a call to a UNO function then the original UNO object is extracted from the wrapper and the bridge makes sure that the proper interface is passed to the function. If UNO objects are used, UNO interfaces do not have to be dealt with. Ensure that the object obtained from a call to a UNO object implements the proper interface before it is passed back into another UNO call.

Structs

Automation does not know about structs as they exist in other languages, for example, in C++. Instead, it uses Automation objects that contain a set of properties similar to the fields of a C++ struct. Setting or reading a member ultimately requires a call to `IDispatch::Invoke`. However in languages, such as VB, VBScript, and JScript, the interface call is obscured by the programming language. Accessing the properties is as easy as with C++ structs.

```vbnet
// VB. obj is an object that implements a UNO struct obj.Width= 100
// obj.Height= 100
```

Whenever a UNO function requires a struct as an argument, the struct must be obtained from the UNO environment. It is not possible to declare a struct. For example, assume there is an office function `setSize()` that takes a struct of type `Size`. The struct is declared as follows:

```vbnet
// UNO IDL struct Size {   long Width;   long Height; }
// the interface function, that will be called from script void
// XShape::setSize( Size aSize)
```
You cannot write code similar to the following example (VBScript):

```
Class Size     Dim Width     Dim Height End Class

'obtain object that implements Xshape

'now set the size call objXShape.setSize( new Size) // wrong
```

The `com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection` service or the `Bridge_GetStruct` function that is called on the service manager object can be used to create the struct. The following example uses the `CoreReflection` service:

```
'VBScript in Windows Scripting Host
Set objServiceManager= Wscript.CreateObject("com.sun.star.ServiceManager")

'Create the CoreReflection service that is later used to create structs
Set objCoreReflection= objServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection")

'get a type description class for Size
Set classSize= objCoreReflection.forName("com.sun.star.awt.Size")

'create the actual object
Dim aSize
classSize.createObject aSize 'use aSize
aSize.Width= 100
aSize.Height= 12

'pass the struct into the function
objXShape.setSize aSize

The next example shows how `Bridge_GetStruct` is used.

```
Set objServiceManager= Wscript.CreateObject("com.sun.star.ServiceManager")
Set aSize= objServiceManager.Bridge_GetStruct("com.sun.star.awt.Size")

'aSize
aSize.Width= 100
aSize.Height= 12

objXShape.setSize aSize
```

The `Bridge_GetStruct` function is provided by the service manager object that is initially created by `CreateObject` (Visual Basic) or `CoCreateInstance[Ex]` (VC++). The corresponding C++ examples look complicated, but ultimately the same steps are necessary. The method `forName()` on the `CoreReflection` service is called and returns a `com.sun.star.reflection.XIdlClass` which can be asked to create an instance using `createObject()`:

```
// create the service manager of OpenOffice
IDispatch* pdispFactory= NULL;
CLSID clsFactory= {0x82154420,0x0FBF,0x11d4,{0x83,
0x13,0x00,0x50,0x04,0x52,0x6A,0xB4}};  hr= CoCreateInstance( clsFactory, NULL,
CLSCTX_ALL, __uuidof(IDispatch), (void**)&pdispFactory);

// create the CoreReflection service
OLECHAR* funcName= L"createInstance";
DISPID id; pdispFactory->GetIDsOfNames( IID_NULL, &funcName, 1,
LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, &id);

VARIANT param1; VariantInit( &param1); param1.vt= VT_BSTR; param1.bstrVal= SysAllocString( L"com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection"); DISPPARAMS dispparams= { &param1, 0, 1, 0}; VARIANT result; VariantInit(&result); hr= pdispFactory->Invoke( id, IID_NULL, LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, DISPATCH_METHOD,
&dispparams, &result, NULL, 0); IDispatch* pdispCoreReflection=
```
Usage of Types

result.pdispVal; pdispCoreReflection->AddRef(); VariantClear( &result);
// create the struct's idl class object
OLECHAR* strforName= L"forName";
hr = pdispCoreReflection->GetIDsOfNames( IID_NULL, &strforName, 1,
LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, &id); VariantClear( &param1);
param1.vt= VT_BSTR;
param1.bstrVal= SysAllocString(L"com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue");
hr = pdispCoreReflection->Invoke( id, IID_NULL, LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT,
DISPATCH_METHOD, &dispparams, &result, NULL, 0);
IDispatch* pdispClass= result.pdispVal; pdispClass->AddRef();
VariantClear( &result);
// create the struct
OLECHAR* strcreateObject= L"createObject";
hr = pdispClass->GetIDsOfNames( IID_NULL, &strcreateObject, 1, LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT,
&id)
IDispatch* pdispPropertyValue= NULL; VariantClear( &param1);
param1.vt= VT_DISPATCH | VT_BYREF;
param1.ppdispVal= &pdispPropertyValue; hr = pdispClass->
Invoke( id, IID_NULL, LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, DISPATCH_METHOD, &dispparams,
NULL, NULL, 0);
// do something with the struct pdispPropertyValue contained in
dispparams // ...
pdispPropertyValue->Release(); pdispClass->Release(); pdispCoreReflection-
>Release(); pdispFactory->Release();

The Bridge_GetStruct example.

// objectServiceManager is the service manager of the office
OLECHAR* strstructFunc= L"Bridge_GetStruct";
hr= objServiceManager-
>GetIDsOfNames( IID_NULL, &strstructFunc, 1, LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, &id);
VariantClear(&result); VariantClear( &param1);
param1.vt= VT_BSTR;
param1.bstrVal= SysAllocString(L"com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue");
hr = objServiceManager->Invoke( id, IID_NULL,LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, DISPATCH_METHOD,
&dispparams, &result, NULL, 0);
IDispatch* pdispPropertyValue= result.pdispVal; pdispPropertyValue->AddRef();
// do something with the struct pdispPropertyValue ...

JScript:

// struct creation via CoreReflection var objServiceManager= new
ActiveXObject("com.sun.star.ServiceManager"); var objCoreReflection= objServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection");
var classSize= objCoreReflection.forName("com.sun.star.awt.Size"); var
outParam= new Array(); classSize.createObject( outParam); var size=
outParam[0]; //use the struct size.Width=111; size.Height=112; //
--------------------------------------------------------------------- // struct creation by
bridge function var objServiceManager= new

Using Automation Objects from UNO

This language binding offers a way of accessing Automation objects from UNO. For
an Automation object to be usable, it must be properly registered on the system and have a programmatic identifier (ProglD) with which an instance can be created. From UNO, all Automation objects are accessed via com.sun.star.script.XInvocation. com.sun.star.script.XInvocation is a scripting interface that is intended for dynamically performing calls similar to IDispatch. Since StarBasic uses com.sun.star.script.XInvocation to communicate with objects, Automation objects can be used from StarBasic.

**Instantiation**

To obtain an instance of an Automation object it is easiest to use the service com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.Factory. It provides an com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface which is used to get the desired object. For example:

```c++
//C++
Reference<XInterface> xInt = serviceManager->createInstance( OUString::createFromAscii("com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.Factory"));
Reference<XMultiServiceFactory> automationFactory(xInt, UNO_QUERY);
if(automationFactory.is()) { Reference<XInterface> xIntApp = automationFactory->createInstance( OUString::createFromAscii("Word.Application"));
Reference< XInvocation > xInvApp( xIntApp, UNO_QUERY); // call methods on the Automation object. ... }
```

In StarBasic it looks quite simple:

```starbasic
'StarBasic
Dim automationFactory As Object Set automationFactory = createUnoService("com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.Factory")
Dim objApp As Objects   Set objApp = automationFactory.createInstance("Word.Application") 'call methods on the Automation object
```

**Accessing Automation Objects**

All Automation objects are accessed through com.sun.star.script.XInvocation interface. The function com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:getIntrospection is not implemented. To call a method, com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke is used. com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke is also used to access properties with additional arguments. The methods
Using Automation Objects from UNO

**Properties with Arguments**

Unlike UNO properties, Automation properties can have arguments. Therefore, `<idl>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:setValue</idl>` and `<idl>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:getValue</idl>` are not suitable for those properties. Instead `<idl>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke</idl>` is used. If a property takes arguments, then `<idl>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:hasProperty</idl>` returns false and `<idl>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:hasMethod</idl>` returns true. `<idl>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke</idl>` must also be used if the arguments of the property are optional and not provided in the call.

The bridge must recognize a write operation on a property. To achieve this, the caller has to provide the actual property value (not additional arguments) in a structure of type

```idl
com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.PropertyPutArgument
```

Similar to `IDispatch:invoke`, the property value must be the last in the argument list. For example:

```c++
// MIDL [propget,...] HRESULT Item([in] VARIANT vall, [out, retvai] VARIANT* pVal); [propput,...] HRESULT Item([in] VARIANT vall, [in] VARIANT newVal);
// C++ Sequence< sal_Int16> seqIndices; Sequence<Any> seqOut; //Prepare arguments Any arArgs[2]; arArgs[0] <<= makeAny((sal_Int32) 0); arArgs[1] <<= PropertyPutArgument(makeAny((sal_Int32) 0)); Sequence<Any> seqArgs(arArgs, 2);
//obj is a XInvocation of an Automation object obj->invoke(OUString::createFromAscii("Item"), seqArgs, seqIndices, seqOut);
//now get the property value Any arGet[1]; arGet[0] <<= makeAny((sal_Int32) 0); Sequence<Any> seqGet(arGet, 1); Any retVal = obj->invoke(OUString::createFromAscii("Item"), seqGet, seqIndices, seqOut);
```

In StarBasic, `<idl>com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.PropertyPutArgument</idl>` is implicitly used.
Using Automation Objects from UNO

'StarBasic
obj.Item(0) = 0
Dim propval As Variant propval = obj.Item(0)

The property value that is obtained in a property get operation is the return value of \textidlm{com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke}.

Optional Parameters, Default Values, Variable Argument Lists

The bridge supports all these special parameters. Optional parameters can be left out of the argument list of \textidlm{com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke}. However, if a value is omitted, then all following arguments from the parameter list must also be omitted. This only applies for positional arguments and not for named arguments.

If the Automation object specifies a default value for an optional parameter, then the bridge supplies it, if no argument was provided by the caller.

If a method takes a variable argument list, then one can provide the respective UNO arguments as ordinary arguments to \textidlm{com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke}. \textidisp{}::Invoke would require those arguments in a \textSAFEARRAY{}.

Named Arguments

To provide named arguments in an \textidlm{com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke} call, one has to use instances of \textcom{sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.NamedArgument} for each argument. This is the struct in UNOIDL:

```plaintext
module com { module sun { module star { module bridge { module oleautomation { struct NamedArgument { /** The name of the argument, for which
<meta>NamedArgument::Value</meta> is intended. */
    string Name;
/** The value of the argument whose name is the one as contained in the
member <meta>Name</meta>. */
    any Value; }
};
};
};
};
}
```

In a call both, named arguments and positional arguments can be used together. The
order is, first the positional arguments (the ordinary arguments), followed by named arguments. When named arguments are used, then arguments can be omitted even if arguments are provided that follow the omitted parameter. For example, assume that a method takes five arguments, which are all optional, then the argument lists for \texttt{<idl>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation</idl> could be as follows:

- all provided: \{A, B, C, D, E\}
- arguments omitted: \{A,B,C,D\} or \{A,B\} but not \{A, C, D\}
- named arguments: \{nA, nC, nB, nD\}, \{nC, nD\}
- mixed arguments: \{A, B, nD\}, \{A, nC\}

Named arguments can also be used with properties that have additional arguments. However, the property value itself cannot be a named argument, since it is already regarded as a named argument. Therefore, is is always the last argument.

**Type Mappings**

When a UNO object is called from an Automation environment, such as VB, then depending on the signature of the called method, values of Automation types are converted to values of UNO types. If values are returned, either as out-arguments or return value, then values of UNO types are converted to values of Automation types. The results of these conversions are governed by the values to be converted and the respective type mapping.

The type mapping describes how a type from the Automation environment is represented in the UNO environment and vice versa. Automation types and UNO types are defined in the respective IDL languages, MIDL and UNO IDL. Therefore, the type mapping will refer to the IDL types.

The IDL types have a certain representation in a particular language. This mapping from IDL types to language specific types must be known in order to use the Automation bridge properly. Languages for which a UNO language binding exists will find the mapping in the language binding documentation. Automation capable languages can provide information about how Automation types are to be used (for example, Visual Basic, Delphi).

Some Automation languages may not provide a complete mapping for all Automation types. For example, JScript cannot provide float values. If you use C or C++, then all Automation types can be used directly.

A method call to an Automation object is performed through \texttt{IDispatch::Invoke}. \texttt{Invoke} takes an argument of type \texttt{DISPPARMS}, which contains the actual arguments.
for the method in an array of VARIANTARG. These VARIANTARGS are to be regarded as holders for the actual types. In most Automation languages you are not even aware of IDispatch. For example:

```cpp
//UNO IDL string func([in] long value); //VB Dim value As Long value= 100 Dim ret As String ret= obj.func( value)
```

In this example, the argument is a long and the return value is a string. That is, IDispatch::Invoke would receive a VARIANTARG that contains a long and returns a VARIANT that contains a string.

When an Automation object is called from UNO through com.sun.star.script.XInvocation::invoke, then all arguments are provided as anys. The any, similar to the VARIANTARG, acts as a holder for the actual type. To call Automation objects from UNO you will probably use StarBasic. Then the <idls>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation</idls> interface is hidden, as in IDispatch in Visual Basic.

The bridge converts values according to the type mapping specified at Default Mappings. Moreover, it tries to coerce a conversion if a value does not have a type that conforms with the default mapping (Conversion Mappings).

In some situations, it may be necessary for an Automation client to tell the bridge what the argument is supposed to be. For this purpose you can use the Value Object (Value Objects).

### Default Mappings

The following table shows the mapping of UNO and Automation types. It is a bidirectional mapping (which is partly true for the UNO sequence, which will be explained later on) and therefore it can be read from left to right and vice versa. The mapping of Automation types to UNO types applies when:

- A method of a UNO object is called from an Automation environment and values are passed for in or in/out parameters.
- A method of an Automation object is called from the UNO environment and the method returns a value.
- A method of an Automation object is called from the UNO environment and the method returns values in in/out or out-parameters.
- The mapping of UNO types to Automation types applies when:
  - A method of an Automation object is called from an UNO environment and values are passed for in or in/out-parameters.
  - A method of a UNO object is called from an Automation environment and the
A method of a UNO object is called from an Automation environment and the method returns values in in/out or out-parameters.

**Automation IDL Types** | **UNO IDL Types**
--- | ---
boolean | boolean
unsigned char | byte
double | double
float | float
short | short
unsigned short |
long | long
unsigned long |
BSTR | string
short | char
long | enum
IDispatch | com.sun.star.script.XInvocation, UNO interface
struct |
sequence<type> |
type |
IUnknown | com.sun.star.uno.XInterface
SAFEARRAY(VARIANT) | sequence< type >
SAFEARRAY(type) |
DATE | com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.Date
CY | com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.Currency
Decimal | com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.Decimal
SCODE | com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.SCode
VARIANT | all of the above types or any
all of the above types | any

The following sections discuss the respective mappings in more detail.

**Mapping of Simple Types**

Many languages have equivalents for the IDL simple types, such as integer and floating point types. Some languages, however, may not support all these types. For example, JScript is a typeless language and only recognizes a general number type. Internally, it uses four byte signed integer values and double values to represent a number. When a UNO method is called that takes a float as an argument, and that value is at some point returned to the caller, then the values may differ slightly. This is because the bridge converts the double to a float, which is eventually converted back to a double.
If a UNO method takes an any as argument and the implementation expects a certain type within the any, then the bridge is not always able to provide the expected value. Assuming, that a UNO method takes an any that is supposed to contain a short and the method is to be called from JScript, then the bridge will provide an any containing a four byte integer. This may result in an exception from the initiator of the call. The solution is to use a Value Object (Value Objects).

Unlike Automation, there are unsigned integer types in UNO. To provide a positive value that exceeds the maximum value of the corresponding signed type, you have to use the corresponding negative value. For example, to call the following UNO function in VB with the value 32768 (0x8000) you need to pass -32768.

```vbnet
//UNO IDL void foo(unsigned short value); 'VB Dim val As Integer 'two byte signed integer val = -32768 obj.foo(val)
```

The rule for calculating the negative equivalent is:

```
signed_value = unsigned_value - (max_unsigned + 1)
```

In the preceding example, unsigned_value is the value that we want to pass, and which is 32768. This value is one too many for the VB type Integer, that is why we have to provide a negative value. max_unsigned has the value 65535 for a two byte integer. So the equation is

```
-32768 = 32768 - (65535 + 1)
```

Alternatively you can use a type with a greater value range. The Automation bridge will then perform a narrowing conversion.

```vbnet
Dim val As Long 'four byte signed integer val = 32768 obj.foo(val)'expects a two byte unsigned int
```

For more information about conversions see chapter Conversion Mappings.

**Mapping of Hyper and Decimal**

Automation does not have an 8 byte integer value that compares to a UNO hyper. However, the Automation type Decimal has a value space big enough to represent a hyper. Therefore, when calling UNO methods from Automation, use Decimal whenever the UNO method requires a hyper or unsigned hyper.

The Decimal type may not be supported by all Automation capable language. Examples are JScript and VBScript, which should not be used when calling these UNO methods. This is because provided values may be rounded and hence the results are tainted.
Visual Basic has the restriction that Decimal variables can only be declared as Variants. The assignment of a value has to be done using the CDec function. Furthermore, VB does not allow the use of integer literals bigger than 4 bytes. As a workaround, you can provide a string that contains the value. For example:

```
Dim aHyper As Variant aHyper = CDec("9223372036854775807")
```

Visual Basic .NET has the build-in type decimal and does not restrict the integer literals.

When Automation objects are called from UNO, then the com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.Decimal type can be used to provide arguments with the Automation arguments of type Decimal. Returned Decimal values are converted to com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.Decimal.

### Mapping of String

A string is a data structure that is common in programming languages. Although the idea of a string is the same, the implementations and their creation can be quite different. For example, a C++ programmer has a range of possibilities to choose from (for example, char*, char[], wchar_t*, wchar_t[], std::string, CString, BSTR), whereas a JScript programmer can only use one kind of string. To use Automation across languages, it is necessary to use a string type that is common to all those languages, and that has the same binary representation. This particular string is declared as BSTR in COM. The name can be different, depending on the language. For example, in C++ there is a BSTR type, in VB it is called String, and in JScript every string defined is a BSTR. Refer to the documentation covering the BSTR equivalent if using an Automation capable language not covered by this document.

### Mapping of Interfaces and Structures

UNO interfaces or structures are represented as dispatch objects in the Automation environment. That is, the converted value is an object that implements IDispatch. If an UNO interface was mapped, then you also can access all other UNO interfaces of the object through IDispatch. In other words, the dispatch object represents the UNO object with all its interfaces and not only the one interface which was converted.

If a dispatch object, which actually is a UNO object or a structure, is now passed back to UNO, then the bridge will extract the original UNO interface or structure and pass it
on. Since the UNO dispatch object represents the whole UNO object, that is, all its supported interfaces, you can use the dispatch object as argument for all those interface types. For example:

```plaintext
//UNO IDL methods XFoo getFoo(); void doSomething(XBar arg);
'VB Dim objUno As Object Set objUno = objOtherUnoObject.getFoo()
'The returned interface belongs to an UNO object which implements XFoo and XBar. Therefore we can use objUno in this call: call
objOtherUnoObject.doSomething(objUno)
```

If Automation objects are called from UNO, then the called methods may return other Automation objects, either as IUnknown* or Dispatch*. These can then be used as arguments in later calls to Automation objects or you can perform calls on them. In case of IUnknown, this is only possible if the object also supports Dispatch. To make calls from UNO, the <idl>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface</idl> must first be queried for <idl>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation</idl>. When a method returns Dispatch, then on UNO side a <idl>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation</idl> is received and can be called immediately.

When these interfaces are passed back as arguments to a call to an Automation object, then the bridge passes the original IUnknown or Dispatch pointer. This is dependent upon what the parameter type is. Remember, calls can only be performed on Automation objects. Therefore IUnknown and Dispatch are the only possible COM interfaces. If the expected parameter is a VARIANT, then it will contain an IUnknown* if the Automation object was passed as IUnknown* into the UNO environment. It will contain an Dispatch* if the object was passed as Dispatch*. For example:

```plaintext
//MIDL HRESULT getUnknown([out,retval] IUnknown ** arg); HRESULT
getDispatch([out, retval] IDispatch ** arg);
HRESULT setUnknown([in] IUnknown * arg); HRESULT setDispatch([in] IDispatch *
arg); HRESULT setVariant([in] VARIANT arg);
'StartBasic Dim objUnknown As Object Dim objDispatch As Object
Set objUnknown = objAutomation.getUnknown() Set objDispatch =
objAutomation.getDispatch()
objAutomation.setUnknown objUnknown 'Ok objAutomation.setDispatch objUnknown
'Ok, if objUnknown supports Dispatch,
otherwise a CannotConvertException will be thrown. objAutomation.setUnknown
objDispatch 'OK
objAutomation.setVariant objUnknown 'VARTYPE is VT_Unknown
objAutomation.setVariant objDispatch 'VARTYPE is VT_DISPATCH
```

For the purpose of receiving events (listener) it is possible to implement UNO interfaces as dispatch objects Automation Objects with UNO Interfaces. That type of object is used as an argument in UNO functions where particular interface types are required. The bridge will make sure that the proper interface is provided to the UNO function. If the UNO interface is then passed back into the Automation environment, the original Automation object will be passed.

If the Automation object is passed as argument for an any, then the any will contain
an `<idl>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface</idl>` if the object was passed as `IUnknown` or the any contains an `<idl>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation</idl>` if the object was passed as `IDispatch`. If, for example, the UNO interface `XFoo` is implemented as a dispatch object, an instance to UNO as Any parameter is passed, and the Any contains `XFoo` rather then `<idl>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation</idl>`, then the dispatch object must be placed in a Value Object (Value Objects). For example:

```vba
//UNO method void foo([in] any)
'objUno contains an interface with the method foo. 'It expects that the argument with of type any contains an XFoo
'objFoo is a dispatch object implementing XFoo.
Dim objValueObject As Object Set objValueObject =
objServiceManager.Bridge_GetValueObject() objValueObject.set "XFoo", objFoo
objUno.foo objValueObject
```

Null pointers are converted to null pointers of the required type. That is, if an `IDispatch` pointer with the value null is passed as an argument to a UNO method then the resulting argument is a null pointer of the expected type. This also applies to UNO interface pointers, which are passed in calls to Automation objects. When a UNO method takes a struct as an argument and it is called from the Automation environment where a null pointer (`IDispatch`, or `IUnknown`) was supplied, then the UNO method receives a struct that was default constructed.

### Mapping of Sequence

Arrays in Automation have a particular type. The `SAFEARRAY`. A `SAFEARRAY` array is used when a UNO function takes a sequence as an argument. To create a `SAFEARRAY` in C++, use Windows API functions. The C++ name is also `SAFEARRAY`, but in other languages it might be named differently. In VB for example, the type does not even exist, because it is mapped to an ordinary VB array:

```vba
Dim myarr(9) as String
```

JScript is different. It does not have a method to create a `SAFEARRAY`. Instead, JScript features an Array object that can be used as a common array in terms of indexing and accessing its values. It is represented by a dispatch object internally. JScript offers a `VBAArray` object that converts a `SAFEARRAY` into an Array object, which can then be processed further.

The Automation bridge accepts both, `SAFEARRAY` and Array object, for arguments whose UNO type is a sequence.
Tip - If a **SAFEARRAY** is obtained in JScript as a result of a call to an ActiveX component or a VB Script function (for example, the Internet Explorer allows JScript and VBS code on the same page), then it can also be used as an argument of a UNO function without converting it to an **Array** object.

UNO does not recognize multi-dimensional sequences. Instead, a sequences can have elements that are also sequences. Those “inner” sequences can have different lengths, whereas the elements of a dimension of a multi-dimensional array are all the same length.

To provide an argument for a sequence of sequences, a **SAFEARRAY** containing **VARIANTS** has to be created. For example:

```plaintext
//UNO method void foo([in] sequence< sequence< long > > value);
Dim seq(1) As Variant Dim ar1(3) As Long Dim ar2(4) As Long 'fill ar1, ar2 ...
seq(0) = ar1 seq(1) = ar2
objUno.foo seq
```

The array seq corresponds to the “outer” sequence and contains two **VARIANTS**, which in turn contain **SAFEARRAYS** of different lengths.

It is also possible to use a multi-dimensional **SAFEARRAY** if the elements of the sequence are all the same length:

```plaintext
Dim seq(9, 1) As Long 'fill the sequence ... objUno.foo seq
```

Be aware that Visual Basic uses a column-oriented ordering in contrast to C. That is, the C equivalent to the VB array is

```plaintext
long seq[2][10]
```

The highest dimension in VB is represented by the right-most number.

This language binding specifies that the “outer” sequence corresponds to the highest dimension. Therefore, the VB array seq(9,1) would map to a sequence of sequences where the outer sequence has two elements and the inner sequences each have ten elements.

Returned sequences are converted into **SAFEARRAYS** containing **VARIANTS**. If a sequence of sequences is returned, then the **VARIANTS** contain again **SAFEARRAYS**.

To process a returned **SAFEARRAY** in Jscript, use the **VBAArray** object to convert the **SAFEARRAY** into a JScript **Array**.

When a method of an Automation object is called from UNO and a parameter is a **SAFEARRAY**, then a sequence is used on the UNO side. The element type of the
sequence should correspond to the element type of the `SAFEARRAY` according to the default mapping. If it does not, the bridge tries to convert the elements into the expected element type.

If the parameter is a multi–dimensional `SAFEARRAY`, then one has to provide a sequence containing sequences has to be provided. The number of nested sequences corresponds to the number of dimensions. Since the elements of a dimension have the same length, the sequences that represent that dimension should also have the same length. For example, assume the expected `SAFEARRAY` can be expressed in C as

```c
long ar[2][10]
```

Then the outer sequence must have two elements and each of those sequences has 10 elements. That a returned sequence maps to a `SAFEARRAY` of `VARIANT`s is not ideal because it is ambiguous when the array is passed back to UNO. However, the bridge solves this problem by using UNO type information. For example, a returned sequence of longs will result in a `SAFEARRAY` of `VARIANT`s containing long values. When the `SAFEARRAY` is passed in a method as an argument for a parameter of type `sequence<long>` then it is converted accordingly. However, if the parameter is an `any`, then the bridge does not have the necessary type information and converts the `SAFEARRAY` to `sequence<any>`. That is, the called method receives an `any` containing a `sequence<any>`. If the method now expects the `any` to contain a `sequence<long>` then it may fail. This is confusing if there are pairs of methods like `getxxx` and `setxxx`, which take any arguments. Then you may get a `SAFEARRAY` as a return value, which cannot be used in the respective `setXXX` call. For example:

```vb
//UNO IDL any getByIndex(); void setByIndex([in] any value);
'VB Dim arLong() As Variant  arLong = objUno.getByIndex() 'object returns sequence<long> in any objUno.setByIndex arLong 'object receives sequence<any> in any and may cause an error.
```

To solve this problem, wrap the argument in a Value Object (Value Objects):

```vb
'VB Dim arLong() As Variant  arLong = objUno.getByIndex() 'object returns sequence<long> in any
Dim objValueObject As Object Set objValueObject = objServiceManager.Bridge_GetValueObject() objValueObject.set "[]long", arLong
objUno.setByIndex objValueObject 'object receives sequence<long>
```

## Mapping of Type

Since there is no counterpart to the UNO type among the Automation types, it is mapped to an object. The object implements `IDispatch` and a private tagging interface that is known to the bridge. Therefore, whenever an object is passed in a
call to a UNO object the bridge can determine whether it represents a type. To obtain a type one calls `Bridge_CreateType` on the service manager object and provides the name of the type. For example:

```
'Visual Basic
Dim objType Set objType = objServiceManager.Bridge_CreateType("com.sun.star.uno.XInterface")
```

In case the provided argument does not represent a valid type, the call produces an error.

If a UNO method returns a type, either as return value or out-parameter, then it is automatically converted to an object.

```
//UNOIDL type foo([out] type t)
'Visual Basic
Dim objParam As Object Dim objReturn As Object Set objReturn = object.foo(objParam)
```

## Conversion Mappings

As shown in the previous section, Automation types have a UNO counterpart according to the mapping tables. If a UNO function expects a particular type as an argument, then supply the corresponding Automation type. This is not always necessary as the bridge also accepts similar types. For example:

```
//UNO IDL void func( long value); // VB
Dim value As Byte value = 2 obj.func valLong
```

The following table shows the various Automation types, and how they are converted to UNO IDL types if the expected UNO IDL type has not been passed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Automation IDL Types (source)</th>
<th>UNO IDL Types (target)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>boolean (true, false) unsigned char, short, long, float, double: 0 = false, &gt; 0 = true</td>
<td>boolean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>string: &quot;true&quot; = true, &quot;false&quot; = false</td>
<td>byte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boolean, unsigned char, short, long, float, double, string double, boolean, unsigned char, short, long, float, string</td>
<td>double, float, float, string</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>float, boolean, unsigned char, short, string</td>
<td>float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short, unsigned char, long, float, double, string</td>
<td>short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long, unsigned char, long, float, double, string</td>
<td>long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTR, boolean, unsigned char, short, long, float, double</td>
<td>string</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short, boolean, unsigned char, long, float, double, string (1 character long)</td>
<td>char</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long, boolean, unsigned char, short, float, double, string</td>
<td>enum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When you use a string for a numeric value, it must contain an appropriate string representation of that value.

Floating point values are rounded if they are used for integer values.

Be careful using types that have a greater value space than the UNO type. Do not provide an argument that exceeds the value space which would result in an error. For example:

```vbnet
// UNO IDL void func([in] byte value);
// VB Dim value as Integer value= 1000 obj.func value 'causes an error
```

The conversion mappings only work with in parameters, that is, during calls from an Automation environment to a UNO function, as far as the UNO function takes in parameters.

### Client-Side Conversions

The UNO IDL description and the defined mappings indicate what to expect as a return value when a particular UNO function is called. However, the language used might apply yet another conversion after a value came over the bridge.

```vbnet
// UNO IDL  float func();
// VB Dim ret As Single ret= obj.func() 'no conversion by VB
Dim ret2 As String ret2= obj.func() 'VB converts float to string
```

When the function returns, VB converts the `float` value into a `string` and assigns it to `ret2`. Such a conversion comes in useful when functions return a character, and a string is preferred instead of a VB Integer value.

```vbnet
// UNO IDL char func();
// VB Dim ret As String ret= obj.func() 'VB converts the returned short into a string
```

Be aware of the different value spaces if taking advantage of these conversions. That is, if the value space of a variable that receives a return value is smaller than the UNO type, a runtime error might occur if the value does not fit into the provided variable. Refer to the documentation of your language for client-side conversions.

Client-side conversions only work with return values and not with out or inout parameters. The current bridge implementation is unable to transport an out or inout parameter back to Automation if it does not have the expected type according to the default mapping.

Another kind of conversion is done implicitly. The user has no influence on the kind of
conversion. For example, the scripting engine used with the Windows Scripting Host or Internet Explorer uses double values for all floating point values. Therefore, when a UNO function returns a float value, then it is converted into a double which may cause a slightly different value. For example:

```plaintext
// UNO IDL float func(); //returns 3.14
// JScript var ret= obj.func(); // implicit conversion from float to double,
ret= 3.14000010490417
```

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```
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// JScript var ret= obj.func(); // implicit conversion from float to double,
ret= 3.14000010490417
```

Value Objects

A Value Object is an Automation object which can be obtained from the bridge. It can hold a value and a type description, hence it resembles a UNO any or a VARIANT. A Value Object can stand in for all kinds of arguments in a call to a UNO method from a automation language. A Value Object is used when the bridge needs additional
information for the parameter conversion. This is the case when a UNO method takes an any as argument. In many cases, however, one can do without a Value Object if one provides an argument which maps exactly to the expected UNO type according to the default mapping. For example, a UNO method takes an any as argument which is expected to contain a short. Then it would be sufficient to provide a Long in Visual Basic. But in JScript there are no types and implicitly a four byte integer would be passed to the call. Then the any would not contain a short and the call may fail. In that case the Value Object would guarantee the proper conversion.

A Value Object also enables in/out and out parameter in languages which only know in-parameters in functions. JScript is a particular case because one can use Array objects as well as Value Objects for those parameters.

A Value Object exposes four functions that can be accessed through IDispatch. These are:

```c
void Set( [in]VARIANT type, [in]VARIANT value);
```
Assigns a type and a value.

```c
void Get( [out,retval] VARIANT* val);
```
Returns the value contained in the object. Get is used when the Value Object was used as inout or out parameter.

```c
void InitOutParam();
```
Tells the object that it is used as out parameter.

```c
void InitInOutParam( [in]VARIANT type, [in]VARIANT value);
```
Tells the object that it is used as inout parameter and passes the value for the in parameter, as well as the type.

When the Value Object is used as in or inout parameter then specify the type of the value. The names of types correspond to the names used in UNO IDL, except for the “object” name. The following table shows what types can be specified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (used with Value Object)</th>
<th>UNO IDL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>char</td>
<td>char</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>boolean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>byte</td>
<td>byte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned</td>
<td>unsigned byte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short</td>
<td>short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned short</td>
<td>unsigned short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned long</td>
<td>unsigned long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>string</td>
<td>string</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>float</td>
<td>float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>double</td>
<td>double</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Value Objects

To show that the value is a sequence, put brackets before the names, for example:

\[
\text{char} - \text{sequence<char>} \quad \text{[]}/\text{char} - \text{sequence<sequence<char>}} \quad \text{[][]}/\text{char} - \text{sequence<sequence<sequence<char>}}\
\]

The Value Objects are provided by the bridge and can be obtained from the service manager object. The service manager is a registered COM component with the ProgId “com.sun.star.ServiceManager” (The Service Manager Component). For example:

// JScript var valueObject= objSeriveManager.Bridge_GetValueObject();

To use a Value Object as in parameter, specify the type and pass the value to the object:

// UNO IDL void doSomething( \[in\] sequence< short > ar);
// JScript var value= objServiceManager.Bridge_GetValueObject(); var array= new Array(1,2,3); value.Set("[]short",array); object.doSomething( value);

In the previous example, the Value Object was defined to be a sequence of short values. The array could also contain Value Objects again:

var value1= objServiceManager.Bridge_GetValueObject(); var value2= objServiceManager.Bridge_GetValueObject(); value1.Set("short", 100); value2.Set("short", 111); var array= new Array(); array[0]= value1; array[1]= value2; var allValue= objServiceManager.Bridge_GetValueObject(); allValue.Set("[]short", array); object.doSomething( allValue);

If a function takes an out parameter, tell the Value Object like this:

// UNO IDL void doSomething( \[out\] long);
// JScript var value= objServiceManager.Bridge_GetValueObject();
value.InitOutParam(); object.doSomething( value); var out= value.Get();

When the Value Object is an inout parameter, it needs to know the type and value as well:

//UNO IDL void doSomething( \[inout\] long);
//JSscript var value= objServiceManager.Bridge_GetValueObject();
value.InitInOutParam("long", 123); object.doSomething(value); var out= value.Get();

Exceptions and Errorcodes

UNO interface functions may throw exceptions to communicate an error. Automation objects provide a different error mechanism. First, the IDispatch interface describes a number of error codes (HRESULTs) that are returned under certain conditions.
Second, the Invoke function takes an argument that can be used by the object to provide descriptive error information. The argument is a structure of type EXCEPINFO and is used by the bridge to convey exceptions being thrown by the called UNO interface function. In case the UNO method throws an exception the bridge fills EXCEPINFO with these values:

EXCEPINFO::wCode = 1001
EXCEPINFO::bstrSource = "[automation bridge]"
EXCEPINFO::bstrDescription = type name of the exceptions + the message of the exception (com::sun::star::uno::Exception::message)

Also the returned error code will be DISP_E_EXCEPTION.

Since the automation bridge processes the Invoke call and calls the respective UNO method in the end, there can be other errors which are not caused by the UNO method itself. The following table shows what these errors are and how they are caused.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HRESULT</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_EXCEPTION</td>
<td>UNO interface function or property access function threw an exception and the caller did not provide an EXCEPINFO argument.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bridge error. A ValueObject could not be created when the client called Bridge_GetValueObject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bridge error. A struct could not be created when the client called Bridge_GetStruct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bridge error. A wrapper for a UNO type could not be created when the client called Bridge_CreateType.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bridge error. The automation object contains a UNO object that does not support the XInvocation interface. Could be a failure of com.sun.star.script.Invocation service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In JScript was an Array object passed as inout param and the bridge could not retrieve the property &quot;0&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A conversion of a VARIANTARG (DISPPARAMS structure) failed for some reason.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parameter count does not tally with the count provided by UNO type information (only when one DISPPARAMS contains VT_DISPATCH). This is a bug. DISP_E_BADPARAMCOUNT should be returned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_NONAMEDARGS</td>
<td>The caller provided &quot;named arguments&quot; for a call to a UNO function.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_BADVARTYPE</td>
<td>Conversion of VARIANTARGS failed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bridge error: Caller provided a ValueObject and the attempt to retrieve the value failed. This is possibly a bug. DISP_E_EXCEPTION should be returned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A member with the current name does not exist according to type information. This is a bug. DISP_E_MEMBERNOTFOUND</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Exceptions and Errorcodes

should be returned.
The argument in Bridge_CreateType was no string or could not be converted into one.
A property was assigned a value and the caller provided null or more than one arguments.
The caller did not provide the number of arguments as required by the UNO interface function.
Bridge_CreateType was called where the number of arguments was not one.

DISP_E_BADPARAMCOUNT

DISP_E_MEMBERNOTFOUND

Invoke was called with a DISPID that was not issued by GetIDsOfName.
There is no interface function (also property access function) with the name for which Invoke is currently being called.

DISP_E_TYPEMISMATCH

DISP_E_OVERFLOW

The called provided an argument of a false type.
An argument could not be coerced to the expected type.
Internal call to XInvocation::invoke resulted in a CannotConvertException<code> being thrown. The field reason has the value OUT_OF_RANGE which means that a given value did not fit in the range of the destination type.

E_UNEXPECTED

[2]results from com.sun.star.script.CannotConvertException of XInvocation::invoke with FailReason::UNKNOWN. Internal call to XInvocation::invoke resulted in a com.sun.star.script.CannotConvertException being thrown. The field reason has the value UNKNOWN, which signifies some unknown error condition.

E_POINTER

Bridge_GetValueObject or Bridge_GetStruct called and no argument for return value provided.

S_OK

Ok.

Return values of IDispatch::GetIDsOfNames:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HRESULT</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E_POINTER</td>
<td>Caller provided no argument that receives the DISPID.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_UNKNOWNNAME</td>
<td>There is no function or property with the given name.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S_OK</td>
<td>Ok.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The functions IDispatch::GetTypeInfo and GetTypeInfoCount return E_NOTIMPL.

When a call from UNO to an Automation object is performed, then the following HRESULT values are converted to exceptions. Keep in mind that it is determined what exceptions the functions of XInvocation are allowed to throw.

Exceptions thrown by XInvocation::invoke() and their HRESULT counterparts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HRESULT</th>
<th>Exception</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009
Exceptions and Errorcodes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Errorcode</th>
<th>Exception</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_BADPARAMCOUNT</td>
<td>com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_BADVARTYPE</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_EXCEPTION</td>
<td>com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_MEMBERNOTFOUND</td>
<td>com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_NONAMEDARGS</td>
<td>com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_OVERFLOW</td>
<td>com.sun.star.script.CannotConvertException, reason= FailReason::OUT_OF_RANGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_PARAMNOTFOUND</td>
<td>com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_TYPEMISMATCH</td>
<td>com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_UNKNOWNINTERFACE</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E.UnknownLCID</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_PARAMNOTOPTIONAL</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

XInvocation::setValue() throws the same as invoke() except for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HRESULT</th>
<th>Exception</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_BADPARAMCOUNT</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_MEMBERNOTFOUND</td>
<td>com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_NONAMEDARGS</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

XInvocation::getValue() throws the same as invoke() except for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HRESULT</th>
<th>Exception</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_BADPARAMCOUNT</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISP_E_NONAMEDARGS</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException</td>
</tr>
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<td>DISP_E_OVERFLOW</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>DISP_E_PARAMNOTOPTIONAL</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Automation Objects with UNO Interfaces

It is common that UNO functions take interfaces as arguments. As discussed in section Usage of Types, those objects are usually obtained as return values of UNO functions. With the Automation bridge, it is possible to implement those objects even as Automation objects and use them as arguments, just like UNO objects.

Although Automation objects can act as UNO objects, they are still not fully functional UNO components. That is, they cannot be created by means of the service manager. Also, there is no mapping of UNO exceptions defined. That is, an UNO object
implemented as automation object cannot make use of exceptions nor can it convey them in any other way.

One use case for such objects are listeners. For example, if a client wants to know when a writer document is being closed, it can register the listener object with the document, so that it will be notified when the document is closing.

Requirements

Automation objects implement the IDispatch interface, and all function calls and property operations go through this interface. We imply that all interface functions are accessed through the dispatch interface when there is mention of an Automation object implementing UNO interfaces. That is, the Automation object still implements IDispatch only.

Basically, all UNO interfaces can be implemented as long as the data types used with the functions can be mapped to Automation types. The bridge needs to know what UNO interfaces are supported by an Automation object, so that it can create a UNO object that implements all those interfaces. This is done by requiring the Automation objects to support the property Bridge_implementedInterfaces, which is an array of strings. Each of the strings is a fully qualified name of an implemented interface. If an Automation object only implements one UNO interface, then it does not need to support that property.

Note – You never implement com.sun.star.script.XInvocation and com.sun.star.uno.XInterface. XInvocation cannot be implemented, because the bridge already maps IDispatch to XInvocation internally. Imagine a function that takes an XInvocation:

```idl
:// UNO IDL :void func( [in] com.sun.star.script.XInvocation obj);
```

In this case, use any Automation object as argument. When an interface has this function,

```idl
:void func( [in] com.sun.star.XSomething obj)
```

the automation object must implement the functions of XSomething, so that they can be called through IDispatch::Invoke.
Examples

The following example shows how a UNO interface is implemented in VB. It is about a listener that gets notified when a writer document is being closed.

To rebuild the project use the wizard for an ActiveX dll and put this code in the class module. The component implements the com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener interface.

```vbnet
Option Explicit
Private interfaces(0) As String
Public Property Get Bridge_ImplementedInterfaces() As Variant
    Bridge_ImplementedInterfaces = interfaces End Property
Private Sub Class_Initialize()
    interfaces(0) = "com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener"
End Sub
Private Sub Class_Terminate()
    On Error Resume Next
    Debug.Print "Terminate VBEventListener"
End Sub
Public Sub disposing(ByVal source As Object)
    MsgBox "disposing called"
End Sub
```

You can use these components in VB like this:

```vbnet
Dim objServiceManager As Object
Dim objDesktop As Object
Dim objDocument As Object
Dim objEventListener As Object
Set objServiceManager = CreateObject("com.sun.star.ServiceManager")
Set objDesktop = objServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop")
'Open a new empty writer document
Dim args() Set objDocument = objDesktop.loadComponentFromURL("private:factory/swriter", "_blank", 0, args)
'create the event listener ActiveX component
Set objEventListener = CreateObject("VBasicEventListener.VBEventListener")
'register the listener with the document
objDocument.addEventListener(objEventListener)
```

The next example shows a JScript implementation of a UNO interface and its usage from JScript. To use JScript with UNO, a method had to be determined to realize arrays and out parameters. Presently, if a UNO object makes a call to a JScript object, the bridge must be aware that it has to convert arguments according to the JScript requirements. Therefore, the bridge must know that one calls a JScript component, but the bridge is not capable of finding out what language was used. The programmer has to provide hints, by implementing a property with the name "_environment" that has the value "JScript".

```javascrtipt
// UNO IDL: the interface to be implemented interface XSimple : public com.sun.star.uno.XInterface {
    void func1( [in] long val, [out] long outVal);
    long func2( [in] sequence< long > val, [out] sequence< long > outVal);
    void func3( [inout]long );
};

// JScript: implementation of XSimple function XSimpleImpl()
{
    this._environment= "JScript";
    this.Bridge_ImplementedInterfaces= new Array( "XSimple");
    // the interface functions
    this.func1= func1_impl; this.func2 = func2_impl; this.func3= func3_impl;
}

function func1_impl( inval, outval) {
    //outval is an array
    outval[0]=
```
Assume there is a UNO object that implements the following interface function:

```
//UNO IDL void doSomething([in] XSimple);
```

Now, call this function in JScript and provide a JScript implementation of XSimple:

```
<script language="JScript">
var factory= new ActiveXObject("com.sun.star.ServiceManager"); // create the UNO component that implements an interface with the doSomething function
var oletest= factory.createInstance("oletest.OleTest"); oletest.doSomething( new XSimpleImpl()); ...
</script>
```

To build a component with C++, write the component from scratch or use a kind of framework, such as the Active Template Library (ATL). When a dual interface is used with ATL, the implementation of IDispatch is completely hidden and the functions must be implemented as if they were an ordinary custom interface, that is, use specific types as arguments instead of **VARIANT**s. If a UNO function has a return value, then it has to be specified as the first argument which is flagged as "retval".

```
// UNO IDL interface XSimple : public com.sun.star.uno.XInterface { void func1([in] long val, [out] long outVal); long func2([in] sequence< long > val, [out] sequence< long > outVal); };
//IDL of ATL component [object, uuid(xxxxxxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxxxxxxxxxx), dual, helpstring("ISimple Interface"), pointer_default(unique)] interface ISimple : IDispatch { [id(1), helpstring("method func1")]
            HRESULT func1([in] long val, [out] long* outVal); [id(2), helpstring("method func2")]
            HRESULT func2([out, retval] long ret, [in] SAFEARRAY(VARIANT) val, [out] SAFEARRAY(VARIANT) * outVal); [propget, id(4), helpstring("property_implementedInterfaces")]
            HRESULT Bridge_implementedInterfaces([out, retval] SAFEARRAY(BSTR) *pVal); }
```

## DCOM

The Automation bridge maps all UNO objects to automation objects. That is, all those objects implement the IDispatch interface. To access a remote interface, the client and server must be able to marshal that interface. The marshaling for IDispatch is already provided by Windows, therefore all objects which originate from the bridge can be used remotely.

To make DCOM work, apply proper security settings for client and server. This can be
done by setting the appropriate registry entries or programmatically by calling
functions of the security API within the programs. The office does not deal with the
security, hence the security settings can only be determined by the registry settings
which are not completely set by the office’s setup. The AppID key under which the
security settings are recorded is not set. This poses no problem because the
dcomcnfg.exe configuration tools sets it automatically.

To access the service manager remotely, the client must have launch and access
permission. Those permissions appear as sub-keys of the AppID and have binary
values. The values can be edited with dcomcnfg. Also the identity of the service
manager must be set to “Interactive User”. When the office is started as a result of a
remote activation of the service manager, it runs under the account of the currently
logged-on user (the interactive user).

In case of callbacks (office calls into the client), the client must adjust its security
settings so that incoming calls from the office are accepted. This happens when
listener objects that are implemented as Automation objects (not UNO components)
are passed as parameters to UNO objects, which in turn calls on those objects.
Callbacks can also originate from the automation bridge, for example, when JScript
Array objects are used. Then, the bridge modifies the Array object by its IDispatchEx
interface. To get the interface, the bridge has to call QueryInterface with a call back
to the client.

To avoid these callbacks, VBArray objects and Value Objects could be used.

To set security properties on a client, use the security API within a client program or
make use of dcomcnfg again. The API can be difficult to use. Modifying the registry is
the easiest method, simplified by dcomcnfg. This also adds more flexibility, because
administrators can easily change the settings without editing source code and
rebuilding the client. However, dcomcnfg only works with COM servers and not with
ordinary executables. To use dcomcnfg, put the client code into a server that can be
registered on the client machine. This not only works with exe servers, but also with
in-process servers, namely dlls. Those can have an AppID entry when they are
remote, that is, they have the DllSurrogate subkey set. To activate them an
additional executable which instantiates the in-process server is required. At the first
call on an interface of the server DCOM initializes security by using the values from
the registry, but it only works if the executable has not called CoInitializeSecurity
beforehand.

To run JScript or VBScript programs, an additional program, a script controller that
runs the script is required, for example, the Windows Scripting Host (WSH). The
problem with these controllers is that they might impose their own security settings by
calling CoInitializeSecurity on their own behalf. In that case, the security settings
that were previously set for the controller in the registry are not being used. Also, the
controller does not have to be configurable by dcomcnfg, because it might not be a

Chapter 2 · Professional UNO 267
COM server. This is the case with WSH (not WSH remote).

To overcome these restrictions write a script controller that applies the security settings before a scripting engine has been created. This is time consuming and requires some knowledge about the engine, along with good programming skills. The Windows Script Components (WSC) is easier to use. A WSC is made of a file that contains XML, and existing JScript and VBS scripts can be put into the respective XML Element. A wizard generates it for you. The WSC must be registered, which can be done with `regsvr32.exe` or directly through the context menu in the file explorer. To have an AppID entry, declare the component as remotely accessible. This is done by inserting the `remotable` attribute into the registration element in the wsc file:

```xml
<registration description="writerdemo script component" progid="dcomtest.writerdemo.WSC" version="1.00" classid="{90c5c5a-5e38-4c6d-9634-b0c740c569ad}" remotable="true">
</registration>
```

When the WSC is registered, there will be an appropriate AppID key in the registry. Use `dcomcnfg` to apply the desired security settings on this component. To run the script. An executable is required. For example:

```vbscript
Option Explicit Sub main()
    Dim obj As Object
    Set obj = CreateObject("dcomtest.writerdemo.wsc")
    obj.run
End Sub
```

In this example, the script code is contained in the run function. This is how the wsc file appears:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<component>
<component error="true" debug="true">
<registration description="writerdemo script component" progid="dcomtest.writerdemo.WSC" version="1.00" classid="{90c5c5a-5e38-4c6d-9634-b0c740c569ad}" remotable="true"></registration>
</component>
<public>
<method name="run">
</method>
</public>
<script language="JScript">
<!CDATA[
var description = new jscripttest; function jscripttest()
{ this.run = run; } function run()
{ var objServiceManager = new ActiveXObject("com.sun.star.ServiceManager","\\jl-1036"); var objCoreReflection = objServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection"); var objDesktop = objServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop"); var objCoreReflection = objServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection"); var args = new Array(); var objDocument = objDesktop.loadComponentFromURL("private:factory/swriter", ", blank", 0, args); var objText = objDocument.getText(); var objCursor = objText.createTextCursor(); objText.insertString ( objCursor, "The first line in the newly created text document.
", false); objText.insertString ( objCursor, "Now we're in the second line", false); var objTable = objDocument.createInstance ( "com.sun.star.text.TextTable"); objTable.initialize ( 4, 4); objText.insertTextContent ( objCursor, objTable, false); var objRows = objTable.getRows(); var objRow = objRows.getByIndex( 0); objTable.setPropertyValue ( "BackTransparent", false); objTable.setPropertyValue ( "BackColor", 13421823); objRow.setPropertyValue ( "BackTransparent", false); objRow.setPropertyValue ( "BackColor", 6710932); insertIntoCell ( "A1","FirstColumn", objTable); insertIntoCell ( "B1","SecondColumn", objTable);
]
```

OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009
This WSC contains the WriterDemo example written in JScript.
The Bridge Services

Service:
com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.BridgeSupplier

Note – Prior to OpenOffice.org 2.0 the service was named com.sun.star.bridge.OleBridgeSupplier2.

The component implements the com.sun.star.bridge.XBridgeSupplier2 interface and converts Automation values to UNO values. The mapping of types occurs according to the mappings defined in Type Mappings.

Note – Usually you do not use this service unless you must convert a type manually.

A programmer uses the com.sun.star.ServiceManager ActiveX component to access the office. The COM class factory for com.sun.star.ServiceManager uses BridgeSupplier internally to convert the UNO service manager into an Automation object. Another use case for the BridgeSupplier might be to use the SDK without an office installation. For example, if there is a UNO component from COM, write code which converts the UNO component without the need of an office. That code could be placed into an ActiveX object that offers a function, such as getUNOComponent().

The interface is declared as follows:

```java
module com { module sun { module star { module bridge { interface XBridgeSupplier2: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface { any createBridge( [in] any aModelDepObject, [in] sequence<
byte > aProcessId, [in] short nSourceModelType, [in] short nDestModelType ) raises( com::sun::star::lang::IllegalArgumentException ); } } } } }
```

The value that is to be converted and the converted value itself are contained in anys. The any is similar to the VARIANT type in that it can contain all possible types of its type system, but that type system only comprises UNO types and not Automation types. However, it is necessary that the function is able to receive as well as to return Automation values. In C++, void pointers could have been used, but pointers are not used with UNO IDL. Therefore, the any can contain a pointer to a VARIANT and that
the type should be an unsigned long.

To provide the any, write this C++ code:

```cpp
class Any { // pVariant is a VARIANT* and contains the value that is going to be converted
    Any* pVariant; // the value is located in pVariant

    void setValue(void* value, const uno::Type& type) { pVariant = (VARIANT*)value; }

    void clear() { VariantClear(pVariant); }

    VariantType getType() const { return VariantType::ENUM; }

    VARIANT* getVariant() const { return pVariant; }

    // Accessors
    void* getValue() const { return pVariant; }

    bool isNull() const { return VariantIsNil(pVariant); }
}
```

Whether the argument `aModelDepObject` or the return value carries a VARIANT depends on the mode in which the function is used. The mode is determined by supplying constant values as the `nSourceModelType` and `nDestModelType` arguments. Those constant are defined as follows:

```cpp
module com { module sun { module star { module bridge {  constants
ModelDependent {      const short UNO = 1;      const short OLE = 2;
const short JAVA = 3;      const short CORBA = 4;  }
}; } }; }; }; }
```

The table shows the two possible modes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>nSourceModelType</th>
<th>nDestModelType</th>
<th>aModelDepObject</th>
<th>Return Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNO</td>
<td>OLE</td>
<td>contains UNO</td>
<td>contains VARIANT*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLE</td>
<td>UNO</td>
<td>contains VARIANT*</td>
<td>contains UNO value</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When the function returns a VARIANT*, that is, a UNO value is converted to an Automation value, then the caller has to free the memory of the VARIANT:

```cpp
sal_uInt8 arId[16]; rtl_getGlobalProcessId( arId ); Sequence<sal_Int8> procId((sal_Int8*)arId, 16); Any anyDisp= xSupplier->createBridge( anySource, procId, UNO, OLE); IDispatch* pDisp; if( anyDisp.getValueTypeClass() == TypeClass_UNSIGNED_LONG) {     VARIANT* pvar= *(VARIANT**)anyDisp.getValue();
    if( pvar->vt == VT_DISPATCH)     {         pDisp= pvar->pdispVal;
    pDisp->AddRef();         }     VariantClear( pvar);     CoTaskMemFree( pvar); }
```

The function also takes a process ID as an argument. The implementation compares the ID with the ID of the process the component is running in. Only if the IDs are identical a conversion is performed. Consider the following scenario:

There are two processes. One process, the server process, runs the `BridgeSupplier` service. The second, the client process, has obtained the `XBridgeSupplier2` interface by means of the UNO remote bridge. In the client process an Automation object is to be converted and the function `XBridgeSupplier2::createBridge` is called. The interface is actually a UNO interface proxy and the remote bridge will ensure that the arguments are marshaled, sent to the server process and that the original interface is being called. The argument `aModelDepObject` contains an IDispatch* and must be marshaled as COM interface, but the remote bridge only sees an any that contains an unsigned long and marshals it accordingly. When it arrives in the server process, the IDispatch* has become invalid and calls on it might crash the application.
Service:
com.sun.star.bridge.OleBridgeSupplierVar1

This service has been deprecated as of OpenOffice.org 2.0.

Service:
com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.ApplicationRegistration

Note – Prior to OpenOffice.org 2.0 this service was named com.sun.star.bridge.OleApplicationRegistration.

This service registers a COM class factory when the service is being instantiated and deregisters it when the service is being destroyed. The class factory creates a service manager as an Automation object. All UNO objects created by the service manager are then automatically converted into Automation objects.

Service:
com.sun.star.bridge.oleautomation.Factory

Note – Prior to OpenOffice.org 2.0 this service was named com.sun.star.bridge.OleObjectFactory.

This service creates ActiveX components and makes them available as UNO objects which implement XInvocation. For the purpose of component instantiation, the OleClient implements the
com.sun.star.lang. XMultiServiceFactory

interface. The COM component is specified by its programmatic identifier (ProgId).

Although any ActiveX component with a ProgId can be created, a component can only be used if it supports IDispatch and provides type information through IDispatch::GetTypeInfo.
Unsupported COM Features

The Automation objects provided by the bridge do not provide type information. That is, `IDispatch::GetTypeInfoCount` and `IDispatch::GetTypeInfo` return `E_NOTIMPL`. Also, there are no COM type libraries available and the objects do not implement the `IProvideClassInfo[2]` interface.

`GetIDsOfName` processes only one name at a time. If an array of names is passed, then a `DISPID` is returned for the first name.

`IDispatch::Invoke` does not support named arguments and the `pExcepInfo and puArgErr` parameter.

CLI Language Binding

The CLI (Common Language Infrastructure) language binding allows CLI programs to connect to an office and perform operations on it, such as creating and converting documents. A CLI-program consists of IL (Intermediate Language) code and can be produced by tools, such as C# or VB .NET compilers. The binding provides for type-safe programming. All UNO types are available as CLI types.

CLI - components are not fully supported. That is, although one can implement UNO interfaces in a CLI language there is no support for creating instances by means of the office’s service manager. More accurately, one cannot register the components with unopkg and load them later from within the running program.

Currently the language binding is only available for the Windows operating system.

Terms

The following CLI-related abbreviations are used within this document:

- **IL** = Intermediate Language
- **CLI** = Common Language Infrastructure
- **CLR** = Common Language Runtime
- **CTS** = Common Type System
Requirements

The language binding is part of OpenOffice.org 2.0 and is only available for Windows platforms, such as Windows XP and Windows 2000. Refer to the documentation of the Microsoft .NET Framework to find out which operating systems are supported and which prerequisites have to be fulfilled. A Microsoft .NET Framework Version 1.1 must be installed.

As of OpenOffice.org 3.0 the .NET Framework 3.5 is required. Only one office may be installed. That is, no different versions or different brands of OOo may be installed at the same time.

Supported Languages

The language binding should generally enable all CLI languages to be used with UNO. However, not every language may be suitable, because of missing features. For example, since UNO uses out parameters, the CLI language must support it as well, which is not given in JScript .NET.

The language binding was successfully tested with C# and VB code. We found that the C++ compiler provides false IL code in conjunction with arrays of enumeration values. This can cause exceptions, as the following example shows:

```csharp
__value enum Colors {Red, Green, Blue};
public __gc class Test { public:
    static void foo() {
        Colors ar[] = new Colors[1];
        ar[0] = Red;
        Object* o = ar->GetValue(0);
    } //...
}
```

When calling `ar->GetValue(0)`, then a `System.ExecutionEngineException` is thrown. Looking at the IL reveals two significant differences to code produced by a C# compiler. First, the array `ar` is constructed as array of `System.Enum` and not as `Colors`. Therefore `ar->GetType()` would return a type for `System.Enum` instead of `Colors`. Second, `ar->GetValue()` is compiled to a “call” instruction instead of “callvirt”. The example caused the same exception even when compiled with a compiler from the framework SDK version 1.1.

As a workaround you can provide arrays of `System.Int32` for pure in parameter. There is no workaround for in/out and out parameter. Return values are not affected by this bug.

Another problem is that C++ does not support jagged arrays. Although it is possible to create an array of `System.Array` it is no substitute for a jagged array, since they have different types. Therefore, the compiler will produce an error if you try to pass an `Array` instance rather then a jagged array.
Running on 64 Bit Platforms

OOo 3.0, built by Sun, is built for a 32 bit Windows but also runs on 64 bit. To run cli applications on 64 bit one needs to have the 32bit .Net Framework installed (version 3.5 as of OOo 3.0). The application must be built for the x86 platform (see platform switch of csc.exe), otherwise it will not run. If it uses anycpu or x64 then the application will be loaded in a 64 bit process. In order to connect to OOo and creating the bridge, the process must load a couple of dlls from OOo, which are 32 bit dlls. This does not work and a System.BadImageFormatException is thrown.

To check if the application is set to run as 32 bit application one uses the corflags.exe program which is part of the .NET Framework SDK. For example:

corflags myapp.exe

could produce this output (not complete):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>v2.0.50727CLR</th>
<th>Header: 2.5PE</th>
<th>PE32CorFlags: 3ILONLY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>132BIT</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Signed: 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the PE flag has the value PE32 then this binary can also run in a 64 bit process. The 32BIT flag controls the type of process which is created for this application. On a 64bit system a value of 32BIT=0 will cause a 64 bit process. 32BIT=1 will force the use of a 32 bit process.

If the application was build with "anycpu" then it is possible to later change the 32BIT flag with

corflags /32BIT+

This will set 32BIT=1 and therefore the application will always be loaded into a 32 bit process even if run on 64 bit system.

Changes in OpenOffice.org 3.0

cli_types.dll is replaced by cli_oootypes.dll and cli_uretypes.dll and both are installed in the GAC. The cli_uretypes.dll contains all types available to the URE (defined in project udkapi) and cli_oootype.dll contains all office types (defined in project offapi).

The consequence of this is that all client programs which linked with cli_types.dll do not work anymore. They need to be rebuild and reference cli_uretypes.dll and cli_oootypes.dll instead.

The 3.0 release contains a bug which prevents the bridge from working (see issue.)
For debugging purposes it may be convenient to install OOo with the /a switch, which prevents writing registry entries and installing the assemblies in the GAC. To make the client program work, one has to:

- copy all assemblies which are otherwise in the GAC next to the client executable. They can be found in the OpenOffice.org/URE/bin and OpenOffice.org/Basis 3/program folders.
- Set UNO_PATH to the program folder of the brand layer, for example, C:\staroffice\Sun\staroffice 9\program
- run the client program in same console

Language Binding DLLs

The language binding comprises five libraries prior v 3.0 and six libraries as of OOo version 3.0. Some of these do not need to be dealt with by the programmer, but others must be used during the development or deployment process. All libraries compiled for the CLI are prefixed by “cli_” to separate them from ordinary native libraries:

- cli_uno.dll: This is the CLI-UNO bridge that realizes the interaction between managed code (CLI) and UNO. It does not provide public types.
- cli_cppuhelper.dll: Provides bootstrapping code to bootstrap native UNO, that is, to use various UNO services implemented in different languages. Types from this assembly are always used in client programs.
- cli_ure.dll: Contains helper classes which are useful for implementing UNO interfaces. Types from this assembly are not necessarily used.
- cli_types.dll: (removed in OOo 3.0) Provides classes and interfaces for components and client programs. It is a collection of all UNO interfaces currently used in the office. Types from this assembly are always used in client programs.
- cli_uretypes.dll: (as of OOo 3.0) Provides the URE types. These types were contained in cli_types.dll before OOo 3.0.
- cli_oootypes.dll: (as of OOo 3.0) Provides the office types. These types were contained in cli_types.dll before OOo 3.0.
- cli_basetypes.dll: As the name implies, it provides some base types, which are already needed for the generated UNO types in cli_basetypes.dll. Since it contains the Any type, probably all programs need this library. Also the cli_uretypes.dll and cli_oootypes.dll depend on it.

These libraries were first shipped with OpenOffice.org 2.0. Except for cli_uno.dll, they are installed in the Global Assembly Cache (GAC).
Modules

As of OpenOffice.org 3.0 the following modules contain the CLI-UNO libraries:

cli_ure: cli_uno.dll, cli_ure.dll, cli_basetypes.dll, cli_uretypes.dll, cli_cppuhelper.dll

unoil: cli_ootypes.dll

Type Mapping

The CLI language binding is intended to run programs that connect to an office and that are written in a CLI compliant language. Therefore, all UNO Types have to be mapped to a CLI type. However, it is not necessary to have mappings for all CLI types unless you intend to interact with arbitrary CLI programs (not UNO components) from UNO (binary UNO). Since we focus on interaction with UNO components, we will restrict the mapping to UNO types. Other mappings might be introduced at a later stage (for example, `System.Decimal`, indexers, and so on.).

This document only covers the complete mapping of UNO types to CLI.

UNO types will be mapped to types from the Common Type System (CTS). Although some types are not CLS compliant (for example, unsigned types are used), they should be usable from various CLI programming languages. This document will represent CTS types by the respective class from the framework class library, where possible. .NET languages may provide particular build-in types, which can be used instead of those classes. For example, in C# you can use `int` rather than `System.Int32`.

Since this type mapping specification targets the CLI as a whole, mappings can be given as IL assembler code. However, for easier understanding, mappings are mostly described by C# examples.

Metadata is provided in IL assembler syntax.

This document refers to the subject of how UNO types are defined in a certain language. This subject is to be regarded as hypothetical, since current implementations of the UNO runtime do not allow for new types to be introduced by language bindings. For example, a component written in C# or Java may contain new types which should be used across the UNO system. Currently, new types have to be provided as binary output of the idlc compiler, which have to be made known to UNO, for example by merging them into a central types.rdb. In a remote scenario, those
Type Name Decoration

IDL type names can potentially conflict with type names of a particular language, or a name from one language could also be used in another language. In these cases, interactions between those language environments are prone to errors, because types are misinterpreted and incorrectly handled. To counter the problem, the bridge decorates all imported and exported type names. For example, the type `a.b.c` is transferred from one environment into a .NET environment. Then the bridge prefixes the name with a string, so that the name is `unoidl.a.b.c` When that type is sent back into the environment where it came from, then the bridge removes the "unoidl." prefix. Likewise, if a type that was defined in the CLI environment is transferred out of that environment, the name is prefixed with "cli." On return, the prefix will be removed again. For more information, see the concept paper Names in UNO. It can be found at: [http://udk.openoffice.org/common/man/names.html](http://udk.openoffice.org/common/man/names.html).

When CLI types are declared, their names must not start with "unoidl." And types declared in UNOIDL must not start with "cli."

Type Mappings

Simple Types

Simple types are mapped according to the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNOIDL Type</th>
<th>CLI Framework class (namespace System)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Boolean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>byte</td>
<td>Byte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short</td>
<td>Int16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>Int32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyper</td>
<td>Int64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned short</td>
<td>UInt16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned long</td>
<td>UInt32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned hyper</td>
<td>UInt64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Type Mappings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>float</th>
<th>Single</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>double</td>
<td>Double</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>char</td>
<td>Char</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>string</td>
<td>String</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>type</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>void</td>
<td>Void</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. In type declarations void is only used as a return type.

2. Similar to UNOs com.sun.star.uno.TypeClass there is a System.TypeCode enumeration which, however, does not contain a value for void.

any

The any type will be mapped to a value type with the name uno.Any. For example:

```csharp
//UNOIDL void func([in]any val);
//C# virtual void func(uno.Any val);
```

Although a System.Object can represent all types, it was decided to not use it, for the following reasons:

First, in UNO only, an interface can have no value, which amounts to a null reference in C# or a null pointer in C++. The any can represent all uno types and additionally knows a void state (com::sun::star::uno::TypeClass_VOID). If the any is mapped to System.Object then a CLI null reference would represent both an interface with a null value and a void any. This distinction is important.

Second, the any can contain a particular interface. The consumer of the any knows exactly what type the any contains because of the provided type information, and is spared to determine the type by using casts.

The function hasValue determines if the type class is of TypeClass_VOID, in other words, if the any carries a value. The Any class also overrides the methods, Equals, ToString and GetHashCode from System.Object. There is also an Equals implementation which takes an Any as argument. Hence the argument does not require unboxing as the overridden Equals method does. The any offers a bunch of constructors. For complete initialization it needs a System.Type and a System.Object:

```csharp
public Any(System.Type type, System.Object)
```

Because the type of an object can be identified by Object.GetType, it is in some cases unnecessary to specify the type. Therefore there are also a couple of constructors, which only take the object as argument. For example:
public Any(char value) public Any(bool value)

However, when an UNO interface or struct is to be put in an Any then the type must be explicitly provided, because structs can be derived and interface implementations can derive from multiple interfaces. Then Object.GetType may then not return the intended type.

At this point the polymorphic structs needs to be mentioned in particular, because they currently require to provide a uno.PolymorphicType in the Any constructor:

```csharp
//C#
PolymorphicType t = PolymorphicType.GetType( typeof(unoidl.com.sun.star.beans.Optional), "unoidl.com.sun.star.beans.Optional<System.Char>")); Any a = new Any(t, objStruct);
```

The Any contains a static member VOID which can be used whenever a void Any is needed:

```csharp
//C# obj.functionWithVoidAnyArgument(uno.Any.VOID);
```

The type and value contained in the Any can be accessed by read-only properties named Type and Value. One can also subsequently assign new values by calling setValue. This can be useful, when handling arrays. For example:

```csharp
//C# uno.Any[] ar = new uno.Any[1000]; foreach(uno.Any a in ar) a.setValue(typeof(char), 's');
```

One could also construct new Any instances and assign them:

```csharp
foreach(uno.Any a in ar) a = new uno.Any('c');
```

setValue and the read access to the Type property may change the state of the instance. Therefore one has to make sure that concurrent access is synchronized. When an Any is default constructed, for example when creating an array of Anys, then the member representing the Any’s type is null. Only when the Type property is accessed and setValue has not been called yet, then the type is set to void. This setting of the member may interfere with setValue, hence the need for synchronization. However, in most cases synchronization is not necessary.

The uno.Any is contained in the cli_basetypes.dll and the C# source file can be found in the cli_ure project (cli_ure/source/basetypes/uno/Any.cs).
interface

General

UNOIDL interface types map to CTS interface types with public accessibility. If a UNO interface inherits an interface, then the target interface will do as well.

Methods

General

All methods have public accessibility. The method names and argument names of the target type are the same as the respective names in the UNOIDL declaration. The return type and argument types correspond to the mapping of the respective UNOIDL types. The order of the arguments is the same as in the UNOIDL declaration.

Types declared in a CLI language, do not need to provide argument names in methods. Only their types are required. If names are provided, then this is done for all arguments.

Exceptions, which are expressed by the raised keyword in UNOIDL, have no bearing on the target type. The IL assembler method head does not reflect the exception. However, metadata, which holds information about possible UNO exceptions, is available.

Parameter Types (in,out,in/out)

The CLI supports three kinds of parameter types: by-ref parameters, by-value parameters and typed-reference parameters. Typed-reference parameters are very special types and are of no relevance to this specification (for more information, see class System.TypedReference). Within the CLR, objects are always passed as references. However, only objects that have a by-ref type, which is indicated by the trailing '%' in the type name, can be assigned a new value. Therefore, by-ref
parameters can be used as in/out or just out parameters.

Parameters can have an in-attribute, out-attribute (CLI: InAttribute, OutAttribute) or both. They are generated in different ways:

- By using language-specific key words, such as out in C#, which produces an OutAttribute
- By using attribute classes, such as

Parameter types are mapped as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNOIDL keyword</th>
<th>CIL parameter passing convention</th>
<th>CIL Custom Attributes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[in]</td>
<td>by-value</td>
<td>InAttribute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[out]</td>
<td>by-ref</td>
<td>OutAttribute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[inout]</td>
<td>by-ref</td>
<td>InAttribute, OutAttribute</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In metadata a "by-value" type is represented by a CLI build-in type or class name. A "by-ref" type additionally has an '&' appended. The InAttribute is represented by "[in]" and the OutAttribute by "[out]". If both attributes are applied, then a combination of both markers appears in the metadata. For example:

```
.method public hidebysig newslot virtual abstract instance int16 func1([in] int16 'value') cil managed { }
.method public hidebysig newslot virtual abstract instance int16 func2([out] int16 & 'value') cil managed { }
.method public hidebysig newslot virtual abstract instance int16 func3([out] [in] int16 & 'value') cil managed { }
```

It depends on the language, what ways of parameter passings are supported. The language may also require a special syntax with dedicated keywords to mark a parameter to use a particular parameter passing convention. Therefore a general example cannot be provided. However, here are examples in C# and C++:

```
//UNOIDL void foo1([in] short value); void foo2([out] short value); void foo3([in] short value);
// C# void foo1( short value); void foo2( out short value); void foo3( ref short value);
// C++ .NET void foo( short value); void foo2( short *value); void foo3( short *value);
```

When one uses UNO types in a language that does not support the different parameter passings, then that language might not be suitable for programming UNO code. For example, JScript .NET does not support out parameters. Therefore it is inappropriate for most UNO applications.
A word about in-parameters. An UNOIDL in-parameter may **not** be changed from within the method. This could be expressed in C++ with a const modifier. For example:

```cpp
//C++ .NET void foo(const Foo& value);
```

The const modifier, however, is not supported by the CLI and has only a meaning in code written with the same language. For example, the C++ compiler creates an attribute, that will be evaluated by the same compiler but it is not guaranteed that other compilers make use of this attribute. For example:

```cpp
//C++ .NET void func(const Foo* a);
// IL asm .method public hidebysig newslot virtual abstract instance void
```

Since the C# compiler does not evaluate the IsConstModifier attribute, the argument could be modified in a C# implementation of that function.

A compiler could evaluate the InAttribute and prevent that the argument is changed. Since that is not required, in-parameters could be modified dependent on the language being used. Therefore, every developer must follow the rule:

**Warning** – UNOIDL in-parameter may not be modified from within a method, even if allowed by the language.

### Exceptions

CLI methods are not particularly marked if they throw exceptions. In order to not lose the information what exceptions can be thrown by a UNO interface method a custom attribute may be applied to that method. All exceptions which are indicated by the keyword `raises` in a UNOIDL interface description are mapped to a custom attribute, named `uno.ExceptionAttribute`. One only need to use this attribute when one declares a new type in a CLI language. Otherwise it is only for informational purposes. The climaker tool from the cli language binding provides assemblies in which methods which throw exceptions (other than `com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException`) are tagged with this Attribute. If the attribute is not present a method can still throw a `RuntimeException` or any other exception which is derived from it.
One-Way Methods

The UNOIDL oneway attribute has no counterpart in the CLI. To retain this information, the custom attribute `uno.OnewayAttribute` is applied.

Attributes

The UNOIDL attribute type is mapped to a CTS property. The type of the property is the mapping of the type used in the attribute declaration in UNOIDL.

A UNOIDL readonly attribute is mapped to a read-only property. That is, the property only has a get method.

UNOIDL method attributes can throw exceptions. These are expressed by the custom attribute `uno.ExceptionAttribute` which shall be applied to the get and/or set method. It shall only be applied if an exception is specified in UNOIDL.

XInterface

The CLI language binding does not support `com.sun.star.uno.XInterface`. Wherever a `<idl>`com.sun.star.uno.XInterface` occurs in a UNOIDL method signature, the method in the mapping contains a `System.Object`.

`<idl>`com.sun.star.uno.XInterface` is used to control the lifetime of UNO objects. Since the CLR uses a garbage collection mechanism, similar to Java and Smalltalk, there is no need for an explicit control of an object's lifetime.

`<idl>`com.sun.star.uno.XInterface` also provides a means to obtain other implemented interfaces by calling `</idl>`com.sun.star.uno.XInterface:queryInterface` in CLI, code this is done by casting an object to the desired interface. If the object does not implement this interface, then a `System.InvalidCastException` is thrown.

For the previously stated reasons, the `<idl>`com.sun.star.uno.XInterface` adds no functionality to an implementation. Therefore, no mapping for this interface exists.
**struct**

A UNO IDL struct is mapped to CTS class type, which supports inheritance (that is, no sealed attribute in the class head). A struct, such as defined by the C# struct keyword, is a value type and therefore has no inheritance support. For example:

```csharp
//C#  public struct Foo { }
```

IL class header:

```csharp
.class public sequential ansi sealed beforefieldinit Foo extends [mscorlib]System.ValueType { }
```

Also, the class inherits `System.Object` if the UNO struct has no base struct. Otherwise the target class inherits the class that is the mapping of the respective UNO base struct. Members of a UNOIDL struct are mapped to their respective target types. All members of the target type have public accessibility.

For ease of use, the target has two constructors: one default constructor without arguments and one that completely initializes the struct. The order of the arguments to the second constructor corresponds to the position of the members in the respective UNOIDL description. That is, the first argument initializes the member that is the mapping of the first member of the UNOIDL description. The names of the arguments are the same as the members that they initialize. Both constructors initialize their base class appropriately by calling a constructor of the base class. In some languages, instance constructor initializers are implicitly provided. For example, in C# `base()` does not need to be called in the initializer.

If a struct inherits another struct, the order of the arguments in a constructor is as follows: the arguments for the struct at the root come first, followed by the arguments for the deriving struct, and so on. The order of the arguments that initialize members of the same struct depends again on the position of the respective members within the UNOIDL declaration. The argument for the first member appears first, followed by the argument for the second member, and so on. The constructor calls the constructor of the inherited class and passes the respective arguments.

```csharp
//UNOIDL struct FooBase { string s; }; struct Foo: FooBase {  long l; }; //C# public class FooBase {  public FooBase() // base() implicitly called()public FooBase(string s) // base() implicitly { this.s = s; } public string s; } public class Foo: FooBase {  public Foo() { } public Foo(string s, int l): base(s) { this.l = l; } public int l; }
```
Polymorphic structs

As of OpenOffice.org 2.0, there is a new UNO IDL feature, the polymorphic struct. This struct is similar to C++ templates, in that the struct is parameterized and members can use the parameters as types. For example:

```c++
//UNO IDL struct PolyStruct<T> {    T member;  };
//C# public class PolyStruct {   public PolyStruct() // base() implicitly called    {   }   public PolyStruct(object theMember)   {     member = theMember;   }    public object member; }
```

As one can see, the type that is provided by the parameter is a System.Object. When instantiating a polymorphic struct, one need not initialize the members that are Objects. They can be null.

**const**

If a UNOIDL const value is contained in a module rather than a constants group, then a class is generated with the name of the const value. The only member is the constant. For example:

```c++
// UNO IDL  module com { sun { star { foo {  const long bar = 111;  }; }; }; };
// C# representation of the mapping namespace unoidl.com.sun.star.foo
{  public class bar {  public const int bar = 111;  }  }
```

In contrast to the Java mapping, interfaces are not used, because interfaces with fields are not CLS compliant.

**constants**

A constants type is mapped to a class with the same name as the constants group. The namespace of the class reflects the UNOIDL module containing the constants type. For example:

```c++
//UNOIDL  module com { sun { star { foo {  constants bar  {  const long a = 1;
const long b = 2;  };  }; // C# representationnamespace unoidl.com.sun.star.foo
{  public class bar {  public const long a = 1; public const long b = 2;  }  }
```
**enum**

UNOIDL enumeration types map to a CTS enumeration. The target type must inherit `System.Enum` and have the attribute sealed. For example:

```csharp
//UNOIDL  enum Color {  green, red  };
//C#  public enum Color {  green, red  }
```

**sequence**

A UNOIDL sequence maps to a CTS array. The target type may only contain CLS types, which is always the case since this mapping specification only uses CLS types. The target array has exactly one dimension. Therefore a sequence that contains a sequence is mapped to an array that contains arrays. Those arrays are also called "jagged arrays". For example:

```csharp
//UNOIDL sequence<long> ar32; sequence<sequence<long>> arar32;
//C# int ar32; int[][] arar32;
```

**exception**

The `com.sun.star.uno.Exception` is mapped to an exception that uses the same namespace and name. All members have public accessibility. The target `unoidl.com.sun.star.uno.Exception` inherits `System.Exception` and has one member only, which represents the `Context` member of the UNOIDL `<idls>com.sun.star.uno.Exception</idls>`. The target type does not have a member that represents the `Message` member of the UNOIDL type. Instead, it uses the `Message` property of `System.Object`.

For ease of use the target has two constructors: one default constructor without arguments and one that completely initializes the exception. The order of the arguments to the second constructor corresponds to the position of the members in the respective UNOIDL description. That is, the first argument initializes the member, which is the mapping of the first member of the UNOIDL description. The names of the arguments are the same as the members, which they initialize. Both constructors initialize their base class appropriately by calling a constructor of the base class. For example:

```csharp
//UNOIDL  module com { sun { star { uno {  exception Exception {  string Message;  com::sun::star::uno::XInterface Context;  };  };  };  };  };  }
```
All UNO exceptions inherit com.sun.star.uno.Exception. Likewise their mappings also inherit from the `unoidl.com.sun.star.uno.Exception`. The order of the constructor's arguments then depends on the inheritance chain. The arguments for the initialization of `unoidl.com.sun.star.uno.Exception` come first followed by the arguments for the derived exception and so on. The order of the arguments, which initialize the members of the same exception, depends again from the position of the respective members within the UNOIDL declaration. The argument for the first member appears first, followed by the argument for the second member, and so on. The constructor calls the constructor of the inherited class and passes the respective arguments. For example, let us assume we have a exception `FooException` which has two members:

```
//UNOIDL module com { sun { star { uno { exception FooException: com::sun::star::uno::Exception { int value1; string value2; }; }; }; }; }
```

```
//C# namespace com.sun.star.uno { public class FooException: com.sun.star.uno.Exception { public int value1; public string value2; public FooException(): base() { } public FooException(string argMessage, System.Object Context, int value1, string value2): base(Message, Context) { this.value1 = value1; this.value2 = value2; } } }
```

```
services
```

For every single-interface-based service a CLI class is provided which enables typesafe instantiation of the service. For example, if there were a service `com.sun.star.Test` then it could be created in these two ways:

```
//C# // com.sun.star.Test implements interface XTest com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext xContext = ...;
object service = xContext.getServiceManager().createInstanceWithContext( "com.sun.star.Test ", xContext ); XTest x = (XTest) service;
// This is the new way
XTest y = com.sun.star.Test.create(xContext);
```

If a service constructor method is specified to throw exceptions, then the respective CLI method hat the custom attribute `uno.ExceptionAttribute` applied to it.

See chapter Services/Service Constructors under Data Types for further details.
**singletons**

Similar to the services there are CLI classes for new-style singletons. For example, if there were a singleton `com.sun.star.TestSingleton` then it could be created in these two ways:

```csharp
//C# com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext xContext = ...; uno.Any a = xContext.getValueByName("com.sun.star.TestSingleton"); XTest x = (XTest)a.Value;

//The alternative: XTest x = com.sun.star.TestSingleton.get(xContext);
```

**Additional Structures**

Whether a complete type mapping can be achieved depends on the capabilities of a target environment. UNOIDL attributes which have no counterpart in the CLI are mapped to custom attributes. Hence no information becomes lost in the mapping. The attributes can be evaluated by:

- The CLI - UNO bridge
- Tools that generated source code files or documentation
- Tools that use CLI assemblies to dynamically provide type information to UNO.

**ExceptionAttribute Attribute**

The `uno.ExceptionAttribute` can be applied to interface methods, property methods (get or set) or service constructor methods. It contains the information about what exceptions can be thrown by the method. The source code can be found at `cli_ure/source/basetypes/uno/ExceptionAttribute.cs`.

**OnewayAttribute**

The `uno.OnewayAttribute` is applied to those interface methods that UNOIDL declarations have applied the oneway attribute to. The source code can be found at `cli_ure/source/basetypes/uno/OnewayAttribute.cs`. 
BoundPropertyAttribute

The uno.BoundPropertyAttribute is applied to properties whose respective UNOIDL declarations have the bount attribute applied to it. The source code can be found at cli_ure/source/basetypes/uno/BoundPropertyAttribute.cs.

TypeParametersAttribute

The uno.TypeParametersAttribute is applied to polymorphic structs. It keeps the information of the names in the type list of the struct. For example, a struct may be named com.sun.star.Foo<T, C>. Then the attribute contains the information, that the name of the first type in the type list is “T” and the second is “C”.

This attribute will become obsolete when the CLI supports templates and the CLI-UNO language binding has adopted them. The source code can be found at cli_ure/source/basetypes/uno/TypeParametersAttribute.cs.

ParameterizedTypeAttribute

The uno.ParameterizedTypeAttribute is applied to fields of polymorphic structs whose type is specified in the type list. For example, the struct may be declared as com.sun.star.Foo<T,C> and member is of type “T”. The member of the CLI struct would then be of type System.Object and the applied ParameterizeTypeAttribute would declare that the actual type is “T”.

This attribute will become obsolete when the CLI supports templates and the CLI-UNO language binding has adopted them. The source code can be found at cli_ure/source/basetypes/uno/ParameterizedTypeAttribute.cs.

TypeArgumentsAttribute

The uno.TypeArgumentsAttribute is applied to instantiations of the polymorphic struct. That is, it appears when a polymorphic struct is used as return value, parameter or field. It contains the information about the actual types in the type list. For example, a
function has a parameter of type com.sun.star.StructFoo<char, long>. Then the CLI parameter has the attribute which contains the list of types, in this case System.Char and System.Int32.

This attribute will become obsolete when the CLI supports templates and the CLI-UNO language binding has adopted them. The source code can be found at cli_ure/source/basetypes/uno/TypeArgumentsAttribute.cs.

**PolymorphicType**

The uno.PolymorphicType is derived from System.Type. It is used whenever a type from a polymorphic struct is needed. For example:

```csharp
//UNOIDL void func1([in] type t); void func2([in]any a); type func3(); any func4();
```

If the caller intends to pass the type of an polymorphic struct in func1, then they cannot use typeof(structname). Instead a uno.PolymorphicType must be created. The same goes for func2, when the any contains a polymorphic struct. If a UNO method returns the type of polymorphic struct, then the bridge ensures that a PolymorphicType is returned rather than System.Type.

The PolymorphicType is constructed by a static function:

```csharp
public static PolymorphicType GetType(Type type, string name)
```

The function ensures that there exist only one instance for the given combination of type and name.

This attribute will become obsolete when the CLI supports templates and the CLI-UNO language binding has adopted them. The source code can be found at cli_ure/source/basetypes/uno/PolymorphicType.cs.

**Lifetime Management and Obtaining Interfaces**

The CLR is similar to the Java runtime in that it keeps track of the object's lifetime rather then leaving the task to the developer. Once an object is no longer referenced (unreachable), the CLR deletes that object. Therefore, reference counting, as used in C++, is not necessary. Hence com.sun.star.uno.XInterface:acquire and com.sun.star.uno.XInterface:release are not needed.
Lifetime Management and Obtaining Interfaces

<idl>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface</idl> has a third method, <idl>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface:queryInterface</idl>, which is used to query an object for a particular interface. This language binding does not use <idl>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface:queryInterface</idl>. Instead objects can be cast to the desired interface. For example:

```csharp
// C# try {   XFoo bar = (XFoo) obj; } catch (System.InvalidCastException e) {   // obj does not support XFoo }
// using keywords is and as if (obj is XFoo) {   // obj supports XFoo }
XFoo foo = obj as XFoo; if (foo != null) {   // obj supports XFoo }
// C++ with managed extensions XFoo * pFoo = dynamic_cast< XFoo * >( obj ); if (XFoo != 0) {   // obj supports XFoo }
try { XFoo * pFoo = __try_cast< XFoo * >( obj ); } catch (System::InvalidCastException * e) {   // obj does not support XFoo }
```

Writing Client Programs

To build a client program it must reference at least cli_types.dll and cli_cppuhelper.dll. Also cli_ure can be referenced when one of its classes is used. These libraries are installed in the GAC and the program folder of the office installation. The referencing is done by certain compiler switches, for example /AI for C++ (with managed extensions) or /reference for the C# compiler. C++ also requires dlls to be specified by using the #using:

```csharp
#using <mscorlib.dll>
#using <cli_types.dll>
```

The following example discusses how to use services provided by a running office process:

The starting point of every remote client program is a component context. It is created by a static function `defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext`, which is provided by the class `uno.util.Bootstrap`. The context provides the service manager by which UNO components can be created. However, these components would still be local to the client process, that is, they are not from a running office and therefore cannot affect the running office. What is actually needed is a service manager of a running office. To achieve that, the component `com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver` is used, which is provided by the local service manager. The `<idl>com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver</idl>` connects to the remote office and creates a proxy of the office's service manager in the client process. The example code (OOo 2.x) is as follows:

```csharp
//C# example
```
ht.Add("SYSBINDIR", "file:///<office-dir>/program");
unoidl.com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext xLocalContext =

unoidl.com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver xURLResolver =
    (unoidl.com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver)
xLocalContext.getServiceManager().
        createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xLocalContext);

unoidl.com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext xRemoteContext =
    (unoidl.com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext) xURLResolver.resolve("uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2002;urp;StarOffice.ComponentContext");

unoidl.com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory xRemoteFactory =
    (unoidl.com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory)
xRemoteContext.getServiceManager();

For OOo 3.x the code is this:

//C# example for OOo 3.x
//Workaround which is needed when using a socket connection
//This will initialize the Windows socket library.
    AddressFamily.InterNetwork, SocketType.Raw, ProtocolType.IP);

XComponentContext xLocalContext =
    XComponentContext xLocalContext =
    uno.util.Bootstrap.defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext(sUnoIni, null);
XMultiComponentFactory xLocalServiceManager =
    xLocalContext.getServiceManager();
XUnoUrlResolver xUrlResolver =
    (XUnoUrlResolver)xLocalServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xLocalContext);
XMultiServiceFactory multiServiceFactory =
    (XMultiServiceFactory)xUrlResolver.resolve("uno:socket,host=localhost,port=8100;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager");

Alternatively one could use pipe connection, in which case, no socket needs to be created beforehand.

//C# example for OOo 3.x
XComponentContext xLocalContext =
    String sUnoIni = "file:///d:/OpenOffice.org%203/URE/bin/uno.ini";
XComponentContext xLocalContext =
    uno.util.Bootstrap.defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext(sUnoIni, null);
XMultiComponentFactory xLocalServiceManager =
    xLocalContext.getServiceManager();
XUnoUrlResolver xUrlResolver =
    (XUnoUrlResolver)xLocalServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xLocalContext);
XMultiServiceFactory multiServiceFactory =
    (XMultiServiceFactory)xUrlResolver.resolve("uno:socket,host=localhost,port=8100;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager");
XUnoUrlResolver xUrlResolver =
(XUnoUrlResolver)xLocalServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(  
"com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xLocalContext);

XMultiServiceFactory multiServiceFactory =
(XMultiServiceFactory)xUrlResolver.resolve(  
"uno:pipe,name=some_unique_pipe_name;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager");

Usually one would provide a path to the uno.ini (URE/bin folder) in the office installation. In that case and if one does not want to provide particular bootstrap variables (the second parameter of defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext) then one can use the version of defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext which does not take arguments:

XComponentContext xLocalContext =
uno.util.Bootstrap.defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext();
XMultiServiceFactory fac = (XMultiServiceFactory)
m_xContext.getServiceManager();

With the factory of the running office at hand, all components of the remote office are accessible.

For a client to connect to a running office, the office must have been started with the proper parameters. In this case, the command line looks like this:

soffice -accept=socket,host=localhost,port=2002;urp

or using a pipe connection

soffice -accept=pipe,name=pipe_name;urp

Other useful command line options for OOo are: -minimized -invisible -nologo -nolockcheck -nodefault

See also UNO Interprocess Connections.

As of OOo3.0 it is necessary to provide an ini file which contains the path to the fundamental.ini when using the defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext functions. The ini file must have the same name as the client program (without extension). For example, the program is named client.exe then there must be also a client.ini in the same folder. The path to the fundamental.ini must be a file URL. That is special characters need to be encoded. For example, a space is represented as %20. An example:

[Bootstrap]
URE_BOOTSTRAP=file:///d:/OpenOffice.org%203/program/fundamental.ini

Another, simpler way of starting and connection to OOo is to use the function uno.util.Bootstrap.bootstrap. The function finds OOo by using the registry (HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\OpenOffice.org\UNO\InstallPath or HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\OpenOffice.org\UNO\InstallPath) or the environment variable UNO_PATH. The function uses the key in HKEY_CURRENT_USER first,
and if it does not exist it uses the key in \HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE. In case the office does not start, check these keys. Also make sure that the PATH environment variable does not contain the program path to a different office.

```csharp
//C# example. OOo is started automatically.
XComponentContext xContext = uno.util.Bootstrap.bootstrap();
```

This method of getting the context no even require an ini file. The limitation is, that it always uses a pipe connection. In other word, it is suitable for a local OOO but not for one on a different machine.

It is possible to write UNO applications that do not depend on a running office. Then, you would typically provide an own database of registered services. For more information, see Manual Component Installation.

The CLI-UNO language binding does not support UNO components that are written in a CLI language. Instead, it acts as a liaison between a CLI client program and an office. The client program usually obtains UNO objects from the office and performs operations on them. Therefore, it is rarely necessary to implement UNO interfaces.

To receive notifications from UNO objects, it is necessary to implement the proper interfaces. Also, interfaces can be implemented in order to use the objects as arguments to UNO methods.

Interfaces are implemented by declaring a class that derives from one or more interfaces, and which provides implementations for the interface methods. How this is done is covered by the respective documentation of the various CLI languages.

## The Override Problem

The term “override problem” describes a problem that occurs when a virtual function of a base object becomes unreachable because an interface method overrides the implementation of the base class. For example, all CLI objects derive from `System.Object`. If an interface has a method that has the same signature as one of `System.Object`'s methods, then the respective method of `System.Object` is unreachable if the interface method is virtual.

For example, consider the following declaration of the interface `XFoo` and its implementing class:

```csharp
using namespace System;
public __gc __interface XFoo { public: virtual String* ToString(); }; 
public __gc class Foo : public XFoo { public: virtual String* ToString() { return NULL; } }
```
If the method `ToString` of an instance is called, then the implementation of the interface method is invoked. For example:

```c++
int main(void) {
    Foo * f = new Foo();
    Object * o = f;
    f->ToString(); // calls Foo.ToString
    o->ToString(); // calls Foo.ToString
    return 0;
}
```

This may not be intended, because the interface method likely has a different semantic than its namesake of `System.Object`.

A solution is to prevent the interface method from overriding the method of `System.Object` without making the interface method non-virtual. The CLI provides a remedy by way of the "newslot" flag, which is attached to the method header in the IL code. CLI languages may have different means for denoting a method with "newslot".

The following examples show ways of implementing `XFoo` in different languages, so that `Object.ToString` can still be called.

//C++ //interface methods should be qualified with the interface they belong to public __gc class A: public XFoo { public:         virtual String* XFoo::ToString()         {                  Console::WriteLine("A::foo");         return NULL;         } };

Note – Although `XFoo::ToString` is virtual, it cannot be overridden in an inheriting class, because the CLI method header contains the final attribute. In an inheriting class one can, however, derive again from `XFoo` and provide an implementation.

In C# there are different ways provide an implementation:

// IL contains: newslot final virtual public new string ToString() { }

The keyword new inserts the newslot attribute in the CLI method header. This implementation cannot be overridden in an inheriting class.

//IL contains: newslot virtual public new virtual string ToString() { }

This method can be overridden in a derived class.

// Using a qualified method name for the implementation. The virtual //modifier is not allowed string XFoo.ToString() { return null; }

This implementation cannot be overridden in a derived class. An instance of the implementing class must be cast to `XFoo` before the method can be called.

'VB .NET Public Shadows Function ToString() As String Implements XFoo.ToString
Console.WriteLine("Foo.toString") End Function

This implementation cannot be overridden in a derived class.
This method can be overridden.

Important Interfaces and Implementations

UNO objects implement a set of UNO interfaces, some of which are always dependent on requirements. The interfaces below belong to the assembly called cli_types.dll within your office's program directory:

- com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider
  (recommended for all UNO objects)
- com.sun.star.uno.XWeak
  (recommended for all UNO objects)
- com.sun.star.lang.XComponent
  (optional)
- com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet
  (optional, required for service implementation concerning defined service properties)

Making object development a little easier, the language binding provides helper implementations for most of the above interfaces. The helper classes belong to the uno.util namespace, and are contained in the assembly called cli_ure.dll. Notice that there is a helper missing that implements a listener container similar to the one in C++ or Java. The main reason for its existence is to ensure the automatic notification of event listeners (see com.sun.star.lang.XComponent, com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener). The CLI languages provide a simple mechanism for events (delegates) which makes a helper class superfluous in this particular case, because event notification is easily implemented using language features.

uno.util.WeakBase

This class implements the <idls>com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider</idls> and <idls>com.sun.star.uno.XWeak</idls> interfaces. <idls>com.sun.star.uno.XWeak</idls> is used to implement a UNO weak reference mechanism, and it may seem strange that System.WeakReference is not used. You have to remember that your UNO object is held from within other language environments that do not support weak references. This way, weak references are
implemented as a UNO concept. Of course, the helper implementation uses
System.WeakReference, as can every component or application, as long as it is not
passed into calls to UNO interfaces. Also, the compiler will not be able to compile the
implementation properly.

**uno.util.WeakComponentBase**

This class derives from `uno.util.WeakBase` and implements the
<idl>com.sun.star.lang.XComponent</idl> interface. Use this class as base class if
the component needs to perform a special cleanup. The class has two protected
member functions that are called upon disposal of the object:

- **preDisposing()** - called before all registered event listeners are notified
- **postDisposing()** - called after all registered event listeners are notified. Resource
cleanup should be performed in this method.

Inherit from `uno.util.WeakComponentBase` and override the appropriate methods.
Writing UNO Components

OpenOffice.org can be extended by UNO components. UNO components are shared libraries or jar files with the ability to instantiate objects that can integrate themselves into the UNO environment. A UNO component can access existing features of OpenOffice.org, and it can be used from within OpenOffice.org through the object communication mechanisms provided by UNO.

OpenOffice.org provides many entry points for these extensions.

4. Arbitrary objects written in Java or C++ can be called from the user interface, display their own GUI, and work with the entire application.
5. Calc Add-Ins can be used to create new formula sets that are presented in the formula autopilot.
6. Chart Add-Ins can insert new Chart types into the charting tool.
7. New database drivers can be installed into the office to extend data access.
8. Entire application modules are exchangeable, for instance the linguistics module.
9. It is possible to create new document types and add them to the office. For instance, a personal information manager could add message, calendar, task and journal document components, or a project manager could support a new project document.
10. Developers can leverage the OpenOffice.org XML file format to read and write new file formats through components.

From OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 there is comprehensive support for component extensions. The entire product cycle of a component is now covered:

1. The design and development of components has been made easier by adding wizards for components to the NetBeans IDE. You can find more detailed info under http://wiki.services.openoffice.org/wiki/OpenOffice_NetBeans_Integration.
2. Components can integrate themselves into the user interface, using simple configuration files. You can add new menus, toolbar items, and help items for a component simply by editing XML configuration files.

3. Components are deployed with the Extension Manager. See chapter Extensions.

4. Last but not least, this is not the only way to add features to the office. Learning how to write components and how to use the OpenOffice.org API at the same time teaches you the techniques used in the OpenOffice.org code base, thus enabling you to work with the existing OpenOffice.org source code, extend it or introduce bug fixes.

Components are the basis for all of these extensions. This chapter teaches you how to write UNO components. It assumes that you have at least read the chapter First Steps and—depending on your target language—the section about the Java or C++ language binding in Professional UNO.

Required Files

OpenOffice.org Software Development Kit (SDK)

The SDK provides a build environment for your projects, separate from the OpenOffice.org build environment. It contains the necessary tools for UNO development, C and C++ libraries, JARs, UNO type definitions and example code. But most of the necessary libraries and files are shared with an existing OpenOffice.org installation which is a prerequisite for a SDK.

The SDK development tools (executables) contained in the SDK are used in the following chapter. Become familiar with the following table that lists the executables from the SDK. These executables are found in the platform specific bin folder of the SDK installation. In Windows, they are in the folder \windows\bin, on Linux they are stored in <SDK>/linux/bin and on Solaris in <SDK>/solaris/bin.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Executable</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>idlc</td>
<td>The UNOIDL compiler that creates binary type description files with the extension .urd for registry database files.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>idlcpp</td>
<td>The idlc preprocessor used by idlc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cppumaker</td>
<td>The C++ UNO maker that generates headers with UNO types mapped from binary type descriptions to C++ from binary type descriptions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Required Files**

**javamaker**  
Java maker that generates interface and class definitions for UNO types mapped from binary type descriptions to Java from binary type descriptions.

**xml2cmp**  
XML to Component that can extract type names from XML object descriptions for use with cppumaker and javamaker, creates functions.

**regmerge**  
The registry merge that merges binary type descriptions into registry files.

**regcomp**  
The register component that tells a registry database file that there is a new component and where it can be found.

**unopkg**  
The command line tool of the extension manager.

**regview**  
The registry view that outputs the content of a registry database file in readable format.

**autodoc**  
The automatic documentation tool that evaluates Javadoc style comments in idl files and generates documentation from them.

**rdbmaker**  
The registry database maker that creates registry files with selected types and their dependencies.

**uno**  
The UNO executable. It is a standalone UNO environment which is able to run UNO components supporting the com.sun.star.lang.XMain interface, one possible use is: $ uno -s ServiceName -r MyRegistry.rdb -- MyMainClass arg1

---

**GNU Make**

The makefiles in the SDK assume that the GNU make is used. Documentation for GNU make command line options and syntax are available at [www.gnu.org](http://www.gnu.org). In Windows, not every GNU make seems stable, notably some versions of Cygwin make were reported to have problems with the SDK makefiles. Other GNU make binaries, such as the one from [unxutils.sourceforge.net](http://unxutils.sourceforge.net) work well even on the Windows command line. The package UnxUtils comes with a zsh shell and numerous utilities, such as find, sed. To install UnxUtils, download and unpack the archive (if the links on [unxutils.sourceforge.net](http://unxutils.sourceforge.net) are still broken, try with [sourceforge.net/projects/unxutils](http://sourceforge.net/projects/unxutils)), and add `<UnxUtils>\usr\local\wbin` to the PATH environment variable. Now launch `sh.exe` from `<UnxUtils>\bin` and issue the command `make` from within `zsh` or use the Windows command line to run `make`. For further information about zsh, go to [zsh.sunsite.dk](http://zsh.sunsite.dk).
Using UNOIDL to Specify New Components

Component development does not necessarily start with the declaration of new interfaces or new types. Try to use the interfaces and types already defined in the OpenOffice.org API. If existing interfaces cover your requirements and you need to know how to implement them in your own component, go to section Component Architecture. The following describes how to declare your own interfaces and other types you might need.

UNO uses its own meta language UNOIDL (UNO Interface Definition Language) to specify types. Using a meta language for this purpose enables you to generate language specific code, such as header files and class definitions, to implement objects in any target language supported by UNO. UNOIDL keeps the foundations of UNO language independent and takes the burden of mechanic language adaptation from the developer's shoulders when implementing UNO objects.

To define a new interface, service or other entity, write its specification in UNOIDL, then compile it with the UNOIDL compiler idlc. After compilation, merge the resulting binary type description into a type library that is used during the make process to create necessary language dependent type representations, such as header or Java class files. The chapter Professional UNO provides the various type mappings used by cppumaker and javamaker in the language binding sections. Refer to the section UNO Type Library for details about type information in the registry-based type library.

Note – When writing your own specifications, please consult the chapter OpenOffice.org API-Design-Guidelines which treats design principles and conventions used in API specifications. Follow the rules for universality, orthogonality, inheritance and uniformity of the API as described in the Design Guide.

Writing the Specification

There are similarities between C++, CORBA IDL and UNOIDL, especially concerning the syntax and the general usage of the compiler. If you are familiar with reading C++ or CORBA IDL, you will be able to understand much of UNOIDL, as well.

As a first example, consider the IDL specification for the com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver interface. An idl file usually starts with a number of preprocessor directives, followed by module instructions and a type definition:
Writing the Specification

```cpp
#ifndef __com_sun_star_bridge_XUnoUrlResolver_idl__
define __com_sun_star_bridge_XUnoUrlResolver_idl__

#include <com/sun/star/uno/XInterface.idl>
#include <com/sun/star/lang/IllegalArgumentException.idl>
#include <com/sun/star/connection/ConnectionSetupException.idl>
#include <com/sun/star/connection/NoConnectException.idl>

module com { module sun { module star { module bridge {

/** service <type scope="com::sun::star::bridge">UnoUrlResolver</type> 
    implements this interface. */
published interface XUnoUrlResolver: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface {
    // method com::sun::star::bridge::XUnoUrlResolver::resolve 
    /** resolves an object, on the UNO URL. */
    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface resolve( [in] string sUnoUrl )
    raises (com::sun::star::connection::NoConnectException,
             com::sun::star::connection::ConnectionSetupException,
             com::sun::star::lang::IllegalArgumentException);
}

#endif
```

We will discuss this idl file step by step below, and we will write our own UNOIDL specification as soon as possible. The file specifying com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver is located in the idl folder of your SDK installation, <SDK>/idl/com/sun/star/bridge/XUnoUrlResolver.idl.

UNOIDL definition file names have the extension .idl by convention. The descriptions must use the US ASCII character set without special characters and separate symbols by whitespace, i.e. blanks, tabs or linefeeds.

Preprocessing

Just like a C++ compiler, the UNOIDL compiler idlc can only use types it already knows. The idlc knows 15 simple types such as boolean, int or string (they are summarized below). Whenever a type other than a simple type is used in the idl file, its declaration has to be included first. For instance, to derive an interface from the interface XInterface, include the corresponding file XInterface.idl. Including means telling the preprocessor to read a given file and execute the instructions found in it.

```cpp
// searched in include path given in -I parameter
```
There are two ways to include idl files. A file name in angled brackets is searched on
the include path passed to idlc using its -I option. File names in double quotes are
first searched on the current path and then on the include path.

The XUnoUrlResolver definition above includes com.sun.star.uno.XInterface and the
three exceptions thrown by the method resolve(),
com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
com.sun.star.connection.ConnectionSetupException and
com.sun.star.connection.NoConnectException.

In OpenOffice.org 2.0, it is no longer necessary to explicitly state that an interface
type derives from XInterface - if an interface type derives from no other interface
type, it is implicitly taken to derive from XInterface. However, even in such situations
it is important to explicitly include the file XInterface.idl.

Furthermore, to avoid warnings about redefinition of already included types, use
#endif and #define as shown above. Note how the entire definition for
XUnoUrlResolver is enclosed between #ifndef and #endif. The first thing the
preprocessor does is to check if the flag
__com_sun_star_bridge_XUnoUrlResolver_idl__ has already been defined. If not,
the flag is defined and idlc continues with the definition of XUnoUrlResolver.

Adhere to the naming scheme for include flags used by the OpenOffice.org
developers: Use the file name of the IDL file that is to be included, add double
underscores at the beginning and end of the macro, and replace all slashes and dots
by underscores.

For other preprocessing instructions supported by idlc refer to Bjarne Stroustrup: The
C++ Programming Language.

### Grouping Definitions in Modules

To avoid name clashes and allow for a better API structure, UNOIDL supports naming
scopes. The corresponding instruction is module:

```
module mymodule {
}
```

Instructions are only known inside the module mymodule for every type defined within
the pair of braces of this module {}. Within each module, the type identifiers are unique. This makes an UNOIDL module similar to a Java package or a C++ namespace.

Modules may be nested. The following code shows the interface XUnoUrlResolver contained in the module bridge that is contained in the module star, which is in turn contained in the module sun of the module com.

```xml
module com { module sun { module star { module bridge {
    // interface XUnoUrlResolver in module com::sun::star::bridge
}; }; }; }
```

It is customary to write module names in lower case letters. Use your own module hierarchy for your IDL types. To contribute code to OpenOffice.org, use the org::openoffice namespace or com::sun::star. Discuss the name choice with the leader of the API project on www.openoffice.org to add to the latter modules. The com::sun::star namespace mirrors the historical roots of OpenOffice.org in StarOffice and will probably be kept for compatibility purposes.

Types defined in UNOIDL modules have to be referenced using full-type or scoped names, that is, you must enter all modules your type is contained in and separate the modules by the scope operator ::. For instance, to reference XUnoUrlResolver in another idl definition file, write com::sun::star::bridge::XUnoUrlResolver.

Besides, modules have an advantage when it comes to generating language specific files. The tools cppumaker and javamaker automatically create subdirectories for every referenced module, if required. Headers and class definitions are kept in their own folders without any further effort.

One potential source of confusion is that UNOIDL and C++ use "::" to separate the individual identifiers within a name, whereas UNO itself (e.g., in methods like com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory:createInstanceWithContext) and Java use ".".

### Simple Types

Before we can go about defining our first interface, you need to know the simple types you may use in your interface definition. You should already be familiar with the simple UNO types from the chapters First Steps and Professional UNO. Since we have to use them in idl definition files, we repeat the type keywords and their meaning here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>simple UNO type</th>
<th>Type description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Chapter 3 · Writing UNO Components 305
Simple Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>char</td>
<td>16-bit unicode character type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>boolean type; true and false</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>byte</td>
<td>8-bit ordinal integer type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short</td>
<td>signed 16-bit ordinal integer type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned short</td>
<td>unsigned 16-bit ordinal integer type (deprecated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>signed 32-bit ordinal integer type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned long</td>
<td>unsigned 32-bit integer type (deprecated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyper</td>
<td>signed 64-bit ordinal integer type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned hyper</td>
<td>unsigned 64-bit ordinal integer type (deprecated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>float</td>
<td>processor dependent float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>double</td>
<td>processor dependent double</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>string</td>
<td>string of 16-bit unicode characters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>any</td>
<td>universal type, takes every simple or compound UNO type, similar to Variant in other environments or Object in Java</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>void</td>
<td>Indicates that a method does not provide a return value</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Defining an Interface

Interfaces describe aspects of objects. To specify a new behavior for the component, start with an interface definition that comprises the methods offering the new behavior. Define a pair of plain get and set methods in a single step using the attribute instruction. Alternatively, choose to define your own operations with arbitrary arguments and exceptions by writing the method signature, and the exceptions the operation throws. We will first write a small interface definition with attribute instructions, then consider the resolve() method in XUNoUrlResolver.

Let us assume we want to contribute an ImageShrink component to OpenOffice.org to create thumbnail images for use in OpenOffice.org tables. There is already a com.sun.star.document.XFilter interface offering methods supporting file conversion. In addition, a method is required to get and set the source and target directories, and the size of the thumbnails to create. It is common practice that a service and its prime interface have corresponding names, so our component shall have an org::openoffice::test::XImageShrink interface with methods to do so through get and set operations.

Attributes

The attribute instruction creates these operations for the experimental interface definition:
Look at the specification for our `XImageShrink` interface:

```idl
#ifndef __org_openoffice_test_XImageShrink_idl__
#define __org_openoffice_test_XImageShrink_idl__
#include <com/sun/star/uno/XInterface.idl>
#include <com/sun/star/awt/Size.idl>

module org { module openoffice { module test {

interface XImageShrink : com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    [attribute] string SourceDirectory;
    [attribute] string DestinationDirectory;
    [attribute] com::sun::star::awt::Size Dimension;
};
}; }; }
#endif
```

We protect the interface from being redefined using `#ifndef`, then added `#include` `com.sun.star.uno.XInterface` and the struct `com.sun.star.awt.Size`. These were found in the API reference using its global index. Our interface will be known in the `org::openoffice::test` module, so it is nested in the corresponding module instructions.

Define an interface using the `interface` instruction. It opens with the keyword `interface`, gives an interface name and derives the new interface from a parent interface (also called super interface). It then defines the interface body in braces. The `interface` instruction concludes with a semicolon.

In this case, the introduced interface is `XImageShrink`. By convention, all interface identifiers start with an `X`. Every interface must inherit from the base interface for all UNO interfaces `XInterface` or from one of its derived interfaces. The simple case of single inheritance is expressed by a colon `:` followed by the fully qualified name of the parent type. The fully qualified name of a UNOIDL type is its identifier, including all containing modules separated by the scope operator `::`. Here we derive from `com::sun::star::uno::XInterface` directly. If you want to declare a new interface that inherits from multiple interfaces, you do not use the colon notation, but instead list all inherited interfaces within the body of the new interface:

```idl
interface XMultipleInheritance {
    interface XBase1;
    interface XBase2;
};
```

**Warning** – UNOIDL allows forward declaration of interfaces used as parameters, return values or struct members. However, an interface you want to derive from must be a fully defined interface.
Defining an Interface

After the super interface the interface body begins. It may contain attribute and method declarations, and, in the case of a multiple-inheritance interface, the declaration of inherited interfaces. Consider the interface body of XImageShrink. It contains three attributes and no methods. Interface methods are discussed below.

An attribute declaration opens with the keyword attribute in square brackets, then it gives a known type and an identifier for the attribute, and concludes with a semicolon.

In our example, the string attributes named SourceDirectory and DestinationDirectory and a com::sun::star::awt::Size attribute known as Dimension were defined:

```plaintext
[attribute] string SourceDirectory;
[attribute] string DestinationDirectory;
[attribute] com::sun::star::awt::Size Dimension;
```

During code generation in Java and C++, the attribute declaration leads to pairs of get and set methods. For instance, the Java interface generated by javamaker from this type description contains the following six methods:

```plaintext
// from attribute SourceDir
public String getSourceDirectory();
public void setSourceDirectory(String _sourcedir);

// from attribute DestinationDir
public String getDestinationDirectory();
public void setDestinationDirectory(String _destinationdir);

// from attribute Dimension
public com.sun.star.awt.Size getDimension();
public void setDimension(com.sun.star.awt.Size _dimension);
```

As an option, define that an attribute cannot be changed from the outside using a readonly flag. To set this flag, write [attribute, readonly]. The effect is that only a get() method is created during code generation, but not a set() method. Another option is to mark an attribute as bound; that flag is of interest when mapping interface attributes to properties, see Storing the Service Manager for Further Use and C++ Component.

Since OpenOffice.org 2.0, there can be exception specifications for attributes, individually for the operations of getting and setting an attribute:

```plaintext
[attribute] long Age {
    get raises (DatabaseException); // raised when retrieving the age from the database fails
    set raises (IllegalArgumentException, // raised when the new age is negative
               DatabaseException); // raised when storing the new age in the database fails
};
```
Defining an Interface

If no exception specification is given, only runtime exceptions may be thrown.

## Methods

When writing a real component, define the methods by providing their signature and the exceptions they throw in the idl file. Our XUnoUrlResolver example above features a resolve() method taking a UNO URL and throwing three exceptions.

```idl
interface XUnoUrlResolver: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface resolve( [in] string sUnoUrl )
        raises (com::sun::star::connection::NoConnectException,
                com::sun::star::connection::ConnectionSetupException,
                com::sun::star::lang::IllegalArgumentException);
}
```

The basic structure of a method is similar to C++ functions or Java methods. The method is defined giving a known return type, the operation name, an argument list in brackets () and if necessary, a list of the exceptions the method may throw. The argument list, the exception clause raises () and an optional [ oneway ] flag preceding the operation are special in UNOIDL.

• Each argument in the argument list must commence with one of the direction flags [ in ], [ out ] or [ inout ] before a known type and identifier for the argument is given. The direction flag specifies how the operation may use the argument:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direction Flags for Methods</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>in</td>
<td>Specifies that the method shall evaluate the argument as input parameter, but it cannot change it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>out</td>
<td>Specifies that the argument does not parameterize the method, instead the method uses the argument as output parameter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inout</td>
<td>Specifies that the operation is parameterized by the argument and that the method uses the argument as output parameter as well.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

■ Try to avoid the [ inout ] and [ out ] qualifiers, as they are awkward to handle in certain language bindings, like the Java language binding. The argument list can be empty. Multiple arguments must be separated by commas.

■ Exceptions are given through an optional raises () clause containing a comma-separated list of known exceptions given by their full name. The presence of a raises() clause means that only the listed exceptions, com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException and their descendants may be thrown by the implementation. By specifying exceptions for methods, the implementer of your
interface can return information to the caller, thus avoiding possible error conditions.

If you prepend a \[ oneway \] flag to an operation, the operation can be executed asynchronously if the underlying method invocation system does support this feature. For example, a UNO Remote Protocol (URP) bridge is such a system that supports oneway calls. A oneway operation can not have a return value, or out or inout parameters. It must not throw other exceptions than com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException.

**Warning** – Although there are no general problems with the specification and the implementation of the UNO oneway feature, there are several API remote usage scenarios where oneway calls cause deadlocks in OpenOffice.org. Therefore it is not recommended to introduce new oneway methods with new OpenOffice.org UNO APIs.

**Warning** – You cannot override an attribute or a method inherited from a parent interface, that would not make sense in an abstract specification anyway. Furthermore, overloading is not possible. The qualified interface identifier in conjunction with the name of the method creates a unique method name.

### Defining a Service

The new-style UNOIDL services combine interfaces and properties to specify a certain functionality. In addition, old-style services can include other services. For these purposes, interface, property and service declarations are used within service specifications. Usually, services are the basis for an object implementation, although there are old-style services in the OpenOffice.org API that only serve as a foundation for, or addition to, other services, but are not meant to be implemented by themselves.

We are ready to assemble our ImageShrink service. Our service will read image files from a source directory and write shrunk versions of the found images to a destination directory. Our XImageShrink interface offers the needed capabilities, together with the interface com.sun.star.document.XFilter that supports two methods:

```java
boolean filter( [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aDescriptor)
void cancel()
```

A new-style service can only encompass one interface, so we need to combine
XImageShrink and XFilter in a single, multiple-inheritance interface:

```c
#ifndef __org_openoffice_test_XImageShrinkFilter_idl__
#define __org_openoffice_test_XImageShrinkFilter_idl__
#include <com/sun/star/document/XFilter.idl>
#include <org/openoffice/test/XImageShrink.idl>

module org { module openoffice { module test {

interface XImageShrinkFilter {
    interface XImageShrink;
    interface com::sun::star::document::XFilter;
};
}; }; }
#endif
```

The ImageShrink service specification is provided by the following code:

```c
#ifndef __org_openoffice_test_ImageShrink_idl__
#define __org_openoffice_test_ImageShrink_idl__
#include <org/openoffice/test/XImageShrinkFilter.idl>

module org { module openoffice { module test {

service ImageShrink: XImageShrinkFilter;
}; }; }
#endif
```

A new-style service is defined using the `service` declaration. A new-style service opens with the keyword `service`, followed by a service name, a colon, the name of the interface supported by the service, and, finally, a semicolon. The first letter of the service name should be upper-case.

```c
service ServiceName: XInterface;
```

**Old-style Services**

An old-style service is much more complex. It opens with the keyword `service`, followed by a service name and the service body in braces, and, finally, a semicolon. The body of a service can reference interfaces and services using `interface` and `service` declarations, and it can identify properties supported by the service through `[property]` declarations.

- **Interface** keywords followed by interface names in a service body indicates that the service supports these interfaces. By default, the `interface` forces the developer to implement this interface. To suggest an interface for a certain
service, prepend an [optional] flag in front of the keyword interface. This weakens the specification to a permission. An optional interface can be implemented. Use one interface declaration for each supported interface or give a comma-separated list of interfaces to be exported by a service. You must terminate the interface declaration statement using a semicolon.

- Service declaration statements in a service body include other services. The effect is that all interface and property definitions of the other services become part of the current service. A service reference can be optional using the [optional] flag in front of the service keyword. Use one declaration per service or a comma-separated list for the services to reference. The service declaration ends with a semicolon.

- [property] declaration s describe qualities of a service that can be reached from the outside under a particular name and type. As opposed to interface attributes, these qualities are not considered to be a structural part of a service. Refer to the section Properties in the chapter Professional UNO to determine when to use interface attributes and when to introduce properties in a service. The property keyword must be enclosed in square brackets, and continue with a known type and a property identifier. Just like a service and an interface, make a property non-mandatory writing [property, optional]. Besides optional, there is a number of other flags to use with properties. The following table shows all flags that can be used with [property]:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Flags</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>optional</td>
<td>Property is non-mandatory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>readonly</td>
<td>The value of the property cannot be changed using the setter methods for properties, such as setPropertyValue(string name).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bound</td>
<td>Changes of values are broadcast to com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyChangeListeners registered with the component.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>constrained</td>
<td>The component must broadcast an event before a value changes, listeners can veto.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maybeambiguous</td>
<td>The value cannot be determined in some cases, for example, in multiple selections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maybedefault</td>
<td>The value might come from a style or the application environment instead of from the object itself.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maybevoid</td>
<td>The property type determines the range of possible values, but sometimes there may be situations where there is no information available. Instead of defining special values for each type denoting that there are no meaningful values, the UNO type void can be used. Its meaning is comparable to null in relational databases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>removable</td>
<td>The property is removable. If a property is made removable, you must check for the existence of a property using hasPropertyByName() at the interface com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySetInfo and consider providing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
the capability to add or remove properties using `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyContainer`.

```java
transient
```

The property will not be stored if the object is serialized (made persistent).

- Several properties of the same type can be listed in one `property` declaration. Remember to add a semicolon at the end. Implement the interface `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet` when putting properties in your service, otherwise the properties specified will not work for others using the component.

**Note** – Some old-style services, which specify no interfaces at all, only properties, are used as a sequence of `com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue` in OpenOffice.org, for example, `com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor`.

The following UNOIDL snippet shows the service, the interfaces and the properties supported by the old-style service `com.sun.star.text.TextDocument` as defined in UNOIDL. Note the optional interfaces and the optional and read-only properties.

```unoidl
service TextDocument
{
  service com::sun::star::document::OfficeDocument;

  interface com::sun::star::text::XTextDocument;
  interface com::sun::star::util::XSearchable;
  interface com::sun::star::util::XRefreshable;
  interface com::sun::star::util::XNumberFormatsSupplier;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::text::XFootnotesSupplier;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::text::XEndnotesSupplier;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::util::XReplaceable;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::text::XPagePrintable;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::text::XReferenceMarksSupplier;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::text::XLineNumberingSupplier;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::text::XChapterNumberingSupplier;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::beans::XPropertySet;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::text::XTextGraphicObjectsSupplier;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::text::XTextEmbeddedObjectsSupplier;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::text::XTextTablesSupplier;
  [optional] interface com::sun::star::style::XStyleFamiliesSupplier;

  [optional, property] com::sun::star::lang::Locale CharLocale;
  [optional, property] string WordSeparator;

  [optional, readonly, property] long CharacterCount;
  [optional, readonly, property] long ParagraphCount;
  [optional, readonly, property] long WordCount;
}
```
Defining a Service

Note – You might encounter two additional keywords in old-style service bodies. These keywords are observed and needs. The keyword observes can stand in front of interface references and means that the given interfaces must be "observed". Since the observes concept is disapproved of, no further explanation is provided. If a service references another service using the keyword needs in front of the reference, then this service depends on the availability of the needed service at runtime. Services should not use needs as it is considered too implementation specific.

Defining a Sequence

A sequence in UNOIDL is an array containing a variable number of elements of the same UNOIDL type. The following is an example of a sequence term:

```plaintext
// this term could occur in a UNOIDL definition block somewhere
sequence< com::sun::star::uno::XInterface >
```

It starts with the keyword sequence and gives the element type enclosed in angle brackets <>. The element type must be a known type. A sequence type can be used as parameter, return value, property or struct member just like any other type. Sequences can also be nested, if necessary.

```plaintext
// this could be a nested sequence definition
sequence< sequence< long > >

// this could be an operation using sequences in some interface definition
sequence< string > getNamesOfIndex(sequence< long > indexes);
```

Defining a Struct

A struct is a compound type which puts together arbitrary UNOIDL types to form a new data type. Its member data are not encapsulated, rather they are publicly available. Structs are frequently used to handle related data easily, and the event structs broadcast to event listeners.

A plain struct instruction opens with the keyword struct, gives an identifier for the new struct type and has a struct body in braces. It is terminated by a semicolon. The struct body contains a list of struct member declarations that are defined by a known type and an identifier for the struct member. The member declarations must end with
a semicolon, as well.

```cpp
#ifndef __com_sun_star_reflection_ParamInfo_idl__
#define __com_sun_star_reflection_ParamInfo_idl__

#include <com/sun/star/reflection/ParamMode.idl>

module com { module sun { module star { module reflection {

    interface XIdlClass; // forward interface declaration

    struct ParamInfo
    {
        string aName;
        ParamMode aMode;
        XIdlClass aType;
    };
};
};};};
#endif
```

UNOIDL supports inheritance of struct types. Inheritance is expressed by a colon : followed by the full name of the parent type. A struct type recursively inherits all members of the parent struct and their parents. For instance, derive from the struct com.sun.star.lang.EventObject to put additional information about new events into customized event objects to send to event listeners.

```cpp
// and adds property-related information to the event object
struct PropertyChangeEvent : com::sun::star::lang::EventObject
{
    string PropertyName;
    boolean Further;
    long PropertyHandle;
    any OldValue;
    any NewValue;
};
```

A new feature of OpenOffice.org 2.0 are polymorphic struct types. A polymorphic struct type template is similar to a plain struct type, but it has one or more type parameters enclosed in angle brackets <>, and its members can have these parameters as types:

```cpp
// A polymorphic struct type template with two type parameters:
struct Poly<T,U> {
    T member1;
    T member2;
    U member3;
    long member4;
};
```

A polymorphic struct type template is not itself a UNO type - it has to be instantiated with actual type arguments to be used as a type:
// Using an instantiation of Poly as a type in UNOIDL:
interface XIfc { Poly<boolean, any> fn(); };
Defining an Exception

// com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException is the base exception for serious
// usually caused by programming errors or problems with the runtime
exception RuntimeException : com::sun::star::uno::Exception {
};

// com.sun.star.uno.SecurityException is a more specific RuntimeException
exception SecurityException : com::sun::star::uno::RuntimeException {
};

Predefining Values

Predefined values can be provided, so that implementers do not have to use cryptic
numbers or other literal values. There are two kinds of predefined values, constants
and enums. Constants can contain values of any basic UNO type, except void. The
eenums are automatically numbered long values.

Const and Constants

The constants type is a container for const types. A constants instruction opens with
the keyword constants, gives an identifier for the new group of const values and has
the body in braces. It terminates with a semicolon. The constants body contains a list
of const definitions that define the values of the members starting with the keyword
const followed by a known type name and the identifier for the const in uppercase
letters. Each const definition must assign a value to the const using an equals sign.
The value must match the given type and can be an integer or floating point number,
or a character, or a suitable const value or an arithmetic term based on the operators
in the table below. The const definitions must end with a semicolon, as well.

#ifndef __com_sun_star_awt_FontWeight_idl__
#define __com_sun_star_awt_FontWeight_idl__

module com { module sun { module star { module awt {

constants FontWeight {
    const float DONTKNOW = 0.000000;
    const float THIN = 50.000000;
    const float ULTRALIGHT = 60.000000;
    const float LIGHT = 75.000000;

```
Predefining Values

```
const float SEMILIGHT = 90.000000;
const float NORMAL = 100.000000;
const float SEMIBOLD = 110.000000;
const float BOLD = 150.000000;
const float ULTRABOLD = 175.000000;
const float BLACK = 200.000000;
```

Operators Allowed in

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+</td>
<td>addition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>subtraction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>multiplication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/</td>
<td>division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>modulo division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>negative sign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+</td>
<td>positive sign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>^</td>
<td>bitwise xor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>bitwise and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~</td>
<td>bitwise not</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; &lt;&lt;</td>
<td>bitwise shift right, shift left</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tip - Use constants to group const types. In the Java language, binding a constants group leads to one class for all const members, whereas a single const is mapped to an entire class.

## Enum

An enum type holds a group of predefined long values and maps them to meaningful symbols. It is equivalent to the enumeration type in C++. An enum instruction opens with the keyword enum, gives an identifier for the new group of enum values and has an enum body in braces. It terminates with a semicolon. The enum body contains a comma-separated list of symbols in uppercase letters that are automatically mapped to long values counting from zero, by default.

```
#ifdef __com_sun_star_style_ParagraphAdjust_idl_
#else __com_sun_star_style_ParagraphAdjust_idl_
#define __com_sun_star_style_ParagraphAdjust_idl_
#endif

module com { module sun { module star { module style {

enum ParagraphAdjust {
    LEFT,
```
In this example, `<idlml>com.sun.star.style.ParagraphAdjust:LEFT</idlml>` corresponds to 0, ParagraphAdjust.RIGHT corresponds to 1 and so forth.

An enum member can also be set to a long value using the equals sign. All the following enum values are then incremented starting from this value. If there is another assignment later in the code, the counting starts with that assignment:

```cpp
enum Error {
    SYSTEM = 10, // value 10
    RUNTIME, // value 11
    FATAL, // value 12
    USER = 30, // value 30
    SOFT // value 31
};
```

**Warning** – The explicit use of enum values is deprecated and should not be used. It is a historical characteristic of the enum type but it makes not really sense and makes, for example language bindings unnecessarily complicated.

## Using Comments

Comments are code sections ignored by idlc. In UNOIDL, use C++ style comments. A double slash `//` marks the rest of the line as comment. Text enclosed between `/*` and `*/` is a comment that may span over multiple lines.

```idlml
service ImageShrink
{
    // the following lines define interfaces:
    interface org::openoffice::test::XImageShrink; // our home-grown interface
    interface com::sun::star::document::XFilter;

    /* we could reference other interfaces, services and properties here.
    However, the keywords uses and needs are deprecated */
};
```

Based on the above, there are documentation comments that are extracted when idl files are processed with autodoc, the UNOIDL documentation generator. Instead of
writing /* or // to mark a plain comment, write /** or /// to create a documentation comment.

/** Don't repeat asterisks within multiple line comments,
 * <- as shown here
 */

/// Don't write multiple line documentation comments using triple slashes,
/// since only this last line will make it into the documentation

Our X UnoUrlResolver sample idl file contains plain comments and documentation comments.

/** service <type scope="com::sun::star::bridge">UnoUrlResolver</type>
   implements this interface.
 */
interface XUnoUrlResolver: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
   // method com::sun::star::bridge::XUnoUrlResolver::resolve
   /** resolves an object, on the UNO URL.
   */
   ...
}

Note the additional <type/> tag in the documentation comment pointing out that the service UnoUrlResolver implements the interface XUnoUrlResolver. This tag becomes a hyperlink in HTML documentation generated from this file. The chapter IDL Documentation Guidelines provides a comprehensive description for UNOIDL documentation comments.

Singleton

A singleton declaration defines a global name for a UNO object and determines that there can only be one instance of this object that must be reachable under this name. The singleton instance can be retrieved from the component context using the name of the singleton. If the singleton has not been instantiated yet, the component context creates it. A new-style singleton declaration, that binds a singleton name to an object with a certain interface type, looks like this:

singleton thePackageManagerFactory:
   com::sun::star::depoyment::XPackageManager;

There are also old-style singletons, which reference (old-style) services instead of interfaces.
Reserved Types

There are types in UNOIDL which are reserved for future use. The idlc will refuse to compile the specifications if they are tried.

Array

The keyword array is reserved, but it cannot be used in UNOIDL. There will be sets containing a fixed number of elements, as opposed to sequences, that can have an arbitrary number of elements.

Union

There is also a reserved keyword for union types that cannot be used in UNOIDL. A union will look at a variable value from more than one perspective. For instance, a union for a long value is defined and this same value is accessed as a whole, or accessed by its high and low part separately through a union.

Published Entities

A new feature of OpenOffice.org 2.0 is the UNOIDL published keyword. If you mark a declaration (of a struct, interface, service, etc.) as published, you give the guarantee that you will not change the declaration in the future, so that clients of your API can depend on that. On the other hand, leaving a declaration unpublished is like a warning to your clients that the declared entity may change or even vanish in a future version of your API. The idlc will give an error if you try to use an unpublished entity in the declaration of a published one, as that would not make sense.

The OpenOffice.org API has always been intended to never change in incompatible ways. This is now reflected formally by publishing all those entities of the OpenOffice.org 2.0 API that were already available in previous API versions. Some new additions to the API have been left unpublished, however, to document that they are probably not yet in their final form. When using such additions, keep in mind that
you might need to adapt your code to work with future versions of OpenOffice.org. Generally, each part of the OpenOffice.org API should stabilize over time, however, and so each addition should eventually be published. Consider this as a means in attempting to make new functionality available as early as possible, and at the same time ensure that no APIs are fixed prematurely, before they have matured to a truly useful form.

**Component Architecture**

UNO components are Java archive (JAR) files (Java components) or dynamic link libraries (C++ components), with the ability to instantiate objects which can integrate themselves into the UNO environment. For this purpose, components must contain certain static methods (Java) or export functions (C++) to be called by a UNO service manager. In the following, these methods are called component operations.

There must be a method to supply single-service factories for each object implemented in the component. Through this method, the service manager can get a single factory for a specific object and ask the factory to create the object contained in the component. Furthermore, there has to be a method which writes registration information about the component, which is used when a component is registered with the service manager. In C++, an additional function is necessary that informs the component loader about the compiler used to build the component.

The component operations are always necessary in components and they are language specific. Later, when Java and C++ are discussed, we will show how to write them.
Component Architecture

A Component implementing three UNO objects

The illustration shows a component which contains three implemented objects. Two of them, srv1 and srv2 implement a single service specification (Service1 and Service2), whereas srv3_4 supports two services at once (Service3 and Service4).

The objects implemented in a component must support a number of core UNO interfaces to be fully usable from all parts of the OpenOffice.org application. These core interfaces are discussed in the next section. The individual functionality of the objects is covered by the additional interfaces they export. Usually these interfaces are enclosed in a service specification.

Core Interfaces to Implement

It is important to know where the interfaces to implement are located. The interfaces here are located at the object implementations in the component. When writing UNO components, the desired methods have to be implemented into the application and also, the core interfaces used to enable communication with the UNO environment. Some of them are mandatory, but there are others to choose from.
### Core Interfaces to Implement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interface</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Should be implemented</th>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Special Cases</th>
<th>Helper class available for C++ and Java</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XInterface</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XTypeProvider</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XServiceInfo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XWeak</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XComponent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XInitialization</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XMain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XAggregation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XUnoTunnel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The interfaces listed in the table above have been characterized here briefly. More descriptions of each interface are provided later, as well as if helpers are available and which conditions apply.

**com.sun.star.uno.XInterface**

The component will not work without it. The base interface XInterface gives access to higher interfaces of the service and allows other objects to tell the service when it is no longer needed, so that it can destroy itself.

```java
// com::sun::star::uno::XInterface

    any queryInterface([in] type aType);
    [oneway] void acquire(); // increase reference counter in your service implementation
    [oneway] void release(); // decrease reference counter, delete object when counter becomes zero
```

Usually developers do not call `acquire()` explicitly, because it is called automatically by the language bindings when a reference to a component is retrieved through `UnoRuntime.queryInterface()` or `Reference<destInterface>(sourceInterface, UNO_QUERY)`. The counterpart `release()` is called automatically when the reference goes out of scope in C++ or when the Java garbage collector throws away the object holding the reference.

**com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider**

This interface is used by scripting languages such as OpenOffice.org Basic to get type information. OpenOffice.org Basic cannot use the component without it.

```java
// com::sun::star::lang::XTypeProvider

    sequence<type> getTypes();
    sequence<byte> getImplementationId();
```

It is possible that `XTypeProvider` and `XServiceInfo` (below) will be deprecated in the future, and that alternative, language-binding-specific mechanisms will be made available to query an object for its characteristics.
Core Interfaces to Implement

**com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo**

This interface is used by other objects to get information about the service implementation.

```
string getImplementationName();
boolean supportsService([in] string ServiceName);
sequence<string> getSupportedServiceNames();
```

**com.sun.star.uno.XWeak**

This interface allows clients to keep a weak reference to the object. A weak reference does not prevent the object from being destroyed if another client keeps a hard reference to it, therefore it allows a hard reference to be retrieved again. The technique is used to avoid cyclic references. Even if the interface is not required by you, it could be implemented for a client that may want to establish a weak reference to an instance of your object.

```
com::sun::star::uno::XAdapter queryAdapter(); // creates Adapter
```

**com.sun.star.lang.XComponent**

This interface is used if cyclic references can occur in the component holding another object and the other object is holding a reference to that component. It can be specified in the service description who shall destroy the object.

```
void dispose(); //an object owning your component may order it to delete itself using dispose()
void addEventListener(com::sun::star::lang::XEventListener xListener); // add dispose listeners
void removeEventListener(com::sun::star::lang::XEventListener aListener); // remove them
```

**com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization**

This interface is used to allow other objects to use `createInstanceWithArguments()` or `createInstanceWithArgumentsAndContext()` with the component. It should be implemented and the arguments processed in `initialize()`:

```
void initialize(sequence< any > aArguments) raises (com::sun::star::uno::Exception);`
Core Interfaces to Implement

long run (sequence< string > aArguments);
com.sun.star.uno.XAggregation

This interface makes the implementation cooperate in an aggregation. If implemented, other objects can aggregate to the implementation. Aggregated objects behave as if they were one. If another object aggregates the component, it holds the component and delegates calls to it, so that the component seems to be one with the aggregating object.

// com.sun.star.uno.XAggregation

void setDelegator(com.sun.star.uno.XInterface pDelegator);
any queryAggregation(type aType);

com.sun.star.lang.XUnoTunnel

This interface provides a pointer to the component to another component in the same process. This can be achieved with XUnoTunnel. XUnoTunnel should not be used by new components, because it is to be used for integration of existing implementations, if all else fails.

By now you should be able to decide which interfaces are interesting in your case. Sometimes the decision for or against an interface depends on the necessary effort as well. The following section discusses for each of the above interfaces how you can take advantage of pre-implemented helper classes in Java or C++, and what must happen in a possible implementation, no matter which language is used.

XInterface

All service implementations must implement com.sun.star.uno.XInterface. If a Java component is derived from a Java helper class that comes with the SDK, it supports XInterface automatically. Otherwise, it is sufficient to add XInterface or any other UNO interface to the implements list. The Java UNO runtime takes care of XInterface. In C++, there are helper classes to inherit that already implement XInterface. However, if XInterface is to be implemented manually, consider the code below.

The IDL specification for com.sun.star.uno.XInterface looks like this:

// module com::sun::star::uno
interface XInterface
{
    any queryInterface([in] type aType);
    [oneway] void acquire();
    [oneway] void release();
};
Requirements for queryInterface()

When queryInterface() is called, the caller asks the implementation if it supports the interface specified by the type argument. The UNOIDL base type stores the name of a type and its com.sun.star.uno.TypeClass. The call must return an interface reference of the requested type if it is available or a void any if it is not. There are certain conditions a queryInterface() implementation must meet:

**Constant Behaviour**

If queryInterface() on a specific object has once returned a valid interface reference for a given type, it must always return a valid reference for any subsequent queryInterface() call for the same type on this object. A query for XInterface must always return the same reference.

If queryInterface() on a specific object has once returned a void any for a given type, it must always return a void any for the same type.

**Symmetry**

If queryInterface() for XBar on a reference xFoo returns a reference xBar, then queryInterface() on reference xBar for type XFoo must return xFoo or calls made on the returned reference must be equivalent to calls to xFoo.

**Object Identity**

In C++, two objects are the same if their XInterface are the same. The queryInterface() for XInterface will have to be called on both. In Java, check for the identity by calling the runtime function com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime.areSame().

The reason for this specifications is that a UNO runtime environment may choose to cache queryInterface() calls. The rules are identical to the rules of the function QueryInterface() in MS COM.

**Tip** - If you want to implement queryInterface() in Java, for example, you want to export less interfaces than you implement, your class must implement the Java interface com.sun.star.uno.IQueryInterface.
Reference Counting

The methods acquire() and release() handle the lifetime of the UNO object. This is discussed in detail in chapter Lifetime of UNO objects. Acquire and release must be implemented in a thread-safe fashion. This is demonstrated in C++ in the section about C++ components below.

XTypeProvider

Every UNO object should implement the com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider interface.

Some applications need to know which interfaces an UNO object supports, for example, the OpenOffice.org Basic engine or debugging tools, such as the InstanceInspector. The com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider interface was introduced to avoid going through all known interfaces calling queryInterface() repetitively. The XTypeProvider interface is implemented by Java and C++ helper classes. If the XTypeProvider must be implemented manually, use the following methods:

```c++
// module com::sun::star::lang
interface XTypeProvider: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    sequence<type> getTypes();
    sequence<byte> getImplementationId();
};
```

The sections about Java and C++ components below show examples of XTypeProvider implementations.

Provided Types

The <idlml>com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider:getTypes</idlml>() method must return a list of types for all interfaces that queryInterface() provides. The OpenOffice.org Basic engine depends on this information to establish a list of method signatures that can be used with an object.
ImplementationID

For caching purposes, the `getImplementationId()` method has been introduced. The method must return a byte array containing an identifier for the implemented set of interfaces in this implementation class. It is important that one ID maps to one set of interfaces, but one set of interfaces can be known under multiple IDs. Every implementation class should generate a static ID.

XServiceInfo

Every service implementation should export the com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo interface. `XServiceInfo` must be implemented manually, because only the programmer knows what services the implementation supports. The sections about Java and C++ components below show examples for `XServiceInfo` implementations.

This is how the IDL specification for `XServiceInfo` looks like:

```idl
// module com::sun::star::lang
interface XServiceInfo: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    string getImplementationName();
    boolean supportsService( [in] string ServiceName );
    sequence<string> getSupportedServiceNames();
};
```

Implementation Name

The method `getImplementationName()` provides access to the `implementation name` of a service implementation. The implementation name uniquely identifies one implementation of service specifications in a UNO object. The name can be chosen freely by the implementation alone, because it does not appear in IDL. However, the implementation should adhere to the following naming conventions:
If an object implements one single service, it can use the service name to derive an implementation name. Implementations of several services should use a name that describes the entire object.

If a `createInstance()` is called at the service manager using an implementation name, an instance of exactly that implementation is received. An implementation name is equivalent to a class name in Java. A Java component simply returns the fully qualified class name in `getImplementationName()`.

**Tip** - It is good practice to program against the specification and not against the implementation, otherwise, your application could break with future versions. OpenOffice.org's API implementation is not supposed to be compatible, only the specification is.

### Supported Service Names

The methods `getSupportedServiceNames()` and `supportsService()` deal with the availability of services in an implemented object. Note that the supported services are the services implemented in *one class* that supports these services, not the services of all implementations contained in the component file. In the illustration [A Component implementing three UNO objects](#), `XServiceInfo` is exported by the implemented objects in a component, not by the component. That means, srv3_4 must support `XServiceInfo` and return "Service3" and "Service4" as supported service names.

The service name identifies a service as it was specified in IDL. If an object is instantiated at the service manager using the service name, an object that complies to the service specification is returned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company prefix</th>
<th>dot</th>
<th>&quot;comp&quot;</th>
<th>dot</th>
<th>module name</th>
<th>dot</th>
<th>unique object name in module</th>
<th>implemented service(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>comp</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>forms</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>ODataBaseForm</td>
<td>com.sun.star.forms .DataBaseForm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>org.openoffice</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>comp</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>test</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>OThumbs</td>
<td>org.openoffice.test. ImageShrink org.openoffice.test. ThumbnailInsert ...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Note** – The *single service* factories returned by components that are used to create instances of an implementation through their interfaces `com.sun.star.lang.XSingleComponentFactory` or `com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory` must support `XServiceInfo`. The single factories support this interface to allow UNO to inspect the capabilities of a certain implementation before instantiating it. You can take advantage of this feature through the `com.sun.star.container.XContentEnumerationAccess` interface of a service manager.

### XWeak

A component supporting `XWeak` offers other objects to hold a reference on itself without preventing it from being destroyed when it is no longer needed. Thus, cyclic references can be avoided easily. The chapter [*Lifetime of UNO Objects*](#) discusses this in detail. In Java, derive from the Java helper class `com.sun.star.lib.uno.helper.WeakBase` to support `XWeak`. If a C++ component is derived from one of the `::cppu::Weak...ImplHelperNN` template classes as proposed in the section [*C++ Component*](#), a `XWeak` support is obtained, virtually for free. For the sake of completeness, this is the `XWeak` specification:

```java
// module com::sun::star::uno::XWeak

interface XWeak: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    com::sun::star::uno::XAdapter queryAdapter();
};
```

### XComponent

If the implementation holds a reference to another UNO object internally, there may be a problem of cyclic references that might prevent your component and the other object from being destroyed forever. If it is probable that the other object may hold a reference to your component, implement `com.sun.star.lang.XComponent` that contains a method `dispose()`. Chapter [*Lifetime of UNO Objects*](#) discusses the intricacies of this issue.

Supporting `XComponent` in a C++ or Java component is simple, because there are helper classes to derive from that implement `XComponent`. The following code is an example if you must implement `XComponent` manually.
The interface XComponent specifies these operations:

```java
// module com::sun::star::lang
interface XComponent: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface {
    void dispose();
    void addEventListener( [in] XEventListener xListener );
    void removeEventListener( [in] XEventListener aListener );
};
```

XComponent uses the interface com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener:

```java
// module com::sun::star::lang
interface XEventListener: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface {
    void disposing( [in] com::sun::star::lang::EventObject Source );
};
```

### Disposing of an XComponent

The idea behind XComponent is that the object is instantiated by a third object that makes the third object the owner of first object. The owner is allowed to call `dispose()` method. When the owner calls `dispose()` at your object, it must do three things:

- Release all references it holds.
- Inform registered XEventListeners that it is being disposed of by calling their method `disposing()`.
- Behave as passive as possible afterwards. If the implementation is called after being disposed, throw a com.sun.star.lang.DisposedException if you cannot fulfill the method specification.

That way the owner of XComponent objects can dissolve a possible cyclic reference.

### XInitialization

The interface com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization is usually implemented manually, because only the programmer knows how to initialize the object with arguments received from the service manager through `createInstanceWithArguments()` or `createInstanceWithArgumentsAndContext()`. In Java, XInitialization is used as well, but know that the Java factory helper provides a shortcut that uses arguments without implementing XInitialization directly. The Java factory helper can pass arguments to the class constructor under certain conditions. Refer to the section...
Create Instance with Arguments for more information.

The specification for XInitialization looks like this:

```java
// module com::sun::star::lang
interface XInitialization : com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    void initialize(sequence< any > aArguments) raises
    (com::sun::star::uno::Exception);
};
```

An old-style UNOIDL service specification will typically specify which arguments and in which order are expected within the any sequence.

With the advent of new-style service specifications with explicit constructors, you can now declare explicitly what arguments can be passed to an object when creating it. The arguments listed in a constructor are exactly the arguments passed to XInitialization.initialize (the various language bindings currently use XInitialization internally to implement service constructors; that may change in the future, however).

**XMain**

The implementation of com.sun.star.lang.XMain is used for special cases. Its run() operation is called by the uno executable. The section The UNO Executable below discusses the use of XMain and the uno executable in detail.

```java
// module com::sun::star::lang
interface XMain: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    long run( [in] sequence< string > aArguments );
};
```

**XAggregation**

A concept called aggregation is commonly used to plug multiple objects together to form one single object at runtime. The main interface in this context is com.sun.star.uno.XAggregation. After plugging the objects together, the reference count and the queryInterface() method is delegated from multiple slave objects to one master object.
It is a precondition that at the moment of aggregation, the slave object has a reference count of exactly one, which is the reference count of the master. Additionally, it does not work on proxy objects, because in Java, multiple proxy objects of the same interface of the same slave object might exist.

While aggregation allows more code reuse than implementation inheritance, the facts mentioned above, coupled with the implementation of independent objects makes programming prone to errors. Therefore the use of this concept is discourage and not explained here. For further information visit http://udk.openoffice.org/common/man/concept/unointro.html#aggregation.

**XUnoTunnel**

The com.sun.star.lang.XUnoTunnel interface allows access to the this pointer of an object. This interface is used to cast a UNO interface that is coming back to its implementation class through a UNO method. Using this interface is a result of an unsatisfactory interface design, because it indicates that some functionality only works when non-UNO functions are used. In general, these objects cannot be replaced by a different implementation, because they undermine the general UNO interface concept. This interface can be understood as admittance to an already existing code that cannot be split into UNO components easily. If designing new services, do not use this interface.

```java
interface XUnoTunnel: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    hyper getSomething( [in] sequence< byte > aIdentifier );
};
```

The byte sequence contains an identifier that both the caller and implementer must know. The implementer returns the this pointer of the object if the byte sequence is equal to the byte sequence previously stored in a static variable. The byte sequence is usually generated once per process per implementation.

**Note** – Note that the previously mentioned 'per process' is important because the this pointer of a class you know is useless, if the instance lives in a different process.
Simple Component in Java

This section shows how to write Java components. The examples in this chapter are in the samples folder that was provided with the programmer’s manual.

A Java component is a library of Java classes (a jar) containing objects that implement arbitrary UNO services. For a service implementation in Java, implement the necessary UNO core interfaces and the interfaces needed for your purpose. These could be existing interfaces or interfaces defined by using UNOIDL.

Besides these service implementations, Java components need two methods to instantiate the services they implement in a UNO environment: one to get single factories for each service implementation in the jar, and another one to write registration information into a registry database. These methods are called static component operations in the following:

The method that provides single factories for the service implementations in a component is __getServiceFactory():

```java
public static XSingleServiceFactory __getServiceFactory(String implName, 
                                                                     XMultiServiceFactory multiFactory, 
                                                                     XRegistryKey regKey)
```

In theory, a client obtains a single factory from a component by calling __getServiceFactory() on the component implementation directly. This is rarely done because in most cases service manager is used to get an instance of the service implementation. The service manager uses __getServiceFactory() at the component to get a factory for the requested service from the component, then asks this factory to create an instance of the one object the factory supports.

To find a requested service implementation, the service manager searches its registry database for the location of the component jar that contains this implementation. For this purpose, the component must have been registered beforehand. UNO components are able to write the necessary information on their own through a function that performs the registration and which can be called by the registration tool regcomp. The function has this signature:

```java
public static boolean __writeRegistryServiceInfo(XRegistryKey regKey)
```

These two methods work together to make the implementations in a component available to a service manager. The method __writeRegistryServiceInfo() tells the service manager where to find an implementation while __getServiceFactory() enables the service manager to instantiate a service implementation, once found.

The necessary steps to write a component are:

3 Define service implementation classes.
4 Implement UNO core interfaces.
5 Implement your own interfaces.
6 Provide static component operations to make your component available to a service manager.

Class Definition with Helper Class

XInterface, XTypeProvider and XWeak

The OpenOffice.org Java UNO environment contains Java helper classes that implement the majority of the core interfaces that are implemented by UNO components. There are two helper classes:

- The helper `com.sun.star.lib.uno.helper.WeakBase` is the minimal base class and implements `XInterface`, `XTypeProvider` and `XWeak`.
- The helper `com.sun.star.lib.uno.helper.ComponentBase` that extends `WeakBase` and implements `XComponent`.

The `com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo` is the only interface that should be implemented, but it is not part of the helpers.

Use the naming conventions described in section `XServiceInfo` for the service implementation. Following the rules, a service `org.openoffice.test.ImageShrink` should be implemented in `org.openoffice.comp.test.ImageShrink`.

A possible class definition that uses `WeakBase` could look like this:

```java
package org.openoffice.comp.test;

public class ImageShrink extends com.sun.star.lib.uno.helper.WeakBase
    implements com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo,
    org.openoffice.test.XImageShrinkFilter {
    com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext xComponentContext = null;
    /** Creates a new instance of ImageShrink */
    public ImageShrink(com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext xComponentContext)
        { this.xComponentContext = xContext; } ...
```
**XServiceInfo**

If the implementation only supports one service, use the following code to implement `XServiceInfo`:

```java
//XServiceInfo implementation
// hold the service name in a private static member variable of the class
protected static final String __serviceName = "org.openoffice.test.ImageShrink";
public String getImplementationName() {     return getClass().getName(); }
public boolean supportsService(String serviceName) {     if (serviceName.equals(__serviceName))          return true;     return false; }
public String[] getSupportedServiceNames() {     return new String[] { __serviceName }; }
```

An implementation of more than one service in one UNO object is more complex. It has to return all supported service names in `getSupportedServiceNames()`, furthermore it must check all supported service names in `supportsService()`. Note that several services packaged in one component file are not discussed here, but objects supporting more than one service. Refer to [A Component implementing three UNO objects](#) for the implementation of srv3_4.

**Implementing Your Own Interfaces**

The functionality of a component is accessible only by its interfaces. When writing a component, choose one of the available API interfaces or define an interface. UNO types are used as method arguments to other UNO objects. Java does not support unsigned integer types, so their use is discouraged. In the chapter [Using UNOIDL to Specify New Components](#), the `org.openoffice.test.XImageShrinkFilter` interface specification was written and an interface class file was created. Its implementation is straightforward, you create a class that implements your interfaces:

```java
package org.openoffice.comp.test;

public class ImageShrink extends com.sun.star.lib.uno.helper.WeakBase
 implements com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo,
      org.openoffice.test.XImageShrinkFilter {

  ...

  String destDir = "";
  String sourceDir = "";
```
boolean cancel = false;
com.sun.star.awt.Size dimension = new com.sun.star.awt.Size();

// XImageShrink implementation (a sub-interface of XImageShrinkFilter)

public void cancel() {
    cancel = true;
}

public boolean filter(com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] propertyValue) {
    // while cancel = false,
    // scale images found in sourceDir according to dimension and
    // write them to destDir, using the image file format given in
    // []propertyValue
    // (implementation omitted)
    cancel = false;
    return true;
}

// XImageShrink implementation

public String getDestinationDirectory() {
    return destDir;
}

public com.sun.star.awt.Size getDimension() {
    return dimension;
}

public String getSourceDirectory() {
    return sourceDir;
}

public void setDestinationDirectory(String str) {
    destDir = str;
}

public void setDimension(com.sun.star.awt.Size size) {
    dimension = size;
}

public void setSourceDirectory(String str) {
    sourceDir = str;
}
...

For the component to run, the new interface class file must be accessible to the Java Virtual Machine. Unlike stand-alone Java applications, it is not sufficient to set the CLASSPATH environment variable. Instead, the class path is passed to the VM when it is created. Prior to OpenOffice.org 1.1.0, one could modify the class path by editing the SystemClasspath entry of the java(.ini|rc) which was located in the folder <officepath>\user\config. Another way was to use the Options dialog. To navigate to the class path settings, one had to expand the OpenOffice.org node in the tree on the
left-hand side and chose Security. On the right-hand side, there was a field called User Classpath.

As of OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 the component, class files, and type library are packed into an extension, which is then registered by the pkgchk executable. And as of OpenOffice.org 2.0, the unopkg tool is used to do this. The jar files are then automatically added to the class path.

Note – It is also important that the binary type library of the new interfaces are provided together with the component, otherwise the component is not accessible from OpenOffice.org Basic. Basic uses the UNO core reflection service to get type information at runtime. The core reflection is based on the binary type library.

Providing a Single Factory Using a Helper Method

The component must be able to create single factories for each service implementation it contains and return them in the static component operation __getServiceFactory(). The OpenOffice.org Java UNO environment provides a Java class com.sun.star.comp.loader.FactoryHelper that creates a default implementation of a single factory through its method getServiceFactory(). The following example could be written:

```java
package org.openoffice.comp.test;

import com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.registry.XRegistryKey;
import com.sun.star.comp.loader.FactoryHelper;

public class ImageShrink ... {

...

// static __getServiceFactory() implementation
// static member __serviceName was introduced above for XServiceInfo implementation
public static XSingleServiceFactory __getServiceFactory(String implName, XMultiServiceFactory multiFactory, com.sun.star.registry.XRegistryKey regKey) {

    com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory xSingleServiceFactory = null;
    if (implName.equals( ImageShrink.class.getName()) )
        xSingleServiceFactory = FactoryHelper.getServiceFactory(ImageShrink.class, ImageShrink.__serviceName, multiFactory, regKey);

...}
```
Providing a Single Factory Using a Helper Method

The `FactoryHelper` is contained in the `jurt` jar file. The `getServiceFactory()` method takes as a first argument a `Class` object. When `createInstance()` is called on the default factory, it creates an instance of that `Class` using `newInstance()` on it and retrieves the implementation name through `getName()`. The second argument is the service name. The `multiFactory` and `regKey` arguments were received in `__getServiceFactory()` and are passed to the `FactoryHelper`.

Note – In this case, the implementation name, which the default factory finds through `Class.getName()` is `org.openoffice.comp.test.ImageShrink` and the service name is `org.openoffice.test.ImageShrink`. The implementation name and the service name are used for the separate `XServiceInfo` implementation within the default factory. Not only do you support the `XServiceInfo` interface in your service implementation, but the single factory must implement this interface as well.

The default factory created by the `FactoryHelper` expects a public constructor in the implementation class of the service and calls it when it instantiates the service implementation. The constructor can be a default constructor, or it can take a `com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext` or a `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory` as an argument. Refer to `Create Instance with Arguments` for other arguments that are possible.

Java components are housed in jar files. When a component has been registered, the registry contains the name of the jar file, so that the service manager can find it. However, because a jar file can contain several class files, the service manager must be told which one contains the `__getServiceFactory()` method. That information has to be put into the jar's `Manifest` file, for example:

```
RegistrationClassName: org.openoffice.comp.test.ImageShrink
```

Write Registration Info Using a Helper Method

UNO components have to be registered with the registry database of a service manager. In an office installation, this is the file `types.rdb` (up through 1.1.0, `applicat.rdb`) for all predefined services. A service manager can use this database to find the implementations for a service. For instance, if an instance of your component is created using the following call.

```java
return xSingleServiceFactory;
}
...
}`
```
Object imageShrink = xRemoteServiceManager.createInstance("org.openoffice.test.ImageShrink");

Using the given service or implementation name, the service manager looks up the location of the corresponding jar file in the registry and instantiates the component.

**Note** – If you want to use the service manager of the Java UNO runtime, com.sun.star.comp.servicemanager.ServiceManager (jurt.jar), to instantiate your service implementation, then you would have to create the service manager and add the factory for "org.openoffice.test.ImageShrink" programmatically, because the Java service manager does not use the registry. Alternatively, you can use com.sun.star.comp.helper.RegistryServiceFactory from juh.jar which is registry-based. Its drawback is that it delegates to a C++ implementation of the service manager through the java-bridge.

During the registration, a component writes the necessary information into the registry. The process to write the information is triggered externally when a client calls the __writeRegistryServiceInfo() method at the component. public static boolean __writeRegistryServiceInfo(XRegistryKey regKey)

The caller passes an com.sun.star.registry.XRegistryKey interface that is used by the method to write the registry entries. Again, the FactoryHelper class offers a way to implement the method:

```java
// static __writeRegistryServiceInfo implementation
public static boolean __writeRegistryServiceInfo(XRegistryKey regKey) {
    return FactoryHelper.writeRegistryServiceInfo( ImageShrink.class.getName(),
            __serviceName, regKey);
}
```

The writeRegistryServiceInfo method takes three arguments:

- implementation name
- service name
- XRegistryKey

Use tools such as regcomp to register a component. This tool takes the path to the jar file containing the component as an argument. Since the jar can contain several classes, the class that implements the __writeRegistryServiceInfo() method must be pointed out by means of the manifest. Again, the RegistrationClassName entry determines the correct class. For example:

```plaintext
RegistrationClassName: org.openoffice.comp.test.ImageShrink
```

The above entry is also necessary to locate the class that provides __getServiceFactory(), therefore the functions __writeRegistryServiceInfo() and
Write Registration Info Using a Helper Method

__getServiceFactory() have to be in the same class.

Implementing without Helpers

XInterface

As soon as the component implements any UNO interface, com.sun.star.uno.XInterface is included automatically. The Java interface definition generated by javamaker for com.sun.star.uno.XInterface only contains a TypeInfo member used by Java UNO internally to store certain UNO type information:

```java
// source file com/sun/star/uno/XInterface.java corresponding to the class generated by

package com.sun.star.uno;

public interface XInterface
{
    // static Member
    public static final com.sun.star.lib.uno.typeinfo.TypeInfo UNOTYPEINFO[] = null;
}
```

Note that XInterface does not have any methods, in contrast to its IDL description. That means, if implements com.sun.star.uno.XInterface is added to a class definition, there is nothing to implement.

The method queryInterface() is unnecessary in the implementation of a UNO object, because the Java UNO runtime environment obtains interface references without support from the UNO objects themselves. Within Java, the method UnoRuntime.queryInterface() is used to obtain interfaces instead of calling com.sun.star.uno.XInterface:queryInterface(), and the Java UNO language binding hands out interfaces for UNO objects to other processes on its own as well.

The methods acquire() and release() are used for reference counting and control the lifetime of an object, because the Java garbage collector does this, there is no reference counting in Java components.
Implementing without Helpers

XTypeProvider

Helper classes with default com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider implementations are still under development for Java. Meanwhile, every Java UNO object implementation can implement the XTypeProvider interface as shown in the following code. In your implementation, adjust getTypes():

```
// XTypeProvider implementation

// maintain a static implementation id for all instances of ImageShrink
// initialized by the first call to getImplementationId()
protected static byte[] _implementationId;

public com.sun.star.uno.Type[] getTypes() {
    // instantiate Type instances for each interface you support and place
    // them in a Type[] array
    // (this object supports XServiceInfo, XTypeProvider, and
    // XImageShrinkFilter)
    return new com.sun.star.uno.Type[] {
        new com.sun.star.uno.Type(com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo.class),
        new com.sun.star.uno.Type(com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider.class),
        new com.sun.star.uno.Type(org.openoffice.test.XImageShrinkFilter.class) ];
    }

    synchronized public byte[] getImplementationId() {
        if (_implementationId == null) {
            _implementationId = new byte[16];
            int hash = hashCode(); // hashCode of this object
            _implementationId[0] = (byte)(hash & 0xff);
            _implementationId[1] = (byte)((hash >>> 8) & 0xff);
            _implementationId[2] = (byte)((hash >>> 16) & 0xff);
            _implementationId[3] = (byte)((hash >>>24) & 0xff);
        }
        return _implementationId;
    }
```

The suggested implementation of the getImplementationId() method is not optimal, it uses the hashCode() of the first instance that initializes the static field. The future UNO helper class will improve this.

XComponent

XComponent is an optional interface that is useful when other objects hold references
Implementing without Helpers
to the component. The notification mechanism of XComponent enables listener objects
to learn when the component stops to provide its services, so that the objects drop
their references to the component. This enables the component to delete itself when
its reference count drops to zero. From section Core Interfaces to Implement, there
must be three things done when dispose() is called at an XComponent:

- Inform registered XEventListeners that the object is being disposed of by calling
  their method disposing().
- Release all references the object holds, including all XEventListener objects.
- On further calls to the component, throw an com.sun.star.lang.DisposedException
  in case the required task can not be fulfilled anymore, because the component
  was disposed.

In Java, the object cannot be deleted, but the garbage collector will do this. It is
sufficient to release all references that are currently being held to break the cyclic
reference, and to call disposing() on all com.sun.star.lang.XEventListeners.

The registration and removal of listener interfaces is a standard procedure in Java.
Some IDEs even create the necessary methods automatically. The following example
could be written:

```java
public class XComponentImpl implements XComponent {

    // XComponent implementation

    // hold a list of eventListeners
    private java.util.ArrayList eventListeners = new java.util.ArrayList();

    public void dispose {
        java.util.ArrayList listeners;
        synchronized (this) {
            listeners = eventListeners;
            eventListeners = null;
        }
        for (java.util.Iterator i = listeners.iterator(); i.hasNext();)
            fireDisposing((XEventListener) i.next());
        releaseReferences();
    }

    public void addEventListener(XEventListener listener) {
        bool fire = false;
        synchronized (this) {
            if (eventListeners == null) {
                fire = true;
            } else {
                eventListeners.add(listener);
            }
        }
        if (fire) {
            fireDisposing(listener);
        }
    }
}
```
public synchronized void removeEventListener(XEventListener listener) {
    if (eventListeners != null) {
        int i = eventListeners.indexOf(listener);
        if (i >= 0) {
            eventListeners.remove(i);
        }
    }
}

private void fireDisposing(XEventListener listener) {
    com.sun.star.uno.EventObject event = new com.sun.star.uno.EventObject(this);
    try {
        listener.disposing(event);
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.DisposedException e) {
        // it is not an error if some listener is disposed simultaneously
    }
}

private void releaseReferences() {
    xComponentContext = null;
    // ...
}

Storing the Service Manager for Further Use

A component usually runs in the office process. There is no need to create an interprocess channel explicitly. A component does not have to create a service manager, because it is provided to the single factory of an implementation by the service manager during a call to createInstance() or createInstanceWithContext(). The single factory receives an XComponentContext or an XMultiServiceFactory, and passes it to the corresponding constructor of the service implementation. From the component context, the implementation gets the service manager using getServiceManager() at the com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext interface.

Create Instance with Arguments

A factory can create an instance of components and pass additional arguments. To do that, a client calls the createInstanceWithArguments() function of the com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory interface or the createInstanceWithArgumentsAndContext() of the com.sun.star.lang.XSingleComponentFactory interface.
Both functions take an array of values as an argument. A component implements the com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization interface to receive the values. A factory passes the array on to the single method \texttt{initialize()} supported by XInitialization.

Alternatively, a component may also receive these arguments in its constructor. If a factory is written, determine exactly which arguments are provided by the factory when it instantiates the component. When using the FactoryHelper, implement the constructors with the following arguments:

\begin{tabular}{|l|l|l|}
\hline
\textbf{First Argument} & \textbf{Second Argument} & \textbf{Third Argument} \\
com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext & com.sun.star.registry.XRegistryKey & java.lang.Object[] \\
com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext & com.sun.star.registry.XRegistryKey & java.lang.Object[] \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

The FactoryHelper automatically passes the array of arguments it received from the \texttt{createInstanceWithArguments[AndContext]()} call to the appropriate constructor. Therefore, it is not always necessary to implement \texttt{XInitialization} to use arguments.

**Possible Structures for Java Components**

The implementation of a component depends on the needs of the implemeneter. The following examples show some possible ways to assemble a component. There can be one implemented object or several implemented objects per component file.
One Implementation per Component File

There are additional options if implementing one service per component file:

- Use a flat structure with the static component operations added to the service implementation class directly.
- Reserve the class with the implementation name for the static component operation and use an inner class to implement the service.

Implementation Class with Component Operations

An implementation class contains the static component operations. The following sample implements an interface `com.sun.star.test.XSomething` in an implementation class `JavaComp.TestComponent`:

```java
// UNOIDL: interface example specification
module com { module sun { module star { module test { interface XSomething: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface {
    string methodOne([in]string val);
};
};
}}};
```

A component that implements only one service supporting `XSomething` can be assembled in one class as follows:

```java
package JavaComp;

... public class TestComponent implements XSomething, XTypeProvider, XServiceInfo {
    public static final String __serviceName="com.sun.star.test.JavaTestComponent";
    public static XSingleServiceFactory __getServiceFactory(String implName, XMultiServiceFactory multiFactory, XRegistryKey regKey) {
        XSingleServiceFactory xSingleServiceFactory = null;
        if (implName.equals( TestComponent.class.getName()) )
            xSingleServiceFactory = FactoryHelper.getServiceFactory( TestComponent.class, TestComponent.__serviceName, multiFactory, regKey);
        return xSingleServiceFactory;
    }
    public static boolean __writeRegistryServiceInfo(XRegistryKey regKey) {
        ...
    }
```
The class implements the XSOMething interface. The IDL description and documentation provides information about its functionality. The class also contains the functions for factory creation and registration, therefore the manifest entry must read as follows:

RegistrationClassName: JavaComp.TestComponent

### Implementation Class with Component Operations and Inner Implementation Class

To implement the component as inner class of the one that provides the service factory through `__getServiceFactory()`, it must be a static inner class, otherwise the factory provided by the FactoryHelper cannot create the component. An example for an inner implementation class is located in the sample `com.sun.star.comp.demo.DemoComponent.java` provided with the SDK. The implementation of `__getServiceFactory()` and `__writeRegistryServiceInfo()` is omitted here, because they act the same as in the implementation class with component operations above.
package com.sun.star.comp.demo;

public class DemoComponent {
    ...
    // static inner class implements service com.sun.star.demo.DemoComponent
    static public class _Implementation implements XTypeProvider,
        XServiceInfo, XInitialization, XWindowListener,
        XActionListener, XTopWindowListener {
        static private final String __serviceName =
            "com.sun.star.demo.DemoComponent";
        private XMultiServiceFactory _xMultiServiceFactory;
        // Constructor
        public _Implementation(XMultiServiceFactory xMultiServiceFactory) {
        }
    }
    // static method to get a single factory creating the given service from the
    // factory helper
    public static XSingleServiceFactory __getServiceFactory(String implName,
        XMultiServiceFactory multiFactory,
        XRegistryKey regKey) {
        ...
    }
    // static method to write the service information into the given
    // registry key
    public static boolean __writeRegistryServiceInfo(XRegistryKey regKey) {
        ...
    }
}

The manifest entry for this implementation structure again has to point to the class
with the static component operations:

RegistrationClassName: com.sun.star.comp.demo.DemoComponent

Multiple Implementations per Component File

To assemble several service implementations in one component file, implement each
service in its own class and add a separate class containing the static component
operations. The following code sample features two services: TestComponentA and
TestComponentB implementing the interfaces XSomethingA and XSomethingB with a
separate static class TestServiceProvider containing the component operations.

The following are the UNOIDL specifications for XSomethingA and XSomethingB:

module com { module sun { module star { module test {
interface XSomethingA: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    string methodOne([in]string value);
};

module com { module sun { module star { module test { interface XSomethingB: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    string methodTwo([in]string value);
};
}}};

TestComponentA implements XSomethingA:

package JavaComp;

public class TestComponentA implements XTypeProvider, XServiceInfo, XSomethingA {
    static final String __serviceName = "JavaTestComponentA";
    static byte[] _implementationId;

    public TestComponentA() {
    }

    // XSomethingA
    public String methodOne(String val) {
        return val;
    }

    // XTypeProvider
    public com.sun.star.uno.Type[] getTypes() {
        Type[] retValue = new Type[3];
        retValue[0] = new Type(XServiceInfo.class);
        retValue[1] = new Type(XTypeProvider.class);
        retValue[2] = new Type(XSomethingA.class);
        return retValue;
    }

    // XTypeProvider
    synchronized public byte[] getImplementationId() {
        if (_implementationId == null) {
            _implementationId = new byte[16];
            int hash = hashCode();
            _implementationId[0] = (byte)(hash & 0xff);
            _implementationId[1] = (byte)((hash >>> 8) & 0xff);
            _implementationId[2] = (byte)((hash >>> 16) & 0xff);
            _implementationId[3] = (byte)((hash >>> 24) & 0xff);
        }
        return _implementationId;
    }

    // XServiceInfo
    public String getImplementationName() {
        return getClass().getName();
    }
}
public boolean supportsService( /*IN*/String serviceName ) {
    if ( serviceName.equals( __serviceName))
        return true;
    return false;
}

//XServiceInfo
public String[] getSupportedServiceNames( ) {
    String[] retValue= new String[0];
    retValue[0]= __serviceName;
    return retValue;
}
}

TestComponentB implements XSomethingB. Note that it receives the component context and initialization arguments in its constructor.

package JavaComp;

    public class TestComponentB implements XTypeProvider, XServiceInfo, XSomethingB {
        static final String __serviceName= "JavaTestComponentB";

        static byte[] _implementationId;
        private XComponentContext context;
        private Object[] args;

        public TestComponentB(XComponentContext context, Object[] args) {
            this.context= context;
            this.args= args;
        }

        // XSomethingB
        public String methodTwo(String val) {
            if (args.length > 0 && args[0] instanceof String )
                return (String) args[0];
            return val;
        }

        //XTypeProvider
        public com.sun.star.uno.Type[] getTypes( ) {
            Type[] retValue= new Type[3];
            retValue[0]= new Type( XServiceInfo.class);
            retValue[1]= new Type( XTypeProvider.class);
            retValue[2]= new Type( XSomethingB.class);
            return retValue;
        }

        //XTypeProvider
        synchronized public byte[] getImplementationId( ) {
            if (_implementationId == null) {
                _implementationId= new byte[16];
                int hash = hashCode();
                _implementationId[0] = (byte)(hash & 0xff);
                _implementationId[1] = (byte)((hash >>> 8) & 0xff);
                _implementationId[2] = (byte)((hash >>>24) & 0xff);
                _implementationId[3] = (byte)((hash >>>24) & 0xff);
            }
        }
return _implementationId;
}

//XServiceInfo
class public String getImplementationName()
    return getClass().getName();
}

// XServiceInfo
public boolean supportsService( /*IN*/String serviceName ) {
    if ( serviceName.equals( __serviceName))
        return true;
    return false;
}

//XServiceInfo
public String[] getSupportedServiceNames( ) {
    String[] retValue= new String[0];
    retValue[0]= __serviceName;
    return retValue;
}
}

TestServiceProvider implements __getServiceFactory() and __writeRegistryServiceInfo():

package JavaComp;
...
    public class TestServiceProvider
    {
        public static XSingleServiceFactory __getServiceFactory(String implName,
            XMultiServiceFactory multiFactory,
            XRegistryKey regKey) {
            XSingleServiceFactory xSingleServiceFactory = null;

            if (implName.equals( TestComponentA.class.getName()))
                xSingleServiceFactory = FactoryHelper.getServiceFactory( TestComponentA.class,
                    TestComponentA.__serviceName,
                    multiFactory, regKey);
            else if (implName.equals( TestComponentB.class.getName()))
                xSingleServiceFactory = FactoryHelper.getServiceFactory( TestComponentB.class,
                    TestComponentB.__serviceName,
                    multiFactory, regKey);
            return xSingleServiceFactory;
        }

        public static boolean __writeRegistryServiceInfo(XRegistryKey regKey){
            boolean bregA=
                FactoryHelper.writeRegistryServiceInfo( TestComponentA.class.getName(),
                    TestComponentA.__serviceName,
                    regKey);
            boolean bregB=
                FactoryHelper.writeRegistryServiceInfo( TestComponentB.class.getName(),
                    TestComponentB.__serviceName,
                    regKey);
    }
```
return bregA && bregB;
```

The corresponding manifest entry must point to the static class with the component operations, in this case `JavaComp.TestServiceProvider`:

```
RegistrationClassName: JavaComp.TestServiceProvider
```

## Additional UNO Types

To make the Java UNO runtime more robust and efficient, each component is loaded with its own class loader, with one `UnoClassLoader` at the root that takes care of loading all Java classes representing UNO types in such a way that they are available across the whole Java UNO runtime environment.

If a Java UNO component requires additional UNO types, it must use a `UNO-Type-Path` manifest entry to specify the location of the UNO types. The `UNO-Type-Path` is similar to the `Class-Path` manifest entry and can contain URLs of jars and directories that contain the Java classes that represent additional UNO types. The `UnoClassLoader` evaluates the `UNO-Type-Path` manifest entry to ensure that the additional UNO types are available to the Java UNO environment. The `UNO-Type-Path` can have one of the following formats.

- **Current jar does not contain UNO types:**
  ```
  UNO-Type-Path:
  ```

  (Note the final space character.)

- **Current jar contains UNO types:**
  ```
  UNO-Type-Path: 
  ```

- **Current jar brings other jars that contain UNO types:**
  ```
  UNO-Type-Path: any/other/jar.jar yet/another/jar.jar
  ```

- **Current jar and other jars that the current jar uses contain UNO types:**
  ```
  UNO-Type-Path: any/other/jar.jar <> yet/another/jar.jar
  ```

**Note** – For backwards compatibility, if you do not include the `UNO-Type-Path` manifest entry at all, the UNO runtime assumes that the current jar does contain UNO types.
Running and Debugging Java Components

In order to run a Java component within an office, it needs to be registered first. During the process of registration, the location of the component, its service name and implementation name, are written into a registry database – the services.rdb.

**Warning** – As of OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 the registration database (*applicat.rdb*) was split into the *services.rdb* and the *types.rdb*. As the names suggest, the *services.rdb* contains information about services (location, names, etc.), whereas the *types.rdb* holds type descriptions (interfaces, enumerations, etc.)

Formerly the *regcomp* tool was used for registering components. However, it was superseded by *pkgchk* which came with OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 and later by *unopkg* which came with OpenOffice.org 2.0. For more details about *unopkg* refer to chapter Extensions.

By using *regcomp* you have the option of registering components so that the information is kept in a separate database (other then the *services.rdb*). This might come in handy if you do not want to clutter up the *services.rdb* while developing components. Then, however, the office needs to be told to use that *.rdb*, which is done by modifying the *uno.(ini|rc)*.

If the component uses new types, then they must be made available to the office by merging the type information into the *services.rdb*. Again, you have the option of using a different database as long as the *uno.(ini|rc)* is modified accordingly. This step can be omitted if *unopkg* is being used.

The following is a step by step description of the registration process using *regcomp*:

Note, if errors are encountered, refer to the troubleshooting section at the end of this chapter.

**Register Component File**

This step creates a registry file that contains the location of the component file and all the necessary type information. To register, place a few files to the proper locations:

- Copy the *regcomp* tool from the SDK distribution to `<OfficePath>/program`.
- Copy the component jar to `<OfficePath>/program/classes`.
- Copy the *.rdb* file containing the new types created to `<OfficePath>/program`. If
new types were not defined, dismiss this step. In this case, *regcomp* automatically creates a new rdb file with registration information.

On the command prompt, change to `<OfficePath>/program`, then run *regcomp* with the following options. Line breaks were applied to improve readability, but the command must be entered in a single line:

```
$ regcomp -register -r <your_registry>.rdb -br services.rdb -br types.rdb -l com.sun.star.loader.Java -c file:///<OfficePath>/program/classes/<your_component>.jar
```

For the `org.openoffice.test.ImageShrink` service whose type description was merged into `thumbs.rdb`, which is implemented in `thumbs.jar`, the corresponding command would be:

```
$ regcomp -register -r thumbs.rdb -br services.rdb -br types.rdb -l com.sun.star.loader.Java -c file:///i:/StarOffice6.0/program/classes/thumbs.jar
```

Instead of *regcomp*, there is also a Java tool to register components, however, it can only write to the same registry it reads from. It cannot be used to create a separate registry database. For details, see the section [Deployment Options for Components](#).

---

### Make Registration Available to OpenOffice.org

OpenOffice.org must be told to use the registry. Close all OpenOffice.org parts, including the Quickstarter that runs in the Windows task bar. Edit the file `uno(.ini|rc)` in `<OfficePath>/program` as follows:

```
[Bootstrap] UNO_TYPES=$SYSBINDIR/types.rdb $SYSBINDIR/<your_registry>.rdb
UNO_SERVICES=$SYSBINDIR/services.rdb $SYSBINDIR/<your_registry>.rdb
```

For details about the syntax of `uno(.ini|rc)` and alternative registration procedures, refer to the section [Deployment Options for Components](#). If OpenOffice.org is restarted, the component should be available.

---

### Test the Registration

A short OpenOffice.org Basic program indicates if the program runs went smoothly, by selecting **Tools – Macro** and entering a new macro name on the left, such as `TestImageShrink` and click **New** to create a new procedure. In the procedure, enter the appropriate code of the component. The test routine for `ImageShrink` would be:
Sub TestImageShrink  oTestComp =
createUnoService("org.openoffice.test.ImageShrink")  MsgBox
oTestComp.dbg_methods  MsgBox oTestComp.dbg_properties  MsgBox
oTestComp.dbg_supportedInterfaces  end sub

The result should be three dialogs showing the methods, properties and interfaces
supported by the implementation. Note that the interface attributes do not appear as
get/set methods, but as properties in Basic. If the dialogs do not show what is
expected, refer to the section Troubleshooting.

Debugging

To increase turnaround cycles and source level debugging, configure the IDE to use
GNU makefiles for code generation and prepare OpenOffice.org for Java debugging.
If NetBeans are used, the following steps are necessary:

Support for GNU make

A NetBeans extension, available on makefile.netbeans.org, that adds basic support
for GNU makefiles. When it is enabled, edit the makefile in the IDE and use the
makefile to build. To install and enable this module, select Tools – Setup Wizard and
click Next to go to the Module installation page. Find the module Makefiles and
change the corresponding entry to True in the Enabled column. Finish using the
setup wizard. If the module is not available in the installation, use Tools – Update
Center to get the module from www.netbeans.org. A new entry, Makefile Support,
appears in the online help when Help – Contents is selected. Makefile Support
provides further configuration options. The settings Run a Makefile and Test a
Makefile can be found in Tools – Options – Uncategorized – Compiler Types and
– Execution Types.

Put the makefile into the project source folder that was mounted when the project
was created. To build the project using the makefile, highlight the makefile in the
Explorer and press F11.

Documentation for GNU make command-line options and syntax are available at
www.gnu.org. The sample Thumbs in the samples folder along with this manual
contains a makefile that with a few adjustments is useful for Java components.
Component Debugging

If NetBeans or Forte for Java is used, the Java Virtual Machine (JVM) that is launched by OpenOffice.org can be attached. Configure the JVM used by OpenOffice.org to listen for debugger connections. Prior to OpenOffice.org 2.0 this was done by adding these lines to the `java(.ini|rc)` in `<OfficePath>/user/config`:

```
-Xdebug -Xrunjdwp:transport=dt_socket,server=y,address=8000,suspend=n
```

As of OpenOffice.org 2.0, these lines are added in the options dialog: expand the OpenOffice.org node in the tree on the left-hand side and chose Java. On the right-hand side, push the Parameters button to open a dialog. In this dialog, enter the debug options as two separate entries. Note that the parameters have to entered the same way as they would be provided on the command line when starting the Java executable. That is, retain the leading '-' and spaces, if necessary.

**Tip** - The additional entries correspond exactly to the options you would use when running the java executable from the command line in debug mode. For more information refer to the Java SDK documentation.

The last line causes the JVM to listen for a debugger on port 8000. The JVM starts listening as soon as it runs and does not wait until a debugger connects to the JVM. Launch the office and instantiate the Java component, so that the office invokes the JVM in listening mode.

Once a Java component is instantiated, the JVM keeps listening even if the component goes out of scope. Open the appropriate source file in the NetBeans editor and set breakpoints as needed. Choose **Debug - Attach**, select **Java Platform Debugger Architecture (JPDA)** as debugger type and **SocketAttach (Attaches by socket to other VMs)** as the connector. The **Host** should be localhost and the **Port** must be 8000. Click **OK** to connect the Java Debugger to the JVM the office has started previously step.

Once the debugger connects to the running JVM, NetBeans switches to debug mode, the output windows shows a message that a connection on port 8000 is established and threads are visible, as if the debugging was local. If necessary, start your component once again. As soon as the component reaches a breakpoint in the source code, the source editor window opens with the breakpoint highlighted by a green arrow.
The Java Environment in OpenOffice.org

When UNO components written in Java are to be used within the office, the office has to be configured appropriately. Prior to OpenOffice.org 2.0, this configuration happened during the installation, when the Java setup was performed. Then, a user could choose a Java Runtime Environment or choose to install a JRE. After installing the office, the selected JRE could still be changed with the `jvmsetup` program, which was located in the program folder. The data for running the Java Virtual Machine was stored in the `java(.ini|rc)` file and other configuration files.

Note – The `java(.ini|rc)` actually is an implementation detail. Unfortunately, it needs to be modified under some rare circumstances, for example for debugging purposes. You must not rely on the existence of the file nor should you make assumptions about its contents.

In an office with a lower version than 2.0, the `java(.ini|rc)` is located in the `<officepath>\user\config` directory. A client can use that file to pass additional properties to the Java Virtual Machine, which are then available as system properties. For example, to pass the property `MyAge`, invoke Java like this:

```
java -DMyAge=30 RunClass
```

If you want to have that system property accessible by your Java component you can put that property into `java(ini|rc)` within the `[Java]` section. For example:

```
[Java] Home=file:///C:/Program%20Files/Java/j2re1.4.2
VMType=JRE Version=1.4.2 RuntimeLib=file:///C:/Program
%20Files/Java/j2re1.4.2/bin/client/jvm.dll
SystemClasspath=d:\645m15\program\classes\classes.jar;; ... Java=1
JavaScript=1 Applets=1  MyAge=27
```

To debug a Java component, it is necessary to start the JVM with additional parameters. The parameters can be put in the `java.ini` the same way as they would appear on the command-line. For example, add those lines to the `[Java]` section:

```
-Xdebug -Xrunjdwp:transport=dt_socket,server=y,address=8000
```

More about debugging can be found in the JDK documentation and in the OpenOffice.org Software Development Kit.

Java components are also affected by the following configuration settings. They can be changed in the `Tools - Options` dialog. In the dialog, expand the OpenOffice.org node on the left-hand side and choose `Security`. This brings up a new pane on the right-hand side that allows Java specific settings:
The Java Environment in OpenOffice.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Java Setting</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enable</td>
<td>If checked, Java is used with the office. This affects Java components, as well as applets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security checks</td>
<td>If checked, the security manager restricts resource access of applets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net access</td>
<td>Determines where an applet can connect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ClassPath</td>
<td>Additional jar files and directories where the JVM should search for classes. Also known as user classpath.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applets</td>
<td>If checked, applets are executed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In OpenOffice.org 2.0 there is no `java(.ini|rc)` anymore. All basic Java settings are set in the options dialog: tree node OpenOffice.org->Java. The Parameters dialog can be used to specify the debug options and other arguments.

For applets there are still a few settings on the security panel (tree node OpenOffice.org->Security).

Troubleshooting

If the component encounters problems, review the following checklist to check if the component is configured correctly.

Check Registry Keys

To check if the registry database is correctly set up, run `regview` against the three keys that make up a registration in the /UCR, /SERVICES and /IMPLEMENTATIONS branch of a registry database. The following examples show how to read the appropriate keys and how a proper configuration should look. In our example, service `ImageShrink`, and the key /UCR/org/openoffice/test/XImageShrink contain the type information specified in UNOIDL (the exact output from `regview` might differ between versions of OpenOffice.org):

```
# dump XImageShrink type information
$ regview thumbs.rdb /UCR/org/openoffice/test/XImageShrink
Registry "file:///X:/office60eng/program/thumbs.rdb":
/UCR/org/openoffice/test/XImageShrink  Value: Type = RG_VALUETYPE_BINARY
Size = 364     Data = minor version: 0 major version: 1
type: 'interface'    uik: { 0x00000000-0x0000-0x0000-0x00000000-0x00000000 }    name: 'org/openoffice/test/XImageShrink'
super name: 'com/sun/star/uno/XInterface'    Doku: ""
```
Troubleshooting

IDL source file: "X:\SO\sdk\examples\java\Thumbs\org\openoffice\test\XImageShrink.idl"
number of fields: 3
field #0:
name='SourceDirectory' type='string'
access=READWRITE Doku: ""
field #1:
name='DestinationDirectory' type='string'
access=READWRITE Doku: ""
field #2:
name='Dimension' type='com/sun/star/awt/Size'
access=READWRITE

The /SERVICES/org.openoffice.test.ImageShrink key must point to the implementation name org.openoffice.comp.test.ImageShrink that was chosen for this service:

# dump service name registration
$ regview thumbs.rdb /SERVICES/org.openoffice.test.ImageShrink
Registry "file:///X:/office60eng/program/thumbs.rdb":
/SERVICES/org.openoffice.test.ImageShrink Value: Type = RG_VALUETYPE_STRINGLIST Size = 45 Len = 1 Data = 0 = "org.openoffice.comp.test.ImageShrink"

Finally, the /IMPLEMENTATIONS/org.openoffice.comp.test.ImageShrink key must contain the loader and the location of the component jar:

# dump implementation name registration
$ regview thumbs.rdb /IMPLEMENTATIONS/org.openoffice.comp.test.ImageShrink
Registry "file:///X:/office60eng/program/thumbs.rdb":
/SERVICES / org.openoffice.test.ImageShrink / LOCATION Value: Type = RG_VALUETYPE_STRING Size = 50 Data = "file:///X:/office60eng/program/classes/thumbs.jar"

If the UCR key is missing, the problem is with regmerge. The most probable cause are missing .urd files. Be careful when writing the makefile. If .urd files are missing when regmerge is launched by the makefile, regmerge continues and creates a barebone .rdb file, sometimes without any type info.

If regview can not find the /SERVICES and /IMPLEMENTATIONS keys or they have the wrong content, the problem occurred when regcomp was run. This can be caused by wrong path names in the regcomp arguments.

Also, a wrong SystemClasspath setup in java(.ini|rc) (prior to OpenOffice.org 2.0) could be the cause of regcomp error messages about missing classes. Check what the SystemClasspath entry in java(.ini|rc) specifies for the Java UNO runtime jars.

Ensure that regcomp is being run from the current directory when registering Java components. In addition, ensure <OfficePath>/program is the current folder when
Troubleshooting

`regcomp` is run. Verify that `regcomp` is in the current folder.

**Check the Java VM settings**

Whenever the VM service is instantiated by OpenOffice.org, it uses the Java configuration settings in OpenOffice.org. This happens during the registration of Java components, therefore make sure that Java is enabled. Choose **Tools-Options** in OpenOffice.org, so that the dialog appears. Expand the OpenOffice.org node and select **Security**. Select the **Enable** checkbox in the Java section and click **OK**.

**Check the Manifest**

Make sure the manifest file contains the correct entry for the registration class name. The file must contain the following line:

```
RegistrationClassName: <full name of package and class>
```

Please make sure that the manifest file ends up with a new line. The registration class name must be the one that implements the `__writeRegistryServiceInfo()` and `__getServiceFactory()` methods. The `RegistrationClassName` to be entered in the manifest for our example is `org.openoffice.comp.test.ImageShrink`.

**Adjust CLASSPATH for Additional Classes**

OpenOffice.org maintains its own system classpath and a user classpath when it starts the Java VM for Java components. The jar file that contains the service implementation is not required in the system or user classpath. If a component depends on jar files or classes that are not part of the Java UNO runtime jars, then they must be put on the classpath. This can be achieved by editing the classpath in the options dialog (**Tools – Options – OpenOffice.org – Security**).
Troubleshooting

Disable Debug Options

If the debug options (-Xdebug, -Xrunjdwp) are in the java(.ini|rc) (prior to OpenOffice.org 2.0) file, disable them by putting semicolons at the beginning of the respective lines. For OpenOffice.org 2.0 and later, make sure the debug options are removed in the Parameters dialog. This dialog can be found in the options dialog (Tools – Options – OpenOffice.org – Java). The regcomp or tool or the Extension Manager may hang, because the JVM is waiting for a debugger to be attached.

C++ Component

The first step for the C++ component is to define a language-independent interface, so that the UNO object can communicate with others. The IDL specification for the component defines one interface my_module.XSomething and two old-style services implementing this interface (if new-style services were used instead, the example would not be much different). In addition, the second service called my_module.MyService2 implements the com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization interface, so that MyService2 can be instantiated with arguments passed to it during runtime.

```cpp
#include <com/sun/star/uno/XInterface.idl>
#include <com/sun/star/lang/XInitialization.idl>

module my_module
{
    interface XSomething : com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
    {
        string methodOne( [in] string val );
    }

    service MyService1
    {
        interface XSomething;
    }

    service MyService2
    {
        interface XSomething;
        interface com::sun::star::lang::XInitialization;
    }
}
```

This IDL is compiled to produce a binary type library file (.urd file), by executing the following commands. The types are compiled and merged into a registry simple_component.rdb, that will be linked into the OpenOffice.org installation later.
$ idlc -I<SDK>/idl some.idl $ regmerge simple_component.rdb /UCR some.urd

The **cppumaker** tool must be used to map IDL to C++:

$ cppumaker -BUCR -Tmy_module.XSomething <officepath>/program/types.rdb simple_component.rdb

For each given type, a pair of header files is generated, a `.hdl` and a `.hpp` file. To avoid conflicts, all C++ declarations of the type are in the `.hdl` and all definitions, such as constructors, are in the `.hpp` file. The `.hpp` is the one to include for any type used in C++.

The next step is to implement the core interfaces, and the implementation of the component operations `component_getFactory()`, `component_writeInfo()` and `component_getImplementationEnvironment()` with or without helper methods.

### Class Definition with Helper Template Classes

**XInterface, XTypeProvider and XWeak**

The SDK offers helpers for ease of developing. There are implementation helper template classes that deal with the implementation of com.sun.star.uno.XInterface and com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider, as well as com.sun.star.uno.XWeak. These classes let you focus on the interfaces you want to implement.

The implementation of `my_module.MyService2` uses the `::cppu::WeakImplHelper3<>` helper. The "3" stands for the number of interfaces to implement. The class declaration inherits from this template class which takes the interfaces to implement as template parameters.

```cpp
#include <cppuhelper/implbase3.hxx> // "3" implementing three interfaces
#include <cppuhelper/factory.hxx>
#include <cppuhelper/implementationentry.hxx>
#include <com/sun/star/lang/XServiceInfo.hpp>
#include <com/sun/star/lang/XInitialization.hpp>
#include <com/sun/star/lang/IllegalArgumentException.hpp>
#include <my_module/XSomething.hpp>
using namespace ::rtl; // for OUString
using namespace ::com::sun::star; // for sdk interfaces
using namespace ::com::sun::star::uno; // for basic types
```
The next section focuses on coding com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo, com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization and the sample interface my_module.XSomething.

The cppuhelper shared library provides additional implementation helper classes, for example, supporting com.sun.star.lang.XComponent. Browse the ::cppu namespace in the C++ reference of the SDK or on udk.openoffice.org.

XServiceInfo

An UNO service implementation supports com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo providing information about its implementation name and supported services. The implementation name is a unique name referencing the specific implementation. In this case, my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService1 and my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService2 respectively. The implementation name is used later when registering the implementation into the simple_component.rdb registry used for OpenOffice.org. It links a service name entry to one implementation, because there may be more than one implementation. Multiple implementations of the same service may have different characteristics, such as runtime behavior and memory footprint.

Our service instance has to support the com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo interface. This interface has three methods, and can be coded for one supported service as follows:

```cpp
// XServiceInfo implementation
OUString MyService2Impl::getImplementationName() throw (RuntimeException)
{
    // unique implementation name
    return OUString(RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService2"));
}

sal_Bool MyService2Impl::supportsService( OUString const & serviceName ) throw (RuntimeException)
{
    ...
}
```
Implementing your own Interfaces

For the my_module.XSomething interface, add a string to be returned that informs the caller when methodOne() was called successfully.

```cpp
OUString MyService2Impl::methodOne( OUString const & str )
throw (RuntimeException)
{
    return OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM(
        "called methodOne() of MyService2 implementation: " ) ) + str;
}
```

Providing a Single Factory Using a Helper Method

C++ component libraries must export an external "C" function called component_getFactory() that supplies a factory object for the given implementation. Use ::cppu::component_getFactoryHelper() to create this function. The declarations for it are included through cppuhelper/implementationentry.hxx.

The component_getFactory() method appears at the end of the following listing. This method assumes that the component includes a static ::cppu::ImplementationEntry array s_component_entries[], which contains a number of function pointers. The listing shows how to write the component, so that the function pointers for all services of a multi-service component are correctly initialized.

```cpp
#include <cppuhelper/implbase3.hxx> // "3" implementing three interfaces
#include <cppuhelper/factory.hxx>
#include <cppuhelper/implementationentry.hxx>

#include <com/sun/star/lang/XServiceInfo.hpp>
#include <com/sun/star/lang/XInitialization.hpp>
#include <com/sun/star/lang/IllegalArgumentException.hpp>
#include <my_module/XSomething.hpp>
```
using namespace ::rtl; // for OUString
using namespace ::com::sun::star; // for sdk interfaces
using namespace ::com::sun::star::uno; // for basic types

namespace my_sc_impl
{
    class MyService2Impl : public ::cppu::WeakImplHelper3<
        ::my_module::XSomething, lang::XServiceInfo, lang::XInitialization >
    {
        OUString m_arg;
    public:
        // focus on three given interfaces,
        // no need to implement XInterface, XTypeProvider, XWeak

        // XInitialization will be called upon
        createInstanceWithArguments[AndContext]()
        virtual void SAL_CALL initialize( Sequence< Any > const & args )
            throw (Exception);
        // XSomething
        virtual OUString SAL_CALL methodOne( OUString const & str )
            throw (RuntimeException);
        // XServiceInfo
        virtual OUString SAL_CALL getImplementationName() 
            throw (RuntimeException);
        virtual sal_Bool SAL_CALL supportsService( OUString const & 
            serviceName ) 
            throw (RuntimeException);
        virtual Sequence< OUString > SAL_CALL getSupportedServiceNames() 
            throw (RuntimeException);
    }

    // Implementation of XSomething, XServiceInfo and XInitialize omitted 
    here:
    ...

    // component operations from service1_impl.cxx
    extern Sequence< OUString > SAL_CALL 
        getSupportedServiceNames_MyService1Impl();
    extern OUString SAL_CALL getImplementationName_MyService1Impl();
    extern Reference< XInterface > SAL_CALL create_MyService1Impl( 
        Reference< XComponentContext > const & xContext )
        SAL_THROW( () );

    // component operations for MyService2Impl
    static Sequence< OUString > getSupportedServiceNames_MyService2Impl()
    {
        Sequence<OUString> names(1);
        names[0] = OUString(RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("my_module.MyService2"));
        return names;
    }

    static OUString getImplementationName_MyService2Impl()
    {
        return OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM( 
            "my_module.my_sc_implementation.MyService2") );
    }
Providing a Single Factory Using a Helper Method

```cpp
Reference< XInterface > SAL_CALL create_MyService2Impl(
    Reference< XComponentContext > const & xContext )
SAL_THROW( () )
{
    return static_cast< lang::XTypeProvider * >( new MyService2Impl() );
}
/* shared lib exports implemented without helpers in service_impl1.cxx */
namespace my_sc_impl
{
    static struct ::cppu::ImplementationEntry s_component_entries [] =
    {
        { create_MyService1Impl, getImplementationName_MyService1Impl,
          getSupportedServiceNames_MyService1Impl,
          ::cppu::createSingleComponentFactory,
          0, 0
        },
        { create_MyService2Impl, getImplementationName_MyService2Impl,
          getSupportedServiceNames_MyService2Impl,
          ::cppu::createSingleComponentFactory,
          0, 0
        },
        { 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 }
    };
}
extern "C"
{ void * SAL_CALL component_getFactory(
    sal_Char const * implName, lang::XMultiServiceFactory * xMgr,
    registry::XRegistryKey * xRegistry )
{
    return ::cppu::component_getFactoryHelper(
        implName, xMgr, xRegistry, ::my_sc_impl::s_component_entries );
}

// getImplementationEnvironment and component_writeInfo are described later,
// we omit them here
...
```

The static variable `s_component_entries` defines a null-terminated array of entries concerning the service implementations of the shared library. A service implementation entry consists of function pointers for

- **object creation**: `create_MyServiceXImpl()`
- **implementation name**: `getImplementationName_MyServiceXImpl()`
- **supported service names**: `getSupportedServiceNames_MyServiceXImpl()`
- **factory helper to be used**: `::cppu::createComponentFactory()`

The last two values are reserved for future use and therefore can be 0.
Write Registration Info Using a Helper Method

Use `::cppu::component_writeInfoHelper()` to implement `component_writeInfo()`.
This function is called by `regcomp` during the registration process.

```cpp
extern "C" sal_Bool SAL_CALL component_writeInfo(
    lang::XMultiServiceFactory * xMgr, registry::XRegistryKey * xRegistry )
{
    return ::cppu::component_writeInfoHelper(
        xMgr, xRegistry, ::my_sc_impl::s_component_entries );
}
```

Note that `component_writeInfoHelper()` uses the same array of
`::cppu::ImplementationEntry` structs as `component_getFactory()`, that is,
`s_component_entries`.

Provide Implementation Environment

The function called `component_getImplementationEnvironment()` tells the shared
library component loader which compiler was used to build the library. This
information is required if different components have been compiled with different
compilers. A specific C++-compiler is called an environment. If different compilers
were used, the loader has to bridge interfaces from one compiler environment to
another, building the infrastructure of communication between those objects. It is
mandatory to have the appropriate C++ bridges installed into the UNO runtime. In
most cases, the function mentioned above can be implemented this way:

```cpp
extern "C" void SAL_CALL component_getImplementationEnvironment(
    sal_Char const ** ppEnvTypeName, uno_Environment ** ppEnv )
{
    *ppEnvTypeName = CPPU_CURRENT_LANGUAGE_BINDING_NAME;
}
```

The macro `CPPU_CURRENT_LANGUAGE_BINDING_NAME` is a C string defined by the
compiling environment, if you use the SDK compiling environment. For example,
when compiling with the Microsoft Visual C++ compiler, it defines to "msci", but when
compiling with the GNU gcc 3, it defines to "gcc3".
Implementing without Helpers

In the following section, possible implementations without helpers are presented. This is useful if more interfaces are to be implemented than planned by the helper templates. The helper templates only allow up to ten interfaces. Also included in this section is how the core interfaces work.

**XInterface Implementation**

Object lifetime is controlled through the common base interface `com.sun.star.uno.XInterface` methods `acquire()` and `release()`. These are implemented using reference-counting, that is, upon each `acquire()`, the counter is incremented and upon each `release()`, it is decreased. On last decrement, the object dies. Programming in a thread-safe manner, the modification of this counter member variable is commonly performed by a pair of `sal` library functions called `osl_incrementInterlockedcount()` and `osl_decrementInterlockedcount()` (*include osl/interlck.h*).

**Warning** – Be aware of symbol conflicts when writing code. It is common practice to wrap code into a separate namespace, such as "my_sc_impl". The problem is that symbols may clash during runtime on Unix when your shared library is loaded.

```cpp
namespace my_sc_impl
{
    class MyService1Impl
    {
        oslInterlockedCount m_refcount;
    
    public:
        inline MyService1Impl() throw ()
        : m_refcount( 0 )
        {}  

        // XInterface
        virtual Any SAL_CALL queryInterface( Type const & type )
            throw (RuntimeException);
        virtual void SAL_CALL acquire()
            throw ();
        virtual void SAL_CALL release()
            throw ();
        ...
    };

    void MyService1Impl::acquire()
    {
    }
}
In the queryInterface() method, interface pointers have to be provided to the interfaces of the object. That means, cast this to the respective pure virtual C++ class generated by the cppumaker tool for the interfaces. All supported interfaces must be returned, including inherited interfaces like XInterface.

Any MyServiceImpl::queryInterface( Type const & type )
throw (RuntimeException)
{
    if (type.equals( ::cppu::UnoType< Reference< XInterface > >::get()))
    {
        // return XInterface interface (resolve ambiguity caused by multiple
        // inheritance from
        // XInterface subclasses by casting to lang::XTypeProvider)
        Reference< XInterface > x( static_cast< lang::XTypeProvider * >( this ) );
        return makeAny( x );
    }
    if (type.equals( ::cppu::UnoType< Reference< lang::XTypeProvider > >::get()))
    {
        // return XInterface interface
        Reference< XInterface > x( static_cast< lang::XTypeProvider * >( this ) );
        return makeAny( x );
    }
    if (type.equals( ::cppu::UnoType< Reference< lang::XServiceInfo > >::get()))
    {
        // return XServiceInfo interface
        Reference< lang::XServiceInfo > x( static_cast< lang::XServiceInfo * >( this ) );
        return makeAny( x );
    }
    if (type.equals( ::cppu::UnoType< Reference< ::my_module::XSomething > >::get()))
    {
        // return sample interface
        Reference< ::my_module::XSomething > x( static_cast< ::my_module::XSomething * >( this ) );
        return makeAny( x );
    }
    // querying for unsupported type
    return Any();
}
XTypeProvider Implementation

When implementing the com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider interface, two methods have to be coded. The first one, `getTypes()` provides all implemented types of the implementation, excluding base types, such as com.sun.star.uno.XInterface. The second one, `getImplementationId()` provides a unique ID for this set of interfaces. A thread-safe implementation of the above mentioned looks like the following example:

```cpp
Sequence< Type > MyServiceImpl::getTypes()
throw (RuntimeException)
{
    Sequence< Type > seq( 3 );
    seq[ 0 ] = ::cppu::UnoType< Reference< lang::XTypeProvider > >::get();
    seq[ 1 ] = ::cppu::UnoType< Reference< lang::XServiceInfo > >::get();
    seq[ 2 ] = ::cppu::UnoType< Reference< ::my_module::XSomething > >::get();
    return seq;
}

Sequence< sal_Int8 > MyServiceImpl::getImplementationId()
throw (RuntimeException)
{
    static Sequence< sal_Int8 > * s_pId = 0;
    if (! s_pId)
    {
        // create unique id
        Sequence< sal_Int8 > id( 16 );
        ::rtl_createUuid( (sal_uInt8 *)id.getArray(), 0, sal_True );
        // guard initialization with some mutex
        ::osl::MutexGuard guard( ::osl::Mutex::getGlobalMutex() );
        if (! s_pId)
        {
            static Sequence< sal_Int8 > s_id( id );
            s_pId = &s_id;
        }
    }
    return *s_pId;
}
```

**Warning –** In general, do not acquire() mutexes when calling alien code if you do not know what the called code is doing. You never know what mutexes the alien code is acquiring which can lead to deadlocks. This is the reason, why the latter value (uuid) is created before the initialization mutex is acquired. After the mutex is successfully acquired, the value of s_pId is checked again and assigned if it has not been assigned before. This is the design pattern known as "double-checked locking." The above initialization of the implementation ID does not work reliably on certain platforms. See Double-Checked Locking for better ways to implement this.
Providing a Single Factory

The function `component_getFactory()` provides a single object factory for the requested implementation, that is, it provides a factory that creates object instances of one of the service implementations. Using a helper from `cppuhelper/factory.hxx`, this is implemented quickly in the following code:

```cpp
#include <cppuhelper/factory.hxx>

namespace my_sc_impl
{
    ...
    static Reference< XInterface > SAL_CALL create_MyService1Impl(  
        Reference< XComponentContext > const & xContext )  
        SAL_THROW( () )  
    {
        return static_cast< lang::XTypeProvider * >( new MyService1Impl() );
    }
    static Reference< XInterface > SAL_CALL create_MyService2Impl(  
        Reference< XComponentContext > const & xContext )  
        SAL_THROW( () )  
    {
        return static_cast< lang::XTypeProvider * >( new MyService2Impl() );
    }
}

extern "C" void * SAL_CALL component_getFactory(  
    sal_Char const * ImplName, lang::XMultiServiceFactory * xMgr, void * )  
{  
    Reference< lang::XSingleComponentFactory > xFactory;
    if (0 == ::rtl_str_compare( ImplName,  
        "my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService1"
    ))  
    {  
        // create component factory for MyService1 implementation
        OUString
        serviceName( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("my_module.MyService1") );
        xFactory = ::cppu::createSingleComponentFactory(  
            ::my_sc_impl::create_MyService1Impl,
            OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService1") ),
            Sequence< OUString >( &serviceName, 1 ) );
    }
    else if (0 == ::rtl_str_compare( ImplName,  
        "my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService2"
    ))  
    {  
        // create component factory for MyService12 implementation
        OUString
        serviceName( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("my_module.MyService2") );
        xFactory = ::cppu::createSingleComponentFactory(  
            ::my_sc_impl::create_MyService2Impl,
            OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService2") ),
            Sequence< OUString >( &serviceName, 1 ) );
    }
    if (xFactory.is())
```
Implementing without Helpers

```cpp
xFactory->acquire();
return xFactory.get(); // return acquired interface pointer or null
```

In the example above, note the function `::my_sc_impl::create_MyService1Impl()` that is called by the factory object when it needs to instantiate the class. A component context `com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext` is provided to the function, which may be passed to the constructor of `MyService1Impl`.

## Write Registration Info

The function `component_writeInfo()` is called by the shared library component loader upon registering the component into a registry database file (`.rdb`). The component writes information about objects it can instantiate into the registry when it is called by `regcomp`.

```cpp
extern "C" sal_Bool SAL_CALL component_writeInfo(
    lang::XMultiServiceFactory * xMgr, registry::XRegistryKey * xRegistry )
{
    if (xRegistry)
    {
        try
        {
            // implementation of MyService1A
            Reference< registry::XRegistryKey > xKey(
                xRegistry->createKey( OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService1/UNO/SERVICES") ) ) );
            // subkeys denote implemented services of implementation
            xKey->createKey( OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("my_module.MyService1") ) );
            // implementation of MyService1B
            xKey = xRegistry->createKey( OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService2/UNO/SERVICES") ) );
            // subkeys denote implemented services of implementation
            xKey->createKey( OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("my_module.MyService2") ) );
            return sal_True; // success
        }
        catch (registry::InvalidRegistryException &)
        {
            // function fails if exception caught
        }
    }
    return sal_False;
}
```
Storing the Service Manager for Further Use

The single factories expect a static `create_< ImplementationClass >()` function. For instance, `create_MyService1Impl()` takes a reference to the component context and instantiates the implementation class using `new ImplementationClass()`. A constructor can be written for `<ImplementationClass>` that expects a reference to an `com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext` and stores the reference in the instance for further use.

```cpp
class ImplementationClass {
    Reference< XComponentContext > xContext;
    // ...
}

static Reference< XInterface > SAL_CALL create_MyService2Impl(
    Reference< XComponentContext > const & xContext )
SAL_THROW( () )
{
    // passing the component context to the constructor of MyService2Impl
    return static_cast< lang::XTypeProvider * >( new MyService2Impl( xContext ) );
}
```

Create Instance with Arguments

If the service should be raised passing arguments through `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory:createInstanceWithArgumentsAndContext()` and `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory:createInstanceWithArguments()`, it has to implement the interface `com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization`. The second service `my_module.MyService2` implements it, expecting a single string as an argument.

```cpp
// XInitialization implementation
void MyService2Impl::initialize( Sequence< Any > const & args )
throw (Exception)
{
    if (1 != args.getLength())
    {
        throw lang::IllegalArgumentException(
            OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("give a string instanciating this component!")),
            (::cppu::OWeakObject *)this, // resolve to XInterface reference 0 ); // argument pos
    }
    if (! (args[ 0 ] >>= m_arg))
    {
        throw lang::IllegalArgumentException(
            OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("no string given as argument!")),
            (::cppu::OWeakObject *)this, // resolve to XInterface reference 0 ); // argument pos
    }
}
```
Multiple Components in One Dynamic Link Library

The construction of C++ components allows putting as many service implementations into a component file as desired. Ensure that the component operations are implemented in such a way that `component_writeInfo()` and `component_getFactory()` handle all services correctly. Refer to the sample component `simple_component` to see an example on how to implement two services in one link library.

Building and Testing C++ Components

Build Process

For details about building component code, see the gnu makefile. It uses a number of platform dependent variables used in the SDK that are included from `<SDK>/settings/settings.mk`. For simplicity, details are omitted here, and the build process is just sketched in eight steps:

1. The UNOIDL compiler compiles the `.idl` file `some.idl` into an urd file.
2. The resulting binary `.urd` files are merged into a new `simple_component.rdb`.
3. The tool `xml2cmp` parses the xml component description `simple_component.xml` for types needed for compiling. This file describes the service implementation(s) for deployment, such as the purpose of the implementation(s) and used types. Visit [http://udk.openoffice.org/common/man/module_description.html](http://udk.openoffice.org/common/man/module_description.html) for details about the syntax of these XML files.
4. The types parsed in step 3 are passed to `cppumaker`, which generates the appropriate header pairs into the output include directory using `simple_component.rdb` and the OpenOffice.org type library `types.rdb` that is stored in the program directory of your OpenOffice.org installation.

Tip - For your own component you can simplify step 3 and 4, and pass the types used by your component to `cppumaker` using the `-T` option.
5 The source files `service1_impl.cxx` and `service2_impl.cxx` are compiled.

6 The shared library is linked out of object files, linking dynamically to the UNO base libraries `sal`, `cppu` and `cppuhelper`. The shared library's name is `libsimple_component.so` on Unix and `simple_component.dll` on Windows.

**Warning** – In general, the shared library component should limit its exports to only the above mentioned functions (prefixed with `component_`) to avoid symbol clashes on Unix. In addition, for the gnu gcc3 C++ compiler, it is necessary to export the RTTI symbols of exceptions, too.

7 The shared library component is registered into `simple_component.rdb`. This can also be done manually running

```
$ regcomp -register -r simple_component.rdb -c simple_component.dll
```

### Test Registration and Use

The component's registry `simple_component.rdb` has entries for the registered service implementations. If the library is registered successfully, run:

```
$ regview simple_component.rdb
```

The result should look similar to the following:

```
/ / UCR     / my_module       / XSomething
... interface information ...
/ IMPLEMENTATIONS     / my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService2       / UNO         /
ACTIVATOR           Value: Type = RG_VALUETYPE_STRING                  Size = 34
Data = "com.sun.star.loader.SharedLibrary"
/ SERVICES           / my_module.MyService2       / LOCATION
Value: Type = RG_VALUETYPE_STRING                  Size = 21
Data = "simple_component.dll"
/ my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService1       / UNO         / ACTIVATOR
Value: Type = RG_VALUETYPE_STRING                  Size = 34
Data = "com.sun.star.loader.SharedLibrary"
/ SERVICES           / my_module.MyService1       / LOCATION
Value: Type = RG_VALUETYPE_STRING                  Size = 21
Data = "simple_component.dll"
/ SERVICES     / my_module.MyService1       Value: Type = RG_VALUETYPE_STRINGLIST              Size = 40              Len = 1
Data = 0 = "my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService1"
/ my_module.MyService2       Value: Type = RG_VALUETYPE_STRINGLIST
Size = 40              Len = 1
Data = 0 = "my_module.my_sc_impl.MyService2"
```

OpenOffice.org recognizes registry files being inserted into the `unorc` file (on Unix,
Building and Testing C++ Components

*uno.ini* on Windows) in the program directory of your OpenOffice.org installation. Extend the types and services in that file by *simple_component.rdb*. The given file has to be an absolute file URL, but if the rdb is copied to the OpenOffice.org program directory, a $ORIGIN macro can be used, as shown in the following *unorc* file:

```
[Bootstrap] UNO_TYPES=$ORIGIN/types.rdb $ORIGIN/simple_component.rdb
UNO_SERVICES=$ORIGIN/services.rdb $ORIGIN/simple_component.rdb
```

Second, when running OpenOffice.org, extend the PATH (Windows) or LD_LIBRARY_PATH (Unix), including the output path of the build, so that the loader finds the component. If the shared library is copied to the program directory or a link is created inside the program directory (Unix only), do not extend the path.

Launching the test component inside a OpenOffice.org Basic script is simple to do, as shown in the following code:

```basic
Sub Main
REM calling service1 impl
mgr = getProcessServiceManager()    o =
mgr.createInstance("my_module.MyService1")    MsgBox o.methodOne("foo")
MsgBox o.dbg_supportedInterfaces
REM calling service2 impl
Dim args(0)    args(0) = "foo"
    o =
mgr.createInstanceWithArguments("my_module.MyService2", args())    MsgBox
    o.methodOne("bar")    MsgBox o.dbg_supportedInterfaces
End Sub
```

This procedure instantiates the service implementations and performs calls on their interfaces. The return value of the *methodOne()* call is brought up in message boxes. The Basic object property *dbg_supportedInterfaces* retrieves its information through the com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider interfaces of the objects.

## Integrating Components into OpenOffice.org

If a component needs to be called from the OpenOffice.org user interface, it must be able to take part in the communication between the UI layer and the application objects. OpenOffice.org uses command URLs for this purpose. When a user chooses an item in the user interface, a command URL is dispatched to the application framework and processed in a chain of responsibility until an object accepts the command and executes it, thus consuming the command URL. This mechanism is known as the *dispatch framework*, it is covered in detail in chapter Using the Dispatch Framework.

From version 1.1.0, OpenOffice.org provides user interface support for custom components by two basic mechanisms:

- Components can be enabled to process command URLs. There are two ways to
accomplish this. You can either make them a protocol handler for command URLs or integrate them into the job execution environment of OpenOffice.org. The protocol handler technique is simple, but it can only be used with command URLs in the dispatch framework. A component for the job execution environment can be used with or without command URLs, and has comprehensive support when it comes to configuration, job environment, and lifetime issues.

- The user interface can be adjusted to new components. On the one hand, you can add new menus and toolbar items and configure them to send the command URLs needed for your component. On the other hand, it is possible to disable existing commands. All this is possible by adding certain files to the extension. When users of your component install the extension, the GUI is adjusted automatically.

The left side of the illustration below shows the two possibilities for processing command URLs: either custom protocol handlers or the specialized job protocol. On the right, you see the job execution environment, which is used by the job protocol, but can also be used without command URLs from any source code.

Processing command URLs and the job execution environment

This section describes how to use these mechanisms. It discusses protocol handlers and jobs, then describes how to customize the OpenOffice.org user interface for components.
Protocol Handler

The dispatch framework binds user interface controls, such as menu or toolbar items, to the functionality of OpenOffice.org. Every function that is reachable in the user interface is described by a command URL and corresponding parameters.

The protocol handler mechanism is an API that enables programmers to add arbitrary URL schemas to the existing set of command URLs by writing additional protocol handlers for them. Such a protocol handler must be implemented as a UNO component and registered in the OpenOffice.org configuration for the new URL schema.

Overview

To issue a command URL, the first step is to locate a dispatch object that is responsible for the URL. Start with the frame that contains the document for which the command is meant. Its interface method <idlml>com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider:queryDispatch</idlml>() is called with a URL and special search parameters to locate the correct target. This request is passed through the following instances:

- **disabling commands**: Checks if command is on the list of disabled commands, described in Disable Commands
- **interception**: Intercepts command and re-routes it, described in Dispatch Interception
- **targeting**: Determines target frame for command, described in Target Frame
- **controller**: Lets the controller of the frame try to handle the command, described in Processing Chain
- **protocol handler**: Determines if there is a custom handler for the command, described in this section
- **interpret as loadable content**: Loads content from file, described in URL Parameter. Generally contents are loaded into a frame by a com.sun.star.frame.FrameLoader, but if a content (e.g. a sound) needs no frame, a com.sun.star.frame.ContentHandler service is used, which needs no target frame for its operation.

The list shows that the protocol handler will only be used if the URL has not been called before. Because targeting has already been done, it is clear that the command will run in the located target frame environment, which is usually "_self".
**Protocol Handler**

Note – The target "_blank" cannot be used for a protocol handler. Since "_blank" leads to the creation of a new frame for a component, there would be no component yet for the protocol handler to work with.

A protocol handler decides by itself if it returns a valid dispatch object, that is, it is asked to agree with the given request by the dispatch framework. If a dispatch object is returned, the requester can use it to dispatch the URL by calling its `dispatch()` method.

**Implementation**

A protocol handler implementation must follow the service definition `com.sun.star.frame.ProtocolHandler`. At least the interface `com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider` must be supported.

The interface `XDispatchProvider` supports two methods:

```java
XDispatch queryDispatch( [in] ::com::sun::star::util::URL URL,
                        [in] string TargetFrameName,
                        [in] long SearchFlags )

sequence< XDispatch > queryDispatches( [in] sequence< DispatchDescriptor > Requests )
```

The protocol handler is asked for its agreement to execute a given URL by a call to the interface method `com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider:queryDispatch()`. The incoming URL should be parsed and validated. If the URL is valid and the protocol handler is able to handle it, it should return a dispatch object, thus indicating that it accepts the request.

The dispatch object must support the interface `com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch` with the methods

```java
[oneway] void dispatch( [in] ::com::sun::star::util::URL URL,
                        [in] sequence< ::com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > Arguments )

addStatusListener [oneway] void addStatusListener( [in] XStatusListener Control,
                                                   [in] )
```
Optionally, the dispatch object can support the interface com.sun.star.frame.XNotifyingDispatch, which derives from XDispatch and introduces a new method dispatchWithNotification(). This interface is preferred if it is present.

```
[oneway] void dispatchWithNotification(
  [in] com::sun::star::util::URL URL,
  [in] sequence<com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue> Arguments,
  [in] com::sun::star::frame::XDispatchResultListener Listener);
```

A basic protocol handler is free to implement XDispatch itself, so it can simply return itself in the queryDispatch() implementation. But it is advisable to return specialized helper dispatch objects instead of the protocol handler instance. This helps to decrease the complexity of status updates. It is easier to notify status listeners for a single-use dispatch object instead of multi-use dispatch objects, which have to distinguish the URLs given in addStatusListener() all the time.

**Tip** - To supply the UI with status information for a command, it is required to call back a com.sun.star.frame.XStatusListener during its registration immediately, for example:

```
public void addStatusListener(XStatusListener xControl, URL aURL) {
  FeatureStateEvent aState = new FeatureStateEvent();
  aState.FeatureURL = aURL;
  aState.IsEnabled = true;
  aState.State = Boolean.TRUE;
  xControl.statusChanged(aState);
  m_lListenerContainer.add(xControl);
}
```

A protocol handler can support the interface com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization if it wants to be initialized with a com.sun.star.frame.Frame environment to work with. XInitialization contains one method:

```
void initialize( [in] sequence< any > aArguments )
```

A protocol handler is generally used in a well known com.sun.star.frame.Frame context, therefore the dispatch framework always passes this frame context through initialize() as the first argument, if XInitialization is present. Its com.sun.star.frame.XFrame interface provides access to the controller, from which you can get the document model and have a good starting point to work with the document.

The illustration below shows how to get to the controller and the document model from an XFrame interface. The chapter Using the Component Framework describes
Implementation

the usage of frames, controllers and models in more detail.

![Diagram of Frame-Controller-Model Organization](image)

**Frame-controller-model organization**

**Note** – A protocol handler can be implemented as a singleton, but this poses multithreading difficulties. In a multithreaded environment it is most unlikely that the initial frame context matches every following dispatch request. So you have to be prepared for calls to `initialize()` by multiple threads for multiple frames. A dispatch object can also be used more than once, but must be bound to the target frame that was specified in the original `queryDispatch()` call. A change of the frame context can cause trouble if the protocol handler returns itself as a dispatch object. A protocol handler singleton must return new dispatch objects for every request, which has to be initialized with the current context of the protocol handler, and you have to synchronize between `initialize()` and `queryDispatch()`. The protocol handler would have to serve as a kind of factory for specialized dispatch objects. You can avoid these problems, if you write your protocol handler as a multi-instance service.

The opportunity to deny a `queryDispatch()` call allows you to register a protocol handler for a URL schema using wildcards, and to accept only a subset of all possible URLs. That way the handler object can validate incoming URLs and reject them if they appear to be invalid. However, this feature should not be used to register different protocol handlers for the same URL schema and accept different subsets by different handler objects, because it would be very difficult to avoid ambiguities.

Since a protocol handler is a UNO component, it must contain the component operations needed by a UNO service manager. These operations are certain static methods in Java or export functions in C++. It also has to implement the core interfaces used to enable communication with UNO and the application environment.
For more information on the component operations and core interfaces, please see Component Architecture and Core Interfaces to Implement.

Java Protocol Handler - vnd.sun.star.framework.ExampleHandler

The following example shows a simple protocol handler implementation in Java. For simplicity, the component operations are omitted.

```java
// imports
#import com.sun.star.beans.*;
#import com.sun.star.frame.*;
#import com.sun.star.uno.*;
#import com.sun.star.util.*;

// definition
public class ExampleHandler implements com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider,
    com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization {
    // member
    /** points to the frame context in which this handler runs, is set in
     initialize()*/
    private com.sun.star.frame.XFrame m_xContext;

    // Dispatch object as inner class
    class OwnDispatch implements com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch {
        /** the target frame, in which context this dispatch must work */
        private com.sun.star.frame.XFrame m_xContext;

        /** describe the function of this dispatch.
         * Because a URL can contain e.g. optional arguments
         * this URL means the main part of such URL sets only. */
        private com.sun.star.util.URL m_aMainURL;

        /** contains all interested status listener for this dispatch */
        private java.lang.HashMap m_lListener;

        /** take over all neccessary parameters from outside. */
        public OwnDispatch(com.sun.star.frame.XFrame xContext,
            com.sun.star.util.URL aMainURL) {
            m_xContext = xContext;
            m_aMainURL = aMainURL;
        }

        /** execute the functionality, which is described by this URL. */
        public void executeDispatch(java.lang.Object aAssociate,
            com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch aTarget,
            com.sun.star.util.URL aURL) {
            m_aMainURL = aURL;
        }
    }
}
```
Implementation

```java
* @param lArgs
* optional arguments for this request
*
public void dispatch(com.sun.star.util.URL aURL,
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue lArgs)
throws com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException {
    // ... do function
    // ... inform listener if necessary
}

/** register a new listener and bind it toe given URL. */
public void addStatusListener(com.sun.star.frame.XStatusListener
xListener,
    com.sun.star.util.URL aURL) throws
com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException {
    // ... register listener for given URL
    // ... inform it immediately about current state! Edit
    xListener.statusChanged(...);
}

/** deregister a listener for this URL. */
public void removeStatusListener(com.sun.star.frame.XStatusListener
xListener,
    com.sun.star.util.URL aURL) throws
com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException {
    // ... deregister listener for given URL
}

/** set the target frame reference as context for all following
dispatches. */
public void initialize(com.sun.star.uno.Any[] lContext) {
    m_xContext =
    (com.sun.star.frame.XFrame)com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter.toObject(lContext[0]) ;
}

/** should return a valid dispatch object for the given URL. */
public com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch queryDispatch(com.sun.star.util.URL
aURL,
    java.lang.String sTarget, int nFlags ) throws
com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException {
    // check if given URL is valid for this protocol handler
    if (!aURL.Main.startsWith("myProtocol_1://") && !
aURL.Main.startsWith("myProtocol_2://"))
```
C++ Protocol Handler - org.openoffice.Office.addon.example

The next example shows a protocol handler in C++. The section Add-Ons below will integrate this example handler into the graphical user interface of OpenOffice.org.

The following code shows the UNO component operations that must be implemented in a C++ protocol handler example. The three C functions return vital information to the UNO environment:

- component_getImplementationEnvironment() tells the shared library component loader which compiler was used to build the library.
- component_writeInfo() is called during the registration process by the registration tool regcomp, or indirectly when you use the Extension Manager.
- component_getFactory() provides a single service factory for the requested implementation. This factory can be asked to create an arbitrary number of
instances for only one service specification, therefore it is called a single service factory, as opposed to a multi-service factory, where you can order instances for many different service specifications. (A single service factory has nothing to do with a singleton).

```c
#include <stdio.h>

#ifndef _RTL_USTRING_HXX_
#include <rtl/ustring.hxx>
#endif

#ifndef _CPPUHELPER_QUERYINTERFACE_HXX_
#include <cppuhelper/queryinterface.hxx> // helper for queryInterface() impl
#endif

#ifndef _CPPUHELPER_FACTORY_HXX_
#include <cppuhelper/factory.hxx> // helper for component factory
#endif

// generated c++ interfaces

#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_LANG_XSINGLESERVICEFACTORY_HPP_
#include <com/sun/star/lang/XSingleServiceFactory.hpp>
#endif

#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_LANG_XMULTISERVICEFACTORY_HPP_
#include <com/sun/star/lang/XMultiServiceFactory.hpp>
#endif

#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_LANG_XSERVICEINFO_HPP_
#include <com/sun/star/lang/XServiceInfo.hpp>
#endif

#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_REGISTRY_XREGISTRYKEY_HPP_
#include <com/sun/star/registry/XRegistryKey.hpp>
#endif

// include our specific addon header to get access to functions and definitions
#include <addon.hxx>
using namespace ::rtl;
using namespace ::osl;
using namespace ::cppu;
using namespace ::com::sun::star::uno;
using namespace ::com::sun::star::lang;
using namespace ::com::sun::star::registry;

/*******************************************************************************/
/***** EXPORTED
/*******************************************************************************/

/**
 * Gives the environment this component belongs to.
 */
extern "C" void SAL_CALL component_getImplementationEnvironment(const sal_Char ** ppEnvTypeName, uno_Environment ** ppEnv)
{
Implementation

```c
*ppEnvTypeName = CPPU_CURRENT_LANGUAGE_BINDING_NAME;
}

/**
 * This function creates an implementation section in the registry and another subkey
 * for each supported service.
 * @param pServiceManager the service manage
 * @param pRegistryKey the registry key
 */
extern "C" sal_Bool SAL_CALL component_writeInfo(void * pServiceManager,
void * pRegistryKey) {
    sal_Bool result = sal_False;
    if (pRegistryKey) {
        try {
            Reference< XRegistryKey > xNewKey(
                reinterpret_cast< XRegistryKey * >( pRegistryKey ) -
>createKey(
                OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("/
IMPLEMENTATION_NAME "/"UNO/SERVICES")) ) );

            const Sequence< OUString > & rSNL =
Addon_getSupportedServiceNames();
            const OUString * pArray = rSNL.getConstArray();
            for ( sal_Int32 nPos = rSNL.getLength(); nPos--; )
                xNewKey->createKey( pArray[nPos] );

            return sal_True;
        }
        catch (InvalidRegistryException &) {
            // we should not ignore exceptions

        }
    }
    return result;
}

/**
 * This function is called to get service factories for an implementation.
 * @param pImplName name of implementation
 * @param pServiceManager a service manager, need for component creation
 * @param pRegistryKey the registry key for this component, need for persistent data
 * @return a component factory
 */
extern "C" void * SAL_CALL component_getFactory(const sal_Char * pImplName,
void * pServiceManager, void * pRegistryKey) {
    void * pRet = 0;
    if (rtl_str_compare( pImplName, IMPLEMENTATION_NAME ) == 0) {
        Reference< XSingleServiceFactory > xFactory(createSingleFactory(
            reinterpret_cast< XMultiServiceFactory * >(pServiceManager),
OUString(RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM(IMPLEMENTATION_NAME)),
Addon_createInstance,
```
The C++ protocol handler in the example has the implementation name org.openoffice.Office.addon.example. It supports the URL protocol schema org.openoffice.Office.addon.example: and provides three different URL commands: Function1, Function2 and Help.

The protocol handler implements the

com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch
interface, so it can return a reference to itself when it is queried for a dispatch object that matches the given URL.

The implementation of the dispatch() method below shows how the supported commands are routed inside the protocol handler. Based on the path part of the URL, a simple message box displays which function has been called. The message box is implemented using the UNO toolkit and uses the container windows of the given frame as parent window.

```cpp
#ifndef _Addon_HXX
  #include <addon.hxx>
#endif
#ifndef _OSL_DIAGNOSE_H_
  #include <osl/diagnose.h>
#endif
#ifndef _RTL_USTRING_HXX_
  #include <rtl/ustring.hxx>
#endif
#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_LANG_XMULTISERVICEFACTORY_HPP_
  #include <com/sun/star/lang/XMultiServiceFactory.hpp>
#endif
#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_BEANS_PROPERTYVALUE_HPP_
  #include <com/sun/star/beans/PropertyValue.hpp>
#endif
#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_FRAME_XFRAME_HPP_
  #include <com/sun/star/frame/XFrame.hpp>
#endif
#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_FRAME_XCONTROLLER_HPP_
  #include <com/sun/star/frame/XController.hpp>
#endif
#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_AWT_XTOOLKIT_HPP_
  #include <com/sun/star/awt/XToolkit.hpp>
#endif
#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_AWT_XWINDOWPEER_HPP_
  #include <com/sun/star/awt/XWindowPeer.hpp>
#endif
#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_AWT_WINDOWATTRIBUTE_HPP_
  #include <com/sun/star/awt/WindowAttribute.hpp>
#endif
#ifndef _COM_SUN_STAR_AWT_XMESSAGEBOX_HPP_
  #include <com/sun/star/awt/XMessageBox.hpp>
#endif

using rtl::OUString;
using namespace com::sun::star::uno;
using namespace com::sun::star::frame;
using namespace com::sun::star::awt;
using com::sun::star::lang::XMultiServiceFactory;
using com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue;
using com::sun::star::util::URL;

// This is the service name an Add-On has to implement
#define SERVICE_NAME "com.sun.star.frame.ProtocolHandler"

/**
 * Show a message box with the UNO based toolkit
 */
```
static void ShowMessageBox(const Reference< XToolkit >& rToolkit, const Reference< XFrame >& rFrame, const OUString& aTitle, const OUString& aMsgText)
{
    if ( rFrame.is() && rToolkit.is() )
    {
        // describe window properties.
        WindowDescriptor aDescriptor;
        aDescriptor.Type = WindowClass_MODALTOP;
        aDescriptor.WindowServiceName = OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM( "infobox" ));
        aDescriptor.ParentIndex = -1;
        aDescriptor.Parent = Reference< XWindowPeer >( rFrame->getContainerWindow(), UNO_QUERY );
        aDescriptor.Bounds = Rectangle(0,0,300,200);
        aDescriptor.WindowAttributes = WindowAttribute::BORDER | WindowAttribute::MOVEABLE | WindowAttribute::CLOSEABLE;
        Reference< XWindowPeer > xPeer = rToolkit->createWindow( aDescriptor );
        if ( xPeer.is() )
        {
            Reference< XMessageBox > xMsgBox( xPeer, UNO_QUERY );
            if ( xMsgBox.is() )
            {
                xMsgBox->setCaptionText( aTitle );
                xMsgBox->setMessageText( aMsgText );
                xMsgBox->execute();
            }
        }
    }
}

//#########################################################################
########################
//#### Implementation of the ProtocolHandler and Dispatch Interfaces
###################
//#########################################################################
########################
// XInitialization
/**
 * Called by the Office framework.
 * We store the context information
 * given, like the frame we are bound to, into our members.
 */
void SAL_CALL Addon::initialize( const Sequence< Any >& aArguments ) throw ( Exception, RuntimeException)
{
    Reference < XFrame > xFrame;
    if ( aArguments.getLength() )
    {
        aArguments[0] >>= xFrame;
        mxFrame = xFrame;
    }

    // Create the toolkit to have access to it later
    mxToolkit = Reference< XToolkit >( mxMSF->createInstance( OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM( "infobox" )) );
    mxToolKit = Reference< XToolKit >( mxMSF->createInstance( OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM( "infobox" )) );
// XDispatchProvider
/**
 * Called by the Office framework.
 * We are ask to query the given URL and return a dispatch object if the
 * URL
 * contains an Add-On command.
 */
Reference< XDispatch > SAL_CALL Addon::queryDispatch( const URL& aURL, const
::rtl::OUString& sTargetFrameName, sal_Int32 nSearchFlags )
throw( RuntimeException )
{
    Reference< XDispatch > xRet;
    if ( aURL.Protocol.compareToAscii("org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:" ) == 0 )
    {
        if ( aURL.Path.compareToAscii( "Function1" ) == 0 )
            xRet = this;
        else if ( aURL.Path.compareToAscii( "Function2" ) == 0 )
            xRet = this;
        else if ( aURL.Path.compareToAscii( "Help" ) == 0 )
            xRet = this;
    }
    return xRet;
}

/**
 * Called by the Office framework.
 * We are ask to query the given sequence of URLs and return dispatch
 * objects if the URLs
 * contain Add-On commands.
 */
Sequence < Reference< XDispatch > > SAL_CALL Addon::queryDispatches(
    const Sequence < DispatchDescriptor >& seqDescriptors )
throw( RuntimeException )
{
    sal_Int32 nCount = seqDescriptors.getLength();
    Sequence < Reference< XDispatch > > lDispatcher( nCount );
    for( sal_Int32 i=0; i<nCount; ++i )
        lDispatcher[i] = queryDispatch( seqDescriptors[i].FeatureURL,
seqDescriptors[i].FrameName, seqDescriptors[i].SearchFlags );
    return lDispatcher;
}

// XDispatch
/**
 * Called by the Office framework.
 * We are ask to execute the given Add-On command URL.
 */
void SAL_CALL Addon::dispatch( const URL& aURL, const Sequence < PropertyValue >& lArgs ) throw (RuntimeException)
Implementation

if ( aURL.Protocol.compareToAscii("org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:" ) == 0 )
{
    if ( aURL.Path.compareToAscii( "Function1" ) == 0 )
    {
        ShowMessageBox( mxToolkit, mxFrame,
                        OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM( "SDK Add-
                        On example" ))),
                        OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM( "Function
                        1 activated" )) );
    }
    else if ( aURL.Path.compareToAscii( "Function2" ) == 0 )
    {
        ShowMessageBox( mxToolkit, mxFrame,
                        OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM( "SDK Add-
                        On example" ))),
                        OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM( "Function
                        2 activated" )) );
    }
    else if ( aURL.Path.compareToAscii( "Help" ) == 0 )
    {
        // Show info box
        ShowMessageBox( mxToolkit, mxFrame,
                        OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM( "About
                        SDK Add-On example" ))),
                        OUString( RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM( "This is
                        the SDK Add-On example" )));
    }
}
/**
* Called by the Office framework.
* We are asked to store a status listener for the given URL.
*/
void SAL_CALL Addon::addStatusListener( const Reference< XStatusListener >&
    xControl, const URL& aURL ) throw (RuntimeException)
{
}
/**
* Called by the Office framework.
* We are asked to remove a status listener for the given URL.
*/
void SAL_CALL Addon::removeStatusListener( const Reference< XStatusListener >&
    xControl,
    const URL& aURL )
    throw (RuntimeException)
{

}
Configuration

A protocol handler needs configuration entries, which provide the framework with the necessary information to find the handler. The schema of the configuration branch org.openoffice.Office.ProtocolHandler defines how to bind handler instances to their URL schemas:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE oor:component-schema SYSTEM '../../../../component-schema.dtd'>
<oor:component-schema xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
oor:name="ProtocolHandler" oor:package="org.openoffice.Office" xml:lang="en-US">
  <templates>
    <group oor:name="Handler">
      <prop oor:name="Protocols" oor:type="oor:string-list"/>
    </group>
  </templates>
  <component>
    <set oor:name="HandlerSet" oor:node-type="Handler"/>
  </component>
</oor:component-schema>
```

Each set node entry specifies one protocol handler, using its UNO implementation name. The only property it has is the Protocols item. Its type must be [string-list] and it contains a list of URL schemas bound to the handler. Wildcards are allowed, otherwise the entire string must match the dispatched URL.
Configuration for vnd.sun.star.framework.ExampleHandler

The following example ProtocolHandler.xcu contains the protocol handler configuration for the example's Java protocol handler:

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<oor:component-data oor:name="ProtocolHandler"
 oor:package="org.openoffice.Office"
 xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
 xmlns:xm="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
 xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
 <node oor:name="HandlerSet">
  <node oor:name="vnd.sun.star.framework.ExampleHandler"
    oor:op="replace">
   <prop oor:name="Protocols">
    <value>myProtocol_1://* myProtocol_2://*</value>
   </prop>
  </node>
 </node>
</oor:component-data>
```

The example adds two new URL protocols using wildcards:

```plaintext
myProtocol_1://* myProtocol_2://*
```

Both protocols are bound to the handler implementation vnd.sun.star.framework.ExampleHandler. Note that this must be the implementation name of the handler, not the name of the service com.sun.star.frame.ProtocolHandler it implements. Because all implementations of the service com.sun.star.frame.ProtocolHandler share the same UNO service name, you cannot use this name in the configuration files.

To prevent ambiguous implementation names, the following naming schema for implementation names is frequently used:

```plaintext
vnd.<namespace_of_company>.<namespace_of_implementation>.<class_name>
```

E.g. vnd.sun.star.framework.ExampleHandler

```plaintext
<namespace_of_company>= sun.star< namespace_of_implementation>= framework< class_name>= ExampleHandler
```

An alternative would be the naming convention proposed in XServiceInfo:

```plaintext
<namespace_of_creator>.comp.<namespace_of_implementation>.<class_name>
```

E.g. org.openoffice.comp.framework.OProtocolHandler

All of these conventions are proposals; what matters is:
- use the implementation name in the configuration file, not the general service
name "com.sun.star.frame.ProtocolHandler"

- be careful to choose an implementation name that is likely to be unique, and be aware that your handler ceases to function when another developer adds a handler with the same name.

Configuration for org.openoffice.Office.addon.example

The following ProtocolHandler.xcu file configures the example's C++ protocol handler with the implementation name org.openoffice.Office.addon.example in the configuration branch org.openoffice.Office.ProtocolHandler following the same schema.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<oor:component-data xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" oor:name="ProtocolHandler"
oor:package="org.openoffice.Office">
  <node oor:name="HandlerSet">
    <node oor:name="org.openoffice.Office.addon.example" oor:op="replace">
      <prop oor:name="Protocols" oor:type="oor:string-list">
        <value>org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:*</value>
      </prop>
    </node>
  </node>
</oor:component-data>
```

The configuration adds one new URL protocol using wildcards:

org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:*

Based on this URL protocol, the C++ protocol handler can route, for example, a dispatched URL org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:Function1 to the corresponding target routine. See the implementation of the dispatch() method in the XDispatch interface of the C++ source fragment above.
Installation

When the office finds a protocol handler implementation for a URL in the configuration files, it asks the global service manager to instantiate that implementation. All components must be registered with the service manager before they can be instantiated. This happens automatically when an extension is being installed (see chapter Extensions).

The easiest method to configure and register a new protocol handler in a single step is therefore to use the Extension Manager. An extension for the example protocol handler could contain the following directory structure:

```
ExampleHandler.oxt:     META-INF/manifest.xml     ProtocolHandler.xcu
                        windows.plt/     examplehandler.dll     solaris_sparc.plt/
                        libexamplehandler.so     linux_x86.plt/     libexamplehandler.so
```

The .xcu file can go directly into the root of the extension, the shared libraries for the various platforms go to their respective .plt directories. Both the .xcu and the libraries have to be referenced in the manifest.xml.

The package installation is as simple as changing to the `<OfficePath>/program` directory with a command-line shell and running

```
$ unopkg add /foo/bar/ExampleHandler.oxt
```

or simply starting the Extension Manager in your office to install the extensions via the UI.

For an detailed explanation of the extension structure please refer to Extensions.

Jobs

A job in OpenOffice.org is a UNO component that can be executed by the job execution environment upon an event. It can read and write its own set of configuration data in the configuration branch `org.openoffice.Office.Jobs`, and it can be activated and deactivated from a certain point in time using special time stamps. It may be started with or without an environment, and it is protected against termination and lifetime issues.

The event that starts a job can be triggered by:

• any code in OpenOffice.org that detects a defined state at runtime and passes an event string to the service `com.sun.star.task.JobExecutor` through its interface
method `com.sun.star.task.XJobExecutor:trigger()`. The job executor looks in the configuration of OpenOffice.org if there are any jobs registered for this event and executes them.

- the global document event broadcaster
- the dispatch framework, which provides for a `vnd.star.sun.job:` URL schema to start jobs using a command URL. This URL schema can execute jobs in three different ways: it can issue an event for job components that are configured to wait for it, it can call a component by an alias that has been given to the component in the configuration or it can execute a job component directly by its implementation name.

If you call `trigger()` at the job executor or employ the global event broadcaster, the office needs a valid set of configuration data for every job you want to run. The third approach, to use a `vnd.star.sun.job:` command URL, works with or without prior configuration.

The illustration below shows an example job that counts how many times it has been triggered by an event and deactivates itself when it has been executed twice. It uses its own job-specific configuration layer to store the number of times it has been invoked. This value is passed to each newly created job instance as an initialization argument, and can be checked and written back to the configuration. When the counter exceeds two, the job uses the special deactivation feature of the job execution environment. Each job can have a user time stamp and an administrator time stamp to control activation and deactivation. When a job is deactivated, the execution environment updates the user time stamp value, so that subsequent events do not start this job again. It can be enabled by a newer time stamp value in the administration layer.
Execution Environment

Jobs are executed in a job execution environment, which handles a number of tasks and problems that can occur when jobs are executed. In particular,

- it initializes the job with all necessary data
- it starts the job using the correct interfaces
- it keeps the job alive by acquiring a UNO reference
- it waits until the job finishes its work, including listening for asynchronous jobs
- it updates the configuration of a job after it has finished
- it informs listeners about the execution
- it protects the job from office termination, or informs it when it is impossible to veto termination

For this purpose, the job execution environment creates special wrapper objects for jobs. This wrapper object implements mechanisms to support lifetime control. The
wrapper vetoes termination of the com.sun.star.frame.Desktop and the closing of frames that contain document models as long as there are dependent active jobs. It might also register as a com.sun.star.util.XCloseListener at a com.sun.star.frame.Frame or com.sun.star.document.OfficeDocument to handle the close communication on behalf of the job. It also listens for asynchronous job instances, and it is responsible for updates to the configuration data after a job has finished (see Returning Results).

A central problem of external components in OpenOffice.org is their lifetime control. Every external component must deal with the possibility that the environment will terminate. It is not efficient to implement lifetime strategies in every job, so the job execution environment takes care of this problem. That way, a job can execute, while difficult situations are handled by the execution environment.

Another advantage of this approach is that it ensures future compatibility. If the mechanism changes in the future, termination is detected and prevented, and it is unnecessary to adapt every existing job implementation.

Implementation

A job must implement the service com.sun.star.task.Job if it needs to block the thread in which it is executed or com.sun.star.task.AsyncJob if the current state of the office is unimportant for the job. The service that a job implementation supports is detected at runtime. If both are available, the synchronous service <idls>com.sun.star.task.Job</idls> is preferred by the job execution environment.
A synchronous job must not make assumptions about the environment, neither that it is the only job that runs currently nor that another object waits for its results. Only the thread context of a synchronous job is blocked until the job finishes its work.

An asynchronous job is not allowed to use threads internally, because OpenOffice.org needs to control thread creation. How asynchronous jobs are executed is an implementation detail of the global job execution environment.

Jobs that need a user interface must proceed with care, so that they do not interfere with the message loop of OpenOffice.org. The following rules apply:

- You cannot display any user interface from a synchronous job, because repaint errors and other threading issues will occur.
- The easiest way to have a user interface for an asynchronous job is to use a non-modal dialog. If you need a modal dialog to get user input, problems can occur. The best way is to use the frame reference that is part of the job environment initialization data, and to get its container window as a parent window. This parent window can be used to create a dialog with the user interface toolkit com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit. The C++ protocol handler discussed in Implementation shows how a modal message box uses this approach.
- Using a native toolkit or the Java AWT for your GUI can lead to a non-painting...
OpenOffice.org. To avoid this, the user interface must be non-modal and the implementation must allow the office to abort the job by supporting com.sun.star.lang.XComponent or com.sun.star.util.XCloseable.

The optional interfaces com.sun.star.lang.XComponent or com.sun.star.util.XCloseable should be supported so that jobs can be disposed of in a controlled manner. When these interfaces are present, the execution environment can call `dispose()` or `close()` rather than waiting for a job to finish. Otherwise OpenOffice.org must wait until the job is done. Invisible jobs can be especially problematic, because they cannot be recognized as the reason why OpenOffice.org refuses to exit.

### Initialization

A job is initialized by a call to its main interface method, which starts the job. For synchronous jobs, the execution environment calls `<idlml>com.sun.star.task.XJob:execute</idlml>()`, whereas asynchronous jobs are run through `<idlml>com.sun.star.task.XAsyncJob:executeAsync</idlml>()`.

Both methods take one parameter `Arguments`, which is a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue structs. This sequence describes the job context.

It contains the `environment` where the job is running, which tells if the job was called by the job executor, the dispatch framework or the global event broadcaster service, and possibly provides a frame or a document model for the job to work with.

---

**Tip** - Section Implementation shows how to use a frame to get its associated document model.

The Arguments parameter also yields `configuration` data, if the job has been configured in the configuration branch `org.openoffice.Office.Jobs`. This data is separated into basic configuration and additional arguments stored in the configuration. The job configuration is described in section Configuration.

Finally, Arguments can contain dynamic parameters given to the job at runtime. For instance, if a job has been called by the dispatch framework, and the dispatched command URL used parameters, these parameters can be passed on to the job through the execution arguments.

The following table shows the exact specification for the execution `Arguments`:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elements of the Execution Arguments Sequence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Chapter 3 · Writing UNO Components
Environment sequence<com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue>. Contains environment data. The following named values are defined:

EnvType string. Determines in which environment a job is executed. Defined Values: "EXECUTOR": job has been executed by a call to trigger() at the job executor "DISPATCH": job is dispatched as vnd.sun.star.job: URL "DOCUMENTEVENT": job has been executed by the global event broadcaster mechanism

EventName [optional] string. Only exists, if EnvType is "EXECUTOR" or "DOCUMENTEVENT". Contains the name of the event for which this job was registered in configuration. During runtime, this information can be used to handle different function sets by the same component implementation.

Frame [optional] com.sun.star.frame.XFrame. Only exists, if EnvType is "DISPATCH". Contains the frame context of this job. Furthermore, the sub list DynamicData can contain the optional argument list of the corresponding com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch:dispatch() request.

Model [optional] com.sun.star.frame.XModel. Only exists, if EnvType is "DOCUMENTEVENT". Contains the document model that can be used by the job.

Config [optional] sequence<com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue>. Contains the generic set of job configuration properties as described in Configuration but not the job specific data set. That is, this sub list only includes the properties Alias and Service, not the property Arguments. The property Arguments is reflected in the element JobConfig (see next element below) Note: this sub list only exists if the job is configured with this data.

Alias string. This property is declared as the name of the corresponding set node in the configuration set Jobs. It must be a unique name, which represents the structured information of a job.

Service string. Represents the UNO implementation name of the job component.

JobConfig [optional] sequence<com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue>. This sub list contains the job-specific set of configuration data as specified in the Arguments property of the job configuration. Its items depend on the job implementation. Note: this sub list only exists if the job is configured with this data.

DynamicData [optional] sequence<com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue>. Contains optional parameters of the call that started the execution of this job. In particular, it can include the parameters of a com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch:dispatch() request, if Environment-EnvType is "DISPATCH"

The following example shows how a job can analyze the given arguments and how the environment in which the job is executed can be detected:

    // extract all possible sub list of given argument list
    com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue[] lGenericConfig = null;
    com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue[] lJobConfig = null;
    com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue[] lEnvironment = null;
    com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue[] lDispatchArgs = null;

    int c = lArgs.length;
    for (int i=0; i<c; ++i) {
        if (lArgs[i].Name.equals("Config"))
            lGenericConfig = (com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue[]) com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter.toArray(lArgs[i].Value);
        else
            if (lArgs[i].Name.equals("JobConfig"))
                lJobConfig = (com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue[]) com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter.toArray(lArgs[i].Value);
            else
                if (lArgs[i].Name.equals("Environment"))
                    lEnvironment = (com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue[]) com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter.toArray(lArgs[i].Value);
                else
                    if (lArgs[i].Name.equals("DispatchArgs"))
                        lDispatchArgs = (com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue[]) com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter.toArray(lArgs[i].Value);
                    else
                        // It is not really an error - because unknown items can be ignored ...
                        throw new com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException("unknown sub list detected");
                }

                // Analyze the environment info. This sub list is the only guaranteed one!
                if (lEnvironment==null)
                    throw new com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException("no environment");

                java.lang.String sEnvType = null;
                java.lang.String sEventName = null;
                com.sun.star.frame.XFrame xFrame = null; com.sun.star.frame.XModel xModel = null;

                c = lEnvironment.length;
                for (int i=0; i<c; ++i) {
                    if (lEnvironment[i].Name.equals("EnvType"))
                        sEnvType = com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter.toString(lEnvironment[i].Value);
                    else
                        if (lEnvironment[i].Name.equals("EventName"))
                            sEventName = com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter.toString(lEnvironment[i].Value);
                        else
                            if (lEnvironment[i].Name.equals("Frame"))
                                xFrame =

Chapter 3 · Writing UNO Components 403
Initialization

```java
(com.sun.star.frame.XFrame)com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter.toObject(
    new
    com.sun.star.uno.Type(com.sun.star.frame.XFrame.class),
    lEnvironment[i].Value);
else
    if (lEnvironment[i].Name.equals("Model"))
        xModel =
    (com.sun.star.frame.XModel)com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter.toObject(
        new
        com.sun.star.uno.Type(com.sun.star.frame.XModel.class),
        lEnvironment[i].Value);

    // Further the environment property "EnvType" is required as minimum.
    if {
        (sEnvType==null) ||
        (!sEnvType.equals("EXECUTOR" )) &&
        (!sEnvType.equals("DISPATCH" )) &&
        (!sEnvType.equals("DOCUMENTEVENT"))
    }
    {   
        throw new com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException("no valid value
            for EnvType");
    }
    // Analyze the set of shared config data.
    java.lang.String sAlias = null;
    if (lGenericConfig!=null) {
        c = lGenericConfig.length;
        for (int i=0; i<c; ++i) {
            if (lGenericConfig[i].Name.equals("Alias"))
                sAlias =
        com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter.toString(lGenericConfig[i].Value);
        }
    }
}
```

Returning Results

Once a synchronous job has finished its work, it returns its result using the any return value of the `<idlml>com.sun.star.task.XJob:execute</idlml>` method. An asynchronous jobs send back the result through the callback method `jobFinished()` to its `com.sun.star.task.XJobListener`. The returned any parameter must contain a sequence `<com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue>` with the following elements:

**Elements of the Job Return Value**

- **Deactivate**
  - `boolean`: Asks the job executor to disable a job from further execution. Note that this feature is only available if the next event is triggered by the job executor or the event
broadcaster. If it comes, for example, from the dispatch framework using an URL with an `<alias>` argument, the deactivation will be ignored. This value should be used carefully if the `Environment-EnvType` is "DISPATCH", because users will be irritated if clicking a UI element, such as an Add-On menu entry, has no effect.

The `SaveArguments` sequence<com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue>. Must contain a list of job specific data, which are written directly to the Arguments list into the job configuration. Note: Merging is not supported. The list must be complete and replaces all values in the configuration. The necessary data can be copied and adjusted from the JobConfig element of the execution arguments.

The `SendDispatchResult` com.sun.star.frame.DispatchResultEvent. If a job is designed to be usable in the dispatch framework, this contains a struct, which is send to all interested dispatch result listeners.

Tip: This value should be omitted if `Environment-EnvType` is not "DISPATCH".

Configuration

Although jobs that are called through a `vnd.sun.star.jobs: URL` by their implementation name do not require it, a job usually has configuration data. The configuration package `org.openoffice.Office.Jobs` contains all necessary information:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE oor:component-schema SYSTEM "../../../../component-schema.dtd">
<templates>
  <group oor:name="Job">
    <prop oor:name="Service" oor:type="xs:string"/>
    <group oor:name="Arguments" oor:extensible="true"/>
  </group>
  <group oor:name="TimeStamp">
    <prop oor:name="AdminTime" oor:type="xs:string"/>
    <prop oor:name="UserTime" oor:type="xs:string"/>
  </group>
  <group oor:name="Event">
    <set oor:name="JobList" oor:node-type="TimeStamp"/>
  </group>
</templates>
<component>
  <set oor:name="Jobs" oor:node-type="Job"/>
</component>
```
<set oor:name="Events" oor:node-type="Event"/>
</component>
</oor:component-schema>

The Job template contains all properties that describe a job component. Instances of this template are located inside the configuration set Jobs.

**Properties of the Job template**

**Alias**  
string. This property is declared as the name of the corresponding set node inside the configuration set Jobs. It must be a unique name, which represents the structured information of a job. In the example .xcu file below its value is "SyncJob". In the job execution arguments this property is passed as Config - Alias.

**Service**  
string. Represents the UNO implementation name of the job component. In the job execution arguments this property is passed as Config - Service.

**Arguments**  
set of any entries. This list can be filled with any values and represents the private set of configuration data for this job. In the job execution arguments this property is passed as JobConfig.

The job property **Alias** was created to provide you with more flexibility for developing components. You can use the same UNO implementation, but register it with different Aliases. At runtime the job instance will be initialized with its own configuration data and can detect which representation is used.

**Warning** – You cannot use the generic UNO service names com.sun.star.task.Job or com.sun.star.task.AsyncJob for the **Service** job property, because the job executor cannot identify the correct job implementation. To avoid ambiguities, it is necessary to use the UNO implementation name of the component.

Every job instance can be bound to multiple events. An event indicates a special office state, which can be detected at runtime (for example, OnFirstVisibleTask), and which can be triggered by a call to the job executor when the first document window is displayed.

**Properties of the Event template**

**EventName**  
string. This property is declared as the name of the corresponding set node inside the configuration set Events. It must be a unique name, which describes a functional state. In the example .xcu file below its value is "onFirstVisibleTask".

Section [List of Supported Events](#) summarizes the events currently triggered by the office. In addition, developers can use arbitrary event strings with the vnd.sun.star.jobs: URL or in calls to trigger() at the com.sun.star.task.JobExecutor service.

**JobList**  
set of **TimeStamp** entries. This set contains a list of all **Alias** names of jobs that are bound to this event. Every job registration can be combined with time stamp values. Please refer to the description of
the template TimeStamp below for details

As an optional feature, every job registration that is bound to an event can be enabled or disabled by two time stamp values. In a shared installation of OpenOffice.org, an administrator can use the AdminTime value to reactivate jobs for every newly started user office instance; regardless of earlier executions of these jobs. That can be useful, for example, for updating user installations if new functions have been added to the shared installation.

**Properties of the TimeStamp template**

- **AdminTime**
  - String. This value must be formatted according to the ISO 8601. It contains the time stamp, which can only be adjusted by an administrator, to reactivate this job.

- **UserTime**
  - String. This value must be formatted according to the ISO 8601. It contains the time, when this job was finished successfully last time upon the configured event.

Using this time stamp feature can sometimes be complicated. For example, assume that there is a job that was installed using the Extension Manager. The job is enabled for a registered event by default, but after the first execution it is disabled. By default, both values (AdminTime and UserTime) do not exist for a configured event. A Jobs.xcu fragment, as part of the extension, must also not contain the AdminTime and UserTime entries. Because both values are not there, no check can be made and the job is enabled. A job can be deactivated by the global job executor once it has finished its work successfully (depending on the Deactivate return value). In that case, the UserTime entry is generated and set to the current time. An administrator can set a newer and valid AdminTime value in order to reactivate the job again, or the user can remove his UserTime entry manually from the configuration file of the user installation.

The following Jobs.xcu file shows an example job configuration:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE oor:component-data SYSTEM "../../../..//component-update.dtd">
<oor:component-data oor:name="Jobs" oor:package="org.openoffice.Office"
xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
  <node oor:name="Jobs">
    <node oor:name="SyncJob" oor:op="replace">
      <prop oor:name="Service">
        <value>com.sun.star.comp.framework.java.services.SyncJob</value>
      </prop>
    </node>
    <node oor:name="Arguments">
      <prop oor:name="arg_1" oor:type="xs:string" oor:op="replace">
        <value>val_1</value>
      </prop>
    </node>
  </node>
</oor:component-data>
```

Chapter 3 · Writing UNO Components

407
This example job has the following characteristics:

- Its alias name is "SyncJob"
- The UNO implementation name of the component is 
  com.sun.star.comp.framework.java.services.SyncJob.
- The job has its own set of configuration data with one item. It is a string, its name is arg_1 and its value is "val_1".
- The job is bound to the global event onFirstVisibleTask, which is triggered when the first document window of a new OpenOffice.org instance is displayed. The next execution of this job is guaranteed, because there are no time stamp values present.

When specifying the event to which the job is bound (onFirstVisibleTask in the above example), it is important to use oor:op="fuse", so that multiple Jobs.xcu particles merge losslessly. But note that oor:op="fuse" is only available since OpenOffice.org 2.0.3, and that a Jobs.xcu file that uses it cannot be used with older versions of OpenOffice.org. With older versions of OpenOffice.org, it was common to use oor:op="replace" instead of oor:op="fuse", which potentially caused event bindings to get lost when multiple Jobs.xcu particles were merged.

**Warning** – A job is not executed when it has deactivated itself and is called afterwards by a vnd.sun.star.jobs:event=... command URL. This can be confusing to users, especially with add-ons, since it would seem that the customized UI items do not function.

**Installation**

The easiest way to register an external job component is to use the Extension Manager (see chapter Extensions). An extension for the example job of this chapter can have the following directory structure:

SyncJob.oxt:       META-INF/manifest.xml  Jobs.xcu  windows.plt/
SyncJob.jar
Using the vnd.sun.star.jobs: URL Schema

This section describes the necessary steps to execute a job by issuing a command URL at the dispatch framework. Based upon the protocol handler mechanism, a specialized URL schema has been implemented in OpenOffice.org. It is registered for the URL schema "vnd.sun.star.job:*" which uses the following syntax:

```
vnd.sun.star.job:{{[event=<name>]},{[alias=<name>]},{[service=<name>]}}
```

### Elements of a vnd.sun.star.job: URL

**event=<name>**
- string. Contains an event string, which can also be used as parameter of the interface method `<idlml>com.sun.star.task.XJobExecutor::trigger</idlml>()`. It corresponds to the node name of the set `Events` in the configuration package `org.openoffice.Office.Jobs`. Using the event parameter of a `vnd.sun.star.job: URL` will start all jobs that are registered for this event in the configuration. Note: Disabled jobs, that is jobs with a user time stamp that is newer than the administrator time stamp, are not triggered by event URLs.

**alias=<name>**
- string. Contains an alias name of a configured job. This name is not used by the job execution API. It is a node name of the set `Jobs` in the configuration package `org.openoffice.Office.Jobs`. Using the alias part of a `vnd.sun.star.job: URL` only starts the requested job.

**service=<name>**
- string. Contains the UNO implementation name of a configured or unconfigured `com.sun.star.task.Job` or `com.sun.star.task.AsyncJob` service. It is not necessary that such jobs are registered in the configuration, provided that they work without configuration data or implements necessary configuration on their own.

It is possible to combine elements so as to start several jobs at once with a single URL. For instance, you could dispatch a URL `vnd.sun.star.job:event=e1,alias=a1,event=e2,...`. However, URLs that start several jobs at once should be used carefully, since there is no check for double or concurrent requests. If a service is designed asynchronously, it will be run concurrently with another, synchronous job. If both services work at the same area, there might be race conditions and they must synchronize their work. The generic job execution mechanism does not provide this functionality.

The following configuration file for the configuration package `org.openoffice.Office.Jobs` shows two jobs, which are registered for different events:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE oor:component-data SYSTEM "../..//component-update.dtd">
<oor:component-data oor:name="Jobs" oor:package="org.openoffice.Office"
xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
Using the vnd.sun.star.jobs: URL Schema

```xml
<node oor:name="Jobs">
  <node oor:name="Job_1" oor:op="replace">
    <prop oor:name="Service">
      <value>vnd.sun.star.jobs.Job_1</value>
    </prop>
    <node oor:name="Arguments">
      <prop oor:name="arg_1" oor:type="xs:string" oor:op="replace">
        <value>val_1</value>
      </prop>
    </node>
  </node>
  <node oor:name="Job_2" oor:op="replace">
    <prop oor:name="Service">
      <value>vnd.sun.star.jobs.Job_2</value>
    </prop>
    <node oor:name="Arguments"/>
  </node>
</node>
</node>
</oor:component-data>
```

The first job can be described by the following properties:

**Properties of "Job_1"**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>alias</th>
<th>Job_1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNO implementation name</td>
<td>vnd.sun.star.jobs.Job_1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>activation state</td>
<td>Disabled for job execution (because its AdminTime is older than its UserTime)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>own configuration</td>
<td>contains one string item arg1 with the value &quot;val1&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>event registration</td>
<td>job is registered for the event string &quot;onFirstVisibleTask&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The second job can be described by these properties:

**Properties of "Job_2"**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>alias</th>
<th>Job_2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNO implementation name</td>
<td>vnd.sun.star.jobs.Job_2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>activation state</td>
<td>Enabled for job execution (because it uses default values for AdminTime and UserTime)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following demonstrates use cases for all possible `vnd.sun.star.job` URLs. Not all possible scenarios are shown here. The job dispatch can be used in different ways and the combination of jobs can produce different results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>URL</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>vnd.sun.star.job:event=onFirstVisibleTask</code></td>
<td>This URL starts <code>Job_2</code> only, <code>Job_1</code> is marked DISABLED, since its AdminTime stamp is older than its UserTime stamp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>vnd.sun.star.job:alias=Job_1</code></td>
<td>This starts <code>Job_1</code> only. It is initialized with an environment, and optionally initialized with dispatch arguments, generic configuration data, and configuration data of its own. However, the event name is not set here because this job was triggered directly, not using an event name.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>vnd.sun.star.job:service=vnd.sun.star.jobs.Job_3</code></td>
<td>A <code>vnd.sun.star.jobs.Job_3</code> is not registered in the job configuration package. However, if this implementation was registered with the global service manager, and if it provided the <code>com.sun.star.task.XJob</code> or <code>com.sun.star.task.XAsyncJob</code> interfaces, it would be executed by this URL. If both interfaces are present, the synchronous version is preferred. The given UNO implementation name <code>vnd.sun.star.jobs.Job_3</code> is used directly for creation at the UNO service manager. In addition, this job instance is only initialized with an environment and possibly with optional dispatch arguments - there is no configuration data for the job to use.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Furthermore, the job instance can expect that the Frame property from the Environment sub list points to the frame in which the dispatch request is to be executed.
List of Supported Events

Supported events triggered by code

- **onFirstRunInitialization**: Called on startup once after OpenOffice.org is installed. Should be used for post-setup operations.
- **onFirstVisibleTask**: Called after a document window has been shown for the first time after launching the application. Note: The quickstarter influences this behavior. With the quickstarter, closing the last document does not close the application. Opening a new document in this situation does not trigger this event.
- **onDocumentOpened**: Indicates that a new document was opened. It does not matter if a new or an existing document was opened. Thus it represents the combined OnNew and OnLoad events of the global event broadcaster.

Supported events triggered by the global event broadcaster

- **OnStartApp**: Application has been started
- **OnCloseApp**: Application is going to be closed
- **OnCreate**: New Document was created
- **OnLoadFinished**: Document has been loaded
- **OnNew**: New Document was created visible. Unlike OnCreate this event is sent asynchronously at a time the view is completely created (see Issue 46484).
- **OnLoad**: Document has been loaded visible. Unlike OnLoadFinished this event is sent asynchronously at a time the view is completely created (see Issue 46484)
- **OnSaveAs**: Document is going to be saved under a new name
- **OnSaveAsDone**: Document was saved under a new name
- **OnSave**: Document is going to be saved
- **OnSaveDone**: Document was saved
- **OnPrepareUnload**: Document is going to be removed
- **OnUnload**: Document has been removed
- **OnFocus**: Document was activated
- **OnUnfocus**: Document was deactivated
- **OnPrint**: Document will be printed
- **OnModifyChange**: Modified state of the document has changed

**Warning** – Event names are case sensitive.
Add-Ons

A OpenOffice.org add-on is an extension providing one or more functions through the user interface of OpenOffice.org. A typical add-on is available as an extension for easier deployment with the Extension Manager. An add-on contains configuration files which specify the user interface, registration for a protocol schema and first-time instantiation.

The Extension Manager merges the configuration files with the menu and toolbar items for an add-on directly into the OpenOffice.org configuration files.

Overview

OpenOffice.org supports the integration of add-ons into the following areas of the GUI.

Menu items for add-ons can be added to an Add-Ons submenu of the Tools menu and a corresponding add-ons popup toolbar icon:

Add-Ons submenu and toolbar popup

It is also possible to create custom menus in the Menu Bar. You are free to choose
Add-Ons

your own menu title, and you can create menu items and submenus for your add-on. Custom menus are inserted between the Tools and Window menus. Separators are supported as well:

![Custom top-level menu](image)

You can create toolbar icons in the Function Bar, which is usually the topmost toolbar. Below you see two toolbar items, an icon for **Function 1** and a text item for **Function 2**.

![Toolbar icons for Function 1 and Function 2](image)

The Help menu offers support for add-ons through help menu items that open the online help of an add-on. They are inserted below the Help - Registration item under a separator.

### Guidelines

For a smooth integration, a developer should be aware of the following guidelines:

### Add-Ons Submenu

- Since the Tools - Add-Ons menu is shared by all installed add-ons, an add-on should save space and use a submenu when it has more than two functions. The name of the add-on should be part of the menu item names or the submenu title.

- If your add-on has many menu items, use additional submenus to enhance the overview. Use four to seven entries for a single menu. If you exceed this limit, start creating submenus.
Custom Top-Level Menu

- Only frequently used add-ons or add-ons that offer very important functions in a user environment should use their own top-level menu.
- Use submenus to enhance the overview. Use four to seven entries for a single menu. If you exceed this limit, start creating submenus.
- Use the option to group related items by means of separator items.

Toolbar

- Only important functions should be integrated into the toolbar.
- Use the option to group functions by means of separator items.

Add-On Help menu

Every add-on should provide help to user. This help has to be made available through an entry in the OpenOffice.org Help menu. Every add-on should only use a single Help menu item.

If the add-on comes with its own dialogs, it should also offer Help buttons in the dialogs.

Configuration

The user interface definitions of all add-ons are stored in the special configuration branch org.openoffice.Office.Addons.

The schema of the configuration branch org.openoffice.Office.Addons specifies how to define a user interface extension.

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<oor:component-schema oor:name="Addons" oor:package="org.openoffice.Office"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
  <templates>
    <group oor:name="MenuItem">
    ...
    </group>
  </templates>
</oor:component-schema>
```
Menus

As explained in the previous section, OpenOffice.org supports two menu locations
where an add-on can be integrated: a top-level menu or the **Tools - Add-Ons** submenu. The configuration branch `org.openoffice.Office.Addons` provides two different nodes for these locations:

**Supported sets of org.openoffice.Office.Addons to define an Add-On menu**

- **OfficeMenuBar**
  A menu defined in this set will be a top-level menu in the OpenOffice.org Menu Bar.

- **AddonMenu**
  A menu defined in this set will be a pop-up menu which is part of the **Add-Ons** menu item located on the bottom position of the **Tools** menu.

### Submenu in Tools - Add-Ons

To integrate add-on menu items into the **Tools – Add-Ons** menu, use the **AddonMenu** set. The **AddonMenu** set consists of nodes of type **MenuItem**. The **MenuItem** node-type is also used for the submenus of a top-level add-on menu.

**Properties of template MenuItem**

- **oor:name**
  string. The name of the configuration node. The name must begin with an ASCII letter character. It must be unique within the **OfficeMenuBar** set. Therefore, it is mandatory to use a schema such as `org.openoffice.<developer>.<product>.<addon name>` or `com.<company>.<product>.<addon name>` to avoid name conflicts.
  Keep in mind that your configuration file will be merged into the OpenOffice.org configuration branch. You do not know which add-ons, or how many add-ons, are currently installed. The node name of menu items of a submenu must be unique only within their submenu. A configuration set cannot guarantee the order of its entries, so you should use a schema such as string + number, for example “m1”, as the name is used to sort the entries.

- **URL**
  string. Specifies the command URL that should be dispatched when the user activates the menu entry. It will be ignored if the **MenuItem** is the title of a a submenu.
  To define a separator you can use the special command URL "private:separator". A separator ignores all other properties.

- **Title**
  string. Contains the title of a top-level menu item. This property supports localization: The default string, which is used when OpenOffice.org cannot find a string definition for its current language, uses the value element without an attribute. You define a string for a certain language with the `xml:lang` attribute. Assign the language/locale to the attribute, for example `<value xml:lang="en-US">string</value>`.

- **ImageIdentifier**
  string. Defines an optional image URL that could address an internal
OpenOffice.org image or an external user-defined image. The syntax of an internal image URL is: \textit{private:image/\textit{number}} where \textit{number} specifies the image.

External user-defined images are supported using the placeholder variable \texttt{%origin\%} representing the folder where the component will be installed by the \texttt{pkgchk} tool. The \texttt{pkgchk} tool will exchanges \texttt{%origin\%} by another placeholder, which is substituted during runtime by OpenOffice.org to the real installation folder. Since OpenOffice.org supports two different configuration folders (\texttt{user} and \texttt{share}) this mechanism is necessary to determine the installation folder of a component.

For example the URL \texttt{%origin\%/image} will be substituted to something like \texttt{vnd.sun.star.expand:}$\texttt{UNO_USER_PACKAGES_CACHE/uno_packages/component.zip.1051610942/image}$.

The placeholder \texttt{vnd.sun.star.expand:}$\texttt{UNO_USER_PACKAGES_CACHE}$ will then be substituted during runtime by the real path.

As the \texttt{ImageIdentifier} property can only hold one URL but OpenOffice.org supports four different images (small/large image and both as high contrast), a naming schema is used to address them. OpenOffice.org adds \texttt{_16.bmp} and \texttt{_26.bmp} to the provided URL to address the small and large image. \texttt{_16h.bmp} and \texttt{_26h.bmp} is added to address the high contrast images. If the high contrast images are omitted the normal images are used instead.

OpenOffice.org supports bitmaps with 1, 4, 8, 16, 24 bit color depth. Magenta (color value red=0xffff, green=0x0000, blue=0xffff) is used as the transparent color, which means that the background color of the display is used instead of the image pixel color when the image is drawn.

For optimal results the size of small images should be 16x16 pixel and for big images 26x26 pixel. Other image sizes are scaled automatically by OpenOffice.org. If no high contrast image is provided, OpenOffice.org uses the normal image for high contrast environments. Images that are not valid will be ignored. This property has a higher priority than the \texttt{Images} set when OpenOffice.org searches for images.

\textbf{Target}

\texttt{Target} string. Specifies the target frame for the command URL. Normally an add-on will use one of the predefined target names:

\begin{itemize}
\item \texttt{_top}
\end{itemize}

\texttt{_top} Returns the top frame of the called frame, which is the first frame where \texttt{isTop()} returns true when traversing up the hierarchy.

\begin{itemize}
\item \texttt{_parent}
\end{itemize}

\texttt{_parent} Returns the next frame above in the frame hierarchy.

\begin{itemize}
\item \texttt{_self}
\end{itemize}

\texttt{_self}
Menus

Returns the frame itself, same as an empty target frame name. This means you are searching for a frame you already have, but it is legal to do so.

_blank

Creates a new top-level frame whose parent is the desktop frame.

Context

string. A list of service names, separated by a comma, that specifies in which context the add-on menu function should be visible. An empty Context means that the function should visible in all contexts. The OpenOffice.org application modules use the following services names:

- Writer: com.sun.star.text.TextDocument
- Presentation:com.sun.star.presentation.PresentationDocument
- Formula:com.sun.star.formula.FormulaProperties
- Chart: com.sun.star.chart.ChartDocument
- Bibliography:com.sun.star.frame.Bibliography

The context service name for add-ons is determined by the service name of the model that is bound to the frame, which is associated with UI element (toolbar, menu bar, ...). Thus the service name of the Writer model is com.sun.star.text.TextDocument. That means, the context name is bound to the model of an application module. If a developer implements a new desktop component that has a model, it is possible to use its service name as a context for add-on UI items.

Submenu

A set of Menultem entries. Optional to define a submenu for the menu entry.

The next examples shows a configuration file specifying a single menu item titled Add-On Function 1. The unique node name of the add-on is called org.openoffice.example.addon.example.function1.

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<oor:component-data xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
xmns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" oor:name="Addons"
oor:package="org.openoffice.Office">
  <node oor:name="AddonUI">
    <node oor:name="AddonMenu">
      <node oor:name="org.openoffice.Office.addon.example.function1"
        oor:op="replace">
        <prop oor:name="URL" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value>org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:Function1</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="ImageIdentifier" oor:type="xs:string"
          <value/>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Title" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value xml:lang="en-US">Add-On Function 1</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Target" oor:type="xs:string">
          </value>
        </prop>
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</oor:component-data>
```
Top-level Menu

If you want to integrate an add-on into the OpenOffice.org Menu Bar, you have to use the OfficeMenuBar set. An OfficeMenuBar set consists of nodes of type PopupMenu.

Properties of template PopupMenu

oor:name
string. The name of the configuration node. The name must begin with an ASCII letter character. It must be unique within the OfficeMenuBar set. Therefore, it is mandatory to use a schema such as

org.openoffice.<developer>.<product>.<addon name> or
com.<company>.<product>.<addon name> to avoid name conflicts. Please keep in mind that your configuration file will be merged into the OpenOffice.org configuration branch. You do not know what add-ons, or how many add-ons, are currently installed.

Title
string. Contains the title of a top-level menu item. This property supports localization: The default string, which is used when OpenOffice.org cannot find a string definition for its current language, uses the value element without an attribute. You define a string for a certain language with the xml:lang attribute. Assign the language/locale to the attribute, for example <value xml:lang="en-US">string</value>.

Context
string. A list of service names, separated by a comma, that specifies in which context the add-on menu should be visible. An empty context means that the function should be visible in all contexts. The OpenOffice.org application modules use the following services names:

- Writer: com.sun.star.text.TextDocument
- Presentation: com.sun.star.presentation.PresentationDocument
- Formula: com.sun.star.formula.FormulaProperties
Menus

- Chart: com.sun.star.chart.ChartDocument
- Bibliography: com.sun.star.frame.Bibliography

The context service name for add-ons is determined by the service name of the model that is bound to the frame, which is associated with UI element (toolbar, menu bar, ...). Thus the service name of the Writer model is com.sun.star.text.TextDocument. That means, the context name is bound to the model of an application module. If a developer implements a new desktop component that has a model it is possible to use its service name as a context for add-on UI items.

Submenu

A set of MenuItem entries. Defines the submenu of the top-level menu. It must be defined on a top-level menu otherwise the whole menu will be ignored. For more information how to define a submenu please refer to section Guidelines where the MenuItem template is described.

The following example defines a top-level menu titled Add-On example with a single menu item titled Add-On Function 1. The menu item has a self-defined image used for displaying it next to the menu title. In the example the nodes are called oor:name="org.openoffice.example.addon" and oor:name="m1".

Do not forget to specify the oor:op="replace" attribute in your self-defined nodes. The replace operation must be used to add a new node to a set or extensible node. Thus the real meaning of the operation is "add or replace". Dynamic properties can only be added once and are then considered mandatory, so during layer merging the replace operation always means "add" for them. For more details about the configuration and their file formats please read Configuration Management.

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<oor:component-data xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" oor:name="Addons"
oor:package="org.openoffice.Office">
  <node oor:name="AddonUI">
    <node oor:name="OfficeMenuBar">
      <node oor:name="org.openoffice.example.addon" oor:op="replace">
        <prop oor:name="Title" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value/>
          <value xml:lang="en-US">Add-On example</value>
          <value xml:lang="de">Add-On Beispiel</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Context" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value>com.sun.star.text.TextDocument</value>
        </prop>
      </node>
    </node>
    <node oor:name="Submenu">
      <node oor:name="m1" oor:op="replace">
        <prop oor:name="URL" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value>org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:Function1</value>
        </prop>
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</oor:component-data>
```
Toolbars

An add-on can also be integrated into the Function Bar of OpenOffice.org. The org.openoffice.Office.Addons configuration branch has a set called OfficeToolBar where you can add toolbar items for an add-on. The toolbar structure uses an embedded set called ToolbarItems, which is used by OpenOffice.org to group toolbar items from different add-ons. OpenOffice.org automatically inserts a separator between different add-ons toolbar items.

Warning – The space of the Function Bar is limited, so only the most used/important functions should be added to the OfficeToolBar set. Otherwise OpenOffice.org will add scroll-up/down buttons at the end of the Function Bar and the user has to scroll the toolbar to have access to all toolbar buttons.

Properties of template ToolBarItems

oor:name  
string. The name of the configuration node. The name must begin with an ASCII letter character. It must be unique within the OfficeMenuBar set. Therefore it is mandatory to use a schema such as org.openoffice.<developer>.<product>.<addon name> or com.<company>.<product>.<addon name> to avoid name conflicts. Please keep in mind that your configuration file will be merged into the OpenOffice.org configuration branch. You do not know what add-ons, or how many add-ons, are currently installed.

The ToolBarItems set is a container for the ToolBarItem nodes.

Properties of template ToolBarItem

oor:name  
string. The name of the configuration node. It must be unique inside your own ToolBarItems set. A configuration set cannot guarantee the order of its entries, therefore use a schema such as string + number, for example "m1", as the name is used to
sort the entries. Please be aware that the name must begin with an ASCII letter character.

**URL**

string. Specifies the command URL that should be dispatched when the user activates the menu entry. To define a separator you can use the special command URL "private:separator". A separator ignores all other properties.

**Title**

string. Contains the title of a top-level menu item. This property supports localization: The default string, which is used when OpenOffice.org cannot find a string definition for its current language, uses the value element without an attribute. You define a string for a certain language with the `xml:lang` attribute. Assign the language/locale to the attribute, for example `<value xml:lang="en-US">string</value>`.

**ImageIdentifier**

string. Defines an optional image URL that could address an internal OpenOffice.org image or an external user-defined image. The syntax of an internal image URL is: `private:image/<number>` where number specifies the image. External user-defined images are supported using the placeholder variable `%origin%`, representing the folder where the component will be installed by the `pkgchk` tool. The `pkgchk` tool exchanges `%origin%` with another placeholder, which is substituted during runtime by OpenOffice.org to the real installation folder. Since OpenOffice.org supports two different configuration folders (`user` and `share`) this mechanism is necessary to determine the installation folder of a component. For example the URL `%origin%/image` will be substituted with something like `vnd.sun.star.expand:$UNO_USER_PACKAGES_CACHE/uno_packages/component.zip.1051610942/image`. The placeholder `vnd.sun.star.expand:$UNO_USER_PACKAGES_CACHE` is then substituted during runtime with the real path.

Since the `ImageIdentifier` property can only hold one URL but OpenOffice.org supports four different images (small/large image, and both as high contrast), a naming schema is used to address them. OpenOffice.org adds `_16.bmp` and `_26.bmp` to the provided URL to address the small and large image. `_16h.bmp` and `_26h.bmp` is added to address the high contrast images. If the high contrast images are omitted, the normal images are used instead.

OpenOffice.org supports bitmaps with 1, 4, 8, 16, 24 bit color depth. Magenta (color value red=0xffff, green=0x0000, blue=0xffff) is used as the transparent color, which means that the background color of the display is used instead of the image
pixel color when the image is drawn. For optimal results, the size of small images should be 16x16 pixel, and for big images 26x26 pixel. Other image sizes are scaled automatically by OpenOffice.org. If no high contrast image is provided, OpenOffice.org uses the normal image for high contrast environments. Images that are not valid are ignored. This property has a higher priority than the Images set when OpenOffice.org searches for images.

**Target**

string. Specifies the target frame for the command URL. Normally an add-on will use one of the predefined target names:

- **_top**
  - Returns the top frame of the called frame, which is the first frame where isTop() returns true when traversing up the hierarchy.

- **_parent**
  - Returns the next frame above in the frame hierarchy.

- **_self**
  - Returns the frame itself, same as an empty target frame name. This means you are searching for a frame you already have, but it is legal to do so.

- **_blank**
  - Creates a new top-level frame whose parent is the desktop frame.

**Context**

string. A list of service names, separated by a comma, that specifies in which context the add-on menu should be visible. An empty context means that the function should be visible in all contexts. The OpenOffice.org application modules use the following services names:

- Writer: com.sun.star.text.TextDocument
- Presentation: com.sun.star.presentation.PresentationDocument
- Formula: com.sun.star.formula.FormulaProperties
- Chart: com.sun.star.chart.ChartDocument
- Bibliography: com.sun.star.frame.Bibliography

The context service name for add-ons is determined by the service name of the model that is bound to the frame, which is associated with an UI element (toolbar, menu bar, ...). Thus the service name of the Writer model is com.sun.star.text.TextDocument. That means, the context name is bound to the model of an application module. If you implement a new desktop component that has a model, it is possible to use its service name as a context for add-on UI items.
The following example defines one toolbar button for the function called \texttt{org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:Function1}. The toolbar button is only visible when using the OpenOffice.org Writer module.

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<oor:component-data xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
oor:name="Addons"
oor:package="org.openoffice.Office">
  <node oor:name="AddonUI">
    <node oor:name="OfficeToolBar">
      <node oor:name="org.openoffice.Office.addon.example"
            oor:op="replace">
        <node oor:name="m1">
          <prop oor:name="URL" oor:type="xs:string">
            <value>org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:Function1</value>
          </prop>
          <prop oor:name="Title" oor:type="xs:string">
            <value xml:lang="en-US">Function 1</value>
            <value xml:lang="de">Funktion 1</value>
          </prop>
          <prop oor:name="Target" oor:type="xs:string">
            <value>_self</value>
          </prop>
          <prop oor:name="Context" oor:type="xs:string">
            <value>com.sun.star.text.TextDocument</value>
          </prop>
        </node>
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</oor:component-data>
```

**Images for Toolbars and Menus**

OpenOffice.org supports images in menus and toolboxes. In addition to the property \texttt{ImageIdentifier}, the add-ons configuration branch has a fourth set called \texttt{Images} that let developers define and use their own images. The image data can be integrated into the configuration either as hex encoded binary data or as references to external bitmap files. The \texttt{Images} set binds a \textit{command URL} to user defined images.

**Properties of template Images**

\texttt{oor:name} string. The name of the configuration node. It must be unique inside the configuration branch. Therefore it is mandatory to use a schema such as \texttt{org.openoffice.<developer>.<add-on name>} or \texttt{com.<company>.<product>.<add-on name>} to avoid name conflicts.
conflicts. Please keep in mind that your configuration file will be merged into the OpenOffice.org configuration branch. You do not know how many or which add-ons were installed before by the user. Please be aware that the name must begin with an ASCII letter character.

**URL**

String. Specifies the command URL that should be bound to the defined images. OpenOffice.org searches for images with the command URL that a menu item/toolbox item contains.

**UserDefinedImages**

Group of properties. This optional group provides self-defined images data to OpenOffice.org. There are two different groups of properties to define the image data. One property group provides the image data as ongoing hex values specifying an uncompressed bitmap format stream. The other property group uses URLs to external bitmap files. The names of these properties end with 'URL'. OpenOffice.org supports bitmap streams with 1, 4, 8, 16, 24 bit color depth. Magenta (color value red=0xffff, green=0x0000, blue=0xffff) is used as the transparent color, meaning that the background color of the display will be used instead of the image pixel color when the image is drawn. For best quality, the size of small images should be 16x16 pixel, and for big images 26x26 pixel. Other image sizes will be scaled automatically by OpenOffice.org. If no high contrast image data is provided, OpenOffice.org uses the normal image for high contrast environments. Image data that is not valid will be ignored.

An **Images** node uses a second node called **UserDefinedImages** where the user defined images data are stored.

**Properties of template UserDefinedImages**

- **ImageSmall** HexBinary. Used for normal menu/toolbar items, standard size is 16x16 pixel.
- **ImageBig** HexBinary. Only toolbars can use big images. Standard size is 26x26 pixel. The user can activate large buttons with the **Tools – Options – View – Large Buttons** check box.
- **ImageSmallHC** HexBinary. Used for high contrast environments, which means that the background color of a menu or toolbar is below a certain threshold value for the brightness.
- **ImageBigHC** HexBinary. Only toolbars can use big images. Used for high contrast environments, which means that the background color of a toolbar is below a certain threshold value for the brightness.
- **ImageSmallURL** String. An URL to an external image which is used for menu items and normal toolbar buttons. External user-defined images are supported using the placeholder variable `%origin%`, representing the folder where the component will be installed by the **pkgchk** command.
tool. The pkgchk tool exchanges %origin% with another placeholder, which is substituted during runtime by OpenOffice.org to the real installation folder. Since OpenOffice.org supports two different configuration folders (user and share) this mechanism is necessary to determine the installation folder of a component.

For example the URL %origin%/image will be substituted with something like vnd.sun.star.expand:

$UNO_USER_PACKAGES_CACHE/uno_packages/component.zip.1051610942/image.

The placeholder vnd.sun.star.expand:

$UNO_USER_PACKAGES_CACHE is then substituted during runtime with the real path.

ImageBigURL

string. An URL to an external image which is used for big toolbar buttons.

ImageSmallHCU

string. An URL to an external image which is used for menu items and normal toolbar button in a high contrast environment.

ImageBigHCURL

string. An URL to an external image which is used for big toolbar buttons in a high contrast environment.

The embedded image data have a higher priority when used in conjunction with the URL properties. The embedded and URL properties can be mixed without a problem.

The next example creates two user-defined images for the function org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:Function1. The normal image is defined using the embedded image data property ImageSmall and has a size of 16x16 pixel and a 4-bit color depth. The other one uses the URL property ImageSmallHCURL to reference an external bitmap file for the high contrast image.
Help Integration

OpenOffice.org supports the integration of add-ons into its **Help** menu. The add-on help menu items are inserted below the **Registration** menu item, guarded by separators. This guarantees that users have quick access to the add-on help. The **OfficeHelp** set uses the same **MenuItem** node-type as the **AddonMenu** set, but there are some special treatments of the properties.

### Properties of template **MenuItem**

- **oor:name**
  - string. The name of the configuration node. It must be unique inside the configuration branch. Therefore it is mandatory to use a schema such as `org.openoffice.<developer>.<add-on name>` or `com.<company>.<product>.<add-on name>` to avoid name conflicts. Please keep in mind that your configuration file will be merged into the OpenOffice.org configuration branch. You do not know how many or which add-ons were installed before by the user. Please be aware that the name must begin with an ASCII letter character.

- **URL**
  - string. Specifies the help command URL that should be dispatched when the user activates the menu entry. Separators defined by the special command URL "private:separator" are supported, but should not be used in the help menu, because every add-on should only use one menu item.

- **Title**
  - string. Contains the title of a top-level menu item. This property supports localization: The default string, which is used when OpenOffice.org cannot find a string definition for its current language, uses the value element without an attribute. You define a string for a certain language with the `xml:lang` attribute. Assign the language/locale to the attribute, for example `<value xml:lang="en-US">string</value>`.

- **ImageIdentifier**
  - string. Defines an optional image URL that could address an internal OpenOffice.org image or an external user-defined image. The syntax of an internal image URL is: `private:image/<number>` where *number* specifies the image.
External user-defined images are supported using the placeholder variable `%origin%`, representing the folder where the component will be installed by the `pkgchk` tool. The `pkgchk` tool exchanges `%origin%` with another placeholder, which is substituted during runtime by OpenOffice.org to the real installation folder. Since OpenOffice.org supports two different configuration folders (user and share), this mechanism is necessary to determine the installation folder of a component. For example the URL `%origin%/image` is substituted with something like:

```
vnd.sun.star.expand:
$UNO_USER_PACKAGES_CACHE/uno_packages/compont.zip.1051610942/image
```

The placeholder `vnd.sun.star.expand:` $UNO_USER_PACKAGES_CACHE is then substituted during runtime by the real path.

Since the `ImageIdentifier` property can only hold one URL but OpenOffice.org supports four different images (small/large image and both as high contrast), a naming schema is used to address them. OpenOffice.org adds `_16.bmp` and `_26.bmp` to the provided URL to address the small and large image. 

`_16h.bmp` and `_26h.bmp` is added to address the high contrast images. If the high contrast images are omitted, the normal images are used instead.

OpenOffice.org supports bitmaps with 1, 4, 8, 16, 24 bit color depth. Magenta (color value red=0xffff, green=0x0000, blue=0xffff) is used as the transparent color, which means that the background color of the display is used instead of the image pixel color when the image is drawn.

For optimal results the size of small images should be 16x16 pixel and for big images 26x26 pixel. Other image sizes will be scaled automatically by OpenOffice.org. If no high contrast image is provided, OpenOffice.org uses the normal image for high contrast environments. Images that are not valid are ignored. This property has a higher priority than the Images set when OpenOffice.org searches for images.

**Target**

String. Specifies the target frame for the command URL. Normally an add-on will use one of the predefined target names:

- `_top`
  - Returns the top frame of the called frame, which is the first frame where `isTop()` returns true when traversing up the hierarchy.
- `_parent`
  - Returns the next frame above in the frame hierarchy.
- `_self`
Help Integration

Returns the frame itself, same as an empty target frame name. This means you are searching for a frame you already have, but it is legal to do so.

_blank

Creates a new top-level frame whose parent is the desktop frame.

Context

string. A list of service names, separated by a comma, that specifies in which context the add-on menu should be visible. An empty context means that the function is visible in all contexts. The OpenOffice.org application modules use the following services names:

- Writer: com.sun.star.text.TextDocument
- Presentation: com.sun.star.presentation.PresentationDocument
- Formula: com.sun.star.formula.FormulaProperties
- Chart: com.sun.star.chart.ChartDocument
- Bibliography: com.sun.star.frame.Bibliography

The context service name for add-ons is determined by the service name of the model that is bound to the frame, which is associated with an UI element (toolbar, menu bar, ...). Thus the service name of the Writer model is com.sun.star.text.TextDocument. That means, the context name is bound to the model of an application module. If a developer implements a new desktop component that has a model, it is possible to use its service name as a context for add-on UI items.

Submenu

A set of MenuItem entries. Not used for OfficeHelp MenuItems, any definition inside will be ignored.

The following example shows the single help menu item for the add-on example.

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<oor:component-data xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" oor:name="Addons"
oor:package="org.openoffice.Office">
  <node oor:name="AddonUI">
    <node oor:name="OfficeHelp">
      <node oor:name="com.sun.star.comp.framework.addon"
oor:op="replace">
        <prop oor:name="URL" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value>org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:Help</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="ImageIdentifier" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value/>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Title" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value xml:lang="de">Über Add-On Beispiel</value>
        </prop>
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</oor:component-data>
```
Installation

After finishing the implementation of the UNO component and the definition of the user interface part you can create an extension. An extension can be used by an end-user to install the add-on into OpenOffice.org.

The configuration files that were created for the add-on, such as protocol handler, jobs, and user interface definition must be added to the root of the zip file. The structure of a zip file supporting Windows should resemble the following code:

```
example_addon.oxt: META_INF/          manifest.xml   Addons.xcu
ProtocolHandler.xcu  windows.plt/         example_addon.dll
```

Before you install the extension, make absolutely sure there are no running instances of OpenOffice.org. The unopkgtool recognizes a running OpenOffice.org in a local installation, but not in a networked installation. Installing into a running office installation might cause inconsistencies and destroy your installation!

The extension installation for the example add-on is as simple as changing to the `<OfficePath>/program` directory with a command-line shell and running

```
[<OfficePath>/program] $ unopkg add /foo/bar/example_addon.zip
```

For an explanation of other deployment options, please refer to Deployment Options for Components and for an explanation about extensions refer to Extensions.

Disable Commands

In OpenOffice.org, there may be situations where functions should be disabled to prevent users from changing or destroying documents inadvertently. OpenOffice.org maintains a list of disabled commands that can be maintained by users and developers through the configuration API.
A command request can be created by any object, but in most cases, user interface objects create these requests. Consider, for instance, a toolbox where different functions acting on the office component are presented as buttons. Once a button is clicked, the desired functionality should be executed. If the code assigned to the button is provided with a suitable command URL, the dispatch framework can handle the user action by creating the request and finding a component that can handle it.

The dispatch framework works with the design pattern *chain of responsibility*: everything a component needs to know if it wants to execute a request is the last link in a chain of objects capable of executing requests. If this object gets the request, it checks whether it can handle it or otherwise passes it to the next chain member until the request is executed or the end of the chain is reached. The disable commands implementation is the first chain member and can therefore work as a wall for all disabled commands. They are not be sent to the next chain member, and disappear.

The illustration below shows how the disable commands feature affects the normal command application flow.
**Warning** – Since the disable commands implementation is the first part in the dispatch chain, there is no way to circumvent it. The disabled command must be removed from the list, otherwise it remains disabled.

## Configuration

The disable commands feature uses the configuration branch `org.openoffice.Office.Commands` to read which commands should be disabled. The following schema applies:

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<oor:component-schema oor:name="Commands"
 oor:package="org.openoffice.Office" xml:lang="en-US"
 xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
 xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
 xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
 <templates>
  <group oor:name="CommandType">
   <prop oor:name="Command" oor:type="xs:string"/>
  </group>
 </templates>
 <component>
  <group oor:name="Execute">
   <set oor:name="Disabled" oor:node-type="CommandType"/>
  </group>
 </component>
</oor:component-schema>
```

The configuration schema for disabled commands is very simple. The `org.openoffice.Office.Commands` branch has a group called `Execute`. This group has only one set called `Disabled`. The `Disabled` set supports nodes of the type `CommandType`. The following table describes the supported properties of `CommandType`.

**Properties of the `CommandType` group**

- **oor:component-data**
  - String. It must be unique inside the `Disabled` set, but has no additional meaning for the implementation of the disable commands feature. Use a consecutive numbering scheme; even numbers are allowed.

- **Command**
  - String. This is the command name with the preceding protocol. That means the command URL `uno:Open` (which shows the File – Open dialog) must be written as `Open`. The valid commands can be found in the document *Index of Command Names* in the [Documentation section of the framework project](https://www.openoffice.org) on the OpenOffice.org web page. The OpenOffice.org SDK also includes the latest list of [command names](https://wiki.openoffice.org/wiki/Extension_API). Additional information regarding
Command names is available in: [0]

The example below shows a configuration file that disables the commands for File – Open, Edit – Select All, Help – About OpenOffice.org and File – Exit.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<oor:component-data oor:name="Commands" oor:package="org.openoffice.Office"
xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
  <node oor:name="Execute">
    <node oor:name="Disabled">
      <node oor:name="com.mycompany.a-chosen-unique-name.m1"
        oor:op="replace">
        <prop oor:name="Command">
          <value>Open</value>
        </prop>
      </node>
      <node oor:name="com.mycompany.a-chosen-unique-name.m2"
        oor:op="replace">
        <prop oor:name="Command">
          <value>SelectAll</value>
        </prop>
      </node>
      <node oor:name="com.mycompany.a-chosen-unique-name.m3"
        oor:op="replace">
        <prop oor:name="Command">
          <value>About</value>
        </prop>
      </node>
      <node oor:name="com.mycompany.a-chosen-unique-name.m4"
        oor:op="replace">
        <prop oor:name="Command">
          <value>Quit</value>
        </prop>
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</oor:component-data>
```

A few lines on the node name ‘com.mycompany.a-chosen-unique-name.m1’ in the xml example above.

The node name is chosen in order to be unique in the 'Disable' data set, and is given as a suggestion.

You can use whatever name you like, it has no additional meaning for the implementation of the disable commands feature.

A good idea would be to use a consecutive numbering at the name end, the name must be unique.
Disabling Commands at Runtime

The following code example first removes all commands that were defined in the user layer of the configuration branch `org.openoffice.Office.Commands` as having a defined starting point. Then it checks if it can get dispatch objects for some pre-defined commands. Then the example disables these commands and tries to get dispatch objects for them again. At the end, the code removes the disabled commands again, otherwise OpenOffice.org would not be fully usable any longer.

```java
import com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver;
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.util.XURLTransformer;
import com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop;
import com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException;

/*
* Provides example code how to enable/disable
* commands.
*/
public class DisableCommandsTest extends java.lang.Object {

    /*
    * A list of command names
    */
    final static private String[] aCommandURLTestSet =
    {
        new String( "Open" ),
        new String( "About" ),
        new String( "SelectAll" ),
        new String( "Quit" ),
    };

    private static XComponentContext xRemoteContext = null;
    private static XMultiComponentFactory xRemoteServiceManager = null;
    private static XURLTransformer xTransformer = null;
    private static XMultiServiceFactory xConfigProvider = null;

    /*
    * @param args the command line arguments
    */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        try {
            // connect
            XComponentContext xLocalContext =
            com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.createInitialComponentContext
            (null);
            XMultiComponentFactory xLocalServiceManager =
```
xLocalContext.getServiceManager();
Object urlResolver =
xLocalServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
    "com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xLocalContext);
XUnoUrlResolver xUnoUrlResolver = (XUnoUrlResolver)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XUnoUrlResolver.class, urlResolver);
Object initialObject = xUnoUrlResolver.resolve(
    "uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2083;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager");
XPropertySet xPropertySet =
    (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XPropertySet.class, initialObject);
Object context =
xPropertySet.getPropertyValue("DefaultContext");
xRemoteContext = (XComponentContext)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XComponentContext.class, context);
xRemoteServiceManager = xRemoteContext.getServiceManager();
Object transformer =
xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
    "com.sun.star.util.URLTransformer", xRemoteContext);
xTransformer =
    (com.sun.star.util.XURLTransformer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.util.XURLTransformer.class, transformer);
Object configProvider =
xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
    "com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider", xRemoteContext);
xConfigProvider =
    (com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory.class, configProvider);

        // First we need a defined starting point. So we have to remove
        // all commands from the disabled set!
        enableCommands();

        // Check if the commands are usable
        testCommands(false);

        // Disable the commands
        disableCommands();

        // Now the commands should not be usable anymore
        testCommands(true);

        // Remove disable commands to make Office usable again
        enableCommands();
    }
    catch (java.lang.Exception e){
        e.printStackTrace();
    }
    finally {
        System.exit(0);
    }
/**
 * Test the commands that we enabled/disabled
 */

private static void testCommands(boolean bDisabledCmds) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // We need the desktop to get access to the current frame
    Object desktop = xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
            "com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", xRemoteContext);
    com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop xDesktop = (com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop.class, desktop);
    com.sun.star.frame.XFrame xFrame = xDesktop.getCurrentFrame();
    com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider xDispatchProvider = null;
    if (xFrame != null) {
        // We have a frame. Now we need access to the dispatch provider.
        xDispatchProvider = (com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider.class, xFrame);
        if (xDispatchProvider != null) {
            // As we have the dispatch provider we can now check if we
            // get a dispatch
            // object or not.
            for (int n = 0; n < aCommandURLTestSet.length; n++) {
                // Prepare the URL
                com.sun.star.util.URL[] aURL = new com.sun.star.util.URL[1];
                aURL[0] = new com.sun.star.util.URL();
                com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch xDispatch = null;

                aURL[0].Complete = ".uno:" + aCommandURLTestSet[n];
                xTransformer.parseSmart(aURL, ".uno:");

                // Try to get a dispatch object for our URL
                xDispatch = xDispatchProvider.queryDispatch(aURL[0], ",", 0);

                if (xDispatch != null) {
                    if (bDisabledCmds) {
                        System.out.println("Something is wrong, I got dispatch object for " + aURL[0].Complete);
                    } else {
                        System.out.println("Ok, dispatch object for " + aURL[0].Complete);
                    }
                } else {
                    if (!bDisabledCmds) {
                        System.out.println("Something is wrong, I cannot get dispatch object for " + aURL[0].Complete);
                    } else {
                        System.out.println("Ok, no dispatch object for " + aURL[0].Complete);
                    }
                    resetURL(aURL[0]);
                }
            }
            else
        }
    }
}
System.out.println("Couldn't get XDispatchProvider from Frame!");
}
else
    System.out.println("Couldn't get current Frame from Desktop!");
}

/**
 * Ensure that there are no disabled commands in the user layer. The
 * implementation removes all commands from the disabled set!
 */
private static void enableCommands() {
    // Set the root path for our configuration access
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] lParams = new
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[1];
    lParams[0] = new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue();
    lParams[0].Name = new String("nodepath");
    lParams[0].Value = "/org.openoffice.Office.Commands/Execute/Disabled";
    try {
        // Create configuration update access to have write access to
        // the configuration
        Object xAccess = xConfigProvider.createInstanceWithArguments("com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess", lParams);

        com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess xNameAccess = 
        (com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess.class, xAccess);
        if (xNameAccess != null) {
            // We need the XNameContainer interface to remove the nodes
            by name
            com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer xNameContainer = 
            (com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer.class, xAccess);

            // Retrieves the names of all Disabled nodes
            String[] aCommandsSeq = xNameAccess.getElementNames();
            for (int n = 0; n < aCommandsSeq.length; n++) {
                try {
                    // remove the node
                    xNameContainer.removeByName( aCommandsSeq[n]);
                } catch (com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException e) { }
                catch (com.sun.star.container.NoSuchElementException e) { }
            }

            // Commit our changes
            com.sun.star.util.XChangesBatch xFlush = 
            (com.sun.star.util.XChangesBatch)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.util.XChangesBatch.class, xAccess);
xFlush.commitChanges();
}
catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
    System.out.println("Exception detected!");
    System.out.println(e);
}
}

/**
 * Disable all commands defined in the aCommandURLTestSet array
 */
private static void disableCommands() {
    // Set the root path for our configuration access
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] lParams = new
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[1];
    lParams[0] = new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue();
    lParams[0].Name = new String("nodepath");
    lParams[0].Value = "/org.openoffice.Office.Commands/Execute/Disabled";

    try {
        // Create configuration update access to have write access to the
        // configuration
        Object xAccess = xConfigProvider.createInstanceWithArguments(
            "com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess", lParams);

        com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory xSetElementFactory =
        (com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory.class, xAccess);

        com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer xNameContainer =
        (com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer.class, xAccess);

        if (xSetElementFactory != null && xNameContainer != null) {
            Object[] aArgs = new Object[0];
            for (int i = 0; i < aCommandURLTestSet.length; i++) {
                // Create the nodes with the XSingleServiceFactory of the
                // node we need
                Object xNewElement =
                xSetElementFactory.createInstanceWithArguments( aArgs );
                if (xNewElement != null) {
                    // We have a new node. To set the properties of the
                    // the XPropertySet interface.
                    com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPropertySet =
                    (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInt
                    erface( com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class,
                    xNewElement );

                    if (xPropertySet != null) {
                        // Create a unique node name.
                        String aCmdNodeName = new String("Command-");
                        aCmdNodeName += i;

                        // Insert the node into the Disabled set
                        xPropertySet.setPropertyValue("Command",
                        aCommandURLTestSet[i]);
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
Disable Commands

```java
xNameContainer.insertByName(aCmdNodeName, xNewElement);

// Commit our changes
com.sun.star.util.XChangesBatch xFlush =
(com.sun.star.util.XChangesBatch)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.util.XChangesBatch.class, xAccess);
  xFlush.commitChanges();
}
}
}
}
}
}
}
}
}
}
}
}
)

/**
 * reset URL so it can be reused
 * @param aURL
 * the URL that should be reseted
 */
private static void resetURL(com.sun.star.util.URL aURL) {
  aURL.Protocol = "";
  aURL.User = "";
  aURL.Password = "";
  aURL.Server = "";
  aURL.Port = 0;
  aURL.Path = "";
  aURL.Name = "";
  aURL.Arguments = "";
  aURL.Mark = "";
  aURL.Main = "";
  aURL.Complete = "";
}
```

**Intercepting Context Menus**

A context menu is displayed when an object is right clicked. Typically, a context menu has context dependent functions to manipulate the selected object, such as cut, copy and paste. Developers can intercept context menus before they are displayed to cancel the execution of a context menu, add, delete, or modify the menu by replacing context menu entries or complete sub menus. It is possible to provide new customized context menus.

Context menu interception is implemented by the observer pattern. This pattern
defines a one-to-many dependency between objects, so that when an object changes state, all its dependents are notified. The implementation supports more than one interceptor. The root access point for intercepting context menus is a com.sun.star.frame.Controller object. The controller implements the interface com.sun.star.ui.XContextMenuInterception to support context menu interception.

**Register and Remove an Interceptor**

The com.sun.star.ui.XContextMenuInterception interface enables the developer to register and remove the interceptor code. When an interceptor is registered, it is notified whenever a context menu is about to be executed. Registering an interceptor adds it to the front of the interceptor chain, so that it is called first. The order of removals is arbitrary. It is not necessary to remove the interceptor that registered last.

**Writing an Interceptor**

**Notification**

A context menu interceptor implements the com.sun.star.ui.XContextMenuInterceptor interface. This interface has one function that is called by the responsible controller whenever a context menu is about to be executed.

```java
ContextMenuInterceptorAction notifyContextMenuExecute ([in]
ContextMenuExecuteEvent aEvent)
```

The com.sun.star.ui.ContextMenuExecuteEvent is a struct that holds all the important information for an interceptor.

**Members of com.sun.star.ui.ContextMenuExecuteEvent**

- com.sun.star.ui.ContextMenuExecuteEvent:SourceWindow

- com.sun.star.awt.Point. Contains the position the context menu will be executed.
- com.sun.star.awt.XWindow. Contains the window where the context menu has been requested.
- com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer. The structure of the intercepted context menu. The member implements the com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerContainer...
Intercepting Context Menus

com.sun.star.ui.ContextMenuExecute  
Event:Selection

com.sun.star.view.XSelectionSupplier.
Provides the current selection inside the 
source window.

Querying a Menu Structure

The ActionTriggerContainer member is an indexed container of context menu entries, 
where each menu entry is a property set. It implements the 
com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerContainer service. The interface 
com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer directly accesses the intercepted context 
menu structure through methods to access, insert, remove and replace menu entries.

All elements in an ActionTriggerContainer member support the 
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface to get and set property values. There are 
two different types of menu entries with different sets of properties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Menu Entry</th>
<th>Service Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Menu entry</td>
<td>&quot;com.sun.star.ui.ActionTrigger&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separator</td>
<td>&quot;com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerSeparator&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is essential to determine the type of each menu entry by querying it for the interface 
com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo and calling boolean supportsService ( [in] string 
ServiceName )

The following example shows a small helper class to determine the correct menu 
entry type.

```java
// A helper class to determine the menu element type
public class MenuElement
{
    static public boolean IsMenuEntry( com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xMenuElement ) {
        com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo xServiceInfo =
        (com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo.class, xMenuElement );

        return xServiceInfo.supportsService( "com.sun.star.ui.ActionTrigger" );
    }

    static public boolean IsMenuSeparator( com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xMenuElement ) {
        com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo xServiceInfo =
        (com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo.class, xMenuElement );

        return xServiceInfo.supportsService( "com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerSeparator" );
    }
}
```
Intercepting Context Menus

Figure 4.1: Determine the menu element type

The `com.sun.star.ui.ActionTrigger` service supported by selectable menu entries has the following properties:

**Properties of `com.sun.star.ui.ActionTrigger`**

- `Text` (string): Contains the text of the label of the menu entry.
- `CommandURL` (string): Contains the command URL that defines which function will be executed if the menu entry is selected by the user.
- `HelpURL` (string): This optional property contains a help URL that points to the help text.
- `Image` (com.sun.star.awt.XBitmap): This property contains an image that is shown left of the menu label. The use is optional so that no image is used if this member is not initialized.
- `SubContainer` (com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer): This property contains an optional sub menu.

The `com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerSeparator` service defines only one optional property:

**Property of `com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerSeparator`**

- `SeparatorType` (com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerSeparatorType): Specifies a certain type of a separator. Currently the following types are possible:
  - `const int LINE = 0`
  - `const int SPACE = 1`
  - `const int LINEBREAK = 2`

### Changing a Menu

It is possible to accomplish certain tasks without implementing code in a context menu interceptor, such as preventing a context menu from being activated. Normally, a context menu is changed to provide additional functions to the user.

As previously discussed, the context menu structure is queried through the `ActionTriggerContainer` member that is part of the `com.sun.star.uiContextMenuExecuteEvent` structure. The `com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerContainer` service has an additional interface `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory` that creates
Intercepting Context Menus


The com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory implementation of the ActionTriggerContainer implementation supports the following strings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>String</th>
<th>Object</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerContainer&quot;</td>
<td>Creates an empty sub menu&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerSeparator&quot;</td>
<td>Creates an unspecified separator&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>1</sup> A sub menu cannot exist by itself. It has to be inserted into a com.sun.star.ui.ActionTrigger!

<sup>2</sup> The separator has no special type. It is the responsibility of the concrete implementation to render an unspecified separator.

Finishing Interception

Every interceptor that is called directs the controller how it continues after the call returns. The enumeration com.sun.star.ui.ContextMenuInterceptorAction defines the possible return values.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Values of com.sun.star.ui.ContextMenuInterceptorAction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IGNORED</td>
<td>Called object has ignored the call. The next registered com.sun.star.ui.XContextMenuInterceptor should be notified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
<td>The context menu must not be executed. No remaining interceptor will be called.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXECUTE_MODIFIED</td>
<td>The context menu has been modified and should be executed without notifying the next registered com.sun.star.ui.XContextMenuInterceptor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTINUE_MODIFIED</td>
<td>The context menu was modified by the called object. The next registered com.sun.star.ui.XContextMenuInterceptor should be notified.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following example shows a context menu interceptor that adds a a sub menu to a menu that has been intercepted at a controller, where this com.sun.star.ui.XContextMenuInterceptor has been registered. This sub menu is inserted into the context menu at the topmost position. It provides help functions to the user that are reachable through the menu Help.

```java
import com.sun.star.ui.*;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
```
import com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer;
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.uno.Exception;
import com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException;
import com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException;

public class ContextMenuInterceptor implements XContextMenuInterceptor {

    public ContextMenuInterceptorAction notifyContextMenuExecute(
            com.sun.star.ui.ContextMenuExecuteEvent aEvent ) throws RuntimeException {
        try {
            // Retrieve context menu container and query for service factory to
            // create sub menus, menu entries and separators
            com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer xContextMenu =
                    aEvent.ActionTriggerContainer;
            com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory xMenuElementFactory =
                    (com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                            com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory.class, xContextMenu );
            if ( xMenuElementFactory != null ) {
                // create root menu entry for sub menu and sub menu
                com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xRootMenuEntry =
                    (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                            com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xMenuElementFactory.createInstance( 
                            "com.sun.star.ui.ActionTrigger" ));

                // create a line separator for our new help sub menu
                com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xSeparator =
                    (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( 
                            com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xMenuElementFactory.createInstance( "com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerSeparator" ) );

                Short aSeparatorType = new Short( ActionTriggerSeparatorType.LINE );
                xSeparator.setPropertyValue( "SeparatorType", (Object)aSeparatorType );

                // query sub menu for index container to get access
                com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer xSubMenuContainer =
                        (com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                                com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer.class, xMenuElementFactory.createInstance( "com.sun.star.ui.ActionTriggerContainer" ));

                // initialze root menu entry "Help"
                xRootMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "Text", new String( "Help" ));
                xRootMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "CommandURL", new String( "slot:5410" ));
                xRootMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "HelpURL", new String( "5410" ));
                (Object)xSubMenuContainer ;

                // create menu entries for the new sub menu

        }
    }
}

Chapter 3 · Writing UNO Components
INTERCEPTING CONTEXT MENUS

// initialize help/content menu entry
// entry "Content"
XPropertySet xMenuEntry =
  (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XPropertySet.class, xMenuElementFactory.createInstance(
      "com.sun.star.ui.ActionTrigger" ));
xMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "Text", new String( "Content" ));
xMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "CommandURL", new String( "slot:5401" ));
xMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "HelpURL", new String( "5401" ));

// insert menu entry to sub menu
xSubMenuContainer.insertByIndex ( 0, (Object)xMenuEntry );

// initialize help/help agent
// entry "Help Agent"
xMenuEntry =
  (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class,
    xMenuElementFactory.createInstance(
      "com.sun.star.ui.ActionTrigger" ));
xMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "Text", new String( "Help Agent" ));
xMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "CommandURL", new String( "slot:5962" ));
xMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "HelpURL", new String( "5962" ));

// insert menu entry to sub menu
xSubMenuContainer.insertByIndex( 1, (Object)xMenuEntry );

// initialize help/tips
// entry "Tips"
xMenuEntry =
  (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class,
    xMenuElementFactory.createInstance(
      "com.sun.star.ui.ActionTrigger" ));
xMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "Text", new String( "Tips" ));
xMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "CommandURL", new String( "slot:5404" ));
xMenuEntry.setPropertyValue( "HelpURL", new String( "5404" ));

// insert menu entry to sub menu
xSubMenuContainer.insertByIndex( 2, (Object)xMenuEntry );

// add separator into the given context menu
xContextMenu.insertByIndex ( 0, (Object)xSeparator );

// add new sub menu into the given context menu
xContextMenu.insertByIndex ( 0, (Object)xRootMenuEntry );

// The controller should execute the modified context menu and stop notifying other interceptors.
return
com.sun.star.ui.ContextMenuInterceptorAction.EXECUTE_MODIFIED ;
File Naming Conventions

As a recommendation, UNO component libraries should be named according to the following naming scheme:

<NAME>[<VERSION>].uno.(sodll
dll
dll
dll
dll
dll
dll
dll
dll

dll <MAJOR> = <NUMBER> <MINOR> = <NUMBER> <MICRO> = <NUMBER> <NUMBER> = 0 | 1–9 0–9*

Using the version tag in the file name of a shared library or jar is primarily meant for simple components that are not part of an extension deployed by the Extension Manager. Such components are usually made up of a single shared library, and different file names for different versions can be useful, for instance in bug reports.

The version of components that are part of the OpenOffice.org installation is already well defined by the version and build number of the installed OpenOffice.org itself.
It is up to the developer how the version scheme is used. You can count versions of a given component shared library using MAJOR alone, or add MINOR and MICRO as needed.

**Note** – If version is used, it must be placed before the platform-specific extension, never after it. Under Linux and Solaris, there is a convention to add a version number after the .so, but that version number has different semantics than the version number used here. In short, those version numbers change whenever the shared library's interface changes, whereas the UNO component interface with the component operations `component_getFactory()` etc. never changes.

The following considerations give an overview of ways that a component can evolve:

A component shared library's interface, as defined by the component operations such as `component_getFactory()` is assumed to be stable.

The UNO services offered by a component can change:

- **compatibly**: by changing an implementation in the component file but adhering to its specification, or by adding a new UNO service implementation to a component file
- **incompatibly**: by removing an implementation, or by removing a UNO service from a component
- **indirectly compatibly**: when one of the UNO services changes compatibility and the component is adapted accordingly. This can happen when a service specification is extended by additional optional interfaces, and the component is altered to support these interfaces.

When an implementation in a component file is changed, for instance when a bug is fixed, such a change will typically be compatible unless clients made themselves dependent on the bug. This can happen when clients considered the bug a feature or worked around the bug in a way that made them dependent on the bug. Therefore developers must be careful to program according to the specification, not the implementation.

Finally, a component shared library can change its dependencies on other shared libraries. Examples of such dependencies are:

**C/C++ runtime libraries**

such as libc.so.6, libstdc++.so.3.0.1, and libstdc++.so.3.0.1

**UNO runtime libraries**

such as libc++so.3.1.0 and libc++helpergcc3.so.3.1.0
[PRODUCTNAME] libraries
such as libsvx644li.so

Dependency changes are typically incompatible, as they rely on compatible or incompatible changes of the component's environment.

Deployment Options for Components

Component are usually distributed and deployed as extensions (see chapter Extensions). However, by using legacy tools, such as regcomp, and regmerge, it is also possible to install components, which can be more convenient during development.

Background: UNO Registries

This section explains the necessary steps to deploy new UNO components manually into an installed OpenOffice.org. Background information is provided and the tools required to test deployment are described. The developer and deployer of the component should be familiar with this section. If the recommendations provided are accepted, interoperability of components of different vendors can be achieved easily.

UNO registries store binary data in a tree-like structure. The stored data can be accessed within a registry programmatically through the com.sun.star.registry.SimpleRegistry service, however this is generally not necessary. Note that UNO registries have nothing to do with the Windows registry, except that they follow a similar concept for data storage.

UNO-registries mainly store two types of data:

Type-library

To invoke UNO calls from BASIC or through an interprocess connection, the core UNO bridges need information about the used data types. UNO stores this information into a type library, so that the same data is reusable from any bridge. This is in contrast to the CORBA approach, where code is generated for each data type that needs to be compiled and linked into huge libraries. Every UNOIDL type description is stored as a binary large object (BLOB) that is
interpreted by the com.sun.star.reflection.TypeDescriptionProvider service.

Information about registered components

One basic concept of UNO is to create an instance of a component simply by its service name through the ServiceManager. The association between the service name and the shared library or .jar-file where the necessary compiled code is found is stored into a UNO-registry.

The structure of this data is provided below. Future versions of OpenOffice.org will probably store this information in an XML file that will make it modifiable using a simple text editor.

Both types of data are necessary to run a UNO-C++ process. If the types of data are not present, it could lead to termination of the program. UNO processes in general open their registries during startup and close them when the process terminates. Both types of data are commonly stored in a file with an .rdb suffix ( rdb=registry database ), but this suffix is not mandatory.

UNO Type Library

All type descriptions must be available within the registry under the /UCR main key (UCR = Uno Core Reflection) to be usable in a UNO C++ process. Use the regview tool to view the file <officepath>/program/types.rdb. The regview tool comes with the OpenOffice.org SDK.

For instance:

$ regview types.rdb /UCR

prints all type descriptions used within the office to stdout. To check if a certain type is included within the registry, invoke the following command:

$ regview types.rdb /UCR/com/sun/star/bridge/XUnoUrlResolver

The regview tool decodes the format of the BLOB containing the type description and presents it in a readable form.
Component Registration

The UNO component provides the data about what services are implemented. In order not to load all available UNO components into memory when starting a UNO process, the data is assembled once during setup and stored into the registry. The process of writing this information into a registry is called component registration. The tools used to perform this task are discussed below.

For an installed OpenOffice.org, the services.rdb contains the component registration information. The data is stored within the /IMPLEMENTATIONS and /SERVICES key. The code below shows a sample SERVICES key for the com.sun.star.io.Pipe service.

```bash
$ regview services.rdb /SERVICES/com.sun.star.io.Pipe
/SERVICES/com.sun.star.io.Pipe  Value: Type = RG_VALUETYPE_STRINGLIST
Size = 38         Len  = 1         Data = 0 = "com.sun.star.comp.io.stm.Pipe"
```

The code above contains one implementation name, but it could contain more than one. In this case, only the first is used. The following entry can be found within the IMPLEMENTATIONS section:

```bash
$ regview services.rdb /IMPLEMENTATIONS/com.sun.star.comp.io.stm.Pipe
/IMPLEMENTATIONS/com.sun.star.comp.io.stm.Pipe  / UNO    / ACTIVATOR Value:
Type = RG_VALUETYPE_STRING                       Size = 34
Data = "com.sun.star.loader.SharedLibrary" / SERVICES    /
com.sun.star.io.Pipe   / LOCATION Value: Type = RG_VALUETYPE_STRING
Size = 8                    Data = "stm.dll"
```

The implementations section holds three types of data.

1. The loader to be used when the component is requested at runtime (here com.sun.star.loader.SharedLibrary).
2. The services supported by this implementation.
3. The URL to the file the loader uses to access the library (the url may be given relative to the OpenOffice.org library directory for native components as it is in this case).

Command Line Registry Tools

There are various tools to create, modify and use registries. This section shows some common use cases. The regmerge tool is used to merge multiple registries into a sub-key of an existing or new registry. For instance:

```bash
$ regmerge new.rdb / test1.rdb test2.rdb
```

merges the contents of test1.rdb and test2.rdb under the root key / of the registry database new.rdb. The names of the keys are preserved, because both registries are
merged into the root-key. In case new.rdb existed before, the previous contents remain in new.rdb unless an identical key names exist in test1.rdb and test2.rdb. In this case, the content of these keys is overwritten with the ones in test1.rdb or test2.rdb. So the above command is semantically identical to:

```
$ regmerge new.rdb / test1.rdb $ regmerge new.rdb / test2.rdb
```

The following command merges the contents of test1.urd and test2.urd under the key /UCR into the file myapp_types.rdb.

```
$ regmerge myapp_types.rdb /UCR test1.urd test2.urd
```

The names of the keys in test1.urd and test2.urd should only be added to the /UCR key. This is a real life scenario as the files produced by the idl-compiler have a .urd-suffix. The regmerge tool needs to be run before the type library can be used in a program, because UNO expects each type description below the /UCR key.

---

**Component Registration Tool**

Components can be registered using the *regcomp* tool. Below, the components necessary to establish an interprocess connection are registered into the myapp_services.rdb.

```
$ regcomp -register -r myapp_services.rdb \                     -c uuresolver.dll \                      -c brdgfctr.dll \                      -c acceptor.dll \                      -c connectr.dll \                      -c remotebridge.dll
```

The \ means command line continuation. The option -r gives the registry file where the information is written to. If it does not exist, it is created, otherwise the new data is added. In case there are older keys, they are overwritten. The registry file (here myapp_services.rdb) must NOT be opened by any other process at the same time. The option -c is followed by a single name of a library that is registered. The -c option can be given multiple times. The shared libraries registered in the example above are needed to use the UNO interprocess bridge.

Registering a Java component is currently more complex. It works only in an installed office environment, the `<OfficePath>/program` must be the current working directory, the office setup must point to a valid Java installation that can be verified using jvmsetup from `<OfficePath>/program`, and Java must be enabled. See *Tools - Options - General - Security*. In OpenOffice.org 2.0, make sure that a Java is selected by using the Java panel of the options dialog (*Tools - Options - OpenOffice.org - Java*).

The office must not run. On Unix, the LD_LIBRARY_PATH environment variable must additionally contain the directories listed by the javaldx tool (which is installed with the
Copy the `regcomp` executable into the `<officepath>/program` directory. The `regcomp` tool must then be invoked using the following parameters:

```
$ regcomp -register -r your_registry.rdb -br <officepath>/program/services.rdb -l com.sun.star.loader.Java2 -c file:///d:/test/JavaTestComponent.jar
```

The option `-r` (registry) tells `regcomp` where to write the registration data and the `-br` (bootstrap registry) option points `regcomp` to a registry to read common types from. The `regcomp` tool does not know the library that has the Java loader. The `-l` option gives the service name of the loader to use for the component that must be `com.sun.star.loader.Java2`. The option can be omitted for C++ components, because `regcomp` defaults to the `com.sun.star.loader.SharedLibrary` loader. The option `-c` gives the file url to the Java component.

File urls can be given absolute or relative. Absolute file urls must begin with `file:///`. All other strings are interpreted as relative file urls. The `3rdpartycomp/filterxy.dll`, `../3rdpartycomp/filterxyz.dll`, and `filterxyz.dll` are a few examples. Relative file urls are interpreted relative to all paths given in the PATH variable on Windows and LD_LIBRARY_PATH variable on Unix.

Java components require an absolute file URL for historical reasons.

---

**Tip** - The `regcomp` tool should be used only during the development and testing phase of components. For deploying final components, the Extension Manager should be used instead. See [Extensions](#).

---

**UNO Type Library Tools**

There are several tools that currently access the type library directly. They are encountered when new UNOIDL types are introduced.

- `idlcc`, Compiles `.idl` files into `.urd`-registry-files.
- `cppumaker`, Generates C++ header for a given UNO type list from a type registry used with the UNO C++ binding.
- `javamaker`, Generates Java `.class` files for a given type list from a type registry.
- `rdbmaker`, Creates a new registry by extracting given types (including dependent types) from another registry, and is used for generating minimal, but complete
type libraries for components. It is useful when building minimal applications that use UNO components.

- **regcompare**, Compares a type library to a reference type library and checks for compatibility.
- **regmerge**, Merges multiple registries into a certain sub-key of a new or already existing registry.

### Manual Component Installation

#### Manually Merging a Registry and Adding it to uno.ini or soffice.ini

Registry files used by OpenOffice.org are configured within the `uno.ini|rc` file found in the program directory. After a default OpenOffice.org installation, the files look like this:

```
uno.ini : [Bootstrap] UNO_TYPES=$ORIGIN/types.rdb
UNO_SERVICES=$ORIGIN/services.rdb
```

The two UNO variables are relevant for UNO components. The UNO_TYPES variable gives a space separated list of type library registries, and the UNO_SERVICES variable gives a space separated list of registries that contain component registration information. These registries are opened read-only. The same registry may appear in UNO_TYPES and UNO_SERVICES variables. The $ORIGIN points to the directory where the ini/rc file is located.

OpenOffice.org uses the `types.rdb` as a type and the `services.rdb` as a component registration information repository. When a programmer or software vendor releases a UNO component, the following files must be provided at a minimum:

- A file containing the code of the new component, for instance a shared library, a jar file, or maybe a python file in the future.
- A registry file containing user defined UNOIDL types, if any.
- (optional) A registry file containing registration information of a pre-registered component. The registry provider should register the component with a relative path to be beneficial in other OpenOffice.org installations.

The latter two can be integrated into a single file.
Note – In fact, a vendor may release more files, such as documentation, the .idl files of the user defined types, the source code, and configuration files. While every software vendor is encouraged to do this, there are currently no recommendations how to integrate these files into OpenOffice.org. These type of files are ignored in the following paragraphs. These issues will be addressed in next releases of OpenOffice.org.

The recommended method to add a component to OpenOffice.org manually is described in the following steps:

1. Copy new shared library components into the `<OfficePath>/program` directory and new Java components into the `<OfficePath>/program/classes` directory.

2. Copy the registry containing the type library into the `<OfficePath>/program` directory, if needed and available.

3. Copy the registry containing the component registration information into the `<OfficePath>/program` directory, if required. Otherwise, register the component with the `regcomp` command line tool coming with the OpenOffice.org SDK into a new registry.

4. Modify the `uno(.ini|rc)` file, and add the type registry to the UNO_TYPES variable and the component registry to the UNO_SERVICES variable. The new `uno(.ini|rc)` might look like this:

   ```ini
   [Bootstrap] UNO_TYPES=$ORIGIN/types.rdb $ORIGIN/filterxyz_types.rdb
   UNO_SERVICES=$ORIGIN/services.rdb $ORIGIN/filterxyz_services.rdb
   ```

   After these changes are made, every office that is restarted can use the new component. The `uno(.ini|rc)` changes directly affect the whole office network installation. If adding a component only for a single user, pass the modified UNO_TYPES and UNO_SERVICES variables per command line. An example might be:

   ```bash
   $ soffice "--env:UNO_TYPES=$ORIGIN/types.rdb $ORIGIN/filterxyz_types.rdb"
   "--env:UNO_SERVICES=$ORIGIN/services.rdb $ORIGIN/filter_xyz_services.rdb"
   ```

   **Bootstrapping a Service Manager**

   Bootstrapping a service manager means to create an instance of a service manager that is able to instantiate the UNO objects needed by a user. All UNO applications, that want to use the UnoUrlResolver for connections to the office, have to bootstrap a local service manager in order to create a UnoUrlResolver object. If developers create a new language binding, for instance for a scripting engine, they have to find a...
way to bootstrap a service manager in the target environment.

There are many methods to bootstrap a UNO C++ application, each requiring one or more registry files to be prepared. Once the registries are prepared, there are different options available to bootstrap your application. A flexible approach is to use UNO bootstrap parameters and the defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext() function.

```cpp
#include <cppuhelper/bootstrap.hxx>
using namespace com::sun::star::uno;
using namespace com::sun::star::lang;
using namespace rtl;
using namespace cppu;
int main( )
{
    // create the initial component context
    Reference< XComponentContext > rComponentContext = defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext();

    // retrieve the service manager from the context
    Reference< XMultiComponentFactory > rServiceManager = rComponentContext->getServiceManager();

    // instantiate a sample service with the service manager.
    Reference< XInterface > rInstance = rServiceManger->createInstanceWithContext(
        OUString::createFromAscii("com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver" ),
        rComponentContext );

    // continue to connect to the office ....
}
```

No arguments, such as a registry name, are passed to this function. These are given using bootstrap parameters. Bootstrap parameters can be passed through a command line, an .ini file or using environment variables.

For bootstrapping the UNO component context, the following two variables are relevant:

- **UNO_TYPES**: Gives a space separated list of type library registry files. Each registry must be given as an absolute or relative file url. Note that some special characters within the path require encoding, for example, a space must become a `%20`. The registries are opened in read-only.

- **UNO_SERVICES**: Gives a space separated list of registry files with component registration information. The registries are opened in read-only. The same registry may appear in UNO_TYPES and UNO_SERVICES variables.

An absolute file URL must begin with the `file:///` prefix (on windows, it must look like `file:///c:/mytestregistry.rdb`). To make a file URL relative, the `file:///` prefix must be omitted. The relative url is interpreted relative to the current working directory.
Within the paths, use special placeholders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bootstrap variable</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$SYSUSERHOME</td>
<td>Path of the user’s home directory (see osl_getHomeDir())</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$SYSBINDIR</td>
<td>Path to the directory of the current executable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$ORIGIN</td>
<td>Path to the directory of the ini/rc file.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$SYSUSERCONFIG</td>
<td>Path to the directory where the user’s configuration data is stored (see osl_getConfigDir())</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The advantage of this method is that the executable can be configured after it has been built. The OpenOffice.org bootstraps the service manager with this mechanism.

Consider the following example:

A tool needs to be written that converts documents between different formats. This is achieved by connecting to OpenOffice.org and doing the necessary conversions. The tool is named `docconv`. In the code, the `defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext()` function is used as described above to create the component context. Two registries are prepared: `docconv_services.rdb` with the registered components and `types.rdb` that contains the types coming with OpenOffice.org. Both files are placed beside the executable. The easiest method to configure the application is to create a `docconv(.ini|rc)` ascii file in the same folder as your executable, that contains the following two lines:

```plaintext
UNO_TYPES=$ORIGIN/types.rdb
UNO_SERVICES=$ORIGIN/docconv_services.rdb
```

No matter where the application is started from, it will always use the mentioned registries. Note that this also works on different machines when the volume is mapped to different location mount points as $SYSBINDIR is evaluated at runtime.

The second possibility is to set UNO_TYPES and UNO_SERVICES as environment variables, but this method has drawbacks. All UNO applications started with this shell use the same registries.

The third possibility is to pass the variables as command line parameters, for instance

```plaintext
docconv -env:UNO_TYPES=$ORIGIN/types.rdb
UNO_SERVICES=$ORIGIN/docconv_services.rdb
```

Note that on UNIX shells, you need to quote the $ with a backslash \.

The command line arguments do not need to be passed to the UNO runtime, because it is generally retrieved from some static variables. How this is done depends on the operating system, but it is hidden from the programmer. The `docconv` executable should ignore all command line parameters beginning with `-env:`. The easiest way to do this is to ignore `argc` and `argv[]` and to use the `rtl_getCommandLineArg()` functions defined in `rtl/process.h` header instead which automatically strips the additional parameters.
Combine the methods mentioned above. Command line parameters take precedence over `.ini` file variables and `.ini` file parameter take precedence over environment variables. That way, it is possible to overwrite the UNO_SERVICES variable on the command line for one invocation of the program only.

Special Service Manager Configurations

The `com.sun.star.container.XSet` interface allows the insertion or removal of `com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory` or `com.sun.star.lang.XSingleComponentFactory` implementations into or from the service manager at runtime without making these changes persistent. When the office applications terminate, all the changes are lost. The inserted object must support the `com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo` interface. This interface returns the same information as the `XServiceInfo` interface of the component implementation which is created by the component factory.

With this feature, a running office can be connected, a new factory inserted into the service manager and the new service instantiated without registering it beforehand. This method of hard coding the registered services is not acceptable with OpenOffice.org, because it must be extended after compilation.

Java applications can use a native persistent service manager in their own process using JNI (see [Java Language Binding](#)), or in a remote process. But note, that all services will be instantiated in this remote process.

Dynamically Modifying the Service Manager

Bootstrapping in pure Java is simple, by calling the static runtime method `createInitialComponentContext()` from the Bootstrap class. The following small test program shows how to insert service factories into the service manager at runtime. The sample uses the Java component from the section [Simple Component in Java](#). The complete code can be found with the JavaComp sample component.

The example shows that there is the possibility to control through command line parameter, whether the service is inserted in the local Java service manager or the remote office service manager. If it is inserted into the office service manager, access the service through OpenOffice.org Basic. In both cases, the `component` runs in the local Java process.
If the service is inserted into the office service manager, instantiate the component through OpenOffice.org Basic calling `createUnoService("JavaTestComponentB")`, as long as the Java process is not terminated. Note, to add the new types to the office process by one of the above explained mechanisms, use `uno.ini`.

```java
public static void insertIntoServiceManager(
    XMultiComponentFactory serviceManager, Object singleFactory)
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    XSet set = (XSet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSet.class, serviceManager);
    set.insert(singleFactory);
}

public static void removeFromServiceManager(
    XMultiComponentFactory serviceManager, Object singleFactory)
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    XSet set = (XSet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSet.class, serviceManager);
    set.remove(singleFactory);
}

public static void main(String[] args) throws java.lang.Exception {
    if (args.length != 1) {
        System.out.println("usage: RunComponent local|uno-url");
        System.exit(1);
    }
    XComponentContext xLocalComponentContext =
        Bootstrap.createInitialComponentContext(null);
    // initial serviceManager
    XMultiComponentFactory xLocalServiceManager =
        xLocalComponentContext.getServiceManager();
    XMultiComponentFactory xUsedServiceManager = null;
    XComponentContext xUsedComponentContext = null;
    if (args[0].equals("local")) {
        xUsedServiceManager = xLocalServiceManager;
        xUsedComponentContext = xLocalComponentContext;
        System.out.println("Using local servicemanager");
        // now the local servicemanager is used !
    } else {
        // otherwise interpret the string as uno-url
        Object xUrlResolver =
            xLocalServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
                "com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xLocalComponentContext);
        XUnoUrlResolver urlResolver = (XUnoUrlResolver)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XUnoUrlResolver.class, xUrlResolver);
        Object initialObject = urlResolver.resolve(args[0]);
        xUsedServiceManager = (XMultiComponentFactory)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XMultiComponentFactory.class, initialObject);
        System.out.println("Using remote servicemanager");
    }
}
```
// now the remote servicemanager is used.
}

// retrieve the factory for the component implementation
Object factory = TestServiceProvider._getServiceFactory(
    "componentsamples.TestComponentB", null, null);

// insert the factory into the servicemanager
// from now on, the service can be instantiated!
insertIntoServiceManager( xUsedServiceManager, factory );

// Now instantiate one of the services via the servicemanager!
Object objTest = xUsedServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
    "JavaTestComponentB", xUsedComponentContext);

// query for the service interface
XSomethingB xs = (XSomethingB) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XSomethingB.class, objTest);

// and call the test method.
String s = xs.methodOne("Hello World");
System.out.println(s);

// wait until return is pressed
System.out.println("Press return to terminate");
while (System.in.read() != 10);

// remove it again from the servicemanager, otherwise we have
// a dangling reference (in case we use the remote service manager)
removeFromServiceManager( xUsedServiceManager, factory );

// quit, even when a remote bridge is running
System.exit(0);

Creating a ServiceManager from a Given Registry File

To create a service manager from a given registry, use a single registry that contains
the type library and component registration information. Hard code the name of the
registry in the program and use the createRegistryServiceFactory() function
located in the cppuhelper library.

#include <cppuhelper/servicefactory.hxx>

using namespace com::sun::star::uno;
using namespace com::sun::star::lang;
using namespace rtl;
using namespace cppu;

int main()
{

}
The UNO Executable

In chapter C++ Language Binding, several methods to bootstrap a UNO application were introduced. In this section, the option UNO executable is discussed. With UNO executable, there is no need to write executables anymore, instead only components are developed. Code within executables is locked up, it can only run by starting the executable, and it can never be used in another context. Components offer the advantage that they can be used from anywhere. They can be executed from Java or from a remote process.

For these cases, the com.sun.star.lang.XMain interface was introduced. It has one method:

```cpp
/* module com.sun.star.lang.XMain */
interface XMain: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    long run( [in] sequence< string > aArguments );
};
```

Instead of writing an executable, write a component and implement this interface. The component gets the fully initialized service manager during instantiation. The run() method then should do what a main() function would have done. The UNO executable offers one possible infrastructure for using such components.

Basically, the uno tool can do two different things:

1. Instantiate a UNO component which supports the [IDL:com.sun.star.lang.XMain] interface and executes the run() method.
The UNO Executable

// module com::sun::star::lang
interface XMain: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    long run( [in] sequence< string > aArguments );
};

2. Export a UNO component to another process by accepting on a resource, such as a tcp/ip socket or named pipe, and instantiating it on demand.

In both cases, the uno executable creates a UNO component context which is handed to the instantiated component. The registries that should be used are given by command line arguments. The goal of this tool is to minimize the need to write executables and focus on writing components. The advantage for component implementations is that they do not care how the component context is bootstrapped. In the future there may be more ways to bootstrap the component context. While executables will have to be adapted to use the new features, a component supporting XMain can be reused.

Standalone Use Case

Simply typing uno gives the following usage screen:

```
uno (-c ComponentImplementationName -l LocationUrl -s ServiceName)
    [-ro ReadOnlyRegistry1] [-ro ReadOnlyRegistry2] ... [-rw
ReadWriteRegistry]
    [-u uno:(socket[,host=HostName][,port=nnn]pipe[,name=PipeName]);urp;Name [--
singleaccept] [--singleinstance [-- Argument1 Argument2 ...]
```

Choosing the implementation to be instantiated

Using the option -s servicename gives the name of the service which shall be instantiated. The uno executable then tries to instantiate a service by this name, using the registries as listed below.

Alternatively, the -l and -c options can be used. The -l gives an url to the location of the shared library or .jar file, and -c the name of the desired service implementation inside the component. Remember that a component may contain more than one implementation.

Choosing the registries for the component context (optional)

With the option -ro, give a file url to a registry file containing component’s registration information and/or type libraries. The -ro option can be given multiple times. The -rw option can only be given once and must be the name of a registry with read/write access. It will be used when the instantiated component tries to register components at runtime. This option is rarely needed.
Note that the uno tool ignores bootstrap variables, such as UNO_TYPES and UNO_SERVICES.

The UNO URL (optional)

Giving a UNO URL causes the uno tool to start in server mode, then it accepts on the connection part of the UNO URL. In case another process connects to the resource (tcp/ip socket or named pipe), it establishes a UNO interprocess bridge on top of the connection (see also UNO Interprocess Connections). Note that urp should always be used as protocol. An instance of the component is instantiated when the client requests a named object using the name, which was given in the last part of the UNO URL.

Option --singleaccept

Only meaningful when a UNO URL is given. It tells the uno executable to accept only one connection, thus blocking any further connection attempts.

Option --singleinstance

Only meaningful when a UNO URL is given. It tells the uno executable to always return the same (first) instance of the component, thus multiple processes communicate to the same instance of the implementation. If the option is not given, every getInstance() call at the com.sun.star.bridge.XBridge interface instantiates a new object.

Option -- (double dash)

Everything following -- is interpreted as an option for the component itself. The arguments are passed to the component through the initialize() call of com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization interface.

Note – The uno executable currently does not support the bootstrap variable concept as introduced by C++ Language Binding. The uno registries must be given explicitly given by command line.

The following example shows how to implement a Java component suitable for the uno executable.

```java
import com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext;
import com.sun.star.comp.loader.FactoryHelper;
import com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.registry.XRegistryKey;

public class UnoExeMain implements com.sun.star.lang.XMain
{
```
final static String __serviceName = "MyMain";
XComponentContext _ctx;

public UnoExeMain( XComponentContext ctx )
{
    // in case we would need the component context!
    _ctx = ctx;
}

public int run( /*IN*/String[] aArguments )
{
    System.out.println( "Hello world!" );
    return 0;
}

public static XSingleServiceFactory __getServiceFactory(
    String implName, XMultiServiceFactory multiFactory, XRegistryKey regKey)
{
    XSingleServiceFactory xSingleServiceFactory = null;
    if (implName.equals(UnoExeMain.class.getName()))
    {
        xSingleServiceFactory =
            FactoryHelper.getServiceFactory(
                UnoExeMain.class, UnoExeMain.__serviceName, multiFactory, regKey);
    }
    return xSingleServiceFactory;
}

public static boolean __writeRegistryServiceInfo(XRegistryKey regKey)
{
    boolean b = FactoryHelper.writeRegistryServiceInfo(
        UnoExeMain.class.getName(),
        UnoExeMain.__serviceName, regKey);
    return b;
}

The class itself inherits from com.sun.star.lang.XMain. It implements a constructor
with the com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext interface and stores the component
context for future use. Within its run() method, it prints 'Hello World'. The last two
mandatory functions are responsible for instantiating the component and writing
component information into a registry. Refer to Simple Component in Java for further
information.

The code needs to be compiled and put into a jar file with an appropriate manifest
file:

RegistrationClassName: UnoExeMain

These commands create the jar:

javac UnoExeMain.jar -cvfm UnoExeMain.jar Manifest UnoExeMain.class
To be able to use it, register it with the following command line into a separate registry file (here `test.rdb`). The `<OfficePath>/program` directory needs to be the current directory, and the `regcomp` and `uno` tools must have been copied into this directory.

```
regcomp -register -br <officepath>/program/services.rdb -r test.rdb -c
file:///c:/devmanual/Develop/samples/unoexe/UnoExeMain.jar -l
com.sun.star.loader.Java2
```

The \ means command line continuation.

The component can now be run:

```
uno -s MyMain -ro types.rdb -ro services.rdb -ro test.rdb
```

This command should give the output "hello world !"

**Server Use Case**

This use case enables the export of any arbitrary UNO component as a remote server. As an example, the `com.sun.star.io.Pipe` service is used which is already implemented by a component coming with the office. It exports an `com.sun.star.io.XOutputStream` and a `com.sun.star.io.XInputStream` interface. The data is written through the output stream into the pipe and the same data from the input stream is read again. To export this component as a remote server, switch to the `<OfficePath>/program` directory and issue the following command line.

```
i:\o641ll\program>uno -s com.sun.star.io.Pipe -ro types.rdb -ro services.rdb -u uno:socket,host=0,port=2002;urp;test
> accepting socket,host=0,port=2083...
```

Now a client program can connect to the server. A client may look like the following:

```java
import com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo;
import com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext;
import com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver;
import com.sun.star.io.XOutputStream;
import com.sun.star.io.XInputStream;
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;

// Note: This example does not do anything meaningful, it shall just show,
// how to import an arbitrary UNO object from a remote process.
class UnoExeClient {
    public static void main(String [] args) throws java.lang.Exception {
        if (args.length != 1) {
            System.out.println("Usage : java UnoExeClient uno-url");
            System.out.println(" The imported object must support the
com.sun.star.io.Pipe service");
        }
```
return;
}

XComponentContext ctx = com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.createInitialComponentContext (null);

// get the UnoUrlResolver service
Object o = ctx.getServiceManager().createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", ctx);
XUnoUrlResolver resolver = (XUnoUrlResolver) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XUnoUrlResolver.class, o);

// connect to the remote server and retrieve the appropriate object
o = resolver.resolve(args[0]);

// Check if we got what we expected
// Note: This is not really necessary, you can also use the try and error approach
XServiceInfo serviceInfo = (XServiceInfo) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XServiceInfo.class,o);
if (serviceInfo == null) {
    throw new com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException("error: The object imported with " + args[0] + " did not support XServiceInfo", null);
}

if (!serviceInfo.supportsService("com.sun.star.io.Pipe")) {
    throw new com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException("error: The object imported with "+args[0]+" does not support the pipe service", null);
}

XOutputStream output = (XOutputStream) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XOutputStream.class,o);
XInputStream input = (XInputStream) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XInputStream.class,o);

// construct an array.
byte[] array = new byte[]{1,2,3,4,5};

// send it to the remote object
output.writeBytes(array);
output.closeOutput();

// now read it again in two blocks
byte [][] read = new byte[2][0];
System.out.println("Available bytes : " + input.available());
input.readBytes(read,2);
System.out.println("read " + read[0].length + ":" + read[0][0] + "," + read[0][1]);
System.out.println("Available bytes : " + input.available());
input.readBytes(read,3);
System.out.println("read " + read[0].length + ":" + read[0][0] + "," + read[0][1] + "," + read[0][2]);
System.out.println("Terminating client");
After bootstrapping the component context, the UnoUrlResolver service is instantiated to access remote objects. After resolving the remote object, check whether it really supports the Pipe service. For instance, try to connect this client to a running OpenOffice.org - this check will fail. A byte array with five elements is written to the remote server and read again with two readBytes() calls. Starting the client with the following command line connects to the server started above. You should get the following output:

```
I:\tmp>java UnoExeClient uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2083;urp;test
Available bytes : 5 read 2:1,2 Available bytes : 3 read 3:3,4,5 Terminating client
```

### Using the UNO Executable

The main benefit of using the uno tool as a replacement for writing executables is that the service manager initialization is separated from the task-solving code and the component can be reused. For example, to have multiple XMain implementations run in parallel in one process. There is more involved when writing a component compared to writing an executable. With the bootstrap variable mechanism there is a lot of freedom in bootstrapping the service manager (see chapter [C++ Language Binding](#)).

The uno tool is a good starting point when exporting a certain component as a remote server. However, when using the UNO technology later, the tool does have some disadvantages, such as multiple objects can not be exported or the component can only be initialized with command line arguments. If the uno tool becomes insufficient, the listening part in an executable will have to be re-implemented.

**Note** – To instantiate Java components in build version 641, you need a complete setup so that the uno executable can find the java.ini file.

### Accessing Dialogs

This chapter describes how UNO Components can interact with dialogs that have been created with the Dialog Editor integrated in the OpenOffice.org Basic IDE. Before OpenOffice.org 2.0.4 dialogs designed with this Dialog Editor could only be...
reasonably used in the context of OpenOffice.org Basic respectively in the scope of the Scripting Framework (see Scripting Framework). The reason for this restriction was the fact that only scripts managed by the Scripting Framework could be assigned as action to control events. It was already possible to instantiate dialogs using the com.sun.star.awt.XDialogProvider API, but there was no other way to get call backs from the events as to directly add listeners using the corresponding AWT control interfaces. This is a very inconvenient way to use dialogs created with the Dialog Editor.

From OpenOffice.org 2.0.4 also component methods can be bound to control events. The following chapters describe both how the binding to component methods is done in Dialog Editor and how the component has to be designed to use this mechanism.

### Assigning Component Methods to Control Events

How a dialog is generally designed in the Basic IDE Dialog editor is described in First Steps with OpenOffice.org Basic. The assignment of macros to control events is also described there in the sub chapter Adding Event Handlers, but the Assign Action dialog showed in the following illustration can also be used to bind component methods to control events.

![Assign Action dialog](image)

Instead of pressing the Macro... button the Component... button has to be used. It opens a Assign Component dialog.
Assigning Component Methods to Control Events

Besides the standard buttons this dialog only contains an edit field to enter the name of the Component's method the event should be bound to. Unlike in the case of assigning macros it's not possible to browse to a component's methods because at design time no component instance exists. So the name has to be entered by hand.

The next illustration shows how the new assignment is shown in the Assign Action dialog.

Tip - When designing dialogs that should be used for components, it could make sense to create a new library first (see OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer Dialog) and create the dialog there. Reason: The Standard library cannot be exported, but exporting the library containing the dialog as extension can be very useful in order to deploy it together with extension which contains the component.

The implementation of methods that should be assigned to events is explained in the following chapter.

Using Dialogs in Components

In general components using dialogs are like any other component. But they need
some additional code to instantiate and display the dialog(s) to be used and to accept
the events created by the dialog controls.

**Instantiate and display a dialog**

To do this an extended version of the com.sun.star.awt.DialogProvider service -
described in chapter [Scripting Framework](#) - has to be used. The extended service
version com.sun.star.awt.DialogProvider2 supports
com.sun.star.awt.XDialogProvider2 providing an additional method
com.sun.star.awt.XDialog createDialogWithHandler(...) that allows to pass an
interface when creating the dialog. This interface will be used as event handler and
called if events are bound to the component.

The following code is taken from the DialogComponent SDK example that can be
found in SDK/examples/DevelopersGuide/Components and shows how a dialog is
created and displayed using the DialogProvider2 service:

```java
// XTestDialogHandler
public String createDialog( String DialogURL, XModel xModel, XFrame xFrame )
{  
    m_xFrame = xFrame;

    try {
        XMultiComponentFactory xMCF = m_xCmpCtx.getServiceManager();
        Object obj;

        // If valid we must pass the XModel when creating a DialogProvider
        object
        if( xModel != null ) {
            Object[] args = new Object[1];
            args[0] = xModel;
            obj = xMCF.createInstanceWithArgumentsAndContext(
                "com.sun.star.awt.DialogProvider2", args, m_xCmpCtx );
        }
        else {
            obj = xMCF.createInstanceWithContext(
                "com.sun.star.awt.DialogProvider2", m_xCmpCtx );
        }

        XDialogProvider2 xDialogProvider = (XDialogProvider2)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XDialogProvider2.class, obj );

        XDialog xDialog = xDialogProvider.createDialogWithHandler( DialogURL, this );
        if( xDialog != null )
            xDialog.execute();
    }

    catch (Exception e) {
```

```java
470
OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009
```
The variable `m_xCmpCtx` is the `com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext` interface passed to the component while initialisation. If the dialog that should be created is placed inside a document a `com.sun.star.frame.XModel` interface `xModel` representing this document has to be passed. It's used as argument to initialise the DialogProvider service enabling the access to the document's Dialog Libraries. If `xModel` is null the dialog has to be placed in the application library container. This also has to be reflected in the DialogURL passed to the method.

Example code for a Basic/Dialog library `Library1` placed in a document:

```vba
Sub TestDialogComponent()
    oComp = CreateUnoService( "com.sun.star.test.TestDialogHandler" )
    oComp.createDialog( "vnd.sun.star.script:Library1.Dialog1?location=document", _
                       ThisComponent, StarDesktop.getActiveFrame() )
End Sub
```

Example code for a Basic/Dialog library `Library1` placed in "My Macros":

```vba
Sub TestDialogComponent()
    oComp = CreateUnoService( "com.sun.star.test.TestDialogHandler" )
    oComp.createDialog( "vnd.sun.star.script:Library1.Dialog1?location=application", _
                       null, StarDesktop.getActiveFrame() )
End Sub
```


![Sample dialog with controls](image)

The button labels show which component method is called in each case. The next chapter explains how these methods can be implemented inside the component. Method "doit3" isn't implemented at all. It's called in the sample dialog to show the resulting error message:
Accept events created by dialog controls

The event handling functionality can be implemented in two different ways. The test component described here uses both ways.

The first way is to implement the generic handler interface com.sun.star.awt.XDialogEventHandler containing two methods:

```java
interface XDialogEventHandler: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface
{
    bool callHandlerMethod
    ( [in] com::sun::star::awt::XDialog xDialog,
    [in] any Event,
    [in] string MethodName
    )

    sequence<string> getSupportedMethodNames();
}
```

If an event occurs that is bound to a component method and the component implements this interface, the method `callHandlerMethod` will be called first, with the method name used in the event binding passed as `MethodName` parameter. In this example this would be:

```java
xHandler.callHandlerMethod( xDialog, aEvent, "handleEvent" );
```

`xDialog` points to the same dialog instance that has been returned by the `createDialogWithHandler()` method. Event represents the event object originally passed to the awt listener method. E.g. in case of the "When initiating" event used in this example the corresponding awt listener interface is `com.sun.star.awt.XActionListener` and an `com.sun.star.awt.ActionEvent` is passed to its `actionPerformed` method when the event occurs. This `ActionEvent` object will also be passed to `callHandlerMethod`. The Event object has to be passed as any, because other events use different listener interfaces with other event object types. `callHandlerMethod` returns a bool value. Returning true means that the event has
been handled.

The method `getSupportedMethodNames()` should return the names of all methods handled by `callHandlerMethod()`. It's intended for later use, especially to expand the user interface to allow browsing a component's methods.

If the event has not been handled, because `callHandlerMethod` returns false or `com.sun.star.awt.XDialogEventHandler` isn't supported at all by the component, the DialogProvider uses the `com.sun.star.beans.Introspection` service to detect if one of the following methods is provided by one of the interfaces supported by the component:

```java
void [MethodName](
  [in] com::sun::star::awt::XDialog xDialog,
  [in] any aEvent
);
```

or

```java
void [MethodName]();
```

The second method is only used if the first one is not available. In this example the component would have to support an interface containing a method `handleEvent` with one of these signatures. It also has to support `com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider` because otherwise the introspection mechanism does not work.

As already mentioned the sample component supports both ways to implement handler methods. `com.sun.star.awt.XDialogEventHandler` is implemented like this:

```java
private String aHandlerMethod1 = "doIt1";
private String aHandlerMethod2 = "doIt2";

//XDialogEventHandler
public boolean callHandlerMethod( /*IN*/XDialog xDialog, /*IN*/Object EventObject,
  /*IN*/String MethodName ) {
  if ( MethodName.equals( aHandlerMethod1 ) ) {
    showMessageBox( "DialogComponent", "callHandlerMethod() handled \\
      + aHandlerMethod1 + "\"");
    return true;
  }
  else if ( MethodName.equals( aHandlerMethod2 ) ) {
    showMessageBox( "DialogComponent", "callHandlerMethod() handled \\
      + aHandlerMethod2 + "\"");
    return true;
  }
  return false;
}

public String[] getSupportedMethodNames() {
  String[] retval = new String[1];
  retval[0] = aHandlerMethod1;
  retval[1] = aHandlerMethod2;
```
The implementation is very simple to show only the logic. For the two handled method names the method displays a MessageBox and return true. Otherwise false is returned.

The other methods bound to the sample dialog control events are implemented using the other way. The interface com.sun.star.test.XTestDialogHandler looks like this:

```java
module com { module sun { module star { module test {
    interface XTestDialogHandler {
      string createDialog( [in] string DialogURL, [in]
          ::com::sun::star::frame::XModel xModel,
        [in]
          ::com::sun::star::frame::XFrame xFrame );
      void copyText( [in] ::com::sun::star::awt::XDialog xDialog, [in] any aEventObject );
      void handleEvent();
      void handleEventWithArguments( [in] ::com::sun::star::awt::XDialog xDialog,
        [in] any aEventObject );
    }; }; }; }
```

Besides the already described `createDialog` method three methods are defined to handle events. `handleEvent` and `handleEventWithArguments` are implemented very simple and only display a message box:

```java
public void handleEvent() {
  showMessageBox( "DialogComponent", "handleEvent() called" );
}
public void handleEventWithArguments( XDialog xDialog, Object aEventObject )
{  
  showMessageBox( "DialogComponent", "handleEventWithArguments()
called\n\n" +
    "Event Object = " + aEventObject );
}
```

The method copy text shows, how the passed XDialog interface can be used to access controls on the dialog itself. The details are not described here. For more information see Creating Dialogs at Runtime.
Simple components using dialogs can be realized very easily by supporting `XDialogEventHandler` as then no own interfaces have to be created. For complex components it could make more sense to define handler interfaces to avoid a huge switch/case blocks in `XDialogEventHandler::callHandlerMethod`.
Extensions

An extension is a file intended for the distribution of code and / or data which is to be used by OpenOffice.org. The file has the file extension "oxt" (formerly .uno.pkg and .zip), and it acts as a container for various items, such as libraries, JARs, configuration data, type libraries, Basic libraries, Basic dialogs, etc. Before OpenOffice.org can use any content of the extension, it needs to be installed by the Extension Manager.

Extension Manager

The Extension Manager is a tool for managing extensions and other deployable items, such as separate libraries, JARs, configuration data files. This includes adding, removing, enabling and disabling of these items.

The Extension Manager can be started from within the office by pressing the menu item **Tools > Extension Manager** or by running the **unopkg** executable, which is contained in the program directory of the office installation.

When an extension is installed, then a copy is created which is kept either in the user installation or the shared installation (**<office-directory>/share**). The original extension can therefore be (re) moved after installation.
Deployment Items

The Extension Manager can be used to deploy various types of files. It is primarily used for extensions. The latest incarnation of an extension is the .oxt file, which has superseded .uno.pkg and .zip.

Apart from extensions the Extension Manager can also manage these types:
- Configuration data (.xcu, .xs)
- UNO Libraries (.dll / .so)
- JARs (.jar)
- Type libraries (.rdb)

Installing Extensions for All or a Single User

When installing an extension, one has to decide if all possible users can use it (shared extension) or only oneself (user extension). In the first case, users cannot modify (enable, disable, remove) the extension unless they have write access to the share directory in the office installation.

A shared extension may change the appearance of the GUI (toolbars, menu bar, etc.) for all users. They can, however, configure their office so that particular menu or toolbar items are not shown. There is currently no way to centrally install an extension for particular user groups.

Whether an extension is to be installed for all users, or only for the single user, is determined during installation. The person performing the install must select, in the Extension Manager dialog, either My Extensions or OpenOffice.org Extensions before pressing the Add... button. In the first case, the extension will only be installed for the current user, whereas in the latter case it will be installed for all users.

When running unopkg in a windowless mode, the option --shared determines if an extension can be used by all users. For example:

```
[<OfficePath>/program] $ unopkg add --shared my_extension.oxt
```

would install my_extension so that it can be used by all users.
Extension Manager in OpenOffice.org

Within a running office the Extension Manager is started through the menu item Tools > Extension Manager.... When started in this way, extensions can only be installed as user extensions. All items deployed under OpenOffice.org Extensions cannot be modified. But it is possible to export them.

unopkg

The unopkg executable offers another way to start the Extension Manager. It supersedes the pkgchk executable which was used in OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 and older versions and which no longer works.

In contrast to the Extension Manager in OpenOffice.org unopkg can also manage shared extensions. For example:

```
[<OfficePath>/program] $ unopkg add --shared my_extension.oxt
```

installs my_extension.oxt for all users.

unopkg offers a windowless mode in which all interactions occurs through the console. This is the default. If unopkg is started with the subcommand gui then the Extension Manager dialog appears which is exactly the same as the one in OpenOffice.org.

```
[<OfficePath>/program] $ unopkg gui
```

The difference is that in the dialog all items deployed under OpenOffice.org Extensions can be modified and new items can be added there as well. All actions, that is, adding, removing, etc. can be done in the dialog. Therefore unopkg gui does not require any more parameters.

It follows a short overview what can be done with unopkg. Since there are many more commands, have a look at the help text that can be obtained by calling unopkg -h.

First of all open a console and change into the program directory of the office installation.

Adding an extension for a single user:

```
[<OfficePath>/program] $ unopkg add my_extension.oxt
```

Adding an extension for all users:
Removing a user extension is done via the identifier of the extension (see Extension Identifiers):

```bash
[<OfficePath>/program] $ unopkg remove my.domain.my_extension-id
```

Remove a shared extension:

```bash
[<OfficePath>/program] $ unopkg remove --shared my.domain.my_extension-id
```

Before you install an extension or other item for all users, make absolutely sure there are no running instances of OpenOffice.org. `unopkg` cannot recognize if there are running instances of OpenOffice.org from different users. Installing into a running office installation might cause inconsistencies and destroy your installation!

When a user starts OpenOffice.org and then starts `unopkg`, then the Extension Manager from the office is used and `unopkg` terminates. Then, however, no shared extensions and other shared items can be modified.

**Warning** – Although it is now possible to deploy “live” into a running OpenOffice.org process, there are some limitations you should be aware of: Removing a type library from a running process is not possible, because this may lead to crashes when the type is needed. Thus if you, for example, uninstall a package that comes with a UNO type library, these types will vanish upon next process startup, but not before. There may also be problems with cached configuration data, because parts of the running process do not listen for configuration updates (for example, menu bars). Most often, those parts read the configuration just once upon startup.

---

**Location of Installed Extensions**

Sometimes an extension developer needs to know the path to the root of his installed extension e.g. to load some additional data. You can use the singleton `PackageInformationProvider` to get an URL for an installed extension with a given Extension Identifier. For more information about Extension Identifiers see Extension Identifiers. For more information see `com.sun.star.deployment.PackageInformationProvider` and have a look at `com.sun.star.deployment.XPackageInformationProvider`.

```python
namespace css = com::sun::star;
css::uno::Reference< css::uno::XComponentContext > mxContext;

... css::uno::Reference< css::deployment::XPackageInformationProvider > xInfoProvider( css::deployment::PackageInformationProvider::get( mxContext )
```
Extension Layers

The Extension Manager uses two extension layers, the user and the shared layer. Extensions installed in the shared layer can be used by all users whereas those in the user layer can only be used by the user who installed them. An extension can be installed in either layer or both. In the latter case it is necessary to determine what extension is actually used when a client needs to make use of an extension because a client cannot choose the layer.

The idea of layers is that extensions in the top layer obscure the same extensions in the layer below. In other words, the extension in the highest layer will be given preference. Because the user layer is the top layer, a shared extension is only used unless there does not exist the same extension in the user layer.

This, however, is only a simplified model. An extension is never used as a whole. Instead clients access the particular contents, such as components, configuration data, etc. And it is also these contents which obscure the same content in a lower layer. For example, an extension contains a UNO service, which is installed in both layers. When the client instantiates it then the one from the top layer is used.

The version of an extension has no influence on the “selection process”. Even if the shared layer holds a newer version of the extension as the one in the user layer, it will not be used. However, there is a situation where contents of the shared extension are still used. Assuming there are version 1 and version 2 of an extension. Then the different versions may have different content. For example, version 1 may contain a service foo which is not contained in version 2. If now version 1 is installed in the shared layer and version 2 in the user layer then a client can instantiate foo from the shared layer. This is only possible because there is no service foo in the extension of the user layer.

The problem becomes more obvious when looking at configuration entries. Let's assume that version 1 of an extension adds a menu foo and version 2 adds menu bar. If one extension is installed in the share and the other in the user layer, then both menus appear. This is because the nodes of the configuration files are merged into the configuration and not the xcu files itself. That is, if the extensions contain an xcu file with the same name, then the xcu file of the last installed extension will NOT
replace the one from the other extension. The second xcu file can, however, change the values for nodes which have been defined by the first xcu.

**Unprocessed Content**

This is content which, as the title indicates, is not processed at all. When installing the extension it is just copied to the install location. One should never try to access this content directly. Instead one should create a configuration entry as part of the same extension which contains the location of the content. When accessing the configuration item then the proper layer is used and one will obtain the correct location of the data.

There may be, however, difficult scenarios. For example, let us extend the previous example where the version 1 of an extension contains the service `foo`, which is **not** contained in version 2. Version 1 be installed in the shared layer and version 2 in the user layer. `foo` uses a piece of data which is also contained in the extension. To find the data `foo` could use the `PackageInformationProvider`. That service will, however, return the location of the extension of the user layer in this case. But the data may or may not exist in version 2 or it may be incompatible with the one from version 1 of the extension. Because `foo` is part of version 1 it may not work with the data from version 2. Another option would be a configuration entry pointing to the file. But if the node name is the same in both versions of the extension, then again, one would obtain the data of the user extension. Obviously, the node name must be different, so that `foo` gets the data from the extension which it is part of.

**The Future of Layers**

As seen in the above paragraph one can run in problems because the layering is based on the respective extension contents rather than on the extensions itself. Another big problem is, that because of the layering, an older version of an extension is used even though there is a newer version installed. This happens when the user installs the old version in the user layer and the administrator installs the newer version in the shared layer. If we invented a third 'bundled layer', then this problem deteriorates. Let's think about a user who updated a bundled extension, say, the french dictionary. Later, the user installs a newer version of OOo or an OOo update, which brings an even newer dictionary. Now the user would not profit from the latest dictionary, because she once installed the dictionary on her own. From the users perspective OOo just behaves daftly. One could think, of course, of a notification for
the user but there are two grave implications:

- when does OOo check for inconsistencies?
- how can this be explained to the user?

Think about a message, such as: "Dear user. You cannot use the latest version of the french dictionary, which is installed in the bundled layer. Instead the dictionary which you installed earlier is used. You need to uninstall it, if you want the new version ...."

I guess this is a 'user experience' nightmare. Therefore we are thinking about a new approach, which we think is easier to be understood. The idea is to base the decision about what extension is used solely on the version of the extension. Then only the contents of this extensions are used. That is, even if other versions of the same extension are installed, they would have absolutely no effect on the system. In this way, the selected extension would obscure completely all other versions of the same extension.

To not get confused we'd dub the layers 'repositories'. That is, there would be a user repository, a shared repository, maybe a bundled repository, etc. The number of repositories would not matter. This design would it make easy to add additional repositories, for example one for shared extensions in the office' basis layer.

Checklist for Writing Extensions

This page gives a brief overview about what is important when developing an extension.

5 Use the .oxt file extension and provide description.xml. Look here why you should use .oxt.

6 Provide an extension identifier. [go to XML description]

7 Provide a version. [go to XML description]

8 Provide a display name. [go to XML description]

9 Provide an icon. [go to XML description]

10 Provide a description. [go to XML description]

11 Specify the target platforms. [go to XML description]

12 You may provide dependencies. [go to XML description]. For example, if your extension requires a 'minimal version' of OOo then use the OpenOffice.org-
Checklist for Writing Extensions

You may provide a license. [go to XML description]

You may customize the 'online update' of your extension unless the update facility of the OOo extension repository does not fit your needs. [go to XML description].

You may provide options pages in case the extension needs to be configured. [go to XML description].

Provide publisher information. [go to XML description].

Provide links to release notes (TODO: more documentation) in the description.xml. Currently only used within the 'update dialog'. When using the OOo extension repository, then the link to the release notes is automatically generated from the information entered on the website. That is, when using the repository one does not need to provide this information in the description.xml.

Provide content for help system if necessary.

File Format

An extension is a zip file having a name that ends on .oxt (formerly .uno.pkg or .zip). The file extension .oxt is associated with the MIME / media type vnd.openofficeorg.extension. An extension can contain UNO components, type libraries, configuration files, dialog or basic libraries, etc.

An extension should also contain a description.xml (see description.xml) and must contain a directory META-INF (all uppercase). The META-INF directory contains a manifest.xml which lists all items and their media-type.

Note – For backward compatibility, legacy bundles (extension .uno.pkg, .zip) that have been formerly deployed using pkgchk are deployable, too. Migrate legacy bundles to the current .oxt format. This can easily be done using the GUI, exporting a legacy bundle as an .oxt file. When a legacy bundle is exported, a manifest.xml file is generated, enumerating the detected items of the bundle.

Depending on the media-type the respective file needs to be treated particularly. For example a UNO component needs to be registered before it can be used. All media types which does not require a particular handling of the file are ignored currently (and actually need not be contained in the manifest.xml).
Runtime Libraries

The extensions need to bring their own runtime libraries, such as C or C++, when it is not guaranteed that these libraries are shipped with OOo or are installed on the users' systems. They typically need to reside in the same directory as the libraries containing the UNO components.

Please note that there is a peculiarity of libraries build with MS Visual Studio 2008. The runtime libraries (C, C++) need either be installed in the system or must reside next to the library in order to be found. It does not matter if the runtime libraries are contained in the OOo installation (<office>/OpenOffice.org/Basis/program). As a consequence extensions need always contain the runtime libraries which they use.

The runtime libraries must not be referenced by the *manifest.xml*.

Shared Library UNO Components

The media-type for a shared library UNO component is *application/vnd.sun.star.uno-component;type=native*, for example,

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.uno-component;type=native"
    manifest:full-path="myComponent.uno.so"/>
```

Shared Library UNO Components for particular Platforms

When you implement a UNO native component, for example, a *dll* or *so* file, then this file is only deployable on that specific platform. It is often convenient to package a bundle for different platforms. For instance, you compile your component for x86 Linux, Solaris SPARC and Windows. You have to tell the Extension Manager which version of your component file corresponds to which platform via a platform attribute supplied with the media-type, for example,

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.uno-component;type=native;platform=Windows"
    manifest:full-path="windows/mycomp.uno.dll"/>
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.uno-component;type=native;platform=Linux_x86"
    manifest:full-path="linux/myComp.uno.so"/>
```
RDB Type Library

The media-type for a UNO RDB type library is `application/vnd.sun.star.uno-typelibrary;type=RDB`, for example,

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.uno-typelibrary;type=RDB"
    manifest:full-path="myTypes.uno.rdb"/>
```

Jar Type Library

The media-type for a UNO Jar typelibrary is `application/vnd.sun.star.uno-typelibrary;type=Java`, for example,

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.uno-typelibrary;type=Java"
    manifest:full-path="myTypes.uno.jar"/>
```

Keep in mind that the RDB variant of that type library must be deployed also. This is currently necessary, because your Java UNO types may be referenced from native UNO code.

Uno Jar Components

The media-type for a UNO Jar component is `application/vnd.sun.star.uno-component;type=Java`, for example,

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.uno-component;type=Java"
    manifest:full-path="myComponent.uno.jar"/>
```
UNO Python Components

unopkg now supports registration of Python components (.py files). Those files are registered using the com.sun.star.loader.Python loader. For details concerning Python-UNO, please refer to http://udk.openoffice.org/python/python-bridge.html. The media-type for a UNO Python component is application/vnd.sun.star.uno-component;type=Python, for example,

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.uno-component;type=Python"
                    manifest:full-path="myComponent.uno.py"/>
```

OpenOffice.org Basic Libraries

OpenOffice.org Basic libraries are linked to the basic library container files. Refer to OpenOffice.org Basic for additional information. The media-type for a OpenOffice.org Basic Library is "application/vnd.sun.star.basic-library", for example,

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.basic-library"
                     manifest:full-path="myBasicLib"/>
```

Dialog Libraries

Dialog libraries are linked to the basic dialog library container files. Refer to OpenOffice.org Basic for additional information. The media-type for a dialog library is application/vnd.sun.star.dialog-library, for example,

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.dialog-library"
                     manifest:full-path="myDialog"/>
```

Configuration Data Files

The media-type for a configuration data file is application/vnd.sun.star.configuration-data, for example,

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.configuration-data"
                     manifest:full-path="myConfigData"/>
```
Configuration Schema Files

The media-type for a configuration schema file is `application/vnd.sun.star.configuration-schema`, for example,

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.configuration-schema"
    manifest:full-path="mySchema.xcs"/>
```

Be careful not to install schemata (.xcs files) which contain the same elements (`oor:package`, `oor:name`) but have different definitions.

Extension Tooltip Description

**Deprecated as of OOo 3.1.** See [Extension Description](#) for details.

If you want to add a tooltip description (which shows up in the balloon help of a bundle node in the Extension Manager dialog), then you can do so by specifying localized UTF-8 files, for example,

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.package-bundle-description;locale=en"
    manifest:full-path="readme.en" />
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.package-bundle-description;locale=de"
    manifest:full-path="readme.de" />
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.package-bundle-description"
    manifest:full-path="readme.txt" />
```

The best matching locale (against the current installation’s locale) is taken. The locale is of the form `locale=language-country-variant`.

Executable Files

The media type for an executable is `application/vnd.sun.star.configuration-schema`. This media type is new in OOo 2.4. If an extension uses it then it should also use the
dependency [OpenOffice.org-minimal-version](https://openoffice.org) set to 2.4. This media type was introduced to work-around the problem that the executable attribute (Unix files, does not apply for Windows files) will not be preserved when OOo extracts a zipped extension. Also when an extension was zipped on Windows then the attribute is lost. Using the media type for an Windows executable does not have an effect since there is no such file attribute on Windows. On Unix the executable attribute is set when the extension is being installed. If it is installed for the current user then the user executable flag is set and if it is installed for all users, that is as shared extension, then the executable flag is set for user,group and other. Example:

```xml
<manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.executable"
manifest:full-path="hello"/>
```

All other contents of the extension are simply copied into the Extension Manager cache. You can, for instance, deploy an image for add-on menus within a package, or any other file needed by your component. The OpenOffice.org configuration is used to find out in which path this file is located in a particular installation. When you define a package containing additional files, include an `.xcu` configuration data file, which points to your files. Use a variable `%origin%` as a placeholder for the exact path where the file will be copied by the Extension Manager. When `unopkg` installs the data, it replaces the path with an URL containing a macro and writes into the configuration. This URL has to be expanded before it is a valid file URL. This can be done using the com.sun.star.util.MacroExpander service. The `%origin%` variable is, for instance, used by the ImageIdentifier property of add-on menus and toolbar items, which is described in the Configuration section.

**description.xml**

The `description.xml` is a means to provide additional useful information, such as dependencies, license and update information. It will be extended to support new features in the future. The file must be located in the root of the extension and the name is case sensitive.

**Warning** – The `description.xml` is searched case sensitive in an oxt package. This is important to know when you package your extensions content into a new oxt package.
Description of XML Elements

Element /description

- Parent element: document root
- Children:
  1. <identifier>
  2. <version>
  3. <platform>
  4. <registration>
  5. <dependencies>
  6. <update-information>
  7. <publisher>
  8. <release-notes>
  9. <display-name>
  10. <icon>
  11. <extension-description>

- Since: OOo 2.0.4

<description> is the root element of the description.xml.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xmlns</td>
<td>The default namespace of element description and all children must be defined as <a href="http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006">http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xmlns:dep</td>
<td>The namespace for dependency information must also be defined as <a href="http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006">http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xmlns:xlink</td>
<td>The xlink namespace must be defined as <a href="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink">http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other namespace definitions</td>
<td>Other namespaces can be added as necessary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Element /description/identifier

- Parent: `<description>`
- Children: none
- Since: OOO 2.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>value</td>
<td>Required. The extension identifier.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See also
- Extension Identifiers
- Example of description.xml

Element /description/version

- Parent: `<description>`
- Children: none
- Since: OOO 2.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>value</td>
<td>Required. A textual representation of the extension version.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See also
- Extension Versions
- Example of description.xml

Element /description/platform

- Parent: `<description>`
- Children: none
- Since: OOO 3.0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>value</td>
<td>Required. A token representing a particular platform. See Target Platform for details.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See also
- Target Platform
- Example of description.xml
Element /description/registration

- Parent: `<description>`
- Children:
  1. `<simple-license>`
- Since: OOo 2.0.4

The registration element currently only contains the `<simple-license>` element. If the `<registration>` element exists, then it must have a child element.

See also
- Simple License
- Example of description.xml

Element /description/registration/simple-license

- Parent: `<registration>`
- Children:
  1. `<license-text>`
- Since: OOo 2.0.4

The element contains the `<license-text>` elements, determines if all user must agree to the license, or just the person who installs it, and determines a default `<license-text>` element. The mechanism for determining a "default" has changed in OOo 2.4. See Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements for details.
If the `<simple-license>` element exists, then it must have at least one child element.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>accept-by</td>
<td>Required. Value is either “user” or “admin”. “user” means that every user has to agree to the license. That is, the extension can only be installed as user extension but not as shared extension. If it has the value “admin” then it can be deployed as shared extension as well. In that case only the person who installs it has to agree to the license. Individual users will not be asked to accept the license. They can use the extension right away. In case the value is “user” and the extension is being installed as user extension then the user must always agree to the license.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>default-license-id</td>
<td>Required. Since OOO 2.4 this attribute is obsolete. If the extension should work properly (regarding showing the proper license during installation) on versions prior 2.4 one must use this attribute. If one does not use this attribute then one should use the OpenOffice.org-minimal-version dependency with a value of '2.4'. The attribute determines what <code>&lt;license-text&gt;</code> is used if no <code>&lt;license-text&gt;</code> element has a lang attribute whose value matches the locals of OpenOffice.org. There must always be exactly one <code>&lt;license-text&gt;</code> element with a license-id attribute whose value matches that of the default-license-id. The type is xsd:IDREF.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>suppress-on-update</td>
<td>Optional. When the attribute is not provided then the value “false” is assumed. The value true indicates that the license for this extension will not be displayed during installation when the same extension (same id but probably different version) is already installed. This applies for the automatic update as well as for manually installing an extension. The version of the already installed extension does not matter. Suppressing the license can be useful during the online update, because otherwise the update operation could be interrupted by many license dialogs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See also

- Simple License
- Example of description.xml
Element /description/registration/simple-license/license-text

- Parent: <simple-license>
- Child elements: none
- Since: OOo 2.0.4

The element contains information about where to find the file containing the license text, which language it uses, and if this element is the “default” <license-text>. The mechanism for determining a "default" has changed in OOo 2.4. See Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements for details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xlink:href</td>
<td>Required. The value is a relative URL to the license file within the extension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lang</td>
<td>Required. A language identifier according to RFC 3066. See also Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>license-id</td>
<td>Optional. Since OOo 2.4 this attribute is obsolete. If the extension should work properly (regarding showing the proper license during installation) on versions prior 2.4 one must use this attribute. If one does not use this attribute then one should use the OpenOffice.org-minimal-version dependency with a value of '2.4'. One license-text element must have this attribute and the value must match the value of the default-license-id attribute of the &lt;simple-license&gt; element. The type is xsd:ID.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See also
- Simple License
- Example of description.xml

Element /description/dependencies

- Parent: <description>
- Children:
  1. <OpenOffice.org-minimal-version>
  2. <OpenOffice.org-maximal-version>
  3. others
- Since: OOo 2.0.4
See also

- Dependencies
- Example of description.xml

Element
/description/dependencies/OpenOffice.org-minimal-version

- Parent: <dependencies>
- Children: none
- Since: OOo 2.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xmlns:dep</td>
<td>The namespace for dependency information (inherited from &lt;description&gt;) must be defined as <a href="http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006">http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dep:name</td>
<td>Required. The string “OpenOffice.org value” (where value is the value of the attribute value).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dep:OpenOffice.org--minimal-version value</td>
<td>Optional. This attribute should never be used with this element.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>value</td>
<td>Required. The required underlying OpenOffice.org version (“2.1”, “2.2”, etc.), starting with OpenOffice.org 2.1.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See also

- Dependencies
- Example of description.xml

Element
/description/dependencies/OpenOffice.org-maximal-version

- Parent: <dependencies>
- Children: none
- Since: OOo 3.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
xmlns:dep

dep:name

dep:OpenOffice.org-
minimal-version

value

The namespace for dependency information (inherited from <description>) must be defined as http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006.

Required. The string “OpenOffice.org value or older” (where value is the value of the attribute value).

Optional. This attribute should always be defined as “2.3” for this element.

Required. The required maximal underlying OpenOffice.org version (“3.0”, “3.1”, etc.).

See also

■ Dependencies

Element /description/update-information

■ Parent: <description>
■ Children:

1. <src>

■ Since: OOo 2.2

The element /description/update-information must have at least one <src> child element. The second, third, etc. element are regarded as fallback, that is, the elements provide URLs to mirrors. The Extension Manager will try to get update information by using a URL and only use a different URL if an error occurred. That is, if for example the first URL references an atom feed that does not contain any references at all, but is a valid feed, then the Extension Manager assumes that there are no update information available. Then URLs from other <src> elements are not examined. Therefore the update information referenced by every URL must be identical.

See also

■ Online Update of Extensions
■ Example of description.xml

Element /description/update-information/src

■ Parent: <update-information>
■ Children: none
■ Since: OOo 2.2
### Attribute: xlink:href

**Description:**
Required. The value is a URL which provides the update information directly or an atom feed which in turn references the update information. The URL can point directly to a file or it may invoke code, such as a servlet, cgi, etc, that returns the atom feed or the update information.

**See also**
- [Online Update of Extensions](#)
- [Example of description.xml](#)

### Element /description/publisher

- **Parent:** `<description>`
- **Children:**
  1. `<name>`

**Since:** OOo 2.4

`<publisher>` must have at least one `<name>` child element. The children of this element provide a [localized publisher name](#) together with a URL.

**See also**
- [Publisher Information](#)
- [Example of description.xml](#)

### Element /description/publisher/name

- **Parent:** `<publisher>`
- **Children:** Text
- **Since:** OOo 2.4

The text value of this element is the *publisher name*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xlink:href</td>
<td>Required. The value is a URL to the web site of the publisher of the extension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lang</td>
<td>Required. A language identifier according to RFC 3066. See also <a href="#">Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
See also

- Publisher Information
- Example of description.xml

Element /description/release-notes

- Parent: `<description>`
- Children:
  1. `<src>`
- Since: OOo 2.4

`<release-notes>` must have at least one `<src>` child element. The children provide URLs to localized release-notes.

Currently this element and its children are not used by the Extension Manager.

See also

- Example of description.xml

Element /description/release-notes/src

- Parent: `<release-notes>`
- Children: none
- Since: OOo 2.4

The element contains a URL to the release notes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xlink:href</td>
<td>Required. The value is a URL to the release notes of the extension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lang</td>
<td>Required. A language identifier according to RFC 3066. See also</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See also

- Example of description.xml
Element /description/display-name

- Parent: `<description>`
- Children:
  1. `<name>`
- Since: OOo 2.4

`<display-name>` must have at least one `<name>` child element. The children of this element provide a localized display name. The name will be used in the GUI instead of the file name.

See also
- Display Name
- Example of description.xml

Element /description/display-name/name

- Parent: `<display-name>`
- Children: Text
- Since: OOo 2.4

The text value of this element is the display name of the extension. The string length must be greater than null and must not only contain white space characters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lang</td>
<td>Required. A language identifier according to RFC 3066. See also Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See also
- Display Name
- Example of description.xml

Element /description/icon

- Parent: `<description>`
- Children:
  1. `<default>`
2. `<high-contrast>`

- Since: OOo 3.0

**See also**
- `Icon`
- [Example of description.xml](#)

## Element `/description/icon/default`

- Parent: `<icon>`
- Children: none
- Since: OOo 3.0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xlink:href</td>
<td>The value is a relative URL to the icon file within the extension.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**See also**
- [Example of description.xml](#)

## Element `/description/icon/high-contrast`

- Parent: `<icon>`
- Children: none
- Since: OOo 3.0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xlink:href</td>
<td>The value is a relative URL to the icon file within the extension.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**See also**
- [Example of description.xml](#)

## Element `/description/extension-description`

- Parent: `<description>`
- Children:
  1. `<src>`
Since: OOO 3.1

<extension-description> must have at least one <src> child element. Every child references a localized description. See Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements for details.

See also

- Extension Description
- Example of description.xml

Element /description/extension-description/src

- Parent: <extension-description>
- Child elements: none
- Since: OOO 3.1

The element contains information about where to find the file containing the description text and which language it uses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xlink:href</td>
<td>Required. The value is a relative URL to the description file within the extension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lang</td>
<td>Required. A language identifier according to RFC 3066. See also Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See also

- Extension Description
- Example of description.xml

Localized XML Elements

Some information contained in the description.xml are localized. When the Extension Manager uses them then it picks out the part which matches best the locale of OpenOffice.org. Localized data is used for

- License files (simple license, since OOO 2.0.4)
- Publisher name and URL for publisher homepage (since OOO 2.4)
- URL for release notes (since OOO 2.4)
Localized data is typically expressed in this format:

```xml
<parent>
  <child lang="en-US"/>
  <child lang="en-GB"/>
</parent>
```

The children of `<parent>` have all a lang attribute, which have a language string according to RFC 3066. The following restrictions currently apply:

- OOo uses only lang-country
- the language string can only have one variant, for example de-DE-mitte

•OOo uses uppercase letters for the country. The language strings must also use uppercase letters for the country. That is, the comparison between the OOo's locale and the locale strings of the elements is case sensitive.

Let's assume that OOo uses British English (en-GB) and the extension has two license text files, one in German (de) and the other in English from New Zealand (en-NZ). Obviously there is no perfect match, since en-GB is not en-NZ. We would then probably prefer en-NZ over de. The algorithm tries to find a locale which is closest to the office's locale. Here is the algorithm:

Input to the algorithm:

- The `<parent>` element
- The locale of the office

Requirements:

- The `<parent>` element has at least one child
- All children have the same element name and namespace
- All children have a lang attribute
- Output of the algorithm:
  - A child element (immediate child) of parent.

Algorithm:

1. The language, country and variant part of the office's locale are used to find a matching child element. If there is an exact match then the respective child element is selected as output and we are done. Only the first match is used.

2. The language and country part of the office's locale are used to find a matching license-text. If there is an exact match then the respective child element is selected as output and we are done.

3. The language and country part of the office's locale are used to find a matching child element. This time, we try to match only the language and country parts. For example, the office locale strings “en-US”, “en-US-east” match the lang attribute with
the values “en-US-north”, “en-US-south”, etc. The first child element with a matching lang attribute is selected as output. If there is a match then we are done.

4. Only the language part of the office's locale is used to find a matching child element. If there is an exact match then the respective child element is selected as output and we are done. Only the first match is used.

5. Only the language part of the office's locale is used to find a matching child element. This time, we try to match only the language part. For example, the office locale strings “en”, “en-US”, “en-US-east” match the lang attribute with the values “en-GB”, “en-GB-north”, etc. The first child element with a matching lang attribute is selected as output. If there is a match then we are done.

6. The first child element will be selected as output.

Please note that before OOo 2.4 the algorithm for determining the default child element for the <simple-license> element was different. Then the parent element, which was <simple-license> had the attribute default-license-id (type IDREF) and one child, that is a <license-text> element, must have had a license-id (type ID) attribute. Both attributes needed to have the same value. While this was easy to be verified with a schema it was quite cumbersome to write. With OOo 2.4 the first child element is the default in case there was no other child with a matching locale. The old "style" will still be supported but it should not be used anymore for new extensions. It is also recommended to use the new "style" when providing a new version of an extensions, where the previous version used the old "style".

The following examples show what values would match with a piece of a description.xml. The locale of OOo is assumed to be en-US.

Example 1:

```xml
<simple-license accept-by="user" >
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en" lang="en" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-GB" lang="en-GB" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-US" lang="en-US" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-US-region1" lang="en-US-region1" />
</simple-license>
```

The <license-text> with lang=“en-US” will be selected. This is a perfect match.

Example 2:

```xml
<simple-license accept-by="user" >
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en" lang="en" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-GB" lang="en-GB" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-NZ" lang="en-NZ" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-US-region1" lang="en-US-region1" />
</simple-license>
```
The `<license-text>` with lang="en-US-region1" will be selected. There is no "en-US" and the algorithm looks for any variant of "en-US" and takes the first one it finds.

Example 3:

```xml
<simple-license accept-by="user">
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en" lang="en" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-GB" lang="en-GB" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-NZ" lang="en-NZ" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-region2" lang="en-region2" />
</simple-license>
```

The `<license-text>` with lang="en" will be selected. There is no "en-US" nor the same locale with a variant, for example "en-US-region1". The next step is to compare only the language part. Then there is a match with lang="en".

Example 4:

```xml
<simple-license accept-by="user">
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_de" lang="de" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-GB" lang="en-GB" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-NZ" lang="en-NZ" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_en-region2" lang="en-region2" />
</simple-license>
```

The `<license-text>` with lang="en-GB" will be selected. There is no "en-US" nor the same locale with a variant, for example "en-US-region1". There is also no match when using only the language part. Then we look for a value that matches at least the language no matter what country or variant is used. The first locale that matches is "en-GB".

Example 5:

```xml
<simple-license accept-by="user">
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_de" lang="de" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_de-DE" lang="de-DE" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_fr" lang="fr" />
</simple-license>
```

The `<license-text>` with lang="de" will be selected. There is no locale which even has "en" as language, so we just use the first entry as a default.

Example 6:

```xml
<simple-license accept-by="user" default-license-id="de">
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_es" lang="es" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_fr" lang="fr" />
  <license-text xlink:href="lic_de" lang="de" license-id="de" />
</simple-license>
```

The `<license-text>` with lang="de" will be selected. This example uses the old method of determining the default locale. Starting with Oo 2.4 one should not use the default-license-id and license-id anymore.
Example

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<description xmlns="http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006"
xmlns:xlink="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink">
  <version value="1.0" />
  <identifier value="com.mycompany.extensions.my_extension" />
  <platform value="windows_x86,solaris_sparc" />
  <dependencies>
    <OpenOffice.org-minimal-version value="2.2" d:name="OpenOffice.org 2.2"/>
  </dependencies>
  <update-information>
  </update-information>
  <registration>
    <simple-license accept-by="admin" suppress-on-update="true">
      <license-text xlink:href="registration/license_de-DE.txt" lang="de-DE" />
      <license-text xlink:href="registration/license_en-GB.txt" lang="en-GB" />
      <license-text xlink:href="registration/license_en-NZ.txt" lang="en-NZ" />
      <license-text xlink:href="registration/license_en-US.txt" lang="en-US" />
    </simple-license>
  </registration>
  <publisher>
    <name xlink:href="http://extensions.openoffice.org/testarea/desktop/publisher/publisher_de.html" lang="de">My OpenOffice de</name>
  </publisher>
  <release-notes>
    <src xlink:href="http://extensions.openoffice.org/testarea/desktop/publisher/release-notes_de.txt" lang="de" />
  </release-notes>
</description>
```
This *description.xml* contains these information:

- The **version** is 1.0. [go to XML description]
- The **identifier** is: `com.mycompany.extensions.my_extension`. [go to XML description]
- The **platforms** on which the extension can be installed only are Windows (x86 CPU) and Solaris (SPARC CPU). [go to XML description]
- There is a **dependency** for OpenOffice.org 2.2 and higher. That is, the minimum version with which the extension works is 2.2. [go to XML description]
- It supports the **update** feature and update information can be obtained at the specified address. [go to XML description]
- A **license** text is displayed during installation. Different localizations of the license text are available. [go to XML description]
- There are two localized versions of a **publisher name** and URL. [go to XML description]
- There are two links to **release notes** in different languages. [go to XML description]
- There is a localized **display name**. That is, in an english version of OOo the Extension Manager will show the string: *My great extension*. [go to XML description]
- The extension contains **icons** which are used by the Extensions Manager when displaying the extension. [go to XML description]
- A localized **description** is displayed in the Extension Manager's dialog. [go to XML description]

Please note that the `<publisher>` and `<release-notes>` elements in a *description.xml* are currently not used by the Extension Manager. However, when uploading the extension to the extensions repository ([http://extensions.services.openoffice.org](http://extensions.services.openoffice.org)) then these elements are used for generating update information. When the Extension Manager looks for updates then it displays these information (OOo 2.4).
Display Name

An extension can have a display name. This name is defined in the description.xml. The name is optional. If it is provided then the Extension Manager will show it in the dialog, otherwise the file name will be displayed.

The display name is localized. The description.xml may provide additional names in different languages. The Extension Manager will then choose a language which matches most closely the locale of the office. How this exactly works is explained at Localized XML Elements.

See also
- XML description for description.xml
- Example of description.xml

Icon

The Extension Manager displays a default icon for each extension, unless an extension provides its own icon. The icon must be declared in the description.xml.

The icon must be provided as png or jpeg and it should have a size of 42x42 pixels.

See also
- XML description for description.xml
- Example of description.xml

Extension Description

The Extension Manager can display a small text for each extension in the dialog. The full text will become visible when the extension is being selected. Originally, this text was displayed in a 'tool tip' in versions of OOo previous v3.0.

Versions of OOo earlier than 3.1 use the "Tooltip Description" of an extension which is kept in the manifest.xml. Using the "Tooltip Description" is deprecated as of OOo 3.1 and that functionality will not be maintained. Since then the description is specified in the description.xml. OOo 3.1 and later will first try to get the description
from the description.xml. If there is none then it will try to get the tooltip description. That is, extensions can start to use this feature and need not necessarily require OOo 3.1. However, developers should be aware that the tooltip description may be removed in the future.

Using a description is similar to the use of a license. One can put a couple of localized description files into the extension and reference them in the description.xml. The description using a locale which matches that of the office will be displayed. See Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements for how the localization works. The description files must contain UTF-8 encoded text.

See also
- XML description for description.xml
- Example of description.xml

Extension Identifiers

Extensions now have unique identifiers. This removes the previous restriction that no two extensions with identical file names can be deployed. That is, two extensions with same file name but different identifiers can be installed but two extensions with the same identifiers cannot be installed at the same time.

The identifier plays also an important role for the on-line update. When running the on-line update, then the Extension Manager downloads a list of available extensions from the extension repository or from the location determined by the installed extension. The Extension Manager then tries to find an extension with a newer version in this list by comparing the identifier of the installed extensions with the identifier contained in the update information. Therefore the identifier MUST be unique. This is also the case when two extensions are logically the same but support different platforms. In this case one can achieve this uniqueness by adding a platform string to identifier. The ‘Target Platform’ section describes how this string can be generated in the build environment.

Technically, an extension identifier is a finite sequence of Unicode scalar values. Identifier identity is element-by-element identity of the sequences (no case folding, no normalization, etc.). It is assumed that extension writers cooperate to keep extension identifiers unique. By convention, use lowercase reversed-domain-name syntax (e.g., org.openoffice.) prefixes to generate unique (but still humanly comprehensible) identifiers. When you write an extension, use the reversed domain name of a site you control (and not org.openoffice.) as prefix. Identifiers starting with the prefix org.openoffice.legacy. are reserved for legacy extensions (see next). The same procedure used to avoid name clashes for extension identifier applies to all unique
names in configuration files of extensions (configuration nodes in extendable lists etc.).

The extension identifier is obtained from the description.xml contained in the extension. If the extension does not specify such an explicit identifier, then an implicit identifier is generated by prepending org.openoffice.legacy. to the (obvious sequence of Unicode scalar values representing the) file name of the extension. (Uniqueness of identifiers is then guaranteed by the assumption underlying legacy extension management that no two legacy extensions have the same file name.)

See also
- XML description for description.xml
- Example of description.xml

Extension Versions

Extensions are often improved over time. That is, publishers want to ship new versions of the same extension with added functionality and/or bug fixes. Adding extension versions allows publishers to ship new versions, and allows OpenOffice.org to detect and handle the case that an extension installed by the user is an update of an existing extension.

Technically, an extension version v is defined as an infinite sequence of non-negative integers v = \langle v_0, v_1, \ldots \rangle where all but a finite number of elements have the value zero. A total order is defined on versions via lexicographical comparison. A textual representation of a version v = \langle v_0, v_1, \ldots \rangle is a finite string built from the BNF

\[
\text{version ::= [element ("." element)*] element ::= ("0" | "1" | "2" | "3" | "4" | "5" | "6" | "7" | "8" | "9")}^+\]

of n ≥ 0 elements where each element is a decimal representation of v_i for 0 ≤ i < n, and each v_i = 0 for i ≥ n.

The extension version is obtained from the description.xml contained in the extension. If the extension does not specify such an explicit version, then an implicit textual version representation of the empty string (representing a version of all zeroes) is assumed.

No general semantics are prescribed to versions, other than the total order which determines whether one version is less than, equal to, or greater than another version, respectively. However, extension publishers are encouraged to use the widely accepted three-level scheme of major (incompatible changes), minor
(compatible changes), micro (bug fixes) where applicable.

See also
- XML description for description.xml
- Example of description.xml

**Target Platform**

[Since OOO 3.0] It is possible to determine a target platform for an extension by providing a platform tag in the `platform` tag in the `description.xml`.

Please notice that this platform tag is ONLY used during installation in order to see if the user's platform is usable. It is NOT used for identifying an extension. Please read the [identifier documentation](#) for details.

If the platform is not present then it is assumed that all platforms are suitable. This corresponds to explicitly specifying all platforms:

```xml
<platform value="all"/>
```

The attribute value may contain one to many platform tokens separated by commas:

```xml
<platform value="windows_x86,linux_x86,solaris_sparc"/>
```

An extension can only be installed if one of the provided platform tokens matches the user's platform. The special 'all' platform represents all platforms. That is, the extension can be installed everywhere. Whereas `<platform value=" "/>` would prevent installation on all platforms.

The tokens need to be defined by OOO. Every token can represent a particular platform constellation. The currently defined tokens are listed in the paragraph [Platform Tokens](#).

Do not confuse these tokens with those used to specify a native library in the `manifest.xml`. We will unify the use of the tokens in one of the future releases.

## Platform Tokens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Token</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>all</td>
<td>Represents all platforms.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Target Platform**

- **freebsd_x86**: FreeBSD operating system running on x86 compatible CPU.
- **freebsd_x86_64**: FreeBSD operating system running on x86 compatible 64bit CPU.
- **linux_arm_eabi**: (Not yet supported) Linux operating system running on ARM CPU using 'EABI'.
- **linux_arm_oabi**: (Not yet supported) Linux operating system running on ARM CPU using 'OABI'.
- **linux_ia64**: Linux operating system running on a ia64 CPU.
- **linux_mips_eabi**: (Not yet supported) Linux operating system running on a MIPS CPU using 'EB' ABI.
- **linux_mips_el**: (Not yet supported) Linux operating system running on a MIPS CPU using 'EL' ABI.
- **linux_powerpc**: Linux operating system running on a POWERPC CPU.
- **linux_powerpc64**: (Not yet supported) Linux operating system running on a POWERPC 64bit CPU.
- **linux_s390**: Linux operating system running on a s390 CPU.
- **linux_s390x**: (Not yet supported) Linux operating system running on a s390x CPU.
- **linux_sparc**: Linux operating system running on a SPARC CPU.
- **linux_x86**: Linux operating system running on a x86 CPU.
- **linux_x86_64**: Linux operating system running on a x86 64 bit CPU.
- **macosx_powerpc**: Mac X operating system running on a POWERPC CPU.
- **macosx_x86**: Mac X operating system running on a x86 CPU.
- **os2_x86**: OS/2 operating system running on a x86 CPU.
- **solaris_sparc**: Solaris operating system running on a SPARC CPU.
- **solaris_x86**: Solaris operating system running on a x86 CPU.
- **windows_x86**: Windows operating system running on a x86 CPU.

The tokens with the description 'Not yet supported' will be supported at a later time (see [issue 88578](#)).

### Backward Compatibility of Platforms

Often an OOo built for 32bit platform will run on the respective 64bit platform as well. In this case the platform element would only need the value of the 32bit platform. The reason is, that the extension manager compares the platform of the extension with the platform for which OOo was built. Here are some examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extension platform</th>
<th>OOo build for platform</th>
<th>Platform where OOo runs</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linux_x86</td>
<td>Linux_x86</td>
<td>Linux_x86</td>
<td>ok</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linux_x86</td>
<td>Linux_x86</td>
<td>Linux_x86_64</td>
<td>ok</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linux_x86</td>
<td>Linux_x86_64</td>
<td>Linux_x86_64</td>
<td>fails</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Generating the Platform String in the Build Environment

When it is necessary to generate the description.xml and the platform string during in the build process one can utilize the rtlbootstrap.mk which is contained in the inc folder. rtlbootstrap.mk is build in module sal and contains values for the operating system and processor. For example:

```plaintext
RTL_OS:=Linux
RTL_ARCH:=x86
```

These values correspond to the values of the bootstrap variable `$_OS` and `$_ARCH`. The file can be included in the makefile which generates the description.xml and use

```plaintext
PLATFORMSTRING = $(RTL_OS:l)_$(RTL_ARCH:l)
```

to form the string.

See also
- XML description for description.xml
- Example of description.xml

Simple License

This feature is about displaying a license text to the user during installation. The user can agree or decline the license, where in the latter case the installation will be aborted. It is called “Simple License” because there is no tamper resistant mechanism that prevents the installation in case the user does not agree to the license. It also does not do anything more than just displaying a license text. The text can be localized (see Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements).

The license text is displayed either in a dialog or in the console dependent on the way the Extension Manager was started. When it was started by the Tools - Extension Manager menu item or by invoking `unopkg gui` in the console then a dialog is used. By using `unopkg` add the license text will be displayed in the console and user input has to be done through the same.
The license dialog or the license text in the console is displayed when the extension is being installed. Currently there are two modes to install extensions, user mode and shared mode. An extension that was installed in user mode (let's call it a *user extension*) can only be used by just that person who installed it. If the extension was installed in shared mode (let's call it a *shared extension*), then it can be used by all users. Since the license text is only displayed during installation, all users who are using a *shared extension* will not see any license text (except the user who installed this *shared extension*). However, the publisher of the extension may think it necessary that everyone who wants to use it has to agree to the license first. For this purpose, he can mark the extension accordingly. This extension can then only be installed in user mode and not in shared mode. Likewise the extension can be marked indicating that only the person who installs it needs to agree to the license. Such an extension can be installed in both modes. But when installing in user mode then every user has to agree to the license nonetheless.

Here is an example of the description.xml:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<description xmlns="http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006"
xmlns:xlink="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink">
<registration>
  <simple-license accept-by="user">
    <license-text xlink:href="registration/license_de.txt" lang="de"/>
    <license-text xlink:href="registration/license_en_US.txt" lang="en-US"/>
  </simple-license>
</registration>
</description>
```

In this example, the license would have to be agreed to by all users (that means no shared mode installation). This is indicated by the value *user* of the attribute accept-by in the `<simple-license>` element. The attribute could also have the value *admin*, which would indicate that the license needs only be agreed to by the person who installs it.

The `<license-text>` elements contain information about the files which contain the text that is displayed. The content of these files must be UTF-8 encoded. It is displayed exactly as it is in the file. That is, no formatting occurs. There can be one to many `<license-text>` elements, where each element provides information about a different language of the license text. The attribute `xlink:href` contains a relative URL (relative to the root directory of the extension) which points to a file which contains the license text in exactly one language. Which language is indicated by the `lang` attribute.

If the package manager does not find a `<license-text>` element which matches the locale of OpenOffice.org then it will pick the first `<license-text>` element as the default. Prior to OOo 2.4. the default entry needed to marked explicitly by the `license-id` attribute.
Important Issues

• Using the simple license in extensions always requires user interaction. Using accept-by="user" in the <license-text> prevents this extension from being installed centrally, that is as shared extensions. Both issues can prevent the extension from being used by companies, which centrally maintain software.

- The 'simple license' does not work for bundled extensions. If one wants to build an OOo installation set with bundled extensions, then they must not use this feature.

See also

- XML description for description.xml
- Example of description.xml

Dependencies

One can imagine a large variety of dependencies an extension can have on its environment: availability of certain UNO types and services, availability of features only present since some specific version of OpenOffice.org, availability of other installed extensions, availability of third-party libraries, etc.

To support this, a mechanism is introduced so that extensions can bring along a specification of their dependencies. When a user wants to install an extension, the application first checks whether all dependencies are met. If not, an error dialog is displayed informing the user that the extension could not be installed.

The only actual dependencies currently defined are <OpenOffice.org-minimal-version value="X">, where X is the required underlying OpenOffice.org version ("2.1", "2.2", etc.), starting with OpenOffice.org 2.1; and a corresponding, rarely needed <OpenOffice.org-maximal-version value="X">, introduced in OpenOffice.org 3.1. (Even if an extension is installed in a derived product like StarOffice, these dependencies are on the underlying OpenOffice.org version.)

OpenOffice.org 2.0.3 and earlier are not prepared to correctly handle extensions with dependencies. In OpenOffice.org 2.0.3 and earlier, if a .uno.pkg (or .zip) extension specifies any dependencies, they are effectively ignored and the extension is installed nonetheless. An .oxt extension cannot be installed at all in OpenOffice.org 2.0.3 and earlier. So, if an extension shall run in any OpenOffice.org version, it should be named .uno.pkg and should not specify any dependencies; if an extension shall only run in OpenOffice.org 2.0.4 and later, it should be named .oxt and should not specify any dependencies; and if an extension shall only run in a future
OpenOffice.org version, it should be named .oxt and should specify the appropriate dependencies (which will be defined by the time the given OpenOffice.org version is available).

There is a certain dilemma: On the one hand, nothing is yet known about the kinds of dependencies that will be defined in the future. On the other hand, at least some information about the unsatisfied dependencies of a future extension must be displayed in OpenOffice.org 2.0.4. Therefore, each dependency specified by an extension must contain a human-readable (non-localized, English) name that can be displayed to the user, conveying at least rudimentary information about the nature of the unsatisfied dependency. Future versions of OpenOffice.org that already know a certain kind of dependency are expected to display more detailed information.

Likewise, when new dependencies are defined over time, old versions of OpenOffice.org will not know about them. Those old OpenOffice.org will thus reject extensions making use of those dependencies, even if the old OpenOffice.org version would actually satisfy the dependencies. Therefore, each dependency specified by an extension may optionally contain an OpenOffice.org-minimal-version attribute that specifies the minimal version of OpenOffice.org that would satisfy the dependency. Old versions of OpenOffice.org that do not know the given dependency will then check for the optional attribute and, if present, nevertheless accept the dependency if the given version is large enough. This feature is only supported since OpenOffice.org 2.3.

Within the description.xml, dependencies are recorded as follows: An XML element whose name consists of the namespace name http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006 and the local part dependencies may appear at most once as a child of the root element. This element has as its element content an arbitrary number of child elements that are not further constrained expect for the following: Each such child element should have an attribute whose name consists of the namespace name http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006 and the local part name, and it may optionally have an attribute whose name consists of the namespace http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006 and the local part OpenOffice.org-minimal-version. Each such child element represents one dependency, and the value of its name attribute shall contain the human-readable dependency name (and the value, after normalization, should not be empty).

If an extension is either not of type .oxt, .uno.pkg, or .zip, or does not contain a description.xml, or the description.xml does not contain a dependencies element, or the dependencies element does not contain any child elements, then the extension does not specify any dependencies.

See also

- XML description for description.xml
Publisher Information

The publisher information consists of a name and a URL. The name should be a company name and the URL should point to a web site of that company. This information is currently used in two places, the Extension Manager dialog (since OOo 3.0) and the update dialog for extensions (since OOo 2.4).

The publisher information is specified in the `description.xml` of an extension. The extension repository will use the information in the update information. That is, if someone checks for extension updates, than the update dialog will show this publisher information for this extension.

See also

- XML description for `description.xml`
- Example of `description.xml`

System Integration

When installing OpenOffice.org, the installation routine is adding information to the system which can be used by other software products to install extensions. For example, double-clicking on an extension in a file browser should start the Extension Manager and install the extension. Also mail clients and web browser should offer a way of installing the extension, when it comes as an attachment of an e-mail or is the target of a link.

Extension which are installed by way of using the system integration are always installed as user extensions.

The system integration is available since OpenOffice.org 2.2.0.

Online Update of Extensions

Extensions are often improved over a period of time. That is, publishers ship new
versions of the same extension with added functionality and/or bug fixes. Currently users must update their extensions manually, that is, find out where to get updates, obtain the updates, remove the old extensions, install the new extension. This feature will make updating easier. Users can run the update mechanism from the Extension Manager. A dialog will show available updates and the user will be able to choose which to install.

More particular information for this feature can be found in the specification at:

http://specs.openoffice.org/appwide/packagewriter/online_update_for_extensions.odt

Currently the update mechanism completely replaces an installed extension. That is, the update is actually a complete new extension which could also be installed separately without replacing an earlier version of this extension.

See also

- XML description for description.xml
- Example of description.xml

Running Online - Update

The update procedure needs to be started by the user in the Extension Manager. One can update all installed extensions by pressing the **Updates** button or select particular extensions, press the right mouse button and select **Update** in the context menu. The extension manager will then try to obtain update information for the affected extension. If it finds that a new version of an extension is available then it will be displayed in the update window.

In some cases an update cannot be installed, for example because the installed extension is shared by all users and the current user does not have permission to manage shared extensions. In this case a message to this regard is displayed in the window. To update shared extensions one needs to close OpenOffice.org and run `unopkg gui`. Then the user has access to all extensions.

An extension may also not be installable, because it has unfulfilled dependencies. For example, the extensions requires a particular version of OpenOffice.org.

The user can determine which of the updates he wants to install by checking them. When the **Download and Installation** button is pressed then, as the name suggests, the extensions are being downloaded and installed.
Concept

The actual download location of an update is contained in the *update information* which is typically a xml file which is hosted on a server. Every *update information* contains only information for exactly one extension. The most important information are the location of the update and the version of this extension.

The Extension Manager needs to get hold of the *update information* in order to decide if the respective extension is a valid update. For example, it only makes sense to take a version into account that is greater than the version of the already installed extension. The information where the *update information* is located is contained in the description.xml of each extension. In particular the children of the `<update-information>` element, contain URLs which reference the update information. The Extension Manager uses these URL to download the update information and later uses the information in the update information to download the respective extension.

In case that an extension does not contain a *description.xml* or the *description.xml* does not contain the `<update-information>` element, the Extension Manager uses a default location to get update information. This location is build-in, and is therefore determined by the publisher of OpenOffice.org. Currently this information is contained in the *version.(ini|rc)* of the the office installation.

One piece of *update information* only contains the information for exactly one extension. To bundle several *update information* one can use an XML atom feed. For example a feed could reference multiple *update information*, which refer all to an extension with the same Id but have different versions. It could also contain references to *update information* of distinct extensions (different Id). Then the Extensions Manager will pick out the information it needs.

Not only the built-in URL can reference an atom feed but also every extension.

To find a suitable update, the Extension Manager, gathers in a first step all pieces of *update information* which have the same *identifier* as one of the installed extensions. Then it determines the latest version for an extension from those update information. If the latest version is greater than the version of the corresponding installed extension, then the respective extension is offered as an update.
Example Scenario for Providing Updates

Using an Atom Feed

By using an atom feed one has greater flexibility in terms of where the actual updates are hosted. For example, a company which has published many extensions, may utilize just one atom feed which are referenced by all extensions. The location of this atom feed must be well chosen, because changing it may break the automatic update. Then the Extension Manager cannot obtain update information for these extensions anymore. For this reason, the company could set up a dedicated server which is guaranteed to be available in the foreseeable future. The actual extensions can then be hosted on different servers. The atom feed file needs only be edited if an update information file is moved to a different place, or when update information for new extensions become available.

If no actual update is available, for example, there is just version 1.0, then the update information could still refer to this extension. This does not do any harm because the Extension Manager compares the version number of the installed extension and the version which is contained in the update information, in order to display only real updates.

The location of the extension used as update could be the same as the location where customers download the extension for the first time. For example, there could be a web site which contains links to extensions. Let's assume one link is:

http://mycomp/extension.oxt

The extension references a feed at:

http://openoffice.org/extensions/updatefeed.xml

The feed contains the reference to the update information:

http://mycomp/updates/extension.update.xml

and this file refers to the update which is again:

http://mycomp/extension.oxt

If now version 2.0 of the extension becomes available, then the publisher could simply replace the extension at http://mycomp/extension.oxt and change the update information so that it reflects the new version. This way, users download always the latest version from the website and the Extension Manager can use this extension as update for an older version which is already installed.
Migration of Update Information

It could become necessary to change the server which hosts the update feed or update information. If this results in a different URL for these files, then the automatic update will not work. Therefore the following procedure is recommended.

1. Plan for a transition period, that is long enough for most users to get a new update.

2. Set up the new server, or the locations for hosting the update information, and run both servers in parallel. That is, the same update information and updates should be available from both servers.

3. Prepare new versions for extensions that contain an URL to the new server.

4. Switch off the old server after the transition period. Users, which have obtained the update, will be able to use the update mechanism as before. All other users will not be able to get an update anymore.

Description of the Update Information

The update information can be contained in a file which can be directly accessed through a URL or it can be generated on demand (HTTP get request). If it is a file then it could be named according to this pattern:

<extension_file_name>.update.xml

For example, the update information file for the extension myextension.oxt is myextension.update.xml. The .oxt file extension is not used.

It follows the description of the XML structure of the update information data:

Element /description

- Parent element: document root
- Children:
  1. <identifier>
2. `<version>`

3. `<update-download>`

4. `<update-website>`

5. `<dependencies>`

6. `<publisher>`

7. `<release-notes>`

- Since: OOo 2.2

`<description>` is the root element of the update information XML document.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xmlns:xlink</td>
<td>The xlink namespace must be defined as <a href="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink">http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other namespace definitions</td>
<td>Other namespaces can be added as necessary.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Element /description/identifier**

- Parent element: `<description>`
- Children: none
- Since OOo 2.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>value</td>
<td>Required. The extension identifier.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Element /description/version**

- Parent element: `<description>`
- Children: none
- Since: OOo 2.2
**Element /description/update-download**

- Parent element: `<description>`
- Children:
  1. `<src>`

  Since: OOo 2.2

  `<update-download>` must have at least one `<src>` child element. If `<update-download>` is provided then there must not be a `<update-website>` element.

  The second, third, etc. `<src>` element are regarded as fallback, that is, the elements provide URLs to mirrors. The Extension Manager will try to download the extension by using the first URL and only uses the next URL if an error occurred, for example because the the connection was interrupted.

  Example:

  ```xml
  <update-download>
  </update-download>
  ```

**Element /description/update-download/src**

- Parent element: `<update-download>`
- Children: none
- Since: OOo 2.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xlink:href</td>
<td>Required. The value is a URL which refers to the extension</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Element /description/update-website**

- Parent: `<description>`
Children:

1. <src>

Since: OOo 2.4

<update-website> must have at least one <src> child element. If <update-website> is provided then there must not be a <update-download> element.

The children of this element provide a URL to the web site where the new version of the extension can be downloaded. There can be multiple localized web sites with different URLs. Each URL can be provided by a separate <src> element. See Localized XML Elements about how the Extension Manager chooses the proper <src> element.

Example:

```xml
<update-website>
</update-website>
```

Element /description/update-website/src

- Parent: <update-website>
- Children: none
- Since: OOo 2.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xlink:href</td>
<td>Required. The value is a URL to the web site of the publisher of the extension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lang</td>
<td>Required. A language identifier according to RFC 3066. See also Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Element /description/dependencies

- Parent element: <description>
- Children:

  1. <OpenOffice.org-minimal-version>
2. `<OpenOffice.org-maximal-version>`

3. others
   - Since: OOo 2.2

Example:

```xml
<dependencies xmlns:dep="http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006">
  <dep:OpenOffice.org-minimal-version value="2.1" dep:name="OpenOffice.org 2.1"/>
</dependencies>
```

---

**Element**

`/description/dependencies/OpenOffice.org-minimal-version`

- Parent element: `<dependencies>`
- Children: none
- Since: OOo 2.2


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xmlns:dep</td>
<td>The namespace for dependency information (inherited from <code>&lt;description&gt;</code>) must be defined as <code>http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dep:name</td>
<td>Required. The string “OpenOffice.org value” (where value is the value of the attribute value).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>value</td>
<td>Required. The required underlying OpenOffice.org version (“2.1”, “2.2”, etc.), starting with OpenOffice.org 2.1.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Element**

`/description/dependencies/OpenOffice.org-maximal-version`

- Parent element: `<dependencies>`
- Children: none
- Since: OOo 3.1
The namespace of this element must be

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xmlns:dep</td>
<td>The namespace for dependency information (inherited from &lt;description&gt;) must be defined as <a href="http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006">http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dep:name</td>
<td>Required. The string “OpenOffice.org value or older” (where value is the value of the attribute value).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>value</td>
<td>Required. The required maximal underlying OpenOffice.org version (“3.0”, “3.1”, etc.).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Element /description/publisher**

- **Parent:** <description>
- **Children:**
  1. <name>

**Since:** OOo 2.4

The children of this element provide a localized publisher name together with a URL. <publisher> must have at least one <name> child element.

The publisher name is displayed in the update dialog of the Extension Manager. Clicking on the name causes the web browser to be opened which navigates to the web site determined by the <name> element.

**Example:**

```xml
<publisher>
   <name xlink:href="http://my.company.com/product/download_de.html" lang="de">Meine Firma</name>
   <name xlink:href="http://my.company.com/product/download_de-DE.html" lang="de-DE">Meine Firma</name>
</publisher>
```

**Element /description/publisher/name**

- **Parent:** <publisher>
- **Children:** Text
Description of the Update Information

- Since: OOo 2.4

The text value of this element is the *publisher name*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xlink:href</td>
<td>Required. The value is a URL to the web site of the publisher of the extension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lang</td>
<td>Required. A language identifier according to RFC 3066. See also Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Element /description/release-notes**

- Parent: `<description>`
- Children:
  1. `<src>`

- Since: OOo 2.4

The children of this element provide URLs to localized release-notes. `<release-notes>` must have at least one `<src>` child element.

The update dialog of the Extension Manager shows a link to the release notes if this element is provided. Clicking on it will cause a web browser to be opened which navigates to the release notes page using the URL provided by the respective `<src>` element.

Example:

```xml
<release-notes>
</release-notes>
```

**Element /description/release-notes/src**

- Parent: `<release-notes>`
- Children: none
- Since: OOo 2.4

The element contains a URL to the release notes.
**Description of the Update Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xlink:href</td>
<td>Required. The value is a URL to the release notes of the extension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lang</td>
<td>Required. A language identifier according to RFC 3066. See also Documentation/DevGuide/Extensions/Localized XML Elements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description of Atom Feed**

The atom feed is described at: [Update Notification Protocol](#).

**Examples**

**description.xml Containing Direct Reference to the Update Information**

The following content of a *description.xml* directly references update information:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<description xmlns="http://openoffice.org/extensions/description/2006"
xmlns:xlink="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink">
  <version value="1.0" />
  <update-information>
  </update-information>
</description>
```

The second src element contains a URL to a mirror which will be used by the Extension Manager if the location referenced by the URL in the first src element cannot be reached.

This is the content of *extension.update.xml*:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<description xmlns="http://openoffice.org/extensions/update/2006"
xmlns:xlink="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink">
  <identifier value="org.openoffice.legacy.extension.oxt"/>
</description>
```
The src element contains a URL to version 2.0 of extension.oxt. extension.oxt has the identifier org.openoffice.legacy.extension.oxt because it does not define an identifier in its description.xml. Otherwise the identifier would be the same as the one in the description.xml.

Using the Atom Feed

This is the content of the description.xml of feed1.oxt which references an atom feed:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
  <version value="1.0" />
  <update-information>
  </update-information>
</description>
```

The feed:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<feed xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom" xml:lang="en-US">
  <title>Extensions Update Feed</title>
  <link rel="alternate" type="text/html" href="http://update.services.openoffice.org/ooo/snapshot.html"/>
  <updated>2006-11-06T18:30:02Z</updated>
  <author>
    <name>The OpenOffice.org Project</name>
    <uri>http://openoffice.org</uri>
    <email>updatefeed@openoffice.org</email>
  </author>
  <id>urn:uuid:a4ccd383-1dd1-11b2-a95c-0003ba566e9d</id>
  <entry>
    <title>feed1.oxt version 2.0 available</title>
    <link rel="alternate" type="text/html" href="http://extensions.openoffice.org"/>
    <id>urn:uuid:a4ccd383-1dd1-11b2-a95c-0003ba566e9f</id>
    <category term="org.openoffice.legacy.feed1.oxt" label="feed1.oxt" />
    <updated>2006-11-06T18:30:02Z</updated>
    <summary>Click here to go to the download page.</summary>
    <content type="application/xml" src="http://extensions.openoffice.org/testarea/desktop/updatefeed/update/feed1.update.xml" />
  </entry>
  <entry>
```

```
```
The feed contains two entry elements and each references the *update information* for a different extensions. It could, however, also reference the *update information* for two different versions of the same extension.

The *update information* for the version of *feed1.oxt*:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<description xmlns="http://openoffice.org/extensions/update/2006"
    xmlns:xlink="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink">
    <identifier value="org.openoffice.legacy.feed1.oxt"/>
    <version value="2.0"/>
    <update-download>
    </update-download>
</description>
```

## Options Dialog

Extensions can add options pages to OpenOffice.org's options dialog. They should **not** create their own menu or menu entries for the sole purpose of configuring the extension. This is what the options dialog is for.

It is also possible to start an options dialog from within the Extension Manager on behalf of a particular extensions. An options page represents a child window that is displayed within the options dialog. An extension can provide multiple options pages. It can determine that they can be added to already existing nodes, such as "OpenOffice.org Writer" or "Internet Settings". It is also possible to create completely new nodes.

The specification for this feature can be found at: [http://specs.openoffice.org/appwide/packagemanager/options_dialog_for_extensions.odt](http://specs.openoffice.org/appwide/packagemanager/options_dialog_for_extensions.odt)
In the following paragraphs we will show what has to be done in order to add options pages to an extension. Along the way we will go into some details where necessary. It is assumed that the reader has already knowledge about extension programming and that he or she knows how the OpenOffice.org's registry (including xcs and xcu files) works.

A note about writing some terms. When we refer to elements from the configuration schema of OpenOffice.org then we use the respective uppercase names, for example Node, Module. The plural will expressed by adding a pipe symbol an the respective postfix, for example Nodes, Modules.

Available samples

• API/Samples/Java/Office/OptionsPageDemo

Creating the GUI of the Options Page

The GUI of an options page needs to be created by the dialog editor of OpenOffice.org. Exporting the dialog will result in saving a .xdl file and perhaps multiple .properties files. The xdl file contains the description of the dialog in XML whereas the properties files contain localized strings. For example, if the dialog is named Dialog1 and it contains strings which are localized for German and US – English, then you will obtain these files:

- Dialog1.xdl
- Dialog1_de_DE.properties
- Dialog1_en-US.properties

Please make sure that you have set the property “With title bar” to “no” for the whole dialog. Note that the maximum size that the dialog may have in the options page is a width of 260 and a height of 185.

The exported files can be anywhere in the extensions, except in META-INF. They must also be in the same directory.

The options dialog will use the service com.sun.star.awt.ContainerWindowProvider to create the options pages. The service constructors takes an URL to the xdl file and an an event handler component. The latter will be used to process events which have been defined in the dialog editor for particular controls. It is also used for saving and
Creating the GUI of the Options Page

loading the data of the controls which are on the options pages.

Saving and Reading Data for the Options Page

An options page typically allows the user to enter some data, which of course must be saved when the user presses the OK button. When the options page is displayed it should show the data which the user entered previously. In case nothing has ever been entered, the options page could show some “default” data or nothing at all.

How the data is saved and where it is stored is not covered by the specification. It only defines the events “ok”, “initialize”, and “back” which the extension needs to process in order to save the entered data, initialize the controls with data, or restore the state of the controls with the previously saved data. The “ok” and “back” events are triggered by the “OK” and “Back” button of the options dialog. “initialize” is called before the options page is being displayed. In most cases “initialize” and “back” have the same meaning.

In order to receive these events one has to provide a service that implements the interface com.sun.star.awt.XContainerWindowEventHandler. The component is then installed like any other component. That is, one provides for example a jar file or a dll and adds the proper entries to the manifest.xml.

The action events are processed in the <idl>com.sun.star.awt.XContainerWindowEventHandler:callHandlerMethod</idl>. This method takes three parameters. The first is a <idl>com.sun.star.awt.XWindow</idl> which represents the dialog for which the event is called. The second is an <idl>com.sun.star.uno.Any</idl>, which describes the actual event. Therefore the IDL calls it the “EventObject”. The last parameter is a string which contains a “method name”. This method may not exists, but the name identifies an action which should be invoked.

In case of our previously mentioned events the method is called with the respective <idl>com.sun.star.awt.XWindow</idl> interface, a method name of “external_event”, and an any containing either “ok”, “back”, or “initialize”. For example, the java code could look like this:

```java
public boolean callHandlerMethod(com.sun.star.awt.XWindow aWindow,
        Object aEventObject, String sMethod)
    throws WrappedTargetException {
    if (sMethod.equals("external_event") ){
        try {
            return handleExternalEvent(aWindow, aEventObject);
        } catch (com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException re) {
            throw re;
        }
    }
```
private boolean handleExternalEvent(com.sun.star.awt.XWindow aWindow, Object aEventObject) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    try {
        String sMethod = AnyConverter.toString(aEventObject);
        if (sMethod.equals("ok")) { 
            saveData(aWindow);
        } else if (sMethod.equals("back") || sMethod.equals("initialize")) { 
            loadData(aWindow);
        }
        catch (com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException e) {
            throw new com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException("Method external_event requires a string in the event object argument.", this,
                    (short) -1);
        }
    }
}

The method saveData and loadData need to be implemented according to where the data actually is stored. In most cases the OpenOffice.org's registry is a suitable place. Then, of course, one needs to provide a configuration schema (requires an appropriate entry in the manifest.xml as well).

For example:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<oor:component-schema xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance" oor:name="ExtensionData"
oor:package="org.openoffice.desktop.deployment.options" xml:lang="en-US">
    <info>
        <author></author>
        <desc>Contains the options data used for the test extensions.</desc>
    </info>
    <templates>
        <group oor:name="Leaf">
            <info>
                <desc>The data for one leaf.</desc>
            </info>
            <prop oor:name="String0" oor:type="xs:string">
                <value></value>
            </prop>
            <prop oor:name="String1" oor:type="xs:string">
                <value></value>
            </prop>
            <prop oor:name="String2" oor:type="xs:string">
                <value></value>
            </prop>
        </group>
    </templates>
</oor:component-schema>
```
Please make sure that the package (oor:package) together with the name (oor:name) for this schema are unique. For example, it should start with YOUR reversed domain name (do not use org.openoffice in your code), followed by the product name and other values which together uniquely identify this registry node.

In the example I have defined a group “Leaves”, which contains several entries and which are all of the same type. Each entry holds the data for one options page. In this case, each options page may provide five different strings.

If a new version of the extension uses the same schema, then data, which have been entered by a user for the previous version, will be automatically applied for the new version. If this is not wanted then one need to provide a new schema. In our case we could just change the attribute oor:component-schema@oor:name to a value, for example, ExtensionData2.

Now the question is, how one can access the controls on the options page in order to set the data or read from them. The following code example shows the whole service as Java implementation. Please have look at the loadData and saveData method. Please be aware that is is only an example and may need to be adapted to personal needs.

```java
package com.sun.star.comp.extensionoptions;

import com.sun.star.lib.uno.helper.Factory;
import com.sun.star.lib.uno.helper.WeakBase;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory;
import com.sun.star.lang.XSingleComponentFactory;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException;
import com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException;
import com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization;
import com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider;
import com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo;
import com.sun.star.lib.uno.UnoRuntime;
```
import com.sun.star.uno.Any;
import com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter;
import com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext;
import com.sun.star.uno.Exception;
import com.sun.star.registry.XRegistryKey;
import com.sun.star.awt.XContainerWindowEventHandler;
import com.sun.star.awt.XControl;
import com.sun.star.awt.XControlModel;
import com.sun.star.awt.XControlContainer;
import com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess;
import com.sun.star.container.NoSuchElementException;
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue;
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
import com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException;
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException;
import com.sun.star.util.XChangesBatch;

/** A handler which supports multiple options pages which all
* have the same controls.
*/
public class OptionsEventHandler {

public static class _OptionsEventHandler extends WeakBase
implements XServiceInfo, XContainerWindowEventHandler {

static private final String __serviceName = "com.sun.star.comp.extensionoptions.OptionsEventHandler";

private XComponentContext m_cmpCtx;
private XMultiComponentFactory m_xMCF;
private XNameAccess m_xAccessLeaves;

/**Names of supported options pages.
*/
private String[] m_arWindowNames = {
"Draw1", "Draw2", "Draw3", "Node1_1", "Node1_2", "Node1_3",
"Node2_1", "Node2_2", "Node2_3", "Node3_1", "Node3_2", "Node3_3"};

/**Names of the controls which are supported by this handler. All these
* controls must have a "Text" property.
*/
private String[] m_arStringControls = {
"String0", "String1", "String2", "String3", "String4"};

public _OptionsEventHandler(XComponentContext xCompContext) {
    m_cmpCtx = xCompContext;
    m_xMCF = m_cmpCtx.getServiceManager();

    //Create the com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess
    //for the registry node which contains the data for our option
    //pages.
    XMultiServiceFactory xConfig;
    try {
        xConfig = (XMultiServiceFactory) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009

534
XMultiServiceFactory.class,
   m_cmpCtx.getServiceManager().createInstanceWithContext(
   "com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider", m_cmpCtx));
} catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
   e.printStackTrace();
   return;
}

// One argument for creating the ConfigurationUpdateAccess is the "nodepath".
// Our nodepath point to the node of which the direct subnodes represent the
// different options pages.
Object[] args = new Object[1];
args[0] = new PropertyValue(
   "nodepath", 0,
   "/org.openoffice.desktop.deployment.options.ExtensionData/Leaves",
   PropertyState.DIRECT_VALUE);

// We get the com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess from the instance of
// ConfigurationUpdateAccess and save it for later use.
try {
   m_xAccessLeaves = (XNameAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
       XNameAccess.class, xConfig.createInstanceWithArguments(
       "com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess", args));
} catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
   e.printStackTrace();
   return;
}

/** This method returns an array of all supported service names.
 * @return Array of supported service names.
 */
public String[] getSupportedServiceNames() {
   return getServiceNames();
}

/** This method is a simple helper function to used in the
 * static component initialisation functions as well as in
 * getSupportedServiceNames.
 */
public static String[] getServiceNames() {
   String[] sSupportedServiceNames = { __serviceName };
   return sSupportedServiceNames;
}

/** This method returns true, if the given service will be
 * supported by the component.
 * @param sServiceName Service name.
 * @return True, if the given service name will be supported.
 */
public boolean supportsService(String sServiceName) {
   return sServiceName.equals( __serviceName );
}

/** Return the class name of the component.
 * @return Class name of the component.
 */
public String getImplementationName() {
    return _OptionsEventHandler.class.getName();
}

//XContainerWindowEventHandler
public boolean callHandlerMethod(com.sun.star.awt.XWindow aWindow,
Object aEventObject, String sMethod) throws WrappedTargetException {
    if (sMethod.equals("external_event")) {
        try {
            return handleExternalEvent(aWindow, aEventObject);
        } catch (com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException re) {
            throw re;
        } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
            throw new WrappedTargetException(sMethod, this, e);
        }
    }
    return false;
}

//XContainerWindowEventHandler
public String[] getSupportedMethodNames() {
    return new String[] {"external_event"};
}

private boolean handleExternalEvent(com.sun.star.awt.XWindow aWindow, Object aEventObject) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    try {
        String sMethod = AnyConverter.toString(aEventObject);
        if (sMethod.equals("ok")) {
            saveData(aWindow);
        } else if (sMethod.equals("back") || sMethod.equals("initialize")) {
            loadData(aWindow);
        }
    } catch (com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException e) {
        throw new com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException("Method external_event requires a string in the event object argument.", this, (short) -1);
    }
    return true;
}

    //Determine the name of the options page. This serves two purposes. First,
    //if this options page is supported by this handler and second we use the name two locate
    //the corresponding data in the registry.
    String sWindowName = getWindowName(aWindow);
    if (sWindowName == null)
        throw new com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException("The window name is null.");
    //...
Saving and Reading Data for the Options Page

"This window is not supported by this handler", this, (short) -1);

//To access the separate controls of the window we need to obtain the
//XControlContainer from the window implementation
XControlContainer xContainer = (XControlContainer) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(  
    XControlContainer.class, aWindow);
if (xContainer == null)
    throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception("Could not get XControlContainer from window.", this);

//This is an implementation which will be used for several options pages
//which all have the same controls. m_arStringControls is an array which
//contains the names.
for (int i = 0; i < m_arStringControls.length; i++) {
    //To obtain the data from the controls we need to get their model.
    //First get the respective control from the XControlContainer.
    XControl xControl = xContainer.getControl(m_arStringControls[i]);

    //This generic handler and the corresponding registry schema support
    //up to five text controls. However, if a options page does not use all
    //five controls then we will not complain here.
    if (xControl == null)
        continue;

    //From the control we get the model, which in turn supports the
    //XPropertySet interface, which we finally use to get the data from
    //the control.
    XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(  
        XPropertySet.class, xControl.getModel());

    if (xProp == null)
        throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception("Could not get XPropertySet from control.", this);

    //Get the "Text" property.
    Object aText = xProp.getPropertyValue("Text");
    String sValue = null;

    //The value is still contained in a com.sun.star.uno.Any - so convert it.
    try {
        sValue = AnyConverter.toString(aText);
    } catch (com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException e) {
        throw new com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException("Wrong property type.", this, (short) -1);
    }

    //Now we have the actual string value of the control. What we need now is
    //the XPropertySet of the respective property in the registry, so that we
    //can store the value.
    //To access the registry we have previously created a service instance
    //of com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess which supports
    //com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess. The XNameAccess is used to get the
    //particular registry node which represents this options page.
    //Fortunately the name of the window is the same as the registry node.
    XPropertySet xLeaf = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(  
        XPropertySet.class, m_xAccessLeaves.getByName(sWindowName));
    if (xLeaf == null)
        throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception(  
            "Could not get XPropertySet from ConfigurationUpdateAccess.", this);
"XPropertySet not supported.", this);

    //Finally we can set the value
    xLeaf.setPropertyValue(m_arStringControls[i], sValue);
    }
    //Committing the changes will cause or changes to be written to the
    registry.
    XChangesBatch xUpdateCommit = 
    (XChangesBatch) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XChangesBatch.class, 
    m_xAccessLeaves);
    xUpdateCommit.commitChanges();
}

private void loadData(com.sun.star.awt.XWindow aWindow) 
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {

    //Determine the name of the window. This serves two purposes. First, if this
    //window is supported by this handler and second we use the name two locate
    //the corresponding data in the registry.
    String sWindowName = getWindowName(aWindow);
    if (sWindowName == null)
        throw new com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException(
            "The window is not supported by this handler", this, (short) -1);

    //To acces the separate controls of the window we need to obtain the
    //XControlContainer from window implementation
    XControlContainer xContainer = (XControlContainer)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XControlContainer.class, aWindow);
    if (xContainer == null)
        throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception(
            "Could not get XControlContainer from window.", this);

    //This is an implementation which will be used for several options pages
    //which all have the same controls. m_arStringControls is an array which
    //contains the names.
    for (int i = 0; i < m_arStringControls.length; i++) {
    //load the values from the registry
    //To access the registry we have previously created a service instance
    //of com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess which supports
    //com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess. We obtain now the section
    //of the registry which is assigned to this options page.
    XPropertySet xLeaf = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XPropertySet.class, m_xAccessLeaves.getByName(sWindowName));
    if (xLeaf == null)
        throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception(
            "XPropertySet not supported.", this);

    //The properties in the registry have the same name as the respective
    //controls. We use the names now to obtain the property values.
    Object aValue = xLeaf.getPropertyValue(m_arStringControls[i]);

    //Now that we have the value we need to set it at the corresponding
    //control in the window. The XControlContainer, which we obtained earlier
    //is the means to get hold of all the controls.
    XControl xControl = xContainer.getControl(m_arStringControls[i]);

    //This generic handler and the corresponding registry schema support
// up to five text controls. However, if a options page does not use all
// five controls then we will not complain here.
if (xControl == null)
    continue;

// From the control we get the model, which in turn supports the
// XPropertySet interface, which we finally use to set the data at the
// control
XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XPropertySet.class, xControl.getModel());

if (xProp == null)
    throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception(
        "Could not get XPropertySet from control.", this);

// This handler supports only text controls, which are named "Pattern
// Field"
// in the dialog editor. We set the "Text" property.
xProp.setPropertyValue("Text", aValue);
}
}

// Checks if the name property of the window is one of the supported names and
// returns
// always a valid string or null
private String getWindowName(com.sun.star.awt.XWindow aWindow)
throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    if (aWindow == null)
        new com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException(
            "Method external_event requires that a window is passed as argument",
            this, (short) -1);

    // We need to get the control model of the window. Therefore the first step
    // is
    // to query for it.
    XControl xControlDlg = (XControl) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XControl.class, aWindow);

    if (xControlDlg == null)
        throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception(
            "Cannot obtain XControl from XWindow in method external_event.");

    // Now get model
    XControlModel xModelDlg = xControlDlg.getModel();

    if (xModelDlg == null)
        throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception(
            "Cannot obtain XControlModel from XWindow in method external_event.",
            this);

    // The model itself does not provide any information except that its
    // implementation supports XPropertySet which is used to access the data.
    XPropertySet xPropDlg = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XPropertySet.class, xModelDlg);

    if (xPropDlg == null)
        throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception(
            "Cannot obtain XPropertySet from window in method external_event.",
            this);
//Get the "Name" property of the window
Object aWindowName = xPropDlg.getPropertyValue("Name");

//Get the string from the returned com.sun.star.uno.Any
String sName = null;
try {
    sName = AnyConverter.toString(aWindowName);
} catch (com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException e) {
    throw new com.sun.star.uno.Exception(
        "Name - property of window is not a string.", this);
}

//Eventually we can check if we this handler can "handle" this options page.
//The class has a member m_arWindowNames which contains all names of windows
//for which it is intended
for (int i = 0; i < m_arWindowNames.length; i++) {
    if (m_arWindowNames[i].equals(sName)) {
        return sName;
    }
}
return null;

/**
 * Gives a factory for creating the service.
 * This method is called by the <code>JavaLoader</code>
 * <p>
 * @return returns a <code>XSingleComponentFactory</code> for creating
 * the component
 * @param sImplName the name of the implementation for which a
 * service is desired
 * @see com.sun.star.comp.loader.JavaLoader
 */
public static XSingleComponentFactory __getComponentFactory(String sImplName) {
    XSingleComponentFactory xFactory = null;
    if (sImplName.equals(_OptionsEventHandler.class.getName()))
        xFactory = Factory.createComponentFactory(_OptionsEventHandler.class,
            _OptionsEventHandler.getServiceNames());
    return xFactory;
}

/**
 * Writes the service information into the given registry key.
 * This method is called by the <code>JavaLoader</code>
 * <p>
 * @return returns true if the operation succeeded
 * @param regKey the registryKey
 * @see com.sun.star.comp.loader.JavaLoader
 */
public static boolean __writeRegistryServiceInfo(XRegistryKey regKey) {
    return Factory.writeRegistryServiceInfo(_OptionsEventHandler.class.getName(),
            _OptionsEventHandler.getServiceNames(), regKey);
}
/** This method is a member of the interface for initializing an object
 * directly after its creation.
 * @param object This array of arbitrary objects will be passed to the
 * component after its creation.
 * @throws Exception Every exception will not be handled, but will be
 * passed to the caller.
 */
public void initialize( Object[] object )
throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
}

Defining the Usage of Options Pages

It needs to be defined somewhere how the options dialog shall display the options pages for particular extensions. This information needs to be provided by the extensions in form of a xcu file which contains the appropriate registry entries. The schema is already provided in the office installation. The file is: <office>/share/registry/schema/org/openoffice/Office/OptionsDialog.xcs. Here are the relevant parts for the options pages:

<oor:component-schema
  xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
  xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  oor:name="OptionsDialog"
  oor:package="org.openoffice.Office"
  xml:lang="en-US">
  <templates>
    <group oor:name="Module">
      <info>
        <desc>Defines a Module. The options dialog displays entries in its
        tree view only if they are defined to belong to the Module for which the
        options dialog is being displayed. The exception is the options
dialog which is invoked from the Extension Manager, where the Module is
irrelevant.</desc>
      </info>
      <set oor:name="Nodes" oor:node-type="OrderedNode">
        <info>
          <desc>A set member contains a Node (see type Node) which has been
          assigned to this Module. Also entities which do not own the Module
          may add members to the set. Please look at the specification for
          applying restrictions (http://specs.openoffice.org/appwide/packagemanager/options_dialog_for_extensions.odt)
          The actual Node|s are kept in a separate set
        </desc>
      </set>
    </group>
  </templates>
</oor:component-schema>
(OptionsDialog/Nodes),
to prevent redundancy, because a Node can be assigned to several Module|s. The position of a node (the tree view element) within the tree view of the options dialog is determined by the property Index of each set member. The position can be different dependent on the Module. Therefore the order is determined per Module. Only the owner of the Module should set the position (property Index). The order is undefined if two or more members have the same value for the Index property. See also the description for OrderedNode.

See also the description for OrderedNode.

<desc>
</desc>
</info>
</set>
</group>

<group oor:name="Node">

<desc>Defines a node (the tree view element) which can be displayed in the tree view of the options dialog.</desc>

</group>

<desc>The localized name which is displayed next to the node in the options dialog. If two different nodes (the tree view element) happen to have the same localized name then both are displayed.</desc>

<prop oor:name="Label" oor:type="xs:string" oor:localized="true" oor:nillable="false">

<desc>The localized name which is displayed next to the node in the options dialog. If two different nodes (the tree view element) happen to have the same localized name then both are displayed.</desc>

</prop>

<prop oor:name="OptionsPage" oor:type="xs:string">

<desc>URL which references the dialog editor resource. This options page should only contain information for the user and should not accept input.</desc>

</prop>

<prop oor:name="AllModules" oor:type="xs:boolean">

<desc>If true then this Node shall be displayed independent of the Module for which the options dialog is displayed – that is, always. In this case it must not be assigned directly to one or more Module|s. That is, it must not exist as member in Module/Nodes of no existing Module. This is an optimization so that an extension need not provide entries for all Module|s. The default value is false.</desc>

</prop>

</group>
<prop oor:name="GroupId" oor:type="xs:string">
  <info>
    <desc>Identifies a group of Node|s. All nodes (the tree view elements) which refer to the same group are displayed next to each other. If this property is set then GroupIndex must also have a value. The group will be used by Node|s which have been added to existing Module|s. If one defines a Module AND Node|s which are used in this Module, then GroupId must not be set. In this case one uses Module/Nodes/Index to determine the position of the nodes (the tree view element).
    The empty string is no valid identifier and represents nil. See also GroupIndex.
  </desc>
  </info>
  <value></value>
</prop>

<prop oor:name="GroupIndex" oor:type="xs:int">
  <info>
    <desc>The index of the Node within the group. The index starts with null. If this property is set then property GroupId must also have a value. If a Node of this group is displayed depends on the respective Module to which it is assigned. For example, if there are the Nodes A (index 0), B (index 1), and C (index 2) in a group, and B is assigned to a different Module, then only A and B are displayed together although there indices are 0 and 2 (B has 1). The value -1 is regarded as nil. Actually one could have allowed to define a group per Module, so that the order could be different depending on the Module. But this would have added more complexity to the data structures.
  </desc>
  </info>
  <value>-1</value>
</prop>

<set oor:name="Leaves" oor:node-type="Leaf">
  <info>
    <desc>Leaves which are assigned to this node. Extensions can add to this set new Leaf|s.</desc>
  </info>
  </set>
</group>

<group oor:name="Leaf">
  <info>
    <desc>Defines a leaf (the tree view element). A Leaf must be assigned to exactly one Node. </desc>
  </info>
  <prop oor:name="Id" oor:type="xs:string">
<info>
  <desc>The unique identifier of the Leaf. This must be the extension identifier if this Leaf was defined by an extension.</desc>
</info>

<prop oor:name="Label" oor:type="xs:string" oor:localized="true" oor:nillable="false">
  <info>
    <desc>The localized name that is displayed for the leaf in the options dialog.</desc>
  </info>
</prop>

<prop oor:name="OptionsPage" oor:type="xs:string" oor:nillable="false">
  <info>
    <desc>A URL which references the window resource.</desc>
  </info>
</prop>

<prop oor:name="EventHandlerService" oor:type="xs:string" oor:nillable="false">
  <info>
    <desc>Name of the event handler service which is used as argument in
    com.sun.star.awt.XContainerWindowProvider.createContainerWindow. This handler does not even process events from the dialog but also provides for saving and reading the respective values.</desc>
  </info>
</prop>

<prop oor:name="GroupId" oor:type="xs:string">
  <info>
    <desc>Identifies a group of Leaf|s. All Leaf|s which have the same GroupId form a group and the corresponding entries in the tree view are displayed next to each other.
    If this property is set then the property GroupIndex must also be set.
    The GroupIndex represents the position within the group. If one owns the Node (e.g. defined it oneself) then one can set the GroupId to the name of the Node to which this Leaf is assigned. The Leaf|s of this particular group are displayed first under the node (the tree view element) before any other groups.
    If one does not own the Node then one should not use the Node name as group id.
    The empty string is regarded as nil.</desc>
  </info>
  <value></value>
</prop>

<prop oor:name="GroupIndex" oor:type="xs:int">
  <info>
    <desc>The index of the Leaf within the group. The index starts
    with
null. If this property is set then GroupId must also have a value. If there are two Leaf|s with the same index in the same group then their order is undefined. The value -1 is regarded as nil.

```xml
<prop oor:name="Index" oor:type="xs:int">
  <info>
    <desc>Determines the position of the node in the options dialog. The index starts with null. That is, the corresponding node appears at the first position in the tree view of the options dialog. If the value is -1 then the index is undefined. If one adds Node|s to a Module which one does not define oneself (e.g. the Module is owned by someone else), then one must not set the Index. This applies, for example, to extensions which add their Node|s to existing Module|s. The value -1 is regarded as nil.
  </desc>
  <value>-1</value>
</prop>
</group>
```

Section Title

Chapter 4 · Extensions 545
The Options Dialog of the Extension Manager

The options dialog which is invoked from the Extension Manager only shows nodes with leaves which have been added by the currently selected extensions. The dialog has no particular application context, so that all nodes are displayed, independent of the application contexts which they are assigned to.

Adding a Leaf to an Existing Node

Let us start with something simple and assume that we want to add a leaf under the "OpenOffice.org" writer node. The leaves and nodes, which we are talking about, appear in the tree view of the options dialog on the left side. A leaf has the meaning of an entry which cannot be expanded further. Selecting a leaf will cause the options page being displayed on the right side. Please do not confuse these node and leaves with the elements from the schema. The latter use uppercase names and the plural is indicated using a pipe symbol, such as "Node\s". There is also a xml element "node" in the xcu file. In case the meaning is unclear in the respective context, we will add small note.

The schema in the OptionsDialog.xcs defines two sets which we can add to. One contains Modules, which we do not need at the moment, and the other contains Nodes, which is the place we will add to. As the name suggest, it contains Nodes and not Leafs. But every Node contains a set of Leafs, which is named Leaves. This means, that we have to add a Leaf to the Leaves set of the writer Node. This is done by putting the following xcu file into the extension (do not forget to add the corresponding entry into the manifest.xml).

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<oor:component-data oor:name="OptionsDialog"
 oor:package="org.openoffice.Office"
 xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
 xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
 xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
  <node oor:name="Nodes">
    <node oor:name="Writer" oor:op="fuse">
      <node oor:name="Leaves">
        <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaf1" oor:op="fuse">
          <prop oor:name="Id">
            <value>org.openoffice/framework/desktop/test/deployment/options/leaf1</value>
          </prop>
        </node>
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</oor:component-data>
```
In the following examples I will leave out the xml, doctype and root element so we can focus on the relevant parts. In the previous example we see the lines:

```xml
<node oor:name="Nodes">
  <node oor:name="Writer" oor:op="fuse">
    <node oor:name="Leaves">
      <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaf1" oor:op="fuse">
        <prop oor:name="Id">
          <value>org.openoffice/framework/desktop/test/deployment/options/leaf1</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Label">
          <value xml:lang="en-US">Writer leaf1 en-US</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="OptionsPage">
          <value>%origin%/dialogs/writer1/Writer1.xdl</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="EventHandlerService">
          <value>com.sun.star.comp.extensionoptions.DialogHandler</value>
        </prop>
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</node>
</node>
</oor:component-data>
```

The first line represents the set Nodes. The second line shows that we add to the writer Node. And the last line represents the Leaves set within the writer Node. The names of Node\s should be unique, as we will see later. The name is the value of the oor:name attribute of the set entry. That is, there is no special property "name". The names for already existing Node\s and Module\s are rather short and are reserved exclusively for the office. The list of those names can be found [here](#).

Currently the already existing nodes are not defined in the registry (but may be in future versions). Therefore, the node Writer, which is a set entry, may not exist yet, unless another extension has already added to this node. To make sure that there is this node we use the operation `fuse`. Leaves is the set within a Node (the type defined in the templates section of the schema) to which we add our leaf:

```xml
<node oor:name="Leaves">
  <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaf1">
    <prop oor:name="Id">
      <value>org.openoffice/framework/desktop/test/deployment/options/leaf1</value>
    </prop>
    <prop oor:name="Label">
      <value xml:lang="en-US">Writer leaf1 en-US</value>
    </prop>
    <prop oor:name="OptionsPage">
      <value>%origin%/dialogs/writer1/Writer1.xdl</value>
    </prop>
    <prop oor:name="EventHandlerService">
      <value>com.sun.star.comp.extensionoptions.DialogHandler</value>
    </prop>
  </node>
</node>
```
When we add to a set then we must provide a unique name for the oor:name attribute of the node element. We did this by calling it:

\texttt{org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaf1}

It is always good to use long names to ensure uniqueness. Starting with the reversed domain name is a good practice, because most developers or companies own a domain, which is already unique. Node names must use ASCII letters and special characters must be "xml encoded". That is signs, such as "<", ",", ",", etc must be replaced by "<", ",", ",", etc. This is also valid for all other xml attribute values or the text between enclosing xml elements. Our leaf node also uses the fuse operator, to ensure that it is added to the set.

It is also useful to avoid "/" within oor:name. This will make it harder when using the API to access the values (see \texttt{com.sun.star.container.XHierarchicalNameAccess}). Then one need to encode the name in a particular way. See chapter \texttt{Configuration Management}.

The value of the property \texttt{Id} must be same as the extension identifier. The identifier is used to locate the leaves which belong to a particular extension. This happens when the options dialog is started in the Extension Manager. In this case only the entries for the selected extension are displayed.

The property \texttt{Label} contains the string which appears in the tree view. One can provide many different localized strings. However it is good to have at least an en-US string, which will be used as default in case there is no string which locale matches that of the office.

The property \texttt{OptionsPage} contains the URL to the xdl file of the dialog which shall appear when the user selects the corresponding entry in the tree view. Please note that it always starts with \texttt{%origin%} and is followed by the relative path to the file.

The property \texttt{EventHandlerService} contains the service name of the handler, which is also contained in the extension. One should take care to choose a unique name. It is not necessary to provide any IDL description or type library for the service.

### Adding Several Leaves

It may be necessary to add more then one leaf. This is easily done by just writing the next leaf definition after the previous:

\begin{verbatim}
<node oor:name="Nodes">
  <node oor:name="Writer" oor:op="fuse">
    <node oor:name="Leaves">
\end{verbatim}
<node
oor:name="oorg.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaves3.Writer.3"
oor:op="fuse">
  <!-- leaving out the properties for the sake of brevity -->
  </node>
<node
oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaves3.Writer.1"
oor:op="fuse">
  <!-- leaving out the properties for the sake of brevity -->
  </node>
<node
oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaves3.Writer.2"
oor:op="fuse">
  <!-- leaving out the properties for the sake of brevity -->
  </node>
</node>
</node>
<node
oor:name="Calc"
oor:op="fuse">
  <node
oor:name="Leaves">
    <node
oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaves3.Calc.3"
oor:op="fuse">
      <!-- leaving out the properties for the sake of brevity -->
    </node>
    <node
oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaves3.Calc.1"
oor:op="fuse">
      <!-- leaving out the properties for the sake of brevity -->
    </node>
    <node
oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaves3.Calc.2"
oor:op="fuse">
      <!-- leaving out the properties for the sake of brevity -->
    </node>
  </node>
</node>
</node>

In the example we have also added three other Leafs to the Calc Node.

**Warning** – One Leaf can only be assigned to exactly one Node. If there is no suitable existing Node which is displayed in all options dialogs where one needs to display the own Leaf, then one should define a Node oneself and assign the Leaf to it.
When we add several Leafs to the same Node then we may wish to determine in which order they appear. This is done by using the properties GroupId and GroupIndex in Leaf. The GroupId is used to define a group. All Leafs with the same GroupId form this group. The GroupIndex determines the position of the Leaf with regard to this group. If there are multiple groups of Leafs assigned to the same Node, then it is undefined in which order the groups are displayed. However, the members of a group are always displayed contiguously.

The value for the GroupId must be unique. One can use the same pattern here as for the names of Leafs, Nodes, etc.

One special GroupId is the one which has the same value as the Node name. This group is always displayed first under the node in the tree view. We will get to that later.

Usually, when an extension provides Leafs which are all assigned to the same Node, then one makes them belong to the same group.

**Warning** – Do not add to groups which you have not defined yourself. This may lead to clashing indices and is generally bad style.

Grouping Leafs is optional. But when one does it, then all Leafs should be part of a group.

```xml
<nodes>
  <writer oor:op="fuse">
    <leaves oor:op="fuse">
      <prop oor:name="Id">
        <value>org.openoffice/framework/desktop/test/deployment/options/leaves2</value>
      </prop>
      <!-- leaving out some properties for the sake of brevity -->
      <prop oor:name="GroupId">
        <value>org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaves2.Writer.group</value>
      </prop>
      <prop oor:name="GroupIndex">
        <value>2</value>
      </prop>
    </leaves>
  </writer>
  <writer oor:op="fuse">
    <leaves>
      <prop oor:name="Id">
        <value>org.openoffice/framework/desktop/test/deployment/options/leaves2</value>
      </prop>
      <!-- leaving out some properties for the sake of brevity -->
      <prop oor:name="GroupId">
        <value>org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.leaves2.Writer.group</value>
      </prop>
      <prop oor:name="GroupIndex">
        <value>2</value>
      </prop>
    </leaves>
  </writer>
</nodes>
```
Adding Nodes

Apart from Leafs one can also define one's own Nodes. First we would like to define one simple Node along with a few Leafs:

```xml
<node oor:name="Nodes">
  <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.nodes2.node3" oor:op="fuse">
    <prop oor:name="Label">
      <value xml:lang="en-US">nodes2 node 3 en-US</value>
      <value xml:lang="de">nodes2 node 3 de</value>
    </prop>
    <prop oor:name="OptionsPage">
      <value>%origin%/dialogs/node3/page/node3.xdl</value>
    </prop>
    <prop oor:name="AllModules">
      <value>true</value>
    </prop>
  </node>
</node>
```
Adding Nodes

Tip - Nodes without any leaves are not displayed.

Because a Node is represented in the tree view with a string, it needs to provide a localized name the same as Leafs do. To do this we add under the property Label several localized values.

The property OptionsPage has the same meaning as the same property in Leaf. There is, however, the restriction that the options page must not take user input. Instead is should contain some explanatory words about the node.

The property AllModules needs to be set to true when one wants that the Node appears in the options dialog from all applications. Now, let me explain shortly the meaning of Module, because it will be important for the definition of Nodes. The options dialog opened from the Tools - Options... menu entry refers always to a particular Module, which depends on the current application. All Nodes can be assigned to one or multiple Modules. That is, a Node may be defined to appear only in the options dialog of the Writer and Calc application. How this is done will be explained later. However, often one wishes to have the Node displayed in every options dialog. To save the effort of assigning a Node to all existing Module|s separately, one can do this just once by setting the property of AllModules to true. This is also useful in the case where new Modules are added later, because these new Modules would not know about those Nodes.

Tip - Only Nodes which are assigned to a Module are displayed. The assignment is done by adding a member to set Module/Nodes (this will be explained later) or by setting Node/AllModules to true. The latter assigns the Node to all Modules.
Adding Several Nodes

As one might have imagined, adding several nodes is similar to adding various leaves. The definitions are just written one after the other:

```xml
<node oor:name="Nodes">
  <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.nodes2.node 3" oor:op="fuse">
    <!-- leaving out all properties and leaves for the sake of brevity -->
  </node>
  <node oor:name="oorg.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.nodes2.node 1" oor:op="fuse">
    <!-- leaving out all properties and leaves for the sake of brevity -->
  </node>
  <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.nodes2.node 2" oor:op="fuse">
    <!-- leaving out all properties and leaves for the sake of brevity -->
  </node>
</node>
```

Absolute Position of Leaves

When one defines a Node and Leaf[s for this Node at the same time then one would like to specify the position of those leaves as well. This can be done by defining group of Leaves which has the same name as the Node to which they are assigned. This group is special because its Leafs are the first which appear under the corresponding node in the tree view. Otherwise the use of GroupIndex and GroupId is identical as explained in “Grouping of Leaves”.

```xml
<node oor:name="Nodes">
  <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.nodes2.node 3" oor:op="fuse">
    <!-- leaving out all properties for the sake of brevity -->
    <node oor:name="Leaves">
      <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.nodes2.node 3.leaf 3" oor:op="fuse">
        <prop oor:name="GroupId">
          <value>org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.nodes2.node 3</value>
        </prop>
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</node>
```
Grouping of Nodes

Similar to Leafs, Nodes can be grouped as well. For example, an extension would like to add three nodes to the options dialog of the Writer. Then one may want that these nodes are displayed contiguously. This will also be achieved by defining a group with the property GroupId and an index with the property GroupIndex. The index only determines the position within the group.

**Warning** – Do not add to groups which you have not defined yourself. This may lead to clashing indices and is generally bad style. Grouping Nodes is optional. But when one does it, then all Nodes should be part of a group.
The ordering of Nodes within a group is basically the same as with Leafs. But there is a small difference. In contrast to Leafs, Nodes can be assigned to various Modules, whereas as Leaf can only be assigned to one Node. So actually one could define an order of Nodes per Module. The order could then differ depending on the Module. For example, we define Node A and B which are assigned to the “Writer” Module (actually the names for the modules are longer, for example, com.sun.star.text.TextDocument) and the “Calc” Module. We could define that in the options dialog of the Writer node A is before B and in the options dialog of Calc B is before A.

This would have added some more complexity to the data structures. With respect to the ease of use we decided for a compromise. One can only define one order independent of the Module. In the previous example the nodes A and B would have the same order in the Writer’s and Calc’s options dialog. But what if one Node is not assigned to a particular Module but the others are? For example, there are the Nodes A, B, C which have the indices 0, 1, 2. Only A and C are assigned to the “Writer” Module. Then in the options dialog of the Writer the node A would immediately followed by C.
Assigning Nodes to Modules

In the previous paragraphs we have explained what has to be done so that a node appears in the options dialog of an application no matter what the application is. Now we will explain how one can pick out the application where the node should appear.

Having a look at the schema of the `OptionsDialog.xcs` one notices that there is another set, named Modules, to which we can add entries which then determine where the nodes are displayed. If one does not care for a particular application then one should use the AllModules property of the Node, so that they are always displayed.

```xml
<node oor:name="Modules">
  <node oor:name="com.sun.star.text.TextDocument" oor:op="fuse">
    <node oor:name="Nodes">
      <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.nodes4.node1" oor:op="fuse">
        <!-- leaving out some properties for the sake of brevity -->
      </node>
      <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.nodes4.node2" oor:op="fuse">
        <!-- leaving out some properties for the sake of brevity -->
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
  <node oor:name="com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetDocument" oor:op="fuse">
    <node oor:name="Nodes">
      <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.nodes4.node1" oor:op="fuse">
        <!-- leaving out some properties for the sake of brevity -->
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</node>
```

The example shows the definition of two Node|s. Both are displayed in the options dialog of the Writer but only “node 1” is displayed in the options dialog of Calc. This
demonstrates also that a node can be assigned to various Modules.

The names of the application contexts defined by OpenOffice.org can be found here: Framework/Article/Options_Dialog_Configuration

Defining a Module

It is possible to define a Module of one’s own. How an extension can provide a real module (not the type Module) is not part of this documentation. However, if this module does not exist, there won’t be an options dialog on behalf of this module and the Nodes assigned to it are not displayed. Only the options dialog from the Extension Manager may show the nodes because it does not depend on a particular module.

Here is an example of defining a Module.

```xml
<node oor:name="Modules">
  <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.modules1.module1" oor:op="fuse">
    <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.modules1.module2" oor:op="fuse">
      <node oor:name="Nodes">
        <node oor:name="Nodes">
          ...
        </node>
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</node>
```

Absolute Position of Nodes

If one defines an own Module, then it is possible to define an order for the Nodes which one assigns to it. These Nodes will be the first which are displayed in the options dialog followed by the Nodes which have been assigned by others.

For example:

```xml
<node oor:name="Modules">
  <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.modules1.module1" oor:op="fuse">
    <node oor:name="Nodes">
      <node oor:name="Nodes">
        ...
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</node>
```
<node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.modules1.node 1"
      oor:op="fuse">
  <prop oor:name="Index">
    <value>0</value>
  </prop>
</node>

<node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.modules1.node 2"
      oor:op="fuse">
  <prop oor:name="Index">
    <value>1</value>
  </prop>
</node>

<node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.modules1.node 3"
      oor:op="fuse">
  <prop oor:name="Index">
    <value>2</value>
  </prop>
</node>

<node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.modules1.module2"
      oor:op="fuse">
  <node oor:name="Nodes">
    <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.modules1.node 1"
          oor:op="fuse">
      <prop oor:name="Index">
        <value>0</value>
      </prop>
    </node>

    <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.modules1.node 3"
          oor:op="fuse">
      <prop oor:name="Index">
        <value>1</value>
      </prop>
    </node>
  </node>
</node>

<node oor:name="Nodes">
  <node oor:name="org.openoffice.framework.desktop.test.deployment.options.modules1.module2"
        oor:op="fuse">
    <!-- leaving out some properties for the sake of brevity -->
  </node>
</node>
As you can see, every Node which is assigned to a Module can be paired with an index (property Index).

**Note** – If one decides to provide an index then one should do this for all Nodes. If a particular index is not used, for example, only index 0, 1, 5 are used, then the missing indices are left out when the nodes are displayed. That is, the tree view will not show gaps for the missing indices 2, 3, and 4.

## Help Content

Starting with OpenOffice.org 2.4 extensions can contain help content and extend the OpenOffice.org's installed help content. The feature supports:

- Adding extension related help pages
- Extending the help index to refer to these pages
- Extended tool tips in UNO dialogs and menus
- Accessing extension help content by pressing F1 in UNO dialogs and menus.

## Extension help format

The help content is located in a folder inside the extension oxt file. Usually the folder will be named “help”, but any other name can be used as long as it's assigned to the media type "application/vnd.sun.star.help" in /META-INF/manifest.xml. In this chapter the help folder name will always be “help” and all descriptions refer to the SDK sample extension DialogWithHelp.oxt developed by the fictional “Foo Corporation”.

Inside the help folder there’s one folder for each supported language. The folders are named according to the common language codes en, de, fr etc. as they are also used
inside the OpenOffice.org help folder. Inside each language folder there has to be another folder named like the extension identifier that has to be specified in the /description.xml file for each extension. As the identifier will be encoded to be used as folder name it's recommended to follow the naming scheme described in the Developers Guide Extension Identifiers.

e.g. “com.foocorp.foo-ext” to avoid differences between identifier and encoded identifier.

The identifier is part of the path to access the extension help files. The reason for this rule is to get an unique path to each help file inside the extension: a path that cannot clash with paths to help files in the installed help or in other extensions. Unfortunately – due to the design of the extension manager, the help sub package has no access to its parent package bundle – it's not possible to check at help compile time (see Deployment) if this identifier rule is violated and so no error message will be shown in this case. Nevertheless, help pages inside “illegal” folders will be suppressed at runtime, so the extension author should detect the problem when testing the extension. If a help package is not part of a parent bundle package, the identifier rule does not apply.

The following tree shows the structure of the DialogWithHelp.oxt help folder containing the languages en and de with three help pages each, one of those in a sub folder. The file / folder structure for all languages should be same, e.g. to make bookmarks pointing to extension help pages the same for all languages.

The help content will be compiled for all language when the extension is deployed. At runtime the help system tries to find the same language inside the extensions' help content that is also used to access the installed help. In case the extension's help doesn't support this language, the help system will always try to find English (en) help inside the extension and use this as a fallback.

Example:

```
DialogWithHelp.oxt
├─ DialogWithHelp
│ | ...
│ |  ... Dialog Library
├─ META-INF
  | | manifest.xml (assigning "help" folder to media type
  | | "application/vnd.sun.star.help")
├─ help
  | | en
```
Deployment

Extension help content is deployed like any other extension content using the OpenOffice.org Extension Manager or the unopkg command line tool, usually as sub package inside a package bundle. All help files are detected automatically during extension deployment, no additional configuration file is needed to list them. The help files are compiled then similar to the installed help content being compiled during the OpenOffice.org build process. The compile process itself doesn't differ from the one in helpcontent2, but instead of referring to the main OpenOffice.org help modules like writer, calc etc. each extension is handled as its own small module.

All Help Compiler output is created inside the extension's cache folder. So it's guaranteed that all help content will be removed together with the extension. Help content of disabled extensions is ignored. Due to caching mechanisms used by the HelpProvider implementation changes in the extension state may not be visible.
before the next start of OpenOffice.org.

**Error handling**

During the deployment the extension's help files are compiled. If an error is found during compilation – usually this will be a XML parsing error - a corresponding error message will be displayed. End users shouldn't be affected by these errors as the extension developer should fix all problems before releasing the extension.

Only the first line of the error message is localized. It's followed by details in English directly using the error information provided by the Help Compiler respectively the XML parser. The following lines show an example for a XML parsing error. The first line is a localized string, the following lines are always in English.

```
The extension will not be installed because an error occurred in the help files: attributes construct error in
```

**Integration into the OpenOffice.org help system**

There are different ways to access extension help content respectively to integrate it into the installed help content.

**Help module list box**

Extensions don't have its own help module, neither as single extension nor for all extensions together. So the help module list box won't be affected by extension help content.

**Help Viewer Contents page**

Adding content to the Contents tree is supported from OpenOffice.org version 3.0.0.
Help Viewer Index page

Adding index entries can be done in the same way as it's done in the installed help files (see File format). There's a difference concerning the way the index entries are assigned to the different help modules. In the OpenOffice.org installed help this is handled via the help file path. As extension help shouldn't be forced to use the same file naming scheme, instead a bookmark naming scheme is used here. The following example shows a bookmark defining an index entry (branch="index") visible for all modules:

```xml
<bookmark xml-lang="en-US" branch="index" id="bm_foo001"><bookmark_value>foo This is a single level entry</bookmark_value><bookmark_value>foo first level;second level</bookmark_value></bookmark>
```

If the index entries should only be visible for (a) special module(s) the module(s) it should be visible in can be added to the bookmark id using _ as separator, examples:

```xml
<bookmark xml-lang="en-US" branch="index" id="bm_foo001_swriter">...</bookmark>
```

will make all following bookmark_value entries only visible in the Writer index.

```xml
<bookmark xml-lang="en-US" branch="index" id="bm_foo001_sccalc_sdraw">...</bookmark>
```

will make all following bookmark_value entries only visible in Calc and Draw index.

The module names to be used here are the same as in the installed help:

sbasic, scalc, schart, sdatabase, sdraw, simpress, smath, swriter.

Help Viewer Find page

Starting with OOo 3.1 full text search is also supported for extension help. The extension developer doesn't have to care about this. During extension installation a help index will be created automatically. Search results found inside the extension help will be shown together with the results found in the OpenOffice.org help files ordered according to their score.
Help Viewer Bookmarks page

Bookmarks to extension help pages can be added. When the corresponding package is disabled or removed later the bookmark will not automatically be removed.

Context sensitive help and extended tool tips

Context sensitive help is based on Help Ids that are assigned to toolbar items, menu items and UNO Dialogs / Dialog controls. Toolbar and menu items do specify a Command URL to bind the item to an action to be taken when the item is executed. It's important to choose a unique Command URL, e.g. by following a similar scheme like for the extension identifier or to refer to a service implementing the functionality. Example Command URL: com.foocorp.foo:DoTheFooAction

This Command URL is also used as Help Id, both for extended tool tips as for assigning a help page to F1. Defining help Ids in xhp files is also done with the bookmark element (see File Format):

```
<bookmark xml-lang="en-US" branch="hid/com.foocorp.foo:DoTheFooAction" id="bm_foo02" localize="false"/>
<paragraph role="paragraph" id="hd_id4711" xml-lang="en-US">
<ahelp hid="com.foocorp.foo:DoTheFooAction" visibility="hidden">
This is the extended tool tip for DoTheFooAction</ahelp>
</paragraph>
<paragraph role="paragraph" id="hd_id4712" xml-lang="en-US">
This is the help Text for DoTheFooAction. ...
</paragraph>
```

The Command URL has to be used both for the branch value after hid/ and in the ahelp / hid value.

In the same way bookmarks can be bound to Dialogs / Controls created with the OpenOffice.org Dialog Editor. The user just has to assign a unique Help Id to a Dialog's or Control's Help URL property and define a corresponding bookmark as shown above. If a control has the focus, its Help URL has priority about the Dialog Help URL.

Links

Links to extension help pages are defined in the same way as in the OpenOffice.org help, only the path differs. Example:

```
<link href="com.foocorp.foo-ext/subfolder/anotherpage.xhp">Link to foo</link>
```
Images

Starting with OOo 3.1 extension help can provide own pictures. In the OpenOffice.org help image tags always refer to a set of images distributed with the office product in the images.zip file. The following help image tag addresses an icon located there:

<image id="img_id0001" src="res/commandimagelist/sc_paralefttoright.png" width="0.222inch" height="0.222inch">

Tags like this of course also can be used in extension help files (even before OOo 3.1). To address an image inside the extension's help the src path has to start with the extension's id. So this will show the image located inside the extension's help at foo.oxt/help/en/com.foocorp.foo-ext/foo.png:

<image id="img_id0002" src="com.foocorp.foo-ext/foo.png"></image>

The width / height attributes are optional. Images can also be placed in subfolders:

<image id="img_id0003" src="com.foocorp.foo-ext/subfolder/foo2.png"></image>

File Format

The extension help content uses the XML based xhp file format that is also used for the OpenOffice.org installed help. A description can be found here:


Paths start with the Identifier folder inside the language folder. This is also reflected in the xhp files' <filename> tag, example:

<helpdocument version="1.0">...<filename>/com.foocorp.foo-ext/pagel.xhp</filename>
Advanced UNO

Choosing an Implementation Language

The UNO technology provides a framework for cross-platform and language independent programming. All the OpenOffice.org components can be implemented in any language supported by UNO, as long as they only communicate with other components through their IDL interfaces.

Note – The condition "as long as they only communicate with other components through their IDL interfaces" is to be strictly taken. In fact, a lot of implementations within OpenOffice.org export UNO interfaces and still use private C++ interfaces. This is a tribute to older implementations that cannot be rewritten in an acceptable timeframe.

A developer can customize the office to their needs with this flexibility, but they will have to decide which implementation language should be selected for a specific problem.

Supported Programming Environments

The support for programming languages in UNO and OpenOffice.org is divided into
three different categories.

7. Languages that invoke calls on existing UNO objects are possibly implemented in other programming languages. Additionally, it may be possible to implement certain UNO interfaces, but not UNO components that can be instantiated by the service manager.

8. Languages that implement UNO components. UNO objects implemented in such a language are accessible from any other language that UNO supports, just by instantiating a service by name at the servicemanager. For instance, the developer can implement a OpenOffice.org Calc addin (see Spreadsheet Documents).

9. Languages that are used to write code to be delivered within OpenOffice.org documents and utilize dialogs designed with the OpenOffice.org dialog editor.

The following table lists programming languages currently supported by UNO. 'Yes' in the table columns denotes full support, 'no' denotes that there is no support and is not even planned in the future. 'Maybe in future' means there is currently no support, but this may change with future releases.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>UNO scripting</th>
<th>UNO components</th>
<th>Deployment with OpenOffice.org documents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C++</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>maybe in future</td>
<td>maybe in future</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Java</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>maybe in future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StarBasic</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLE automation (win32 only)</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>maybe in future</td>
<td>maybe in future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Python</td>
<td>maybe in future (under development)</td>
<td>maybe in future (under development)</td>
<td>maybe in future</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Java**

Java is an accepted programming language offering a standard library with a large set of features and available extensions. Additional extensions will be available in the future, such as JAX-RPC for calling webservices. It is a typesafe language with a typesafe UNO binding. Although interfaces have to be queried explicitly, the type safety makes it suitable for larger projects. UNO components can be implemented with Java, that is, the Java VM is started on demand inside the office process when a Java component is instantiated. The OfficeBean allows embedding OpenOffice.org documents in Java Applets and Applications.

There is a constant runtime overhead of about 1 to 2 ms per call that is caused by the bridge conversion routines when calling UNO objects implemented in other language
Advanced UNO bindings. Since OpenOffice.org consists of C++ code, every Java call into the office needs to be bridged. This poses no problems if there are a few calls per user interaction. The runtime overhead will hurt the application when routines produce hundreds or thousands of calls.

**C++**

C++ is an accepted programming language offering third-party products. In addition to C++ being fast since it is compiled locally, it offers the fastest communication with OpenOffice.org because most of the essential parts of office have been developed in C++. This advantage becomes less important as you call into the office through the interprocess bridge, because every remote call means a constant loss of 1 to 2 ms. The fastest code to extend the office can be implemented as a C++ UNO component. It is appropriate for larger projects due to its strong type safety at compile time.

C++ is difficult to learn and coding, in general, takes longer, for example, in Java. The components must be built for every platform, that leads to a higher level of complexity during development and deployment.

**OpenOffice.org Basic**

OpenOffice.org Basic is the scripting language developed for and integrated directly into OpenOffice.org. It currently offers the best integration with OpenOffice.org, because you can insert code into documents, attach arbitrary office events, such as document loading, keyboard shortcuts or menu entries, to Basic code and use dialogs designed within the OpenOffice.org IDE. In Basic, calls are invoked on an object rather than on a specific interface. Interfaces, such as com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet are integrated as Basic object properties. Basic always runs in the office process and thus avoids costly interprocess calls.

The language is type unsafe, that is, only a minimal number of errors are found during compilation. Most errors appear at runtime, therefore it is not the best choice for large projects. The language is OpenOffice.org specific and only offers a small set of runtime functionality with little third-party support. All office functionality is used through UNO. UNO components cannot be implemented with Basic. The only UNO objects that can be implemented are listeners. Finally, Basic does not offer any thread support.
OLE Automation Bridge

The OLE Automation bridge opens the UNO world to programming environments that support OLE automation, such as Visual Basic, JScript, Delphi or C++ Builder. Programmers working on the Windows platform can write programs for OpenOffice.org without leaving their language by learning a new API. These programmers have access to the libraries provided by their language. It is possible to implement UNO objects, if the programming language supports object implementation.

This bridge is only useful on a Win32 machine, thereby being a disadvantage. Scripts always run in a different process so that every UNO call has at least the usual interprocess overhead of 1 to 2 ms. Currently Automation UNO components cannot be implemented for the service manager, but this may change in the future.

Python

A Python scripting bridge (PyUNO) is currently developed by Ralph Thomas. It is available in an experimental alpha state with known limitations. For details, see PyUNO on udk.openoffice.org.

Use Cases

The following list gives typical UNO applications for the various language environments.

Java

- Servlets creating Office Documents on the fly, Java Server Pages
- Server-Based Collaboration Platforms, Document Management Systems
- Calc add-ins
- Chart add-ins
- Database Drivers
C++

- Filters reading document data and generating Office Documents through UNO calls
- Database Drivers
- Calc add-ins
- Chart add-ins

OpenOffice.org Basic

- Office Automation
- Event-driven data-aware forms

OLE Automation

- Office Automation, creating and controlling Office Documents from other applications and from Active Server Pages

Python

- Calc add-ins

Recommendation

All languages have their advantages and disadvantages as previously discussed, but there is not one language for all purposes, depending on your use. Consider carefully before starting a new project and evaluate the language to use so that it saves you time.

Sometimes it may be useful to use multiple languages to gain the advantages of both languages. For instance, currently it is not possible to attach a keyboard event to a Java method, therefore, write a small Basic function, which forwards the event to a Java component.
The number of languages supported by UNO may increase and some of the limitations shown in the table above may disappear.

Language Bindings

UNO language bindings enable developers to use and implement UNO objects in arbitrary programming languages. Thus, the existing language bindings connect between implementation environments, such as Java, C++, OpenOffice.org Basic and OLE Automation. The connection is accomplished by bridges. The following terms are used in our discussion about the implementation of language bindings.

In our context, the target language or target environment denotes the language or environment from which the UNO component model is accessed. The bridging language is the language used for writing the bridge code.

An object-oriented language determines the layout of its objects in memory. We call an object that is based on this layout a language object. The layout along with everything that relates to it, such as creation, destruction, and interaction, is the object model of a language.

A UNO proxy (short: proxy) is created by a bridge and it is a language object that represents a UNO object in the target language. It provides the same functionality as the original UNO object. There are two terms which further specialize a UNO proxy. The UNO interface proxy is a UNO proxy representing exactly one interface of a UNO object, whereas a UNO object proxy represents an uno object with all its interfaces.

An interface bridge bridges one UNO interface to one interface of the target language, that is, to a UNO interface proxy. When the proxy is queried for another interface that is implemented by the UNO object, then another interface proxy is returned. In contrast, an object bridge bridges entire UNO objects into UNO object proxies of the target language. The object proxy receives calls for all interfaces of the UNO object.

Implementing UNO Language Bindings

This section introduces the basic steps to create a new language binding. The steps required depend on the target language. The section provides an overview of existing language bindings to help you to decide what is necessary for your case. It is
recommended that you read the sources for available language bindings and transfer the solutions they offer to the new circumstances of your target language.

Overview of Language Bindings and Bridges

Creating a language binding for UNO involves the following tasks:

Language Specification and UNO Feature Support

When writing a language binding, consider how to map UNOIDL types to your target language, treat simple types and handle complex types, such as `struct`, `sequence`, `interface` and `any`. Furthermore, UNOIDL features, such as services, properties and exceptions must be matched to the capabilities of the target language and accommodated, if need be.

Code Generator

If the target language requires type definitions at compile time, a code generator must translate UNOIDL type definitions to the target language type definitions according to the language specification, so that the types defined in UNOIDL can be used.

UNO Bridge

UNO communication is based on calls to interfaces. Bridges supply the necessary means to use interfaces of UNO objects between implementation environments. The key for bridging is an intermediate environment called binary UNO, that consists of binary data formats for parameters and return values, and a C dispatch method used to call arbitrary operations on UNO interfaces. A bridge must be capable of the following tasks:

- Between the target language and OpenOffice.org:

  12. Converting operation parameters from the target language to binary UNO.
13. Transforming operation calls in the target language to calls in binary UNO in a different environment.

14. Transporting the operation call with its parameters to OpenOffice.org and the return values back to the target language.

15. Mapping return values from binary UNO to the target language.

   - Between OpenOffice.org and the target language, that is, during callbacks or when using a component in the target language:

16. Converting operation parameters from binary UNO to the target language.

17. Transforming operation calls in binary UNO to calls in the target language.

18. Transporting the operation call with its parameters to the target language and the return values back to OpenOffice.org.

19. Converting return values from the target language to binary UNO.

The Reflection API delivers information about UNO types and is used by bridges to support type conversions (com.sun.star.script.Converter), and method invocations (com.sun.star.script.Invocation and com.sun.star.script.XInvocation). Furthermore, it supplies runtime type information and creates instances of certain UNO types, such as structs (com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection).

**UNO Component Loader**

An implementation loader is required to load and activate code produced by the target language if implementations in the target language are to be instantiated. This involves locating the component files produced by the target language, and mechanisms to load and execute the code produced by the target language, such as launching a runtime environment. Currently there are implementation loaders for jar files and locally shared libraries on the platforms supported by UNO.

**Bootstrapping**

A UNO language binding must prepare itself so that it can bridge to the UNO environments. It depends on the target environment how this is achieved. In Java, C+
+, and Python, a local service manager in the target environment is used to instantiate a com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver that connects to OpenOffice.org. In the Automation bridge, the object com.sun.star.ServiceManager is obtained from the COM runtime system and in OpenOffice.org Basic the service manager is available from a special method of the Basic runtime environment, getProcessServiceManager().

Implementation Options

There are two different approaches when creating a UNO language binding.

1. Programming languages checking types at compile time. Examples are the languages Java or C++. In these environments, it is necessary to query for interfaces at certain objects and then invoke calls compile-time-typesafe on these interfaces.

2. Programming languages checking types at runtime. Examples are the languages StarBasic, Python or Perl. In these languages, the interfaces are not queried explicitly as there is no compiler to check the signature of a certain method. Instead, methods are directly invoked on objects. During execution, the runtime engine checks if a method is available at one of the exported interfaces, and if not, a runtime error is raised. Typically, such a binding has a slight performance disadvantage compared to the solution above.

You can achieve different levels of integration with both types of language binding.

1. Call existing UNO interfaces implemented in different bindings. This is the normal scripting use case, for example, connect to a remote running office, instantiate some services and invoke calls on these services (unidirectional binding).

2. Implement UNO interfaces and let them be called from different bindings. In addition to 1) above, a language binding is able to implement UNO interfaces, for example, for instance listener interfaces, so that your code is notified of certain events (limited bidirectional binding).

3. Implement a UNO component that is instantiated on demand from any other language at the global service manager. In addition to 2) above, a binding must provide the code which starts up the runtime engine of the target environment. For example, when a Java UNO component is instantiated by the OpenOffice.org process, the Java VM must be loaded and initialized, before the actual component is loaded (bidirectional binding).

A language binding should always be bidirectional. That is, it should be possible to
access UNO components implemented in the target language from OpenOffice.org, as well as accessing UNO components that are implemented in a different language from the target language.

The following table provides an overview about the capabilities of the different language bindings currently available for OpenOffice.org:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>scripting (accessing office objects)</th>
<th>interface implementation</th>
<th>component development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C++ (platform dependent)</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Java</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StarBasic</td>
<td>yes (only listener interfaces)</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no (maybe in the future)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLE automation (Win32 only)</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The next section outlines the implementation of a C++ language binding. The C++ binding itself is extremely platform and compiler dependent, which provides a barrier when porting OpenOffice.org to a new platform. Although this chapter focuses on C++ topics, the chapter can be applied for other typesafe languages that store their code in a shared library, for instance, Delphi, because the same concepts apply.

The section UNO Reflection API considers the UNO reflection and invocation API, which offers generic functionality to inspect and call UNO objects. The section XInvocion Bridge explains how the Reflection API is used to implement a runtime type-checking language binding.

The final chapter Implementation Loader briefly describes the concept of implementation loaders that instantiate components on demand independently of the client and the implementation language. The integration of a new programming language into the UNO component framework is completed once you have a loader.

**UNO C++ Bridges**

This chapter focuses on writing a UNO bridge locally, specifically writing a C++ UNO bridge to connect to code compiled with the C++ compiler. This is an introduction for bridge implementers. It is assumed that the reader has a general understanding of compilers and a of 80x86 assembly language. Refer to the section Implementation Loader for additional information.
Binary UNO Interfaces

A primary goal when using a new compiler is to adjust the C++-UNO data type generator (cppumaker tool) to produce binary compatible declarations for the target language. The tested cppu core functions can be used when there are similar sizes and alignment of UNO data types. The layout of C++ data types, as well as implementing C++-UNO objects is explained in C++ Language Binding.

When writing C++ UNO objects, you are implementing UNO interfaces by inheriting from pure virtual C++ classes, that is, the generated cppumaker classes (see .hdl files). When you provide an interface, you are providing a pure virtual class pointer. The following paragraph describes how the memory layout of a C++ object looks.

A C++-UNO interface pointer is always a pointer to a virtual function table (vftable), that is, a C++ this pointer. The equivalent binary UNO interface is a pointer to a struct _uno_Interface that contains function pointers. This struct holds a function pointer to uno_DispatchMethod() and also a function pointer to acquire() and release():

```c++
// forward declaration of uno_DispatchMethod()

typedef void (SAL_CALL * uno_DispatchMethod)(
    const struct _uno_Interface * pUnoI,
    const struct _typelib_TypeDescription * pMemberType,
    void * pReturn,
    void * pArgs[],
    uno_Any ** ppException );

// Binary UNO interface

typedef struct _uno_Interface
{
    /** Acquires uno interface. */
    void (SAL_CALL * acquire )( struct _uno_Interface * pInterface );
    /** Releases uno interface. */
    void (SAL_CALL * release )( struct _uno_Interface * pInterface );
    /** dispatch function */
    uno_DispatchMethod pDispatcher ;
} uno_Interface;
```

Similar to com.sun.star.uno.XInterface, the life-cycle of an interface is controlled using the acquire() and release() functions of the binary UNO interface. Any other method is called through the dispatch function pointer pDispatcher. The dispatch function expects the binary UNO interface pointer (this), the interface member type
of the function to be called, an optional pointer for a return value, the argument list and finally a pointer to signal an exception has occurred.

The caller of the dispatch function provides memory for the return value and the exception holder \(\text{uno}_\text{Any}\).

The pArgs array provides pointers to binary UNO values, for example, a pointer to an interface reference \(\_\_\text{uno}_\text{Interface} \,*\) or a pointer to a SAL 32 bit integer \(\text{sal}_\text{Int32} \,*\).

A bridge to binary UNO maps interfaces from C++ to binary UNO and conversely. To achieve this, implement a mechanism to produce proxy interfaces for both ends of the bridge.

## C++ Proxy

A C++ interface proxy carries its interface type (reflection), as well as its destination binary UNO interface \(\text{this} \) pointer. The proxy's vtable pointer is patched to a generated vtable that is capable of determining the index that was called , as well as the this pointer of the proxy object to get the interface type.

The vtable requires an assembly code. The rest is programmed in C/C++. You are not allowed to trash the registers. On many compilers, the this pointer and parameters are provided through stack space. The following provides an example of a Visual C++ 80x86:

```assembly
vftable slot0:  
  mov eax, 0  
  jmp cpp_vftable_call  
vftable slot0:  
  mov eax, 1  
  jmp cpp_vftable_call  
vftable slot0:  
  mov eax, 2  
  jmp cpp_vftable_call  
...

static __declspec(naked) void __cdecl cpp_vftable_call(void)  
{
  __asm  
    {
      sub esp, 8      // space for immediate return type
      push esp
      push eax
      mov eax, esp    // vtable index
      add eax, 16
    }
```
The vtable is filled with pointers to the different slot code (snippets). The snippet code recognizes the table index being called and calls `cpp_vftable_call()`. That function calls a C/C++ function (`cpp_mediate()`) and sets output registers upon return, for example, for floating point numbers depending on the return value type.

Remember that the vtable handling described above follows the Microsoft calling convention, that is, the this pointer is always the first parameter on the stack. This is currently not the case for gcc that prepends a pointer to a complex return value before the this pointer on the stack if a method returns a struct. This complicates the (static) vtable treatment, because different vtable slots have to be generated for different interface types, adjusting the offset to the proxy this pointer:

Microsoft Visual C++ call stack layout (esp offset [byte]):
0: return address
4: this pointer
8: optional pointer, if return value is complex (i.e. struct to be copy-constructed)
12: param0
16: param1
20: ...

This is usually the hardest part for stack-oriented compilers. Afterwards proceed in C/C++ (`cpp_mediate()`) to examine the proxy interface type, read out parameters from the stack and prepare the call on the binary UNO destination interface.

Each parameter is read from the stack and converted into binary UNO. Use `cppu`
core functions if you have adjusted the cppumaker code generation (alignment, sizes) to the binary UNO layout (see `cppu/inc/uno/data.h`).

After calling the destination `uno_dispatch()` method, convert any out/inout and return the values back to C++-UNO, and return to the caller. If an exception is signalled `(*ppException != 0)` throw the exception provided to you in `ppException`. In most cases, you can utilize Runtime Type Information (RTTI) from your compiler framework to throw exceptions in a generic manner. Disassemble code throwing a C++ exception, and observe what the compiler generates.

**Binary UNO Proxy**

The proxy code is simple for binary UNO. Convert any `in/inout` parameters to C++-UNO values, preparing a call stack. Then perform a virtual function call that is similar to the following example for Microsoft Visual C++:

```c
void callVirtualMethod(
    void * pThis, sal_Int32 nVtableIndex,
    void * pRegisterReturn, typelib_TypeClass eReturnTypeClass,
    sal_Int32 * pStackLongs, sal_Int32 nStackLongs )
{
    // parameter list is mixed list of * and values
    // reference parameters are pointers

    __asm
    {
        mov        eax, nStackLongs
        test       eax, eax
        je         Lcall
        // copy values
        mov        ecx, eax
        shl        eax, 2
        // sizeof(sal_Int32) == 4
        add        eax, pStackLongs
        // params stack space
        Lcopy:
            sub        eax, 4
            push       dword ptr [eax]
            dec        ecx
            jne        Lcopy
        Lcall:
            // call
            mov        ecx, pThis
            push       ecx // this ptr
            mov        edx, [ecx] // pvft
            mov        eax, nVtableIndex
            shl        eax, 2
            // sizeof(void *) == 4
            add        edx, eax
            call       [edx]    // interface method
    }
}
```

Disassemble code throwing a C++ exception, and observe what the compiler generates.
```
// register return
mov ecx, eReturnTypClass
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_VOID
je Lcleanup
mov ebx, pRegisterReturn

// int32
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_LONG
je Lint32
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_UNSIGNED_LONG
je Lint32
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_ENUM
je Lint32

// int8
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_BOOLEAN
je Lint8
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_BYTE
je Lint8

// int16
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_CHAR
je Lint16
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_SHORT
je Lint16
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_UNSIGNED_SHORT
je Lint16

// float
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_FLOAT
je Lfloat

// double
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_DOUBLE
je Ldouble

// int64
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_HYPER
je Lint64
cmp ecx, typelib_TypeClass_UNSIGNED_HYPER
je Lint64
jmp Lcleanup

type
Lint8:
  mov byte ptr [ebx], al
  jmp Lcleanup
Lint16:
  mov word ptr [ebx], ax
  jmp Lcleanup
Lfloat:
  fstp dword ptr [ebx]
  jmp Lcleanup
Ldouble:
  fstp qword ptr [ebx]
  jmp Lcleanup
Lint64:
  mov dword ptr [ebx], eax
  mov dword ptr [ebx+4], edx
  jmp Lcleanup
Lint32:
  mov dword ptr [ebx], eax
  jmp Lcleanup
Lcleanup:
```
First stack data is pushed to the stack, including a this pointer, then the virtual function's pointer is retrieved and called. When the call returns, the return register values are copied back. It is also necessary to catch all exceptions generically and retrieve information about type and data of a thrown exception. In this case, look at your compiler framework functions also.

**Additional Hints**

Every local bridge is different, because of the compiler framework and code generation and register allocation. Before starting, look at your existing bridge code for the processor, compiler, and the platform in module bridges/source/cpp_uno that is part of the OpenOffice.org source tree on www.openoffice.org.

Also test your bridge code extensively and build the module cppu with debug symbols before implementing the bridge, because cppu contains alignment and size tests for the compiler.

For quick development, use the executable build in cppu/test raising your bridge library, doing lots of calls with all kinds of data on mapped interfaces.

Also test your bridge in a non-debug build. Often, bugs in assembly code only occur in non-debug versions, because of trashed registers. In most cases, optimized code allocates or uses more processor registers than non-optimized (debug) code.

**UNO Reflection API**

This section describes the UNO Reflection API. This API includes services and interfaces that can be used to get information about interfaces and objects at runtime.
XTypeProvider Interface

The interface com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider allows the developer to retrieve all types provided by an object. These types are usually interface types and the XTypeProvider interface can be used at runtime to detect which interfaces are supported by an object. This interface should be supported by every object to make it scriptable from OpenOffice.org Basic.

Converter Service

The service com.sun.star.script.Converter supporting the interface com.sun.star.script.XTypeConverter provides basic functionality that is important in the reflection context. It converts values to a particular type. For the method <idlml>com.sun.star.script.XTypeConverter:convertTo</idlml>(), the target type is specified as type, allowing any type available in the UNO type system. The method <idlml>com.sun.star.script.XTypeConverter:convertToSimpleType</idlml>() converts a value into a simple type that is specified by the corresponding com.sun.star.uno.TypeClass. If the requested conversion is not feasible, both methods throw a com.sun.star.script.CannotConvertException.

CoreReflection Service

The service com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection supporting the interface com.sun.star.reflection.XIdlReflection is an important entry point for the Uno Reflection API. The XIdlReflection interface has two methods that each return a com.sun.star.reflection.XIdlClass interface for a given name (method <idlml>forName</idlml>()) or any value (method <idlml>getType</idlml>()).

The interface XIdlClass is one of the central interfaces of the Reflection API. It provides information about types, especially about class or interface, and struct types. Besides general information, for example, to check type identity through the method <idlml>equals</idlml>() or to determine a type or class name by means of the method <idlml>getName</idlml>(), it is possible to ask for the fields or members, and methods supported by an interface type (method <idlml>getFields</idlml>() returning a sequence of XIdlField interfaces and method <idlml>getMethods</idlml>() returning a sequence of XIdlMethod interfaces).

The interface XIdlField is deprecated and should not be used. Instead the interface
com.sun.star.reflection.XIdlField2 is available by querying it from an XIdlField interface returned by an XIdlClass method.

The interface XIdlField or XIdlField2 represents a struct member of a struct or get or set accessor methods of an interface type. It provides information about the field (methods getType() and getAccessMode()) and reads and - if allowed by the access mode - modifies its value for a given instance of the corresponding type (methods get() and set()).

The interface XIdlMethod represents a method of an interface type. It provides information about the method (methods getReturnType(), getParameterTypes(), getParameterInfos(), getExceptionTypes() and getMode()) and invokes the method for a given instance of the corresponding type (method invoke()).

Introspection

The service com.sun.star.beans.Introspection supporting the interface com.sun.star.beans.XIntrospection is used to inspect an object of interface or struct type to obtain information about its members and methods. Unlike the CoreReflection service, and the XIdlClass interface, the inspection is not limited to one interface type but to all interfaces supported by an object. To detect the interfaces supported by an object, the Introspection service queries for the XTypeProvider interface. If an object does not support this interface, the introspection does not work correctly.

To inspect an object, pass it as an any value to the inspect() method of XIntrospection. The result of the introspection process is returned as com.sun.star.beans.XIntrospectionAccess interface. This interface is used to obtain information about the inspected object. All information returned refers to the complete object as a combination of several interfaces. When accessing an object through XIntrospectionAccess, it is impossible to distinguish between the different interfaces.

The com.sun.star.beans.XIntrospectionAccess interface provides a list of all properties (method getProperties()) and methods (method getMethods()) supported by the object. The introspection maps methods matching the pattern

```
FooType getFoo()  setFoo(FooType)
```

to a property Foo of type FooType.

com.sun.star.beans.XIntrospectionAccess also supports a categorization of properties and methods. For instance, it is possible to exclude "dangerous" methods, such as the reference counting methods

`<idlml>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface:acquire</idlml>()` and
<idlml>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface:release</idlml>() from the set of methods returned by getMethods(). When the Introspection service is used to bind a new scripting language, it is useful to block the access to functionality that could crash the entire OpenOffice.org application when used in an incorrect manner.

The XIntrospectionAccess interface does not allow the developer to invoke methods and access properties directly. To invoke methods, the invoke() method of the XIdlMethod interfaces returned by the methods getMethods() and getMethod() are used. To access properties, a com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface is used that can be queried from the <idlml>com.sun.star.beans.XIntrospectionAccess:queryAdapter</idlml>() method. This method also provides adapter interfaces for other generic access interfaces like com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess and com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess, if these interfaces are also supported by the original object.

**Invocation**

The service com.sun.star.script.Invocation supporting the interface com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory provides a generic, high-level access (higher compared to the Introspection service) to the properties and methods of an object. The object that should be accessed through Introspection is passed to the <idlml>com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory:createInstanceWithArguments</idlml>() method. The returned XInterface can then be queried for com.sun.star.script.XInvocation2 derived from com.sun.star.script.XInvocation.

The XInvocation interface invokes methods and access properties directly by passing their names and additional parameters to the corresponding methods (method invoke(), getValue() and setValue()). It is also possible to ask if a method or property exists with the methods hasMethod() and hasProperty().

When invoking a method with invoke(), the parameters are passed as a sequence of any values. The Invocation service automatically converts these arguments, if possible to the appropriate target types using the com.sun.star.script.Converter service that is further described below. The Introspection functionality is suitable for binding scripting languages to UNO that are not or only weakly typed.

The XInvocation2 interface extends the Invocation functionality by methods to ask for further information about the properties and methods of the object represented by the Invocation instance. It is possible to ask for the names of all the properties and methods (method getMemberNames()) and detailed information about them represented by the com.sun.star.script.InvocationInfo struct type (methods
UNO Reflection API

getInfo() and getInfoForName().

**Members of struct com.sun.star.script.InvocationInfo**

- **aName**
  Name of the method or property.

- **eMemberType**
  Kind of the member (method or property).

- **PropertyAttribute**
  Only for property members: This field may contain zero or more constants of the
  com::sun::star::beans::PropertyAttribute constants group. It is not guaranteed that all necessary constants are
  set to describe the property completely, but a flag will be
  set if the corresponding characteristic really exists. For
  example, if the READONLY flag is set, the property is read
  only. If it is not set, the property nevertheless can be read
  only. This field is irrelevant for methods and is set to 0.

- **aType**
  Type of the member, when referring to methods, the return
  type

- **aParamTypes**
  Types of method parameters, for properties this sequence
  is empty

- **aParamModes**
  Mode of method parameters (in, out, inout), for properties
  this sequence is empty.

The *Invocation* service is based on the *Introspection* service. The *XInvocation*
interface has a method `getIntrospection()` to ask for the corresponding
*XIntrospectionAccess* interface. The *Invocation* implementation currently
implemented in OpenOffice.org supports this, but in general, an implementation of
*XInvocation* does not provide access to an *XInvocationAccess* interface.

**InvocationAdapterFactory**

The service `com.sun.star.script.InvocationAdapterFactory` supporting the interfaces
`com.sun.star.script.XInvocationAdapterFactory` and
`com.sun.star.script.XInvocationAdapterFactory2` are used to create adapters that
map a generic *XInvocation* interface to specific interfaces. This functionality is
especially essential for creating scripting language bindings that do not only access
UNO from the scripting language, but also to implement UNO objects using the
scripting language. Without the *InvocationAdapterFactory* functionality, this would
only be possible if the scripting language supported the implementation of interfaces
directly.

By means of the *InvocationAdapterFactory* functionality it is only necessary to map
the scripting language specific native invocation interface, for example, realized by an
OLE IDispatch interface, to the UNO *XInvocation* interface. Then, any combination
of interfaces needed to represent the services supported by a UNO object are
provided as an adapter using the
\texttt{com.sun.star.script.XInvocationAdapterFactory2:createAdapter()}
method.

Another important use of the invocation adapter is to create listener interfaces that
are passed to the corresponding \texttt{add...Listener()} method of an UNO interface and
corresponding\texttt{add...Listener()} method of an UNO interface and
maps to the methods of an interface to \texttt{XInvocation}. In this case, usually the
\texttt{com.sun.star.script.XInvocationAdapterFactory:createAdapter()} method is used.

\section*{XTypeDescription}

Internally, types in UNO are represented by the type \texttt{type}. This type also has an
interface representation \texttt{XTypeDescription}. A number of
interfaces derived from \texttt{XTypeDescription} represent types. These interfaces are:

- \texttt{XArrayTypeDescription}
- \texttt{XCompoundTypeDescription}
- \texttt{XEnumTypeDescription}
- \texttt{XIndirectTypeDescription}
- \texttt{XUnionTypeDescription}
- \texttt{XInterfaceTypeDescription}
- \texttt{XInterfaceAttributeTypeDescription}
- \texttt{XInterfaceMemberTypeDescription}
- \texttt{XInterfaceMethodTypeDescription}

The corresponding services are \texttt{TypeDescriptionManager} and
\texttt{TypeDescriptionProvider}. These services support
\texttt{TypeDescriptionManager} and \texttt{TypeDescriptionProvider}. These services support
\texttt{XHierarchicalNameAccess} and asks for a type description
interface by passing the fully qualified type name to the
\texttt{com.sun.star.container.XHierarchicalNameAccess:getByHierarchicalName()} method.

The \texttt{TypeDescription} services and interfaces are listed here for completeness.
Ordinarily this functionality would not be used when binding a scripting language to
UNO, because the high-level services \texttt{Invocation}, \texttt{Introspection} and \texttt{Reflection}
provide all the functionality required. If the binding is implemented in C++, the \texttt{type}
type and the corresponding C API are used directly.

The following illustration provides an overview of how the described services and
interfaces work together. Each arrow expresses a "uses" relationship. The interfaces
listed for a service are not necessarily supported by the service directly, but contain
interfaces that are strongly related to the services.

UML diagram showing the Scripting Language Binding

XInvocation Bridge

Scripting Existing UNO Objects

This section describes UNO bridges for type-unsafe (scripting) programming languages. These bridges are based on the com.sun.star.script.Invocation service.

The most common starting point for a new scripting language binding is that you want to control OpenOffice.org from a script running externally. To accomplish this, you need to know what your scripting language offers to extend the language, for example, Python or Perl extend the language with a module concept using locally shared libraries.
In general, your bridge must offer a static method that is called from a script. Within this method, bootstrap a UNO C++ component context as described in Bootstrapping a Service Manager.

**Proxying a UNO Object**

Next, this component context must be passed to the script programmer, so that you can instantiate a com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver and connect to a running office within the script.

The component context can not be passed directly as a C++ UNO reference, because the scripting engine does not recognize it, therefore build a language dependent proxy object around the C++ object Reference.

For example, Python offers an API to create a proxy. Typically calls invoked on the proxy from a script are narrowed into one single C function. The Python runtime passes method names and an array containing the arguments to this C function.

If a proxy is implemented for a concrete interface, the method names that you received could in theory be compared to all method names offered by the UNO interface. This is not feasible, because of all the interfaces used in OpenOffice.org. The com.sun.star.script.Invocation service exists for this purpose. It offers a simple interface com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory that creates a proxy for an arbitrary UNO object using the `createInstanceWithArguments()` method and passing the object the proxy acts for. Use the com.sun.star.script.XInvocation interface that is exported by this proxy to invoke a method on the UNO object.
XInvocation Bridge

In addition, argument conversion must be considered by specifying how each UNO type should be mapped to your target language.

Convert the language dependent data types to UNO data types before calling `<idlml>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke</idlml>`() and convert the UNO datatypes (return value and out parameters) to language dependent types after the call has been executed. The conversion routines are typically recursive functions, because data values are nested in complex types, such as `struct` or `any`.

When UNO object references are returned by method calls to UNO objects, create new language dependent proxies as discussed above. When passing a previously returned UNO object as a parameter to a new method call, the language binding must recognize that it is a proxied object and pass the original UNO object reference to the `<idlml>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke</idlml>`() call instead.

A special case for conversions are UNOIDL structs. You want to call a method that takes a struct as an argument. The first problem is the struct must be created by the bridge and the script programmer must be able to set members at the struct. One solution is that the bridge implementer creates a UNO struct using core C functions from the `cppu` library, but this is complicated and results in a lot of difficulty.

Therefore, a solution has been created that accesses structs through the
XInvocation interface, as if they were UNO objects. This simplifies struct handling for bridge programmers. Refer to the reference documentation of com.sun.star.reflection.CoreReflection and the com.sun.star.script.Invocation service and the com.sun.star.beans.XMaterialHolder interface.

**Exception Handling**

UNO method calls may throw exceptions and must be mapped to the desired target language appropriately, depending on the capabilities of your target language. Ideally, the target language supports an exception concept, but error handlers, such as in OpenOffice.org Basic can be used also. A third way and worst case scenario is to check after every API call if an exception has been thrown. In case the UNO object throws an exception, the XInvocation proxy throws a com.sun.star.reflection.InvocationTargetException. The exception has an additional any member, that contains the exception that was really thrown.

Note that the XInvocation proxy may throw a com.sun.star.script.CannotConvertException indicating that the arguments passed by the script programmer cannot be matched to the arguments of the desired function. For example, there are missing arguments or the types are incompatible. This must be reported as an error to the script programmer.

**Property Support**

The com.sun.star.script.Invocation has special `getProperty()` and `setProperty()` methods. These methods are used when the UNO object supports a property set and your target language, for example, supports something similar to the following:

```idlml
object.propname = 'foo';
```

Note that every property is also reachable by `<idlml>com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke</idlml>`('setPropertyValue', ...), so these set or `getProperty` functions are optional.
Implementing UNO objects

When it is possible to implement classes in your target language, consider offering support for implementation of UNO objects. This is useful for callbacks, for example, event listeners. Another typical use case is to provide a datasource through a com.sun.star.io.XInputStream.

The script programmer determines which UNOIDL types the developed class implements, such as flagged by a special member name, for example, such as  

```xml
__supportedUnoTypes.
```

When an instance of a class is passed as an argument to a call on an external UNO object, the bridge code creates a new language dependent proxy that additionally supports the XInvocation interface. The bridge code hands the XInvocation reference of the bridge's proxy to the called object. This works as long as the

```xml
com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke
```

() method is used directly, for instance OpenOffice.org Basic, except if the called object expects an XInputStream.

The com.sun.star.script.InvocationAdapterFactory service helps by creating a proxy for a certain object that implements XInvocation and a set of interfaces, for example, given by the  

```xml
__supportedUnoTypes variable. The proxy returned by the createAdapater() method must be passed to the called object instead of the bridge's XInvocation implementation. When the Adapter is queried for one of the supported types, an appropriate proxy supporting that interface is created.
```

If a UNO object invokes a call on the object, the bridge proxy's

```xml
com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke
```

() method is called. It converts the passed arguments from UNO types to language dependent types and conversely using the same routines you have for the other calling direction. Finally, it delegates the call to the implementation within the script.

If a UNO object invokes a call on the object, the bridge proxy's

```xml
com.sun.star.script.XInvocation:invoke
```

() method is called. It converts the passed arguments from UNO types to language dependent types and conversely using the same routines you have for the other calling direction. Finally, it delegates the call to the implementation within the script.

A call sequence

It may become difficult if you do not want to start with an external scripting engine, but want to use the scripting engine inside the OpenOffice.org process instead. This
must be supported by the target language. Often it is possible to load some library dynamically and access the scripting runtime engine through a C API. It should be implemented as a UNO C++ component. There are currently no generic UNO interfaces for this case, except for the com.sun.star.loader.XImplementationLoader. Define your own interfaces that best match your requirements. You might instantiate from Basic and retrieve an initial object or start a script. Future versions of OpenOffice.org may have a more comprehensive solution.

Example Python Bridge PyUNO

This section provides an example of how the Python UNO bridge PyUNO bootstraps a service manager and how it makes use of the Invocation service to realize method invocation. While some parts are implementation or Python specific, the example provides a general understanding of language bindings.

The Python bridge PyUNO uses the cppu helper library to bootstrap a local service manager that is asked for a UnoUrlResolver service in Python.

In UNO.py, Python calls PyUNO.bootstrap() and receives a local component context. Note the parameter setup in that, it points to an ini file that configures the bootstrapped service manager with a type library. The file setup.ini corresponds to the uno.ini file that is used with the global service manager of the office.

```python
import PyUNO
import os

setup_ini = 'file:///{}setup.ini'.format(os.getenv('PWD'))

class UNO:
    def __init__ ( self, connection='socket,host=localhost,port=2083;urp',
                   setup=setup_ini ):
        ...do the bootstrap...

        connection can be one or more of the following:

        socket,
        host = localhost | <hostname> | <ip-addr>,
        port = <port>,
        service = soffice,
        user = <username>,
        password = <password>
        ;urp

        ...self.XComponentContext = PyUNO.bootstrap ( setup )
        self.XUnoUrlResolver, o = \
```
Python uses function tables to map Python to C functions. *PyUNO_module.cc* defines a table with the mappings for the PyUNO object. As shown in the following example, PyUNO.bootstrap() is mapped to the C function newBootstrapPyUNO():

```c
static struct PyMethodDef PyUNOModule_methods [] =
{
    {"bootstrapPyUNO", bootstrapPyUNO, 1},
    {"bootstrap ", newBootstrapPyUNO , 1},
    {"createIdlStruct", createIdlStruct , 1},
    {"true", createTrueBool, 1},
    {"false", createFalseBool, 1},
    {NULL, NULL}
};
```

The function newBootstrapPyUNO() calls Util::bootstrap() in *PyUNO_Util.cc* and passes the location of the setup.ini file.

```c
static PyObject* newBootstrapPyUNO (PyObject* self, PyObject* args)
{
    char* ini_file_location;
    Reference<XComponentContext> tmp_cc;
    Any a;

    if (!PyArg_ParseTuple (args, "s", &ini_file_location))
        return NULL;
    tmp_cc = Util::bootstrap (ini_file_location);
    ...
```

Util::bootstrap() uses defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext(iniFile) from *cppuhelper/bootstrap.hxx* to create a local component context and its parameter iniFile points to the setup.ini file that configures the local service manager to use service.rdb and types.rdb (until 1.1.0 applicat.rdb). This local component context instantiates services, such as the UnoUrlResolver.

```c
Reference<XComponentContext> bootstrap (char* ini_file_location)
{
    Reference<XComponentContext> my_component_context;
    try
    {
        my_component_context = defaultBootstrap_InitialComponentContext ( OUString::createFromAscii (ini_file_location));
    }
```
catch (com::sun::star::uno::Exception e)
{
    printf (OUStringToOString (e.Message, osl_getThreadTextEncoding ()).getStr ());
}
return my_component_context;
}


static PyObject* newBootstrapPyUNO (PyObject* self, PyObject* args)
{
    char* ini_file_location;
    Reference<XComponentContext> tmp_cc;
    Any a;

    if (!PyArg_ParseTuple (args, "s", &ini_file_location))
        return NULL;
    tmp_cc = Util::bootstrap (ini_file_location);
    Reference<XMultiServiceFactory> tmp_msf (tmp_cc->getServiceManager (), UNO_QUERY);
    if (!tmp_msf.is ())
    {
        PyErr_SetString (PyExc_RuntimeError, "Couldn't bootstrap from inifile");
        return NULL;
    }
    Reference<XSingleServiceFactory> tmp_ssf (tmp_msf->createInstance (OUString (RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM ("com.sun.star.script.Invocation"))), UNO_QUERY);
    Reference<XTypeConverter> tmp_tc (tmp_msf->createInstance (OUString (RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM ("com.sun.star.script.Converter"))), UNO_QUERY);
    if (!tmp_tc.is ()
    {
        PyErr_SetString (PyExc_RuntimeError, "Couldn't create XTypeConverter");
        return NULL;
    }
    if (!tmp_ssf.is ()
    {
        PyErr_SetString (PyExc_RuntimeError, "Couldn't create XInvocation");
        return NULL;
    }
    a <<= tmp_cc;
    return PyUNO_new (a, tmp_ssf, tmp_tc);
}

PyUNO_new() in PyUNO.cc is the function responsible for building all Python proxies. The call to PyUNO_new() here in newBootstrapPyUno() builds the first local PyUNO proxy.
proxy for the ComponentContext object a which has been returned by
Util::bootstrap().

For this purpose, PyUNO_new() uses the Invocation service to retrieve an XInvocatio2
interface to the ComponentContext service passed in the parameter a:

```cpp
// PyUNO_new
// // creates Python object proxies for the given target UNO interfaces
// targetInterface given UNO interface
// ssf                  XSingleServiceFactory interface of
com.sun.star.script.Invocation service
// tc                  XTypeConverter interface of
com.sun.star.script.Converter service
PyObject* PyUNO_new (Any targetInterface,
    Reference<XSingleServiceFactory> ssf,
    Reference<XTypeConverter> tc)
...
Sequence<Any> arguments (1);
Reference<XInterface> tmp_interface;
...
// put the target object into a sequence of Any for the call to
// ssf->createInstanceWithArguments()
// ssf is the XSingleServiceFactory interface of the
com.sun.star.script.Invocation service
arguments[0] <<= targetInterface;

// obtain com.sun.star.script.XInvocation2 for target object from Invocation
// let Invocation create an XInvocation object for the Any in arguments
tmp_interface = ssf->createInstanceWithArguments (arguments);
// query XInvocation2 interface
Reference<XInvocation2 > tmp_invocation (tmp_interface, UNO_QUERY);
...
```

The Python proxy invokes methods, and creates and converts UNO types. This
Python specific and involves the implementation of several functions according to the
Python API.

Finally __init__() in UNO.py in the above example uses the PyUNO object to obtain
a local UnoUrlResolver that retrieves the initial object from the office.

Implementation Loader

When you are raising a service by name using the com.sun.star.lang.ServiceManager
service, the service manager decides an implementation name, code location and an
appropriate loader to raise the code. It is commonly reading out of a persistent
registry storage, for example, services.rdb (until 1.1.0 applicat.rdb), for this purpose.
Previously, the regcomp tool has registered components into that registry during the OpenOffice.org setup. The tool uses a service called com.sun.star.registry.ImplementationRegistration for this task.

A loader knows how to load a component from a shared library, a .jar or script file and is able to obtain the service object factory for an implementation and retrieve information being written to the registry. A specific loader defines how a component implementer has to package code so that it is recognized by UNO. For instance in C++, a component is a shared library and in Java it is a .jar file. In a yet to be developed loader, the implementer of the loader has to decide, what a component is in that particular language - it might as well be a single script file.

The com.sun.star.loader.XImplementationLoader interface looks like the following:

```java
interface XImplementationLoader: com::sun::star::uno::XInterface {
    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface activate ( [in] string implementationName, [in] string implementationLoaderUrl, [in] string locationUrl, [in] com::sun::star::registry::XRegistryKey xKey ) raises( com::sun::star::loader::CannotActivateFactoryException );

    boolean writeRegistryInfo ( [in] com::sun::star::registry::XRegistryKey xKey, [in] string implementationLoaderUrl, [in] string locationUrl ) raises( com::sun::star::registry::CannotRegisterImplementationException );
};
```

The `locationUrl` argument describes the location of the implementation file, for example, a jar file or a shared library. The `implementationLoaderUrl` argument is not used and is obsolete. The registry key `xKey` writes information about the implementations within a component into a persistent storage. Refer to Write Registration Info Using a Helper Method for additional information.

The method `writeRegistryMethod()` is called by the `regcomp` tool to register a component into a registry.

The `activate()` method returns a factory `com.sun.star.lang.XSingleComponentFactory` for a concrete implementation name.
The loader is often implemented in C/C++. When the loader is instantiated, it is responsible for starting up the language runtime, for example, Java VM, Python interpreter, through implementation. After starting up the runtime, the loader starts up the UNO language binding as discussed in the previous chapter, and bridge the `XRegistryKey` interface and the initial factory interface.

### Shared Library Loader

This section discusses the loader for local components written in C++ that are loaded by the `com.sun.star.loader.SharedLibrary` service. Every type safe programming language that stores its code in shared libraries should implement the bridge with environments and mappings as discussed in chapters UNO Bridge and UNO C++ Bridges. These programming languages can reuse the existing loader without creating a new one.

When the shared library is mapped into the running process, for example, using `osl_loadModule()`, the shared library loader retrieves defined C symbols out of the library to determine the compiler that built the code. This function symbol is called `component_getImplementationEnvironment()`. When the code is compiled with the Microsoft Visual C++ compiler, it sets a pointer to a string called "msci", with gcc 3.0.1 a string "gcc3" which is a UNO environment type name. A UNO environment is connected with the code that runs in it, for example, the code compiled with gcc3 runs in the UNO environment with type name gcc3.

In addition to the environment type name, a UNO environment defines a context...
Implementation Loader

pointer. The context pointer and environment type name define a unique UNO environment. Although the context pointer is mostly null, it is required to identify the environments apart for the same type, for example, to identify different Java virtual machine environments when running a UNO object in two different Java virtual machines within the same process. Both environments have the same type name "java", but different context pointers. In local (C++) code, the context pointer is irrelevant, that is, set to null. The type name determines the UNO runtime environment.

When the loader knows the environment the code comes from, it decides if bridging is required. Bridging is needed if the loader code is compiled with a different compiler, thus running in a different environment. In this case, the loader raises a bridge to speak UNO with the component code.

The loader calls on two more functions related to the above XimplementationLoader interface. All of these symbols are C functions and have the following signatures:

```c
extern "C" void SAL_CALL component_getImplementationEnvironment(
    const sal_Char ** ppEnvTypeName, uno_Environment ** ppEnv);
extern "C" sal_Bool SAL_CALL component_writeInfo(
    void * pServiceManager, void * pRegistryKey);
extern "C" void SAL_CALL component_getFactory(
    const sal_Char * pImplName, void * pServiceManager, void *
    pRegistryKey);
```

The latter two functions expect incoming C++-UNO interfaces, therefore the loader needs to bridge interfaces before calling the functions as stated above.

**Bridges**

The loader uses the cppu core runtime to map an interface, specifying the UNO runtime environment that needs the interface mapping. The cppu core runtime raises and connects the appropriate bridges, and provides a unidirectional mapping that uses underlying bidirectional bridges. Under Unix, the name of the bridge library follows the naming convention lib<SourceEnvironment>_<TargetEnvironment>.dll. Under Windows, <SourceEnvironment>_<TargetEnvironment>.dll is used. For instance, libgcc3_uno.so is the bridge library for mappings from gcc3 to binary UNO, and msci_uno.dll maps from MS Visual C++ to binary UNO. The bridges mentioned above all bridge to binary UNO. Binary UNO is only used as an intermediate environment. In general, do not program binary UNO in clients. The purpose is to reduce the number of necessary bridge implementations. New bridges have to map only to binary UNO instead of all conceivable bridge combinations.
Help with New Language Bindings

Every UNO language binding is different, therefore only most important points were stressed, that is, those that are likely to appear in almost every language binding implementation. Object issues, such as lifetime, object identity, any handling, and bootstrapping were not discussed, because they are too language dependent. For more information on these issues, subscribe to the dev@udk.openoffice.org mailing list to discuss these issues for your programming language.

Differences Between UNO and Corba

This subsection discusses the differences between UNO and CORBA by providing the fundamental differences and if the different concepts could be mapped into the world of the other model. Consider the following feature comparison. The column titled "Mapping possible" states if a feature could be mapped by a (yet to be developed) generic bridge.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>UNO</th>
<th>CORBA</th>
<th>Mapping possible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>multiple inheritance of interfaces</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inheritance of structs</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inheritance of exceptions</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mandatory base interface for all interfaces</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mandatory base exception for all exceptions</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>context of methods</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>char</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 bit string</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>array</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>union</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>assigned values for enum</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>meta type 'type'</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>object identity</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lifetime mechanism</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>succession of oneway calls</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in process communication</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thread identity</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>customized calls</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>less code generation</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Multiple Inheritance
CORBA supports multiple inheritance of interfaces, whereas UNO only supports single inheritance.

Mapping: Generates an additional interface with all methods and attributes of the inherited interfaces that must be implemented in addition to the other interfaces.

- Inheritance of Structs
  In contrast to CORBA, UNO supports inheritance of struct types. This is useful to define general types and more detailed subtypes.

  Mapping: Generate a struct with all members, plus all members of the inherited structs.

- Inheritance of Exceptions
  CORBA does not support inheritance for exceptions, whereas UNO does. Inheritance of exceptions allows the specification of a complex exception concept. It is possible to make fine granular concepts using the detailed exceptions in the layer where they are useful and the base exception in higher levels. The UNO error handling is based on exceptions and with inheritance of exceptions it is possible to specify 'error classes' with a base exception and more detailed errors of the same 'error class' that inherit from this base exception. On higher level APIs it is enough to declare the base exception to specify the 'error class' and it is possible to support all errors of this 'error class'.

  Mapping: Generates an exception with all members, plus all members of the inherited exceptions. This is the same solution as for structs.

- Mandatory Base Interfaces
  UNO specifies a mandatory base interface for all interfaces. This interface provides `acquire()` and `release()` functions for reference counting. The minimum life time of an object is managed by means of reference counting.

- Mandatory Base Exception
  UNO specifies a mandatory base exception for all exceptions. This base exception contains a string member `Message` that describes the reason for the exception in readable format. The base exception makes it also possible to catch all UNO exceptions separately.

- Method Context
  CORBA supports a request context. This context consists of a name-value pair which is specified for methods in UNOIDL. The context is used for describing the current state of the caller object. A request context provides additional, operation-specific information that may affect the performance of a request.
Differences Between UNO and Corba

- **Type char**
  
  UNO does not support 8-bit characters. In UNO, char represents a 16-bit unicode character. Mapping: To support 8-bit characters it is possible to expand the `TypeClass` enum to support 8-bit characters and strings. The internal representation does not change anything, the `TypeClass` is only relevant for mapping.

- **8 bit string**
  
  UNO does not support 8-bit strings. In UNO, `string` represents a 16-bit unicode string.

  Mapping: The same possibility as for char.

- **Type array**
  
  UNO does not support arrays at the moment, but is planned for the future.

- **Type union**
  
  UNO does not support unions at the moment, but is planned for the future.

- **Assigned Values for enums**
  
  UNO supports the assignment of values for enum values in IDL. This means that it is possible to use these values directly to specify or operate with the required enum value in target languages supporting this feature, for example, C, C++.

  Mapping: Possible by using the names of the values.

UNO Design Patterns and Coding Styles

This chapter discusses design patterns and coding recommendations for OpenOffice.org. Possible candidates are:

- **Singleton**: global service manager, Desktop, UCB
- **Factory**: decouple specification and implementation, cross-environment instantiation, context-specific instances
- **Listener**: eliminate polling
- **Element access**: it is arguable if that is a design pattern or just an API
- **Properties**: solves remote batch access, but incurs the problem of compile-time type indifference
- **UCB commands**: universal dispatching of content specific operations
Dispatch commands: universal dispatching of object specific operations, chain of responsibility

Double-Checked Locking

The double-checked locking idiom is sometimes used in C/C++ code to speed up creation of a single-instance resource. In a multi-threaded environment, typical C++ code that creates a single-instance resource might look like the following example:

```cpp
#include "osl/mutex.hxx"

T * getInstance1()
{
    static T * pInstance = 0;
    ::osl::MutexGuard aGuard(::osl::Mutex::getGlobalMutex());
    if (pInstance == 0)
    {
        static T aInstance;
        pInstance = &aInstance;
    }
    return pInstance;
}
```

A mutex guards against multiple threads simultaneously updating pInstance, and the nested static aInstance is guaranteed to be created only when first needed, and destroyed when the program terminates.

The disadvantage of the above function is that it must acquire and release the mutex every time it is called. The double-checked locking idiom was developed to reduce the need for locking, leading to the following modified function. Do not use.

```cpp
#include "osl/mutex.hxx"

T * getInstance2()
{
    static T * pInstance = 0;
    if (pInstance == 0)
    {
        ::osl::MutexGuard aGuard(::osl::Mutex::getGlobalMutex());
        if (pInstance == 0)
        {
            static T aInstance;
            pInstance = &aInstance;
        }
    }
    return pInstance;
}
```

This version needs to acquire and release the mutex only when pInstance has not yet been initialized, resulting in a possible performance improvement. The mutex is
still needed to avoid race conditions when multiple threads simultaneously see that 
pInstance is not yet initialized, and all want to update it at the same time. The 
problem with getInstance2 is that it does not work.

Assume that thread 1 calls getInstance2 first, finding pInstance uninitialized. It 
acquires the mutex, creates aInstance that results in writing data into aInstance's 
memory, updates pInstance that results in writing data into pInstance's memory, and 
releases the mutex. Some hardware memory models a write the operations that 
transfer aInstance's and pInstance's data to main memory to be re-ordered by the 
processor executing thread 1. Now, if thread 2 enters getInstance2 when 
pInstance's data has already been written to main memory by thread 1, but 
ainstance's data has not been written yet (remember that write operations may be 
done out of order), then thread 2 sees that pInstance has already been initialized and 
exits from getInstance2 directly. Thread 2 dereferences pInstance thereafter, 
accessing aInstance's memory that has not yet been written into. Anything may 
happen in this situation.

In Java, double-checked locking can never be used, because it is broken and cannot 
be fixed.

In C and C++, the problem can be solved, but only by using platform-specific 
instructions, typically some sort of memory-barrier instructions. There is a macro 
osl_double_checked_locking_memory_barrier in osl/doublecheckedlocking.h that 
uses the double-checked locking idiom in a way that actually works in C and C++.

```c
#include "osl/doublecheckedlocking.h"
#include "osl/mutex.hxx"

T * getInstance3()
{
    static T * p = 0;
    T * pInstance = p;
    if (p == 0)
    {
        ::osl::MutexGuard aGuard(osl::Mutex::getGlobalMutex());
        p = pInstance;
        if (p == 0)
        {
            static T aInstance;
            p = &aInstance;
            OSL_DOUBLE_CHECKED_LOCKING_MEMORY_BARRIER();
            pInstance = p;
        }
    }
    else
    {
        OSL_DOUBLE_CHECKED_LOCKING_MEMORY_BARRIER();
        return p;
    }
}
```

The first (inner) use of OSL_DOUBLE_CHECKED_LOCKING_MEMORY_BARRIER ensures that 
aInstance's data has been written to main memory before pInstance's data is
written, therefore a thread can not see \pInstance to be initialized when \aInstance's data has not yet reached main memory. This solves the problem described above.

The second (outer) usage of OSL_DOUBLE_CHECKED_LOCKING_MEMORY_BARRIER is required to solve a problem concerning the reordering on Alpha processors.

**Note** – For more information about this problem, see Reordering on an Alpha processor by Bill Pugh (www.cs.umd.edu/~pugh/java/memoryModel/AlphaReordering.html) and Pattern-Oriented Software Architecture, Volume 2: Patterns for Concurrent and Networked Objects by Douglas C. Schmidt et al (Wiley, 2000). Also see the Usenet article Re:Talking about volatile and threads synchronization by Davide Butenhof (October 2002) on why the outer barrier can be moved into an else clause.

If you are coding in C++, there is an easier way to use double-checked locking without worrying about the fine points. Use the rtl_Instance template from rtl/instance.hxx:

```cpp
#include "osl/getglobalmutex.hxx"
#include "osl/mutex.hxx"
#include "rtl/instance.hxx"

namespace {
    struct Init()
    {
        T * operator()()
        {
            static T aInstance;
            return &aInstance;
        }
    };

    T * getInstance4()
    {
        return rtl_Instance< T, Init, ::osl::MutexGuard, ::osl::GetGlobalMutex >::create(Init(), ::osl::GetGlobalMutex());
    }
}
```

Note that an extra function class is required in this case. The documentation of rtl_Instance contains further examples of how this template can be used.
Note – If you are looking for more general information, the article The "Double-Checked Locking is Broken" Declaration (http://www.cs.umd.edu/~pugh/java/memoryModel/DoubleCheckedLocking.html) is a good source on double-checked locking, while Computer Architecture: A Quantitative Approach, Third Edition by John L. Hennessy and David A. Patterson (Morgan Kaufmann, 2002) and UNIX® Systems for Modern Architectures: Symmetric Multiprocessing and Caching for Kernel Programmers by Curt Schimmel (Addison-Wesley, 1994) offer detailed information about hardware memory models.
Office Development

This chapter describes the application environment of the OpenOffice.org application. It assumes that you have read the chapter First Steps, and that you are able to connect to the office and load documents.

In most cases, users use the functionality of OpenOffice.org by opening and modifying documents. The interfaces and services common to all document types and how documents are embedded in the surrounding application environment are discussed.

It is also possible to extend the functionality of OpenOffice.org by replacing the services mentioned here by intercepting the communication between objects or by creating your own document type and integrating it into the desktop environment. All these things are discussed in this chapter.

OpenOffice.org Application Environment

The OpenOffice.org application environment is made up of the desktop environment and the framework API.
The OpenOffice.org Application Environment

The desktop environment consists of the desktop service and auxiliary objects. The desktop environment's functions are carried out by the framework API. The framework API has two parts: the component framework and the dispatch framework. The component framework follows a special Frame-Controller-Model paradigm to manage components viewable in OpenOffice.org. The dispatch framework handles command requests sent by the GUI.

Desktop Environment

The com.sun.star.frame.Desktop service is the central management instance for the OpenOffice.org application framework. All OpenOffice.org application windows are organized in a hierarchy of frames that contain viewable components. The desktop is the root frame for this hierarchy. From the desktop you can load viewable components, access frames and components, terminate the office, traverse the frame hierarchy and dispatch command requests.

The name of this service originates at StarOffice 5.x, where all document windows were embedded into a common application window that was occupied by the StarOffice desktop, mirroring the Windows desktop. The root frame of this hierarchy was called the desktop frame. The name of this service and the interface name com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop were kept for compatibility reasons.

The desktop object and frame objects use auxiliary services, such as the com.sun.star.document.TypeDetection service and other, opaque implementations that interact with the UNO-based office, but are not accessible through the OpenOffice.org API. Examples for the latter are the global document event handling and its user interface (Tools > Customize > Events), and the menu bars that use the dispatch API without being UNO services themselves. The desktop service, together with these surrounding objects, is called the desktop environment.
The Desktop terminates the office and manages components and frames. The viewable components managed by the desktop can be three different kinds of objects: full-blown office documents with a document model and controllers, components with a controller but no model, such as the bibliography and database browser, or simple windows without API-enabled controllers, for example, preview windows. The commonality between these types of components is the com.sun.star.lang.XComponent interface. Components with controllers are also called office components, whereas simple window components are called trivial components.

Frames in the OpenOffice.org API are the connecting link between windows, components and the desktop environment. The relationship between frames and components is discussed in the next section, Framework API.

Like all other services, the com.sun.star.frame.Desktop service can be exchanged by another implementation that extends the functionality of OpenOffice.org. By exchanging the desktop service it is possible to use different kinds of windows or to make OpenOffice.org use MDI instead of SDI. This is not an easy thing to do, but it is possible without changing any code elsewhere in OpenOffice.org.

Framework API

The framework API does not define an all-in-one framework with strongly coupled interfaces, but defines specialized frameworks that are grouped together by implementing the relevant interfaces at OpenOffice.org components. Each framework concentrates on a particular aspect, so that each component decides the frameworks it wants to participate in.

Currently, there are two of these frameworks: the component framework that implements the frame-controller-model paradigm and the dispatch framework that handles command requests from and to the application environment. The controller and frame implementations form the bridge between the two frameworks, because controllers and frames implement interfaces from the component framework and
dispatch framework.

The framework API is an abstract specification. Its current implementation uses the Abstract Window Toolkit (AWT) specified in <idlmodule>com.sun.star.awt</idlmodule>, which is an abstract specification as well. The current implementation of the AWT is the Visual Component Library (VCL), a cross-platform toolkit for windows and controls written in C++ created before the specification of com.sun.star.awt and adapted to support com.sun.star.awt.

Frame-Controller-Model Paradigm in OpenOffice.org

The well-known Model-View-Controller (MVC) paradigm separates three application areas: document data (model), presentation (view) and interaction (controller). OpenOffice.org has a similar abstraction, called the Frame-Controller-Model (FCM) paradigm. The FCM paradigm shares certain aspects with MVC, but it has different purposes; therefore, it is best to approach FCM independently from MVC. The model and controller in MVC and FCM are quite different things.

The FCM paradigm in OpenOffice.org separates three application areas: document object (model), screen interaction with the model (controller) and controller-window linkage (frame).

- The model holds the document data and has methods to change these data without using a controller object. Text, drawings, and spreadsheet cells are accessed directly at the model.
- The controller has knowledge about the current view status of the document and manipulates the screen presentation of the document, but not the document data. It observes changes made to the model, and can be duplicated to have multiple controllers for the same model.
- The frame contains the controller for a model and knows the windows that are used with it, but does not have window functionality.

The purpose of FCM is to have three exchangeable parts that are used with an exchangeable window system:

It is possible to write a new controller that presents an existing model in a different manner without changing the model or the frame. A controller depends on the model it presents; therefore, a new controller for a new model can be written.

Developers can introduce new models for new document types without taking care of the frame and underlying window management system. However, since there is no default controller, it is necessary to write a suitable controller also.
By keeping all window-related functionality separate from the frame, it is possible to use one single frame implementation for every possible window in the entire OpenOffice.org application. Thus, the presentation of all visible components is customized by exchanging the frame implementation. At runtime you can access a frame and replace the controller, together with the model it controls, by a different controller instance.

Frames

Linking Components and Windows

The main role of a frame in the Frame-Controller-Model paradigm is to act as a liaison between viewable components and the window system.

Frames can hold one component, or a component and one or more subframes. The following two illustrations depict both possibilities. The first illustration shows a frame containing only a component. It is connected with two window instances: the container window and component window.

When a frame is constructed, the frame must be initialized with a container window using `<idlml>com.sun.star.frame.XFrame:initialize</idlml>`(). This method expects the `com.sun.star.awt.XWindow` interface of a surrounding window instance, which becomes the container window of the frame. The window instance passed to `initialize()` must also support `com.sun.star.awt.XTopWindow` to become a container window. The container window must broadcast window events, such as `windowActivated()`, and appear in front of other windows or be sent to the background. The fact that container windows support `com.sun.star.awt.XTopWindow` does not mean the container window is an independent window of the underlying window system with a title bar and a system menu. An `XTopWindow` acts as a window if necessary, but it can also be docked or depend on a surrounding application window.

After initializing the frame, a component is set into the frame by a frame loader implementation that loads a component into the frame. It calls
<idlml>com.sun.star.frame.XFrame:setComponent</idlml>() that takes another com.sun.star.awt.XWindow instance and the com.sun.star.frame.XController interface of a controller. Usually the controller is holding a model, therefore the component gets a component window of its own, separate from the container window.

A frame with a component is associated with two windows: the container window which is an XTopWindow and the component window, which is the rectangular area that displays the component and receives GUI events for the component while it is active. When a frame is initialized with an instance of a window in a call to initialize(), this window becomes its container window. When a component is set into a frame using setComponent(), another com.sun.star.awt.XWindow instance is passed and becomes the component window.

When a frame is added to the desktop frame hierarchy, the desktop becomes the parent frame of our frame. For this purpose, the com.sun.star.frame.XFramesSupplier interface of the desktop is passed to the method setCreator() at the XFrame interface. This happens internally when the method append() is called at the com.sun.star.frame.XFrames interface supplied by the desktop.

**Note** – A component window can have sub-windows, and that is the case with all documents in OpenOffice.org. For instance, a text document has sub-windows for the toolbars and the editable text. Form controls are sub-windows, as well, however, these sub-windows depend on the component window and do not appear in the Frame-Controller-Model paradigm, as discussed above.

The second diagram shows a frame with a component and a sub-frame with another component. Each frame has a container window and component window.

Frame containing a component and a sub-frame

In the OpenOffice.org GUI, sub-frames appear as dependent windows. The sub-
frame in the illustration above could be a dockable window, such as the beamer showing the database browser or a floating frame in a document created with Insert > Frame.

Note that a frame with a component and sub-frame is associated with four windows. The frame and the sub-frame have a container window and a component window for the component.

When a sub-frame is added to a surrounding frame, the frame becomes the parent of the sub-frame by a call to setCreator() at the sub-frame. This happens internally when the method append() is called at the com.sun.star.frame.XFrames interface supplied by the surrounding frame.

The section Creating Frames Manually shows examples for the usage of the XFrame interface that creates frames in the desktop environment, constructs dockable and standalone windows, and inserts components into frames.

Communication through Dispatch Framework

Besides the main role of frames as expressed in the com.sun.star.frame.XFrame interface, frames play another role by providing a communication context for the component they contain, that is, every communication from a controller to the desktop environment and the user interface, and conversely, is done through the frame. This aspect of a frame is published through the com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider interface, which uses special command requests to trigger actions.

The section Using the Dispatch Framework discusses the usage of the dispatch API.

Components in Frames

The desktop environment section discussed the three kinds of viewable components that can be inserted into a frame. If the component has a controller and a model like a document, or if it has only a controller, such as the bibliography and database browser, it implements the com.sun.star.frame.Controller service represented by the interface com.sun.star.frame.XController. In the call to <idlml>com.sun.star.frame.XFrame:shouldReceive\</idlml>(), the controller is passed with the component window instance. If the component has no controller, it directly
implements com.sun.star.lang.XComponent and com.sun.star.awt.XWindow. In this case, the component is passed as XWindow parameter, and the XController parameter must be an XController reference set to null.

If the viewable component is a trivial component (implementing XWindow only), the frame holds a reference to the component window, controls the lifetime of the component and propagates certain events from the container window to the component window. If the viewable component is an office component (having a controller), the frame adds to these basic functions a set of features for integration of the component into the environment by supporting additional command URLs for the component at its com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider interface.

Controllers

Controllers in OpenOffice.org are between a frame and document model. This is their basic role as expressed in com.sun.star.frame.XController, which has methods getModel() and getFrame(). The method getFrame() provides the frame that the controller is attached to. The method getModel() returns a document model, but it may return an empty reference if the component does not have a model.

Usually the controller objects support additional interfaces specific to the document type they control, such as com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetView for Calc document controllers or com.sun.star.text.XTextViewCursorSupplier for Writer document controllers.

Controller with Model and Frame

A single document model can be controlled simultaneously by several controller instances, each associated with a separate frame. Multiple controllers and frames are created by OpenOffice.org when the user clicks Window - New Window.
Windows

Windows in the OpenOffice.org API are rectangular areas that are positioned and resized, and inform listeners about UI events (com.sun.star.awt.XWindow). They have a platform-specific counterpart that is wrapped in the com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer interface, which is invalidated (redrawn), and sets the system pointer and hands out the toolkit for the window. The usage of the window interfaces is outlined in the section Window Interfaces below.

Dispatch Framework

The dispatch framework is designed to provide uniform access to components for a GUI by using command URLs that mirror menu items, such as Edit - Select All, with various document components. Only the component knows how to execute a command. Similarly, different document components trigger changes in the UI by common commands. For example, a controller might create UI elements like a menu bar, or open a hyperlink.

Command dispatching follows a chain of responsibility. Calls to the dispatch API are moderated by the frame, so all dispatch API calls from the UI to the component and conversely are handled by the frame. The frame passes on the command until an object is found that can handle it. It is possible to restrict, extend or redirect commands at the frame through a different frame implementation or through other components connecting to the frame.

It has already been discussed that frames and controllers have an interface com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider. The interface is used to query a dispatch object for a command URL from a frame and have the dispatch object execute the command. This interface is one element of the dispatch framework.

By offering the interception of dispatches through the interface com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProviderInterception, the Frame service offers a method to modify a component's handling of GUI events while keeping its whole API available simultaneously.
Note – Normally, command URL dispatches go to a target frame, which decides what to do with it. A component can use globally accessible objects like the desktop service to bypass restrictions set by a frame, but this is not recommended. It is impossible to prevent an implementation of components against the design principles, because the framework API is made for components that adhere to its design.

The usage of the Dispatch Framework is described in the section Using the Dispatch Framework.

Using the Desktop

Desktop Service and Component Framework

The com.sun.star.frame.Desktop service available at the global service manager includes the service com.sun.star.frame.Frame. The Desktop service specification provides three interfaces: com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop,
com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader and com.sun.star.document.XEventBroadcaster, as shown in the following UML chart:

![UML diagram of the desktop service](image)

**UML description of the desktop service**

The interface com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop provides access to frames and components, and controls the termination of the office process. It defines the following methods:

```java
com::sun::star::frame::XFrame getCurrentFrame ()
com::sun::star::container::XEnumerationAccess getComponents ()
com::sun::star::lang::XComponent getCurrentComponent ()
boolean terminate ()
void addTerminateListener ( [in] com::sun::star::frame::XTerminateListener xListener )
void removeTerminateListener ( [in] com::sun::star::frame::XTerminateListener xListener )
```

The methods `getCurrentFrame()` and `getCurrentComponent()` distribute the active frame and document model, whereas `getComponents()` returns a `com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess` to all loaded documents. For documents loaded in the desktop environment the methods `getComponents()` and `getCurrentComponent()` always return the `com.sun.star.lang.XComponent` interface of the document model.

**Tip** - If a specific document component is required, but you are not sure whether this component is the current component, use `getComponents()` to get an enumeration of all document components, check each for the existence of the `com.sun.star.frame.XModel` interface and use `getURL()` at `XModel` to identify your document. Since not all components have to support `XModel`, test for `XModel` before calling `getURL()`.

The office process is usually terminated when the user selects **File - Exit** or after the last application window has been closed. Clients can terminate the office through a call to `terminate()` and add a terminate listener to veto the shutdown process.
As long as the Windows quickstarter is active, the soffice executable is not terminated.

The following sample shows an com.sun.star.frame.XTerminateListener implementation that prevents the office from being terminated when the class **TerminationTest** is still active:

```java
import com.sun.star.frame.TerminationVetoException;
import com.sun.star.frame.XTerminateListener;

public class TerminateListener implements XTerminateListener {
    public void notifyTermination (com.sun.star.lang.EventObject eventObject) {
        System.out.println("about to terminate...");
    }

    public void queryTermination (com.sun.star.lang.EventObject eventObject)
    throws TerminationVetoException {
        // test if we can terminate now
        if (TerminationTest.isAtWork() == true) {
            System.out.println("Terminate while we are at work? No way!");
            throw new TerminationVetoException(); // this will veto the termination,
        // a call to terminate() returns false
        }
    }

    public void disposing (com.sun.star.lang.EventObject eventObject) {
    }
}
```

The following class **TerminationTest** tests the **TerminateListener** above.

```java
import com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver;
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue;
import com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop;
import com.sun.star.frame.TerminationVetoException;
import com.sun.star.frame.XTerminateListener;

public class TerminationTest extends java.lang.Object {
    private static boolean atWork = false;

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        XComponentContext xRemoteContext = null;
        XMultiComponentFactory xRemoteServiceManager = null;
        XDesktop xDesktop = null;
```
try {
    // connect and retrieve a remote service manager and component context
    XComponentContext xLocalContext =
        com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.createInitialComponentContext(null);
    XMultiComponentFactory xLocalServiceManager =
        xLocalContext.getServiceManager();
    Object urlResolver =
        xLocalServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xLocalContext);
    XUnoUrlResolver xUnoUrlResolver = (XUnoUrlResolver)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XUnoUrlResolver.class, urlResolver);
    Object initialObject = xUnoUrlResolver.resolve("uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2083;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager");
    XPropertySet xPropertySet =
        (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, initialObject);
    Object context =
        xPropertySet.getPropertyValue("DefaultContext");
    xRemoteContext = (XComponentContext)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponentContext.class, context);
    xRemoteServiceManager = xRemoteContext.getServiceManager();
    // get Desktop instance
    Object desktop = xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", xRemoteContext);
    xDesktop = (XDesktop)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDesktop.class, desktop);
    TerminateListener terminateListener = new TerminateListener();
    xDesktop.addTerminateListener(terminateListener);
    // try to terminate while we are at work
    atWork = true;
    boolean terminated = xDesktop.terminate();
    System.out.println("The Office " +
        (terminated == true ? "has been terminated" : "is still running, we are at work"));
    // no longer at work
    atWork = false;
    // once more: try to terminate
    terminated = xDesktop.terminate();
    System.out.println("The Office " +
        (terminated == true ? "has been terminated" : "is still running. Someone else prevents termination,
        e.g. the quickstarter"));
} catch (java.lang.Exception e) {
    e.printStackTrace();
} finally {
    System.exit(0);"
The office freezes when `terminate()` is called if there are unsaved changes. As a workaround set all documents into an unmodified state through their com.sun.star.util.XModifiable interface or store them using com.sun.star.frame.XStorable.

The Desktop offers a facility to load components through its interface com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader. It has one method:

```java
com::sun::star::lang::XComponent loadComponentFromURL ( [in] string aURL,
    [in] string aTargetFrameName,
    [in] long nSearchFlags,
    [in] sequence < com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue aArgs >
)
```

Refer to chapter [Handling Documents](#) for details about the loading process.

For versions beyond 641, the desktop also provides an interface that allows listeners to be notified about certain document events through its interface com.sun.star.document.XEventBroadcaster.

```java
void addEventListener ( [in] com::sun::star::document::XEventListener xListener)
void removeEventListener ( [in] com::sun::star::document::XEventListener xListener)
```

The `XEventListener` must implement a single method (besides `disposing()`):

```java
[oneway] void notifyEvent ( [in] com::sun::star::document::EventObject Event )
```

The struct `com.sun.star.document.EventObject` has a string member `EventName` that assumes one of the values specified in `com.sun.star.document.Events`. The corresponding events are found on the Events tab of the [Tools - Configure](#) dialog when the option OpenOffice.org is selected.

The desktop broadcasts these events for all loaded documents.

The current version of OpenOffice.org does not have a GUI element as a desktop. The redesign of the OpenOffice.org GUI in StarOffice 5.x and later resulted in the com.sun.star.frame.Frame service part of the desktop service is now non-functional. While the `XFrame` interface can still be queried from the desktop, almost all of its methods are dummy implementations. The default implementation of the desktop object in OpenOffice.org is not able to contain a component and refuses to be attached to it, because the desktop is still a frame that is the root for the common
hierarchy of all frames in OpenOffice.org. The desktop has to be a frame because its com.sun.star.frame.XFramesSupplier interface must be passed to com.sun.star.frame.XFrame:setCreator() at the child frames, therefore the desktop becomes the parent frame. However, the following functionality of com.sun.star.frame.Frame is still in place:

The desktop interface com.sun.star.frame.XFramesSupplier offers methods to access frames. This interface inherits from com.sun.star.frame.XFrame, and introduces the following methods:

```plaintext
com::sun::star::frame::XFrames getFrames ()
com::sun::star::frame::XFrame getActiveFrame ()
void setActiveFrame ( [in] com::sun::star::frame::XFrame xFrame)
```

The method getFrames() returns a com.sun.star.frame.XFrames container, that is a com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess, with additional methods to add and remove frames:

```plaintext
void append ( [in] com::sun::star::frame::XFrame xFrame )
sequence < com::sun::star::frame::XFrame > queryFrames ( [in] long nSearchFlags )
void remove ( [in] com::sun::star::frame::XFrame xFrame )
```

This XFrames collection is used when frames are added to the desktop to become application windows.

Through getActiveFrame(), you access the active sub-frame of the desktop frame, whereas setActiveFrame() is called by a sub-frame to inform the desktop about the active sub-frame.

The object returned by getFrames() does not support XTypeProvider, therefore it cannot be used with OpenOffice.org Basic.

The parent interface of XFramesSupplier, com.sun.star.frame.XFrame is functional by accessing the frame hierarchy below the desktop. These methods are discussed in the section Frames below:

```plaintext
com::sun::star::frame::XFrame findFrame ( [in] string aTargetFrameName, [in] long nSearchFlags );
boolean isTop () ;
```

The generic dispatch interface com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider executes functions of the internal Desktop implementation that are not accessible through specialized interfaces. Dispatch functions are described by a command URL. The XDispatchProvider returns a dispatch object that dispatches a given command URL. A reference of command URLs supported by the desktop is available on OpenOffice (http://www.openoffice.org/files/documents/25/60/commands_11beta.html). Through the com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProviderInterception, client code intercepts the command dispatches at the desktop. The dispatching process is described in section Using the Dispatch Framework.
Using the Component Framework

The component framework comprises the interfaces of frames, controllers and models used to manage components in the OpenOffice.org desktop environment. In our context, everything that "dwells" in a frame of the desktop environment is called a component, because the interface com.sun.star.lang.XComponent is the common denominator for objects that are loaded into frames.

Frames, controllers and models hold references to each other. The frame is by definition the default owner of the controller and the model, that is, it is responsible to call dispose() on the controller and model when it is destroyed itself. Other objects that are to hold references to the frame, controller, or model must register as listeners to be informed when these references become invalid. Therefore XModel, XController and XFrame inherit from XComponent:

```java
void dispose()
void addEventListener([in] com::sun::star::lang::XEventListener xListener)
void removeEventListener([in] com::sun::star::lang::XEventListener aListener)
```

The process to resolve the circular dependencies of the component framework is complex. For instance, the objects involved in the process may be in a condition where they may not be disposed of. Refer to the section Closing Documents for additional details.

Theoretically every UNO object could exist in a frame, as long as it is willing to let the frame control its existence when it ends.

A trivial component (XWindow only) is enough for simple viewing purposes, where no activation of a component and related actions like cursor positioning or user interactions are necessary.

If the component participates in more complex interactions, it must implement the controller service.

Many features of the desktop environment are only available if the URL of a component is known. For example:

- Presenting the URL or title of the document.
- Inserting the document into the autosave queue.
- Preventing the desktop environment from loading documents twice.
- Allow for participation in the global document event handling.

In this case, com.sun.star.frame.XModel comes into operation, since it has methods to handle URLs, among others.
So a complete office component is made up of

- a controller object that presents the model or shows a view to the model that implements the com.sun.star.frame.Controller service, but publishes additional document-specific interfaces. For almost all OpenOffice.org document types there are document specific controller object specifications, such as com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetView, and com.sun.star.drawing.DrawingDocumentDrawView. For controllers, refer to the section Controllers.

### Getting Frames, Controllers and Models from Each Other

Usually developers require the controller and frame of an already loaded document model. The com.sun.star.frame.XModel interface of OpenOffice.org document models gets the controller that provides access to the frame through its com.sun.star.frame.XController interface. The following illustration shows the methods that get the controller and frame for a document model and conversely. From the frame, obtain the corresponding component and container window.

![Frame-Controller-Model Organization](image)

If the loaded component is a trivial component and implements com.sun.star.awt.XWindow only, the window and the window peer is reached by querying these interfaces from the com.sun.star.lang.XComponent returned by loadComponentFromURL().
The main role of a frame is to link components into a surrounding window system. This role is expressed by the following methods of the frame’s main interface com.sun.star.frame.XFrame:

```java
// methods for container window
void initialize ([in] com::sun::star::awt::XWindow xWindow);
com::sun::star::awt::XWindow getContainerWindow ();

// methods for component window and controller
boolean setComponent ([in] com::sun::star::awt::XWindow xComponentWindow,
                     [in] com::sun::star::frame::XController xController );
com::sun::star::awt::XWindow getComponentWindow ();
com::sun::star::frame::XController getController ();
```

The first two methods deal with the container window of a frame, the latter three are about linking the component and the component window with the frame. The method `initialize()` expects a top window that is created by the AWT toolkit that becomes the container window of the frame and is retrieved by `getContainerWindow()`.

### Frame Hierarchies

When frames link components into a surrounding window system, they build a frame hierarchy. This aspect is covered by the hierarchy-related `XFrame` methods:
The XFrame method `setCreator()` informs a frame about its parent frame and must be called by a frames container (com.sun.star.frame.XFrames) when a frame is added to it by a call to `<idlml>com.sun.star.frame.XFrames:append</idlml>`(). A frames container is provided by frames supporting the interface `com.sun.star.frame.XFramesSupplier`. `XFramesSupplier` is currently supported by the desktop frame and by the default frame implementation used by OpenOffice.org documents. It is described below.

The frame has a custom name that is read through `getName()` and written through `setName()`. Frames in the desktop hierarchy created by GUI interaction usually do not have names. The `getName()` returns an empty string for them, whereas frames that are created for special purposes, such as the beamer frame or the online help, have names. Developers can set a name and use it to address a frame in `findFrame()` calls or when loading a component into the frame. Custom frame names must not start with an underscore. Leading underscores are reserved for special frame names. See below.

Every frame in the frame hierarchy is accessed through any other frame in this hierarchy by calling the `findFrame()` method. This method searches for a frame with a given name in five steps: self, children, siblings, parent, and create if not found. The `findFrame()` checks the called frame, then calls `findFrame()` at its children, then its siblings and at its parent frame. The fifth step in the search strategy is reached if the search makes it to the desktop without finding a frame with the given name. In this case, a new frame is created and assigned the name that was searched for. If the top frame is outside the desktop hierarchy, a new frame is not created.

The name used with `findFrame()` can be an arbitrary string without a leading underscore or one of the following reserved frame names. These names are for internal use for loading documents. Some of the reserved names are logical in a `findFrame()` call, also. A complete list of reserved frame names can be found in section `Target Frame`.

_above

Returns the top frame of the called frame, first frame where `isTop()` returns true when traveling up the hierarchy.

_above

_companion-chapter-6-office-development:_
Returns the next frame above in the frame hierarchy.

_self

Returns the frame itself, same as an empty target frame name. This means you are searching for a frame you already have, but it is legal to do so.

_blank

Creates a new top-level frame whose parent is the desktop frame.

Calls with "_top" or "_parent" return the frame itself if the called frame is a top frame or has no parent. This is compatible to the targeting strategies of web browsers.

We have seen that `findFrame()` is called recursively. To control the recursion, the search flags parameter specified in the constants group `com.sun.star.frame.FrameSearchFlag` is used. For all of the five steps mentioned above, a suitable flag exists (`SELF`, `CHILDREN`, `SIBLINGS`, `PARENT`, `CREATE`). Every search step can be prohibited by deleting the appropriate `FrameSearchFlag`. The search flag parameter can also be used to avoid ambiguities caused by multiple occurrences of a frame name in a hierarchy by excluding parts of the frame tree from the search. If `findFrame()` is called for a reserved frame name, the search flags are ignored.

Tip - An additional flag can be used to extend a bottom-up search to all OpenOffice.org application windows, no matter where the search starts. Based on the five flags for the five steps, the default frame search stops searching when it reaches a top frame and does not continue with other OpenOffice.org windows. Setting the `TASKS` flag overrides this.

There are separate frame hierarchies that do not interact with each other. If a frame is created, but not inserted into any hierarchy, it becomes the top frame of its own hierarchy. This frame and its contents can not be accessed from other hierarchies by traversing the frame hierarchies through API calls. Also, this frame and its content cannot reach frames and their contents in other hierarchies. It is the code that creates a frame and decides if the new frame becomes part of an existing hierarchy, thus enabling it to find other frames, and making it and its viewable component visible to the other frames. Examples for frames that are not inserted into an existing hierarchy are preview frames in dialogs, such as the document preview in the File - New - Templates and Documents dialog.

Note – This is the only way the current frame and desktop implementation handle this. If one exchanges either or both of them by another implementation, the treatment of the "_blank" target and the `CREATE` `SearchFlag` may differ.
Frame Actions

Several actions take place at a frame. The context of viewable components can change, a frame may be activated or the relationship between frame and component may be altered. For instance, when the current selection in a document has been changed, the controller informs the frame about it by calling `contextChanged()`. The frame then tells its frame action listeners that the context has changed. The frame action listeners are also informed about changes in the relationship between the frame and component, and about frame activation. The corresponding `XFrame` methods are:

```plaintext
void contextChanged ();
[oneway] void activate ();
[oneway] void deactivate ();
boolean isActive ();
[oneway] void addFrameActionListener ( [in] com::sun::star::frame::XFrameActionListener xListener );
[oneway] void removeFrameActionListener ( [in] com::sun::star::frame::XFrameActionListener xListener );
```

The method `activate()` makes the given frame the active frame in its parent container. If the parent is the desktop frame, this makes the associated component the current component. However, this is not reflected in the user interface by making the corresponding window the top window. If the container of the active frame is to be the top window, use `setFocus()` at the `com.sun.star.awt.XWindow` interface of the container window.

The interface `com.sun.star.frame.XFrameActionListener` used with `addFrameActionListener()` must implement the following method:

```plaintext
Method of com.sun.star.frame.XFrameActionListener
com.sun.star.frame.XFrameActionListener::frameAction()
Takes a struct `com.sun.star.frame.FrameActionEvent`. The struct contains two members: the source `com.sun.star.frame.XFrame` Frame and an enum `com.sun.star.frame.FrameActionEvent` Action value with one of the following values:

COMPONENT_ATTACHED: a component has been attached to a frame. This is almost the same as the instantiation of the component within that frame. The component is attached to the frame immediately before this event is broadcast.

COMPONENT_DETACHING: a component is detaching from a frame. This is the same as the destruction of the component which was in that frame. The
moment the event is broadcast the component is still attached to the frame, but in the next moment it will not be.

**COMPONENT_REATTACHED**: a component has been attached to a new model. In this case, the component remains the same, but operates on a new model component.

**FRAME_ACTIVATED**: a component has been activated. Activations are broadcast from the top component which was not active, down to the innermost component.

**FRAME_DEACTIVATING**: broadcast immediately before the component is deactivated. Deactivations are broadcast from the innermost component which does not stay active up to the outermost component which does not stay active.

**CONTEXT_CHANGED**: a component has changed its internal context, for example, the selection. If the activation status within a frame changes, this is a context change, also.

**FRAME_UI_ACTIVATED**: broadcast by an active frame when it is getting UI control (tool control).

**FRAME_UI_DEACTIVATING**: broadcast by an active frame when it is losing UI control (tool control).

---

**Warning** – At this time, the XFrame methods used to build a frame-controller-model relationship can only be fully utilized by frame loader implementations or customized trivial components. Outside a frame loader you can create a frame, but the current implementations cannot create a standalone controller that could be used with `setComponent()`. Therefore, you can not remove components from one frame and add them to another or create additional controllers for a loaded model using the component framework. This is due to restrictions of the VCL and the C++ implementation of the current document components.

Currently, the only way for clients to construct a frame and insert an OpenOffice.org document into it, is to use the `com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader` interface of the `com.sun.star.frame.Desktop` or the interfaces `com.sun.star.frame.XSynchronousFrameLoader`, the preferred frame loader interface, and the asynchronous `com.sun.star.frame.XFrameLoader` of the `com.sun.star.frame.FrameLoader` service that is available at the global service factory. The recommended method to get additional controllers for loaded models is to use the `OpenNewView` property with `loadComponentFromURL()` at the `com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader` interface of the desktop.

There is also another possibility: dispatch a ".uno:NewWindow" command to a frame that contains that model.
The Frame interface com.sun.star.frame.XFramesSupplier offers methods to access sub-frames of a frame. The frame implementation of OpenOffice.org supports this interface. This interface inherits from com.sun.star.frame.XFrame, and introduces the following methods:

```java
com::sun::star::frame::XFrames getFrames()
com::sun::star::frame::XFrame getActiveFrame()
void setActiveFrame ([in] com::sun::star::frame::XFrame xFrame)
```

The method `getFrames()` returns a com.sun.star.frame.XFrames container, that is a com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess with additional methods to add and remove frames:

```java
void append ([in] com::sun::star::frame::XFrame xFrame)
sequence < com::sun::star::frame::XFrame > queryFrames ([in] long nSearchFlags)
void remove ([in] com::sun::star::frame::XFrame xFrame);
```

This XFrames collection is used when frames are appended to a frame to become sub-frames. The `append()` method implementation must extend the existing frame hierarchy by an internal call to `setCreator()` at the parent frame in the frame hierarchy. The parent frame is always the frame whose XFramesSupplier interface is used to append a new frame.

Through `getActiveFrame()` access the active sub-frame in a frame with subframes. If there are no sub-frames or a sub-frame is currently non active, the active frame is null. The `setActiveFrame()` is called by a sub-frame to inform the frame about the activation of the sub-frame. In `setActiveFrame()`, the method `setActiveFrame()` at the creator is called, then the registered frame action listeners are notified by an appropriate call to `frameAction()` with

```idlml
com.sun.star.frame.FrameActionEvent:Action
```

set to `FRAME_UI_ACTIVATED`.

---

### XDispatchProvider and XDispatchProviderInterception

Frame services also support com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider and com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProviderInterception. The section Using the Dispatch Framework explains how these interfaces are used.

---
XStatusIndicatorFactory

The frame implementation supplies a status indicator through its interface com.sun.star.task.XStatusIndicatorFactory. A status indicator can be used by a frame loader to show the loading process for a document. The factory has only one method that returns an object supporting com.sun.star.task.XStatusIndicator:

```java
com::sun::star::task::XStatusIndicator createStatusIndicator ()
```

The status indicator is displayed by a call to `<idlml>com.sun.star.task.XStatusIndicator:start</idlml>().` Pass a text and a numeric range, and use `setValue()` to let the status bar grow until the maximum range is reached. The method `end()` removes the status indicator.

Controllers

XController

A com.sun.star.frame.XController inherits from com.sun.star.lang.XComponent and introduces the following methods:

```java
com::sun::star::frame::XController
  void attachFrame (com::sun::star::frame::XFrame xFrame)
  com::sun::star::frame::XModel getModel ()
  boolean attachModel (com::sun::star::frame::XModel xModel)
  boolean suspend (boolean bSuspend)
  any getViewData ()
  void restoreViewData (any Data)
```

The com.sun.star.frame.XController links model and frame through the methods `get/attachModel()` and `get/attachFrame()`. These methods and the corresponding methods in the com.sun.star.frame.XModel and com.sun.star.frame.XFrame interfaces act together. Calling `attachModel()` at the controller must be accompanied by a corresponding call of `connectController()` at the model, and `attachFrame()` at the controller must have its counterpart `setComponent()` at the frame.
The controller is asked for permission to dispose of the entire associated component by using \texttt{suspend()}. The \texttt{suspend()} method shows dialogs, for example, to save changes. To avoid the dialog, close the corresponding frame without using \texttt{suspend()} before. The section \texttt{Closing Documents} provides additional information.

Developers retrieve and restore data used to setup the view at the controller by calling \texttt{get/restoreViewData()}. These methods are usually called on loading and saving the document, but they also allow developers to manipulate the state of a view from the outside. The exact content of this data depends on the concrete controller/model pair.

\section*{XDispatchProvider}

Through \texttt{com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider}, the controller participates in the dispatch framework. It is described in section \texttt{Using the Dispatch Framework}.

\section*{XSelectionSupplier}

The optional \texttt{Controller} interface \texttt{com.sun.star.view.XSelectionSupplier} accesses the selected object and informs listeners when the selection changes:

\begin{verbatim}
boolean select ( [in] any aSelection)
any getSelection ()
void addSelectionChangeListener ( [in]
com::sun::star::view::XSelectionChangeListener xListener)
void removeSelectionChangeListener ( [in]
com::sun::star::view::XSelectionChangeListener xListener)
\end{verbatim}

The type of selection depends on the type of the document and the selected object. It is also possible to get the current selection in the active or last controller of a model by calling the method \texttt{getCurrentSelection()} in the \texttt{com.sun.star.frame.XModel} interface.

\section*{XContextMenuInterception}

The optional \texttt{Controller} interface \texttt{com.sun.star.ui.XContextMenuInterception} intercepts requests for context menus in the document's window. See chapter
Document Specific Controller Services

The com.sun.star.frame.Controller specification is generic and does not describe additional features required for a fully functional document controller specification, such as the controller specifications for Writer, Calc and Draw documents. The following table shows the controller services specified for OpenOffice.org document components.

Once the reference to a controller is retrieved, you can query for these interfaces. Use the com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo interface of the model to ask it for the supported service(s). The component implementations in OpenOffice.org support the following services. Refer to the related chapters for additional information about the interfaces you get from the controllers of OpenOffice.org documents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component and Chapter</th>
<th>Specialized Controller Service</th>
<th>General Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writer</td>
<td>com.sun.star.text.TextDocumentView</td>
<td>The text view supplies a text view cursor that has knowledge about the current page layout and page number. It can walk through document pages, screen pages and lines. The selected ruby text is also available, a special Asian text formatting, comparable to superscript.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calc</td>
<td>com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetView</td>
<td>The spreadsheet view is extremely powerful. It includes the services com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetView wPane and com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetView wSettings. The view pane handles the currently visible cell range and provides controllers for form controls in the spreadsheet. The view settings deal with the visibility of spreadsheet elements, such as the grid and current zoom mode. Furthermore, the spreadsheet view provides access to the active sheet in the view and the collection of all</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Controllers

Draw **Drawing and Presentation Document Controller**


Impress **Drawing and Presentation Document Controller**

- com.sun.star.presentation.PresentationView

DataBaseAccess **Document Controller**

- com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseBrowser

Bibliography (no special controller specified)

Writer (PagePreview) (no special controller specified)

Writer/Webdocument (SourceView) (no special controller specified)

Calc (PagePreview) (no special controller specified)

Chart **Chart Document Controller**

- (no special controller specified)

Math (no special controller specified)

Models

There is not an independent specification for a model service. The interface com.sun.star.frame.XModel is currently supported by Writer, Calc, Draw and Impress document components. In our context, we call objects supporting com.sun.star.frame.XModel, *model objects*. All OpenOffice.org document components have the service com.sun.star.document.OfficeDocument in common. An **OfficeDocument** implements the following interfaces:
XModel

The interface com.sun.star.frame.XModel inherits from com.sun.star.lang.XComponent and introduces the following methods, which handle the model's resource description, manage its controllers and retrieves the current selection.

```plaintext
string getURL ()
    sequence < com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > getArgs ()
    boolean attachResource ( [in] string aURL,
        [in] sequence < com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue aArgs > )

    com::sun::star::frame::XController getCurrentController ()
    void setCurrentController (com::sun::star::frame::XController xController)
    void connectController (com::sun::star::frame::XController xController)
    void disconnectController (com::sun::star::frame::XController xController)
    void lockControllers ()
    void unlockControllers ()
    boolean hasControllersLocked ()

    com::sun::star::uno::XInterface getCurrentSelection ()
```

The method `getURL()` provides the URL where a document was loaded from or last stored using `storeAsURL()`. As long as a new document has not been saved, the URL is an empty string. The method `getArgs()` returns a sequence of property values that report the resource description according to `com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor`, specified on loading or saving with `storeAsURL`. The method `attachResource()` is used by the frame loader implementations to inform the model about its URL and `MediaDescriptor`.

The current or last active controller for a model is retrieved through `getCurrentController()`. The corresponding method `setCurrentController()` sets a different current controller at models where additional controllers are available. However, additional controllers can not be created at this time for OpenOffice.org components using the component API. The method `connectController()` is used by frame loader implementations and provides the model with a new controller that has been created for it, without making it the current controller. The `disconnectController()` tells the model that a controller may no longer be used. Finally, the model holds back screen updates using `lockControllers()` and `unlockControllers()`. For each call to `lockControllers()`, there must be a call to `unlockControllers()` to remove the lock. The method `hasControllersLocked()` tells if the controllers are locked.

The currently selected object is retrieved by a call to `getCurrentSelection()`. This method is an alternative to `getSelection()` at the `com.sun.star.view.XSelectionSupplier` interface supported by controller services.
**XModifiable**

The interface com.sun.star.util.XModifiable traces the modified status of a document:

```java
void addModifyListener ( [in] com::sun::star::util::XModifyListener aListener )
void removeModifyListener ( [in] com::sun::star::util::XModifyListener aListener )
boolean isModified ()
void setModified ( [in] boolean bModified )
```

**XStorable**

The interface com.sun.star.frame.XStorable stores a document under an arbitrary URL or its current location. Details about how to use this interface are discussed in the chapter [Handling Documents](#).

**XPrintable**

The interface com.sun.star.view.XPrintable is used to set and get the printer and its settings, and dispatch print jobs. These methods and special printing features for the various document types are described in the chapters [Printing Text Documents](#), [Printing Spreadsheet Documents](#), [Printing Drawing Documents](#) and [Printing Presentation Documents](#).

```java
sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > getPrinter ()
void setPrinter ( [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aPrinter )
void print ( [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > xOptions )
```

**XEventBroadcaster**

For versions later than 641, the optional interface com.sun.star.document.XEventBroadcaster at office documents enables developers to add listeners for events related to office documents in general, or for events specific for the individual document type. See [Document Events](#).

```java
void addEventListener ( [in] com::sun::star::document::XEventListener aListener )
```
The XEventListener must implement a single method, besides disposing():

```plaintext
[oneway] void notifyEvent ( [in] com::sun::star::document::EventObject Event )
```

The struct com.sun.star.document.EventObject has a string member EventName, that assumes one of the values specified in com.sun.star.document.Events. These events are also on the Events tab of the Tools - Configure dialog.

The general events are the same events as those provided at the XEventBroadcaster interface of the desktop. While the model is only concerned about its own events, the desktop broadcasts the events for all the loaded documents.

**XEventsSupplier**

The optional interface com.sun.star.document.XEventsSupplier binds the execution of dispatch URLs to document events, thus providing a configurable event listener as a simplification for the more general event broadcaster or listener mechanism of the com.sun.star.document.XEventBroadcaster interface. This is done programmatically versus manually in Tools - Configure - Events.

**XDocumentInfoSupplier**

The optional interface com.sun.star.document.XDocumentInfoSupplier provides access to document information as described in section Document Info. Document information is presented in the File - Properties dialog in the GUI.

**XViewDataSupplier**

The optional com.sun.star.document.XViewDataSupplier interface sets and restores view data.
The view data are a com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess to sequences of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue structs. Each sequence represents the settings of a view to the model that supplies the view data.

**Document Specific Features**

Every service specification for real model objects provides more interfaces that constitute the actual model functionality. For example, a text document service com.sun.star.text.TextDocument provides text related interfaces. Having received a reference to a model, developers query for these interfaces. The com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo interface of a model can be used to ask for supported services. The OpenOffice.org document types support the following services:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calc</td>
<td>com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetDocument</td>
<td>Spreadsheet Documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impress</td>
<td>com.sun.star.presentation.PresentationDocument</td>
<td>Drawing Documents and Presentation Documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>com.sun.star.formula.FormulaProperties</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writer (all Writer modules)</td>
<td>com.sun.star.text.TextDocument</td>
<td>Text Documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chart</td>
<td>com.sun.star.chart.ChartDocument</td>
<td>Charts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Refer to the related chapters for additional information about the interfaces of the documents of OpenOffice.org.
Window Interfaces

The window interfaces of the component window and container window control the OpenOffice.org application windows. This chapter provides a short overview.

XWindow

The interface com.sun.star.awt.XWindow is supported by the component and controller windows. This interface comprises methods to resize a window, control its visibility, enable and disable it, and make it the focus for input device events. Listeners are informed about window events.

```java
[oneway] void setPosSize ( long X, long Y, long Width, long Height, short Flags );
com::sun::star::awt::Rectangle getPosSize ();

[oneway] void setVisible ( boolean Visible );
[oneway] void setEnable ( boolean Enable );
[oneway] void setFocus ();

[oneway] void addWindowListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XWindowListener xListener );
[oneway] void removeWindowListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XWindowListener xListener );
[oneway] void addFocusListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XFocusListener xListener );
[oneway] void removeFocusListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XFocusListener xListener );
[oneway] void addKeyListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XKeyListener xListener );
[oneway] void removeKeyListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XKeyListener xListener );
[oneway] void addMouseListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XMouseListener xListener );
[oneway] void removeMouseListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XMouseListener xListener );
[oneway] void addMouseMotionListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XMouseMotionListener xListener );
[oneway] void removeMouseMotionListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XMouseMotionListener xListener );
[oneway] void addPaintListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XPaintListener xListener );
[oneway] void removePaintListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XPaintListener xListener );
```

The com.sun.star.awt.XWindowListener gets the following notifications. The com.sun.star.awt.WindowEvent has members describing the size and position of the window.
Window Interfaces

What the other listeners do are evident by their names.

**XTopWindow**

The interface com.sun.star.awt.XTopWindow is available at container windows. It informs listeners about top window events, and it can put itself in front of other windows or withdraw into the background. It also has a method to control the current menu bar:

```java
[oneway] void addTopWindowListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XTopWindowListener xListener );
[oneway] void removeTopWindowListener ( com::sun::star::awt::XTopWindowListener xListener );
[oneway] void toFront ();
[oneway] void toBack ();
[oneway] void setMenuBar ( com::sun::star::awt::XMenuBar xMenu );
```

**Note** – Although the XTopWindow interface has a method setMenuBar(), this method is not usable at this time. The com.sun.star.awt.XMenuBar interface is deprecated.

The top window listener receives the following messages. All methods take a com.sun.star.awt.WindowEvent with members describing the size and position of the window.

```java
[oneway] void windowOpened ( [in] com::sun::star::awt::WindowEvent e )
[oneway] void windowClosing ( [in] com::sun::star::awt::WindowEvent e )
[oneway] void windowClosed ( [in] com::sun::star::awt::WindowEvent e )
[oneway] void windowMinimized ( [in] com::sun::star::awt::WindowEvent e )
[oneway] void windowNormalized ( [in] com::sun::star::awt::WindowEvent e )
[oneway] void windowActivated ( [in] com::sun::star::awt::WindowEvent e )
[oneway] void windowDeactivated ( [in] com::sun::star::awt::WindowEvent e )
```

**XWindowPeer**

Each XWindow has a com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer. The com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer interface accesses the window toolkit implementation used to create it and provides the pointer of the pointing device, and controls the background color. It is also used to invalidate a window or portions of it to
Window Interfaces

trigger a redraw cycle.

| com::sun::star::awt::XToolkit getToolkit () |
| [oneway] void setPointer ( [in] com::sun::star::awt::XPointer Pointer ) |
| [oneway] void setBackground ( [in] long Color ) |
| [oneway] void invalidate ( [in] short Flags ) |

Creating Frames Manually

Frame Creation

Every time a frame is needed in OpenOffice.org, the com.sun.star.frame.Frame service is created. OpenOffice.org has an implementation for this service, available at the global service manager.

This service can be replaced by a different implementation, for example, your own implementation in Java, by registering it at the service manager. In special cases, it is possible to use a custom frame implementation instead of the com.sun.star.frame.Frame service by instantiating a specific implementation using the implementation name with the factory methods of the service manager. Both methods can alter the default window and document handling in OpenOffice.org, thus changing or extending its functionality.

Assigning Windows to Frames

Every frame can be assigned to any OpenOffice.org window. For instance, the same frame implementation is used to load a component into an application window of the underlying windowing system or into a preview window of an OpenOffice.org dialog. The com.sun.star.frame.Frame service implementation does not depend on the type of the window, although the entirety of the frame and window will be a different object by the user.

If you have a window in your application and want to load a OpenOffice.org document, create a frame and window object, and put them together by a call to initialize(). A default frame is created by instantiating an object implementing the
com.sun.star.frame.Frame service at the global service manager. For window creation, the current <idlmodule>com.sun.star.awt</idlmodule> implementation has to be used to create windows in all languages supporting UNO. This toolkit offers a method to create window objects that wrap a platform specific window, such as a Java AWT window or a Windows system window represented by its window handle. A Java example is given below.

Two conditions apply to windows that are to be used with OpenOffice.org frames.

The first condition is that the window must be created by the current com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit service implementation. Not every object implementing the com.sun.star.awt.XWindow interface is used as an argument in the initialize() method, because it is syntactically correct, but it is restricted to objects created by the current <idlmodule>com.sun.star.awt</idlmodule> implementation. The insertion of a component into a frame only works if all involved windows are .xbl created by the same toolkit implementation. All internal office components, such as Writer and Calc, are implemented using the Visual Component Library (VCL), so that they do not work if the container window is not implemented by VCL. The current toolkit uses this library internally, so all the windows created by the awt toolkit are passed to a frame. No others work at this time. Using VCL directly is not recommended. The code has to be rewritten, whenever this complication has incurred by the current office implementation and is removed, and the toolkit implementation is exchangeable.

The second condition is that if a frame and its component are supposed to get windowActivated() messages, the window object implements the additional interface com.sun.star.awt.XTopWindow. This is necessary for editing components, because the windowActivated event shows a cursor or a selection in the document. As long as this condition is met, further code is not necessary for the interaction between the frame and window, because the frame gets all the necessary events from the window by registering the appropriate listeners in the call to initialize().

When you use the com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit to create windows, supply a com.sun.star.awt.WindowDescriptor struct to describe what kind of window is required. Set the Type member of this struct to <idlml>com.sun.star.awt.WindowClass:TOP</idlml> and the WindowServiceName member to "window" if you want to have an application window, or to "dockingwindow" if a window is need to be inserted in other windows created by the toolkit.

**Setting Components into Frame Hierarchies**

Once a frame has been initialized with a window, it can be added to a frames supplier, such as the desktop using the frames container provided by
Creating Frames Manually

`com.sun.star.frame.XFramesSupplier:getFrames()`(). Its method `com.sun.star.frame.XFrames:append()`() inserts the new frame into the XFrames container and calls `setCreator()` at the new frame, passing the XFramesSupplier interface of the parent frame.

**Note** – The parent frame must be set as the creator of the newly created frame. The current implementation of the frames container calls `setCreator()` internally when frames are added to it using append().

The following example creates a new window and a frame, plugs them together, and adds them to the desktop, thus creating a new, empty OpenOffice.org application window.

```java
// Conditions: xSMGR = m_xServiceManager
// Get access to vcl toolkit of remote office to create
// the container window of new target frame.
com.sun.star.awt.XToolkit xToolkit =
    (com.sun.star.awt.XToolkit)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.awt.XToolkit.class,
        xSMGR.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit") );

// Describe the properties of the container window.
// Tip: It is possible to use native window handle of a java window
// as parent for this. see chapter "OfficeBean" for further informations
com.sun.star.awt.WindowDescriptor aDescriptor = new
com.sun.star.awt.WindowDescriptor();
aDescriptor.Type              = com.sun.star.awt.WindowClass.TOP ;
aDescriptor.WindowServiceName = "window" ;
aDescriptor.ParentIndex       = -1;
aDescriptor.Parent            = null;
aDescriptor.Bounds            = new com.sun.star.awt.Rectangle(0,0,0,0);
aDescriptor.WindowAttributes  =
    com.sun.star.awt.WindowAttribute.BORDER    |
    com.sun.star.awt.WindowAttribute.MOVEABLE  |
    com.sun.star.awt.WindowAttribute.SIZEABLE  |
    com.sun.star.awt.WindowAttribute.CLOSEABLE ;
com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer xPeer = xToolkit.createWindow(aDescriptor) ;
com.sun.star.awt.XWindow xWindow =
    (com.sun.star.awt.XWindow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface ( com.sun.star.awt.XWindow .class, xPeer);
// Create a new empty target frame.
// Attention: Before {{PRODUCTNAME}} build 643 we must use
// com.sun.star.frame.Task instead of com.sun.star.frame.Frame,
// because the desktop environment accepts only this special frame type
// as direct children. It will be deprecated from build 643
xFrame = (com.sun.star.frame.XFrame)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    com.sun.star.frame.XFrame.class,
    xSMGR.createInstance ("com.sun.star.frame.Task "));

// Set the container window on it. xFrame.initialize(xWindow) ;
```
Creating Frames Manually

// Insert the new frame in desktop hierarchy.  
// Use XFrames interface to do so. It provides access to the  
// child frame container of the parent node.  
// Note: append(xFrame) calls xFrame.setCreator(Desktop) automatically.  
com.sun.star.frame.XFramesSupplier xTreeRoot = 
    (com.sun.star.frame.XFramesSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface( 
        com.sun.star.frame.XFramesSupplier.class,  
        xSMGR.createInstance("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop") );

com.sun.star.frame.XFrames xChildContainer = xTreeRoot.getFrames ();  
xChildContainer.append(xFrame) ;

// Make some other initializations.  
xPeer.setBackground(0xFFFFFFFF);  
xWindow.setVisible(true);  
xFrame.setName("newly created 1") ;

Handling Documents

Loading Documents

The framework API defines a simple but powerful interface to load viewable components, the com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader. This interface is implemented by the globally accessible com.sun.star.frame.Desktop service and also by the com.sun.star.frame.Frame service.
Services Involved in Document Loading

The interface `com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader` has one method:

```java
com::sun::star::lang::XComponent loadComponentFromURL (
    [in] string aURL,
    [in] string aTargetFrameName,
    [in] long nSearchFlags,
    [in] sequence < com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue aArgs >
)
```

In the following sections the arguments of this call are explained. For a more detailed description of what happens when this call is executed, see the chapter about the filtering process. It explains how the various parameters in the MediaDescriptor allow to detect the type of the file to load, the best filter to load it and the document type that will receive the data. If these parameters were known already and a document should be loaded without becoming attached to a frame, a simple way to load a document exists that bypasses the detection step and the frame creation:

- create the document by instantiating it with its UNO service name
- get the `com.sun.star.frame.XLoadable` interface from the document
- call its `load(...)` method that gets the MediaDescriptor as parameter

**MediaDescriptor**

A call to `loadComponentFromURL()` receives a sequence of `com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue` structs as a parameter, which implements the `com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor` service, consisting of property definitions. In general it describes a resource and how it shall be handled in the particular context where the MediaDescriptor is used. In the context of loading a file it describes the "from where" and the "how". In the context of storing a document using the interface `com.sun.star.frame.XStorable` it describes the "where to" and the "how". The table below shows the properties defined in the media descriptor.

Some properties are used for loading and saving while others apply to one or the other. If a media descriptor is used, only a few of the members are specified. The others assume default values. Strings default to empty strings in general and interface references default to empty references. For all other properties, the default values are specified in the description column of the table.

Some properties are tagged deprecated. There are old implementations that still use these properties. They are supported, but are discouraged to use them. Use the new property that can be found in the description column of the deprecated property.

To develop a UNO component that uses the media descriptor, note that all the properties are under control of the framework API. Never create your own property names for the media descriptor, or name clashes may be induced if the framework
defines a property that uses the same name. Instead, use the \texttt{ComponentData} property to transport document specific information. \texttt{ComponentData} is specified to be an any, therefore it can be a sequence of property values by itself. If you do use it, make an appropriate specification available to users of your component.

**Properties of \texttt{com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor}**

\begin{description}
\item[\texttt{AsTemplate}] boolean. Setting \texttt{AsTemplate} to true creates a new untitled document out of the loaded document, even if it has no template extension. Loading a template, that is, a document with a template extension, creates a new untitled document by default, but setting the \texttt{AsTemplate} property to false loads a template for editing.
\item[\texttt{Author}] string. Only for storing versions in components supporting versioning: author of version.
\item[\texttt{CharacterSet}] string. Defines the character set for document formats that contain single byte characters, if necessary. Which character set names are valid depends on the filter implementation, but with the current filters you can employ the character sets used for the conversion of byte to unicode strings.
\item[\texttt{Comment}] string. Only for storing versions in components supporting versioning: comment (description) for stored version.
\item[\texttt{ComponentData}] any. This is a parameter that is used for any properties specific for a special office component type.
\item[\texttt{FileName}] string. Same as URL (added for compatibility reasons)
\item[\texttt{FilterData}] any. This is a parameter that is used for any properties specific for a special filter type.
\item[\texttt{FilterName}] string. Name of a filter that should be used for loading or storing the component. Names must match the names of the \texttt{typedetection} configuration. Invalid names are ignored. If a name is specified on loading, it will be verified by a filter detection, but in case of doubt it will be preferred.
\item[\texttt{FilterFlags}] string. For compatibility reasons: same as \texttt{FilterOptions}
\item[\texttt{FilterOptions}] string. Some filters need additional parameters. Use only together with property \texttt{FilterName}. Details must be documented by the filter. This is an old format for some filters. If a string is not
enough, filters can use the property FilterData.

boolean. Defines if the loaded component is
made visible. If this property is not specified, the
component is made visible by default. Prior to
OpenOffice.org 2.3 a document could be loaded
either "hidden" or "visible", but is wasn't possible
to change the visibility of its frame afterwards (by
calling setVisible() at the container window)
without risking a crash later on. But starting with
version 2.3 doing this is safe. Note that a
"hidden" frame (or the document it contains) must
be closed by the code that created it or switched
it to the hidden state.

com.sun.star.io.XInputStream. Used when
loading a document. Reading must be done
using this stream. If no stream is provided, the
loader creates a stream by itself using the URL,
version number, readonly flag, password, or
anything required for stream creation, given in
the media descriptor.
The model becomes the final owner of the stream
and usually holds the reference to lock the file.
Therefore, it is not allowed to keep a reference to
this InputStream after loading the component. It is
useless, because an InputStream is only usable
once for reading. Even if it implements the
com.sun.star.io.XSeekable
interface, do not interfere with the model's
reading process. Consider all the objects
involved in the loading process as temporary.

com.sun.star.task.XInteractionHandler. Object implementing the
com.sun.star.task.InteractionHandler
service that handles exceptional situations where
proceeding with the task is impossible without
additional information or impossible at all.
OpenOffice.org provides a default
implementation that can handle many situations.
If no InteractionHandler is set, a suitable
exception is thrown.
It is not allowed to keep a reference to this object,
not even in the loaded or stored components’
copy of the MediaDescriptor provided by its
arguments attribute.
Handling Documents

<string>JumpMark</string> (string)

The office document loaders expect simple strings used like targets in HTML documents. Do not use a leading # character. The meaning of a jump mark depends upon the filter, but in Writer, bookmarks can be used, whereas in Calc, cell ranges and named areas are supported.

<string>MediaType</string> (string)

Type of the medium to load that must match to one of the types defined in the typedetection configuration, otherwise it is ignored. The typedetection configuration can be found in several different xcu files in the config/registry/modules/org/openoffice/TypeDetection folders of the user or share tree. The MediaType is found in the "Type" property. This parameter bypasses the type detection of the desktop environment, so that passing a wrong MediaType causes load failures.

<string>OpenFlags</string> - deprecated

(string) For compatibility reasons: string that summarizes some flags for loading. The string contains capital letters for the flags:

- "ReadOnly" - "R"
- "Preview" - "B"
- "AsTemplate" - "T"
- "Hidden" - "H"

Use the corresponding boolean parameters instead.

<boolean>OpenNewView</boolean>

Affects the behavior of the component loader when a resource is already loaded. If true, the loader tries to open a new view for a document already loaded. For components supporting multiple views, a second window is opened as if the user clicked Window - New Window. Other components are loaded one more time. Without this property, the default behavior of the loader applies, for example, the loader of the desktop activates a document if the user tries to load it a second time.

<boolean>Overwrite</boolean>

For storing only: overwrite existing files with the same name, default is true, so an com.sun.star.io.IOException occurs if the target file already exists. If the default is changed and the file exists, the UCB throws an exception. If the file is loaded through API, this exception is transported to the caller or...
Handling Documents

handled by an interaction handler.

string. A password for loading or storing a component, if necessary. If no password is specified, loading of a password protected document fails, storing is done without encryption.

reference <XinputStream>. HTTP post data to send to a location described by the media descriptor to get a result that is loaded as a component, usually in webforms. Default is: no PostData.

string. Same as PostData, but the data is transferred as a string (just for compatibility).

boolean. Setting this to true tells the loaded component that it is loaded as a preview, so that it can optimize loading and viewing for this special purpose. Default is false.

boolean. Tells if a document is to be loaded in a (logical) readonly or in read/write mode. If opening in the desired mode is impossible, an error occurs. By default, the loaded content decides what to do. If its UCB content supports a "readonly" property, the logical open mode depends on that property, otherwise it is read/write.

This property only affects the UI. Opening a document in read only mode does not prevent the component from being modified by API calls, but all modifying functionality in the UI is disabled or removed.

string. A URL describing the environment of the request; for example, a referrer may be the URL of a document, if a hyperlink inside this document is clicked to load another document. The referrer may be evaluated by the addressed UCB content or the loaded document.

Without a referrer, the processing of URLs that require security checks is denied, for instance macro: URLs.

com.sun.star.task.XStatusIndicator. Object implementing the interface that gives status information, such as text or progress, for the target frame.

OpenOffice.org provides a default implementation that is retrieved by calling
createStatusIndicator() at the frame you load a component into. Usually you do not need this parameter if you do not want to use any other indicator than the one in the status bar of the document window. It is not allowed to keep a reference to this object, not even in the loaded or stored component's copy of the MediaDescriptor provided by its getArgs() method.

<string>TemplateName</string>. The logical name of a template to load. Together with the TemplateRegionName property this is used instead of the URL of the template. The logical names are the template names you see in the templates dialog.

<string>TemplateRegionName</string>. See TemplateName. The template region names are the folder names you see in the templates dialog.

<boolean>Unpacked</boolean>. For storing: Setting this to true means that a zip file is not used to save the document. Use a folder instead for UCB contents that support folders, such as file, WebDAV, and ftp. Default is false.

<string>URL</string>. The location of the component in URL syntax.

<short>Version</short>. For components supporting versioning: the number of the version to be loaded or saved. Default is zero and means that no version is created or loaded, and the main document is processed.

<any>ViewData</any>. Data to set a special view state after loading. The type depends on the component and is retrieved from a controller object by its com.sun.star.document.XViewDataSupplier interface. Default is: no ViewData.

<short>ViewId</short>. For components supporting different views: a number to define the view that should be constructed after loading. Default is: zero, and this should be treated by the component as the default view.

<short>MacroExecutionMode</short>. How should the macro be executed - the value should be one from com.sun.star.document.MacroExecMode constants group

<short>UpdateDocMode</short> Can the document be updated depending on links. The value should be one from com.sun.star.document.UpdateDocMode
constant group

The media descriptor used for loading and storing components is passed as an in/out parameter to some methods of objects that participate in the loading or storing process, e.g. the com.sun.star.document.TypeDetection service or a com.sun.star.document.ExtendedTypeDetection service, but also to the filter objects involved. This enable these objects to add more information to the MediaDescriptor. As an example, if the MediaDescriptor at the beginning just contains a URL. If an object uses this URL to open a stream, it should add this stream to the MediaDescriptor (Stream, InputStream or OutputStream). This prevents that other objects have to create the stream a second time (unfortunate if a remote file is loaded) and it must be reused by later users of the MediaDescriptor.

So if a method gets a MediaDescriptor parameter for loading content it is supposed to do the following:

- first check for a "Stream" property
- if it isn't available, check for an "InputStream" property
- if you find a stream, don't expect that its position is at the beginning of the file, seek to the position where you want to start
- only if none of these properties is available, try to create a stream by yourself from other properties, e.g. the URL property
- if the resulting stream is seekable (supports com.sun.star.io.XSeekable, add it to the MediaDescriptor if it is an in/out parameter
- if the resulting stream is seekable, the MediaDescriptor is an in-parameter and the stream isn't a return value, close it when you are done with it
- if the stream is not seekable, it is a "one way read" stream and must not be added to the MediaDescriptor.

- If it gets a MediaDescriptor parameter for storing content the workflow is:
  - first check for a "Stream" property
  - if it isn't available, check for an "OutputStream" property
  - only if none of these properties is available, try to create a stream by yourself from other properties, e.g. the URL property
  - if the resulting stream is seekable, it can be used for a direct access
  - if the resulting stream isn't seekable, a temporary stream must be created for the storing process and after successful storing all content must be copied to the target stream.

Methods that get the MediaDescriptor as in-parameter only of course can't modify it.
Warning – It is not allowed to hold a member of this descriptor by reference longer than it is used. This is especially important for the stream properties, except if the ownership of the stream is unquestionable. If it isn't, the stream can't be closed and only releases its file by refcounting down to zero. So if you are in doubt whether your code is the owner of a stream that you have passed to a MediaDescriptor, don't keep any reference to it outside of that descriptor.

URL Parameter

The URL is part of the media descriptor and also an explicit parameter for loadComponentFromURL(). This enables script code to load a document without creating a media descriptor at the cost of code redundancy. The URL parameter of loadComponentFromURL() overrides a possible URL property passed in the media descriptor. Aside from valid URLs that describe an existing file, the following URLs are used to open viewable components in OpenOffice.org:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writer</td>
<td>private:factory/swriter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calc</td>
<td>private:factory/scalc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draw</td>
<td>private:factory/sdraw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impress</td>
<td>private:factory/simpress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Database</td>
<td>.component:DB/QueryDesign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>.component:DB/TableDesign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>.component:DB/RelationDesign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>.component:DB/DataSourceBrowser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>.component:DB/FormGridView</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliography</td>
<td>.component:Bibliography/View1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Such empty documents also can created without a frame:

- create the document by instantiating it with its UNO service name
- get the com.sun.star.frame.XLoadable interface from the document
- call its initNew() method.

Target Frame

The URL and media descriptor loadComponentFromURL() have two additional arguments, the target frame name and search flags. The method loadComponentFromURL() looks for a frame in the frame hierarchy and loads the
Handling Documents

component into the frame it finds. It uses the same algorithm as findFrame() at the com.sun.star.frame.XFrame interface, described in section Frame Hierarchies.

The target frame name is a reserved name starting with an underscore or arbitrary name. The reserved names denote frequently used frames in the frame hierarchy or special functions, whereas an arbitrary name is searched recursively. If a reserved name is used, the search flags are ignored and set to 0. The following reserved names are supported:

_self

Returns the frame itself. The same as with an empty target frame name. This means to search for a frame you already have, but it is legal.

top

Returns the top frame of the called frame. The first frame where isTop() returns true when traveling up the hierarchy. If the starting frame does not have a parent frame, the call is treated as a search for "_self". This behavior is compatible to the frame targeting in a web browser.

_parent

Returns the next frame above in the frame hierarchy. If the starting frame does not have a parent frame, the call is treated as a search for "_self". This behavior is compatible to the frame targeting in a web browser.

_blank

Creates a new top-level frame as a child frame of the desktop. If the called frame is not part of the desktop hierarchy, this call fails. Using the "_blank" target loads open documents again that result in a read-only document, depending on the UCB content provider for the component. If loading is done as a result of a user action, this becomes confusing to the users, therefore the "_default" target is recommended in calls from a user interface, instead of "_blank". Refer to the next section for a discussion about the _default target.

_default

Similar to "_blank", but the implementation defines further behavior that has to be documented by the implementer. The com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader implemented at the desktop object shows the following default behavior.

First, it checks if the component to load is already loaded in another top-level
frame. If this is the case, the frame is activated and brought to the foreground. When the `OpenNewView` property is set to true in the media descriptor, the loader creates a second controller to show another view for the loaded document. For components supporting this, a second window is opened as if the user clicked **Window - New Window**. The other components are loaded one more time, as if the "_blank" target had been used. Currently, almost all office components implementing `com.sun.star.frame.XModel` have multiple controllers, except for HTML and writer documents in the online view. The database and bibliography components have no model, therefore they cannot open a second view at all and `OpenNewView` leads to an exception with them.

Next, the loader checks if the active frame contains an unmodified, empty document of the same document type as the component that is being loaded. If so, the component is loaded into that frame, replacing the empty document, otherwise a new top-level frame is created similar to a call with "_blank".

Names starting with an underscore must not be used as real names for a frame.

If the given frame name is an arbitrary string, the loader searches for this frame in the frame hierarchy. The search is done in the following order: self, children, siblings, parent, create if not found. Each of these search steps can be skipped by deleting it from the `com.sun.star.frame.FrameSearchFlag` bit vector:

**Constants in com.sun.star.frame.FrameSearchFlag group**

- **SELF** search current frame
- **CHILDREN** search children recursively
- **SIBLINGS** search frames on the same level
- **PARENT** search frame above the current frame in the hierarchy
- **CREATE** create new frame if not found
- **TASKS** do not stop searching when a top frame is reached, but continue with other top frames
- **ALL** `CHILDREN | SIBLINGS | PARENT`
- **GLOBAL** `CHILDREN | SIBLINGS | PARENT | TASKS`

A typical case for a named frame is a situation where a frame is needed to be reused for subsequent loading of components, for example, a frame attached to a preview window or a docked frame, such as the frame in OpenOffice.org that opens the address book when the F4 key is pressed.

The frame names "_self", "_top" and "_parent" define a frame target relative to a starting frame. They can only be used if the component loader interface finds the frame and the `setComponent()` can be used with the frame. The desktop frame is the root, therefore it does not have a top and parent frame. The component loader of the desktop cannot use these names, because the desktop refuses to have a component set into it. However, if a frame implemented `com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader`, these names could be used.
Note – OpenOffice.org 1.0.x did not have a frame implementation that supports XComponentLoader.

The reserved frame names are also used as a targeting mechanism in the dispatch framework with regard to as far as the relative frame names being resolved. For additional information, see chapter Using the Dispatch Framework.

The example below creates a frame, and uses the target frame and search flag parameters of loadComponentFromURL() to load a document into it.

```java
// Conditions: sURL = "private:factory/swriter"
// xSMGR = m_xServiceManager
// xFrame = reference to a frame
// lProperties[] = new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[0]

// First prepare frame for loading.
// We must adress it inside the frame tree without any complications.
// To do so we set an unambiguous name and use it later.
// Don't forget to reset the name to the original name after that.

String sOldName = xFrame.getName();
String sTarget = "odk_officedev_desk";
xFrame.setName(sTarget);

// Get access to the global component loader of the office
// for synchronous loading of documents.
com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader xLoader =
(com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader.class,
    xSMGR.createInstance("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop"));

// Load the document into the target frame by using our unambiguous name
// and special search flags.
xDocument = xLoader.loadComponentFromURL(
    sURL, sTarget, com.sun.star.frame.FrameSearchFlag.CHILDREN, lProperties);

// dont forget to restore old frame name ...
xFrame.setName(sOldName);
```

The loadComponentFromURL() call returns a reference to a com.sun.star.lang.XComponent interface. The object belonging to this interface depends on the loaded component. If it is a component that only provides a component window, but not a controller, the returned component is this window. If it is an office component that provides a controller, the returned component is the controller or its model, if these is one. All Writer, Calc, Draw, Impress or Math documents in OpenOffice.org support a model, therefore the loadComponentFromURL() call returns it. The database and bibliography components however, return a controller, because they do not have a model.
Closing Documents

The `loadComponentFromURL()` returns a `com.sun.star.lang.XComponent` interface has previously been discussed. The return value is a reference to a `com.sun.star.lang.XComponent` interface, the corresponding object is a disposable component, and the caller must take care of lifetime problems. An `XComponent` supports the following methods:

```java
close()
callMethod (Void, [in] com::sun::star::lang::XEventListener xListener)
callMethod (Void, [in] com::sun::star::lang::XEventListener aListener)
```

In principle, there is a simple rule. The documentation of a `com.sun.star.lang.XComponent` specifies the objects that can own a component. Normally, a client using an `XComponent` is the owner of the `XComponent` and has the responsibility to dispose of it or it is not the owner. If it is not the owner, it may add itself as a `com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener` at the `XComponent` and not call `dispose()` on it. This type of `XEventListener` supports one method in which a component reacts upon the fact that another component is about to be disposed of:

```java
callMethod (Void, [in] com::sun::star::lang::EventObject Source)
```

However, the frame, controller and model are interwoven tightly, and situations do occur in which there are several owners, for example, if there is more than one view for one model, or one of these components is in use and cannot be disposed of, for example, while a print job is running or a modal dialog is open. Therefore, developers must cope with these situations and remember a few things concerning the deletion of components.

Closing a document has two aspects. It is possible that someone else wants to close a document being currently worked on And you may want to close a component someone else is using at the same time. Both aspects are discussed in the following sections. A code example that closes a document is provided at the end of this section.

Reacting Upon Closing

The first aspect is that someone else wants to close a component for which you hold a reference. In the current version of OpenOffice.org, there are three possibilities.

- If the component is used briefly as a stack variable, you do not care about the component after loading, or you are sure there will be no interference, it is justifiable to load the component without taking further measures. If the user is
going to close the component, let the reference go out of scope, or release the reference when no longer required.

- If a reference is used, but it is not necessary to react when it becomes invalid and the object supports com.sun.star.uno.XWeak, you can hold a weak reference instead of a hard reference. Weak references are automatically converted to null if the object they reference is going to be disposed. Because the generic frame implementation, and also the controllers and models of all standard document types implement XWeak, it is recommended to use it when possible.

- If a hard reference is held or you want to know that the component has been closed and the new situation has to be accommodated, add a com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener at the com.sun.star.lang.XComponent interface. In this case, release the reference on a disposing() notification.

Sometimes it is necessary to exercise more control over the closing process, therefore a new, optional interface com.sun.star.util.XCloseable has been introduced which is supported in versions beyond 641. If the object you are referencing is a com.sun.star.util.XCloseable, register it as a com.sun.star.util.XCloseListener and throw a com.sun.star.util.CloseVetoException when prompted to close. Since XCloseable is specified as an optional interface for frames and models, do not assume that this interface is supported. It is possible that the code runs with a OpenOffice.org version where frames and models do not implement XCloseable. Therefore, be prepared for the case when you receive null when you try to query XCloseable. The XCloseable interface is described in more detail below.

### How to Trigger Closing

The second aspect - to close a view of a component or the entire viewable component yourself - is more complex. The necessary steps depend on how you want to treat modified documents. Besides you have to prepare for the new com.sun.star.util.XCloseable interface, which will be implemented in future versions of OpenOffice.org.

**Warning** – Although XCloseable is not supported in the current version of OpenOffice.org, you already have to check for this interface to write compatible code. Not checking for XCloseable will be illegal in future versions. If a component supports this interface, you must not use any closing procedure other than calling close() at that interface.

The following three diagrams show the decisions to be made when closing a frame or a document model. The important points are: if you expect modifications, you must either handle them using com.sun.star.util.XModifiable and
com.sun.star.frame.XStorable, or let the user do the necessary interaction by calling suspend() on the controller. In any case, check if the frame or model is an XCloseable and prefer \texttt{com.sun.star.util.XCloseable:close()} over a call to dispose(). The first two diagrams illustrate the separate closing process for frames and models, the third diagram covers the actual termination of frames and models.

**XCloseable**

The dispose mechanism has shortcomings in complex situations, such as the frame-
controller-model interaction. The dispose call cannot be rejected, but as shown above, sometimes it is necessary to prevent destruction of objects due to shared ownership or a state of the documents that forbids destruction.

A closing mechanism is required that enables all involved objects to negotiate if deletion is possible and to veto, if necessary. By offering the interface com.sun.star.util.XCloseable, a component tells it must be destroyed by calling close(). Calling dispose() on an XCloseable might lead to deadlocks or crash the entire application.

In OpenOffice.org, model or frame objects are possible candidates for implementing the interface XCloseable, therefore query for that interface before destroying the object. Call dispose() directly if the model or frame does not support the interface, thus declaring that it handles all the problems.

An object implementing XCloseable registers close listeners. When a close request is received, all listeners are asked for permission. If a listener wants to deprecate, it throws an exception derived from com.sun.star.util.CloseVetoException containing the reason why the component can not be closed. This exception is passed to the close requester. The XCloseable itself can veto the destruction by throwing an exception. If there is no veto, the XCloseable calls dispose() on itself and returns.

The XCloseable handles problems that occur if a component rejects destruction. A script programmer usually can not cope with a component not used anymore and refuses to be destroyed. Ensure that the component is destroyed to avoid a memory leak. The close() method offers a method to pass the responsibility to close the object to any possible close listener that vetoes closing or to the XCloseable if the initial caller is not able to stay in memory to try again later. This responsibility is referred to as delivered ownership. The mechanism sets some constraints on the possible reasons for an objection against a close request.

A close listener that is asked for permission can object for any reason if the close call does not force it to assume ownership of the closeable object. The close requester is aware of a possible failure. If the close call forces the ownership, the close listener must be careful. An objection is only allowed if the reason is temporary. As soon as the reason no longer exists, the owner automatically calls close on the object that should be closed, now being in the same situation as the initial close requester.

A permanent reason for objection is not allowed. For example,. the document is modified is not a valid reason to object, because it is unlikely that the document becomes unmodified by itself. Consequently, it could never be closed. Therefore, if an API programmer wants to avoid data loss, he must use the com.sun.star.util.XModifiable and com.sun.star.frame.XStorable interfaces of the document. The fact that a model refuses to be closed if it is modified is not dependable.
The interface `com.sun.star.util.XCloseable` inherits from `com.sun.star.util.XCloseBroadcaster` and has the following methods:

```java
[oneway] void addCloseListener ([in] com::sun::star::util::XCloseListener Listener);
[oneway] void removeCloseListener ([in] com::sun::star::util::XCloseListener Listener);
void close ([in] boolean DeliverOwnership);
```

The `com.sun.star.util.XCloseListener` is notified twice when `close()` is called on an `XClosable`:

```java
void queryClosing ([in] com::sun::star::lang::EventObject Source, [in] boolean GetsOwnership);
void notifyClosing ([in] com::sun::star::lang::EventObject Source);
```


In the closing negotiations, an `XClosable` is asked to close itself. In the call to `close()`, the caller passes a boolean parameter `DeliverOwnership` to tell the `XClosable` that it will give up ownership in favor of an `XCloseListener`, or the `XClosable` that might have to finish a job first, but will close the `XClosable` immediately when the job is completed.

After a call to `close()`, the `XClosable` notifies its listeners twice. First, it checks if it can be closed. If not, it throws a `CloseVetoException`, otherwise it uses `queryClosing()` to see if a listener has any objections against closing. The value of `DeliverOwnership` is conveyed in the `GetsOwnership` parameter of `queryClosing()`. If no listener disapproves of closing, the `XClosable` exercises `notifyClosing()` on the listeners and disposes itself. The result of a call to `close()` on a model is that all frames, controllers and the model itself are destroyed. The result of a call to `close()` on a frame is that this frame is closed, but the model stays alive if there are other controllers.

If an `XCloseListener` does not agree on closing, it throws a `CloseVetoException`, and the `XClosable` lets the exception pass in `close()`, so that the caller receives the exception. The `CloseVetoException` tells the caller that closing failed. If the caller delegated its ownership in the call to `close()` by setting the `DeliverOwnership` parameter to true, an `XCloseListener` knows that it automatically assumes ownership by throwing a `CloseVetoException`. The caller knows that someone else is now the owner if it receives a `CloseVetoException`. The new owner is compelled to close the `XClosable` as soon as possible. If the `XClosable` was the object that threw an exception, it is compelled also to close itself as soon as possible.
Note – No API exists for trivial components. As a consequence, components are not allowed to do anything that prevents them from being destroyed. For example, since the office crashes when a container window or component window has an open modal dialog, every component that wants to open a modal dialog must implement the com.sun.star.frame.XController interface.

If a model object supports XCloseable, calling dispose() on it is forbidden, try close() the XCloseable and catch a possible CloseVetoException. Components that cannot cope with a destroyed model add a close listener at the model. This enables them to object when the model receives a close() request. They also add as a close listener if they are not already added as an (dispose) event listener. This can be done by every controller object that uses that model. It is also possible to let the model iterate through its controllers and call their suspend() methods explicitly as a part of its implementation of the close method. It is only necessary to know that a method close() must be called to close the model with its controllers. The method the model chooses is an implementation detail.

The example below closes a loaded document component. It does not save modified documents or prompts the user to save.

```java
// Conditions: xDocument = m_xLoadedDocument
// Check supported functionality of the document (model or controller).
com.sun.star.frame.XModel xModel =
    (com.sun.star.frame.XModel)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.frame.XModel.class, xDocument);
if(xModel!=null)
{
    // It is a full featured office document.
    // Try to use close mechanism instead of a hard dispose().
    // But maybe such service is not available on this model.
    com.sun.star.util.XCloseable xCloseable =
        (com.sun.star.util.XCloseable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.util.XCloseable.class, xModel);
    if(xCloseable!=null)
    {
        try
        {
            // use close(boolean DeliverOwnership)
            // The boolean parameter DeliverOwnership tells objects vetoing the
            close process that they may
            // assume ownership if they object the closure by throwing a
            CloseVetoException
            // Here we give up ownership. To be on the safe side, catch possible
            veto exception anyway.
            xCloseable.close(true);
        }
        catch(com.sun.star.util.CloseVetoException exCloseVeto)
        {
        }
    }
}
```
Closing Documents

// If close is not supported by this model - try to dispose it.
// But if the model disagree with a reset request for the modify state
// we shouldn't do so. Otherwise some strange things can happen.
else
{
    com.sun.star.lang.XComponent xDisposeable =
    (com.sun.star.lang.XComponent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.lang.XComponent.class, xModel);
    xDisposeable.dispose();
}

Storing Documents

After loading an office component successfully, the returned interface is used to manipulate the component. Document specific interfaces, such as the interfaces com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument, com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetDocument or com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier are retrieved using queryInterface().

If the office component supports the com.sun.star.frame.XStorable interface applying to every component implementing the service com.sun.star.document.OfficeDocument, it can be stored:

```java
void store ()
    void storeAsURL ( [in] string sURL,
        [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > lArguments )
    void storeToURL ( [in] string sURL,
        [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > lArguments )
    boolean hasLocation ()
    string getLocation ()
    boolean isReadonly ()
```

The XStorable offers the methods store(), storeAsURL() and storeToURL() for storing. The latter two methods are called with a media descriptor.

The method store() overwrites an existing file. Calling this method on a document that was created from scratch using a private:factory/... URL leads to an exception.

The other two methods storeAsURL() and storeToURL() leave the original file untouched and differ after the storing procedure. The storeToURL() method saves the current document to the desired location without touching the internal state of the
document. The method storeAsURL sets the Modified attribute of the document, accessible through its com.sun.star.util.XModifiable interface, to false and updates the internal media descriptor of the document with the parameters passed in the call. This changes the document URL.

The following example exports a Writer document, Writer/Web document or Calc sheet to HTML.

```java
// Conditions: sURL      = "file:///home/target.htm"
//             xDocument = m_xLoadedDocument
// Export can be achieved by saving the document and using
// a special filter which can write the desired format.
// Normally this filter should be searched inside the filter
// configuration (using service com.sun.star.document.FilterFactory)
// but here we use well known filter names directly.
String sFilter = null;

// Detect document type by asking XServiceInfo
com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo xInfo =
    (com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo.class, xDocument);
// Determine suitable HTML filter name for export.
if (xInfo != null) {
    if (xInfo.supportsService("com.sun.star.text.TextDocument") == true)
        sFilter = new String("HTML (StarWriter)"));
    else if (xInfo.supportsService("com.sun.star.text.WebDocument") == true)
        sFilter = new String("HTML");
    else if (xInfo.supportsService("com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetDocument") == true)
        sFilter = new String("HTML (StarCalc)"));
    }
if (sFilter != null) {
    // Build necessary argument list for store properties.
    // Use flag "Overwrite" to prevent exceptions, if file already exists.
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] lProperties =
        new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[2];
    lProperties[0] = new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue();
    lProperties[0].Name = "FilterName";
    lProperties[0].Value = sFilter;
    lProperties[1].Name = "Overwrite";
    lProperties[1].Value = new Boolean(true);

    com.sun.star.frame.XStorable xStore =
        (com.sun.star.frame.XStorable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.frame.XStorable.class, xDocument);
    xStore.storeAsURL(sURL, lProperties);
}
```

If a model is loaded or stored successfully, all parts of the media descriptor not explicitly excluded according to the media descriptor table in section MediaDescriptor must be provided by the methods `getURL()` and `getArgs()` in the
com.sun.star.frame.XModel interface. The separation of the URL and the other arguments is used, because the URL is the often the most wanted part for its performance optimized access.

**Tip** - The XModel offers a method attachResource() that changes the media descriptor of the document, but this method should only be used in special cases, for example, by the implementer of a new document model and controller. The method attachResource() does not force reloading of the document. Validation checks are done when a document is loaded through MediaDescriptor. For example, if the resource is write protected, add Readonly to the MediaDescriptor and the filter name must match the data. A possible use for attachResource() could be creating a document from a template, where after loading successfully, the document's resource is changed to an "unnamed" state by deleting the URL.

## Printing Documents

Printing revolves around the interface com.sun.star.view.XPrintable. Its methods and special printing features for the various document types are described in the document chapters [Printing Text Documents](#), [Printing Spreadsheet Documents](#), [Printing Drawing Documents](#) and [Printing Presentation Documents](#).

## Using the Dispatch Framework

The component framework with the Frame-Controller-Model paradigm builds the skeleton of the global object structure. Other frameworks are defined that enrich the communication between an office component and the desktop environment. Usually they start at a frame object for the frame anchors an office component in the desktop environment.

One framework is the dispatch framework. Its main purpose defines interfaces for a generic communication between an office component and a user interface. This communication process handles requests for command executions and gives information about the various attributes of an office component. Generic means that the user interface does not have to know all the interfaces supported by the office component. The user interfaces sends messages to the office component and receives notifications. The messages use a simple format. The entire negotiation about supported commands and parameters can happen at runtime while an
application built on the specialized interfaces of the component are created at compile or interpret time. This generic approach is achieved by looking at an office component differently, not as objects with method-based interfaces, but as slot machines that take standardized command tokens.

We have discussed the differences between the different document types. The common functionality covers the generic features, that is, an office component is considered to be the entirety of its controller, its model and many document-specific interfaces. To implement a user interface for a component, it would be closely bound to the component and its specialized interfaces. If different components use different interfaces and methods for their implementations, similar functions cannot be visualized by the same user interface implementation. For instance, an action like **Edit – Select All** leads to different interface calls depending on the document type it is sent to. From a user interface perspective, it would be better to define abstract descriptions of the actions to be performed and let the components decide how to handle these actions, or not to handle. These abstract descriptions and how to handle them is specified in the dispatch framework.

**Command URL**

In the dispatch framework, every possible user action is defined as an executable **command**, and every possible visualization as a reflection of something that is exposed by the component is defined as an **attribute**. Every executable command and every attribute is a feature of the office component, and the dispatch framework gives every feature a name called **command URL**. It is represented by a com.sun.star.util.URL struct.

Command URLs are strings that follow the **protocol_scheme:protocol_specific_part** pattern. Public URL schemes, such as file: or http can be used here. Executing a request with a URL that points to a location of a document means that this document is loaded. In general, both parts of the command URL can be arbitrary strings, but a request cannot be executed if there is an object that does not know how to handle its command URL.

**Processing Chain**

A request is created by any object. User interface objects can create requests. Consider a toolbox where different functions acting on the office component are
presented as buttons. When a button is clicked, the desired functionality is executed. If the code assigned to the button is provided with a suitable command URL, it handles the user action by creating the request and finding a component that can handle it. The button handler does not require any prior knowledge of the component and how it would go about its task.

This situation is handled by the design pattern *chain of responsibility*. Everything a component needs to know to execute a request is the last link of a chain of objects capable of executing requests. If this object gets the request, it checks if it can handle it or passes it to the next chain member until the request is executed, or the end of the chain is reached.

The chain members in the dispatch framework are objects implementing the interface com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider. Every frame and controller supports it. In the simplest case, the chain consists of two members, a frame and its controller, but concatenating several chain parts on demand of a frame or a controller is possible. A controller once called, passes on the call, that is, it can use internal frames created by its implementation. A frame also passes the call to other objects, for example, its parent frame.

The current implementation of the chain is different from a simple chain. A frame is always the leading chain member and *must* be called initially, but in the default implementation used in OpenOffice.org, the frame first(!) asks its controller before it goes on with the request. Other frame implementations handle this in a different way. Other chain members are inserted into the call sequence before the controller uses the dispatch interception capability of a frame. The developers should not rely on any particular order inside the chain.

The dispatch framework uses a generic approach to describe and handle requests with a lose coupling between the participating objects. To work correctly, it is necessary to follow certain rules:

10. Every chain starts at a frame, and this object decides if it passes on the call to its controller. The controller is not called directly from the outside. This is not compulsory for internal usage of the dispatch API inside an office component implementation. The two reasons for this rule are:

   1. A frame provides a com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProviderInterception interface, where other dispatch providers dock. The frame implementation guarantees that these interceptors are called before the frame handles the request or passes it to the controller. This allows a sophisticated customization of the dispatch handling.

   2. If a component is placed into a context where parts of its functionality are not
be exposed to the outside, a special frame implementation is used to suppress or handle requests before they are passed to the controller. This frame can add or remove arguments to requests and exchange them.

1. A command URL is parsed into a com.sun.star.util.URL struct before passing it to a dispatch provider, because it is assumed that the call is passed on to several objects. Having a pre-parsed URL saves parsing the command string repeatedly. Parsing means that the members Complete, Main, Protocol and at least one more member of the com.sun.star.util.URL struct, depending on the given protocol scheme have to be set. Additional members are set if the concrete URL protocol supports them. For well known protocol schemes and protocol schemes specific to OpenOffice.org, the service com.sun.star.util.URLTransformer is used to fill the struct from a command URL string. For other protocols, the members are set explicitly, but it is also possible to write an extended version of the URLTransformer service to carry out URL parsing. An extended URLTransformer must support all protocols supported by the default URLTransformer implementation, for example, by instantiating the old implementation by its implementation name and forwarding all known URLs to it, except URLs with new protocols.

The dispatch framework connects an object that creates a request with another object that reacts on the request. In addition, it provides feedback to the requester. It can tell if the request is currently allowed or not. If the request acts on a specific attribute of an object, it provides the current status of this attribute. Altogether, this is called status information, represented by a com.sun.star.frame.FeatureStateEvent struct. This information is reflected in a user interface by enabling or disabling controls to show their availability, or by displaying the status of objects. For example, a pressed button for the bold attribute of text, or a numeric value for the text height in a combo box.

The com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider interface does not handle requests, but delegates every request to an individual dispatch object implementing com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch.

**Note** – This is the concept, but the implementation is not forced and it may decide to return the same object for every request. It is not recommended to use the dispatch provider object as a dispatch object.

### Dispatch Process

This section describes the necessary steps to handle dispatch providers and dispatch objects. The illustration below shows the services and interfaces of the the Dispatch
Getting a Dispatch Object

First, create a command URL that represents the desired functionality ensuring that it is parsed as described above. Tables with possible command URLs for the default office components of OpenOffice.org are located in the appendix.

Request the com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider interface of the frame that contains the office component for a dispatch object for the command URL by calling its `queryDispatch()` method.

```java
com::sun::star::frame::XDispatch queryDispatch ( [in] com::sun::star::util::URL URL,
    [in] string TargetFrameName,
    [in] long SearchFlags )
seq< com::sun::star::frame::XDispatch > queryDispatches ( seq<
    com::sun::star::frame::DispatchDescriptor > Requests )
```

The additional parameters (TargetFrameName, SearchFlags) of this call are only used
Dispatch Process

for dispatching public URL schemes, because they specify a target frame and frame
search mode to the loading process. Valid target names and search flags are
described in the section Target Frame. The targets "_self", "_parent" and "_top" are
well defined, so that they can be used, because a queryDispatch() call starts at a
frame object. Using frame names or search flags with command URLs does not have
any meaning in the office components in OpenOffice.org.

You receive a dispatch object that supports at least com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch:

```java
[oneway] void dispatch ( [in] com::sun::star::util::URL URL,
    [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue
> Arguments )
[oneway] void addStatusListener ( [in]
com::sun::star::frame::XStatusListener Control,
    [in] com::sun::star::util::URL URL )
[oneway] void removeStatusListener ( [in]
com::sun::star::frame::XStatusListener Control,
    [in] com::sun::star::util::URL URL )
```

Listening for Status Information

If a dispatch object is received, add a listener for status events by calling its
addStatusListener() method. A com.sun.star.frame.XStatusListener implements:

```java
[oneway] void statusChanged ( [in] com::sun::star::frame::FeatureStateEvent
Event )
```

Keep a reference to the dispatch object until you call the removeStatusListener()
method, because it is not sure that any other object will keep it alive. If a status
listener is not registered, because you want to dispatch a command, and are not
interested in status events, release all references to the dispatch object immediately
after usage. If a dispatch object is not received, the desired functionality is not
available. If you have a visual user interface element that represents that
functionality, disable it.

If a status listener is registered and there is status information, a
com.sun.star.frame.FeatureStateEvent is received immediately after registering the
listener. Status information is still received later if the status changes and you are still
listening. The isEnabled member of the com.sun.star.frame.FeatureStateEvent tells
you if the functionality is currently available, and the state member holds information
about a status that could be represented by UI elements. Its type depends on the
command URL. A boolean status information is visualized in a pressed or not pressed
look of a toolbox button. Other types need complex elements, such as combo boxes
or spinfields embedded in a toolbox that show the current font and font size. If the
state member is empty, the action does not have an explicit status, such as the
menu item File - Print. The current status can be ambiguous, because more than
one object is selected and the objects are in a different status, for example. selected text that is partly formatted bold and partly regular.

A special event is a status event where the Requery flag is set. This is a request to release all references to the dispatch object and to ask the dispatch provider for a new object, because the old one has become invalid. This allows the office components to accommodate internal context changes. It is possible that a dispatch object is not received, because the desired functionality has become unavailable.

If you do not get any status information in your statusChanged() implementation, assume that the functionality is always available, but has no explicit status.

If you are no longer interested in status events, use the removeStatusListener() method and release all references to the dispatch object. You may get a disposing() callback from the dispatch object when it is going to be destroyed. It is not necessary to call removeStatusListener(). Ensure that you do not hold any references to the dispatch object anymore.

**Listening for Context Changes**

Sometimes internal changes, for example, traveling from a text paragraph to a text table, or selecting a different type of object, force an office component to invalidate all referenced dispatch objects and provides other dispatch objects, including dispatches for command URLs it could not handle before. The component then calls the contextChanged() method of its frame, and the frame broadcasts the corresponding com.sun.star.frame.FrameActionEvent. For this reason, register a frame action listener using addFrameActionListener() at frames you want dispatch objects. Refer to section Frame Actions for additional information. If the listener is called back with a CONTEXT_CHANGED event, release all dispatch objects and query new dispatch objects for every command URL you require. You can also try command URLs that did not get a dispatch object before.

If you are no longer interested in context changes of a frame, use the removeFrameActionListener() method of the frame to deregister and release all references to the frame. If you get a disposing() request from the frame in between, it is not necessary to call removeFrameActionListener(), but you must release all frame references you are currently holding.
Dispatch Process

Dispatching a Command

If the desired functionality is available, execute it by calling the `dispatch()` method of the dispatch object. This method is called with the same command URL you used to get it, and optionally with a sequence of arguments of type `com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue` that depend on the command. It is not redundant that supplied the URL again, because it is allowed to use one dispatch object for many command URLs. The appendix shows the names and types for the parameters. However, the command URLs for simple user interface elements, such as menu entries or toolbox buttons send no parameters. Complex user interface elements use parameters, for example, a combo box in a toolbar that changes the font height.

```java
// Conditions: sURL = "private:factory/swriter"
// lProperties = new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[0]
// xSMGR = m_xServiceManager
// xListener = this
// xFrame = a given frame
// Query the frame for right interface which provides access to all
// available dispatch objects.
com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider xProvider =
    (com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider)UnoRuntime.queryInterface (com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider .class, xFrame );

// Create and parse a valid URL
// Note: because it is an in/out parameter we must use an array of URLs
com.sun.star.util.XURLTransformer xParser =
    (com.sun.star.util.XURLTransformer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface (com.sun.star.util.XURLTransformer .class,
        xSMGR.createInstance("com.sun.star.util.URLTransformer" ));

com.sun.star.util.URL[] aParseURL = new com.sun.star.util.URL[1];
aParseURL[0] = new com.sun.star.util.URL();
aParseURL[0].Complete = sURL;
xParser.parseStrict (aParseURL);

// Ask for dispatch object for requested URL and use it.
// Force given frame as target "" which means the same like "_self".
xDispatcher = xProvider.queryDispatch(aParseURL[0],"",0);
if(xDispatcher!=null)
{
xDispatcher.addStatusListener (xListener,aParseURL[0]);
xDispatcher.dispatch (aParseURL[0],lProperties);
}
```
Dispatch Results

Every dispatch object implement optional interfaces. An important extension is the com.sun.star.frame.XNotifyingDispatch interface for dispatch results. The dispatch() call is a void method and should be treated as an asynchronous or one-way call, therefore a dispatch result can not be passed as a return value, rather, a callback interface is necessary. The interface that provides dispatch results by a callback is the com.sun.star.frame.XNotifyingDispatch interface:

```
[oneway] void dispatchWithNotification ( [in] com::sun::star::util::URL URL,  
 [in] sequence<  
 com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue Arguments,  
 [in]  
 com::sun::star::frame::XDispatchResultListener Listener )
```

Its method dispatchWithNotification() takes a com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchResultListener interface that is called after a dispatched URL has been executed.

Warning – Although the dispatch process is considered to be asynchronous, this is not necessarily so. Therefore, be prepared to get the dispatch result notification before the dispatch call returns.

The dispatch result is transferred as a com.sun.star.frame.DispatchResultEvent struct in the callback method dispatchFinished(). The State member of this struct tells if the dispatch was successful or not, while the Result member contains the value that would be returned if the call had been executed as a synchronous function call. The appendix shows the types of return values. If a public URL is dispatched, the dispatch result is a reference to the frame the component was loaded into.

```
// Conditions: sURL        = "private:factory/swriter"  
//             lProperties = new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[0]  
//             xSMGR       = m_xServiceManager  
//             xListener   = this  

// Query the frame for right interface which provides access to all  
// available dispatch objects.  
com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider xProvider =  
 (com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider)UnoRuntime.queryInterface (  
 com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider .class, xFrame);  

// Create and parse a valid URL  
// Note: because it is an in/out parameter we must use an array of URLs  
com.sun.star.util.XURLTransformer xParser =  
 (com.sun.star.util.XURLTransformer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(  
 com.sun.star.util.XURLTransformer .class,  
 xSMGR.createInstance ("com.sun.star.util.URLTransformer "));  

// Ask for right dispatch object for requested URL and use it.  
// Force given frame as target "" which means the same like "_self".
```
Dispatch Results

```
// Attention: The interface XNotifyingDispatch is an optional one!
com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch xDispatcher =
    xProvider.queryDispatch (aURL,"",0);
com.sun.star.frame.XNotifyingDispatch xNotifyingDispatcher =
    (com.sun.star.frame.XNotifyingDispatch)UnoRuntime.queryInterface ( com.sun.star.frame.XNotifyingDispatch.class , xDispatcher );
if(xNotifyingDispatcher!=null)
    xNotifyingDispatcher.dispatchWithNotification (aURL, lProperties, xListener);
```

Dispatch Interception

The dispatch framework described in the last chapter establishes a communication between a user interfaces and an office component. Both can be OpenOffice.org default components or custom components. Sometimes it is not necessary to replace a UI element by a new implementation. It can be sufficient to influence its visualized state or to redirect user interactions to external code. This is the typical use for dispatch interception.

The dispatch communication works in two directions: status information is transferred from the office component to the UI elements and user requests travel from the UI element to the office component. Both go through the same switching center that is, an object implementing com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch. The UI element gets this object by calling `queryDispatch()` at the frame containing the office component, and usually receives an object that connects to code inside the frame, the office component or global services in OpenOffice.org. The frame offers an interface that is used to return third-party dispatch objects that provide the UI element with status updates. For example, it is possible to disable a UI element that would not be disabled otherwise. Another possibility is to write replacement code that is called by the UI element if the user performs a suitable action.

Dispatch objects are provided by objects implementing the com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider interface, and that is the interface you are required to implement. There is an extra step where the dispatch provider must be attached to the frame to intercept the dispatching communication, therefore the dispatch provider becomes a part of the chain of responsibility described in the previous section. This is accomplished by implementing com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProviderInterceptor.

This chain usually only consists of the frame and the controller of the office component it contains, but the frame offers the com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProviderInterception interface where other providers are inserted. They are called before the frame tries to find a dispatch object for a
command URL, so that it is possible to put the complete dispatch communication in a frame under external control. More than one interceptor can be registered, thus building a bigger chain.

Routing every dispatch through the whole chain becomes a performance problem, because could be more than a hundred possible clients asking for a dispatch object. For this reason there is also an API that limits the routing procedure to particular commands or command groups. This is described below.

Once the connection is established, the dispatch interceptor decides how requests for a dispatch object are dealt with. When asked for a dispatch object for a Command URL, it can:

- Return an empty interface that disables the corresponding functionality. There’s a bug in Ooo1.0/SO6.0 that this does not work, so disabling must be done explicitly (see below). It will be fixed in Ooo1.02/SO6.02.
- Pass the request to the next chain member, called slave dispatcher provider described below if it is not interested in that functionality.
- Handle the request and return an object implementing com.sun.star.frame.XDispatch. As described in the previous chapter, client objects may register at this object as status event listeners. The dispatch object returns any possible status information as long as the type of the "State" member in the com.sun.star.frame.FeatureStateEvent struct has one of the expected types. The expected types must be documented together with the existing commands. For example, if a menu entry wants status information, it handles a void, that is, do nothing special or a boolean state by displaying a check mark, but nothing else. The status information could contain a disable directive. Note that a dispatch object returns status information immediately when a listener registers. Any , events change can be broadcasted at arbitrary points in time.
- The returned dispatch object is also used by client objects to dispatch the command that matches the command URL. The dispatch object receiving this request checks if the code it wants to execute is valid under the current conditions. It is not sufficient to rely on disable requests, because a client is not forced to register as a status listener if it wants to dispatch a request.

The slave dispatcher provider and master dispatch provider in the com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProviderInterceptor interface are a bit obscure at first. They are two pointers to chain members in both directions, next and previous, where the first and last member in the chain have special meanings and responsibilities.

The command dispatching passes through a chain of dispatch providers, starting at the frame. If the frame is answered to include an interceptor in this chain, the frame inserts the interceptor in the chain and passes the following chain member to the new
chain member, so that calls are passed along the chain if it does not want to handle them.

If any interceptor is deregistered, the frame puts the lose ends together by adjusting the master and slave pointer of the chain successor and predecessor of the element that is going to be removed from the chain. All of them are interceptors, so only the last slave is a dispatch provider.

The frame takes care of the whole chain in the register or deregister of calls in the dispatch provider interceptor, so that the implementer of an interceptor does not have to be concerned with the chain construction.

Java Window Integration

This section discusses experiences obtained during the development of Java-OpenOffice.org integration. Usually, developers use the OfficeBean for this purpose. The following provides background information about possible strategies to reach this goal.

There are multiple possibilities to integrate local windows with OpenOffice.org windows. This chapter shows the integration of OpenOffice.org windows into a Java bean environment. Some of this information maybe helpful with other local window integrations.

The Window Handle

An important precondition is the existence of a system window handle of the own Java window. For this, use a java.awt.Canvas and the following JNI methods:

- a method to query the window handle (HWND on Windows, X11 ID on UNIX)
- a method to identify the operating system, for example, UNIX, Windows, or Macintosh

For an example, see bean/com/sun/star/beans/LocalOfficeWindow.java

The two methods getNativeWindow() and getNativeWindowSystemType() are declared and exported, but implemented for windows in bean/native/win32/com_sun_star_beans_LocalOfficeWindow.c through JNI
Warning – It has to be a java.awt.Canvas. These JNI methods cannot be implemented at a Swing control, because it does not have its own system window. You can use a java.awt.Canvas in a Swing container environment.

Note – The handle is not available before the window is visible, otherwise the JNI function does not work. One possibility is to cache the handle and set it in `show()` or `setVisible()`.

Using the Window Handle

The window handle create the OpenOffice.org window. There are two ways to accomplish this:

A Hack

This option is mentioned because there are situations where this is the only feasible method. The knowledge of this option can help in other situations.

Add the UNO interface com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer so that it is usable for the OpenOffice.org window toolkit. This interface can have an empty implementation. In `com.sun.star.awt.XToolkit:createWindow()`, another interface com.sun.star.awt.XSystemDependentWindowPeer is expected that queries the HWND. Thus, `XWindowPeer` is for transporting and `com.sun.star.awt.XSystemDependentWindowPeer` queries the HWND.

This method gets a com.sun.star.awt.XWindow as a child of your own Java window, that is used to initialize a com.sun.star.frame.XFrame.

```java
com.sun.star.awt.XToolkit xToolkit =
    (com.sun.star.awt.XToolkit)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.awt.XToolkit.class,
        xSMGR.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit"));
// this is the canvas object with the JNI methods
aParentView = ...  
// some JNI methods cannot work before this
aParentView.setVisible(true);
// now wrap the canvas (JavaWindowPeerFake) and add the necessary interfaces
com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer xParentPeer =
    (com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer.class,
        xToolkit.getPeer(aParentView));
```

Chapter 6 · Office Development
new JavaWindowPeerFake(aParentView));

com.sun.star.awt.WindowDescriptor aDescriptor = new 
com.sun.star.awt.WindowDescriptor();
aDescriptor.Type = com.sun.star.awt.WindowClass.TOP;
aDescriptor.WindowServiceName = "workwindow";
aDescriptor.ParentIndex = 1;
aDescriptor.Parent = xParentPeer;
aDescriptor.Bounds = new com.sun.star.awt.Rectangle(0,0,0);

if (aParentView.getNativeWindowSystemType()==com.sun.star.lang.SystemDependent.SYSTEM_WIN32)
aDescriptor.WindowAttributes = com.sun.star.awt.WindowAttribute.SHOW;
else
aDescriptor.WindowAttributes =
com.sun.star.awt.WindowAttribute.SYSTEMDEPENDENT;

// now the toolkit can create an com.sun.star.awt.XWindow
com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer xPeer = xToolkit.createWindow( aDescriptor );
com.sun.star.awt.XWindow xWindow =
(com.sun.star.awt.XWindow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( 
com.sun.star.awt.XWindow.class,
xPeer);

Legal Solution

The com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit service has a method com.sun.star.awt.XSystemChildFactory with a method createSystemChild(). This accepts an any with a wrapped HWND or X Window ID, as long and the system type, such as Windows, Java, and UNIX directly. Here you create an com.sun.star.awt.XWindow. This method cannot be used in OpenOffice.org build versions before src642, because the process ID parameter is unknown to the Java environment. Newer versions do not check this parameter, thus this new, method works.

Warning – As a user of com.sun.star.awt.XSystemChildFactory:createSystemChild() ensure that your client (Java application) and your server (OpenOffice.org) use the same display. Otherwise the window handle is not interchangeable.
// no wrapping necessary, simply use the HWND
com.sun.star.awt.XSystemChildFactory xFac =
    (com.sun.star.awt.XSystemChildFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.awt.XSystemChildFactory.class,
        xToolkit);
Integer nHandle = aParentView.getHWND();
byte[] lIgnoredProcessID = new byte[0];
com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer xPeer =
    xFac.createSystemChild(
        (Object)nHandle,
        lIgnoredProcessID,
        com.sun.star.lang.SystemDependent.SYSTEM_WIN32);
com.sun.star.awt.XWindow xWindow =
    (com.sun.star.awt.XWindow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.awt.XWindow.class,
        xPeer);

Note – The old method still works and can be used, but it should be considered
deprecated. If in doubt, implement both and try the new method at runtime. If it does
not work, try the hack.

Resizing

Another difficulty is resizing the window. Normally, the child window expects resize
events of the parent. The child does not resize it window, because it must know the
layout of the parent window. The VCL, OpenOffice.org's windowing engine creates a
special system child window, thus we can resize windows.

The parent window can be filled "full size" with the child window, but only for UNIX
and not for Windows. The VCL's implementation is system dependent.

The bean deals with this issue by adding another function to the local library.
Windows adds arbitrary properties to an HWND. You can also subclass the window,
that is, each Windows window has a function pointer or callback to the function that
performs the event handling (WindowProcedure). Using this, it is possible to treat
events by calling your own methods. This is useful whenever the window is not
created by you and you need to influence the behavior of the window.

In this case, the Java window has not been created by us, but we need to learn about
resize events to forward these to the OpenOffice.org window. Look at the file
bean/native/win32/com_sun_star_beans_LocalOfficeWindow.c, and find the method
OpenOfficeWndProc(). In the first call of the JNI function
Java_com_sun_star_beans_LocalOfficeWindow_getNativeWindow() of this file, the
own handler is applied to the foreign window.
**Warning** – The old bean implementation had a bug that is fixed in newer versions. If you did not check if the function pointer was set, and called `Java_com_sun_star_beans_LocalOfficeWindow_getNativeWindow()` multiple times, you created a chain of functions that called each other with the result of an endless recursion leading to a stack overflow. If the own handler is already registered, it is now marked in one of the previously mentioned properties registered with an HWND:

In the future, VCL will do this sub-classing by itself, even on Windows. This will lead to equal behavior between Windows and UNIX.

The initial size of the window is a related problem. If a canvas is connected with an OpenOffice.org window, set both sizes to a valid, positive value, otherwise the OpenOffice.org window will not be visible. If you are using a non-product build of OpenOffice.org, you see an assertion failed "small world isn't it". This might change when the sub-classing is done by VCL in the future.

There is still one unresolved problem. The code mentioned above works with Java 1.3, but not for Java 1.4. There, the behavior of windows is changed. Where Java 1.3 sends real resize events from the own WindowProc, Java 1.4 does a re-parenting. The canvas window is destroyed and created again. This leads to an empty window with no OpenOffice.org window. This problem is under investigation.

**More Remote Problems**

There are additional difficulties to window handles and local window handles. Some personal experiences of one of the OpenOffice.org authors are provided:

- Listeners in Java should be implemented in a thread. The problem is that SolarMutex, a mutex semaphore of OpenOffice.org, one-way UNO methods and the global Java GUI thread do not work together.
- The Java applet should release its listeners. If they stay in the containers of OpenOffice.org after the Java process ends, UNO throws a com.sun.star.lang.DisposedException, which are not caught correctly. Java does not know destructors, therefore it is a difficult to follow this advice. One possibility is to register a Thread object at java.Runtime as a ShutDownHook. This is called even when CTRL-C is pressed on the command line where you can deregister the listeners. Because listeners are threads, there is some effort.
Common Application Features

Clipboard

This chapter introduces the usage of the clipboard service com.sun.star.datatransfer.clipboard.SystemClipboard. The clipboard serves as a data exchange mechanism between OpenOffice.org custom components, or between custom components and external applications. It is usually used for copy and paste operations.

**Note** – The architecture of the OpenOffice.org clipboard service is strongly conforming to the Java clipboard specification.

Different platforms use different methods for describing data formats available on the clipboard. Under Windows, clipboard formats are identified by unique numbers, for example, under X11, a clipboard format is identified by an ATOM. To have a platform independent mechanism, the OpenOffice.org clipboard supports the concept of DataFlavors. Each instance of a DataFlavor represents the opaque concept of a data format as it would appear on a clipboard. A DataFlavor defined in com.sun.star.datatransfer.DataFlavor has three members:

**Members of com.sun.star.datatransfer.DataFlavor**

- `<idlm>com.sun.star.datatransfer.DataFlavor:MimeType</idlm>`
  - A string that describes the data. This string must conform to Rfc2045 and Rfc2046 with one exception. The quoted parameter may contain spaces. In section OpenOffice.org Clipboard Data Formats, a list of common DataFlavors supported by OpenOffice.org is provided.

- `<idlm>com.sun.star.datatransfer.DataFlavor:HumanPresentable Name</idlm>`
  - The human presentable name for the data format that this DataFlavor represents.

- `<idlm>com.sun.star.datatransfer.DataFlavor:DataType</idlm>`
  - The type of the data. In section OpenOffice.org Clipboard Data Formats there is a list of common DataFlavors supported by OpenOffice.org and their corresponding DataType.

The carrier of the clipboard data is a transferable object that implements the interface com.sun.star.datatransfer.XTransferable. A transferable object offers one or many different DataFlavors.
Using the Clipboard

Pasting Data

The following Java example demonstrates the use of the clipboard service to paste from the clipboard.

```java
import com.sun.star.datatransfer.*;
import com.sun.star.datatransfer.clipboard.*;
import com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter;
...

// instantiate the clipboard service
Object oClipboard =
    xMultiComponentFactory.createInstanceWithContext(
        "com.sun.star.datatransfer.clipboard.SystemClipboard",
        xComponentContext);

// query for the interface XClipboard
XClipboard xClipboard = (XClipboard)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XClipboard.class, oClipboard);

//---------------------------------------------------
// get a list of formats currently on the clipboard
//---------------------------------------------------
XTransferable xTransferable = xClipboard.getContents();
DataFlavor[] aDflvArr = xTransferable.getTransferDataFlavors();

// print all available formats
System.out.println("Reading the clipboard...");
System.out.println("Available clipboard formats:");
DataFlavor aUniFlv = null;
for (int i=0;i<aDflvArr.length;i++)
{
    System.out.println("MimeType: " +
        aDflvArr[i].MimeType +
        " HumanPresentableName: " +
        aDflvArr[i].HumanPresentableName );

    // if there is the format unicode text on the clipboard save the
    // corresponding DataFlavor so that we can later output the string
    if (aDflvArr[i].MimeType.equals("text/plain; charset=utf-16"))
    {
        aUniFlv = aDflvArr[i];
    }
}
```
Copying Data

To copy to the clipboard, implement a transferable object that supports the interface `com.sun.star.datatransfer.XTransferable`. The transferable object offers arbitrary formats described by DataFlavors.

The following Java example demonstrates the implementation of a transferable object. This transferable object contains only one format, unicode text.

```java
// A simple transferable containing only one format, unicode text
public class TextTransferable implements XTransferable{
    private String text;

    public TextTransferable(String aText){
        text = aText;
    }

    public Object getTransferData(DataFlavor aFlavor) throws UnsupportedFlavorException{
        if ( !aFlavor.MimeType.equalsIgnoreCase(UNICODE_CONTENT_TYPE) )
            throw new UnsupportedFlavorException();
        return text;
    }

    public DataFlavor[] getTransferDataFlavors(){
        DataFlavor[] adf = new DataFlavor[1];
```
Everyone providing data to the clipboard becomes a clipboard owner. A clipboard owner is an object that implements the interface com.sun.star.datatransfer.clipboard.XClipboardOwner. If the current clipboard owner loses ownership of the clipboard, it receives a notification from the clipboard service. The clipboard owner can use this notification to destroy the transferable object that was formerly on the clipboard. If the transferable object is a self-destroying object, destroying clears all references to the object. If the clipboard service is the last client, clearing the reference to the transferable object leads to destruction.

All data types except for text have to be transferred as byte array. The next example shows this for a bitmap.

```java
public class BmpTransferable implements XTransferable {
    public BmpTransferable(byte[] aBitmap) {
        mBitmapData = aBitmap;
    }
    public boolean isDataFlavorSupported(DataFlavor aFlavor) {
        return aFlavor.MimeType.equalsIgnoreCase(BITMAP_CONTENT_TYPE);
    }
    // XTransferable methods
    public Object getTransferData(DataFlavor aFlavor) throws UnsupportedFlavorException
    {
        if ( !aFlavor.MimeType.equalsIgnoreCase(BITMAP_CONTENT_TYPE ) )
            throw new UnsupportedFlavorException();
        return mBitmapData;
    }
    public DataFlavor[] getTransferDataFlavors() {
        DataFlavor[] adf = new DataFlavor[1];
        DataFlavor bmpflv = new DataFlavor(
            BITMAP_CONTENT_TYPE,
            "Bitmap",
            new Type(byte[].class) );
        adf[0] = bmpflv;
    }
}
The following Java example shows an implementation of the interface `com.sun.star.datatransfer.clipboard.XClipboardOwner`.

```java
public class ClipboardOwner implements XClipboardOwner {
    // members
    private byte[] mBitmapData;
    private final String BITMAP_CONTENT_TYPE = "application/x-
      openoffice;windows_formatname="Bitmap";"

    public void lostOwnership(
        XClipboard xClipboard,
        XTransferable xTransferable )
    {
        System.out.println("\n");
        System.out.println( "Lost clipboard ownership..." );
        System.out.println("\n");
        isowner = false;
    }

    public boolean isClipboardOwner()
    {
        return isowner;
    }

    private boolean isowner = true;
}
```

The last two samples combined show how it is possible to copy data to the clipboard as demonstrated in the following Java example.

```java
import com.sun.star.datatransfer.*;
import com.sun.star.datatransfer.clipboard.*;
import com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter;
...
// instantiate the clipboard service
Object oClipboard =
    xMultiComponentFactory.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.datatransfer.clipboard.SystemClipboard",
```
xComponentContext);

// query for the interface XClipboard
XClipboard xClipboard =
(Xclipboard)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XClipboard.class, oClipboard);

//---------------------------------------------------
// becoming a clipboard owner
//---------------------------------------------------
System.out.println("Becoming a clipboard owner...");
System.out.println(" ");
ClipboardOwner aClipOwner = new ClipboardOwner();

xClipboard.setContents(new TextTransferable("Hello World!"), aClipOwner);
while (aClipOwner.isClipboardOwner())
{
    System.out.println("Still clipboard owner...");
    Thread.sleep(1000);
}
...

Becoming a Clipboard Viewer

It is useful to listen to clipboard changes. User interface controls may change their visible appearance depending on the current clipboard content. To avoid polling on the clipboard, the clipboard service supports an asynchronous notification mechanism. Every client that needs notification about clipboard changes implements the interface com.sun.star.datatransfer.clipboard.XClipboardListener and registers as a clipboard listener. Implementing the interface com.sun.star.datatransfer.clipboard.XClipboardListener is simple as the next Java example demonstrates.

//----------------------------
// A simple clipboard listener
//----------------------------
public class ClipboardListener implements XClipboardListener
{
    public void disposing(EventObject event)
    {
    }

    public void changedContents(ClipboardEvent event)
    {
        System.out.println(" ");
        System.out.println("Clipboard content has changed!");
        System.out.println(" ");
    }
}

If the interface was implemented by the object, it registers as a clipboard listener. A clipboard listener deregisters if clipboard notifications are no longer necessary. Both
aspects are demonstrated in the next example.

```java
// instantiate the clipboard service
Object oClipboard =
    xMultiComponentFactory.createInstanceWithContext(
    "com.sun.star.datatransfer.clipboard.SystemClipboard",
    xComponentContext);
// query for the interface XClipboard
XClipboard xClipboard = (XClipboard)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XClipboard.class, oClipboard);
//---------------------------------------------------
// registering as clipboard listener
//---------------------------------------------------
XClipboardNotifier xClipNotifier = (XClipboardNotifier)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XClipboardNotifier.class, oClipboard);
ClipboardListener aClipListener = new ClipboardListener();
xClipNotifier.addClipboardListener(aClipListener);
...
//---------------------------------------------------
// unregistering as clipboard listener
//---------------------------------------------------
xClipNotifier.removeClipboardListener(aClipListener);
...
```

# OpenOffice.org Clipboard Data Formats

This section describes common clipboard data formats that OpenOffice.org supports and their corresponding DataType.

As previously mentioned, data formats are described by DataFlavors. The important characteristics of a DataFlavor are the MimeType and DataType. The OpenOffice.org clipboard service uses a standard MimeType for different data formats if there is one registered at Iana. For example, for HTML text, the MimeType "text/html" is used, Rich Text uses the MimeType "text/richtext", and text uses "text/plain". If there is no corresponding MimeType registered at Iana, OpenOffice.org defines a private MimeType. Private OpenOffice.org MimeType always has the MimeType "application/x-openoffice". Each private OpenOffice.org MimeType has a parameter "windows_formatname" identifying the clipboard format name used under Windows. The used Windows format names are the format names used with older OpenOffice.org versions. Common Windows format names are "Bitmap", "GDIMetaFile", "FileName", "FileList", and "DIF". The DataType of a DataFlavor identifies how the data are exchanged. There are only two DataTypes that can be used. The DataType for Unicode text is a string, and in Java, String.class, For all other data formats, the DataType is a sequence of bytes in Java byte[].class.

The following table lists common data formats, and their corresponding MimeType and DataTypes:
### Internationalization

The I18N framework provides interfaces to access locale-dependent data (e.g. calendar data, currency) and methods (e.g. collation and transliteration). The I18N framework offers full-featured internationalization functionality that covers a range of geographic locations that include South Asia (China, Japan, and Korea, or CJK), Europe, Middle East (Hebrew, Arabic) and South-East Asia (Thai, Indian). Also, the I18N framework builds on the component model UNO, thus making the addition of new internationalization components easy.

### Introduction

The I18N framework contains a lot of data and many interfaces and methods not important to developers of external code using the OpenOffice.org API, but only for developers of the OpenOffice.org application itself. This chapter is split into two parts, one that gives a short overview on using the API and is restricted to what is useful to external developers, and a second part that focuses on how to implement a new locale supporting the API (Note that this section does not cover how to translate and localize the OpenOffice.org resources).
Overview and Using the API

XLocaleData

The com.sun.star.i18n.XLocaleData interface provides access to locale-specific information, such as decimal separators, group (thousands) separators, currency information, calendar data, and number format codes. No further functionality is discussed.

XCharacterClassification

The com.sun.star.i18n.XCharacterClassification interface is used to determine the Unicode type of a character (such as uppercase, lowercase, letter, digit, punctuation) or the script type. It also provides methods to perform simple uppercase to lowercase and lowercase to upper case conversions that are locale-dependent but do not need real transliteration. An example of locale-dependent case conversion is the Turkish lowercase i to uppercase l-dot and lowercase i-dotless to uppercase l conversion, as opposed to the western lowercase i to uppercase l conversion.

Warning – There was a bug in OpenOffice.org 1.0.2 that prevents this special example of Turkish case conversion to work properly. The issue is resolved for OpenOffice.org 1.1.0.

Another provided functionality is parsing methods to isolate and determine identifiers, numbers, and quoted strings in a given string. See the description of com.sun.star.i18n.XCharacterClassification methods parseAnyToken() and parsePredefinedToken(). The parser uses com.sun.star.i18n.XLocaleData to obtain the locale-dependent decimal and group separators.

XCalendar

The com.sun.star.i18n.XCalendar interface enables the application to use any
calendar available for a given locale, not being restricted to the Gregorian calendar. You may query the interface for the available calendars for a given locale with method `getAllCalendars()` and load one of the available calendars using method `loadCalendar()`, or you may use the default calendar loaded with method `loadDefaultCalendar()`. Normally, a Gregorian calendar is available with the name "gregorian" in the Name field of com.sun.star.i18n.Calendar even if the default calendar is not a Gregorian calendar, but this is not mandatory. Available calendars are obtained through the com.sun.star.i18n.XLocaleData interface.

**Warning** – You must initially load a calendar before using any of the interface methods that perform calendar calculations.

### XExtendedCalendar

The com.sun.star.i18n.XExtendedCalendar interface was introduced with OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 and provides additional functionality to display locale and calendar dependent calendar values. This interface is derived from com.sun.star.i18n.XCalendar. The interface provides a method to obtain display strings of date parts for specific calendars of a specific locale.

### XNumberFormatCode

The com.sun.star.i18n.XNumberFormatCode interface provides access to predefined number format codes for a given locale, which in turn are obtained through the com.sun.star.i18n.XLocaleData interface. Normally you do not need to bother with it because the application’s number formatter Number Formats manages the codes. It just might serve to get the available codes and determine default format codes of a specific category.

### XNativeNumberSupplier

The com.sun.star.i18n.XNativeNumberSupplier interface was introduced with OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 and provides functionality to convert between ASCII Arabic
digits/numeric strings and native numeral strings, such as Korean number symbols.

**XCollator**

The com.sun.star.i18n.XCollator interface provides locale-dependent collation algorithms for sorting purposes. There is at least one collator algorithm available per locale, though there may be more than one, for example dictionary and telephone algorithms, or stroke, radical, pinyin in Chinese locales. There is always one default algorithm for each locale that may be loaded using method loadDefaultCollator(), and all available algorithms may be queried with method listCollatorAlgorithms() of those a selected algorithm may be loaded using loadCollatorAlgorithm(). The available collator implementations and options are obtained through the com.sun.star.i18n.XLocaleData interface.

**Warning** – You must initially load an algorithm prior to using any of the compare...() methods, otherwise the result will be 0 indicating any comparison being equal.

**Note** – Since collation may be a very time consuming procedure, use it only for user-visible data, for example for sorted lists. If, for example, you only need a case insensitive comparison without displaying the results to the user, use the com.sun.star.i18n.XTransliteration interface instead.

**XTransliteration**

The com.sun.star.i18n.XTransliteration interface provides methods to perform locale-dependent character conversions, such as case conversions, conversions between Hiragana and Katakana, and Half-width and Full-width. Transliteration is also used by the collators if, for example, a case insensitive sort is to be performed. The available transliteration implementations are obtained through the com.sun.star.i18n.XLocaleData interface.

**Warning** – You must initially load a transliteration module prior to using any of the transliterating or comparing methods, otherwise the result is unpredictable.
Note – If you only need to determine if two strings are equal for a specific transliteration (for example a case insensitive comparison) use the equals() method instead of the compare...() methods, it may have a faster implementation.

XTextConversion

The com.sun.star.i18n.XTextConversion interface provides methods to perform locale-dependent text conversions, such as Hangul/Hanja conversion for Korean, or translation between Chinese simplified and Chinese traditional.

XBreakIterator

The com.sun.star.i18n.XBreakIterator interface may be used to traverse the text in character mode or word mode, to jump to the beginning or to the end of a sentence, to find the beginning or the end of a given script type, and, as the name suggests, to determine a line break position, optionally using a com.sun.star.linguistic2.XHyphenator. The service implementation obtains lists of forbidden characters (characters that are not allowed at the beginning or the end of a line in certain locales) through the com.sun.star.i18n.XLocaleData interface. The XBreakIterator interface also offers methods to determine the script type of a character or to find the beginning or end of a script type along a sequence of characters.

XIndexEntrySupplier

The com.sun.star.i18n.XIndexEntrySupplier interface may be used to obtain information on index entries to generate a "table of alphabetical index" for a given locale. Since not all languages are alphabetical in the western sense (for example, CJK languages), different methods are needed.
XExtendedIndexEntrySupplier

The com.sun.star.i18n.XExtendedIndexEntrySupplier interface was introduced with OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 and provides additional functionality to generate index entries for languages that need phonetically sorted indexes, such as Japanese. The interface is derived from com.sun.star.i18n.XIndexEntrySupplier.

XInputSequenceChecker

The com.sun.star.i18n.XInputSequenceChecker interface was introduced with OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 and provides input sequence checking for Thai and Hindi.

Implementing a New Locale

**Warning** – The procedures, directory layout, and file contents described here reflect the structure of the i18npool module as of OpenOffice.org version 1.1.0, and not the i18n module for OpenOffice.org 1.0.2.

XLocaleData

One of the most important tasks in implementing a new locale is to define all the locale data to be used, listed in the following table as types returned by the com.sun.star.i18n.XLocaleData interface methods:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.i18n.LanguageCountryInfo</td>
<td>exactly 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.i18n.LocaleDataItem</td>
<td>exactly 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sequence&lt;com.sun.star.i18n.Calendar&gt;</td>
<td>1 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sequence&lt;com.sun.star.i18n.Currency&gt;</td>
<td>1 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sequence&lt;com.sun.star.i18n.FormatElement&gt;</td>
<td>at least all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sequence&lt;com.sun.star.i18n.Implementation&gt;</td>
<td>0 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sequence&lt;string&gt; search options (transliteration modules)</td>
<td>0 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sequence&lt;string&gt; collation options</td>
<td>0 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.i18n.NumberFormatIndex format codes (see below)</td>
<td>0 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>collator will be called for the language given in &lt;LanguageCountryInfo&gt;</td>
<td>0 or more</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Implementing a New Locale

(transliteration modules)
sequence<string> names of supported transliterations (transliteration modules)
com.sun.star.i18n.ForbiddenCharacters
0 or more

sequence<string> reserved words
com.sun.star.i18n.reservedWords
all words of

sequence<com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValues> numbering levels
(no public XLocaleData API method available, used by and accessible through
com.sun.star.text.XDefaultNumberingProvider method
defaultContinuousNumberingLevels() implemented in i18npool)

sequence<com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess> outline styles
(no public XLocaleData API method available, used by and accessible through
com.sun.star.text.XDefaultNumberingProvider method
defaultOutlineNumberings() implemented in i18npool)

exactly 8 <NumberingLevel> entities
exactly 8 <OutlineStyle> entities consisting of 5
<OutlineNumberingLevel> entities each

Locale data is defined in an XML file. It is translated into a C++ source file during the build process, which is compiled and linked together with other compiled locale data files into shared libraries. The contents of the XML file, their elements, and how they are to be defined are described in i18npool/source/localedata/data/locale.dtd. The latest revision available for a specific CVS branch of that file provides up-to-date information about the definitions, as well as additional information.

If the language-country combination is not already listed in tools/inc/lang.hxx and tools/source/intn1t/isolang.hxx and svx/source/dialog/langtab.src, OpenOffice.org is probably not prepared to deal with your specific locale. For assistance, you can consult http://l10n.openoffice.org/adding_language.html#step1 (Add the New Language to the Resource System) and join the dev@l10n.openoffice.org mailing list (see also http://l10n.openoffice.org/servlets/ProjectMailingListList).

In order to conform with the available build infrastructure, the name of your locale data file should follow the conventions used in the i18npool/source/localedata/data directory: <language>_<country>.xml, where language is a lowercase, two letter ISO-639 code, and country is an uppercase two letter ISO-3166 code. Start by copying the en_US.xml file to your <language>_<country>.xml file and adapt the entries to
Implementing a New Locale

suit your needs. Add the corresponding *.cxx and *.obj target file name to the
*i18npool/source/localedata/data/makefile.mk*. Note that there is an explicit rule
defined, so that you do not need to add the *.xml file name anywhere. You must also
add the locale to the aDllsTable structure located in
*i18npool/source/localedata/data/localedata.cxx*. Make sure to specify the correct
library name, since it must correspond to the library name used in the makefile.
Finally, the public symbols to be exported must be added to the linker map file
containing the library. You can use the
*i18npool/source/localedata/data/linkermapfile-check.awk* script to assist you.
Instructions for how to use the script are located the header comments of the file.

<LC_FORMAT><FormatElement>

To be able to load documents of versions up to and including StarOffice 5.2 (old
binary file format), each locale must define all number formats mentioned in
com.sun.star.i18n.NumberFormatIndex and assign the proper
formatindex="..." attribute.

Failing to do so may result in data not properly displayed or not displayed at all
if a built-in "System" or "Default" format code was used (as generally done by
the average user) and the document is loaded under a locale not having those
formats defined. Since old versions did merge some format information of the
[Windows] Regional Settings, it might be necessary to define some duplicated
codes to fill all positions. To verify that all necessary elements are defined, use a
non-product build of OpenOffice.org and open a number formatting dialog, and
select your locale from the Language list box. An assertion message box
appears if there are any missing elements. The errors are only shown the very
first time the locale is selected in a given document.

<LC_FORMAT><FormatElement><FormatCode>

In general, definition of number format codes follows the user visible rules,
 apart from that any non-ASCII character must be entered using UTF-8
encoding. For a detailed description of codes and a list of possible keywords
please consult the OpenOffice.org English online help on section "number
format codes".

Be sure to use the separators you declared in the <LC_CTYPE> section in the
number format codes, for example <DecimalSeparator>, <ThousandSeparator>,
otherwise the number formatter generates incorrect formats.

Verify the defined codes again by using the number formatter dialog of a non-
product OpenOffice.org build. If anything is incorrect, an assertion message box
appears containing information about the error. The format indices 1..49 are
reserved and, for backward compatibility, must be used as stated in
Implementing a New Locale

offapi/com.sun/star/i18n/NumberFormatIndex.idl. Note that 48 and 49 are used internally and must not be used in locale data XML files. All other formats must be present.

<FormatCode usage="DATE"> and <FormatCode usage="DATE_TIME">

Characters of date and time keywords, such as YYYY for year, had previously been localized for a few locales (for example, JJJJ in German). The new I18N framework no longer follows that approach, because it may lead to ambiguous and case insensitive character combinations that cannot be resolved at runtime. Localized keyword support is only given for some old locales, other locales must define their codes using English notation.

The table below shows the localized keyword codes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DayOfWeek</th>
<th>Era</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Hour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English (and all other locales not mentioned)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>de_AT, de_CH, de_DE, de_LI, de_LU, nl_BE, nl_NL</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>T</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>it_CH, it_IT, pt_BR, pt_PT, es_AR, es_BO, es_CL, es_CO, es_CR, es_DO, es_EC, es_ES, es_GT, es_HN, es_MX, es_NI, es_PA, es_PE, es_PR, es_PY, es_SV, es_UY, es_VE, da_DK, nb_NO, nn_NO, no_NO, sv_FI, sv_SE, fi_Fi</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>G</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<FormatCode usage="DATE" formatindex="21"> and <FormatCode usage="DATE_TIME" formatindex="47">
The `formatindex="21"` com.sun.star.i18n.NumberFormatIndex `DATE_SYS_DDMMYYYY` format code is used to edit date formatted data. It represents a date using the most detailed information available, for example, a 4-digit year and instead of a 2-digit year. The YMD default order (how a date is assembled) is determined from the order encountered in this format.

Similarly, the `formatindex="47"` com.sun.star.i18n.NumberFormatIndex `DATETIME_SYS_DDMMYYYY_HHMMSS` format code is used to edit date-time data. Both format codes must display data in a way that is parable by the application, in order to be able to reassemble edited data. This generally means using only YYYY,MM,DD,HH,MM,SS keywords and `<DateSeparator>` and `<TimeSeparator>`.

`<FormatCode usage="CURRENCY">`

The `[xxx-yyyy]` notation is needed for compatibility reasons. The xxx part denotes the currency symbol, and the yyy part specifies the locale identifier in Microsoft Language ID hexadecimal notation. For example, having "409" as the locale identifier (English-US) and "$" as the currency symbol results in [$$-409]. A list of available Language IDs known to the [PRODUCTNAME] application can be found at project util module tools in file `tools/inc/lang.hxx`. Format indices 12, 13, 14, 15, 17 with `[xxx-yyyy]` notation must use the xxx currency symbol that has the attribute `usedInCompatibleFormatCodes="true"` (see element `<LC_CURRENCY>` in the `locale.dtd` file).

**XCalendar**

The interface com.sun.star.i18n.XCalendar provides a general calendar service. All calendar implementations are managed by a class `CalendarImpl`, the front-end, which dynamically calls a language-specific implementation.

`Calendar_gregorian` is a wrapper to ICU’s Calendar class.

If you need to implement a locale-specific calendar, you can choose to either derive your class from `Calendar_gregorian` or to write your own class.

There are three steps needed to create a locale-specific calendar:

1. Name your calendar `<name>` (for example, 'gengou' for Japanese Calendar) and add it to the locale data XML file with proper day/month/era names.

2. Derive a class either from `Calendar_gregorian` or `XCalendar`, name it as
Implementing a New Locale

Calendar_<name>, which will be loaded by CalendarImpl when the calendar is specified.

3. Add your new calendar as a service in $i18npool/source/registerservices/registerservices.cxx$.

If you plan to derive from the Gregorian calendar, you need to know the mapping between your new calendar and the Gregorian calendar. For example, the Japanese Emperor Era calendar has a starting year offset to Gregorian calendar for each era. You will need to override the method Calendar_gregorian::mapToGregorian() and Calendar_gregorian::mapFromGregorian() to map the Era/Year/Month/Day between the Gregorian calendar and the calendar for your language.

XCharacterClassification

The interface com.sun.star.i18n.XCharacterClassification provides toUpper(), toLower(), toTitle() and methods to get various character attributes defined by Unicode. These functions are implemented by the cclass_unicode class. If you need language specific requirements for these functions, you can derive a language specific class cclass_<locale_name> from cclass_unicode and overwrite the methods. In most cases, the attributes are well defined by Unicode, so you do not need to create your own class.

The class also provides a generic parser. If a particular language needs special number parsing, detected non-ASCII numbers are fed to the com.sun.star.i18n.NativeNumberSupplier service to obtain the ASCII representation, which in turn is interpreted and converted to a double precision floating point value.

A manager class CharacterClassificationImpl will handle the loading of language specific implementations of CharacterClassification on the fly. If no implementation is provided, the implementation defaults to class cclass_unicode.

XBreakIterator

The interface com.sun.star.i18n.XBreakIterator provides support for Character(Cell)/Word/Sentence/Line-break services. For example, BreakIterator provides the APIs to iterate a string by character, word, line and sentence. The
interface is used by the Output layer for the following operations:

- Cursor positioning and selection: Since a character or cell can take more than one code point, cursor movement cannot be done by simply incrementing or decrementing the index.
- Complex Text Layout Languages (CTL): In CTL languages (such as Thai, Hebrew, Arabic and Indian), multiple characters can combine to form a display cell. Cursor movement must traverse a display cell instead of a single character.

Line breaking must be highly configurable in desktop publishing applications. The line breaking algorithm should be able to find a line break with or without a hyphenator. Additionally, it should be able to parse special characters that are illegal if they occur at the end or beginning of a line.

Both requirements are locale-sensitive.

The BreakIterator components are managed by the class BreakIteratorImpl, which will load the language-specific component in service name BreakIterator_<language> dynamically.

The base break iterator class BreakIterator_Unicode is a wrapper to the ICU BreakIterator class. While this class meets the requirements for western languages, it does not meet the requirements for other languages, such as those of South Asia (CJK) and South East Asia (Indian, Thai, Arabic), where enhanced functionality is required, as described previously.

Thus the current BreakIterator base class has two derived classes, BreakIterator_CJK and BreakIterator_CTL. BreakIterator_CJK provides a dictionary based word break for Chinese and Japanese, and a forbidden rule driven line break for Chinese, Japanese and Korean. BreakIterator_CTL provides a more specific definition of character/cell/cluster grouping for languages like Thai and Arabic.

Use the following steps to create a language-specific BreakIterator service:

1. Derive a class either from BreakIterator_CJK or BreakIterator_CTL, name it as BreakIterator_<language>.

2. Add new service in registerservices.cxx

There are three methods for word breaking: nextWord(), previousWord(), getWordBoundary(). You can overwrite them with your own language rules.

BreakIterator_CJK provides input string caching and dictionary searching for longest matching. You can provide a sorted dictionary (the encoding must be UTF-8) by creating the following file: i18npool/source/breakiterator/data/<language>.dict.
The utility `gendict` will convert the file to C code, which will be compiled into a shared library for dynamic loading.

All dictionary searching and loading is performed in the `xdictionary` class. The only thing you need to do is to derive your class from `BreakIterator_CJK` and create an instance of the `xdictionary` with the language name and pass it to the parent class.

**XCollator**

The interface `com.sun.star.i18n.XCollator` must be used to provide text collation for the new locale. There are two types of collations, *single level* and *multiple level* collation.

Most European and English locales need multiple level collation. OpenOffice.org uses the ICU collator to cover these needs.

Most CJK languages only require single level collation. There is a two step lookup table that performs the collation for these languages. If you have a new language or algorithm in this category, you can derive a new service from `Collator_CJK` and provide index and weight tables. Here is a sample implementation:

```c
#include <collator_CJK.hxx>
static sal_uInt16 index[] = { ...
};

static sal_uInt16 weight[] = { ...
};

sal_Int32 SAL_CALL Collator_zh_CN_pinyin::compareSubstring(
    const ::rtl::OUString& str1, sal_Int32 off1, sal_Int32 len1,
    const ::rtl::OUString& str2, sal_Int32 off2, sal_Int32 len2)
    throw (::com::sun::star::uno::RuntimeException)
{
    return compare(str1, off1, len1, str2, off2, len2, index, weight);
}

sal_Int32 SAL_CALL Collator_zh_CN_pinyin::compareString(
    const ::rtl::OUString& str1,
    const ::rtl::OUString& str2)
    throw (::com::sun::star::uno::RuntimeException)
{
    return compare(str1, 0, str1.getLength(), str2, 0, str2.getLength(),
                   index, weight);
}
```

Front end implementation `Collator` will load and cache the language-specific service.
Implementing a New Locale

on the name `Collator_<locale>` dynamically.

The steps to add new services:

1. Derive the new service from the above class
2. Provide the index and weight tables
3. Register the new service in `registerservices.cxx`
4. Add the new service in the collation section in the locale data file.

**XTransliteration**

The interface `com.sun.star.i18n.XTransliteration` can be used for string conversion. The front end implementation `TransliterationImpl` will load and cache specific transliteration services by a predefined enum in `com.sun.star.i18n.TransliterationModules` or `com.sun.star.i18n.TransliterationModulesNew`, or dynamically by implementation name.

Transliterations have been defined in three categories: Ignore, OneToOne and Numeric. All of them are derived from `transliteration_commonclass`.

Ignore services are for ignore case, half/full width, and Katakana/Hiragana. You can derive your new service from it, and overwrite folding/transliteration methods.

OneToOne services are for one to one mapping, such as converting lowercase to uppercase. The class provides two more services, to take a mapping table or mapping function to do folding and transliteration. You can derive a class from it and provide a table or function for the parent class to do the transliteration.

Numeric services are used to convert a number to a number string in specific languages. It can be used to format Date string and other types of strings.

To add a new transliteration

1. Derive a new class from the three classes previously mentioned.
2. Overwrite folding/transliteration methods or provide a table for the parent to perform the transliteration.
3. Register the new service in `registerservices.cxx`

4. Add the new service in the transliteration section in the locale data file

**XTextConversion**

The interface `com.sun.star.i18n.XTextConversion` can be used for string conversion. The service `com.sun.star.i18n.TextConversion` implementing the interface provides a function to determine if the text conversion should be interactive or not along with functions that can be used for automatic and interactive conversion.

It is possible to create conversion-dictionaries `com.sun.star.linguistic2.XConversionDictionary`, which are searched for entries to be used by the text conversion service, thus allowing the user to customize the text conversion.

The following is an example:

```java
//***************************************************************************
// comment: Step 1: get the Desktop object from the office
// Step 2: open an empty text document
// Step 3: insert a sample text
// Step 4: convert sample text
// Step 5: insert converted text
//**************************************************************************
*
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
public class TextConversion {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        // You need the desktop to create a document
        // The getDesktop method does the UNO bootstrapping, gets the
        // remote service manager and the desktop object.
        com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop xDesktop = null;
        xDesktop = getDesktop();

        com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument xTextDocument =
            createTextdocument( xDesktop );
        com.sun.star.i18n.XTextConversion xTextConversion =
            getTextConversion();
        try {
            // Korean sample text
            String aHeader =
                "\u7b2c\u0020\u0031\u0020\u7ae0\u0020\ud55c\ubb38\uc758\u0020\uad6c\ubb38\u69cb\9020\u0029";
            String aText =
                "\uc6b0\uc120\u0020\ud55c\uc790\ub294\u0020\uc11c\uc220\uc5b4\u0020\u0028\u654d\u8ff0\u08a9\e\u0029\uc758\u0020\uc704\uce58\uac00\u0020\uc6b0\ub9ac\ub9d0\uacf c\u0020\ub2e4\ub974\uc220\u002e";
```
// access interfaces and cursor to be used
com.sun.star.text.XText xText = (com.sun.star.text.XText)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        com.sun.star.text.XText.class,
xTextDocument.getText());
com.sun.star.text.XSimpleText xSimpleText =
    (com.sun.star.text.XSimpleText)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.text.XSimpleText.class, xText);
com.sun.star.text.XTextCursor xCursor =
    xText.createTextCursor();
// set text properties (font, language) to be used for the
sample
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPS =
    (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xCursor);
com.sun.star.lang.Locale aKorean = new com.sun.star.lang.Locale(
    "ko", "KR", "");
xPS.setPropertyValue( "CharFontNameAsian", "Gulim" );
xPS.setPropertyValue( "CharLocaleAsian", aKorean );
xPS.setPropertyValue( "CharHeightAsian", new Integer(24) );
xPS.setPropertyValue( "CharHeight", new Integer(24) );
// insert original text
xSimpleText.insertString( xCursor, "Original text:", false );
xSimpleText.insertControlCharacter( xCursor, com.sun.star.text.ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false );
xSimpleText.insertString( xCursor, aHeader, false );
xSimpleText.insertControlCharacter( xCursor, com.sun.star.text.ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false );
xSimpleText.insertString( xCursor, aText, false );
xSimpleText.insertControlCharacter( xCursor, com.sun.star.text.ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false );
xSimpleText.insertControlCharacter( xCursor, com.sun.star.text.ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false );

// apply Hangul->Hanja conversion
// short nConversionType =
com.sun.star.i18n.TextConversionType.TO_HANJA;
int nConversionOptions =
    com.sun.star.i18n.TextConversionOption.NONE;
// // call to function for non-interactive text conversion
// (usually not used for Hangul/Hanja conversion but here used
// anyway for the examples sake)
aHeader = xTextConversion.getConversion( aHeader, 0,
aHeader.length(),
    aKorean, nConversionType, nConversionOptions);
// // sample for function calls in an interactive conversion
StringBuffer aBuf = new StringBuffer( aText );
int i = 0;
boolean bFound = true;
int nLen = aText.length();
while (i < nLen - 1 && bFound) {
    com.sun.star.i18n.TextConversionResult aResult =
        xTextConversion.getConversions(aText, i, nLen - i,
        aKorean, nConversionType, nConversionOptions);

    // check if convertible text portion was found
    bFound = !(aResult.Boundary.startPos == 0 &&
        aResult.Boundary.endPos == 0);
    if (bFound) {
        String[] aCandidates = aResult.Candidates;
        // let the user choose one candidate from the list
        // (in this non-interactive example we'll always choose
        // the first one)
        String aChoosen = aCandidates[0];
        aBuf.replace(aResult.Boundary.startPos,
                     aResult.Boundary.endPos,
                     aChoosen);

        // continue with text after current converted
        // text portion
        if (aResult.Boundary.endPos > i)
            i = aResult.Boundary.endPos;
        else {
            // or advance at least one position
            System.out.println("unexpected forced advance...");
            ++i;
        }
    }
}

aText = aBuf.toString();
// insert converted text
xSimpleText.insertString(xCursor, "Converted text:", false);
xSimpleText.insertControlCharacter(xCursor,
com.sun.star.text.ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
xSimpleText.insertString(xCursor, aHeader, false);
xSimpleText.insertControlCharacter(xCursor,
com.sun.star.text.ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
xSimpleText.insertString(xCursor, aText, false);
}

public static com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop getDesktop() { try {
    com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop xDesktop = null;
    com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory xMCF = null;

    com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext xContext = null;
    // get the remote office component context
    xContext = com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.bootstrap();

    xDesktop = xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop",
        xContext);
    xDesktop.initialize(xContext); return xDesktop;
} catch (Exception e) { e.printStackTrace(System.err); }
return null; }
Implementing a New Locale

```java
// get the remote office service manager
xMCF = xContext.getServiceManager();
if( xMCF != null ) {
    System.out.println( "Connected to a running office ..." );
    Object oDesktop = xMCF.createInstanceWithContext( "com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", xContext);
    xDesktop = (com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface( com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop.class, oDesktop);
} else
    System.out.println( "Can't create a desktop. No connection, no remote office servicemanager available!" );

catch( Exception e ) {
    e.printStackTrace(System.err);
    System.exit(1);
}
return xDesktop;
}

public static com.sun.star.i18n.XTextConversion getTextConversion()
{ com.sun.star.i18n.XTextConversion xTextConv = null;
com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory xMCF = null;
try {
    com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext xContext = null;
    // get the remote office component context
    xContext = com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.bootstrap();
    // get the remote office service manager
    xMCF = xContext.getServiceManager();
    if( xMCF != null ) {
        Object oObject = xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.i18n.TextConversion", xContext);
        xTextConv = (com.sun.star.i18n.XTextConversion)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface( com.sun.star.i18n.XTextConversion.class, oObject);
    } else
        System.out.println( "Can't create a text conversion service. No office servicemanager available!" );
    if( xTextConv != null )
        System.out.println( "Successfully instantiated text conversion service." );
    }
    catch( Exception e ) {
        e.printStackTrace(System.err);
        System.exit(1);
    }
    return xTextConv;
}
```
public static com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument createTextdocument(
    com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop xDesktop )
{
    com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument aTextDocument = null;
    try {
        com.sun.star.lang.XComponent xComponent =
            CreateNewDocument(xDesktop,"swriter");
        aTextDocument = (com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument.class, xComponent);
    } catch( Exception e) {
        e.printStackTrace(System.err);
    }
    return aTextDocument;
}

protected static com.sun.star.lang.XComponent CreateNewDocument(
    com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop xDesktop,
    String sDocumentType )
{
    String sURL = "private:factory/" + sDocumentType;
    com.sun.star.lang.XComponent xComponent = null;
    com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader xComponentLoader = null;
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue xValues[] =
        new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[1];
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue xEmptyArgs[] =
        new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[0];
    try {
        xComponentLoader = (com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader.class,
                xDesktop);
        xComponent = xComponentLoader.loadComponentFromURL(
            sURL, "_blank", 0, xEmptyArgs);
    } catch( Exception e) {
        e.printStackTrace(System.err);
    }
    return xComponent ;
}

**XNativeNumberSupplier**

The interface com.sun.star.i18n.XNativeNumberSupplier provides the functionality to
convert between ASCII Arabic digit numbers and locale-dependent numeral representations. It performs the conversion by implementing special transliteration services. The interface also provides a mechanism to generate attributes to be stored in the XML file format (see the XML file format documentation, section "Common Data Style Attributes", "number:transliteration-..."), as well as a conversion of those XML attributes needed to map back to a specific representation style. If you add a number transliteration for a specific locale and reuse one of the com.sun.star.i18n.NativeNumberMode constants, please add the description to com.sun.star.i18n.NativeNumberMode if your changes are to be added back to the OpenOffice.org code repository.

XIndexEntrySupplier

The interface com.sun.star.i18n.XIndexEntrySupplier can be used to provide the functionality to generate index pages. The main method of this interface is getIndexCharacter(). Front end implementation IndexEntrySupplier will dynamically load and cache language specific service based on the name IndexEntrySupplier_<locale>.

Languages to be indexed have been divided into two sets. The first set contains Latin1 languages, which can be covered by 256 Unicode code points. A one step lookup table is used to generate index characters. An alphabetic and numeric table has been generated, which covers most Latin1 languages. But if you need another algorithm or have a conflict with the table, you can create your own table and derive a new class from IndexEntrySupplier_Euro. Here is a sample implementation:

```cpp
#include <sal/types.h>
#include <indexentrysupplier_euro.hxx>
#include <indexdata_alphanumeric.h>

OUString SAL_CALL i18n::IndexEntrySupplier_alphanumeric::getIndexCharacter( const OUString& rIndexEntry, const lang::Locale& rLocale, const OUString& rSortAlgorithm )
throw (uno::RuntimeException) {
    return getIndexString(rIndexEntry, idxStr);
}
```

where `idxStr` is the table.

For the languages that could not be covered in the first set, such as CJK, a two step lookup table is used. Here is a sample implementation:

```cpp
#include <indexentrysupplier_cjk.hxx>
#include <indexdata_zh_pinyin.h>
```
Implementing a New Locale

```cpp
OUString SAL_CALL i18n::IndexEntrySupplier_zh_pinyin::getIndexCharacter(
    const OUString& rIndexEntry,
    const lang::Locale& rLocale, const OUString& rSortAlgorithm )
throw (uno::RuntimeException)
{
    return getIndexString(rIndexEntry, idxStr, idx1, idx2);
}
```

where `idx1` and `idx2` are two step tables and `idxStr` contains all the index keys that will be returned. If you have a new language or algorithm, you can derive a new service from `IndexEntrySupplier_CJK` and provide tables for the parent class to generate the index.

Note that the index depends on collation, therefore, each index algorithm should have a collation algorithm to support it.

To add new service:

1. Derive the new service from `IndexEntrySupplier_Euro`.
2. Provide a table for the lookup
3. Register new service in `registerservices.cxx`

A Comment on Search and Replace

Search and replace is also locale-dependent because there may be special search options that are only available for a particular locale. For instance, if the **Asian languages support** is enabled, you'll see an additional option for "Sounds like (Japanese)" in the **Edit - Find & Replace** dialog box. With this option, you can turn on or off certain options specific to Japanese in the search and replace process.

Search and replace relies on the transliteration modules for various search options. The transliteration modules are loaded and the search string is converted before the search process.

Linguistics

The Linguistic API provides a set of UNO services used for spell checking, hyphenation or accessing a thesaurus. Through the Linguistic API, developers add
new implementations and integrate them into OpenOffice.org. Users of the Linguistic API call its methods. Usually this functionality is used by one or more clients, that is, applications or components, to process documents, such as text documents or spreadsheets.

## Services Overview

The services provided by the Linguistic API are:

- `com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguServiceManager`
- `com.sun.star.linguistic2.DictionaryList`
- `com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties`

Also there is at least one or more implementation for each of the following services:

- `com.sun.star.linguistic2.SpellChecker`
- `com.sun.star.linguistic2.Hyphenator`
- `com.sun.star.linguistic2.Thesaurus`

The service implementations for spell checker, thesaurus and hyphenator supply the respective functionality. Each of the implementations support a different set of languages. Refer to `com.sun.star.linguistic2.XSupportedLocales`.

For example, there could be two implementations for a spell checker, usually from different supporting parties: the first supporting English, French and German, and the second supporting Russian and English. Similar settings occur for the hyphenator and thesaurus.

It is not convenient for each application or component to know all these implementations and to choose the appropriate implementation for the specific purpose and language, therefore a mediating instance is required.

This instance is the `LinguServiceManager`. Spell checking, hyphenation and thesaurus functionality is accessed from a client by using the respective interfaces from the `LinguServiceManager`.

The `LinguServiceManager` dispatches the interface calls from the client to a specific service implementation, if any, of the respective type that supports the required language. For example, if the client requires spell checking of a French word, the first spell checker implementations from those mentioned above are called.

If there is more than one spell checker available for one language, as in the above example for the English language, the `LinguServiceManager` starts with the first one
that was supplied in the `setConfiguredServices()` method of its interface. The thesaurus behaves in a similar manner. For more details, refer to the interface description `com.sun.star.linguistic2.XLinguServiceManager`.

The `LinguProperties` service provides, among others, properties that are required by the spell checker, hyphenator and thesaurus that are modified by the client. Refer to the `com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties`.

The `DictionaryList` (see `com.sun.star.linguistic2.DictionaryList`) provides a set of user defined or predefined dictionaries for languages that are activated and deactivated. If they are active, they are used by the spell checker and hyphenator. These are used by the user to override results from the spell checker and hyphenator implementations, thus allowing the user to customize spell checking and hyphenation.

In the code snippets and examples in the following chapters, we will use the following members and interfaces:

```java
// used interfaces
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.linguistic2.XLinguServiceManager;
import com.sun.star.linguistic2.XSpellChecker;
import com.sun.star.linguistic2.XHyphenator;
import com.sun.star.linguistic2.XThesaurus;
import com.sun.star.linguistic2.XSpellAlternatives;
import com.sun.star.linguistic2.XHyphenatedWord;
import com.sun.star.linguistic2.XPossibleHyphens;
import com.sun.star.linguistic2.XMeaning;
import com.sun.star.linguistic2.XSearchableDictionaryList;
import com.sun.star.linguistic2.XLinguServiceEventListener;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue;
import com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext;
import com.sun.star.uno.XNamingService;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory;
import com.sun.star.lang.EventObject;
import com.sun.star.lang.Locale;
import com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver;
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.uno.Any;
import com.sun.star.lang.XComponent;

//
// members for commonly used interfaces
//
// The MultiServiceFactory interface of the Office
protected XMultiServiceFactory mxFactory = null;

// The LinguServiceManager interface
protected XLinguServiceManager mxLinguSvcMgr = null;

// The SpellChecker interface
protected XSpellChecker mxSpell = null;

// The Hyphenator interface
protected XHyphenator mxHyph = null;

// The Thesaurus interface
protected XThesaurus mxThes = null;

// The DictionaryList interface
protected XSearchableDictionaryList mxDicList = null;

// The LinguProperties interface
protected XPropertySet mxLinguProps = null;

To establish a connection to the office and have our mxFactory object initialized with its XMultiServiceFactory, the following code is used:

```java
public void Connect( String sConnection )
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception,
            com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException,
            Exception
{
    XComponentContext xContext =
        com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.createInitialComponentContext( null);
    XMultiComponentFactory xLocalServiceManager =
        xContext.getServiceManager();
    Object xUrlResolver = xLocalServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext( "com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xContext );
    XUnoUrlResolver urlResolver =
        (XUnoUrlResolver)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XUnoUrlResolver.class, xUrlResolver );
    Object rInitialObject = urlResolver.resolve( "uno:" + sConnection + ";urp;StarOffice.NamingService" );
    XNamingService rName =
        (XNamingService)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamingService.class, rInitialObject );
    if( rName != null )
    {
        Object rXsmgr =
            rName.getRegisteredObject( "StarOffice.ServiceManager" );
        mxFactory = (XMultiServiceFactory)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XMultiServiceFactory.class, rXsmgr );
    }
}
```

And the LinguServiceManager object mxLinguSvcMgr is initialized like similar to the following snippet:

```java
/** Get the LinguServiceManager to be used. For example to access spell checker,
   thesaurus and hyphenator, also the component may choose to register itself
   as listener to it in order to get notified of relevant events. */
public boolean GetLinguSvcMgr()
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception
```
```java
{ 
    if (mxFactory != null) {
        Object aObj = mxFactory.createInstance(
            "com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguServiceManager" );
        mxLinguSvcMgr = (XLinguServiceManager)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XLinguServiceManager.class, aObj);
    }
    return mxLinguSvcMgr != null;
}
```

The empty list of temporary property values used for the current function call only and the language used may look like the following:

```java
// list of property values to used in function calls below.
// Only properties with values different from the (default) values
// in the LinguProperties property set need to be supplied.
// Thus we may stay with an empty list in order to use the ones
// form the property set.
PropertyValue[] aEmptyProps = new PropertyValue[0];

// use american english as language
Locale aLocale = new Locale("en","US","");
```

Using temporary property values:

To change a value for the example `IsGermanPreReform` to a different value for one or a limited number of calls without modifying the default values, provide this value as a member of the last function argument used in the examples below before calling the respective functions.

```java
// another list of property values to used in function calls below.
// Only properties with values different from the (default) values
// in the LinguProperties property set need to be supplied.
PropertyValue[] aProps = new PropertyValue[1];
aProps[0] = new PropertyValue();
aProps[0].Name = "IsGermanPreReform";
aProps[0].Value = new Boolean( true );
```

Replace the `aEmptyProps` argument in the function calls with `aProps` to override the value of `IsGermanPreReform` from the `LinguProperties`. Other properties are overridden by adding them to the `aProps` object.

### Using Spellchecker

The interface used for spell checking is `com.sun.star.linguistic2.XSpellChecker`. Accessing the spell checker through the `LinguServiceManager` and initializing the `mxSpell` object is done by:

```java
/** Get the SpellChecker to be used. */
```
Using Spellchecker

```java
public boolean GetSpell()
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception,
            com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException
{
    if (mxLinguSvcMgr != null)
        mxSpell = mxLinguSvcMgr.getSpellChecker();
    return mxSpell != null;
}
```

## Relevant properties

The properties of the `LinguProperties` service evaluated by the spell checker are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spell-checking Properties of com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;idlml</code> com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:IsIgnoreControlCharacters`</td>
<td>Defines if control characters should be ignored or not.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;idlml</code> com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:IsUseDictionaryList`</td>
<td>Defines if the dictionary-list should be used or not.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;idlml</code> com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:IsGermanPreReform`</td>
<td>Defines if the new German spelling rules should be used for German language text or not.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;idlml</code> com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:IsSpellUpperCase`</td>
<td>Defines if words with only uppercase letters should be subject to spellchecking or not.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;idlml</code> com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:IsSpellUpperCase`</td>
<td>Defines if words containing digits or numbers should be subject to spellchecking or not.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;idlml</code> com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:IsSpellUpperCase`</td>
<td>Defines if the capitalization of words should be checked or not.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Changing the values of these properties in the `LinguProperties` affect all subsequent calls to the spell checker. Instantiate a `com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties` instance and change it by calling `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.setPropertyValue()`. The changes affect the whole office unless another modifies the properties again. This is done implicitly when changing the linguistic settings through `Tools - Options - Language Settings - Writing Aids`.

The following example shows verifying single words:

```java
    // test with correct word
    String aWord = "horseback";
    boolean bIsCorrect = mxSpell.isValid( aWord, aLocale, aEmptyProps );
    System.out.println( aWord + " : " + bIsCorrect );
```
Using Spellchecker

```java
// test with incorrect word
aWord = "course";
bIsCorrect = mxSpell.isValid(aWord, aLocale, aEmptyProps);
System.out.println(aWord + ": " + bIsCorrect);
```

The following example shows spelling a single word and retrieving possible corrections:

```java
aWord = "house";
XSpellAlternatives xAlt = mxSpell.spell(aWord, aLocale, aEmptyProps);
if (xAlt == null)
    System.out.println(aWord + " is correct." );
else
    {
    System.out.println(aWord + " is not correct. A list of proposals follows.");
    String[] aAlternatives = xAlt.getAlternatives();
    if (aAlternatives.length == 0)
        System.out.println("no proposal found.");
    else
    { 
    for (int i = 0; i < aAlternatives.length; ++i)
        System.out.println(aAlternatives[i]);
    }
    }
```

For a description of the return types interface, refer to com.sun.star.linguistic2.XSpellAlternatives.

Using Hyphenator

The interface used for hyphenation is com.sun.star.linguistic2.XHyphenator. Accessing the hyphenator through the LinguServiceManager and initializing the mxHyph object is done by:

```java
/** Get the Hyphenator to be used. */
public boolean GetHyph()
{
    if (mxLinguSvcMgr != null)
        mxHyph = mxLinguSvcMgr.getHyphenator();
    return mxHyph != null;
}
```
Using Hyphenator

Relevant properties

The properties of the LinguProperties service evaluated by the hyphenator are:

**Hyphenating Properties of com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties**

- `<idlm>com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:IsIgnoreControlCharacters</idlm>`
  - Defines if control characters should be ignored or not.

- `<idlm>com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:IsUseDictionaryList</idlm>`
  - Defines if the dictionary-list should be used or not.

- `<idlm>com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:IsGermanPreReform</idlm>`
  - Defines if the new German spelling rules should be used for German language text or not.

- `<idlm>com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:HyphMinLeading</idlm>`
  - The minimum number of characters of a hyphenated word to remain before the hyphenation character.

- `<idlm>com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:HyphMinTrailing</idlm>`
  - The minimum number of characters of a hyphenated word to remain after the hyphenation character.

- `<idlm>com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:HyphMinWordLength</idlm>`
  - The minimum length of a word to be hyphenated.

Changing the values of these properties in the Lingu-Properties affect all subsequent calls to the hyphenator.

A *valid* hyphenation position is a possible one that meets the restrictions given by the `HyphMinLeading`, `HyphMinTrailing` and `HyphMinWordLength` values.

For example, if `HyphMinWordLength` is 7, "remove" does not have a *valid* hyphenation position. Also, this is the case when `HyphMinLeading` is 3 or `HyphMinTrailing` is 5.

The following example shows a word hyphenated:

```java
// maximum number of characters to remain before the hyphen
// character in the resulting word of the hyphenation
short nMaxLeading = 6;

XHyphenatedWord xHyphWord = mxHyph.hyphenate( "horseback", aLocale, nMaxLeading, aEmptyProps );
if (xHyphWord == null)
    System.out.println( "no valid hyphenation position found" );
else
{
    System.out.println( "valid hyphenation pos found at " +
    xHyphWord.getHyphenationPos() + " in " + xHyphWord.getWord() );
    System.out.println( "hyphenation char will be after char " +
```
Using Hyphenator

```java
xHyphWord.getHyphenPos()
    + " in " + xHyphWord.getHyphenatedWord() );
```

If the hyphenator implementation is working correctly, it reports a valid hyphenation position of 4 that is after the 'horse' part. Experiment with other values for nMaxLeading and other words. For example, if you set it to 4, no valid hyphenation position is found since there is no hyphenation position in the word 'horseback' before and including the 's'.

For a description of the return types interface, refer to com.sun.star.linguistic2.XHyphenatedWord.

The example below shows querying for an alternative spelling. In some languages, for example German in the old (pre-reform) spelling, there are words where the spelling of changes when they are hyphenated at specific positions. To inquire about the existence of alternative spellings, the queryAlternativeSpelling() function is used:

```java
//! Note: 'aProps' needs to have set 'IsGermanPreReform' to true!
    xHyphWord = mxHyph.queryAlternativeSpelling( "Schiffahrt",
        new Locale("de","DE",""), (short)4, aProps );
    if (xHyphWord == null)
        System.out.println( "no alternative spelling found at specified position." );
    else
    {
        if (xHyphWord.isAlternativeSpelling())
            System.out.println( "alternative spelling detected!" );
        System.out.println( "valid hyphenation pos found at " +
            xHyphWord.getHyphenationPos()
            + " in " + xHyphWord.getWord() );
        System.out.println( "hyphenation char will be after char " +
            xHyphWord.getHyphenPos()
            + " in " + xHyphWord.getHyphenatedWord() );
    }
```

The return types interface is the same as in the above example (com.sun.star.linguistic2.XHyphenatedWord).

The next example demonstrates getting possible hyphenation positions. To determine all possible hyphenation positions in a word, do this:

```java
XPossibleHyphens xPossHyph = mxHyph.createPossibleHyphens( "waterfall",
    aLocale, aEmptyProps );
    if (xPossHyph == null)
        System.out.println( "no hyphenation positions found." );
    else
        System.out.println( xPossHyph.getPossibleHyphens() );
```

For a description of the return types interface, refer to com.sun.star.linguistic2.XPossibleHyphens.
Using Thesaurus

The interface used for the thesaurus is com.sun.star.linguistic2.XThesaurus. Accessing the thesaurus through the LinguServiceManager and initializing the mxThes object is done by:

```java
/** Get the Thesaurus to be used. */
public boolean GetThes()
   throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception,
       com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException
{
   if (mxLinguSvcMgr != null)
       mxThes = mxLinguSvcMgr.getThesaurus();
   return mxThes != null;
}
```

The properties of the LinguProperties service evaluated by the thesaurus are:

- `com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:IsIgnoreControlCharacters` Defines if control characters should be ignored or not.
- `com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguProperties:IsGermanPreReform` Defines if the new German spelling rules should be used for German language text or not.

Changing the values of these properties in the LinguProperties affect all subsequent calls to the thesaurus. The following example about retrieving synonyms shows this:

```java
XMeaning[] xMeanings = mxThes.queryMeanings( "house", aLocale, aEmptyProps );
if (xMeanings == null)
   System.out.println( "nothing found." );
else
   { for (int i = 0; i < xMeanings.length; ++i)
       { System.out.println( "Meaning: " + xMeanings[i].getMeaning() );
          String[] aSynonyms = xMeanings[i].querySynonyms();
          for (int k = 0; k < aSynonyms.length; ++k) System.out.println( " Synonym: " + aSynonyms[k] );
       }
   }
```

The reason to subdivide synonyms into different meanings is because there are different synonyms for some words that are not even closely related. For example, the word 'house' has the synonyms 'home', 'place', 'dwelling', 'family', 'clan', 'kindred', 'room', 'board', and 'put up'.

The first three in the above list have the meaning of 'building where one lives' where the next three mean that of 'a group of people sharing common ancestry' and the last three means that of 'to provide with lodging'. Thus, having meanings is a way to
group large sets of synonyms into smaller ones with approximately the same definition.

**Events**

There are several types of events. For example, all user dictionaries `com.sun.star.linguistic2.XDictionary` report their status changes as events `com.sun.star.linguistic2.DictionaryEvent` to the `DictionaryList`, which collects and transforms their information into `DictionaryList` events `com.sun.star.linguistic2.DictionaryListEvent`, and passes those on to its own listeners.

Thus, it is possible to register to the `DictionaryList` as a listener to be informed about relevant changes in the dictionaries. There is no need to register as a listener for each dictionary.

The spell checker and hyphenator implementations monitor the changes in the `LinguProperties` for changes of their relevant properties. If such a property changes its value, the implementation launches an event `com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguServiceEvent` that hints to its listeners that spelling or hyphenation should be reevaluated. For this purpose, those implementations support the `com.sun.star.linguistic2.XLinguServiceEventBroadcaster` interface.

The `LinguServiceManager` acts as a listener for `com.sun.star.linguistic2.DictionaryListEvent` and `com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguServiceEvent` events. The respective interfaces are `com.sun.star.linguistic2.XDictionaryListEventListener` and `com.sun.star.linguistic2.XLinguServiceEventListener`. The events from the `DictionaryList` are transformed into `com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguServiceEvent` events and passed to the listeners of the `LinguServiceManager`, along with the received events from the spell checkers and hyphenators.

Therefore, a client that wants to be notified when spell checking or hyphenation changes, for example, when it features automatic spell checking or automatic hyphenation, needs to be registered as `com.sun.star.linguistic2.XLinguServiceEventListener` to the `LinguServiceManager` only.

Implementing the `com.sun.star.linguistic2.XLinguServiceEventListener` interface is similar to the following snippet:

```java
/** simple sample implementation of a clients XLinguServiceEventListener interface implementation
 */
```
public class Client
    implements XLinguServiceEventListener
{
    public void disposing ( EventObject aEventObj )
    {
        /// any references to the EventObjects source have to be
        /// released here now!
        System.out.println("object listened to will be disposed");
    }

    public void processLinguServiceEvent( LinguServiceEvent aServiceEvent )
    {
        /// do here whatever you think needs to be done depending
        /// on the event recieved (e.g. trigger background spellchecking
        /// or hyphenation again.)
        System.out.println("Listener called");
    }
};

After the client has been instantiated, it needs to register as
com.sun.star.linguistic2.XLinguServiceEventListener. For the sample client above,
this looks like:

XLinguServiceEventListener aClient = new Client();

// now add the client as listener to the service manager to
// get informed when spellchecking or hyphenation may produce
// different results then before.
mxLinguSvcMgr.addLinguServiceManagerListener( aClient );

This enables the sample client to receive
<idl>com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguServiceEvent</idl>s and act accordingly.
Before the sample client terminates, it has to stop listening for events from
the <code>LinguServiceManager</code>:

    /// remove listener before programm termination.
    /// should not be omitted.
    mxLinguSvcMgr.removeLinguServiceManagerListener(aClient);

In the <code>LinguisticExamples.java</code> sample, a property is modified for the listener to be
called.

Implementing a Spell Checker

A sample implementation of a spell checker is found in the examples for linguistics.

The spell checker implements the following interfaces:
Implementing a Spell Checker

- com.sun.star.linguistic2.XSpellChecker
- com.sun.star.linguistic2.XLinguServiceEventBroadcaster
- com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization
- com.sun.star.lang.XServiceDisplayName
- com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo
- com.sun.star.lang.XComponent

and

- com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider, to access your add-in interfaces from OpenOffice.org Basic, otherwise, this interface is not mandatory.

To implement a spell checker of your own, modify the sample in the following ways:

Choose a *unique* service implementation name to distinguish your service implementation from any other. To do this, edit the string in the line

```java
public static String _aSvcImplName =
"com.sun.star.linguistic2.JavaSamples.SampleSpellChecker";
```

Then, specify the list of languages supported by your service. Edit the public Locale[] getLocales() function and modify the public boolean hasLocale( Locale aLocale ) function accordingly. The next step is to change the private short GetSpellFailure(...) function as required. This function determines if a word is spelled correctly in a given language. If the word is OK return -1, otherwise return an appropriate value of the type com.sun.star.linguistic2.SpellFailure.

Check if you need to edit or remove the private boolean IsUpper(...) and private boolean HasDigits(...) functions. Consider this only if you are planning to support non-western languages and need sophisticated versions of those, or do not need them at all. Do not forget to change the code at the end of public boolean isValid(...) accordingly.

Supply your own version of private XSpellAlternatives GetProposals(...) It provides the return value for the public XSpellAlternatives spell(...) function call if the word was found to be incorrect. The main purpose is to provide proposals for how the word might be written correctly. Note the list ay be empty.

Next, edit the text in public String getServiceDisplayName(...) It should be unique but it is not necessary. If you are developing a set of services, that is, spellchecker, hyphenator and thesaurus, it should be the same for all of them. This text is displayed in dialogs to show a more meaningful text than the service implementation name.

Now, have a look in the constructor public SampleSpellChecker() at the property names. Remove the entries for the properties that are not relevant to your service implementation. If you make modification, also look in the file PropChgHelper_Spell.java in the function public void propertyChange(...)
Implementing a Spell Checker

and change it accordingly.

Set the values of bSCWA and bSWWA to true only for those properties that are relevant to your implementation, thus avoiding sending unnecessary com.sun.star.linguistic2.LinguServiceEvent events, that is, avoid triggering spell-checking in clients if there is no requirement.

Finally, after registration of the service (see Deployment Options for Components) it has to be activated to be used by the LinguServiceManager. After restarting OpenOffice.org, this is done in the following manner:

Open the dialog Tools - Options - Language Settings - Writing Aids. In the section Writing Aids, in the box Available Language Modules, a new entry with text of the Service Display Name that you chose is displayed in the implementation. Check the empty checkbox to the left of that entry. If you want to use your module, uncheck any other listed entry. If you want to make more specific settings per language, press the Edit button next to the modules box and use that dialog.

The Context menu of the Writer that pops up when pressing the right-mouse button over an incorrectly spelled word currently has a bug that may crash the program when the Java implementation of a spell checker is used. The spell check dialog is functioning.

Implementing a Hyphenator

A sample implementation of a hyphenator is found in the examples for linguistic.

The hyphenator implements the following interfaces:

- com.sun.star.linguistic2.XHyphenator
- com.sun.star.linguistic2.XLinguServiceEventBroadcaster
- com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization
- com.sun.star.lang.XServiceDisplayName
- com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo
- com.sun.star.lang.XComponent

and

- com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider, if you want to access your add-in interfaces from OpenOffice.org Basic, otherwise, this interface is not mandatory.

Aside from choosing a new service implementation name, the process of implementing the hyphenator is the same as implementing the spell checker, except
Implementing a Hyphenator

that you need to implement the com.sun.star.linguistic2.XHyphenator interface instead of the com.sun.star.linguistic2.XSpellChecker interface.

You can choose a different set of languages to be supported. When editing the sample code, modify the hasLocale() and getLocales() methods to reflect the set of languages your implementation supports.

To implement the com.sun.star.linguistic2.XHyphenator interface, modify the functions

```java
public XHyphenatedWord hyphenate(...)  
    public XHyphenatedWord queryAlternativeSpelling(...)  
    public XPossibleHyphens createPossibleHyphens(...)<
```

in the sample hyphenator source file at the stated positions.

Look in the constructor public SampleHyphenator() at the relevant properties and modify the public void propertyChange(...) function accordingly.

The rest, registration and activation is again the same as for the spell checker.

Implementing a Thesaurus

A sample implementation of a thesaurus is found in the examples for linguistic.

The thesaurus implements the following interfaces:

- com.sun.star.linguistic2.XThesaurus
- com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization
- com.sun.star.lang.XServiceDisplayName
- com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo
- com.sun.star.lang.XComponent
- and
- com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider, if you want to access your add-in interfaces from OpenOffice.org Basic, otherwise, this interface is not mandatory.

For the implementation of the thesaurus, modify the sample thesaurus by following the same procedure as for the spell checker and thesaurus:

Choose a different implementation name for the service and modify the public Locale[] getLocales() and public boolean hasLocale(...) functions.
Implementing a Thesaurus

The only function to be modified at the stated position to implement the com.sun.star.linguistic2.XThesaurus interface is public XMeaning[] queryMeanings(...) Look in the constructor public SampleThesaurus() to see if there are properties you do not require.

Registration and activation is the same as for the spell checker and hyphenator.

Integrating Import and Export Filters

OpenOffice.org provides several implementations for objects that can be displayed in a task window. In the context of the Component Framework they are called Office Components. These components can be created from a content, e.g. stored in a file on disk. Most of the time this will be done by creating a document and loading the content into it using a filter. This section explains the implementation of OpenOffice.org import and export filter components. OpenOffice.org also allows to load content into a component directly by using a frame loader, but this is described in this section only briefly.

Introduction

Inside OpenOffice.org a document is represented by its document service, called model. For a list of available document services, refer to the section Document Specific Features. On disk, the same document is represented as a file or possibly as a dynamically generated output, for example, of a database statement. To generalize this and abstract from single disk files we just call it "content". The content is a serialization of a model, e.g. the ODF or the Word model. A filter component is used to convert between this model and the internal model defined by the document core model as shown in the following diagram.
Integrating Import and Export Filters

In our API the three entities in the above diagram, content, model, and filter, are defined as UNO services. The services consist of several interfaces that map to a specific implementation, for example, using C++ or Java.

The filter implementer has to develop a class that implements the com.sun.star.document.ExportFilter or com.sun.star.document.ImportFilter service, or both in case the filter should support import and export. The filter will get a com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor that defines the stream the filter must use for its input or output.

Approaches

To implement said filter class, a developer can

- link against the application core
- use the document API
- use the XML based techniques (sax or xslt)

Each method has unique advantages and disadvantages, that are summarized briefly:

Using the core data structure and linking against the application core is the way how all elder filters (originating from the "pre-UNO" area) are implemented in OpenOffice.org. As the disadvantages are huge (maintenance nightmare when core
data structures or interfaces change), this approach is not recommended for new filter development in general.

Using the OpenOffice.org API based on UNO is more advantageous, since it solves the technical problems indicated in the above paragraph. The idea is to read data from a file on loading and build up a document using the OpenOffice.org API, and to iterate over a document model and write the corresponding data to a file on storing. The UNO component technology insulates the filter from binary layout, and other compiler and version dependent issues. Additionally, the API is expected to be more stable than the core interfaces, and provides an abstraction from the core applications. The developer creating an API based filter will directly provide a filter class implementing the service com.sun.star.document.ImportFilter and/or com.sun.star.document.ExportFilter.

The third is to import and export documents using the XML-based file format. UNO-based XML import and export components have all the advantages of the previous method, but they have the additional advantage that the filter logic builds upon the ODF model that is not bound to OpenOffice.org as the document APIs is and so theoretically can be used in other applications also (the filter logic, not the filter as a whole). A disadvantage may be that conversions based on the ODF format can become a little bit more complicated and also can be worse than conversions based on a document API if they require access to layout information in the source or the target format.

The developer creating an XML based filter will not directly provide a filter class but use a generic filter class provided by OpenOffice.org. This filter class is the XMLFilterAdaptor of the document it works on. The filter adaptor service expects an XML based importer or exporter UNO service to be provided by the developer. OpenOffice.org provides generic importer and exporter services that allow to plug in an xslt to carry out a transformation that the importer or exporter feeds into the XMLFilterAdaptor.

In addition to the filter itself the developer must provide some information about it to enable OpenOffice.org to integrate it into the application framework. This information is provided as a configuration file. To understand better what needs to be in this file let's have a look on how OpenOffice.org deals with filters.

**Checklist for filter developers**

Integrating a filter into OpenOffice.org requires the following steps that will be explained in the following sections:
1. Implement a filter (required).

2. Implement an com.sun.star.document.ExtendedTypeDetection service to support detection by content (optional).

3. Implement a filter options dialog if the implemented filter requires additional parameters (optional).

4. Register the component libraries as UNO services (required). If the filter is deployed as an extension this is a part of it. If the filter will become a part of the OpenOffice.org installation, the registration must be done as described in the chapter Deployment Options for Components.

5. Add configuration information to the org.openoffice.TypeDetection node of the configuration (required). If the filter is deployed as an extension, the extension will contain a configuration file. OpenOffice.org will access it as part of the extensions layer of the Configuration Manager. If the filter will become a part of the OpenOffice.org installation, the configuration must be integrated into the build process.

It is recommended to read the following chapters before carrying out any of these steps.

Filtering Process

In OpenOffice.org the whole process of loading or saving content is a modular system based on UNO services. Some of them are abstract (like e.g. the com.sun.star.document.ExtendedTypeDetection and the filter services) and so allow to bind extendable sets of instances implementing them, others (like e.g. the com.sun.star.document.TypeDetection service) are those that define the work flow. As they are exchangeable like any UNO service the whole process of finding and using filters can be changed without any need to change other involved components.

Loading content

The most general way to load content into OpenOffice.org is calling the com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader:loadComponentFromURL() method of a suitable object. Such object may be the com.sun.star.frame.Desktop object or any
instance of the com.sun.star.frame.Frame service. Content loaded this way will end up in a frame object always, if called at the desktop the method will find or create this frame using some of the passed arguments as described in the API documentation linked above. Then it will forward the call to this frame. Here's a diagram showing the workflow that will be explained in the following paragraphs.

The content will be passed to the loadComponentFromURL() call as a com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor service that here is implemented as a Sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue. In most cases it will contain several properties that allow to create an object implementing com.sun.star.io.XStream or com.sun.star.io.XInputStream that can be used to read the content. It also may contain some properties that the code of other objects (filter, model, controller, frame etc.) can use to steer the loading process. If no properties shall be handed over and the file content is specified by a URL only, the URL can be passed as an explicit argument and the MediaDescriptor can stay empty. To understand how to work with the MediaDescriptor in the implementation of a filter or elsewhere, especially how to retrieve a stream from it, see the documentation of it in the chapter about loading documents.

The component loader uses instances of the com.sun.star.frame.FrameLoader or com.sun.star.frame.SynchronousFrameLoader services. Which frame loader instance will be used depends on the type of the content. This type must be detected first (see below) based on the TypeDetection configuration that allows to register filters or frame loaders for a particular type. OpenOffice.org has a generic Frame Loader service that is used when the detected type has no own frame loader registered but filters. If a custom frame loader is registered for a particular type, it's up to that implementation how the content loading process is carried out and if it uses filters or
not. As the current topic is "filters", we will concentrate on the generic frame loader here.

**Note** – The com.sun.star.frame.FrameLoader service is deprecated. If a custom frame loader is registered, it should be a com.sun.star.frame.SynchronousFrameLoader service.

To load content based on a filter first it must be detected which filter is the right one to use and which document type must be used for this filter to work properly. As basically any content type may be loaded into any available document type and even the same type could be loaded into the same document type in different ways, we could find many registered filters for a particular content type. Finding the right one by evaluating what is passed in the MediaDescriptor is the job of the com.sun.star.document.TypeDetection service. The result of this detection will be the name of the content type, the name of the wanted filter and the service name of the document model that shall be the target of the loading process. These results will be placed into the MediaDescriptor so that any code in other objects called later can use that information. By providing either the type name of the content or the document service name in the MediaDescriptor handed over to the component loader the search for a filter can be narrowed down to a subset of filters that match these criteria. By providing a filter name in the MediaDescriptor the detection can even be bypassed completely (the component loader will add the matching type and document service names to the MediaDescriptor though). As the whole process of the Type Detection is completely based on the configuration it will described in the chapter about the TypeDetection configuration.

The next steps will be managed by the the generic com.sun.star.frame.SynchronousFrameLoader service and hands the target frame over to it. The Frame Loader will create the document of the wanted type using the document service name found in the MediaDescriptor. It will also take the detected filter name and ask the com.sun.star.document.FilterFactory service to create the filter and perhaps initialize it with some necessary parameters and ask it for importing the content into the new document (this is described in the chapter about filters). If all of this went fine, it will attach the document to the target frame by creating a Controller object for the document model.

**Storing content**

A MediaDescriptor is passed to storeToURL() or storeAsURL() in the interface com.sun.star.frame.XStorable, implemented by office documents. It will contain several properties that allow to create an object implementing
Filtering Process

com.sun.star.io.XStream or com.sun.star.io.XOutputStream that can be used to store the content. It also may contain some properties that give more information about how the storing process should be done. If no properties shall be handed over and the target file is specified by a URL only, the URL can be passed as an explicit argument and the MediaDescriptor can stay empty. To understand how to work with the MediaDescriptor in the implementation of a filter or elsewhere, especially how to retrieve a stream from it, see the documentation about it in the chapter about loading documents.

If the MediaDescriptor contains a type name or a filter name, the suitable export filter will be created using the FilterFactory. If neither of them is provided, the document will be stored with the latest ODF filter.

Filter

As described in the previous chapter, filters are objects that can be used to import or export content into or from OpenOffice.org documents. The API defines the two services com.sun.star.document.ImportFilter and com.sun.star.document.ExportFilter. A filter implementation can support one or both of them. If a particular filter that only supports import is used, the imported document is modified by the user and then the user presses the "Save" button, a "Save As" operation will be carried out instead as OpenOffice.org must assume that the filter component is "import only" and so storing must be done in a different format. It doesn't help to have a different export filter for the same content. If a direct "Save" operation should be possible, both filter services must be supported at the same filter object.

A filter is created from the factory service com.sun.star.document.FilterFactory. This service also provides a low-level access to the configuration that knows all registered filters of OpenOffice.org and their properties, supports search and query functionality, and creates and initializes filter components. As an example, if the type name of a content is known, a query at the FilterFactory can be used to retrieve one or more internal filter names of possible filters and after choosing one of them the filter can be created using this name.

Note – Many existing filters are legacy filters. The component loader or XStorable implementation does not use the FilterFactory to create them, but triggers filtering by internal C++ calls. So asking the FilterFactory to create such filter is not possible.

Filters can be initialized if they implement the interface com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization. The method initialize() is used by the filter factory service directly after creation of the filter object, before the filter is returned to
the code that requested the filter. It passes the configuration data of the filter and all
parameters and options that have been specified by the creation request to the
factory. These properties usually originate from the "FilterOptions" property of the
MediaDescriptor and have been put there either by the code requesting the loading
or storing or by user input in a filter options dialog. How such filter dialog can be
implemented is explained in the chapter about filter options.

The parameter list of initialize() uses the following protocol:

- The first item in the list is a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue
  structs, that describe the configuration properties of the filter.
- All other items are directly copied from the parameter Arguments of the factory
  interface method
  <idlml>com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory:createInstanceWithArguments</idlml>().

**Warning** – The interface provides functionality for reading and writing of this name. It
is not allowed to change an internal filter name during runtime of OpenOffice.org,
because all filter names must be unique and it is not possible for a filter instance to
alter its name. Calls to <idlml>com.sun.star.container.XNamed:setName</idlml>()
should be ignored or forwarded to the FilterFactory service, which knows all unique
names and can solve ambiguities!

The fact that a filter gets its own name passed as an argument can be used to use
one filter implementation to act as several filters in the configuration. This is shown in
the following code snippet of the implementation of a filter initialization:

```java
private String m_sInternalName;
public void initialize( Object[] lArguments )
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception
{
    // no arguments - no initialization
    if (lArguments.length<1)
        return;
    // Arguments[0] = own configuration data
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] lConfig =
        (com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[])lArguments[0];

    // Arguments[1..n] = optional arguments of create request
    for (int n=1; n<lArguments.length; ++n)
    {
        ...
    }

    // analyze own configuration data for our own internal
    // filter name! Important for generic filter services,
    // which are registered more then once. They can use this
    // information to find out, which specialization of it
    // is required.
    for (int i=0; i<lConfig.length; ++i)
    {
```
In one single workflow filters can act as an import or an export filter. If content is loaded, the creator of the filter will use the `com.sun.star.document.XImporter` interface and its method `setTargetDocument()` to bind the filter to the document it should import into. If content is stored, the interface `com.sun.star.document.XExporter` and its method `setSourceDocument()` will bind the filter to the document it shall get data from. The filtering process is done by the same method in both cases: it’s the `filter()` method of the `com.sun.star.document.XFilter` interface that both kinds of filters must support. Here the `MediaDescriptor` is passed to the filter.

**Tip** - In an object that implements both import and export it is necessary to decide whether importing or exporting is asked for when the `filter()` method is called. The differentiator is whether `setTargetDocument` or `setSourceDocument` has been called before (see sample code below). The user of a filter is responsible to make this call in a valid order.

This example code shows how the required filter operation can be tracked inside the filter implementation easily:

```java
private boolean m_bImport;

public void setTargetDocument(com.sun.star.lang.XComponent xDocument)
    throws com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException {
    m_bImport = true;
}

public void setSourceDocument(com.sun.star.lang.XComponent xDocument)
    throws com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException {
```
m_bImport = false;
}

// detect required type of filter operation
public boolean filter(
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] lDescriptor)
{
    boolean bState = false;
    if (m_bImport==true)
        bState = impl_import( lDescriptor );
    else
        bState = impl_export( lDescriptor );
    return bState;
}

Configuring a Filter in OpenOffice.org

Structure of the configuration

As described previously, detecting types and finding filters in OpenOffice.org is carried out by the com.sun.star.document.TypeDetection service that uses configuration data as input. The configuration node that contains all this information is org.openoffice.TypeDetection. Here's the basic structure of it:

Structure of org.openoffice.Office.TypeDetection Configuration Branch
As shown on the left, the node consists of structures that in the terminology of the Configuration Manager are called sets. As opposed to configuration lists, sets are extensible configuration nodes and this allows the Configuration Manager to merge several files containing the same node together and presenting all set elements found in any of the merged files as part of a common set. This is different to lists: if the same list is found in several configuration files, one of them will overwrite the others. The ability to merge configuration nodes enables the deployment of filter configuration data (and so the deployment of filters) in extensions. Without it all filter configuration data had to be defined in the OpenOffice.org installation.

There are three lists: types, filters and frame loaders. A type describes a content and filters or frame loaders describe objects that can be used to load such content into an OOo document. Arrows in the picture point to structures on the right side. They show the content (properties) of different list elements. Similar to 1:n relations in a database, every filter or frame loader is registered for one or multiple types.

**Warning** – If you want to add filters to the configuration, it is not a good idea to edit the installed configuration files of OpenOffice.org directly. It would be better to provide the data as an extension and install this extension for a single or all users.

**TypeDetection**

Before the properties of types, filters and frame loaders will be described in close detail, let's have a look on how the Type Detection uses them to detect types and filters. The com.sun.star.document.TypeDetection service can be used to just detect the type of a particular content. While a type is detected, it is possible that some information about a possible filter for that type already may have accrued. In case the TypeDetection is part of a loading process where not only a type but also a filter needs to be detected, this suggestion can be used to save an extra filter detection step. This detection otherwise had to be carried out by the generic frame loader by accessing the filter configuration data through the com.sun.star.document.FilterFactory service.

When the TypeDetection receives a URL or a MediaDescriptor, it will first check some "external" attributes of the content specified this way. This could be a file extension, a URL pattern or other properties in the MediaDescriptor. If the MediaDescriptor not already contains the name of the content type, the best match of the data in the "Types" part of the TypeDetection configuration to these attributes is sought. See the chapter about the type properties what kind of attributes are available and how they are used.
If a type has been detected based on these attributes, OpenOffice.org can verify this detection based on real code that checks the content, not only its external attributes. For this purpose each type may have an attribute "DetectService". It is an implementation or service name of an object that implements the abstract service com.sun.star.document.ExtendedTypeDetection. This object will examine the content. It will get a MediaDescriptor containing the name of the type to confirm and it will return this name in case it matches the content. It is allowed to return another type name if the DetectService knows that this type matches better even if the external attributes may not have selected it in the first place.

If the external attributes didn't help OpenOffice.org to find a type, it will instantiate all registered DetectServices and ask them to check the content until any of them returns a valid type name. The called DetectService can detect that it is called for "guessing", not for confirmation as in this case no type name is passed to it in the MediaDescriptor.

The next step is to check if a frame loader is registered for the detected type. If no frame loader is found, the generic frame loader implementation of OpenOffice.org is used. As mentioned above, this service will detect a filter in case the TypeDetection service not already has given this information. This detection is easily done by using a filter query at the com.sun.star.document.FilterFactory service. This query encapsulates the algorithm how OpenOffice.org assigns a filter to a type. The result of this query will be the internal filter name of the desired filter and the FilterFactory then can be asked to create the filter. Note: filter queries can return more than one filter name, depending on the input. If no preferences have been given, the first one in the returned sequence will win.

The most important external attribute of a content is a file extension and often just this one is used. As these extensions don't need to be unique, OpenOffice.org may find several possible types for an extension. While there is a preferred type (or at least there should be one), it is possible for API programmers to override this by a type preselection. It is also possible to use a filter preselection or a document type preselection. The latter can be seen as a suggestion to OpenOffice.org to load a content with a particular OpenOffice.org application. If this is possible, OpenOffice.org will do that, otherwise it will proceed as usual. One of the most common use cases is to load an html file by Calc from the command line. By using "soffice -Calc $FILENAME" instead of just "soffice $FILENAME" a document type preselection is triggered.

Properties of a Type

Every type inside OpenOffice.org is specified by the properties shown in the table.
Properties of a Type

below. These values are accessible at the previously mentioned service com.sun.star.document.TypeDetection using the interface com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess. Write access is not available here. All types are addressed by their internal names. The property names are identical to the configuration property names.

**Warning** – The documentation of the TypeDetection service currently is outdated. In case of conflicting information about the properties this page is right. An update will follow soon.

---

Properties of a Document Type, available at TypeDetection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>String. The internal name of the type. This is only an API property, not a configuration property. In the configuration this is the name of the configuration node containing all the other properties. To avoid name clashes with other node names it should follow the rules outlined for extension identifiers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UIName</td>
<td>String. User friendly name of the type. It may be localized using the localization support of the configuration. All Unicode characters are permitted here. Currently this UI name is not used in OOo itself but it is available for e.g. extensions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MediaType</td>
<td>String. Describes the MIME type of the Type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ClipboardFormat</td>
<td>String. The property name is misleading and has historical reasons. This property contains a format name that is used somewhere in the content itself to enable filters loading it to verify that the content has the right type. It may be the &quot;doctype&quot; in an XML file, the storage format identifier in an OLE storage or the MIMEType of and ODF document. This name can be used by a generic ExtendedTypeDetection service that is used for more than one format.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URLPattern</td>
<td>Sequence&lt;string&gt;. Enables the support of own URL schemata, that always shall be handled by the same filter(s). For example, in OpenOffice.org &quot;private:factory/swriter&quot; for opening an empty text document. The wildcards '*' or '?' are supported here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extensions</td>
<td>Sequence&lt;string&gt;. All extensions that this type is expected to have usually. As always in the configuration the default separator character is SPACE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preferred</td>
<td>Boolean. Several file types may use the same extension; this property tells OOo that a particular type should get preference over others. Of course that only works if not every type uses that property. If no flag is set, the type found first in the Types set wins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DetectService</td>
<td>String. OOo uses the properties described above of all types (like extension or MediaType) to guess the type of a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
particular file. Once a possible type is found it is possible to call some code that examines the file more closely to verify the simple detection ("flat" and "deep" detection). The DetectService property is the service or implementation name of the UNO service that can do this task.

**PreferredFilter**

After a successful type detection OOo will look for a filter that can load this type. It is possible that more than one filter is present. This property tells which filter should be the preferred one. This selection can be overridden by explicit preselection of a different filter (by API or by user interaction in the file dialog).

**DocumentIconID**

int. Deprecated. Please don't use.

### Properties of a Filter

Every filter inside OpenOffice.org is specified by the properties shown in the table below. These values are accessible at the previously mentioned service com.sun.star.document.FilterFactory using the interface com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess. Write access is not available here. All types are addressed by their internal names. The property names are identical to the configuration property names.

**Warning** – The documentation of the FilterFactory service currently is outdated. In case of conflicting information about the properties this page is right. An update will follow soon.

A filter always is registered for only one type. A single filter implementation can handle several types but then must be registered multiple times. One type may handled by more than one filter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>string. The internal name of the filter. This is only an API property, not a configuration property. In the configuration this is the name of the configuration node containing all the other properties. To avoid name clashes with other node names it should follow the rules outlined for <a href="#">extension identifiers</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UIName</td>
<td>string. User friendly name of the type. It may be localized using the localization support of the configuration. All Unicode characters are permitted here. The UI names of filters are used in the various file dialog.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type</td>
<td>string. A filter is registered for the type it can handle.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Multiple assignments are not allowed. Use multiple configuration entries to support more than one type with a single filter implementation.

**DocumentService**

String. UNO service name describing the component on which the filter can operate. As an example, "com.sun.star.text.TextDocument" specifies the filter as working with text documents. An object of this type will be passed to the filter in its `setTargetDocument()` or `setSourceDocument()` methods.

**FilterService**

String. This is the UNO service or implementation name of the filter. Of course a service name can be used only if it is not the generic `com.sun.star.document.ImportFilter` or `com.sun.star.document.ExportFilter`. In case of XML based filters the service name always must be `com.sun.star.comp.Writer.XMLFilterAdaptor`. This filter will use the "UserData" property to find the XMLImporter or XMLExporter service it shall instantiate.

**UIComponent**

String. UNO service or implementation name of a UI component (usually a dialog) where users can parameterize the filtering process. As an example, the "Text - txt - csv (StarCalc)" filter needs information about the used column separators to load data. More about that in the chapter about filter options.

**Flags**

String list. Some boolean attributes of a filter.

**Filter flags**

**3RDPARTYFILTER**

The filter is a UNO component filter, as opposed to the internal C++ filters. This is an artefact that will vanish over time.

**ALIEN**

The filter may lose some information upon saving.

**DEFAULT**

This is the "best" filter for the document type it works on that is guaranteed not so lose any data on export. By default this filter will be used or suggested for every storing process unless the user has chosen...
a different default filter in the options dialog.

**EXPORT**

The filter supports the service com.sun.star.document.ExportFilter. It will be shown in the dialog "File-Export". If the filter also has the "IMPORT" flag set, it will be shown in the dialog "File-Save". This makes sure that a format that a user chooses in the save dialog can be loaded again. The same is not guaranteed for a format chosen in "File-Export".

**IMPORT**

The filter supports service com.sun.star.document.ImportFilter. The filter will be shown in the dialog "File-Open".

**INTERNAL**

This filter is used only for internal purposes and so can be used only in API calls. Users won't see it ever.

**NOTINCHOOSER**

This filter will not be shown in the dialog box for choosing a filter in case OOo was not able to detect one.

**NOTINFILEDIALOG**

This filter will not be shown in the file dialog's filter list.

**OWN**

The filter is a native OO.o format (ODF or otherwise).

**PREFERRED**

The filter is preferred in case of multiple filters for the same file type exist in the configuration.

**READONLY**

All documents imported by this filter will automatically be in read-only state.

**SUPPORTSSELECTION**

Filter can export only the selected part of a document. This information enables OpenOffice.org to
enable a corresponding check box in the "File-Export" dialog.

**TEMPLATE**
Filter denotes a template filter (means, by default all documents opened by it become an "untitled" one)

**TEMPLATEPATH**
Must always be set together with "TEMPLATE" to make this feature flag work; soon becoming deprecated

**UserData**
sequence<string>. Some filters need to store more configuration to work properly. The format of the string list is not restricted. An important example is the filter that implements the XMLFilterAdaptor service. It will get the service name of the XML based filter it must instantiate from the user data. In case this XML based filter is one of the XML adaptors for xslt files, the user data also must contain at least an absolute or relative file path point to the xslt file carrying out the transformation.

**FileFormatVersion**
int. Indicates that a filter handles only a particular format version of the content type. If a filter implementation can handle several versions of a filter, several configuration entries have to be created. This is not necessary if the filter handles all possible versions and the different versions don't need to appear in the user interface.

**TemplateName**
string. The name of a template file for styles the target document of an import filter shall use. If this property is set, the document merges the styles of this template with its default styles before the import starts.

**Warning** – Besides these filter flags there are other flags existing that are used currently, but are not documented here. Use documented flags only.

--- Sample configuration for an API based filter ---

```xml
<!-- Filter section -->
<node oor:name="Text (encoded)" oor:op="replace">
  <prop oor:name="UIName">
    <value>Text (encoded)</value>
  </prop>
</node>
```
Properties of a Filter

Note – This filter has a UIComponent that shows that this filter needs additional information to load a file properly (the encoding of it in case it can't be detected). It does not have a "FilterService" property because it is an internal, C++ based filter.

Sample configuration for an XML based filter

```xml
<node oor:name="PocketWord File" oor:op="replace">
   <prop oor:name="UIName"><value>Pocket Word</value></prop>
   <prop oor:name="Type"><value>writer_PocketWord_File</value></prop>
   <prop oor:name="FileFormatVersion"><value>0</value></prop>
   <prop oor:name="DocumentService"><value>com.sun.star.text.TextDocument</value></prop>
   <prop oor:name="FilterService"><value>com.sun.star.comp.Writer.XmlFilterAdaptor</value></prop>
   <prop oor:name="TemplateName"/>
   <prop oor:name="Flags"><value>IMPORT EXPORT ALIEN 3RDPARTYFILTER</value></prop>
</node>
```

Note – This filter uses the XMLFilterAdaptor service. The "UserData" property is a space-separated list where the first list element denotes the XMLImportFilter to be instantiated and the third one and fourth one are service names of DocumentHandlers for import and export. Further parameters depend on the XMLImportFilter used.
Sample configuration for an xslt based filter

```xml
<!-- Filter section -->
<node oor:name="MediaWiki" oor:op="replace">
  <prop oor:name="FileFormatVersion"><value>0</value></prop>
  <prop oor:name="Type"><value>MediaWiki</value></prop>
  <prop oor:name="DocumentService"><value>com.sun.star.text.TextDocument</value></prop>
  <prop oor:name="UIComponent"/>
  <prop oor:name="UserData"><value>
  </value></prop>
  <prop oor:name="FilterService"><value>com.sun.star.comp.Writer.XmlFilterAdaptor</value></prop>
  <prop oor:name="UIName"><value xml:lang="x-default">MediaWiki</value></prop>
  <prop oor:name="Flags"><value>EXPORT ALIEN 3RDPARTYFILTER</value></prop>
</node>
```

**Note** – This filter uses the XMLFilterAdaptor service. The "UserData" property is a space-separated list where the first list element denotes the XMLImportFilter to be instantiated and the third one and fourth one are service names of DocumentHandlers for import and export. Further parameters depend on the XMLImportFilter used.

Here the XMLFilter used is the com.sun.star.documentconversion.XSLTFilter that bridges to xslt files and basically can import and export if a suitable xslt is provided. It expects the following parameters in the user data ($(APP) stands for Writer,Calc,Draw,Impress,Chart,Math):

1. service name of the XSLTFilter
2. implementation/service name of an importer class (com.sun.star.comp.$(APP).XMLOasisImporter)
3. implementation/service name of an exporter class (com.sun.star.comp.$(APP).XMLOasisExporter)
4. relative or absolute path name to an importing style sheet
5. relative or absolute path name to an importing style sheet

**Note** – Older xslt based filters might have used the pre-ODF file format of OpenOffice.org. They used importer and exporter class without "Oasis" in their names.
Filter Options

A filter may need some additional information before it can import or export properly. As an example, the OpenOffice.org filter "Text - txt - csv (StarCalc)" needs a separator used to detect columns. This information is transported as a property FilterData inside the MediaDescriptor. The value depends on the filter implementation and is not specified (type "any"). It's up to the filter to deal with it and handle it properly. The MediaDescriptor may contain another property of type string named FilterOptions. It can be used if the flexibility of an any is not required and the small overhead to retrieve the string from the any is unwanted. The filter must document which of these properties it uses and how the information transported by it must be shaped.

Note – For historical reasons, a third-string property FilterFlags exists. It is deprecated, so don't use it.

There are two possible origins of the FilterData or FilterOptions property:

- The loading or storing process is triggered from code that has the necessary information and provides it in the code.
- A user has entered the data into a dialog that OpenOffice.org has presented to him and retrieved it from the dialog after the user closed it. The dialog is shown by a UNO service that is specified by the "UIComponent" property of the filter configuration. OpenOffice.org will not show the dialog if the MediaDescriptor already contains one of the named properties.

The service specified by the "UIComponent" property is the only way how a filter can retrieve parameters interactively. The filter code itself must not do that because it may be used in an environment that does not allow to show any UI elements, especially modal ones. Here providing filter options by API calls is the only way to provide them to the filter.

The UIComponent is an object implementing the com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.FilterOptionsDialog. It will be called in a modal way, means with an execute() call that must guarantee that when it returns, all parameters can be retrieved from the UIComponent by its interface com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyAccess. The same interface is used to transfer the current MediaDescriptor to the UIComponent before executing it. In the execute() call the implementer can use any UI elements, usually a dialog will be used here. The UIComponent must provide the filter options with the correct property names and the value of the property must be as the filter implementation understands it. The framework code will copy the retrieved properties to the MediaDescriptor without any change.
If a filter doesn't get any FilterOptions or FilterData though it needs some, it may use default values for them, if possible. Usually this is always possible for export filters, but not always for import filters. The filter implementation should use a configuration file to retrieve default values instead of providing them in the code, so that they can be changed easily. Whether the filter updates the configuration values to the last recently used values passed by MediaDescriptor or if it never changes them itself is up to the filter developer.

Properties of a FrameLoader

OpenOffice.org knows asynchronous (com.sun.star.frame.FrameLoader) and synchronous (com.sun.star.frame.SynchronousFrameLoader) frame loader implementations. They are not distinguished by the configuration data but detected at runtime, synchronous loaders are preferred.

When a document is loaded using a `loadComponentFromURL()` call, a frame loader always will be used to load the "component" (in most cases a document model) into a frame. If no frame is registered for the type to be loaded, the generic frame loader of OpenOffice.org will be used that will proceed with selecting a filter and using it. Custom frame loaders can do anything they want, they are not obliged to use filters and can use filters instead. An expected use case is when the component isn't a model but e.g. a controller or window object.

Every FrameLoader inside OpenOffice.org is specified by the properties shown in the table below. These values are accessible at the service `com.sun.star.frame.FrameLoaderFactory` using the interface `com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess`. Write access is not available here. All types are addressed by their internal names. The property names are identical to the configuration property names.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>The internal name of the loader. This is only an API property, not a configuration property. In the configuration this is the name of the configuration node containing all the other properties. To avoid name clashes with other node names it should follow the rules outlined for extension identifiers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UIName</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>User friendly name of the type. It may be localized using the localization support of the configuration. All Unicode characters are permitted here. Currently this UI name is not used in OOo itself but it is available for e.g. extensions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Types</td>
<td>sequence&lt;string&gt;</td>
<td>A list of internal type names that this service can handle.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
XML Based Filter Development

Introduction

This chapter outlines the development of XML based filtering components that use the XML filter adaptor framework. Further information is also available at http://xml.openoffice.org/filter/. The XML filter adaptor is a generic com.sun.star.document.XFilter implementation. It has been designed to be reusable, and to supply a standard method of designing and referencing XML based import and export filters. The XML filter adaptor does not perform any of the filtering functionality itself, but instead is used to instantiate a filtering component.

The advantage of the XML filter adapter framework is that you do not have to work with document models to create a document from an import file, nor do you have to iterate over a document model to export it to a different file format. Rather, you can use the OpenOffice.org XML file format to import and export. When importing, you parse your import file and send OpenOffice.org XML to the filter adaptor, which creates a document for you in the GUI. When exporting, the office sends a description of the current document as OpenOffice.org XML, so that you can export without having to iterate over a document model.

As described in the chapter about filters a filter works through its method filter(). In case of XML based filters this method is implemented by the XML filter adaptor. Based on its "UserData" property it instantiates an XML import filter and uses its method <idl>com.sun.star.xml.XImportFilter:importer</idl>( ) to pass a MediaDescriptor for the source, a specialized XML document handler for OpenOffice.org XML, and user data. The import filter must read the import source and deliver OpenOffice.org XML to the document handler received in the call to importer(), emulating a SAX parser that calls the parser callback functions.

In case of export filters the same filter() call will use the "UserData" property to instantiate an XML export filter and use its method <idl>com.sun.star.xml.XExportFilter:exporter</idl>( ) to pass a target location and
user data. In this case, the office expects the export filter to be a
com.sun.star.xml.sax.XDocumentHandler, which is able to handle OpenOffice.org
XML. The office creates an export stream with OpenOffice.org XML, and parses this
XML so that the export filter receives the SAX callbacks and can translate them to
whatever is necessary, writing the result to the target received in the call to
com.sun.star.xml.XExportFilter:exporter().

Sample implementations

There are currently three filtering components which use the XML filter adapter.

The first one is the XMergeBridge. This has been created as a means of linking the
XMerge Small Device filter framework with OpenOffice.org. This means that any
available XMerge plugin, can also be used as a OpenOffice.org filter. This is currently
hosted within the XMerge

Writing the Filtering Component

The filtering component must implement the following interfaces as described by the
com.sun.star.xml.ImportFilter service and the com.sun.star.xml.ExportFilter service:

Importer: com.sun.star.xml.XMLImportFilter

Exporter: com.sun.star.xml.XMLExportFilter and
com.sun.star.xml.sax.XDocumentHandler

XImportFilter

The service com.sun.star.xml.XMLImportFilter defines an interface with the following
method:

boolean importer(
    [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aSourceData,
    [in] com::sun::star::xml::sax::XDocumentHandler xDocHandler,
Writing the Filtering Component

```java
[in] sequence< string > msUserData
```

`aSourceData` is a `MediaDescriptor`, which can be used to obtain the following information:

- **An XInputStream**
  - This is a stream that is attached to the source to be read. This can be a file, or some other data source.
- **Filename**
  - This is the name of the file on the disk, that the input stream comes from.
- **Url**
  - This is a url describing the location being read.

`xDocHandler` is a SAX event handler that can be used when parsing an `XInputStream`, which may or may not contain OpenOffice.org XML. Before this stream can be read by OpenOffice.org, it will need to be transformed into OpenOffice.org XML.

`msUserData` is an array of `Strings`, that contains the information supplied in the `UserData` section of the `Filter` definition in the `TypeDetection.xcu` file.

### XExportFilter

The `com.sun.star.xml.XExportFilter` defines an interface with the following method:

```java
boolean exporter(
    [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aSourceData,
    [in] sequence< string > msUserData
)
```

`aSourceData` and `msUserData` contain the same type of information as in the importer, except that the `MediaDescriptor` contains an `XOutputStream`, which can be used to write to.

### XDocumentHandler

When the export takes place, the new Filtering component must also be an `XDocumentHandler`, to allow the output based on SAX events to be filtered, if required.
For this reason, an \texttt{XDocumentHandler} is not passed to the exporter, and any exporter that is used by the XML filter adaptor must implement the \texttt{com.sun.star.xml.sax.XDocumentHandler} interface.

\textbf{Note} – In order for Java based components to operate effectively, a set of wrapper classes have been added to the \texttt{javaunohelper} package. These files allow for an \texttt{XInputStream} or an \texttt{XOutputStream} to be accessed using the same methods as a normal Java \texttt{InputStream} or \texttt{OutputStream}. These classes are located in the \texttt{javaunohelper} package at:

\texttt{com.sun.star.lib.uno.adapter.XInputStreamToInputStreamAdapter}
\texttt{com.sun.star.lib.uno.adapter.XOutputStreamToOutputStreamAdapter}

For more information on the use of these helper classes, see the flatxmljava example.

\section*{The Importer}

\section*{Evaluating \texttt{XImportFilter} Parameters}

The writing of an importer usually starts with extracting the required variables from the \texttt{Mediadescriptor} and the \texttt{userData}. These variables are required for the filtering component to operate correctly. Depending on the requirements of the individual filter, the first thing to do is to extract the information from the \texttt{MediaDescriptor}, referred to as \texttt{aSourceData} in the interface definition. This can be achieved as follows:

Get the number of elements in the \texttt{MediaDescriptor}

\begin{verbatim}
sal_Int32 nLength = aSourceData.getLength();
\end{verbatim}

Iterate through the \texttt{MediaDescriptor} to find the information needed: an input stream, a file name, or a URL.

\begin{verbatim}
for (sal_Int32 i = 0; i < nLength; i++) {
    if (pValue[i].Name.equalsAsciiL(RTL_CONSTASCII_STRINGPARAM("InputStream")))
        pValue[i].Value >>= xInputStream;
    else if (pValue[i].Name.equalsAsciiL(RTL_CONSTASCII_STRINGPARAM("FileName"))
        pValue[i].Value >>= sFileName;
    else if (pValue[i].Name.equalsAsciiL(RTL_CONSTASCII_STRINGPARAM("URL"))
        pValue[i].Value >>= sURL;
\end{verbatim}
The msUserData parameter passed to importer() contains information that defines how the filter operates, so this information must be referenced as required.

**Importer Filtering**

An XInputStream implementation has now been obtained that contains all of the information you want to process. From the filtering perspective, you can just read from this stream and carry out whatever processing is required in order for the input to be transformed into OpenOffice.org XML. Once this has been done, however, you need to write the result to where it can be parsed into OpenOffice.org's internal format. A Pipe can be used to achieve this. A Pipe is a form of buffer that can be written to and read from. For the <idl>com.sun.star.xml.XImportFilter:importer</idl>, read from the XInputStream that was extracted from the MediaDescriptor, and once the filtering has taken place, write to a Pipe that has been created. This Pipe can be read from when it comes to parsing. This is how the Pipe is created:

Reference <XInterface> xPipe;

// We Create our pipe
xPipe= XflatXml::xMSF->createInstance(OUString::createFromAscii("com.sun.star.io.Pipe"));

// We get an inputStream to our Pipe
Reference< com::sun::star::io::XInputStream > xPipeInput (xPipe,UNO_QUERY);

// We get an OutputStream to our Pipe
Reference< com::sun::star::io::XOutputStream > xTmpOutputStream (xPipe,UNO_QUERY);

The XInputStream can be read from, and the XOutputStream can be written to.

**Parsing the Result**

Once the desired OpenOffice.org XML has been produced and written to the XOutputStream of the Pipe, the XInputStream of the Pipe can be parsed with the aid of the XdocumentHandler.

// Create a Parser
const OUString sSaxParser(RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("com.sun.star.xml.sax.Parser"));
The Importer

Reference `<com::sun::star::xml::sax::XParser>` `xSaxParser(xMSF->createInstance(sSaxParser), UNO_QUERY);

```
// Create an InputSource using the Pipe
com::sun::star::xml::sax::InputSource aInput;
aInput.sSystemId = sFileName;           // File Name
aInput.aInputStream = xPipeInput;       // Pipe InputStream

// Set the SAX Event Handler
xSaxParser->setDocumentHandler(xHandler);

// Parse the result
try {
    xSaxParser->parseStream(aInput);
} catch( Exception &exc){
    // Perform exception handling
}
```

Assuming that the XML was valid, no exceptions will be thrown and the importer will return true. At this stage, the filtering is complete and the imported document will be displayed.

The Exporter

Evaluating XExportFilter Parameters

The `<idl>com.sun.star.xml.XExportFilter:exporter</idl>` method operates in much the same way as `<idl>com.sun.star.xml.XImportFilter:importer</idl>`, except that instead of the exporter using a provided `XDocumentHandler`, it is itself a `com.sun.star.xml.sax.XDocumentHandler` implementation.

When the `exporter()` method is invoked, the necessary variables need to be extracted for use by the filter. This is the same thing that happens with the importer, except that the `MediaDescriptor` contains an `XOutputStream`, instead of the importer's `XInputStream`. Once the variables have been extracted (and - in some cases - a `Pipe` has been created) the `exporter()` method returns. It does not carry out the filtering at this stage.
Note – The pipe is only necessary if the output needs to be processed further after being processed by the XDocumentHandler. Otherwise, the result from the XDocumentHandler implementation can be written directly to the XOutputStream provided. For instance, this is the case with a FlatXML filter.

Exporter Filtering

After the <idl>com.sun.star.xml.XExportFilter:exporter</idl>() method returns, the XML filter adapter then invokes the com.sun.star.xml.sax.XDocumentHandler methods to parse the XML output.

For the filtering, the com.sun.star.xml.sax.XDocumentHandler implementation is used. This consists of a set of SAX event handling methods, which define how particular XML tags are handled. These methods are:

```java
startDocument(){
}
endDocument(){
}
startElement(){
}
endElement(){
}
characters(){
}
ignorableWhitespace(){
}
processingInstruction(){
}
setDocumentLocator(){
}
```

The result of this event handling can be processed and written to the XOutputStream that was extracted from the MediaDescriptor.

XML Filter Detection

The number of XML files that conform to differing DTD specifications means that a single filter and file type definition is insufficient to handle all of the possible formats available. In order to allow OpenOffice.org to handle multiple filter definitions and implementations, it is necessary to implement an additional filter detection module
that is capable of determining the type of XML file being read, based on its DocType declaration.

To accomplish this, a filter detection service com.sun.star.document.ExtendedTypeDetection can be implemented, which is capable of handling and distinguishing between many different XML based file formats. This type of service supersedes the basic flat detection, which uses the file's suffix to determine the Type, and instead, carries out a deep detection which uses the file's internal structure and content to detect its true type.

Requirements for Deep Detection

There are three requirements for implementing a deep detection module that is capable of identifying one or more unique XML types. These include:

- An extended type definition for describing the format in more detail (TypeDetection.xcu).
- A DetectService implementation.
- A DetectService definition (TypeDetection.xcu).

Extending the File Type Definition

Since many different XML files can conform to different DTDs, the type definition of a particular XML file needs to be extended. To do this, some or all of the DocType information can be contained as part of the file type definition. This information is held as part of the ClipboardFormat property of the type node. A unique namespace or preface identifies the String at this point in the sequence as being a DocType declaration.

Sample Type definition:

```xml
<node oor:name="writer_DocBook_File" oor:op="replace">
  <prop oor:name="UIName">
    <value XML:lang="en-US">DocBook</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Data">
    <value>0,
      ,
      doctype://OASIS//DTD DocBook XML V4.1.2//EN,
    </value>
</node>
```
The ExtendedTypeDetection Service Implementation

In order for the type detection code to function as an ExtendedTypeDetection service, you must implement the `detect()` method as defined by the `com.sun.star.document.XExtendedFilterDetection` interface definition:

```java
string detect([inout]sequence<com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue> Descriptor);
```

This method supplies you with a sequence of `PropertyValue` from which you can use to extract the current `TypeName` and the `URL` of the file being loaded:

```java
::rtl::OUString SAL_CALL FilterDetect::detect(com::sun::star::uno::Sequence<
com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue> &aArguments ) throw 
(com::sun::star::uno::RuntimeException)
{
    const PropertyValue * pValue = aArguments.getConstArray();
    sal_Int32 nLength;
    ::rtl::OString resultString;
    nLength = aArguments.getLength();
    for (sal_Int32 i = 0; i < nLength; i++) {
        If (pValue[i].Name.equalsAsciiL(RTL_CONSTASCII_STRINGPARAM("TypeName"))) {
            }
        else if (pValue[i].Name.equalsAsciiL(RTL_CONSTASCII_STRINGPARAM("URL"))) {
            pValue[i].Value >>= sUrl;
        }
    }
}
```

Once you have the URL of the file, you can then use it to create an `ucb::Content` from which you can open an `XInputStream` to the file:

```java
Reference< com::sun::star::ucb::XCommandEnvironment > xEnv;
::ucb::Content aContent(sUrl, xEnv);
xInStream = aContent.openStream();
```

You can now use this `XInputStream` to read the header of the file being loaded. Because the exact location of the `DocType` information within the file is not known, the first 1000 bytes of information will be read:

```java
::rtl::OString resultString;
```
Once you have this information, you can start looking for a type that describes the file being loaded. In order to do this, you need to get a list of the types currently supported:

```java
Reference <XNameAccess> xTypeCont(mxMSF- >createInstance(OUString::createFromAscii("com.sun.star.document.TypeDetection" )),UNO_QUERY);
Sequence <::rtl::OUString> myTypes= xTypeCont->getElementNames();
nLength = myTypes.getLength();
```

For each of these types, you must first determine whether the ClipboardFormat property contains a DocType:

```java
Loc_of_ClipboardFormat=...;
Sequence<::rtl::OUString> ClipboardFormatSeq;
Type_Props[Loc_of_ClipboardFormat].Value >>=ClipboardFormatSeq ;
while() {
   if(ClipboardFormatSeq.match(OUString::createFromAscii("doctype:")) {
      //if it contains a DocType, start to compare to header
   }
}
```

All of the possible DocType declarations of the file types can be checked to determine a match. If a match is found, the type corresponding to the match is returned. If no match is found, an empty string is returned. This will force OpenOffice.org into flat detection mode.

**TypeDetection.xcu DetectServices Entry**

Now that you have created the ExtendedTypeDetection service implementation, you need to tell OpenOffice.org when to use this service.

First create a DetectServices node, unless one already exists, and then add the information specific to the detection servicethat has been implemented, that is, the name of the service and the file types that use it.

```xml
<node oor:name="DetectServices">
   <node oor:name="com.sun.star.comp.filters.XMLDetect" oor:op="replace">
      <prop oor:name="ServiceName">
         <value XML:lang="en-US">com.sun.star.comp.filters.XMLDetect</value>
      </prop>
      <prop oor:name="Types">
         <value>writer_DocBook_File</value>
      </prop>
   </node>
</node>
```
Number Formats

Number formats are template strings consisting of format codes defining how numbers or text appear, for example, whether or not to display trailing zeros, group by thousands, separators, colors, and how many decimals are displayed. This does not include any font attributes, except for colors. They are found wherever number formats are applied, for example, on the Numbers tab of the Format – Cells dialog in spreadsheets.

Number formats are defined on the document level. A document displaying formatted values has a collection of number formats, each with a unique index key within that document. Identical formats are not necessarily represented by the same index key in different documents.

Managing Number Formats

Documents provide their formats through the interface com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatsSupplier that has one method getNumberFormats() that returns com.sun.star.util.NumberFormats. Using NumberFormats, developers can read and modify number formats in documents, and also add new formats.

You have to retrieve the NumberFormatsSupplier as a property at a few objects from their com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface, for example, from data sources supporting the com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource service and from database connections supporting the service com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseEnvironment, or com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseAccess. In addition, all UNO controls offering the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFormattedFieldModel have a NumberFormatsSupplier property.
Managing Number Formats

**NumberFormats Service**

The com.sun.star.util.NumberFormats service specifies a container of number formats and implements the interfaces com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatTypes and com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormats.

**XNumberFormats**

NumberFormats supports the interface com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormats. This interface provides access to the number formats of a container. It is used to query the properties of a number format by an index key, retrieve a list of available number format keys of a given type for a given locale, query the key for a user-defined format string, or add new format codes into the list or to remove formats.

```java
com::sun::star::beans::XPropertySet getByKey ( [in] long nKey )
sequence< long > queryKeys ( [in] short nType,
    [in] com::sun::star::lang::Locale nLocale,
    [in] boolean bCreate )
long queryKey ( [in] string aFormat,
    [in] com::sun::star::lang::Locale nLocale,
    [in] boolean bScan )
long addNew ( [in] string aFormat, [in] com::sun::star::lang::Locale nLocale )
long addNewConverted ( [in] string aFormat, [in]
    com::sun::star::lang::Locale nLocale,
    [in] com::sun::star::lang::Locale nNewLocale )
void removeByKey ( [in] long nKey )
string generateFormat ( [in] long nBaseKey, [in]
    com::sun::star::lang::Locale nLocale,
```

The important methods are probably `queryKey()` and `addNew()`. The method `queryKey()` finds the key for a given format string and locale, whereas `addNew()` creates a new format in the container and returns its key for immediate use. The `bScan` is reserved for future use and should be set to false.

The properties of a single number format are obtained by a call to `getByKey()` which returns a com.sun.star.util.NumberFormatProperties service for the given index key.
Managing Number Formats

XNumberFormatTypes

The interface com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatTypes offers functions to retrieve the index keys of specific predefined number format types. The predefined types are addressed by constants from com.sun.star.util.NumberFormat. The NumberFormat contains values for predefined format types, such as PERCENT, TIME, CURRENCY, and TEXT.

```java
long getStandardIndex ( [in] com::sun::star::lang::Locale nLocale )
long getStandardFormat ( [in] short nType,
                       [in] com::sun::star::lang::Locale nLocale )
long getFormatIndex ( [in] short nIndex,
                     [in] com::sun::star::lang::Locale nLocale )
boolean isTypeCompatible ( [in] short nOldType, [in] short nNewType )
long getFormatForLocale ( [in] long nKey,
                         [in] com::sun::star::lang::Locale nLocale )
```

In most cases you will need getStandardFormat(). It expects a type constant from the NumberFormat group and the locale to use, and returns the key of the corresponding predefined format.

Applying Number Formats

To format numeric values, an XNumberFormatsSupplier is attached to an instance of a com.sun.star.util.NumberFormatter, available at the global service manager. For this purpose, its main interface com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatter has a method attachNumberFormatsSupplier(). When the XNumberFormatsSupplier is attached, strings and numeric values are formatted using the methods of the NumberFormatter. To specify the format to apply, you have to get the unique index key for one of the formats defined in NumberFormats. These keys are available at the XNumberFormats and XNumberFormatTypes interface of NumberFormats.

Numbers in documents, such as in table cells, formulas, and text fields, are formatted by applying the format key to the NumberFormat property of the appropriate element.

NumberFormatter Service

The service com.sun.star.util.NumberFormatter implements the interfaces
Applying Number Formats

com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatter and com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatPreviewer.

**XNumberformatter**

The interface com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatter converts numbers to strings, or strings to numbers, or detects a number format matching a given string.

```java
void attachNumberFormatsSupplier ( [in] com::sun::star::util::XNumberFormatsSupplier xSupplier )

com::sun::star::util::XNumberFormatsSupplier getNumberFormatsSupplier ()

long detectNumberFormat ( [in] long nKey, [in] string aString )

double convertStringToNumber ( [in] long nKey, [in] string aString )

string convertNumberToString ( [in] long nKey, [in] double fValue );

com::sun::star::util::color queryColorForNumber ( [in] long nKey, [in] double fValue, [in] com::sun::star::util::color aDefaultColor )

string formatString ( [in] long nKey, [in] string aString );

com::sun::star::util::color queryColorForString ( [in] long nKey, [in] string aString, [in] com::sun::star::util::color aDefaultColor )

string getInputString ( [in] long nKey, [in] double fValue )
```

**XNumberformatPreviewer**

```java
string convertNumberToPreviewString ( [in] string aFormat, [in] double fValue, [in] com::sun::star::lang::Locale nLocale, [in] boolean bAllowEnglish )

com::sun::star::util::color queryPreviewColorForNumber ( [in] string aFormat, [in] double fValue, [in] com::sun::star::lang::Locale nLocale, [in] boolean bAllowEnglish, [in] com::sun::star::util::color aDefaultColor )
```

This interface com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatPreviewer converts values to strings according to a given format code without inserting the format code into the underlying com.sun.star.util.NumberFormats collection.

The example below demonstrates the usage of these interfaces.
public void doSampleFunction() throws RuntimeException, Exception
{
    // Assume:
    // com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetDocument maSpreadsheetDoc;
    // com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet maSheet;

    // Query the number formats supplier of the spreadsheet document
    com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatsSupplier xNumberFormatsSupplier =
        (com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatsSupplier)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatsSupplier.class, maSpreadsheetDoc );

    // Get the number formats from the supplier
    com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormats xNumberFormats =
        xNumberFormatsSupplier.getNumberFormats();

    // Query the XNumberFormatTypes interface
    com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatTypes xNumberFormatTypes =
        (com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatTypes)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatTypes.class, xNumberFormats );

    // Get the number format index key of the default currency format,
    // note the empty locale for default locale
    int nCurrencyKey = xNumberFormatTypes.getStandardFormat(
        com.sun.star.util.NumberFormat.CURRENCY, aLocale );

    // Get cell range B3:B11
    com.sun.star.table.XCellRange xCellRange =
        maSheet.getCellRangeByPosition( 1, 2, 1, 10 );

    // Query the property set of the cell range
    com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xCellProp =
        (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xCellRange );

    // Set number format to default currency
    xCellProp.setPropertyValue( "NumberFormat", new Integer(nCurrencyKey) );

    // Get cell B3
    com.sun.star.table.XCell xCell = maSheet.getCellByPosition( 1, 2 );

    // Query the property set of the cell
    xCellProp = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xCell );

    // Get the number format index key of the cell's properties
    int nIndexKey = ((Integer)
        xCellProp.getPropertyValue( "NumberFormat" )).intValue();

    // Get the properties of the number format
    com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xProp =
        xNumberFormats.getByKey( nIndexKey );

    // Get the format code string of the number format's properties
Applying Number Formats

```java
String aFormatCode = (String) xProp.getPropertyValue("FormatString");
System.out.println("FormatString: ": aFormatCode + ": ");

// Create an arbitrary format code
aFormatCode = "\"wonderful \"" + aFormatCode;

// Test if it is already present
nIndexKey = xNumberFormats.queryKey(aFormatCode, aLocale, false);

// If not, add to number formats collection
if (nIndexKey == -1)
{
    try
    {
        nIndexKey = xNumberFormats.addNew(aFormatCode, aLocale);
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.util.MalformedNumberFormatException ex)
    {
        System.out.println("Bad number format code: ": ex);
        nIndexKey = -1;
    }
}

// Set the new format at the cell
if (nIndexKey != -1)
xCellProp.setPropertyValue("NumberFormat", new Integer(nIndexKey));
```

Document Events

Recurring actions, such as loading, printing or saving, that occur when working with documents, are document events, and all documents in OpenOffice.org offer an interface that sends notifications when these events take place.

There are general events common every document, such as loading, printing, or saving, and there are other events that are specific to a particular document type. Both can be accessed through the same interface.

In the document events API, these events are represented by an event name. The following table shows a list of all general document event names:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OnNew</td>
<td>New Document was created</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OnLoad</td>
<td>Document has been loaded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OnSaveAs</td>
<td>Document is going to be saved under a new name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OnSaveAsDone</td>
<td>Document was saved under a new name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OnSave</td>
<td>Document is going to be saved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OnSaveDone</td>
<td>Document was saved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Document Event Names
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OnPrepareUnload</td>
<td>Document is going to be removed, but still fully available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OnUnload</td>
<td>Document has been removed, document is still valid, but closing can no longer be prevented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OnFocus</td>
<td>Document was activated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OnUnfocus</td>
<td>Document was deactivated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OnPrint</td>
<td>Document will be printed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OnModifyChange</td>
<td>Modified state of the document has changed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These event names are documented in the com.sun.star.document.Events service. Note that this service description exceeds the scope of events that happen on the document as a whole - so it also contains events that can only be accessed by finding the part of the document where the event occurred, for example, a button in a form. This list of events can also be extended by new events, so that future versions of OpenOffice.org can support new types of events through the same API. Therefore, every client that wants to deal with a particular document event must check if this event is supported, or whether it should be prepared to catch an exception.

Every client that is interested in document events can register for being notified. The necessary interface for notification is com.sun.star.document.XEventBroadcaster, which is an optional interface of the service com.sun.star.document.OfficeDocument. All document objects in OpenOffice.org implement this interface. It has two methods to add and remove listeners for document events:

```plaintext
[oneway] void addEventListener( [in] ::com::sun::star::document::XEventListener Listener );
[oneway] void removeEventListener( [in] ::com::sun::star::document::XEventListener Listener );
```

The listeners must implement the interface com.sun.star.document.XEventListener and get a notification through a call of their method:

```plaintext
[oneway] void notifyEvent( [in] ::com::sun::star::document::EventObject Event );
```

The argument of this call is a com.sun.star.document.EventObject struct, which is derived from the usual com.sun.star.lang.EventObject and contains two members: the member Source, which contains an interface pointer to the event source (here the com.sun.star.document.OfficeDocument service) and the member `EventName` which can be one of the names shown in the preceding table.

Both methods in the interface com.sun.star.document.XEventBroadcaster can cause problems in scripting languages if the object that implements this interface also implements com.sun.star.lang.XComponent, because it has two very similar methods:

```plaintext
[oneway] void addEventListener( [in] ::com::sun::star::lang::XEventListener Listener );
[oneway] void removeEventListener( [in] ::com::sun::star::lang::XEventListener Listener );
```
Unfortunately this applies to all OpenOffice.org documents.

In C++ and Java this is no problem, because the complete signature of a method, including the arguments, is used to identify it.

In OpenOffice.org Basic, the fully qualified name including the interface can be used from version 1.1.0:

```vbnet
Sub RegisterListener
    oListener = CreateUnoListener( "DocumentListener_","com.sun.star.document.XEventListener"
)  
    ThisComponent.com_sun_star_document_XEventBroadcaster_addEventListener( oListener )
End Sub

Sub DocumentListener_notifyEvent( o as object )
    IF o.EventName = "OnPrepareUnload" THEN         print o.Source.URL   ENDIF
end sub

Sub DocumentListener_disposing() End Sub
```

But the OLE automation bridge, and possibly other scripting language bindings, are unable to distinguish between both `addEventListener()` and `removeEventListener()` methods based on the method signature and must be told which interface you want to use.

You must use the core reflection to get access to either method. The following code shows an example in VBScript, which registers a document event listener at the current document.

```vbnet
set xContext = objServiceManager.getPropertyValue( "DefaultContext" ) set xCoreReflection = xContext.getValueByName( "/singletons/com.sun.starreflection.theCoreReflection" ) set xClass = xCoreReflection.forName( "com.sun.star.document.XEventBroadcaster" ) set xMethod = xClass.getMethod( "addEventListener" )

dim invokeargs(0) invokeargs(0) = myListener set value = objServiceManager.Bridge_GetValueObject() call value.InitInOutParam("[]any", invokeargs) call xMethod.invoke( objDocument, value )
```

The C++ code below uses OLE Automation. Two helper functions are provided that help to execute UNO operations.

```cpp
// helper function to execute UNO operations via IDispatch
HRESULT ExecuteFunc( IDispatch* idispUnoObject,
                     OLECHAR* sFuncName,
                     CComVariant* params,
                     unsigned int count,
                     CComVariant* pResult )
{
    if( !idispUnoObject )
        return E_FAIL;
```
DISPID id;
HRESULT hr = idispUnoObject->GetIDsOfNames( IID_NULL, &sFuncName, 1,
LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT, &id);
if( !SUCCEEDED( hr ) ) return hr;

DISPPARAMS dispparams = { params, 0, count, 0};

// DEBUG
EXCEPINFO myInfo;
return idispUnoObject->Invoke( id, IID_NULL,LOCALE_USER_DEFAULT,
DISPATCH_METHOD,
    &dispparams, pResult, &myInfo, 0);
}
// helper function to execute UNO methods that return interfaces
HRESULT GetIDispByFunc( IDispatch* idispUnoObject,
    OLECHAR* sFuncName,
    CComVariant* params,
    unsigned int count,
    CComPtr<IDispatch>& pdispResult )
{
    if( !idispUnoObject )
        return E_FAIL;

    CComVariant result;
    HRESULT hr = ExecuteFunc( idispUnoObject, sFuncName, params, count, &result );
    if( !SUCCEEDED( hr ) ) return hr;

    if( result.vt != VT_DISPATCH || result.pdispVal == NULL )
        return E_FAIL;

    pdispResult = CComPtr<IDispatch>( result.pdispVal );
    return S_OK;
}
// it's assumed that pServiceManager (by creating it as a COM object),
pDocument (f.e. by loading it)
// and pListener (the listener we want to add) are passed as parameters
HRESULT AddDocumentEventListener(
    CComPtr<IDispatch> pServiceManager, CComPtr<IDispatch> pDocument,
    CComPtr<IDispatch> pListener)
{
    CComPtr<IDispatch> pdispContext;
    hr = GetIDispByFunc( pServiceManager, L"getPropertyValue",
        &CComVariant( L"DefaultContext" ), 1,
        pdispContext );
    if( !SUCCEEDED( hr ) ) return hr;

    CComPtr<IDispatch> pdispCoreReflection;
    hr = GetIDispByFunc( pdispContext,
        L"getValueByName",
        &CComVariant( L"/singletons/com.sun.star.reflection.
theCoreReflection" ),
Another way to react to document events is to bind a macro to it - a process called event binding. From OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 you can also use scripts in other languages, provided that a corresponding scripting framework implementation is present.

All document objects in OpenOffice.org support event binding through an interface.
com.sun.star.document.XEventsSupplier. This interface has only one method:

::com::sun::star::container::XNameReplace getEvents();

This method gives access to a container of event bindings. The container is represented by a com.sun.star.container.XNameReplace interface that, together with the methods of its base interfaces, offers the following methods:

void replaceByName( [in] string aName, [in] any aElement );
any getName( [in] string aName );
sequence< string > getElementNames();
boolean hasByName( [in] string aName );
type getElementType();
boolean hasElements();

Each container element represents an event binding. By default, all bindings are empty. The element names are the event names shown in the preceding table. In addition, there are document type-specific events. The method getElementNames() yields all possible events that are supported by the object and hasByName() checks for the existence of a particular event.

For every supported event name you can use getName() to query for the current event binding or replaceByName() to set a new one. Both methods may throw a com.sun.star.container.NoSuchElementException exception if an unsupported event name is used.

The type of an event binding, which is wrapped in the any returned by getName(), is a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue that describes the event binding.

**PropertyValue structs in the event binding description**

*EventType*
string. Can assume the values "StarBasic" or "Script". The event type "Script" describes the location as URL. The event type "StarBasic" is provided for compatibility reasons and describes the location of the macro through the properties Library and MacroName, in addition to URL.

*Script*
string. Available for the event types Script and StarBasic. Describes the location of the macro/script routine which is bound. For the URL property, a command URL is expected (see Using the Dispatch Framework). OpenOffice.org will execute this command when the event occurs.

For the event type StarBasic, the URL uses the macro: protocol. For the event type Script, other protocols are possible, especially the script: protocol.

The macro protocol has two forms:
macro:///<Library>.<Module>.<Method(args)>
macro://./<Library>.<Module>.<Method(args)>
The first form points to a method in the global basic storage, while the second one points to a method embedded in the current document. <Library>.<Module>.<Method(args)> represent the
names of the library, the module and the method. Currently, for args
only string arguments (separated by comma) are possible. If no args
exist, empty brackets must be used, because the brackets are part of
the scheme. An example URL could look like:
\texttt{macro:///MyLib.MyModule.MyMethod(foo,bar)}
The exact form of the script: command URL protocol depends on the
installed scripting module. They will be available later as additional
components for OpenOffice.org 1.1.0.

| Library | string. Deprecated. Available for EventType "StarBasic". Can assume
the values "application" or empty string for the global basic storage,
and "document" for the document where the code is embedded. |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| MacroName | string. Deprecated. Available for EventType "StarBasic". Describes
the macro location as <Library>.<MyModule>.<MyMethod>. |

\textbf{Note} – In OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 all properties (URL, Library, MacroName) will be
returned for event bindings of type StarBasic, regardless if the binding was created
with a URL property only or with the Library and MacroName property. The internal
implementation does the necessary conversion. Older versions of OpenOffice.org
always returned only Library and MacroName, even if the binding was created with the
URL property.

In OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 there is another important extension in the area of document
events and event bindings. This version has a new service
\texttt{com.sun.star.frame.GlobalEventBroadcaster} that offers the same document-event-
related functionality as described previously (interfaces
\texttt{com.sun.star.document.XEventBroadcaster},
\texttt{com.sun.star.document.XEventsSupplier}), but it allows you to register for events that
happen in any document and also allows you to set bindings for all documents that
are stored in the global UI configuration of OpenOffice.org. Using this services frees
you from registering at every single document that has been created or loaded.

Though a potential listener registers for event notifications at this global service and
not at any document itself, the received event source in the event notification is the
document, not the \texttt{GlobalEventBroadcaster}. The reason for this is that usually a
listener contains code that works on the document, so it needs a reference to it.

The service \texttt{com.sun.star.frame.GlobalEventBroadcaster} also supports two more
events that do not occur in any document but are useful for working with document
events:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global Event Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\textbf{OnStartApp} Application has been started</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| \textbf{OnCloseApp} Application is going to be closed. This event is fired after all
documents have been closed and nobody objected to the shutdown. |
The event source in the notifications is NULL (empty).

All event bindings can be seen or set in the OpenOffice.org UI in the **Tools - Configure** dialog on the **Events** page. Two radio buttons on the right side of the dialog toggle between OpenOffice.org and **Document** binding. In OpenOffice.org 1.1.0, you can still only bind to OpenOffice.org Basic macros in the dialog. Bindings to script: URLs can only be set using the API, but the dialog is at least able to display them. If, in OpenOffice.org 1.1.0, a global and a document binding are set for the same event, first the global and then the document binding is executed. With older versions, only the document binding was executed, and the global binding was only executed if no document binding was set.

**Path Organization**

The path settings service is the central service that manages the paths of OpenOffice.org. Almost every component inside OpenOffice.org uses one or more of the paths to access its resources located on the file system.

Users can customize most of the paths in OpenOffice.org by choosing **Tools – Options – OpenOffice.org – Paths**.

**Path Settings**

The com.sun.star.util.PathSettings service supports a number of properties which store the OpenOffice.org predefined paths. There are two different groups of properties. One group stores only a single path and the other group stores two or more paths - separated by a semicolon.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addin</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory that contains spreadsheet add-ins which use the old add-in API.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AutoCorrect</td>
<td>Multi path</td>
<td>Specifies the directories that contain the settings for the AutoCorrect dialog.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AutoText</td>
<td>Multi path</td>
<td>Specifies the directories that contain the AutoText modules.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backup</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory for storing automatic backup copies of documents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Multi path</td>
<td>Specifies the location of the Basic files that are used by the AutoPilots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Path Setting</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bitmap</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory that contains the external icons for the toolbars.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Config</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the location of the configuration files. This property is not visible in the OpenOffice.org path options dialog and cannot be changed by users.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dictionary</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the location of the OpenOffice.org dictionaries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favorite</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory that contains the saved folder bookmarks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filter</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory where the filters are stored.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gallery</td>
<td>Multi path</td>
<td>Specifies the directories that contain the Gallery database and multimedia files.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphic</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory that is displayed when the dialog for opening a graphic or for saving a new graphic is called.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the location of the Office help files.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linguistic</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory where the spellcheck files are stored.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory where the modules are stored.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palette</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the location of the palette files that contain user-defined colors and patterns (*.SOB and *.SOF).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plugin</td>
<td>Multi path</td>
<td>Specifies the directories where the Plugins are stored.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory where mail and news files as well as other information (for example, about FTP Server) are stored. This property is not visible in the OpenOffice.org path options dialog and cannot be changed by users.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temp</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory for the office temp-files.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Template</td>
<td>Multi path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory for the OpenOffice.org document templates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UIConfig</td>
<td>Multi path</td>
<td>Specifies the location of global directories when looking for user interface configuration files. The user interface configuration is merged with the user settings that are stored in the directory specified by UserConfig.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UserConfig</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory that contains the user settings, including the user interface configuration files for menus, toolbars, accelerators and status bars.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UserDictionary</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the directory for the custom dictionaries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work</td>
<td>Single path</td>
<td>Specifies the location of the work folder. This path can be modified according to the user's needs and...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
can be seen in the Open or Save dialog.

Configuration

The path settings service uses the group Path in the `org.openoffice.Office.Common` branch to read and store paths. The Current and Default groups in the share layer of the configuration branch store the path settings properties. The Current group initialize the properties of the path settings service during startup. If the user activates the Default button in the path options dialog, the Default group values are copied to the current ones.

Note – The configuration branch separates the paths of a property with a colon (:), whereas the path settings service separates multiple paths with a semicolon (;).

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<oor:component-schema oor:name="Common" oor:package="org.openoffice.Office"
xmns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
  <component>
    <group oor:name="Path">
      <group oor:name="Current">
        <prop oor:name="OfficeInstall" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value/>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="OfficeInstallURL" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value/>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Addin" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value>$(progpath)/addin</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="AutoCorrect" oor:type="oor:string-list">
          <value oor:separator=":">$(insturl)/share/autocorr:$
          (userurl)/autocorr</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="AutoText" oor:type="oor:string-list">
          <value oor:separator=":">$(insturl)/share/autotext/$(vlang):$ (userurl)/autotext</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Backup" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value>$(userurl)/backup</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Basic" oor:type="oor:string-list">
          <value oor:separator=":">$(insturl)/share/basic:$ (userurl)/basic</value>
        </prop>
      </group>
      <group oor:name="Default">
        <prop oor:name="OfficeInstall" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value></value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="OfficeInstallURL" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value></value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Addin" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value></value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="AutoCorrect" oor:type="oor:string-list">
          <value oor:separator=":"></value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="AutoText" oor:type="oor:string-list">
          <value oor:separator=":"></value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Backup" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value></value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Basic" oor:type="oor:string-list">
          <value oor:separator=":"></value>
        </prop>
      </group>
    </group>
  </component>
</oor:component-schema>
```
<value>${work}</value>
</prop>
</group>
<group oor:name="Default">
  <prop oor:name="Addin" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${protopath}/addin</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="AutoCorrect" oor:type="oor:string-list">
    <value oor:separator=":">${insturl}/share/autocorr:${userurl}/autocorr</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="AutoText" oor:type="oor:string-list">
    <value oor:separator=":">${insturl}/share/autotext/${vlang}:${userurl}/autotext</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Backup" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${userurl}/backup</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Basic" oor:type="oor:string-list">
    <value oor:separator=":">${insturl}/share/basic:${userurl}/basic</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Bitmap" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${insturl}/share/config/symbol</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Config" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${insturl}/share/config</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Dictionary" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${insturl}/share/wordbook/${vlang}</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Favorite" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${userurl}/config/folders</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Filter" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${protopath}/filter</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Gallery" oor:type="oor:string-list">
    <value oor:separator=":">${insturl}/share/gallery:${userurl}/gallery</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Graphic" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${insturl}/share/gallery</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Help" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${instpath}/help</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Linguistic" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${insturl}/share/dict</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Module" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${protopath}</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="Palette" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>${userurl}/config</value>
  </prop>
</group>
Accessing Path Settings

The path settings service is a one-instance service that supports the com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet, com.sun.star.beans.XFastPropertySet and com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet interfaces for access to the properties.

The service can be created using the service manager of OpenOffice.org and the service name com.sun.star.util.PathSettings. The following example creates the path settings service.

```java
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.uno.Exception;
import com.sun.star.uno.XInterface;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet

XPropertySet createPathSettings() {
    // Obtain Process Service Manager.
    XMultiServiceFactory xServiceFactory = ...

    // Create Path settings service. Needs to be done only once per process.
```
The main interface of the path settings service is com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet. You can retrieve and write properties with this interface. It also supports getting information about the properties themselves.

- com::sun::star::beans::XPropertySetInfo getPropertySetInfo();

  The path settings service returns an XPropertySetInfo interface where more information about the path properties can be retrieved. The information includes the name of the property, a handle for faster access with XFastPropertySet, the type of the property value and attribute values.

- void setPropertyValue( [in] string aPropertyName, [in] any aValue );

  This function can set the path properties to a new value. The path settings service expects that a value of type string is provided. The string must be a correctly encoded file URL. If the path property supports multiple paths, each path must be separated by a semicolon (;). Path variables are also allowed, so long as they can be resolved to a valid file URL.

- any getPropertyValue( [in] string PropertyName );

  This function retrieves the value of a path property. The property name must be provided and the path is returned. The path settings service always returns the path as a file URL. If the property value includes multiple paths, each path is separated by a semicolon (;).

**Note** – The path settings service always provides property values as file URLs. Properties which are marked as multi path (see table above) use a semicolon (;) as a separator for the different paths. The service also expects that a new value for a path property is provided as a file URL or has a preceding path variable, otherwise a com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException is thrown.

The illustration below shows how the path settings, path substitution, and configuration service work together to read or write path properties.
Warning – Keep in mind that the paths managed by the path settings service are vital for almost all of the functions in OpenOffice.org. Entering a wrong path can result in minor malfunctions or break the complete OpenOffice.org installation. Although the path settings service performs a validity check on the provided URL, this cannot prevent all problems.

The following code example uses the path settings service to retrieve and set the path properties.

```java
import com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver;
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue;
import com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException;

/* Provides example code how to access and use the path settings service. */
public class PathSettingsTest extends java.lang.Object {
    /*
    * List of predefined path variables supported by the path settings service.
    */
    private static String[] predefinedPathProperties = {
        "Addin",
        "AutoCorrect",
        "AutoText",
    }
```
Path Settings

"Backup",
"Basic",
"Bitmap",
"Config",
"Dictionary",
"Favorite",
"Filter",
"Gallery",
"Graphic",
"Help",
"Linguistic",
"Module",
"Palette",
"Plugin",
"Storage",
"Temp",
"Template",
"UIConfig",
"UserConfig",
"UserDictionary",
"Work"

};

/*
 * @param args the command line arguments
 */
public static void main(String[] args) {
    try {
        // connect
        XComponentContext xLocalContext =
            com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.createInitialComponentCon

text(null);
        XMultiComponentFactory xLocalServiceManager =
            xLocalContext.getServiceManager();
        Object urlResolver =
            xLocalServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
                "com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xLocalContext );
        XUnoUrlResolver xUnoUrlResolver = (XUnoUrlResolver)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XUnoUrlResolver.class, urlResolver );
        Object initialObject = xUnoUrlResolver.resolve(  
            "uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2083;urp;StarOffice.ServiceM

tanager" );
        XPropertySet xPropertySet =
            (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(  
                XPropertySet.class, initialObject);
        Object context =
            xPropertySet.getPropertyValue("DefaultContext");
        xRemoteContext = (XComponentContext)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(  
            XComponentContext.class, context);
        xRemoteServiceManager = xRemoteContext.getServiceManager();
    }

xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
    "com.sun.star.comp.framework.PathSettings",
    xRemoteContext );

    xPathSettingsService = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XPropertySet.class, pathSubst);

    /* Work with path settings */
    workWithPathSettings( xPathSettingsService );
}

    catch (java.lang.Exception e){
        e.printStackTrace();
    }

    finally {
        System.exit(0);
    }

    */
    * Retrieve and set path properties from path settings service
    * @param xPathSettingsService the path settings service
    */
    public static void workWithPathSettings(XPropertySet
            xPathSettingsService) {
        if (xPathSettingsService != null) {
            for (int i=0; i<predefinedPathProperties.length; i++) {
                try {
                    /* Retrieve values for path properties from path
                     settings service*/
                    Object aValue =
                        xPathSettingsService.getPropertyValue(predefinedPathProperties[i]);
                    // getPropertyValue returns an Object, you have to cast
                    // it to type that you need
                    String aPath = (String)aValue;
                    System.out.println("Property=\"" +
                            predefinedPathProperties[i] + " Path=\"" + aPath);
                }

                catch (com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException e) {
                    System.out.println("UnknownPropertyException has been
                            thrown accessing \""+predefinedPathProperties[i]);
                }

                catch (com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException e) {
                    System.out.println("WrappedTargetException has been
                            thrown accessing \""+predefinedPathProperties[i]);
                }
            }

            // Try to modify the work path property. After running this
            example
            // you should see the new value of "My Documents" in the path
            options
            // tab page, accessible via "Tools - Options - OpenOffice.org -
            Paths".
            // If you want to revert the changes, you can also do it with
            the path tab page.
            try {
                xPathSettingsService.setPropertyValue("Work", "$(temp)");
                String aValue =
                    (String)xPathSettingsService.getPropertyValue("Work");
            }
Path Variables

Path variables are used as placeholders for system-dependent paths or parts of paths which are only known during the runtime of OpenOffice.org. The path substitution service com.sun.star.util.PathSubstitution- which manages all path variables of OpenOffice.org - checks the runtime environment during startup and sets the values of the path variables. The path substitution service supports a number of predefined path variables. They provide information about important paths that OpenOffice.org currently uses. They are implemented as read-only values and cannot be changed.

OpenOffice.org is a multi-platform solution that runs on different file systems. Obviously users want to have a single user configuration on all workstations across all platforms in a networked installation. For example, a user wants to use both the Windows and Unix version of OpenOffice.org. The home directory and the working directory are located on a central file server that uses Samba to provide access for Windows systems. The user only wants to have one user installation for both systems, so that individual settings only need to be specified once.

The path settings service described in Path Settings utilizes the path substitution service. In the configuration of OpenOffice.org, path variables describe the path settings, and these variables can be substituted by platform-specific paths during startup. That way, path substitution gives users the power to apply path settings only once, while the system takes care of the necessary platform-dependent and environment adaptations.
The illustration below shows how a path variable can resolve the path problem that arises when you use the same user directory on different platforms.

Path variables solve problems in heterogeneous environments

The following sections describe predefined variables, how to define your own variables, and how to resolve path variables with respect to paths in your programs.

Predefined Variables

The path substitution service supports a number of predefined path variables. They provide information about the paths that OpenOffice.org currently uses. They are implemented as read-only values and cannot be modified.

The predefined path variables can be separated into three distinct groups. The first group of variables specifies a single path, the second group specifies a list of paths that are separated by the shell or operating system dependent character, and the third group specifies only a part of a path.

All predefined variable names are case insensitive, as opposed to the user-defined variables that are described below.

**Predefined variables supported by service com.sun.star.util.PathSubstitution**

$\{\text{home}\}$  
Single path  
The absolute path to the home directory of the current user. Under Windows this depends on the specific versions: usually the $\langle\text{drive}\rangle:\text{Documents and Settings}\langle\text{username}\rangle\text{Application Data}$ under Windows 2000/XP and $\langle\text{drive}\rangle:\text{Windows}\text{Profiles}\langle\text{username}\rangle\text{Application Data}$ under Windows NT and Win9x, ME with
Predefined Variables

multi user support. Windows 9x and ME without multi-user support <drive>:\Windows\Application Data.

$(inst) Single path The absolute installation path of OpenOffice.org. Normally the share and program folders are located inside the installation folder. The $(instpath) and $(insturl) variables are aliases to $(inst) - they are included for downward compatibility and should not be used.

$(prog) Single path The absolute path of the program folder of OpenOffice.org. Normally the executable and the shared libraries are located in this folder. The $(progpath) and $(progurl) variables are aliases to $(prog) - they are supported for downward compatibility and should not be used.

$(temp) Single path The absolute path of the current temporary directory used by OpenOffice.org.

$(user) Single path The absolute path to the user installation folder of OpenOffice.org. The $(userpath) and $(userurl) variables are aliases to $(user) - they are supported for downward compatibility and should not be used.

$(work) Single path The absolute path of the working directory of the user. Under Windows this is the My Documents folder. Under Unix this is the home directory of the user.

$(path) List of paths The value of the PATH environment variable of the OpenOffice.org process. The single paths are separated by a ';' character independent of the system.

$(lang) Part of a path The country code used by OpenOffice.org, see the table Mapping ISO 639/3166 to $(lang) below for examples.

$(langid) Part of a path The language identifier used by OpenOffice.org. An identifier is composed of a primary language identifier and a sublanguage identifier such as 0x0009=English (primary language identifier), 0x0409=English US (composed language code). The language identifier is based on the Microsoft language identifiers, for further information please see:

Table of Language Identifiers http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/en-
The values of $(lang)$, $(langid)$ and $(vlang)$ are based on the property ooLocale in the configuration branch org.openoffice.Setup/L10N, that is normally located in the share directory. This property follows the ISO 639-1/ISO3166 standards that define identification codes for languages and countries. The ooLocale property is written by the setup application during installation time. The following are examples of table Mapping ISO 639/3166 to $(vlang)$:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISO 639-1</th>
<th>ISO 3166</th>
<th>$(lang)$</th>
<th>$(vlang)$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ar</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>arabic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ca</td>
<td>AD</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>catalan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ca</td>
<td>ES</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>catalan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cs</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>czech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cz</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>czech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>da</td>
<td>DK</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>danish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>de</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>german</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>greek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>en</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>english</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>en</td>
<td>GB</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>english_uk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>es</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fi</td>
<td>FI</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>finnish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fr</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>french</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>he</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>hebrew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hu</td>
<td>HU</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>hungarian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>it</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>italian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ja</td>
<td>JP</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>japanese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ko</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>korean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nb</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>norwegian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nl</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>dutch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nn</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>norwegian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>no</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>norwegian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pl</td>
<td>PL</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>polish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt</td>
<td>BR</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>portuguese_brazilian</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Custom Path Variables

Syntax

The path substitution service supports the definition and usage of user-defined path variables. The variable names must use this syntax:

\[
\text{variable ::= } "\$(" \text{letter } \{ \text{letter } | \text{digit } \} \)"
\]

\[
\text{letter ::= } "A"-"Z" | "a"-"z"
\]

\[
\text{digit ::= } "0"-"9"
\]

The user-defined variables must be defined in the configuration branch \text{org.openoffice.Office.Substitution}. OpenOffice.org employs a rule-based system to evaluate which definition of a user-defined variable is chosen. The following sections describe the different parts of this rule-based system and the configuration settings that are required for defining new path variables.

Environment Values

To bind a specific value to a user-defined path variable, the path substitution service uses environment values. The path substitution service chooses a variable definition based on the values of these environment parameters. The following table describes which parameters can be used:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environment parameters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Host</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This value can be a host name or an IP address, depending on the network configuration (DNS server available). A host name is case insensitive and can also use the asterisk (*) wildcard to represent match zero or more characters.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
YPDomain
The yellow pages domain or NIS domain. The value is case insensitive and can use the asterisk (*) wildcard to represent match zero or more characters.

DNSDomain
The domain name service. The value is case insensitive and can use the asterisk (*) wildcard to represent match zero or more characters.

NTDomain
Windows NT domain. The value is case insensitive and can use the asterisk (*) wildcard to represent match zero or more characters.

OS
The operating system parameter supports the following values:
- WINDOWS (all windows versions including Win9x, WinME, and WinXP)
- UNIX (includes LINUX and SOLARIS)
- SOLARIS
- LINUX

Rules
The user can define the mapping of environment parameter values to variable values. Each definition is called a rule and all rules for a particular variable are the rule set. You can only have one environment parameter value for each rule.

The following example rules specify that the user-defined variable called devdoc is bound to the directory \s:/develop/documentation if OpenOffice.org is running under Windows. The second rule binds devdoc to /net/develop/documentation if OpenOffice.org is running under Solaris.

Variable name=devdoc Environment parameter=OS
Value=file:///s:/develop/documentation

Variable name=devdoc Environment parameter=SOLARIS
Value=file:///net/develop/documentation

Analyzing User-Defined Rules
OpenOffice.org uses matching rules to find the active rule inside a provided rule set.

1. Tries to match with the Host environment parameter. If more than one rule matches - this can be possible if you use the asterisk (*) wildcard character - the first matching rule is applied.
2. Tries to match with the different Domain parameters. There is no predefined order for the domain parameters - the first matching rule is applied.

3. Try to match with the OS parameter. The specialized values have a higher priority than generic ones, for example, LINUX has a higher priority than UNIX.

The illustration below shows the analyzing and matching of user-defined rules.

Process of the rule set analyzing

The analyzing and matching process is done whenever a rule set has changed. Afterwards the values of the user-defined path variables are set and can be retrieved using the interface com.sun.star.util.XStringSubstitution.

Configuration

The path substitution service uses the `org.openoffice.Office.Substitution` configuration branch for the rule set definitions, which adhere to this schema:
The SharePoint set is the root container that store the definition of the different user-defined path variables. The SharePoint set uses nodes of type SharePoint which defines a single user-defined path variable.

Properties of the SharePoint set nodes

- **oor:component-data** String. The name of the user-defined path variable. It must be unique inside the SharePoints set. The name must meet the requirements for path variable names, see Path Variables. The preceding characters "$(" and the succeeding ")" must be omitted, for example, the node string for the path variable $(devdoc) must be devdoc.

A SharePoint set is a container for the different rules, called SharePointMapping in the configuration.

Properties of the SharePointMapping group

- **oor:component-data** String - must be unique inside the SharePoint set, but with no additional meaning for user-defined path variables. Use a consecutive numbering scheme - even numbers are permitted.
- **Directory** String - must be set and contain a valid and encoded file URL that represents the value of the user-defined path variable for the rule.
- **Environment** Group - contains a set of properties that define the environment parameter that this rule must match. You can only use one environment in a rule.
The operating system. The following values are supported:

- **WINDOWS** = Matches all Windows OS from Win 98 and higher.
- **LINUX** = Matches all supported Linux systems.
- **SOLARIS** = Matches all supported Solaris systems.
- **UNIX** = Matches all supported Unix systems (Linux, Solaris)

The host name or IP address. The name or address can include the asterisk (*) wildcard to match with zero or more characters. For example, dev*.local.de refers to all systems where the host name starts with "dev" and ends with ".local.de"

The domain name service. The value is case insensitive and can use the asterisk (*) wildcard for zero or more characters.

The yellow pages domain or NIS domain. The value is case insensitive and can use the asterisk (*) wildcard for zero or more characters.

Windows NT domain. The value is case insensitive and can use the asterisk (*) wildcard for zero or more characters.

The following example uses two rules to map a Windows and Unix specific path to the user-defined path variable *MyDocuments*.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<oor:component-data oor:name="Substitution"
 oor:context="org.openoffice.Office"
 xsi:schemaLocation="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry component-update.xsd"
 xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
 xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
 xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
 <node oor:name="SharePoints">
  <node oor:name="MyDocuments" oor:op="replace">
   <node oor:name="1" oor:op="replace">
    <prop oor:name="Directory"><value>file:///H:/documents</value></prop>
   </node>
   <node oor:name="Environment">
    <prop oor:name="OS"><value>Windows</value></prop>
   </node>
  </node>
  <node oor:name="2" oor:op="replace">
   <prop oor:name="Directory"><value>file:///net/home/user/documents</value></prop>
   <prop oor:name="Environment">
    </prop>
  </node>
 </node>
</oor:component-data>
```
Resolving Path Variables

This section explains how to use the OpenOffice.org implementation of the path substitution service. The following code snippet creates a path substitution service.

```java
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.uno.Exception;
import com.sun.star.uno.XInterface;
import com.sun.star.util.XStringSubstitution

XStringSubstitution createPathSubstitution() {
    // Obtain Process Service Manager.
    XMultiServiceFactory xServiceFactory = ...
    // Create Path Substitution. This needs to be done only once per process.
    XInterface xPathSubst;
    try {
        xPathSubst = xServiceFactory.createInstance(
            "com.sun.star.util.PathSubstitution" );
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
    }
    if (xPathSubst != null)
        return (XStringSubstitution)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XStringSubstitution.class, xPathSubst );
    else
        return null;
}
```

The service is implemented as a one-instance service and supports the interface com.sun.star.util.XStringSubstitution. The interface has three methods:

```java
string substituteVariables( [in] string aText, [in] boolean bSubstRequired )
string reSubstituteVariables( [in] string aText )
string getSubstituteVariableValue( [in] string variable )
```
The method `substituteVariables()` returns a string where all known variables are replaced by their value. Unknown variables are not replaced. The argument `bSubstRequired` can be used to indicate that the client needs a full substitution - otherwise the function fails and throws a `com.sun.star.container.NoSuchElementException`. For example: 

```
$(inst)/share/autotext/$(vlang)
```

could be substituted to

```
file:///c:/OpenOffice.org1.0.2/share/autotext/english.
```

The method `reSubstituteVariables()` returns a string where parts of the provided path `aText` are replaced by variables that represent this part of the path. If a matching variable is not found, the path is not modified.

The predefined variable `$(path)` is not used for substitution. Instead, it is a placeholder for the path environment variable does not have a static value during runtime. The path variables `$(lang)`, `$(langid)` and `$(vlang)`, which represent a directory or a filename in a path, only match inside or at the end of a provided path. For example: `english` is not replaced by `$(vlang)`, whereas `file:///c:/english` is replaced by `file:///c:/$(vlang)`.

The method `getSubstituteVariableValue()` returns the current value of the provided path variable as a predefined or a user-defined value. If an unknown variable name is provided, a `com.sun.star.container.NoSuchElementException` is thrown. The argument variable can be provided with preceding "$(" and succeeding ")" or without them. So both `$(work)` and `work` can be used.

This code example shows how to access, substitute, and resubstitute path variables by means of the OpenOffice.org API.

```java
import com.sun.star.bridge.XUnoUrlResolver;
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue;
import com.sun.star.util.XStringSubstitution;
import com.sun.star.frame.TerminationVetoException;
import com.sun.star.frame.XTerminateListener;

/*
 * Provides example code how to access and use the
 * path substitution service.
 */
public class PathSubstitutionTest extends java.lang.Object {

    /*
     * List of predefined path variables supported by
     * the path substitution service.
     */
    private static String[] predefinedPathVariables = {
        "$(home)","$(inst)","$(prog)","$(temp)","$(user)",
```
"$(work)","$(path)","$(lang)","$(langid)","$(vlang)"
};

/*
 * @param args the command line arguments
 */
public static void main(String[] args) {
    XComponentContext xRemoteContext = null;
    XMultiComponentFactory xRemoteServiceManager = null;
    XStringSubstitution xPathSubstService = null;
    try {
        // connect
        XComponentContext xLocalContext =
            com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.createInitialComponentContext(null);
        XMultiComponentFactory xLocalServiceManager =
            xLocalContext.getServiceManager();
        Object urlResolver =
            xLocalServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
                "com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver", xLocalContext );
        XUnoUrlResolver xUnoUrlResolver = (XUnoUrlResolver)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XUnoUrlResolver.class, urlResolver );
        Object initialObject = xUnoUrlResolver.resolve(
            "uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2083;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager" );
        XPropertySet xPropertySet =
            (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XPropertySet.class, initialObject );
        Object context =
            xPropertySet.getPropertyValue("DefaultContext");
        xRemoteContext = (XComponentContext)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XComponentContext.class, context);
        xRemoteServiceManager = xRemoteContext.getServiceManager();
        Object pathSubst =
            xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
                "com.sun.star.comp.framework.PathSubstitution",
                xRemoteContext );
        xPathSubstService =
            (XStringSubstitution)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XStringSubstitution.class, pathSubst );
        /* Work with path variables */
        workWithPathVariables( xPathSubstService );
    } catch (java.lang.Exception e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    } finally {
        System.exit(0);
    }
}

/*
 * Retrieve, resubstitute path variables
* @param xPathSubstService the path substitution service */
public static void workWithPathVariables( XStringSubstitution
xPathSubstService )
{
    if ( xPathSubstService != null ) {
        for ( int i=0; i<predefinedPathVariables.length; i++ ) {
            try {
                /* Retrieve values for predefined path variables */
                String aPath =
                xPathSubstService.getSubstituteVariableValue(
                    predefinedPathVariables[i] );
                System.out.println( "Variable=" +
                predefinedPathVariables[i] +
                " Path=" + aPath );

                /* Check resubstitute */
                String aValue =
                xPathSubstService.reSubstituteVariables( aPath );
                System.out.println( "Path=" + aPath +
                " Variable=" + aValue );
            }
            catch ( com.sun.star.container.NoSuchElementException e) {
                System.out.println( "NoSuchElementException has been
                thrown accessing" + predefinedPathVariables[i]);
            }
        }
    }
}
login in once and access several protected network services.

The best known SSO is the Kerberos network authentication protocol (see `rfc1510`). Kerberos functionality is commonly accessed through the Generic Security Service Application Program Interface (GSS-API, see `rfc2743`). Central to GSS-API is the concept of a security context, which is the "state of trust" that is initiated when a client (also known as source or initiator) identifies itself to a network service (also known as target or acceptor). If mutual authentication is supported, then the service can also authenticate itself to the client. To establish a security context, security tokens are exchanged, processed, and verified between the client and the service. The client always initiates this exchange. Once established, a security context can be used to encrypt or decrypt subsequent client-service communications.

The OpenOffice.org SSO API is based on GSS-API. The SSO API supports the creation of security contexts on the client and the service side as well as the generation of the security tokens that are required for the exchange to complete the security context based authentication. The SSO API does not support the actual exchange of security tokens or the encryption or decryption of client-service communications in an established security context.

OpenOffice.org implements SSO in two different ways to authenticate with an LDAP server for configuration purposes. The first is Kerberos based and the second is a simple non-standard "cached username/password" SSO. The latter is provided as a fallback to support scenarios where no Kerberos server is available.

### Implementing the OpenOffice.org SSO API

Implementing the OpenOffice.org SSO API involves creating security context instances (see `XSSOInitiatorContext` and `XSSOAcceptorContext` below) and using these instances to create and process security tokens. All of the OpenOffice.org SSO interfaces are available from the `::com::sun::star::auth` namespace. The major interfaces are shown in Illustration 7.22 and described below.

#### XSSOManagerFactory

Represents the starting point for interaction with the SSO API. This interface is responsible for providing `XSSOManager` (described below) instances based on the user's configured security mechanism e.g. "KERBEROS".
The SSO Password Cache

When you implement the SSO API, you may require access to user passwords, especially if you are relying on a preexisting underlying security mechanism. If you do not know how to gain such access, you can use the OpenOffice.org SSO password cache. This cache provides basic support for maintaining a list of user name or password entries. Individual entries have a default lifetime corresponding to a single user session, but can optionally exist for multiple sessions. Support is provided for adding, retrieving, and deleting cache entries. Only one entry per user name can exist in the cache at any time. If you add an entry for an existing user name, the new entry replaces the original entry. The SSO password cache is represented by a single interface, namely the XSSOPasswordCache interface, available in the 
::com::sun::star::auth namespace.

XSSOManager

This interface is responsible for the creation of unestablished security contexts for clients (XSSOInitiatorContext) and services (XSSOAcceptorContext). An XSSOManager instance "supports" a single security mechanism, that is, the context instances that are created by an XSSOManager instance only interact with a single security mechanism implementation.

XSSOInitiatorContext

This interface represents a client-side security context that is unestablished when it is created. A single method, init(), is provided so that you can create an initial client-side security token that can be delivered to the relevant service and for processing or validating returned service-side security tokens (if mutual authentication is supported). The expected sequence of events for this client-side security context is:

- The client calls init(), passes NULL as the parameter, receives an appropriate client-side security token in return.
- The client sends the security token to the relevant service.
- If the service successfully processes this token, the client is authenticated.
- If mutual authentication is not supported, the client-side authentication sequence is now complete.
- If mutual authentication is supported, the service sends a service-side security
token to the client.

- The client calls `init()` a second time and passes the returned service-side security token as a parameter. If the token is successfully passed, the service is authenticated.

### XSSOAcceptorContext

This interface represents a service-side security context that is not established when it is created. A single method, `accept()`, is provided and is responsible for processing an initial client-side security token. If mutual authentication is supported, the method also generates a service-side security token for the client. The expected sequence of events for this service-side security context is:

- The service receives the client-side security token.
- The service calls `accept()`, passes the client-side security token as a parameter, and if successful, the client is authenticated.
- If mutual authentication is not supported, the service-side authentication sequence is now complete.
- If mutual authentication is supported, `accept()` returns a non-zero length service-side security token.
- The service sends the service-side security token to the client to authenticate the service.
Major Interfaces of the OpenOffice.org SSO

The following example is a sample usage of the OpenOffice.org SSO API that provides the authenticate() method of the fictitious client-side `MySSO` class. For simplicity, assume that `MySSO` has the following members:

- **mSourceName** identifies a client-side user that needs to authenticate to a network service.
- **mTargetName** identifies the service to which the user needs to authenticate.
- **mTargetHost** identifies the network host where the service of interest is running.

```cpp
namespace auth = ::com::sun::star::auth;
namespace lang = ::com::sun::star::lang;
namespace uno = ::com::sun::star::uno;

void MySSO::authenticate(void) {
    static const rtl::OUString kSSOService(
        RTL_CONSTASCII_USTRINGPARAM("com.sun.star.auth.SSOManagerFactory"));
    uno::Reference< lang::XMultiServiceFactory > theServiceFactory =
        ::comphelper::getProcessServiceFactory();

    // Create an SSO Manager Factory.
    uno::Reference< auth::XSSOManagerFactory > theSSOFactory(;
        theServiceFactory->createInstance(kSSOService), uno::UNO_QUERY);

    if (!theSSOFactory.is()) {
        // Handle error: SSO Manager Factory not available.
    }
}
```
throw;
}

// Ask the SSO Manager Factory for an SSO Manager.
uno::Reference<auth::XSSOManager> theSSOManager =
    theSSOFactory->getSSOManager();
if (!theSSOManager.is()) {
    throw;
}

// Ask the SSO Manager to create an unestablished client/initiator side
// security context based on user name, service name and service host.
uno::Reference<auth::XSSOInitiatorContext> theInitiatorContext =
    theSSOManager->createInitiatorContext(mSourceName, mTargetName,
mTargetHost);

    // Now create the client side security token to send to the service.
    uno::Sequence<sal_Int8> theClientToken = theInitiatorContext-
>init(NULL);

    // The client should now send 'theClientToken' to the service.
    // If mutual authentication is supported, the service will return a
    // service
    // side security token.
    uno::Sequence<sal_Int8> theServerToken = ''sendToken(theClientToken);''
    if (theInitiatorContext->getMutual()) {
        theInitiatorContext->init(theServerToken);
    }
}
Text Documents

In the OpenOffice.org API, a text document is a document model which is able to handle text contents. A document in our context is a product of work that can be stored and printed to make the result of the work a permanent resource. By model we mean data that forms the basis of a document and is organized in a manner that allows working with the data independently from their visual representation in a graphical user interface.

It is important to understand that developers have to work with the model directly, when they want to change it through the OpenOffice.org API. The model has a controller object which enables developers to manipulate the visual presentation of the document in the user interface. But the controller is not used to change a document. The controller serves two purposes.

- The controller interacts with the user interface for movement, such as moving the visible text cursor, flipping through screen pages or changing the zoom factor.
- The second purpose is getting information about the current view status, such as the current selection, the current page, the total page count or the line count. Automatic page or line breaks are not really part of the document data, but rather something that is needed in a certain presentation of the document.

Keeping the difference between model and controller in mind, we will now discuss the parts of a text document model in the OpenOffice.org API.

The text document model in the OpenOffice.org API has five major architectural areas, cf. Illustration 1 below. The five areas are:

- text
- service manager (document internal)
The core of the text document model is the text. It consists of character strings organized in paragraphs and other text contents. The usage of text will be discussed in Working with Text Documents.

The service manager of the document model creates all text contents for the model, except for the paragraphs. Note that the document service manager is different from the main service manager that is used when connecting to the office. Each document model has its own service manager, so that the services can be adapted to the document when required. Examples for text contents created by the text document service manager are text tables, text fields, drawing shapes, text frames or graphic objects. The service manager is asked for a text content, then you insert it into the text.

Afterwards, the majority of these text contents in a text can be retrieved from the model using text content suppliers. The exception are drawing shapes. They can be found on the DrawPage, which is discussed below.

Above the text lies the DrawPage. It is used for drawing contents. Imagine it as a transparent layer with contents that can affect the text under the layer, for instance by forcing it to wrap around contents on the DrawPage. However, text can also wrap through DrawPage contents, so the similarity is limited.

Finally, there are services that allow for document wide styling and structuring of the text. Among them are style family suppliers for paragraphs, characters, pages and numbering patterns, and suppliers for line and outline numbering.

Besides these five architectural areas, there are a number of aspects covering the document character of our model: It is printable, storable, modifiable, it can be refreshed, its contents are able to be searched and replaced and it supplies general information about itself. These aspects are shown at the lower right of the illustration.
Finally, the controller provides access to the graphical user interface for the model and has knowledge about the current view status in the user interface, cf. the upper left of the diagram above.

The usage of text is discussed in the section Working with Text Documents.

Example: Fields in a Template

All following code samples are contained in TextDocuments.java. This file is located in the Samples folder that comes with the resources for the developer's manual.

The examples use the environment from chapter First Steps, for instance, connecting using the getRemoteServiceManager() method.

We want to use a template file containing text fields and bookmarks and insert text into the fields and at the cursor position. The suitable template file TextTemplateWithUserFields.odt lies in the Samples folder, as well. Edit the path to this file below before running the sample.
The first step is to load the file as a template, so that OpenOffice.org creates a new, untitled document. As in the chapter First Steps, we have to connect, get the Desktop object, query its XComponentLoader interface and call loadComponentFromUrl(). This time we tell OpenOffice.org how it should load the file. The key for loading parameters is the sequence of PropertyValue structs passed to loadComponentFromUrl(). The appropriate PropertyValue name is AsTemplate and we have to set AsTemplate to true.

```java
/** Load a document as template */
protected XComponent newDocComponentFromTemplate(String loadUrl) throws java.lang.Exception {
    // get the remote service manager
    mxRemoteServiceManager = this.getRemoteServiceManager(unoUrl);
    // retrieve the Desktop object, we need its XComponentLoader
    Object desktop = mxRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
        "com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", mxRemoteContext);
    XComponentLoader xComponentLoader = (XComponentLoader)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XComponentLoader.class, desktop);

    // define load properties according to
com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor
    // the boolean property AsTemplate tells the office to create a new
document
    // from the given file
    PropertyValue[] loadProps = new PropertyValue[1];
    loadProps[0] = new PropertyValue();
    loadProps[0].Name = "AsTemplate";
    loadProps[0].Value = new Boolean(true);
    // load
    return xComponentLoader.loadComponentFromURL(loadUrl, "_blank", 0,
    loadProps);
}
```

Now that we are able to load a text document as template, we will open an existing template file that contains five text fields and a bookmark. We want to demonstrate how to insert text at predefined positions in a document.

Text fields and bookmarks are supplied by the appropriate XTextFieldsSupplier and XBookmarksSupplier interfaces. Their fully qualified names are com.sun.star.text.XTextFieldsSupplier and com.sun.star.text.XBookmarksSupplier.

The XTextFieldsSupplier provides collections of text fields in our text. We use document variable fields for our purpose, which are com.sun.star.text.textfield.User services. All User fields have a field master that holds the actual content of the variable. Therefore, the TextFields collection, as well as the FieldMasters are required for our example. We get the field masters for the five fields by name and set their Content property. Finally, we refresh the text fields so that they reflect the changes made to the field masters.

The XBookmarksSupplier returns all bookmarks in our document. The collection of
bookmarks is a com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess, so that the bookmarks are retrieved by name. Every object in a text supports the interface XTextContent that has a method getAnchor(). The anchor is the text range an object takes up, so getAnchor() retrieves is an XTextRange. From the chapter First Steps, a com.sun.star.text.XTextRange allows setting the string of a text range. Our bookmark is a text content and therefore must support XTextContent. Inserting text at a bookmark position is straightforward: get the anchor of the bookmark and set its string.

```java
/** Sample for use of templates
   This sample uses the file TextTemplateWithUserFields.odt from the Samples folder.
   The file contains a number of User text fields (Variables - User) and a bookmark
   which we use to fill in various values */
protected void templateExample() throws java.lang.Exception {
    // create a small hashtable that simulates a rowset with columns
    Hashtable recipient = new Hashtable();
    recipient.put("Company", "Manatee Books");
    recipient.put("Contact", "Rod Martin");
    recipient.put("ZIP", "34567");
    recipient.put("City", "Fort Lauderdale");
    recipient.put("State", "Florida");

    // load template with User fields and bookmark
    XComponent xTemplateComponent = newDocComponentFromTemplate(
        "file:///X:/devmanual/Samples/TextTemplateWithUserFields.odt");

    // get XTextFieldsSupplier and XBookmarksSupplier interfaces from
document component
    XTextFieldsSupplier xTextFieldsSupplier =
        (XTextFieldsSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XTextFieldsSupplier.class, xTemplateComponent);
    XBookmarksSupplier xBookmarksSupplier =
        (XBookmarksSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XBookmarksSupplier.class, xTemplateComponent);

    // access the TextFieldMasters collections
    XNameAccess xNamedFieldMasters =
        xTextFieldsSupplier.getTextFieldMasters();
    XEnumerationAccess xEnumeratedFields =
        xTextFieldsSupplier.getTextFields();

    // iterate over hashtable and insert values into field masters
    java.util.Enumeration keys = recipient.keys();
    while (keys.hasMoreElements()) {
        // get column name
        String key = (String)keys.nextElement();

        // access corresponding field master
        Object fieldMaster = xNamedFieldMasters.getByName(
            "com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.User." + key);

        // query the XPropertySet interface, we need to set the Content
        property
```
Example: Visible Cursor Position

As discussed earlier, the OpenOffice.org API distinguishes between the model and controller. This difference is mirrored in two different kinds of cursors in the API: model cursors and visible cursors. The visible cursor is also called view cursor.

The second example assumes that the user has selected a text range in a paragraph and expects something to happen at that cursor position. Setting character and paragraph styles, and retrieving the current page number at the view cursor position is demonstrated in the example. The view cursor will be transformed into a model cursor.

We want to work with the current document, therefore we cannot use `loadComponentFromURL()`. Rather, we ask the `com.sun.star.frame.Desktop` service for the current component. Once we have the current component - which is our document model - we go from the model to the controller and get the view cursor.

The view cursor has properties for the current character and paragraph style. The
Example: Visible Cursor Position

example uses built-in styles and sets the property CharStyleName to "Quotation" and ParaStyleName to "Quotations". Furthermore, the view cursor knows about the automatic page breaks. Because we are interested in the current page number, we get it from the view cursor and print it out.

The model cursor is much more powerful than the view cursor when it comes to possible movements and editing capabilities. We create a model cursor from the view cursor. Two steps are necessary: We ask the view cursor for its Text service, then we have the Text service create a model cursor based on the current cursor position. The model cursor knows where the paragraph ends, so we go there and insert a string.

```java
/** Sample for document changes, starting at the current view cursor position
   * The sample changes the paragraph style and the character style at the current
   * view cursor selection
   * Open the sample file ViewCursorExampleFile, select some text and run the example
   * The current paragraph will be set to Quotations paragraph style
   * The selected text will be set to Quotation character style
   */
private void viewCursorExample() throws java.lang.Exception {
    // get the remote service manager
    mxRemoteServiceManager = this.getRemoteServiceManager(unoUrl);

    // get the Desktop service
    Object desktop = mxRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
            "com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", mxRemoteContext);

    // query its XDesktop interface, we need the current component
    XDesktop xDesktop = (XDesktop)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XDesktop.class, desktop);

    // retrieve the current component and access the controller
    XComponent xCurrentComponent = xDesktop.getCurrentComponent();

    // get the XModel interface from the component
    XModel xModel = (XModel)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XModel.class, xCurrentComponent);

    // the model knows its controller
    XController xController = xModel.getCurrentController();

    // the controller gives us the TextViewCursor
    // query the viewcursor supplier interface
    XTextViewCursorSupplier xViewCursorSupplier =
            (XTextViewCursorSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                    XTextViewCursorSupplier.class, xController);

    // get the cursor
    XTextViewCursor xViewCursor = xViewCursorSupplier.getViewCursor();

    // query its XPropertySet interface, we want to set character and paragraph properties
    XPropertySet xCursorPropertySet =
            (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                    XPropertySet.class, xViewCursor);
```

Chapter 7 · Text Documents 799
Handling Text Document Files

Creating and Loading Text Documents

If a document in OpenOffice.org is required, begin by getting a com.sun.star.frame.Desktop service from the service manager. The desktop handles all document components in OpenOffice.org, among other things. It is discussed thoroughly in the chapter Office Development. Office documents are often called
components, because they support the com.sun.star.lang.XComponent interface. An XComponent is a UNO object that can be disposed explicitly and broadcast an event to other UNO objects when this happens.

The Desktop can load new and existing components from a URL. For this purpose it has a com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader interface that has one single method to load and instantiate components from a URL into a frame:

```java
com.sun.star.lang::XComponent loadComponentFromURL([in] string aURL,
[in] string aTargetFrameName,
[in] long nSearchFlags,
[in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aArgs );
```

The interesting parameters in our context are the URL that describes which resource should be loaded and the sequence of load arguments. For the target frame pass "_blank" and set the search flags to 0. In most cases you will not want to reuse an existing frame.

The URL can be a file: URL, a http: URL, an ftp: URL or a private: URL. Look up the correct URL format in the load URL box in the function bar of OpenOffice.org. For new writer documents, a special URL scheme has to be used. The scheme is "private:", followed by "factory" as hostname. The resource is "swriter" for OpenOffice.org writer documents. For a new writer document, use "private:factory/swriter".

The load arguments are described in com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor. The arguments AsTemplate and Hidden have properties that are boolean values. If AsTemplate is true, the loader creates a new untitled document from the given URL. If it is false, template files are loaded for editing. If Hidden is true, the document is loaded in the background. This is useful when generating a document in the background without letting the user observe; for example, it can be used to generate a document and print it without previewing. Office development describes other available options.

The section Example: Fields in a Template discusses a complete example about how loading works. The following snippet loads a document in hidden mode:

```java
// (the method getRemoteServiceManager is described in the chapter First Steps)
mxRemoteServiceManager = this.getRemoteServiceManager(unoUrl);

// retrieve the Desktop object, we need its XComponentLoader
Object desktop = mxRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext(
"com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", mxRemoteContext);

// query the XComponentLoader interface from the Desktop service
XComponentLoader xComponentLoader =
(XComponentLoader)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XComponentLoader.class, desktop);
```
// define load properties according to com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor
/* or simply create an empty array of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue structs:
   PropertyValue[] loadProps = new PropertyValue[0]
 */

// the boolean property Hidden tells the office to open a file in hidden mode
PropertyValue[] loadProps = new PropertyValue[1];
loadProps[0] = new PropertyValue();
loadProps[0].Name = "Hidden";
loadProps[0].Value = new Boolean(true);

// load
return xComponentLoader.loadComponentFromURL(loadUrl, "_blank", 0, loadProps);

## Saving Text Documents

### Storing

Documents are storable through their interface com.sun.star.frame.XStorable. This interface is discussed in detail in [Office Development](#). An XStorable implements these operations:

```java
boolean hasLocation()
string getLocation()
boolean isReadOnly()
void store()
void storeAsURL( [in] string aURL, sequence<com:sun:star:beans:PropertyValue > aArgs)
void storeToURL( [in] string aURL, sequence<com:sun:star:beans:PropertyValue > aArgs)
```

The method names are evident. The method `storeAsURL()` is the exact representation of **File - Save As**, that is, it changes the current document location. In contrast, `storeToURL()` stores a copy to a new location, but leaves the current document URL untouched.
Exporting

For exporting purposes, a filter name can be passed to `storeAsURL()` and `storeToURL()` that triggers an export to other file formats. The property needed for this purpose is the string argument `FilterName` that takes filter names defined in the configuration file:

```
<OfficePath>/share/config/registry/instance/org/openoffice/Office/TypeDetection.xml
```

In `TypeDetection.xml`, look for `<Filter/>` elements, their `cfg:name` attribute contains the needed strings for `FilterName`. The proper filter name for StarWriter 5.x is "StarWriter 5.0", and the export format "MS Word 97" is also popular. This is the element in `TypeDetection.xml` that describes the MS Word 97 filter:

```
<Filter cfg:name="MS Word 97">
  <Installed cfg:type="boolean">true</Installed>
  <UIName cfg:type="string" cfg:localized="true">
  </UIName>
  <Data cfg:type="string">3,writer_MS_Word_97,com.sun.star.text.TextDocument,,67,CWW8,0,,</Data>
</Filter>
```

The following method stores a document using this filter:

```
/** Store a document, using the MS Word 97/2000/XP Filter */
protected void storeDocComponent(XComponent xDoc, String storeUrl)
  throws java.lang.Exception {
    XStorable xStorable =
(XStorable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XStorable.class, xDoc);
    PropertyValue[] storeProps = new PropertyValue[1];
    storeProps[0] = new PropertyValue();
    storeProps[0].Name = "FilterName";
    storeProps[0].Value = "MS Word 97";
    xStorable.storeAsURL(storeUrl, storeProps);
}
```

If an empty array of `PropertyValue` structs is passed, the native `.odt` format of OpenOffice.org is used.
Printing is a common office functionality. The chapter *Office Development* provides in-depth information about it. The writer document implements the `com.sun.star.view.XPrintable` interface for printing. It consists of three methods:

```java
sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > getPrinter ()
void setPrinter ( [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aPrinter)
void print ( [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > xOptions)
```

The following code is used with a given document `xDoc` to print to the standard printer without any settings:

```java
// query the XPrintable interface from your document
XPrintable xPrintable = (XPrintable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPrintable.class, xDoc);

// create an empty printOptions array
PropertyValue[] printOpts = new PropertyValue[0];

// kick off printing
xPrintable.print(printOpts);
```

There are two groups of properties involved in general printing. The first one is used with `setPrinter()` and `getPrinter()` that controls the printer, and the second one is passed to `print()` and controls the print job.

`com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor` comprises the properties for the printer:

*Properties of com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor*

- `com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor:Name` (string) - Specifies the name of the printer queue to be used.
- `com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor:PaperFormat` (com.sun.star.view.PaperFormat) - Specifies a predefined paper size or if the paper size is a user-defined size.
- `com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor:PaperSize` (com.sun.star.awt.Size) - Specifies the size of the paper in 1/100
Printing Text Documents

- Indicates if the printer is busy.
- Indicates if the printer allows changes to PaperOrientation.
- Indicates if the printer allows changes to PaperFormat.
- Indicates if the printer allows changes to PaperSize.

Properties of com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions

- Specifies the number of copies to print.
- Specifies the name of a file to print to, if set.
- Advises the printer to collate the pages of the copies. If true, a whole document is printed prior to the next copy, otherwise the page copies are completed together.
- Specifies the pages to print in the same format as in the print dialog of the GUI (e.g. "1, 3, 4-7, 9-").
- Advises that the print job should be performed synchronously, i.e. wait until printing is complete before returning from printing. Otherwise return is immediate and following actions (e.g. closing the corresponding model) may fail until printing is complete. Default is false.

The following method uses PrinterDescriptor and PrintOptions to print to a special printer, and preselect the pages to print.

```java
protected void printDocComponent(XComponent xDoc) throws java.lang.Exception {
    XPrintable xPrintable = (XPrintable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPrintable.class, xDoc);
    PropertyValue[] printerDesc = new PropertyValue[1];
    printerDesc[0] = new PropertyValue();
    printerDesc[0].Name = "Name";
    printerDesc[0].Value = "5D PDF Creator";
    xPrintable.setPrinter(printerDesc);

    PropertyValue[] printOpts = new PropertyValue[1];
    printOpts[0] = new PropertyValue();
    printOpts[0].Name = "Pages";
    printOpts[0].Value = "1, 3, 4-7, 9-";
    printOpts[0].Name = "Wait";
    printOpts[0].Value = true;
    xPrintable.setPrintOptions(printOpts);
}
```
Printing Multiple Pages on one Page

The interface com.sun.star.text.XPagePrintable is used to print more than one document page to a single printed page.

```
sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > getPagePrintSettings()
void setPagePrintSettings( [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aSettings)
void printPages( [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > xOptions)
```

The first two methods `getPagePrintSettings()` and `setPagePrintSettings()` control the page printing. They use a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValues whose possible values are defined in com.sun.star.text.PagePrintSettings:

- **PageRows** (short - Number of rows in which document pages should appear on the output page.)
- **PageColumns** (short - Number of columns in which document pages should appear on the output page.)
- **LeftMargin** (long - Left margin on the output page.)
- **RightMargin** (long - Right margin on the output page.)
- **TopMargin** (long - Top margin on the output page.)
- **BottomMargin** (long - Bottom margin on the output page.)
- **HorMargin** (long - Margin between the columns on the output page.)
- **VertMargin** (long - Margin between the rows on the output page.)
- **IsLandscape** (boolean - Determines if the output page is in landscape format.)

The method `printPages()` prints the document according to the previous settings. The argument for the `printPages()` method may contain the `PrintOptions` as described in the section above (containing the properties `CopyCount`, `FileName`, `Collate` and `Pages`).
Working with Text Documents

Word Processing

The text model in the illustration below shows that working with text starts with the method `getText()` at the `XTextDocument` interface of the document model. It returns a `com.sun.star.text.Text` service that handles text in OpenOffice.org.

The Text service has two mandatory interfaces and no properties:

Service `com.sun.star.text.Text` (mandatory interfaces only)

The `XText` is used to edit a text, and `XEnumerationAccess` is used to iterate over text. The following sections discuss these aspects of the Text service.

Editing Text

As previously discussed in the introductory chapter First Steps, the interface `com.sun.star.text.XText` incorporates three interfaces: `XText`, `XSimpleText` and `XTextRange`. When working with an `XText`, you work with the string it contains, or you insert and remove contents other than strings, such as tables, text fields, and graphics.

Strings

The `XText` is handled as a whole. There are two possibilities if the text is handled as one string. The complete string can be set at once, or strings can be added at the beginning or end of the existing text. These are the appropriate methods used for that purpose:

```java
void setString( [in] string text) String getString()
```
Consider the following example:

```java
/** Setting the whole text of a document as one string */ protected void BodyTextExample() { // Body Text and TextDocument example try {
    // demonstrate simple text insertion mxDocText.setString("This is the new body text of the document.");
    // } catch (Exception e) { e.printStackTrace(System.out); }
}
```

Beginning and end of a text can be determined calling `getStart()` and `getEnd()`:

```java
com::sun::star::text::XTextRange getStart() com::sun::star::text::XTextRange getEnd()
```

The following example adds text using the start and end range of a text:

```java
/** Adding a string at the end or the beginning of text */ protected void TextRangeExample() { try {
    // Get a text range referring to the beginning of the text document XTextRange xStart = mxDocText.getStart(); // use setString to insert text at the beginning xStart.setString("This is text inserted at the beginning.

    // Get a text range referring to the end of the text document XTextRange xEnd = mxDocText.getEnd(); // use setString to insert text at the end xEnd.setString("This is text inserted at the end.

    } catch (Exception e) { e.printStackTrace(System.out); }
}
```

The above code is not very flexible. To gain flexibility, create a text cursor that is a movable text range. Note that such a text cursor is not visible in the user interface. The `XTextCursor` creates a cursor that works on the model immediately. The following methods can be used to get as many cursors as required:

```java
com::sun::star::text::XTextCursor createTextCursor()
com::sun::star::text::XTextCursor createTextCursorByRange (com::sun::star::text::XTextRange aTextPosition)
```

The text cursor travels through the text as a "collapsed" text range with identical start and end as a point in text, or it can expand while it moves to contain a target string. This is controlled with the methods of the `XTextCursor` interface:

```java

// controlling the collapsed status of the cursor void collapseToStart() void collapseToEnd() boolean isCollapsed()
```

In writer, a text cursor has three interfaces that inherit from `XTextCursor`: `com.sun.star.text.XWordCursor`, `com.sun.star.text.XSentenceCursor` and `com.sun.star.text.XParagraphCursor`. These interfaces introduce the following additional movements and status checks:

```java
```
boolean gotoNextSentence( [in] boolean Expand) boolean
gotoPreviousSentence( [in] boolean Expand) boolean gotoStartOfSentence( [in]
boolean Expand) boolean gotoEndOfSentence( [in] boolean Expand) boolean
isStartOfSentence() boolean isEndOfSentence()
boolean gotoStartOfParagraph( [in] boolean bExpand) boolean
gotoEndOfParagraph( [in] boolean bExpand) boolean gotoNextParagraph( [in]
boolean bExpand) boolean gotoPreviousParagraph( [in] boolean bExpand) boolean
isStartOfParagraph() boolean isEndOfParagraph()

Since XTextCursor inherits from XTextRange, a cursor is an XTextRange and
incorporates the methods of an XTextRange:

com::sun::star::text::XText getText() com::sun::star::text::XTextRange
getStart() com::sun::star::text::XTextRange getEnd() string getString() void
setString( [in] string aString)

The cursor can be told where it is required and the string content can be set later.
This does have a drawback. After setting the string, the inserted string is always
selected. That means further text can not be added without moving the cursor again.
Therefore the most flexible method to insert strings by means of a cursor is the
method insertString() in XText. It takes an XTextRange as the target range that is
replaced during insertion, a string to insert, and a boolean parameter that determines
if the inserted text should be absorbed by the cursor after it has been inserted. The
XTextRange could be any XTextRange. The XTextCursor is an XTextRange, so it is
used here:

void insertString( [in] com::sun::star::text::XTextRange xRange,
[in] string aString,
[in] boolean bAbsorb)

To insert text sequentially the bAbsorb parameter must be set to false, so that the
XTextRange collapses at the end of the inserted string after insertion. If bAbsorb is
true, the text range selects the new inserted string. The string that was selected by
the text range prior to insertion is deleted.

Consider the use of insertString() below:

```java
/** moving a text cursor, selecting text and overwriting it */
protected void TextCursorExample() {     try {         // First, get the XSentenceCursor interface of our text cursor         XSentenceCursor xSentenceCursor =
(XSentenceCursor)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSentenceCursor.class, mxDocCursor);

// Goto the next cursor, without selecting it
xSentenceCursor.gotoNextSentence(false);

// Get the XWordCursor interface of our text cursor
XWordCursor xWordCursor = (XWordCursor)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XWordCursor.class, mxDocCursor);

// Skip the first four words of this sentence and select the fifth
xWordCursor.gotoNextWord(false);         xWordCursor.gotoNextWord(false);
xWordCursor.gotoNextWord(false);         xWordCursor.gotoNextWord(false);
xWordCursor.gotoNextWord(true);

// Use the XSimpleText interface to insert a word at the current cursor
// location, over-writing // the current selection (the fifth word
selected above)
mxDocText.insertString(xWordCursor, "old ", true);
```
Text Contents Other Than Strings

Up to this point, we have discussed paragraphs made up of character strings. Text can also contain other objects besides character strings in paragraphs. They all support the interface com.sun.star.text.XTextContent. In fact, everything in texts must support XTextContent.

A text content is an object that is attached to a com.sun.star.text.XTextRange. The text range it is attached to is called the anchor of the text content.

All text contents mentioned below, starting with tables, support the service com.sun.star.text.TextContent. It includes the interface com.sun.star.text.XTextContent that inherits from the interface com.sun.star.lang.XComponent. The TextContent services may have the following properties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties of com.sun.star.text.TextContent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.TextContent:AnchorType</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.TextContent:AnchorTypes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.TextContent:TextWrap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The method dispose() of the XComponent interface deletes the object from the document. Since a text content is an XComponent, com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener can be added or removed with the methods addEventListener() and
removeEventListener(). These methods are called back when the object is disposed. Other events are not supported.

The method `getAnchor()` at the `XTextContent` interface returns a text range which reflects the text position where the object is located. This method may return a void object, for example, for text frames that are bound to a page. The method `getAnchor()` is used in situations where an `XTextRange` is required. For instance, placeholder fields (com.sun.star.text.textfield.JumpEdit) can be filled out using their `getAnchor()` method. Also, you can get a bookmark, retrieve its `XTextRange` from `getAnchor()` and use it to insert a string at the bookmark position.

The method `attach()` is an intended method to attach text contents to the document, but it is currently not implemented.

All text contents - *including* paragraphs - can be created by the service manager of the document. They are created using the factory methods `createInstance()` or `createInstanceWithArguments()` at the `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory` interface of the document.

All text contents - *except* for paragraphs - can be inserted into text using the `com.sun.star.text.XText` method `insertTextContent()`. They can be removed by calling `removeTextContent()`. Starting with the section *Tables*, there are code samples showing the usage of the document service manager with `insertTextContent()`.

```java
void insertTextContent( [in] com::sun::star::text::XTextRange xRange, [in] com::sun::star::text::XTextContent xContent, boolean bAbsorb); void
removeTextContent( [in] com::sun::star::text::XTextContent xContent)
```

Paragraphs cannot be inserted by `insertTextContent()`. Only the interface `XRelativeTextContentInsert` can insert paragraphs. A paragraph created by the service manager can be used for creating a new paragraph before or after a table, or a text section positioned at the beginning or the end of page where no cursor can insert new paragraphs. Cf. the section *Inserting a Paragraph where no Cursor can go below*.

## Control Characters

We have used Java escape sequences for paragraph breaks, but this may not be feasible in every language. Moreover, OpenOffice.org supports a number of control characters that can be used. There are two possibilities: use the method

```java
void insertControlCharacter( [in] com::sun::star::text::XTextRange xRange, [in] short nControlCharacter, [in] boolean
```
to insert single control characters as defined in the constants group
com.sun.star.text.ControlCharacter, or use the corresponding unicode character from
the following list as escape sequence in a string if your language supports it. In Java,
Unicode characters in strings can be incorporated using the \uHHHH escape
sequence, where H represents a hexadecimal digit.

- **PARAGRAPH_BREAK**
  Insert a paragraph break (UNICODE 0x000D).
- **LINEBREAK**
  Inserts a line break inside of the paragraph (UNICODE 0x000A).
- **HARD_HYPHEN**
  A character that appears like a dash, but prevents hyphenation at its position (UNICODE 0x2011).
- **SOFT_HYPHEN**
  Marks a preferred position for hyphenation (UNICODE 0x00AD).
- **HARD_SPACE**
  A character that appears like a space, but prevents hyphenation at this point (UNICODE 0x00A0).
- **APPEND_PARAGRAPH**
  A new paragraph is appended (no UNICODE for this function).

The section [Formatting](#) describes how page breaks are created by setting certain paragraph properties.

---

**Iterating over Text**

The second interface of com.sun.star.text.Text is XEnumerationAccess. A Text service enumerates all paragraphs in a text and returns objects which support com.sun.star.text.Paragraph. This includes tables, because writer sees tables as specialized paragraphs that support the com.sun.star.text.TextTable service.

Paragraphs also have an com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess of their own. They can enumerate every single text portion that they contain. A text portion is a text range containing a uniform piece of information that appears within the text flow. An ordinary paragraph, formatted in a uniform manner and containing nothing but a string, enumerates just a single text portion. In a paragraph that has specially formatted words or other contents, the text portion enumeration returns one com.sun.star.text.TextPortion service for each differently formatted string, and for every other text content. Text portions include the service com.sun.star.text.TextRange and have the properties listed below:

**Properties of com.sun.star.text.TextPortion**

- `com.sun.star.text.TextPortion::TextPortionType` - Contains the type of the text portion (see below).
com.sun.star.text.TextPortion:ControlCharacter short - Returns the control character if the text portion contains a control character as defined in com.sun.star.text.ControlCharacter.

com.sun.star.text.TextPortion:Bookmark com.sun.star.text.XTextContent. Contains the bookmark if the portion has TextPortionType="Bookmark".

com.sun.star.text.TextPortion:IsCollapsed boolean - Determines whether the portion is a point only.

com.sun.star.text.TextPortion:IsStart boolean - Determines whether the portion is a start portion if two portions are needed to include an object, that is, DocumentIndexMark.

Possible Values for TextPortionType are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TextPortionType (String)</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Text&quot;</td>
<td>a portion with mere string content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;TextContent&quot;</td>
<td>A text content supplied through the interface XContentEnumerationAccess.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Footnote&quot;</td>
<td>A footnote or an endnote.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;ControlCharacter&quot;</td>
<td>A control character.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;ReferenceMark&quot;</td>
<td>A reference mark.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;DocumentIndexMark&quot;</td>
<td>A document index mark.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Bookmark&quot;</td>
<td>A bookmark.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Redline&quot;</td>
<td>A redline portion which is a result of the change tracking feature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Ruby&quot;</td>
<td>A ruby attribute which is used in Asian text.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The text portion enumeration of a paragraph does not supply contents which do belong to the paragraph, but do not fuse together with the text flow. These could be text frames, graphic objects, embedded objects or drawing shapes anchored at the paragraph, characters or as character. The TextPortionType "TextContent" indicate if there is a content anchored at a character or as a character. If you have a TextContent portion type, you know that there are shape objects anchored at a character or as a character.

This last group of data contained in a text, Paragraphs and Text Portions in writer support the interface com.sun.star.container.XContentEnumerationAccess. This interface tells which text contents other than the text flow contents exist, and supplies them as an com.sun.star.container.XEnumeration:

```sequence< string > getAvailableServiceNames()
com::sun::star::container::XEnumeration createContentEnumeration{ [in] string```
The **XContentEnumerationAccess** of the paragraph lists the shape objects anchored at the paragraph while the **XContentEnumerationAccess** of a text portion lists the shape objects anchored at a character or as a character.

**Note** – Precisely the same enumerations are available for the current text cursor selection. The text cursor enumerates paragraphs, text portions and text contents just like the service com.sun.star.text.Text itself.

The enumeration access to text through paragraphs and text portions is used if every single paragraph in a text needs to be touched. The application area for this enumeration are export filters, that uses this enumeration to go over the whole document, writing out the paragraphs to the target file. The following code snippet centers all paragraphs in a text.

```java
/** This method demonstrates how to iterate over paragraphs */
protected void ParagraphExample () {   try {       // The service 'com.sun.star.text.Text' supports the XEnumerationAccess interface to provide an enumeration of the paragraphs contained by the text the service refers to.

       // Here, we access this interface
       XEnumerationAccess xParaAccess = (XEnumerationAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(             XEnumerationAccess.class, mxDocText);

       // Call the XEnumerationAccess's only method to access the actual Enumeration
       XEnumeration xParaEnum = xParaAccess.createEnumeration();

       // While there are paragraphs, do things to them
       while (xParaEnum.hasMoreElements()) {

           // Get a reference to the next paragraphs XServiceInfo interface. TextTables are also part of this enumeration access, so we ask the element if it is a TextTable, if it doesn't support the com.sun.star.text.TextTable service, then it is safe to assume that it really is a paragraph
           XServiceInfo xInfo = (XServiceInfo) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(             XServiceInfo.class, XEnumerationAccess.class, xParaEnum.nextElement());

           if (! xInfo.supportsService("com.sun.star.text.TextTable") ) { // Access the paragraph's property set...the properties in this property set are listed in:

               XPropertySet xSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(             XPropertySet.class, xInfo);

               // Set the justification to be center justified
               xSet.setPropertyValue("ParaAdjust", com.sun.star.style.ParagraphAdjust.CENTER);

           }   }   }   catch (Exception e) { e.printStackTrace (System.out);   }
```
Inserting a Paragraph where no Cursor can go

The service com.sun.star.text.Text has an optional interface com.sun.star.text.XRelativeTextContentInsert which is available in Text services in writer. The intention of this interface is to insert paragraphs in positions where no cursor or text portion can be located to use the `insertTextContent()` method. These situation occurs when text sections or text tables are at the start or end of the document, or if they follow each other directly.

```java
void insertTextContentBefore( [in] com::sun::star::text::XTextContent xNewContent,
                             [in] com::sun::star::text::XTextContent xSuccessor)  
void insertTextContentAfter( [in] com::sun::star::text::XTextContent xNewContent,
                            [in] com::sun::star::text::XTextContent xPredecessor)
```

The only supported text contents are com.sun.star.text.Paragraph as new content, and com.sun.star.text.TextSection and com.sun.star.text.TextTable as successor or predecessor.

Sorting Text

It is possible to sort text or the content of text tables.

Sorting of text is done by the text cursor that supports com.sun.star.util.XSortable. It contains two methods:

```java
sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > createSortDescriptor() void 
sort( [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > xDescriptor)
```

The method `createSortDescriptor()` returns a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue that provides the elements as described in the service com.sun.star.text.TextSortDescriptor.

The method `sort()` sorts the text that is selected by the cursor, by the given parameters.

Sorting of tables happens directly at the table service, which supports XSortable. Sorting is a common feature of OpenOffice.org and it is described in detail in Office Development.
Inserting Text Files

The text cursor in writer supports the interface com.sun.star.document.XDocumentInsertable which has a single method to insert a file at the current cursor position:

```java
void insertDocumentFromURL( [in] string aURL,
[in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aOptions)
```

Pass a URL and an empty sequence of PropertyValue structs. However, load properties could be used as described in com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor.

Auto Text

The auto text function can be used to organize reusable text passages. They allow storing text, including the formatting and all other contents in a text block collection to apply them later. Three services deal with auto text in OpenOffice.org:

- com.sun.star.text.AutoTextContainer specifies the entire collection of auto texts
- com.sun.star.text.AutoTextGroup describes a category of auto texts
- com.sun.star.text.AutoTextEntry is a single auto text.

```java
/** Insert an autotext at the current cursor position of given cursor mxDocCursor*/

// Get an XNameAccess interface to all auto text groups from the document
factory XNameAccess xContainer = (XNameAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XNameAccess.class,
mxFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.AutoTextContainer"));

// Get the autotext group Standard xGroup = (XAutoTextGroup)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(         XAutoTextGroup.class,
xContainer.getByName("Standard"));

// get the entry Best Wishes (BW) XAutoTextEntry xEntry =
(XAutoTextEntry)UnoRuntime.queryInterface (        XAutoTextEntry.class,
xGroup.getByName ("BW"));

// insert the modified autotext block at the cursor position
xEntry.applyTo(mxDocCursor);

/** Add a new autotext entry to the AutoTextContainer  */ // Select the last
paragraph in the document xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(true);

// Get the XAutoTextContainer interface of the AutoTextContainer service
XAutoTextContainer xAutoTextCont = (XAutoTextContainer)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(     XAutoTextContainer.class, xContainer );

// If the APIExampleGroup already exists, remove it so we can add a new one if
(xContainer.hasByName("APIExampleGroup"))
xAutoTextCont.removeByName ("APIExampleGroup" );

// Create a new auto-text group called APIExampleGroup XAutoTextGroup
xNewGroup = xAutoTextCont.insertNewByValue ( "APIExampleGroup" );
```
// Create and insert a new auto text entry containing the current cursor
selection XAutoTextEntry xNewEntry = xNewGroup.insertNewByName("NAE",
"New AutoTextEntry", xParaCursor);
  
// Get the XSimpleText and XText interfaces of the new autotext block
XSimpleText xSimpleText = (XSimpleText) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSimpleText.class, xNewEntry);
XText xText = (XText) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XText.class, xNewEntry);

// Insert a string at the beginning of the autotext block
xSimpleText.insertString(xText.getStart(), "This string was inserted using the API!

Some text for a new autotext block", false);

The current implementation forces the user to close the AutoTextEntry instance
when they are changed, so that the changes can take effect. However, the new
AutoText is not written to disk until the destructor of the AutoTextEntry instance
inside the writer is called. When this example has finished executing, the file on disk
correctly contains the complete text "This string was inserted using the
API!

Some text for a new autotext block", but there is no way in Java to call
the destructor. It is not clear when the garbage collector deletes the object and writes
the modifications to disk.

Formatting

A multitude of character, paragraph and other properties are available for text in
OpenOffice.org. However, the objects implemented in the writer do not provide
properties that support com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyChangeListener or
com.sun.star.beans.XVetoableChangeListener yet.

Character and paragraph properties are available in the following services:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services supporting Character and Paragraph Properties</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.TextCursor</td>
<td>If collapsed, the CharacterProperties refer to the position on the right hand side of the cursor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.Paragraph</td>
<td>In text tables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.TextPortion</td>
<td>The model offers a selected number of character properties which apply to the entire document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.TextTableCursor</td>
<td>These are: CharFontName, CharFontStyleName, CharFontFamily, CharFontCharSet,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.Shape</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.table.CellRange</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.TextDocument</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CharFontPitch and their Asian counterparts
CharFontStyleNameAsian, CharFontFamilyAsian,
CharFontCharSetAsian, CharFontPitchAsian.

The character properties are described in the services

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties describes common character properties for all
language zones and character properties in Western text. The following table
provides possible values.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties of com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFontName</td>
<td>string - This property specifies the name of the font in western text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFontStyleName</td>
<td>string - This property contains the name of the font style.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFontFamily</td>
<td>short - This property contains font family that is specified in com.sun.star.awt.FontFamily. Possible values are: DONTKNOWN, DECORATIVE, MODERN, ROMAN, SCRIPT, SWISS, and SYSTEM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFontCharSet</td>
<td>short - This property contains the text encoding of the font that is specified in com.sun.star.awt.CharSet. Possible values are: DONTKNOWN, ANSI MAC, IBMPC_437, IBMPC_850, IBMPC_860, IBMPC_861, IBMPC_863, IBMPC_865, and SYSTEM SYMBOL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFontPitch</td>
<td>short - This property contains the font pitch that is specified in com.sun.star.awt.FontPitch. The word font pitch refers to characters per inch, but the possible values are DONTKNOWN, FIXED and VARIABLE. VARIABLE points to the difference between proportional and unproportional fonts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharColor</td>
<td>long - This property contains the value of the text color in ARGB notation. ARGB has four bytes denoting alpha, red, green and blue. In hex notation, this can be used conveniently: 0xAARRGGBB. The AA (Alpha) can be 00 or left out.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharEscapement</td>
<td>[optional] short - Property which contains the relative value of the character height in...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharHeight</td>
<td>float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharUnderline</td>
<td>short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharWeight</td>
<td>float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharPosture</td>
<td>long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharAutoKerning</td>
<td>[optional] boolean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharBackColor</td>
<td>[optional] long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharBackTransparent</td>
<td>[optional] boolean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharCaseMap</td>
<td>[optional] short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharCrossedOut</td>
<td>[optional] boolean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFlash</td>
<td>[optional] boolean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharStrikeout</td>
<td>[optional] short</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharWordMode [optional] boolean - If this property is true, the underline and strike-through properties are not applied to white spaces.


com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharLocale
struct
com.sun.star.lang.Locale
. Contains the locale (language and country) of the characters.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharKeepTogether [optional] boolean - Property which marks a range of characters to prevent it from being broken into two lines.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharNoLineBreak [optional] boolean - Property which marks a range of characters to ignore a line break in this area.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharShadowed [optional] boolean - True if the characters are formatted and displayed with a shadow effect. (optional)

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFontType [optional] short - Property which specifies the fundamental technology of the font as specified in com.sun.star.awt.FontType. Possible values are DONTKNOW, RASTER, DEVICE, and SCALABLE.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharStyleName [optional] string - Specifies the name of the style of the font.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharContoured [optional] boolean - True if the characters are formatted and displayed with a contour effect.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharCombinelssOn [optional] boolean - True if text is formatted in two lines.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharCombinePrefix [optional] string - Contains the prefix string (usually parenthesis) before text that is formatted in two lines.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharCombineSuffix [optional] string - Contains the suffix string (usually parenthesis) after text that is formatted in two lines.


com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:RubyText [optional] string - Contains the text that is set as ruby.
com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:RubyAdjust  
[optional] short - Determines the adjustment of the ruby text as RubyAdjust.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:RubyCharStyleName  
[optional] string - Contains the name of the character style that is applied to RubyText (optional).

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:RubyIsAbove  
[optional] boolean - Determines whether the ruby text is printed above/left or below/right of the text (optional).

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharRotation  
[optional] short - Determines the rotation of a character in degree.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharRotationIsFitToLine  
[optional] short - Determines whether the text formatting tries to fit rotated text into the surrounded line height.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharScaleWidth  
[optional] short - Determines the percentage value of scaling of characters.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:HyperLinkURL  
[optional] string - contains the URL of a hyperlink if the URL is set.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:HyperLinkTarget  
[optional] string - contains the name of the target for a hyperlink if the target is set.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:HyperLinkName  
[optional] string - contains the name of the hyperlink if the name is set.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:VisitedCharStyleName  
[optional] string - Contains the character style name for visited hyperlinks.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:UnvisitedCharStyleName  
[optional] string - Contains the character style name for unvisited hyperlinks.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharEscapementHeight  
[optional] byte - This is the additional height used for subscript or superscript characters in units of percent. For subscript characters the value is negative and for superscript characters positive.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharNoHyphenation  
[optional] boolean - True if the word can be hyphenated at the character.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharUnderlineColor  
com.sun.star.util.Color - Gives the color of the underline for that character.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharUnderlineHasColor  
boolean - True if the CharUnderlineColor is used for an underline.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharStyleNames  
[optional] sequence<string> - specifies the names of the all styles applied to the font.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharHidden  
[optional] boolean - True if the characters are invisible.

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:TextUserDefinedAttributes  
com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer - This property stores xml attributes. They will be saved to and restored from automatic styles inside xml files.
com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian describes properties used in Asian text. All of these properties have a counterpart in CharacterProperties. They apply as soon as a text is recognized as Asian by the employed Unicode character subset.

**Properties of com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian**

- `com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian.CharHeightAsian` float - This value contains the height of the characters in point.
- `com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian.CharWeightAsian` float - This property contains the value of the font weight.
- `com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian.CharFontNameAsian` string - This property specifies the name of the font style.
- `com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian.CharFontStyleNameAsian` string - This property contains the name of the font style.
- `com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian.CharFontFamilyAsian` short - This property contains the font family that is specified in com.sun.star.awt.FontFamily.
- `com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian.CharFontCharSetAsian` short - This property contains the text encoding of the font that is specified in com.sun.star.awt.CharSet.

The complex properties com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesComplex refer to the same character settings as in CharacterPropertiesAsian, only they have the suffix "Complex" instead of "Asian".

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties comprises paragraph properties.

**Properties of com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties**

- `[optional] struct com.sun.star.style.LineSpacing` - Determines the line spacing of a paragraph.
- `com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties.ParaBackTransparent` [optional] boolean - This value is true if the paragraph background color is set to transparent.
- `com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties` [optional] string - Contains the value of
es:ParaBackGraphicURL

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaBackGraphicFilter

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaBackGraphicLocation

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaLastLineAdjust
com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaLeftMargin
com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaRightMargin
com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaTopMargin
com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaBottomMargin
com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaLineNumberOfCount

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaLineNumberStartValue
com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParasHyphenation
com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:PageDescName

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:PageNumberOfOffset

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:PageStyleName
com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaRegisterModeActive
com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaTabStops

A link for the background graphic of a paragraph.

[optional] string - Contains the name of the graphic filter for the background graphic of a paragraph.

[optional] long - Contains the value for the position of a background graphic according to com.sun.star.style.GraphicLocation.

short - Determines the adjustment of the last line.

[optional] boolean - Determines if single words are stretched.

long - Determines the left margin of the paragraph in 1/100 mm.

long - Determines the right margin of the paragraph in 1/100 mm.

long - Determines the top margin of the paragraph in 1/100 mm.

long - Determines the bottom margin of the paragraph in 1/100 mm.

[optional] boolean - Determines if the paragraph is included in the line numbering.

[optional] boolean - Contains the start value for the line numbering.

[optional] boolean - Prevents the paragraph from getting hyphenated.

[optional] string - If this property is set, it creates a page break before the paragraph it belongs to and assigns the value as the name of the new page style sheet to use.

[optional] short - If a page break property is set at a paragraph, this property contains the new value for the page number.

[optional] string - Contains the page style name.

[optional] boolean - Determines if the register mode is applied to a paragraph.

[optional] sequence <com.sun.star.style.TabStop>. Specifies the positions and kinds of the tab stops within this paragraph.
com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaStyleName
[optional] string - Contains the name of the current paragraph style.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:DropCapFormat
[optional] struct

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:DropCapWholeWord
[optional] boolean - Specifies if the property DropCapFormat is applied to the whole first word.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaKeepTogether
[optional] boolean - Setting this property to true prevents page or column breaks between this and the following paragraph.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaSplit
[optional] boolean - Setting this property to false prevents the paragraph from getting split into two pages or columns.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:NumberingLevel
[optional] short - Specifies the numbering level of the paragraph.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:NumberingRules
com.sun.star.container.XIndexReplace - Contains the numbering rules applied to this paragraph.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:NumberingStartValue
[optional] short - Specifies the start value for numbering if a new numbering starts at this paragraph.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParalsNumberingRestart
[optional] boolean - Determines if the numbering rules restart, counting at the current paragraph.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:NumberingStyleName
[optional] string - Specifies the name of the style for the numbering.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaOrphans
[optional] byte - Specifies the minimum number of lines of the paragraph that have to be at bottom of a page if the paragraph is spread over more than one page.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaWidows
[optional] byte - Specifies the minimum number of lines of the paragraph that have to be at top of a page if the paragraph is spread over more than one page.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties:ParaShadowFormat
[optional] struct

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphPropertiesAsian:ParalsHangingPunctuation
[optional] boolean - Determines if hanging punctuation is allowed.

esAsian:ParaIsCharacterDistance  
distance between Asian text, western text  
or complex text is set.  
[optional] boolean - Determines if the the  
rules for forbidden characters at the start or  
end of text lines are considered.

[optional] boolean - Determines if the forbidden characters at the start or  
end of text lines are considered.

Properties of com.sun.star.style.ParagraphPropertiesAsian:

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphPropertiesAsian:ParaIsHangingPunctuation  
[optional] boolean - Determines if hanging punctuation is allowed.

com.sun.star.style.ParagraphPropertiesAsian:ParaIsCharacterDistance  
[optional] boolean - Determines if a distance between Asian text, western text  
or complex text is set.

Objects supporting these properties support com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet, as well. To change the properties, use the method setPropertyValue().

```java
/** This snippet shows the necessary steps to set a property at the current position of a given text cursor mxDocCursor. */
// query the XPropertySet interface XPropertySet xCursorProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, mxDocCursor);  
// call setPropertyValue, passing in a Float object  
xCursorProps.setPropertyValue("CharWeight", new Float (com.sun.star.awt.FontWeight.BOLD));
```

The same procedure is used for all properties. The more complex properties are described here.

If a change of the page style is required the paragraph property PageDescName has to be set using an existing page style name. This forces a page break at the cursor position and the new inserted page uses the requested page style. The property PageNumberOffset has to be set to start with a new page count. If inserting an additional paragraph should be avoided, the cursor must be placed at the beginning of the first paragraph before inserting it.

If a page break (or a column break) without a change in the used style is required, the property BreakType is set using the values of com.sun.star.style.BreakType:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page break</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.BreakType</td>
<td>Page or column break as described in com.sun.star.style.BreakType. Possible values are NONE, COLUMN BEFORE,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COLUMN_AFTER, COLUMN_BOTH, PAGE_BEFORE, PAGE_AFTER, and PAGE_BOTH. Setting the property forces a page or column break at the current text cursor position, paragraph or text table.

The property ParaLineNumberCount is used to include a paragraph in the line numbering. The setting of the line numbering options is done using the property set provided by the com.sun.star.text.XLineNumberingProperties interface implemented at the text document model.

To create a hyperlink these properties are set at the current cursor position or the current [IDL:com.sun.star.text.Paragraph] service.

[BUG641+] Hyperlink properties are not specified for paragraphs in the API reference.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hyperlink Properties</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HyperLinkURL</td>
<td>string - Contains the URL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HyperLinkTarget</td>
<td>string - Contains the name of the target frame and can be left blank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HyperLinkName</td>
<td>string - The name of the hyperlink can be left blank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnvisitedCharStyleName</td>
<td>string - The names of the character styles used to emphasize visited or not visited links. If left blank, the default character styles Internet Link/Visited Internet Link are applied automatically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VisitedCharStyleName</td>
<td>Events attached to the hyperlink. The names of the events are OnClick, OnMouseOver, and OnMouseOut. Each returned event is a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue, with three elements named EventType, MacroName and Library. All elements contain string values. The EventType contains the value &quot;StarBasic&quot; for [PRODUCTNAME] Basic macros. The macro name contains the path to the macro, for example, Standard.Module1.Main. The library contains the name of the library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HyperLinkEvents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some properties are connected with each other. There may be side effects or dependencies between the following properties:

Interdependencies between Properties

ParaRightMargin, ParaLeftMargin, ParaFirstLineIndent, ParaIsAutoFirstLineIndent

ParaTopMargin, ParaBottomMargin
Navigating

Cursors

The text *model* cursor allows for free navigation over the model by character, words, sentences, or paragraphs. There can be several model cursors at the same time. Model cursor creation, movement and usage is discussed in the section [Word Processing](#). The text model cursors are com.sun.star.text.TextCursor services that are based on the interface com.sun.star.text.XTextCursor, which is based on com.sun.star.text.XTextRange.

The text view cursor enables the user to travel over the document in the view by
character, line, screen page and document page. There is only one text view cursor. Certain information about the current layout, such as the number of lines and page number must be retrieved at the view cursor. The chapter Text Document Controller below discusses the view cursor in detail. The text view cursor is a com.sun.star.text.TextViewCursor service that includes com.sun.star.text.TextLayoutCursor.

Locating Text Contents

The text document model has suppliers that yield all text contents in a document as collections. To find a particular text content, such as bookmarks or text fields, use the appropriate supplier interface. The following supplier interfaces are available at the model:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supplier interfaces</th>
<th>Methods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.XTextTablesSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.XTextFramesSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.sunstar.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.XTextGraphicObjectsSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.sunstar.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.XTextEmbeddedObjectsSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.sunstar.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.XTextFieldsSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.sunstar.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.XBookmarksSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.sunstar.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.XReferenceMarksSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.sunstar.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.XFootnotesSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.sunstar.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.XEndnotesSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.sunstar.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.XTextSectionsSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.sunstar.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.XDocumentIndexesSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.sunstar.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.document.XRedlinesSupplier</td>
<td>com.sun.sunstar.container.XNameAccess</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

828 OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009
Navigating

You can work with text content directly, set properties and use its interfaces, or find out where it is and do an action at the text content location in the text. To find out where a text content is located call the `getAnchor()` method at the interface `com.sun.star.text.XTextContent`, which every text content must support.

In addition, text contents located at the current text cursor position or the content where the cursor is currently located are provided in the `PropertySet` of the cursor. The corresponding cursor properties are:

- `DocumentIndexMark`
- `TextField`
- `ReferenceMark`
- `Footnote`
- `Endnote`
- `DocumentIndex`
- `TextTable`
- `TextFrame`
- `Cell`
- `TextSection`

Search and Replace

The writer model supports the interface `com.sun.star.util.XReplaceable` that inherits from the interface `com.sun.star.util.XSearchable` for searching and replacing in text. It contains the following methods:

```java
com::sun::star::util::XSearchDescriptor createSearchDescriptor()
com::sun::star::util::XReplaceDescriptor createReplaceDescriptor()
com::sun::star::uno::XInterface findFirst([in] com::sun::star::util::XSearchDescriptor xDesc)
com::sun::star::uno::XInterface findNext([in] com::sun::star::uno::XInterface xStartAt, [in] com::sun::star::util::XSearchDescriptor xDesc)
com::sun::star::uno::XInterface findAll([in] com::sun::star::util::XSearchDescriptor xDesc)
long replaceAll([in] com::sun::star::util::XSearchDescriptor xDesc)
```

To search or replace text, first create a descriptor service using `createSearchDescriptor()` or `createReplaceDescriptor()`. You receive a service that supports the interface `com.sun.star.util.XPropertyReplace` with methods to describe what you are searching for, what you want to replace with and what attributes you are looking for. It is described in detail below.

Pass in this descriptor to the methods `findFirst()`, `findNext()`, `findAll()` or
replaceAll().

The methods findFirst() and findNext() return a com.sun.star.uno.XInterface pointing to an object that contains the found item. If the search is not successful, a null reference to an XInterface is returned, that is, if you try to query other interfaces from it, null is returned. The method findAll() returns a com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess containing one or more com.sun.star.uno.XInterface pointing to the found text ranges or if they failed an empty interface. The method replaceAll() returns the number of replaced occurrences only.

XPropertyReplace

The interface com.sun.star.util.XPropertyReplace is required to describe your search. It is a powerful interface and inherits from XReplaceDescriptor, XSearchDescriptor and XPropertySet.

The target of your search is described by a string containing a search text or a style name using setSearchString(). Correspondingly, provide the text string or style name that should replace the found occurrence of the search target to the XReplaceDescriptor using setReplaceString(). Refine the search mode through the
Navigating properties included in the service `com.sun.star.util.SearchDescriptor`:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>SearchBackwards</code></td>
<td><code>boolean</code></td>
<td>Search backward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SearchCaseSensitive</code></td>
<td><code>boolean</code></td>
<td>Search is case sensitive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SearchRegularExpression</code></td>
<td><code>boolean</code></td>
<td>Search interpreting the search string as a regular expression.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SearchSimilarity</code></td>
<td><code>short</code></td>
<td>Use similarity search using the four following options:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SearchSimilarityAdd</code></td>
<td><code>short</code></td>
<td>Determines the number of characters the word in the document may be longer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SearchSimilarityExchange</code></td>
<td><code>short</code></td>
<td>Determines how many characters in the search term can be exchanged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SearchSimilarityRemove</code></td>
<td><code>short</code></td>
<td>Determines how many characters the word in the document may be shorter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SearchSimilarityRelax</code></td>
<td><code>boolean</code></td>
<td>If true, the values of added, exchanged, and removed characters are</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>combined The search term is then found if the word in the document can be</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>generated through any combination of these three conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SearchSimilarityRemove</code></td>
<td><code>boolean</code></td>
<td>Determines if the search and replace string should be interpreted as</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>paragraph style names. Note that the Display Name of the style has to be</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SearchWords</code></td>
<td><code>boolean</code></td>
<td>Determines if the search should find complete words only.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In `XPropertyReplace`, the methods to get and set search attributes, and replace attributes allow the attributes to search for to be defined and the attributes to insert instead of the existing attributes. All of these methods expect a sequence of `com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue` structs.

Any properties contained in the services `com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties`, `com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian` and `com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties` can be used for an attribute search. If `setValueSearch(false)` is used, OpenOffice.org checks if an attribute exists, whereas `setValueSearch(true)` finds specific attribute values. If only searching to see if an attribute exists at all, it is sufficient to pass a `PropertyValue` struct with the
The following code snippet replaces all occurrences of the text "random numbers" by the bold text "replaced numbers" in a given document \texttt{mxDoc}.

```java
XReplaceable xReplaceable = (XReplaceable) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XReplaceable.class, mxDoc); XReplaceDescriptor xRepDesc = xReplaceable.createReplaceDescriptor(); // set a string to search for xRepDesc.setSearchString("random numbers"); // set the string to be inserted xRepDesc.setReplaceString("replaced numbers"); // create an array of one property value for a CharWeight property PropertyValue[] aReplaceArgs = new PropertyValue[1]; // create PropertyValue struct aReplaceArgs[0] = new PropertyValue(); // CharWeight should be bold aReplaceArgs[0].Name = "CharWeight"; aReplaceArgs[0].Value = new Float(com.sun.star.awt.FontWeight.BOLD); // set our sequence with one property value as ReplaceAttribute XPropertyReplace xPropRepl = (XPropertyReplace) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertyReplace.class, xRepDesc); xPropRepl.setReplaceAttributes(aReplaceArgs); // replace long nResult = xReplaceable.replaceAll(xRepDesc);
```

### Tables

**Table Architecture**

OpenOffice.org text tables consist of rows, rows consist of one or more cells, and cells can contain text or rows. There is no logical concept of columns. From the API's perspective, a table acts as if it had columns, as long as there are no split or merged cells.

Cells in a row are counted alphabetically starting from A, where rows are counted numerically, starting from 1. This results in a cell-row addressing pattern, where the cell letter is denoted first (A-Zff.), followed by the row number (1ff.):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A1</th>
<th>B1</th>
<th>C1</th>
<th>D1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>B2</td>
<td>C2</td>
<td>D2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3</td>
<td>B3</td>
<td>C3</td>
<td>D3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4</td>
<td>B4</td>
<td>C4</td>
<td>D4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When a cell is split vertically, the new cell gets the letter of the former right-hand-side neighbor cell and the former neighbor cell gets the next letter in the alphabet.
Consider the example table below: B2 was split vertically, a new cell C2 is inserted and the former C2 became D2, D2 became E2, and so forth.

When cells are *merged* vertically, the resulting cell counts as one cell and gets one letter. The neighbor cell to the right gets the subsequent letter. B4 in the table below shows this. The former B4 and C4 have been merged, so the former D4 could become C4. The cell name D4 is no longer required.

As shown, there is no way to address a column C anymore, for the cells C1 to C4 no longer form a column:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>A1</th>
<th>B1</th>
<th></th>
<th>C1</th>
<th>D1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A2</td>
<td>B2 vertically split in two</td>
<td>C2 newly inserted</td>
<td>D2</td>
<td>E2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A3</td>
<td>B3</td>
<td></td>
<td>C3</td>
<td>D3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4</td>
<td>B4 merged with C4</td>
<td></td>
<td>C4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When cells are split horizontally, OpenOffice.org simply inserts as many rows into the cell as required.

In our example table, we continued by splitting C2 first horizontally and then vertically so that there is a range of four cells.

The writer treats the content of C2 as two rows and starts counting cells within rows. To address the new cells, it extends the original cell name C2 by new addresses following the cell-row pattern. The upper row gets row number 1 and the first cell in the row gets cell number 1, resulting in the cell address C2.1.1, where the latter 1 indicates the row and the former 1 indicates the first cell in the row. The right neighbor of C2.1.1 is C2.2.1. The subaddress 2.1 means the second cell in the first row.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>A1</th>
<th>B1</th>
<th></th>
<th>C1</th>
<th>D1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A2</td>
<td>B2 vertically split in two</td>
<td>C2.1.1</td>
<td>C2.2.1</td>
<td>D2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C2.1.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>C2.2.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A3</td>
<td>B3</td>
<td></td>
<td>C3</td>
<td>D3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4</td>
<td>B4 merged with C4</td>
<td></td>
<td>C4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The cell-row pattern is used for all further subaddressing as the cells are split and merged. The cell addresses can change radically depending on the table structure generated by OpenOffice.org. The next table shows what happens when E2 is merged with D3. The table is reorganized, so that it has three rows instead of four. The second row contains two cells, A2 and B2 (sic!). The cell A2 has two rows, as shown from the cell subaddresses: The upper row consists of four cells, namely A2.1.1 through A2.4.1, whereas the lower row consists of the three cells A2.1.2 through A2.3.2.

The cell range C2.1.1:C2.2.2 that was formerly contained in cell C2 is now in cell A2.3.1 that denotes the third cell in the first row of A2. Within the address of the cell A2.3.1, OpenOffice.org has started a new subaddressing level using the cell-row
Cell addresses can become complicated. The cell address can be looked up in the user interface. Set the GUI text cursor in the desired cell and observe the lower-right corner of the status bar in the text document.

Remember that there are only "columns" in a text table, as long as there are no split or merged cells.

Text tables support the service com.sun.star.text.TextTable, which includes the service com.sun.star.text.TextContent:

- Yields named table cells which are organized in rows and columns.

The service com.sun.star.text.TextTable offers access to table cells in two different ways:

- Yields named table cells which are organized in rows and columns.
Provides a table cursor to travel through the table cells and alter the cell properties.

These aspects are reflected in the interface com.sun.star.text.XTextTable which inherits from com.sun.star.text.XTextContent. It can be seen as a rectangular range of cells defined by numeric column indexes, as described by com.sun.star.table.XCellRange. This aspect makes text tables compatible with spreadsheet tables. Also, text tables have a name, can be sorted, charts can be based on them, and predefined formats can be applied to the tables. The latter aspects are covered by the interfaces com.sun.star.container.XNamed, com.sun.star.util.XSortable, com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray and com.sun.star.table.XAutoFormattable.

The usage of these interfaces and the properties of the TextTable service are discussed below.

## Named Table Cells in Rows, Columns and the Table Cursor

The interface XTextTable introduces the following methods to initialize a table, work with table cells, rows and columns, and create a table cursor:

```java
void initialize( [in] long nRows, [in] long nColumns)
sequence< string > getCellNames()  com::sun::star::table::XCell getCellByName( [in] string aCellName)
com::sun::star::table::XTableRows getRows()
com::sun::star::table::XTableColumns getColumns()
com::sun::star::text::XTextTableCursor createCursorByCellName( [in] string aCellName)
```

The method `initialize()` sets the number of rows and columns prior to inserting the table into the text. Non-initialized tables default to two rows and two columns.

The method `getCellNames()` returns a sequence of strings containing the names of all cells in the table in A1[.1.1] notation.

The method `getCellByName()` expects a cell name in A1[.1.1] notation, and returns a cell object that is a com.sun.star.table.XCell and a com.sun.star.text.XText. The advantage of `getCellByName()` is its ability to retrieve cells even in tables with split or merged cells.

The method `getRows()` returns a table row container supporting com.sun.star.table.XTableRows that is a com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess, and
introduces the following methods to insert an arbitrary number of table rows below a
given row index position and remove rows from a certain position:

```java
void insertByIndex ( [in] long nIndex, [in] long nCount) void removeByIndex
( [in] long nIndex, [in] long nCount)
```

The following table shows which XTableRows methods work under which circumstances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method in com.sun.star.table.XTableRows</th>
<th>In Simple Table</th>
<th>In Complex Table</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.container.XElementAccess:getElementType()</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.container.XElementAccess:hasElements()</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess:getByIndex()</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess:getCount()</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.table.XTableRows:insertByIndex()</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.table.XTableRows:removeByIndex()</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Every row returned by `getRows()` supports the service
`com.sun.star.text.TextTableRow`, that is, it is a `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet`which
features these properties:

**Properties of com.sun.star.text.TextTableRow**

- **com.sun.star.text.TextTableRow:BackColor**
  - long - Specifies the color of the background in 0xARRGGBB notation.
- **com.sun.star.text.TextTableRow:BackTransparent**
  - boolean - If true, the background color value in "BackColor" is not visible.
- **com.sun.star.text.TextTableRow:BackGraphicFilter**
  - string - Contains the URL of a background graphic.
- **com.sun.star.text.TextTableRow:BackGraphicLocation**
  - string - Contains the name of the file filter of a background graphic.
- **com.sun.star.text.TextTableRow:TableColumnSeparators**
  - Defines the column width and its merging behavior. It contains a sequence of `com.sun.star.text.TableColumnSeparator` structs with the fields `Position` and `isVisible`. The value of `Position` is relative to the table property `com.sun.star.text.TextTable:TableColumnRelativeSum`. `isVisible` refers to merged cells where the separator becomes invisible.
- **com.sun.star.text.TextTableRow:Height**
  - long - Contains the height of the table row.
- **com.sun.star.text.TextTableRow:IsAut**
  - boolean - If the value of this property is
0Height \text{true, the height of the table row depends on the content of the table cells.}

The method \text{getColumns()} is similar to \text{getRows()}, but restrictions apply. It returns a table column container supporting \text{com.sun.star.table.XTableColumns} that is a \text{com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess} and introduces the following methods to insert an arbitrary number of table columns behind a given column index position and remove columns from a certain position:

\begin{verbatim}
void insertByIndex( [in] long nIndex, [in] long nCount) void
removeByIndex( [in] long nIndex, [in] long nCount)
\end{verbatim}

The following table shows which \text{XTableColumns} methods work in which situation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methods in \text{com.sun.star.table.XTableColumns}</th>
<th>In Simple Table</th>
<th>In Complex Table</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\text{com.sun.star.container.XElementAccess:getElementType()}</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\text{com.sun.star.container.XElementAccess:hasElements()}</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\text{com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess:getByIndex()}</td>
<td>X (but returned object supports \text{XInterface} only)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\text{com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess:getCount()}</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\text{com.sun.star.table.XTableColumns:insertByIndex()}</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\text{com.sun.star.table.XTableColumns:removeByIndex()}</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The method \text{createCursorByCellName()} creates a text table cursor that can select a cell range in the table, merge or split cells, and read and write cell properties of the selected cell range. It is a \text{com.sun.star.text.TextTableCursor} service with the interfaces \text{com.sun.star.text.XTextTableCursor} and \text{com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet}.  

Chapter 7 · Text Documents
These are the methods contained in `XTextTableCursor`:

```java
string getRangeName()
boolean goLeft( [in] short nCount, [in] boolean bExpand)
boolean goRight( [in] short nCount, [in] boolean bExpand)
boolean goDown( [in] short nCount, [in] boolean bExpand)
void gotoStart( [in] boolean bExpand)
void gotoEnd( [in] boolean bExpand)
boolean gotoCellByName( [in] string aCellName, [in] boolean bExpand)
boolean mergeRange()
boolean splitRange( [in] short Count, [in] boolean Horizontal)
```

Traveling through the table calls the cursor's `goLeft()`, `goRight()`, `goUp()`, `goDown()`, `gotoStart()`, `gotoEnd()`, and `gotoCellByName()` methods, passing true to select cells on the way.

Once a cell range is selected, apply character and paragraph properties to the cells in the range as defined in the services `com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties`, `com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian`, `com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesComplex` and `com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties`. Moreover, split and merge cells using the text table cursor. An example is provided below.
Indexed Cells and Cell Ranges

The interface com.sun.star.table.XCellRange provides access to cells using their row and column index as position, and to create sub ranges of tables:

```java
com::sun::star::table::XCell getCellByPosition( [in] long nColumn, [in] long nRow)  
com::sun::star::table::XCellRange getCellRangeByPosition( [in] long nLeft, [in] long nTop,
[in] long nRight, [in] long nBottom)  
com::sun::star::table::XCellRange getCellRangeByName( [in] string aRange)
```

The method `getCellByPosition()` returns a cell object supporting the interfaces com.sun.star.table.XCell and com.sun.star.text.XText. To find the cell the name is internally created from the position using the naming scheme described above and returns this cell if it exists. Calling `getCellByPosition(1, 1)` in the table at the beginning of this chapter returns the cell "B2".

The methods `getCellRangeByPosition()` and `getCellRangeByName()` return a range object that is described below. The name of the range is created with the top-left cell and bottom-right cell of the table separated by a colon: `as in A1:B4`. Both methods fail when the structure of the table contains merged or split cells.

Table Naming, Sorting, Charting and Autoformatting

Each table has a unique name that can be read and written using the interface com.sun.star.container.XNamed.

A text table is a com.sun.star.container.XNamed. Its method `createSortDescriptor()` returns a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue structs that provides the elements as described in the service com.sun.star.text.TextSortDescriptor. The method `sort()` sorts the table content by the given parameters.

The interface com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray is used to connect a table or a range inside of a table to a chart. It reads and writes the values of a range, and sets the column and row labels. The inherited interface com.sun.star.chart.XChartData enables the chart to connect listeners to be notified when changes to the values of a table are made. For details about charting, refer to chapter Charts.

The interface com.sun.star.table.XAutoFormattable provides in its method `autoFormat()` a method to format the table using a predefined table format. To access the available auto formats, the service com.sun.star.sheet.TableAutoFormats has to be accessed. For details, refer to chapter Table Auto Formats.
## Text Table Properties

The text table supports the properties described in the service `com.sun.star.text.TextTable`:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:BackColor</code></td>
<td>long</td>
<td>Contains the color of the table background.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:BackGraphicFilter</code></td>
<td>string</td>
<td>Contains the name of the file filter for the background graphic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:BackGraphicLocation</code></td>
<td><code>com.sun.star.style.GraphicLocation</code></td>
<td>Determines the position of the background graphic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:BackGraphicURL</code></td>
<td>string</td>
<td>Contains the URL for the background graphic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:BackTransparentColor</code></td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Determines if the background color is transparent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:BottomMargin</code></td>
<td>long</td>
<td>Determines the bottom margin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:BreakType</code></td>
<td><code>com.sun.star.style.BreakType</code></td>
<td>Determines the type of break that is applied at the beginning of the table.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:ChartColumnAsLabel</code></td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Determines if the first column of the table should be treated as axis labels when a chart is to be created.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:ChartRowAsLabel</code></td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Determines if the first row of the table should be treated as axis labels when a chart is to be created.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:HoriOrientation</code></td>
<td>short</td>
<td>Contains the horizontal orientation according to <code>com.sun.star.text.HoriOrientation</code>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:IsWidthRelative</code></td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Determines if the value of the relative width is valid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:KeepTogether</code></td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Setting this property to true prevents page or column breaks between this table and the following paragraph or text table.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:LeftMargin</code></td>
<td>long</td>
<td>Contains the left margin of the table.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.TextTable:PageDescName</code></td>
<td>string</td>
<td>If this property is set, it creates a page break before the table and assigns the value as the name of the new page style sheet to use.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
com.sun.star.text.TextTable:PageNumberOffset
short - If a page break property is set at the table, this property contains the new value for the page number.

com.sun.star.text.TextTable:RelativeWidth
short - Determines the width of the table relative to its environment.

com.sun.star.text.TextTable:RepeatHeader
boolean - Determines if the first row of the table is repeated on every new page.

com.sun.star.text.TextTable:RightMargin
long - Contains the right margin of the table.

struct
com.sun.star.table.ShadowFormat
determines the type, color and size of the shadow.

com.sun.star.text.TextTable:Split
boolean - Setting this property to false prevents the table from getting spread on two pages.

struct
com.sun.star.table.TableBorder
. Contains the description of the table borders.

com.sun.star.text.TextTable:TableBorder

com.sun.star.text.TextTable:TableColumnRelativeSum
short - Contains the sum of the column width values used in TableColumnSeparators.

sequence
<com.sun.star.text.TableColumnSeparator>. Defines the column width and its merging behavior. It contains a sequence of com.sun.star.text.TableColumnSeparator structs with the fields Position and IsVisible. The value of Position is relative to the table property com.sun.star.text.TextTable:TableColumnRelativeSum. IsVisible refers to merged cells where the separator becomes invisible. In tables with merged or split cells, the sequence TableColumnSeparators is empty.

com.sun.star.text.TextTable:TopMargin
long - Determines the top margin.

com.sun.star.text.TextTable:Width
long - Contains the absolute table width.
Inserting Tables

To create and insert a new text table, a five-step procedure must be followed:


12. Order a new text table from the factory by its service name "com.sun.star.text.TextTable", using the factory method createInstance().

13. From the object received, query the com.sun.star.text.XTextTable interface that inherits from com.sun.star.text.XTextContent.

14. If necessary, initialize the table with the number of rows and columns. For this purpose, XTextTable offers the initialize() method.

15. Insert the table into the text using the insertTextContent() method at its com.sun.star.text.XText interface. The method insertTextContent() expects an XTextContent to insert. Since XTextTable inherits from XTextContent, pass the XTextTable interface retrieved previously.

You are now ready to get cells, fill in text, values and formulas and set the table and cell properties as needed.

In the following code sample, there is a small helper function to put random numbers between -1000 and 1000 into the table to demonstrate formulas:

```java
/** This method returns a random double which isn't too high or too low */
protected double getRandomDouble() {
    return ((maRandom.nextInt() % 1000) * maRandom.nextDouble());
}
```

The following helper function inserts a string into a cell known by its name and sets its text color to white:

```java
/** This method sets the text colour of the cell refered to by sCellName to white and inserts the string sText in it */
public static void insertIntoCell(String sCellName, String sText, XTextTable xTable) {
    XText xCellText = (XText) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XText.class, xTable.getCellByName(sCellName));
    XTextCursor xCellCursor = xCellText.createTextCursor();
    // Get the property set of the cell's TextCursor
    XPropertySet xCellCursorProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xCellCursor);
    try {
        // Set the colour of the text to white
        xCellCursorProps.setPropertyValue("CharColor", new Integer(16777215));
    }
}
```
Using the above helper functions, create a text table and insert it into the text document.

```java
/** This method shows how to create and insert a text table, as well as insert text and formulae into the cells of the table */
protected void TextTableExample() {
    try {
        // Create a new table from the document's factory
        XTextTable xTable = (XTextTable) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextTable.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.TextTable"));

        // Specify that we want the table to have 4 rows and 4 columns
        xTable.initialize(4, 4);
        // Insert the table into the document
        mxDocText.insertTextContent(mxDocCursor, xTable, false);

        // Get an XIndexAccess of the table rows
        XIndexAccess xRows = xTable.getRows();

        // Access the property set of the first row
        XPropertySet xRow = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xRows.getByIndex(0));

        // Set the background color and text color of all cells in the first row of the table
        insertIntoCell("A1", "First Column", xTable);
        insertIntoCell("B1", "Second Column", xTable);
        insertIntoCell("C1", "Third Column", xTable);
        insertIntoCell("D1", "Results", xTable);

        // Insert random numbers into the first three cells of each remaining row
        xTable.getCellByName("A2").setValue(getRandomDouble());
        xTable.getCellByName("B2").setValue(getRandomDouble());
        xTable.getCellByName("C2").setValue(getRandomDouble());
        xTable.getCellByName("A3").setValue(getRandomDouble());
        xTable.getCellByName("B3").setValue(getRandomDouble());
        xTable.getCellByName("C3").setValue(getRandomDouble());
        xTable.getCellByName("A4").setValue(getRandomDouble());
        xTable.getCellByName("B4").setValue(getRandomDouble());
        xTable.getCellByName("C4").setValue(getRandomDouble());

        // Set the last cell in each row to be a formula that calculates the sum of the first three cells
        xTable.getCellByName("D2").setFormula("sum <A2:C2>");
        xTable.getCellByName("D3").setFormula("sum <A3:C3>");
        xTable.getCellByName("D4").setFormula("sum <A4:C4>");
    } catch (Exception e) { e.printStackTrace(System.out); } }
```

The next sample inserts auto text entries into a table, splitting cells during its course.

```java
/** This example demonstrates the use of the AutoTextContainer, AutoTextGroup
```
and AutoTextEntry services and shows how to create, insert and modify auto
text blocks */ protected void AutoTextExample () { try { // Go to the end of the document mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(false); // Insert two paragraphs mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false); // Position the cursor in the second paragraph XParagraphCursor xParaCursor = (XParagraphCursor) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XParagraphCursor.class, mxDocCursor);
xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(false);
// Get an XNameAccess interface to all auto text groups from the document factory XNameAccess xContainer = (XNameAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameAccess.class, mxFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.AutoTextContainer"));
// Create a new table at the document factory XTextTable xTable = (XTextTable) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextTable.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.TextTable"));
// Store the names of all auto text groups in an array of strings String[] aGroupNames = xContainer.getElementNames();
// Make sure we have at least one group name if (aGroupNames.length > 0) { // initialise the table to have a row for every autotext group // in a single column + one // additional row for a header xTable.initialize(aGroupNames.length + 1, 1);
// Access the XPropertySet of the table XPropertySet xTableProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xTable);
// We want a visible background xTableProps.setPropertyValue("BackTransparent", new Boolean(false));
// We want the background to be light blue xTableProps.setPropertyValue("BackColor", new Integer(13421823));
// Insert the table into the document mxDocText.insertTextContent(mxDocCursor, xTable, false);
// Get an XIndexAccess to all table rows XIndexAccess xRows = xTable.getRows();
// Get the first row in the table XPropertySet xRow = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xRows.getByIndex(0));
// We want the background of the first row to be visible too xRow.setPropertyValue("BackTransparent", new Boolean(false));
// And let's make it dark blue xRow.setPropertyValue("BackColor", new Integer(6710932));
// Put a description of the table contents into the first cell insertIntoCell("A1", "AutoText Groups", xTable);
// Create a table cursor pointing at the second cell in the first column XTextTableCursor xTableCursor = xTable.createCursorByCellName("A2");
// Loop over the group names for (int i = 0; i < aGroupNames.length; i++) { // Get the name of the current cell String sCellName = xTableCursor.getRangeName();
// Get the XText interface of the current cell XText xCellText
Inserting Tables

```
= (XText) UnoRuntime.queryInterface (XText.class,
xTable.getCellByName ( sCellName ) );

// Set the cell contents of the current cell to be
// the name of the of an autotext group
xCellText.setString
( aGroupNames[i] );

// Access the autotext group with this name
xGroup = ( XAutoTextGroup ) UnoRuntime.queryInterface
(  
  XAutoTextGroup.class,xContainer.getByName(aGroupNames[i]
  ));

// Get the titles of each autotext block in this group
String[] aBlockNames = xGroup.getTitles();

// Make sure that the autotext group contains at least one block
if ( aBlockNames.length > 0 )
{  
  // Split the current cell vertically into two separate cells
  xTableCursor.splitRange ( (short) 1, false );

  // Put the cursor in the newly created right hand cell
  // and select it
  xTableCursor.goRight ( (short) 1, false );

  // Split this cell horizontally to make a separate cell
  // for each Autotext block
  if ( ( aBlockNames.length -1 ) > 0 )
  xTableCursor.splitRange ( (short) (aBlockNames.length - 1), true );

  // loop over the block names
  for ( int j = 0 ; j < aBlockNames.length ; j ++ )
  {  
    // Get the XText interface of the current cell
    xCellText = (XText) UnoRuntime.queryInterface (  
      XText.class,
xTable.getCellByName ( xTableCursor.getRangeName() 
    ) );

    // Set the text contents of the current cell to the
    // title of an Autotext block
    xCellText.setString
    ( aBlockNames[j] );

    // Move the cursor down one cell
    xTableCursor.goDown( (short)1, false );
  }

  // Go back to the cell we originally split
  xTableCursor.gotoCellByName ( sCellName, false );

  // Go down one cell
  xTableCursor.goDown( (short)1, false );
}

XAutoTextGroup xGroup;       String[] aBlockNames;

// Add a depth so that we only generate 200 numbers before
// giving up on finding a random autotext group that contains autotext blocks
int nDepth = 0;
int nRandom = Math.abs ( maRandom.nextInt() % aGroupNames.length );

// Get the autotext group at this name
xGroup = ( XAutoTextGroup ) UnoRuntime.queryInterface
(  
  XAutoTextGroup.class, xContainer.getByName (  
    aGroupNames[nRandom] ) 
  );

// Fill our string array with the names of all the blocks in this group
aBlockNames = xGroup.getElementNames();

// increment our depth counter
++nDepth;

while ( nDepth < 200 && aBlockNames.length == 0 )
{  
  // If we managed to find a group containing blocks...
  if ( aBlockNames.length
```
Inserting Tables

> 0 )             {                 // Pick a random block in this group and
git it's             // XAutoTextEntry interface                 int
nRandom = Math.abs ( maRandom.nextInt()                      %
aBlockNames.length );                 XAutoTextEntry xEntry = ( XAutoTextEntry
)                     UnoRuntime.queryInterface
(                 XAutoTextEntry.class, xGroup.getByName (
 aBlockNames[ nRandom ] ) );                 // insert the modified autotext
block at the end of the document                 xEntry.applyTo
( mxDocCursor );                 // Get the titles of all text blocks in this AutoText group
String [] aBlockTitles = xGroup.getTitles();
// Get the XNamed interface of the autotext group                 XNamed
xGroupNamed = ( XNamed ) UnoRuntime.queryInterface
(                     XNamed.class, xGroup );                 // Output the short cut and title of the random block                  //and
get the name of the group it's from                 System.out.println ( "Inserted
the Autotext " + aBlockTitles[nRandom] + ", shortcut "
+ aBlockNames[nRandom] + " from group "
+ xGroupNamed.getName() );             }         }
// Go to the end of the document         mxDocCursor.gotoEnd( false );
// Insert new paragraph         mxDocText.insertControlCharacter (         mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false );
// Position cursor in new paragraph         xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph
( false );               // Insert a string in the new paragraph         mxDocText.insertString
( mxDocCursor, "Some text for a new autotext block", false );
// Go to the end of the document         mxDocCursor.gotoEnd( false );     }
catch (Exception e)      {         e.printStackTrace ( System.out );     } }

Accessing Existing Tables

To access the tables contained in a text document, the text document model supports
the interface com.sun.star.text.XTextTablesSupplier with one single method
getTextTables(). It returns a com.sun.star.text.TextTables service, which is a named
and indexed collection, that is, tables are retrieved using
com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess or com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess.

The following snippet iterates over the text tables in a given text document object
mxDoc and colors them green.

```java
import com.sun.star.text.XTextTablesSupplier; import
com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess; import
com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess; import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
...
// first query the XTextTablesSupplier interface from our document
XTextTablesSupplier xTablesSupplier = (XTextTablesSupplier)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XTextTablesSupplier.class, mxDoc ); // get the
tables collection XNameAccess xNamedTables = xTablesSupplier.getTextTables();
```
Text Fields

Text fields are text contents that add a second level of information to text ranges. Usually their appearance fuses together with the surrounding text, but actually the presented text comes from elsewhere. Field commands can insert the current date, page number, total page numbers, a cross-reference to another area of text, the content of certain database fields, and many variables, such as fields with changing values, into the document. There are some fields that contain their own data, where others get the data from an attached field master.

Text Fields and Text Field Masters

Fields are created using the com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory of the model before inserting them using `insertTextContent()`. The following text field services...
are available:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text Field Service Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.textfield.Annotation</td>
<td>Annotation created through <strong>Insert - Note</strong>. Shows the author of the document.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.Author | Bibliographic entry created by **Insert - Indexes and Tables - Bibliography Entry**. The content is the source of the creation of bibliographic indexes. The sequence `<PropertyValue>` in the property "Fields" contains pairs of the name of the field and its content, such as:

```
Identifier=ABC99 BibliographicType=1
```

The names of the fields are defined in `com.sun.star.text.BibliographyDataField`. A bibliographic entry depends on `com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.BibliographyField`. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.Bibliography | |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.Chapter | Show the chapter information. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.CharacterCount | Show the character count of the document. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.CombinedCharacters | Combines up to six characters as one text object that is formatted in two lines. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.Database | The form letter field showing the content from a database. Depends on `com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.DatabaseField`. Shows the name of a database. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.DatabaseName | Increments the cursor that points to a database selection. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.DatabaseNextSet | Shows the set number of a database cursor. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.DatabaseNumberOfSet | Databases - Any Record. Sets the number of a database cursor. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.DatabaseSetNumberOfSet | Shows a date or time value. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.DateTime | Shows the result of a DDE operation. Depends on `com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.DDEField`. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.DDE | Shows the name of the author of the last change of the document. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.ChangeAuthor | Shows the date and time of the last change of the document. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.ChangeDateTime | Shows the name of the creator of the document. |
| com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Creator | |
ateAuthor
com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.CreateDateTime
com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Custom
com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Description
com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo>EditTime
com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Info0

com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Info1

com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Info2

com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Info3

com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Keywords
com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.PrintAuthor
com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.PrintDateTime
com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Revision
com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Subject
com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Title
com.sun.star.text.textfield.EmbeddedObjectCount

document.
Shows the date and time of the document creation.
Shows the content of an user defined field of the document info.
Shows the description contained in the document information.
Shows the time of the editing of the document.
Shows the content of the first user defined info field of the document info. This service has been removed in OOo 3.0; use com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Custom instead.
Shows the content of the second user defined info field of the document info. This service has been removed in OOo 3.0; use com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Custom instead.
Shows the content of the third user defined info field of the document info. This service has been removed in OOo 3.0; use com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Custom instead.
Shows the content of the fourth user defined info field of the document info. This service has been removed in OOo 3.0; use com.sun.star.text.textfield.docinfo.Custom instead.
Shows the keywords contained in the document info.
Shows the name of the author of the last printing.
Shows the date and time of the last printing.
Shows the revision contained in the document info.
Shows the subject contained in the document info.
Shows the title contained in the document info.
Shows the number of embedded objects contained in the document.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.ExtendedUser</code></td>
<td>Shows the user data of the Office user.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.FileName</code></td>
<td>Shows the file name (URL) of the document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.GetExpression</code></td>
<td>Variables - Show Variable. Shows the value set by the previous occurrence of <code>SetExpression</code>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.GetReference</code></td>
<td>References - Insert Reference. Shows a reference to a reference mark, bookmark, number range field, footnote or an endnote.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.GraphicObjectCount</code></td>
<td>Shows the number of graphic object in the document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.HiddenParagraph</code></td>
<td>Depending on a condition, the field hides the paragraph it is contained in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.HiddenText</code></td>
<td>Depending on a condition the field shows or hides a text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.Input</code></td>
<td>The field activates a dialog to input a value that changes a related User field or <code>SetExpression</code> field.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.InputUser</code></td>
<td>The field activates a dialog to input a string that is displayed by the field. This field is not connected to variables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.JumpEdit</code></td>
<td>A placeholder field with an attached interaction to insert text, a text table, text frame, graphic object or an OLE object.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.Macro</code></td>
<td>A field connected to a macro that is executed on a click to the field. To execute such a macro, use the dispatch (cf. Appendix).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.PageCount</code></td>
<td>Shows the number of pages of the document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.PageNumber</code></td>
<td>Shows the page number (current, previous, next).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.ParagraphCount</code></td>
<td>Shows the number of paragraphs contained in the document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.ReferencePageGet</code></td>
<td>Displays the page number with respect to the reference point, that is determined by the text field <code>ReferencePageSet</code>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.ReferencePageSet</code></td>
<td>Inserts a starting point for additional page numbers that can be switched on or off.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.Script</code></td>
<td>Contains a script or a URL to a script.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.textfield.SetExpression</code></td>
<td>Variables - Set Variable. A variable field. The value is valid until the next occurrence of <code>SetExpression</code> field. The actual value depends on</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
com.sun.star.text.textfield.TableCount

Shows the number of text tables of the document.

com.sun.star.text.textfield.TableFormula

Contains a formula to calculate in a text table.

com.sun.star.text.textfield.TemplateName

Shows the name of the template the current document is created from.

com.sun.star.text.textfield.User

Variables - User Field. Creates a global document variable and displays it whenever this field occurs in the text. Depends on com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.User.

com.sun.star.text.textfield.WordCount

Shows the number of words contained in the document.

All fields support the interfaces com.sun.star.text.XTextField, com.sun.star.util.XUpdatable, com.sun.star.text.XDependentTextField and the service com.sun.star.text.TextContent.

The method getPresentation() of the interface com.sun.star.text.XTextField returns the textual representation of the result of the text field operation, such as a date, time, variable value, or the command, such as CHAPTER, TIME (fixed) depending on the boolean parameter.

The method update() of the interface com.sun.star.util.XUpdatable affects only the following field types:

- Date and time fields are set to the current date and time.
- The ExtendedUser fields that show parts of the user data set for OpenOffice.org, such as the Name, City, Phone No. and the Author fields that are set to the current values.
- The FileName fields are updated with the current name of the file.
- The DocInfo.XXX fields are updated with the current document info of the document.

All other fields ignore calls to update().

Some of these fields need a field master that provides the data that appears in the field. This applies to the field types Database, SetExpression, DDE, User and Bibliography. The interface com.sun.star.text.XDependentTextField handles these pairs of FieldMasters and TextFields. The method attachTextFieldMaster() must be called prior to inserting the field into the document. The method getTextFieldMaster() does not work unless the dependent field is inserted into the document.
To create a valid text field master, the instance has to be created using the com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface of the model with the appropriate service name:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text Field Master Service Names</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.User</td>
<td>Contains the global variable that is created and displayed by the fieldtype com.sun.star.text.textfield.User.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.DDE</td>
<td>The DDE command for a com.sun.star.text.textfield.DDE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.SetExpression</td>
<td>Numbering settings if the corresponding com.sun.star.text.textfield.SetExpression is a number range. A sub type of expression.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.Database</td>
<td>Data source definition for a com.sun.star.text.textfield.Database.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The property Name has to be set after the field instance is created, except for the Database field master type where the properties DatabaseName, DatabaseTableName, DataColumnName and DatabaseCommandType are set instead of the Name property.

To access existing text fields and field masters, use the interface com.sun.star.text.XTextFieldsSupplier that is implemented at the text document model.

Its method getTextFields() returns a com.sun.star.text.TextFields container which is a com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess and can be refreshed through the refresh() method in its interface com.sun.star.util.XRefreshable.

Its method getTextFieldMasters() returns a com.sun.star.text.TextFieldMasters container holding the text field masters of the document. This container provides a com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface. All field masters, except for Database are named by the service name followed by the name of the field master. The Database field masters create their names by appending the DatabaseName, DataTableName and DataColumnName to the service name.

Consider the following examples for this naming convention:

"com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.SetExpression.Illustration"  
Master for Illustration number range. Number ranges are built-in SetExpression fields present in every document.

"com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.User.Company"  
Master for User field (global document variable), inserted with display name Company.
Master for form letter field referring to the column Identifier in the built-in dbase database table biblio.

Each text field master has a property InstanceName that contains its name in the format of the related container.

Some SetExpression text field masters are always available if they are not deleted. These are the masters with the names Text, Illustration, Table and Drawing. They are predefined as number range field masters used for captions of text frames, graphics, text tables and drawings. Note that these predefined names are internal names that are usually not used at the user interface.

The following methods show how to create and insert text fields.

```java
/** This method inserts both a date field and a user field containing the number '42'
 */
protected void TextFieldExample() {
    try {
        // Use the text document's factory to create a DateTime text field, and access it's XTextField interface
        XTextField xDateField = UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XTextField.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance(
                "com.sun.star.text.textfield.DateTime"));

        // Insert it at the end of the document
        mxDocText.insertTextContent(mxDocText.getEnd(), xDateField, false);

        // Use the text document's factory to create a user text field, and access it's XDependentTextField interface
        XDependentTextField xUserField = (XDependentTextField) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XDependentTextField.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance(
                "com.sun.star.text.textfield.User"));

        // Create a fieldmaster for our newly created User Text field, and access it's XPropertySet interface
        XPropertySet xMasterPropSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XPropertySet.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance(
                "com.sun.star.text.fieldmaster.User"));

        // Set the name and value of the FieldMaster
        xMasterPropSet.setPropertyValue("Name", "UserEmperor");
        xMasterPropSet.setPropertyValue("Value", new Integer(42));

        // Attach the field master to the user field
        xUserField.attachTextFieldMaster(xMasterPropSet);

        // Move the cursor to the end of the document
        mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(false); // insert a paragraph break using the XSimpleText interface
        mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);

        // Insert the user field at the end of the document
        mxDocText.insertTextContent(mxDocText.getEnd(), xUserField, false);
    } catch (Exception e) {
        e.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
}
```
Bookmarks

A Bookmark is a text content that marks a position inside of a paragraph or a text selection that supports the com.sun.star.text.TextContent service. To search for a bookmark, the text document model implements the interface com.sun.star.text.XBookmarksSupplier that supplies a collection of the bookmarks. The collection supports the service com.sun.star.text.Bookmarks which consists of com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess and com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess.

The bookmark name can be read and changed through its (com.sun.star.container.XNamed) interface.

To insert, remove or change text, or attributes starting from the position of a bookmark, retrieve its com.sun.star.text.XTextRange by calling getAnchor() at its com.sun.star.text.XTextContent interface. Then use getString() or setString() at the XTextRange, or pass this XTextRange to methods expecting a text range, such as com.sun.star.text.XSimpleText:createTextCursorByRange(), com.sun.star.text.XSimpleText:insertString() or com.sun.star.text.XText:insertTextContent().

Tip - Make sure that the access to the bookmark anchor position always uses the correct text object. Since every XTextRange knows its surrounding text, use the getText() method of the bookmark's anchor. It is not allowed to call aText.createTextCursorByRange(oAnchor) when aText represents a different area of the document than the bookmark (different text frames, body text and text frame...)

Use the createInstance method of the com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface provided by the text document model to insert a new bookmark into the document. The service name is "com.sun.star.text.Bookmark". Then use the bookmark's com.sun.star.container.XNamed interface and call setName(). If no name is set, OpenOffice.org makes up generic names, such as Bookmark1 and Bookmark2. Similarly, if a name is used that is not unique, writer automatically appends a number to the bookmark name. The bookmark object obtained from createInstance() can only be inserted once.

```java
// inserting and retrieving a bookmark
Object bookmark = mxDocFactory.createInstance ( "com.sun.star.text.Bookmark" );
// name the bookmark
XNamed xNamed = (XNamed) UnoRuntime.queryInterface ( XNamed.class, bookmark ); xNamed.setName("MyUniqueBookmarkName");
// get XTextContent interface
XTextContent xTextContent = (XTextContent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface ( XTextContent.class, bookmark );
// insert bookmark at the end of the document // instead of mxDocText.getEnd you could use a text cursor's XTextRange interface or any XTextRange
mxDocText.insertTextContent ( mxDocText.getEnd(), xTextContent, false );
// query XBookmarksSupplier from document model and get bookmarks collection
```
Indexes and Index Marks

Indexes are text contents that pull together information that is dispersed over the document. They can contain chapter headings, locations of key words, locations of arbitrary index marks and locations of text objects, such as illustrations, objects or tables. In addition, OpenOffice.org features a bibliographical index.

Indexes

The following index services are available in OpenOffice.org:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index Service Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.DocumentIndex</td>
<td>alphabetical index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ContentIndex</td>
<td>table of contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.UserIndex</td>
<td>user defined index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.IllustrationIndex</td>
<td>table of all illustrations contained in the document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ObjectId</td>
<td>table of all objects contained in the document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.TableIndex</td>
<td>table of all text tables contained in the document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.Bibliography</td>
<td>bibliographical index</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To access the indexes of a document, the text document model supports the interface com.sun.star.text.XDocumentIndexesSupplier with a single method getDocumentIndexes(). The returned object is a com.sun.star.text.DocumentIndexes service supporting the interfaces com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess and com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess.

XBookmarksSupplier xBookmarksSupplier = (XBookmarksSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XBookmarksSupplier.class, xWriterComponent); XNameAccess xNamedBookmarks = xBookmarksSupplier.getBookmarks();
// retrieve bookmark by name Object foundBookmark = xNamedBookmarks.getByName("MyUniqueBookmarkName"); XTextContent xFoundBookmark = (XTextContent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextContent.class, foundBookmark);
// work with bookmark XTextRange xFound = xFoundBookmark.getAnchor(); xFound.setString(" The throat mike, glued to her neck, " + "looked as much as possible like an analgesic dermadisk.");
All indexes support the services com.sun.star.text.TextContent and com.sun.star.text.BaseIndex that include the interface com.sun.star.text.XDocumentIndex. This interface is used to access the service name of the index and update the current content of an index:

```plaintext
string getServiceName() void update()
```

Furthermore, indexes have properties and a name, and support:

```plaintext
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet
```

provides the properties that determine how the index is created and which elements are included into the index.

```plaintext
com.sun.star.container.XNamed
```

provides a unique name of the index, not necessarily the title of the index.

An index is usually composed of two text sections which are provided as properties. The provided property `ContentSection` includes the complete index and the property `HeaderSection` contains the title if there is one. They enable the index to have background or column attributes independent of the surrounding page format valid at the index position. In addition, there may be different settings for the content and the heading of the index. However, these text sections are not part of the document's text section container.

The indexes are structured by levels. The number of levels depends on the index type. The content index has ten levels, corresponding to the number of available chapter numbering levels, which is ten. Alphabetical indexes have four levels, one of which is used to insert separators, that are usually characters that show the alphabet. The bibliography has 22 levels, according to the number of available bibliographical type entries (com.sun.star.text.BibliographyDataType). All other index types only have one level.

For all levels, define a separate structure that is provided by the property `LevelFormat` of the service com.sun.star.text.BaseIndex. `LevelFormat` contains the various levels as a com.sun.star.container.XIndexReplace object. Each level is a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValues which are defined in the service com.sun.star.text.DocumentIndexLevelFormat. Although `LevelFormat` provides a level for the heading, changing that level is not supported.

Each com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValues sequence has to contain at least one com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue with the name `TokenType`. This `PropertyValue` struct must contain one of the following string values in its `Value` member variable:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TokenType Value (String)</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Additional Sequence Members (optional)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;TokenEntryNumber&quot;</td>
<td>The number of an entry. This is only supported in tables of</td>
<td>CharacterStyleName</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Indexes and Index Marks

content and it marks the appearance of the chapter number.

"TokenEntryText"
Text of the entry, for example, it might contain the heading text in tables of content or the name of a text reference in a bibliography.

"TokenTabStop"
Marks a tab stop to be inserted.

"TokenText"
Inserted text.

"TokenPageNumber"
Marks the insertion of the page number.

"TokenChapterInfo"
Marks the insertion of a chapter field to be inserted. Only supported in alphabetical indexes.

"TokenHyperlinkStart"
Start of a hyperlink to jump to the referred heading. Only supported in tables of content.

"TokenHyperlinkEnd"
End of a hyperlink to jump to the referred heading. Only supported in tables of content.

"TokenBibliographyDataField"
Identifies one of the 30 possible BibliographyDataFields. The number 30 comes from the IDL reference of BibliographyDataFields.

An example for such a sequence of PropertyValue struct could be constructed like this:

```java
PropertyValue[] indexTokens = new PropertyValue[1]; indexTokens [0] = new PropertyValue(); indexTokens [0].Name = "TokenType"; indexTokens [0].Value = "TokenHyperlinkStart";
```

The following table explains the sequence members which can be present, in addition to the TokenType member, as mentioned above.

**Additional Properties of com.sun.star.text.DocumentIndexLevelFormat**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CharacterStyleName</th>
<th>string - Name of the character style that has to be applied to the appearance of the entry.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TabStopPosition</td>
<td>long - Position of the tab stop in 1/100 mm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TabStopRightAligned</td>
<td>boolean - The tab stop is to be inserted at the end of the</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter 7 · Text Documents
Index marks

Index marks are text contents whose contents and positions are collected and displayed in indexes.

To access all index marks that are related to an index, use the property `IndexMarks` of the index. It contains a sequence of `com.sun.star.text.XDocumentIndexMark` interfaces.

All index marks support the service `com.sun.star.text.BaseIndexMark` that includes `com.sun.star.text.TextContent`. Also, they all implement the interfaces `com.sun.star.text.XDocumentIndexMark` and `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet`.

The `XDocumentIndexMark` inherits from `XTextContent` and defines two methods:

```
string getMarkEntry() 
void setMarkEntry( [in] string anIndexEntry)
```

OpenOffice.org supports three different index mark services:

- `com.sun.star.text.DocumentIndexMark` for entries in alphabetical indexes.
- `com.sun.star.text.UserIndexMark` for user defined indexes.
- `com.sun.star.text.ContentIndexMark` for entries in tables of content which are independent from chapter headings.

An index mark can be set at a point in text or it can mark a portion of a paragraph, usually a word. It cannot contain text across paragraph breaks. If the index mark does not include text, the `BaseIndexMark` property `AlternativeText` has to be set, otherwise there will be no string to insert into the index.

Inserting `ContentIndexMarks` and a table of contents index:

```java
/** This method demonstrates how to insert indexes and index marks */
protected void IndexExample () { 
    try { // Go to the end of the document
        mxDocCursor.gotoEnd( false ); // Insert a new paragraph and position the cursor in it
        mxDocText.insertControlCharacter ( mxDocCursor,
            ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false );
    } 
} 
```
Indexes and Index Marks

ParaCursor = (XParagraphCursor)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XParagraphCursor.class, mxDocCursor );
ParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph( false );
// Create a new ContentIndexMark and get it's XPropertySet interface
XPropertySet xEntry = (XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XPropertySet.class,
mxDocFactory.createInstance ( "com.sun.star.text.ContentIndexMark" ) );
// Set the text to be displayed in the index         xEntry.setPropertyValue ( "AlternativeText", "Big dogs! Falling on my head!" );
// The Level property _must_ be set         xEntry.setPropertyValue ( "Level", new Short ( (short) 1 ) );
// Create a ContentIndex and access it's XPropertySet interface
XPropertySet xIndex = (XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XPropertySet.class,
mxDocFactory.createInstance ( "com.sun.star.text.ContentIndex" ) );
// Again, the Level property _must_ be set         xIndex.setPropertyValue ( "Level", new Short ( (short) 10 ) );
// Access the XTextContent interfaces of both the Index and the IndexMark
XTextContent xIndexContent = (XTextContent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XTextContent.class, xIndex );
XTextContent xEntryContent = (XTextContent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XTextContent.class, xEntry );
// Insert both in the document         mxDocText.insertTextContent ( mxDocCursor, xEntryContent, false );         mxDocText.insertTextContent ( mxDocCursor, xIndexContent, false );
// Get the XDокументIndex interface of the Index         XDокументIndex xDocIndex = (XDокументIndex)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XDocumentIndex.class, xIndex );
// And call it's update method         xDocIndex.update(); } catch (Exception e) { e.printStackTrace ( System.out ); }

Reference Marks

A reference mark is a text content that is used as a target for com.sun.star.text.textfield.GetReference text fields. These text fields show the contents of reference marks in a text document and allows the user to jump to the reference mark. Reference marks support the com.sun.star.text.XTextContent and com.sun.star.container.XNamed interfaces. They can be accessed by using the text document's com.sun.star.text.XReferenceMarksSupplier interface that defines a single method getReferenceMarks().

The returned collection is a com.sun.star.text.ReferenceMarks service which has a com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess and a com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess interface.

/** This method demonstrates how to create and insert reference marks, and
GetReference Text Fields */ protected void ReferenceExample () { try {
// Go to the end of the document         mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(false);
// Insert a paragraph break         mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(
    mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
// Get the Paragraph cursor         XParagraphCursor xParaCursor =
    (XParagraphCursor)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(       XParagraphCursor.class, mxDocCursor);
// Move the cursor into the new paragraph
    xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(false);
// Create a new ReferenceMark and get it's XNamed interface         XNamed
    xRefMark = (XNamed) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class,
        mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.ReferenceMark"));
// Set the name to TableHeader         xRefMark.setName("TableHeader");
// Get the TextTablesSupplier interface of the document
    XTextTablesSupplier xTableSupplier = (XTextTablesSupplier)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(       XTextTablesSupplier.class, mxDoc);
// Get an XIndexAccess of TextTables         XIndexAccess xTables =
    (XIndexAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(       XIndexAccess.class,
        xTableSupplier.getTextTables());
// We've only inserted one table, so get the first one from index zero
    XTextTable xTable = (XTextTable)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(       XTextTable.class, xTables.getByIndex(0));
// Get the first cell from the table         XText xTableText = (XText)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(       XText.class, xTable.getCellByName("A1"));
// Get a text cursor for the first cell         XTextCursor xTableCursor =
    xTableText.createTextCursor();
// Get the XTextContent interface of the reference mark so we can insert it
    XTextContent xContent = (XTextContent)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(       XTextContent.class, xRefMark);
// Insert the reference mark into the first cell of the table
    xTableText.insertTextContent (xTableCursor, xContent, false);
// Create a 'GetReference' text field to refer to the reference mark we just
// inserted,         // and get it's XPropertySet interface         XPropertySet
    xFieldProps = (XPropertySet)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(       XPropertySet.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.textfield.GetReference"));
// Get the XReferenceMarksSupplier interface of the document
    XReferenceMarksSupplier xRefSupplier = (XReferenceMarksSupplier)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(       XReferenceMarksSupplier.class, mxDoc);
// Get an XNameAccess which refers to all inserted reference marks
    XNameAccess xMarks = (XNameAccess)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameAccess.class, xRefSupplier.getReferenceMarks());
// Put the names of each reference mark into an array of strings
    String[] aNames = xMarks.getElemenNames();
// Make sure that at least 1 reference mark actually exists         if (aNames.length > 0) {
    // Output the name of the first reference mark ('TableHeader')
    System.out.println ("GetReference text field inserted for ReferenceMark : " + aNames[0]);
The name of a reference mark can be used in a com.sun.star.text.textfield.GetReference text field to refer to the position of the reference mark.

Footnotes and Endnotes

Footnotes and endnotes are text contents that provide background information for the reader that appears in page footers or at the end of a document.

Footnotes and endnotes implement the service com.sun.star.text.Footnote that includes com.sun.star.text.TextContent. The Footnote service has the interfaces com.sun.star.text.XText and com.sun.star.text.XFootnote that inherit from com.sun.star.text.XTextContent. The XFootnote introduces the following methods:

```
string getLabel() void setLabel( [in] string aLabel)
```

The Footnote service defines a property ReferenceId that is used for import and export, and contains an internal sequential number.

The interface com.sun.star.text.XText which is provided by the com.sun.star.text.Footnote service accesses the text object in the footnote area
where the footnote text is located. It is not allowed to insert text tables into this text object.

While footnotes can be placed at the end of a page or the end of a document, endnotes always appear at the end of a document. Endnote numbering is separate from footnote numbering. Footnotes are accessed using the com.sun.star.text.XFootnotesSupplier interface of the text document through the method `getFootNotes()`. Endnotes are accessed similarly by calling `getEndnotes()` at the text document's com.sun.star.text.XEndnotesSupplier interface. Both of these methods return a com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess.

A label is set for a footnote or endnote to determine if automatic footnote numbering is used. If no label is set (= empty string), the footnote is labeled automatically. There are footnote and endnote settings that specify how the automatic labeling is formatted. These settings are obtained from the document model using the interfaces com.sun.star.text.XFootnotesSupplier and com.sun.star.text.XEndnotesSupplier. The corresponding methods are `getFootnoteSettings()` and `getEndnoteSettings()`. The object received is a com.sun.star.container.XPropertySet and has the properties described in com.sun.star.text.FootnoteSettings:

**Properties of com.sun.star.text.FootnoteSettings**

- `AnchorCharStyleName` (string) - Contains the name of the character style that is used for the label in the document text.
- `CharStyleName` (string) - Contains the name of the character style that is used for the label in front of the footnote/endnote text.
- `NumberingType` (short) - Contains the numbering type for the numbering of the footnotes or endnotes.
- `PageStyleName` (string) - Contains the page style that is used for the page that contains the footnote or endnote texts.
- `ParaStyleName` (string) - Contains the paragraph style that is used for the footnote or endnote text.
- `Prefix` (string) - Contains the prefix for the footnote or endnote symbol.
- `StartAt` (short) - Contains the first number of the automatic numbering of footnotes or endnotes.
- `Suffix` (string) - Contains the suffix for the footnote/endnote symbol.
- `BeginNotice` ([optional] string) - Contains the string at the restart of the footnote text after a break.
- `EndNotice` ([optional] string) - Contains the string at the end of a footnote part in front of a break.
- `BeginNotice` ([optional] boolean) - Contains the type of
Footnotes and Endnotes

FootnoteCounting
com.sun.star.text.FootnoteSettings: the counting for the footnote numbers
PositionEndOfDoc
[optional] boolean - If true, the footnote text is shown at the end of the document.

The Footnotes service applies to footnotes and endnotes.

The following sample works with footnotes

```java
/** This method demonstrates how to create and insert footnotes, and how to access the XFootnotesSupplier interface of the document */
protected void FootnoteExample () { try { // Create a new footnote from the document factory and get it's XFootnote interface
    XFootnote xFootnote = (XFootnote) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFootnote.class,
        mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.Footnote"));
    // Set the label to 'Numbers'
    xFootnote.setLabel("Numbers");
    // Get the footnotes XTextContent interface so we can...
    XTextContent xContent = (XTextContent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XTextContent.class, xFootnote);
    // ...insert it into the document
    mxDocText.insertTextContent(mxDocCursor, xContent, false);
    // Get the XFootnotesSupplier interface of the document
    XFootnotesSupplier xFootnoteSupplier = (XFootnotesSupplier)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFootnotesSupplier.class, mxDoc);
    // Get an XIndexAccess interface to all footnotes
    XIndexAccess xFootnotes = (XIndexAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XIndexAccess.class, xFootnoteSupplier.getFootnotes());
    // Get the XFootnote interface to the first footnote inserted ('Numbers')
    XFootnote xNumbers = (XFootnote) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XFootnote.class, xFootnoteSupplier.getByIndex(0));
    // Get the XSimpleText interface to the Footnote
    XSimpleText xSimple = (XSimpleText) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XSimpleText.class, xNumbers);
    // Create a text cursor for the footnote text
    XTextRange xRange = (XTextRange) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XTextRange.class, xSimple.createTextCursor());
    // And insert the actual text of the footnote.
    xSimple.insertString(xRange, "The numbers were generated by using java.util.Random",
        false);
} catch (Exception e) { e.printStackTrace(System.out); } }
```
Shape Objects in Text

Base Frames vs. Drawing Shapes

Shape objects are text contents that act independently of the ordinary text flow. The surrounding text may wrap around them. Shape objects can lie in front or behind text, and be anchored to paragraphs or characters in the text. Anchoring allows the shape objects to follow the paragraphs and characters while the user is writing. Currently, there are two different kinds of shape objects in OpenOffice.org, base frames and drawing shapes.

Base Frames

The first group are shape objects that are `com.sun.star.text.BaseFrames`. The three services `com.sun.star.text.TextFrame`, `com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject` and `com.sun.star.text.TextEmbeddedObject` are all based on the service `com.sun.star.text.BaseFrame`. The `TextFrames` contain an independent text area that can be positioned freely over ordinary text. The `TextGraphicObjects` are bitmaps or vector oriented images in a format supported by OpenOffice.org internally. The `TextEmbeddedObjects` are areas containing a document type other than the document they are embedded in, such as charts, formulas, internal OpenOffice.org documents (Calc/Draw/Impress), or OLE objects.

The `TextFrames`, `TextGraphicObjects` and `TextEmbeddedObjects` in a text are supplied by their corresponding supplier interfaces at the document model:

- `com.sun.star.text.XTextFramesSupplier`
- `com.sun.star.text.XTextGraphicObjectsSupplier`
- `com.sun.star.text.XTextEmbeddedObjectsSupplier`.

These interfaces all have one single get method that supplies the respective Shape objects collection:

```java
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getTextFrames()
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getTextEmbeddedObjects()
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getTextGraphicObjects()
```

The method `getTextFrames()` returns a `com.sun.star.text.TextFrames` collection, `getTextEmbeddedObjects()` returns a `com.sun.star.text.TextEmbeddedObjects` collection and `getTextGraphicObjects()` yields a
com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObjects collection. All of these collections support com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess and com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess. The TextFrames collection may (optional) support the com.sun.star.container.XContainer interface to broadcast an event when an Element is added to the collection. However, the current implementation of the TextFrames collection does not support this.

The service com.sun.star.text.BaseFrame defines the common properties and interfaces of text frames, graphic objects and embedded objects. It includes the services com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties and com.sun.star.text.TextContent, and defines the following interfaces.

The position and size of a BaseFrame is covered by com.sun.star.drawing.XShape. All BaseFrame objects share a majority of the core implementation of drawing objects. Therefore, they have a position and size on the DrawPage.

The name of a BaseFrame is set and read through com.sun.star.container.XNamed. The names of the frame objects have to be unique for text frames, graphic objects and embedded objects, respectively.

The com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet has to be present, because many aspects of BaseFrames are controlled through properties.

The interface com.sun.star.document.XEventsSupplier is not a part of the BaseFrame service, but is available in text frames, graphic objects and embedded objects. This interface provides access to the event macros that may be attached to the object in the GUI.

The properties of BaseFrames are those of the service com.sun.star.text.TextContent, as well there is a number of frame properties defined in the service com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:

Properties of com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:AnchorPageNo short - Contains the number of the page where the objects are anchored.
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:AnchorFrame com.sun.star.text.XTextFrame. Contains the text frame the current frame is anchored to.
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:BackColor long - Contains the color of the background of the object.
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:BackGraphicURL string - Contains the URL for the background graphic.
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:BackGraphicFilter string - Contains the name of the file filter for the background graphic.
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:BackGraphicLocation Determines the position of the background graphic according to com.sun.star.style.GraphicLocation
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:LeftBorder
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:RightBorder
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:TopBorder
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:BottomBorder
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:BorderDistance
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:LeftBorderDistance
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:RightBorderDistance
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:TopBorderDistance
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:BottomBorderDistance
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:BackColorTransparent
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:ContentProtected
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:LeftMargin
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:RightMargin
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:TopMargin
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:BottomMargin
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:Height
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:Width
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:RelativeHeight
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:RelativeWidth
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:IsSyncWidthToHeight
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:IsSyncHeightToWidth
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:HoriOrient

Contains the left border of the object.
Contains the right border of the object.
Contains the top border of the object.
Contains the bottom border of the object.
long - Contains the distance from the border to the object.
long - Contains the distance from the left border to the object.
long - Contains the distance from the right border to the object.
long - Contains the distance from the top border to the object.
long - Contains the distance from the bottom border to the object.
boolean - If true, the property BackColor is ignored.
boolean - Determines if the content is protected.
long - Contains the left margin of the object.
long - Contains the right margin of the object.
long - Contains the top margin of the object.
long - Contains the bottom margin of the object.
long - Contains the height of the object (1/100 mm).
long - Contains the width of the object (1/100 mm).
short - Contains the relative height of the object.
short - Contains the relative width of the object.
boolean - Determines if the width follows the height.
boolean - Determines if the height follows the width.
short - Determines the horizontal orientation of the object according to
Shape Objects in Text

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:HoriOrientation
long - Contains the horizontal position of the object (1/100 mm).
short - Determines the environment of the object the orientation is related according to com.sun.star.text.RelOrientation.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:VertOrient
long - Contains the vertical position of the object (1/100 mm). Valid only if TextEmbeddedObject::VertOrient is VertOrientation::NONE.<ode>.
short - Determines the environment of the object the orientation is related according to com.sun.star.text.RelOrientation.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:VertOrientPosition
com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:VertOrientRelation

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:HyperLinkURL
string - Contains the URL of a hyperlink that is set at the object.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:HyperLinkTarget
string - Contains the name of the target for a hyperlink that is set at the object.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:HyperLinkName
string - Contains the name of the hyperlink that is set at the object.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:Opaque
boolean - Determines if the object is opaque or transparent for text.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:PageToggle
boolean - Determines if the object is mirrored on even pages.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:PositionProtected
boolean - Determines if the position is protected.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:Print
boolean - Determines if the object is included in printing.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:ShadowFormat
Struct com.sun.star.table.ShadowFormat. Contains the type of the shadow of the object.
boolean - Determines if the object gets an image map from a server.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:Size
Struct com.sun.star.awt.Size. Contains the size of the object.
boolean - Determines if the size is protected.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:SizeProtected
[deprecated]. Determines the type of the surrounding text.
boolean - Determines if the text of the paragraph where the object is anchored, wraps around the object.

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:ServerMap

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:Size

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:SizeProtected

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:Surround

com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties:SurroundAnchorOnly
Drawing Shapes

The second group of shape objects are the varied drawing shapes that can be inserted into text, such as rectangles and ellipses. They are based on com.sun.star.text.Shape. The service text.Shape includes com.sun.star.drawing.Shape, but adds a number of properties related to shapes in text (cf. Drawing Shapes below). In addition, drawing shapes support the interface com.sun.star.text.XTextContent so that they can be inserted into an XText.

There are no specialized supplier interfaces for drawing shapes. All the drawing shapes on the DrawPage object are supplied by the document model’s com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPageSupplier and its single method:

```java
com::sun::star::drawing::XDrawPage getDrawPage()
```

**Tip** - The DrawPage not only contains drawing shapes, but the BaseFrame shape objects too, if the document contains any.

Text Frames

A text frame is a com.sun.star.text.TextFrame service consisting of com.sun.star.text.BaseFrame and the interface com.sun.star.text.XTextFrame. The XTextFrame is based on com.sun.star.text.XTextContent and introduces one method to provide the XText of the frame:

```java
com::sun::star::text::XText getText()
```

The properties of com.sun.star.text.TextFrame that add to the BaseFrame are the following:

**Properties of com.sun.star.text.TextFrame**

- `com.sun.star.text.TextFrame:FrameHeightAbsolute` long - Contains the metric height value of the frame.
- `com.sun.star.text.TextFrame:FrameWidthAbsolute` long - Contains the metric width value of the frame.
- `com.sun.star.text.TextFrame:FrameWidthPercent` byte - Specifies a width relative to the width of the surrounding text.
- `com.sun.star.text.TextFrame:FrameHeightPercent` byte - Specifies a width relative to the height of the surrounding text.
- `com.sun.star.text.TextFrame:FrameIsAutomaticHeight` boolean - If "AutomaticHeight" is set, the object grows if it is required by the frame content.
com.sun.star.text.TextFrame:SizeType short - Determines the interpretation of the height and relative height properties.

Additionally, text frames are com.sun.star.text.Text services and support all of its interfaces, except for com.sun.star.text.XTextRangeMover.

Text frames can be connected to a chain, that is, the text of the first text frame flows into the next chain element if it does not fit. The properties ChainPrevName and ChainNextName are provided to take advantage of this feature. They contain the names of the predecessor and successor of a frame. All frames have to be empty to chain frames, except for the first member of the chain.

**Chained Text Frame Property**

- com.sun.star.text.ChainedTextFrame:ChainPrevName string - Name of the predecessor of the frame.
- com.sun.star.text.ChainedTextFrame:ChainNextName string - Name of the successor of the frame.

The effect at the API is that the visible text content of the chain members is only accessible at the first frame in the chain. The content of the following chain members is not shown when chained before their content is set.

The API reference does not know the properties above. Instead, it specifies a com.sun.star.text.ChainedTextFrame with an XChainable interface, but this is not yet supported by text frames.

The following example uses text frames:

```java
/* This method shows how to create and manipulate text frames */
protected void TextFrameExample () {   try {     // Use the document's factory to create a new text frame and immediately access it's XTextFrame interface
         XTextFrame xFrame = (XTextFrame) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextFrame.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.TextFrame"));
         // Access the XShape interface of the TextFrame
         XShape xShape = (XShape) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShape.class, xFrame);
         // Access the XPropertySet interface of the TextFrame
         XPropertySet xFrameProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xFrame);
         // Set the size of the new Text Frame using the XShape's 'setSize' method
         Size aSize = new Size();
         aSize.Height = 400;
         aSize.Width = 15000;
         xShape.setSize(aSize);
         // Set the AnchorType to com.sun.star.text.TextContentAnchorType.AS_CHARACTER
         xFrameProps.setPropertyValue("AnchorType", TextContentAnchorType.AS_CHARACTER);
         // Go to the end of the text document
         mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(false);
         // Insert a new paragraph
         mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
         // Then insert the new frame
         mxDocText.insertTextContent(mxDocCursor, xFrame, false);
         // Access the XText interface of the text contained within the frame
         XText xFrameText = xFrame.getText();
         // Create a TextCursor over the
```
frame's contents

    XTextCursor xFrameCursor = xFrameText.createTextCursor(); // Insert some text into the frame
    xFrameText.insertString(xFrameCursor, "The first line in the newly created text frame.");
    xFrameText.insertString(xFrameCursor, "The second line in the new text frame."); // Insert a paragraph break into the document (not the frame)
    mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false); 

    } catch (Exception e) { 
      e.printStackTrace(System.out); 
    } 
}

Embedded Objects

A TextEmbeddedObject is a com.sun.star.text.BaseFrame providing the interface com.sun.star.document.XEmbeddedObjectSupplier. The only method of this interface, com::sun::star::lang::XComponent getEmbeddedObject () provides access to the model of the embedded document. That way, an embedded OpenOffice.org spreadsheet, drawing, chart or a formula document can be used in a text over its document model.

An embedded object is inserted by using the document's factory to create an instance of the the service com.sun.star.text.TextEmbeddedObject. The type of object is determined by setting the string property CLSID to an appropriate value before inserting the object as text content in the document.

```java
// comment: Step 1: get the Desktop object from the office // Step 2: open an empty text document // Step 3: insert a sample text table // Step 4: insert a Chart object // Step 5: insert data from text table into Chart object
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
public class OleObject {
  public static void main(String args[]) {
    // You need the desktop to create a document // The getDesktop method does the UNO bootstrapping, gets the // remote servie manager and the desktop object.
    com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop xDesktop = null; xDesktop = getDesktop();
    com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument xTextDocument =
      createTextdocument(xDesktop);
    com.sun.star.text.XTextTable xTextTable =
      createExampleTable(xTextDocument);
    try {
      // create TextEmbeddedObject
      com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory xDocMSF =
        (com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory)
          UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory.class,
            xTextDocument);
      com.sun.star.text.XTextContent xObj =
        (com.sun.star.text.XTextContent)
          UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.text.XTextContent.class,
            xDocMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.TextEmbeddedObject" ));
      // set class id for chart object to determine the type
    } // of
  }
```
object to be inserted  

```java
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPS = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xObj);
xPS.setPropertyValue("CLSID", "12dcae26-281f-416f-a234-c3086127382e");
// insert object in document  

com.sun.star.text.XTextCursor xCursor = xTextDocument.getText().createTextCursor();
com.sun.star.text.XTextRange xRange = (com.sun.star.text.XTextRange) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.text.XTextRange.class, xCursor);
xCursorTextDocument.getText().insertTextContent( xRange, xObj, false );
// access objects model
com.sun.star.document.XEmbeddedObjectSupplier xEOS = (com.sun.star.document.XEmbeddedObjectSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.document.XEmbeddedObjectSupplier.class, xObj);  

com.sun.star.lang.XComponent xModel = xEOS.getEmbeddedObject();
// get table data  

com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray xDocCDA = (com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray.class, xTextTable);  

double[][] aData = xDocCDA.getData();  

// insert table data in Chart object  

com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument xChartDoc = (com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument.class, xModel);  

com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray xChartDataArray = (com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray.class, xChartDoc.getData());  

xChartDataArray.setData( aData );  

// to remove the embedded object just uncomment the next line  

//xTextDocument.getText().removeTextContent( xObj );

```
// inserting sample data
(xTT.getCellByName("A2")).setValue(5.0);
(xTT.getCellByName("A3")).setValue(5.5);
(xTT.getCellByName("A4")).setValue(5.7);
(xTT.getCellByName("B2")).setValue(2.3);
(xTT.getCellByName("B3")).setValue(2.2);
(xTT.getCellByName("B4")).setValue(2.4);
(xTT.getCellByName("C2")).setValue(6);
(xTT.getCellByName("C3")).setValue(6);
(xTT.getCellByName("C4")).setValue(6);
(xTT.getCellByName("D2")).setValue(3);
(xTT.getCellByName("D3")).setValue(3.5);
(xTT.getCellByName("D4")).setValue(4);
(xTT.getCellByName("E2")).setValue(8);
(xTT.getCellByName("E3")).setValue(5);
(xTT.getCellByName("E4")).setValue(3);
return xTT;
}

public static com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop getDesktop()
{
    com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop xDesktop = null;
    com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory xMCF = null;
    try {
        com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext xContext = null;
        // get the remote office component context
        xContext = com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.bootstrap();
        // get the remote office service manager
        xMCF = xContext.getServiceManager();
        if( xMCF != null ) {
            System.out.println("Connected to a running office ...");
            Object oDesktop = xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.Deskto
g", xContext);
            com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop xDesktop = (com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop)
                UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop.clas
s, oDesktop);
        } else
            System.out.println( "Can't create a desktop. No connection, no remote office
    servicemanager available!" );
        catch( Exception e ) {
            e.printStackTrace(System.err);
            System.exit(1);         }
    } return xDesktop;     }

public static com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument
createTextdocument(         com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop xDesktop )     {
    com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument aTextDocument = null;
    try {             com.sun.star.lang.XComponent xComponent =
CreateNewDocument(xDesktop, "swriter");             aTextDocument =
(com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument)                 UnoRuntime.queryInterface(                     com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument.class, xComponent);         } catch( Exception e ) {             e.printStackTrace(System.err);         } return aTextDocument;     }

protected static com.sun.star.lang.XComponent
CreateNewDocument(         com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop xDesktop,
String sDocumentType )   { String sURL = "private:factory/" +
sDocumentType;
    com.sun.star.lang.XComponent xComponent = null;
    com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader xComponentLoader = null;
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue xValues[] = new
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[1];
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue xEmptyArgs[] = new
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[0];
    try {             xComponentLoader = (com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(                     com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLo
Graphic Objects

A TextGraphicObject is a BaseFrame and does not provide any additional interfaces, compared with com.sun.star.text.BaseFrame. However, it introduces a number of properties that allow manipulating of a graphic object. They are described in the service com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject:

**Properties of com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject**

- **ImageMap**
  - com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject: ImageMap
  - Returns the client-side image map if one is assigned to the object.
- **ContentProtected**
  - com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject: ContentProtected
  - boolean - Determines if the content is protected against changes from the user interface.
- **SurroundContour**
  - com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject: SurroundContour
  - boolean - Determines if the text wraps around the contour of the object.
- **ContourOutside**
  - com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject: ContourOutside
  - boolean - The text flows only around the contour of the object.
- **ContourPolyPolygon**
  - com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject: ContourPolyPolygon
  - [optional] struct
    - com.sun.star.drawing.PointSequenceSequence: Contains the contour of the object as PolyPolygon.
- **GraphicCrop**
  - com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject: GraphicCrop
  - struct
    - com.sun.star.text.GraphicCrop: Contains the cropping of the object.
- **HoriMirroredOnEvenPages**
  - com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject: HoriMirroredOnEvenPages
  - boolean - Determines if the object is horizontally mirrored on even pages.
- **HoriMirroredOnOddPages**
  - com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject: HoriMirroredOnOddPages
  - boolean - Determines if the object is horizontally mirrored on odd pages.
- **VertMirrored**
  - com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject: VertMirrored
  - boolean - Determines if the object is mirrored vertically.
- **GraphicURL**
  - com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject: GraphicURL
  - string - Contains the URL of the background graphic of the object.
- **GraphicFilter**
  - com.sun.star.text.TextGraphicObject: GraphicFilter
  - string - Contains the name of the filter of the background graphic of the object.
### Graphic Objects

**ActualSize**
- `com.sun.star.awt.Size`
- Contains the original size of the bitmap in the graphic object.

**AdjustLuminance**
- `short`
- Changes the display of the luminance. It contains percentage values between -100 and +100.

**AdjustContrast**
- `short`
- Changes the display of contrast. It contains percentage values between -100 and +100.

**AdjustRed**
- `short`
- Changes the display of the red color channel. It contains percentage values between -100 and +100.

**AdjustGreen**
- `short`
- Changes the display of the green color channel. It contains percentage values between -100 and +100.

**AdjustBlue**
- `short`
- Changes the display of the blue color channel. It contains percentage values between -100 and +100.

**Gamma**
- `double`
- Determines the gamma value of the graphic.

**GraphicIsInverted**
- `boolean`
- Determines if the graphic is displayed in inverted colors. It contains percentage values between -100 and +100.

**Transparency**
- `short`
- Measure of transparency. It contains percentage values between -100 and +100.

**GraphicColorMode**
- `long`
- Contains the `ColorMode` according to `com.sun.star.drawing.ColorMode`.

---

**Warning** – `TextGraphicObject` files can currently only be linked when inserted through API which means only their URL is stored with the document. Embedding of graphics is not supported. This applies to background graphics which can be set, for example, to paragraphs, tables or text sections.

---

### Drawing Shapes

The writer uses the same drawing engine as OpenOffice.org impress and OpenOffice.org draw. The limitations are that in writer only one draw page can exist and 3D objects are not supported. All drawing shapes support these properties:

**Properties of com.sun.star.drawing.Shape**
### Drawing Shapes

- **com.sun.star.drawing.Shape:ZOrder**
  - [optional] long - Is used to query or change the ZOrder of this Shape.

- **com.sun.star.drawing.Shape:LayerID**
  - [optional] short - This is the ID of the layer to which this shape is attached.

- **com.sun.star.drawing.Shape:LayerName**
  - [optional] string - This is the name of the layer to which this Shape is attached.

- **com.sun.star.drawing.Shape:Printable**
  - [optional] boolean - If this is false, the shape is not visible on printer outputs.

- **com.sun.star.drawing.Shape:MoveProtect**
  - [optional] boolean - When set to true, this shape cannot be moved interactively in the user interface.

- **com.sun.star.drawing.Shape:Name**
  - [optional] string - This is the name of this shape.

- **com.sun.star.drawing.Shape:SizeProtect**
  - [optional] boolean - When set to true, this shape may not be sized interactively in the user interface.

- **com.sun.star.drawing.Shape:Style**
  - [optional] com.sun.star.style.XStyle - Determines the style for this shape.

- **com.sun.star.drawing.Shape:Transformation**
  - [optional] com.sun.star.drawing.HomogenMatrix - This property lets you get and set the transformation matrix for this shape. The transformation is a 3x3 blended matrix and can contain translation, rotation, shearing and scaling.

- **com.sun.star.drawing.Shape:UserDefinedAttributes**
  - [optional] com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer - This property stores xml attributes. They are saved to and restored from automatic styles inside xml files.

In addition to the properties of the shapes natively supported by the drawing engine, the writer shape adds some properties, so that they are usable for text documents. These are defined in the service com.sun.star.text.Shape:

### Properties of com.sun.star.text.Shape

- **com.sun.star.text.Shape:AnchorPageNo**
  - short - Contains the number of the page where the objects are anchored.

- **com.sun.star.text.Shape:AnchorFrame**
  - com.sun.star.text.XTextFrame - Contains the text frame the current frame is anchored to.

- **com.sun.star.text.Shape:SurroundAnchorOnly**
  - boolean - Determines if the text of the paragraph in which the object is anchored, wraps around the object.

- **com.sun.star.text.Shape:AnchorType**
  - [optional] com.sun.star.text.TextContentAnchorType - Specifies how the text content is attached.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:HoriOrient - Determines the horizontal orientation of the object.
short - Determines the horizontal orientation of the object.
long - Determines the horizontal position of the object (1/100 mm).
com.sun.star.text.Shape:HoriOrientRelation - Determines the environment of the object to which the orientation is related.
short - Determines the environment of the object to which the orientation is related.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:VertOrient - Determines the vertical orientation of the object.
short - Determines the vertical orientation of the object.
long - Determines the vertical position of the object (1/100 mm).
Valid only if TextEmbeddedObject::VertOrientation::NONE.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:VertOrientRelation - Determines the environment of the object to which the orientation is related.
short - Determines the environment of the object to which the orientation is related.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:LeftMargin - Contains the left margin of the object.
long - Contains the left margin of the object.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:RightMargin - Contains the right margin of the object.
long - Contains the right margin of the object.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:TopMargin - Contains the top margin of the object.
long - Contains the top margin of the object.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:BottomMargin - Contains the bottom margin of the object.
long - Contains the bottom margin of the object.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:Surround - Determines the type of the surrounding text.
[deprecated] - Determines the type of the surrounding text.
boolean - Determines if the text of the paragraph in which the object is anchored wraps around the object.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:SurroundAnchorOnly - Determines if the text wraps around the contour of the object.
boolean - Determines if the text wraps around the contour of the object.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:ContourOutside - The text flows only around the contour of the object.
boolean - The text flows only around the contour of the object.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:Opaque - Determines if the object is opaque or transparent for text.
boolean - Determines if the object is opaque or transparent for text.
com.sun.star.text.Shape:TextRange - Contains a text range where the shape should be anchored to.
com.sun.star.text.XTextRange - Contains a text range where the shape should be anchored to.

The chapter Drawing Documents and Presentation Documents describes how to use shapes and the interface of the draw page.

A sample that creates and inserts drawing shapes:

```java
/** This method demonstrates how to create and manipulate shapes, and how to access the draw page of the document to insert shapes */
protected void DrawPageExample () {
    // Go to the end of the document
    mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(false);
    // Insert two new paragraphs
    mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
    mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
    // Insert shapes
    com.sun.star.text.XTextRange textRange = mxDocText.createTextRange(mxDocCursor, 0, mxDocCursor.getEndOffset());
    com.sun.star.text.Shape shape = mxDocText.createShape(mxDocCursor, ShapeType.RECTANGLE);
    shape.setHoriOrient(ShapeHoriOrient.RELATIVE); // Set horizontal orientation
    shape.setHoriOrientP(ShapeHoriOrientP.END); // Set horizontal position
    shape.setVertOrient(ShapeVertOrient.RELATIVE); // Set vertical orientation
    shape.setVertOrientP(ShapeVertOrientP.END); // Set vertical position
    shape.setLeftMargin(100); // Set left margin
    shape.setRightMargin(100); // Set right margin
    shape.setTopMargin(100); // Set top margin
    shape.setBottomMargin(100); // Set bottom margin
    shape.setSurroundAnchorOnly(true); // Set surrounding anchor only
    shape.setSurroundContour(true); // Set surrounding contour
    shape.setOpaque(true); // Set object opaque
    shape.setContourOutside(true); // Set contour outside
}```
// Get the XParagraphCursor interface of our document cursor
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XParagraphCursor.class, mxDocCursor);

// Position the cursor in the 2nd paragraph
xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(false);

// Create a RectangleShape using the document factory
XShape xRect = (XShape) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(              XShape.class,
mxDocFactory.createInstance( "com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape"));

// Create an EllipseShape using the document factory
XShape xEllipse = (XShape) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(              XShape.class,
mxDocFactory.createInstance( "com.sun.star.drawing.EllipseShape"));

// Set the size of both the ellipse and the rectangle
Size aSize = new Size();
aSize.Height = 4000;
aSize.Width = 10000;
xRect.setSize(aSize);
aSize.Height = 3000;
aSize.Width = 6000;
xEllipse.setSize(aSize);

// Set the position of the Rectangle to the right of the ellipse
Point aPoint = new Point();
aPoint.X = 6100;
aPoint.Y = 0;
xRect.setPosition (aPoint);

// Get the XPropertySet interfaces of both shapes
XPropertySet xRectProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XPropertySet.class, xRect);
XPropertySet xEllipseProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XPropertySet.class, xEllipse);

// And set the AnchorTypes of both shapes to 'AT_PARAGRAPH'
xRectProps.setPropertyValue("AnchorType", TextContentAnchorType.AT_PARAGRAPH);
xEllipseProps.setPropertyValue("AnchorType", TextContentAnchorType.AT_PARAGRAPH);

// Access the XDrawPageSupplier interface of the document
XDrawPageSupplier xDrawPageSupplier = (XDrawPageSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XDrawPageSupplier.class, mxDoc);

// Get the XShapes interface of the draw page
XShapes xShapes = (XShapes) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(              XShapes.class,
xDrawPageSupplier.getDrawPage());

// Add both shapes
xShapes.add (xEllipse);
xShapes.add (xRect);

/*
This doesn't work, I am assured that FME and AMA are fixing it.
*/
XShapes xGrouper = (XShapes) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(              XShapes.class,
mxDocFactory.createInstance( "com.sun.star.drawing.GroupShape ");
XShape xGrouperShape = (XShape) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShape.class, xGrouper);
xShapes.add (xGrouperShape);
xGrouper.add (xRect);
xGrouper.add (xEllipse);
XShapeGrouper xShapeGrouper = (XShapeGrouper) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XShapeGrouper.class, xShapes);
xShapeGrouper.group (xGrouper);
*/

} catch (Exception e) { e.printStackTrace(System.out); } }
Redline

Redlines are text portions created in the user interface by switching on Edit - Changes - Record. Redlines in a document are accessed through the com.sun.star.document.XRedlinesSupplier interface at the document model. A collection of redlines as com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet objects are received that can be accessed as com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess or as com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess. Their properties are described in com.sun.star.text.RedlinePortion.

If a change is recorded, but not visible because the option Edit - Changes - Show has been switched off, redline text is contained in the property RedlineText, which is a com.sun.star.text.XText.

Calling XPropertySet.getPropertySetInfo() on a redline property set crashes the office.

Ruby

Ruby text is a character layout attribute used in Asian languages. Ruby text appears above or below text in left to right writing, and left to right of text in top to bottom writing. For examples, cf. http://www.w3.org/TR/1999/WD-ruby-19990322/.

Ruby text is created using the appropriate character properties from the service com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties wherever this service is supported. However, the Asian languages support must be switched on in Tools - Options - LanguageSettings - Languages.

There is no convenient supplier interface for ruby text at the model at this time. However, the controller has an interface com.sun.star.text.XRubySelection that provides access to rubies contained in the current selection.

To find ruby text in the model, enumerate all text portions in all paragraphs and check if the property TextPortionType contains the string "Ruby" to find ruby text. When there is ruby text, access the RubyText property of the text portion that contains ruby text as a string.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CharacterProperties for Ruby Text</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties: RubyText</td>
<td>Contains the text that is set as ruby.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:</td>
<td>Determines the adjustment of the ruby</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overall Document Features

Styles

Styles distinguish sections in a document that are commonly formatted and separates this information from the actual formatting. This way it is possible to unify the appearance of a document, and adjust the formatting of a document by altering a style, instead of local format settings after the document has been completed. Styles are packages of attributes that can be applied to text or text contents in a single step.

The following style families are available in OpenOffice.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Style Families</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CharacterStyles</td>
<td>Character styles are used to format single characters or entire words and phrases. Character styles can be nested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ParagraphStyles</td>
<td>Paragraph styles are used to format entire paragraphs. Apart from the normal format settings for paragraphs, the paragraph style also defines the font to be used, and the paragraph style for the following paragraph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FrameStyles</td>
<td>Frame styles are used to format graphic and text frames. These Styles are used to quickly format graphics and frames automatically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PageStyles</td>
<td>Page styles are used to structure the page. If a &quot;Next Style&quot; is specified, the OpenOffice.org automatically applies the specified page style when an automatic page break occurs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NumberingStyles</td>
<td>Numbering styles are used to format paragraphs in numbered or bulleted text.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The text document model implements the interface com.sun.star.style.XStyleFamiliesSupplier to access these styles. Its method getStyleFamilies() returns a collection of com.sun.star.style.StyleFamilies with a com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface. The com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface retrieves the style families by the

1. RubyAdjust
2. com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:
   - RubyCharStyleName: Contains the name of the character style that is applied to RubyText.
   - RubyIsAbove: Determines if the ruby text is printed above/left or below/right of the text.
names listed above. The StyleFamilies service supports a com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess.

From the StyleFamilies, retrieve one of the families listed above by name or index. A collection of styles are received which is a com.sun.star.style.StyleFamily service, providing access to the single styles through an com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer or an com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess.

Each style is a com.sun.star.style.Style and supports the interface com.sun.star.style.XStyle that inherits from com.sun.star.container.XNamed. The XStyle contains:

```plaintext
string getName() void setName([in] string aName) boolean isUserDefined() boolean isInUse() string getParentStyle() void setParentStyle([in] string aParentStyle)
```

The office comes with a set of default styles. These styles use programmatic names on the API level. The method setName() in XStyle always throws an exception if called at such styles. The same applies to changing the property Category. At the user interface localized names are used. The user interface names are provided through the property UserInterfaceName.

Note that page and numbering styles are not hierarchical and cannot have parent styles. The method getParentStyle() always returns an empty string, and the method setParentStyle() throws a com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException when called at a default style.

The method isUserDefined() determines whether a style is defined by a user or is a built-in style. A built-in style cannot be deleted. Additionally the built-in styles have two different names: a true object name and an alias that is displayed at the user interface. This is not usually visible in an English OpenOffice.org version, except for the default styles that are named "Standard" as programmatic name and "Default" in the user interface.

The Style service defines the following properties which are shared by all styles:

**Properties of com.sun.star.style.Style**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.Style:IsPhysical</td>
<td>[optional, readonly] boolean - Determines if a style is physically created.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.Style:FollowStyle</td>
<td>[optional] boolean - Contains the name of the style that is applied to the next paragraph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.Style:DisplayName</td>
<td>[optional, readonly] string - Contains the name of the style as is displayed in the user interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.style.Style:IsAutoUpdate</td>
<td>[optional] string - Determines if a style is automatically updated when the properties of an object that the style is applied to are changed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
com.sun.star.style.Style\:ParaStyleConditions
[optional, property] sequence<
com.sun.star.beans:NamedValue > - Defines the context and styles for conditional paragraphs. This property is only available if the style is a conditional paragraph style.

To determine the user interface name, each style has a string property DisplayName that contains the name that is used at the user interface. It is not allowed to use a DisplayName of a style as a name of a user-defined style of the same style family.

The built-in styles are not created actually as long as they are not used in the document. The property IsPhysical checks for this. It is necessary, for file export purposes, to detect styles which do not need to be exported.

Conditional paragraph styles are handled by the property com.sun.star.style.Style\:ParaStyleConditions. The sequence consists of pairs where the name part (the first part) of the pair defines the context where the style (the second part, a string that denotes a style name or an empty string) should be applied to. Assigning an empty string to the style name will disable the conditional style for that context.

The StyleFamilies collection can load styles. For this purpose, the interface com.sun.star.style.XStyleLoader is available at the StyleFamilies collection. It consists of two methods:

```java
void loadStylesFromURL( [in] string URL,                          [in]
sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aOptions) sequence<
com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > getStyleLoaderOptions()
```

The method loadStylesFromURL() enables the document to import styles from other documents. The expected sequence of PropertyValue structs can contain the following properties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties for loadStylesFromURL()</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LoadTextStyles</td>
<td>Determines if character and paragraph styles are to be imported. It is not possible to select character styles and paragraph styles separately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LoadFrameStyles</td>
<td>boolean - Import frame styles only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LoadPageStyles</td>
<td>boolean - Import page styles only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LoadNumberingStyles</td>
<td>boolean - Import numbering styles only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OverwriteStyles</td>
<td>boolean - Determines if internal styles are overwritten if the source document contains styles having the same name.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The method getStyleLoaderOptions() returns a sequence of these PropertyValue structs, set to their default values.
**Character Styles**

Character styles support all properties defined in the services com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties and com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian.

They are created using the com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface of the text document model using the service name "com.sun.star.style.CharacterStyle".

The default style that is shown in the user interface and accessible through the API is not a style, but a tool to remove applied character styles. Therefore, its properties cannot be changed.

Set the property **CharStyleName** at an object including the service com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties to set its character style.

**Paragraph Styles**


They are created using the com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface of the text document model using the service name "com.sun.star.style.ParagraphStyle".

Additionally, there is a service com.sun.star.style.ConditionalParagraphStyle which creates conditional paragraph styles. Conditional styles are paragraph styles that have different effects, depending on the context. There is currently no support of the condition properties at the API.

Set the property **ParaStyleName** at an object, including the service com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties to set its paragraph style.

**Frame Styles**

Frame styles support all properties defined in the services com.sun.star.text.BaseFrameProperties.
The frame styles are applied to text frames, graphic objects and embedded objects. They are created using the com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface of the text document model using the service name "com.sun.star.style.FrameStyle".

Set the property FrameStyleName at com.sun.star.text.BaseFrame objects to set their frame style.

Page Styles

Page styles are controlled via properties. The page related properties are defined in the services com.sun.star.style.PageStyle.

They are created using the com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface of the text document model using the service name "com.sun.star.style.PageStyle".

As mentioned above, page styles are not hierarchical. The section Page Layout discusses page styles.

The PageStyle is set at the current text cursor position by setting the property PageDescName to an existing page style name. This will insert a new page that uses the new page style. If no new page should be inserted, the cursor has to be at the beginning of the first paragraph.

Numbering Styles

Numbering styles support all properties defined in the services com.sun.star.text.NumberingStyle.

They are created using the com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface of the text document model using the service name "com.sun.star.style.NumberingStyle".

The structure of the numbering rules is described in section Line Numbering and Outline Numbering.

The name of the numbering style is set in the property NumberingStyleName of paragraphs (set through the PropertySet of a TextCursor) or a paragraph style to apply the numbering to the paragraphs.
The following example demonstrates the use of paragraph styles:

```java
/** This method demonstrates how to create, insert and apply styles */
protected void StylesExample() {
    try {
        // Go to the end of the document
        mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(false);

        // Insert two paragraph breaks
        mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
        mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);

        // Create a new style from the document's factory
        XStyle xStyle = (XStyle) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XStyle.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.style.ParagraphStyle"));

        // Access the XPropertySet interface of the new style
        XPropertySet xStyleProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xStyle);

        // Give the new style a light blue background
        xStyleProps.setPropertyValue("ParaBackColor", new Integer(13421823));

        // Get the StyleFamiliesSupplier interface of the document
        XStyleFamiliesSupplier xSupplier = (XStyleFamiliesSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XStyleFamiliesSupplier.class, mxDoc);

        // Use the StyleFamiliesSupplier interface to get the XNameAccess interface of the actual style families
        XNameAccess xFamilies = (XNameAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameAccess.class, xSupplier.getStyleFamilies());

        // Access the 'ParagraphStyles' Family
        XNameContainer xFamily = (XNameContainer) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameContainer.class, xFamilies.getByName("ParagraphStyles"));

        // Insert the newly created style into the ParagraphStyles family
        xFamily.insertByName("All-Singing All-Dancing Style", xStyle);

        // Get the XParagraphCursor interface of the document cursor
        XParagraphCursor xParaCursor = (XParagraphCursor) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XParagraphCursor.class, mxDocCursor);

        // Select the first paragraph inserted
        xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(false);
        xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(true);

        // Access the property set of the cursor selection
        XPropertySet xCursorProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, mxDocCursor);

        // Set the style of the cursor selection to our newly created style
        xCursorProps.setPropertyValue("ParaStyleName", "All-Singing All-Dancing Style");

        // Go back to the end
        mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(false);

        // Select the last paragraph in the document
        xParaCursor.gotoNextParagraph(true);

        // And reset it's style to 'Standard' (the programmatic name for the default style)
        xCursorProps.setPropertyValue("ParaStyleName", "Standard");
    } catch (Exception e) {
        e.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
}
```
**General Document Information**

Text documents offer general information about the document through their com.sun.star.document.XDocumentInfoSupplier interface. The [DocumentInfo](#) is a common OpenOffice.org feature and is discussed in [Office Development](#).

The `XDocumentInfoSupplier` has one single method:

```java
com::sun::star::document::XDocumentInfo getDocumentInfo()
```

which returns a `com.sun.star.document.DocumentInfo` service, offering the statistical information about the document that is available through [File - Properties](#) in the GUI.

**Document Properties**

The model implements a `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet` that provides properties concerning character formatting and general settings.

The properties for character attributes are `CharFontName`, `CharFontStyleName`, `CharFontFamily`, `CharFontCharSet`, `CharFontPitch` and their Asian counterparts `CharFontStyleNameAsian`, `CharFontFamilyAsian`, `CharFontCharSetAsian`, `CharFontPitchAsian`.

The following properties handle general settings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.AdvancedTextDocument:CharLocale</code></td>
<td><code>com.sun.star.lang.Locale</code>. Default locale of the document.</td>
<td><code>long</code> - Number of characters.</td>
<td><code>string</code> - Contains all that characters that are treated as separators between words to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>com.sun.star.text.AdvancedTextDocument:CharacterCount</code></td>
<td><code>long</code> - Number of paragraphs.</td>
<td><code>long</code> - Number of words.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Settings

com.sun.star.text.TextDocument:RedlineDisplayType

RecordChanges

determine word count.

com.sun.star.document.RedlineDisplayType.

boolean - Determines if redlining is switched on.

com.sun.star.text.TextDocument:ShowChanges

boolean - Determines if redlines are displayed.

com.sun.star.text.TextDocument:RedlineProtectionKey

sequence < byte >. Contains the password key.


Contains characters that are not allowed to be at the first or last character of a text line.

com.sun.star.i18n.ForbiddenCharacters.

short - Determines the start of the range, for example, when entering a two-digit year.

com.sun.star.text.GenericTextDocument:IndexAutoMarkFileURL

string - The URL to the file that contains the search words and settings of the automatic marking of index marks for alphabetical indexes.

com.sun.star.document.OfficeDocument:AutomaticControlFocus

boolean - If true, the first form object is selected when the document is loaded.

com.sun.star.document.OfficeDocument:ApplyFormDesignMode

boolean - Determines if form (database) controls are in the design mode.

com.sun.star.text.TextDocument:HideFieldTips

boolean - If true, the automatic tips displayed for some types of text fields are suppressed.

Creating Default Settings

The com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory implemented at the model provides the service com.sun.star.text.Defaults. Use this service to find out default values to set paragraph and character properties of the document to default.

Creating Document Settings

Another set of properties can be created by the service name com.sun.star.document.Settings that contains a number of additional settings.
Line Numbering and Outline Numbering

OpenOffice.org provides automatic numbering for texts. For instance, paragraphs can be numbered or listed with bullets in a hierarchical manner, chapter headings can be numbered and lines can be counted and numbered.

Paragraph and Outline Numbering

The key for paragraph numbering is the paragraph property NumberingRules. This property is provided by paragraphs and numbering styles and is a member of com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties.

A similar object controls outline numbering and is returned from the method:

com::sun::star::container::XIndexReplace getChapterNumberingRules()

at the com.sun.star.text.XChapterNumberingSupplier interface that is implemented at the document model.

These objects provide an interface com.sun.star.container.XIndexReplace. Each element of the container represents a numbering level. The writer document provides ten numbering levels. The highest level is zero. Each level of the container consists of a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue.

The two related objects differ in some of properties they provide.

Both of them provide the following properties:

**Common Properties for Paragraph and Outline Numbering in com.sun.star.text.NumberingLevel**

- **Adjust**
- **ParentNumbering**
- **Prefix**
- **Suffix**

**short** - Adjustment of the numbering symbol defined in com.sun.star.text.HoriOrientation.

**short** - Determines if higher numbering levels are included in the numbering, for example, 2.3.1.2.

**string** - Contains strings that surround the numbering symbol, for example, brackets.
com.sun.star.text.NumberingLevel: CharStyleName
string - Name of the character style that is applied to the number symbol.
com.sun.star.text.NumberingLevel: StartWith
short - Determines the value the numbering starts with. The default is one.
com.sun.star.text.NumberingLevel: FirstLineOffset
long - Influences the left indent and left margin of the numbering.
com.sun.star.text.NumberingLevel: SymbolTextDistance
[optional] long - Distance between the numbering symbol and the text of the paragraph.
com.sun.star.text.NumberingLevel: NumberingType
short - Determines the type of the numbering defined in com.sun.star.style.NumberingType.

Only paragraphs have the following properties in their NumberingRules property:

**Paragraph NumberingRules**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties in com.sun.star.text.NumberingLevel</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.NumberingLevel: BulletChar</td>
<td>string - Determines the bullet character if the numbering type is set to NumberingType::CHAR_SPECIAL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.NumberingLevel: BulletFontName</td>
<td>string - Determines the bullet font if the numbering type is set to NumberingType::CHAR_SPECIAL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.NumberingLevel: GraphicURL</td>
<td>string - Determines the type, size and orientation of a graphic when the numbering type is set to NumberingType::BITMAP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GraphicBitmap</td>
<td>Undocumented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GraphicSize</td>
<td>Undocumented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.NumberingLevel: VerticalOrientation</td>
<td>short - Vertical orientation of a graphic according to com.sun.star.text.VertOrientation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Only the chapter numbering rules provide the following property:

**Property of com.sun.star.text.ChapterNumberingRule**

| com.sun.star.text.ChapterNumberingRule: HeadingStyleName | string - Contains the name of the paragraph style that marks a paragraph as a chapter heading. |
Note – Note that the NumberingRules service is returned by value like most properties in the OpenOffice.org API, therefore you must get the rules from the XPropertySet, change them and put the NumberingRules object back into the property.

The following is an example for the NumberingRules service:

```java
/** This method demonstrates how to set numbering types and numbering levels */
protected void NumberingExample() {
    try {
        // Go to the end of the document
        mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(false);
        // Get the RelativeTextContentInsert interface of the document
        XRelativeTextContentInsert xRelative = (XRelativeTextContentInsert)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRelativeTextContentInsert.class, mxDocText);
        // Use the document's factory to create the NumberingRules service, and get
        // its's InterfaceAccess interface
        XIndexAccess xNum = (XIndexAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XIndexAccess.class,
            mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.NumberingRules"));
        // Also get the NumberingRule's IndexReplace interface
        XIndexReplace xReplace = (XIndexReplace)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XIndexReplace.class, xNum);
        // Create an array of XPropertySets, one for each of the three paragraphs
        // we're about to create
        XPropertySet xParas[] = new XPropertySet[3];
        for (int i = 0; i < 3; ++i) {
            // Create a new paragraph
            XTextContent xNewPara = (XTextContent)
                UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextContent.class,
                    mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.Paragraph"));
            // Get the XPropertySet interface of the new paragraph and put it in our array
            xParas[i] = (XPropertySet)
                UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xNewPara);
            // Insert the new paragraph into the document after the fish section. As it is
            // an insert relative to the fish section, the first paragraph inserted will be below
            // the next two
            xRelative.insertTextContentAfter (xNewPara, mxFishSection);
            // Get the PropertyValue sequence for this numbering level
            PropertyValue[] aProps = (PropertyValue[]) xNum.getByIndex(i);
            // Iterate over the PropertyValue's for this numbering level, looking for the
            // 'NumberingType' property
            for (int j = 0; j < aProps.length; ++j) {
                if (aProps[j].Name.equals("NumberingType")) {
                    // Once we find it, set it's value to a new type,
                    switch ( i ) {
                        case 0 : aProps[j].Value = new Short(NumberingType.ROMAN_UPPER); break;
                        case 1 : aProps[j].Value = new Short(NumberingType.CHARS_UPPER_LETTER); break;
                        case 2 : aProps[j].Value = new Short(NumberingType.ARABIC); break;
                    }
                    // Put the updated PropertyValue sequence back into the
                    // NumberingRules service
                    xReplace.replaceByIndex (i, aProps);
                }
            }
            // Get the XParagraphCursor interface of our text cursor
            XParagraphCursor xParaCursor = (XParagraphCursor)
                UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XParagraphCursor.class, xNewPara);
            // Insert the new paragraph into the document after the fish section. As it is
            // an insert relative to the fish section, the first paragraph inserted will be below
            // the next two
            xRelative.insertTextContentAfter (xNewPara, mxFishSection);
        }
    }
```
Line Numbering

The text document model supports the interface com.sun.star.text.XLineNumberingProperties. The provided object has the properties described in the service com.sun.star.text.LineNumberingProperties. It is used in conjunction with the paragraph properties ParaLineNumberCount and ParaLineNumberNumberStartValue.

Number Formats

The text document model provides access to the number formatter through aggregation, that is, it provides the interface com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatsSupplier seamlessly.

The number formatter is used to format numerical values. For details, refer to Number Formats.

In text, text fields with numeric content and table cells provide a property NumberFormat that contains a long value that refers to a number format.
Text Sections

A text section is a range of complete paragraphs that can have its own format settings and source location, separate from the surrounding text. Text sections can be nested in a hierarchical structure.

For example, a section is formatted to have text columns that different column settings in a text on a paragraph by paragraph basis. The content of a section can be linked through file links or over a DDE connection.

The text sections support the service com.sun.star.text.TextSection. To access the sections, the text document model implements the interface com.sun.star.text.XTextSectionsSupplier that provides an interface com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess. The returned objects support the interface com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess, as well.

Master documents implement the structure of sub documents using linked text sections.

An example demonstrating the creation, insertion and linking of text sections:

```java
/** This method demonstrates how to create linked and unlinked sections */
protected void TextSectionExample() {
  try {
    // Go to the end of the document
    mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(false);
    // Insert two paragraph breaks
    mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
    mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, true);
    // Create a new TextSection from the document factory and access it's XNamed interface
    XNamed xChildNamed = (XNamed) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.TextSection"));
    // Set the new sections name to 'Child_Section'
    xChildNamed.setName("Child_Section");
    // Access the Child_Section's XTextContent interface and insert it into the document
    XTextContent xChildSection = (XTextContent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextContent.class, xChildNamed);
    mxDocText.insertTextContent(mxDocCursor, xChildSection, false);
    // Access the XParagraphCursor interface of our text cursor
    XParagraphCursor xParaCursor = (XParagraphCursor) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XParagraphCursor.class, mxDocCursor);
    // Go back one paragraph (into Child_Section)
    xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(false);
    // Insert a string into the Child_Section
    mxDocText.insertString(mxDocCursor, "This is a test", false);
    // Go to the end of the document
    mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(false);
    // Go back two paragraphs
    xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(false);
    xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(false);
    // Go to the end of the document, selecting the two paragraphs
    mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(true);
  }
}
```
// Create another text section and access it's XNamed interface          XNamed
xParentNamed = (XNamed) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.TextSection"));

// Set this text section's name to Parent_Section                  xParentNamed.setName("Parent_Section");

// Access the Parent_Section's XTextContent interface ...          XTextContent
xParentSection = (XTextContent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(             XTextContent.class, xParentNamed);

// ...and insert it into the document
mxDocText.insertTextContent(mxDocCursor, xParentSection, false);

// Go to the end of the document             mxDocCursor.gotoEnd
(false); // Insert a new paragraph
mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false); // And select the new paragraph
xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(true);

// Create a new Text Section and access it's XNamed interface          XNamed
xLinkNamed = (XNamed) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.TextSection")); // Set the new text section's name to Linked_Section
xLinkNamed.setName("Linked_Section");

// Access the Linked_Section's XTextContent interface          XTextContent
xLinkedSection = (XTextContent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(             XTextContent.class, xLinkNamed);

// And insert the Linked_Section into the document
mxDocText.insertTextContent(mxDocCursor, xLinkedSection, false);

// Access the Linked_Section's XPropertySet interface          XPropertySet
xLinkProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(             XPropertySet.class, xLinkNamed);

// Set the linked section to be linked to the Child_Section
xLinkProps.setPropertyValue("LinkRegion", "Child_Section");

// Access the XPropertySet interface of the Child_Section          XPropertySet
xChildProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(             XPropertySet.class, xChildNamed);

// Set the Child_Section's background colour to blue
xChildProps.setPropertyValue("BackColor", new Integer(13421823));

// Refresh the document, so the linked section matches the Child_Section
XRefreshable xRefresh = (XRefreshable) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRefreshable.class, mxDoc); xRefresh.refresh();

} catch (Exception e) { e.printStackTrace(System.out); } }

---

Page Layout

A page layout in OpenOffice.org is always a page style. A page can not be hard formatted. To change the current page layout, retrieve the current page style from the text cursor property PageStyleName and get this page style from the StyleFamily PageStyles.

Changes of the page layout happen through the properties described in
com.sun.star.style.PageProperties. Refer to the API reference for details on all the possible properties, including the header and footer texts which are part of these properties.

As headers or footers are connected to a page style, the text objects are provided as properties of the style. Depending on the setting of the page layout, there is one header and footer text object per style available or there are two, a left and right header, and footer text:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The page layout of a page style can be equal on left and right pages, mirrored, or separate for right and left pages. This is controlled by the property `PageStyleLayout` that expects values from the enum `com.sun.star.style.PageStyleLayout`. As long as left and right pages are equal, `HeaderText` and `HeaderTextRight` are identical. The same applies to the footers.

The text objects in headers and footers are only available if headers or footers are switched on, using the properties `HeaderIsOn` and `FooterIsOn`.

Drawing objects cannot be inserted into headers or footers.

**Columns**

Text frames, text sections and page styles can be formatted to have columns. The width of columns is relative since the absolute width of the object is unknown in the model. The layout formatting is responsible for calculating the actual widths of the columns.

Columns are applied using the property `TextColumns`. It expects a `com.sun.star.text.TextColumns` service that has to be created by the document factory. The interface `com.sun.star.text.XTextColumns` refines the characteristics of the text columns before applying the created `TextColumns` service to the property `TextColumns`.

Consider the following example to see how to work with text columns:
/** This method demonstrates the XTextColumns interface and how to insert a blank paragraph using the XRelativeTextContentInsert interface */
protected void TextColumnsExample() {
    try {
        // Go to the end of the document
        mxDocCursor.gotoEnd(false);
        // insert a new paragraph
        mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
        // insert the string 'I am a fish.' 100 times
        for (int i = 0; i < 100; ++i) {
            mxDocText.insertString(mxDocCursor, "I am a fish.", false);
        }
        // insert a paragraph break after the text
        mxDocText.insertControlCharacter(mxDocCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
        // Get the XParagraphCursor interface of our text cursor
        XParagraphCursor xParaCursor = (XParagraphCursor) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XParagraphCursor.class, mxDocCursor);
        // Jump back before all the text we just inserted
        xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(false);
        xParaCursor.gotoPreviousParagraph(false);
        // Insert a string at the beginning of the block of text
        mxDocText.insertString(mxDocCursor, "Fish section begins:", false);
        // Then select all of the text
        xParaCursor.gotoNextParagraph(true);
        xParaCursor.gotoNextParagraph(true);
        // Create a new text section and get it's XNamed interface
        XNamed xSectionNamed = (XNamed) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.TextSection"));
        // Set the name of our new section (appropriately) to 'Fish'
        xSectionNamed.setName("Fish");
        // Create the TextColumns service and get it's XTextColumns interface
        XTextColumns xColumns = (XTextColumns) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextColumns.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.TextColumns"));
        // We want three columns
        xColumns.setColumnCount((short) 3);
        // Get the TextColumns, and make the middle one narrow with a larger margin on the left than the right
        TextColumn[] aSequence = xColumns.getColumns();
        aSequence[1].Width /= 2;
        aSequence[1].LeftMargin = 350;
        aSequence[1].RightMargin = 200;
        // Set the updated TextColumns back to the XTextColumns
        xColumns.setColumns(aSequence);
        // Get the property set interface of our 'Fish' section
        XPropertySet xSectionProps = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xSectionNamed);
        // Set the columns to the Text Section
        xSectionProps.setPropertyValue("TextColumns", xColumns);
        // Get the XTextContent interface of our 'Fish' section
        mxFishSection = (XTextContent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextContent.class, xSectionNamed);
        // Insert the 'Fish' section over the currently selected text
        mxDocText.insertTextContent(mxDocCursor, mxFishSection, true);
        // Get the wonderful XRelativeTextContentInsert interface
        XRelativeTextContentInsert xRelative = (XRelativeTextContentInsert) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRelativeTextContentInsert.class, mxDocText);
        // Create a new empty paragraph and get it's XTextContent interface
        XTextContent xNewPara = (XTextContent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextContent.class, mxDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.Paragraph"));
The text columns property consists of com.sun.star.text.TextColumn structs. The Width elements of all structs in the TextColumns sequence make up a sum, that is provided by the method getReferenceValue() of the XTextColumns interface. To determine the metric width of an actual column, the reference value and the columns width element have to be calculated using the metric width of the object (page, text frame, text section) and a rule of three, for example:

\[
\text{nColumn3Width} = \frac{\text{aColumns[3].Width}}{\text{xTextColumns.getReferenceValue()}} \times \text{RealObjectWidth}
\]

The column margins (LeftMargin, and RightMargin elements of the struct) are inside of the column. Their values do not influence the column width. They just limit the space available for the column content.

The default column setting in OpenOffice.org creates columns with equal margins at inner columns, and no left margin at the leftmost column and no right margin at the rightmost column. Therefore, the relative width of the first and last column is smaller than those of the inner columns. This causes a limitation of this property: Setting the text columns with equal column content widths and equal margins is only possible when the width of the object (text frame, text section) can be determined. Unfortunately this is impossible when the width of the object depends on its environment itself.

**Link Targets**

The interface com.sun.star.document.XLinkTargetSupplier of the document model provides all elements of the document that can be used as link targets. These targets can be used for load URLs and sets the selection to a certain position object inside of a document. An example of a URL containing a link target is "file:///c:/documents/document1|bookmarkname".

This interface is used from the hyperlink dialog to detect the links available inside of a document.

The interface com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess returned by the method getLinks() provides access to an array of target types. These types are:

- Tables
- Text frame
- Graphics
The names of the elements depend on the installed language.

Each returned object supports the interfaces com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet and interface com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess. The property set provides the properties LinkDisplayName (string) and LinkDisplayBitmap (com.sun.star.awt.XBitmap). Each of these objects provides an array of targets of the relating type. Each target returned supports the interface com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet and the property LinkDisplayName (string).

The name of the objects is the bookmark to be added to the document URL, for example, "Table1|table". The LinkDisplayName contains the name of the object, e.g. "Table1".

Text Document Controller

The text document model knows its controller and it can lock the controller to block user interaction. The appropriate methods in the model's com.sun.star.frame.XModel interface are:

```java
void lockControllers() void unlockControllers() boolean hasControllersLocked() com::sun::star::frame::XController getCurrentController() void setCurrentController( [in] com::sun::star::frame::XController xController)
```

The controller returned by getCurrentController() shares the following interfaces with all other document controllers in OpenOffice.org:

- com.sun.star.frame.XController
- com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider
- com.sun.star.ui.XContextMenuInterceptor

Document controllers are explained in the Office Development.

TextView

The writer controller implementation supports the interface
com.sun.star.view.XSelectionSupplier that returns the object that is currently selected in the user interface.

Its method `getSelection()` returns an any that may contain the following object depending on the selection:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selection</th>
<th>Returned Object</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Text</td>
<td>com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess containing one or more com.sun.star.uno.XInterface pointing to a text range.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection of table cells</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface pointing to a table cursor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text frame</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface pointing to a text frame.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphic object</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface pointing to a graphic object.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLE object</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface pointing to an OLE object.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shape, Form control</td>
<td>com.sun.star.uno.XInterface pointing to a com.sun.star.drawing.ShapeCollection containing one or more shapes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

`com.sun.star.view.XControlAccess` provides access to the controller of form controls.

`com.sun.star.text.XTextViewCursorSupplier` provides access to the cursor of the view.

`com.sun.star.text.XRubySelection` provides access to rubies contained in the selection. This interface is necessary for Asian language support.

`com.sun.star.view.XViewSettingsSupplier` provides access to the settings of the view as described in the service com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings.

**Properties of com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings**

- `com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowAnnotations` boolean - If true, annotations (notes) are visible.
- `com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowBreaks` boolean - If true, paragraph line breaks are visible.
- `com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowDrawings` boolean - If true, shapes are visible.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowFieldCommands</td>
<td>boolean - If true, text fields are shown with their commands, otherwise the content is visible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowFootnoteBackground</td>
<td>boolean - If true, footnotes symbols are displayed with gray background.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowGraphics</td>
<td>boolean - If true, graphic objects are visible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowHiddenParagraphs</td>
<td>boolean - If true, hidden paragraphs are displayed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowHiddenText</td>
<td>boolean - If true, hidden text is displayed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowHoriRuler</td>
<td>boolean - If true, the horizontal ruler is displayed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowHoriScrollBar</td>
<td>boolean - If true, the horizontal scroll bar is displayed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowIndexMarkBackground</td>
<td>boolean - If true, index marks are displayed with gray background.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowParaBreaks</td>
<td>boolean - If true, paragraph breaks are visible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowProtectedSpaces</td>
<td>boolean - If true, protected spaces (hard spaces) are displayed with gray background.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowSoftHyphens</td>
<td>boolean - If true, soft hyphens are displayed with gray background.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowSpaces</td>
<td>boolean - If true, spaces are displayed with dots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowTableBoundaries</td>
<td>boolean - If true, table boundaries are displayed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowTables</td>
<td>boolean - If true, tables are visible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowTabstops</td>
<td>boolean - If true, tab stops are visible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowTextBoundaries</td>
<td>boolean - If true, text boundaries are displayed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowTextFieldBackground</td>
<td>boolean - If true, text fields are displayed with gray background.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowVertRuler</td>
<td>boolean - If true, the vertical ruler is displayed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ShowVertScrollBar</td>
<td>boolean - If true, the vertical scroll bar is displayed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:SmoothScrolling</td>
<td>boolean - If true, smooth scrolling is active.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:SolidMarkHandles</td>
<td>boolean - If true, handles of drawing objects are visible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.text.ViewSettings:ZoomType</td>
<td>short - defines the zoom type for the document as defined in</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TextView

com.sun.star.view.DocumentZoomType:ZoomValue

short - defines the zoom value to use, the value is given as percentage. Valid only if the property ZoomType is set to com.sun.star.view.DocumentZoomType:BY_VALUE.

In StarOffice 6.0 and OpenOffice.org 1.0 you can only influence the zoom factor by setting the ZoomType to BY_VALUE and adjusting ZoomValue explicitly. The other zoom types have no effect.

TextViewCursor

The text controller has a visible cursor that is used in the GUI. Get the com.sun.star.text.TextViewCursor by calling getTextViewCursor() at the com.sun.star.text.XTextViewCursorSupplier interface of the current text document controller.

It supports the following cursor capabilities that depend on having the necessary information about the current layout state, therefore it is not supported by the model cursor.

com.sun.star.text.XPageCursor

boolean jumpToFirstPage() boolean jumpToLastPage() boolean jumpToPage( [in] long pageNo) long getPage() boolean jumpToNextPage() boolean jumpToPreviousPage() boolean jumpToEndOfPage() boolean jumpToStartOfPage()

com.sun.star.view.XScreenCursor

boolean screenDown() boolean screenUp()

com.sun.star.view.XLineCursor


com.sun.star.view.XViewCursor


Additionally the interface com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet is supported.

Currently, the view cursor does not have the capabilities as the document cursor does. Therefore, it is necessary to create a document cursor to have access to the full text cursor functionality. The method createTextCursorByRange() is used:
XText xCrsrText = xViewCursor.getText(); // Create a TextCursor over the view
cursor's contents XTextCursor xDocumentCursor =
    xViewText.createTextCursorByRange(xViewCursor.getStart());
    xDocumentCursor.gotoRange(xViewCursor.getEnd(), true);
OpenOffice.org API knows three variants of tables: text tables (see Tables), database tables (see Table Service) and spreadsheets. Each of the table concepts have their own purpose. Text tables handle text contents, database tables offer database functionality and spreadsheets operate on data cells that can be evaluated. Being specialized in such a way means that each concept has its strength. Text tables offer full functionality for text formatting, where spreadsheets support complex calculations. Alternately, spreadsheets support only basic formatting capabilities and text tables perform elementary calculations.

The implementation of the various tables differ due to each of their specializations. Basic table features are defined in the module <idlmodule>com.sun.star.table</idlmodule>. Regarding the compatibility of text and spreadsheet tables, the corresponding features are also located in the module <idlmodule>com.sun.star.table</idlmodule>. In addition, spreadsheet tables are fully based on the specifications given and are extended by additional specifications from the module <idlmodule>com.sun.star.sheet</idlmodule>. Several services of the spreadsheet application representing cells and cell ranges extend the common services from the module com::sun::star::table. The following table shows the services for cells and cell ranges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spreadsheet service</th>
<th>Included com::sun::star::table service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sheet.Cells</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The spreadsheet document model in the OpenOffice.org API has five major architectural areas (see Illustration 9.1) The five areas:

- Spreadsheets Container
- Service Manager (document internal)
- DrawPages
- Content Properties
- Objects for Styling

Spreadsheet Document Component

The core of the spreadsheet document model are the spreadsheets contained in the spreadsheets container. When working with document data, almost everything happens in the spreadsheet objects extracted from the spreadsheets container.

The service manager of the spreadsheet document model creates shape objects, text
fields for page headers and form controls that can be added to spreadsheets. Note, that the document service manager is different from the main service manager used when connecting to the office. Each document model has its own service manager, so that the services can be adapted to the document they are required for. For instance, a text field is ordered and inserted into the page header text of a sheet using `<idlml>com.sun.star.text.XText:insertTextContent</idlml>()` or the service manager is asked for a shape object and inserts it into a sheet using `add()` at the drawpage.

Each sheet in a spreadsheet document can have a drawpage for drawing contents. A drawpage can be visualized as a transparent layer above a sheet. The spreadsheet model is able to provide all drawpages in a spreadsheet document at once.

Linked and named contents from all sheets are accessed through content properties at the document model. There are no content suppliers as in text documents, because the actual content of a spreadsheet document lies in its sheet objects. Rather, there are only certain properties for named and linked contents in all sheets.

Finally, there are services that allow for document wide styling and structuring of the spreadsheet document. Among them are style family suppliers for cells and pages, and a number formats supplier.

Besides these five architectural areas, there are document and calculation aspects shown at the bottom of the illustration. The document aspects of our model are: it is printable, storable, and modifiable, it can be protected and audited, and it supplies general information about itself. On the lower left of the illustration, the calculation aspects are listed. Although almost all spreadsheet functionality can be found at the spreadsheet objects, a few common functions are bound to the spreadsheet document model: goal seeking, consolidation and recalculation of all cells.

Finally, the document model has a controller that provides access to the graphical user interface of the model and has knowledge about the current view status in the user interface (see the upper left of the illustration).

The usage of the spreadsheet objects in the spreadsheets container is discussed in detail in the section Working With Spreadsheet Documents. Before discussing spreadsheet objects, consider two examples and how they handle a spreadsheet document, that is, how to create, open, save and print.

---

Example: Adding a New Spreadsheet

The following helper method opens a new spreadsheet document component. The
Example: Adding a New Spreadsheet

method getRemoteServiceManager() retrieves a connection. Refer to chapter First Steps for additional information.

```java
...
protected XComponent newSpreadsheetComponent() throws java.lang.Exception {
    String loadUrl = "private:factory/scalc";
    XRemoteServiceManager = this.getRemoteServiceManager(unoUrl);
    Object desktop =
        xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", xRemoteContext);
    XComponentLoader xComponentLoader =
        (XComponentLoader) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponentLoader.class, desktop);
    PropertyValue[] loadProps = new PropertyValue[0];
    return xComponentLoader.loadComponentFromURL(loadUrl, "_blank", 0, loadProps); }
```

Our helper returns a com.sun.star.lang.XComponent interface for the recently loaded document. Now the XComponent is passed to the following method insertSpreadsheet() to add a new spreadsheet to our document.

```java
...
/** Inserts a new empty spreadsheet with the specified name.
 * @param xSheetComponent The XComponent interface of a loaded document object
 * @param aName The name of the new sheet.
 * @param nIndex The insertion index.
 * @return The XSpreadsheet interface of the new sheet.
 */
public XSpreadsheet insertSpreadsheet(XComponent xSheetComponent, String aName, short nIndex) {
    XSpreadsheetDocument xDocument =
        (XSpreadsheetDocument) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSpreadsheetDocument.class, xSheetComponent);
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheets xSheets =
        xDocument.getSheets();
    try {
        xSheets.insertNewByName(aName, nIndex);
        xSheet =
            xSheets.getByName(aName);
    } catch (Exception ex) {
    }
    return xSheet; }
```

Example: Editing Spreadsheet Cells

The method insertSpreadsheet() returns a com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet interface. This interface is passed to the method below, which shows how to access and modify the content and formatting of single cells. The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet returned by insertSpreadsheet() is derived from com.sun.star.table.XCellRange. By working with it, cells can be accessed immediately using getCellByPosition():

```java
void cellWork(XSpreadsheet xRange) {
    com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPropSet = null;
    com.sun.star.table.XCell xCell = null;
    
    // Collection of sheets
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheets xSheets =
        xRange.getSheets();
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet xSheet = null;
    try {
        xSheets.insertNewByName(aName, nIndex);
        xSheet =
            xSheets.getByName(aName);
    } catch (Exception ex) {
    }
    return xSheet; }
```
Handling Spreadsheet Documents Files

Creating and Loading Spreadsheet Documents

If a document in OpenOffice.org API is required, begin by getting a com.sun.star.frame.Desktop service from the service manager. The desktop handles all document components in OpenOffice.org API. It is discussed thoroughly in the chapter Office Development. Office documents are often called components, because they support the com.sun.star.lang.XComponent interface. An XComponent is a UNO object that can be disposed of directly and broadcast an event to other UNO objects when the object is disposed.

The Desktop can load new and existing components from a URL. For this purpose it has a com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader interface that has one single method to load and instantiate components from a URL into a frame:

```java
com::sun::star::lang::XComponent loadComponentFromURL( [IN] string aURL,  [IN] string aTargetFrameName,  [IN] long nSearchFlags,  [IN] sequence <com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue[]> aArgs )
```

The interesting parameters in our context is the URL that describes the resource that is loaded and the load arguments. For the target frame, pass a "_blank" and set the search flags to 0. In most cases, existing frames are not reused.
The URL can be a file: URL, an http: URL, an ftp: URL or a private: URL. Locate the correct URL format in the Load URL box in the function bar of OpenOffice.org API. For new spreadsheet documents, a special URL scheme is used. The scheme is "private:”, followed by "factory". The resource is "scalc" for OpenOffice.org API spreadsheet documents. For a new spreadsheet document, use "private:factory/scalc".

The load arguments are described in com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor. The properties AsTemplate and Hidden are boolean values and used for programming. If AsTemplate is true, the loader creates a new untitled document from the given URL. If it is false, template files are loaded for editing. If Hidden is true, the document is loaded in the background. This is useful to generate a document in the background without letting the user observe what is happening. For instance, use it to generate a document and print it out without previewing. Refer to Office Development for other available options. This snippet loads a document in hidden mode:

```java
// the method getRemoteServiceManager is described in the chapter First Steps
mxRemoteServiceManager = this.getRemoteServiceManager(unoUrl);

// retrieve the Desktop object, we need its XComponentLoader Object
desktop = mxRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", mxRemoteContext);

// query the XComponentLoader interface from the Desktop service
XComponentLoader xComponentLoader = (XComponentLoader)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponentLoader.class, desktop);

// define load properties according to com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor
/* or simply create an empty array of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue structs:
   PropertyValue[] loadProps = new PropertyValue[0]
*/
PropertyValue[] loadProps = new PropertyValue[1]; loadProps[0] = new PropertyValue(); loadProps[0].Name = "Hidden"; loadProps[0].Value = new Boolean(true);

// load return xComponentLoader.loadComponentFromURL(loadUrl, "_blank", 0, loadProps);
```

Saving Spreadsheet Documents

Storing

Documents are storable through their interface com.sun.star.frame.XStorable. This interface is discussed in detail in Office Development. An XStorable implements
these operations:

```java
boolean hasLocation() string getLocation() boolean isReadonly() void store()
void storeAsURL([in] string aURL, [in] sequence<
com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aArgs) void storeToURL([in] string
aURL, [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aArgs)
```

The method names are evident. The method `storeAsUrl()` is the exact
representation of **File - Save As** from the **File** menu, that is, it changes the current
document location. In contrast, `storeToUrl()` stores a copy to a new location, but
leaves the current document URL untouched.

## Exporting

For exporting purposes, a filter name can be passed that triggers an export to other
file formats. The property needed for this purpose is the string argument `FilterName`
that takes filter names defined in the configuration file:

```
<OfficePath>\share\config\registry\instance\org\openoffice\Office\TypeDetection.xml
```

In **TypeDetection.xml** look for `<Filter/>` elements, their `cfg:name` attribute contains
the needed strings for `FilterName`. The proper filter name for StarWriter 5.x is
"StarWriter 5.0", and the export format "MS Word 97" is also popular. This is the
element in **TypeDetection.xml** that describes the MS Excel 97 filter:

```
<Filter cfg:name="MS Excel 97">   <Installed
    cfg:type="boolean">true</Installed>    <UIName cfg:type="string"
    cfg:localized="true">     <cfg:value xml:lang="en-US">Microsoft Excel
97/2000/XP</cfg:value>    </UIName>   <Data
    cfg:type="string">5,calc_MS_Excel_97,com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetDocument,,3
,,0,,</Data>  </Filter>
```

The following method stores a document using this filter:

```java
/** Store a document, using the MS Excel 97/2000/XP Filter */
protected void storeDocComponent(XComponent xDoc, String storeUrl)
throws java.lang.Exception {
    XStorable xStorable = (XStorable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XStorable.class,
xDoc);     PropertyValue[] storeProps = new PropertyValue[1];
    storeProps[0] = new PropertyValue();     storeProps[0].Name = "FilterName";
    storeProps[0].Value = "MS Excel 97";     xStorable.storeAsURL(storeUrl,
    storeProps); }
```

If an empty array of `PropertyValue` structs is passed, the native `.ods` format of
OpenOffice.org API is used.
Filter Options

Loading and saving OpenOffice.org API documents is described in [Handling Documents](#). This section lists all the filter names for spreadsheet documents and describes the filter options for text file import.

The filter name and options are passed on loading or saving a document in a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValues. The property `FilterName` contains the name and the property `FilterOptions` contains the filter options.

**Note** – All filter names are case-sensitive. For compatibility reasons the filter names will not be changed. Therefore, some of the filters seem to have "curious" names.

The list of filter names (the last two columns show the possible directions of the filters):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Filter name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Import</th>
<th>Export</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>StarOffice XML (Calc)</td>
<td>Standard XML filter</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>calc_StarOffice_XML_Calc_Template</td>
<td>XML filter for templates</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StarCalc 5.0</td>
<td>The binary format of StarOffice Calc 5.x</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StarCalc 5.0 Vorlage/Template</td>
<td>StarOffice Calc 5.x templates</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StarCalc 4.0</td>
<td>The binary format of StarCalc 4.x</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StarCalc 4.0 Vorlage/Template</td>
<td>StarCalc 4.x templates</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StarCalc 3.0</td>
<td>The binary format of StarCalc 3.x</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StarCalc 3.0 Vorlage/Template</td>
<td>StarCalc 3.x templates</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTML (StarCalc)</td>
<td>HTML filter</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filter Options</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>calc_HTML_WebQuery</td>
<td>HTML filter for external data queries</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Excel 97</td>
<td>Microsoft Excel 97/2000/XP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Excel 97 Vorlage/Template</td>
<td>Microsoft Excel 97/2000/XP templates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Excel 95</td>
<td>Microsoft Excel 5.0/95</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Excel 5.0/95</td>
<td>Different name for the same filter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Excel 95 Vorlage/Template</td>
<td>Microsoft Excel 5.0/95 templates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Excel 5.0/95 Vorlage/Template</td>
<td>Different name for the same filter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Excel 4.0</td>
<td>Microsoft Excel 2.1/3.0/4.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Excel 4.0 Vorlage/Template</td>
<td>Microsoft Excel 2.1/3.0/4.0 templates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lotus</td>
<td>Lotus 1-2-3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text - txt - csv (StarCalc)</td>
<td>Comma separated values</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Text Format (StarCalc)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Text Format (StarCalc)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dBase</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYLK</td>
<td>Symbolic Link</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIF</td>
<td>Data Interchange Format</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Filter Options for Lotus, dBase and DIF Filters

These filters accept a string containing the numerical index of the used character set for single-byte characters, that is, 0 for the system character set.

Filter Options for the CSV Filter

This filter accepts an option string containing five tokens, separated by commas. The following table shows an example string for a file with four columns of type date-number-number-number. In the table the tokens are numbered from (1) to (5). Each token is explained below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Token</th>
<th>Field Separator</th>
<th>Text Delimiter</th>
<th>Character Set</th>
<th>Number of First Line</th>
<th>Cell Format Codes for the four Columns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Example</td>
<td>Filter Options String</td>
<td>Column Code</td>
<td>File Format: Four columns date-num-num-num</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the filter options above, set the PropertyValue FilterOptions in the load arguments to "44,34,0,1,1/5/2/1/3/1/4/1". There are a number of possible settings for the five tokens.

16. Field separator(s) as ASCII values. Multiple values are separated by the slash sign ("/"), that is, if the values are separated by semicolons and horizontal tabulators, the token would be 59/9. To treat several consecutive separators as one, the four letters /MRG have to be appended to the token. If the file contains fixed width fields, the three letters FIX are used.

17. The text delimiter as ASCII value, that is, 34 for double quotes and 39 for single quotes.

18. The character set used in the file as described above.

19. Number of the first line to convert. The first line in the file has the number 1.

20. Cell format of the columns. The content of this token depends on the value of
the first token.

1.

1. If value separators are used, the form of this token is
   column/format[column/format/]... where column is the number of the column, with 1
   being the leftmost column. The format is explained below.

2. If the first token is FIX it has the form start/format[start/format/...], where start is the
   number of the first character for this field, with 0 being the leftmost character in a line.
   The format is explained below.

   1. Format specifies which cell format should be used for a field during import:

      1.

      2. The type code 10 indicates that the content of a field is US-English. This is
         useful if a field contains decimal numbers that are formatted according to the US
         system (using "." as decimal separator and "," as thousands separator). Using
         10 as a format specifier for this field tells OpenOffice.org API to correctly
         interpret its numerical content, even if the decimal and thousands separator in
         the current language are different.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Format Code</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MM/DD/YY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>DD/MM/YY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>YY/MM/DD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>ignore field (do not import)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>US-English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Printing Spreadsheet Documents

Printer and Print Job Settings

Printing is a common office functionality. The chapter Office Development provides in-depth information about it. The spreadsheet document implements the com.sun.star.view.XPrintable interface for printing. It consists of three methods:

```java
sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > getPrinter() void
setPrinter([in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aPrinter)
void print([in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > xOptions)
```

The following code is used with a given document `xDoc` to print to the standard printer without any settings:

```java
// query the XPrintable interface from your document XPrintable xPrintable = (XPrintable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPrintable.class, xDoc);
// create an empty printOptions array PropertyValue[] printOpts = new PropertyValue[0];
// kick off printing xPrintable.print(printOpts);
```

There are two groups of properties involved in general printing. The first one is used with `setPrinter()` and `getPrinter()`, and controls the printer, and the second is passed to `print()` and controls the print job.

com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor comprises the properties for the printer:

**Properties of com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor**

- **com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor:Name**
  - string - Specifies the name of the printer queue to be used.

- **com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor:Paper Orientation**
  - com.sun.star.view.PaperOrientation - Specifies the orientation of the paper.

- **com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor:Paper Format**
  - com.sun.star.view.PaperFormat - Specifies a predefined paper size or if the paper size is a user-defined size.

- **com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor:Paper Size**
  - com.sun.star.awt.Size - Specifies the size of the paper in 100th mm.

- **com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor:IsBusy**
  - boolean - Indicates if the printer is busy.

- **com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor:CanSe**
  - boolean - Indicates if the printer
Printing Spreadsheet Documents

tpaperorientation allows changes to PaperOrientation.


com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions contains the following possibilities for a print job:

**Properties of com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions**

- **com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions:CopyCount** short - Specifies the number of copies to print.
- **com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions:FileName** string - If set, specifies the name of the file to print to.
- **com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions:Collate** boolean - Advises the printer to collate the pages of the copies. If true, a whole document is printed prior to the next copy, otherwise the page copies are completed together.
- **com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions:Sort** boolean - Advises the printer to sort the pages of the copies.
- **com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions:Pages** string - Specifies the pages to print with the same format as in the print dialog of the GUI, for example, "1, 3, 4-7, 9-".
- **com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions:Wait** boolean - Advises that the print job should be performed synchronously, i.e. wait until printing is complete before returning from printing. Otherwise return is immediate and following actions (e.g. closing the corresponding model) may fail until printing is complete. Default is false.

The following method uses PrinterDescriptor and PrintOptions to print to a special printer, and preselect the pages to print.

```java
protected void printDocComponent(XComponent xDoc) throws java.lang.Exception {
    XPrintable xPrintable = (XPrintable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPrintable.class, xDoc);
    PropertyValue[] printerDesc = new PropertyValue[1];
    printerDesc[0] = new PropertyValue();
    printerDesc[0].Name = "Name";
    printerDesc[0].Value = "5D PDF Creator";
    xPrintable.setPrinter(printerDesc);
    PropertyValue[] printOpts = new PropertyValue[1];
    printOpts[0] = new PropertyValue();
    printOpts[0].Name = "Pages";
    printOpts[0].Value = "3-5,7";
    xPrintable.print(printOpts);
}
```
Page Breaks and Scaling for Printout

Manual page breaks can be inserted and removed using the property \texttt{IsStartOfNewPage} of the services \texttt{com.sun.star.table.TableColumn} and \texttt{com.sun.star.table.TableRow}. For details, refer to the section about page breaks in the chapter \textit{Spreadsheet Documents}.

To reduce the page size of a sheet so that the sheet fits on a fixed number of printout pages, use the properties \texttt{PageScale} and \texttt{ScaleToPages} of the current page style. Both of the properties are short numbers. The \texttt{PageScale} property expects a percentage and \texttt{ScaleToPages} is the number of pages the printout is to fit. The page style is available through the interface \texttt{com.sun.star.style.XStyleFamiliesSupplier} of the document component, and is described in the chapter \textit{Overall Document Features}.

Print Areas

The Interface \texttt{com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas} is available at spreadsheets. It provides access to the addresses of all printable cell ranges, represented by a sequence of \texttt{com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress} structs.

\begin{center}
\textbf{Methods of com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas}
\end{center}

\begin{itemize}
\item \texttt{com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas:getPrintAreas()} \quad Returns the print areas of the sheet.
\item \texttt{com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas:setPrintAreas()} \quad Sets the print areas of the sheet.
\item \texttt{com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas:getPrintTitleColumns()} \quad Returns true if the title columns are repeated on all subsequent print pages to the right.
\item \texttt{com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas:setPrintTitleColumns()} \quad Specifies if the title columns are repeated on all subsequent print pages to the right.
\item \texttt{com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas:getTitleColumns()} \quad Returns the range of columns that are marked as title columns.
\item \texttt{com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas:setTitleColumns()} \quad Sets the range of columns marked as title columns.
\item \texttt{com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas:getPrintTitleRows()} \quad Returns true if the title rows are repeated on all subsequent print pages to the bottom.
\item \texttt{com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas:setPrintTitleRows()} \quad Specifies if the title rows are repeated on all subsequent print pages to the bottom.
\item \texttt{com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas:getTitle()} \quad Returns the range of rows that are marked
\end{itemize}
Working With Spreadsheet Documents

Document Structure

Spreadsheet Document

The whole spreadsheet document is represented by the service `com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetDocument`. It implements interfaces that provide access to the container of spreadsheets and methods to modify the document wide contents, for instance, data consolidation.
When the spreadsheet container is retrieved from a document using its `getSheets()` method, it is possible to access the sheets in three different ways:

**by index**

Using the interface `com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess` allows access to spreadsheets by their index.

**with an enumeration**

Using the service `com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetsEnumeration` spreadsheets can be accessed as an enumeration.

**by name**

The interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheets` is derived from `com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer` and therefore contains all methods for accessing the sheets with a name. It is possible to get a spreadsheet using `com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess`) to replace it with another sheet (interface `com.sun.star.container.XNameReplace`), and to insert and remove a spreadsheet (interface `com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer`).

The following two helper methods demonstrate how spreadsheets are accessed by their indexes and their names:

```java
/** Returns the spreadsheet with the specified index (0-based).     @param xDocument The XSpreadsheetDocument interface of the document.     @param nIndex The index of the sheet.     @return The XSpreadsheet interface of the
 */
```
The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheets contains additional methods that use the name of spreadsheets to add new sheets, and to move and copy them:

**Methods of com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheets**

- `insertNewByName()`: Creates a new empty spreadsheet with the specified name and inserts it at the specified position.
- `moveByName()`: Moves the spreadsheet with the specified name to a new position.
- `copyByName()`: Creates a copy of a spreadsheet, renames it and inserts it at a new position.

The method below shows how a new spreadsheet is inserted into the spreadsheet collection of a document with the specified name.

```java
/** Inserts a new empty spreadsheet with the specified name. @param xDocument The XSpreadsheetDocument interface of the document. @param aName The name of the new sheet. @param nIndex The insertion index. @return The XSpreadsheet interface of the new sheet. */
public com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet insertSpreadsheet(    com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetDocument xDocument,     String aName, short nIndex ) {
    // Collection of sheets
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheets xSheets = xDocument.getSheets();
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet xSheet = null;
    try {         com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess xSheetsNA =
          (com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess)
              UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess.class, xSheets);
        xSheet = (com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet) xSheetsNA.getByName(aName);
    } catch (Exception ex) {     }
    return xSheet; }
```
Spreadsheet Services - Overview

The previous section introduced the organization of the spreadsheets in a document and how they can be handled. This section discusses the spreadsheets themselves. The following illustration provides an overview about the main API objects that can be used in a spreadsheet.

Main Spreadsheet Services

The main services in a spreadsheet are com.sun.star.sheet.Spreadsheet, com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRange, the cell service com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCell, the collection of cell ranges com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges and the services com.sun.star.table.TableColumn and com.sun.star.table.TableRow. An overview of the capabilities of these services is provided below.

Capabilities of Spreadsheet

The spreadsheet is a com.sun.star.sheet.Spreadsheet service that includes the service com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRange, that is, a spreadsheet is a cell range with additional capabilities concerning the entire sheet:
- It can be named using `com.sun.star.container.XNamed`.
- It has interfaces for sheet analysis. Data pilot tables, sheet outlining, sheet auditing (detective) and scenarios all are controlled from the spreadsheet object. The corresponding interfaces are `com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotTablesSupplier`, `com.sun.star.sheet.XScenariosSupplier`, `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOutline` and `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAuditing`.
- Cells can be inserted, and entire cell ranges can be removed, moved or copied on the spreadsheet level using `com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeMovement`.
- Drawing elements in a spreadsheet are part of the draw page available through `com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPageSupplier`.
- Certain sheet printing features are accessed at the spreadsheet. The `com.sun.star.sheet.XPrintAreas` and `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetPageBreak` are used to get page breaks and control print areas.
- The spreadsheet maintains charts. The interface `com.sun.star.table.XTableChartsSupplier` controls charts in the spreadsheet.
- All cell annotations can be retrieved on the spreadsheet level with `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationsSupplier`.
- A spreadsheet can be permanently protected from changes through `com.sun.star.util.XProtectable`. 
Capabilities of SheetCellRange

The spreadsheet, as well as the cell ranges in a spreadsheet are com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRange services. A SheetCellRange is a rectangular range of calculation cells that includes the following services:

Services supported by SheetCellRange

The interfaces supported by a SheetCellRange are depicted in the following illustration:
A `SheetCellRange` has the following capabilities:

- Supplies cells and sub-ranges of cells, as well as rows and columns. It has the interfaces `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRange` and `com.sun.star.table.XColumnRowRange`.
- Formats cells in a range. The settings affect all cells in the range. There are cell properties, character properties and paragraph properties for formatting purposes. Additionally, a `SheetCellRange` supports auto formats with `com.sun.star.table.XAutoFormatatable` and the content of the cells can be indented using `com.sun.star.util.XIndent`. The interfaces `com.sun.star.sheet.XCellFormatRangesSupplier` and `com.sun.star.sheet.XUniqueCellFormatRangesSupplier` obtain enumeration of cells that differ in formatting.
- Works with the data in a cell range through a sequence of sequences of any that maps to the two-dimensional cell array of the range. This array is available...
Capabilities of SheetCellRange

- Fills a cell range with data series automatically through its interface com.sun.star.sheet.XCellSeries.
- Imports data from a database using com.sun.star.util.XImportable.
- Searches and replaces cell contents using com.sun.star.util.XSearchable.
- Perform queries for cell contents, such as formula cells, formula result types, or empty cells. The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangesQuery of the included com.sun.star.sheet.SheetRangesQuery service is responsible for this task.
- Merges cells into a single cell through com.sun.star.util.XMergeable.
- Provides its unique range address in the spreadsheet document, that is, the start column and row, end column and row, and the sheet where it is located. The com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeAddressable:getRangeAddress() returns the corresponding address description struct com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress.
- Charts can be based on a SheetCellRange, because it supports com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray.

Capabilities of SheetCell

A com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCell is the base unit of OpenOffice.org Calc tables. Values, formulas and text required for calculation jobs are all written into sheet cells. The SheetCell includes the following services:
Capabilities of SheetCell

The `SheetCell` service has the following capabilities:

- It can access the cell content. It can contain numeric values that are used for
capabilities, *formulas* that operate on these values, and *text* supporting full-featured formatting and hyperlink text fields. The access to the cell values and formulas is provided through the *SheetCell* parent service *com.sun.star.table.Cell*. The interface *com.sun.star.table.XCell* is capable of manipulating the values and formulas in a cell. For text, the service *com.sun.star.text.Text* with the main interface *com.sun.star.text.XText* is available at a *SheetCell*. Its text fields are accessed through *com.sun.star.text.XTextFieldsSupplier*.

- A *SheetCell* is a special case of a *SheetCellRange*. As such, it has all capabilities of the *com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRange* described above.
- It can have an annotation: *com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationAnchor*.
- It can provide its unique cell address in the spreadsheet document, that is, its column, row and the sheet it is located in. The *com.sun.star.sheet.XCellAddressable:getCellAddress()* returns the appropriate *com.sun.star.table.CellAddress* struct.
- It can be locked temporarily against user interaction with *com.sun.star.document.XActionLockable*.

**Capabilities of SheetCellRanges Container**

The container of *com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges* is used where several cell ranges have to be handled at once for cell query results and other situations. The *SheetCellRanges* service includes cell, paragraph and character property services, and it offers a query option:
Capabilities of SheetCellRanges Container

The interfaces of com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges are element accesses for the ranges in the SheetCellRanges container. These interfaces are discussed below.

Implemented interfaces of SheetCellRanges

The SheetCellRanges container has the following capabilities:
Capabilities of SheetCellRanges Container

- It can be formatted using the character, paragraph and cell property services it includes.
- It can access, replace, append and remove ranges by name through com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer.
- It can add new ranges to SheetCellRanges by their address descriptions, access the ranges by index, and obtain the cells in the ranges. This is possible through the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRangeContainer that was originally based on com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess. The SheetCellRanges maintain a sub-container of all cells in the ranges that are not empty, obtainable through the com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRanges:getCells() method.
- It can enumerate the ranges using com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess.
- It can query the ranges for certain cell contents, such as formula cells, formula result types or empty cells. The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangesQuery of the included com.sun.star.sheet.SheetRangesQuery service is responsible for this task.
- The SheetCellRanges supports selected SheetCellRange features, such as searching and replacing, indenting, sheet operations and charting.

Capabilities of Columns and Rows

All cell ranges are organized in columns and rows, therefore column and row containers are retrieved from a spreadsheet, as well as from sub-ranges of a spreadsheet through com.sun.star.table.XColumnRowRange. These containers are com.sun.star.table.TableColumns and com.sun.star.table.TableRows. Both containers support index and enumeration access. Only the TableColumns supports name access to the single columns and rows (com.sun.star.table.TableColumn and com.sun.star.table.TableRow) of a SheetCellRange.

The following UML charts show table columns and rows. The first chart shows columns:
The collection of table rows differs from the collection of columns, that is, it does not support com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess:

- The services TableColumn and TableRow have properties to adjust their column width and row height, toggle their visibility, and set page breaks.

The services for table rows and columns control the table structure and grid size of a cell range:

- The containers for columns and rows have methods to insert and remove columns, and rows by index in their main interfaces com.sun.star.table.XTableRows and com.sun.star.table.XTableColumns.
- The services TableColumn and TableRow have properties to adjust their column width and row height, toggle their visibility, and set page breaks.
Spreadsheet

A spreadsheet is a cell range with additional interfaces and is represented by the service com.sun.star.sheet.Spreadsheet.

Properties of Spreadsheet

The properties of a spreadsheet deal with its visibility and its page style:


Naming

The spreadsheet interface com.sun.star.container.XNamed obtains and changes the name of the spreadsheet, and uses it to get a spreadsheet from the spreadsheet collection. Refer to Spreadsheet Documents.

Inserting Cells, Moving and Copying Cell Ranges

The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeMovement of the Spreadsheet service supports inserting and removing cells from a spreadsheet, and copying and moving cell contents. When cells are copied or moved, the relative references of all formulas are updated automatically. The sheet index included in the source range addresses should be equal to the index of the sheet of this interface.

| Methods of com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeMovement | com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeMovement:insertCells() | Inserts a range of empty cells at a specific position. The direction of the insertion is |
Spreadsheet

**com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeMove**

- **removeRange()**
  - Deletes a range of cells from the spreadsheet. The parameter `nMode` (type `com.sun.star.sheet.CellDeleteMode`) determines how remaining cells will be moved.

- **copyRange()**
  - Copies the contents of a cell range to another place in the document.

- **moveRange()**
  - Moves the contents of a cell range to another place in the document. Deletes all contents of the source range.

The following example copies a cell range to another location in the sheet.

```java
/** Copies a cell range to another place in the sheet.     @param xSheet The XSpreadsheet interface of the spreadsheet.     @param aDestCell The address of the first cell of the destination range.     @param aSourceRange The source range address.  */
    com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeMovement xMovement = (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeMovement) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeMovement.class, xSheet);
    xMovement.copyRange(aDestCell, aSourceRange);
}
```

**Page Breaks**

The methods get**ColumnPageBreaks**() and get**RowPageBreaks**() of the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetPageBreak return the positions of column and row page breaks, represented by a sequence of com.sun.star.sheet.TablePageBreakData structs. Each struct contains the position of the page break and a boolean property that determines if the page break was inserted manually. Inserting and removing a manual page break uses the property IsStartOfNewPage of the services com.sun.star.table.TableColumn and com.sun.star.table.TableRow.

The following example prints the positions of all the automatic column page breaks:

```java
// --- Print automatic column page breaks ---
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetPageBreak xPageBreak = (com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetPageBreak) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetPageBreak.class, xSheet);
com.sun.star.sheet.TablePageBreakData[] aPageBreakArray = xPageBreak.getColumnPageBreaks();
System.out.print("Automatic column page breaks:"); for (int nIndex = 0; nIndex < aPageBreakArray.length; ++nIndex) if (! aPageBreakArray[nIndex].ManualBreak) System.out.print(" " +
```
Cell Ranges

A cell range is a rectangular range of cells. It is represented by the service com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRange.

Properties of Cell Ranges

The cell range properties deal with the position and size of a range, conditional formats, and cell validation during user input.

Properties of com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRange

- **Position**: The position and size of the cell in 100\textsuperscript{th} of a millimeter. The position is relative to the first cell of the spreadsheet. Note, that this is not always the first visible cell.
- **Size**: Used to access conditional formats. See Conditional Formats for details.
- **ConditionalFormat**: Used to access data validation. See Data Validation for details.
- **Validation**: This service extends the service com.sun.star.table.CellRange to provide common table cell range functionality.

Cell and Cell Range Access

The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRange is derived from com.sun.star.table.XCellRange. It provides access to cells of the range and sub-ranges, and is supported by the spreadsheet and sub-ranges of a spreadsheet. The methods in com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRange are:

Cell and Cell Range Access

nRow) com::sun::star::table::XCellRange getCellRangeByPosition( [in] long nLeft, [in] long nTop, [in] long nRight, [in] long nBottom) com::sun::star::table::XCellRange
getCellRangeByName ( [in] string aRange) com::sun::star::sheet::XSpreadsheet
getSpreadsheet()

The interface com.sun.star.table.XCellRange provides methods to access cell ranges and single cells from a cell range.

Cells are retrieved by their position. Cell addresses consist of a row index and a column index. The index is zero-based, that is, the index 0 means the first row or column of the table.

Cell ranges are retrieved:

by position

Addresses of cell ranges consist of indexes to the first and last row, and the first and last column. Range indexes are always zero-based, that is, the index 0 points to the first row or column of the table.

by name

It is possible to address a cell range over its name in A1:B2 notation as it would appear in the application.

Tip - In a spreadsheet, "A1:B2", "$C$1:$D$2", or "E5" are valid ranges. Even user defined cell names, range names, or database range names can be used.

Additionally, XCellRange contains the method getSpreadsheet() that returns the com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet interface of the spreadsheet which contains the cell range.

```
// --- First cell in a cell range. --- com.sun.star.table.XCell xCell =
xCellRange.getCellByPosition(0, 0);
// --- Spreadsheet that contains the cell range. ---
com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet xSheet = xCellRange.getSpreadsheet();
```

There are no methods to modify the contents of all cells of a cell range. Access to cell range formatting is supported. Refer to the chapter Formatting for additional details.

In the following example, xRange is an existing cell range (a com.sun.star.table.XCellRange interface):

```
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPropSet = null; com.sun.star.table.XCellRange
xCellRange = null;
// *** Accessing a CELL RANGE ***
// Accessing a cell range over its position. xCellRange =
```
Cell and Cell Range Access

xRange.getCellRangeByPosition(2, 0, 3, 1);
// Change properties of the range. xPropSet =
(UnoRuntime queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xCellRange);
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("CellBackColor", new Integer(0x8080FF));
// Accessing a cell range over its name. xCellRange =
xRange.getCellRangeByName("C4:D5");
// Change properties of the range. xPropSet =
(UnoRuntime queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xCellRange);
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("CellBackColor", new Integer(0xFFFF80));

Merging Cell Ranges into a Single Cell

The cell range interface com.sun.star.util.XMergeable merges and undoes merged cell ranges.

- The method `merge()` merges or undoes merged the whole cell range.
- The method `getIsMerged()` determines if the cell range is completely merged.

// --- Merge cells. --- com.sun.star.util.XMergeable xMerge =
(UnoRuntime queryInterface(com.sun.star.util.XMergeable.class, xCellRange);
xMerge.merge(true);

Column and Row Access

The cell range interface com.sun.star.table.XColumnRowRange accesses the column and row ranges in the current cell range. A column or row range contains all the cells in the selected column or row. This type of range has additional properties, such as, visibility, and width or height. For more information, see Columns and Rows.

- The method `getColumns()` returns the interface com.sun.star.table.XTableColumns of the collection of columns.
- The method `getRows()` returns the interface com.sun.star.table.XTableRowsof the collection of rows.

// --- Column properties. --- com.sun.star.table.XColumnRowRange xColRowRange =
(UnoRuntime queryInterface(com.sun.star.table.XColumnRowRange.class, xCellRange);
xColRowRange.getColumns();
Object aColumnObj = xColumns.getByIndex(0); xPropSet =
(UnoRuntime queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class,
Column and Row Access

```java
aColumnObj); xPropSet.setPropertyValue( "Width", new Integer( 6000 ) );
com.sun.star.container.XNamed xNamed = (com.sun.star.container.XNamed)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XNamed.class, aColumnObj);
System.out.println("The name of the wide column is " + xNamed.getName() + ",");
```

Data Array

The contents of a cell range that are stored in a 2-dimensional array of objects are set and obtained by the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeData.

- The method `getDataArray()` returns a 2-dimensional array with the contents of all cells of the range.
- The method `setDataArray()` fills the data of the passed array into the cells. An empty cell is created by an empty string. The size of the array has to fit in the size of the cell range.

The following example uses the cell range `xCellRange` that has the size of 2 columns and 3 rows.

```java
// --- Cell range data --- com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeData xData =
(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeData)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeData.class,
xCellRange);
Object[][] aValues = {
    {new Double(1.1), new Integer(10)},
    {new Double(2.2), new String("")},
    {new Double(3.3), new String("Text")}
};
xData.setDataArray(aValues);
```

Absolute Address

The method `getCellRangeAddress()` of the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeAddressable returns a com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress struct that contains the absolute address of the cell in the spreadsheet document, including the sheet index. This is useful to get the address of cell ranges returned by other methods.

```java
// --- Get cell range address. --- com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeAddressable
xRangeAddr = (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeAddressable)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeAddressable.class,
xCellRange); aRangeAddress = xRangeAddr.getCellRangeAddress();
System.out.println("Address of this range: Sheet=" + aRangeAddress.Sheeth);
System.out.println("Start column=" + aRangeAddress.StartColumn + "; Start row=" + aRangeAddress.StartRow); System.out.println("End column=" + aRangeAddress.EndColumn + "; End row=" + aRangeAddress.EndRow);
```
The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XCellSeries fills out each cell of a cell range with values based on a start value, step count and fill mode. It is possible to fill a series in each direction, specified by a com.sun.star.sheet.FillDirection constant. If the fill direction is horizontal, each row of the cell range forms a separate series. Similarly each column forms a series on a vertical fill.

- The method `fillSeries()` uses the first cell of each series as start value. For example, if the fill direction is "To top", the bottom-most cell of each column is used as the start value. It expects a fill mode to be used to continue the start value, a com.sun.star.sheet.FillMode constant. If the values are dates, com.sun.star.sheet.FillDateMode constants describes the mode how the dates are calculated. If the series reaches the specified end value, the calculation is stopped.

- The method `fillAuto()` determines the fill mode and step count automatically. It takes a parameter containing the number of cells to be examined. For example, if the fill direction is "To top" and the specified number of cells is three, the three bottom-most cells of each column are used to continue the series.

The following example may operate on the following spreadsheet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>01/30/02</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Text 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>05/28/02</td>
<td>02/28/02</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Inserting filled series in Java:

```java
public void doSeriesSample(com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet xSheet)
{
    com.sun.star.sheet.XCellSeries xSeries = null;
    // Fill 2 rows linear with end value -> 2nd series is not filled completely
    xSeries = getCellSeries(xSheet, "A1:E2");
    xSeries.fillSeries(
        com.sun.star.sheet.FillDirection.TO_RIGHT,
        com.sun.star.sheet.FillMode.LINEAR,
        com.sun.star.sheet.FillDateMode.FILL_DATE_DAY, 2, 9);
    // Add months to a date
    xSeries = getCellSeries(xSheet, "A3:E3");
    xSeries.fillSeries(
        com.sun.star.sheet.FillDirection.TO_RIGHT,
        com.sun.star.sheet.FillMode.DATE,
        com.sun.star.sheet.FillDateMode.FILL_DATE_MONTH, 1, 0x7FFFFFFF);
    // Fill right to left with a text containing a value
    xSeries = getCellSeries(xSheet, "A4:E4");
    xSeries.fillSeries(
        com.sun.star.sheet.FillDirection.TO_LEFT,
        com.sun.star.sheet.FillMode.DATE,
        com.sun.star.sheet.FillDateMode.FILL_DATE_MONTH, 1, 0x7FFFFFFF);
}```
com.sun.star.sheet.FillMode.LINEAR,
com.sun.star.sheet.FillDateMode.FILL_DATE_DAY, 10, 0x7FFFFFFF);
  // Fill with an user defined list     xSeries = getCellSeries(xSheet, "A5:E5");
xSeries.fillSeries(         com.sun.star.sheet.FillDirection.TO_RIGHT,
com.sun.star.sheet.FillMode.AUTO,
com.sun.star.sheet.FillDateMode.FILL_DATE_DAY, 1, 0x7FFFFFFF);
  // Fill bottom to top with a geometric series     xSeries =
getCellSeries(xSheet, "G1:G5");
xSeries.fillSeries(         com.sun.star.sheet.FillDirection.TO_TOP,
com.sun.star.sheet.FillMode.GROWTH,
com.sun.star.sheet.FillDateMode.FILL_DATE_DAY, 2, 0x7FFFFFFF);
  // Auto fill     xSeries = getCellSeries(xSheet, "A7:G9");
xSeries.fillAuto(com.sun.star.sheet.FillDirection.TO_RIGHT, 2); }
/** Returns the XCellSeries interface of a cell range.     * @param xSheet The
spreadsheet containing the cell range.     * @param aRange The address of the
 cell range.     * @return The XCellSeries interface. */ private
com.sun.star.sheet.XCellSeries
getCellSeries(         com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet xSheet, String aRange)
{     return (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellSeries) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
com.sun.star.sheet.XCellSeries.class, xSheet.getCellRangeByName(aRange)); }

This example produces the following result:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>01/30/02</td>
<td>02/28/02</td>
<td>03/30/02</td>
<td>04/30/02</td>
<td>05/30/02</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Text 50</td>
<td>Text 40</td>
<td>Text 30</td>
<td>Text 20</td>
<td>Text 10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>05/28/02</td>
<td>02/28/02</td>
<td>11/28/01</td>
<td>08/28/01</td>
<td>05/28/01</td>
<td>02/28/01</td>
<td>11/28/00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>-4</td>
<td>-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Operations

The cell range interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOperation` computes a value based on the contents of all cells of a cell range or clears specific contents of the cells.

- The method `computeFunction()` returns the result of the calculation. The constants `com.sun.star.sheet.GeneralFunction` specify the calculation method.
- The method `clearContents()` clears contents of the cells used. The parameter describes the contents to clear, using the constants of `com.sun.star.sheet.CellFlags`. 
The following code shows how to compute the average of a cell range and clear the cell contents:

```java
// --- Sheet operation. --- // Compute a function
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOperation xSheetOp =
    (com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOperation)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOperation.class,
xCellRange);
double fResult =
xSheetOp.computeFunction(com.sun.star.sheet.GeneralFunction.AVERAGE);
System.out.println("Average value of the data table A10:C30: " + fResult);
// Clear cell contents
com.sun.star.sheet.CellFlags.OBJECTS);
```

### Multiple Operations

A multiple operation combines a series of formulas with a variable and a series of values. The results of each formula with each value is shown in the table. Additionally, it is possible to calculate a single formula with two variables using a 2-value series. The method `setTableOperation()` of the interface [IDL:com.sun.star.sheet.XMultipleOperation] inserts a multiple operation range.

The following example shows how to calculate the values 1 to 5 raised to the powers of 1 to 5 (each value to each power). The first column contains the base values, and the first row the exponents, for example, cell E3 contains the result of $2^4$. Below there are three trigonometrical functions calculated based on a series of values, for example, cell C11 contains the result of $\cos(0.2)$.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>=A2^B1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>=SIN(A8)</td>
<td>=COS(A8)</td>
<td>=TAN(A8)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that the value series have to be included in the multiple operations cell range,
but not the formula cell range (in the second example). The references in the formulas address any cell outside of the area to be filled. The column cell and row cell parameter have to reference these cells exactly. In the second example, a row cell address does not have to be used, because the row contains the formulas.

```java
public void InsertMultipleOperation(com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet xSheet) throws RuntimeException, Exception {
    // --- Two independent value series ---
    com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress aFormulaRange = createCellRangeAddress(xSheet, "A1");
    com.sun.star.sheet.TableOperationMode.BOTH, aColCell, aRowCell);
    // --- A value series, a formula series ---
    aFormulaRange = createCellRangeAddress(xSheet, "A9:D13");
    aColCell = createCellAddress(xSheet, "A8");
    // Row cell not needed
    xCellRange = xSheet.getCellRangeByName("A9:D13");
    xMultOp = (com.sun.star.sheet.XMultipleOperation)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XMultipleOperation.class,
    xCellRange);
    xMultOp.setTableOperation(aFormulaRange,
    com.sun.star.sheet.TableOperationMode.COLUMN, aColCell, aRowCell);
}
```

Handling Array Formulas

The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XArrayFormulaRange handles array formulas.
If the whole cell range contains an array formula, the method `getArrayFormula()` returns the formula string, otherwise an empty string is returned.

The method `setArrayFormula()` sets an array formula to the complete cell range.

```java
// --- Array formulas ---
com.sun.star.sheet.XArrayFormulaRange xArrayFormula =
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XArrayFormulaRange.class,
    xCellRange); // Insert a 3x3 unit matrix.
xArrayFormula.setArrayFormula("=A10:C12");
System.out.println("Array formula is: " +
    xArrayFormula.getArrayFormula());
```

**Warning** – Due to a bug, this interface does not work correctly in the current implementation. The `getArrayFormula()` method returns the translated function names, but not the English names. The `setArrayFormula()` method accepts English names without preceding equal sign and without curly braces. This is inconsistent to the methods `setFormula()` and `getFormula()` of the interface `com.sun.star.table.XCell`. The latter can be used in order to read the English array formula from one of the used cells.

---

### Cells

A single cell of a spreadsheet is represented by the service `com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCell`. This service extends the service `com.sun.star.table.Cell`, that provides fundamental table cell functionality, such as setting formulas, values and text of a cell.

### Properties of SheetCell


```java
Properties of com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCell
com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCell:Position
com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCell:Size
com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCell:Formula Local
com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCell:Formula ResultType
```

The position and size of the cell in 100th of a millimeter. The position is relative to the first cell of the spreadsheet. Note that this is not always the first visible cell.

Used to query or set a formula using function names of the current language.

The type of the result. It is a constant from the set.
Access to Formulas, Values and Errors

The cell interface com.sun.star.table.XCell provides methods to access the value, formula, content type, and error code of a single cell:

```java
void setValue( [in] double nValue) double getValue()  void setFormula( [in] string aFormula) string getFormula()  com::sun::star::table::CellContentType getType() long getError()
```

The value of a cell is a floating-point number. To set a formula to a cell, the whole formula string has to be passed including the leading equality sign. The function names must be in English.

**Tip** - It is possible to set simple strings or even values with special number formats. In this case, the formula string consists only of a string constant or of the number as it would be entered in the table (for instance date, time, or currency values).

The method `getType()` returns a value of the enumeration `com.sun.star.table.CellContentType` indicating the type of the cell content.

The following code fragment shows how to access and modify the content, and formatting of single cells. The `xRange` is an existing cell range (a `com.sun.star.table.XCellRange` interface, described in Cell Ranges). The method `getCellByPosition()` is provided by this interface.

```java
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPropSet = null; com.sun.star.table.XCell xCell = null;
// *** Access and modify a VALUE CELL *** xCell = xRange.getCellByPosition(0, 0); // Set cell value. xCell.setValue(1234);
// Get cell value. double nDblValue = xCell.getValue() * 2;
xRange.getCellByPosition(0, 1).setValue(nDblValue);
// *** Create a FORMULA CELL and query error type *** xCell = xRange.getCellByPosition(0, 2); // Set formula string. xCell.setFormula("=1/0");
```
// Get error type. boolean bValid = (xCell.getError() == 0); // Get formula string. String aText = "The formula " + xCell.getFormula() + " is "; aText += bValid ? "valid." : "erroneous.";

// *** Insert a TEXT CELL using the XText interface *** xCell = xRange.getCellByPosition( 0, 3 ); com.sun.star.text.XText xCellText = (com.sun.star.text.XText) UnoRuntime.queryInterface( com.sun.star.text.XText.class, xCell ); com.sun.star.text.XTextCursor xTextCursor = xCellText.createTextCursor(); xCellText.insertString( xTextCursor, aText, false );

// *** Change cell properties *** int nValue = bValid ? 0x00FF00 : 0xFF4040; xPropSet = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface( com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xCell ); UnoRuntime.queryInterface( com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xCell ); xPropSet.setPropertyValue( "CellBackColor", new Integer( nValue ) );

Note that since the only data attributes a cell has is value and formula, other types available in OpenOffice.org Calc have to be translated before you can use them. See com.sun.star.util.NumberFormat for the standard formats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NumberFormat</th>
<th>Mapping to double</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>1 = one day; day 1 is 1899-12-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIME</td>
<td>Fraction of a 24h day (1 = 24 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERCENT</td>
<td>1 = 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRENCY</td>
<td>1 = $1,£1 etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOGICAL</td>
<td>FALSE if zero, TRUE otherwise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The format string defines how the number will be shown to the user.

---

**Access to Text Content**

The service com.sun.star.text.Text supports the modification of simple or formatted text contents. Changing text contents and text formatting is provided by the interface com.sun.star.text.XText as discussed in First Steps. Refer to chapter Editing Text for further information. It implements the interfaces com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess that provides access to the paragraphs of the text and the interface com.sun.star.text.XText to insert and modify text contents. For detailed information about text handling, see Editing Text.

// --- Insert two text paragraphs into the cell. --- com.sun.star.text.XText xText = (com.sun.star.text.XText) UnoRuntime.queryInterface( com.sun.star.text.XText.class, xCell ); com.sun.star.text.XTextCursor xTextCursor = xText.createTextCursor(); xText.insertString( xTextCursor, "Text in first line.", false ); xText.insertControlCharacter( xTextCursor, com.sun.star.text.ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false ); xText.insertString( xTextCursor, "Some more text.", false );

// --- Query the separate paragraphs. --- String aText; com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess xParaEA = (com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface( Chapter 8 · Spreadsheet Documents
The **SheetCell** interface `com.sun.star.text.XTextFieldsSupplier` contains methods that provide access to the collection of text fields in the cell. For details on inserting text fields, refer to **Text Fields**.

**Note** – Currently, the only possible text field in Calc cells is the hyperlink field `com.sun.star.text.textfield.URL`.

### Absolute Address

The method `getCellAddress()` of the interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XCellAddressable` returns a `com.sun.star.table.CellAddress` struct that contains the absolute address of the cell in the spreadsheet document, including the sheet index. This is useful to get the address of cells returned by other methods.

```java
// --- Get cell address. ---
com.sun.star.sheet.XCellAddressable xCellAddr =
    (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellAddressable)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellAddressable.class, xCell);
com.sun.star.table.CellAddress aAddress = xCellAddr.getCellAddress();
String aText = "Address of this cell: Column=" + aAddress.Column;
aText += "; Row=" + aAddress.Row;
aText += "; Sheet=" + aAddress.Sheet;
System.out.println(aText);
```
Cell Annotations

Com.sun.star.sheet.CellAnnotation; com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotation; com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationAnchor

A spreadsheet cell may contain one annotation that consists of simple unformatted Text.

This service com.sun.star.sheet.CellAnnotation represents an annotation. It implements interfaces to manipulate the contents and access the source cell.

- The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotation implements methods to query data of the annotation and to show and hide it. This interface is returned by the method getAnnotation() of the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationAnchor.
- The method getParent() of the interface com.sun.star.container.XChild returns the cell object that contains the annotation.
- The interface com.sun.star.text.XSimpleText modifies the text contents of the annotation. See Editing Text for details.

It is possible to access the annotations through a container object from the spreadsheet or directly from a cell object.

- The method getAnnotations() of the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationsSupplier returns the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotations of the annotations collection of this spreadsheet.
- The method getAnnotation() of the interface...
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationAnchor returns the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotation of an annotation object.

The service com.sun.star.sheet.CellAnnotations represents the collection of annotations for the spreadsheet and implements two interfaces to access the annotations.

- The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotations is derived from com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess to access and remove annotations through their index. The method insertNew() attaches a new annotation to a cell.
- The method createEnumeration() of the interface com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess creates an enumeration object, represented by the service com.sun.star.sheet.CellAnnotationsEnumeration, to access the annotations sequentially.

The following example inserts an annotation and makes it permanently visible.

```java
public void doAnnotationSample(
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet xSheet, int nColumn, int nRow) throws RuntimeException, Exception {
    // create the CellAddress struct
    com.sun.star.table.XCell xCell = xSheet.getCellByPosition(nColumn, nRow);
    com.sun.star.sheet.XCellAddressable xCellAddr = (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellAddressable)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellAddressable.class, xCell);
    com.sun.star.table.CellAddress aAddress = xCellAddr.getCellAddress();

    // insert an annotation
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationsSupplier xAnnotationsSupp =
        (com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationsSupplier)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationsSupplier.class, xSheet);
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotations xAnnotations = xAnnotationsSupp.getAnnotations();
    xAnnotations.insertNew(aAddress, "This is an annotation");

    // make the annotation visible
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationAnchor xAnnotAnchor =
        (com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationAnchor)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotationAnchor.class, xCell);
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAnnotation xAnnotation =
        xAnnotAnchor.getAnnotation();
    xAnnotation.setIsVisible(true); }
```

Cell Ranges and Cells Container

Cell range collections are represented by the service com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges. They are returned by several methods, for instance the cell query methods of com.sun.star.sheet.SheetRangesQuery. Besides standard container operations, it performs a few spreadsheet functions also usable with a single cell range.
Properties of SheetCellRanges

**Properties of com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges:ConditionalFormat</td>
<td>Used to access conditional formats. See <a href="#">Conditional Formats</a> for details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges:ConditionalFormatLocal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges:Validation</td>
<td>Used to access data validation. See <a href="#">Data Validation</a> for details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges:ValidationLocal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Access to Single Cell Ranges in SheetCellRanges Container

The interfaces `com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess` and `com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess` iterate over all contained cell ranges by index or enumeration. With the `com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer`, it is possible to insert ranges with a user-defined name. Later the range can be found, replaced or removed using the name.

The following interfaces and service perform cell range actions on all ranges contained in the collection:

- Interface `com.sun.star.util.XReplaceable` (see [Navigating](#))
- Service `com.sun.star.sheet.SheetRangesQuery` (see [Navigating](#))
- Interface `com.sun.star.util.XIndent` (see [Formatting](#))
- Interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOperation` (see [Cell Ranges](#))
- Interface `com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray` (see [Charts](#))
- The interfaces `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRangeContainer` and `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRanges` support basic handling of cell range collections.
- The method `getRangeAddressesAsString()` returns the string representation of all cell ranges.
- The method `getRangeAddresses()` returns a sequence with all cell range addresses.
- The interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRangeContainer` is derived from the interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRanges` to insert and remove cell ranges.
- The methods `addRangeAddress()` and `addRangeAddresses()` insert one or more ranges into the collection. If the boolean parameter `bMergeRanges` is set to `true`,...
the methods try to merge the new range(s) with the ranges of the collection.

- The methods `removeRangeAddress()` and `removeRangeAddresses()` remove existing ranges from the collection. Only ranges that are contained in the collection are removed. The methods do not try to shorten a range.

The interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRanges` implements methods for access to cells and cell ranges:

- The method `rgetCells()` returns the interface `com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess` of a cell collection. The service `com.sun.star.sheet.Cells` is discussed below. This collection contains the cell addresses of non-empty cells in all cell ranges.

The service `com.sun.star.sheet.Cells` represents a collection of cells.

![Cell collections diagram](image)

The following example demonstrates the usage of cell range collections and cell collections.

```java
/** All samples regarding cell range collections. */ public void doCellRangesSamples(com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetDocument xDocument)
throws RuntimeException, Exception {
    // Create a new cell range container
    com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory xDocFactory =
        (com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory.class, xDocument);
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRangeContainer xRangeCont =
        (com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRangeContainer) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRangeContainer.class,
            xDocFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges");
    // Insert ranges
    insertRange(xRangeCont, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, false); // A1:A1
    insertRange(xRangeCont, 0, 0, 1, 0, 2, true); // A2:A3
    insertRange(xRangeCont, 0, 1, 0, 1, 2, false); // B1:B3
    // Query the list of filled cells
    System.out.print("All filled cells: ");
    com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess xCellsEA = xRangeCont.getCells();
    com.sun.star.container.XEnumeration xEnum = xCellsEA.createEnumeration();
    while (xEnum.hasMoreElements()) {
        Object aCellObj = xEnum.nextElement();
        com.sun.star.sheet.XCellAddressable xAddr =
            (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellAddressable)
            UnaRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellAddressable.class,
```

946  OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009
Columns and Rows

Collection of table columns:

Collection of table rows:
The services `com.sun.star.table.TableColumns` and `com.sun.star.table.TableRows` represent collections of all columns and rows of a table. It is possible to access cells of columns and rows, and insert and remove columns and rows using the interfaces `com.sun.star.table.XTableColumns` and `com.sun.star.table.XTableRows` that are derived from `com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess`. The method `createEnumeration()` of the interface `com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess` creates an enumeration of all columns or rows. The interface `com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess` accesses columns through their names. The implementation of this interface is optional.

A single column or row is represented by the services `com.sun.star.table.TableColumn` and `com.sun.star.table.TableRow`. They implement the interfaces `com.sun.star.table.XCellRange` that provide access to the cells and `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet` for modifying settings. Additionally, the service `TableColumn` implements the interface `com.sun.star.container.XNamed`. It provides the method `getName()` that returns the name of a column. Changing the name of a column is not supported.

Note – The interface `com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess` returns columns and rows relative to the cell range (index 0 is always the first column or row of the cell range). But the interface `com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess` returns columns with their real names, regardless of the cell range.

In the following example, `xColumns` is an interface of a collection of columns, `xRows` is an interface of a collection of rows, and `xRange` is the range formed by the columns and rows.

```java
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPropSet = null;
// *** Modifying COLUMNS and ROWS *** // Get column C by index (interface
```
XIndexAccess). Object aColumnObj = xColumns.getByIndex(2); xPropSet = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, aColumnObj);
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("Width", new Integer(5000));
// Get the name of the column. com.sun.star.container.XNamed xNamed =
(com.sun.star.container.XNamed)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XNamed.class, aColumnObj);
aText = "The name of this column is " + xNamed.getName() + ".";
xRange.getCellByPosition(2, 2).setFormula(aText);
// Get column D by name (interface XNameAccess).
com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess xColumnsName =
(com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess.class, xColumns);
aColumnObj = xColumnsName.getByName("D"); xPropSet =
(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, aColumnObj);
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("IsVisible", new Boolean(false));
// Get row 7 by index (interface XIndexAccess) Object aRowObj =
xRows.getByIndex(6); xPropSet = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, aRowObj);
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("Height", new Integer(5000));
// Create a cell series with the values 1 ... 7. for (int nRow = 8; nRow < 15;
++nRow) xRange.getCellByPosition( 0, nRow ).setValue( nRow - 7 ); //
Insert a row between 1 and 2 xRows.insertByIndex(9, 1); // Delete the rows
with the values 3 and 4. xRows.removeByIndex(11, 2);

Formatting

Cell Formatting

In cells, cell ranges, table rows, table columns and cell ranges collections, the cells
are formatted through the service com.sun.star.table.CellProperties. These properties
are accessible through the interface com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet that is
supported by all the objects mentioned above. The service contains all properties that
describe the cell formatting of the cell range, such as the cell background color,
borders, the number format and the cell alignment. Changing the property values
affects all cells of the object being formatted.

The cell border style is stored in the struct com.sun.star.table.TableBorder. A cell
range contains six different kinds of border lines: upper, lower, left, right, horizontal
inner, and vertical inner line. Each line is represented by a struct
com.sun.star.table.BorderLine that contains the line style and color. The boolean
members Is...LineValid specifies the validity of the ...Line members containing
the line style. If the property contains the value true, the line style is equal in all cells that include the line. The style is contained in the \textit{Line} struct. The value false means the cells are formatted differently and the content of the \textit{Line} struct is undefined. When changing the border property, these boolean values determine if the lines are changed to the style contained in the respective \textit{Line} struct.

Character and Paragraph Format

The following services of a cell range contain properties for the character style and paragraph format:

- Service com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties
- Service com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties
- Service com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian
- Service com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesComplex

The chapter \textit{Formatting} contains a description of these properties.

This example formats a given cell range \texttt{xCellRange}:

```java
// --- Change cell range properties. --- com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet
xPropSet = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xCellRange);
// from com.sun.star.styles.CharacterProperties
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("CharColor", new Integer(0x003399));
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("CharHeight", new Float(20.0));
// from com.sun.star.styles.ParagraphProperties
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("ParaLeftMargin", new Integer(500));
// from com.sun.star.table.CellProperties
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("IsCellBackgroundTransparent", new Boolean(false));
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("CellBackColor", new Integer(0x99CCFF));
```

The code below changes the character and paragraph formatting of a cell. Assume that \texttt{xCell} is a com.sun.star.table.XCell interface of a spreadsheet cell.

```java
// --- Change cell properties. --- com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPropSet =
  (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xCell);
// from styles.CharacterProperties
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("CharColor", new Integer(0x003399));
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("CharHeight", new Float(20.0));
// from styles.ParagraphProperties
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("ParaLeftMargin", new Integer(500));
// from table.CellProperties
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("IsCellBackgroundTransparent", new Boolean(false));
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("CellBackColor", new Integer(0x99CCFF));
```
Indentation

The methods of the interface com.sun.star.util.XIndent change the left indentation of the cell contents. This interface is supported by cells, cell ranges and collections of cell ranges. The indentation is incremental and decremental, independent for each cell.

- The method `decrementIndent()` reduces the indentation of each cell by 1.
- The method `incrementIndent()` enlarges the indentation of each cell by 1.

The following sample shows how to increase the cell indentation by 1.

```java
// --- Change indentation. --- com.sun.star.util.XIndent xIndent = (com.sun.star.util.XIndent)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.util.XIndent.class, xCellRange);
xIndent.incrementIndent();
```

**Warning** – Due to a bug, this interface does not work in the current implementation. Workaround: Use the paragraph property `ParaIndent`.

Equally Formatted Cell Ranges

It is possible to get collections of all equally formatted cell ranges contained in a source cell range.

Cell Format Ranges

The service com.sun.star.sheet.CellFormatRanges represents a collection of equally formatted cell ranges. The cells inside of a cell range of the collection have the same formatting attributes. All cells of the source range are contained in one of the ranges. If there is a non-rectangular, equal-formatted range, it is split into several rectangular ranges.
The service `com.sun.star.sheet.UniqueCellFormatRanges` represents, similar to `CellFormatRanges` above, a collection of equally formatted cell ranges, but this collection contains cell range container objects (service `com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges`) that contain the cell ranges. The cells of all ranges inside of a cell range container are equally formatted. The formatting attributes of a range container differ from each other range container. All equally formatted ranges are consolidated into one container.
UniqueCellFormatRanges

In the following example, the cells have two different background colors. The formatted ranges of the range A1:G3 are queried in both described ways.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The following code is an example of accessing the formatted ranges in Java. The getCellRangeAddressString is a helper method that returns the range address as a string.

```java
/** All samples regarding formatted cell ranges. */ public void
doFormattedCellRangesSamples(com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet xSheet)
    throws RuntimeException, Exception {
    // All ranges in one container
    xCellRange = xSheet.getCellRangeByName("A1:G3");
    System.out.println("Service CellFormatRanges:");
    com.sun.star.sheet.XCellFormatRangesSupplier xFormatSupp =
        (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellFormatRangesSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            com.sun.star.sheet.XCellFormatRangesSupplier.class, xCellRange);
    com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess xRangeIA =
        xFormatSupp.getCellFormatRanges();
    System.out.println( getCellRangeListString(xRangeIA));
    // Ranges sorted in SheetCellRanges containers
    System.out.println("\nService UniqueCellFormatRanges:");
    com.sun.star.sheet.XUniqueCellFormatRangesSupplier xUniqueFormatSupp =
        (com.sun.star.sheet.XUniqueCellFormatRangesSupplier)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                com.sun.star.sheet.XUniqueCellFormatRangesSupplier.class,
                xCellRange);
    com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess xRangesIA =
        xUniqueFormatSupp.getUniqueCellFormatRanges();
    int nCount =
        xRangesIA.getCount();
    for (int nIndex = 0; nIndex < nCount; ++nIndex) {
        Object aRangesObj =
            xRangesIA.getByIndex(nIndex);
        xRangeIA =
            (com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess)
                UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                    com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess.class,
                    aRangesObj);
        System.out.println("Container " +
            (nIndex + 1) + ": " + getCellRangeListString(xRangeIA));
    }
    /** Returns a list of addresses of all cell ranges contained in the
collection. @param xRangesIA The XIndexAccess interface of the collection.
@return A string containing the cell range address list. */
private String
cellRangeListString(com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess xRangesIA) 
    throws RuntimeException, Exception {
    String aStr = "";
    int nCount =
        xRangesIA.getCount();
    for (int nIndex = 0; nIndex < nCount; ++nIndex) {
        if (nIndex > 0) { aStr += " "; } Object aRangeObj =
            xRangesIA.getByIndex(nIndex);
        aStr += aRangeObj.toString();
    }
    return aStr;
}
```
Table Auto Formats

Table auto formats are used to apply different formats to a cell range. A table auto format is a collection of cell styles used to format all cells of a range. The style applied is dependent on the position of the cell.

The table auto format contains separate information about four different row types and four different column types:

- First row (header), first data area row, second data area row, last row (footer)
- First column, first data area column, second data area column, last column

The row or column types for the data area (between first and last row/column) are repeated in sequence. Each cell of the formatted range belongs to one of the row types and column types, resulting in 16 different auto-format fields. In the example below, the highlighted cell has the formatting of the first data area row and last column field. Additionally, this example shows the indexes of all the auto format fields. These indexes are used to access the field with the interface `com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess`.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First row (header)</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First data area row</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second data area row</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last row (footer)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table Auto Formats

A table auto format is represented by the service com.sun.star.sheet.TableAutoFormat. It contains exactly 16 auto format fields (service com.sun.star.sheet.TableAutoFormatField). Each auto format field contains all properties of a single cell.

The cell range interface com.sun.star.table.XAutoFormattable contains the method autoFormat() that applies a table auto format to a cell range. The cell range must have a size of at least 3x3 cells. The boolean properties of the table auto format determine the formatting properties are copied to the cells. The default setting of all the properties is true.

Note – In the current implementation it is not possible to modify the cell borders of a table auto format (the property TableBorder is missing). Nevertheless, the property IncludeBorder controls whether the borders of default auto formats are applied to the cells.

The collection of all table auto formats is represented by the service com.sun.star.sheet.TableAutoFormats. There is only one instance of this collection in the whole application. It contains all default and user-defined auto formats that are used in spreadsheets and tables of the word-processing application. It is possible to iterate through all table auto formats with an enumeration, or to access them directly.
using their index or their name.

The following example shows how to insert a new table auto format, fill it with properties, apply it to a cell range and remove it from the format collection.

```java
public void doAutoFormatSample(
    com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory xServiceManager,
    com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetDocument xDocument) throws RuntimeException, Exception {
    // get the global collection of table auto formats, use global service manager
    Object aAutoFormatsObj = 
xServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.sheet.TableAutoFormats");
    com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer xAutoFormatsNA = 
    (com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer.class,
aAutoFormatsObj);

    // create a new table auto format and insert into the container
    String aAutoFormatName = "Temp_Example";
    boolean bExistsAlready =
    xAutoFormatsNA.hasByName(aAutoFormatName);
    Object aAutoFormatObj = null;
    if (bExistsAlready) // auto format already exists -> use it
        aAutoFormatObj = xAutoFormatsNA.getByName(aAutoFormatName);
    else {
        // create a new auto format (with document service manager!)
        com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory xDocServiceManager =
        (com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface((
            com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory.class,
xDocument);
        aAutoFormatObj =
        xDocServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.sheet.TableAutoFormat");
        xAutoFormatsNA.insertByName(aAutoFormatName, aAutoFormatObj);
    }

    // index access to the auto format fields
    com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess xAutoFormatIA = 
    (com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess.class,
aAutoFormatObj);

    // set properties of all auto format fields
    for (int nRow = 0; nRow < 4; +nRow) {
        int nRowColor = 0;
        switch (nRow) {
            case 0: nRowColor = 0x999999; break;
            case 1: nRowColor = 0xFFFFCC;
            break;
            case 2: nRowColor = 0xEEEEEE; break;
            case 3: nRowColor = 0x999999; break;
        }
        for (int nColumn = 0; nColumn < 4; ++nColumn) {
            int nColor = nRowColor;
            if ((nColumn == 0) || (nColumn == 3))
                nColor -= 0x333300;
            // set the column auto format field
            if (nColumn == 0) { // set column 0
                // set the column auto format field
                xAutoFormatIA[(0, 0)].set(0, nColor);
            } else { // set column 1-3
                // set the column auto format field
                xAutoFormatIA[(0, nColumn)].set(0, nColor);
            }
        }
    }
}
```
Conditional Formats

A cell can be formatted automatically with a conditional format, depending on its contents or the result of a formula. A conditional format consists of several condition entries that contain the condition and name of a cell style. The style of the first met condition, true or "not zero", is applied to the cell.
ConditionalFormats

ConditionalFormatLocal. These properties return the interface 
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetConditionalEntries of the conditional format container 
com.sun.star.sheet.TableConditionalFormat. The objects of both properties are equal, 
extcept for the representation of formulas. The ConditionalFormatLocal property 
uses function names in the current language.

Note – After a conditional format is changed, it has to be reinserted into the property 
set of the cell or cell range.

A condition entry of a conditional format is represented by the service 
com.sun.star.sheet.TableConditionalEntry. It implements two interfaces:

- The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCondition gets and sets the operator, the 
  first and second formula and the base address for relative references.
- The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetConditionalEntry gets and sets the cell 
  style name.

The service com.sun.star.sheet.TableConditionalFormat contains all format conditions 
and returns com.sun.star.sheet.TableConditionalEntry objects. The interface 
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetConditionalEntries inserts new conditions and removes 
them.

- The method addNew() inserts a new condition. It expects a sequence of 
  com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue objects. The following properties are 
supported:

      operation to perform.

  21. Formula1 and Formula2: Strings that contain the values or formulas to evaluate. 
     Formula2 is used only if the property Operator contains BETWEEN or NOT_BETWEEN.

      address for relative cell references in formulas.

  23. StyleName: The name of the cell style to apply.

- The methods removeByIndex() removes the condition entry at the specified 
  position.
- The method clear() removes all condition entries.

The following example applies a conditional format to a cell range. It uses the cell 
style "MyNewCellStyle" that is applied to each cell containing a value greater than 1. 
The xSheet is the com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet interface of a spreadsheet.

```java
// get the conditional format object of the cell range 
com.sun.star.table.XCellRange xCellRange = 
xSheet.getCellRangeByName("A1:B10"); com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPropSet
```
Conditional Formats

```java
= (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xCellRange);
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetConditionalEntries xEntries =
(com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetConditionalEntries)
xPropSet.getPropertyValue("ConditionalFormat");
// create a condition and apply it to the range
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] aCondition = new
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[3]; aCondition[0] = new
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue(); aCondition[0].Name = "Operator";
aCondition[0].Value = com.sun.star.sheet.ConditionOperator.GREATER;
"Formula1"; aCondition[1].Value = "1"; aCondition[2] = new
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue(); aCondition[2].Name = "StyleName"
;aCondition[2].Value = "MyNewCellStyle"; xEntries.addNew(aCondition);
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("ConditionalFormat", xEntries);
```

Navigating

Unlike other document models that provide access to their content by content suppliers, the spreadsheet document contains properties that allow direct access to various containers.

**Warning** – This design inconsistency may be changed in future versions. The properties remain for compatibility.

The properties allow access to various containers:

- **NamedRanges**: The container with all the named ranges. See [Named Ranges](#).
- **ColumnLabelRanges** and **RowLabelRanges**: Containers with row labels and column labels. See [Label Ranges](#).
- **DatabaseRanges**: The container with all database ranges. See [Database Ranges](#).
- **SheetLinks**, **AreaLinks** and **DDELinks**: Containers with external links. See [Sheet Links](#).

Cell Cursor

A cell cursor is a cell range with extended functionality and is represented by the service com.sun.star.sheet SHEETCELLCURSOR. With a cell cursor it is possible to move through a cell range. Each table can contain only one cell cursor.
It implements all interfaces described in Cell Ranges and the basic cursor interfaces of the service com.sun.star.table.CellCursor that represents the cell or cell range cursor of a table.

The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet of a spreadsheet creates the cell cursors. The methods return the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellCursor of the cursor. It is derived from the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRange that provides access to cells and cell ranges. Refer to Cell Ranges for additional information.

- The method `createCursor()` creates a cursor that spans over the whole spreadsheet.
- The method `createCursorByRange()` creates a cursor that spans over the given cell range.

The SheetCellCursor includes the CellCursor service from the table module:

```
com.sun.star.table.
CellCursor
<<services>>
```

Table cell cursor

## Cursor Movement

The service com.sun.start.table.CellCursor implements the interface com.sun.star.table.XCellCursor that provides methods to move to specific cells of a cell range. This interface is derived from com.sun.start.table.XCellRange so all methods that access single cells can be used.

**Methods of com.sun.star.table.XCellCursor**

- `com.sun.star.table.XCellCursor::gotoStart()` Moves to the first filled cell. This cell may be outside of the current range of the cursor.
- `com.sun.star.table.XCellCursor` Moves to the last filled cell. This cell may be...
The following example shows how to modify a cell beyond a filled area. The xCursor may be an initialized cell cursor.

```java
// *** Use the cell cursor to add some data below of the filled area *** //
xCursor.gotoEnd(); // Move to the last filled cell.
xCursor.gotoOffset(0, 1); xCursor.getCellByPosition(0, 0).setFormula("Beyond of the last filled cell.");
```

The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellCursor sets the cursor to specific ranges in the sheet.

- The method `collapseToCurrentRegion()` expands the cursor to the shortest cell range filled with any data. A few examples from the spreadsheet below are: the cursor C2:C2 expands to B2:D3, cursor C1:C2 expands to B1:D3 and cursor A1:D4 is unchanged.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Text</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The method `collapseToArrayCurrent()` expands or shortens the cursor range to an array formula range. This works only if the top-left cell of the current cursor contains an array formula. An example using the spreadsheet above: All the cursors with a top-left cell located in the range F2:G3 are modified to this array formula range, F2:F2 or G2:G4.

- The method `collapseToMergedArea()` expands the current cursor range so that all merged cell ranges intersecting the current range fit completely.

- The methods `expandToEntireColumns()` and `expandToEntireRows()` expand the cursor range so that it contains all cells of the columns or rows of the current range.

- The method `collapseToSize()` resizes the cursor range to the given dimensions. The start address of the range is left unmodified. To move the cursor range without changing the current size, use the method `gotoOffset()` from the interface com.sun.star.table.XCellCursor.
Note – Some of the methods above have misleading names: collapseToCurrentRegion() and collapseToMergedArea() expand the cursor range, but never shorten it and collapseToCurrentArray() may expand or shorten the cursor range.

The following example tries to find the range of the array formula in cell F22. The xSheet is a com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet interface of a spreadsheet and getCellRangeAddressString() is a helper method that returns the range address as a string.

```
// --- find the array formula using a cell cursor ---
com.sun.star.table.XCellRange xRange = xSheet.getCellRangeByName("F22");
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRange xCellRange =
    (com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRange)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRange.class, xRange);
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellCursor xCursor =
    xSheet.createCursorByRange(xCellRange);
xCursor.collapseToCurrentArray(); com.sun.star.sheet.XArrayFormulaRange xArray =
    (com.sun.star.sheet.XArrayFormulaRange)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XArrayFormulaRange.class,
    xCursor);
System.out.println(     "Array formula in " +
getCellRangeAddressString(xCursor, false)         + " contains formula " +
    xArray.getArrayFormula());
```

## Used Area

The cursor interface com.sun.star.sheet.XUsedAreaCursor contains methods to locate the used area of the entire sheet. The used area is the smallest cell range that contains all cells of the spreadsheet with any contents, such as values, text, and formulas, or visible formatting, such as borders and background color. In the following example, xSheet is a com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet interface of a spreadsheet.

```
// --- Find the used area ---
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellCursor xCursor =
    xSheet.createCursor(); com.sun.star.sheet.XUsedAreaCursor xUsedCursor =
    (com.sun.star.sheet.XUsedAreaCursor)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XUsedAreaCursor.class, xCursor);
xUsedCursor.gotoStartOfUsedArea(false);
xUsedCursor.gotoEndOfUsedArea(true);
System.out.println("The used area is: " +
   getCellRangeAddressString(xCursor, true));
```

## Referencing Ranges by Name

Cell ranges can be assigned a name that they may be addressed by in formulas. This
is done with named ranges. Another way to use names for cell references in formulas is the automatic label lookup which is controlled using label ranges.

**Named Ranges**

A named range is a named formula expression, where a cell range is just one possible content. Thus, the content of a named range is always set as a string.

The collection of named ranges is accessed using the document's `NamedRanges` property. A new named range is added by calling the `com.sun.star.sheet.XNamedRanges` interface's `addNewByName()` method. The method's parameters are:

- The name for the new named range.
- The content. This must be a string containing a valid formula expression. A commonly used type of expression is an absolute cell range reference like "$Sheet1.$A1:$C3".
- A reference position for relative references. If the content contains relative cell references, and the named range is used in a formula, the references are adjusted for the formula's position. The reference position states which cell the references are relative to.
- The type of the named range that controls if the named range is included in some dialogs. The type must be a combination of the `com.sun.star.sheet.NamedRangeFlag` constants:

1. If the `FILTER CRITERIA` bit is set, the named range is offered as a criteria range in
the "Advanced Filter" dialog.

2. If the PRINT_AREA, COLUMN_HEADER or ROW_HEADER bit is set, the named range is selected as "Print range", "Columns to repeat" or "Rows to repeat" in the Edit Print Ranges dialog.

The addNewFromTitles() method creates named ranges from header columns or rows in a cell range. The com.sun.star.sheet.Border enum parameter selects which named ranges are created:

- If the value is TOP, a named range is created for each column of the cell range with the name taken from the range’s first row, and the other cells of that column within the cell range as content.
- For BOTTOM, the names are taken from the range’s last row.
- If the value is LEFT, a named range is created for each row of the cell range with the name taken from the range’s first column, and the other cells of that row within the cell range as content.
- For RIGHT, the names are taken from the range’s last column.

The removeByName() method is used to remove a named range. The outputList() method writes a list of all the named ranges into the document, starting at the specified cell position.

The com.sun.star.sheet.NamedRange service accesses an existing named range. The com.sun.star.container.XNamed interface changes the name, and the com.sun.star.sheet.XNamedRange interface changes the other settings. See the addNewByName description above for the meaning of the individual values.

If the content of the name is a single cell range reference, the com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeReferrer interface is used to access that cell range.

The following example creates a named range that calculates the sum of the two cells above the position where it is used. This is done by using the relative reference "G43:G44" with the reference position G45. Then, the example uses the named range in two formulas.

```java
// insert a named range com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xDocProp = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xDocument);
Object aRangesObj = xDocProp.getPropertyValue("NamedRanges");
com.sun.star.sheet.XNamedRanges xNamedRanges =
(com.sun.star.sheet.XNamedRanges)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XNamedRanges.class, aRangesObj);
aRefPos.Sheet = 0; aRefPos.Column = 6; aRefPos.Row = 44;
xNamedRanges.addNewByName("ExampleName", "SUM(G43:G44)", aRefPos, 0);
// use the named range in formulas xSheet.getCellByPosition(6, 44).setFormula("=ExampleName"); xSheet.getCellByPosition(7, 44).setFormula("=ExampleName");
```
Label Ranges

A label range consists of a label area containing the labels, and a data area containing the data that the labels address. There are label ranges for columns and rows of data, which are kept in two separate collections in the document.

The com.sun.star.sheet.LabelRanges service contains the document's column label ranges or row label ranges, depending if the `ColumnLabelRanges` or `RowLabelRanges` property was used to get it. The `com.sun.star.sheet.XLabelRanges` interface's `addNew()` method is used to add a new label range, specifying the label area and data area. The `removeByIndex()` method removes a label range.

The `com.sun.star.sheet.LabelRange` service represents a single label range and contains the `com.sun.star.sheet.XLabelRange` interface to modify the label area and data area.

The following example inserts a column label range with the label area G48:H48 and the data area G49:H50, that is, the content of G48 is used as a label for G49:G50 and the content of H48 is used as a label for H49:H50, as shown in the two formulas the example inserts.

```java
com.sun.star.table.XCellRange xRange = xSheet.getCellRangeByPosition(6, 47, 7, 49); com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeData xData = (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeData) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeData.class, xRange);
Object[][] aValues = {     {"Apples", "Oranges"},     {new Double(5), new Double(7)},     {new Double(6), new Double(8)} }; xData.setDataArray(aValues);
// insert a column label range Object aLabelsObj = xDocProp.getPropertyValue("ColumnLabelRanges");
com.sun.star.sheet.XLabelRanges xLabelRanges = (com.sun.star.sheet.XLabelRanges) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XLabelRanges.class, aLabelsObj);
```

// use the label range in formulas
xSheet.getCellByPosition(8, 48).setFormula("=Apples+Oranges"); xSheet.getCellByPosition(8, 49).setFormula("=Apples+Oranges");

### Querying for Cells with Specific Properties

Cells, cell ranges and collections of cell ranges are queried for certain cell contents through the service com.sun.star.sheet.SheetRangesQuery. It implements interfaces to query cells and cell ranges with specific properties.

The methods of the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangesQuery search for cells with specific contents or properties inside of the given cell range. The methods of the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XFormulaQuery search for cells in the entire spreadsheet that are reference to or are referenced from formula cells in the given range.

**Warning** – Due to a bug in the current implementation, both methods queryPrecedents() and queryDependents() of the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XFormulaQuery cause an endless loop in recursive mode, if parameter bRecursive is true.

All methods return the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRanges of a cell range collection. Cell range collections are described in the chapter Cell Ranges and Cells.
Methods of com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangesQuery

- `queryVisibleCells()`: Returns all cells that are not hidden.
- `queryEmptyCells()`: Returns all cells that do not have any content.
- `queryContentCells()`: Returns all cells that have the contents described by the passed parameter. The flags are defined in com.sun.star.sheet.CellFlags.
- `queryFormulaCells()`: Returns all formula cells whose results have a specific type described by the passed parameter. The result flags are defined in com.sun.star.sheet.FormulaResult.
- `queryColumnDifferences()`: Returns all cells of the range that have different contents than the cell in the same column of the specified row. See the example below.
- `queryRowDifferences()`: Returns all cells of the range that have different contents than the cell in the same row of the specified column. See the example below.
- `queryIntersection()`: Returns all cells of the range that are contained in the passed range address.

Example:

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

The queried range is A1:C4 and the passed cell address is B2.

- `queryColumnDifferences()`: (the row number is of interest) The cells of column A are compared with cell A2, the cells of column B with B2 and so on. The function returns the cell range list B1:B1, B4:B4, C3:C4.
- `queryRowDifferences()`: (the column index is of interest) The function compares row 1 with cell B1, row 2 with cell B2 and so on. It returns the cell range list C1:C1, A2:A2, A3:A3, C3:C3.

The following code queries all cells with text content:

```java
// --- Cell Ranges Query --- // query addresses of all cells containing text
com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangesQuery xRangesQuery =
    (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangesQuery)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangesQuery.class,
        xCellRange);
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCellRanges xCellRanges =
    xRangesQuery.queryContentCells((short)com.sun.star.sheet.CellFlags.STRING);
System.out.println("Cells containing text: " +
```

```
Search and Replace

The cell range interface com.sun.star.util.XReplaceable is derived from com.sun.star.util.XSearchable providing search and replacement of text.

- The method `createReplaceDescriptor()` creates a new descriptor that contains all data for the replace action. It returns the interface com.sun.star.util.XReplaceDescriptor of this descriptor.
- The method `replaceAll()` performs a replacement in all cells according to the passed replace descriptor.

The following example replaces all occurrences of "cell" with "text":

```java
// --- Replace text in all cells. --- com.sun.star.util.XReplaceable xReplace = (com.sun.star.util.XReplaceable)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.util.XReplaceable.class, xCellRange);
com.sun.star.util.XReplaceDescriptor xReplaceDesc =
xReplace.createReplaceDescriptor();
xReplaceDesc.setSearchString("cell");
xReplaceDesc.setReplaceString("text"); // property SearchWords searches for whole cells! xReplaceDesc.setPropertyValue("SearchWords", new Boolean(false));
int nCount = xReplace.replaceAll(xReplaceDesc);
System.out.println("Search text replaced " + nCount + " times.");
```

Note – The property `SearchWords` has a different meaning in spreadsheets: If true, only cells containing the whole search text and nothing else is found. If false, cells containing the search string as a substring is found.

Sorting

Table Sort Descriptor

A `sort descriptor` describes all properties of a sort operation. The service com.sun.star.table.TableSortDescriptor2 extends the service com.sun.star.util.SortDescriptor2 with table specific sorting properties, such as:
The sorting orientation using the boolean `IsSortColumns`.

A sequence of sorting fields using the `SortFields` property that contains a sequence of `com.sun.star.table.TableSortField` structs.

The size of the sequence using the `MaxSortFieldsCount` property.

The service `com.sun.star.sheet.SheetSortDescriptor2` extends the service `com.sun.star.table.TableSortDescriptor2` with spreadsheet specific sorting properties, such as:

Moving cell formats with the cells they belong to using the boolean property `BindFormatsToContent`. The existence of column or row headers using the boolean property `ContainsHeader`.

Copying the sorted data to another position in the document using the boolean property `CopyOutputData`.

Position where sorted data are to be copied using the property `OutputPosition`.

If the `IsUserListEnabled` property is true, a user-defined sort list is used that specifies an order for the strings it contains. The `UserListIndex` property selects an entry from the `UserLists` property of the `com.sun.star.sheet.GlobalSheetSettings` service to find the sort list that is used.
To sort the contents of a cell range, the `sort()` method from the `com.sun.star.util.XSortable` interface is called, passing a sequence of property values with properties from the `com.sun.star.sheet.SheetSortDescriptor2` service. The sequence can be constructed from scratch containing the properties that should be set, or the return value of the `createSortDescriptor()` method can be used and modified. If the cell range is a database range that has a stored sort operation, `createSortDescriptor()` returns a sequence with the options of this sort operation.

The fields that the cell range is sorted by are specified in the `SortFields` property as a sequence of `com.sun.star.table.TableSortField` elements. In the `com.sun.star.table.TableSortField` struct, the `Field` member specifies the field number by which to sort, and the boolean `IsAscending` member switches between ascending and descending sorting for that field. The boolean `IsCaseSensitive` specifies whether the case of letters is important when comparing entries. The `CollatorLocale` is used to sort according to the sorting rules of a given locale. For some locales, several different sorting rules exist. In this case, the `CollatorAlgorithm` is used to select one of the sorting rules. The `com.sun.star.i18n.Collator` service is used to find the possible `CollatorAlgorithm` values for a locale. Currently, it is not possible to have different
locales, algorithms and case sensitivity on the different fields.

**Note** – The `FieldType` member, that is used to select textual or numeric sorting in text documents is ignored in the spreadsheet application. In a spreadsheet, a cell always has a known type of text or value, which is used for sorting, with numbers sorted before text cells.

The following example sorts the cell range by the second column in ascending order:

```java
// --- sort by second column, ascending ---
// define the fields to sort
com.sun.star.util.SortField[] aSortFields = new com.sun.star.table.TableSortField[1];
aSortFields[0] = new com.sun.star.table.TableSortField();
aSortFields[0].Field = 1;
aSortFields[0].IsAscending = true; aSortFields[0].IsCaseSensitive = false;
// define the sort descriptor
aSortDesc[0] = new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue();
aSortDesc[0].Name = "SortFields";
aSortDesc[0].Value = aSortFields;
aSortDesc[1].Name = "ContainsHeader";
aSortDesc[1].Value = new Boolean(true);
// perform the sorting
com.sun.star.util.XSortable xSort = (com.sun.star.util.XSortable)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.util.XSortable.class, xRange);
xSort.sort(aSortDesc);
```

### Database Operations

This section discusses the operations that treat the contents of a cell range as database data, organized in rows and columns like a database table. These operations are filtering, sorting, adding of subtotals and importing from an external database. Each of the operations is controlled using a descriptor service. The descriptors can be used in two ways:

- Performing an operation on a cell range. This is described in the following sections about the individual descriptors.
- Accessing the settings that are stored with a database range. This is described in the section about database ranges.
Filtering

A com.sun.star.sheet.SheetFilterDescriptor object is created using the createFilterDescriptor() method from the range's com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterable interface to filter data in a cell range. After applying the settings to the descriptor, it is passed to the filter() method.

If true is passed as a bEmpty parameter to createFilterDescriptor(), the returned descriptor contains default values for all settings. If false is passed and the cell range is a database range that has a stored filter operation, the settings for that filter are used.
The `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterDescriptor` interface is used to set the filter criteria as a sequence of `com.sun.star.sheet.TableFilterField` elements. The `com.sun.star.sheet.TableFilterField` struct describes a single condition and contains the following members:

- **Connection** has the values AND or OR, and specifies how the condition is connected to the previous condition in the sequence. For the first entry, Connection is ignored.
- **Field** is the number of the field that the condition is applied to.
- **Operator** is the type of the condition, such as EQUAL or GREATER
- **IsNumeric** selects a numeric or textual condition.
- **NumericValue** contains the value that is used in the condition if IsNumeric is true.
- **StringValue** contains the text that is used in the condition if IsNumeric is false.

Additionally, the filter descriptor contains a `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet` interface for settings that affect the whole filter operation.

If the property `CopyOutputData` is true, the data that matches the filter criteria is copied to a cell range in the document that starts at the position specified by the `OutputPosition` property. Otherwise, the rows that do not match the filter criteria are filtered (hidden) in the original cell range.

The following example filters the range that is in the variable `xRange` for values greater or equal to 1998 in the second column:

```java
// --- filter for second column >= 1998 ---
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterable xFilter =
    (com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterable)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterable.class, xRange);
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterDescriptor xFilterDesc =
    xFilter.createFilterDescriptor(true); com.sun.star.sheet.TableFilterField[]
aFilterFields =
    new com.sun.star.sheet.TableFilterField[1];
aFilterFields[0] =
    new com.sun.star.sheet.TableFilterField();
aFilterFields[0].Field = 1; aFilterFields[0].IsNumeric = true;
aFilterFields[0].Operator = com.sun.star.sheet.FilterOperator.GREATER_EQUAL;
aFilterFields[0].NumericValue = 1998;
xFilterDesc.setFilterFields(aFilterFields); com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet
xFilterProp =
    (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xFilterDesc);
xFilterProp.setPropertyValue("ContainsHeader", new Boolean(true));
xFilter.filter(xFilterDesc);
```
The com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterableEx interface is used to create a filter descriptor from criteria in a cell range in the same manner as the "Advanced Filter" dialog. The com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterableEx interface must be queried from the range that contains the conditions, and the com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterable interface of the range to be filtered must be passed to the createFilterDescriptorByObject() call.

The following example performs the same filter operation as the example before, but reads the filter criteria from a cell range:

```java
// --- do the same filter as above, using criteria from a cell range ---
com.sun.star.table.XCellRange xCritRange =
xSheet.getCellRangeByName("B27:B28");
com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeData xCritData = (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeData)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeData.class,
xCritRange); Object[][] aCritValues = ;
xCritData.setDataArray(aCritValues);
com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterableEx xCriteria =
(com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterableEx)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetFilterableEx.class,
xCritRange); xFilterDesc = xCriteria.createFilterDescriptorByObject(xFilter);
if (xFilterDesc != null) xFilter.filter(xFilterDesc);
```

### Subtotals

A com.sun.star.sheet.SubTotalDescriptor object is created using the createSubTotalDescriptor() method from the range's com.sun.star.sheet.XSubTotalCalculatable interface to create subtotals for a cell range. After applying the settings to the descriptor, it is passed to the applySubTotals() method.

The bEmpty parameter to the createSubTotalDescriptor() method works in the same manner as the parameter to the createFilterDescriptor() method described in the filtering section. If the bReplace parameter to the applySubTotals() method is true, existing subtotal rows are deleted before inserting new ones.

The removeSubTotals() method removes the subtotal rows from the cell range without modifying the stored subtotal settings, so that the same subtotals can later be restored.
New fields are added to the subtotal descriptor using the `com.sun.star.sheet.XSubTotalDescriptor` interface's `addNew()` method. The `nGroupColumn` parameter selects the column by which values are grouped. The subtotals are inserted at changes of the column's values. The `aSubTotalColumns` parameter specifies which column subtotal values are calculated. It is a sequence of `com.sun.star.sheet.SubTotalColumn` entries where each entry contains the column number and the function to be calculated.

To query or modify the fields in a subtotal descriptor, the `com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess` interface is used to access the fields. Each field's `com.sun.star.sheet.XSubTotalField` interface gets and sets the group and subtotal columns.

The example below creates subtotals, grouping by the first column and calculating the sum of the third column:

```java
// --- insert subtotals ---
com.sun.star.sheet.XSubTotalCalculatable xSub =
    (com.sun.star.sheet.XSubTotalCalculatable)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XSubTotalCalculatable.class,
    xRange); com.sun.star.sheet.XSubTotalDescriptor xSubDesc =
    xSub.createSubTotalDescriptor(true); com.sun.star.sheet.SubTotalColumn[]
aColumns = new com.sun.star.sheet.SubTotalColumn[1]; // calculate sum of third
column aColumns[0] = new com.sun.star.sheet.SubTotalColumn();
aColumns[0].Column = 2; aColumns[0].Function =
    com.sun.star.sheet.GeneralFunction.SUM; // group by first column
xSubDesc.addNew(aColumns, 0); xSub.applySubTotals(xSubDesc, true);
```

---

Database Import

The `com.sun.star.util.XImportable` interface imports data from an external data source (database) into spreadsheet cells. The database has to be registered in OpenOffice.org API, so that it can be selected using its name. The `doImport` call takes a sequence of property values that select the data to import.
Similar to the sort descriptor, the import descriptor's sequence of property values can be constructed from scratch, or the return value of the `createImportDescriptor()` method can be used and modified. The `createImportDescriptor()` method returns a description of the previously imported data if the cell range is a database range with stored import settings and the `bEmpty` parameter is `false`.

```java
com.sun.star.sheet.
DatabaseImportDescriptor
<<service>>
com.sun.star.sheet.DataImportMode SourceType
string DatabaseName
string SourceObject

DatabaseImportDescriptor

The DatabaseName property selects a database. The SourceType selects the kind of object from the database that is imported. It can have the following values:

- If SourceType is TABLE, the whole table that is named by SourceObject is imported.
- If SourceType is QUERY, the SourceObject must be the name of a named query.
- If SourceType is SQL, the SourceObject is used as a literal SQL command string.

If a database name is in the aDatabase variable and a table name in aTableName, the following code imports that table from the database:

```java
// --- import from database ---
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] aImportDesc = new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[3];
aImportDesc[0] = new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue();
aImportDesc[0].Name = "DatabaseName";
aImportDesc[0].Value = aDatabase;
aImportDesc[1].Name = "SourceType";
aImportDesc[1].Value = com.sun.star.sheet.DataImportMode.TABLE;
aImportDesc[2].Name = "SourceObject";
aImportDesc[2].Value = aTableName;
com.sun.star.table.XCellRange xImportRange =
xSheet.getCellRangeByName("B33:B33");
com.sun.star.util.XImportable xImport =
( com.sun.star.util.XImportable )
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.util.XImportable.class, xImportRange);
xImport.doImport(aImportDesc);
```

## Database Ranges

A database range is a name for a cell range that also stores filtering, sorting, subtotal and import settings, as well as some options.

The com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetDocument service has a property `DatabaseRanges` that is used to get the document's collection of database ranges. A
new database range is added using the com.sun.star.sheet.XDatabaseRanges interface's `addNewByName()` method that requires the name of the new database range, and a com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress with the address of the cell range as arguments. The `removeByName()` method removes a database range.

The com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface is used to get a single com.sun.star.sheet.DatabaseRange object. Its com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeReferrer interface is used to access the cell range that it is pointed to. The com.sun.star.sheet.XDatabaseRange interface retrieves or changes the com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress that is named, and gets the stored descriptors.

All descriptors of a database range are updated when a database operation is carried out on the cell range that the database range points to. The stored filter descriptor and subtotal descriptor can also be modified by changing the objects that are returned by the `getFilterDescriptor()` and `getSubTotalDescriptor()` methods. Calling the `refresh()` method carries out the stored operations again.

Whenever a database operation is carried out on a cell range where a database range is not defined, a temporary database range is used to hold the settings. This temporary database range has its `IsUserDefined` property set to `false` and is valid until another database operation is performed on a different cell range. In this case, the temporary database range is modified to refer to the new cell range.

The following example uses the `IsUserDefined` property to find the temporary database range, and applies a background color to the corresponding cell range. If run directly after the database import example above, this marks the imported data.

```java
// use the temporary database range to find the imported data's size
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xDocProp = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, getDocument()); Object aRangesObj = xDocProp.getPropertyValue("DatabaseRanges");
com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess xRanges = (com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess.class, aRangesObj); String[] aNames = xRanges.getElementNames(); for (int i=0; i<aNames.length; i++) {     Object aRangeObj = xRanges.getByName(aNames[i] );     com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xRangeProp = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, aRangeObj);     boolean bUser = ((Boolean) xRangeProp.getPropertyValue("IsUserDefined")).booleanValue();     if (!bUser) {         // this is the temporary database range - get the cell range and format it         com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeReferrer xRef = (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeReferrer) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeReferrer.class, aRangeObj);         com.sun.star.table.XCellRange xResultRange = xRef.getReferredCells();         com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xResultProp = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xResultRange);
```
Linking External Data

This section explains different ways to link data from external sources into a spreadsheet document. Refer to the Database Import chapter for linking data from a database.

Sheet Links

Each sheet in a spreadsheet document can be linked to a sheet from a different document. The spreadsheet document has a collection of all the sheet links to different source documents.

The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetLinkable is relevant if the current sheet is used as buffer for an external sheet link. The interfaces provides access to the data
of the link. A link is established using the com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetLinkable interface's link() method. The method's parameters are:

- The source document's URL. When a sheet link is inserted or updated, the source document is loaded from its URL. Unsaved changes in a source document that is open in memory are not included. All URL types that can be used to load files can also be used in links, including HTTP to link to data from a web server.
- The name of the sheet in the source document from the contents are copied from. If this string is empty, the source document's first sheet is used, regardless of its name.
- The filter name and options that are used to load the source document. Refer to the Handling Documents chapter. All spreadsheet file filters can be used, so it is possible, for example, to link to a CSV text file.
- A com.sun.star.sheet.SheetLinkMode enum value that controls how the contents are copied:

  1. If the mode is NORMAL, all cells from the source sheet are copied, including formulas.

  2. If the mode is VALUE, formulas are replaced by their results in the copy.

The link mode, source URL and source sheet name can also be queried and changed using the getLinkMode(), setLinkMode(), getLinkUrl(), setLinkUrl(), getLinkSheetName() and setLinkSheetName() methods. Setting the mode to NONE removes the link.

The com.sun.star.sheet.SheetLinks collection contains an entry for every source document that is used in sheet links. If several sheets are linked to different sheets from the same source document, there is only one entry for them. The name that is used for the com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface is the source document's URL.

The com.sun.star.sheet.SheetLink service changes a link's source URL, filter or filter options through the com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface. The com.sun.star.util.XRefreshable interface is used to update the link. This affects all sheets that are linked to any sheet from the link's source document.

**Note** – External references in cell formulas are implemented using hidden linked sheets that show as sheet link objects.
Cell Area Links

A cell area link is a cell area (range) in a spreadsheet that is linked to a cell area from a different document.

To insert an area link, the `com.sun.star.sheet.XAreaLinks` interface's `insertAtPosition()` method is used with the following parameters:

- The position where the link is placed in the document as a `com.sun.star.table.CellAddress` struct.
- The source document's URL is used in the same manner as sheet links.
- A string describing the source range in the source document. This can be the name of a named range or database range, or a direct cell reference, such as "sheet1.a1:c5". Note that the WebQuery import filter creates a named range for each HTML table. These names can be used also.
- The filter name and filter options are used in the same manner as sheet links.

The `removeByIndex()` method is used to remove a link.

The `com.sun.star.sheet.CellAreaLink` service is used to modify or refresh an area link. The `com.sun.star.sheet.XAreaLink` interface queries and modifies the link's source range and its output range in the document. Note that the output range changes in size after updating if the size of the source range changes.

The `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet` interface changes the link's source URL, filter name and filter options. Unlike sheet links, these changes affect only one linked area. Additionally, the `RefreshDelay` property is used to set an interval in seconds to periodically update the link. If the value is 0, no automatic updates occur.
The com.sun.star.util.XRefreshable interface is used to update the link.

**DDE Links**

A DDE link is created whenever the DDE spreadsheet function is used in a cell formula.

![Diagram of DDE Link creation]

The com.sun.star.sheet.DDELink service is only used to query the link's parameters using the com.sun.star.sheet.XDDELink interface, and refresh it using the com.sun.star.util.XRefreshable interface. The DDE link's parameters, Application, Topic and Item are determined by the formula that contains the DDE function, therefore it is not possible to change these parameters in the link object.

The link's name used for the com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface consists of the three parameter strings concatenated.

**DataPilot Tables**

The com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotTables and related services create and modify DataPilot tables in a spreadsheet.

The method `getDataPilotTables()` of the interface
com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotTablesSupplier returns the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotTables of the collection of all data pilot tables contained in the spreadsheet.

The com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotTables service is accessed by getting the com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotTablesSupplier interface from a spreadsheet object and calling the `getDataPilotTables()` method.

**Note** – Only DataPilot tables that are based on cell data are supported by these services. DataPilot tables created directly from external data sources or using the com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSource service cannot be created or modified this way.

## Creating a New DataPilot Table

The first step to creating a new DataPilot table is to create a new com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotDescriptor object by calling the com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotTables interface's `createDataPilotDescriptor()` method. The descriptor is then used to describe the DataPilot table’s layout and options, and passed to the `insertNewByName()` method of XDataPilotTables. The other parameters for `insertNewByName()` are the name for the new table, and the
Creating a New DataPilot Table

position where the table is to be placed on the spreadsheet.

The com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotDescriptor interface offers methods to change the
DataPilot table settings:

- The cell range that contains the source data is set with the `setSourceRange()`
  method. It is a com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress struct.
- The individual fields are handled using the `getDataPilotFields()`,
  `getColumnFields()`, `getRowFields()`, `getPageFields()`, `getDataFields()` and
  `getHiddenFields()` methods. The details are discussed below.
- The `setTag()` method sets an additional string that is stored with the DataPilot
table, but does not influence its results.
- The `getFilterDescriptor()` method returns a
  com.sun.star.sheet.SheetFilterDescriptor object that can be used to apply filter
criteria to the source data. Refer to the section on data operations for details on
how to use a filter descriptor.

The layout of the DataPilot table is controlled using the
object has a property Orientation that controls where in the DataPilot table the field is
used. The com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation enum contains the possible
orientations:

- HIDDEN: The field is not used in the table.
- COLUMN: Values from this field are used to determine the columns of the table.
- ROW: Values from this field are used to determine the rows of the table.
- PAGE: The field is used in the table’s "page" area, where single values from the
  field can be selected.
- DATA: The values from this field are used to calculate the table’s data area.

The `Function` property is used to assign a function to the field. For instance, if the
field has a DATA orientation, this is the function that is used for calculation of the
results. If the field has COLUMN or ROW orientation, it is the function that is used to
calculate subtotals for the values from this field.

The `getDataPilotFields()` method returns a collection containing one
com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldentry for each column of source data, and one
additional entry for the “Data” column that becomes visible when two or more fields
get the DATA orientation. Each source column appears only once, even if it is used
with several orientations or functions.

The `getColumnFields()`, `getRowFields()`, `getPageFields()`, and `getDataFields()`
methods each return a collection of the fields with the respective orientation. In the
case of `getDataFields()`, a single source column can appear several times if it is
used with different functions. The `getHiddenFields()` method returns a collection of
those fields from the `getDataPilotFields()` collection that are not in any of the other
collections.

**Note** – Page fields and the PAGE orientation are not supported by the current implementation. Setting a field's orientation to PAGE has the same effect as using HIDDEN. The `getPageFields()` method always returns an empty collection.

The exact effect of changing a field orientation depends on which field collection the field object was taken from. If the object is from the `getDataPilotFields()` collection, the field is added to the collection that corresponds to the new Orientation value. If the object is from any of the other collections, the field is removed from the old orientation and added to the new orientation.

The following example creates a simple DataPilot table with one column, row and data field.

```java
// --- Create a new DataPilot table ---
com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotTablesSupplier xDPSupp = (com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotTablesSupplier)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotTablesSupplier.class, xSheet);
com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotTables xDPTables = xDPSupp.getDataPilotTables();
com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotDescriptor xDPDesc = xDPTables.createDataPilotDescriptor();

// set source range (use data range from CellRange test)
com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress aSourceAddress = createCellRangeAddress(xSheet, "A10:C30");
xDPDesc.setSourceRange(aSourceAddress);

// settings for fields
com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess xFields = xDPDesc.getDataPilotFields();
Object aFieldObj;
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xFieldProp;

// use first column as column field
aFieldObj = xFields.getByIndex(0);
xFieldProp = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, aFieldObj);
xFieldProp.setPropertyValue("Orientation",
com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.COLUMN);

// use second column as row field
aFieldObj = xFields.getByIndex(1);
xFieldProp = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, aFieldObj);
xFieldProp.setPropertyValue("Orientation",
com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.ROW);

// use third column as data field, calculating the sum
aFieldObj = xFields.getByIndex(2);
xFieldProp = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, aFieldObj);
xFieldProp.setPropertyValue("Orientation",
com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.DATA);
xFieldProp.setPropertyValue("Function",
com.sun.star.sheet.GeneralFunction.SUM);

// select output position
com.sun.star.table.CellAddress aDestAddress = createCellAddress(xSheet, "A40");
xDPTables.insertNewByName("DataPilotExample", aDestAddress, xDPDesc);
```
Modifying a DataPilot Table

The com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotTable service is used to modify an existing DataPilot table. The object for an existing table is available through the com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface of the com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotTables service. It implements the com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotDescriptor interface, so that the DataPilot table can be modified in the same manner as the descriptor for a new table in the preceding section. After any change to a DataPilot table's settings, the table is automatically recalculated.

Additionally, the com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotTable interface offers a getOutputRange() method that is used to find which range on the spreadsheet the table occupies, and a refresh() method that recalculates the table without changing any settings.

The following example modifies the table from the previous example to contain a second data field using the same source column as the existing data field, but using the "average" function instead.

```java
// --- Modify the DataPilot table --- Object aDPTableObj = xDPTables.getByName("DataPilotExample"); xDPDesc = (com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotDescriptor) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotDescriptor.class, aDPTableObj); xFields = xDPDesc.getDataPilotFields(); // add a second data field from the third column, calculating the average aFieldObj = xFields.getByIndex(2); xFieldProp = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, aFieldObj); xFieldProp.setPropertyValue("Orientation", com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.DATA); xFieldProp.setPropertyValue("Function", com.sun.star.sheet.GeneralFunction.AVERAGE);
```

Note – Note how the field object for the third column is taken from the collection returned by getDataPilotFields() to create a second data field. If the field object was taken from the collection returned by getDataFields(), only the existing data field's function would be changed by the setPropertyValue() calls to that object.

Removing a DataPilot Table

To remove a DataPilot table from a spreadsheet, call the com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotTables interface's removeByName() method, passing the...
DataPilot Sources

The DataPilot feature in OpenOffice.org API Calc makes use of an external component that provides the tabular results in the DataPilot table using the field orientations and other settings that are made in the DataPilot dialog or interactively by dragging the fields in the spreadsheet.

Such a component might, for example, connect to an OLAP server, allowing the use of a DataPilot table to interactively display results from that server.

The example that is used here provides four dimensions with the same number of members each, and one data dimension that uses these members as digits to form integer numbers. A resulting DataPilot table look similar to the following:
The example uses the following class to hold the settings that are applied to the DataPilot:

```java
class ExampleSettings {     static public final int nDimensionCount = 6;     static public final int nValueDimension = 4;     static public final int nDataDimension = 5;     static public final String[] aDimensionNames = {"ones", "tens", "hundreds", "thousands", "value", ""};     static public final String getMemberName(int nMember) {         return String.valueOf(nMember);     }     public int nMemberCount = 3;     public java.util.List<String> aColDimensions = new java.util.ArrayList();     public java.util.List<String> aRowDimensions = new java.util.ArrayList(); }
```

To create a DataPilot table using a DataPilot source component, three steps are carried out:

1. The application gets the list of available dimensions (fields) from the component.
2. The application applies the user-specified settings to the component.
3. The application gets the results from the component.

The same set of objects are used for all three steps. The root object from which the other objects are accessed is the implementation of the com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSource service.


- com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSourceDimensions is the parent object of com.sun.star.sheet.XDimensionsSupplier
- com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSourceHierarchies is the parent object of com.sun.star.sheet.XHierarchiesSupplier
- com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSourceLevels is the parent object of
com.sun.star.sheet.XLevelsSupplier

■ com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSourceMembers is the parent object of
com.sun.star.sheet.XMembersSupplier

All contain the com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface to access their children.

Source Object

An implementation of the com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSource service must be registered, so that a component can be used as a DataPilot source. If any implementations for the service are present, the **External source/interface** option in the DataPilot **Select Source** dialog is enabled. Any of the implementations can then be selected by its implementation name in the **External Source** dialog, along with four option strings labeled "Source", "Name", "User" and "Password". The four options are passed to the component unchanged.

The option strings are passed to the com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization interface's **initialize()** method if that interface is present. The sequence that is passed to the call contains four strings with the values from the dialog. Note that the "Password" string is only saved in OpenOffice.org API's old binary file format, but not in the XML-based format. If the component needs a password, for example, to connect to a database, it must be able to prompt for that password.

The example below uses the first of the strings to determine how many members each dimension should have:

```java
private ExampleSettings aSettings = new ExampleSettings();

public void initialize(Object[] aArguments) {  // If the first argument
    if (aArguments.length >= 1) {  // use it as member count,
        String aSource = (String) aArguments[0];  // otherwise keep the default value.
        try {
            int nValue = Integer.parseInt(aSource);
            if (nValue >= 2 && nValue <= 10) {  // if (arguments.length >= 1)
                if (aSource != null) {
                    try {
                        nValue = Integer.parseInt(aSource);
                        if (nValue >= 2 && nValue <= 10) {
                            aSettings.nMemberCount = nValue;
                        } catch (NumberFormatException e) {
                    } catch (NumberFormatExceptio...
example table above, it would be the 9x3 area of cells that are right-aligned. The `getResults()` call returns a sequence of rows, where each row is a sequence of the results for that row. The `com.sun.star.sheet.DataResult` struct contains the numeric value in the `Value` member, and a `Flags` member contains a combination of the `com.sun.star.sheet.DataResultFlags` constants:

- **HASDATA** is set if there is a valid result at the entry’s position. A result value of zero is different from no result, so this must be set only if the result is not empty.
- **SUBTOTAL** marks a subtotal value that is formatted differently in the DataPilot table output.
- **ERROR** is set if the result at the entry’s position is an error.

In the example table above, all entries have different `Value` numbers, and a `Flags` value of `HASDATA`. The implementation for the example looks like this:

```java
public com.sun.star.sheet.DataResult[][] getResults() {     int[] nDigits =     new int[ExampleSettings.nDimensionCount];     int nValue = 1;     for (int i=0; i<ExampleSettings.nDimensionCount; i++) {         nDigits[i] = nValue;         nValue *= 10;     }     int nMemberCount = aSettings.nMemberCount;     int nRowDimCount =     aSettings.aRowDimensions.size();     int nColDimCount =     aSettings.aColDimensions.size();     int nRows = 1;     for (int i=0; i<nRowDimCount; i++)         nRows *=     aSettings.aRowDimensions.size();     int nColumns = 1;     for (int i=0; i<nColDimCount; i++)         nColumns *=     aSettings.aColDimensions.size();     com.sun.star.sheet.DataResult[][] aResults = new     com.sun.star.sheet.DataResult[nRows][];     for (int nRow=0; nRow<nRows; nRow++) {         int nRowVal = nRow;         int nRowResult = 0;         for (int nRowDim=0; nRowDim<nRowDimCount; nRowDim++) {             int nDim = ((Integer)aSettings.aRowDimensions.get(nRowDimCount-nRowDim-1)).intValue();             nRowResult += ( nRowVal % nMemberCount ) * nDigits[nDim];             nRowVal /= nMemberCount;         }         aResults[nRow] = new com.sun.star.sheet.DataResult[nColumns];         for (int nCol=0; nCol<nColumns; nCol++) {             int nColVal = nCol;             int nResult = nRowResult;             for (int nColDim=0; nColDim<nColDimCount; nColDim++) {                 int nDim = ((Integer)aSettings.aColDimensions.get(nColDimCount-nColDim-1)).intValue();                 nResult += (nColVal % nMemberCount) * nDigits[nDim];                 nColVal /= nMemberCount;             }             aResults[nRow][nCol].Flags = com.sun.star.sheet.DataResultFlags.HASDATA;             aResults[nRow][nCol].Value = nResult;         }     }     return aResults; }
```

The `com.sun.star.util.XRefreshable` interface contains a `refresh()` method that tells the component to discard cached results and recalculate the results the next time they are needed. The `addRefreshListener()` and `removeRefreshListener()` methods are not used by OpenOffice.org API Calc. The `refresh()` implementation in the example is empty, because the results are always calculated dynamically.
Dimensions

The com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSourceDimensions service contains an entry for each dimension that can be used as column, row or page dimension, for each possible data (measure) dimension, and one for the "data layout" dimension that contains the names of the data dimensions.

The example below initializes a dimension's orientation as DATA for the data dimension, and is otherwise HIDDEN. Thus, when the user creates a new DataPilot table using the example component, the data dimension is already present in the "Data" area of the DataPilot dialog.

```java
private ExampleSettings aSettings; private int nDimension; private com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation eOrientation;

public ExampleDimension(ExampleSettings aSet, int nDim) { 
    aSettings = aSet; 
    nDimension = nDim; 
    eOrientation = (nDim == ExampleSettings.nValueDimension) ? 
        com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.DATA : 
        com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.HIDDEN; 
}
```

The com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSourceDimension service contains a com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface that is used for the following properties of a dimension:

- **Original** (read-only) contains the dimension object from which a dimension was cloned, or null if it was not cloned. A description of the com.sun.star.util.XCloneable interface is described below.
- **IsDataLayoutDimension** (read-only) must contain true if the dimension is the "data layout" dimension, otherwise false.
- **Orientation** controls how a dimension is used in the DataPilot table. If it contains the com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation enum values COLUMN or ROW, the dimension is used as a column or row dimension, respectively. If the value is DATA, the dimension is used as data (measure) dimension. The PAGE designates a page dimension, but is not currently used in OpenOffice.org API Calc. If the value is HIDDEN, the dimension is not used.
- **Position** contains the position of the dimension within the orientation. This controls the order of the dimensions. If a dimension's orientation is changed, it is added at the end of the dimensions for that orientation, and the Position property reflects that position.
- **Function** specifies the function that is used to aggregate data for a data dimension.
- **UsedHierarchy** selects which of the dimension's hierarchies is used in the DataPilot table. See the section on hierarchies below.
- **Filter** specifies a list of filter criteria to be applied to the source data before processing. It is currently not used by OpenOffice.org API Calc.
In the following example, the `setPropertyValue()` method for the dimension only implements the modification of Orientation and Position, using two lists to store the order of column and row dimensions. Page dimensions are not supported in the example.

```java
public void setPropertyValue(String aPropertyName, Object aValue)
throws com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException {
    if (aPropertyName.equals("Orientation")) {
        com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation eNewOrient =
            (com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation) aValue;
        if (nDimension != ExampleSettings.nValueDimension &&
            nDimension != ExampleSettings.nDataDimension &&
            eNewOrient != com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.DATA) {
            // remove from list for old orientation and add for new one
            Integer aDimInt = new Integer(nDimension);
            if (eOrientation == com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.COLUMN)
                aSettings.aColDimensions.remove(aDimInt);
            else if (eOrientation == com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.ROW)
                aSettings.aRowDimensions.remove(aDimInt);
            if (eNewOrient == com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.COLUMN)
                aSettings.aColDimensions.add(aDimInt);
            else if (eNewOrient == com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.ROW)
                aSettings.aRowDimensions.add(aDimInt);
            // change orientation
            eOrientation = eNewOrient;
        } else if (aPropertyName.equals("Position")) {
            int nNewPos = ((Integer) aValue).intValue();
            Integer aDimInt = new Integer(nDimension);
            if (eOrientation == com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.COLUMN)
                aSettings.aColDimensions.remove(aDimInt);
            else if (eOrientation == com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.ROW)
                aSettings.aRowDimensions.remove(aDimInt);
            aSettings.aColDimensions.add(nNewPos, aDimInt);
            else if (eOrientation == com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.COLUMN)
                aSettings.aRowDimensions.remove(aDimInt);
            else if (eOrientation == com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.ROW)
                aSettings.aColDimensions.add(nNewPos, aDimInt);
            else if (aPropertyName.equals("Function") || aPropertyName.equals("UsedHierarchy") ||
                aPropertyName.equals("Filter")) {
                // ignored
            } else throw new com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException();
        }
    } else if (aPropertyName.equals("Original"))
        return null;
    else if (aPropertyName.equals("IsDataLayoutDimension"))
        return new Boolean(nDimension == ExampleSettings.nDataDimension);
    else if (aPropertyName.equals("Orientation"))
        return eOrientation;
    else if (aPropertyName.equals("Position")) {
        int nPosition;
        if (eOrientation == com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.COLUMN)
            nPosition = aSettings.aColDimensions.indexOf(new Integer(nDimension));
        else if (eOrientation == com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotFieldOrientation.ROW)
            nPosition = aSettings.aRowDimensions.indexOf(new Integer(nDimension));
        else
            return new Integer(nPosition);
    } else if (aPropertyName.equals("Function"))
        return com.sun.star.sheet.GeneralFunction.SUM;
    else if (aPropertyName.equals("UsedHierarchy"))
        return new Integer(0);
    else if (aPropertyName.equals("Filter"))
        return new Integer(0);
}
```

The associated `getPropertyValue()` method returns the stored values for Orientation and Position. If it is the data layout dimension, then `IsDataLayoutDimension` is true, and the values default for the remaining properties.
The dimension's com.sun.star.util.XCloneable interface is required when a dimension is used in multiple positions. The DataPilot dialog allows the use of a column or row dimension additionally as data dimension, and it also allows multiple use of a data dimension by assigning several functions to it. In both cases, additional dimension objects are created from the original one by calling the `createClone()` method. Each clone is given a new name using the com.sun.star.container.XNamed interface's `setName()` method, then the different settings are applied to the objects. A dimension object that was created using the `createClone()` method must return the original object that it was created from in the `Original` property.

The example does not support multiple uses of a dimension, so it always returns null from the `createClone()` method, and the `Original` property is also always null.

## Hierarchies

A single dimension can have several hierarchies, that is, several ways of grouping the elements of the dimension. For example, date values may be grouped:

- in a hierarchy with the levels "year", "month" and "day of month".
- in a hierarchy with the levels "year", "week" and "day of week".

The property `UsedHierarchy` of the com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSourceDimension service selects which hierarchy of a dimension is used. The property contains an index into the sequence of names that is returned by the dimension's `getElementNames()` method. OpenOffice.org API Calc currently has no user interface to select a hierarchy, so it uses the hierarchy that the initial value of the `UsedHierarchy` property selects.

The com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSourceHierarchy service serves as a container to access the levels object.

In the example, each dimension has only one hierarchy, which in turn has one level.

## Levels

Each level of a hierarchy that is used in a DataPilot table corresponds to a column or row...
row showing its members in the left or upper part of the table. The 
com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSourceLevel service contains a 
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface that is used to apply the following settings 
to a level:

- The **SubTotals** property defines a list of functions that are used to calculate 
  subtotals for each member. If the sequence is empty, no subtotal columns or rows 
  are generated. The com.sun.star.sheet.GeneralFunction enum value **AUTO** is used 
  to select "automatic" subtotals, determined by the type of the data.
- The **ShowEmpty** property controls if result columns or rows are generated for 
  members that have no data.

Both of these settings can be modified by the user in the "Data Field" dialog. The 
example does not use them.

The com.sun.star.sheet.XDataPilotMemberResults interface is used to get the result 
header column that is displayed below the level's name for a row dimension, or the 
header row for a column dimension. The sequence returned from the **getResults()** 
call must have the same size as the data result's columns or rows respectively, or be 
empty. If the sequence is empty, or none of the entries contains the **HASMEMBER** flag, 
the level is not shown.

The com.sun.star.sheet.MemberResult struct contains the following members:

- **Name** is the name of the member that is represented by the entry, exactly as 
  returned by the member object's **getName()** method. It is used to find the member 
  object, for example when the user double-clicks on the cell.
- **Caption** is the string that will be displayed in the cell. It may or may not be the 
  same as **Name**.
- **Flags** indicates the kind of result the entry represents. It can be a combination of 
  the com.sun.star.sheet.MemberResultFlags constants:

  1. **HASMEMBER** indicates there is a member that belongs to this entry.
  2. **SUBTOTAL** marks an entry that corresponds to a subtotal column or row. The 
     **HASMEMBER** should be set.
  3. **CONTINUE** marks an entry that is a continuation of the previous entry. In this case, 
     none of the others are set, and the Name and Caption members are both empty.

In the example table shown above, the resulting sequence for the "ones" level would 
consist of:

- an entry containing the name and caption "1" and the **HASMEMBER** flag
- two entries containing only the **CONTINUE** flag
the same repeated for member names "2" and "3".

The implementation for the example looks similar to this:

```java
private ExampleSettings aSettings; private int nDimension;
public com.sun.star.sheet.MemberResult[] getResults() {    int nDimensions = 0;    int nPosition = aSettings.aColDimensions.indexOf(new Integer(nDimension));    if (nPosition >= 0)    nDimensions = aSettings.aColDimensions.size(); else {    nPosition = aSettings.aRowDimensions.indexOf(new Integer(nDimension));    if (nPosition >= 0)    nDimensions = aSettings.aRowDimensions.size();
    }
    if (nPosition < 0)    return new com.sun.star.sheet.MemberResult[0];
    int nMembers = aSettings.nMemberCount;    int nRepeat = 1;    int nFill = 1;
    for (int i=0; i<nDimensions; i++)    if (i < nPosition)        nRepeat *= nMembers; else if (i > nPosition)            nFill *= nMembers;
    com.sun.star.sheet.MemberResult[] aResults = new com.sun.star.sheet.MemberResult[nSize];
    int nResultPos = 0;    for (int nOuter=0; nOuter<nRepeat; nOuter++) {        for (int nMember=0; nMember<nMembers; nMember++) {            aResults[nResultPos] = new com.sun.star.sheet.MemberResult();            aResults[nResultPos].Name = ExampleSettings.getMemberName( nMember );            aResults[nResultPos].Caption = aResults[nResultPos].Name;
            aResults[nResultPos].Flags = com.sun.star.sheet.MemberResultFlags.HASMEMBER;
            ++nResultPos;
            for (int nInner=1; nInner<nFill; nInner++)                aResults[nResultPos] = new com.sun.star.sheet.MemberResult();                aResults[nResultPos].Flags = com.sun.star.sheet.MemberResultFlags.CONTINUE;                ++nResultPos;
        }    }    return aResults; }
```

Members

The com.sun.star.sheet.DataPilotSourceMember service contains two settings that are accessed through the com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface:

- If the boolean IsVisible property is false, the member and its data are hidden. There is currently no user interface to change this property.
- The boolean ShowDetails property controls if the results for a member should be detailed in the following level. If a member has this property set to false, only a single result column or row is generated for each data dimension. The property can be changed by the user by double-clicking on a result header cell for the member.

These properties are not used in the example.
Protecting Spreadsheets

The interface com.sun.star.document.XActionLockable protects this cell from painting or updating during changes. The interface can be used to optimize the performance of complex changes, for instance, inserting or deleting formatted text.

The interface com.sun.star.util.XProtectable contains methods to protect and unprotect the spreadsheet with a password. Protecting the spreadsheet protects the locked cells only.

- The methods `protect()` and `unprotect()` to switch the protection on and off. If a wrong password is used to unprotect the spreadsheet, it leads to an exception.
- The method `isProtected()` returns the protection state of the spreadsheet as a boolean value.

Sheet Outline

The spreadsheet interface com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOutline contains all the methods to control the row and column outlines of a spreadsheet:

Methods of com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOutline

- `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOutline:group()` creates a new outline group and the method `ungroup()` removes the innermost outline group for a cell range. The parameter `nOrientation` (type com.sun.star.table.TableOrientation) selects the orientation of the outline (columns or rows).
- `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOutline:autoOutline()` inserts outline groups for a cell range depending on formula references.
- `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOutline:clearOutline()` removes all outline groups from the sheet.
- `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOutline:showDetail()` reopens an outline group.
- `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetOutline:showLevel()` shows the specified number of outline group levels and hides the others.
The spreadsheet interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAuditing` supports the detective functionality of the spreadsheet.

**Methods of com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAuditing**

- `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAuditing:hideDependents()` Hides the last arrows to dependent or precedent cells of a formula cell. Repeated calls of the methods shrink the chains of arrows.
- `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAuditing:hidePrecedents()` Adds arrows to the next dependent or precedent cells of a formula cell. Repeated calls of the methods extend the chains of arrows.
- `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAuditing:showDependents()` Inserts arrows to all cells that cause an error in the specified cell.
- `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAuditing:showPrecedents()` Marks all cells that contain invalid values.
- `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAuditing:showErrors()` Removes all auditing arrows from the spreadsheet.
- `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetAuditing:showInvalid()`

**Other Table Operations**

**Data Validation**

Data validation checks if a user entered valid entries.
A cell or cell range object contains the properties `Validation` and `ValidationLocal`. They return the interface `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet` of the validation object `com.sun.star.sheet.TableValidation`. The objects of both properties are equal, except the representation of formulas. The `ValidationLocal` property uses function names in the current language).

**Note** – After the validation settings are changed, the validation object is reinserted into the property set of the cell or cell range.

- **Type** (type `com.sun.star.sheet.ValidationType`): Describes the type of data the cells contain. In text cells, it is possible to check the length of the text.
- **IgnoreBlankCells**: Determines if blank cells are valid.
- **ShowInputMessage, InputTitle and InputMessage**: These properties describe the message that appears if a cell of the validation area is selected.
- **ShowErrorMessage, ErrorTitle, ErrorMessage and ErrorAlertStyle** (type `com.sun.star.sheet.ValidationAlertStyle`): These properties describe the error message that appear if an invalid value has been entered. If the alert style is STOP, all invalid values are rejected. With the alerts WARNING and INFO, it is possible to keep invalid values. The alert MACRO starts a macro on invalid values. The property `ErrorTitle` has to contain the name of the macro.

The interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCondition` sets the conditions for valid values. The comparison operator, the first and second formula and the base address for relative references in formulas.

The following example enters values between 0.0 and 5.0 in a cell range. The `xSheet` is the interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet` of a spreadsheet.

```java
// --- Data validation ---
com.sun.star.table.XCellRange xCellRange = xSheet.getCellRangeByName("A7:C7");
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xCellPropSet = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
```
Other Table Operations

UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xCellRange);
// validation properties com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xValidPropSet =
(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
xCellPropSet.getPropertyValue("Validation");

xValidPropSet.setPropertyValue("Type",
com.sun.star.sheet.ValidationType.DECIMAL);
xValidPropSet.setPropertyValue("ShowErrorMessage", new Boolean(true));
xValidPropSet.setPropertyValue("ErrorMessage", "This is an invalid value!");
xValidPropSet.setPropertyValue("ErrorAlertStyle",
com.sun.star.sheet.ValidationAlertStyle.STOP);

// condition com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCondition xCondition =
(com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCondition)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XSheetCondition.class, xValidPropSet);
xCondition.setOperator(com.sun.star.sheet.ConditionOperator.BETWEEN);
xCondition.setFormula1("0.0"); xCondition.setFormula2("5.0");

// apply on cell range xCellPropSet.setPropertyValue("Validation",
xValidPropSet);

Data Consolidation

The data consolidation feature calculates results based on several cell ranges.

The com.sun.star.sheet.XConsolidatable 's method
createConsolidationDescriptor() returns the interface
com.sun.star.sheet.XConsolidationDescriptor of a consolidation descriptor (service
com.sun.star.sheet.ConsolidationDescriptor). This descriptor contains all data needed
for a consolidation. It is possible to get and set all properties:

- getFunction() and setFunction(): The function for calculation, type
- getSources() and setSources(): A sequence of
  com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress structs with all cell ranges containing the
  source data.
- getStartOutputPosition() and setStartOutputPosition(): A
  com.sun.star.table.CellAddress containing the first cell of the result cell range.
- getUseColumnHeaders(), setUseColumnHeaders(), getUseRowHeaders() and
**setUseRowHeaders()**: Determine if the first column or row of each cell range is used to find matching data.

**getInsertLinks() and setInsertLinks()**: Determine if the results are linked to the source data (formulas are inserted) or not (only results are inserted).

The method `consolidate()` of the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XConsolidatable performs a consolidation with the passed descriptor.

### Charts

The service com.sun.star.table.TableChart represents a chart object. The interface com.sun.star.table.XTableChart provides access to the cell range of the source data and controls the existence of column and row headers.

**Note** – The service com.sun.star.table.TableChart does not represent the chart document, but the object in the table that contains the chart document. The interface com.sun.star.document.XEmbeddedObjectSupplier provides access to that chart document. For further information, see Charts.

The interface com.sun.star.container.XNamed retrieves and changes the name of the chart object.

For further information about charts, see Charts.

The service com.sun.star.table.TableCharts represents the collection of all chart objects contained in the table. It implements the interfaces:
com.sun.star.table.XTableCharts to create new charts and accessing them by their names.
com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess to access the charts by the insertion index.
com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess to create an enumeration of all charts.

The following example shows how xCharts can be a com.sun.star.table.XTableCharts interface of a collection of charts.

```java
// *** Inserting CHARTS *** String aName = "newChart";
com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress[] aRanges = new com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress[1]; aRanges[0] = new com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress(); aRanges[0].Sheet = aRanges[0].StartColumn = aRanges[0].EndColumn = 0; aRanges[0].StartRow = 0; aRanges[0].EndRow = 9;
// Create the chart. xCharts.addNewByName(aName, aRect, aRanges, false, false);
// Get the chart by name. Object aChartObj = xCharts.getByName(aName);
com.sun.star.table.XTableChart xChart = (com.sun.star.table.XTableChart) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.table.XTableChart.class, aChartObj);
// Query the state of row and column headers. aText = "Chart has column headers: "; aText += xChart.getHasColumnHeaders() ? "yes" : "no";
System.out.println(aText); aText = "Chart has row headers: "; aText += xChart.getHasRowHeaders() ? "yes" : "no"; System.out.println(aText);
```

### Scenarios

A set of scenarios contains different selectable cell contents for one or more cell ranges in a spreadsheet. The data of each scenario in this set is stored in a hidden sheet following the scenario sheet. To change the scenario's data, its hidden sheet has to be modified.
The com.sun.star.sheet.XScenariosSupplier’s method `getScenarios()` returns the interface com.sun.star.sheet.XScenarios of the scenario set of the spreadsheet. This scenario set is represented by the service com.sun.star.sheet.Scenarios containing spreadsheet objects. It is possible to access the scenarios through their names that is equal to the name of the corresponding spreadsheet, their index, or using an enumeration (represented by the service com.sun.star.sheet.ScenariosEnumeration).

The interface com.sun.star.sheet.XScenarios inserts and removes scenarios:

- The method `addNewByName()` adds a scenario with the given name that contains the specified cell ranges.
- The method `removeByName()` removes the scenario (the spreadsheet) with the given name.

The following method shows how to create a scenario:

```java
/** Inserts a scenario containing one cell range into a sheet and applies the value array.     @param xSheet The XSpreadsheet interface of the spreadsheet.     @param aRange The range address for the scenario.     @param aValueArray The array of cell contents.     @param aScenarioName The name of the new scenario.     @param aScenarioComment The user comment for the scenario.  */
public void insertScenario(         com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet xSheet,         String aRange,         Object[][] aValueArray,         String aScenarioName,         String aScenarioComment ) throws RuntimeException, Exception {     // get the cell range with the given address     com.sun.star.table.XCellRange xCellRange = xSheet.getCellRangeByName(aRange);     // create the range address sequence     com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeAddressable xAddr = (com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeAddressable) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeAddressable.class, xCellRange);     com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress[] aRangesSeq = new com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress[1];     aRangesSeq[0] =
```
The service `com.sun.star.sheet.Spreadsheet` implements the interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XScenario` to modify an existing scenario:

- **The method** `getIsScenario()` **tests if this spreadsheet is used to store scenario data.**
- **The methods** `getScenarioComment()` and `setScenarioComment()` **retrieves and sets the user comment for this scenario.**
- **The method** `addRanges()` **adds new cell ranges to the scenario.**
- **The method** `apply()` **copies the data of this scenario to the spreadsheet containing the scenario set, that is, it makes the scenario visible.**

The following method shows how to activate a scenario:

```java
/** Activates a scenario.     * @param xSheet The XSpreadsheet interface of the spreadsheet.     * @param aScenarioName The name of the scenario. */
public void showScenario( com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet xSheet,         String aScenarioName) throws RuntimeException, Exception {     // get the scenario set     com.sun.star.sheet.XScenariosSupplier xScenSupp =         (com.sun.star.sheet.XScenariosSupplier)             UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XScenariosSupplier.class, xSheet);     com.sun.star.sheet.XScenarios xScenarios =         xScenSupp.getScenarios();     Object aScenarioObj = xScenarios.getByName(aScenarioName);     com.sun.star.sheet.XScenario xScenario = (com.sun.star.sheet.XScenario)             UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XScenario.class, aScenarioObj);     xScenario.apply(); }
```
Overall Document Features

Styles

A style contains all formatting properties for a specific object. All styles of the same type are contained in a collection named a *style family*. Each style family has a specific name to identify it in the collection. In OpenOffice.org API Calc, there are two style families named *CellStyles* and *PageStyles*. A cell style can be applied to a cell, a cell range, or all cells of the spreadsheet. A page style can be applied to a spreadsheet itself.

The collection of style families is available from the spreadsheet document with the com.sun.star.style.XStyleFamiliesSupplier’s method `getStyleFamilies()`. The general handling of styles is described in this section, therefore this chapter focuses on the spreadsheet specific style properties.

**Note** – A new style is inserted into the family container, then it is possible to set any properties.
Cell Styles

Cell styles are predefined packages of format settings that are applied in a single step.

A cell style is represented by the service com.sun.star.sheet.TableCellStyle. If a formatting property is applied directly to a cell, it covers the property of the applied cell style. This service does not support the property CellStyle. The name of the style is set with the interface com.sun.star.container.XNamed.

The following example creates a new cell style with gray background. The xDocument is the com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetDocument interface of a spreadsheet document.

```java
// get the cell style container com.sun.star.style.XStyleFamiliesSupplier
xFamiliesSupplier = (com.sun.star.style.XStyleFamiliesSupplier)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(                     com.sun.star.style.XStyleFamiliesSupplier.c
lass, xDocument); com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess xFamiliesNA =
xFamiliesSupplier.getStyleFamilies(); Object aCellStylesObj =
xFamiliesNA.getByNamed("CellStyles"); com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer
xCellStylesNA = (com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer.class,
aCellStylesObj);

// create a new cell style com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory
xServiceManager = (com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory.class,
xDocument); Object aCellStyle =
xServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.style.CellStyle");
xCellStylesNA.insertByName("MyNewCellStyle", aCellStyle);

// modify properties of the new style com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPropSet =
(xPropSet = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, aCellStyle);
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("CellBackColor", new Integer(0x888888));
```
Page Styles

A page style is represented by the service `com.sun.star.sheet.TablePageStyle`. It contains the service `com.sun.star.style.PageStyle` and additional spreadsheet specific page properties.

The properties `LeftPageFooterContent`, `LeftPageHeaderContent`, `RightPageFooterContent` and `RightPageHeaderContent` return the interface `com.sun.star.sheet.XHeaderFooterContent` for the headers and footers for the left and right pages. Headers and footers are represented by the service `com.sun.star.sheet.HeaderFooterContent`. Each header or footer object contains three text objects for the left, middle and right portion of a header or footer. The methods `getLeftText()`, `getCenterText()` and `getRightText()` return the interface `com.sun.star.text.XText` of these text portions.

**Note** – After the text of a header or footer is changed, it is reinserted into the property set of the page style.
Function Handling

This section describes the services which handle spreadsheet functions.

Calculating Function Results

The com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionAccess service calls any spreadsheet function and gets its result without having to insert a formula into a spreadsheet document.

The service can be instantiated through the service manager. The com.sun.star.sheet.XFunctionAccess interface contains only one method, callFunction(). The first parameter is the name of the function to call. The name has to be the function's programmatic name.

- For a built-in function, the English name is always used, regardless of the application's UI language.
- For an add-in function, the complete internal name that is the add-in component's service name, followed by a dot and the function's name as defined in the interface. For the getIncremented function in the example from the add-in section, this would be: "com.sun.star.sheet.addin.ExampleAddIn.getIncremented".

The second parameter to callFunction() is a sequence containing the function arguments. The supported types for each argument are described in the com.sun.star.sheet.XFunctionAccess interface description, and are similar to the argument types for add-in functions. The following example passes two arguments to the ZTEST function, an array of values and a single value.

```java
// --- Calculate a function ---  Object aFuncInst = xServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionAccess"); com.sun.star.sheet.XFunctionAccess xFuncAcc = (com.sun.star.sheet.XFunctionAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XFunctionAccess.class, aFuncInst); // put the data into a two-dimensional array double[][] aData = {{1.0, 2.0, 3.0}}; // construct the array of function arguments Object[] aArgs = new Object[2]; aArgs[0] = aData; aArgs[1] = new Double(2.0);
```
Function Handling

```java
Object aResult = xFuncAcc.callFunction("ZTEST", aArgs);
System.out.println("ZTEST result for data {1,2,3} and value 2 is 
((Double)aResult).doubleValue());
```

**Note** – The implementation of com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionAccess uses the same internal structures as a spreadsheet document, therefore it is bound by the same limitations, such as the limit of 32000 rows exist for the function arguments.

## Information about Functions

The services com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionDescriptions and com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionDescription provide help texts about the available spreadsheet cell functions, including add-in functions and their arguments. This is the same information that OpenOffice.org API Calc displays in the function AutoPilot.

The com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionDescriptions service is instantiated through the service manager. It provides three different methods to access the information for the different functions:

- **By name** through the com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface.
- **By index** through the com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess interface.
- **By function identifier** through the com.sun.star.sheet.XFunctionDescriptions interface's `getById()` method. The function identifier is the same used in the com.sun.star.sheet.RecentFunctions service.

The com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionDescription that is returned by any of these calls is a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue structs. To access one of these
properties, loop through the sequence, looking for the desired property's name in the Name member. The Arguments property contains a sequence of com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionArgument structs, one for each argument that the function accepts. The struct contains the name and description of the argument, as well as a boolean flag showing if the argument is optional.

Note – All of the strings contained in the com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionDescription service are to be used in user interaction, and therefore translated to the application's UI language. They cannot be used where programmatic function names are expected, for example, the com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionAccess service.

The Recently Used Functions section below provides an example on how to use the com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionDescriptions service.

**Recently Used Functions**

The com.sun.star.sheet.RecentFunctions service provides access to the list of recently used functions of the spreadsheet application, that is displayed in the AutoPilot:Functions and the Function List window for example.

The service can be instantiated through the service manager. The com.sun.star.sheet.XRecentFunctions interface's getRecentFunctionIds() method returns a sequence of function identifiers that are used with the com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionDescriptions service. The setRecentFunctionIds() method changes the list. If the parameter to the setRecentFunctionIds() call contains more entries than the application handles, only the first entries are used. The maximum size of the list of recently used functions, currently 10, can be queried with the getMaxRecentFunctions() method.

The following example demonstrates the use of the com.sun.star.sheet.RecentFunctions and com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionDescriptions services.
Function Handling

// --- Get the list of recently used functions --- Object aRecInst = xServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.sheet.RecentFunctions"); com.sun.star.sheet.XRecentFunctions xRecFunc = (com.sun.star.sheet.XRecentFunctions) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XRecentFunctions.class, aRecInst); int[] nRecentIds = xRecFunc.getRecentFunctionIds();

// --- Get the names for these functions --- Object aDescInst = xServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.sheet.FunctionDescriptions"); com.sun.star.sheet.XFunctionDescriptions xFuncDesc = (com.sun.star.sheet.XFunctionDescriptions) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XFunctionDescriptions.class, aDescInst); System.out.print("Recently used functions: "); for (int nFunction=0; nFunction<nRecentIds.length; nFunction++)
{ com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] aProperties = xFuncDesc.getById(nRecentIds[nFunction]); for (int nProp=0; nProp<aProperties.length; nProp++)
if (aProperties[nProp].Name.equals("Name"))
System.out.print(aProperties[nProp].Value + " "); } System.out.println();

Settings

The com.sun.star.sheet.GlobalSheetSettings service contains settings that affect the whole spreadsheet application. It can be instantiated through the service manager. The properties are accessed using the com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface.

GlobalSheetSettings

The following example gets the list of user-defined sort lists from the settings and displays them:

// --- Get the user defined sort lists --- Object aSettings = xServiceManager.createInstance("com.sun.star.sheet.GlobalSheetSettings"); com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPropSet = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface( com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, aSettings ); String[] aEntries = (String[]) xPropSet.getPropertyValue("UserLists"); System.out.println("User defined sort lists: "); for (int i=0; i<aEntries.length; i++) System.out.println( aEntries[i] );
Spreadsheet Document Controller

Spreadsheet View

The com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetView service is the spreadsheet's extension of the com.sun.star.frame.Controller service and represents a table editing view for a spreadsheet document.

The view object is the spreadsheet application's controller object as described in the chapter Frame-Controller-Model Paradigm in OpenOffice.org. The com.sun.star.frame.XController, com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider and com.sun.star.ui.XContextMenuInterception interfaces work as described in that chapter.

The com.sun.star.view.XSelectionSupplier interface queries and modifies the view's selection. The selection in a spreadsheet view can be a
com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCell, com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRange,
com.sun.star.sheet.SheetCellRanges, com.sun.star.drawing.Shape or

The com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetView interface gives access to the spreadsheet
that is displayed in the view. The setActiveSheet() method returns the active sheet's
object, the setActiveSheet() method switches to a different sheet. The parameter to
setActiveSheet() must be a sheet of the view's document.

The com.sun.star.sheet.XViewSplitable interface splits a view into two parts or panes,
horizontally and vertically. The splitAtPosition() method splits the view at the
specified pixel positions. To remove the split, a position of 0 is passed. The
getIsWindowSplit() method returns true if the view is split, the
getSplitHorizontal() and getSplitVertical() methods return the pixel positions
where the view is split. The getSplitColumn() and getSplitRow() methods return the
cell column or row that corresponds to the split position, and are used with frozen
panes as discussed below.

The com.sun.star.sheet.XViewFreezable interface is used to freeze a number of
columns and rows in the left and upper part of the view. The freezeAtPosition() method freezes the specified number of columns and rows. This also sets the split
positions accordingly. The hasFrozenPanes() method returns true if the columns or
rows are frozen. A view can only have frozen columns or rows, or normal split panes
at a time.

If a view is split or frozen, it has up to four view pane objects that represent the
individual parts. These are accessed using the com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess
interface. If a view is not split, it contains only one pane object. The active pane of a
spreadsheet view is also accessed using the
com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetViewPane service's interfaces directly with the
com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetView service that inherits them.

The com.sun.star.sheet.XRangeSelection interface is explained in the "Range
Selection" chapter below.

The following example uses the com.sun.star.sheet.XViewFreezable interface to
freeze the first column and the first two rows:

```java
// freeze the first column and first two rows
com.sun.star.sheet.XViewFreezable xFreeze =
(com.sun.star.sheet.XViewFreezable)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XViewFreezable.class,
xController); xFreeze.freezeAtPosition(1, 2);
```
The com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetViewPane service represents a pane in a view that shows a rectangular area of the document. The exposed area of a view pane always starts at a cell boundary. The com.sun.star.sheet.XViewPane interface's getFirstVisibleColumn(), getFirstVisibleRow(), setFirstVisibleColumn() and setFirstVisibleRow() methods query and set the start of the exposed area. The getVisibleRange() method returns a com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress struct describing which cells are shown in the pane. Columns or rows that are only partly visible at the right or lower edge of the view are not included.

The com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeReferrer interface gives direct access to the same cell range of exposed cells that are addressed by the getVisibleRange() return value.

The com.sun.star.view.XControlAccess interface's getControl() method gives access to a control model's control for the view pane. Refer to the chapter Models and Views for additional information.

The example below retrieves the cell range that is shown in the second pane. It is the lower left one after freezing both columns and rows, and assigns a cell background:

```java
// get the cell range shown in the second pane and assign a cell background to them
com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess xIndex =
(com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess.class,
xController); Object aPane = xIndex.getByIndex(1);
com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeReferrer xRefer =
(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeReferrer)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XCellRangeReferrer.class, aPane);
com.sun.star.table.XCellRange xRange = xRefer.getReferredCells();
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xRangeProp = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xRange);
xRangeProp.setPropertyValue("IsCellBackgroundTransparent", new
Boolean(false)); xRangeProp.setPropertyValue("CellBackColor", new
Integer(0xFFFFCC));
```

View Settings

The properties from the com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetViewSettings service are accessed through the com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface controlling the appearance of the view. Most of the properties correspond to settings in the options dialog. The ShowObjects, ShowCharts and ShowDrawing properties take values of 0 for "show", 1 for "hide", and 2 for "placeholder display".
The following example changes the view to display green grid lines:

```java
// change the view to display green grid lines
com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xProp = (com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xController);
xProp.setPropertyValue("ShowGrid", new Boolean(true));
xProp.setPropertyValue("GridColor", new Integer(0x00CC00));
```

## Range Selection

The view's `com.sun.star.sheet.XRangeSelection` interface is used to let a user interactively select a cell range in the view, independently of the view's selection. This is used for dialogs that require a cell reference as input. While the range selection is active, a small dialog is shown, similar to the minimized state of OpenOffice.org API's own dialogs that allow cell reference input.

Before the range selection mode is started, a listener is registered using the `addRangeSelectionListener()` method. The listener implements the `com.sun.star.sheet.XRangeSelectionListener` interface. Its `done()` or `aborted()` method is called when the selection is finished or aborted. The `com.sun.star.sheet.RangeSelectionEvent` struct that is passed to the calls contains the selected range in the `RangeDescriptor` member. It is a string because the user can type into the minimized dialog during range selection.

In the following example, the listener implementation stores the result in a member in the `done()` method, and notifies the main thread about the completion of the selection in the `done()` and `aborted()` methods:

```java
private class ExampleRangeListener implements
  com.sun.star.sheet.XRangeSelectionListener {
    public String aResult;
    public void done(com.sun.star.sheet.RangeSelectionEvent aEvent) {
      aResult = aEvent.RangeDescriptor;
      synchronized (this) {
        notify();
      }
    }
    public void aborted( com.sun.star.sheet.RangeSelectionEvent aEvent ) {
      synchronized (this) {
        notify();
      }
    }
    public void disposing( com.sun.star.lang.EventObject aObj ) {
    }
  }
```
It is also possible to add another listener using the addRangeSelectionChangeListener() method. This listener implements the com.sun.star.sheet.XRangeSelectionChangeListener interface, and its descriptorChanged() method is called during the selection when the selection changes. Using this listener normally is not necessary.

After registering the listeners, the range selection mode is started using the startRangeSelection() method. The parameter to that method is a sequence of property values with properties from the com.sun.star.sheet.RangeSelectionArguments service:

- **InitialValue** specifies an existing selection value that is shown in the dialog and highlighted in the view when the selection mode is started.
- **Title** is the title for the range selection dialog.
- **CloseOnMouseRelease** specifies when the selection mode is ended. If the value is true, selection is ended when the mouse button is released after selecting a cell range. If it is false or not specified, the user presses the **Shrink** button in the dialog to end selection mode.

The startRangeSelection() method returns immediately after starting the range selection mode. This allows it to be called from a dialog's event handler. The abortRangeSelection() method is used to cancel the range selection mode programmatically.

The following example lets the user pick a range, and then selects that range in the view. Note that the use of wait to wait for the end of the selection is not how a GUI application normally handles the events.

```java
// let the user select a range and use it as the view's selection
com.sun.star.sheet.XRangeSelection xRngSel = (com.sun.star.sheet.XRangeSelection)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sheet.XRangeSelection.class,
xController); ExampleRangeListener aListener = new ExampleRangeListener();
xRngSel.addRangeSelectionListener(aListener);
com.sun.beans.PropertyValue[] aArguments = new
com.sun.beans.PropertyValue[2];
aArguments[0] = new com.sun.beans.PropertyValue(); aArguments[0].Name = "InitialValue"; aArguments[0].Value = "Please select a range"; aArguments[1] = new com.sun.beans.PropertyValue(); aArguments[1].Name = "CloseOnMouseRelease"; aArguments[1].Value = new Boolean(true);
xRngSel.startRangeSelection(aArguments); synchronized (aListener)
{     aListener.wait(); // wait until the selection is done }
xRngSel.removeRangeSelectionListener(aListener);
if (aListener.aResult != null && aListener.aResult.length() != 0) {
    com.sun.view.XSelectionSupplier xSel = (com.sun.view.XSelectionSupplier)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.view.XSelectionSupplier.class,
xController);
    com.sun.sheet.XSpreadsheetView xView = (com.sun.sheet.XSpreadsheetView)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.sheet.XSpreadsheetView.class,
```
Spreadsheet Add-Ins

An add-in component is used to add new functions to the spreadsheet application that can be used in cell formulas, such as the built-in functions. A spreadsheet add-in is a UNO component. The chapter Writing UNO Components describes how to write and deploy a UNO component.

The functions that the add-in component exports to the spreadsheet application have to be defined in a new interface. The function names in the interface, together with the component's service name, are used internally to identify an add-in function. For a list of the supported types for function arguments and return values, see the com.sun.star.sheet.AddIn service description. An example interface that defines two functions is similar to the following code:

```cpp
#include <com/sun/star/uno/XInterface.idl> #include <com/sun/star/sheet/XVolatileResult.idl>

module com { module sun { module star { module sheet { module addin {
    interface XExampleAddIn : com::sun::star::uno::XInterface  { 
        /// Sample function that just increments a value.
        long getIncremented( [in] long nValue );
        /// Sample function that returns a volatile result.
        com::sun::star::sheet::XVolatileResult getCounter( [in] string aName );
    };
}};
}

In addition to this interface, the add-in has to implement the interfaces from the com.sun.star.sheet.AddIn service and the usual interfaces every component has to support.
Function Descriptions

The methods from the com.sun.star.sheet.XAddIn interface are used to provide descriptions of the user-visible functions.

The getDisplayFunctionName() and getProgrammaticFuntionName() methods are used to map between the internal function name, as defined in the interface and the function name as shown to the user of the spreadsheet application. The user-visible name, as well as the function and argument descriptions, can be translated strings for the language which is set using setLocale().

The getProgrammaticCategoryName() method sorts each add-in functions into one of the spreadsheet application's function categories. It returns the category's internal (non-translated) name. In addition, the getDisplayCategoryName() method provides a translated name for the category.

The getFunctionDescription(), getDisplayArgumentName() and getArgumentDescription() methods provide descriptions of the function and its arguments that are shown to the user, for example in the function AutoPilot.

Note – The getProgrammaticFuntionName() method name is misspelled, but the wrong spelling has to be retained for compatibility reasons.

Service Names

The add-in component has to support two services, the com.sun.star.sheet.AddIn service, and an additional service that is used to identify the set of functions that the add-in supplies. There may be several implementations of the same set of functions. In that case, they all use the same service name, but different implementation names. Therefore, a spreadsheet document that uses the functions can make use of the implementation that is present.

The com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo methods supportsService() and getSupportedServiceNames() handle both service names, and the component also has to be registered for both services. In addition, the component has to implement the com.sun.star.lang.XServiceName interface, and in its getServiceName() method return the name of the function-specific service.
Compatibility Names

Optionally, the component can implement the com.sun.star.sheet.XCompatibilityNames interface, and in the getCompatibilityNames() method return a sequence of locale-dependent compatibility names for a function. These names are used by the spreadsheet application when loading or saving Excel files. They should only be present for a function if it is known to be an Excel add-in function with equivalent functionality.

The sequence of compatibility names for a function may contain several names for a single locale. In that case, all of these names are considered when importing a file. When exporting, the first name is used. If a file is exported in a locale for which no entry is present, the first entry is used. If there is a default locale, the entries for that locale are first in the sequence.

Custom Functions

The user-visible functions have to be implemented as defined in the interface. The spreadsheet application does the necessary conversions to pass the arguments. For example, floating point numbers are rounded if a function has integer arguments. To enable the application to find the functions, it is important that the component implements the com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider interface.

The getIncremented() function from the example interface above can be implemented like this:

```java
public int getIncremented( int nValue ) {     return nValue + 1; }
```

Variable Results

It is also possible to implement functions with results that change over time. Whenever such a result changes, the formulas that use the result are recalculated and the new values are shown in the spreadsheet. This can be used to display data from a real-time data feed in a spreadsheet.

In its interface, a function with a variable result must be defined with a return type of com.sun.star.sheet.XVolatileResult, such as the getCounter() function from the example interface above. The function's implementation must return an object that
Variable Results

implements the com.sun.star.sheet.VolatileResult service. Subsequent calls to the
same function with the same arguments return the same object. An implementation
that returns a different result object for every name looks like this:

```java
private java.util.Hashtable aResults = new java.util.Hashtable();
public com.sun.star.sheet.XVolatileResult getCounter(String aName)
{
    ExampleAddInResult aResult = (ExampleAddInResult) aResults.get(aName);
    if (aResult == null) {
        aResult = new ExampleAddInResult(aName);
        aResults.put(aName, aResult);
    }    return aResult;
}
```

The result object has to implement the `addResultListener()` and
`removeResultListener()` methods from the `com.sun.star.sheet.XVolatileResult`
interface to maintain a list of listeners, and notify each of these listeners by calling the
`com.sun.star.sheet.XResultListener` interface's `modified()` method whenever a new
result is available. The `com.sun.star.sheet.ResultEvent` object that is passed to the
`modified()` call must contain the new result in the Value member. The possible types
for the result are the same as for a function's return value if no volatile results are
involved.

If a result is already available when `addResultListener()` is called, it can be
publicized by immediately calling `modified()` for the new listener. Otherwise, the
spreadsheet application displays a "#N/A" error value until a result is available.

The following example shows a simple implementation of a result object. Every time
the incrementValue method is called, for example, from a background thread, the
result value is incremented and the listeners are notified.

```java
class ExampleAddInResult implements com.sun.star.sheet.XVolatileResult
{
    private String aName;     private int nValue;     private
    java.util.Vector aListeners = new java.util.Vector();

    public ExampleAddInResult(String aNewName) {         aName = aNewName;     }

    private com.sun.star.sheet.ResultEvent getResult()
    {
        com.sun.star.sheet.ResultEvent aEvent = new
        com.sun.star.sheet.ResultEvent();
        aEvent.Source = this;
        return aEvent;
    }

    public void addResultListener(com.sun.star.sheet.XResultListener aListener)
    {
        aListeners.addElement(aListener);
        // immediately notify of initial value
        aListener.modified(getResult());
    }

    public void removeResultListener(com.sun.star.sheet.XResultListener aListener)
    {
        aListeners.removeElement(aListener);
    }

    public void incrementValue() {         ++nValue;
        com.sun.star.sheet.ResultEvent aEvent = getResult();
        java.util.Enumeration aEnum = aListeners.elements();         while
        (aEnum.hasMoreElements())
        ((com.sun.star.sheet.XResultListener)aEnum.nextElement()).modified(aEvent);
    }
}
```
Drawing Documents and Presentation Documents

Draw and Impress are vector-oriented applications with the ability to create drawings and presentations. The drawing capabilities of Draw and Impress are identical. Both programs support a number of different shape types, such as rectangle, text, curve, or graphic shapes, that can be edited and arranged in various ways. Impress offers a presentation functionality where Draw does not. Impress is the ideal application to create and show presentations. It supports special presentation features, such as an enhanced page structure, presentation objects, and many slide transition and object effects. Draw is especially adapted for printed or standalone graphics, whereas Impress is optimized to fit screen dimensions and offers effects for business presentations.

The following diagrams show the document structure of Draw and Impress Documents.

In contrast to text documents and spreadsheet documents, the main content of drawing and presentation documents are their draw pages. Therefore the illustrations show the draw page container as integral part of the drawing and presentation document model. The drawing elements on the draw pages have to be created by the document service manager and are added to the draw pages afterwards.

Note the master pages and the layer manager, which are specific to drawings and presentations. Like for texts and spreadsheets, a controller is used to present the drawing in the GUI and services for styles and layout are available to handle overall document features such as styles.
Drawing Document Overview

In addition to drawing documents, a presentation document has special presentation aspects, which are shown on the lower left of the illustration below. There is a presentation supplier to obtain a presentation object, which is used to start and stop presentations, it is possible to edit and run custom presentations and the page layout for presentation handouts is accessible through a handout master supplier.
Example: Creating a Simple Organizational Chart

The following example creates a simple organizational chart with two levels. It consists of five rectangle shapes and four connectors that connect the boxes on the second level with the root box on the first level.

The method `getRemoteServiceManager()` that is used in the example connects to the office. The First Steps discussed this method. First an empty drawing document is loaded and retrieves the draw page object of slide number 1 to find the page dimensions. Then the organigram data is prepared and the shape sizes are calculated. The shapes are added in a for loop that iterates over the organigram data, and connectors are added for all shapes on the second level of the organigram.
Example: Creating a Simple Organizational Chart

this.getRemoteServiceManager("uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2083;urp;
StarOffice.ServiceManager");  Object desktop =
xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.D
esktop", xRemoteContext);  XComponentLoader xComponentLoader =
(XComponentLoader) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponentLoader.class,
desktop);  PropertyValue[] loadProps = new PropertyValue[0];  XComponent
xDrawComponent =
xComponentLoader.loadComponentFromURL("private:factory/sdraw",
"_blank", 0, loadProps);

// get draw page by index   com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier
xDrawPagesSupplier =
( com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(   com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier.class,
xDrawComponent );   com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPages xDrawPages =
xDrawPagesSupplier.getDrawPages();   Object drawPage =
xDrawPages.getByIndex(0);   com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPage xDrawPage =
( com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPage)   UnoRuntime.queryInterface(   com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPage.class, drawPage);

// find out page dimensions   com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet xPageProps =
( com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet)   UnoRuntime.queryInterface(   com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.class, xDrawPage);   int pageWidth =
AnyConverter.toInt(xPageProps.getPropertyValue("Width"));   int pageHeight =
AnyConverter.toInt(xPageProps.getPropertyValue("Height"));   int
pageBorderTop = AnyConverter.toInt(xPageProps.getPropertyValue("BorderTop"));   int
pageBorderLeft =
AnyConverter.toInt(xPageProps.getPropertyValue("BorderLeft"));   int
pageBorderRight =
AnyConverter.toInt(xPageProps.getPropertyValue("BorderRight"));   int
drawWidth = pageWidth - pageBorderLeft - pageBorderRight;   int
horCenter =
pageBorderLeft + drawWidth / 2;   int

// data for organigram   String[][] orgUnits = new String[2][4];   orgUnits[0][0] = "Management"; // level 0   orgUnits[1][0] =
"Production"; // level 1   orgUnits[1][1] = "Purchasing"; // level 1   orgUnits[1][2] = "IT Services"; // level 1   orgUnits[1][3] = "Sales"; // level 1   int[] levelCount = {1, 4};

// calculate shape sizes and positions   int horSpace = 300;   int
verSpace = 3000;   int shapeWidth = (drawWidth - (levelCount[1] - 1) *
horSpace) / levelCount[1];   int shapeHeight = pageHeight / 20;   int
shapeX = pageWidth / 2 - shapeWidth / 2;   int levelY = 0;
com.sun.star.drawing.XShape xStartShape = null; // get document factory
com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory xDocumentFactory =
( com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory)   UnoRuntime.queryInterface(   com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory.class, xDrawComponent);

for (int i = 0; i < levelCount[0]; i++) {
  levelY = pageBorderTop + 2000 + level * (shapeHeight +
verSpace);
  for (int j = 0; j < levelCount[1]; j++) {
    levelX = shapeX = horCenter -
    (levelCount[1] - 1) * shapeWidth +
    (levelCount[1] - 1) * horSpace) / 2 +
    i * shapeWidth +
    i * horSpace;
    Object shape =
xDocumentFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape");
    com.sun.star.drawing.XShape xShape = ( com.sun.star.drawing.XShape)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(   com.sun.star.drawing.XShape.class, xShape);
    xShape.setPosition(new com.sun.star.awt.Point(shapeX,
levelY));
    xShape.setSize(new com.sun.star.awt.Size(shapeWidth,
shapeHeight));
    xDrawPage.add(xShape);
  }
}

// set the text   com.sun.star.text.XText xText =
( com.sun.star.text.XText)
  UnoRuntime.queryInterface(   com.sun.star.text.XText.class, xShape);
Handling Drawing Document Files

Creating and Loading Drawing Documents

If a document in OpenOffice.org is required, begin by getting the com.sun.star.frame.Desktop service from the service manager. The desktop handles all document components in OpenOffice.org among other things. It is discussed thoroughly in the chapter Office Development. Office documents are often called components because they support the com.sun.star.lang.XComponent interface. An XComponent is a UNO object that can be disposed explicitly and broadcast an event to other UNO objects when this happens.

The Desktop loads new and existing components from a URL. The desktop has a com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader interface that has one single method to load and instantiate components from a URL into a frame:

```java
com::sun::star::lang::XComponent loadComponentFromURL( [in] string aURL,
[in] string aTargetFrameName,                                       
[in] long nSearchFlags,                                       
[in] sequence<
com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aArgs )
```

The parameters in our context are the URL that describes the resource to be loaded, and the load arguments. For the target frame pass in "_blank" and set the search
flags to 0. In most cases, you will not want to reuse an existing frame.

The URL can be a file: URL, an http: URL, an ftp: URL or a private: URL. The correct URL format is located in the load URL box at the function bar of OpenOffice.org. For new Draw documents, a special URL scheme is used. The scheme is "private:": followed by "factory" as the hostname and the resource is "sdraw" for OpenOffice.org Draw documents. Thus, for a new Draw document, use "private:factory/sdraw".

The load arguments are described in com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor. The properties AsTemplate and Hidden are boolean values and used for programming. If AsTemplate is true, the loader creates a new untitled document from the given URL. If it is false, template files are loaded for editing. If Hidden is true, the document is loaded in the background. This is useful to generate a document in the background without letting the user observe what is happening. For instance, use it to generate a document and print it out without previewing. Refer to Office Development or other available options.

The introductory example shows how to load a drawing document. This snippet loads a new drawing document in hidden mode:

Saving Drawing Documents

The normal File – Save command for drawing documents can only store the current document in the native OpenOffice.org Draw format and its predecessors. There are other formats that can be stored through the File – Export option. This is mirrored in the API. Exporting in the current version of OpenOffice.org Draw and Impress is a different procedure than storing.

Storing

Documents are storable through their interface com.sun.star.frame.XStorable. The Office Development discusses this in detail. An XStorable implements these operations:

```java
boolean hasLocation() string getLocation() boolean isReadonly() void store()
void storeAsURL( [in] string aURL, [in] sequence <
```
The method names should be evident. The method `storeAsUrl()` is the exact representation of **File - Save As**, that is, it changes the current document location. In contrast, `storeToUrl()` stores a copy to a new location, but leaves the current document URL untouched. There are also store arguments. A filter name can be passed that tells OpenOffice.org to use older StarOffice Draw file formats. Exporting is a different matter as shown below. The property needed is `FilterName` which is a string argument that takes filter names defined in the configuration file.

In **TypeDetection.xml**, find `<Filter/>` elements, their `cfg:name` attribute contains the required strings for `FilterName`. The correct filter name for StarDraw 5.x files is "StarDraw 5.0". The following is the element in **TypeDetection.xml** that describes the StarDraw 5.0 document filter:

```
<Filter cfg:name="StarDraw 5.0">
  <Installed cfg:type="boolean">true</Installed>
  <UIName cfg:type="string" cfg:localized="true">
    <cfg:value xml:lang="en-US">StarDraw 5.0</cfg:value>
  </UIName>
  <Data cfg:type="string">
  </Data>
</Filter>
```

The following method stores a document using this filter:

```java
/** Store a document, using the StarDraw 5.0 Filter */
protected void storeDocComponent(XComponent xDoc, String storeUrl) throws java.lang.Exception {
    XStorable xStorable = (XStorable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XStorable.class, xDoc);
    PropertyValue[] storeProps = new PropertyValue[1];
    storeProps[0] = new PropertyValue();
    storeProps[0].Name = "FilterName";
    storeProps[0].Value = "StarDraw 5.0";
    xStorable.storeAsURL(storeUrl, storeProps);
}
```

If an empty array of `PropertyValue` structs is passed, the native `.odg` format of OpenOffice.org is used.

### Exporting

Exporting is not a feature of drawing documents. There is a separate service available from the global service manager for exporting, `com.sun.star.drawing.GraphicExportFilter`. It supports three interfaces:

- `com.sun.star.document.XFilter`
- `com.sun.star.document.XExporter`
- `com.sun.star.document.XMimeTypeInfo`
Exporting is a simple process. After getting a GraphicExportFilter from the ServiceManager, use its XExporter interface to inform the filter which draw page, shape or shape collection to export.

Method of com.sun.star.document.XExporter:

```java
void setSourceDocument ([in] com::sun::star::lang::XComponent xDoc)
```

The method name `setSourceDocument()` may be confusing. Actually, the method would allow exporting entire documents, however, it is only possible to export draw pages, single shapes or shape collections from a drawing document. Since these objects support the XComponent interface, the method specification allows maximum flexibility.

Next, run the method `filter()` at the XFilter interface. To interrupt the exporting process, call `cancel()` on the same interface.

Methods of com.sun.star.document.XFilter:

```java
boolean filter( [in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aDescriptor) void cancel()
```

Filter Options

The method `filter()` takes a sequence of PropertyValue structs describing the filter parameters. The following properties from the com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor are supported:

Properties of com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor supported by GraphicExportFilter

- `com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor.MediaType`

Depending on the export filters supported by this component, this is the mime type of the target graphic file. The mime types currently supported are:
com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor
or:FilterName
This property can be used if no MediaType exists with "Windows Metafile" or "Enhanced Metafile". FilterName has to be set to the extension of these graphic formats (WMF, EMF, BMP).

com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor
or:URL
The target URL of the file that is created during export.

Note – If necessary, use the interface XMimeTypeInfo to get all mime types supported by the GraphicExportFilter. It offers the following methods:
- boolean supportsMimeType( [in] string MimeTypeName )
- sequence< string > getSupportedMimeTypeNames()

XMimeTypeInfo is currently not supported by the GraphicExportFilter.

The following example exports a draw page xPage from a given document xDrawDoc:

```java
//get draw pages
com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier xPageSupplier =
    (com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier.class, xDrawDoc);
com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPages xDrawPages =
    xPageSupplier.getDrawPages();
// first page
Object page = xDrawPages.getByIndex(0);
com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPage xPage =
    (com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPage)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(          com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPage.class, page);
Object GraphicExportFilter =
    xServiceFactory.createInstance( "com.sun.star.drawing.GraphicExportFilter" );
// use the XExporter interface to set xPage as source component
// for the GraphicExportFilter
XExporter xExporter =
    (XExporter)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XExporter.class,
    GraphicExportFilter );
XComponent xComp = (XComponent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class, xPage); xExporter.setSourceDocument(xComp);
// prepare the media descriptor for the filter() method in XFilter
PropertyValue aProps[] = new PropertyValue[2];
aProps[0] = new PropertyValue(); aProps[0].Name = "MediaType"; aProps[0].Value = "image/gif";
// for some graphic formats, e.g. Windows Metafile, there is no Mime type, //
// therefore it is also possible to use the property FilterName with // Filter
// names as defined in the file TypeDetection.xml (see "Storing") */
Printing Drawing Documents

Printer and Print Job Settings

Printing is a common office functionality. Refer to Chapter Office Development for additional information. The Draw document implements the com.sun.star.view.XPrintable interface for printing. It consists of three methods:

```java
sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > getPrinter() void setPrinter([in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > aPrinter) void print([in] sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > xOptions)
```

To print to the standard printer without settings, use the snippet below with a given document `xDoc`:

```java
// query the XPrintable interface from your document XPrintable xPrintable = (XPrintable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPrintable.class, xDoc);
// create an empty printOptions array PropertyValue[] printOpts = new PropertyValue[0];
// kick off printing xPrintable.print(printOpts);
```

There are two groups of properties involved in general printing. The first one is used with `setPrinter()` and `getPrinter()`, and controls the printer, the second one is passed to `print()` and controls the print job.

The method `getPrinter()` returns a sequence of `PropertyValue` structs describing the printer containing the properties specified in the service `com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor`. It comprises the following properties:

**Properties of com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor**

- **Name**: `com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor`, `string` - Specifies the name of the printer queue to be used.
- **PaperOrientation**: `com.sun.star.view.PaperOrientation`, Specifies the orientation of the paper.
Printing Drawing Documents

com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor: PaperFormat
com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor: PaperSize
com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor: IsBusy
com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor: CanSetPaperOrientation
com.sun.star.view.PrinterDescriptor: CanSetPaperSize

The `PrinterDescriptor` offers the following choices for a print job:

The `PrintOptions` offer the following choices for a print job:

**Properties of com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions**

com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions: CopyCount
com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions: FileName
com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions: Collate
com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions: Pages
com.sun.star.view.PrintOptions: Wait

The following method uses `PrinterDescriptor` and `PrintOptions` to print to a specific printer, and preselect the pages to print:

```java
protected void printDocComponent(XComponent xDoc) throws java.lang.Exception {
    XPrintable xPrintable = (XPrintable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPrintable.class, xDoc);
    PropertyValue[] printerDesc = new PropertyValue[1];
    printerDesc[0] = new PropertyValue();
    printerDesc[0].Name = "Name";
    printerDesc[0].Value = "5D PDF Creator";
    
    PropertyValue[] printOptions = new PropertyValue[4];
    printOptions[0] = new PropertyValue();
    printOptions[0].Name = "CopyCount";
    printOptions[0].Value = 1;
    printOptions[1] = new PropertyValue();
    printOptions[1].Name = "FileName";
    printOptions[1].Value = "output.pdf";
    printOptions[2] = new PropertyValue();
    printOptions[2].Name = "Collate";
    printOptions[2].Value = true;
    printOptions[3] = new PropertyValue();
    printOptions[3].Name = "Pages";
    printOptions[3].Value = "1-100";

    xPrintable.printDialog(xDoc, printerDesc, printOptions);
}
```
In Draw documents, one slide is printed as one page on the printer by default. In the example above, slide one through four and slide seven are printed.

**Special Print Settings**

The printed drawing view (drawings, notes, handout pages, outline), the print quality (color, grayscale), the page options (tile, fit to page, brochure, paper tray) and additional options (page name, date, time, hidden pages) can all be controlled. [Settings](#) describes how these settings are used.
**Working with Drawing Documents**

**Document Structure**

![DrawingDocument Structure Diagram]

Draw documents maintain their drawing content on draw pages, master pages and layers. If a new draw document is opened, it contains one slide that corresponds to a com.sun.star.drawing.DrawPage service. Switching to **Master View** brings up the master page handled by the service com.sun.star.drawing.MasterPage. The **Layer View** allows access to layers to structure your drawings. These layers can be controlled through com.sun.star.drawing.Layer and com.sun.star.drawing.LayerManager.

**Page Handling**

Draw and Impress documents supply their pages (slides) through the interface com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier. The method **com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier.getDrawPages**() returns a container of draw pages with a com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPages interface that is derived from com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess. That is, XDrawPages allows accessing,
inserting and removing pages of a drawing document:

type getElementType() boolean hasElements() long getCount() any
getByIndex(long Index)
com::sun::star::drawing::XDrawPage insertNewByIndex(long nIndex) void
remove(com::sun::star::drawing::XDrawPage xPage)

The example below demonstrates how to access and create draw and master pages. Layers will be described later.

```java
XDrawPagesSupplier xDrawPagesSupplier =
(XDrawPagesSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(     XDrawPagesSupplier.class,
xComponent);
// XDrawPages inherits from com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess XDrawPages
xDrawPages = xDrawPagesSupplier.getDrawPages(); // get the page count for
standard pages
int nPageCount = xDrawPages.getCount(); // get draw page by
index XDrawPage xDrawPage = (XDrawPage)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDrawPage
.class, xDrawPages.getByIndex(nIndex)); /* create and insert a draw page
into the given position, the method returns the newly created page */
xNewDrawPage = xDrawPages.insertNewByIndex(0); // remove the given
page xDrawPages.remove( xDrawPage ); /* now repeat the same procedure as
described above for the master pages, the main difference is to get the
XDrawPages from the XMasterPagesSupplier interface */
XMasterPagesSupplier xMasterPagesSupplier =
(XMasterPagesSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(     XMasterPagesSupplier.clas
s, xComponent); XDrawPages xMasterPages =
xMasterPagesSupplier.getMasterPages(); // xMasterPages can now be used in the
same manner as xDrawPages is used above
```

Each draw page always has one master page. The interface
com.sun.star.drawing.XMasterPageTarget offers methods to get and set the master
page that is correlated to a draw page.

```java
// query for MasterPageTarget XMasterPageTarget xMasterPageTarget =
(XMasterPageTarget)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(     XMasterPageTarget.class,
xDrawPage); // now we can get the corresponding master page XDrawPage
xMasterPage = xMasterPageTarget.getMasterPage(); /* this method now sets a new
master page, it is important to mention that the applied page must be part
of the MasterPages */
xMasterPageTarget.setMasterPage(xMasterPage);
```

It is possible to copy pages using the interface [IDL:com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPageDuplicator] of drawing or presentation
documents.

```java
Methods of com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPageDuplicator:
com::sun::star::drawing::XDrawPage duplicate([in]
com::sun::star::drawing::XDrawPage xPage)
```

Pass a draw page reference to the method duplicate(). It appends a new draw page
at the end of the page list, using the default naming scheme for pages, "slide n".
Page Partitioning

All units and dimensions are measured in 1/100\textsuperscript{th} of a millimeter. The coordinates are increasing from left to right, and from top to bottom. The upper-left position of a page is (0, 0).

The page size, margins and orientation can be determined using the following properties of a draw page (generic draw page):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.drawing.GenericDrawPage::Height</td>
<td>Height of the page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.drawing.GenericDrawPage::Width</td>
<td>Width of the page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.drawing.GenericDrawPage::Orientation</td>
<td>Printer orientation. Determines if the printer output should be turned by 90\textdegree. Possible values are: PORTRAIT and LANDSCAPE.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shapes

Drawings consist of shapes on draw pages. Shapes are drawing elements, such as rectangles, circles, polygons, and lines. To create a drawing, get a shape by its service name at the ServiceFactory of a drawing document and add it to the appropriate DrawPage.

The code below demonstrates how to create shapes. It consists of a static helper method located in the class ShapeHelper and will be used throughout this chapter to create shapes. The parameter xComponent must be a reference to a loaded drawing document. The x, y, height and width are the desired position and size, and sShapeType expects a service name for the shape, such as "com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape". The method does not actually insert the shape into a page. It instantiates it and returns the instance to the caller.
The size and position of a shape can be set before adding a shape to a page. After adding the shape, change the shape properties through `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet`.

```java
public static XShape createShape( XComponent xComponent, int x, int y, int width, int height, String sShapeType) throws java.lang.Exception {
    // query the document for the document-internal service factory
    XMultiServiceFactory xFactory = (XMultiServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiServiceFactory.class, xComponent);
    // get the given Shape service from the factory
    Object xObj = xFactory.CreateInstance(sShapeType);
    Point aPos = new Point(x,y);
    Size aSize = new Size(width, height);
    // use its XShape interface to determine position and size before insertion
    xShape = (XShape)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShape.class, xObj);
    xShape.setPosition(aPos); xShape.setSize(aSize); return xShape;
}
```

**Warning – Notice**, the following restrictions: A shape cannot be inserted into multiple pages, and most methods do not work before the shape is inserted into a draw page.

The previously declared method will be used to create a simple rectangle shape with a size of 10 cm x 5 cm that is positioned in the upper-left, and inserted into a drawing page.
Shapes

Simple rectangle shape

```java
// query DrawPage for XShapes interface
XShapes xShapes = (XShapes)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShapes.class, xDrawPage); // create the shape
XShape xShape = createShape(xComponent, 0, 0, 10000, 5000, "com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape"); // add shape to DrawPage
xShapes.add(xShape); // set text
XText xText = (XText)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XText.class, xShape); xText.setString("My new RectangleShape"); // to be able to set Properties a XPropertySet interface is needed
XPropertySet xPropSet = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xShape);
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("CornerRadius", new Integer(1000));
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("Shadow", new Boolean(true));
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("ShadowXDistance", new Integer(250));
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("ShadowYDistance", new Integer(250)); // blue fill color
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("FillColor", new Integer(0xC0C0C0)); // black line color
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("LineColor", new Integer(0x000000));
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("Name", "Rounded Gray Rectangle");
```

The UML diagram in the illustration below describes all services that are included by the `com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape` service and provides an overview of properties that can be used with such a simple shape.
Shape Types

- **ClosedBezierShape**
  - curve filled

- **ConnectorShape**
  - with three edge lines

- **EllipseShape**
  - CircleKind: Full, Section, Cut, Arc

- **GraphicObjectShape**

- **GroupShape**
  - containing three other Shapes

- **LineShape**
  - with end point circle

- **MeasureShape**
  - 4.5 cm

- **OLE2Shape**
  - Chart Document

**Note** – The service com.sun.star.drawing.Text is different from other Text services. It consists of the service com.sun.star.drawing.TextProperties and the interface com.sun.star.text.XText that was introduced in the chapter [Documentation/DevGuide/FirstSteps/First Steps](#)

An x denotes which of these services are supported by each shape. The rightmost column shows the services, interfaces and properties that are specific for the various shapes.
### Shape Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ShapeType</th>
<th>Text Properties</th>
<th>Line Properties</th>
<th>Fill Properties</th>
<th>Shadow Properties</th>
<th>Rotation Descriptor</th>
<th>Supported services, Exported interfaces, Properties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.drawing.EllipseShape</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>properties: com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeStartShape, com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeEndShape, com.sun.star.awt.PointStartPosition, com.sun.star.awt.PointEndPosition, long StartGluePointIndex, long EndGluePointIndex, long EdgeLine1Delta, long EdgeLine2Delta, long EdgeLine3Delta</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Chapter 9 · Drawing Documents and Presentation Documents

1039
### Bezier Shapes

Draw supports three different kinds of Bezier curves: OpenBezierShape, ClosedBezierShape and PolygonBezierShape. They are all controlled by `com.sun.star.drawing.PolygonBezierDescriptor` which is made up of the following properties:

#### Properties of `com.sun.star.drawing.PolygonBezierDescriptor`
com.sun.star.drawing.PolyPolygonBezierDescriptor:PolygonKind
[readonly]
com.sun.star.drawing.PolygonKind. Type of the polygon. Possible values are:
LINE for a LineShape.
POLY for a PolyPolygonShape.
PLIN for a PolyLineShape.
PATHLINE for an OpenBezierShape.
PATHFILL for a ClosedBezierShape.

com.sun.star.drawing.PolyPolygonBezierDescriptor:PolyPolygonBezier
struct
[IDL:com.sun.star.drawing.PolyPolygonBezierCoords]. These are the bezier points of the polygon. The struct members are Coordinates and Flags, which are both sequences of sequences. The Coordinates sequence contains
[IDL:com.sun.star.awt.Point] structs and the Flags sequence contains com::
[IDL:com.sun.star.drawing.PolygonFlags] enums. Point members are X and Y. Possible PolygonFlags values are:
• NORMAL the point is normal, from the curve discussion view.
• SMOOTH the point is smooth, the first derivation from the curve discussion view.
• CONTROL the point is a control point, to control the curve from the user interface.
• SYMMETRIC the point is symmetric, the second derivation from the curve discussion view.

com.sun.star.drawing.PolyPolygonBezierDescriptor:Geometry
com.sun.star.drawing.PolyPolygonBezierCoords. These are the untransformed bezier coordinates of the polygon. The property has the same type as PolyPolygonBezier.

The next Java example will demonstrate how to create a ClosedBezierShape that looks like the following picture.

Closed bezier shape

XShape xPolyPolygonBezier = createShape( xComponent, 0, 0, 0, 0, "com.sun.star.drawing.ClosedBezierShape"); // take care of the fact that the shape must have been added // to the page before it is possible to apply changes XShapes xShapes = (XShapes)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XShapes.class, xDrawPage); xShapes.add(xPolyPolygonBezier); // now it is possible to edit the PropertySet XPropertySet xShapeProperties = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XPropertySet.class, xPolyPolygonBezier); // The following values are exemplary and provokes that a PolyPolygon of // sixteen single polygons containing four points each is created. The // PolyPolygon total point count will be 64. // If control points are used they are allowed to appear as pair only, // before and after such pair has to be a normal point. // A bezier point sequence may look like //
this (n=normal, c=control) : n c n c n n c c n int nPolygonCount = 16; int
nPointCount = 4; int nWidth = 10000; int nHeight = 10000;
PolyPolygonBezierCoords aCoords = new PolyPolygonBezierCoords(); // allocating
the outer sequence aCoords.Coordinates = new Point[nPolygonCount][];
aCoords.Flags = new PolygonFlags[nPolygonCount][]; int i, n, nY;
// fill the inner point sequence now for (nY = 0, i = 0; i < nPolygonCount; i +
+, nY += nHeight / nPolygonCount) { // create a polygon using two normal
and two control points // allocating the inner sequence Point[]
pPolyPoints = new Point[nPointCount]; PolygonFlags[] pPolyFlags = new
PolygonFlags[nPolygonCount]; for (n = 0; n < nPointCount; n++)
pPolyPoints[n] = new Point(); pPolyPoints[0].X = 0; pPolyPoints[0].Y =
nY; pPolyFlags[0] = PolygonFlags.NORMAL; pPolyPoints[1].X = nWidth / 2;
pPolyPoints[1].Y = nHeight; pPolyFlags[1] = PolygonFlags.CONTROL;
pPolyPoints[2].X = nWidth / 2; pPolyPoints[2].Y = nHeight; pPolyFlags
[2] = PolygonFlags.CONTROL; pPolyPoints[3].X = nWidth;
pPolyPoints[3].Y = nY; pPolyFlags[3] = PolygonFlags.NORMAL;
aCoords.Coordinates[i] = pPolyPoints; aCoords.Flags[i] = pPolyFlags; } try
{ xShapeProperties.setPropertyValue("PolyPolygonBezier", aCoords); } catch
((Exception ex) { }

Shape Operations

You can modify shapes in many different ways:

- Moving and Scaling
- Rotating and Shearing
- Transforming
- Ordering
- Grouping, Combining and Binding
- General Drawing Properties
- Glue Points and Connectors
- Layer Handling

Moving and Scaling

Moving and scaling of a shape can be done by using the corresponding methods
getPosition(), setPosition(), getSize() and setSize() of the com.sun.star.drawing.XShape interface:

string getShapeType() com::sun::star::awt::Point getPosition() void
setPosition( [in] com::sun::star::awt::Point aPosition)
com::sun::star::awt::Size getSize() void setSize( [in]
com::sun::star::awt::Size aSize)
Point and Size are IDL structs. In Java, these structs are mapped to classes with constructors that take values for the struct members. Therefore, when new is used to instantiate these classes, the coordinates and dimensions are passed to initialize the class members X, Y, Width and Height.

Rotating and Shearing

Most shapes, except OLE and group objects, can be rotated and sheared. All of these objects include the com.sun.star.drawing.RotationDescriptor service that has the properties RotateAngle and ShearAngle.

Setting the com.sun.star.drawing.RotationDescriptor rotates or shears a shape:

Properties of com.sun.star.drawing.RotationDescriptor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.drawing.RotationDescriptor:RotateAngle</td>
<td>long - This is the angle for rotation of this shape in 1/100th of a degree. The shape is rotated counter-clockwise around the center of the bounding box.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.drawing.RotationDescriptor:ShearAngle</td>
<td>long - This is the amount of shearing for this shape in 1/100th of a degree. The shape is sheared clockwise around the center of the bounding box.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note** – Notice that the rotation works counter-clockwise, while shearing works clockwise.

The following example shows how a shape can be rotated by 25 degrees counterclockwise:

```java
// xShape will be rotated by 25 degrees
XPropertySet xPropSet = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xShape);
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("RotateAngle", new Integer(2500));
```

Rotation and Shearing by 25 degrees
Transforming

Changing the size, rotation and shearing of an object can be done by using the transformation mechanism provided by OpenOffice.org. The matrix of our API is a standard homogenous 3x3 matrix that may be used together with the java.awt.geom.AffineTransform class from Java. The transformation received describes the actual values of the transformations as a linear combination of the single matrices. The basic object without transformation has a size of (1, 1) and a position of (0, 0), and is not rotated or sheared. Thus, to transform an object get its matrix and multiply from the left side to influence the current appearance. To set the whole transformation directly, build a combined matrix of the single values mentioned above and apply it to the object.

```java
XPropertySet xPropSet = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xShape); // take the current transformation matrix HomogenMatrix3 aHomogenMatrix3 = (HomogenMatrix3)xPropSet.getPropertyValue("Transformation");
java.awt.geom.AffineTransform aOriginalMatrix = new java.awt.geom.AffineTransform(aHomogenMatrix3.Line1.Column1,
aHomogenMatrix3.Line2.Column1, aHomogenMatrix3.Line1.Column2,
aHomogenMatrix3.Line2.Column3 ); // rotate the object by 15 degrees
AffineTransform aNewMatrix1 = new AffineTransform();
aNewMatrix1.setToRotation(Math.PI /180 * 15);
aNewMatrix1.concatenate(aOriginalMatrix); // and translate the object by 2cm on the x-axis AffineTransform aNewMatrix2 = new AffineTransform();
aNewMatrix2.setToTranslation(2000, 0); aNewMatrix2.concatenate(aNewMatrix1);
double aFlatMatrix[] = new double[6];aNewMatrix2.getMatrix(aFlatMatrix); // convert the flatMatrix to our HomogenMatrix3 structure
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("Transformation", aHomogenMatrix3);
```

Ordering

The property **ZOrder** of the com.sun.star.drawing.Shape service defines the order a shape is drawn. That is, if there are many shapes on a page, the shape that has the lowest **ZOrder** value is drawn first, and the shape that has the highest **ZOrder** is drawn last. By using this property it is possible to bring an object to the back or front of a page. It is also possible to switch the order of two shapes as demonstrated in the following example:

```java
XPropertySet xPropSet1 = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xShape1);
XPropertySet xPropSet2 =
```
Grouping, Combining and Binding

The DrawPage plays an important role for the handling of multiple shapes. It has three interfaces for this purpose. Its interface com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeGrouper is used to create a group shape from a ShapeCollection and ungroup existing groups.

Methods of com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeGrouper

com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeGrouper:group()

Parameter:
com.sun.star.drawing.XShapes xShapes
Groups the shapes inside a collection. They must all be inserted into the same GenericDrawPage. Returns a recently created GroupShape that contains all shapes from xShapes, and is also added to the GenericDrawPage of the Shapes in xShapes.

com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeGrouper:ungroup()

Parameter:
com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeGroup
Ungroups a given GroupShape. Moves all Shapes from this GroupShape to the parent XShapes of the GroupShape. The GroupShape is then removed from the GenericDrawPage and disposed.

The example below creates a group using the com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeGrouper interface. For this purpose, the shapes that are to be grouped have to be added to a com.sun.star.drawing.ShapeCollection that is created by the com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory of the global service manager. It is a container of shapes that is accessed using the interface com.sun.star.drawing.XShapes. The following example accesses the XShapes interface of the DrawPage to locate two shapes on the DrawPage, and uses the XShapes interface of the ShapeCollection to add these shapes to the ShapeCollection. Finally, it employs the XShapeGrouper interface of the DrawPage to move the shapes from the ShapeCollection into a new GroupShape.

/* try to group the first two objects of the drawpage */ // create a container that will receive the // shapes that are to be grouped Object xObj = xMultiServiceFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.drawing.ShapeCollection"); XShapes xToGroup = (XShapes)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShapes.class, xObj); // query for the shape collection of xDrawPage XShapes xShapes = (XShapes)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShapes.class, xDrawPage); // test if the
shape collection of the page has at least two shapes if (xShapes.getCount() >= 2) {     // collect shapes we want to group
    xToGroup.add((XShape)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShape.class,
             xShapes.getByIndex(0)));
    xToGroup.add((XShape)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShape.class,
             xShapes.getByIndex(1)));     // now group the shapes we have collected by
    using the XShapeGrouper     XShapeGrouper xShapeGrouper =
(XShapeGrouper)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
             XShapeGrouper.class,
             xDrawPage);     xShapeGrouper.group(xToGroup); }

The service com.sun.star.drawing.GroupShape includes
com.sun.star.drawing.Shape and supports two additional interfaces:

- com.sun.star.drawing.XShapes is used to access the shapes in the group.
- com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeGroup handles access to the group.

The interface XShapes inherits from [IDL:com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess], and
introduces add() and remove(). It contains the following methods:

type getElementType() boolean hasElements() long getCount() any
getByIndex( [in] long Index) void add( [in] com::sun::star::drawing::XShape
xShape) void remove( [in] com::sun::star::drawing::XShape xShape)

Methods of [IDL:com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeGroup]:

string getShapeType() com::sun::star::.awt::Point getPosition() void
setPosition( [in] com::sun::star::.awt::Point aPosition)
com::sun::star::.awt::Size getSize() void setSize( [in]
com::sun::star::awk::Size aSize)

It is also possible to create GroupShapes directly without using the XShapeGrouper
interface. The following code demonstrates the creation of a
com.sun.star.drawing.GroupShape that takes up three other shapes.

// create a group shape first. The size and position does not matter,
because it depends on the position and size of objects that will be
inserted later XShape xGroup = createShape(xComponent, 0, 0, 0, 0,
"com.sun.star.drawing.GroupShape"); // before it is possible to insert shapes,
// the group shape must have been added to the page XShapes xShapes =
(XShapes)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShapes.class, xDrawPage);
    xShapes.add(xGroup); // query for the XShapes interface, which will take our
new shapes XShapes xShapesGroup =
(XShapes)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShapes.class, xGroup); // new shapes can
be inserted into the shape collection directly
    xShapesGroup.add( createShape(xComponent, 1000, 1000, 2000, 4000,
"com.sun.star.drawing.EllipseShape");)
    xShapesGroup.add( createShape(xComponent, 8000, 8000, 2000, 2000,
"com.sun.star.drawing.EllipseShape");)
    xShapesGroup.add( createShape(xComponent, 2000, 3000, 7000, 6000,
"com.sun.star.drawing.LineShape");)

The interface com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeCombiner combines shapes and is
equivalent to Modify - Combine in the user interface.

Methods of com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeCombiner
com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeC Parameter:
Grouping, Combining and Binding

**combiner:combine()**

Parameter:

com.sun.star.drawing.XShapes

Combines shapes. The shapes inside this container are converted to PolyPolygonBezierShapes and are then combined into one PolyPolygonBezierShape. The shapes in xShape are removed from the GenericDrawPage and disposed. Returns a recently created PolyPolygonBezierShape that contains all the converted PolyPolygonBezierShapes combined. It is also added to the GenericDrawPage of the source Shapes.

**combiner:split()**

Parameter:

com.sun.star.drawing.XShape

Splits shapes. The Shape is converted to a PolyPolygonBezierShape and then split into several PolyPolygonBezierShapes. The shape s in xShape are removed from the GenericDrawPage and disposed.

The draw page interface com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeBinder draws a connection line between the ending point of a line shape (or curve) to the starting point of another line shape (or curve), merging the connected lines into a single shape object. This function corresponds to **Modify - Connect** in the user interface. It works for area shapes as well, but the connection line usually can not resolve them.

### Methods of com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeBinder

**com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeBinder:bind()**

Parameter:

com.sun.star.drawing.XShapes

binds shapes together. A container with shapes that will be bound together. All shapes are converted to a PolyPolygonBezierShape and the lines are connected. The Shapes in xShape are removed from the GenericDrawPage and disposed. Returns a recently created PolyPolygonBezierShape that contains all line segments from the supplied Shapes. It is also added to the GenericDrawPage of the source Shapes.

**com.sun.star.drawing.XShapeBinder:unbind()**

Parameter:

com.sun.star.drawing.XShape

breaks a shape into its line segments. The given shape will be converted to a PolyPolygonBezierShape and the line segments of this shape are used to create new
PolyPolygonBezierShape shapes. The original shape is removed from its GenericDrawPage and disposed.

General Drawing Properties

This chapter introduces the relevant drawing attributes provided by services, such as com.sun.star.drawing.LineProperties, com.sun.star.drawing.FillProperties and com.sun.star.drawing.TextProperties. The service is described by listing all its properties, followed by an example that uses and explains some of the properties. Each of the following Java examples assumes an already existing valid shape xShape that has already been inserted into the page.

Colors are given in Hex ARGB format, a four-byte value containing the alpha, red, green and blue components of a color in the format 0xAARRGGBB. The leading component can be omitted if it is zero. The hex format 0xFF0000 is light red, 0xFF00 is green, and 0xFF is blue.

Angles must be given in steps of 1/100th of a degree.

Measures, such as line widths and lengths are given in 100th of a millimeter.

Properties provided by the service:

Properties of com.sun.star.drawing.LineProperties

- com.sun.star.drawing.LineProperties:LineStyle
  - long - Color of the line.
  - This enumeration selects the dash of the line.
  - long - Color of the line.
  - short - Degree of transparency.
  - long - Width of the line in 1/100th of a millimeter.
  - com.sun.star.drawing.LineProperties:LineStartName
  - [optional] string - Name of the line that starts poly polygon bezier.
  - com.sun.star.drawing.PolyPolygonBezierCoords
  - Line starts in the form of a poly polygon bezier.
properties:LineEnd
Line ends in the form of a poly polygon bezier.
[optional] boolean - If true, the line ends in the
center of the polygon.
[optional] long - Width of the line end polygon.

Properties of com.sun.star.drawing.FillProperties
com.sun.star.drawing.FillProperties:FillStyle
com.sun.star.drawing.FillProperties:FillColor
long - If the FillStyle is set to SOLID, this is the
color used.
short - The transparency of the filled area in
percent.
string - This is the name of the transparent
gradient style used if a gradient is used for
transparency, or it is empty. This style is used to
set the name of a transparent gradient style
contained in the document.
[optional]
com.sun.star.awt.Gradient. Transparency of the
fill area as a gradient.
string - If the FillStyle is set to GRADIENT, this
is the name of the fill gradient style used.
[optional]
com.sun.star.awt.Gradient. If the FillStyle is set
to GRADIENT, this describes the gradient used.
string - If the FillStyle is set to GRADIENT, this
is the name of the fill hatch style used.
[optional]
com.sun.star.awt.Hatch. If the FillStyle is set
to HATCH, this describes the hatch used.
string - If the FillStyle is set to BITMAP, this is the
name of the fill bitmap style used.
[optional]
com.sun.star.awt.XBitmap. If the FillStyle is set

General Drawing Properties

**com.sun.star.drawing.FillProperties:**
- `FillBitmapURL` [optional] string - If the FillStyle is set to BITMAP, this is a URL to the bitmap used.
- `FillBitmapOffsetX` short - Horizontal offset where the tile starts.
- `FillBitmapOffsetY` short - Vertical offset where the tile starts. It is given in percent in relation to the width of the bitmap.
- `FillBitmapPositionOffsetX` short - Every second line of tiles is moved the given percent of the width of the bitmap.
- `FillBitmapPositionOffsetY` short - Every second row of tiles is moved the given percent of the width of the bitmap.
- `FillBitmapRectanglePoint` com.sun.star.drawing.RectanglePoint - The RectanglePoint specifies the position inside of the bitmap to use as the top-left position for rendering.
- `FillBitmapLogicalSize` boolean - Specifies if the size is given in percentage or as an absolute value.
- `FillBitmapSizeX` long - Width of the tile for filling.
- `FillBitmapSizeY` long - Height of the tile for filling.
- `FillBitmapMode` com.sun.star.drawing.BitmapMode - Enumeration selects how an area is filled with a single bitmap.
- `FillBackground` boolean - If true, the transparent background of a hatch filled area is drawn in the current background color.

```java
/* apply a gradient fill style that goes from top left to bottom right and is changing its color from green to yellow */
XPropertySet xPropSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XPropertySet.class, xShape );
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("FillStyle", FillStyle.GRADIENT );
Gradient aGradient = new Gradient(); aGradient.Style = GradientStyle.LINEAR;
aGradient.StartColor = 0x00ff00; aGradient.EndColor = 0xffff00;
aGradient.Angle = 450; aGradient.Border = 0; aGradient.XOffset = 0;
aGradient.YOffset = 0; aGradient.StartIntensity = 100; aGradient.EndIntensity = 100; aGradient.StepCount = 10;
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("FillGradient", aGradient );
```

**Properties of com.sun.star.drawing.TextProperties:**
- `IsNumbering` [optional] boolean - If true, numbering is on for the text of this shape.
- `NumberingRules` [optional]
- `TextAutoGrowHeight` boolean - If true, the height of the shape is automatically expanded or shrunk when text is added or removed from the shape.
- `TextAutoGrowWidth` boolean - If true, the width of the shape is automatically expanded or shrunk when text is added or removed from the shape.
General Drawing Properties

- **TextAutoGrowWidth**
  Automatically expanded or shrunk when text is added or removed from the shape.

- **TextContourFrame**
  boolean - If true, the left edge of every line of text is aligned with the left edge of this shape.

- **TextFitToSize**
  com.sun.star.drawing.TextFitToSizeType. Determines how the text inside of the Shape is stretched to fit in the Shape. Possible values are NONE, PROPORTIONAL, ALLLINES, and RESIZEATTR.

- **TextHorizontalAdjust**
  Adjusts the horizontal position of the text inside of the shape.

- **TextVerticalAdjust**
  Adjusts the vertical position of the text inside of the shape.

- **TextLeftDistance**
  long - Distance from the left edge of the shape to the left edge of the text.

- **TextRightDistance**
  long - Distance from the right edge of the shape to the right edge of the text.

- **TextUpperDistance**
  long - Distance from the upper edge of the shape to the upper edge of the text.

- **TextLowerDistance**
  long - Distance from the lower edge of the shape to the lower edge of the text.

- **TextMaximumFrameHeight**
  long - Maximum height of the surrounding frame.

- **TextMinimumFrameWidth**
  long - Minimum height of the surrounding frame.

- **TextHorizontalAdjust**
  long - Minimum width of the surrounding frame.

- **TextAnimationAmount**
  short - Number of pixels that the text is moved in each animation step.

- **TextAnimationCount**
  short - Defines how many times the text animation is repeated.

- **TextAnimationDelay**
  short - Delay between the animation steps in thousandths of a second.

- **TextAnimationDirection**
  com.sun.star.drawing.TextAnimationDirection. This enumeration defines the direction that the text moves.

- **TextAnimationKind**
  com.sun.star.drawing.TextAnimationKind. Defines the type of animation.

- **TextVisibleAtStart**
  boolean. If true, the text is visible at the start of
General Drawing Properties

the animation.

boolean. If true, the text is visible at the end of the animation.

com.sun.star.text.WritingMode. This value selects the writing mode for the text.

The service com.sun.star.drawing.TextProperties includes com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties and com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties. Since these services contain optional properties, the properties actually supported by drawing shapes are listed. Refer to the API reference or explanations or Formatting.

The service com.sun.star.drawing.TextProperties includes com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties and com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties. Since these services contain many optional properties, we list the properties actually supported by drawing shapes. Please look up the explanations in the API reference or in Formatting.

*com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties of drawing text*

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharAutoKerning

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharColor

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharContoured

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharCrossedOut

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharEmphasis

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharEscapement

Height

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFontCharSet

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFontFamily

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFontName

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFontPitch

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharFontStyleName

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharHeight

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharKerning

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharLocale

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharPosture

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharRelief

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharScaleWidth

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharShadowed

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharStrikeout

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharUnderline

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharUnderlineColor

com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties:CharUnderlineHasColor

long

boolean

short

short

byte

short

string

short

string

float

short

com.sun.star.lang.Locale

com.sun.star.awt.FontSlant

short

boolean

short

long

boolean
General Drawing Properties

There are Asian counterparts for a number of character properties.

**com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesAsian** of drawing shapes

- `CharFontPitchAsian`: short
- `CharFontStyleNameAsian`: string
- `CharHeightAsian`: float
- `CharPostureAsian`: com.sun.star.awt.FontSlant
- `CharLocaleAsian`: com.sun.star.lang.Locale
- `CharWeightAsian`: float

There is also a **Complex** flavor of the same properties:

**com.sun.star.style.CharacterPropertiesComplex** of drawing text

- `CharFontPitchComplex`: short
- `CharFontStyleNameComplex`: string
- `CharHeightComplex`: float
- `CharLocaleComplex`: com.sun.star.lang.Locale
- `CharPostureComplex`: com.sun.star.awt.FontSlant
- `CharWeightComplex`: float

Paragraphs in drawing text support a selection of properties:

**Properties of com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties**

- `ParaAdjust`: short
- `ParaBottomMargin`: long
- `ParaFirstLineIndent`: long
- `ParaIsHyphenation`: boolean
- `ParaLastLineAdjust`: short
- `ParaLeftMargin`: long

Chapter 9 · Drawing Documents and Presentation Documents
The next example introduces a method that appends single text portions to a shape. It returns the XPropertySet interface of the text range that has been added.

```java
/** add text to a shape. the return value is the PropertySet of the text range that has been added */
public static XPropertySet addPortion(XShape xShape, String sText, boolean bNewParagraph) throws com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException {
    XText xText = xShape.getUnoRuntime.queryInterface(XText.class);
    XTextCursor xTextCursor = xText.createTextCursor();
    xTextCursor.gotoEnd(false);
    if (bNewParagraph) {
        xText.insertControlCharacter(xTextCursor, ControlCharacter.PARAGRAPH_BREAK, false);
        xTextCursor.gotoEnd(false);
    }
    XTextRange xTextRange = xTextRange.getUnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextRange.class);
    xTextRange.setString(sText);
    xTextCursor.gotoEnd(true);
    XPropertySet xPropSet = xPropSet.getUnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class); return xPropSet;
}
```

Using the previous method, the next example creates a rectangle shape that has a border of 2.5 cm with the text of two paragraphs is stretched by using the com.sun.star.drawing.TextFitToSizeType property. The text of the first paragraph is then colored green, and the second red. The Editing Text provides further details of handling text.

```java
createShape(xComponent, new Point(0,0), new Size(21000, 12500), "com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape"); xShapes.add(xRectangle); xShapePropSet = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xRectangle); // TextFitToSize xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("TextFitToSize", TextFitToSizeType.PROPORTIONAL); // border size xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("TextLeftDistance", new Integer(2500)); xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("TextRightDistance", new Integer(2500)); xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("TextUpperDistance", new Integer(2500)); xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("TextLowerDistance", new Integer(2500)); xTextPropSet = ShapeHelper.addPortion(xRectangle, "using TextFitToSize",...}
```
Many shapes cast shadows. The `ShadowProperties` controls how this shadow looks:

**Properties of com.sun.star.drawing.ShadowProperties**

- `Shadow`: boolean - Enables or disables the shadow of a shape.
- `ShadowColor`: long - Color of the shadow of the shape.
- `ShadowTransparence`: short - Defines the degree of transparency of the shadow in percent.
- `ShadowXDistance`: long - Horizontal distance between the left edge of the shape and the shadow.
- `ShadowYDistance`: long - Vertical distance between the top edge of the shape and the shadow.

---

**Glue Points and Connectors**

By default, there are four glue points available that are used within the properties `StartGluePointIndex` and `EndGluePointIndex`. If a connector connects to the top, bottom, left or right of a shape, a new glue point is not created. The four directions are declared in the following example.

The first example demonstrates how to create a `com.sun.star.drawing.ConnectorShape` and connect it to two other shapes using the glue point index property.
"EndPosition" property needs not to be set // if there is a shape to connect
xConnectorPropSet.setPropertyValue("StartShape", xShape1);
xConnectorPropSet.setPropertyValue("StartGluePointIndex", new
Integer(nStartIndex)); xConnectorPropSet.setPropertyValue("EndShape", xShape2);
xConnectorPropSet.setPropertyValue("EndGluePointIndex", new
Integer(nEndIndex));

The next example demonstrates the usage of user defined glue points.

XGluePointsSupplier xGluePointsSupplier; XIndexContainer xIndexContainer;
XIdentifierContainer xIdentifierContainer; /* take care to use the structure
GluePoint2 and not    GluePoint, because otherwise the XIdentifierContainer
won't accept it */ GluePoint2 aGluePoint = new GluePoint2();
aGluePoint.IsRelative = false; aGluePoint.PositionAlignment =
Alignment.CENTER; aGluePoint.Escape = EscapeDirection.SMART;
aGluePoint.IsUserDefined = true; aGluePoint.Position.X = 0;
aGluePoint.Position.Y = 0; // create and insert a glue point at shapel
xGluePointsSupplier =
(XGluePointsSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(     XGluePointsSupplier.class, xShape1);
xIndexContainer = xGluePointsSupplier.getGluePoints();
xIdentifierContainer =
(XIdentifierContainer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(     XIdentifierContainer.class,
xIndexContainer); int nIndexOfGluePoint1 =
xIdentifierContainer.insert(aGluePoint); // create and insert a glue point at
shape2 xGluePointsSupplier = (XGluePointsSupplier)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XGluePointsSupplier.class, xShape2);
xIndexContainer =
xGluePointsSupplier.getGluePoints(); xIdentifierContainer =
(XIdentifierContainer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(     XIdentifierContainer.class,
xIndexContainer); int nIndexOfGluePoint2 =
xIdentifierContainer.insert(aGluePoint); // create and add a connector XShape
xConnector2 = ShapeHelper.createShape(xDrawDoc,     new Point(0, 0), new
Size(0, 0), "com.sun.star.drawing.ConnectorShape");
xShapes.add( xConnector2 ); XPropertySet xConnector2PropSet =
(XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(     XPropertySet.class, xConnector2);
xConnector2PropSet.setPropertyValue("StartShape", xShape1);
xConnector2PropSet.setPropertyValue("StartGluePointIndex", new
Integer(nIndexOfGluePoint1)); xConnector2PropSet.setPropertyValue("EndShape", xShape2);
xConnector2PropSet.setPropertyValue("EndGluePointIndex", new
Integer(nIndexOfGluePoint2));

Layer Handling

In Draw and Impress, each shape is associated to exactly one layer. The layer has
properties that specify if connected shapes are visible, printable or editable.

The service com.sun.star.drawing.DrawingDocument implements the interface
com.sun.star.drawing.XLayerSupplier that gives access to the
com.sun.star.drawing.XLayerManager interface. The
com.sun.star.drawing.XLayerManager interface is used to create and edit a layer, and
is used to attach a layer to a shape.
**Inserting Files**

Currently it is not possible to insert slides from a drawing or presentation into a drawing document through API. To accomplish this, use the **Insert – File** command from the menu.

**Navigating**

Initially, shapes in a document can only be accessed by their index. The only method to get more information about a shape on the page is to test for the shape type, so it is impossible to identify a particular shape. However, after a shape is inserted, you can name it in the user interface or through the shape interface com.sun.star.container.XNamed, and identify the shape by its name after retrieving it.
Navigating by index. Shapes cannot be accessed by their names.

Searching and replacing text in Drawing documents retrieves the shapes that contain the text that is searched for. For more information, refer to Search and Replace.

Handling Presentation Document Files

Creating and Loading Presentation Documents

The URL that must be used with loadComponentFromURL() for new presentation documents is "private:factory/simpless".

To avoid the initial dialog in new presentation documents, set the property Silent defined in com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor to true. This property has to be used with the sequence of PropertyValue structs that is passed to loadComponentFromURL().

The snippet below loads a new presentation document in silent mode:

```java
// the method getRemoteServiceManager is described in the chapter First Steps
mxRemoteServiceManager = this.getRemoteServiceManager();
// retrieve the Desktop object, we need its XComponentLoader Object desktop =
mxRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext( "com.sun.star.frame.Desk
top", mxRemoteContext);
// query the XComponentLoader interface from the Desktop service
XComponentLoader xComponentLoader =
(XComponentLoader)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XComponentLoader.class, desktop);
// define load properties according to
com.sun.star.document.MediaDescriptor // the boolean property Silent tells the
office to suppress the impress startup wizard PropertyValue[1] loadProps = new
PropertyValue[1]; loadProps[0] = new PropertyValue(); loadProps[0].Name =
"Silent"; loadProps[0].Value = new Boolean(true);
// load com.sun.star.uno.XComponent xComponentLoader.loadComponentFromURL( "private:factory/simpless", ":_blank", 0, loadProps);
```
Printing Presentation Documents

Presentation documents have the following specific properties to define if the notes and outline view should be printed:


com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings:_IsPrintNotes
boolean - Specifies if the notes are also printed.

com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings:_IsPrintOutline
boolean - Specifies if the outline is also printed.

Settings describes how these settings are used.

Working with Presentation Documents

The structure of Impress documents is enhanced by a handout page per document, one notes page per draw page, and one notes master page for each master page. This means that the creation of normal draw and draw master pages automatically create corresponding notes and notes master pages. Due to this fact there are no interfaces for creation or deletion of notes or notes master pages.

The following UML diagram describes the whole page structure of Impress. The horizontal dotted line illustrates the general page structure lying beneath the dotted line, and the enhanced page structure of Impress lying above.

The following two examples demonstrate how to access the notes pages and the handout page of an Impress document:

```java
/** in Impress documents each draw page as also each draw master page has a corresponding notes page */ static public XDrawPage getNotesPage(XDrawPage xDrawPage) {     XDrawPage xNotesPage;     XPresentationPage xPresentationPage = (XPresentationPage)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPresentationPage.class, xDrawPage);     /* only Impress pages support the XPresentationPage interface, for all other pages the interface will be zero, so a test won't hurt */     if (xPresentationPage != null)         xNotesPage = xPresentationPage.getNotesPage();     return xNotesPage; }
```

The notes master page that corresponds to a notes page can be accessed by the `com.sun.star.presentation.XPresentation` interface of the master page.

```java
/** in impress each document has one handout page */ static public XDrawPage getHandoutMasterPage(XComponent xComponent) {     XHandoutMasterSupplier aHandoutMasterSupplier = (XHandoutMasterSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XHandoutMasterSupplier.class, xComponent);     return
```
Presentation Settings

Impress documents contain a Presentation service that controls a running presentation. This com.sun.star.presentation.Presentation service can be accessed through the com.sun.star.presentation.XPresentationSupplier interface through the method:

```java
com::sun::star::presentation::XPresentation getPresentation()
```


The presentation settings define the slide range, which custom show is used, and how the presentation is executed. These settings are provided as properties of the service com.sun.star.presentation.Presentation. This service also exports the com.sun.star.presentation.XPresentation interface that starts and ends a presentation.

**Methods of com.sun.star.presentation.XPresentation**

- `com.sun.star.presentation.XPresentation:start()` Starts the presentation in full-screen mode.
- `com.sun.star.presentation.XPresentation:end()` Stops the presentation.
- `com.sun.star.presentation.XPresentation:rehearseTimings()` Starts the presentation from the beginning and shows the actual running time to the user.

**Properties of com.sun.star.presentation.Presentation**

- `com.sun.star.presentation.Presentation:CustomShow` string - Contains the name of a customized show that is used for the presentation.
- `com.sun.star.presentation.Presentation:FirstPage` string - Contains the name of the page where the presentation is started.
- `com.sun.star.presentation.Presentation:IsAlwaysOnTop` boolean - If true, the window of the presentation is always on top of all the other windows.
- `com.sun.star.presentation.Presentation:IsAutomatic` boolean - If true, all pages are changed automatically.
- `com.sun.star.presentation.Presentation:IsEndless` boolean - If true, the presentation is repeated endlessly.
- `com.sun.star.presentation.Presentation:IsFullScreen` boolean - If true, the presentation runs in full-screen mode.
Presentation Settings

- Presentation:IsLivePresentation: boolean - With this property, the presentation is set to live mode.
- Presentation:IsMouseVisible: boolean - If true, the mouse is visible during the presentation.
- Presentation:Pause: long - Duration of the black screen after the presentation has finished.
- Presentation:StartWithNavigator: boolean - If true, the Navigator is opened at the start of the presentation.
- Presentation:UsePen: boolean - If true, a pen is shown during presentation.
- Presentation:IsShowAll: boolean - Show all slides.
- Presentation:IsShowLogo: boolean - Show OpenOffice.org logo on pause page in automatic mode.
- Presentation:IsTransitionOnClick: boolean - Slide change on mouse click, in addition to pressing cursor right.

The properties IsShowAll, IsShowLogo and IsTransitionOnClick are currently not documented in the API reference.

The next example demonstrates how to start a presentation that is automatically repeated and plays in full-screen mode by modifying the presentation settings.

```java
XPresentationSupplier xPresSupplier = (XPresentationSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPresentationSupplier.class, xComponent);
XPresentation xPresentation = xPresSupplier.getPresentation();
XPropertySet xPresPropSet = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xPresentation);
xPresPropSet.setPropertyValue("IsEndless", new Boolean(true));
xPresPropSet.setPropertyValue("IsFullScreen", new Boolean(true));
xPresPropSet.setPropertyValue("Pause", new Integer(0));
xPresentation.start();
```

Custom Slide Show

Custom presentations are available at the com.sun.star.presentation.XCustomPresentationSupplier interface of the presentation document. It contains the method:

```java
com::sun::star::container::XNameContainer getCustomPresentations()
```

The method getCustomPresentations() returns a com.sun.star.presentation.CustomPresentationAccess service that consists of the interfaces com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer and com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory. The standard API interface
Custom Slide Show

[IDL:com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer] derived from com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer obtains existing Custom Presentations and to add new custom presentations by name. It introduces the methods:

void replaceByName( [in] string aName, [in] any aElement)
void insertByName( [in] string aName, [in] any aElement)
void removeByName( [in] string Name)

To add a new CustomPresentation, create it using createInstance() at the XSingleServiceFactory interface of the CustomPresentationAccess.

Methods of com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory:

com::sun::star::uno::XInterface createInstance()
com::sun::star::uno::XInterface createInstanceWithArguments( [in] sequence< any aArguments >)

The CustomPresentation is now created. Its content consists of a com.sun.star.presentation.CustomPresentation. From the API, it is a named container of selected presentation draw pages. Draw pages can be added to a custom presentation or removed using its interface com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer. In addition to the methods of an XIndexAccess, this standard API interface supports the following operations:

Methods introduced by com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer:

void replaceByIndex( [in] long Index, [in] any Element) void
insertByIndex( [in] long Index, [in] any Element) void removeByIndex( [in] long Index)

The name of a CustomPresentation is read and written using the interface com.sun.star.container.XNamed:

Methods of XNamed:

string getName() void setName( [in] string aName)

A custom show is a collection of slides in a user-defined order that can be executed as a presentation. It is also possible to use a slide twice or skip slides. For instance, it is possible to create a short version of a presentation and a long version within the same document. The number of custom shows is unlimited.

The next example demonstrates how to create two custom shows and set one of them as an active presentation.

XDrawPagesSupplier xDrawPagesSupplier = (XDrawPagesSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XDrawPagesSupplier.class, xComponent); XDrawPages xDrawPages = xDrawPagesSupplier.getDrawPages(); // take care that this document has ten pages while (xDrawPages.getCount() < 10) xDrawPages.insertNewByIndex(0); // assign a name to each page String aNameArray[] = {"Introduction", "page one", "page two", "page three", "page four", "page five", "page six", "page seven", "page eight", "page nine", "page ten"}; xDrawPagesSupplier.setDrawPages(aNameArray['0'] = xDrawPagesSupplier.getDrawPages());
Presentation Effects

There are two kinds of presentation effects, the *fading* of one page to another, and the *animation* of objects and texts within a slideshow.

Slide Transition

In Impress, each page has its own slide transition that can be composed by the properties of the service `com.sun.star.presentation.DrawPage`.

Setting the following properties enables slide transition:

```
Properties of com.sun.star.presentation.DrawPage
long - Specifies how the page change is
```
wPage:Change

triggered. If this is 0, the user must click to start each object animation and to change the page. If set to 1, the page is automatically switched. If it is set to 2, all object effects run automatically, but the user has to click on the page to change it.

com.sun.star.presentation.DrawPage:Duration
long - If the property Change is set to 1, this property is the time in seconds the page is shown, before switching to the next page.

com.sun.star.presentation.DrawPage:Effect
com.sun.star.presentation.FadeEffect. This is the effect that is used to fade in the page.

com.sun.star.presentation.DrawPage:Speed
com.sun.star.presentation.AnimationSpeed. Defines the speed of the fade-in effect of the page. Possible values are:
• SLOW sets the speed from the animation or fade to slow.
• MEDIUM sets the speed from the animation or fade to medium.
• FAST sets the speed from the animation or fade to fast.

com.sun.star.presentation.DrawPage:Layout
short - This number specifies a presentation layout for this page, if this property is not ZERO.

The next table contains all available com.sun.star.presentation.FadeEffect enum values:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NONE</th>
<th>RANDOM</th>
<th>DISSOLVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FADE_FROM_LEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_FROM_LEFT</td>
<td>UNCOVER_TO_LEFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FADE_FROM_RIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_FROM_RIGHT</td>
<td>UNCOVER_TO_RIGHT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FADE_FROM_TOP</td>
<td>MOVE_FROM_TOP</td>
<td>UNCOVER_TO_TOP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FADE_FROM_BOTTOM</td>
<td>MOVE_FROM_BOTTOM</td>
<td>UNCOVER_TO_BOTTOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FADE_FROM_UPPERLEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_FROM_UPPERLEFT</td>
<td>UNCOVER_TO_UPPERLEFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FADE_FROM_UPPERRIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_FROM_UPPERRIGHT</td>
<td>UNCOVER_TO_UPPERRIGHT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FADE_FROM_LOWERLEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_FROM_LOWERLEFT</td>
<td>UNCOVER_TO_LOWERLEFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FADE_TO_CENTER</td>
<td>VERTICAL_STRIPES</td>
<td>CLOCKWISE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FADE_FROM_CENTER</td>
<td>HORIZONTAL_STRIPES</td>
<td>COUNTERCLOCKWISE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROLL_FROM_LEFT</td>
<td>CLOSE_VERTICAL</td>
<td>SPIRALIN_LEFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROLL_FROM_RIGHT</td>
<td>CLOSE_HORIZONTAL</td>
<td>SPIRALIN_RIGHT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROLL_FROM_TOP</td>
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<td>SPIRALOUT_LEFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>SPIRALOUT_RIGHT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAVYLINE_FROM_LEFT</td>
<td>STRETCH_FROM_LEFT</td>
<td>VERTICAL_LINES</td>
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<td>STRETCH_FROM_RIGHT</td>
<td>HORIZONTAL_LINES</td>
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<tr>
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<td>STRETCH_FROM_TOP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAVYLINE_FROM_BOTTOM</td>
<td>STRETCH_FROM_BOTTOM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VERTICAL_CHECKERBOARD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following Java example shows how to set slide transition effects that are applied to the first page.

```java
// set the slide transition effect of the first page
XDrawPageSupplier xDrawPagesSupplier = (XDrawPageSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDrawPageSupplier.class, xComponent); XDrawPages xDrawPages = xDrawPagesSupplier.getDrawPages(); XDrawPage xDrawPage = (XDrawPage) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDrawPage.class, xDrawPages.getByIndex(0)); XShapes xShapes = (XShapes) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShapes.class, xDrawPage); XPropertySet xPropSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xDrawPage); // set the slide transition effect properties
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("Effect", com.sun.star.presentation.FadeEffect.RANDOM);
xPropSet.setPropertyValue("Speed", com.sun.star.presentation.AnimationSpeed.MEDIUM); /* Change specifies how the page change is triggered. If this is 0, the user must click to start each object animation and to change the page. If set to 1, the page is automatically switched. If it is set to 2, all object effects run automatically, but the user has to click on the page to change it. */ xPropSet.setPropertyValue("Change", new Integer(1)); /* If the property DrawPage::Change is set to 1, Duration specifies the time in seconds the page is shown before switching to the next page. */ xPropSet.setPropertyValue("Duration", new Integer(5));
```

Animations and Interactions

In a Presentation, each shape of the draw and master page provides the com.sun.star.presentation.Shape service with a number of properties that describe the manner the shape is displayed or acting in a presentation.

There are two kinds of shape effects. The first kind of effects are visual changes, such as animations and dimming effects. The second kind of effects are OnClick actions. All of these effects are controlled by the properties of a presentation shape:

Properties of com.sun.star.presentation.Shape

- `com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:OnClick`
- `com.sun.star.presentation.ClickAction`. Selects an action performed after the user clicks on this shape. Possible values are:
  - `NONE` - no action is performed on click
  - `PREVPAGE` - the presentation jumps to the previous page
  - `NEXTPAGE` - the presentation jumps to the next page
Animations and Interactions

- **FIRSTPAGE** - the presentation continues with the first page
- **LASTPAGE** - the presentation continues with the last page
- **BOOKMARK** - the presentation jumps to the bookmark URL defined in the shape property Bookmark
- **DOCUMENT** - the presentation jumps to the document given in Bookmark. It selects the object whose name is given after a # in the Bookmark URL.
- **INVISIBLE** - the object renders itself invisible after a click
- **SOUND** - the sound specified in Sound is played after a click
- **VERB** - the OLE verb specified in the shape property Verb is performed on this object
- **VANISH** - the object vanishes with the effect specified in the property Effect
- **PROGRAM** - the program specified in Bookmark is executed after a click
- **MACRO** - the OpenOffice.org Basic macro specified in Bookmark is executed after the click.
  For the syntax of Basic macro URLs, refer to the chapter [OpenOffice.org Basic](#).
- **STOPPRESENTATION** - the presentation is stopped after the click

**com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:Bookmark**

**string** - A generic URL for the property `OnClick`.

**com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:Verb**

**long** - Valid only for OLE shapes. Specifies an "OLE2" verb for the ClickAction `VERB` in the property `OnClick`. For possible verbs, select the OLE shape, and point the cursor to **Edit - Object**. The order of appearance corresponds to the value needed for Verb.

**com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:DimPrevious**

**boolean** - Only valid when Effect contains an AnimationEffect. If true, this shape is painted using DimColor on the next click after finishing the AnimationEffect.

**com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:DimHide**

**boolean** - Only valid when Effect contains an AnimationEffect. If this property and the property DimPrevious are both true, the shape is hidden on the next click after the AnimationEffect has finished.

**com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:DimColor**

**long** - Only valid when Effect contains an AnimationEffect and the object is visible. The color to use for painting Dim previous.
Animations and Interactions

- \texttt{e:DimColor} \texttt{AnimationEffect}. This color is used to paint the shape on the next click after the animation effect has finished. The property \texttt{DimPrevious} must be true and \texttt{DimHide} must be false for this property to work.

- \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:Effect} \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.AnimationEffect}. Selects the animation effect of this shape. For possible values see the table below.

- \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:PresentationOrder} \texttt{long} - This is the position of this shape in the order of the shapes that can be animated on its page. The animations are executed in the order given in \texttt{PresentationOrder}, starting at the shape with the \texttt{PresentationOrder 1}. You can change the order by changing this number. Setting it to 1 makes this shape the first shape in the execution order for the animation effects.

- \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:SoundOn} \texttt{boolean} - If true, the sound file specified in \texttt{Sound} is played while the animation effect is executed.

- \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:Sound} \texttt{string} - This is the URL to a sound file that is played while the animation effect of this shape is running.

- \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:PlayFull} \texttt{boolean} - If true, the sound specified in the \texttt{Sound property of this shape} is played completely. If false, the sound stops after completing the \texttt{AnimationEffect specified in Effect}.

- \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:Speed} \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.AnimationSpeed. This is the speed of the animation effect. Possible values: SLOW, MEDIUM, and FAST.}

- \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:TextEffect} \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.AnimationEffect. This is the animation effect for the text inside this shape. For possible values, see the table below.}

- \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:IsEmptyPresentationObject} \texttt{[readonly] boolean} - If this is a default presentation object and if it is empty, this property is true.

- \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.Shape:IsPresentationObject} \texttt{[readonly] boolean} - If true, a shape is part of the current \texttt{AutoLayout} and is considered a presentation object. \texttt{AutoLayouts} are predefined page layouts consisting of shapes, such as a title box and an outline box.

The next table contains all available \texttt{com.sun.star.presentation.AnimationEffect} enums.
| NONE | RANDOM | DISSOLVE |
## Animations and Interactions

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPEAR</th>
<th>HIDE</th>
<th>PATH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>MOVE_FROM_LEFT</td>
<td>ZOOM_IN_FROM_LEFT</td>
</tr>
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<td>FADE_FROM_RIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_FROM_RIGHT</td>
<td>ZOOM_IN_FROM_RIGHT</td>
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<td>ZOOM_IN_FROM_UPPERLEFT</td>
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<table>
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<th>PATH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>LASER_FROM_LEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_TO_LEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_TO_LEFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LASER_FROM_RIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_TO_RIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_TO_RIGHT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LASER_FROM_TOP</td>
<td>MOVE_TO_TOP</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_TO_TOP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LASER_FROM_BOTTOM</td>
<td>MOVE_TO_BOTTOM</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_TO_BOTTOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LASER_FROM_UPPERLEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_TO_UPPERLEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_TO_UPPERLEFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LASER_FROM_UPPERRIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_TO_UPPERRIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_TO_UPPERRIGHT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LASER_FROM_LOWERLEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_TO_LOWERLEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_TO_LOWERLEFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LASER_FROM_LOWERRIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_TO_LOWERRIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_TO_LOWERRIGHT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPEAR</th>
<th>HIDE</th>
<th>PATH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ZOOM_OUT_FROM_LEFT</td>
<td>STRETCH_FROM_LEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_FROM_LEFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOOM_OUT_FROM_RIGHT</td>
<td>STRETCH_FROM_RIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_FROM_RIGHT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOOM_OUT_FROM_TOP</td>
<td>STRETCH_FROM_TOP</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_FROM_TOP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOOM_OUT_FROM_BOTTOM</td>
<td>STRETCH_FROM_BOTTOM</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_FROM_BOTTOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOOM_OUT_FROM_UPPERLEFT</td>
<td>STRETCH_FROM_UPPERLEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_FROM_UPPERLEFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOOM_OUT_UPPERRIGHT</td>
<td>STRETCH_FROM_UPPERRIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_FROM_UPPERRIGHT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOOM_OUT_FROM_LOWERLEFT</td>
<td>STRETCH_FROM_LOWERLEFT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_FROM_LOWERLEFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOOM_OUT_LOWERRIGHT</td>
<td>STRETCH_FROM_LOWERRIGHT</td>
<td>MOVE_SHORT_FROM_LOWERRIGHT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPEAR</th>
<th>HIDE</th>
<th>PATH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WAVYLINE_FROM_LEFT</td>
<td>SPIRALIN_LEFT</td>
<td>FADE_FROM_CENTER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAVYLINE_FROM_RIGHT</td>
<td>SPIRALIN_RIGHT</td>
<td>FADE_TO_CENTER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAVYLINE_FROM_TOP</td>
<td>SPIRALOUT_LEFT</td>
<td>VERTICAL_STRIpes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAVYLINE_FROM_BOTTOM</td>
<td>SPIRALOUT_RIGHT</td>
<td>HORIZONTAL_STRIpes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOOM_IN</td>
<td>ZOOM_OUT</td>
<td>VERTICAL_LINES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The next example demonstrates how to set object effects and object interaction.

The example uses a method `createAndInsertShape()` from the `ShapeHelper` class. It takes the drawing document, the `XShapes` interface of the `DrawPage` the shape is to be inserted in, the position and size of the new shape, and the service name of the required shape. It delegates shape creation to the helper method `createShape()` and inserts the new shape into the given `XShapes` container. Finally, it retrieves the `XPropertySet` interface of the inserted shape and returns it to the caller.

```java
public static XPropertySet createAndInsertShape( XComponent xDrawDoc, 
XShapes xShapes, Point aPos, Size aSize, String sShapeType) throws 
java.lang.Exception { 
    XShape xShape = createShape(xDrawDoc, aPos, aSize, sShapeType); 
    xShapes.add(xShape); 
    XPropertySet xPropSet = 
    (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xShape); 
    return xPropSet; }
```

The following example shows animations and `OnClick` actions for four shapes. On click, the first shape builds up in a wavy line from the bottom and is dimmed (painted) red afterwards. The second shape is hidden on click. Clicking the third shape makes the presentation jump to the first page, whereas clicking the fourth shape jumps to a bookmark. The bookmark contains the name of the second slide "page - two".

```java
XShapes xShapes; XPropertySet xShapePropSet; XDrawPagesSupplier 
xDrawPagesSupplier = 
(XDrawPagesSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XDrawPagesSupplier.class, 
xComponent); XDrawPages xDrawPages = xDrawPagesSupplier.getDrawPages(); // create pages, so that three are available while (xDrawPages.getCount() < 3) 
xDrawPages.insertNewByIndex(0); // get the shape container for page one 
xShapes = (XShapes)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShapes.class, xDrawPages.getByIndex(0)); // create a rectangle that is placed on the top left of the page xShapePropSet = ShapeHelper.createAndInsertShape( xComponent, 
xShapes, new Point(1000, 1000), new Size(5000, 5000), 
"com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape" ); // and now set an object animation 
xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("Effect", 
com.sun.star.presentation.AnimationEffect.WAVYLINE_FROM_BOTTOM); /* the following three properties provoke that the shape is dimmed to red after the animation has been finished */ xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("DimHide", 
new Boolean(false)); xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("DimPrevious", 
new Boolean(true)); xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("DimColor", 
new Integer(0xff0000)); // get the shape container for the second page xShapes = 
(XShapes)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShapes.class, 
xDrawPages.getByIndex(1)); // create an ellipse that is placed on the bottom right of second page xShapePropSet = 
ShapeHelper.createAndInsertShape( xComponent, xShapes, new Point(21000, 15000), 
new Size(5000, 5000), "com.sun.star.drawing.EllipseShape" ); 
xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("Effect", 
...
Animations and Interactions

```java
com.sun.star.presentation.AnimationEffect.HIDE); /* create two objects for the
third page. clicking the first object lets the presentation jump to page
one by using ClickAction.FIRSTPAGE, the second object lets the presentation
jump to page two by using a ClickAction.BOOKMARK */ xShapes =
(XShapes)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShapes.class, xDrawPages.getByIndex(2));
xShapePropSet = ShapeHelper.createAndInsertShape(xComponent, xShapes, new
Point(1000, 8000), new Size(5000, 5000),
"com.sun.star.drawing.EllipseShape" );
xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("Effect",
com.sun.star.presentation.AnimationEffect.FADE_FROM_BOTTOM );
xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("OnClick",
com.sun.star.presentation.ClickAction.FIRSTPAGE); xShapePropSet =
ShapeHelper.createAndInsertShape(xComponent, xShapes, new Point(22000, 8000), new Size(5000, 5000),
"com.sun.star.drawing.RectangleShape" );
xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("Effect",
com.sun.star.presentation.AnimationEffect.FADE_FROM_BOTTOM);
xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("OnClick",
com.sun.star.presentation.ClickAction.BOOKMARK); // set the name of page two,
and use it with the bookmark action XNamed xPageName =
(Xnamed)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class, xDrawPages.getByIndex(1));
xPageName.setName("page - two"); xShapePropSet.setPropertyValue("Bookmark",
xPageName.getName());
```

Overall Document Features

## Styles

### Graphics Styles

Graphics Styles are available in drawing and presentation documents, and they control the formatting of the drawing shapes in drawing or presentation slides. In contrast to styles in text documents, the style property of a shape is not a string, but a com.sun.star.style.XStyle. To work with an existing graphics style, get the styles container from the com.sun.star.style.XStyleFamiliesSupplier and use its com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess to retrieve the style family named "graphics". The programmatic names of the style families in graphics are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GUI name</th>
<th>Programmatic name</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Default</td>
<td>standard</td>
<td>The style Default (standard) is used for newly inserted filled rectangles, filled ellipses, lines, connectors, text boxes, and</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Overall Document Features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Programmatic Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dimension Line</td>
<td>measure</td>
<td>Used for newly inserted dimension lines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First line indent</td>
<td>textbodyindent</td>
<td>Apply manually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heading</td>
<td>headline</td>
<td>Apply manually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heading1</td>
<td>headline1</td>
<td>Apply manually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heading2</td>
<td>headline2</td>
<td>Apply manually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object with Arrow</td>
<td>objectwitharrow</td>
<td>Apply manually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object with shadow</td>
<td>objectwithshadow</td>
<td>Apply manually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object without fill</td>
<td>objectwithoutfill</td>
<td>Used for newly inserted rectangles and ellipses without filling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text</td>
<td>text</td>
<td>Newly inserted text boxes do not use this style. They use Default and remove the fill settings for Default.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text body</td>
<td>textbody</td>
<td>Apply manually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text body justified</td>
<td>textbodyjustified</td>
<td>Apply manually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>title</td>
<td>Apply manually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title1</td>
<td>title1</td>
<td>Apply manually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title2</td>
<td>title2</td>
<td>Apply manually.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are two methods to change an applied shape style:

- Retrieve the style from the style family "graphics" by its programmatic name, change the properties, and put back into the style family using `replaceByName()` at the style family's `com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer` interface.
- Apply an existing style object that is not applied to a shape by setting the shape's `Style` property.

New styles can be created, as well. For this purpose, use `createInstance()` at the document factory of a drawing document and ask for a "com.sun.star.style.Style" service. Set the properties of the new style, as required. Append the new style to the style family "graphics" using `insertByName()` at its `XNameContainer` interface. Now use the `Style` property of existing shapes to put the new style to work.

You can either change a currently applied shape style by retrieving it from the style family "graphics" by its programmatic name, changing its properties and putting it back into the style family using `replaceByName()` at the style family's `com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer` interface. Or you can apply an existing, but currently unapplied style object to a shape by setting the shape's `Style` property accordingly.

You can create new styles as well. For this purpose, use `createInstance()` at the document factory of a drawing document and ask for a "com.sun.star.style.Style" service. Set the properties of the new style as needed. Afterwards append the new style to the style family "graphics" using `insertByName()` at its `XNameContainer` interface. Now you can use the `Style` property of existing shapes in order to put your new style to work.
Styles created by the document factory support the properties of the following services:

- com.sun.star.drawing.FillProperties
- com.sun.star.drawing.LineProperties
- com.sun.star.drawing.ShadowProperties
- com.sun.star.drawing.ConnectorProperties
- com.sun.star.drawing.MeasureProperties
- com.sun.star.style.ParagraphProperties
- com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties
- com.sun.star.drawing.TextProperties

**Presentation Styles**

Presentation styles are only available in presentation documents and control the formatting of the following parts of a presentation:

- title text
- subtitle text
- outline text
- background
- background shapes
- notes text

The corresponding style family has the programmatic name "Default" and is available at the XStyleFamiliesSupplier of a presentation document.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GUI Name</th>
<th>Programmatic Name</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>title</td>
<td>Style for text of new title presentation objects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtitle</td>
<td>subtitle</td>
<td>Style that is used for the presentation object on pages with a &quot;Title Slide&quot; layout.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background</td>
<td>background</td>
<td>Style for the page background.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background objects</td>
<td>backgroundobjects</td>
<td>Style for shapes on the background.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>notes</td>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>Style for notes text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outline1</td>
<td>Outline 1</td>
<td>Style for outline level 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outline2</td>
<td>Outline 2</td>
<td>Style for outline level 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outline3</td>
<td>Outline 3</td>
<td>Style for outline level 3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outline4</td>
<td>Outline 4</td>
<td>Style for outline level 4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outline5</td>
<td>Outline 5</td>
<td>Style for outline level 5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outline6</td>
<td>Outline 6</td>
<td>Style for outline level 6.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Existing presentation styles can only be altered. New styles can not be created and a different presentation style cannot be applied other than the current one. The following example works with presentation styles:

You can only alter existing presentation styles. You cannot create new styles and you cannot apply a different presentation style other than the current one. The following example works with presentation styles:

```
// The first part of this demo will set each "CharColor" Property // that is available within the styles of the document to red. It // will also print each family and style name to the standard output
XModel xModel = (XModel)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XModel.class, xComponent);
com.sun.star.style.XStyleFamiliesSupplier xSFS =
    (com.sun.star.style.XStyleFamiliesSupplier)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.style.XStyleFamiliesSupplier.class,
            xModel); com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess xFamilies =
    xSFS.getStyleFamilies();

// the element should now contain at least two Styles. The first is // "graphics" and the other one is the name of the Master page String[] Families =
    xFamilies.getElementNames(); for (int i = 0; i < Families.length; i++) {
    // this is the family System.out.println("\n" + Families[i]);
    // and now all available styles Object aFamilyObj =
    xFamilies.getByName(Families[i]); com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess xFamilies =
    (com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess.class,
            aFamilyObj); String[] Styles =
    xFamilies.getElementNames(); for (int j = 0; j < Styles.length; j++) {
    System.out.println(" "+ Styles[j]);
    Object aStyleObj =
        xFamilies.getByName(Styles[j]); com.sun.star.style.XStyle xStyle =
            (com.sun.star.style.XStyle)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( com.sun.star.style.
                XStyle.class, aStyleObj);

    // now we have the XStyle Interface and the CharColor for all styles // is exemplary be set to red. XPropertySet
    xStylePropSet = (XPropertySet)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XPropertySet.class, xStyle );
    XPropertySetInfo xStylePropSetInfo =
        xStylePropSet.getPropertySetInfo();
    if (xStylePropSetInfo.hasPropertyByName("CharColor")) {
        xStylePropSet.setPropertyValue("CharColor", new
            Integer(0xff0000));
    }
}

/* now create a rectangle and apply the "title1" style of the "graphics" family */ Object obj =
    xFamilies.getByName("graphics");
    com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess xStyles = (XNameAccess)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess.class, obj);
    obj =
        xStyles.getByName("title1"); com.sun.star.style.XStyle xTitle1Style =
            (com.sun.star.style.XStyle)
                UnoRuntime.queryInterface( com.sun.star.style.XStyle.class, obj);

    XDrawPagesSupplier xDrawPagesSupplier =
        (XDrawPagesSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XDrawPagesSupplier.class,
            xComponent); XDrawPages xDrawPages =
        xDrawPagesSupplier.getDrawPages();
    XDrawPage xDrawPage =
        (XDrawPage)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDrawPage.class,
            xDrawPages.getByIndex(0)); XShapes xShapes =
        (XShapes)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShapes.class, xDrawPage); XShape xShape =
```
Overall Document Features

Settings

To use the global document settings, the document service factory must be asked for a com.sun.star.document.Settings service using the method `createInstance()` at its com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface. This service supports com.sun.star.beans.PropertySet and acts upon the current document by setting its properties.

The services com.sun.star.drawing.DocumentSettings and com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings provide the following properties additionally to the global document settings.

**Properties of com.sun.star.drawing.DocumentSettings**
- `com.sun.star.drawing.DocumentSettings:MeasureUnit` short - this is the default logical measure unit that is used for string formatings inside the document.
- `com.sun.star.drawing.DocumentSettings:ScaleNumerator` long - is the numerator for the logical scale of the document.
- `com.sun.star.drawing.DocumentSettings:ScaleDenominator` long - is the denominator for the logical scale of the document.
- `com.sun.star.drawing.DocumentSettings:IsPrintFitPage` boolean - this property enables or disables the fitting of the page to the printable area during print, true enable and false disable.
- `com.sun.star.drawing.DocumentSettings:IsPrintTilePage` boolean - If the property IsPrintTilePage is set to 1 and the paper size for printing is larger than the paper size of the printer than the content is tiled over multiple pages.
- `com.sun.star.drawing.DocumentSettings:PageNumberFormat` long - is the number format used for page number fields.
- `com.sun.star.drawing.DocumentSettings:ParagraphSummation` boolean - If the property ParagraphSummation is set to 1, the distance between two paragraphs is the sum of ParaTopMargin of the previous and ParaBottomMargin of the next paragraph. If 0, only the greater of the two is choosen.

**Properties of com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings**
- `com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings:IsPrintDrawing` boolean - this property enables or disables the printing of the drawing pages, true enable and false disable.
### Page Formatting

As opposed to text and spreadsheet documents, page formatting in drawings and presentations is not done through styles. Rather, hard format the following properties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings:IsPrintNotes</td>
<td>boolean - this property enables or disables the printing of the notes pages, true enable and false disable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings:IsPrintHandout</td>
<td>boolean - this property enables or disables the printing of the handout pages, true enable and false disable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings:IsPrintOutline</td>
<td>boolean - this property enables or disables the printing of the outline pages, true enable and false disable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings:IsPrintHiddenPages</td>
<td>boolean - this property enables or disables the printing of draw pages that are marked hidden, true enable and false disable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings:IsPrintFitPage</td>
<td>boolean - this property enables or disables the fitting of the page to the printable area during print, true enable and false disable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings:IsPrintTilePage</td>
<td>boolean - If this property IsPrintTilePage is set to 1 and the paper size for printing is larger than the paper size of the printer than the content is tiled over multiple pages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings:PageNumberFormat</td>
<td>long - is the number format used for page number fields.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.presentation.DocumentSettings:ParagraphSummation</td>
<td>boolean - If the property ParagraphSummation is set to 1, the distance between two paragraphs is the sum of ParaTopMargin of the previous and ParaBottomMargin of the next paragraph. If 0, only the greater of the two is choosen.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Properties of com.sun.star.drawing.GenericDrawPage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.drawing.GenericDrawPage:BorderLeft</td>
<td>long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.drawing.GenericDrawPage:BorderRight</td>
<td>long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.drawing.GenericDrawPage:BorderTop</td>
<td>long</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Drawing and Presentation Document Controller

The controller is available at the XModel interface of the document model:

```java
com::sun::star::frame::XController getCurrentController()
```

Setting the Current Page

The controller is a com.sun.star.drawing.DrawingDocumentDrawView that supports the following interfaces:

- com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawView
- com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet
- com.sun.star.frame.XController
- com.sun.star.view.XSelectionSupplier

The following methods of com.sun.star.view.XSelectionSupplier control the current selection in the GUI:

```java
boolean select( [in] any anObject) any getSelection() void
addSelectionChangeListener ( [in]
com::sun::star::view::XSelectionChangeListener aListen void
removeSelectionChangeListener ( [in]
com::sun::star::view::XSelectionChangeListener aListener)
```

With these methods of com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawView, the visible page is set in the GUI:

```java
void setCurrentPage(com::sun::star::drawing::XDrawPage aPage)
com::sun::star::drawing::XDrawPage getCurrentPage()
```

In addition to DrawingDocumentDrawView, it supports the following interfaces. For details about these interfaces, refer to Office Development.

- com.sun.star.task.XStatusIndicatorSupplier
- com.sun.star.ui.XContextMenuInterception
- com.sun.star.frame.XDispatchProvider
Zooming

Zooming can be set by certain drawing-specific controller properties of the com.sun.star.drawing.DrawingDocumentDrawView service:


com.sun.star.awt.Rectangle
- This is the area that is currently visible.

- This property defines the zoom type for the document. The values of com.sun.star.view.DocumentZoomType are used.

- Defines the zoom value to use. Valid only if the ZoomType is set to BY_VALUE.

com.sun.star.awt.Point
- Defines the offset from the top left position of the displayed page to the top left position of the view area in 100th/mm.

Other Drawing Specific View Settings

Drawings and presentations can be switched to certain view modes. This is done by the following drawing-specific controller properties of com.sun.star.drawing.DrawingDocumentDrawView:


- Switch to layer mode.

- Switch to master page mode.

- This is the drawing page that is currently visible.

Furthermore, there are many properties that can be changed through the XViewDataSupplier interface of the document:

**Methods of com.sun.star.document.XViewDataSupplier:**

com::sun::star::container::XIndexAccess getViewData() void setViewData( [in] com::sun::star::container::XIndexAccess aData)
Other Drawing Specific View Settings

To use `ViewData` properties, call `getViewData()` and receive a
`com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer`:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methods of <code>XIndexContainer</code></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>type getElementType()</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>boolean hasElements()</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>long getCount()</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>any getByIndex( [in] long Index)</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>void replaceByIndex( [in] long Index, any Element)</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>void insertByIndex( [in] long Index, any Element)</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>void removeByIndex( [in] long Index)</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use `getByIndex()` to iterate over the view data properties, find the required
`com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue` by checking the property names. If found, set the
Value Member of the property value and put it back into the container using
`replaceByIndex()`. Finally, apply the whole `ViewData` container to the document using
`setViewData()`.

The method `setViewData()` is currently not working. It can only be used with
`loadComponentFromURL()`.
Charts

Chart documents produce graphical representations of numeric data. They are always embedded objects inside other OpenOffice.org documents. The chart document is a document model similar to Writer, Calc and Draw document models, and it can be edited using this document model.

Handling Chart Documents

Creating Charts

The com.sun.star.table.XTableChartsSupplier interface of the com.sun.star.sheet.Spreadsheet service is used to create and insert a new chart into a Calc document. This creates a chart that uses data from the com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray interface of the underlying cell range. A generic way to create charts is to insert an OLE-Shape into a draw page and transform it into a chart setting a class-id.
Creating and Adding a Chart to a Spreadsheet

Charts are used in spreadsheet documents to visualize the data that they contain. A spreadsheet is one single sheet in a spreadsheet document and offers a com.sun.star.table.XTableChartsSupplier interface, that is required by the service com.sun.star.sheet.Spreadsheet. With this interface, a collection of table charts that are a container for the actual charts can be accessed. To retrieve the chart document model from a table chart object, use the method getEmbeddedObject().

The following example shows how to insert a chart into a spreadsheet document and retrieve its chart document model. The example assumes that there is a com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheet to insert the chart and an array of cell range addresses that contain the regions in which the data for the chart can be found. Refer to Spreadsheet Documents for more information about how to get or create these objects. The following snippet shows how to insert a chart into a Calc document.

```java
import com.sun.star.chart.*;
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess;
import com.sun.star.document.XEmbeddedObjectSupplier;

final String sChartName = "MyChart";
com.sun.star.table.XTableChartsSupplier aSheet;
com.sun.star.table.CellRangeAddress[] aAddresses;
// get the sheet in which you want to insert a chart
// and query it for XTableChartsSupplier and store it in aSheet
//
// also get an array of CellRangeAddresses containing
// the data you want to visualize and store them in aAddresses
//
// for details see documentation of Spreadsheets
// ...
XChartDocument aChartDocument = null;
com.sun.star.table.XTableCharts aChartCollection = aSheet.getCharts();
XNameAccess aChartCollectionNA = (XNameAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XNameAccess.class, aChartCollection);

// only insert the chart if it does not already exist
if (aChartCollectionNA != null && !aChartCollectionNA.hasByName(sChartName)) {
    // following rectangle parameters are measured in 1/100 mm
    com.sun.star.awt.Rectangle aRect = new com.sun.star.awt.Rectangle(1000,
        1000, 15000, 9271);

    // first bool: ColumnHeaders
    // second bool: RowHeaders
    aChartCollection.addNewByName(sChartName, aRect, aAddresses, true, false);
```

OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009
Creating a Chart OLE Object in Draw and Impress

The alternative is to create an OLE shape and insert it into a draw page. Writer, Spreadsheet documents and Draw/Impress documents have access to a draw page. The shape is told to be a chart by setting the unique class-id.

**Note** – The unique Class-Id string for charts is "12dcae26-281f-416f-a234-c3086127382e".

A draw page collection is obtained from the com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier of a draw or presentation document. To retrieve a single draw page, use com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess.

A spreadsheet document is also a com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier that provides draw pages for all sheets, that is, the draw page for the third sheet is obtained by calling `getByIndex(2)` on the interface `com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess` of the container, returned by `com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier.getDrawPages()`.

A spreadsheet draw page can be acquired directly at the corresponding sheet object. A single sheet supports the service `com.sun.star.sheet.Spreadsheet` that supplies a...
Creating a Chart OLE Object in Draw and Impress

single page, com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPageSupplier, where the page is acquired using the method `getDrawPage()`.

The OpenOffice.org Writer currently does not support the creation of OLE Charts or Charts based on a text table in a Writer document using the API.

The document model is required once a chart is inserted. In charts inserted as OLE2Shape, the document model is available at the property `Model` of the OLE2Shape after setting the `CLSID`.

**Note** – Note, that the mechanism described for OLE objects seems to work in Writer, that is, you can see the OLE-Chart inside the Text document after executing the API calls described, but it is not treated as a real OLE object by the Writer. Thus, you can not activate it by double-clicking, because it puts the document into an inconsistent state.

The following example assumes a valid drawing document in the variable `aDrawDoc` and creates a chart in a Draw document. See [Drawing Documents and Presentation Documents](#) for an example of how to create a drawing document.

```java
final String msChartClassID = "12dcae26-281f-416f-a234-c3086127382e";
com.sun.star.frame.XModel aDrawDoc;

// get a draw document into aDrawDoc
// ...

// this will become the resulting chart
XChartDocument aChartDoc;
com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier aSupplier =
(com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPagesSupplier.class,
aDrawDoc);

com.sun.star.drawing.XShapes aPage = null;
try {
    // get first page
    aPage = (com.sun.star.drawing.XShapes)
aSupplier.getDrawPages().getByIndex(0);
} catch (com.sun.star.lang.IndexOutOfBoundsException ex) {
    System.out.println("Document has no pages: " + ex);
}

if (aPage != null) {
    // the document should be a factory that can create shapes
    XMultiServiceFactory aFact = (XMultiServiceFactory)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XMultiServiceFactory.class, aDrawDoc);

    if (aFact != null) {
        try {
            // ...
        }
    }
}
```
Setting the Chart Type

The default when creating a chart is a bar diagram with vertical bars. If a different chart type is required, apply a different diagram type to this initial chart. For example, to create a pie chart, insert the default bar chart and change it to a pie chart.

To change the type of a chart, create an instance of the required diagram service by its service name using the service factory provided by the com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument. This interface is available at the chart document model. After this service instance is created, set it using the setDiagram() method of the chart document.

In the following example, we change the chart type to a com.sun.star.chart.XYDiagram, also known as a scatter chart. We have assumed that there is a chart document in the variable aChartDoc already. The previous sections described how to create a document.
Setting the Chart Type

```java
// let aChartDoc be a valid XChartDocument

// get the factory that can create diagrams
XMultiServiceFactory aFact = (XMultiServiceFactory)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XMultiServiceFactory.class, aChartDoc);

XDiagram aDiagram = (XDiagram) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XDiagram.class, aFact.createInstance("com.sun.star.chart.XYDiagram"));

aChartDoc.setDiagram(aDiagram);

// now we have an xy-chart
```

**Diagram Service Names**

- com.sun.star.chart.BarDiagram
- com.sun.star.chart.AreaDiagram
- com.sun.star.chart.LineDiagram
- com.sun.star.chart.PieDiagram
- com.sun.star.chart.DonutDiagram
- com.sun.star.chart.NetDiagram
- com.sun.star.chart.XYDiagram
- com.sun.star.chart.StockDiagram

Accessing Existing Chart Documents

To get a container of all charts contained in a spreadsheet document, use the com.sun.star.table.XTableChartsSupplier of the service com.sun.star.sheet.Spreadsheet, which is available at single spreadsheets.

To get all OLE-shapes of a draw page, use the interface com.sun.star.drawing.XDrawPage, that is based on com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess. You can iterate over all shapes on the draw page and check their CLSID property to find out, whether the found object is a chart.

Working With Charts

**Document Structure**

The important service for charts is com.sun.star.chart.ChartDocument. The chart
document contains all the top-level graphic objects, such as a legend, up to two titles called Title and Subtitle, an axis title object for each primary axis if the chart supports axis. The com.sun.star.chart.ChartArea always exists. This is the rectangular region covering the complete chart documents background. The important graphical object is the diagram that actually contains the visualized data.

Apart from the graphical objects, the chart document is linked to some data. The required service for the data component is com.sun.star.chart.ChartData. It is used for attaching a data change listener and querying general properties of the data source, such as the number to be interpreted as NaN ("not a number"), that is, a missing value. The derived class com.sun.star.chart.ChartDataArray allows access to the actual values. Every component providing the ChartData service should also support ChartDataArray.

The following diagram shows the services contained in a chart and their relationships.

![Diagram showing services contained in a chart and their relationships]

The name spaces in the diagram have been omitted to improve readability. The services are all in the name space com.sun.star.chart. The interfaces in this diagram are com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument, com.sun.star.drawing.XShape, com.sun.star.lang.XComponent, and com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.

The chart document model passes its elements through the interface com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument. This interface consists of the following methods:

```java
com::sun::star::chart::XChartData getData()
void attachData( [in] com::sun::star::chart::XChartData xData)
com::sun::star::drawing::XShape getTitle()
com::sun::star::drawing::XShape getSubTitle()
com::sun::star::drawing::XShape getLegend()
com::sun::star::beans::XPropertySet getArea()
com::sun::star::chart::XDiagram getDiagram()
void setDiagram( [in] com::sun::star::chart::XDiagram xDiagram)
void dispose()
```
Data Access

Data can only be accessed for reading when a chart resides inside a spreadsheet document and was inserted as a table chart, that is, the table chart obtains its data from cell ranges of spreadsheets. To change the underlying data, modify the content of the spreadsheet cells. For OLE charts, that is, charts that were inserted as OLE2Shape objects, modify the data.

The data of a chart is acquired from the com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument interface of the chart document model using the method com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument:getData(). The current implementation of OpenOffice.org charts provides a com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray interface, derived from com.sun.star.chart.XChartData and supports the service com.sun.star.chart.ChartDataArray.

**Note** – Note that the interface definition of com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument does not require XChartDocument.getData() to return an XChartDataArray, but XChartData, so there may be implementations that do not offer access to the values.

The methods of XChartDataArray are:

```
sequence <sequence < double > > getData()
void setData([in] sequence <sequence < double > > aData)
sequence < string > getRowDescriptions ()
void setRowDescriptions(sequence < string aRowDescriptions >)
sequence < string > getColumnDescriptions()
```
void setColumnDescriptions(sequence < string aColumnDescriptions >)

Included are the following methods from XChartData:

void addChartDataChangeEventLister(
    [in] com::sun::star::chart::XChartDataChangeEventLister aListener)
void removeChartDataChangeEventLister (
    [in] com::sun::star::chart::XChartDataChangeEventLister aListener)

double getNotANumber()
boolean isNotANumber([in] double nNumber)

The com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataArray interface offers several methods to access data. A sequence of sequences is obtained containing double values by calling getData(). With setData(), such an array of values can be applied to the XChartDataArray.

The arrays are a nested array, not two-dimensional. Java has only nested arrays, but in Basic a nested array must be used instead of a multidimensional array. The following example shows how to apply values to a chart in Basic:

' create data with dimensions 2 x 3
' 2 is called outer dimension and 3 inner dimension

' assume that oChartDocument contains a valid
' com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument

Dim oData As Object
Dim oDataArray( 0 To 1 ) As Object
Dim oSeries1( 0 To 2 ) As Double
Dim oSeries2( 0 To 2 ) As Double

oSeries1( 0 ) = 3.141
oSeries1( 1 ) = 2.718
oSeries1( 2 ) = 1.0

oSeries2( 0 ) = 17.0
oSeries2( 1 ) = 23.0
oSeries2( 2 ) = 42.0

oDataArray( 0 ) = oSeries1()
oDataArray( 1 ) = oSeries2()

' call getData() method of XChartDocument to get the XChartDataArray
oData = oChartDocument.Data

' call setData() method of XChartDataArray to apply the data
oData.Data = oDataArray()

' Note: to use the series arrays here as values for the series in the chart
' you have to set the DataRowSource of the XDiagram object to
' com.sun.star.chart.ChartDataRowSource.ROWS (default is COLUMNS)
**Note** – The Data obtained is a sequence that contains one sequence for each row. If you want to interpret the inner sequences as data for the series, set the `DataRowSource` of your `XDiagram` to `com.sun.star.chart.ChartDataRowSource.ROWS`, otherwise, the data for the $n^{th}$ series is in the $n^{th}$ element of each inner series.

With the methods of the `XChartData` interface, check if a number from the chart has to be interpreted as non-existent, that is, the number is not a number (NaN).

**Warning** – In the current implementation of OpenOffice.org Chart, the value of NaN is not the standard ISO value for NaN of the C++ double type, but instead `DBL_MIN` which is $2.2250738585072014 \times 10^{-308}$.

Additionally, the `XChartData` interface is used to connect a component as a listener on data changes. For example, to use a spreadsheet as the source of the data of a chart that resides inside a presentation. It can also be used in the opposite direction: the spreadsheet could display the data from a chart that resides in a presentation document. To achieve this, the `com.sun.star.table.CellRange` service also points to the `XChartData` interface, so that a listener can be attached to update the chart OLE object.

The following class `ListenAtCalcRangeInDraw` demonstrates how to synchronize the data of a spreadsheet range with a chart residing in another document. Here the chart is placed into a drawing document.

The class `ListenAtCalcRangeInDraw` in the example below implements a `com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener` to get notified when the spreadsheet document or drawing document are closed.

It also implements a `com.sun.star.chart.XChartDataChangeEventListener` that listens for changes in the underlying `XChartData`. In this case, it is the range in the spreadsheet.

```java
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
import com.sun.star.lang.XComponent;
import com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetDocument;

// implement an XEventListener for listening to the disposing
// of documents. Also implement XChartDataChangeEventListener
// to get informed about changes of data in a chart

public class ListenAtCalcRangeInDraw implements XChartDataChangeEventListener {
    public ListenAtCalcRangeInDraw(String args[]) {
        // create a spreadsheet document in maSheetDoc
```
// create a drawing document in maDrawDoc
// put a chart into the drawing document
// and store it in maChartDocument
// ...

com.sun.star.table.XCellRange aRange;
// assign a range from the spreadsheet to aRange
// ...

// attach the data coming from the cell range to the chart
maChartData = (XChartData)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XChartData.class, aRange);
maChartDocument.attachData(maChartData);
}

public void run() {
  try {
    // show a sub title to inform about last update
    ((XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XPropertySet.class, maChartDocument)).setPropertyValue(
        "HasSubTitle", new Boolean(true));

    // start listening for death of spreadsheet
    ((XComponent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class,
        maSheetDoc)).addEventListener(this);

    // start listening for death of chart
    ((XComponent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class,
        maChartDocument)).addEventListener(this);

    // start listening for change of data
    maChartData.addChartDataChangeEventListener(this);
  }

  catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) {
    System.out.println("Oops: " + ex);
  }

  // call listener once for initialization
  ChartDataChangeEvent aEvent = new ChartDataChangeEvent();
aEvent.Type = ChartDataChangeType.ALL;
  chartDataChanged(aEvent);
}

// XEventListener (base interface of XChartDataChangeEventListener)
public void disposing(com.sun.star.lang.EventObject aSourceObj) {
  // test if the Source object is a chart document
  if( UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XChartDocument.class,
      aSourceObj.Source) != null)
    System.out.println("Disconnecting Listener because Chart was
      shut down");

  // test if the Source object is a spreadsheet document
  if (UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSpreadsheetDocument.class,
      aSourceObj.Source) != null)
    System.out.println("Disconnecting Listener because Spreadsheet
      was shut down");

  // remove data change listener
maChartData.removeChartDataChangeEventListener(this);

// remove dispose listeners
((XComponent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class,
maSheetDoc)).removeEventListener(this);
((XComponent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class,
maChartDocument)).removeEventListener(this);

// this program cannot do anything any more
System.exit(0);
}

// XChartDataChangeEventListener
public void chartDataChanged(ChartDataChangeEvent aEvent)
{
    // update subtitle with current date
    String aTitle = new String("Last Update: " + new
java.util.Date(System.currentTimeMillis()));

    try {
        ((XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class,
maChartDocument.getSubTitle())).setPropertyValue(
"String", aTitle);

        maChartDocument.attachData(maChartData);
    } catch(Exception ex) {
        System.out.println("Oops: " + ex);
    }

    System.out.println("Data has changed");
}

// private
private com.sun.star.sheet.XSpreadsheetDocument maSheetDoc;
private com.sun.star.frame.XModel maDrawDoc;
private com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument maChartDocument;
private com.sun.star.chart.XChartData maChartData;

Chart Document Parts

In this section, the parts that most diagram types have in common are discussed. Specific chart types are discussed later.
Common Parts of all Chart Types

Diagram

The diagram object is an important object of a chart document. The diagram represents the visualization of the underlying data. The diagram object is a graphic object group that lies on the same level as the titles and the legend. From the diagram, data rows and data points are obtain that are also graphic objects that represent the respective data. Several properties can be set at a diagram to influence its appearance. Note that the term data series is used instead of data rows.

Some diagrams support the service com.sun.star.chart.Dim3DDiagram that contains the property Dim3D. If this is set to true, you get a three-dimensional view of the chart, which in OpenOffice.org is usually rendered in OpenGL. In 3-D charts, you can access the z-axis, which is not available in 2-D.

The service com.sun.star.chart.StackableDiagram offers the properties Percent and Stacked. With these properties, accumulated values can be stacked for viewing. When setting Percent to true, all slices through the series are summed up to 100 percent, so that for an AreaDiagram the whole diagram space would be filled with the series. Note that setting the Percent property also sets the Stacked property, because Percent is an addition to Stacked.

There is a third service that extends a base diagram type for displaying statistical elements called com.sun.star.chart.ChartStatistics. With this service, error indicators or a mean value line are added. The mean value line represents the mean of all values of a series. The regression curve is only available for the XYDiagram, because a numeric x-axis, is required.
The illustration above shows that there are eight base types of diagrams. The three services, StackableDiagram, Dim3DDiagram and ChartStatistics are also supported for several diagram types and allows extensions of the base types as discussed. For instance, a three-dimensional pie chart can be created, because the com.sun.star.chart.PieDiagram service points to the com.sun.star.chart.Dim3DDiagram service.


**Axis**

All charts can have one or more axis, except for pie charts. A typical two-dimensional chart has two axis, an x- and y-axis. Secondary x- or y-axis can be added to have up to four axis. In a three-dimensional chart, there are typically three axis, x-, y- and z-axis. There are no secondary axis in 3-dimensional charts.

An axis combines two types of properties:

- Scaling properties that affect other objects in the chart. A minimum and maximum values are set that spans the visible area for the displayed data. A step value can also be set that determines the distance between two tick-marks, and the distance between two grid-lines if grids are switched on for the corresponding axis.
Common Parts of all Chart Types

- Graphical properties that influence the visual impression. These are character properties (see com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties) affecting the labels and line properties (see com.sun.star.drawing.LineProperties) that are applied to the axis line and the tick-marks.

![Diagram of Chart Types]

Axis

Different diagram types support a different number of axes. In the above illustration, a com.sun.star.chart.XYDiagram, also known as a scatter diagram, is shown. The scatter diagram supports x- and y-axis, but not a z-axis as there is no 3-dimensional mode. The com.sun.star.chart.PieDiagram supports no axis at all. The com.sun.star.chart.BarDiagram supports all kinds of axis. Note that the z-Axis is only supported in a three-dimensional chart. Note that there is a com.sun.star.chart.ChartTwoAxisXSsupplier that includes the [IDL:com.sun.star.chart.ChartAxisXSsupplier] and is supported by all diagrams in OpenOffice.org required to support the service ChartAxisXSsupplier.

The following example shows how to obtain an axis and how to change the number format.

```java
import com.sun.star.chart.*;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
import com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatsSupplier;
...

// class members
XChartDocument aChartDocument;
XDiagram aDiagram;
...
```
// get an XChartDocument and assign it to aChartDocument
// get the diagram from the document and assign it to aDiagram
// ...

// check whether the current chart supports a y-axis
XAxisYSupplier aYAxisSupplier = (XAxisYSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XAxisYSupplier.class, aDiagram);

if (aYAxisSupplier != null) {
    XPropertySet aAxisProp = aYAxisSupplier.getYAxis();

    // initialize new format with value for standard
    int nNewNumberFormat = 0;

    XNumberFormatsSupplier aNumFmtSupp = (XNumberFormatsSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNumberFormatsSupplier.class, 
                                             aChartDocument);

    if (aNumFmtSupp != null) {
        com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormats aFormats = aNumFmtSupp.getNumberFormats();

        Locale aLocale = new Locale("de", "DE", "de");

        String aFormatStr = aFormats.generateFormat(
            0, // base key
            aLocale, // locale
            true, // thousands separator on
            true, // negative values in red
            (short)3, // number of decimal places
            (short)1 // number of leading ciphers
        );

        nNewNumberFormat = aFormats.addNew(aFormatStr, aLocale);
    }

    aAxisProp.setPropertyValue("NumberFormat", new Integer(nNewNumberFormat));
}

Data Series and Data Points

The objects that visualize the actual data are data series. The API calls them data rows that are not rows in a two-dimensional spreadsheet table, but as sets of data, because the data for a data row can reside in a column of a spreadsheet table.

The data rows contain data points. The following two methods at the com.sun.star.chart.XDiagram interface allow changes to the properties of a whole series or single data point:

com::sun::star::beans::XPropertySet getDataRowProperties( [in] long nRow)
The index provided in these methods is 0-based, that is, 0 is the first series. In XYDiagrams, the first series has an index 1, because the first array of values contains the x-values of the diagram that is not visualized. This behavior exists for historical reasons.

In a spreadsheet context, the indexes for `getDataPointProperties()` are called `nCol` and `nRow` and are misleading. The `nRow` parameter gives the data row, that is, the series index. The `nCol` gives the index of the data point inside the series, regardless if the series is taken from rows or columns in the underlying table. To get the sixth point of the third series, write `getDataPointProperties(5, 2)`.

Data rows and data points have `com.sun.star.drawing.LineProperties` and `com.sun.star.drawing.FillProperties`. They also support `com.sun.star.style.CharacterProperties` for text descriptions that can be displayed next to data points.

Properties can be set for symbols and the type of descriptive text desired. With the `SymbolType` property, one of several predefined symbols can be set. With `SymbolBitmapURL`, a URL that points to a graphic in a format known by OpenOffice.org can be set that is then used as a symbol in a `com.sun.star.chart.LineDiagram` or `com.sun.star.chart.XYDiagram`.

The following example demonstrates how to set properties of a data point. Before implementing this example, create a chart document and diagram of the type `XYDiagram`.

```java
com.sun.star.chart.XChartDocument aChartDocument;
com.sun.star.chart.XDiagram aXYDiagram;

// get a chart document and assign it to aChartDocument
// set an "XYDiagram" and remember the diagram in aXYDiagram
// ...

// get the properties of the fifth data point of the first series
// note that index 1 is the first series only in XYDiagrams
try {
    com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet aPointProp = maDiagram.getDataPointProperties(4, 1);
} catch (com.sun.star.lang.IndexOutOfBoundsException ex) {
    System.out.println("Index is out of bounds: " + ex);
    System.exit(0);
}

try {
    // set a bitmap via URL as symbol for the first series
    aPointProp.setPropertyValue("SymbolType", new Integer(ChartSymbolType.BITMAPURL));
    aPointProp.setPropertyValue("SymbolBitmapURL", "url:myimage.png";
}
```
Features of Special Chart Types

Examples of some of the services that are not available for all chart types are discussed in this section. Only examples that can be changed in specific chart types only are discussed.

Statistics

Statistical properties like error indicators or regression curves can be applied. The regression curves can only be used for xy-diagrams that have tuples of values for each data point. The following example shows how to add a linear regression curve to an xy-diagram.

Additionally, the mean value line is displayed and error indicators for the standard deviation are applied.

```
// get the diagram

// get the properties of a single series
XPropertySet aProp = maDiagram.getDataRowProperties(1)

// set a linear regression
aProp.setPropertyValue("RegressionCurves", ChartRegressionCurveType.LINEAR);

// show a line at y = mean of the series' values
aProp.setPropertyValue("MeanValue", new Boolean(true));

// add error indicators in both directions
// with the length of the standard deviation
aProp.setPropertyValue("ErrorCategory", ChartErrorCategory.STANDARD_DEVIATION);
aProp.setPropertyValue("ErrorIndicator",
```
3-D Charts

Some chart types can display a 3-dimensional representation. To switch a chart to 3-dimensional, set the boolean property `Dim3D` of the service `com.sun.star.chart.Dim3DDiagram`.

In addition to this property, bar charts support a property called `Deep` (see service `com.sun.star.chart.BarDiagram`) that arranges the series of a bar chart along the z-axis, which in a chart, points away from the spectator. The service `com.sun.star.chart.Chart3DBarProperties` offers a property `SolidType` to set the style of the data point solids. The solid styles can be selected from cuboids, cylinders, cones, and pyramids with a square base (see constants in `com.sun.star.chart.ChartSolidType`).

The `XDiagram` of a 3-dimensional chart is also a scene object that supports modification of the rotation and light sources. The example below shows how to rotate the scene object and add another light source.

```java
// prerequisite: maDiagram contains a valid bar diagram
// ...
import com.sun.star.drawing.HomogenMatrix;
import com.sun.star.drawing.HomogenMatrixLine;
import com.sun.star.chart.X3DDisplay;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
XPropertySet aDiaProp = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, maDiagram);
Boolean aTrue = new Boolean(true);
aDiaProp.setPropertyValue("Dim3D", aTrue);
aDiaProp.setPropertyValue("Deep", aTrue);

// from service Chart3DBarProperties:
aDiaProp.setPropertyValue("SolidType", new Integer(
    com.sun.star.chart.ChartSolidType.CYLINDER));

// change floor color to Magenta6
XPropertySet aFloor = ((X3DDisplay) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(X3DDisplay.class, maDiagram)).getFloor();
aFloor.setPropertyValue("FillColor", new Integer(0x6b2394));

// rotate the scene using a homogen 4x4 matrix
// -------------------------------------------
HomogenMatrix aMatrix = new HomogenMatrix();
// initialize matrix with identity
HomogenMatrixLine aLines[] = new HomogenMatrixLine[] { ... }
```
new HomogenMatrixLine(1.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0),
new HomogenMatrixLine(0.0, 1.0, 0.0, 0.0),
new HomogenMatrixLine(0.0, 0.0, 1.0, 0.0),
new HomogenMatrixLine(0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0);

aMatrix.Line1 = aLines[0];
aMatrix.Line2 = aLines[1];
aMatrix.Line3 = aLines[2];
aMatrix.Line4 = aLines[3];

// rotate 10 degrees along the x axis
double fAngle = 10.0;
double fCosX = java.lang.Math.cos(java.lang.Math.PI / 180.0 * fAngle);
double fSinX = java.lang.Math.sin(java.lang.Math.PI / 180.0 * fAngle);

// rotate -20 degrees along the y axis
fAngle = -20.0;
double fCosY = java.lang.Math.cos(java.lang.Math.PI / 180.0 * fAngle);
double fSinY = java.lang.Math.sin(java.lang.Math.PI / 180.0 * fAngle);

// rotate -5 degrees along the z axis
fAngle = -5.0;
double fCosZ = java.lang.Math.cos(java.lang.Math.PI / 180.0 * fAngle);
double fSinZ = java.lang.Math.sin(java.lang.Math.PI / 180.0 * fAngle);

// set the matrix such that it represents all three rotations in the order
// rotate around x axis then around y axis and finally around the z axis
aMatrix.Line1.Column1 = fCosY * fCosZ;
aMatrix.Line1.Column2 = fCosY * -fSinZ;
aMatrix.Line1.Column3 = fSinY;
aMatrix.Line2.Column1 = fSinX * fSinY * fCosZ + fCosX * fSinZ;
aMatrix.Line2.Column2 = -fSinX * fSinY * fSinZ + fCosX * fCosZ;
aMatrix.Line2.Column3 = -fSinX * fCosY;
aMatrix(Line3.Column1 = -fCosX * fSinY * fCosZ + fSinX * fSinZ;
aMatrix.Line3.Column2 = fCosX * fSinY * fSinZ + fSinX * fCosZ;
aMatrix.Line3.Column3 = fCosX * fCosY;

aDiaProp.setPropertyValue("D3DTransformMatrix", aMatrix);

// add a red light source
// ----------------------
// in a chart by default only the second (non-specular) light source is
// switched on
// light source 1 is the only specular light source that is used here

// set direction
com.sun.star.drawing.Direction3D aDirection = new
com.sun.star.drawing.Direction3D();

aDirection.DirectionX = -0.75;
aDirection.DirectionY = 0.5;
aDirection.DirectionZ = 0.5;

aDiaProp.setPropertyValue("D3DSceneLightDirection1", aDirection);
Refer to Drawing Documents and Presentation Documents for additional details about three-dimensional properties.

### Pie Charts

Pie charts support the offset of pie segments with the service com.sun.star.chart.ChartPieSegmentProperties that has a property `SegmentOffset` to drag pie slices radially from the center up to an amount equal to the radius of the pie. This property reflects a percentage, that is, values can go from 0 to 100.

```java
// ... // drag the fourth segment 50% out
aPointProp = maDiagram.getDataPointProperties(3, 0)
aPointProp.setPropertyValue("SegmentOffset", 50)
```

Note that the `SegmentOffset` property is not available for donut charts and three-dimensional pie charts.

### Stock Charts

A special data structure must be provided when creating stock charts. When a com.sun.star.chart.StockDiagram is set as the current chart type, the data is interpreted in a specific manner depending on the properties `Volume` and `UpDown`. The following table shows what semantics are used for the data series.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>UpDown</th>
<th>Series 1</th>
<th>Series 2</th>
<th>Series 3</th>
<th>Series 4</th>
<th>Series 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>false</td>
<td>false</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Close</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>true</td>
<td>false</td>
<td>Volume</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Close</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>false</td>
<td>true</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Close</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>true</td>
<td>true</td>
<td>Volume</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Close</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For example, if the property `Volume` is set to `false` and `UpDown` to `true`, the first series is interpreted as the value of the stock when the stock exchange opened, and the fourth series represents the value when the stock exchange closed. The lowest and highest value during the day is represented in series two and three, respectively.
Chart Document Controller

The chart document model implements com.sun.star.frame.XModel. Therefore, controllers can be registered with the method `connectController()`. When one of the registered controllers is set as current one with `setCurrentController()`, this one is also returned in the method `getCurrentController()`.

Apart from using the controller directly, there are three other useful methods:

```java
void lockControllers()
void unlockControllers()
boolean hasControllersLocked()
```

With a call to `lockControllers()` all registered controllers will no longer be notified about changes in the model. If there are changes those are notified no earlier than after calling `unlockControllers()`. This is especially useful if you do many changes to the chart model at a time but do not need the view to be updated after every single change. The method `hasControllersLocked()` just gives you the state whether controllers are locked or not.

**Note** – You can nest calls to `lockControllers()`. Every call to `lockControllers()` needs a corresponding `unlockControllers()` call. Only after the correct number of unlocking calls, notifications of the model will be sent again. So, you can safely lock and unlock the controllers in your code without having to check if they have already been locked or not. Just make sure that you call both methods and do not leave the controllers in a locked state after your code finishes.

Chart Add-Ins

Chart types can also be created by developing components that serve as chart types. Existing chart types can be extended by adding additional shapes or modifying the existing shapes. Alternatively, a chart can be created from scratch. If drawing from scratch, it is an empty canvas and all shapes would have to be drawn from scratch.

Chart Add-Ins are actually UNO components, thus, you should be familiar with the chapter [Writing UNO Components](#).
Prerequisites

The following interfaces must be supported for a component to serve as a chart add-in:

- com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization
- com.sun.star.util.XRefreshable
- com.sun.star.lang.XServiceName
- com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo
- com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider

to access the add-in interfaces from OpenOffice.org Basic and other interpreted programming languages (optional).

In addition to these interfaces, the following services must be supported and returned in the `getSupportedServiceNames()` method of `com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo`:

- com.sun.star.chart.Diagram
- A unique service name that identifies the component. This service name has to be returned in the `getServiceName()` method of `com.sun.star.lang.XServiceName`.

How Add-Ins Work

The method `initialize()` from the `com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization` interface is the first method that is called for an add-in. It is called directly after it is created by the `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory` provided by the chart document. This method gets the `XChartDocument` object.

When `initialize()` is called, the argument returned is the chart document. Store this as a member to that it can be called later in the `refresh()` call to access all elements of the chart. The following is an example for the `initialize()` method of an add-in written in Java:

```java
// XInitialization
public void initialize(Object[] aArguments) throws Exception,
RuntimeException {
    if (aArguments.length > 0) {
        // maChartDocument is a member
        // which is set to the parent chart document
        // that is given as first argument
        maChartDocument = (XChartDocument) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XChartDocument.class, aArguments[0]);
```
XPropertySet aDocProp = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XPropertySet.class, maChartDocument);
if (aDocProp != null) {
    // set base diagram which will be extended in refresh()
    aDocProp.setPropertyValue("BaseDiagram",
    "com.sun.star.chart.XYDiagram");
}

// remember the draw page, as it is frequently used by refresh()
// (this is not necessary but convenient)
XDrawPageSupplier aPageSupp = (XDrawPageSupplier)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XDrawPageSupplier.class, maChartDocument);
if( aPageSupp != null )
    maDrawPage = (XDrawPage) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XDrawPage.class, aPageSupp.getDrawPage());
}

An important method of an add-in component is refresh() from the com.sun.star.util.XRefreshable. This method is called every time the chart is rebuilt. A change of data results in a refresh, but also a resizing or changing of a property that affects the layout calls the refresh() method. For example, the property HasLegend that switches the legend on and off.

To add shapes to the chart, create them once and modify them later during the refresh calls. In the following example, a line is created in initialize() and modified during refresh():

// XInitialization
public void initialize(Object[] aArguments) throws Exception, RuntimeException {
    // get document and page -- see above
    // ...

    // get a shape factory
    maShapeFactory = ...;

    // create top line
    maTopLine = (XShape) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XShape.class,
    maShapeFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.drawing.LineShape"));
    maDrawPage.add(maTopLine);

    // make line red and thicker
    XPropertySet aShapeProp = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XPropertySet.class, maTopLine);
    aShapeProp.setPropertyValue("LineColor", new Integer(0xe01010));
aShapeProp.setPropertyValue("LineWidth", new Integer(50));

    // create bottom line
    maBottomLine = (XShape) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XShape.class,
    maShapeFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.drawing.LineShape"));
    maDrawPage.add(maBottomLine);
How Add-Ins Work

// make line green and thicker
aShapeProp = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, maBottomLine);
aShapeProp.setPropertyValue("LineColor", new Integer(0x10e010));
aShapeProp.setPropertyValue("LineWidth", new Integer(50));
}

// XRefreshable
public void refresh() throws RuntimeException {
// position lines
// -----------

// get data
XChartDataArray aDataArray = (XChartDataArray)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XChartDataArray.class, maChartDocument.getData());
double aData[] = aDataArray.getData();

// get axes
XDiagram aDiagram = maChartDocument.getDiagram();
XShape aXAxis = (XShape) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShape.class, ((XAxisXSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XAxisXSupplier.class, aDiagram)).getXAxis());
XShape aYAxis = (XShape) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShape.class, ((XAxisYSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XAxisYSupplier.class, aDiagram)).getYAxis());

// calculate points for hull
final int nLength = aData.length;
int i, j;
double fMax, fMin;
Point aMaxPtSeq[][] = new Point[1][];
aMaxPtSeq[0] = new Point[nLength];
Point aMinPtSeq[][] = new Point[1][];
aMinPtSeq[0] = new Point[nLength];

for (i = 0; i < nLength; i++) {
fMin = fMax = aData[i][1];
for (j = 1; j < aData[i].length; j++) {
if (aData[i][j] > fMax)
fMax = aData[i][j];
else if (aData[i][j] < fMin)
fMin = aData[i][j];
}
aMaxPtSeq[0][i] = new Point(getAxisPosition(aXAxis, aData[i][0], false),
getAxisPosition(aYAxis, fMax, true));
aMinPtSeq[0][i] = new Point(getAxisPosition(aXAxis, aData[i][0],
false),
getAxisPosition(aYAxis, fMin, true));
}

// apply point sequences to lines
try {
XPropertySet aShapeProp = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XPropertySet.class, maTopLine);
    aShapeProp.setPropertyValue("Polygon", aMaxPtSeq);

    aShapeProp = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XPropertySet.class, maBottomLine);
    aShapeProp.setPropertyValue("Polygon", aMinPtSeq);
} catch (Exception ex) {
}

// determine the position of a value along an axis
// bVertical is true for the y-axis and false for the x-axis
private int getAxisPosition(XShape aAxis, double fValue, boolean bVertical) {
    int nResult = 0;
    if (aAxis != null) {
        XPropertySet aAxisProp = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XPropertySet.class, aAxis);

        try {
            double fMin, fMax;
            fMin = ((Double) aAxisProp.getPropertyValue("Min")).doubleValue();
            fMax = ((Double) aAxisProp.getPropertyValue("Max")).doubleValue();
            double fRange = fMax - fMin;

            if (fMin <= fValue && fValue <= fMax && fRange != 0) {
                if (bVertical) {
                    // y==0 is at the top, thus take 1.0 - ...
                    nResult = aAxis.getPosition().Y +
                        ((double)(aAxis.getSize().Height) * (1.0 -
                        ((fValue - fMin) / fRange)));
                } else {
                    nResult = aAxis.getPosition().X +
                        ((double)(aAxis.getSize().Width) * ((fValue -
                        fMin) / fRange));
                }
            }
        } catch (Exception ex) {
        }
    }
    return nResult;
}

The subroutine getAxisPosition() is a helper to determine the position of a point
inside the diagram coordinates. This add-in calculates the maximum and minimum
values for each slice of data points, and creates two polygons based on these points.

For an add-in example written in C++, look at the sample addin of the graphics/sch
project on http://www.openoffice.org.
How to Apply an Add-In to a Chart Document

There is no method to set an add-in as a chart type for an existing chart in the graphical user interface. To set the chart type, use an API script, for instance, in OpenOffice.org Basic. The following example sets the add-in with service name “com.sun.star.comp.Chart.JavaSampleChartAddIn” at the current document. To avoid problems, it is advisable to create a chart that has the same type as the one that the add-in sets as BaseDiagram type.

```
Sub SetAddIn
    Dim oDoc As Object
    Dim oSheet As Object
    Dim oTableChart As Object
    Dim oChart As Object
    Dim oAddIn As Object

    ' assume that the current document is a spreadsheet
    oDoc = ThisComponent
    oSheet = oDoc.Sheets( 0 )

    ' assume also that you already added a chart
    ' named "MyChart" on the first sheet
    oTableChart = oSheet.Charts.getByName( "MyChart" )

    If Not IsNull( oTableChart ) Then
        oChart = oTableChart.EmbeddedObject
        If Not IsNull( oChart ) Then
            oAddIn = oChart.createInstance( "com.sun.star.comp.Chart.JavaSampleChartAddIn" )
            If Not IsNull( oAddIn ) Then
                oChart.setDiagram( oAddIn )
            End If
        End If
    End If
End Sub
```

Tip - If you want to create an XML-File on your own and want to activate your add-in for a chart; set the attribute chart:class of the chart:chart element to “add-in” and the attribute chart:add-in-name to the service name that uniquely identifies your component.
OpenOffice.org Basic

OpenOffice.org Basic is used to create and manage macros and dialogs. The following sections examine the usage of the OpenOffice.org Basic programming environment.

- **First Steps with OpenOffice.org Basic** guides you through the necessary steps to write OpenOffice.org Basic UNO Programs.
- **OpenOffice.org Basic IDE** provides a reference to the functionality of the OpenOffice.org Integrated Development Environment (IDE). It describes:
  1. The dialogs to manage Basic and dialog libraries.
  2. The functionality of the Basic IDE window: the Basic macro editor and debugger, and the Dialog editor.
  3. The assignment of macros to events
- **Features of OpenOffice.org Basic** describes the Basic programming language integrated in OpenOffice.org, including
  4. Provides an overview about the general language features built into OpenOffice.org Basic.
  5. Extends the UNO language binding chapter **OpenOffice.org Basic** by information on how to access the application specific UNO API.
  6. Points out threading and rescheduling characteristics of OpenOffice.org Basic that differ from other languages, such as, from Java, which can be important under certain circumstances.
First Steps with OpenOffice.org Basic

Step By Step Tutorial

This section provides a tutorial to enable developers to use the Basic IDE. It describes the necessary steps to write and debug a program in the Basic IDE, and to design a Basic dialog. A comprehensive reference of all tools and options can be found at OpenOffice.org Basic IDE.

Creating a Module in a Standard Library

21. Create a new Writer document and save the document, for example, FirstStepsBasic.odt.

22. Click Tools > Macros > Organize Macros > OpenOffice.org Basic.

The OpenOffice.org Basic Macros dialog appears. The Macro from list shows macro containers where Basic source code (macros) can come from. There is always
a **My Macros** and a **OpenOffice.org Macros** container for Basic libraries. Additionally each loaded document can contain Basic libraries.

![Macro dialog](image)

The illustration above shows that the document *FirstStepsBasic.odt* is the only document loaded. Therefore, the **My Macros**, **OpenOffice.org Macros** and **FirstStepsBasic.odt** containers are displayed in the illustration above. Both containers, **My Macros** and **FirstStepsBasic.odt**, contain a library named **Standard**. The OpenOffice.org Macros container contains the libraries that come with a default OpenOffice.org installation – most of them are AutoPilots. The **Standard** libraries of the application and for all open documents are always loaded. They appear enabled in the dialog. Other libraries have to be loaded before they can be used.

The libraries contain modules with the actual Basic source code. Our next step will create a new module for source code in the **Standard** library of our **FirstStepsBasic.odt** document.

1. Scroll to the document node **FirstStepsBasic.odt** in the **Macro from** list.

2. Select the **Standard** entry below the document node and click **New**.

OpenOffice.org shows a small dialog that suggests to create a new module named **Module1**.

1. Click **OK** to confirm.

The Basic source editor window appears containing a Sub (subroutine) **Main**.
Creating a Module in a Standard Library

The status bar of the Basic editor window shows that the Sub Main is part of FirstStepsBasic.Standard.Module1. If you click Tools > Macros > OpenOffice.org Basic in the Basic editor, you will see that OpenOffice.org created a module Module1 below the Standard library in FirstStepsBasic.odt.

When a module is selected, the Macro name list box on the left shows the Subs and Functions in that module. In this case, Sub Main. If you click Edit while a Sub or Function is selected, the Basic editor opens and scrolls to the selected Sub or Function.

Writing and Debugging a Basic UNO program

Enter the following source code in the Basic editor window. The example asks the user for the location of a graphics file and inserts it at the current cursor position of our document. Later, the example will be extended by a small insert graphics
Writing and Debugging a Basic UNO program

Sub Main
' ask the user for a graphics file
sGraphicUrl = InputBox("Please enter the URL of a graphic file", "Import Graphics", "file:///")
if sGraphicUrl = "" then ' User clicked Cancel
exit sub
endif

' access the document model
oDoc = ThisComponent

' get the Text service of the document
oText = oDoc.getText()

' create an instance of a graphic object using the document service factory
oGraphicObject = oDoc.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.GraphicObject")

' set the URL of the graphic
oGraphicObject.GraphicURL = sGraphicUrl

' get the current cursor position in the GUI and create a text cursor from it
oViewCursor = oDoc.getCurrentController().getViewCursor()
oCursor = oText.createTextCursorByRange(oViewCursor.getStart())

' insert the graphical object at the cursor position
oText.insertTextContent(oCursor.getStart(), oGraphicObject, false)
End Sub

If help is required on Basic keywords, press F1 while the text cursor is on a keyword. The OpenOffice.org online help contains descriptions of the Basic language as supported by OpenOffice.org.

Starting with the line oDoc = ThisComponent, where the document model is accessed, we use the UNO integration of OpenOffice.org Basic. ThisComponent is a shortcut to access a document model from the Basic code contained in it. Earlier, you created Module1 in FirstStepsBasic.odt, that is, your Basic code is embedded in the document FirstStepsBasic.odt, not in a global library below the My Macros container. The property ThisComponent therefore contains the document model of FirstStepsBasic.odt.

Tip - Outside document libraries use ThisComponent or StarDesktop.CurrentComponent to retrieve the current document. If access to an open document is required, even if it is not the current document, you have to iterate over the components in StarDesktop.Components, checking their URL property with code similar to the following:

oComps = StarDesktop.Components
oCompsEnum = oComps.createEnumeration()
while oCompsEnum.hasMoreElements()
  oComp = oCompsEnum.nextElement()
  ' not all desktop components are necessarily models with a URL
  if HasUnoInterfaces(oComp, "com.sun.star.frame.XModel") then
    print oComp.getURL()
  endif
wend

To debug the program, put the cursor into the line oDoc = ThisComponent and click the Breakpoint icon in the macro bar.
The Run icon launches the first Sub in the current module. Execution stops with the first breakpoint.
Now step through the program by clicking the Single Step icon.
Click the Macros icon if you need to run a Sub other than the first Sub in the module. In the OpenOffice.org Basic Macros dialog, navigate to the appropriate module, select the Sub to run and press the Run button.
To observe the values of Basic variables during debugging, enter a variable name in the **Watch** field of the Basic editor and press the **Enter** key to add the watch, or point at a variable name with the mouse cursor without clicking it. In the example below, we can observe the variables `sGraphicUrl` and `oGraphicObject`:

![A macro in the source editor window](image)

Since OpenOffice.org 2.0 it is also possible to inspect the values of UNO objects in the Basic debugger during runtime.

### Calling a Sub from the User Interface

A Sub can be called from customized icons, menu entries, upon keyboard shortcuts and on certain application or document events. The entry point for all these settings is the **Customize** dialog accessible through the **Assign** button in the Macro dialog or the **Tools > Customize** command.

To assign the Sub Main to a toolbar icon, select **Tools > Customize** and click the **Toolbars** tab. The **Toolbars** tab looks like this:

![Customize Toolbars](image)
Click the Add button in the Toolbars tab. In the Add Commands dialog that pops up, scroll down the Category list until you see the OpenOffice.org Macros node. Expand it and the FirstStepsBasic.odt node. Navigate to the Module FirstStepsBasic.Standard.Module1 and select it. When Module1 is selected, the Commands list shows an entry "Main" for the Sub Main in Module1. Clicking Add will add it to a toolbar.

You can now click the new toolbar item to launch the example macros.

The section Assigning Macros to GUI Events describes other options to make your Sub accessible from the user interface.

Creating Dialogs

To create a dialog in the Basic IDE, right-click the Module1 tab at the bottom of the Basic source editor and select Insert > Basic Dialog. The IDE creates a new page named Dialog1:

![The Basic GUI Editor](image)

To add controls to the dialog, we require the dialog design tools. Click the Controls icon to pop up the design tools window. The title bar of the tools window can be used to drag the window away from the toolbar to keep it open permanently.

Our dialog shall offer a more convenient way to select a file than the simple input box of our first example. Furthermore, the user shall be able to control how the picture is anchored in the text after inserting it. For this, we will create a wizard dialog with two steps.
In the design tools window, select **File Selection** and define the size of the **Browse** control by dragging a rectangle in the dialog using the left-mouse button.

The **Properties** icon displays the **Properties Dialog** that is used to edit controls and hook up event handling code to events occurring at dialog controls.

Next, add **<< Back** and **Next >>** Buttons to move between the dialog steps, and a **Finish** and **Cancel** button. Select the **Button** icon and define the button size using the left-mouse button. Buttons are labeled with a default text, such as **CommandButton1**. If the **Properties Dialog** is not open, double click the newly inserted button controls to display it. Enter new labels in the Label field as suggested, and name the dialog step buttons Back and Next. Set the property **Enabled** for the **<< Back** button to **false**. Use the Label tool to create a label "Select Graphics File:" in the same manner.

Now the dialog looks similar to the illustration below:
Adding Event Handlers

Now we will write code to open the dialog and add functionality to the buttons. To show a dialog, create a dialog object using `createUnoDialog()` and call its `execute()` method. A dialog can be closed while it is shown by calling `endExecute()`.

**Tip** - It is possible to configure the **Finish** button and the **Cancel** button to close the dialog by setting the button property `PushButtonType` to OK and Cancel respectively. The method `execute()` returns 0 for Cancel and 1 for OK.

To add functionality to GUI elements, develop Subs to handle GUI events, then hook them to the GUI elements. To add functionality to the buttons of our dialog, click the **Module1** tab in the lower part of the Basic IDE and enter the following Subs above the previous Sub Main to open, close and process the dialog. Note that a `Private` variable `oDialog` is defined outside of the Subs. After loading the dialog, this variable is visible from all Subs and Functions of Module1.

```plaintext
Private oDialog as Variant ' private, module-wide variable
Sub RunGraphicsWizard     oDialog = createUnoDialog(DialogLibraries.Standard.Dialog1)     oDialog.execute End Sub
Sub CancelGraphicsDialog     oDialog.endExecute() End Sub
Sub FinishGraphicsDialog     Dim sFile as String, sGraphicURL as String
     oDialog.endExecute()
     sFile = oDialog.Model.FileControl1.Text
     ' the FileControl contains a system path, we have to transform it to a file URL
     ' we use the built-in Basic runtime function ConvertToURL for this purpose
     sGraphicURL = ConvertToURL(sFile)
     ' insert the graphics
     ' access the document model
     oDoc = ThisComponent
     ' get the Text service of the document
     oText = oDoc.getText()
     ' create an instance of a graphic object using the document service factory
     oGraphicObject = oDoc.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.GraphicObject")
     ' set the URL of the graphic
     oGraphicObject.GraphicURL = sGraphicURL
     ' get the current cursor position in the GUI and create a text cursor from it
     oViewCursor = oDoc.getCurrentController().getViewCursor()     oCursor = oText.createTextCursorByRange(oViewCursor.getStart())
     ' insert the graphical object at the cursor position
     oText.insertTextContent(oCursor.getStart(), oGraphicObject, false) End Sub
Sub Main     ... End Sub
```

Select the **Cancel** button in our dialog in the dialog editor, and click the **Events** tab of the **Properties Dialog**, then click the ellipsis button on the right-hand side of the Event **When Initiating**. As shown in the next illustration the **Assign Action** dialog appears.
Adding Event Handlers

In the **Assign Action** dialog press the **Macro ...** button to open the **Macro Selector** dialog shown in the illustration below. Navigate to **FirstStepsBasic.Standard.Module1**, select the Sub **CancelGraphicsDialog** and press the **OK** button to link this sub to the wizard dialog's **Cancel** button.

The next illustration shows how the new assignment is shown in the **Assign Action** dialog.
Adding Event Handlers

The Assign Action dialog

Pressing the OK button in the Assign Action dialog finishes the assignment process.

Note – In the Assign Action dialog there’s also a Component … button. This button is only needed in the context of dialogs used by UNO components, see Accessing Dialogs. In the Basic context this button is not relevant.

Using the same method, hook the Finish button to FinishGraphicsDialog.

If the Run icon is selected now, the dialog is displayed, and the Finish and Cancel buttons are functional.

AutoPilot Dialogs

The final step is to create a small AutoPilot with two pages. The OpenOffice.org Dialogs have a simple concept for AutoPilot pages. Each dialog and each control in a dialog has a property Page (Step) to control the pages of a dialog. Normally, dialogs are on page 0, but they can be set to a different page, for example, to page 1. All controls having 1 in their Page property are visible as long as the dialog is on page 1. All controls having 2 in their page property are only displayed on page 2 and so forth. If the dialog is on Page 0, all controls are visible at once. If a control has its Page property set to 0, it is visible on all dialog pages.

This feature is used to create a second page in our dialog. Hold down the Control key, and click the label and file control in the dialog to select them. In the Properties Dialog, fill in 1 for the Page property and press Enter to apply the change. Next, select the dialog by clicking the outer rim of the dialog in the dialog editor, enter 2 for the Page property and press the Enter key. The label and file control disappear, because we are on page 2 now. Only the buttons are visible since they are on page 0.
On page 2, add a label "Anchor" and two option buttons "at Paragraph" and "as Character". Name the option buttons `AtParagraph` and `AsCharacter`, and toggle the `State` property of the `AtParagraph` button, so that it is selected by default. The new controls automatically receive 2 in their `Page` property. When page 2 is finished, set the dialog to page 1 again, because we want it to be on page 1 on startup.

The Insert Graphics Wizard

The Subs below handle the << Back and Next >> buttons, and the Sub `FinishGraphicsDialog` has been extended to anchor the new graphics selected by the user. Note that the property that is called Page (Step) in the GUI, is called Step in the API.

```basic
Sub BackGraphicsDialog
    oDialog.Model.Step = 1
    oDialog.Model.Back.Enabled = false
    oDialog.Model.Next.Enabled = true
End Sub

Sub NextGraphicsDialog
    oDialog.Model.Step = 2
    oDialog.Model.Back.Enabled = true
    oDialog.Model.Next.Enabled = false
End Sub

Sub FinishGraphicsDialog
    Dim sGraphicURL as String, iAnchor as Long
    oDialog.endExecute()
    sFile = oDialog.Model.FileControl1.Text
    If oDialog.Model.AsCharacter.State = 1 Then
        iAnchor = com.sun.star.text.TextContentAnchorType.AS_CHARACTER
    ElseIf oDialog.Model.AtParagraph.State = 1 Then
        iAnchor = com.sun.star.text.TextContentAnchorType.AT_PARAGRAPH
    EndIf
    ' the File Selection control returns a system path, we have to transform it to a File URL
    ' We use the built-in Basic runtime function ConvertToURL for this purpose
    sGraphicURL = ConvertToURL(sFile)
    ' access the document model
    oDoc = ThisComponent
    ' get the Text service of the document
    oText = oDoc.getText()
    ' create an instance of a graphic object using the document service factory
    oGraphicObject = oDoc.createInstance("com.sun.star.text.GraphicObject")
    ' set the URL of the graphic
    oGraphicObject.GraphicURL = sGraphicURL
    oGraphicObject.AnchorType = iAnchor
    ' get the current cursor position in the GUI and create a text cursor from it
    oViewCursor = oDoc.getCurrentController().getViewCursor()
    oCursor = oText.createTextCursorByRange(oViewCursor.getStart())
    ' insert the graphical object at the beginning of the text
    oText.insertTextContent(oCursor.getStart(), oGraphicObject, false)
End Sub
```

OpenOffice.org Basic IDE

This section discusses all features of the Integrated Development Environment (IDE)
Managing Basic and Dialog Libraries

The main entry point to the library management UI is the **Tools – Macros – Organize Macros – OpenOffice.org Basic** menu item. This item activates the OpenOffice.org Basic Macros dialog where the user can manage all operations related to Basic and dialog libraries.

OpenOffice.org Basic Macros Dialog

The following picture shows an example macro dialog. From here you can run, create, edit and delete macros, assign macros to UI events, and administer Basic libraries and modules.

Displayed Information

The tree titled with Macro from shows the complete library hierarchy that is available the moment the dialog is opened. See [Advanced Library Organization](#) for details about the library organization in OpenOffice.org.

Unlike the library organization API, this dialog does not distinguish between Basic
and dialog libraries. Usually the libraries displayed in the tree are both Basic and
dialog libraries.

**Note** – Although it is possible to create Basic-only or dialog-only libraries using the
API this is not the normal case, because the graphical user interface (see
[OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer Dialog](#) below) only allows the creation of
Basic and dialog libraries simultaneously. Nevertheless, the dialog can also deal with
Basic-only or dialog-only libraries, but they are not marked in any way.

The tree titled **Macro from** represents a structure consisting of three levels:

- **Library container** -> **library** -> **library element**
  - The top-level nodes represent the application Basic and dialog library container
    (nodes **My Macros** and **OpenOffice.org Macros**). For each opened document, the
document's Basic and dialog library container (see [Advanced Library
    Organization](#)). In the example two documents are open, a text document called
    **Description.ods** and a spreadsheet document named **Calculation.ods**.
  - In the second level, each node represents a library. Initially all libraries, except the
default libraries named **Standard**, are not loaded and grayed out. To load a library,
the user double-clicks the library. In the example above, the **My Macros** root
    element contains the **Standard** library, already loaded by default.
  - The third level in the tree is visible in loaded libraries. Each node represents a
library element that can be modules or dialogs. In the OpenOffice.org Basic
Macros dialog, only Basic modules are displayed as library elements, whereas
dialogs are not shown. By double-clicking a library the user can expand and
condense a library to show or hide its modules. In the example, the **My
    Macros/Standard** library is displayed expanded. It contains two modules, **Module1**
    and **Module2**. The document **Description.ods** contains a **Standard** library with one
    Basic module **Module1**. **Calculation.ods** contains a **Standard** library without Basic
    modules. All libraries, respectively their dialog library part, may also contain dialogs
that cannot be seen in this view.

If a library is password-protected and a user double-clicks it to load it, a dialog is
displayed requesting a password. The library is only loaded and expanded if the user
enters the correct password. If a password-protected library is loaded using the API,
for example, through a call to `BasicLibraries.loadLibrary("Library1")`, it is
displayed as loaded, not grayed out, but it remains condensed until the correct
password is entered (see [Advanced Library Organization](#)).

The middle column contains information about the macros, that is, the Subs and
Functions, in the libraries. In the list box at the bottom, all Subs and Functions
belonging to the module selected in the tree are listed. In the edit field titled **Macro
name**, the Sub or Function currently selected in the list box is displayed. If there is no
module selected in the tree, the edit field and list are empty. You can type in a desired
Buttons

On the right-hand side of the **OpenOffice.org Basic Macros** dialog, there are several buttons. The following list describes the buttons:

- **Run**
  
  Executes the Sub or Function currently displayed in the Macro name edit field. The OpenOffice.org Basic Macros dialog is closed, before the macro is executed.

- **Close**
  
  Closes the OpenOffice.org Basic Macros dialog without any further action.

- **Assign**
  
  Opens the Customize dialog that can also be opened using **Tools - Customize**. This dialog can be used to assign Basic macros to events. For details see Assigning Macros to GUI Events below.

- **Edit**
  
  Loads the module selected in the tree into the Basic macro editor. The cursor is placed on the first line of the Sub or Function displayed in the **Macro name** edit field. See chapter Basic IDE Window below for details about the Basic macro editor. This button is disabled if there is no module selected in the tree or no existing Sub or Function displayed in the **Macro name** edit field.

- **Delete**
  
  This button is only available if an existing Sub or Function is displayed in the **Macro name** edit field. The **Delete** button removes the Sub or Function displayed in the **Macro name** edit field from the module selected in the module selected in the tree.

- **New**
  
  This button is only available if no existing Sub or Function is displayed in the **Macro name** edit field. The **New** button inserts a new Sub into the module selected in the tree. The new Sub is named according to the text in the **Macro name** edit field. If **Macro name** is empty, the Sub is automatically named Macro1, Macro2, and so forth.

- **Organizer**
This button opens the **OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer** dialog box that is explained in the next section.

- **Help**

  Starts the OpenOffice.org help system with the Macros topic.

---

**OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer Dialog**

This dialog is opened by clicking the Button **Organizer** in the OpenOffice.org Basic Macros dialog. The dialog contains the tab pages **Modules**, **Dialogs** and **Libraries**. While the OpenOffice.org Basic Macros dialog refers to Subs and Functions inside Basic modules, such as run Subs, delete Subs, and insert new Subs, this dialog accesses the library system on module (tab page **Modules**), dialog (tab page **Dialogs**) and library (tab page **Libraries**) level.

---

**Modules**

Illustration 12.13 shows the **OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer** dialog with the **Modules** tab page activated. The list titled **Module** is similar to the **Macro from** list in the **Macro** dialog, but it contains the complete library hierarchy for the OpenOffice.org application libraries and the document libraries. The libraries are loaded, and condensed or expanded by double-clicking the library. The illustration shows the application library **Standard** containing two modules, **Module1** and **Module2**.

---

The Macro Organizer

The illustration above shows that two documents are loaded. The illustration shows a
library Standard in document Description.odt containing a module named Module1, and another library Standard in document Calculation.ods containing no Basic module.

The following list describes the buttons on the right side of the dialog:

- **Edit**
  
  Loads the module selected in the tree into the Basic macro editor. If a module is not selected, this button is disabled.

- **Close**
  
  Closes the OpenOffice.org Basic Macro organizer dialog without any further action.

- **New Module**
  
  Opens a dialog that allows the user to type in the desired name for a new module. The name edit field initially contains a name like Module<Number>, such as Module1 and Module2, depending on the modules already existing. Clicking the OK button adds the new module as a new item in the Module list. The New Module button is disabled if the selected library has read-only status.

- **Delete**
  
  Deletes the selected module. This button is disabled if no module is selected, or if the selected module belongs to a library with read-only status.

**Dialogs**

The illustration below shows the OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer dialog with the Dialogs tab page activated. The illustration shows the application library Standard containing two dialogs, Dialog1 and Dialog2.
The macro Organizer dialog

The illustration shows a library Standard in document Calculation.ods containing a dialog named Dialog1, and another library Standard in document Description.odt containing no dialog.

The following list describes the buttons on the right side of the dialog:

- **Edit**
  
  Loads the dialog selected in the tree into the Dialog editor. The section Dialog Editor below describes the Dialog Editor in more detail. If a dialog is not selected, this button is disabled.

- **Close**
  
  Closes the OpenOffice.org Basic Macro organizer dialog without any further action.

- **New Dialog**
  
  Opens a dialog that allows the user to enter the desired name for a new dialog. The name edit field initially contains the name Dialog<Number>, such as Dialog1 and Dialog2, depending on the dialogs already existing. Clicking the OK button creates the dialog in the Dialog list. This button is disabled if the selection contains a library with read-only status.

- **Delete**
  
  Deletes the selected dialog. This button is disabled if no dialog is selected, or if the selected dialog belongs to a library with read-only status.
Libraries

The following illustrations show the OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer dialog with the Libraries tab page activated. In this dialog, the application and document libraries are listed separately. The Library list only contains the libraries of the library container currently selected in the Location list box. The second illustration is dropped down showing the My Macros & Dialogs and OpenOffice.org Macros & Dialogs entries and the two open documents.

The Libraries tab page in the Macro Organizer dialog

The Libraries tab page showing the Application/Document selection

The libraries are displayed in the following manner:

- Regular libraries are displayed in black.
- Libraries with read-only status are grayed out.
- Library links are followed by an URL indicating the location where the library is stored. In the example above, all libraries except for Standard and Library1 are library links and all library links have read-only status.
- Password protected libraries are indicated with a key symbol before the name. In the example, only Library1 is password protected.

Clicking a library twice (not double-click) allows the user to rename it.
The following list describes the buttons on the right side of the dialog:

- **Edit**
  
  Loads the first module of the library selected in the **Library** list box into the Basic macro editor (see Basic Source Editor and Debugger below). If the library only contains dialogs, the first dialog of the corresponding dialog library is displayed in the Dialog editor (see Dialog Editor below). If the Basic/Dialog editor window does not exist, it is opened.

- **Close**
  
  Closes the **OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer** dialog without any further action.

- **Password**
  
  Opens the **Change Password** dialog displayed in the next illustration for the library currently selected in the **Library** list box.

  This dialog is used to change the password if the library is already password protected. Enter the old password first, then the new password twice.

  If the library is not password protected, the Old password edit field is disabled. The new password is entered twice in the New password section. Clicking OK activates the password protection if both passwords match.

![Change Password dialog](image)

- **New**
  
  Opens a dialog allowing the user to enter the name for a new library. The name edit field initially contains the name **Library<Number>**, such as Library1 and Library2, depending on the libraries already existing. Clicking the OK button creates the library and adds it to the Library list. A new library is always created as a Basic and dialog library.

- **Import**
  
  This button is used to import additional libraries into the library container that is selected in the **Location** list box. The button opens a file dialog where the user selects the location where the library is imported from. The following types of files can be selected:
1. Library container index files (*script.xlc or *dialog.xlc*)

2. Library index files (*script.xlb or *dialog.xlb*)

3. OpenOffice.org documents (e.g. *.odt, *.ods, *.sxw, *.sxc, *.sdw, *.sdc)

4. Star Office 5.x and previous Basic library files (*sbl*)

The Import Libraries dialog

After selecting a file, an Import library dialog is displayed. The next illustration shows the dialog after selecting a library index file script.xlb. The dialog displays all libraries that are found in the chosen file. In this example, only the library Euro appears, because the file script.xlb only represented this library.

The checkboxes in the Options section, when selected, indicates if a library is inserted as a read-only link and if existing libraries with the same name are replaced by the new library.
Libraries

LibraryImportExample. This document contains the four libraries Standard, Library1, Library2 and Library3. The illustration shows that the libraries Library1 and Library2 are selected for import. The Insert as reference (read-only) option is disabled, because the libraries inside documents cannot be referenced as a link. As well, StarOffice 5.x Basic library files can not be linked.

Clicking the OK button imports the selected libraries into the library container that was previously selected in the Location list box, including the Basic and dialog libraries.

Export

This button is used to export a library. The Standard library cannot be exported. Clicking the button displays the Export Basic library dialog.

The Export Basic Library dialog

This dialog allows to chose between two export formats. Choosing Export as package and clicking OK opens the Export library as package file dialog allowing to save the library in the UNO package bundle format that can be easily imported from other OpenOffice.org installations using the Package Manager available in the Tools menu. So this format should be used for deploying Basic libraries.

Choosing Export as BASIC library in the Export Basic library dialog opens the Export as BASIC library dialog allowing to choose a location where the library will be stored as folder named like the library. This format can be accessed with the Import functionality described above.
The exported libraries always contain both Basic Modules and Dialogs.

- **Delete**

  Deletes the item selected in the Library list box. If the item represents a library link, only the link is removed, not the library itself. The *Delete* button appears disabled whenever a Standard library is selected, because Standard libraries cannot be deleted.

---

**Basic IDE Window**

The OpenOffice.org IDE is mainly represented by the Basic IDE window. The IDE window has two different modes:

- The Basic editor mode displays and modifies Basic source code modules to control the debugging process and display the debugger output
- The dialog editor mode displays and modifies dialogs.

Basic source code and dialogs are never displayed at the same time. The IDE window is in Basic editor or debugger, or in dialog editor mode. The following illustration shows the Basic IDE window in the Basic editor mode displaying Module2 of the application Standard library.
The IDE window control elements common to the Basic editor and dialog editor mode are described below. The mode specific control elements are described in the corresponding subchapters Basic Source Editor and Debugger and Dialog Editor:

- Clicking the Printer button in the main toolbar prints the displayed Basic module or dialog directly without displaying a printer dialog.
- The Save button in the main toolbar behaves in two different ways depending on the library currently displayed in the IDE window.
  1. If the library belongs to the application library container, the Save button saves all modified application libraries.
  2. If the library belongs to a document, the Save button saves the document.
- On the left-hand side of the toolbar, a Library list box shows the currently displayed library. The user can also modify the displayed library. In the example above, the Standard library of the application Basic ([My Macros & Dialogs].Standard) is displayed. The list box contains all the application and document libraries that are currently accessible. The user can select one to display it in the IDE window.
- The tabs at the bottom of the IDE window indicate all the modules and dialogs of the active library. Clicking one of these tabs activates the corresponding module or dialog. If necessary, the IDE window switches from Basic editor to dialog editor mode or conversely. Right-clicking a tab opens a context menu:
  3. Insert opens a sub menu to insert a new module or dialog.
  4. Delete deletes the active module or dialog after confirmation by the user.
  5. Rename changes the name of the active module or dialog.
6. **Hide** makes the active module or dialog invisible. It no longer appears as a tab flag, thus it cannot be activated. To activate, access it directly using the [OpenOffice.org Basic Macros](https://openoffice.org) or [OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer](https://openoffice.org) dialog and clicking the **Edit** button.

7. **Modules** opens the [OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer](https://openoffice.org) dialog.
   - The status bar displays the following information:

8. The first cell on the left displays the fully qualified name of the active module or dialog in the notation `LibraryContainer.LibraryName.<ModuleName | DialogName>`.

9. The second cell displays an asterisk "*" indicating that at least one of the libraries of the active library container has been modified and requires saving.

10. The third cell displays the current position of the cursor in the Basic editor window.

11. The fourth cell displays "INSRT" if the Basic editor is in insertion mode and "OVER" if the Basic editor is in overwrite mode. The modes are toggled with the **Insert** key.

### Basic Source Editor and Debugger

The Basic editor and debugger of the IDE window is shown when the user edits a Sub or Function from the **Tools - Macros - Organize Macros - OpenOffice.org Basic** dialog. In this mode, the window contains the actual editor main window, debugger Watch window to display variable values and the debugger Calls window to display the Basic call stack. The Watch and Calls windows are only used when a Basic program is running and halted by the debugger.

The editor supports common editor features. Since the editor is only used for the OpenOffice.org Basic programming language, it supports a Basic syntax specific highlighting and F1 help for Basic keywords.
Basic Source Editor and Debugger

The following list explains the functionality of the macro toolbar buttons.

**Compile**: Compiles the active module and displays an error message, if necessary. This button is disabled if a Basic program is running. Always compile libraries before distributing them.

**Run**: Executes the active module, starting with the first Sub in the module, before all modified modules of the active library are compiled. Clicking this button can also result in compiler errors before the program is started. This button resumes the execution if the program is halted by the debugger.

**Stop**: Stops the Basic program execution. This button is disabled if a program is not running.

**Procedure Step**: Executes one Basic statement without stepping into Subs or Functions called in the statement. The execution is halted after the statement has been executed. If the Basic program is not running the execution is started and halted at the first statement of the first Sub in the current module.

**Single Step**: Executes one Basic statement. If the statement contains another Sub, execution is halted at the first statement of the called Sub. If no Subs or Functions are called in the statement, this button has the same functionality as the **Step over** button (key command F8).

**Step back**: Steps out of the current executed Sub or Function and halts at the next statement of the caller Sub or Function. If the currently executed Sub or Function was not called by another Sub or Function or if the Basic program is not running, this button has the same effect as the **Run** button.

**Breakpoint**: Toggles a breakpoint at the current cursor line in the Basic editor. If a breakpoint cannot be set at this line a beep warns the user and the action is ignored (key command F9). A breakpoint is displayed as a red dot in the left column of the editor window.
**Add watch:** Adds the identifier currently touched by the cursor in the Basic editor to the watch window (key command F7).

**Object Catalog:** Opens the Objects dialog. This dialog displays the complete library hierarchy including dialogs, modules and the Subs inside the modules.

**Macros:** Opens the OpenOffice.org Basic Macros dialog.

**Modules:** Opens the OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer dialog.

**Find Parentheses:** If the cursor in the Basic editor is placed before a parenthesis, the matching parenthesis is searched. If a matching parenthesis is found, the code between the two parentheses is selected, otherwise the user is warned by a beep.

**Controls:** Opens the dialog editing tools in the dialog editor. In Basic editor mode this button is disabled.

**Insert Source File:** Displays a file open dialog and inserts the selected text file (*.bas is the standard extension) at the current cursor position into the active module.

**Save Source As:** Displays a file Save As dialog to save the active module as a text file (*.bas is the standard extension).

Illustration 12.24: Basic Editor and Debugger shows how the IDE window looks while a Basic program is executed in debugging mode.

- The Stop button is enabled.
- A breakpoint is set in line 11.
- The execution is halted in line 12. The current position is marked by a yellow arrow.
- The Watch window contains the entries Value and Hello, and displays the current values of these variables. Values of variables can also be evaluated by touching a corresponding identifier in the source code with the cursor.
- The Calls window shows the stack. The currently executed Sub doIt is displayed at the top and the Sub Main at the second position.

### Dialog Editor

This section provides an overview of the Dialog editor functionality. The controls that are used to design a dialog are not explained. See Programming Dialogs and Dialog Controls for details on programming these controls. The dialog editor is activated by creating a new dialog, clicking a dialog tab at the bottom of the IDE window, or selecting a dialog in the OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer dialog and clicking the Edit button.
Initially, a new dialog consists of an empty dialog frame. The next illustration shows Dialog2 of the application Standard library in this state.

The dialog editor

In the dialog editor mode, the Controls button is enabled and the illustration shows the result by clicking this button. A small toolbar with dialog specific tools is displayed. The buttons in this toolbar represent the types of controls that can be inserted into the dialog. The user clicks the desired button, then draws a frame with the mouse at the position to insert the corresponding control type.

The following three buttons in the dialog tools window do not represent controls:

- The Select button at the lower right of the dialog tools window switches the mouse cursor to selection mode. In this mode, controls are selected by clicking the control with the cursor. If the Shift key is held down simultaneously, the selection is extended by each control the user clicks. Controls can also be selected by drawing a rubberband frame with the mouse. All controls that are completely inside the frame will be selected. To select the dialog frame the user clicks its border or includes it in a selection frame completely.

- The Activate Test Mode button switches on the test mode for dialogs. In this mode, the dialog is displayed as if it was a Basic script (see Programming Dialogs and Dialog Controls). However, the macros assigned to the controls do not work in this mode. They are there to help the user design the look and feel of the dialog.

- The Properties button at the lower left of the dialog tools window opens and closes the Properties dialog. This dialog is used to edit all properties of the selected control(s). The next illustration shows the Properties dialog for a selected button control.

The Manage Language button (available since OpenOffice.org 2.2.0) opens the Manage User Interface Languages dialog allowing to manage the localization of dialogs. All details concerning Dialog localization are described in Dialog Localization.
The Properties dialog for a command button

The illustration above shows that the dialog tool window can be pulled from the main toolbar by dragging the window at its caption bar after opening it.

The Properties dialog has two tabs. The General tab, visible in Illustration 12.26, contains a list of properties. Their values are represented by a control. For most properties this is a list box, such as color and enum types, or an edit field, such as numeric or text properties. For more complex properties, such as fonts or colors, an additional ellipsis button opens another type of dialog, for example, to select a font. When the user changes a property value in an edit field this value is not applied to the control until the edit field has lost the focus. This is forced with the tab key. Alternatively, the user can commit a change by pressing the Enter key.

The Events tab page displays the macros assigned to the events supported by the selected control:

In the example above, a macro is assigned to the Key pressed event: When this event occurs, the displayed Sub doNothing in Module2 of the application Basic library Standard is called. The events that are available depend on the type of control
selected.

To change the event assignment the user has to click one of the ellipsis buttons to open the Assign Action dialog displayed in the illustration below.

![Assign Action Dialog](image)

The list box titled Event displays the same information as the Events tab of the Properties dialog. The Assign Action dialog is always the same, that is only the selected event in its Event list changes according to the ellipsis button the user selected on the Events tab of the Properties dialog.

To assign a macro to an event, the user needs to click on the Macro ... button. This opens the Macro Selector dialog which allows the user to select a macro from the library hierarchy. Clicking OK in the Macro Selector assigns the selected macro to the event. If another macro is already assigned to an event, this macro is replaced. If no Sub is selected, the OK button is disabled.

If the dialog is stored in a document, the library hierarchy displayed in the Macro Selector dialog contains the application library containers and the library container of the document. If the dialog belongs to an application dialog library, document macros are not displayed since they cannot be assigned to the controls of application dialogs. This is because it cannot be guaranteed that the document will be loaded when the application dialog event is fired.

The Remove button is enabled if an event with an assigned macro is selected. Clicking this button removes the macro from the event, therefore the event will have no macro binding.

The list box below the Remove button is used to select different macro languages. Currently, only OpenOffice.org Basic is available.

The OK button closes the Assign Action dialog, and applies all event assignments and removals to the control. The changes are reflected on the Events tab of the Properties dialog.
The **Cancel** button also closes the **Assign Action**, but all assignment and removal operations are discarded.

As previously explained, it is also possible to select several controls simultaneously. The next picture shows the situation if the user selects both CommandButton1 and CheckBox1. For the **Properties** dialog such a multi selection has some important effects.

![Properties dialog for multi selection](image)

Here the caption of the **Properties** contains the string **Multiselection** to point out the special situation. The two important differences compared to the single selection situation are:

- The displayed properties are an intersection of the properties of all the selected controls, that is, the property is only displayed if all the selected controls support that property. A property value is only displayed if the value is the same for all selected controls. All selected controls are effected when a value is changed by the user. Values that are not the same for all controls can be set with the effect that the specified value applies to all controls in the selection.
- A multi-selection **Properties** dialog does not have an **Events** tab. Events can only be specified for single controls.
Assigning Macros to GUI Events

The functionality to assign macros to control events in the dialog editor was discussed earlier. There is also a general functionality to assign macros or other actions to events. This functionality can be accessed through the Customize dialog that is opened using Tools – Customize or by clicking the Assign button in the Macro dialog. In this section, only the assignment of macros is discussed. For more information about this dialog, refer to the OpenOffice.org documentation.

The next illustration shows the Menu tab of the Customize dialog

![Configuration dialog for Menu](image)

The illustration above shows how a macro is assigned to a new menu item. The Menu and Menu Content list boxes can be used to navigate the OpenOffice.org menu hierarchy. Clicking the Add... button opens the Add Commands dialog. The Category list box in the Add Commands dialog contains entries for built-in OpenOffice.org functions, and a OpenOffice.org Macros entry that represents the hierarchy of OpenOffice.org macros. When an entry is selected in the Category list box, any commands or macros it contains are displayed in the Commands list box on the right.

Clicking the Add button in the Add Commands dialog adds the selected command or macro to a menu.

The other buttons in the Menus tab of the Customize dialog are as follows:

- The New button creates a new top level menu
- The Menu button has commands for moving, renaming and deleting top level menus
- The Modify button has commands for adding submenus and separators, and renaming and deleting menu items.
The arrow buttons change the position of a menu item.

The **Reset** button restores the default menu configuration.

The next illustration shows the Events tab of the Customize dialog:

![Configuration dialog for Events](image)

On this tab, macros can be assigned to general events in OpenOffice.org. The events are listed in the list box titled **Event**. The **Assign** button opens the **Macro Selector** from which the user can select macros to assign to events. The **Remove** button removes the assigned macro from the selected event.

In the **Keyboard** tab macros are accessed in **Category** and **Function** list boxes, then assigned to a shortcut key that can be specified in the **Shortcut keys** list box. There are also **Load**, **Save**, and **Reset** buttons for loading, storing and resetting keyboard configurations.

The **Keyboard** tab contains **OpenOffice.org** and **Document** radio buttons which control the scope for which keyboard assignments are made.

### Dialog Localization

Beginning with OpenOffice.org 2.2.0 it is possible to localize dialogs created in the Dialog Editor. The localization always refers to complete Dialog Libraries, not to single dialogs. A Dialog Library's default state is “Not localized”. In this state dialogs behave and are stored in the same way as before the localization feature was available.

The entry point for localizing a Dialog Library is the **Manage User Interface Languages** dialog that can be opened by clicking the **Manage Language** button in...
the dialog tool window. The following illustration shows the dialog editor with an opened Manage User Interface Languages dialog.

Initially no language is defined, so the Present Languages list has no entry. The dialog captions shows that the localization refers to the complete library Standard. To enable localization for this library the Add... button has to be used. It opens another dialog allowing to chose the first language to be supported (see the next illustration). The currently active UI language is preselected.

Note – The comment on this dialog is important. By choosing the first language all localizable dialog/control strings are replaced by Resource IDs (see Technical Background) referencing the strings in a String Resource component managing strings for different languages. The strings are not copied but moved into the String Resource. After localizing a dialog the strings only exist there and not as dialog/control properties any more.
After choosing a language and clicking the **OK** button this language becomes the only entry in the Present Languages list of the **Manage User Interface Languages** dialog:

Manage User Interface Languages dialog with one language

The first language also becomes the first default language. As stated in the comment on the dialog itself the Default language is relevant in two situations.

- If a dialog does not support the language that is required the strings for the default language will be displayed. Example: A dialog supports English and French with English being the Default Language. If this dialog is used with German being the Office's user interface language, English strings will be displayed.

- When a new language is added, all strings are taken from the default language. Example: A button label is “Thanks” for English and “Merci” for French with English being the default language. When adding German as another language the label initially will also be “Thanks”. The idea behind this behaviour is that a user creating a localized dialog usually will like to take his own mother language or a common language like English as reference for translating to any other language.

Now - or any time later - other languages can be added by again clicking the **Add...** button. This time a slightly different dialog is used:
Dialog Localization

Add User Interface Languages dialog

It allows to choose more than one language. As also described in the comment on the dialog the strings for the new languages will be copied from the current default language. After checking one or more languages and clicking the OK button these languages also become entries in the Present Languages list of the Manage User Interface Languages dialog:

Manage User Interface Languages dialog with three languages

The default language can be changed by selecting another language and clicking the Default button. One ore more languages can be deleted by selecting them and clicking the Delete button. As deleting a language also deletes all strings associated with this language this action will only be completed after a corresponding warning message has been acknowledged by the user. If the Default Language is deleted the first of the remaining languages will become Default Language.

If all languages are deleted the Library will return to the “not localized” state. The Resource IDs (see Technical Background) stored in the localizable dialog/control properties will be replaced by the corresponding strings assigned to the last Default Language.
If a Dialog Library is localized an additional Language toolbar is visible. It allows to select the current language as shown in the next illustration. Besides the List Box containing the Languages another Manage Language button is placed allowing to open the Manage User Interface Languages dialog also from the Language toolbar.

Dialog Editor with Locale Toolbar

All localizable dialog/control strings are displayed for this current language. So the button label in the illustration is “English” if English is selected as current language but it can be different for the other languages. If a localized property is changed using the Properties Dialog this change also is only related to the current language. The next illustration shows how the dialog could look after switching the current language to French.

Dialog Editor with French as current locale

The following list shows which dialog/control properties are localizable at all:
Dialog Localization

- Label (Button, Check Box, Option Button)
- Text (Text Box, Combo Box)
- StringItemList (List Box, Combo Box)
- Title (Dialog)
- CurrencySymbol (Currency Field)
- HelpText (all controls)

Currently the localization is limited to strings that are visible in the dialog or that could become visible in another context like the help text.

Technical Background

This section provides an overview of how the Dialog Localization feature works internally and how the resources are stored. In case of a localized Dialog Library the localized properties do not contain strings but Resource IDs referring to a String Resource table. Example:

Dialog XML snippet, not localized:

```xml
<dlg:window ... dlg:title="My Dialog"> ... <dlg:button ... dlg:value="My Label"/>
```

Dialog XML snippet, localized:

```xml
<dlg:window ... dlg:title="&amp;1.Dialog1.Title"> ... <dlg:button ... dlg:value="&amp;3.Dialog1.CommandButton1.Label"/>
```

"&" is the XML encoding for the & character. This character is used as escape character marking the string as localized. The pure Resource ID is `1.Dialog1.Title` respectively `3.Dialog1.CommandButton1.Label`.

The strings referenced by the Resource IDs are stored in files meeting the format of Java properties files, e.g. described in [http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.4.2/docs/api/java/util/Properties.html](http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.4.2/docs/api/java/util/Properties.html). In the Library's folder one of these files is stored for each language following a special naming scheme. For the languages used in the example above the following files are stored in the Dialog Library's folder (both for Application based libraries stored in the file system and for Document based libraries stored in a document's package file):

```
Dialog1.xml   // Dialog XML description
DialogStrings_en_US.properties // English (USA) properties file
DialogStrings_et_EE.properties // Estonian properties file
DialogStrings_fr_FR.properties // French properties file
DialogStrings_en_US.default // Empty file marking English (USA) as default language
```
Each of these files contain all strings for the corresponding language using the Resource IDs as keys. The French properties file for the dialog shown in the last illustration looks like this:

```plaintext
# Strings for Dialog Library Standard 0.Dialog1.HelpText=1.Dialog
List Entry2 11.ListBox1.StringItemList=French List Entry3
```

The IDs start with a numeric part that is unique for the complete library. The textual part following then contains the Dialog, Control and Property name the Resource ID refers to. The numeric ID alone would be unique but the textual part makes it easier to associate Resource IDs and controls when resource properties files should be edited manually. When the dialog or controls are renamed the Resource IDs are renamed accordingly.

The UNO API used for managing the String Resource is placed in com.sun.star.resource. Each Dialog Library supports com.sun.star.resource.XStringResourceSupplier, giving access to a com.sun.star.resource.StringResource component. This component supports com.sun.star.resource.XStringResourceResolver, allowing to resolve strings using Resource IDs as keys and com.sun.star.resource.XStringResourceManager, allowing to add and remove strings and languages.

In case of an Application Dialog Library the StringResource supports com.sun.star.resource.StringResourceWithLocation allowing to read/write the properties files from/to the file system. In case of a Document Dialog Library the StringResource supports com.sun.star.resource.StringResourceWithStorage allowing to read/write the properties files from/to the document's package file.

Further details are described in the IDL documentation.

---

**Features of OpenOffice.org Basic**

This section provides a general description of the Basic programming language integrated in OpenOffice.org.
Functional Range Overview

This section outlines the functionality provided by OpenOffice.org Basic. The available runtime library functions are also described. The functionality is based upon the Basic online help integrated in OpenOffice.org, but limited to particular functions. Use the Basic online help to obtain further information about the complete Basic functionality.

Apart from the OpenOffice.org API, OpenOffice.org Basic is compatible to Visual Basic.

Screen I/O Functions

Basic provides statements and functions to display information on the screen or to get information from the user:

- The Print statement displays strings or numeric expressions in a dialog. Multiple expressions are separated by commas that result in a tab distance between the expressions, or semicolons that result in a space between the expressions. For example:

```basic
e = 2.718 Print e ' displays "2.718" Print "e =" ; e ' displays "e = 2.718"
Print "e =" , e ' displays "e = 2.718"
```

- The MsgBox function displays a dialog box containing a message. Additionally, the caption of the dialog, buttons, such as OK, Cancel, Yes and No, and icons, such as question mark and exclamation mark, that are to be displayed are specified. The result then can be evaluated. For example:

```basic
Ret& = MsgBox ("Changes will be lost. Proceed?", 48 + 1, "Warning") ' show user's selection. 1 = OK, 2 = Cancel Print Ret&
```

- The InputBox function displays a prompt in a dialog where the user can input text. The input is assigned to a variable. For example:

```basic
UserText$ = InputBox( "Please enter a phrase:" , "Dear User" )
```
File I/O

OpenOffice.org Basic has a complete set of statements and runtime functions to access the operating system’s file system that are compatible to Visual Basic. For platform independence, the ability to handle file names in file:// URL notation has been added.

It is not recommended to use this classic Basic file interface in the UNO context, because many interfaces in the OpenOffice.org API expect file I/O specific parameters whose types, for example, com.sun.star.io.XInputStream are not compatible to the classic Basic file API.

For programming, the file I/O in OpenOffice.org API context with the service com.sun.star.ucb.SimpleFileAccess should be used. This service supports the interface com.sun.star.ucb.XSimpleFileAccess2, including the main interface com.sun.star.ucb.XSimpleFileAccess that provides fundamental methods to access the file system. The methods are explained in detail in the corresponding interface documentation. The following list provides an overview about the operations supported by this service:

- copy, move and remove files and folders (methods `copy()`, `move()`, `kill()`)  
- prompt for information about files and folders (methods `isFolder()`, `isReadOnly()`, `getSize()`, `getContentType()`, `getDateTimeModified()`, `exists()`)  
- open or create files (`openFileRead()`, `openFileWrite()`, `openFileReadWrite()`). These functions return objects that support the corresponding stream interfaces com.sun.star.io.XInputStream, com.sun.star.io.XOutputStream and com.sun.star.io.XStream. These interfaces are used to read and write files. The XSimpleFileAccess2 does not have methods of its own for these operations. Additionally, these interfaces are often necessary as parameters to access methods of several other interfaces. The opened files have to be closed by calling the appropriate methods `com.sun.star.io.XInputStream:closeInput()` or `com.sun.star.io.XOutputStream:closeOutput()`.

- The XSimpleFileAccess2 also does not have methods to ask for or set the position within a file stream. This is done by calling methods of the com.sun.star.io.XSeekable interface that is supported by the objects returned by the `openXXX()` methods.

Two more services are instantiated at the global service manager that extends the service com.sun.star.ucb.SimpleFileAccess by functionality specific to text files:

- The service com.sun.star.io.TextInputStream supporting com.sun.star.io.XTextInputStream and com.sun.star.io.XActiveDataSink

- The service is initialized by passing an object supporting XInputStream to the `com.sun.star.io.XActiveDataSink:setInputStream()` method, for example, an object returned by `com.sun.star.ucb.XSimpleFileAccess:openFileRead()`.
Then the method \code{com.sun.star.io.XTextInputStream:readLine()} and \code{com.sun.star.io.XTextInputStream:readString()} are used to read text from the input stream/file. The method \code{com.sun.star.io.XTextInputStream:isEOF()} is used to check for if the end of the file is reached. The \code{com.sun.star.io.XTextInputStream:setEncoding()} sets a text encoding where UTF-8 is the default.

- The service \code{com.sun.star.io.TextOutputStream} supporting \code{com.sun.star.io.XTextOutputStream} and \code{com.sun.star.io.XActiveDataSource}
- The service is initialized by passing an object supporting \code{XOutputStream} to the \code{com.sun.star.io.XActiveDataSource:setOutputStream()} method, for example, an object returned by \code{com.sun.star.ucb.XSimpleFileAccess:openFileWrite()}.

Then the method \code{com.sun.star.io.XTextOutputStream:writeString()} is used to write text to the output stream.

### Date and Time Functions

OpenOffice.org Basic supports several Visual Basic compatible statements and functions to perform date and time calculations. The functions are \code{DateSerial}, \code{DateValue}, \code{Day}, \code{Month}, \code{WeekDay}, \code{Year}, \code{Hour}, \code{Now}, \code{Second}, \code{TimeSerial}, \code{TimeValue}, \code{Date}, \code{Time}, and \code{Timer}.

The function \code{Date} returns the current system date as a string and the function \code{Time} returns the current system time as a string. The other functions are not explained.

In the UNO/toolkit controls context there are two other functions. The date field control method \code{com.sun.star.awt.XDateField:setDate()} expects the date to be passed as a long value in a special ISO format and the \code{com.sun.star.awt.XDateField:getDate()} returns the date in this format.

The Basic runtime function \code{CDateToIso} converts a date from the internal Basic date format to the required ISO date format. Since the string date format returned by the \code{Date} function is converted to the internal Basic date format automatically, \code{Date} can be used directly as an input parameter for \code{CDateToIso}:

\begin{verbatim}
IsoDate = CDateToIso(Date) oTextField.setDate(IsoDate)
\end{verbatim}

The runtime function \code{CDateFromIso} represents the reverse operation and converts a date from the ISO date format to the internal Basic date format.

\begin{verbatim}
Dim aDate as date aDate = CDateFromIso(IsoDate)
\end{verbatim}

Please see also \textit{Programming Dialogs and Dialog Controls} in this context.
Numeric Functions

OpenOffice.org Basic supports standard numeric functions, such as:

- `Cos` calculating the cosine of an angle
- `Sin` calculating the sine of an angle
- `Tan` calculating the tangent of an angle
- `Atn` calculating the arctangent of a numeric value
- `Exp` calculating the base of the natural logarithm \(e = 2.718282\) raised to a power
- `Log` calculating the natural logarithm of a number
- `Sqr` calculating the square root of a numeric value
- `Abs` calculating the absolute value of a numeric value
- `Sgn` returning -1 if the passed numeric value is negative, 1 if it is positive, 0 if it is zero.

String Functions

OpenOffice.org Basic supports several runtime functions for string manipulation. Some of the functions are explained briefly in the following:

- `Asc` returns the Unicode value of the first character of its string parameter.
- `Chr` returns a string containing the character that is specified by the ASCII or Unicode value passed to the function. This function is used to represent characters, such as the carriage return code \(\text{Chr}(13)\), that cannot be written in the "" notation. This is not necessary for the " character, which can be included in a string literal by simply doubling it, eg. \(s = "This string has ""embedded"" quotes"
- `Str` converts a numeric expression to a string in a locale-independent manner (contrary to the `CStr` function).
- `Val` converts a string to a numeric value.
- `LCase` converts all letters in a string to lowercase. Only uppercase letters within the string are converted. All lowercase letters and nonletter characters remain unchanged.
- `UCase` converts characters in a string to uppercase. Only lowercase letters in a string are affected. Uppercase letters and all other characters remain unchanged.
- `Left` returns the leftmost "n" characters of a string expression.
- `Mid` returns the specified portion of a string expression.
- `Right` returns the rightmost "n" characters of a string expression.
- `Trim` removes all leading and trailing spaces of a string expression.
All these functions are fully compatible with VBA and all functions returning a string can be specified with a trailing $ like Mid$. 

**Specific UNO Functions**

The UNO specific runtime functions CreateUnoListener, CreateUnoService, GetProcessServiceManager, HasUnoInterfaces, IsUnoStruct, EqualUnoObjects are described in [OpenOffice.org Basic](http://openoffice.org).

**Accessing the UNO API**

In [OpenOffice.org Basic](http://openoffice.org), the interaction between Basic and UNO is described on an elementary level. This section describes the interface between Basic and the UNO API at the level of the OpenOffice.org application.

This is realized by two predefined Basic properties:

- **StarDesktop**
- **ThisComponent**

The property **StarDesktop** gives access to the global OpenOffice.org application API while the property **ThisComponent** accesses the document related API.

**StarDesktop**

The property **StarDesktop** is a shortcut for the service com.sun.star.frame.Desktop.

**Example:**

```basic
MsgBox StarDesktop DBG_SupportedInterfaces
' is the same as
Dim oDesktop oDesktop = CreateUnoService( "com.sun.star.frame.Desktop" )
MsgBox oDesktop DBG_SupportedInterfaces
```

The displayed message box differs slightly because **Dbg_SupportedInterfaces** displays "StarDesktop" as an object type of the desktop object in the first case and
"com.sun.star.frame.Desktop" in the second. But the two objects are the same.

ThisComponent

The property ThisComponent is used from document Basic, where it represents the document the Basic belongs to. The type of object accessed by ThisComponent depends on the document type. The following example shows the differences.

Basic module in a OpenOffice.org document:

```
Sub Main     MsgBox ThisComponent.Dbg_SupportedInterfaces End Sub
```

The execution of this Basic routine shows different results for a Text, Spreadsheet and Presentation document. Depending on the document type, a different set of interfaces are supported by the object. A portion of the interfaces are common to all these document types representing the general functionality that documents of any type offer. In particular, all OpenOffice.org documents support the com.sun.star.document.OfficeDocument service, including the interfaces com.sun.star.frame.XStorable and com.sun.star.view.XPrintable. Another interface is com.sun.star.frame.XModel.

The following list shows the interfaces supported by all document types:

- com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet
- com.sun.star.container.XChild
- com.sun.star.document.XDocumentInfoSupplier
- com.sun.star.document.XEventBroadcaster
- com.sun.star.document.XViewDataSupplier
- com.sun.star.document.XEventsSupplier
- com.sun.star.document.XLinkTargetSupplier
- com.sun.star.frame.XModel
- com.sun.star.frame.XStorable
- com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo
- com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory
- com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener
- com.sun.star.style.XStyleFamiliesSupplier
- com.sun.star.util.XModifiable
- com.sun.star.view.XPrintable

For more information about the functionality of these interfaces, see Frame-Controller-Model Paradigm in OpenOffice.org. This section also goes into detail about the general document API.
In addition to the common services or interfaces, each document type supports specific services or interfaces. The following list outlines the supported services and important interfaces:

A Text document supports:

- Several interfaces, especially from the <idlmodule>com.sun.star.text</idlmodule> package.

A Spreadsheet document supports:

- The service com.sun.star.sheet.SpreadsheetDocument,
- Several other interfaces, especially from the com.sun.star.sheet package.

Presentation and Drawing documents support:

- Several other interfaces, especially from the com.sun.star.drawing package.

The usage of these services and interfaces is explained in the document type specific chapters Text Documents, Spreadsheet Documents and Drawing Documents and Presentation Documents.

As previously mentioned, ThisComponent is used from document Basic, but it is also possible to use it from application Basic. In an application wide Basic module, ThisComponent is identical to the current component that can also be accessed through StarDesktop.CurrentComponent. The only difference between the two is that if the BasicIDE is active, StarDesktop.CurrentComponent refers to the BasicIDE itself while ThisComponent always refers to the component that was active before the BasicIDE became the top window.

### Special Behavior of OpenOffice.org Basic

Threading and rescheduling of OpenOffice.org Basic differs from other languages which must be taken into consideration.
Threads

OpenOffice.org Basic does not support threads:

- In situations it may be necessary to create new threads to access UNO components in a special way. This is not possible in OpenOffice.org Basic.
- OpenOffice.org Basic is unable to control threads. If two threads use the Basic runtime system simultaneously, the result will be undefined results or even a crash. Please take precautions.

Rescheduling

The OpenOffice.org Basic runtime system reschedules regularly. It allows system messages to be dispatched continuously that have been sent to the OpenOffice.org process during the runtime of a Basic module. This is necessary to allow repainting operations, and access to controls and menus during the runtime of a Basic script as Basic runs in the OpenOffice.org main thread. Otherwise, it would not be possible to stop a running Basic script by clicking the corresponding button on the toolbar.

This behavior has an important consequence. Any system message, for example, clicking a push button control, can result in a callback into Basic if an corresponding event is specified. The Basic programmer must be aware of the fact that this can take place at any point of time when a script is running.

The following example shows how this effects the state of the Basic runtime system:

```
Dim EndLoop As Boolean Dim AllowBreak As Boolean

' Main sub, the execution starts here     Sub Main     ' Initialize flags
EndLoop = FALSE    AllowBreak = FALSE
Macro1' calls sub Macro1 End Sub

' Sub called by main Sub Macro1        Dim a        While Not EndLoop     ' Toggel flags permanently    AllowBreak = TRUE        AllowBreak = FALSE
Wend        Print "Ready!"    End Sub

' Sub assigned to a bush button in a writer document Sub Break If AllowBreak = TRUE Then    EndLoop = TRUE EndIf End Sub
```

When Sub Main in this Basic module is executed, the two Boolean variables EndLoop and AllowBreak are initialized. Then Sub Macro1 is called where the execution runs into a loop. The loop is executed until the EndLoop flag is set to TRUE. This is done in Sub Break that is assigned to a push button in a writer document, but the EndLoop flag can only be set to TRUE if the AllowBreak flag is also TRUE. This flag is permanently toggled in the loop in Sub Macro1.
The program execution may or may not be stopped if the push button is clicked. It depends on the point of time the push button is clicked. If the Basic runtime system has just executed the `AllowBreak = TRUE` statement, the execution is stopped because the `If` condition in `Sub Break` is `TRUE` and the `EndLoop` flag can be set to `TRUE`. If the push button is clicked when the `AllowBreak` variable is `FALSE`, the execution is not stopped. The Basic runtime system reschedules permanently, therefore it is unpredictable. This is an example to show what problems may result from the Basic rescheduling mechanism.

Callbacks to Basic that result from rescheduling have the same effect as if the Sub specified in the event had been called directly from the position in the Basic code that is executed in the moment the rescheduling action leading to the callback takes place. In this example, the Basic call stack looks like this if a breakpoint is placed in the `Sub Break`:

```
Basic         Native code
0: Break  <---  Callback due to push button event 1: Macro1 --->  Reschedule()
2: Main
```

With the call to the native `Reschedule` method, the Basic runtime system is left and reentered when the push button events in a Callback to Basic. On the Basic stack this looks like a direct call from `Sub Macro1` to `Sub Break`.

A similar situation occurs when a program raises a dialog using the execute method of the dialog object returned by `CreateUnoDialog()`. See Programming Dialogs and Dialog Controls. In this case, the Basic runtime system does not reschedule, but messages are processed by the dialog's message loop that also result in callbacks to Basic. When the Basic runtime system is called back due to an event at a dialog control, the resulting Basic stack looks analogous. For example:

```
Sub Main     Dim oDialog     oDialog = CreateUnoDialog( ... )
oDialog.execute() End Sub
Sub DoIt     ... End Sub
```

If `Sub DoIt` is specified to be executed if an event occurs for one of the dialog controls, the Basic call stack looks like this if a breakpoint is placed in `Sub DoIt`:

```
Basic         Native code
0: DoIt <--- Callback due to control event 1: Main ---> execute() ---> Reschedule()
```

There is also a difference to the rescheduling done directly by the Basic runtime system. The rescheduling done by the dialog's message loop can not result in unpredictable behavior, because the Basic runtime system has called the dialog's `execute` method and waits for its return. It is in a well-defined state.
Advanced Library Organization

Basic source code and Dialogs are organized in libraries. This section describes the structure and usage of the library system.

General Structure

The library system that is used to store Basic source code modules and Dialogs has three levels:

Library container
- The library container represents the top level of the library hierarchy containing libraries. The libraries inside a library container are accessed by name.

Library
- A library contains elements that logically belong together, for example, several Basic modules that form a program or a set of related dialogs together.

Library elements
- Library elements are Basic source code modules or dialogs. The elements represent the lowest level in the library hierarchy. For Basic source code modules, the element type is string. Dialogs are represented by the interface com.sun.star.io.XInputStreamProvider that provides access to the XML data describing the dialog.

The hierarchy is separated for Basic source code and dialogs, that is, a Basic library container only contains Basic libraries containing Basic source code modules and a dialog library container only contains dialog libraries containing dialogs.

Basic source code and dialogs are stored globally for the whole office application and locally in documents. For the application, there is one Basic library container and one dialog library container. Every document has one Basic library container and one dialog library container as well. By including the application or document level, the library system actually has four levels. Illustration 1: Sample module structure depicts this structure.

As shown in the library hierarchy for Document 1, the Basic and dialog library containers do not have the same structure. The Basic library container has a library named Library1 and the dialog library container has a library named Library2. The library containers are separated for Basic and dialogs in the API.
It is not recommended to create a structure as described above because the library and dialog containers are not separated in the GUI, for example, in the OpenOffice.org Basic Macros dialog. When a user creates or deletes a new library in the OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer dialog, the library is created or deleted in the Basic and the dialog library containers.

Accessing Libraries from Basic

Library Container Properties in Basic

Currently, the library system is implemented using UNO interfaces, not as a UNO service. Therefore, the library system cannot be accessed by instantiating an UNO
service. The library system has to be accessed directly from Basic using the built-in properties `BasicLibraries` and `DialogLibraries`.

The `BasicLibraries` property refers to the Basic library container that belongs to the library container that the `BasicLibraries` property is accessed. In an application-wide Basic module, the property `BasicLibraries` accesses the application Basic library container and in a document Basic module, the property `BasicLibraries` contains the document Basic library container. The same applies to the `DialogLibraries` property.

### Loading Libraries

Initially, most Basic libraries are not loaded. All the libraries in the application library container are known after starting OpenOffice.org, and all the library elements in a document are known when it is loaded, most of them are disabled until they are loaded explicitly. This mechanism saves time during the Basic initialization. When a Basic library is initialized, the source code modules are inserted into the Basic engine and compiled. If there are many libraries with big modules, it is time consuming, especially if the libraries are not required.

The exception to this is that every library container contains a library named "Standard" that is always loaded. This library is used as a standard location for Basic programs and dialogs that do not need a complex structure. All other libraries have to be loaded explicitly. For example:

When Library1, Module1 looks like

```basic
Sub doSomething     MsgBox "doSomething" End Sub
```

the following code in library Standard, Module1

```basic
Sub Main     doSomething() End Sub
```

fails, unless the user loaded Library1 before using the **Tools - Macro** dialog. A runtime error "Property or method not found" occurs. To avoid this, load library Library1 before calling `doSomething()`:

```basic
Sub Main     BasicLibraries.loadLibrary( "Library1" )     doSomething() End Sub
```

Accordingly in the dialog container, all the libraries besides the Standard library have to be loaded before the dialogs inside the library can be accessed. For example:

```basic
Sub Main     ' If this line was missing the following code would fail
DialogLibraries.loadLibrary( "Library1" )
' Code to instantiate and display a dialog ' Details will be explained in a later chapter     oDlg = createUnoDialog( DialogLibraries.Library1.Dialog1 )
```
The code to instantiate and display the dialog is described in Programming Dialogs and Dialog Controls. The library representing DialogLibraries.Library1.Dialog1 is only valid once Library1 has been loaded.

The properties BasicLibraries and DialogLibraries refer to the container that includes the Basic source accessing these properties. Therefore in a document module Basic the properties BasicLibraries and DialogLibraries refer to the Basic and Dialog library container of the document. In most cases, libraries in the document have to be loaded. In other cases it might be necessary to access application-wide libraries from document Basic. This can be done using the GlobalScope property. The GlobalScope property represents the root scope of the application Basic, therefore the application library containers can be accessed as properties of GlobalScope.

Example module in a Document Basic in library Standard:

```
Sub Main ' This code loads Library1 of the ...' Document Basic library container
    BasicLibraries.loadLibrary( "Library1" )
    ' This code loads Library1 of the ...' Document dialog library container
    DialogLibraries.loadLibrary( "Library1" )
    ' This code loads Library1 of the ...' Application Basic library container
    GlobalScope.BasicLibraries.loadLibrary( "Library1" )
    ' This code loads Library1 of the ...' Application dialog library container
    GlobalScope.DialogLibraries.loadLibrary( "Library1" )
    ' This code displays the source code of the ...' Application Basic module
    MsgBox GlobalScope.BasicLibraries.Library1.Module1
End Sub
```

Note – Application library containers can be accessed from document-embedded Basic libraries using the GlobalScope property, for example,


Library Container API

The BasicLibraries and DialogLibraries support com.sun.star.script.XLibraryContainer2 that inherits from com.sun.star.script.XLibraryContainer, which is a com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer. Basic developers do not require the location of the interface to use a method, but a basic understanding is helpful when looking up the methods in the API reference.

The XLibraryContainer2 handles existing library links and the write protection for
libraries. It is also used to rename libraries:

```java
boolean isLibraryLink( [in] string Name)  string getLibraryLinkURL( [in] string Name)  boolean isLibraryReadOnly( [in] string Name)  void setLibraryReadOnly( [in] string Name, [in] boolean bReadOnly)  void renameLibrary( [in] string Name, [in] string NewName)
```

The **XLibraryContainer** creates and removes libraries and library links. Furthermore, it can test if a library has been loaded or, if necessary, load it.

```java
com::sun::star::script::XNameContainer createLibrary( [in] string Name)  com::sun::star::script::XNameAccess createLibraryLink( [in] string Name, [in] string StorageURL, [in] boolean ReadOnly)  void removeLibrary( [in] string Name)  boolean isLibraryLoaded( [in] string Name)  void loadLibrary( [in] string Name)
```

The methods of **XNameContainer** access and manage the libraries in the container:

```java
void insertByName( [in] string name, [in] any element) void removeByName( [in] string name) any getByName( [in] string name) void replaceByName( [in] string name, [in] any element) sequence < string > getElementNames() boolean hasByName( [in] string name) type getElementType() boolean hasElements()
```

These methods are accessed using the UNO API as described in [OpenOffice.org Basic](https://openoffice.org). Note however, these interfaces can only be used from OpenOffice.org Basic, not from other environments.

Libraries can be added to library containers in two different ways:

**Creating a New Library**

Creating a new library is done using the `createLibrary()` method. A library created with this method belongs to the library container where `createLibrary()` has been called. The implementation of the library container is responsible for saving and loading this library. This functionality is not currently covered by the interfaces, therefore the implementation determines how and where this is done. The method `createLibrary()` returns a standard `com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer` interface to access the library elements and modify the library.

Initially, such a library is empty and new library elements are inserted. It is also possible to protect a library from changes using the `setLibraryReadOnly()` method. In a read-only library, no elements can be inserted or removed, and the modules or dialogs inside cannot be modified in the BasicIDE. For additional information, see [OpenOffice.org Basic IDE](https://openoffice.org). Currently, the read-only status can only be changed through API.

**Creating a Link to an Existing Library**
Creating a link to an existing library is accomplished using the method `createLibraryLink()`. Its `StorageURL` parameter describes the location where the library `.xlb` file is stored. For additional information about this topic, see the section on Library File Structure). A library link is only referenced by the library container and is not owned, therefore the library container is not responsible for the location to store the library. This is only described by the `StorageURL` parameter.

The `ReadOnly` parameter sets the read-only status of the library link. This status is independent of the read-only status of the linked library. A linked library is only modified when the library and link to the library are not read only. For example, this mechanism provides read-only access to a library located on a network drive without forcing the library to be read-only, thus the library can be modified easily by an authorized person without changing its read-only status.

The following tables provides a brief overview about other methods supported by the library containers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Methods of com.sun.star.script.XLibraryContainer2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.script.XLibraryContainer2:isLibraryLink()</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boolean. Can be used to ask if a library was added to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the library container as a link.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.script.XLibraryContainer2:getLibraryLinkURL()</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>string. Returns the StorageURL for a linked library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This corresponds to the StorageURL parameter of the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>createLibraryLink(...)</code> method and is primarily meant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to be displayed to the users through the graphical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>user interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.script.XLibraryContainer2:isLibraryReadOnly()</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boolean. Retrieves the read-only status of a library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In case of a library link, the method returns only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>false, that is, the library can be modified, when the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>link or the linked library are not read only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>renameLibrary()</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigns a new name to a library. If the library was</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>added to the library container as a link, only the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>link is renamed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Methods of com.sun.star.script.XLibraryContainer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.script.XLibraryContainer:loadLibrary()</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>void. Loads a library. This is explained in detail in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>section Advanced Library Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.script.XLibraryContainer:isLibraryLoaded()</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boolean. Allows the user to find out if a library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>has already been loaded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.script.XLibraryContainer:removeLibrary()</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>void. Removes the library from the library container.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If the library was added to the library container as a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>link, only the link is removed,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>because the library addressed by the link is not</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>considered to be owned by the library container.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Variable Scopes

Some aspects of scoping in Basic depend on the library structure. This section describes which variables declared in a Basic source code module are seen from what libraries or modules. Generally, only variables declared outside Subs are affected by this issue. Variables declared inside Subs are local to the Sub and not accessible from outside of the Sub. For example:

```basic
Option Explicit ' Forces declaration of variables
Sub Main Dim a% a% = 42 ' Ok NotMain() End Sub
Sub NotMain a% = 42 ' Runtime Error "Variable not defined" End Sub
```

Variables can also be declared outside of Subs. Then their scope includes at least the module they are declared in. To declare variables outside of the Subs, the commands Private, Public/Dim and Global are used.

The Private command is used to declare variables that can only be used locally in a module. If the same variable is declared as Private in two different modules, they are used independently in each module. For example:

Library Standard, Module1:
```
Private x As Double
Sub Main x = 47.11 ' Initialize x of Module1 Module2_InitX ' Initialize x of Module2
.MsgBox x ' Displays the x of Module1 Module2_ShowX ' Displays the x of Module2 End Sub
```

Library Standard, Module2:
```
Private x As Double
Sub Module2_InitX x = 47.12 ' Initialize x of Module2 End Sub
Sub Module2_ShowX MsgBox x ' Displays the x of Module2 End Sub
```

When Main in Module1 is executed, 47.11 is displayed (x of Module1) and then 47.12 (x of Module2).

The Public and Dim commands declare variables that can also be accessed from outside the module. They are identical in this context. Variables declared with Public and Dim can be accessed from all modules that belong to the same library container. For example, based on the library structure shown in Illustration 12.39: Sample module structure, any variable declared with Public and Dim in the Application Basic Modules Standard/Module1, Standard/Module2, Library1/Module1, Library1/Module2 can also be accessed from all of these modules, therefore the library container represents the logical root scope.
The dialogs and dialog controls are UNO components that provide a graphical user interface belonging to the module `<idlmodule>com.sun.star.awt</idlmodule>`. The Toolkit controls follow the Model-View-Controller (MVC) paradigm, which separates the component into three logical units, the model, view, and controller. The model represents the data and the low-level behavior of the component. It has no specific knowledge of its controllers or its views. The view manages the visual display of the state represented by the model. The controller manages the user interaction with the model.

**Note** – Note, that the Toolkit controls combine the view and the controller into one logical unit, which forms the user interface for the component.

The following example of a text field illustrates the separation into model, view and controller.

The model contains the data which describes the text field; for example, the text to be displayed, text color and maximum text length. The text field model is implemented by the `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEditModel` service that extends the `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlModel` service. All aspects of the model are described as a set of properties which are accessible through the `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet` interface.

The view is responsible for the display of the text field and its content. It is possible in general to have multiple views for the same model, but not for Toolkit dialogs. The view is notified about model changes; for example, changes to the text color property causes the text field to be repainted.

The controller handles the user input provided through the keyboard and mouse. If the user changes the text in the text field, the controller updates the corresponding model property. In addition, the controller updates the view; for example, if the user presses the delete button on the keyboard, the marked text in the text field is deleted. A more detailed description of the MVC paradigm can be found in the chapter about Forms.

The base for all the Toolkit controls is the `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControl` service that exports the following interfaces:

- The `com.sun.star.awt.XControl` interface specifies control basics. For example, it gives access to the model, view and context of a control.
- The `com.sun.star.awt.XWindow` interface specifies operations for a window component.
- The `com.sun.star.awt.XView` interface provides methods for attaching an output
device and drawing an object.

### Dialog Handling

After you have designed a dialog, you can:
- Show the dialog in your application
- Obtain the dialog model
- Use the dialog as a controls container
- Modify the properties of the dialog
- Add pages to the dialog

### Showing a Dialog

After a dialog has been designed using the dialog editor, a developer wants to show the dialog from within the program code. The necessary steps are shown in the following example:

```vba
Sub ShowDialog()     Dim oLibContainer As Object, oLib As Object     Dim oInputStreamProvider As Object     Dim oDialog As Object     Const sLibName = "Library1"     Const sDialogName = "Dialog1"     REM library container     oLibContainer = DialogLibraries     REM load the library     oLibContainer.loadLibrary( sLibName )     REM get library     oLib = oLibContainer.getByName( sLibName )     REM get input stream provider     oInputStreamProvider = oLib.getByName( sDialogName )     REM create dialog control     oDialog = CreateUnoDialog( oInputStreamProvider )     REM show the dialog     oDialog.execute() End Sub
```

The dialog control is created by calling the runtime function `CreateUnoDialog()` which takes an object as parameter that supports the `com.sun.star.io.XInputStreamProvider` interface. This object provides an input stream that represents an XML description of the dialog. The section [Advanced Library Organization](#) explains the accessing to the object inside the library hierarchy. The dialog control is shown by calling the `execute()` method of the `com.sun.star.awt.XDialog` interface. It can be closed by calling `endExecute()`, or by offering a [Cancel] or [OK] Button on the dialog. For additional information, see [Programming Dialogs and Dialog Controls](#).
Getting the Dialog Model

If a developer wants to modify any properties of a dialog or a control, it is necessary to have access to the dialog model. From a dialog, the model can be obtained by the getModel method of the com.sun.star.awt.XControl interface:

```
oDialogModel = oDialog.getModel()
```

or shorter

```
oDialogModel = oDialog.Model
```

Dialog as Control Container

All controls belonging to a dialog are grouped together logically. This hierarchy concept is reflected by the fact that a dialog control is a container for other controls. The corresponding service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialog therefore supports the com.sun.star.awt.XControlContainer interface that offers container functionality, namely access to its elements by name. Since in OpenOffice.org Basic, every method of every supported interface is called directly at the object without querying for the appropriate interface, a control with the name TextField1 can be obtained from a dialog object `oDialog` simply by:

```
oControl = oDialog.getControl("TextField1")
```

See OpenOffice.org Basic for additional information. The hierarchy between a dialog and its controls can be seen in the dialog model com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogModel, which is a container for control models and therefore supports the com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer interface. A control model is obtained from a dialog model by:

```
oDialogModel = oDialog.getModel() oControlModel = oDialogModel.getByName("TextField1")
```

or shorter

```
oControlModel = oDialog.Model.TextField1
```

Dialog Properties

It is possible to make some modifications before a dialog is shown. An example is to set the dialog title that is shown in the title bar of a dialog window. This can be
achieved by setting the Title property at the dialog model through the com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface:

```java
DialogModel = Dialog.getModel() DialogModel.setPropertyValue("Title", "My Title")
```

or shorter

```java
Dialog.Model.Title = "My Title"
```

Another approach is to use the `setTitle` method of the com.sun.star.awt.XDialog interface:

```java
Dialog.setTitle("My Title")
```

or

```java
Dialog.Title = "My Title"
```

Another property is the `BackgroundColor` property that sets a different background color for the dialog.

---

**Common Properties**

All Toolkit control models have a set of identical properties referred as the common properties. These are the properties `PositionX`, `PositionY`, `Width`, `Height`, `Name`, `TabIndex`, `Step`, and `Tag`.

**Note** – Note that a Toolkit control model has those common properties only if it belongs to a dialog model. This has also some consequences for the creation of dialogs and controls at runtime. See [Creating Dialogs at Runtime](#).

The `PositionX`, `PositionY`, `Width`, and `Height` properties change the position and size of a dialog, and control at runtime. When designing a dialog in the dialog editor, these properties are set automatically.

The `Name` property is required, because all dialogs and controls are referenced by their name. In the dialog editor this name is created from the object name and a number, for example, `TextField1`.

The `TabIndex` property defines the order of focusing a control in a dialog when pressing the tabulator key. The index of the first element has the value 0. In the dialog editor the `TabIndex` property is set automatically when inserting a control. The order can also be changed through the property browser. Take care when setting this property at runtime.
The **Tag** property adds additional information to a control, such as a remark or number.

The **Step** property is described in detail in the next section.

## Multi-Page Dialogs

A dialog may have several pages that can be traversed by the user step by step. This feature is used in the OpenOffice.org autopilots. The dialog property **Step** defines which page of the dialog is active. At runtime the next page of a dialog is displayed by increasing the step value by 1.

The **Step** property of a control defines the page of the dialog on which the control is visible. For example, if a control has a step value of 1, it is only visible on page 1 of the dialog. If the step value of the dialog is increased from 1 to 2, then all controls with a step value of 1 disappear and all controls with a step value of 2 become visible.

The step value 0 has a special role. If a control has a step value of 0, the control is displayed on all dialog pages. If a dialog has a step value of 0, all controls of the dialog are displayed, regardless of the step value of the individual controls.

## Dialog Controls

After you have created your dialog, you can add many different controls to it, for example buttons, images, labels, text, check boxes and scroll bars.

## Command Button

The command button com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButton allows the user to perform an action by clicking the button. Usually a button carries a label that is set through the **Label** property of the control model:

```python
doDialogModel = oDialog.getModel() oButtonModel = doDialogModel/byName("CommandButton1")
```
Command Button

```java
oButtonModel.setPropertyValue("Label", "My Label")
```

or in short:

```java
oDialog.Model.CommandButton1.Label = "My Label"
```

The label can also be set using the `setLabel` method of the `com.sun.star.awt.XButton` interface:

```java
oButton = oDialog.getControl("CommandButton1") oButton.setLabel("My Label")
```

During runtime, you may want to enable or disable a button. This is achieved by setting the `Enabled` property to `True` or `False`. The `PushButtonType` property defines the default action of a button where 0 is the Default, 1 is OK, 2 is Cancel, and 3 is Help. If a button has a `PushButtonType` value of 2, it behaves like a cancel button, that is, pressing the button closes the dialog. In this case, the method `execute()` of the dialog returns with a value of 0. An OK button of `PushButtonType` 1 returns 1 on `execute()`. The property `DefaultButton` specifies that the command button is the default button on the dialog, that is, pressing the ENTER key chooses the button even if another control has the focus. The `TabStop` property defines if a control can be reached with the TAB key.

The command button has the feature, to display an image by setting the `ImageURL` property, which contains the path to the graphics file.

```java
oButtonModel = oDialog.Model.CommandButton1 oButtonModel.ImageURL = "file:///D:/Office60/share/gallery/bullets/bluball.gif" oButtonModel.ImageAlign = 2
```

All standard graphics formats are supported, such as `.gif`, `.jpg`, `.tif`, `.wmf` and `.bmp`. The property `ImageAlign` defines the alignment of the image inside the button where 0 is Left, 1 is Top, 2 is Right, and 3 is the Bottom. If the size of the image exceeds the size of the button, the image is not scaled automatically, but cut off. In this respect, the image control offers more functionality.

Image Control

If the user wants to display an image without the button functionality, the image control `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlImageControl` is selected. The location of the graphic for the command button is set by the `ImageURL` property. Usually, the size of the image does not match the size of the control, therefore the image control automatically scales the image to the size of the control by setting the `ScaleImage` property to `True`.

```java
oImageControlModel = oDialog.Model.ImageControl1 oImageControlModel.ImageURL = "file:///D:/Office60/share/gallery/photos/beach.jpg"
```
Check Box

The check box control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlCheckBox is used in groups to display multiple choices so that the user can select one or more choices. When a check box is selected it displays a check mark. Check boxes work independently of each other, thus different from option buttons. A user can select any number of check boxes at the same time.

The property State, where 0 is not checked, 1 is checked, 2 is don't know, accesses and changes the state of a checkbox. The tri-state mode of a check box is enabled by setting the TriState property to True. A tri-state check box provides the additional state "don't know", that is used to give the user the option of setting or unsetting an option.

```java
oCheckBoxModel = oDialog.Model.CheckBox3
oCheckBoxModel.TriState = True
oCheckBoxModel.State = 2
```

The same result is achieved by using the com.sun.star.awt.XCheckBox interface:

```java
oCheckBox = oDialog.getControl("CheckBox3")
oCheckBox.enableTriState( True )
oCheckBox.setState( 2 )
```

Option Button

An option button control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRadioButton is a simple switch with two states, that is selected by the user. Usually option buttons are used in groups to display several options, that the user may select. While option buttons and check boxes seem to be similar, selecting one option button deselects all the other option buttons in the same group.

Note – Note, that option buttons that belong to the same group must have consecutive tab indices. Two groups of option buttons can be separated by any control with a tab index that is between the tab indices of the two groups.

Usually a group box, or horizontal and vertical lines are used, because those controls visually group the option buttons together, but in principal this can be any control. There is no functional relationship between an option button and a group box. Option buttons are grouped through consecutive tab indices only.
The state of an option button is accessed by the `State` property, where 0 is not checked and 1 is checked.

```basic
Function IsChecked( oOptionButtonModel As Object ) As Boolean
    Dim bChecked As Boolean
    If oOptionButtonModel.State = 1 Then
        bChecked = True
    Else
        bChecked = False
    End If
    IsChecked = bChecked
End Function
```

**Label Field**

A label field control `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFixedText` displays text that the user can no edit on the screen. For example, the label field is used to add descriptive labels to text fields, list boxes, and combo boxes. The actual text displayed in the label field is controlled by the `Label` property. The `Align` property allows the user to set the alignment of the text in the control to the left (0), center (1) or right (2). By default, the label field displays the text from the `Label` property in a single line. If the text exceeds the width of the control, the text is truncated. This behavior is changed by setting the `MultiLine` property to `True`, so that the text is displayed on more than one line, if necessary. By default, the label field control is drawn without any border. However, the label field appears with a border if the `Border` property is set, where 0 is no border, 1 is a 3D border, and 2 is a simple border. The font attributes of the text in the label field are specified by the `FontDescriptor` property. It is recommended to set this property with the property browser in the dialog editor.

Label fields are used to define shortcut keys for controls without labels. A shortcut key can be defined for any control with a label by adding a tilde (~) before the character that will be used as a shortcut. When the user presses the character key simultaneously with the `ALT` key, the control automatically gets the focus. To assign a shortcut key to a control without a label, for example, a text field, the label field is used. The tilde prefixes the corresponding character in the `Label` property of the label field. As the label field cannot receive focus, the focus automatically moves to the next control in the tab order. Therefore, it is important that the label field and the text field have consecutive tab indices.

```basic
oLabelModel = oDialog.Model.Label1
oLabelModel.Label = "Enter ~Text"
```

**Text Field**

The text field control `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEdit` is used to get input from the user at runtime. In general, the text field is used for editable text, but it can also be made read-only by setting the `ReadOnly` property to `True`. The actual text displayed in
a text field is controlled by the `Text` property. The maximum number of characters that can be entered by the user is specified with the `MaxTextLen` property. A value of 0 means that there is no limitation. By default, a text field displays a single line of text. This behavior is changed by setting the property `Multiline` to `True`. The properties `HScroll` and `VScroll` displays a horizontal and vertical scroll bar.

When a text field receives the focus by pressing the `TAB` key the displayed text is selected and highlighted by default. The default cursor position within the text field is to the right of the existing text. If the user starts typing while a block of text is selected, the selected text is replaced. In some cases, the user may change the default selection behavior and set the selection manually. This is done using the `com.sun.star.awt.XTextComponent` interface:

```vbnet
Dim sText As String Dim oSelection As New com.sun.star.awt.Selection
REM get control oTextField = oDialog.getControl("TextField1")
REM set displayed text sText = "Displayed Text" oTextField.setText( sText )
REM set selection oSelection.Min = 0 oSelection.Max = Len( sText )
oTextField.setSelection( oSelection )
```

The text field control is also used for entering passwords. The property `EchoChar` specifies the character that is displayed in the text field while the user enters the password. In this context, the `MaxTextLen` property is used to limit the number of characters that are typed in:

```vbnet
oTextFieldModel = oDialog.Model.TextField1 oTextFieldModel.EchoChar = Asc(*")
oTextFieldModel.MaxTextLen = 8
```

A user can enter any kind of data into a text field, such as numerical values and dates. These values are always stored as a string in the `Text` property, thus leading to problems when evaluating the user input. Therefore, consider using a date field, time field, numeric field, currency field or formatted field instead.

### List Box

The list box control `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlListBox` displays a list of items that the user can select one or more of. If the number of items exceeds what can be displayed in the list box, scroll bars automatically appear on the control. If the `Dropdown` property is set to `True`, the list of items is displayed in a drop-down box. In this case, the maximum number of line counts in the drop-down box are specified with the `LineCount` property. The actual list of items is controlled by the `StringItemList` property. All selected items are controlled by the `SelectedItems` property. If the `MultiSelection` property is set to `True`, more than one entry can be selected.
List Box

It may be easier to use the com.sun.star.awt.XListBox interface when working with list boxes, because an item can be added to a list at a specific position with the `addItem` method. For example, an item is added at the end of the list by:

```
Dim nCount As Integer
olist box = oDialog.getControl("list box1") nCount = olist box.getItemCount()
olist box.addItem( "New Item", nCount )
```

Multiple items are added with the help of the `addItems` method. The `removeItems` method is used to remove items from a list. For example, the first entry in a list is removed by:

```
Dim nPos As Integer, nCount As Integer
nPos = 0 nCount = 1 olist box.removeItems( nPos, nCount )
```

A list box item can be preselected with the `selectItemPos`, `selectItemsPos` and `selectItem` methods. For example, the first entry in a list box can be selected by:

```
olist box.selectItemPos( 0, True )
```

The currently selected item is obtained with the `getSelectedItem` method:

```
Dim sSelectedItem As String sSelectedItem = olist box.getSelectedItem()
```

Combo Box

The combo box control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlComboBox presents a list of choices to the user. Additionally, it contains a text field allowing the user to input a selection that is not on the list. A combo box is used when there is only a list of suggested choices, whereas a list box is used when the user input is limited only to the list.

The features and properties of a combo box and a list box are similar. Also in a combo box the list of items can be displayed in a drop-down box by setting the `Dropdown` property to `True`. The actual list of items is accessible through the `StringItemList` property. The text displayed in the text field of the combo box is controlled by the `Text` property. For example, if a user selects an item from the list, the selected item is displayed in the text field and is obtained from the `Text` property:

```
Function GetSelectedItem( oComboBoxModel As Object ) As String
GetSelectedItem = oComboBoxModel.Text End Function
```

When a user types text into the text field of the combo box, the automatic word completion is a useful feature and is enabled by setting the `Autocomplete` property to `True`. It is recommended to use the com.sun.star.awt.XComboBox interface when accessing the items of a combo box:
Dim nCount As Integer Dim sItems As Variant
REM get control oComboBox = oDialog.getControl("ComboBox1")
REM first remove all old items from the list nCount = oComboBox.getItemCount()
oComboBox.removeItem( 0, nCount )
REM add new items to the list sItems = Array( "Item1", "Item2", "Item3", "Item4", "Item5" ) oComboBox.addItem( sItems, 0 )

## Horizontal/Vertical Scroll Bar

If the visible area in a dialog is smaller than the displayable content, the scroll bar control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlScrollBar provides navigation through the content by scrolling horizontally or vertically. In addition, the scroll bar control is used to provide scrolling to controls that do not have a built-in scroll bar.

The orientation of a scroll bar is specified by the `Orientation` property and can be horizontal or vertical. A scroll bar has a thumb (scroll box) that the user can drag with the mouse to any position along the scroll bar. The position of the thumb is controlled by the `ScrollValue` property. For a horizontal scroll bar, the left-most position corresponds to the minimum scroll value of 0 and the right-most position to the maximum scroll value defined by the `ScrollValueMax` property. A scroll bar also has arrows at its end that when clicked or held, incrementally moves the thumb along the scroll bar to increase or decrease the scroll value. The change of the scroll value per mouse click on an arrow is specified by the `LineIncrement` property. When clicking in a scroll bar in the region between the thumb and the arrows, the scroll value increases or decreases by the value set for the `BlockIncrement` property. The thumb position represents the portion of the displayable content that is currently visible in a dialog. The visible size of the thumb is set by the `VisibleSize` property and represents the percentage of the currently visible content and the total displayable content.

```
```

The scroll bar control uses the adjustment event `com.sun.star.awt.AdjustmentEvent` to monitor the movement of the thumb along the scroll bar. In an event handler for adjustment events the developer may change the position of the visible content on the dialog as a function of the `ScrollValue` property. In the following example, the size of a label field exceeds the size of the dialog. Each time the user clicks on the scrollbar, the macro `AdjustmentHandler()` is called and the position of the label field in the dialog is changed according to the scroll value.

```
Sub AdjustmentHandler() Dim oLabelModel As Object Dim oScrollBarModel As Object Dim ScrollValue As Long, ScrollValueMax As Long Dim VisibleSize As Long Dim Factor As Double Static bInit As Boolean
```
Group Box

The group box control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlGroupBox creates a frame to visually group other controls together, such as option buttons and check boxes. Note that the group box control does not provide any container functionality for other controls, it only has visual functionality. For more details, see Option Button.

The group box contains a label embedded within the border and is set by the Label property. In most cases, the group box control is only used passively.

Progress Bar

The progress bar control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlProgressBar displays a growing or shrinking bar to give the user feedback during an operation, for example, the completion of a lengthy task. The minimum and the maximum progress value of the control is set by the ProgressValueMin and the ProgressValueMax properties. The progress value is controlled by the ProgressValue property. By default, the progress bar is blue, but the fill color can be changed by setting the FillColor property. The functionality of a progress bar is demonstrated in the following example:

```vba
Sub ProgressBarDemo()     Dim oProgressBar As Object, oProgressBarModel As Object     Dim oCancelButtonModel As Object      Dim oStartButtonModel As Object     Dim ProgressValue As Long     REM progress bar settings     Const ProgressValueMin = 0     Const ProgressValueMax = 40     Const ProgressStep = 4     REM set minimum and maximum progress value     oProgressBarModel = oDialog.Model.ProgressBar1     oProgressBarModel.ProgressValueMin = ProgressValueMin     oProgressBarModel.ProgressValueMax = ProgressValueMax     REM disable cancel and start button     oCancelButtonModel = oDialog.Model.CommandButton1     oCancelButtonModel.Enabled = False     oStartButtonModel = oDialog.Model.CommandButton2     oStartButtonModel.Enabled = False     REM show progress bar     oProgressBar =
```
Progress Bar

```java
oDialog.getControl("ProgressBar1")     oProgressBar.setVisible( True )
REM increase progress value every second For ProgressValue =
ProgressValueMin To ProgressValueMax Step ProgressStep
oProgressBarModel.ProgressValue = ProgressValue     Wait 1000     Next
ProgressValue     REM hide progress bar     oProgressBar.setVisible( False )
REM enable cancel and start button     oCancelButtonModel.Enabled = True
oStartButtonModel.Enabled = True End Sub
```

Horizontal/Vertical Line

The line control `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFixedLine` creates simple lines in a dialog. In most cases, the line control is used to visually subdivide a dialog. The line control can have horizontal or vertical orientation that is specified by the `Orientation` property. The label of a line control is set by the `Label` property. Note that the label is only displayed if the control has a horizontal orientation.

Date Field

The date field control `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateField` extends the text field control and is used for displaying and entering dates. The date displayed in the date field is controlled by the `Date` property. The date value is of type `Long` and must be specified in the format `YYYYMMDD`, for example, the date September 30th, 2002 is set in the following format:

```java
oDateFieldModel = oDialog.Model.DateField1 oDateFieldModel.Date = 20020930
```

The current date is set by using the `Date` and `CDateToIso` runtime functions:

```java
oDateFieldModel.Date = CDateToIso( Date() )
```

The minimum and the maximum date that the user can enter is defined by the `DateMin` and the `DateMax` property. The format of the displayed date is specified by the `DateFormat` and the `DateShowCentury` property, but the usage of `DateShowCentury` is deprecated. Some formats are dependent on the system settings. If the `StrictFormat` property is set to `True`, the date entered by the user is checked during input. The `Dropdown` property enables a calendar that the user can drop down to select a date.

`Dropdown` is currently not working.
**Time Field**

The time field control `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateField` displays and enters time values. The time value are set and retrieved by the `Time` property. The time value is of type `Long` and is specified in the format HHMMSShh, where HH are hours, MM are minutes, SS are seconds and hh are hundredth seconds. For example, the time 15:18:23 is set by:

```plaintext
oTimeFieldModel = oDialog.Model.TimeField1 oTimeFieldModel.Time = 15182300
```

The minimum and maximum time value that can be entered is given by the `TimeMin` and `TimeMax` property. The format of the displayed time is specified by the `TimeFormat` property.

The time value is checked during input by setting the `StrictFormat` property to `True`. Short time format is currently not working.

**Numeric Field**

It is recommended to use the numeric field control `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlNumericField` if the user input is limited to numeric values. The numeric value is controlled by the `Value` property, which is of type `Double`. A minimum and maximum value for user input is defined by the `ValueMin` and the `ValueMax` property. The decimal accuracy of the numeric value is specified by the `DecimalAccuracy` property, for example, a value of 6 corresponds to 6 decimal places. If the `ShowThousandsSeparator` property is set to `True`, a thousands separator is displayed. The numeric field also has a built-in spin button, enabled by the `Spin` property. The spin button is used to increment and decrement the displayed numeric value by clicking with the mouse, whereas the step is set by the `ValueStep` property.

```plaintext
oNumericFieldModel = oDialog.Model.NumericField1 oNumericFieldModel.Value = 25.40 oNumericFieldModel.DecimalAccuracy = 2
```

**Currency Field**

The currency field control `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlCurrencyField` is used for entering and displaying currency values. In addition to the currency value, a currency symbol is displayed, that is set by the `CurrencySymbol` property. If the
PrependCurrencySymbol property is set to True, the currency symbol is displayed in front of the currency value.

\[
\text{oCurrencyFieldModel} = \text{oDialog.Model.CurrencyField1} \quad \text{oCurrencyFieldModel.Value} = 500.00 \\
\text{oCurrencyFieldModel.CurrencySymbol} = "€" \\
\text{oCurrencyFieldModel.PrependCurrencySymbol} = True
\]

**Formated Field**

The formatted field control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFormattedField specifies a format that is used for formatting the entered and displayed data. A number formats supplier must be set in the FormatsSupplier property and a format key for the used format must be specified in the FormatKey property. It is recommended to use the property browser in the dialog editor for setting these properties. Supported number formats are number, percent, currency, date, time, scientific, fraction and boolean values. Therefore, the formatted field can be used instead of a date field, time field, numeric field or currency field. The NumberFormatsSupplier is described in Office Development.

**Pattern Field**

The pattern field control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlPatternField displays and enters a string according to a specified pattern. The entries that the user enters in the pattern field are defined in the EditMask property as a special character code. The length of the edit mask determines the number of the possible input positions. If a character is entered that does not correspond to the edit mask, the input is rejected. For example, in the edit mask "NNLNNLLLL" the character L has the meaning of a text constant and the character N means that only the digits 0 to 9 can be entered. A complete list of valid characters can be found in the OpenOffice.org online help. The LiteralMask property contains the initial values that are displayed in the pattern field. The length of the literal mask should always correspond to the length of the edit mask. An example of a literal mask which fits to the above mentioned edit mask would be "__.__.2002". In this case, the user enters only 4 digits when entering a date.

\[
\text{oPatternFieldModel} = \text{oDialog.Model.PatternField1} \\
\text{oPatternFieldModel.EditMask} = "NNLNNLLLL" \\
\text{oPatternFieldModel.LiteralMask} = "__.__.2002"
\]
The file control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFileControl has all the properties of a text field control, with the additional feature of a built-in command button. When the button is clicked, the file dialog shows up. The directory that the file dialog initially displays is set by the Text property.

The directory must be given as a system path, file URLs do not work at the moment. In Basic you can use the runtime function ConvertToURL() to convert system paths to URLs.

```vbnet
oFileControl = oDialog.Model.FileControl1
oFileControl.Text = "D:\Programme\Office60"
```

Filters for the file dialog can not be set or appended for the file control. An alternative way is to use a text field and a command button instead of a file control and assign a macro to the button which instantiates the file dialog com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.FilePicker at runtime. An example is provided below.

```vbnet
Sub OpenFileDialog()
    Dim oFilePicker As Object, oSimpleFileAccess As Object
    Dim oSettings As Object, oPathSettings As Object
    Dim oTextField As Object, oTextFieldModel As Object
    Dim sFileURL As String
    Dim sFiles As Variant

    REM file dialog
    oFilePicker = CreateUnoService( "com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.FilePicker" )
    REM set filter
    oFilePicker.AppendFilter( "All files (*.*)", "*.::*" )
    oFilePicker.AppendFilter( "StarOffice 6.0 Text Text Document", "*.sxw" )
    oFilePicker.AppendFilter( "StarOffice 6.0 Spreadsheet", "*.sxc" )
    oFilePicker.setCurrentFilter( "All files (*.*)" )
    REM if no file URL is set, get path settings from configuration
    oTextFieldModel = oDialog.Model.TextField1
    sFileURL = ConvertToURL( oTextFieldModel.Text )
    If sFileURL = EMPTY Then
        oSettings = CreateUnoService( "com.sun.star.frame.Settings" )
        oPathSettings = oSettings.getByName( "PathSettings" )
        sFileURL = oPathSettings.getPropertyValue( "Work" )
    End If
    REM set display directory
    If oSimpleFileAccess.exists( sFileURL ) And
      oSimpleFileAccess.isDirectory( sFileURL ) Then
        oFilePicker.setDisplayDirectory( sFileURL )
        END IF
    END IF
    REM execute file dialog
    IF oFilePicker.execute() THEN
        sFiles = oFilePicker.getFiles()
        sFileURL = sFiles(0)
        IF oSimpleFileAccess.exists( sFileURL ) THEN
            REM set file path in text field
            oTextField = oDialog.GetControl("TextField1")
            oTextField.SetText( ConvertFromURL( sFileURL ) )
        END IF
    END IF
END Sub
```
Creating Dialogs at Runtime

When using OpenOffice.org Basic, the dialog editor is a tool for designing dialogs. Refer to OpenOffice.org Basic IDE for additional information. Since OpenOffice.org 2.0, dialogs that have been built with the dialog editor can be loaded by a macro written in any of the supported scripting framework languages (BeanShell, JavaScript, Java, OpenOffice.org Basic) by using the com.sun.star.awt.XDialogProvider API. See section Using the Scripting Framework for more details.

In addition, it is also possible to create dialogs at runtime in a similar way as Java Swing components are created. Also, the event listeners are registered at runtime at the appropriate controls.

An example dialog

In the Java example described in this section, a simple modal dialog is created at runtime containing a command button and label field. Each time the user clicks on the button, the label field is updated and the total number of button clicks is displayed.

The dialog is implemented as a UNO component in Java that is instantiated with the service name com.sun.star.examples.SampleDialog. For details about writing a Java component and the implementation of the UNO core interfaces, refer to Storing the Service Manager for Further Use. The method that creates and executes the dialog is shown below.

```java
/** method for creating a dialog at runtime */
private void createDialog() throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // get the service manager from the component context
    XMultiComponentFactory xMultiComponentFactory = _xComponentContext.getServiceManager();
    // create the dialog model and set the properties
    Object dialogModel = xMultiComponentFactory.createInstanceWithContext("
    "com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogModel", _xComponentContext);
    XPropertySet xPSetDialog = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
```
Creating Dialogs at Runtime

XPropertySet.class, dialogModel); 
xPSetDialog.setPropertyValue("PositionX", new Integer(100)); 
xPSetDialog.setPropertyValue("PositionY", new Integer(100)); 
xPSetDialog.setPropertyValue("Width", new Integer(150)); 
xPSetDialog.setPropertyValue("Height", new Integer(100)); 
xPSetDialog.setPropertyValue("Title", new String("Runtime Dialog Demo")); 

// get the service manager from the dialog model
XMultiServiceFactory xMultiServiceFactory = 
(XMultiServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XMultiServiceFactory.class, dialogModel);

// create the button model and set the properties
Object buttonModel = xMultiServiceFactory.createInstance(
"com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel" );
XPropertySet xPSetButton = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XPropertySet.class, buttonModel);

xPSetButton.setPropertyValue("PositionX", new Integer(50)); 
xPSetButton.setPropertyValue("PositionY", new Integer(30)); 
xPSetButton.setPropertyValue("Width", new Integer(50)); 
xPSetButton.setPropertyValue("Height", new Integer(14)); 
xPSetButton.setPropertyValue("Name", _buttonName); 
xPSetButton.setPropertyValue("TabIndex", new Short((short)0)); 
xPSetButton.setPropertyValue("Label", new String("Click Me")); 

// create the label model and set the properties
Object labelModel = xMultiServiceFactory.createInstance(
"com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFixedTextModel" );
XPropertySet xPSetLabel = ( XPropertySet )UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XPropertySet.class, labelModel );

xPSetLabel.setPropertyValue("PositionX", new Integer(40)); 
xPSetLabel.setPropertyValue("PositionY", new Integer(60)); 
xPSetLabel.setPropertyValue("Width", new Integer(100)); 
xPSetLabel.setPropertyValue("Height", new Integer(14)); 
xPSetLabel.setPropertyValue("Name", _labelName); 
xPSetLabel.setPropertyValue("TabIndex", new Short((short)1)); 
xPSetLabel.setPropertyValue("Label", _labelPrefix);

// insert the control models into the dialog model
XNameContainer xNameCont = (XNameContainer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XNameContainer.class, dialogModel);
xNameCont.insertByName(_buttonName, buttonModel);
xNameCont.insertByName(_labelName, labelModel);

// create the dialog control and set the model
Object dialog = xMultiComponentFactory.createInstanceWithContext(
"com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialog", _xComponentContext);
XControl xControl = (XControl)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XControl.class, dialog );
XControlModel xControlModel = (XControlModel)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XControlModel.class, dialogModel);
xControl.setModel(xControlModel);

// add an action listener to the button control
XControlContainer xControlCont = 
(XControlContainer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XControlContainer.class, dialog);
Object objectButton = xControlCont.getControl("Button1");
XButton xButton = (XButton)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XButton.class, 
objectButton);

xButton.addActionListener(new ActionListenerImpl(xControlCont)); 

// create a peer
Object toolkit = xMultiComponentFactory.createInstanceWithContext(
"com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlPeerModel", toolkitModel);
First, a dialog model is created by prompting the `ServiceManager` for the `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogModel` service. Then, the position, size and title of the dialog are set using the `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet` interface. In performance critical applications, the use of the `com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet` interface is recommended. At this point, the dialog model describes an empty dialog, which does not contain any control models.

All control models in a dialog container have the common properties "PositionX", "PositionY", "Width", "Height", "Name", "TabIndex", "Step" and "Tag". These properties are optional and only added if the control model is created by a special object factory, namely the dialog model. Therefore, a dialog model also supports the `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory` interface. If the control model is created by the `ServiceManager`, these common properties are missing.

**Note** – Note that control models have the common properties "PositionX", "PositionY", "Width", "Height", "Name", "TabIndex", "Step" and "Tag" only if they were created by the dialog model that they belong to.

After the control models for the command button and label field are created, their position, size, name, tab index and label are set. Then, the control models are inserted into the dialog model using the `com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer` interface. The model of the dialog has been fully described.

To display the dialog on the screen, a dialog control `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialog` is created and the corresponding model is set. An action listener is added to the button control, because the label field is updated whenever the user clicks on the command button. The listener is explained below. Before the dialog is shown, a window or a peer is created on the screen. Finally, the dialog is displayed on the screen using the `execute` method of the `com.sun.star.awt.XDialog` interface.
The implementation of the action listener is shown in the following example.

```java
/** action listener */
public class ActionListenerImpl implements com.sun.star.awt.XActionListener {
    private int _nCounts = 0;
    private XControlContainer _xControlCont;

    public ActionListenerImpl(XControlContainer xControlCont) {
        _xControlCont = xControlCont;
    }

    // XEventListener
    public void disposing(EventObject eventObject) {
        _xControlCont = null;
    }

    // XActionListener
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent actionEvent) {
        // increase click counter
        _nCounts++;
        // set label text
        Object label = _xControlCont.getControl("Label1");
        XFixedText xLabel = (XFixedText)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFixedText.class, label);
        xLabel.setText(_labelPrefix + _nCounts);
    }
}
```

The action listener is fired each time the user clicks on the command button. In the `actionPerformed` method of the `com.sun.star.awt.XActionListener` interface, an internal counter for the number of button clicks is increased. Then, this number is updated in the label field. In addition, the disposing method of the parent interface `com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener` is implemented.

Our sample component executes the dialog from within the office by implementing the trigger method of the `com.sun.star.task.XJobExecutor` interface:

```java
public void trigger(String sEvent) {
    if (sEvent.compareTo("execute") == 0) {
        try {
            createDialog();
        } catch (Exception e) {
            throw new com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException(e.getMessage(), this, e);
        }
    }
}
```

A simple OpenOffice.org Basic macro that instantiates the service of our sample component and executes the dialog is shown below.

```basic
Sub Main
    Dim oJobExecutor
    oJobExecutor = CreateUnoService("
com.sun.star.examples.SampleDialog"
) oJobExecutor.trigger("execute")
End Sub
```

In future versions of OpenOffice.org, a method for executing dialogs created at runtime will be provided.

## Library File Structure

This section describes how libraries are stored. Generally all data is stored in XML format. Four different XML document types that are specified in the DTD files installed in `<OfficePath>/share/dtd/officedocument` are used:

- A library container is described by a library container index file following the specification given in `libraries.dtd`. In this file, each library in the library container is
described by its name, a flag if the library is a link, the StorageURL (describing where the library is stored) and, only in case of a link, the link read-only status.

- A library is described by a library index file following the specification given in library.dtd. This file contains the library name, a flag for the read-only status, a flag if the library is password protected (see below) and the name of each library element.

- A Basic source code module is described in a file following the specification given in module.dtd. This file contains the module name, the language (at the moment only OpenOffice.org Basic is supported) and the source code.

- A dialog is described in a file following the specification given in dialog.dtd. The file contains all data to describe a dialog. As this format is extensive, it is not possible to describe it in this document.

Additionally, a binary format is used to store compiled Basic code for password protected Basic libraries. This is described in more detail in Library File Structure.

**Warning** – In a password protected Basic library, the password is used to scramble the source code using the Blowfish algorithm. The password itself is not stored, so when the password for a Basic library is lost, the corresponding Basic source code is lost also. There is no retrieval method if this happens.

Besides the XML format of the library description files, it is necessary to understand the structure in which these files are stored. This is different for application and document libraries. Application libraries are stored directly in the system file system and document libraries are stored inside the document's package file. The following sections describe the structure and combination of library container and library structures.

### Application Library Container

In an OpenOffice.org installation the application library containers for Basic and dialogs are located in the directory `<OfficePath>/share/basic` or `<OfficeUserPath>/user/basic`. The library container index files are named `script.xlc` for the Basic and `dialog.xlc` for the Dialog library container. The "lc" in `.xlc` stands for library container.

The same directory contains the libraries created by the user. Initially only the library Standard exists for Basic and dialogs using the same directory. The structure of the library inside the directory is explained in the next section.

The `user/basic` directory is not the only place in the OpenOffice.org installation where
libraries are stored. Most of the autopilots integrated in OpenOffice.org are realized in Basic, and the corresponding Basic and dialog libraries are installed in the directory <OfficePath>/share/basic. These libraries are listed in the library container index file as read-only links.

It is necessary to distinguish between libraries created by the user and the autopilot libraries. The autopilot libraries are installed in a directory that is shared between different users. In a network installation, the share directory is located somewhere on a server, so that the autopilot libraries cannot be owned directly by the user-specific library containers.

In the file system, a library is represented by a directory. The directory's name is the same as the library name. The directory contains all files that are necessary for the library.

Basic libraries can be protected with a password, so that the source code cannot be read by unauthorized persons. Dialog libraries cannot be protected with a password. This can be handled using the OpenOffice.org Basic Macro Organizer dialog that is explained in Managing Basic and Dialog Libraries. The password protection of a Basic library also affects the file format.

### Libraries without Password Protection

Every library element is represented by an XML file named like the element in the directory representing the library. For Basic modules these files, following the specification in module.dtd, have the extension .xba. For dialogs these files, following the specification in dialog.dtd, have the extension .xdl. Additionally, the directory contains a library index file (library.dtd). These index files are named script.xlb for Basic and dialog.xlb for dialog libraries.

In the following example, an Application Basic library Standard containing two modules Module1 and Module2 is represented by the following directory:

```
<DIR> Standard | |--script.xlb |--Module1.xba |--Module2.xba
```

An application dialog library Standard containing two dialogs SmallDialog and BigDialog is represented by the following directory:

```
<DIR> Standard | |--dialog.xlb |--SmallDialog.xba |--BigDialog.xba
```

It is also possible that the same directory represents a Basic and a Dialog library. This is the standard case in the OpenOffice.org. See the chapter Library organization in OpenOffice.org. When the two example libraries above are stored in the same directory, the files from both libraries are together in the same directory:
The two libraries do not affect each other, because all file names are different. This is also the case if a Basic module and a dialog are named equally, due the different file extensions.

**Libraries with Password Protection**

Only Basic libraries can be password protected. The password protection of a Basic library affects the file format, because binary data has to be stored. In plain XML format, the source code would be readable in the file even if it was not displayed in the Basic IDE. Also, the compiled Basic code has to be stored for each module together with the encrypted sources. This is necessary because, Basic could not access the source code and compile it as long as the password is unknown in contrast to libraries without password protection. Without storing the compiled code, Basic could only execute password-protected libraries once the user supplied the correct password. The whole purpose of the password feature is to distribute programs without giving away the password and source code, therefore this would not be feasible.

The following example shows a password-protected application Basic library Library1, containing three modules Module1, Module1 and Module3, is represented by the following directory:

```
<DIR> Library1 | |--script.xlb |--Module1.pba |--Module2.pba |--Module3.pba
```

The file `script.xlb` does not differ from the case without a password, except for the fact that the password protected status of the library is reflected by the corresponding flag.

Each module is represented by a `.pba` file. Like OpenOffice.org documents, these files are package files ("pba" stands for package basic) and contain a sub structure that can be viewed with any zip tool. 

A module package file has the following content:

```
<PACKAGE> Module1.pba | |--<DIR> Meta-Inf
here |--code.bin |--source.xml
```

The `Meta-Inf` directory is part of every package file and will not be explained in this document. The file code.bin contains the compiled Basic code and the file `source.xml` contains the Basic source code encrypted with the password.
Document Library Container

While application libraries are stored directly in the file system, document libraries are stored inside the document's package file. In documents, the Basic library container and dialog library container are stored separately:

- The root of the Basic library container hierarchy is a folder inside the package file named Basic. This folder is not created when the Basic library container contains an empty Standard library in the case of a new document.
- The root of the dialog library container hierarchy is a folder inside the package file named Dialogs. This folder is not created when the dialog library container contains an empty Standard library in the case of a new document.

The libraries are stored as sub folders in these library container folders. The structure inside the libraries is basically the same as in an application. One difference relates to the stream - "files" inside the package or package folders – names. In documents, all XML stream or file names have the extension .xml. Special extensions like .xba, .xdl are not used. Instead of different extensions, the names are extended for the library and library container index files. In documents they are named script-lc.xml (Basic library container index file), script-lb.xml (Basic library index file), dialog-lc.xml (dialog library container index file) and dialog-lb.xml (dialog library index file).

In example 1, the package structure for a document with one Basic Standard library containing three modules:

```xml
```

In example 2, package structure for a document with two Basic and one dialog libraries:

```xml
```
If a document Basic library is password protected, the file structure does not differ as much from an unprotected library as in the Application Basic case. The differences are:

- The module files of a password-protected Basic library have the same name as without the password protection, but they are scrambled with the password.
- There is an additional binary file named like the library with the extension .bin for each module. Similar to the file code.bin in the Application Basic .pba files, this file contains the compiled Basic code that executes the module without access to the source code.

The following example shows the package structure for a document with two Basic and one dialog libraries where only the Basic library Library1 contains any of the modules:

```
```

This example also shows that a Dialogs folder is created in the document package file although the library Standard and the library Library1 do not contain dialogs. This is done because the Dialog library Library1 would be lost after reloading the document. Only a single empty library Standard is assumed to exist, even if it is not stored explicitly.

**Library Deployment**

OpenOffice.org has a simple concept to add Basic libraries to an existing installation. Bringing Basic libraries into a OpenOffice.org installation involves the following steps:
- Package your libraries as office extension *.oxt package.
- Start the Extension Manager (Tools - Extension Manager), press the Add button, select the extension package you would like to install and press Ok.

Alternatively, you can install the extension also via the command line:

```
[<OfficePath>/program] $ unopkg add my_package.oxt
```

The tool analyzes the packages manifest file and install all referenced items accordingly to their mime types.

The opposite step is necessary to remove a package from your OpenOffice.org installation:

- Start the Extension Manager (Tools - Extension Manager), select the package you want to remove and press Remove
- or via the command line:

  ```
  [<OfficePath>/program] $ unopkg remove my_package.oxt
  ```

You can run `unopkg` with the option `--help` or `-h` to get a comprehensive overview of all the switches.

**Package Structure**

An extension package (*.oxt) is a zip file containing Basic libraries, UNO components, type libraries and/or other files. The `unopkg` tool unzips the content found in the package directory into the cache directory, preserving the file structure of the zip file. Based on the package manifest.xml file the tool installs the referenced content items accordingly to the mime types. All other not referenced content is ignored and is simply unzipped in the cache directory for private usage from package (e.g. images, ...).

**Basic libraries**

The `unopkg` tool links Basic library files (.xlb) into OpenOffice.org by adding them to the Basic library container files (.xlc) that reside in the following paths:

- The files `share/basic/* .xlc` are created when new libraries are shared among all users using the `unopkg` option --shared in a network installation.
- The name of a Basic library is determined by the name of its parent directory. Therefore, package complete library folders, including the parent folders into the UNO Basic package. For example, if your library is named `MyLib`, there has to be a corresponding folder `/MyLib` in your development environment. This folder...
Library Deployment

must be packaged completely into the UNO package, so that the *.oxt file contains a structure similar to the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library File</th>
<th>User Installation</th>
<th>Shared Installation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>script.xlb</td>
<td>&lt;OfficeUserPath&gt;/user/basic/script.xlc</td>
<td>&lt;OfficePath&gt;/share/basic/script.xlc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dialog.xlb</td>
<td>&lt;OfficeUserPath&gt;/user/basic/dialog.xlc</td>
<td>&lt;OfficePath&gt;/share/basic/dialog.xlc</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The appropriate manifest.xml file would look like the following:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<manifest:manifest
    xmlns:manifest="http://openoffice.org/2001/manifest">
    <manifest:file-entry
        manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.basic-library"
        manifest:full-path="MyLib/"/>
    <manifest:file-entry
        manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.dialog-library"
        manifest:full-path="MyLib/"/>
</manifest:manifest>
```

Other package components

More detailed information about unopkg or Extensions and Extensions deployment in general can be found in the Extensions chapter. Recommended are at least the File Format and the description.xml section.

Note – The autopilot .xlb libraries are registered in the user/basic/*.xlc files, but located in share/basic. This makes it possible to delete and disable the autopilots for certain users even in a network installation. This is impossible for libraries deployed with the unopkg tool and libraries deployed with the share option are always shared among all users.

Path Settings

The package directories are called uno-packages by default. There can be one in <OfficePath>/share for shared installations and another one in <OfficePath>/user for single users. The cache directories are created automatically within the respective uno-packages directory. OpenOffice.org has to be configured to look for these paths in the uno.ini file (on Windows, unorc on Unix) in <OfficePath>/program. When unopkg is launched, it checks this file for package entries. If they do not exist, the following default values are added to uno(.ini|rc):

```
[Bootstrap] UNO_SHARED_PACKAGES=$
```
The settings reflect the default values for the *shared* package and cache directory, and the *user* package and cache directory as described above.

In a network installation, all users start the office from a common directory on a file server. The administrator installs the extensions package with the `--shared` option to make it available for all users of this network installation. Not efor shared instalaltion administrator rights are necessary and most often extensions get installed per user.

**Additional Options**

By default, the tool logs all actions into the `<cache-dir>/log.txt` file. You can switch to another log file through the `--log-file <file name>` option. Option `-v` (`–verbose`) logs to stdout, in addition to the log file.

The tool handles errors loosely. It continues after errors even if a package cannot be inflated or a shared library cannot be registered. The tool logs these errors and proceeds silently. If you want the tool to stop on every error, switch on the `–strict_error` handling.

If there is some inconsistency with the cache and you want to renew it from the ground up, repeating the installation using the expert command `unopkg reinstall` to force a reinstallation of all deployed extensions.
Database Access

Platform Independence

The goal of the OpenOffice.org API database integration is to provide platform independent database connectivity for OpenOffice.org API. While it is necessary to access database abstraction layers, such as JDBC and ODBC, it is also desirable to have direct access to arbitrary data sources, if required.

The OpenOffice.org API database integration reaches this goal through an abstraction above the abstractions with the Star Database Connectivity (SDBC). SDBC accesses data through SDBC drivers. Each SDBC driver knows how to get data from a particular source. Some drivers handle files themselves, others use a standard driver model, or existing drivers to retrieve data. The concept makes it possible to integrate database connectivity for MAPI address books, LDAP directories and OpenOffice.org Calc into the current version of OpenOffice.org API.

Since SDBC drivers are UNO components, it is possible to write drivers for data sources and thus extend the database connectivity of OpenOffice.org API.
Functioning of the OpenOffice.org API
Database Integration

The OpenOffice.org API database integration is based on SQL. This section discusses how the OpenOffice.org API handles various SQL dialects and how it integrates with data sources that do not understand SQL.

OpenOffice.org API has a built-in parser that tests and adjusts the syntax to be standard SQL. With the parser, differences between SQL dialects, such as case sensitivity, can be handled if the query composer is used. Data sources that do not understand SQL can be treated by an SDBC driver that is a database engine of its own, which translates from standard SQL to the mechanisms needed to read and write data using a non-SQL data source.

Integration with OpenOffice.org API

OpenOffice.org API employs SDBC data sources in Writer, Calc and Database Forms. In Writer, use form letter fields to access database tables, create email form letters, and drag tables and queries into a document to create tables or lists.

If a table is dragged into a Calc spreadsheet, the database range that can be updated from the database, and data pilots can be created from database connections. Conversely, drag a spreadsheet range onto a database to import the spreadsheet data into a database.

Another area of database connectivity are database forms. Form controls can be inserted into Writer or Calc documents, or just created in the database file with Base, to connect them to database tables to get data aware forms.

While there is no API coverage for direct database integration in Writer, the database connectivity in Calc and Database Forms can be controlled through the API. Refer to the corresponding chapters Database operations and Forms for more information. In Writer, database connectivity can be implemented by application programmers, for example, by accessing text field context. No API exists for merging complete selections into text.

Using the OpenOffice.org API database integration enhances or automates the out-of-box database integration, creates customized office documents from databases, or provides simple, platform-independent database clients in the OpenOffice.org API environment.
Architecture

The OpenOffice.org API database integration is divided into three layers: SDBC, SDBCX, and SDB. Each layer extends the functionality of the layer below.

- Star Database (SDB) is the highest layer. This layer provides an application-centered view of the databases. Services, such as the database context, data sources, advanced connections, persistent query definitions and command definitions, as well as authentication and row sets are in this layer.
- Star Database Connectivity Extension (SDBCX) is the middle layer which introduces abstractions, such as catalogs, tables, views, groups, users, columns, indexes, and keys, as well as the corresponding containers for these objects.
- Star Database Connectivity (SDBC) is the lowest layer. This layer contains the basic database functionality used by the higher layers, such as drivers, simple connections, statements and result sets.

Example: Querying the Bibliography Database

The following example queries the bibliography database that is delivered with the OpenOffice.org distribution. The basic steps are:


24. Configure com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet to select from the table "biblio" in the data source "Bibliography".

25. Execute it.

26. Iterate over its rows.

27. Insert a new row.

If the database requires login, set additional properties for user and password, or connect using interactive login. There are other options as well. For details, refer to the section The RowSet Service.

protected void openQuery() throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception, java.lang.Exception {
    xRemoteServiceManager = this.getRemoteServiceManager(
        "uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2083;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager"
    );
    // first we create our RowSet object and get its XRowSet interface
```java
Object rowSet = xRemoteServiceManager.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet", xRemoteContext);

com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSet xRowSet = (com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSet)
   UnoRuntime.queryInterface(com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSet.class, rowSet);

// set the properties needed to connect to a database
XPropertySet xProp =
   (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xRowSet);

// the DataSourceName can be a data source registered with
[PRODUCTNAME], among other possibilities
xProp.setPropertyValue("DataSourceName", "Bibliography");

// the CommandType must be TABLE, QUERY or COMMAND - here we use COMMAND
xProp.setPropertyValue("CommandType", new
   Integer(com.sun.star.sdb.CommandType.COMMAND));

// the Command could be a table or query name or a SQL command,
// depending on the CommandType
xProp.setPropertyValue("Command", "SELECT IDENTIFIER, AUTHOR FROM
   biblio");

// if your database requires logon, you can use the properties User and
// Password
// xProp.setPropertyValue("User", "JohnDoe");
// xProp.setPropertyValue("Password", "mysecret");
xRowSet.execute();

// prepare the XRow and XColumnLocate interface for column access
// XRow gets column values
com.sun.star.sdbc.XRow xRow =
   (com.sun.star.sdbc.XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
      com.sun.star.sdbc.XRow.class, xRowSet);
// XColumnLocate finds columns by name
com.sun.star.sdbc.XColumnLocate xLoc =
   (com.sun.star.sdbc.XColumnLocate)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
      com.sun.star.sdbc.XColumnLocate.class, xRowSet);

// print output header
System.out.println("Identifier\tAuthor");
System.out.println("----------\t------");

// output result rows
while ( xRowSet.next() ) {
   String ident = xRow.getString(xLoc.findColumn("IDENTIFIER"));
   String author = xRow.getString(xLoc.findColumn("AUTHOR"));
   System.out.println(ident + "\t" + author);
}

// insert a new row
// XResultSetUpdate for insertRow handling
com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSetUpdate xResultSetUpdate =
   (com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSetUpdate)
   UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
      com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSetUpdate.class, xRowSet);
```
Data Sources in OpenOffice.org API

DatabaseContext

In the OpenOffice.org graphical user interface (GUI), define Open Office database files using the database application OpenOffice.org Base, and register them in the Tools - Options - OpenOffice.org Database - Databasesdialog in order to access them in the database browser. A data source has five main aspects. It contains the following:

- The general information necessary to connect to a data source.
- Settings to control the presentation of tables, and queries.
- SQL query definitions.
- Database forms.
- Database reports.

From the API perspective, these functions are mirrored in the com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext service. The database context is a container for data sources. It is a singleton, that is, it may exist only once in a running OpenOffice.org API instance and can be accessed by creating it at the global service manager of the office.
The database context is the entry point for applications that need to connect to a data source already defined in the OpenOffice.org API. Additionally, it is used to create new data sources and add them to OpenOffice.org API. The following figure shows the relationship between the database context, the data sources and the connection over a data source.

The database context is used to get a data source that provides a com.sun.star.sdb.Connection through its com.sun.star.sdb.XCompletedConnection interface.

Existing data sources are obtained from the database context at its interfaces com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess and com.sun.star.container.XEnumeration.
Their methods getByName() and createEnumeration() deliver the com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource services defined in the OpenOffice.org GUI.

Since OpenOffice.org 2.0, getByName() can also be used to obtain data sources that are not registered. You only need to pass a URL pointing to a valid database file, which is then automatically loaded by the context.

The code below shows how to print all available registered data sources:

```java
// prints all data sources
public static void printDataSources(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // retrieve the DatabaseContext and get its XNameAccess interface
    XNameAccess xNameAccess = (XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameAccess.class,
        _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext"));

    // print all DataSource names
    String aNames [] = xNameAccess.getElementNames();
    for (int i=0;i<aNames.length;++i)
        System.out.println(aNames[i]);
}
```

**DataSources**

Data Sources can be broken down into five parts:

- The service that establishes database connections
- Queries that can be used, executed and altered by the user in the GUI
- Database forms and reports
- Document links to a collection of database forms (deprecated)
- Tables and columns in the database

**The DataSource Service**

The com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource service includes all the features of a database defined in OpenOffice.org API. DataSource provides the following properties for its knowledge about how to connect to a database and which tables to display:

**Properties of com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource**
The DataSource Service

com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource:Name
[readonly] string - The name of the data source.

com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource:URL
string - Indicates a database URL. Valid URL formats are:

• jdbc: subprotocol : subname
• sdbc: subprotocol : subname

com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource:Info
sequence<com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue>. A list of arbitrary string tag or value pairs as connection arguments.

com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource:User
string - The login name of the current user.

com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource:Password
string - The password of the current user. It is not stored with the data source.

com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource:IsPasswordRequired
boolean - Indicates that a password is always necessary and might be interactively requested from the user by an interaction handler.

com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource:IsReadOnly
[readonly] boolean - Determines if database contents may be modified.

com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource:NumberFormatsSupplier
com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatsSupplier. Provides an object for number formatting.

com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource:TableFilter
sequence <string>. A list of tables the data source should display. If empty, all tables are hidden. Valid placeholders are % and ?.

com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource:TableTypeFilter
sequence <string>. A list of table types the DataSource should display. If empty, all table types are rejected. Possible type strings are TABLE, VIEW, and SYSTEM TABLE/code>.

com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource:SuppressVersionColumns
boolean - Indicates that components displaying data obtained from this data source should suppress columns used for versioning.

All other capabilities of a DataSource, such as query definitions, forms, reports, and the actual process of establishing connections are available over its interfaces.

- com.sun.star.sdb.XQueryDefinitionsSupplier provides access to SQL query definitions for a database. The definition of queries is discussed in the next section, Queries.
- com.sun.star.sdb.XCompletedConnection connects to a database. It asks the user to supply necessary information before it connects. The section Connecting Through a DataSource shows how to establish a connection.
- com.sun.star.sdb.XBookmarksSupplier provides access to bookmarks pointing at documents associated with the DataSource, primarily OpenOffice.org API documents containing form components. Although it is optional, it is implemented for all data sources in OpenOffice.org API. The section Forms and Other Links explains database bookmarks.
The DataSource Service

- com.sun.star.util.XFlushable forces the data source to flush all information including the properties above to the Open Office database file. However, changes work immediately and are stored in the Open Office database file format.
- com.sun.star.sdb.XFormDocumentsSupplier provides access to forms stored inside the Open Office database file.
- com.sun.star.sdb.XReportDocumentsSupplier provides access to reports stored inside the Open Office database file.
- com.sun.star.sdb.OfficeDatabaseDocument provides all interfaces which the

Adding and Editing Datasources

New data sources have to be created by the com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory interface of the database context. A new data source can be registered with the database context at its com.sun.star.uno.XNamingService interface and the necessary properties set.

The lifetime of data sources is controlled through the interfaces com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory, com.sun.star.uno.XNamingService and com.sun.star.container.XContainer of the database context.

The method `createInstance()` of `XSingleServiceFactory` creates new generic data sources. They are added to the database context using `registerObject()` at the interface com.sun.star.uno.XNamingService. The XNamingService allows registering data sources, as well as revoking the registration. The following are the methods defined for XNamingService:

```java
void registerObject( [in] string Name, [in] com::sun::star::uno::XInterface Object)
void revokeObject( [in] string Name)
com::sun::star::uno::XInterface getRegisteredObject( [in] string Name)
```

Before data sources can be registered at the database context, they have to be stored with the com.sun.star.frame.XStorable interface. The method `storeAsURL` should be used for that purpose.

In the following example, a data source is created for a previously generated Adabas D database named MYDB1 on the local machine. The URL property has to be present, and for Adabas D the property `IsPasswordRequired` should be true, otherwise no interactive connection can be established. The password dialog requests a user name by setting the User property.

```java
// creates a new DataSource
public static void createNewDataSource(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws
```
The DataSource Service

```java
com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // the XSingleServiceFactory of the database context creates new generic
    // com.sun.star.sdb.DataSources (!)
    // retrieve the database context at the global service manager and get
    // XSingleServiceFactory interface
    XSingleServiceFactory xFac = 
        (XSingleServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XSingleServiceFactory.class,
            _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext"));

    // instantiate an empty data source at the XSingleServiceFactory
    // interface of the DatabaseContext
    Object xDs = xFac.createInstance();

    // register it with the database context
    XNamingService xServ = 
        (XNamingService)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamingService.class, xFac);
    XStorable store = (XStorable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XStorable.class, xDs);
    XModel model = (XModel)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XModel.class, xDs);
    store.storeAsURL("file:///c:/test.odb", model.getArgs());
    xServ.registerObject("NewDataSourceName", xDs);

    // setting the necessary data source properties
    XPropertySet xDsProps = 
        (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xDs);
    // Adabas D URL
    xDsProps.setPropertyValue("URL", "sdbc:adabas::MYDB1");

    // force password dialog
    xDsProps.setPropertyValue("IsPasswordRequired", new Boolean(true));

    // suggest dsadmin as user name
    xDsProps.setPropertyValue("User", "dsadmin");
    store.store();
}
```

The various possible database URLs are discussed in the section Driver Specifics.

To edit an existing data source, retrieve it by name or by file URL from the com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface of the database context and use its com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface to configure it, as required. To store the newly edited data source, you must use the com.sun.star.frame.XStorable interface.

Queries

A com.sun.star.sdb.QueryDefinition encapsulates a definition of an SQL statement stored in OpenOffice.org API. It is similar to a view or a stored procedure, because it
can be reused, and executed and altered by the user in the GUI. It is possible to run a QueryDefinition against a different database by changing the underlying DataSource properties. It can also be created without being connected to a database. The purpose of the query services available at a DataSource is to define and edit queries. The query services by themselves do not offer methods to execute queries. To open a query, use a com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet service or the com.sun.star.sdb.XCommandPreparation interface of a connection. See the sections The RowSet Service and PreparedStatement From DataSource Queries for additional details.

### Adding and Editing Predefined Queries

The query definitions container com.sun.star.sdb.DefinitionContainer is used to work with the query definitions of a data source. It is returned by the com.sun.star.sdb.XQueryDefinitionsSupplier interface of the data source, which has a single method for this purpose:

```java
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getQueryDefinitions()
```

The DefinitionContainer is not only an XNameAccess, but a com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer, that is, add new query definitions by name (see First Steps). Besides the name access, obtain query definitions through com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess and com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess.
Adding and Editing Predefined Queries

Data Source

```
string Name
string URL
sequence<com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue> Info
string User
string Password
boolean IsPasswordRequired
boolean SuppressExceptionOnColumns
boolean IsIncludeOnly
com.sun.star.uno.XNumberFormatSupplier NumberFormatSupplier
sequence<strings> TableFilter
sequence<strings> TableSupplier
```

DefinitionContainer And QueryDefinition

New query definitions are created by the com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory interface of the query definitions container. Its method `createInstance()` provides an empty `QueryDefinition` to configure, as required. Then, the new query definition is added to the `DefinitionContainer` using `insertByName()` at the `XNameContainer` interface.

**Note** – The optional interface com.sun.star.util.XRefreshable is not supported by the `DefinitionContainer` implementation.

A `QueryDefinition` is configured through the following properties:

**Properties of com.sun.star.sdb.QueryDefinition**

- `com.sun.star.sdb.QueryDefinition:Name` string - The name of the query definition.
- `com.sun.star.sdb.QueryDefinition:EscapeProcessing` boolean - If true, determines that the query must not be touched by the built-in SQL parser of OpenOffice.org API.
- `com.sun.star.sdb.QueryDefinition:UpdateCatalogName` string - The name of the update table catalog used to identify tables, supported by some
Adding and Editing Predefined Queries

databases.

string - The name of the update table schema used to identify tables, supported by some databases.

string - The name of the update table catalog used to identify tables, supported by some databases The name of the table which should be updated. This is usually used for queries based on more than one table and makes such queries partially editable. The property UpdateTableName must contain the name of the table with unique rows in the result set. In a 1:n join this is usually the table on the n side of the join.

The following example adds a new query definition Query1 to the data source Bibliography that is provided with OpenOffice.org API.

```java
// creates a new query definition named Query1
public static void createQuerydefinition(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    XNameAccess xNameAccess = (XNameAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XNameAccess.class,
        _rMSF.createInstance( "com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext")
    );

    // we use the datasource Bibliography
    XQueryDefinitionsSupplier xQuerySup = (XQueryDefinitionsSupplier)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XQueryDefinitionsSupplier.class,
            xNameAccess.getByName( "Bibliography" )
        );

    // get the container for query definitions
    XNameAccess xQDefs = xQuerySup.getQueryDefinitions();

    // for new query definitions we need the
    com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory interface
    // of the query definitions container
    XSingleServiceFactory xSingleFac = (XSingleServiceFactory)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XSingleServiceFactory.class, xQDefs);

    // order a new query and get its com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface
    XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XPropertySet.class, xSingleFac.createInstance());

    // configure the query
    xProp.setPropertyValue("Command","SELECT * FROM biblio");
    xProp.setPropertyValue("EscapeProcessing", new Boolean(true));

    // insert it into the query definitions container
    XNameContainer xCont = (XNameContainer) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XNameContainer.class, xQDefs);
```
try{
    if ( xCont.hasByName("Query1") )
        xCont.removeByName("Query1");
} catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {}{}

xCont.insertByName("Query1", xProp);
XStorable store = (XStorable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XStorable.class, xQuerySup);
    store.store();
}

Runtime Settings For Predefined Queries

The queries in the user interface have a number of advanced settings concerning the formatting and filtering of the query and its columns. For the API, these settings are available as long as the data source is connected with the underlying database. The section Connecting Through a DataSource discusses how to get a connection from a data source. When the connection is made, its interface com.sun.star.sdb.XQueriesSupplier returns query objects with the advanced settings above.
The Connection gives you a com.sun.star.sdbcx.Container of com.sun.star.sdb.Query services. These Query objects are different from QueryDefinitions.

The com.sun.star.sdb.Query service inherits both the properties from com.sun.star.sdb.QueryDefinition service described previously, and the properties defined in the service com.sun.star.sdb.DataSettings. Use DataSettings to customize the appearance of the query when used in the OpenOffice.org API GUI or together with a com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet.

Properties of com.sun.star.sdb.DataSettings

- Filter: A string - An additional filter for the data object, WHERE clause syntax.
- ApplyFilter: A boolean - Indicates if the filter should be applied, default is FALSE.
- Order: A string - Is an additional sort order definition.
- RowHeight: A long - Specifies the height of a data row.
- TextColor: A long - Specifies the text color for displayed text in 0xAARRGGBB notation

In addition to these properties, the com.sun.star.sdb.Query service offers a com.sun.star.sdbcx.XDataDescriptorFactory to create new query descriptors based on the current query information. Use this query descriptor to append new queries to the com.sun.star.sdbcx.Container using its com.sun.star.sdbcx.XAppend interface. This is an alternative to the connection-independent method to create new queries as discussed above. The section The Descriptor Pattern explains how to use descriptors to append new elements to database objects.

The com.sun.star.sdbcx.XRename interface is used to rename a query. It has one method:

```java
void rename( [in] string newName)
```

The interface com.sun.star.sdbcx.XColumnsSupplier grants access to the column settings of the query through its single method getColumns():

```java
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getColumns()
```

The columns returned by getColumns() are com.sun.star.sdb.Column services that provide column information and the ability to improve the appearance of columns. This service is explained in the section Tables and Columns.

The following code sample connects to Bibliography, and prints the column names and types of the previously defined query Query1.

```java
public static void printQueryColumnNames(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws
```
The SingleSelectQueryComposer

The service `com.sun.star.sdb.SingleSelectQueryComposer` is a tool that analyzes and composes single select statement strings. It is a replacement for the service `com.sun.star.sdb.SQLQueryComposer`. The query composer is divided into two parts. The first part defines the analyzing of the single select statement. The service `com.sun.star.sdb.SingleSelectQueryAnalyzer` hides the complexity of parsing and evaluating a single select statement, and provides methods for accessing a statements filter, group by, having and order criteria, as well as the corresponding select columns and tables. If supported, the service gives access to the parameters contained in the single select statement.
The SingleSelectQueryComposer

The second part of the query composer modifies the single select statement. The service com.sun.star.sdb.SingleSelectQueryComposer extends the service com.sun.star.sdb.SingleSelectQueryAnalyzer and provides methods for expanding a statement with filter, group by, having and order criteria. To get the new, extended statement, the methods from com.sun.star.sdb.SingleSelectQueryAnalyzer have to be used.

A query composer com.sun.star.sdb.SingleSelectQueryComposer is retrieved over the com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory interface of a com.sun.star.sdb.Connection:

```java
com::sun::uno::XInterface createInstance( [in] string aServiceSpecifier )
```

The interface com.sun.star.sdb.XSingleSelectQueryAnalyzer is used to supply the SingleSelectQueryComposer with the necessary information. It has the following methods:

```java
// provide SQL string
void setQuery( [in] string command )
string getQuery() 

// filter
string getFilter() 
sequence< sequence< com::sun::beans::PropertyValue > > getStructuredFilter() 

// GROUP BY
string getGroup();
com::sun::container::XIndexAccess getGroupColumns();

// HAVING
string getHavingClause();
sequence< sequence<com::sun::beans::PropertyValue> > getStructuredHavingFilter();

// control the ORDER BY clause
string getOrder();
com::sun::container::XIndexAccess getOrderColumns();
```

The example below shows a simple test case for the com.sun.star.sdb.SingleSelectQueryComposer:

```java
public void testSingleSelectQueryComposer() {
    log.println("testing SingleSelectQueryComposer");
    try {
        XNameAccess xNameAccess =
            (XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameAccess.class,
            ((XMultiServiceFactory)param.getMSF()).createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext"));
        // we use the first datasource
        XDataSource xDS =
            (XDataSource)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDataSource.class,
```
xNameAccess.getByName( "Bibliography" ));

log.println("check XMultiServiceFactory");
XMultiServiceFactory xConn =
(XMultiServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiServiceFactory.class, xDS.getConnection(new String(),new String()));

log.println("check getAvailableServiceNames");
String[] sServiceNames = xConn.getAvailableServiceNames();
assure("Service 'SingleSelectQueryComposer' not supported",sServiceNames[0].equals("com.sun.star.sdb.SingleSelectQueryComposer"));
XSingleSelectQueryAnalyzer xQueryAna = (XSingleSelectQueryAnalyzer)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSingleSelectQueryAnalyzer.class,xConn
.createInstance( sServiceNames[0]));

log.println("check setQuery");
xQueryAna.setQuery("SELECT * FROM "biblio"");
assure("Query not identical", xQueryAna.getQuery().equals("SELECT *
FROM "Biblio""));

// XSingleSelectQueryComposer
XSingleSelectQueryComposer xComposer = (XSingleSelectQueryComposer)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSingleSelectQueryComposer.class,xQuer
yAna);

log.println("check setFilter");
// filter
xComposer.setFilter(""Identifier" = 'BOR02b'");
assure("Query not identical:" + xQueryAna.getFilter() + "-> "Identifier" = 'BOR02b'", xQueryAna.getFilter().equals(""Identifier" =
'BOR02b'"));

log.println("check setGroup");
// group by
xComposer.setGroup(""Identifier""");
assure("Query not identical:" + xQueryAna.getGroup() + "-> "Identifier"", xQueryAna.getGroup().equals(""Identifier""));

log.println("check setOrder");
// order by
xComposer.setOrder(""Identifier""");
assure("Query not identical:" + xQueryAna.getOrder() + "-> "Identifier"", xQueryAna.getOrder().equals(""Identifier""));

log.println("check setHavingClause");
// having
xComposer.setHavingClause(""Identifier" = 'BOR02b'");
assure("Query not identical:" + xQueryAna.getHavingClause() + "-> "Identifier" = 'BOR02b'",
xQueryAna.getHavingClause().equals(""Identifier" = 'BOR02b'"));

log.println("check getOrderColumns");
// order by columns
XIndexAccess xOrderColumns = xQueryAna.getOrderColumns();
assure("Order columns doesn't exist -> "Identifier"",
xOrderColumns != null && xOrderColumns.getCount() == 1 &&
xOrderColumns.getByIndex(0) != null);
log.println("check getGroupColumns");
// group by columns
XIndexAccess xGroupColumns = xQueryAna.getGroupColumns();
assure("Group columns doesn't exist -> \"Identifier\"", xGroupColumns != null && xGroupColumns.getCount() == 1 && xGroupColumns.getByIndex(0) != null);

log.println("check getColumns");
// XColumnsSupplier
XColumnsSupplier xSelectColumns = (XColumnsSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XColumnsSupplier.class,xQueryAna); assure("Select columns doesn't exist", xSelectColumns != null && xSelectColumns-columns.getColumns() != null && xSelectColumns-getColumns().getElementNames().length != 0);

log.println("check structured filter");
// structured filter
xQueryAna.setQuery("SELECT \"Identifier\", \"Type\", \"Address\"
FROM \"biblio\" \"biblio\"");
xComposer.setFilter(complexFilter);
PropertyValue[] aStructuredFilter = xQueryAna.getStructuredFilter();
xComposer.setFilter(""");
xComposer.setStructuredFilter(aStructuredFilter); assure("Structured Filter not identical", xQueryAna.getFilter().equals(complexFilter));

log.println("check structured having");
// structured having clause
xComposer.setHavingClause(complexFilter);
PropertyValue[] aStructuredHaving = xQueryAna.getStructuredHavingFilter();
xComposer.setHavingClause(""");
xComposer.setStructuredHavingFilter(aStructuredHaving); assure("Structured Having Clause not identical", xQueryAna.getHavingClause().equals(complexFilter));
}
catch(Exception e) {
    assure("Exception caught: " + e,false);
}
}

In the previous code example, a query command is passed to setQuery(), then the criteria for WHERE, and GROUP BY, and HAVING, and ORDER BY is added. The WHERE expressions are passed without the WHERE keyword to setFilter(), and the method setOrder(), with comma-separated ORDER BY columns or column numbers, is provided.

As an alternative, add WHERE conditions using appendFilterByColumn(). This method expects a com.sun.star.sdb.DataColumn service providing the name and the value for the filter. Similarly, the method appendOrderByColumn() adds columns that are used for ordering. The same applies to appendGroupByColumn() and appendHavingFilterByColumn(). These columns can come from the RowSet.
The `Original` property at the service `com.sun.star.sdb.SingleSelectQueryAnalyzer` holds the original single select statement.

The methods `getQuery()`, `getFilter()` and `getOrder()` return the complete `SELECT`, `WHERE` and `ORDER BY` part of the single select statement as a string.

The method `getStructuredFilter()` returns the filter split into OR levels. Within each OR level, filters are provided as AND criteria, with the name of the column and the filter condition string.

The interface `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XTablesSupplier` provides access to the tables that are used in the FROM part of the SQL-Statement:

```java
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getTables()
```

The interface `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XColumnsSupplier` provides the selected columns, which are listed after the SELECT keyword:

```java
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getColumns()
```

The interface `com.sun.star.sdb.XParametersSupplier` provides the parameters, which are used in the where clause:

```java
com::sun::star::container::XIndexAccess getParameters()
```

---

The `SQLQueryComposer`

The service `com.sun.star.sdb.XSQLQueryComposerFactory` is a tool that composes SQL `SELECT` strings. It hides the complexity of parsing and evaluating SQL statements, and provides methods to configure an SQL statement with filtering and ordering criteria.

**Note** – The `com.sun.star.sdb.SQLQueryComposer` service is deprecated. Though you can still use it in your programs, you are encouraged to replace it with the `com.sun.star.sdb.SingleSelectQueryComposer` service.

A query composer is retrieved over the `com.sun.star.sdb.XSQLQueryComposerFactory` interface of a `com.sun.star.sdb.Connection`:

```java
com::sun::star::sdb::XSQLQueryComposer createQueryComposer()
```

Its interface `com.sun.star.sdb.XSQLQueryComposer` is used to supply the `SQLQueryComposer` with the necessary information. It has the following methods:
The SQLQueryComposer

// provide SQL string
void setQuery( [in] string command)
string getQuery()
string getComposedQuery()

// control the WHERE clause
void setFilter( [in] string filter)
void appendFilterByColumn( [in] com::sun::star::beans::XPropertySet column)
string getFilter()
sequence< sequence< com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > >
getStructuredFilter()

// control the ORDER BY clause
void setOrder( [in] string order)
void appendOrderByColumn( [in] com::sun::star::beans::XPropertySet column,
[in] boolean ascending)
string getOrder()

In the above method, a query command, such as "SELECT Identifier, Address, Author FROM biblio" is passed to setQuery(), then the criteria for WHERE and ORDER BY is added. The WHERE expressions are passed without the WHERE keyword to setFilter(), and the method setOrder() with comma-separated ORDER BY columns or column numbers is provided.

As an alternative, add WHERE conditions using appendFilterByColumn(). This method expects a com.sun.star.sdb.DataColumn service providing the name and the value for the filter. Similarly, the method appendOrderByColumn() adds columns that are used for ordering. These columns could come from the RowSet.

Retrieve the resulting SQL string from getComposedQuery().

The methods getQuery(), getFilter() and getOrder() return the SELECT, WHERE and ORDER BY part of the SQL command as a string.

The method getStructuredFilter() returns the filter split into OR levels. Within each OR level, filters are provided as AND criteria with the name of the column and the filter condition string.

The following example prints the structured filter.

// prints the structured filter
public static void printStructuredFilter(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    XNameAccess xNameAccess = (XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XNameAccess.class,
        _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext"));

    // we use the first datasource
    XDataSource xDS = (XDataSource)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XDataSource.class, xNameAccess.getByName("Bibliography"));
    XConnection con = xDS.getConnection("", "");
    XQueriesSupplier xQuerySup = (XQueriesSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XQueriesSupplier.class, con.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.SqlQueriesSupplier"));

    // print the structured filter
    printStructuredFilter(xQuerySup, xDS, xNameAccess, _rMSF, xDS.getDatabaseContext());
}
The SQLQueryComposer

XQueriesSupplier.class, con);

XNameAccess xQDefs = xQuerySup.getQueries();

XPropertySet xQuery = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(  
    XPropertySet.class, xQDefs.getName("Query1"));
String sCommand = (String)xQuery.getPropertyValue("Command");

XSQLQueryComposerFactory xQueryFac = (XSQLQueryComposerFactory)  
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(  
        XSQLQueryComposerFactory.class, con);

XSQLQueryComposer xQComposer = xQueryFac.createQueryComposer();
xQComposer.setQuery(sCommand);

PropertyValue aFilter[] = xQComposer.getStructuredFilter();
for (int i=0; i<aFilter.length; ) {
    System.out.println("( ");
    for (int j=0; j<aFilter[i].length; ++j)
        System.out.println("Name: " + aFilter[i][j].Name + " Value: " +
                         aFilter[i][j].Value);
    System.out.println(")");
    ++i;
    if (i<aFilter.length)
        System.out.println(" OR ");
}

The interface com.sun.star.sdbcx.XTablesSupplier provides access to the tables that  
are used in the "FROM" part of the SQL-Statement:
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getTables()

The interface com.sun.star.sdbcx.XColumnsSupplier provides the selected columns,  
which are listed after the SELECT keyword:
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getColumns()

Forms and Reports

Since OpenOffice.org 2.0, you can not only link to documents that belong to a data  
source, but you can store your forms and reports within the Open Office database  
file.

The interface com.sun.star.sdb.XFormDocumentsSupplier, supplied by the  
com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource, provides access to the forms stored in the database  
file of the data source. It has one method:
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getFormDocuments()
The interface `com.sun.star.sdb.XReportDocumentsSupplier` provides access to the reports stored in the database file of the data source. It has one method:

```java
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getReportDocuments()
```

The returned service is a `com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentContainer`. The `DocumentContainer` is not only an `XNameAccess`, but a `com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer`, which means that new forms or reports are added using `insertByName()` as described in the `First Steps` chapter. To support the creation of hierarchies, the service `com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentContainer` additionally supplies the interfaces `com.sun.star.container.XHierarchicalNameContainer` and `com.sun.star.container.XHierarchicalNameAccess`. The interfaces `com.sun.star.container.XHierarchicalNameContainer` and `com.sun.star.container.XHierarchicalNameAccess` can be used to create folder hierarchies and to organize forms or reports in different sub folders.

Along with the name access, forms and reports are obtained through `com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess`, and `com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess`.

The interface `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory` is used to create new forms or reports. The method `createInstanceWithArguments()` of `XMultiServiceFactory` creates a new document definition. Whether the document is a form or a report depends on the container where this object is inserted.
Relation design of Reports and Forms

The following are the allowed properties for the document definition:

**Arguments of `createInstanceWithArguments` method with `com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentDefinition` as service name**

- **com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue Name: Name**
  - **Value: string** - Defines the name of the document.

- **com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue Name: URL**
  - **Value: string** - Points to an external document.

- **com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue Name: ActiveConnection**
  - **Value: com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection** - The connection to be used by the document.

- **com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue Name: EmbeddedObject**
  - **Value: com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentDefinition** - The document definition that is to be copied.

To create a new document definition, only the Name and the ActiveConnection must be set. If an existing document from the file system is to be included, the URL property must be filled with the file URL. To copy document definitions, the EmbeddedObject must be filled with the document definition to be copied.

The following are the allowed properties for the document container:

**Arguments of `createInstanceWithArguments` method with `com.sun.star.sdb.Forms` or `com.sun.star.sdb.Reports` as service name**

- **com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue Name: Name**
  - **Value: string** - Defines the name of the document.

- **com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue Name: EmbeddedObject**
  - **Value: com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentDefinition or com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentContainer** - The document definition (form or report object) or a document container (form container or report container) which is to be copied.

When creating a sub folder inside the forms or reports hierarchy, it is enough to set the Name property. If the EmbeddedObject property is set, then it is copied. If the EmbeddedObject supports the `com.sun.star.container.XHierarchicalNameAccess`, the children are also copied. The EmbeddedObject can be a document definition or a document container.
The service com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentContainer additionally defines the interface com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader that is used to get access to the contained document inside the `DocumentDefinition` and it has one method:

```java
com::sun::star::lang::XComponent loadComponentFromURL(
    [in] string URL,
    [in] string TargetFrameName,
    [in] long SearchFlags,
    [in] sequence<com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue> Arguments)
raises( com::sun::star::io::IOException,
        com::sun::star::lang::IllegalArgumentException );
```

- **URL**: describes the name of the document definition to load,
- **TargetFrameName**: is not used.
- **SearchFlags**: is not used.
- **Arguments**:  
  1. `PropertyValue`  
     1. **Name** = `ActiveConnection`  
     2. **Value** = `[IDL:com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection]` The connection that is used when opening the text document.
  2. `PropertyValue`  
     1. **Name** = `OpenMode`  
     2. **Value** = string, "open" if the document is to be opened in live mode (editing is not possible), "openDesign" if the document is to be opened in design mode (editing is possible)

```java
// opens a form in design mode
public static void openFormInDesignMode(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF)
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception
{
    XNameAccess xNameAccess =
        (XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameAccess.class,
            _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext"));
    // we use the first datasource
    XDataSource xDS = (XDataSource)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XDataSource.class, xNameAccess.getName("Bibliography"));
    XConnection con = xDS.getConnection("","");
    XFormsSupplier xSup =
        (XFormsSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFormsSupplier.class, xDS);
    XNameAccess xForms = xSup.getFormDocuments();
    if ( xForms.hasByName("Form1") ){
        Object form = xForms.getByName("Form1"); // to hold ref
        XComponentLoader loader =
            (XComponentLoader)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponentLoader.class, xForms);
        PropertyValue[] args = new PropertyValue[]
            {PropertyValue("OpenMode",0,"openDesign")
```
The returned object is a com.sun.star.text.TextDocument service. For forms, see Forms

**Note** – The document definition object is the owner of the accessed com.sun.star.text.TextDocument. When the document definition is released (last reference gone), the text document is also closed.

The returned form or report documents are com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentDefinition services. These are the properties of the com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentDefinition service.

**Properties of com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentDefinition**

- `com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentDefinition:Name` (string) - Defines the name of the document.
- `com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentDefinition:AsTemplate` (boolean) - Indicates if the document is to be used as template, for example, if a report is to be filled with data.

In addition to these properties, the com.sun.star.sdb.DocumentDefinition service offers a com.sun.star.sdbcx.XRename to rename a DocumentDefinition.

**Document Links**

Each data source can maintain an arbitrary number of document links. The primary purpose of this function is to provide a collection of database forms used with a database.

**Note** – This feature is highly deprecated and should not be used anymore. Since OpenOffice.org 2.0, documents are stored within a database file, and not only linked from a data source.

The links are available at the com.sun.star.sdb.XBookmarksSupplier interface of a data source that has one method:

```java
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getBookmarks()
```

The returned service is a com.sun.star.sdb.DefinitionContainer. The
DefinitionContainer is not only an XNameAccess, but a com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer, that is, new links are added using insertByName() as described in the chapter First Steps. Besides the name access, links are obtained through com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess and com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess.

The returned bookmarks are simple strings containing URLs. Usually forms are are stored at file:/// URLs. The following example adds a new document to the data source Bibliography:

```java
public static void addDocumentLink(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    XNameAccess xNameAccess = (XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XNameAccess.class, _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext"));

    // we use the predefined Bibliography data source
    XDataSource xDS = (XDataSource)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XDataSource.class, xNameAccess.getByName("Bibliography"));

    // we need the XBookmarksSupplier interface of the data source
    XBookmarksSupplier xBookmarksSupplier = (XBookmarksSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XBookmarksSupplier.class, xDS);

    // get container with bookmark URLs
    XNameAccess xBookmarks = xBookmarksSupplier.getBookmarks();
    XNameContainer xBookmarksContainer = (XNameContainer)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XNameContainer.class, xBookmarks);

    // insert new link
    xBookmarksContainer.insertByName("MyLink",
        "file:///home/ada01/Form_Ada01_DSADMIN.Table1.odt");
}
```

To load a linked document, use the bookmark URL with the method loadComponentFromUrl() at the com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader interface of the com.sun.star.frame.Desktop singleton that is available at the global service manager. For details about the Desktop, see Office Development.

### Tables and Columns

A com.sun.star.sdb.Table encapsulates tables in a OpenOffice.org API data source. The com.sun.star.sdb.Table service changes the appearance of a table and its columns in the GUI, and it contains read-only information about the table definition, such as the table name and type, the schema and catalog name, and access privileges.
It is also possible to alter the table definition at the com.sun.star.sdb.Table service. This is discussed in the section Database Design below.

The table related services in the database context are unable to access the data in a database table. Use the com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSet service, or to establish a connection to a database and use its com.sun.star.sdb.XCommandPreparation interface to manipulate table data. For details, see the sections The RowSet Service and PreparedStatement From DataSource Queries.

The following illustration shows the relationship between the com.sun.star.sdb.Connection and the Table objects it provides, and the services included in com.sun.star.sdb.Table.

The com.sun.star.sdbcx.XTablesSupplier interface of a Connection supplies a com.sun.star.sdbcx.Container of com.sun.star.sdb.Table services through its method getTables(). The container administers Table services by name, index or as enumeration.

Just like queries, tables include the display properties specified in com.sun.star.sdb.DataSettings:

**Properties of com.sun.star.sdb.DataSettings**

- **Filter**: string - An additional filter for the data object, WHERE clause syntax.
- **ApplyFilter**: boolean - Indicates if the filter should be applied. The default is FALSE.
- **SortOrder**: string - Is an additional sort order definition.
Order
com.sun.star.sdb.DataSettings: FontDescriptor
com.sun.star.sdb.DataSettings: RowHeight
com.sun.star.sdb.DataSettings: TextColor

Basic table information is included in the properties included with com.sun.star.sdbcx.Table:

**Properties of com.sun.star.sdbcx.Table**

com.sun.star.sdbcx.Table: Name
[readonly] string - Table name.

com.sun.star.sdbcx.Table: CatalogName
[readonly] string - Catalog name.

com.sun.star.sdbcx.Table: SchemaName
[readonly] string - Schema name.

com.sun.star.sdbcx.Table: Description
[readonly] string - Table Description, if supported by the driver.

com.sun.star.sdbcx.Table: Type
[readonly] string - Table type, possible values are TABLE, VIEW, SYSTEM TABLE or an empty string if the driver does not support different table types.

The service com.sun.star.sdb.Table is an extension of the service com.sun.star.sdbcx.Table. It introduces an additional property called Privileges. The Privileges property indicates the actions the current user may carry out on the table.

**Properties of com.sun.star.sdb.Table**

com.sun.star.sdb.Table: Privileges
[readonly] long, constants group com.sun.star.sdbcx.Privilege. The property contains a bitwise AND combination of the following privileges:
- SELECT user can read the data.
- INSERT user can insert new data.
- UPDATE user can update data.
- DELETE user can delete data.
- READ user can read the structure of a definition object.
- CREATE user can create a definition object.
- ALTER user can alter an existing object.
- REFERENCE user can set foreign keys for a table.
- DROP user can drop a definition object.

The appearance of single columns in a table can be changed. The following
The illustration depicts the service `com.sun.star.sdb.Column` and its relationship with the `com.sun.star.sdb.Table` service.

For this purpose, `com.sun.star.sdb.Table` supports the interface `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XColumnsSupplier`. Its method `getColumns()` returns a `com.sun.star.sdbcx.Container` with the additional column-related interface `com.sun.star.sdbc.XColumnLocate` that is useful to get the column number for a certain column in a table:

```java
long findColumn([in] string columnName)
```

The service `com.sun.star.sdb.Column` combines `com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column` and the `com.sun.star.sdb.ColumnSettings` to form a column service with the opportunity to alter the visual appearance of a column.

**Properties of `com.sun.star.sdb.ColumnSettings`**

- `com.sun.star.sdb.ColumnSettings:FormatKey` - long - Contains the index of the number format that is used for the column. The proper value can be determined using the `com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatter` interface. If the value is void, a default number format is used according to the data type of the column.

- `com.sun.star.sdb.ColumnSettings:Align` - long - Specifies the alignment of column text. Possible values are:
Tables and Columns

If the value is void, a default alignment is used according to the data type of the column.

- **com.sun.star.sdb.ColumnSettings:Width**
  - Specifies the width of the column displayed in a grid. The unit is 10th mm. If the value is void, a default width should be used according to the label of the column.

- **com.sun.star.sdb.ColumnSettings:Position**
  - The ordinal position of the column within a grid. If the value is void, the default position should be used according to their order of appearance in com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSetMetaData.

- **com.sun.star.sdb.ColumnSettings:Hidden**
  - Determines if the column should be displayed.

- **com.sun.star.sdb.ColumnSettings:ControlModel**
  - com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet. May contain a control model that defines the settings for layout. The default is NULL.

- **com.sun.star.sdb.ColumnSettings:HelpText**
  - Describes an optional help text that can be used by UI components when representing this column.

- **com.sun.star.sdb.ColumnSettings:ControlDefault**
  - Contains the default value that should be displayed by a control when moving to a new row.

The Properties of com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column are readonly and can be used for information purposes:

**Properties of com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column**

- **com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:Name**
  - [readonly] string - The name of the column.

- **com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:Type**
  - [readonly] long - The com.sun.star.sdbc.DataType of the column.

- **com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:TypeName**
  - [readonly] string - The type name used by the database. If the column type is a user-defined type, then a fully-qualified type name is returned. May be empty.

- **com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:Precision**
  - [readonly] long - The number of decimal digits or chars.

- **com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:Scale**
  - [readonly] long - Number of digits after the decimal point.

- **com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:Nullable**
  - [readonly] long, constants group com.sun.star.sdbc.ColumnValue. Indicates if
Tables and Columns

Values may be NULL in the designated column. Possible values are:
- NULLABLE: column allows NULL values.
- NO_NULLS: column does not allow NULL values.
- NULLABLE_UNKNOWN: it is unknown whether or not NULL is allowed.

com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:IsAutoIncrement
[readonly] boolean - Indicates if the column is automatically numbered.

com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:IsCurrency
[readonly] boolean - Indicates if the column is a cash value.

[readonly] boolean - Indicates whether the column contains a type of time or date stamp used to track updates.

com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:Description
[readonly] string - Keeps a description of the object.

com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:DefaultValue
[readonly] string - Keeps a default value for a column, and is provided as a string.

Connections

Understanding Connections

A connection is an open communication channel to a database. A connection is required to work with data in a database or with a database definition. Connections are encapsulated in Connection objects in the OpenOffice.org API. There are several possibilities to get a Connection:

- Connect to a data source that has already been set up in the database context of OpenOffice.org API.
- Use the driver manager or a specific driver to connect to a database without using an existing data source from the database context.
- Get a connection from the connection pool maintained by OpenOffice.org API.
- Reuse the connection of a database form which is currently open in the GUI.

With the above possibilities, a com.sun.star.sdb.Connection is made or at least a com.sun.star.sdbc.Connection:
The service `com.sun.star.sdb.Connection` has three main functions: communication, data definition and operation on the OpenOffice.org API application level. The service:

- Handles the communication with a database including statement execution, transactions, database metadata and warnings through the simple connection service of the SDBC layer `com.sun.star.sdbc.Connection`.
- Handles database definition tasks, primarily table definitions, through the service `com.sun.star.sdbcx.DatabaseDefinition`. Optionally, it manages views, users and groups.
- Organizes query definitions on the application level and provides a method to open queries and tables defined in OpenOffice.org API. Query definitions are organized by the interfaces `com.sun.star.sdb.XQueriesSupplier` and `com.sun.star.sdb.XSQLQueryComposerFactory`. Queries and tables can be opened using `com.sun.star.sdb.XCommandPreparation`. In case the underlying data source is needed, `com.sun.star.container.XChild` provides the parent data source. This is useful when using an existing connection, for instance, of a database form, to act upon its data source.

Connections are central to all database activities. The connection interfaces are discussed later.
**Communication**

The main interface of `com.sun.star.sdbc.Connection` is `com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection`. Its methods control almost every aspect of communication with a database management system:

```java
// general connection control
void close()
boolean isClosed()
void setReadOnly( [in] boolean readOnly)
boolean isReadOnly()

// commands and statements
// - generic SQL statement
// - prepared statement
// - stored procedure call
com::sun::star::sdbc::XStatement createStatement()
com::sun::star::sdbc::XPreparedStatement prepareStatement( [in] string sql)
com::sun::star::sdbc::XPreparedStatement prepareCall( [in] string sql)
string nativeSQL( [in] string sql)

// transactions
void setTransactionIsolation( [in] long level)
long getTransactionIsolation()
void setAutoCommit( [in] boolean autoCommit)
boolean getAutoCommit()
void commit()
void rollback()

// database metadata
com::sun::star::sdbc::XDatabaseMetaData getMetaData()

// data type mapping (driver dependent)
com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess getTypeMap()
void setTypeMap( [in] com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess typeMap)

// catalog (subspace in a database)
void setCatalog( [in] string catalog)
string getCatalog()
```

The use of commands and statements are explained in the sections [Manipulating Data](#) and [Using DDL to Change the Database Design](#). Transactions are discussed in [Using DBMS Features](#). Database metadata are covered in [Retrieving Information about a Database](#).

The `com.sun.star.sdbc.XWarningsSupplier` is a simple interface to handle SQL warnings:

```java
any getWarnings()
void clearWarnings()
```

The exception `com.sun.star.sdbc.SQLWarning` is usually not thrown, rather it is transported silently to objects supporting `com.sun.star.sdbc.XWarningsSupplier`. Refer to the API reference for more information about SQL warnings.
Data Definition

The interfaces of com.sun.star.sdbcx.DatabaseDefinition are explained in the section Using SDBCX to Access the Database Design.

Operation on Application Level

Handling of query definitions through com.sun.star.sdb.XQueriesSupplier and com.sun.star.sdb.XSQLQueryComposerFactory is discussed in the section Queries.

Through com.sun.star.sdb.XCommandPreparation get the necessary statement objects to open predefined queries and tables in a data source, and execute arbitrary SQL statements.

com::sun::star::sdbc::XPreparedStatement prepareCommand( [in] string command, [in] long commandType)

If the value of the parameter com.sun.star.sdb.CommandType is TABLE or QUERY, pass a table name or query name that exists in the com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource of the connection. The value COMMAND makes prepareCommand() expect an SQL string. The result is a prepared statement object that can be parameterized and executed. For details and an example, refer to section PreparedStatement From DataSource Queries.

The interface com.sun.star.container.XChild accesses the parent com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource of the connection, if available.

com::sun::star::uno::XInterface getParent()
void setParent( [in] com::sun::star::uno::XInterface Parent)

Connecting Through a DataSource

Data sources in the database context of OpenOffice.org API offer two methods to establish a connection, a non-interactive and an interactive procedure. Use the com.sun.star.sdbc.XDataSource interface to connect. It consists of:

// establish connection
com::sun::star::sdbc::XConnection getConnection(
    [in] string user, [in] string password)

// timeout for connection failure
If a database does not support logins, pass empty strings to `getConnection()`. For instance, use `getConnection()` against dBase data sources like Bibliography:

```java
XNameAccess xNameAccess = (XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XNameAccess.class,
    _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext"));

// we use the Bibliography data source
XDataSource xDS = (XDataSource)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XDataSource.class, xNameAccess.getName("Bibliography"));

// simple way to connect
XConnection xConnection = xDS.getConnection("", "");
```

However if the database expects a login procedure, hard code the user and password, although this is not advisable. Data sources support an advanced login concept. Their interface `com.sun.star.sdb.XCompletedConnection` starts an interactive login, if necessary:

```java
com::sun::star::sdbc::XConnection connectWithCompletion(
    [in] com::sun::star::task::XInteractionHandler handler)
```

When you call `connectWithCompletion()`, OpenOffice.org API shows the common login dialog to the user if the data source property `IsPasswordRequired` is true. The login dialog is part of the `com.sun.star.sdb.InteractionHandler` provided by the global service factory.

```java
// logs into a database and returns a connection
// expects a reference to the global service manager
com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection logon(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws
com.sun.star.uno.Exception {

    // retrieve the DatabaseContext and get its XNameAccess interface
    XNameAccess xNameAccess = (XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XNameAccess.class,
        _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext"));

    // get an Adabas D data source Ada01 generated in the GUI
    Object dataSource = xNameAccess.getName("Ada01");

    // create a com.sun.star.sdb.InteractionHandler and get its
    XInteractionHandler interface
    Object interactionHandler = _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.InteractionHandler");
    XInteractionHandler xInteractionHandler = (XInteractionHandler)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XInteractionHandler.class, interactionHandler);

    // query for the XCompletedConnection interface of the data source
    XCompletedConnection xCompletedConnection =
        (XCompletedConnection)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XCompletedConnection.class, dataSource);
```
Connecting Through a DataSource

```java
XConnection xConnection = xCompletedConnection.connectWithCompletion(xInteractionHandler);
return XConnection;
}
```

Connecting Using the DriverManager and a Database URL

The database context and establishing connections to a database even if there is no data source for it in OpenOffice.org API can be avoided.

To create a connection ask the driver manager for it. The com.sun.star.sdbc.DriverManager manages database drivers. The methods of its interface com.sun.star.sdbc.XDriverManager are used to connect to a database using a database URL:

```java
// establish connection
com::sun::star::sdbc::XConnection getConnection( [in] string url)
com::sun::star::sdbc::XConnection getConnectionWithInfo( [in] string url,
    [in] sequence < com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > info)

// timeout for connection failure
void setLoginTimeout( [in] long seconds)
long getLoginTimeout()
```

Additionally, the driver manager enumerates all available drivers, and is used to register and deregister drivers. A URL that identifies a driver and contains information about the database to connect to must be known. The DriverManager chooses the first registered driver that accepts this URL. The following line of code illustrates it generally:

```java
Connection xConnection = DriverManager.getConnection(url);
```

The structure of the URL consists of a protocol name, followed by the driver specific sub-protocol. The data source administration dialog shows the latest supported protocols. Some protocols are platform dependent. For example, ADO is only supported on Windows.

The URLs and conditions for the various drivers are explained in section Driver Specifics below.

Frequently a connection needs additional information, such as a user name, password or character set. Use the method getConnectionWithInfo() to provide this
Connecting Using the DriverManager and a Database URL

The method `getConnectionWithInfo()` takes a sequence of `com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue` structs. Usually user and password are supported. For other connection info properties, refer to the section `Driver Specifics`.

```java
// create the DriverManager
Object driverManager =
  MULTIServiceImplFactoriesFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdbc.DriverManager");

// query for the interface XDriverManager
com.sun.star.sdbc.XDriverManager xDriverManager;
xDriverManager = (XDriverManager)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
  XDriverManager.class, driverManager);

if (xDriverManager != null) {
  // first create the database URL
  String adabasURL = "sdbc:adabas::MYDB0";

  // create the necessary sequence of PropertyValue structs for user and password
  com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] adabasProps = new
  com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] {
    new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue("user", 0, "Scott",
      com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState.DIRECT_VALUE),
    new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue("password", 0, "huutsch",
      com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState.DIRECT_VALUE)
  };

  // now create a connection to Adabas
  XConnection xConnection =
  xDriverManager.getConnectionWithInfo(adabasURL, adabasProps);

  if (adabasConnection != null) {
    System.out.println("Connection was created!");

    // now we dispose the connection to close it
    XComponent xComponent = (XComponent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
      XComponent.class, xConnection);

    if (xComponent != null) {
      // connection must be disposed to avoid memory leaks
      xComponent.dispose();
      System.out.println("Connection disposed!");
    }
  } else {
    System.out.println("Connection could not be created!");
  }
}
```

Connecting Through a Specific Driver

The second method to create an independent, data-source connection is to use a
particular driver implementation, such as writing a driver. There are also several implementations. Create an instance of the driver and ask it for a connection to decide what driver is used:

```java
// create the Driver using the implementation name
Object aDriver =
xMultiServiceFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.comp.sdbcx.adabas.ODriver");

// query for the XDriver interface
com.sun.star.sdbc.XDriver xDriver;
xDriver = (XDriver)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDriver.class, aDriver);

if (xDriver != null) {
    // first create the needed url
    String adabasURL = "sdbc:adabas::MYDB0";

    // second create the necessary properties
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue [] adabasProps = new
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] {
        new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue("user", 0, "test1",
            com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState.DIRECT_VALUE),
        new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue("password", 0, "test1",
            com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState.DIRECT_VALUE)
    };

    // now create a connection to adabas
    XConnection adabasConnection = xDriver.connect(adabasURL,adabasProps);

    if (xConnection != null) {
        System.out.println("Connection was created!");
        // now we dispose the connection to close it
        XComponent xComponent =
        (XComponent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class, xConnection);
        if (xComponent != null) {
            xComponent.dispose();
            System.out.println("Connection disposed!");
        }
    } else {
        System.out.println("Connection could not be created!");
    }
}
```

**Driver Specifics**

Currently, there are nine driver implementations. Some support only the simple
com.sun.star.sdbc.Driver service, some additionally the more extended service from 
com.sun.star.sdbcx.Driver that includes the support for tables, columns, keys, 
indexes, groups and users. This section describes the capabilities and the missing 
functionality in some database drivers. Below is a list of all available drivers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Driver</th>
<th>URL</th>
<th>Solaris</th>
<th>Linux</th>
<th>Windows</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JDBC</td>
<td>jdbc:subprotocol:</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODBC 3.5</td>
<td>sdbc:odbc:datasource name</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adabas D</td>
<td>sdbc:adabas:database name</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADO</td>
<td>sdbc:ado:ADO specific</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dBase</td>
<td>sdbc:dbase:Location of folder or file</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flat file format (csv)</td>
<td>sdbc:flat:Location of folder or file</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OpenOffice.org Calc</td>
<td>sdbc:calc:Location of OpenOffice.org Calc file</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozilla addressbook</td>
<td>sdbc:address:Kind of addressbook</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embedded HSQLDB</td>
<td>sdbc:embedded:hsqldb</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The SDBC Driver for JDBC**

The SDBC driver for JDBC is a mapping from SDBC API calls to the JDBC API, and 
vice versa. Basically, this driver is a direct bridge to JDBC. The SDBC driver for 
JDBC requires a special property called JavaDriverClass to know which JDBC driver 
should be used. The expected value of this property should be the complete class 
name of the JDBC driver. The following code snippet uses a MySQL JDBC driver to 
connect.

```java
// first create the needed url
String url = "jdbc:mysql://localhost:3306/TestTables";

// second create the necessary properties
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] props = new
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] {
    new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue("user", 0, "test1",
        com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState.DIRECT_VALUE),
    new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue("password", 0, "test1",
        com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState.DIRECT_VALUE),
    new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue("JavaDriverClass", 0,
        "org.gjt.mm.mysql.Driver",
        com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState.DIRECT_VALUE)
```

1232
The SDBC Driver for JDBC

Other properties that require setting during the connect process depend on the JDBC driver that is used.

The SDBC Driver for ODBC

This driver is comparable to the SDBC driver for JDBC described above. It maps the ODBC functionality to the SDBC API, but not completely. However, some functionality the SDBC API supports may not work with ODBC, because an ODBC driver may not support this feature and throws an SQL Exception to indicate this. To create a new connection, the driver uses the following URL format:

sdbc:odbc: Name of a datasource defined in the system

Additionally, this driver supports several properties through the service com.sun.star.sdbc.ODBCConnectionProperties. These properties are set while creating a connection:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties of com.sun.star.sdbc.ODBCConnectionProperties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdbc.ODBCConnectionProperties:Silent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdbc.ODBCConnectionProperties:Timeout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdbc.ODBCConnectionProperties:UseCatalog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdbc.ODBCConnectionProperties:SystemDriver Settings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdbc.ODBCConnectionProperties:Charset</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| com.sun.star.sdbc.ODBCConnectionProperties:ParameterNameSubstitution | boolean - If True, all occurrences of "?" as a parameter name will be replaced by a valid parameter name. This is for some drivers that
The SDBC Driver for ODBC

mix the order of the parameters.

The SDBC Driver for Adabas D

This driver was the first driver to support the extended service [IDL:com.sun.star.sdbcx.Driver], that offers access to the structure of a database. The Adabas D driver implementation extends the Adabas ODBC driver through knowledge about database structure. The URL should look like this:

```
sdbc:adabas::DATABASENAME
```

or

```
sdbc:adabas:HOST:DATABASENAME
```

To find the correct database name of an Adabas D database in the OpenOffice.org API, create a new database file and select Adabas D as type. On the next page you can browse for valid local database names. Find the database folders in `sql/wrk` in the Adabas installation folder.

The SDBC Driver for ADO

The SDBC driver for ADO supports the service com.sun.star.sdbcx.Driver. ADO does not allow modification on the database structure unless the database is a Jet Engine. Information about the limitations for ADO are available on the Internet. The URL for SDBC driver for ADO looks like this:

```
sdbc: ado:<ADO specific connection string>
```

Possible connection strings are:

- `sdbc:ado:PROVIDER=Microsoft.Jet.OLEDB.4.0;DATA SOURCE=c:\northwind.mdb`
- `sdbc:ado:Provider=msdaora;data source=testdb`

The SDBC Driver for dBase

The dBase driver is one of the basic driver implementations and supports the service com.sun.star.sdbcx.Driver. This driver has a number of limitations concerning its
abilities to modify the database structure and the extent of its SQL support. The URL for this driver is:

```
sdbc:dbase:<folder or file url>
```

For instance:

```
sdbc:dbase:file:///d:/user/database/biblio
```

Similar to the SDBC driver for ODBC, this driver supports the connection info property `CharSet` to set different text encodings. The second possible property is `ShowDeleted`. When it is set to true, deleted rows in a table are still visible. In this state, it is not allowed to delete rows.

The following table shows the shortcomings of the SDBCX part of the dBase driver.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object</th>
<th>create</th>
<th>alter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>table</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>column</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>key</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>index</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>group</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>user</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The driver has the following conditions in its support for SQL statements:

- The `SELECT` statement can not contain more than one table in the `FROM` clause.
- For comparisons the following operators are valid: `=, <, >, <=, >=, LIKE, NOT LIKE, IS NULL, IS NOT NULL`.
- Parameters are allowed, but must be denoted with a leading colon (`SELECT * FROM biblio WHERE Author LIKE :MyParam`) or with a single question mark (`SELECT * FROM biblio WHERE Author LIKE ?`).
- The driver provides a `ResultSet` that supports bookmarks to records.
- The first instance of OpenOffice.org API that accesses a dBase database locks the files for exclusive writing. The lock is never released until the OpenOffice.org API instance, which has obtained the exclusive write access, is closed. This severely limits the access to a dBase database in a network.

The SDBC Driver for Flat File Formats

This driver is another basic driver available in OpenOffice.org API. It can only be used to fetch data from existing text files, and no modifications are allowed, that is, the whole connection is read-only. The URL for this driver is:

```
sdbc:flat:<folder or file url>
```
The SDBC Driver for Flat File Formats

For instance:

```
sdbc:flat:file:///d:/user/database/textbase1
```

Properties that can be set while creating a new connection.

**Properties of com.sun.star.sdbc.FLATConnectionProperties**

- **com.sun.star.sdbc.FLATConnectionProperties:Extension**
  - String - Flat file formats are formats such as:
    - comma separated values format (*.csv)
    - sdf format (*.sdf)
    - text file format (*.txt)

- **com.sun.star.sdbc.FLATConnectionProperties:Charset**
  - String - Converts data from the ODBC driver into the corresponding text encoding. The value must be a value of the list from [www.iana.org/assignments/character-sets](http://www.iana.org/assignments/character-sets). Only some are supported, but a new one can be added.

- **com.sun.star.sdbc.FLATConnectionProperties:FixedLength**
  - Boolean - If true, all occurrences of "?" as a parameter name will be replaced by a valid parameter name. This is necessary, because some drivers mix the order of the parameters.

- **com.sun.star.sdbc.FLATConnectionProperties:HeaderLine**
  - Boolean - If true, the first line is used for column generation.

- **com.sun.star.sdbc.FLATConnectionProperties:FieldDelimiter**
  - String - Defines a character which should be used to separate fields and columns.

- **com.sun.star.sdbc.FLATConnectionProperties:StringDelimiter**
  - String - Character to identify strings.

- **com.sun.star.sdbc.FLATConnectionProperties:DecimalDelimiter**
  - String - Character to identify decimal values.

- **com.sun.star.sdbc.FLATConnectionProperties:ThousandDelimiter**
  - String - Character to identify the thousand separator. Must be different from DecimalDelimiter.

The SDBC Driver for OpenOffice.org Calc Files

This driver is a basic driver for OpenOffice.org Calc files. It can only be used to fetch data from existing tables and no modifications are allowed. The connection is read-only. The URL for this driver is:

```
sdbc:calc:<file url to a OpenOffice.org Calc file or any other extension known by this application>
```

For instance:

```
sdbc:calc:file:///d:/calcfile.odt
```
The SDBC Driver for address books

This driver allows OpenOffice.org API to connect to a system addressbook available on the local machine. It supports four different kinds of addressbooks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Addressbook</th>
<th>Windows</th>
<th>Unix</th>
<th>URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mozilla</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>sdbc:address:mozilla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDAP</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>sdbc:address:ldap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlook Express</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
<td>sdbc:address:outlookexp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlook</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
<td>sdbc:address:outlook</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All address book variants support read-only access. The driver itself is a wrapper for the Mozilla API.

The SDBC Driver for embedded HSQL databases

This driver allows to connect to a database document which contains an embedded HSQL database. Since HSQLDB is a Java database, it requires a Java Runtime Environment to operate.

Connection Pooling

In a basic implementation, there is a 1:1 relationship between the com.sun.star.sdb.Connection object used by the client and physical database connection. When the Connection object is closed, the physical connection is dropped, thus the overhead of opening, initializing, and closing the physical connection is incurred for each client session. A connection pool solves this problem by maintaining a cache of physical database connections that can be reused across client sessions. Connection pooling improves performance and scalability, particularly in a three-tier environment where multiple clients can share a smaller number of physical database connections. In OpenOffice.org API, the connection pooling is part of a special service called the ConnectionPool. This service manages newly created connections and reuses old ones when they are currently unused.

The algorithm used to manage the connection pool is implementation-specific and varies between application servers. The application server provides its clients with an implementation of the com.sun.star.sdbc.XPooledConnection interface that makes connection pooling transparent to the client. As a result, the client gets better
Connection Pooling

performance and scalability. When an application is finished using a connection, it closes the logical connection using `close()` at the connection interface `com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection`. This closes the logical connection, but not the physical connection. Instead, the physical connection is returned to the pool so that it can be reused. Connection pooling is completely transparent to the client: A client obtains a pooled connection from the `com.sun.star.sdbc.ConnectionPool` service calling `getConnectionWithInfo()` at its interface `com.sun.star.sdbc.XDriverManager` and uses it just the same way it obtains and uses a non-pooled connection.

The following sequence of steps outlines what happens when an SDBC client requests a connection from a `ConnectionPool` object:

1. The client obtains an instance of the `com.sun.star.sdbc.ConnectionPool` from the global service manager and calls the same methods on the `ConnectionPool` object as on the `DriverManager`.

2. The application server providing the `ConnectionPool` implementation checks its connection pool for a suitable `PooledConnection` object, a physical database connection, that is available. Determining the suitability of a given `PooledConnection` object includes matching the client's user authentication information or application type, as well as using other implementation-specific criteria. The lookup method and other methods associated with managing the connection pool are specific to the application server.

3. If there are no suitable `PooledConnection` objects available, the application server creates a new physical connection and returns the `PooledConnection`. The `ConnectionPool` is not driver specific. It is implemented in a service called `com.sun.star.sdbc.ConnectionPool`.

4. Regardless if the `PooledConnection` has been retrieved from the pool or created, the application server does internal recording to indicate that the physical connection is now in use.

5. The application server calls the method `PooledConnection.getConnection()` to get a logical `Connection` object. This logical `Connection` object is a handle to a physical `PooledConnection` object. This handle is returned by the `XDriverManager` method `getConnectionWithInfo()` when connection pooling is in effect.

6. The logical `Connection` object is returned to the SDBC client that uses the same `Connection API` as in the standard situation without a `ConnectionPool`. Note that the underlying physical connection cannot be reused until the client calls the `XConnection` method `close()`.

In OpenOffice.org API, connection pooling is enabled by default and can be controlled through `Tools - Options - OpenOffice.org Database`. If a connection
Connection Pooling

from a data source defined in OpenOffice.org API is returned, this setting applies to your connection, as well. To take advantage of the pool independently of OpenOffice.org API data sources, use the com.sun.star.sdbc.ConnectionPool instead of the DriverManager.

Piggyback Connections

Occasionally, there may already be a connected database row set and you want to use its connection. For instance, if a user has opened a database form. To access the same database as the row set of the form, use the connection the form is working with, not opening a second connection. For this purpose, the com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet has a property ActiveConnection that returns a connection.

Note – Be aware of the fact that the row set owns the connection it uses. That means, once the row set is deleted, the connection is no longer valid.

Manipulating the Data

There are two possibilities to manipulate data in a database with the OpenOffice.org database connectivity.

- Use the com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet service that allows using data sources defined in OpenOffice.org through their tables or queries, or through SQL commands.
- Communicate with a database directly using a Statement object.

This section describes both possibilities.

The RowSet Service

The service com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet is a high-level client side row set that retrieves its data from a database table, a query, an SQL command or a row set reader, which does not have to support SQL. It is a com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSet.
The connection of the row set is a named DataSource, the URL of a data access component, or a previously instantiated connection. Depending on the property ResultSetConcurrency, the row set caches all data or uses an optimized method to retrieve data, such as refreshing rows by their keys or their bookmarks. In addition, it provides events for row set navigation and row set modifications to approve the actions, and to react upon them.

The row set can be in two different states, before and after execution. Before execution, set all the properties the row set needs for its work. After calling execute() on the RowSet, move through the result set, or update and delete rows.

Usage

To use a row set, create a RowSet instance at the global service manager through the service name com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet. Next, the RowSet needs a connection and a command before it can be executed. These have to be configured through RowSet properties.

Connection

There are three different ways to establish a connection:

1. Setting com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:DataSourceName to a data source from the database context. If the DataSourceName is not a URL, then the RowSet uses the name to get the DataSource from the DatabaseContext to create a connection to that data source.

2. Setting com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:DataSourceName to a database URL. The row set tries to use this URL to establish a connection. Database URLs are described in Connecting Using the DriverManager and a Database URL.


The difference between the two properties is that in the first case the RowSet owns the connection. The RowSet disposes the connection when it is disposed. In the second case, the RowSet only uses the connection. The user of a RowSet is responsible for the disposition of the connection. For a simple RowSet, use com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:DataSourceName, but when sharing the connection between different row sets, then use com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:ActiveConnection.
If there is already a connection, for example, the user opened a database form, open another row set based upon the property com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:ActiveConnection of the form. Put the ActiveConnection of the form into the ActiveConnection property of the new row set.

**Command**

With a connection and a command, the row set is ready to be executed calling execute() on the com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSet interface of the row set. For interactive logon, use executeWithCompletion(), see Connecting Through a DataSource. If interactive logon is not feasible for your application, the properties User and Password can be used to connect to a database that requires logon.

Once the method for how RowSet creates it connections has been determined, the properties com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:Command and com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:CommandType have to be set. The CommandType can be TABLE, QUERY or COMMAND where the Command can be a table or query name, or an SQL command.

The following table shows the properties supported by com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties of com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:ActiveConnection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:DataSourceName</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:Command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:CommandType</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:ActiveCommand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:IgnoreResult</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:Filter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:ApplyFilter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:Modified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:RowCount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:RowCountFinal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:UpdateTableName</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:UpdateSchemaName</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:UpdateCatalogName</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet includes the service com.sun.star.sdbc.RowSet and its properties. Important settings such as User and Password come from this service:

**Properties of com.sun.star.sdbc.RowSet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.rc.RowSet:Dat aSourceName</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>Is the name of a named datasource to use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.rc.RowSet:UR L</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>The connection URL. Can be used instead of the DataSourceName.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.rc.RowSet:Co mmand</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>The command that should be executed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| com.sun.star.sdb.rc.RowSet:Tra nsactionIsolation | long                   | Indicates the transaction isolation level that should be used for the connection, according to com.sun.star.sdbc.TransactionIsolation com::sun::star::container::XNameAccess. The type map that is used for the custom mapping of openoffice.org 3.1 developer's guide · April 2009
## Usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| com.sun.star.sdbc.RowSet:EscapeProcessing | boolean - Determines if escape processing is on or off. If escape scanning is on (the default), the driver does the escape substitution before sending the SQL to the database. This is only evaluated if the `CommandType` is `COMMAND`.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| com.sun.star.sdbc.RowSet:QueryTimeOut | long - Retrieves the number of seconds the driver waits for a Statement to execute. If the limit is exceeded, a SQLException is thrown. There is no limitation if set to zero.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| com.sun.star.sdbc.RowSet:MaxFieldSize | long - Returns the maximum number of bytes allowed for any column value. This limit is the maximum number of bytes that can be returned for any column value. The limit applies only to `DataType::BINARY`, `DataType::VARBINARY`, `DataType::LONGVARBINARY`, `DataType::CHAR`, `DataType::VARCHAR`, and `DataType::LONGVARCHAR` columns. If the limit is exceeded, the excess data is silently discarded. There is no limitation if set to zero.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| com.sun.star.sdbc.RowSet:MaxRows | long - Retrieves the maximum number of rows that a `ResultSet` can contain. If the limit is exceeded, the excess rows are silently dropped. There is no limitation if set to zero.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| com.sun.star.sdbc.RowSet:User | string - Determines the user to open the connection for.
| com.sun.star.sdbc.RowSet:Password | string - Determines the user to open the connection for.
| com.sun.star.sdbc.RowSet:ResultSetType | long - Determine the result set type according to `com.sun.star.sdbc.ResultSetType`.

If the command returns results, that is, it selects data, use `XRowSet` to manipulate the data, because `XRowSet` is derived from `XResultSet`. For details on manipulating a `com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSet`, see [Result Sets](#).

The code fragment below shows how to create a `RowSet`.

```java
public static void useRowSet(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // first we create our RowSet object
    XRowSet xRowRes = (XRowSet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRowSet.class,
        _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet"));
    System.out.println("RowSet created!");

    // set the properties needed to connect to a database
    XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xRowRes);
    xProp.setPropertyValue("DataSourceName", "Bibliography");
    xProp.setPropertyValue("Command", "biblio");
```
The value of the read-only `RowSet` properties is only valid after the first call to `execute()` on the `RowSet`. This snippet shows how to read the privileges out of the `RowSet`:

```java
public static void showRowSetReadOnlyProps(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // first we create our RowSet object
    XRowSet xRowRes = (XRowSet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRowSet.class, _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet"));
    System.out.println("RowSet created!");

    // set the properties needed to connect to a database
    XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xRowRes);
    xProp.setPropertyValue("DataSourceName", "Bibliography");
    xProp.setPropertyValue("Command", "biblio");
    xProp.setPropertyValue("CommandType", new Integer(com.sun.star.sdb.CommandType.TABLE));
    xRowRes.execute();
    System.out.println("RowSet executed!");

    Integer aPriv = (Integer)xProp.getPropertyValue("Privileges");
    int nPriv = aPriv.intValue();
    if ((nPriv & Privilege.SELECT) == Privilege.SELECT)
        System.out.println("SELECT");
    if ((nPriv & Privilege.INSERT) == Privilege.INSERT)
        System.out.println("INSERT");
    if ((nPriv & Privilege.UPDATE) == Privilege.UPDATE)
        System.out.println("UPDATE");
    if ((nPriv & Privilege.DELETE) == Privilege.DELETE)
        System.out.println("DELETE");

    XComponent xComp = (XComponent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class, xRowRes);
    xComp.dispose();
    System.out.println("RowSet destroyed!");
}
```

The next example reads the properties `IsRowCountFinal` and `RowCount`.

```java
public static void showRowSetRowCount(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // first we create our RowSet object
    XRowSet xRowRes = (XRowSet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRowSet.class, _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet"));
    System.out.println("RowSet created!");
```

1244

OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009
// set the properties needed to connect to a database
XPropertySet xProp =
    (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class,xRowRes);
xProp.setPropertyValue("DataSourceName","Bibliography");
xProp.setPropertyValue("Command","biblio");
xProp.setPropertyValue("CommandType",new
Integer(com.sun.star.sdb.CommandType.TABLE));
xRowRes.execute();
System.out.println("RowSet executed!");

// now look if the RowCount is already final
System.out.println("The RowCount is final: "+
xProp.getPropertyValue("IsRowCountFinal");
XResultSet xRes =
    (XResultSet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XResultSet.class,xRowRes);
xRes.last();
System.out.println("The RowCount is final: "+
xProp.getPropertyValue("IsRowCountFinal");
System.out.println("There are "+xProp.getPropertyValue("RowCount")+" rows!");

// now destroy the RowSet
XComponent xComp =
    (XComponent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class,xRowRes);
xComp.dispose();
System.out.println("RowSet destroyed!");
}

Occasionally, it is useful for the user to be notified when the RowCount is final. That is accomplished by adding a com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyChangeListener for the property IsRowCountFinal.

Events and Other Notifications

The RowSet supports a number of events and notifications. First, there is the com.sun.star.sdb.XRowSetApproveBroadcaster interface of the RowSet that allows the user to add or remove objects derived from the interface com.sun.star.sdb.XRowSetApproveListener. The interface com.sun.star.sdb.XRowSetApproveListener defines the following methods:

- **Methods of com.sun.star.sdb.XRowSetApproveListener**
  - com.sun.star.sdb.XRowSetApproveListener:approveCursorMove() Called before a RowSet’s cursor is moved.
  - com.sun.star.sdb.XRowSetApproveListener:approveRowChange() Called before a row is inserted, updated, or deleted.
  - com.sun.star.sdb.XRowSetApproveListener:approveRowSetChange() Called before a RowSet is changed or before a RowSet is re-executed.
All three methods return a boolean value that allows the RowSet to continue when it is true, otherwise the current action is stopped.

Additionally, the RowSet supports com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSet that allows the user to add objects which are notified when the RowSet has changed. This has to be a com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSetListener. The methods are:

**Methods of com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSetListener**

- `com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSetListener:cursorMoved` Called when a RowSet’s cursor has been moved.
- `com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSetListener:rowChanged` Called when a row has been inserted, updated, or deleted.
- `com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSetListener:rowSetChanged` Called when the entire row set has changed, or when the row set has been re-executed.

When an event occurs, the appropriate listener method is called to notify the registered listener(s). If a listener is not interested in a particular kind of event, it implements the method for that event as no-op. All listener methods take a `com.sun.star.lang.EventObject` struct that contains the RowSet object which is the source of the event.

The following table lists the order of events after a specific method call on the RowSet. First the movements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method Call</th>
<th>Event Call (before)</th>
<th>Event Call (after)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>beforeFirst()</td>
<td>approveCursorMove()</td>
<td>cursorMoved(), only when the movement was successful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>first()</td>
<td></td>
<td>modified() event from com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet of property RowCount, only when changed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>next()</td>
<td></td>
<td>modified() event from com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet of property RowCountFinal, only when changed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>previous()</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>last()</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>afterLast()</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>absolute()</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>relative()</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moveToBookmark()</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moveRelativeToBookmark()</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>updateRow()</td>
<td>approveRowChange()</td>
<td>rowChanged()</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deleteRow()</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>insertRow()</td>
<td>approveRowSetChange()</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>execute()</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consider a simple class which implements the two listener interfaces described above.

```java
import com.sun.star.sdb.XRowSetApproveListener;
import com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSetListener;
import com.sun.star.sdb.RowChangeEvent;
import com.sun.star.lang.EventObject;
```
public class RowSetEventListener implements XRowSetApproveListener, XRowSetListener {

    // XEventListener
    public void disposing(com.sun.star.lang.EventObject event) {
        System.out.println("RowSet will be destroyed!");
    }

    // XRowSetApproveBroadcaster
    public boolean approveCursorMove(EventObject event) {
        System.out.println("Before CursorMove!");
        return true;
    }

    public boolean approveRowChange(RowChangeEvent event) {
        System.out.println("Before row change!");
        return true;
    }

    public boolean approveRowSetChange(EventObject event) {
        System.out.println("Before RowSet change!");
        return true;
    }

    // XRowSetListener
    public void cursorMoved(com.sun.star.lang.EventObject event) {
        System.out.println("Cursor moved!");
    }

    public void rowChanged(com.sun.star.lang.EventObject event) {
        System.out.println("Row changed!");
    }

    public void rowSetChanged(com.sun.star.lang.EventObject event) {
        System.out.println("RowSet changed!");
    }
}

The following method uses the listener implementation above.

public static void showRowSetEvents(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // first we create our RowSet object
    XRowSet xRowRes = (XRowSet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XRowSet.class, _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet");

    System.out.println("RowSet created!");
    // add our Listener
    System.out.println("Append our Listener!");
    RowSetEventListener pRow = new RowSetEventListener();
    XRowSetApproveBroadcaster xApBroad =
        (XRowSetApproveBroadcaster) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XRowSetApproveBroadcaster.class, xRowRes);
    xApBroad.addRowSetApproveListener(pRow);
    xRowRes.addRowSetListener(pRow);

    // set the properties needed to connect to a database
    XPropertySet xProp =
        (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xRowRes);
    xProp.setPropertyValue("DataSourceName", "Bibliography");
    xProp.setPropertyValue("Command", "biblio");
    xProp.setPropertyValue("CommandType", new Integer(com.sun.star.sdb.CommandType.TABLE));
}

Chapter 12 · Database Access
Events and Other Notifications

```java
xRowRes.execute();
System.out.println("RowSet executed!");

// do some movements to check if we got all notifications
XResultSet xRes =
(XResultSet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XResultSet.class, xRowRes);
System.out.println("beforeFirst");
xRes.beforeFirst();
// this should lead to no notifications because
// we should stand before the first row at the beginning
System.out.println("We stand before the first row: " +
xRes.isBeforeFirst());

System.out.println("next");
xRes.next();
System.out.println("next");
xRes.next();
System.out.println("last");
xRes.last();
System.out.println("next");
xRes.next();
System.out.println("We stand after the last row: " +
xRes.isAfterLast());
System.out.println("first");
xRes.first();
System.out.println("previous");
xRes.previous();
System.out.println("We stand before the first row: " +
xRes.isBeforeFirst());
System.out.println("afterLast");
xRes.afterLast();
System.out.println("We stand after the last row: " +
xRes.isAfterLast());

// now destroy the RowSet
XComponent xComp =
(XComponent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class, xRowRes);
xComp.dispose();
System.out.println("RowSet destroyed!");
```

Clones of the RowSet Service

Occasionally, a second or third `RowSet` that operates on the same data as the original `RowSet`, is required. This is useful when the rows should be displayed in a graphical representation. For the graphical part a clone can be used which only moves through the rows and displays the data. When a modification occurs on one specific row, the original `RowSet` can be used to do this task.

The new clone is an object that supports the service `com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSet` if it
Clones of the RowSet Service

was created using the interface com.sun.star.sdb.XResultSetAccess of the original RowSet. It is interoperable with the RowSet that created it, for example, bookmarks can be exchanged between both sets. If the original RowSet has not been executed before, null is returned.

Data access of RowSet and clone

**Statements**

The basic procedure to communicate with a database using an SQL statement is always the same:

1. Get a connection object.
2. Ask the connection for a statement.
3. The statement executes a query or an update command. Use the appropriate method to execute the command.
4. If the statement returns a result set, process the result set.
Creating Statements

A Statement object is required to send SQL statements to the Database Management System (DBMS). A Statement object is created using `createStatement()` at the com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection interface of the connection. It returns a com.sun.star.sdbc.Statement service. This Statement is generic, that is, it does not contain any SQL command. It can be used for all kinds of SQL commands. Its main interface is com.sun.star.sdbc.XStatement:

```java
com::sun::star::sdb::XResultSet executeQuery( [in] string sql)
long executeUpdate( [in] string sql)
boolean execute( [in] string sql)
com::sun::star::sdb::XConnection getConnection()
```

Once a Statement is obtained, choose the appropriate execution method for the SQL command. For a SELECT statement, use the method `executeQuery()`. For UPDATE, DELETE and INSERT statements, the proper method is `executeUpdate()`. To have multiple result sets returned, use `execute()` together with the interface com.sun.star.sdbc.XMultipleResults of the statement.

**Tip -** Data definition commands, such as CREATE, DROP, ALTER, and GRANT, can be issued with `executeUpdate()`.

Consider how an XConnection is used to create an XStatement in the following example:

```java
public static void executeSelect(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // retrieve the DatabaseContext and get its
    com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess xNameAccess = (XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XNameAccess.class, _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext"));

    // connect
    Object dataSource = xNameAccess.getName("Ada01");
    XDataSource xDataSource = (XDataSource)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDataSource.class, dataSource);
    Object interactionHandler =
        _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.InteractionHandler");
    XInteractionHandler xInteractionHandler =
        (XInteractionHandler)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XInteractionHandler.class, interactionHandler);
    XCompletedConnection xCompletedConnection =
        (XCompletedConnection)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XCompletedConnection.class, dataSource);
    XConnection xConnection =
        xCompletedConnection.connectWithCompletion(xInteractionHandler);

    // the connection creates a statement
    XStatement xStatement = xConnection.createStatement();
}
```
Creating Statements

// The XStatement interface is used to execute a SELECT command
// Double quotes for identifiers in the SELECT string must be escaped in
Java
XResultSet xResult = xStatement.executeQuery("Select *
from "Table1"");

// process the result ...
XRow xRow = (XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRow.class, xResult);
while (xResult != null && xResult.next()) {
    System.out.println(xRow.getString(1));
}

The remainder of this section discusses how to enter data into a table and retrieving the data later, using INSERT and SELECT commands with a com.sun.star.sdbc.Statement.

Inserting and Updating Data

The following examples use a sample Adabas D database. Generate an Adabas D database in the OpenOffice.org API installation and define a new table named SALESMAN.

SALESMAN Table Design

The illustration above shows the definition of the SALESMAN table in the OpenOffice.org API data source administrator. The description column shows the lengths defined for the text fields of the table. After all the fields are defined, right-click the row header of the column SNR and choose Primary Key to make SNR the primary key. Afterwards a small key icon in the row header shows that SNR is the primary key of the table SALESMAN. When completed, save the table as SALESMAN. It is important to use uppercase letters for the table name, otherwise the example SQL code will not work.
Inserting and Updating Data

The table does not contain any data. Use the following `INSERT` command to insert data into the table one row at a time:

```
INSERT INTO SALESMAN (SNR, FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME, STREET, STATE, ZIP, BIRTHDATE) VALUES (1, 'Joseph', 'Smith', 'Bond Street', 'CA', '95460', '1946-07-02')
```

**Note** – Note the single quotes around the values for the text fields. Single quotes denote character strings in SQL, while double quotes are used for case-sensitive identifiers, such as table and column names.

The following code sample inserts one row of data with the value 1 in the column `SNR`, 'Joseph' in `FIRSTNAME`, 'Smith' in `LASTNAME`, with other information in the following columns of the table `SALESMAN`. To issue the command against the database, create a `Statement` object and then execute it using the method `executeUpdate()`:

```
XStatement xStatement = xConnection.createStatement();

xStatement.executeUpdate("INSERT INTO SALESMAN (" + "SNR, FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME, STREET, STATE, ZIP, BIRTHDATE) " + "VALUES (1, 'Joseph', 'Smith','Bond Street','CA','95460','1946-07-02'))
```

The next call to `executeUpdate()` inserts more rows into the table `SALESMAN`. Note the `Statement` object `stmt` is reused, rather than creating a new one for each update.

```
xStatement.executeUpdate("INSERT INTO SALESMAN (" + "SNR, FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME, STREET, STATE, ZIP, BIRTHDATE) " + "VALUES (2, 'Frank', 'Jones', 'Lake Silver', 'CA', '95460', '1963-12-24'))
```

```
xStatement.executeUpdate("INSERT INTO SALESMAN (" + "SNR, FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME, STREET, STATE, ZIP, BIRTHDATE) " + "VALUES (3, 'Jane', 'Esperanza', '23 Hollywood drive', 'CA', '95460', '1972-01-04'))
```

```
xStatement.executeUpdate("INSERT INTO SALESMAN (" + "SNR, FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME, STREET, STATE, ZIP, BIRTHDATE) " + "VALUES (4, 'George', 'Flint', '12 Washington street', 'CA', '95460', '1953-02-13'))
```

Inserting and Updating Data

```java
xStatement.executeUpdate("INSERT INTO SALESMAN (" +
    "SNR, FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME, STREET, STATE, ZIP, BIRTHDATE) " +
    "VALUES (5, 'Bob', 'Meyers', '2 Moon way', 'CA', '95460', '1949-09-07')");
```

Updating tables is basically the same process. The SQL command:

```sql
UPDATE SALESMAN
  SET STREET='Grant Street', STATE='FL'
WHERE SNR=2
```

writes a new street and state entry for Frank Jones who has SNR=2. The corresponding `executeUpdate()` call looks like this:

```java
int n = xStatement.executeUpdate("UPDATE SALESMAN " +
    "SET STREET='Grant Street', STATE='FL' " +
    "WHERE SNR=2");
```

The return value of `executeUpdate()` is an int that indicates how many rows of a table were updated. Our update command affected one row, so `n` is equal to 1.

**Note** – Note that it depends on the database and the driver, if the return value of `executeUpdate()` reflects the actual changes.

---

Getting Data from a Table

Now that the table `SALESMAN` has values in it, write a `SELECT` statement to access those values. The asterisk `*` in the following SQL statement indicates that all columns should be selected. Since there is no `WHERE` clause to select less rows, the following SQL statement selects the whole table:

```sql
SELECT * FROM SALESMAN
```

The result contains the following data:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SNR</th>
<th>FIRSTNAME</th>
<th>LASTNAME</th>
<th>STREET</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>ZIP</th>
<th>BIRTHDATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Smith</td>
<td>Bond Street</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>95460</td>
<td>02/07/46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Frank</td>
<td>Jones</td>
<td>Lake silver</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>95460</td>
<td>12/24/63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jane</td>
<td>Esperanza</td>
<td>23 Hollywood drive</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>95460</td>
<td>04/01/72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>George</td>
<td>Flint</td>
<td>12 Washington street</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>95460</td>
<td>02/13/53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bob</td>
<td>Meyers</td>
<td>2 Moon way</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>95460</td>
<td>09/07/49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following is another example of a `SELECT` statement. This statement gets a list with the names and addresses of all the salespersons. Only the columns `FIRSTNAME`, `LASTNAME` and `STREET` were selected.

```sql
SELECT FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME, STREET FROM SALESMAN
```
The result of this query only contains three columns:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRSTNAME</th>
<th>LASTNAME</th>
<th>STREET</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Smith</td>
<td>Bond Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank</td>
<td>Jones</td>
<td>Lake silver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane</td>
<td>Esperansa</td>
<td>23 Hollywood drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George</td>
<td>Flint</td>
<td>12 Washington street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob</td>
<td>Meyers</td>
<td>2 Moon way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The `SELECT` statement above extracts all salespersons in the table. The following SQL statement limits the `SALESMAN` `SELECT` to salespersons who were born before 01/01/1950:

```
SELECT FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME, BIRTHDATE 
FROM SALESMAN 
WHERE BIRTHDATE < '1950-01-01'
```

The resulting data is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRSTNAME</th>
<th>LASTNAME</th>
<th>BIRTHDATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Smith</td>
<td>02/07/46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob</td>
<td>Meyers</td>
<td>09/07/49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When a database is accessed through the OpenOffice.org API database integration, the results are retrieved through `ResultSet` objects. The next section discusses how to use result sets. The following `executeQuery()` call executes the SQL command above. Note that the Statement is used again:

```
com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSet xResult = xStatement.executeQuery("SELECT FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME, BIRTHDATE " + 
    "FROM SALESMAN " + 
    "WHERE BIRTHDATE < '1950-01-01'");
```

## Result Sets

The `ResultSet` objects represent the output of an SQL `SELECT` command in data rows and columns to retrieve the data using a row cursor that points to one data row at a time. The following illustration shows the inheritance of `com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSet`. Each layer of the OpenOffice.org API database integration adds capabilities to OpenOffice.org API result sets.

The fundamental `com.sun.star.sdbc.ResultSet` is the most powerful of the three result set services. Basically this result set is sufficient to process `SELECT` results. It is used to navigate through the resulting rows, and to retrieve and update data rows and the column values in a row.
The `com.sun.star.sdbcx.ResultSet` can add bookmarks through `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XRowLocate` and allows row deletion by bookmarks through `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XDeleteRows`.

The `com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSet` service extends the `com.sun.star.sdbcx.ResultSet` service by the additional interface `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XColumnsSupplier` that allows the user to access information about the appearance of the selected columns in the application. The interface `XColumnsSupplier` returns a `com.sun.star.sdbcx.Container` of `ResultColumns`. 

The following table explains the properties introduced with com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSet. For the inherited properties, refer to the section Tables and Columns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSetColumn: IsSearchable</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Indicates if the column can be used in a &quot;WHERE&quot; clause.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSetColumn: IsSigned</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Indicates if values in the column are signed numbers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSetColumn: IsCaseSensitive</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Indicates if a column is case sensitive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSetColumn: DisplaySize</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>Indicates the column's normal, maximum width in chars.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSetColumn: Label</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>Gets the suggested column title for use with GUI controls and printouts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSetColumn: IsReadOnly</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>If True, cannot write to the column.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSetColumn: IsWritable</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>If True, an attempt to write to the column may succeed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSetColumn: IsDefinitelyWritable</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>If True, the column is writable.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Retrieving Values from Result Sets

A call to `execute()` on a `com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSet` or a call to `executeQuery()` on a `Statement` produces a `com.sun.star.sdb.ResultSet`.

```java
com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSet xResult = xStatement.executeQuery("SELECT FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME, STREET " +
    "FROM SALESMAN " +
    "WHERE BIRTHDATE < '1950-01-01'");
```

Moving the Result Set Cursor

The `ResultSet` stored in the variable `xResult` contains the following data after the call above:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRSTNAME</th>
<th>LASTNAME</th>
<th>BIRTHDATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Smith</td>
<td>02/07/46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob</td>
<td>Meyers</td>
<td>09/07/49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To access the data, go to each row and retrieve the values according to their types. The method `next()` is used to move the row cursor from row to row. Since the cursor is initially positioned just above the first row of a `ResultSet` object, the first call to `next()` moves the cursor to the first row and makes it the current row. For the same reason, use the method `next()` to access the first row even if there is only one row in a result set. Subsequent invocations of `next()` move the cursor down one row at a time.

The interface `com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSet` offers methods to move to specific row
numbers, and to positions relative to the current row, in addition to moving the cursor back and forth one row at a time:

```java
// move one row at a time
boolean next()
boolean previous()

// move a number of rows
boolean absolute([in] long row)
boolean relative([in] long rows)

// move to result set borders and beyond
boolean first()
boolean last()
void beforeFirst()
void afterLast()

// detect position
boolean isBeforeFirst()
boolean isAfterLast()
boolean isFirst()
boolean isLast()
long getRow()

// refetch row from the database
void refreshRow()

// row has been updated, inserted or deleted
boolean rowUpdated()
boolean rowInserted()
boolean rowDeleted()

// get the statement which created the result set
com::sun::star::uno::XInterface getStatement()
```

**Note** – Note that you can only move the cursor backwards if you set the statement property ResultSetType to SCROLL_INSENSITIVE or SCROLL_SENSITIVE. For details, refer to chapter Scrollable Result Sets.

### Using the getXXX Methods

To get column values from the current row, use the interface com.sun.star.sdbc.XRow. It offers a large number of get methods for all SDBC data types, or rather getXXX methods. The XXX stands for the type retrieved by the method.

Usually, the getXXX method is used for the appropriate type to retrieve the value in each column. For example, the first column in each row of `xResult` is FIRSTNAME. It is the first column and contains a value of SQL type VARCHAR. The appropriate method
to retrieve a VARCHAR value is getString(). It should be used for the second column, as well. The third column BIRTHDATE stores DATE values, the method for date types is getDate(). SDBC is flexible and allows a number of type conversions through getXXX. See the table below for details.

The following code accesses the values stored in the current row of xResult and prints a line with the column values separated by tabs. Each time next() is invoked, the next row becomes the current row, and the loop continues until there are no more rows in xResult.

```
public static void selectSalespersons(XMultiServiceFactory _rMSF) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // retrieve the DatabaseContext and get its com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface
    XNameAccess xNameAccess = (XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XNameAccess.class, _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext"));

    //connect
    Object dataSource = xNameAccess.getComponentByName("Ada01");
    XDataSource xDataSource = (XDataSource)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDataSource.class, dataSource);
    Object interactionHandler = _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.InteractionHandler");
    XInteractionHandler xInteractionHandler = (XInteractionHandler)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XInteractionHandler.class, interactionHandler);
    XCompletedConnection xCompletedConnection = (XCompletedConnection) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XCompletedConnection.class, dataSource);
    XConnection xConnection = xCompletedConnection.connectWithCompletion(xInteractionHandler);

    // create statement and execute query
    XStatement xStatement = xConnection.createStatement();
    XResultSet xResult = xStatement.executeQuery("SELECT FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME, BIRTHDATE FROM SALESMAN");

    // process result
    XRow xRow = (XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRow.class, xResult);
    while (xResult != null && xResult.next()) {
        String firstName = xRow.getString(1);
        String lastName = xRow.getString(2);
        com.sun.star.util.Date birthDate = xRow.getDate(3);
        System.out.println(firstName + "	" + lastName + "	" + birthDate.Month + "/" + birthDate.Day + "/" + birthDate.Year);
    }
}
```

The output looks like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Smith</td>
<td>7/2/1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esperanza</td>
<td>Jones</td>
<td>12/24/1963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/7/1949</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this code, how the getXXX methods work are shown and the two getXXX calls are
Using the getXXX Methods

examined.

```java
String firstName = xRow.getString(1);
```

The method `getString()` is invoked on `xRow`, that is, `getString()` gets the value stored in column no. 1 in the current row of `xResult`, which is `FIRSTNAME`. The value retrieved by `getString()` has been converted from a `VARCHAR` to a `String` in the Java programming language, and assigned to the `String` object `firstName`.

The situation is similar with the method `getDate()`. It retrieves the value stored in column no. 3 (BIRTHDATE), which is an SQL `DATE`, and converts it to a `com.sun.star.util.Date` before assigning it to the variable `birthDate`.

Note that the column number refers to the column number in the result set, not in the original table.

SDBC is flexible as to which `getXXX` methods can be used to retrieve the various SQL types. For example, the method `getInt()` can be used to retrieve any of the numeric or character types. The data it retrieves is converted to an int; that is, if the SQL type is `VARCHAR`, SDBC attempts to parse an integer out of the `VARCHAR`. To be sure that no information is lost, the method `getInt()` is only recommended for SQL `INTEGER` types, and it cannot be used for the SQL types `BINARY`, `VARBINARY`, `LONGVARBINARY`, `DATE`, `TIME`, or `TIMESTAMP`.

Although `getString()` is recommended for the SQL types `CHAR` and `VARCHAR`, it is possible to retrieve any of the basic SQL types with it. The new SQL3 data types can not be retrieved with it. Getting values with `getString()` can be useful, but has its limitations. For instance, if it is used to retrieve a numeric type, `getString()` converts the numeric value to a Java `String` object, and the value has to be converted back to a numeric type before it can be used for numeric operations.

The value will be treated as a string, so if an application is to retrieve and display arbitrary column values of any standard SQL type other than SQL3 types, use `getString()`.

The illustration below shows all `getXXX()` methods and the corresponding SDBC data types defined in `com.sun.star.sdbc.DataType`. The illustration above shows which methods can legally be used to retrieve SQL types, and which methods are recommended for retrieving the various SQL types.
Methods to Retrieve SQL Types

- x with grey background indicates that the `getXXX()` method is the recommended method to retrieve an SDBC data type. No data will be lost due to type conversion.
- x indicates that the `getXXX()` method may legally be used to retrieve the given SDBC type. However, type conversion will take place and affect the values you obtain.

### Scrollable Result Sets

The interface `com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSet` offers methods to move the cursor back and forth to an arbitrary row, and get the current position of the cursor. Scrollable result sets are necessary to create GUI tools that can browse result sets. It also may be required to move a specific row to work with it. Before taking advantage of these features, create a scrollable `ResultSet` object. The following lines of code illustrate one way to create a scrollable `ResultSet` object:

```java
XStatement xStatement = xConnection.createStatement();
XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xStatement);

xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetType", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetType.SCROLL_INSENSITIVE));
xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetConcurrency", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetConcurrency.UPDATABLE));

XResultSet xResult = xStatement.executeQuery("SELECT FIRSTNAME, LASTNAME FROM SALES");
```

This code is similar to what was used earlier, except that it sets two property values at the `Statement` object. These properties have to be set before the statement is executed.
The value of the property ResultSetType must be one of three constants defined in `com.sun.star.sdbc.ResultSetType`: FORWARD_ONLY, SCROLL_INSENSITIVE and SCROLL_SENSITIVE.

The property ResultSetConcurrency must be one out of the two `com.sun.star.sdbc.ResultSetConcurrency` constants READ_ONLY and UPDATABLE. When a ResultSetType is specified, it must be specified if it is read-only or modifiable.

If any constants for the type and modifiability of a ResultSet object are not specified, FORWARD_ONLY and READ_ONLY will automatically be created.

Specifying the constant FORWARD_ONLY creates a non-scrollable result set, that is, the cursor moves forward only. A scrollable ResultSet is obtained by specifying SCROLL_INSENSITIVE or SCROLL_SENSITIVE. Sensitive or insensitive refers to changes made to the underlying data after the result set has been opened. A SCROLL_INSENSITIVE result set does not reflect changes to the underlying data, while a SCROLL_SENSITIVE result set shows changes. However, not all drivers and databases support change sensitivity.

In scrollable result sets, the counterpart to next() is the method previous(), which moves the cursor backward. Both methods return false when the cursor goes to the position after the last row or before the first row. This allows them to be used in a while loop.

The following two examples show the usage of next() and previous() together with while:

```java
XStatement stmt = con.createStatement();
XPropertySet xProp =
  (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, stmt);
  xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetType", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetType.SCROLL_INSENSITIVE));
  xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetConcurrency", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetConcurrency.READ_ONLY));
XResultSet srs = stmt.executeQuery("SELECT NAME, PRICE FROM SALES");
XRow row = (XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRow.class, srs);
while (srs.next()) {
    String name = row.getString(1);
    float price = row.getFloat(2);
    System.out.println(name + " " + price);
}
```

The printout will look similar to this:

```
Linux           32 Beef            15.78 Orange juice    1.50
```

To process the rows going backward, the cursor must start out after the last row. The
cursor is moved to the position after the last row with the method afterLast(). Then previous() moves the cursor from the position after the last row to the last row, and then up to the first row with each iteration through the while loop. The loop ends when the cursor reaches the position before the first row, where previous() returns false.

```java
XStatement stmt = con.createStatement();
XPropertySet xProp = 
    (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class,stmt);
xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetType", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetType.SCROLL_INSENSITIVE));
xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetConcurrency", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetConcurrency.READ_ONLY));

XResultSet srs = stmt.executeQuery("SELECT NAME, PRICE FROM SALES");
XRow row = (XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRow.class, srs);
srs.afterLast();
while (srs.previous()) {
    String name = row.getString(1);
    float price = row.getFloat(2);
    System.out.println(name + " " + price);
}
```

The printout will look similar to this:

| Orange juice | 1.50 | Beef   | 15.78 | Linux | 32 |

The column values are the same, but the rows are in the reverse order.

The cursor can be moved to a specific row in a ResultSet object. The methods first(), last(), beforeFirst(), and afterLast() move the cursor to the row indicated by the method names.

The method absolute() moves the cursor to the row number indicated in the argument passed. If the number is positive, the cursor moves the given number from the beginning. Calling absolute(1) moves the cursor to the first row. If the number is negative, the cursor moves the given number of rows from the end. Calling absolute(-1) sets the cursor to the last row. The following line of code moves the cursor to the fourth row of srs:

```java
srs.absolute(4);
```

If srs has 500 rows, the following line of code moves the cursor to row 497:

```java
srs.absolute(-4);
```

The method relative() moves the cursor by an arbitrary number of rows from the current row. A positive number moves the cursor forward, and a negative number moves the cursor backwards. For example, in the following code fragment, the cursor moves to the fourth row, then to the first row, and finally to the third row:

```java
srs.absolute(4); // cursor is on the fourth row
```
The method `getRow()` returns the number of the current row. For example, use `getRow()` to verify the current position of the cursor in the previous example using the following code:

```java
srs.absolute(4);
int rowNum = srs.getRow(); // rowNum should be 4
srs.relative(-3);
rowNum = srs.getRow(); // rowNum should be 1
srs.relative(2);
rowNum = srs.getRow(); // rowNum should be 3
```

Note that some drivers do not support the `getRow` method. They always return 0.

There are four methods to verify if the cursor is at a particular position. The position is stated in their names: `isFirst()`, `isLast()`, `isBeforeFirst()`, and `isAfterLast()`. These methods return a boolean that can be used in a conditional statement. For example, the following code fragment tests if the cursor is after the last row before invoking the method `previous()` in a while loop. If the method `isAfterLast()` returns false, the cursor is not after the last row, so the method afterLast can be invoked. This guarantees that the cursor is after the last row and that using the method `previous()` in the while loop stop at every row in `srs`.

```java
if (srs.isAfterLast() == false) {
    srs.afterLast();
}
while (srs.previous()) {
    String name = row.getString(1);
    float price = row.getFloat(2);
    System.out.println(name + " " + price);
}
```

How to use the two methods from the `XResultSetUpdate` interface to move the cursor: `moveToInsertRow()` and `moveToCurrentRow()` are discussed in the next section. There are examples illustrating why moving the cursor to certain positions may be required.

---

**Modifiable Result Sets**

Another feature of SDBC is the ability to update rows in a result set using methods in the programming language, rather than sending an SQL command. Before doing this, a modifiable result set must be created. To create a modifiable result set, supply the `ResultSetConcurrency` constant `UPDATABLE` to the `Statement` property.
Modifiable Result Sets

ResultSetConcurrency, so that the Statement object creates an modifiable ResultSet object each time it executes a query.

The following code fragment creates a modifiable XResultSet object rs. Note that the code also makes rs scrollable. A modifiable ResultSet object does not have to be scrollable, but when changes are made to a result set, the user may want to move around in it. With a scrollable result set, there is the ability to move to particular rows that you can work with. If the type is SCROLL_SENSITIVE, the new value in a row can be obtained after it has changed without refreshing the whole result set.

```java
XStatement stmt = con.createStatement();
XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, stmt);
xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetType", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetType.SCROLL_INSENSITIVE));
xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetConcurrency", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetConcurrency.UPDATABLE));

XResultSet rs = stmt.executeQuery("SELECT NAME, PRICE FROM SALES");
XRow row = (XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRow.class, rs);
```

The ResultSet object rs may look similar to this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linux</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef</td>
<td>$15.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange juice</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The methods can now be used in the com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowUpdate interface of the result set to insert a new row into rs, delete an existing row from rs, or modify a column value in rs.

Update

An update is the modification of a column value in the current row. Suppose the price of orange juice is lowered to 0.99. Using the example above, the update would look like this:

```java
stmt.executeUpdate("UPDATE SALES SET PRICE = 0.99" +
    "WHERE SALENR = 4");
```

The following code fragment shows another way to accomplish the same update, this time using SDBC:

```java
rs.last();
XRowUpdate updateRow = (XRowUpdate)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRowUpdate.class, rs);
```
Update operations in the SDBC API affect column values in the row where the cursor is positioned. In the first line, the `ResultSet rs` calls `last()` to move the cursor to the last row where the column `NAME` has the value `Orange juice`. Once the cursor is on the last row, all of the update methods that are called operate on that row until the cursor is moved to another row.

The second line changes the value of the `PRICE` column to 0.99 by calling `updateFloat()`. This method is used because the column value we want to update is a float in Java programming language.

The `updateXXX()` methods in `com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowUpdate` take two parameters: the number of the column to update and the new column value. There are specialized `updateXXX()` methods for each data type, such as `updateString()` and `updateInt()`, just like the `getXXX` methods discussed above.

At this point, the price in `rs` for `Orange juice` is 0.99, but the price in the table `SALES` in the database is still 1.50. To ensure the update takes effect in the database and not just the result set, the `com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSetUpdate` method `updateRow()` is called. Here is what the code should look like to update `rs` and `SALES`:

```java
rs.last();
XRowUpdate updateRow = (XRowUpdate)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRowUpdate.class, rs);
updateRow.updateFloat(2, (float)0.99);
XResultSetUpdate updateRs = (XResultSetUpdate)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XResultSetUpdate.class, rs);
// update the data in DBMS
updateRs.updateRow();
```

If the cursor is moved to a different row before calling `updateRow()`, the update is lost. The update can be canceled by calling `cancelRowUpdates()`, for instance, the price should have been 0.79 instead of 0.99. The `cancelRowUpdates()` has to be invoked before invoking `updateRow()`. The `cancelRowUpdates()` does nothing when `updateRow()` has been called. Note that `cancelRowUpdates` cancels all the updates in a row, that is, if there were more than one `updateXXX` method in the row, they are all canceled. The following code fragment cancels the update to the price column to 0.99, and then updates it to 0.79:

```java
rs.last();
updateRow.updateFloat(2, (float)0.99);
updateRs.cancelRowUpdates();
updateRow.updateFloat(2, (float)0.79);
updateRs.updateRow();
```

In the above example, only one column value is updated, but an appropriate
updateXXX() method can be called for any or all of the column values in a single row. Updates and related operations apply to the row where the cursor is positioned. Even if there are many calls to updateXXX methods, it takes only one call to the method updateRow() to update the database with all changes made in the current row.

To update the price for beef as well, move the cursor to the row containing that product. The row for beef immediately precedes the row for orange juice, so the method previous() can be called to position the cursor on the row for Beef. The following code fragment changes the price in that row to 10.79 in the result set and underlying table in the database:

```java
rs.previous();
updateRow.updateFloat(2, (float)10.79);
updateRs.updateRow();
```

All cursor movements refer to rows in a ResultSet object, not to rows in the underlying database. If a query selects five rows from a database table, there are five rows in the result set with the first row being row 1, the second row being row 2, and so on. Row 1 can also be identified as the first row, and in a result set with five rows, row 5 is the last.

The order of the rows in the result set has nothing to do with the physical order of the rows in the underlying table. In fact, the order of the rows in a database table is indeterminate. The DBMS keeps track of which rows were selected, and it makes updates to the proper rows, but they may be located anywhere in the table physically. When a row is inserted, there is no way to know where in the table it was inserted.

## Insert

The previous section described how to modify a column value using methods in the SDBC API, rather than SQL commands. With the SDBC API, a new row can also be inserted into a table or an existing row deleted programmatically.

Suppose our salesman Bob sold a new product to one of our customers, FTOP Darjeeling tea, and we need to add the new sale to the database. Using the previous example, write code that passes an SQL insert statement to the DBMS. The following code fragment, in which stmt is a Statement object, shows this approach:

```java
stmt.executeUpdate("INSERT INTO SALES " +
    "VALUES (4, 102, 5, 'FTOP Darjeeling tea', '2002-01-02',150)");
```

The same thing can be done, without using any SQL commands, by using ResultSet methods in the SDBC API. After a ResultSet object is obtained with the results from
the table SALES, build the new row and then insert it into the result set and the table
SALES in one step. First, build a new row in the insert row, a special row associated
with every ResultSet object. This row is not part of the result set. It can be
considered as a separate buffer in which a new row is composed prior to insertion.

The next step is to move the cursor to the insert row by invoking the method
moveToInsertRow(). Then set a value for each column in the row that should not be
null by calling the appropriate updateXXX() method for each value. Note that these
are the same updateXXX() methods used to change a column value in the previous
section.

Finally, call insertRow() to insert the row that was populated with values into the
result set. This method simultaneously inserts the row into the ResultSet object, as
well as the database table from where the result set was selected.

The following code fragment creates a scrollable and modifiable ResultSet object rs
that contains all of the rows and columns in the table SALES:

```java
XConnection con =
XDriverManager.getConnection("jdbc:mySubprotocol:mySubName");
XStatement stmt = con.createStatement();
XPropertySet xProp =
(XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, stmt);
xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetType", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetType.SCROLL_INSENSITIVE));
xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetConcurrency", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetConcurrency.UPDATABLE));
XResultSet rs = stmt.executeQuery("SELECT * FROM SALES");
XRow row = (XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRow.class, rs);
```

The next code fragment uses the XResultSetUpdate interface of rs to insert the row
for FTOP Darjeeling tea, shown in the SQL code example. It moves the cursor to the
insert row, sets the six column values, and inserts the new row into rs and SALES:

```java
XRowUpdate updateRow = (XRowUpdate)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRowUpdate.class, rs);
XResultSetUpdate updateRs =
(XResultSetUpdate)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XResultSetUpdate.class, rs);
updateRs.moveToInsertRow();
updateRow.updateInt(1, 4);
updateRow.updateInt(2, 102);
updateRow.updateInt(3, 5);
updateRow.updateString(4, "FTOP Darjeeling tea");
updateRow.updateDate(5, new Date((short)1, (short)2, (short)2002));
updateRow.updateFloat(6, 150);
updateRs.insertRow();
```

The updateXXX() methods behave differently from the way they behaved in the
update examples. In those examples, the value set with an `updateXXX()` method immediately replaced the column value in the result set, because the cursor was on a row in the result set. When the cursor is on the insert row, the value set with an `updateXXX()` method is immediately set, but it is set in the insert row rather than in the result set itself.

In updates and insertions, calling an `updateXXX()` method does not affect the underlying database table. The method `updateRow()` must be called to have updates occur in the database. For insertions, the method `insertRow()` inserts the new row into the result set and the database at the same time.

If a value is not supplied for a column that was defined to accept SQL `NULL` values, then the value assigned to that column is `NULL`. If a column does not accept null values, an `SQLException` is returned when an `updateXXX()` method is not called to set a value for it. This is also true if a table column is missing in the `ResultSet` object. In the example above, the query was `SELECT * FROM SALES`, which produced a result set with all the columns of all the rows. To insert one or more rows, the query does not have to select all rows, but it is advisable to select all columns. Additionally if the table has many rows, use a `WHERE` clause to limit the number of rows returned by the `SELECT` statement.

After the method `insertRow()` is called, start building another insert row, or move the cursor back to a result set row. Any of the methods can be executed that move the cursor to a specific row, such as `first()`, `last()`, `beforeFirst()`, `afterLast()`, and `absolute()`. The methods `previous()`, `relative()`, and `moveToCurrentRow()` can also be used. Note that only `moveToCurrentRow()` can be invoked as long as the cursor is on the insert row.

When the method `moveToInsertRow()` is called, the result set records which row the cursor is in, that is by definition the current row. As a consequence, the method `moveToCurrentRow()` can move the cursor from the insert row back to the row that was the current row previously. This also explains why the methods `previous()` and `relative()` can be used, because require movement relative to the current row.

Delete

In the previous sections, how to update a column and insert a new row was explained. This section discusses how to modify the `ResultSet` object by deleting a row. The method `deleteRow()` is called to delete the row where the cursor is placed. For example, to delete the fourth row in the `ResultSet` `rs`, the code looks like this:

```java
rs.absolute(4);
```
The fourth row is removed from `rs` and also from the database.

The only issue about deletions is what the ResultSet object does when it deletes a row. With some SDBC drivers, a deleted row is removed and no longer visible in a result set. Other SDBC drivers use a blank row as a placeholder (a "hole") where the deleted row used to be. If there is a blank row in place of the deleted row, the method `absolute()` can be used with the original row positions to move the cursor, because the row numbers in the result set are not changed by the deletion.

Remember that different SDBC drivers handle deletions differently. For example, if an application is meant to run with different databases, the code should not depend on holes in a result set.

### Seeing Changes in Result Sets

When data is modified in a ResultSet object, the change is always visible immediately. That is, if the same query is re-executed, a new result set is produced based on the data currently in a table. This result set reflects the earlier changes.

If the changes made by you or others are visible while the ResultSet object is open, is dependent on the DBMS, the driver, and the type of ResultSet object.

With a SCROLL_SENSITIVE ResultSetType object, the updates to column values are visible. As well, insertions and deletions are visible, but to ensure this information is returned, use the com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData methods.

The amount of visibility for changes can be regulated by raising or lowering the transaction isolation level for the connection with the database. For example, the following line of code, where `con` is an active Connection object, sets the connection’s isolation level to `READ_COMMITTED`:

```java
con.setTransactionIsolation(TransactionIsolation.READ_COMMITTED);
```

With this isolation level, the ResultSet object does not show changes before they are committed, but it shows changes that may have other consistency problems. To allow fewer data inconsistencies, raise the transaction isolation level to REPEATABLE_READ. Note that the higher the isolation level, the poorer the performance. The database and driver also limited what is actually provided. Many programmers use their database’s default transaction isolation level. Consult the DBMS manual for more
information about transaction isolation levels.

In a ResultSet object that is SCROLL_INSENSITIVE, changes are not visible while it is still open. Some programmers only use this type of ResultSet object to get a consistent view of the data without seeing changes made by others.

The method refreshRow() is used to get the latest values for a row straight from the database. This method is time consuming, especially if the DBMS returns multiple rows refreshRow() is called. The method refreshRow() can be valuable if it is critical to have the latest data. Even when a result set is sensitive and changes are visible, an application may not always see the latest changes that have been made to a row if the driver retrieves several rows at a time and caches them. Thus, using the method refreshRow() ensures that only up-to-date data is visible.

The following code sample illustrates how an application might use the method refreshRow() when it is critical to see the latest changes. Note that the result set should be sensitive. If the method refreshRow() with a SCROLL_INSENSITIVE ResultSet is used, refreshRow() does nothing. Getting the latest data for the table SALES is not realistic with these methods. A more realistic scenario is when an airline reservation clerk needs to ensure that the seat he is about to reserve is still available.

```java
XStatement stmt = con.createStatement();
XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, stmt);
xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetType", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetType.SCROLL_SENSITIVE));
xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetConcurrency", new java.lang.Integer(ResultSetConcurrency.READ_ONLY));

XResultSet rs = stmt.executeQuery("SELECT NAME, PRICE FROM SALES");
XRow row = (XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRow.class, rs);
rs.absolute(4);
float price1 = row.getFloat(2);
// do something ...
rs.absolute(4);
rs.refreshRow();
float price2 = row.getFloat(2);
if (price2 != price1) {
    // do something ...
}
```
When you develop applications that allow users to create their own SQL statements, for example, through a user interface, information about the result set to be displayed is required. For this reason, the result set supports a method to examine the metadata, that is, information about the columns in the result set. This information could cover items, such as the name of the column, if it is null, if it is an auto increment column, or a currency column. For detailed information, see the interface com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSetMetaData. The following code fragment shows the use of the XResultSetMetaData interface:

```java
XStatement stmt = con.createStatement();
XPropertySet xProp =
    (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, stmt);
xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetType",new
  java.lang.Integer(ResultSetType.SCROLL_INSENSITIVE));
xProp.setPropertyValue("ResultSetConcurrency", new
  java.lang.Integer(ResultSetConcurrency.READ_ONLY));
XResultSet rs = stmt.executeQuery("SELECT NAME, PRICE FROM SALES");
XResultSetMetaDataSupplier xRsMetaSup =
    (XResultSetMetaDataSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XResultSetMetaDataSupplier.class, rs);
XResultSetMetaData xRsMetaData = xRsMetaSup.getMetaData();
int nColumnCount = xRsMetaData.getColumnCount();
for (int i=1 ;i <= nColumnCount; ++i) {   System.out.println("Name: " +
    xRsMetaData.getColumnName(i) + " Type: " +
    xRsMetaData.getColumnType(i)); }
```

The printout looks similar to this:

```
Name:   NAME    Type:   12 Name:   PRICE   Type:   3
```

Notice that the Type returned is the number for the corresponding SQL data type. In this case, VARCHAR has the value 12 and the type 3 is the SQL data type DECIMAL. The whole list of data types can be found at com.sun.star.sdbc.DataType.

Note that the com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSetMetaData can be requested before you move to the first row.

### Using Prepared Statements

Sometimes it is convenient or efficient to use a PreparedStatement object to send SQL statements to the database. This special type of statement includes the more general service com.sun.star.sdbc.Statement already discussed.
When to Use a PreparedStatement Object

Using a PreparedStatement object reduces execution time, if executing a Statement object many times as in the example above.

The main feature of a PreparedStatement object is that it is given an SQL statement when it is created, unlike a Statement object. This SQL statement is sent to the DBMS right away where it is compiled. As a result, the PreparedStatement object contains not just an SQL statement, but an SQL statement that has been precompiled. This means that when the PreparedStatement is executed, the DBMS can run the PreparedStatement's SQL statement without having to analyze and optimize it again.

The PreparedStatement objects can be used for SQL statements without or without parameters. The advantage of using SQL statements with parameters is that the same statement can be used with different values supplied each time it is executed. This is shown in an example in the following sections.

Creating a PreparedStatement Object

Similar to Statement objects, PreparedStatement objects are created using prepareStatement() on a Connection object. Using our open connection con from the previous examples, code could be written like the following to create a PreparedStatement object that takes two input parameters:

```java
XPreparedStatement updateStreet = con.prepareStatement("UPDATE SALESMAN 
SET STREET = ? WHERE SNR = ?");
```

The variable updateStreet now contains the SQL update statement that has also been sent to the DBMS and precompiled.

Supplying Values for PreparedStatement Parameters

Before executing a PreparedStatement object, values to replace the question mark placeholders or named parameters, such as param1 or param2 have to be supplied. This is accomplished by calling one of the setXXX() methods defined in the interface
Using Prepared Statements

com.sun.star.sdbc.XParameters of the prepared statement. For instance, to substitute a question mark with a value that is a Java int, call `setInt()`. If the value is a Java String, call the method `setString()`. There is a `setXXX()` method for each type in the Java programming language.

Using the `PreparedStatement` object `updateStreet()` from the previous example, the following line of code sets the first question mark placeholder to a Java String with a value of '34 Main Road':

```java
XParameters setPara = (XParameters)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XParameters.class, updateStreet);
setPara.setString(1, "34 Main Road");
```

The example shows that the first argument given to a `setXXX()` method indicates which question mark placeholder should be set, and the second argument contains the value for the placeholder. The next example sets the second placeholder parameter to the Java int 1:

```
setPara.setInt(2, 1);
```

After these values have been set for its two input parameters, the SQL statement in `updateStreet` is equivalent to the SQL statement in the String object `updateString()` used in the previous update example. Therefore, the following two code fragments accomplish the same thing:

**Code Fragment 1:**

```java
String updateString = "UPDATE SALESMAN SET STREET = '34 Main Road' WHERE SNR = 1"; stmt.executeUpdate(updateString);
```

**Code Fragment 2:**

```java
XPreparedStatement updateStreet = con.prepareStatement("UPDATE SALESMAN SET STREET = ? WHERE SNR = ?"); XParameters setPara = (XParameters)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XParameters.class, updateStreet);
setPara.setString(1, "34 Main Road"); setPara.setInt(2, 1);
updateStreet.executeUpdate();
```

The method `executeUpdate()` was used to execute the `Statement stmt` and the `PreparedStatement updateStreet`. Notice that no argument is supplied to `executeUpdate()` when it is used to execute `updateStreet`. This is true because `updateStreet` already contains the SQL statement to be executed.

Looking at the above examples, a `PreparedStatement` object with parameters was used instead of a statement that involves fewer steps. If a table is going to be updated once or twice, a statement is sufficient, but if the table is going to be updated often, it is efficient to use a `PreparedStatement` object. This is especially true in situation where a for loop or while loop can be used to set a parameter to a succession of values. This is shown later in this section.

Once a parameter has been set with a value, it retains that value until it is reset to
Using Prepared Statements

another value or the method clearParameters() is called. Using the PreparedStatement object updateStreet, the following code fragment illustrates reusing a prepared statement after resetting the value of one of its parameters and leaving the other one as is:

```java
// set the 1st parameter (the STREET column) to Maryland
setPara.setString(1, "Maryland");
// use the 2nd parameter to select George Flint, his unique identifier SNR is 4
setPara.setInt(2, 4);
// write changes to database
updateStreet.executeUpdate();
// changes STREET column back to Michigan road // the 2nd parameter for SNR
// still is 4, only the first parameter is adjusted
updateStreet.executeUpdate();
setPara.setString(1, "Michigan road");
// write changes to database
updateStreet.executeUpdate();
```

PreparedStatement From DataSource Queries

Use the com.sun.star.sdb.XCommandPreparation to get the necessary statement objects to open predefined queries and tables in a data source, and to execute arbitrary SQL statements:

```java
com::sun::star::sdbc::XPreparedStatement
prepareCommand(                   
[in] string command, 
[in] long commandType)
```

If the value of the parameter com.sun.star.sdb.CommandType is TABLE or QUERY, pass a table name or query name that exists in the com.sun.star.sdb.DataSource of the connection. The value COMMAND makes prepareCommand() expect an SQL string. The result is a prepared statement object that can be parameterized and executed.

The following fragment opens a predefined query in a database Ada01:

```java
// retrieve the DatabaseContext and get its com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess
interface XNameAccess
xNameAccess = (XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XNameAccess.class, _rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext"));
Object dataSource = xNameAccess.getName("Ada01"); XDataSource xDataSource =
(XDataSource)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDataSource.class, dataSource);
Object interactionHandler =
_rMSF.createInstance("com.sun.star.sdb.InteractionHandler");
XInteractionHandler xInteractionHandler =
(XInteractionHandler)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XInteractionHandler.class, interactionHandler);
XCompletedConnection xCompletedConnection =
(XCompletedConnection)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XCompletedConnection.class, dataSource);
XConnection xConnection =
xCompletedConnection.connectWithCompletion(xInteractionHandler);
XCommandPreparation xCommandPreparation =
(XCommandPreparation)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XCommandPreparation.class,
```
PreparedStatement From DataSource Queries

```java
xConnection); XPreparedStatement xPreparedStatement =
xCommandPreparation.prepareCommand(    "Query1", CommandType.QUERY);
XResultSet xResult = xPreparedStatement.executeQuery(); XRow xRow =
(XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRow.class, xResult); while (xResult != null
&& xResult.next()) { System.out.println(xRow.getString(1)); }
```

Database Design

Retrieving Information about a Database

The com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData interface is implemented by SDBC drivers to provide information about their underlying database. It is used primarily by application servers and tools to determine how to interact with a given data source. Applications may also use XDatabaseMetaData methods to get information about a database. The com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData interface includes over 150 methods, that are categorized according to the types of information they provide:

- General information about the database.
- If the database supports a given feature or capability.
- Database limits.
- What SQL objects the database contains and attributes of those objects.
- Transaction support offered by the data source.

Additionally, the com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData interface uses a resultset with more than 40 possible columns as return values in many com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData methods. This section presents an overview of the com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData interface, and provides examples illustrating the categories of metadata methods. For a comprehensive listing, consult the SDBC API specification.

Creating the XDatabaseMetaData objects

A com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData object is created using the Connection method getMetaData(). Once created, it can be used to dynamically discover information about the underlying data source. The following code example creates a com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData object and uses it to determine the maximum number of characters allowed for a table name.

```java
// xConnection is a Connection object XDatabaseMetaData dbmd =
xConnection.getMetaData(); int maxLen = dbmd.getMaxTableNameLength();
```
Retrieving General Information

Some com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData methods are used to dynamically discover general information about a database, as well as details about its implementation. Some of the methods in this category are:

- `getURL()`
- `getUserName()`
- `getDatabaseProductVersion()`, `getDriverMajorVersion()` and `getDriverMinorVersion()`
- `getSchemaTerm()`, `getCatalogTerm()` and `getProcedureTerm()`
- `nullsAreSortedHigh()` and `nullsAreSortedLow()`
- `usesLocalFiles()` and `usesLocalFilePerTable()`
- `getSQLKeywords()`

Determining Feature Support

A large group of com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData methods can be used to determine whether a given feature or set of features is supported by the driver or underlying database. Beyond this, some of the methods describe what level of support is provided. Some of the methods that describe support for individual features are:

- `supportsAlterTableWithDropColumn()`
- `supportsBatchUpdates()`
- `supportsTableCorrelationNames()`
- `supportsPositionedDelete()`
- `supportsFullOuterJoins()`
- `supportsStoredProcedures()`
- `supportsMixedCaseQuotedIdentifiers()`

Methods to describe the level of feature support include:

- `supportsANSI92EntryLevelSQL()`
- `supportsCoreSQLGrammar()`
Database Limits

Another group of methods provides the limits imposed by a given database. Some of the methods in this category are:

- `getMaxRowSize()`
- `getMaxStatementLength()`
- `getMaxTablesInSelect()`
- `getMaxConnections()`
- `getMaxCharLiteralLength()`
- `getMaxColumnsInTable()`

Methods in this group return the limit as an int. A return value of zero means there is no limit or the limit is unknown.

SQL Objects and their Attributes

Some methods provide information about the SQL objects that populate a given database. This group also includes methods to determine the attributes of those objects. Methods in this group return `ResultSet` objects in which each row describes a particular object. For example, the method `getUDTs()` returns a `ResultSet` object in which there is a row for each user defined type (UDT) that has been defined in the database. Examples of this category are:

- `getSchemas()` and `getCatalogs()`
- `getTables()`
- `getPrimaryKeys()`
- `getColumns()`
- `getProcedures()` and `getProcedureColumns()`
- `getUDTs()`

For example, to display the structure of a table that consists of columns and keys (primary keys, foreign keys), and also indexes defined on the table, the `com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData` interface is required:

```java
XDatabaseMetaData dm = con.getMetaData(); XResultSet rsTables = 
    dm.getTables(null, "\%", "SALES", null); XRow rowTB = 
    (XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRow.class, rsTables); 
while (rsTables.next()) {
    String catalog = rowTB.getString(1); if (rowTB.wasNull()) 
        catalog = null; 
    String schema = rowTB.getString(2); if (rowTB.wasNull()) 
        schema = null; 
```
String table = rowTB.getString(3);    String type = rowTB.getString(4);
System.out.println("Catalog: " + catalog + " Schema: " + schema + " Table: " + table + " Type: " + type);
System.out.println("------------------ Columns ------------------");
XResultSet rsColumns = dm.getColumns(catalog, schema, table, "%");
XRow rowCL = (XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRow.class, rsColumns);
while (rsColumns.next()) {
    System.out.println("Column: " + rowCL.getString(4) + " Type: " + rowCL.getInt(5) + " TypeName: " + rowCL.getString(6));
}

Another method often used when creating SQL statements is the method getIdentifierQuoteString(). This method is always used when table or column names need to be quoted in the SQL statement. For example:

SELECT "Name", "Price" FROM "Sales"

In this case, the identifier quotation is the character ". The combination of XDatabaseMetaData methods in the following code fragment may be useful to know if the database supports catalogs and/or schemata.

public static String quoteTableName(XConnection con, String sCatalog, String sSchema, String sTable) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    XDatabaseMetaData dbmd = con.getMetaData();
    String sQuoteString = dbmd.getIdentifierQuoteString();
    String sSeparator = ".";
    String sComposedName = "";
    String sCatalogSep = dbmd.getCatalogSeparator();
    if (0 != sCatalog.length() && dbmd.isCatalogAtStart() && 0 != sCatalogSep.length()) {
        sComposedName += sCatalog;
        sComposedName += dbmd.getCatalogSeparator();
        if (0 != sCatalogSep.length()) { sComposedName += sCatalogSep; } else { sComposedName += sCatalog; }
        sComposedName += dbmd.getCatalogSeparator();
        sComposedName += sSchema;
        if (0 != sSchema.length()) { sComposedName += sSchema; sComposedName += sSeparator; sComposedName += sTable; } else { sComposedName += sTable; }
        if (0 != dbmd.isCatalogAtStart() && 0 != dbmd.getCatalogSeparator().length()) { sComposedName += dbmd.getCatalogSeparator(); sComposedName += sCatalog; }
    }
    return sComposedName;
}

Using DDL to Change the Database Design

To show the usage of statements for data definition purposes, we will show how to create the tables in our example database using CREATE statements. The first table, SALESMAN, contains essential information about the salespersons, including the first name, last name, street address, city, and birth date. The table SALESMAN that is described in more detail later, is shown here:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SNR</th>
<th>FIRSTNAME</th>
<th>LASTNAME</th>
<th>STREET</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>ZIP</th>
<th>BIRTH DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>95460</td>
<td>02/07/46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>95460</td>
<td>12/24/63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>95460</td>
<td>04/01/72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>95460</td>
<td>02/13/53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The first column is the column SNR of SQL type INTEGER. This column contains a unique number for each salesperson. Since there is a different SNR for each person, the SNR column can be used to uniquely identify a particular salesman, the is, the primary key. If this were not the case, an additional column that is unique would have to be introduced, such as the social security number. The column for the first name is **FIRSTNAME** that holds values of the SQL type VARCHAR with a maximum length of 50 characters. The third column, **LASTNAME**, is also a VARCHAR with a maximum length of 100 characters. The **STREET** and **STATE** columns are VARCHARs with 50 characters. The column **ZIP** uses INTEGER and the column **BIRTHDATE** uses the type **DATE**. By using the type **DATE** instead of VARCHAR, the dates of birth can be compared with the current date.

The second table, **CUSTOMER**, in our database, contains information about customers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COS_NR</th>
<th>LASTNAME</th>
<th>STREET</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>ZIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>95199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>95460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>93966</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The first column is the personal number COS_NR of our customer. This column is used to uniquely identify the customers, and declare this column to be the primary key. The types of the other columns are identical to the first table, **SALESMAN**.

Another table to show joins is required. For this purpose, the table **SALES** is used. This table contains all sales that our salespersons could enter into an agreement with the customers. This table needs a column **SALENR** to identify each sale, a column for **COS_NR** to identify the customer and a column **SNR** for the sales person who made the sale, and the columns that defines the article sold.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SALENR</th>
<th>COS_NR</th>
<th>SNR</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>02/12/01</td>
<td>$39.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10/18/01</td>
<td>$15.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Orange juice</td>
<td>08/09/01</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To show the relationship between the three tables, consider the diagram below.

The table **SALES** contains the column **COS_NR** and the column **SNR**. These two columns can be used in SELECT statements to get data based on the information in this table, for example, all sales made by the salesperson Jane. The column **COS_NR** is the primary key in the table **CUSTOMER** and it uniquely identifies each of the customers. The same is true for the column **SNR** in the table **SALESMAN**. In the table **SALES**, the fields **COS_NR** and **SNR** are foreign keys. Note that each **COS_NR** and **SNR** number may appear more than once in the **SALES** table, because a third column **SALENR** was introduced. This is required for a primary key. An example of how to use primary and foreign keys in a SELECT statement is provided later.
The following CREATE TABLE statement creates the table SALESMAN. The entries within the outer pair of parentheses consist of the name of a column followed by a space and the SQL type to be stored in that column. A comma separates the column entries where each entry consists of a column name and SQL type. The type VARCHAR is created with a maximum length, so it takes a parameter indicating the maximum length. The parameter must be in parentheses following the type. The SQL statement shown here specifies that the name in column FIRSTNAME may be up to 50 characters long:

```
CREATE TABLE SALESMAN (SNR INTEGER NOT NULL,  FIRSTNAME VARCHAR(50),  LASTNAME VARCHAR(100),  STREET VARCHAR(50),  STATE VARCHAR(50),  ZIP VARCHAR(10),  BIRTHDATE DATE,  PRIMARY KEY(SNR) )
```

**Note** – This code does not end with a DBMS statement terminator that can vary from DBMS to DBMS. For example, Oracle uses a semicolon (;) to indicate the end of a statement, and Sybase uses the word go. The driver you are using automatically supplies the appropriate statement terminator, so that you will not need to include it in your SDBC code.

In the CREATE TABLE statement above, key words are printed in capital letters, and each item is on a separate line. SQL does not require the use of these conventions, it makes the statements easier to read. The standard in SQL is that keywords are not case sensitive, therefore, the following SELECT statement can be written in various ways:

```
SELECT "FirstName", "LastName" FROM "Employees" WHERE "LastName" LIKE 'Washington'
```

is equivalent to

```
select "FirstName", LastName" from "Employees" where "LastName" like 'Washington'
```

Single quotes ’...’ denote a string literal, double quotes mark case sensitive identifiers in many SQL databases.

Requirements can vary from one DBMS to another for identifier names. For example, some DBMSs require that column and table names must be given exactly as they were created in the CREATE TABLE statement, while others do not. We use uppercase letters for identifiers such as SALESMAN, CUSTOMERS and SALES. Another way would be to ask the XDatabaseMetaData interface if the method storesMixedCaseQuotedIdentifiers() returns true, and to use the string that the method getIdentifierQuoteString() returns.

The data types used in our CREATE TABLE statement are the generic SQL types (also called SDBC types) that are defined in the com.sun.star.sdbc.DataType. DBMSs generally uses these standard types.
To issue the commands above against our database, use the connection con to create a statement and the method `executeUpdate()` at its interface `com.sun.star.sdbc.XStatement`. In the following code fragment, `executeUpdate()` is supplied with the SQL statement from the `SALESMAN` example above:

```java
XStatement xStatement = con.createStatement(); int n = 
xStatement.executeUpdate("CREATE TABLE SALESMAN " + 
"(SNR INTEGER NOT NULL, " + 
"FIRSTNAME VARCHAR(50), " + 
"LASTNAME VARCHAR(100), " + 
"STREET VARCHAR(50), " + "STATE VARCHAR(50), " + "ZIP INTEGER, " + 
"BIRTHDATE DATE, " + 
"PRIMARY KEY(SNR) " + 
")");
```

The method `executeUpdate()` is used because the SQL statement contained in `createTableSalesman` is a DDL (data definition language) statement. Statements that create a table, alter a table, or drop a table are all examples of DDL statements, and are executed using the method `executeUpdate()`.

When the method `executeUpdate()` is used to execute a DDL statement, such as `CREATE TABLE`, it returns zero. Consequently, in the code fragment above that executes the DDL statement used to create the table `SALESMAN`, `n` is assigned a value of 0.
Using SDBCX to Access the Database Design

The Extension Layer SDBCX

The SDBCX layer introduces several abstractions built upon the SDBC layer that define general database objects, such as catalog, table, view, group, user, key, index, and column, as well as support for schema and security tasks. These objects are used to manage database design tasks. The ability of the SDBCX layer to define new data structures makes it an alternative to SQL DDL. The above Illustration 1 gives an overview to the SDBCX objects and their containers.

All objects mentioned previously have matching containers, except for the catalog. Each container implements the service com.sun.star.sdbcx.Container. The interfaces that the container supports depend on the objects that reside in it. For instance, the container for keys does not support an com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess interface. These containers are used to add and manage new objects in a catalog. The users and groups container manage the control permissions for other SDBCX objects, such as tables and views.

The illustration below shows the container specification for SDBCX DatabaseDefinition services.
Using SDBCX to Access the Database Design

Catalog Service

The Catalog object is the highest-level container in the SDBCX layer. It contains structural features of databases, like the schema and security model for the database. The connection, for instance, represents the database, and the Catalog is the database container for the tables, views, groups, and users within a connection or database. To create a catalog object, the database driver must support the interface com.sun.star.sdbcx.XDataDefinitionSupplier and an existing connection object. The following code fragment lists tables in a database.

```java
// create the Driver with the implementation name Object aDriver = xORB.createInstance("com.sun.star.comp.sdbcx.adabas.ODriver"); // query for the interface com.sun.star.sdbc.XDriver xDriver; xDriver = (XDriver)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDriver.class, aDriver); if (xDriver != null) {     // first create the needed url     String adabasURL = "sdbc:adabas::MYDB0";     // second create the necessary properties     com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] adabasProps = new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue[] {         new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue("user", 0, "test1", com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState.DIRECT_VALUE),         new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue("password", 0, "test1", com.sun.star.beans.PropertyState.DIRECT_VALUE)     };     // now create a connection to adabas     XConnection adabasConnection = xDriver.connect(adabasURL, a dabasProps);     if(adabasConnection != null) {         System.out.println("Connection could be created!");     }     // we need the XDatabaseDefinitionSupplier interface     // from the driver to get the XTablesSupplier     XDataDefinitionSupplier xDDSup =
```
(XDataDefinitionSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDataDefinitionSupplier.class, xDriver); if (xDDSup != null) {
    XTablesSupplier xTabSup = xDDSup.getDataDefinitionByConnection(adabasConnection);
    if (xTabSup != null) {
        XNameAccess xTables = xTabSup.getTables();
        // now print all table names
        System.out.println("Tables available:");
        String [] aTableNames = xTables.getElementNames();
        for ( int i =0; i<= aTableNames.length-1; i++)
            System.out.println(aTableNames[i]);
    } else {
        System.out.println("The driver is not SDBCX capable!");
    }
    // now we dispose the connection to close it
    XComponent xComponent = (XComponent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class, adabasConnection);
    if (xComponent != null) {
        xComponent.dispose();
        System.out.println("Connection disposed!");
    } else {
        System.out.println("Connection could not be created!");
    }
}

Table Service

The Table object is a member of the tables container that is a member of the Catalog object. Each Table object supports the same properties, such as Name, CatalogName, SchemaName, Description, and an optional Type. The properties CatalogName and SchemaName can be empty when the database does not support these features. The Description property contains any comments that were added to the table object at creation time. The optional property Type is a string property may contain a database specific table type when supported. Common table types are "TABLE", "VIEW", "SYSTEM TABLE", and "TEMPORARY TABLE". All these properties are read-only as long as this is not a descriptor. The descriptor pattern is described later.
The **Table** object also supports the `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XColumnsSupplier` interface, because a table can not exist without columns. The other interfaces are optional, that is, they do not have to be supported by the actual table object:

- `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XDataDescriptorFactory` interface that is used to copy a table object.
- `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XIndexesSupplier` interface that returns the container for indexes.
- `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XKeysSupplier` interface that returns the keys container.
- `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XRename` interface that allows renaming a table object.
- `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XAlterTable` interface that allows the altering of columns of a table object.

The code example below shows the use of the table container and prints the table properties of the first table in the container.

```java
... XNameAccess xTables = xTabSup.getTables(); if (0 != aTableNames.length) {
  Object table = xTables.getByName(aTableNames[0]);
  XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, table);
  System.out.println("Name: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Name"));
  System.out.println("CatalogName: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("CatalogName"));
  System.out.println("SchemaName: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("SchemaName"));
  System.out.println("Description: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Description"));
  // the following property is optional so we first must check if it exists
  if(xProp.getPropertySetInfo().hasPropertyByName("Type"))
    System.out.println("Type: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Type"));
```
The Table object contains access to the columns, keys, and indexes when the above mentioned interfaces are supported.

```java
// print all columns of a XColumnsSupplier // later on used for keys and
// indexes as well public static void printColumns(XColumnsSupplier xColumnsSup)
throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception,SQLException
{     System.out.println("Example printColumns");     // the table must at
least support a XColumnsSupplier interface     System.out.println("--- Columns
---");     XNameAccess xColumns = xColumnsSup.getColumns();     String []
aColumnNames = xColumns.getElementNames();     for (int i =0; i<=
aColumnNames.length-1; i++)         System.out.println(" " + aColumnNames[i]);
}
```

```java
// print all keys including the columns of a key public static void
printKeys(XColumnsSupplier xColumnsSup)          throws
com.sun.star.uno.Exception,SQLException {     System.out.println("Example
printKeys");     XKeysSupplier xKeysSup =
(XKeysSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XKeysSupplier.class,
xColumnsSup);     if (xKeysSup != null) {         System.out.println("--- Keys
---");         XIndexAccess xKeys = xKeysSup.getKeys();         for ( int i =0; i < xKeys.getCount(); i++) {             Object key = xKeys.getByIndex(i);             XPropertySet xProp =
(XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XPropertySet.class,ke
y);             System.out.println(" " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Name"));             XColumnsSupplier xKeyColumnsSup = (XColumnsSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XColumnsSupplier.class, xProp);             printColumns(xKeyColumnsSup);         }     } }
```

```java
// print all indexes including the columns of an index public static void
printIndexes(XColumnsSupplier xColumnsSup)         throws
com.sun.star.uno.Exception,SQLException {     System.out.println("Example
printIndexes");     XIndexesSupplier xIndexesSup =
(XIndexesSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XIndexesSupplier.class,
xColumnsSup);     if (xIndexesSup != null) {         System.out.println("--- Indexes
---");         XNameAccess xIndexes = xIndexesSup.getIndexes();
String [] aIndexNames = xIndexes.getElementNames();         for (int i =0; i<=
aIndexNames.length-1; i++) {             Object index = xIndexes.getByIndex(aIndexNames[i]);             XColumnsSupplier xIndexColumnsSup =
(XColumnsSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
XColumnsSupplier.class, index);             printColumns(xIndexColumnsSup);         }     } }
```

### Column Service

The Column object is the simplest object structure in the SDBCX layer. It is a collection of properties that define the Column object. The columns container exists for table, key, and index objects. The Column object is a different for these objects:

- **The normal Column service is used for the table object.**
- **com.sun.star.sdbcx.KeyColumn extends the "normal" com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column service with an extra property named RelatedColumn. This property is the name of a referenced column out of the referenced table.**
com.sun.star.sdbcx.IndexColumn extends the com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column service with an extra boolean property named `IsAscending`. This property is true when the index is ascending, otherwise it is false.

### Column

The Column object is defined by the following properties:

- **Properties of com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column**
  - `com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:Name`: string - The name of the column.
  - `com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:Type`: string - The database name for this type.
  - `com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:Precision`: long - The column's number of decimal digits.
  - `com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:Scale`: long - The column's number of digits to the left of the decimal point.
  - `com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:AutoIncrement`: boolean - Indicates if the column is automatically numbered.
  - `com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:Currency`: boolean - Indicates if the column is a cash value.
  - `com.sun.star.sdbcx.Column:RowVersion`: boolean - Indicates that the column contains some kind of time or date stamp used to track updates (optional).
Column Service

The Column object also supports the com.sun.star.sdbcx.XDataDescriptorFactory interface that creates a copy of this object.

```java
// column properties public static void printColumnProperties(Object column) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception, SQLException {
    System.out.println("Example printColumnProperties");
    XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, column);
    System.out.println("Name: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Name"));
    System.out.println("Type: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Type"));
    System.out.println("TypeName: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("TypeName"));
    System.out.println("Precision: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Precision"));
    System.out.println("Scale: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Scale"));
    System.out.println("IsNullable: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("IsNullable"));
    System.out.println("IsAutoIncrement: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("IsAutoIncrement"));
    System.out.println("IsCurrency: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("IsCurrency"));
    // the following property is optional so we first must check if it exists
    if (xProp.getPropertySetInfo().hasPropertyByName("IsRowVersion"))
        System.out.println("IsRowVersion: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("IsRowVersion"));
    if (xProp.getPropertySetInfo().hasPropertyByName("Description"))
        System.out.println("Description: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Description"));
    if (xProp.getPropertySetInfo().hasPropertyByName("DefaultValue"))
        System.out.println("DefaultValue: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("DefaultValue"));
}
```

Index Service

The Index service encapsulates indexes at a table object. An index is described through the properties Name, Catalog, IsUnique, IsPrimaryKeyIndex, and IsClustered. All properties are read-only if an index has not been added to a tables index container. The last three properties are boolean values that indicate an index object only allows unique values, is used for the primary key, and if it is clustered. The property IsPrimaryKeyIndex is only available after the index has been created because it defines a special index that is created by the database while creating a primary key for a table object. Not all databases currently available in OpenOffice.org API support primary keys.
The following code fragment displays the properties of a given index object:

```java
// index properties public static void printIndexProperties(Object index)
throws Exception, SQLException {
    System.out.println("Example printIndexProperties");
    XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, index);
    System.out.println("Name: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Name");
    System.out.println("Catalog: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Catalog");
    System.out.println("IsUnique: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("IsUnique");
    System.out.println("IsPrimaryKeyIndex: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("IsPrimaryKeyIndex");
    System.out.println("IsClustered: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("IsClustered");
}
```

Key Service

The Key service provides the foreign and primary keys behavior through the following properties. The `Name` property is the name of the key. It could happen that the primary key does not have a name. The property `Type` contains the kind of the key, that could
be PRIMARY, UNIQUE, or FOREIGN, as specified by the constant group com.sun.star.sdbcx.KeyType. The property ReferencedTable contains a value when the key is a foreign key and it designates the table to which a foreign key points. The DeleteRule and UpdateRule properties determine what happens when a primary key is deleted or updated. The possibilities are defined in com.sun.star.sdbc.KeyRule: CASCADE, RESTRICT, SET_NULL, NO_ACTION and SET_DEFAULT.

The following code fragment displays the properties of a given key object:

```java
// key properties public static void printKeyProperties(Object key) throws Exception, SQLException {     System.out.println("Example printKeyProperties");     XPropertySet xProp = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, key);     System.out.println("Name: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Name"));     System.out.println("Type: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("Type"));     System.out.println("ReferencedTable: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("ReferencedTable"));     System.out.println("UpdateRule: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("UpdateRule"));     System.out.println("DeleteRule: " + xProp.getPropertyValue("DeleteRule")); }```

Chapter 12 · Database Access
View Service

A view is a virtual table created from a SELECT on other database tables or views. This service creates a database view programmatically. It is not necessary to know the SQL syntax for the CREATE VIEW statement, but a few properties have to be set. When creating a view, supply the value for the property Name, the SELECT statement to the property Command and if the database driver supports a check option, set it in the property CheckOption. Possible values of com.sun.star.sdbcx.CheckOption are NONE, CASCADE and LOCAL. A schema or catalog name can be provided (optional).

Group Service

The service com.sun.star.sdbcx.Group is the first of the two security services, Group and User. The Group service represents the group account that has access permissions to a secured database and it has a Name property to identify it. It supports the interface com.sun.star.sdbcx.XAuthorizable that allows current privilege settings to be obtained, and to grant or revoke privileges. The second interface is the com.sun.star.sdbcx.XUsersSupplier. The word ‘Supplier’ in the interface name identifies the group object as a container for users. The container returned here is a collection of all users that belong to this group.
Group Service

The com.sun.star.sdbcx.User service is the second security service, representing a user in the catalog. This object has the property Name that is the user name. Similar
to the Group service, the User service supports the interface com.sun.star.sdbcx.XAuthorizable. This is achieved through the interface com.sun.star.sdbcx.XUser derived from XAuthorizable. In addition to this interface, the XUser interface supports changing the password of a specific user. Similar to the Group service above, the User service is a container for the groups the user belongs to.

The Descriptor Pattern

The descriptor is a special kind of object that mirrors the structure of the object which should be appended to a container object. This means that a descriptor, once created, can be appended more than once with only small changes to the structure. For example, when appending columns to the columns container, we:

- Create one descriptor with com.sun.star.sdbcx.XDataDescriptorFactory.
- Set the needed properties.
- Add the descriptor to the container.
- Adjust some properties, such as the name.
- Add the modified descriptor to the container.
- Repeat the steps, as necessary.

therefore, only create one descriptor to append more than one column.
An important use of the SDBCX layer is that it is possible to programmatically create tables, along with their columns, indexes, and keys.

The method of creating a table is the same as creating a table with a graphical table design. To create it programmatically is easy. First, create a table object by asking the tables container for its com.sun.star.sdbcx.XDataDescriptorFactory interface. When the createDataDescriptor method is called, the com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface of an object that implements the service com.sun.star.sdbcx.TableDescriptor is returned. As described above, use this descriptor to create a new table in the database, by adding the descriptor to the Tables container. Before appending the descriptor, append the columns to the table descriptor. Use the same method as with the containers used in the SDBCX layer. On the column object, some properties need to be set, such as Name, and Type. The properties to be set depend on the SDBC data type of the column.

The column name must be unique in the columns container.

After the columns are appended, add the TableDescriptor object to its container or define some key objects, such as a primary key.

```java
// create the table salesmen
public static void createTableSalesMen(XNameAccess xTables) throws Exception, SQLException
```
The Descriptor Pattern

```java
XDataDescriptorFactory xTabFac =
  (XDataDescriptorFactory) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDataDescriptorFactory.class, xTables);
if (xTabFac != null) {
    // create the new table
    XPropertySet xTable = xTabFac.createDataDescriptor();
    // set the name of the new table
    xTable.setPropertyValue("Name", "SALESMAN");
    // append the columns
    XColumnsSupplier xColSup =
      (XColumnsSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XColumnsSupplier.class, xTable);
    XDataDescriptorFactory xColFac =
      (XDataDescriptorFactory) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDataDescriptorFactory.class, xColSup.getColumns());
    XAppend xAppend =
      (XAppend) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(xAppend.class, xColFac);
    // we only need one descriptor
    XPropertySet xCol =
      xColFac.createDataDescriptor();
    // create first column and append
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Name", "SNR");
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Type", new Integer(DataType.INTEGER));
    xAppend.appendByDescriptor(xCol);
    // 2nd only set the properties which differ
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Name", "FIRSTNAME");
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Type", new Integer(DataType.VARCHAR));
    xCol.setPropertyValue("IsNullable", new Integer(ColumnValue.NULLABLE));
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Precision", new Integer(50));
    xAppend.appendByDescriptor(xCol);
    // 3rd only set the properties which differ
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Name", "LASTNAME");
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Precision", new Integer(100));
    xAppend.appendByDescriptor(xCol);
    // 4th only set the properties which differ
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Name", "STREET");
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Precision", new Integer(50));
    xAppend.appendByDescriptor(xCol);
    // 5th only set the properties which differ
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Name", "STATE");
    xAppend.appendByDescriptor(xCol);
    // 6th only set the properties which differ
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Name", "ZIP");
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Type", new Integer(DataType.INTEGER));
    xAppend.appendByDescriptor(xCol);
    // 7th only set the properties which differ
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Name", "BIRTHDATE");
    xCol.setPropertyValue("Type", new Integer(DataType.DATE));
    xAppend.appendByDescriptor(xCol);

    // now we create the primary key
    XKeysSupplier xKeySup =
      (XKeysSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XKeysSupplier.class, xTable);
    XDataDescriptorFactory xKeyFac =
      (XDataDescriptorFactory) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDataDescriptorFactory.class, xKeySup.getKeys());
    XPropertySet xKey = xKeyFac.createDataDescriptor();
    // now append the columns to key
    XColumnsSupplier xKeyColSup =
      (XColumnsSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XColumnsSupplier.class, xKey);
    XDataDescriptorFactory xKeyColFac =
      (XDataDescriptorFactory) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDataDescriptorFactory.class, xKeyColSup.getColumns());
    XAppend xKeyColAppend =
      (XAppend) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(xAppend.class, xKeyColFac);
    // we only need one descriptor
    XPropertySet xKeyCol =
      xKeyColFac.createDataDescriptor();
    xKeyCol.setPropertyValue("Name", "SNR");
```
Adding an Index

To add an index, the same programmatic logic is followed. Create an `IndexDescriptor` with the `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XDataDescriptorFactory` interface from the index container. Then follow the same steps as for the table. Next, append the columns to be indexed.

Note that only an index can be added to an existing table. It is not possible to add an index to a `TableDescriptor`.

The task is completed when the index object is added to the index container, unless the `append()` method throws an `com.sun.star.sdbc.SQLException`. This may happen when adding a unique index on a column that already contains values that are not unique.

Creating a User

The procedure to create a user is the same. The `com.sun.star.sdbcx.XDataDescriptorFactory` interface is used from the users container. Create a user with the `UserDescriptor`. The `com.sun.star.sdbcx.UserDescriptor` has an additional property than the `User` service supports. This additional property is the `Password` property which should be set. Then the `UserDescriptor` object can be appended to the user container.

```java
// create a user public static void createUser(XNameAccess xUsers) throws Exception,SQLException { System.out.println("Example createUser"); XDataDescriptorFactory xUserFac = (XDataDescriptorFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDataDescriptorFactory.class, xUsers); if (xUserFac != null) { // create the new table XPropertySet xUser = xUserFac.createDataDescriptor(); if (xUserFac != null) { // create the new table xUser = xUserFac.createDataDescriptor(); // set the name of the new table xUser.setPropertyValue("Name", "BOSS"); xUser.setPropertyValue("Password", "BOSSWIFENAME"); XAppend xAppend = (XAppend)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XAppend.class, xUserFac); xAppend.appendByDescriptor(xUser); } }
```
Adding a Group

Creating a com.sun.star.sdbcx.GroupDescriptor object is the same as the methods described above. Follow the same steps:

1. Set a name for the group in the Name property.
2. Append all the users to the user container of the group.
3. Append the GroupDescriptor object to the group container of the catalog.

Using DBMS Features

Transaction Handling

Transactions combine several separate SQL executions, so that they can be seen as a single event that is executed completely (commit) or not at all (rollback). A typical example for a transaction is a money transfer. It consists of two steps: withdrawing an amount of money from one bank account and crediting another account with it. Both steps must be successful or they must be canceled. Transactions in SDBC are handled by the com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection interface of connections. The transaction related methods of this interface are:

```java
// transactions
void setTransactionIsolation( [in] long level) long
getTransactionIsolation()
void setAutoCommit( [in] boolean autoCommit) boolean
getAutoCommit()
void commit()
void rollback()
```

Usually all transactions are in auto commit mode, that means, a commit takes place after each single SQL command. Therefore to control a transaction manually, switch auto commit off using setAutoCommit(false). The first SQL command without auto commit starts a transaction that is active until the corresponding methods have been committed or rolled back.

Afterwards, the auto commit mode can be reinstated using setAutoCommit(true).

Transactions bring about a synchronization problem. If data is read from a table, it is possible that the data has just been changed by a command of a transaction started by another process. If the other transaction is rolled back, there may be
Transaction isolation controls the behavior of the database in case of parallel transactions. There are several isolation levels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Values of constants com.sun.star.sdbc.TransactionIsolation</th>
<th>Indicates that transactions are not supported.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.sdbc.TransactionIsolation:NONE</td>
<td>Dirty reads, non-repeatable reads and phantom reads can occur. This level allows a row changed by one transaction to be read by another transaction before any changes in that row have been committed (a &quot;dirty read&quot;). If any of the changes are rolled back, the second transaction retrieves an invalid row.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>READ_UNCOMMITTED</td>
<td>Dirty reads are prevented; non-repeatable reads and phantom reads can occur. This level only prohibits a transaction from reading a row with uncommitted changes in it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>READ_COMMITTED</td>
<td>Dirty reads and non-repeatable reads are prevented; phantom reads can occur. This level prohibits a transaction from reading a row with uncommitted changes in it, and it also prohibits the situation where one transaction reads a row, a second transaction alters the row, and the first transaction rereads the row, getting different values the second time (a &quot;non-repeatable read&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REPEATABLE_READ</td>
<td>Dirty reads, non-repeatable reads and phantom reads are prevented. This level includes the prohibitions in REPEATABLE_READ and further prohibits the situation where one transaction reads all rows that satisfy a WHERE condition, a second transaction inserts a row that satisfies that WHERE condition, and the first transaction rereads for the same condition, retrieving the additional &quot;phantom&quot; row in the second read.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Stored Procedures**

Stored procedures are server-side processes execute several SQL commands in a single step, and can be embedded in a server language for stored procedures with enhanced control capabilities. A procedure call usually has to be parameterized, and
the results are result sets and additional out parameters. Stored procedures are handled by the method `prepareCall()` of the interface `com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection`.

```java
com::sun::star::sdb::XPreparedStatement prepareCall( [in] string sql)
```

The method `prepareCall()` takes a SQL statement that may contain one or more '?' in parameter placeholders. It returns a `com.sun.star.sdbc.CallableStatement`. A `CallableStatement` is a `com.sun.star.sdbc.PreparedStatement` with two additional interfaces for out parameters:

```java
com.sun.star.sdb::XOutParameters prepareCall( [in] string sql)
```

All out parameters must be registered before a stored procedure is executed.

**Methods of `com.sun.star.sdbc.XOutParameters`**

- `com.sun.star.sdb::XOutParameters:registerOutParameter()` Takes the arguments long `parameterIndex`, long `sqlType`, string `typeName`. Registers an output parameter and should be used for a user-named or REF output parameter. Examples of user-named types include: STRUCT, DISTINCT, OBJECT, and named array types.

- `com.sun.star.sdb::XOutParameters:registerNumericOutParameter()` Takes the arguments long `parameterIndex`, long `sqlType`, long `scale`. Registers an out parameter in the ordinal position `parameterIndex` with the `com.sun.star.sdb::DataType sqlType`; `scale` is the number of digits on the right-hand side of the decimal point.

The `com.sun.star.sdb::XRow` is used to retrieve the values of out parameters. It consists of `getXXX()` methods and should be well-known from the common result sets.

---

**Writing Database Drivers**

In the following sections, implementing an SDBC driver is described. The user should have some experience in the use of the SDBC API, or be familiar with the previous chapter about SDBC and SDBCX.

This section is divided into two parts. The first part describes the simple driver that includes only the SDBC layer with the PreparedStatements, Statements and ResultSets. The second part extends the simple driver from part one to a more sophisticated one. This driver provides access to Tables, Views, Groups, Users and others.
A skeleton for a C++ SDBC driver is provided in the samples folder. Some changes are necessary to create a working driver. Adjust the namespace and replace the word "skeleton" by a suitable driver name, and implement the necessary functions for the database.

An SDBC driver is simply the implementation of some SDBC services previously discussed.

**SDBC Driver**

The SDBC driver consists of seven services. Each service needs to be defined and are described in the next sections. Below is a list of all the services that define the driver:

- **Driver**, a singleton which creates the connection object.
- **Connection**, creates **Statement**, **PreparedStatement** and gives access to the **DatabaseMetaData**.
- **DatabaseMetaData**, returns information about the used database.
- **Statement**, creates **ResultSets**.
- **PreparedStatement**, creates **ResultSets** in conjunction with parameters.
- **ResultSet**, fetches the data returned by an SQL statement.
- **ResultSetMetaData**, describes the columns of a **ResultSet**.

The relationship between these services is depicted in the illustration below.
Driver Service

The Driver service is the entry point to create the first contact with any database. As shown in the illustration above, the class that implements the service Driver is responsible for creating a connection object that represents the database on the client side.

The class must be derived from the interface com.sun.star.sdbc.XDriver that defines the methods needed to create a connection object. The code in the following lines shows a snippet of a driver class.

```cpp
//------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-- Reference< XConnection > SAL_CALL SkeletonDriver::connect( const
::rtl::OUString& url, const Sequence< PropertyValue >& info )
throw(SQLException, RuntimeException) { // create a new connection with
the given properties and append it to our vector
OConnection* pCon = new
OConnection(this); Reference< XConnection > xCon = pCon; // important here
because otherwise the connection
// could be deleted inside (refcount goes -> 0) pCon->construct(url,info);
// late constructor call which can throw exception
// and allows a correct dtor call when so
m_xConnections.push_back(WeakReferenceHelper(*pCon));
return xCon; } //
```
The main methods of this class are `acceptsURL` and `connect`:

- The method `acceptsURL()` is called every time a user wants to create a connection through the `DriverManager`, because the `DriverManager` decides the `Driver` it should ask to connect to the given URL. Therefore this method should be small and run very fast.

- The method `connect()` is called after the method `acceptsURL()` is invoked and returned `true`. The `connect()` could be seen as a factory method that creates `Connection` services specific for a driver implementation. To accomplish this, the `Driver` class must be singleton. Singleton means that only one instance of the `Driver` class may exist at the same time.

If more information is required about the other methods, refer to `com.sun.star.sdbc.Driver` for a complete description.

### Connection Service

The `com.sun.star.sdbc.Connection` is the database client side. It is responsible for the creation of the Statements and the information about the database itself. The service consists of three interfaces that have to be supported:

- The interface `com.sun.star.lang.XComponent` that is responsible to close the connection when it is disposed.

- The interface `com.sun.star.sdbc.XWarningsSupplier` that controls the chaining of warnings which may occur on every call.

- The interface `com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection` that is the main interface to the
The first two interfaces introduce some access and closing mechanisms that can be best described inside the code fragment of the Connection class. To understand the interface com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection, we must have a closer look at some methods. The others not described are simple enough to handle them in the code fragment.

First there is the method getMetaData() that returns an object which implements the interface com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData. This object has many methods and depends on the capabilities of the database. Most return values are found in the database documentation or in the first step, assuming some values match. The methods, such as getTables(), getColumns() and getTypeInfo() are described in the next chapter.

The following methods are used to create statements. Each of them is a factory method that creates the three different kinds of statements.

**Important Methods of com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection**

- **com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection:createStatement()**
  Creates a new com.sun.star.sdbc.Statement object for sending SQL statements to the database. SQL statements without parameters are executed using Statement objects.

- **com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection:prepareStatement(sql)**
  Creates a com.sun.star.sdbc.PreparedStatement object for sending parameterized SQL statements to the database.

- **com.sun.star.sdbc.XConnection:prepareCall(sql)**
  Creates a com.sun.star.sdbc.CallableStatement object for calling database stored procedures.

```java
Reference< XStatement > SAL_CALL OConnection::createStatement( )
throw(SQLException, RuntimeException) {
    ::osl::MutexGuard aGuard( m_aMutex);
    checkDisposed(OConnection_BASE::rBHelper.bDisposed);
    // create a statement // the statement can only be executed once
    Reference< XStatement > xReturn = new OStatement(this);
    m_aStatements.push_back(WeakReferenceHelper(xReturn));
    return xReturn; } //
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-- Reference< XPreparedStatement > SAL_CALL
OConnection::prepareStatement( const ::rtl::OUString& _sSql )
throw(SQLException, RuntimeException) {
    ::osl::MutexGuard aGuard( m_aMutex);
    checkDisposed(OConnection_BASE::rBHelper.bDisposed);
    // the prepare
    if(m_aTypeInfo.empty()) buildTypeInfo();
    // create a statement // the statement can only be executed more than once
    Reference< XPreparedStatement > xReturn = new OPreparedStatement(this,m_aTypeInfo,_sSql);
    m_aStatements.push_back(WeakReferenceHelper(xReturn));
    return xReturn; } //
-- Reference< XPreparedStatement > SAL_CALL
OConnection::prepareCall( )
throw(SQLException, RuntimeException) {
    ::osl::MutexGuard aGuard( m_aMutex);
    checkDisposed(OConnection_BASE::rBHelper.bDisposed);
    // the prepare
    if(m_aTypeInfo.empty()) buildTypeInfo();
    // create a statement // the statement can only be executed more than once
    Reference< XPreparedStatement > xReturn = new OPreparedStatement(this,m_aTypeInfo,_sSql);
    m_aStatements.push_back(WeakReferenceHelper(xReturn));
    return xReturn; } //
```

*Connection Service*
Connection Service

OConnection::prepareCall( const ::rtl::OUString& _sSql )
throw(SQLException, RuntimeException)
{
::osl::MutexGuard aGuard( m_aMutex );
checkDisposed(OConnection_BASE::rBHelper.bDisposed);

// not implemented yet :-) a task to do return NULL; }

All other methods can be omitted at this stage. For detailed descriptions, refer to the API Reference Manual.

XDatabaseMetaData Interface

The com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData interface is the largest interface existing in the SDBC API. This interface knows everything about the used database. It provides information, such as the available tables with their columns, keys and indexes, and information about identifiers that should be used. This chapter explains some of the methods that are frequently used and how they are used to achieve a robust Driver.

**Important Methods of com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData**

- com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData:isReadOnly() Returns the state of the database. When true, the database is not editable later in OpenOffice.org API.
- com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData:usesLocalFiles() Returns true when the catalog name of the database should not appear in the DatasourceBrowser of OpenOffice.org API, otherwise false is returned.
- com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData:supportsMixedCaseQuotedIdentifiers() When this method returns true, the quoted identifiers are case sensitive. For example, in a driver that supports mixed case quoted identifiers, SELECT * FROM "MyTable" retrieves data from a table with the case-sensitive name MyTable.
- com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData:getTables() Returns a ResultSet object that returns a single row for each table that fits the search criteria, such as the catalog name, schema pattern, table name pattern and sequence of table types. The correct column count and names of the columns are found at com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData:getTables(). If this method does not return any rows, this
driver does not work with OpenOffice.org API.

Any other getXXX() method can be implemented step by step. For the the first step they return an empty ResultSet object that contains no rows. It is not allowed to return NULL here.

The skeleton driver defines empty ResultSets for these get methods.

```plaintext
Reference< XResultSet > SAL_CALL ODatabaseMetaData::getTables(      const Any& catalog, const ::rtl::OUString& schemaPattern,      const ::rtl::OUString& tableNamePattern, const Sequence< ::rtl::OUString >& types )
throw(SQLException, RuntimeException) {     // this returns an empty resultset     // where the column-names are already set     // in special the metadata of the resultset already returns the right columns     ODatabaseMetaDataResultSet* pResultSet = new ODatabaseMetaDataResultSet();     Reference< XResultSet > xResultSet = pResultSet;     pResultSet->setTablesMap();     return xResultSet; }
```

Statements

Statements are used to create ResultSets or to update the database. The executeQuery() method creates new ResultSets. The following code snippet shows how the new ResultSet is created. There can be only one ResultSet at a time.

```plaintext
Reference< XResultSet > SAL_CALL OStatement_Base::executeQuery( const ::rtl::OUString& sql )
throw(SQLException, RuntimeException) {
    ::osl::MutexGuard aGuard( m_aMutex );
    checkDisposed(OStatement_BASE::rBHelper.bDisposed); Reference< XResultSet > xRS = NULL; // create a resultset as result of executing the sql statement // something needs to be done here :-) m_xResultSet = xRS; // we need a reference to it for later use return xRS; }
```

The executeUpdate() methods only return the rows that were affected by the given SQL statement. The last method execute returns true when a ResultSet object is returned when calling the method getResultSet(), otherwise it returns false. All other methods have to be implemented.

PreparedStatement

The PreparedStatement is used when an SQL statement should be executed more than once. In addition to the statement class, it must support the ability to provide information about the parameters when they exist. For this reason, this class must
support the com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSetMetaDataSupplier interface and also the com.sun.star.sdbc.XParameters interface to set values for their parameters.

Result Set

The ResultSet needs to be implemented. For the first step, only forward ResultSets could be implemented, but it is recommended to support all ResultSet methods.

Support Scalar Functions

SDBC supports numeric, string, time, date, system, and conversion functions on scalar values. The Open Group CLI specification provides additional information on the semantics of the scalar functions. The functions supported are listed below for reference.

If a DBMS supports a scalar function, the driver should also. Scalar functions are supported by different DBMSs with different syntax, it is the driver's job to map the functions into the appropriate syntax or to implement the functions directly in the driver.

By calling metadata methods, a user can find out which functions are supported. For example, the method `XdatabaseMetaData.getNumericFunctions()` returns a comma separated list of the Open Group CLI names of the numeric functions supported. Similarly, the method `XDatabaseMetaData.getStringFunctions()` returns a list of string functions supported.

In the following table, the scalar functions are listed by category.

### Open Group CLI Numeric Functions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numeric Function</th>
<th>Function Returns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABS(number)</td>
<td>Absolute value of number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACOS(float)</td>
<td>Arccosine, in radians, of float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIN(float)</td>
<td>Arcsine, in radians, of float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATAN(float)</td>
<td>Arctangent, in radians, of float</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Open Group CLI Numeric Functions

ATAN2(float1, float2)  
Arctangent, in radians, of float2 / float1

CEILING(number)  
Smallest integer >= number

COS(float)  
Cosine of float radians

COT(float)  
Cotangent of float radians

DEGREES(number)  
Degrees in number radians

EXP(float)  
Exponential function of float

FLOOR(number)  
Largest integer <= number

LOG(float)  
Base e logarithm of float

LOG10(float)  
Base 10 logarithm of float

MOD(integer1, integer2)  
Remainder for integer1 / integer2

PI()  
The constant pi

POWER(number, power)  
Number raised to (integer) power

RADIANS(number)  
Radians in number degrees

RAND(integer)  
Random floating point for seed integer

ROUND(number, places)  
Number rounded to places places

SIGN(number)  
-1 to indicate number is < 0; 0 to indicate number is = 0; 1 to indicate number is > 0

SIN(float)  
Sine of float radians

SQRT(float)  
Square root of float

TAN(float)  
Tangent of float radians

TRUNCATE(number, places)  
Number truncated to places places

Open Group CLI String Functions

String Functions

ASCII(string)  
Integer representing the ASCII code value of the leftmost character in string.

CHAR(code)  
Character with ASCII code value code, where the code is between 0 and 255.

CONCAT(string1, string2)  
Character string formed by appending string2 to string1. If a string is null, the result is DBMS-dependent.

DIFFERENCE(string1, string2)  
Integer indicating the difference between the values returned by the function SOUNDEX for string1 and string2.

INSERT(string1, start, length, string2)  
A character string formed by deleting length characters from string1 beginning at the start, and inserting string2 into string1 at the start.

LCASE(string)  
Converts all uppercase characters in string to lowercase.
Open Group CLI String Functions

**LEFT**(string, count)
- The count leftmost characters from string.

**LENGTH**(string)
- Number of characters in string, excluding trailing blanks.

**LOCATE**(string1, string2[, start])
- Position in string2 of the first occurrence of string1, searching from the beginning of string2. If start is specified, the search begins from position start. A 0 is returned if string2 does not contain string1. Position 1 is the first character in string2.

**LTRIM**(string)
- Characters of string with leading blank spaces removed.

**REPEAT**(string, count)
- A character string formed by repeating string count times.

**REPLACE**(string1, string2, string3)
- Replaces all occurrences of string2 in string1 with string3.

**RIGHT**(string, count)
- The count rightmost characters in string.

**RTRIM**(string)
- The characters of string with no trailing blanks.

**SOUNDEX**(string)
- A character string that is data source-dependent, representing the sound of the words in string, such as a four-digit SOUNDEX code, or a phonetic representation of each word.

**SPACE**(count)
- A character string consisting of count spaces.

**SUBSTRING**(string, start, length)
- A character string formed by extracting length characters from string beginning at start.

**UCASE**(string)
- Converts all lowercase characters in string to uppercase.

---

Open Group CLI Time and Date Functions

**Time and Date Functions**

**CURDATE()**
- The current date as a date value.

**CURTIME()**
- The current local time as a time value.

**DAYNAME**(date)
- A character string representing the day component of the date. The name for the day is specific to the data source.

**DAYOFMONTH**(date)
- An integer from 1 to 31 representing the day of the month in date.

**DAYOFWEEK**(date)
- An integer from 1 to 7 representing the day of the week in date, where 1 represents Sunday.

**DAYOFYEAR**(date)
- An integer from 1 to 366 representing the day of the year in date.

**HOUR**(time)
- An integer from 0 to 23 representing the hour component of time.

**Function Returns**

- The current date as a date value.
- The current local time as a time value.
- A character string representing the day component of the date. The name for the day is specific to the data source.
- An integer from 1 to 31 representing the day of the month in date.
- An integer from 1 to 7 representing the day of the week in date, where 1 represents Sunday.
- An integer from 1 to 366 representing the day of the year in date.
- An integer from 0 to 23 representing the hour component of time.
Open Group CLI Time and Date Functions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MINUTE(time)</td>
<td>An integer from 0 to 59 representing the minute component of time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONTH(date)</td>
<td>An integer from 1 to 12 representing the month component of date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONTHNAME(date)</td>
<td>A character string representing the month component of date. The name for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the month is specific to the data source.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOW()</td>
<td>A timestamp value representing the current date and time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUARTER(date)</td>
<td>An integer from 1 to 4 representing the quarter in date, where 1 represents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>January 1 through March 31.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECOND(time)</td>
<td>An integer from 0 to 59 representing the second component of time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIMESTAMPADD(interval,</td>
<td>A timestamp calculated by adding count interval(s) to timestamp. Interval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>count, timestamp)</td>
<td>may be one of the following: SQL_TSI_FRAC_SECOND,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SQL_TSI_SECOND, SQL_TSI_MINUTE, SQL_TSI_HOUR, SQL_TSI_DAY, SQL_TSI_WEEK,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SQL_TSI_MONTH, SQL_TSI_QUARTER, or SQL_TSI_YEAR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIMESTAMPDIFF(interval,</td>
<td>An integer representing the number of interval(s) by which timestamp2 is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>timestamp1, timestamp2)</td>
<td>greater than timestamp1. Interval may be one of the following: SQL_TSI_</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FRAC_SECOND, SQL_TSI_SECOND, SQL_TSI_MINUTE, SQL_TSI_HOUR, SQL_TSI_DAY,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SQL_TSI_WEEK, SQL_TSI_MONTH, SQL_TSI_QUARTER, or SQL_TSI_YEAR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK(date)</td>
<td>An integer from 1 to 53 representing the week of the year in date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR(date)</td>
<td>An integer representing the year component of date.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Open Group CLI System Functions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System Functions</th>
<th>Function Returns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DATABASE()</td>
<td>Name of the database.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFNULL(expression, value)</td>
<td>Value if the expression is null; expression if expression is not null.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USER()</td>
<td>User name in the DBMS.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Open Group CLI Conversion Functions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conversion Function</th>
<th>Function Returns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CONVERT(value, SQLtype)</td>
<td>Value converted to SQLtype where SQLtype may be one of the following SQL types: BIGINT, BINARY, BIT, CHAR, DATE, DECIMAL, DOUBLE, FLOAT, INTEGER, LONGVARBINARY, LONGVARCHAR, REAL, SMALLINT, TIME, TIMESTAMP, TINYINT, VARBINARY, or VARCHAR.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Handling Unsupported Functionality

Some variation is allowed for drivers written for databases that do not support certain functionality. For example, some databases do not support out parameters with stored procedures. In this case, the CallableStatement methods that deal with out parameters (registerOutParameter and the various XCallableStatement.getXXX() methods) do not apply, and they should be implemented in such a way that they throw a com.sun.star.sdbc.SQLException.

The following features are optional in drivers for DBMSs that do not support them. When a DBMS does not support a feature, the methods that support the feature may throw a SQLException. The following list of optional features indicate if the com.sun.star.sdbc.XDatabaseMetaData methods are supported by the DBMS and driver.

- **scrollable result sets**: supportsResultSetType()
- **modifiable result sets**: supportsResultSetConcurrency()
- **batch updates**: supportsBatchUpdates()
- **SQL3 data types**: getTypeInfo()
- **storage and retrieval of Java objects**:
  1. getUDTs() returns descriptions of the user defined types in a given schema
  2. getTypeInfo() returns descriptions of the data types available in the DBMS.
Forms offer a method of control-based data input. A form or form document consists of a set of controls, where each one enters a single piece of data. In a simple case, this could be a plain text field allowing you to insert some text without any word breaks. When we speak of forms, we mean forms and controls, because these cannot be divided.

If an internet site asks you for information, for example, for a product registration you are presented with fields to enter your name, your address and other information. These are HTML forms.

Basically, this is what OpenOffice.org forms do. They enhance nearly every document with controls for data input. This additional functionality put into a document is called the form layer within the scope of this chapter.

The most basic functionality provides the controls for HTML form documents mentioned above: If you open an HTML document with form elements in OpenOffice.org Writer, these elements are represented by components from com.sun.star.form.

The more enhanced functionality provides support for data-aware forms. These are forms and controls that are bound to a data source registered in OpenOffice.org to enter data into tables of a database. For more information about data sources and data access in general, refer to the Database Access.

Since OpenOffice.org 2.0, form controls also feature a generalization of this concept. They can be bound to external components, which supply an own value. Both values - the one of the external component, and the current value of the control - are
synchronized, so that a change in one of them is immediately propagated to the other. This allows new features, where the most notable is that you can bind form controls to spreadsheet cells.

When discussing forms, *form documents* and *logical forms* have to be distinguished. The phrase *form document* refers to a document as a whole, while a *logical form* is basically a set of controls with additional properties. Within the scope of this chapter, when a "form" is referred to, the logical form is meant.

### Models and Views

The model describes appearance and behaviour of the element. The view is the visual representation of the element. The relationship between models and views is important to understand and is described in detail in this section.

### The Model-View Paradigm

A basic concept to understand about forms and controls in OpenOffice.org is the model-view paradigm. For a given element in your document, for example, a text field in your HTML form, it says that you have *exactly one* model and an arbitrary number of views.

The model is what is part of your document in that it describes how this element looks, and how it behaves. The model even exists when you do not have an open instance of your document. If it is stored in a file, the file contains a description of the model of your element.

**Note** – In UNO, the simplest conceivable model is a component implementing com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet only. Every aspect of the view could then be described by a single property. In fact, as you will see later, models for form controls are basically property sets.

The view is a visual representation of your model. It is the component which looks and behaves according to the requirements of the model. You can have multiple views for one model, and they would all look alike as the model describes it. The view is visible to the user. It is for visualizing the model and handles interactions with the user. The model, however, is merely a "dumb" container of data.
A good example to illustrate this is available in OpenOffice.org. Open an arbitrary document and choose the menu item **Window > New Window**. A second window is opened showing the same document displayed in the first window. This does not mean that the document was opened twice, it means you opened a second view of the same document, which is a difference. In particular, if you type some text in one of the windows, this change is visible in *both* windows. That is what the model-view paradigm is about: Keep your document data once in the model, and when you need to visualize the data to the user, or need interaction from the user that modifies the document, create views to the model as needed.

Between model and view a 1:n relationship exists:

![Diagram of Model-View Paradigm](image)

**Note** – Note that the relation is directed. Usually, a view knows its model, but the model itself does not know about the views which visualize it.

**Models and Views for Form Controls**

Form controls follow the model-view paradigm. This means if you have a form document that contains a control, there is a model describing the control's behavior and appearance, and a view that is the component the user is sees.

**Note** – Note that the term "control" is ambiguous here. Usually, from the user's perspective, it is what is seen in the document. As the model-view paradigm may not be obvious to the user, the user tends to consider the visible representation and the underlying model of the control as one thing, that is, a user who refers to the control usually means the combination of the view and the model. As opposed to the user's perspective, when the UNO API for the form layer refers to a control, this means the view of a form element, if not stated otherwise.

The base for the controls and models used in the form layer are found in the module `com.sun.star.awt`, the `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControl` and `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlModel` services. As discussed later, the model hierarchy in `com.sun.star.form.component` extends the hierarchy of `com.sun.star.awt`, whereas the control hierarchy in `com.sun.star.form.control` is small.

Everything from the model-view interaction for form controls is true for other UNO
controls and UNO control models, as well. Another example for components that use the model-view paradigm are the controls and control models in OpenOffice.org Basic dialogs (Dialog Controls).

Model-View Interaction

When model and view collaborate, data transfer is usually required in both directions, from model to view and backwards.

Consider a simple text field. The model for a control implements a com.sun.star.form.component.TextField service. This means it has a property Text, containing the current content of the field, and a property BackgroundColor specifying the color that should be used as background when drawing the text of the control.

First, if the value of the BackgroundColor property is changed, the control is notified of the change. This is done by UNO listener mechanisms, such as the com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyChangeListener allowing the control to listen for changes to model properties and react accordingly. Here the control would have to redraw itself using the new background color.

In fact this is a common mechanism for the communication between model and view: The view adds itself as listener for any aspect of the model which could affect it, and when it is notified of changes, it adjusts itself to the new model state. This means that the model is always the passive part. The model does not know its views, or at least not as views, but only their role as listeners, while the views know their model.

On the other hand, if the view is used for interaction with the user, the data needs to be propagated from the view to the model. The user enters data in a text field, and the change is reflected in the model. Remember that the user sees the control only, and everything affects the control in the first step. If the user interacts with the view with the intention of modifying the model, the view propagates changes to the model.

In our example, the user enters text into the control, the control automatically updates the respective property at the model (Text), thus modifying the document containing the model.
An important aspect to know when dealing with forms is that the view for a form layer is in different modes. More precise, there is a *design mode* available, opposite to a *live mode*. In design mode, you design your form interactively with OpenOffice.org by inserting new controls, resizing them, and modifying their properties, together with control models and shapes. Although OpenOffice.org hides this. In live mode, the controls interact with the user for data input.

The live mode is the natural mode for forms views, because usually a form is designed once and used again.

The following example switches a given document view between the two modes:

```java
/** toggles the design mode of the form layer of active view of our sample document */
protected void toggleFormDesignMode() throws java.lang.Exception {
    // get a dispatcher for the toggle URL
    URL[] aToggleURL = new URL[] {new URL()};
    aToggleURL[0].Complete = new String("uno:SwitchControlDesignMode");
    XDispatch xDispatcher = getDispatcher(aToggleURL);

    // dispatch the URL - this will result in toggling the mode
    PropertyValue[] aDummyArgs = new PropertyValue[] {};
    xDispatcher.dispatch(aToggleURL[0], aDummyArgs);
}
```

The basic idea is to dispatch the URL ".uno:SwitchControlDesignMode" into the current view. This triggers the same functionality as if the button Design Mode On/Off was pressed in OpenOffice.org. In fact, SwitchControlDesignMode is the UNO name for the slot triggered by this button.

## Locating Controls

A common task when working with form documents using the OpenOffice.org API is to obtain controls. Given that there is a control model, and a view to the document it belongs to, you may want to know the control that is used to represent the model in
that view. This is what the interface com.sun.star.view.XControlAccess at the controller of a document view is made for.

```java
/** retrieves a control within the current view of a document
   * @param xModel specifies the control model which's control should be located
   * @return the control tied to the model
   */
public XControl getControl(XControlModel xModel) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    XControlAccess xCtrlAcc = (XControlAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControlAccess.class, m_xController);
    // delegate the task of looking for the control
    return xCtrlAcc.getControl(xModel);
}
```

**Focusing Controls**

To focus a specific control in your document, or more precisely, in one of the views of your document:

```java
/** sets the focus to a specific control
   * @param xModel a control model. The focus is set to that control which is part of our view
   * and associated with the given model.
   */
public void grabControlFocus(Object xModel) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // look for the control from the current view which belongs to the model
    XControl xControl = getControl(xModel);

    // the focus can be set to an XWindow only
    XWindow xControlWindow = (XWindow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(Xwindow.class, xControl);

    // grab the focus
    xControlWindow.setFocus();
}
```

As you can see, focusing controls is reduced to locating controls. Once you have located the control, the com.sun.star.awt.XWindow interface provides everything needed for focusing.
Form Elements in the Document Model

The model of a document is the data that is made persistent, so that all form elements are a part of it. Refer to chapter Frame-Controller-Model Paradigm in OpenOffice.org for additional information. This is true for logical forms, as well as for control models. Controls, that is, the view part of form elements, are not made persistent, thus are not accessible in the document model.

A Hierarchy of Models

The components in the form layer are organized hierarchically in an object tree. Their relationship is organized using the standard interfaces, such as com.sun.star.container.XChild and com.sun.star.container.XIndexAccess.

As in every tree, there is a root with inner nodes and leaves. There are different components described below that take on one or several of these roles.

FormComponent Service

The basis for all form related models is the com.sun.star.form.FormComponent service. Its basic characteristics are:

- it exports the com.sun.star.container.XChild interface
- it has a property Name
- it exports the com.sun.star.lang.XComponent interface

Form components have a parent and a name, and support lifetime control that the common denominator for form elements and logical forms, as well as for control models.

FormComponents Service

In the level above, a single form component is a container for components. Stepping away from the document model, you are looking for a specific form component, such
as the model of a control, you pass where all the control models are attached. This is the com.sun.star.form.FormComponents component. The service offers basic container functionality, namely an access to its elements by index or by name), and a possibility to enumerate its elements.

Provided that you have a container at hand, the access to its elements is straightforward. For example, assume you want to enumerate all the elements in the container, and apply a specific action for every element. The enumFormComponents() method below does this by recursively enumerating the elements in a com.sun.star.form.FormComponents container.

```java
/** enumerates and prints all the elements in the given container */
public static void enumFormComponents(XNameAccess xContainer, String sPrefix)
    throws java.lang.Exception {
    // loop through all the element names
    String aNames[] = xContainer.getElementNames();
    for (int i=0; i<aNames.length; ++i) {
        // print the child name
        System.out.println(sPrefix + aNames[i]);

        // check if it is a FormComponents component itself
        XServiceInfo xSI =
            (XServiceInfo)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XServiceInfo.class,
                xContainer.getByName(aNames[i]));
        if (xSI.supportsService("com.sun.star.form.FormComponents")) {
            // yep, it is
            // -> step down
            XNameAccess xChildContainer =
                (XNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XNameAccess.class, xSI);
            enumFormComponents(xChildContainer, new String(" ") + sPrefix);
        }
    }
}

/** enumerates and prints all the elements in the given container, together
    with the container itself */
public static void enumFormComponents(XNameAccess xContainer) throws java.lang.Exception {
    XNamed xNameAcc = (XNamed)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class, 
        xContainer);
    String sObjectName = xNameAcc.getName();
    System.out.println( new String("enumerating the container named \"") + 
        sObjectName + 
        new String("\"
"\"
"));
    System.out.println(sObjectName);
    enumFormComponents(xContainer, " ");
```
Logical Forms

Forms as technical objects are also part of the document model. In contrast to control models, forms do not have a view representation. For every control model, there is a control the user interacts with, and presents the data back to the user. For the form, there is no view component.

The basic service for logical forms is com.sun.star.form.component.Form. See below for details regarding this service. For now, we are interested in that it exposes the com.sun.star.form.FormComponent service, as well as the com.sun.star.form.FormComponents service. This means it is part of a form component container, and it is a container. Thus, in our hierarchy of models, it can be any node, such as an inner node having children, that is, other form components, as well as a leaf node having no children, but a parent container. Of course both of these roles are not exclusive. This is how data aware forms implement master-detail relationships. Refer to the Data Awareness.

Forms Container

In our model hierarchy, we have inner nodes called the logical forms, and the basic element called the form component. As in every tree, our hierarchy has a root, that is, an instance of the com.sun.star.form.Forms service. This is nothing more than an instance of com.sun.star.form.FormComponents. In fact, the differentiation exists for a non-ambiguous runtime instantiation of a root.

Note – Note that the com.sun.star.form.Forms service does not state that components implementing it are a com.sun.star.form.FormComponent. This means this service acts as a tree root only, as opposed to a com.sun.star.form.Forms that is a container, as well as an element, thus it can be placed anywhere in the tree.

Actually, it is not necessary for external components to instantiate a service directly. Every document has at least one instance of it. A root forms container is tied to a draw page, which is an element of the document model, as well. Refer to com.sun.star.draw.Drawing.DrawPage. A page optionally supports the interface com.sun.star.form.XFormsSupplier giving access to the collection. In the current OpenOffice.org implementation, Writer and Calc documents fully support draw pages supplying forms.

The following example shows how to obtain a root forms collection, if the document model is known which is denoted with s_aDocument.
/** gets the <type scope="com.sun.star.drawing">DrawPage</type> of our sample document */

public static XDrawPage getDocumentDrawPage() throws java.lang.Exception {
    XDrawPage xReturn;

    // in case of a Writer document, this is rather easy: simply ask the XDrawPageSupplier
    XDrawPageSupplier xSuppPage = (XDrawPageSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XDrawPageSupplier.class, s_aDocument);
    xReturn = xSuppPage.getDrawPage();
    if (null == xReturn) {
        // the model itself is no draw page supplier - then it may be an Impress or Calc
        // (or any other multi-page) document
        XDrawPagesSupplier xSuppPages = (XDrawPagesSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XDrawPagesSupplier.class, s_aDocument);
        XDrawPages xPages = xSuppPages.getDrawPages();
        xReturn = (XDrawPage)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDrawPage.class,
            xPages.getByIndex(0));
    }
    return xReturn;
}

/** retrieves the root of the hierarchy of form components */

public static XNameContainer getFormComponentTreeRoot() throws java.lang.Exception {
    XFormsSupplier xSuppForms = (XFormsSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XFormsSupplier.class, getDocumentDrawPage());

    XNameContainer xFormsCollection = null;
    if (null != xSuppForms) {
        xFormsCollection = xSuppForms.getForms();
    }
    return xFormsCollection;
}

Form Control Models

The control models are discussed in these sections. The basic service for a form layer control model is com.sun.star.form.FormControlModel that is discussed in more detail below. A form control model promises to support the
com.sun.star.form.FormComponent service, meaning that it can act as a child in our model hierarchy.

In addition, it does not claim that the com.sun.star.form.FormComponents service (plural s) is supported meaning that form control models are leaves in our object tree. The only exception from this is the grid control model. It is allowed to have children representing the models of the columns.

An overview of the whole model tree has been provided. With the code fragments introduced above, the following code dumps a model tree to the console:

```java
enumFormComponents(getFormComponentTreeRoot());
```

## Control Models and Shapes

There is more to know about form components in a document.

From Shapes, you already know about shapes. They are also part of a document model. The control shapes, com.sun.star.drawing.ControlShape are made to be tied to control models. They are specialized to fully integrate form control models into a document.

In theory, there can be a control shape without a model tied to it, or a control model which is part of the form component hierarchy, but not associated with any shape. In the first case, an empty shape is displayed in the document view. In the second case, you see nothing. It is possible to have a shape which is properly tied to a control model, but the control model is not part of the form component hierarchy. The model can not interact with the rest of the form layer. For example, it is unable to take advantage of its data awareness capabilities.

**Warning** – The user interface of OpenOffice.org does not allow the creation of orphaned objects, but you can create them using the API. When dealing with controls through the API, ensure that there is always a valid relationship between forms, control models, and shapes.

A complete object structure in a document model with respect to the components relevant for our form layer looks the following:
Control Models and Shapes

Programmatic Creation of Controls

As a consequence from the previous paragraph, we now know that to insert a form control, we need to insert a control shape and control model into the document's model.

The following code fragment accomplishes that:

```java
/** creates a control in the document

   <nowiki><p>Note that <em>control</em> here is an incorrect terminology.
   What the method really does is
   it creates a control shape, together with a control model, and inserts
   them into the document model.
   This will result in every view to this document creating a control
   described by the model-shape pair.</p></nowiki>

   @param sFormComponentService
       the service name of the form component to create, e.g. "TextField"
   @param nXPos
       the abscissa of the position of the newly inserted shape
   @param nXPos
       the ordinate of the position of the newly inserted shape
   @param nWidth
       the width of the newly inserted shape
   @param nHeight
       the height of the newly inserted shape
   @return
       the property access to the control's model

   */
   public static XPropertySet createControlAndShape(String
       sFormComponentService, int nXPos,
```
**Control Models and Shapes**

```java
int nYPos, int nWidth, int nHeight) throws java.lang.Exception {
// let the document create a shape
XMultiServiceFactory xDocAsFactory =
(XMultiServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XMultiServiceFactory.class, s_aDocument);
XControlShape xShape =
(XControlShape)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControlShape.class,
    xDocAsFactory.createInstance("com.sun.star.drawing.ControlShape"));

// position and size of the shape
xShape.setSize(new Size(nWidth * 100, nHeight * 100));
xShape.setPosition(new Point(nXPos * 100, nYPos * 100));

// and in a OOo Writer doc, the anchor can be adjusted
XPropertySet xShapeProps =
(XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xShape);
TextContentAnchorType eAnchorType = TextContentAnchorType.AT_PAGE;
if (classifyDocument(s_aDocument) == DocumentType.WRITER) {
    eAnchorType = TextContentAnchorType.AT_PARAGRAPH;
}
xShapeProps.setPropertyValue("AnchorType", eAnchorType);

// create the form component (the model of a form control)
String sQualifiedComponentName = "com.sun.star.form.component." +
sFormComponentService;
XControlModel xModel =
(XControlModel)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControlModel.class,
    s_aMSF.createInstance(sQualifiedComponentName));

// knitt them
xShape.setControl(xModel);

// add the shape to the shapes collection of the document
XShapes xDocShapes = (XShapes)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XShapes.class,
getDocumentDrawPage()));
xDCoShapes.add(xShape);

// and outta here with the XPropertySet interface of the model
XPropertySet xModelProps = (XpropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XpropertySet.class, xModel);
return xModelProps;
}
```

Looking at the example above, the basic procedure is:

- create and initialize a shape
- create a control model
- announce the control model to the shape
- insert the shape into the shapes collection of a draw page

The above does not mention about inserting the control model into the form component hierarchy, which is a contradiction of our previous discussion. We have previously said that every control model must be part of this hierarchy to prevent corrupted documents, but it is not harmful.
In every document, when a new control shape is inserted into the document, through the API or an interaction with a document's view, the control model is checked if it is a member of the model hierarchy. If it is not, it is automatically inserted. Moreover, if the hierarchy does not exist or is incomplete, for example, if the draw page does not have a forms collection, or this collection does not contain a form, this is also corrected automatically.

With the code fragment above applied to a new document, a logical form is created automatically, inserted into the forms hierarchy, and the control model is inserted into this form.

**Note** – Note that this is an implementation detail. Internally, there is an instance listening at the page's shapes, that reacts upon insertions. In theory, there could be other implementations of OpenOffice.org API that do not contain this mechanism. In practice, the only known implementation is OpenOffice.org.

**Warning** – Note that the order of operations is important. If you insert the shape into the page's shape collection, and tie it to its control model after, the document would be corrupted: Nobody would know about this new model then, and it would not be inserted properly into the form component hierarchy, unless you do this.

You may have noticed that there is nothing about the view. We only created a control model. As you can see in the complete example for this chapter, when you have an open document, and insert a model and a shape, a control (the visual representation) is also created or else you would not see anything that looks like a control.

The control and model have a model-view relationship. If the document window is open, this window is the document view. If the document or the model is modified by inserting a control model, the view for every open view for this document reacts appropriately and creates a control as described by the model. The `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlModel:DefaultControl` property describes the service to be instantiated when automatically creating a control for a model.

## Form Components

According to the different form document types, there are different components in the com.sun.star.form module serving different purposes. Basically, we distinguish between HTML form functionality and data awareness functionality that are covered by the form layer API.
Control Models

As you know from Form Control Models, the base for all our control models is the com.sun.star.form.FormControlModel service. Let us look at the most relevant elements of the declaration of this service and what a component must do to support it:

**com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlModel**

This service specifies that a form control model complies to everything required for a control model by the UNO windowing toolkit as described in module com.sun.star.awt. This means support for the com.sun.star.awt.XControlModel interface, for property access and persistence.

**com.sun.star.form.FormComponent**

This service requires a form control model is part of a form component hierarchy. Refer to chapter A Hierarchy of Models.

**com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyState**

This optional interface allows the control model properties to have a default value. All known implementations of the FormControlModel service support this interface.

**com.sun.star.form.FormControlModel:ClassId**

This property determines the class of a control model you have, and it assumes a value from the com.sun.star.form.FormComponentType enumeration. The same is done using the com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo interface that is supported by every component, and as shown below it can be indispensable. Using the com.sun.star.form.FormControlModel:ClassId property is faster.

**Note** – Note that the com.sun.star.form.FormControlModel service does not state anything about data awareness. It describes the requirements for a control model which can be part of a form layer. See chapter Data Awareness for additional information about the controls which are data aware.

The following example shows how to determine the type of a control model using the ClassId property introduced above:

/** retrieves the type of a form component.  
 * Speaking strictly, the function recognizes more than form components.  
 * Especially, it survives a null argument. which means it can be safely applied to the 
 * a top-level
forms container; and it is able to classify grid columns (which are no form components) as well.</p>
*/
static public String classifyFormComponentType(XPropertySet xComponent)
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    String sType = "<unknown component>";

    XServiceInfo xSI =
        (XserviceInfo)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XServiceInfo.class, xComponent);

    XPropertySetInfo xPSI = null;
    if (null != xComponent)
        xPSI = xComponent.getPropertySetInfo();

    if (null != xPSI)
        if (xPSI.hasPropertyByName("ClassId")) {
            // get the ClassId property
            XPropertySet xCompProps = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XPropertySet.class, xComponent);

            Short nClassId = (Short)xCompProps.getPropertyValue("ClassId");
            switch (nClassId.intValue()) {
                case FormComponentType.COMMANDBUTTON: sType = "Command button";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.RADIOBUTTON: sType = "Radio button";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.IMAGEBUTTON: sType = "Image button";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.CHECKBOX: sType = "Check Box";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.LISTBOX: sType = "List Box";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.COMBOBOX: sType = "Combo Box";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.GROUPBOX: sType = "Group Box";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.FIXEDTEXT: sType = "Fixed Text";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.GRIDCONTROL: sType = "Grid Control";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.FILECONTROL: sType = "File Control";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.HIDDENCONTROL: sType = "Hidden Control";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.IMAGECONTROL: sType = "Image Control";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.DATEFIELD: sType = "Date Field";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.TIMEFIELD: sType = "Time Field";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.NUMERICFIELD: sType = "Numeric Field";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.CURRENCYFIELD: sType = "Currency Field";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.PATTERNFIELD: sType = "Pattern Field";
                break;
                case FormComponentType.TEXTFIELD:
                    // there are two known services with this class id: the usual text field,
                    // and the formatted field
                    sType = "Text Field";
                    if ((null != xSI) && xSI.supportsService(
                        "com.sun.star.form.component.FormattedField")) {
                        break;
                    }
Note the special handling for the value com.sun.star.form.FormComponentType:TEXTFIELD. There are two different services where a component implementing them is required to act as text field, the com.sun.star.form.component.TextField and com.sun.star.form.component.FormattedField. Both services describe a text component, thus both have a class id of com.sun.star.form.FormComponentType:TEXTFIELD. To distinguish between them, ask the components for more details using the com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo interface.

Forms

The OpenOffice.org API features different kinds of forms, namely the com.sun.star.form.component.Form, com.sun.star.form.component.HTMLForm, and com.sun.star.form.component.DataForm. The two different aspects described with these services are HTML forms used in HTML documents, and data aware forms used to access databases. Data awareness is discussed thoroughly in Data Awareness.

Note – Though different services exist for HTML and data aware forms, there is only one form implementation in OpenOffice.org that implements both services simultaneously.

The common denominator of HTML forms and data aware forms is described in the com.sun.star.form.component.Form service. It includes the FormComponent and FormComponents service, in addition to the following elements:

- com.sun.star.form.XForm
This interface identifies the component as a form that can be done with other methods, such as the com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo interface. The com.sun.star.form.XForm interface distinguishes a form component as a form. The XForm interface inherits from com.sun.star.form.XFormComponent to indicate the difference, and does not add any further operations.

This is used for controlling tab ordering and control grouping. As a logical form is a container for control models, it is a natural place to administer information about the relationship of its control children. The tab order, that is, the order in which the focus travels through the controls associated with the control models when the user presses the Tab key, is a relationship, and thus is maintained on the form.

Note that changing the tab order through this interface also affects the models. The service has an optional property TabIndex that contains the relative position of the control in the tabbing order. For example, a straightforward implementation of com.sun.star.awt.XTabControllerModel: setControlModels() would be simply to adjust all the TabIndex properties of the models passed to this method.

HTML Forms

The com.sun.star.form.component.HTMLForm service reflects the requirements for HTML form documents. Looking at HTML specifications, you can submit forms using different encodings and submit methods, and reset forms. The HTMLForm service description reflects this by supporting the interfaces com.sun.star.form.XReset and com.sun.star.form.XSubmit, as well as some additional properties related to the submit functionality.

The semantics of these interfaces and properties are straightforward. For additional details, refer to the service description, as well as the HTML specification.
Data Awareness

A major feature of forms in OpenOffice.org is that they can be data aware. You create form documents where the user manipulates data from a database that is accessible in OpenOffice.org. For more details about data sources, refer to chapter Database Access. This includes data from any table of a database, or data from a query based on one or more tables.

The basic idea is that a logical form is associated with a database result set. A form control model, which is a child of that form, is bound to a field of this result set, exchanging the data entered by the user with the result set field.

Forms

Forms support Row Sets, are loadable, can be filtered and sorted, and have parameters that you can set.

Forms as Row Sets

Besides forms, there is already a component that supports a result set, the com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet. If you look at the com.sun.star.form.component.DataForm, a DataForm also implements the com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet service, and extends it with additional functionality. Row sets are described in The RowSet Service.

Loadable Forms

A major difference of data forms compared to the underlying row set is the that forms are *loaded*, and provide an interface to manipulate this state.

```java
XLoadable xLoad = (XLoadable)FLTTools.getParent(aControlModel, XLoadable.class);
  xLoad.reload();
```

Loading is the same as executing the underlying row set, that is, invoking the
com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSet:execute() method. The com.sun.star.form.XLoadable is designed to fit the needs of a form document, for example, it a unloads an already loaded form.

The example above shows how to reload a form. Reloading is executing the row set again. Using reload instead of execute has the advantage of advanced listener mechanisms:

Look at the com.sun.star.form.XLoadable interface. You can add a com.sun.star.form.XLoadListener. This listener not only tells you when load-related events have occurred that is achieved by the com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSetListener, but also when they are about to happen. In a complex scenario where different listeners are added to different aspects of a form, you use the com.sun.star.form.XLoadable:reload() call to disable all other listeners temporarily. Re-executing a row set is a complex process, thus it triggers a lot of events that are only an after effect of the re-execution.

Note – Though all the functionality provided by com.sun.star.form.XLoadable can be simulated using the com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSet interface, you should always use the former. Due to the above-mentioned, more sophisticated listener mechanisms, implementations have a chance to do loading, reloading and unloading much smoother then.

An additional difference between loading and executing is the positioning of the row set: When using com.sun.star.sdbc.XRowSet:execute(), the set is positioned before the first record. When you use com.sun.star.form.XLoadable:load(), the set is positioned on the first record, as you would expect from a form.

Sub Forms

A powerful feature of OpenOffice.org are sub forms. This does not mean that complete form documents are embedded into other form documents, instead sub form relationships are realized by nesting logical forms in the form component hierarchy.

When a form notices that its parent is not the forms container when it is loaded and in live mode, but is dependent on another form, it no longer acts as a top-level form. Whenever the parent or master form moves to another record, the content of the sub or detail form is re-fetched. This way, the content of the sub form is made dependent on the actual value of one or more fields of the parent form.
Typical use for a relationship are tables that are linked through key columns, usually in a 1:n relationship. You use a master form to travel through all records of the table on the 1 side of the relationship, and a detail form that shows the records of the table on the n side of the relationship where the foreign key matches the primary key of the master table.

To create nested forms at runtime, use the following example:

```java
// retrieve or create the master form
m_xMasterForm = ....

// bind it to the salesman table
m_xMasterForm.setPropertyValue("DataSourceName",
   m_aParameters.sDataSourceName);
   m_xMasterForm.setPropertyValue("CommandType", new
   Integer(CommandType.TABLE));
   m_xMasterForm.setPropertyValue("Command", "SALESMAN");

   // create the details form
   XIndexContainer xSalesForm = m_aDocument.createSubForm(m_xMasterForm,
   "Sales");
   XPropertySet xSalesFormProps = (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
   XPropertySet.class, xSalesForm);

   // bind it to the all those sales belonging to a variable salesmen
   xSalesFormProps.setPropertyValue("DataSourceName",
   m_aParameters.sDataSourceName);
   xSalesFormProps.setPropertyValue("CommandType", new
   Integer(CommandType.COMMAND));
   xSalesFormProps.setPropertyValue("Command",
   "SELECT * FROM SALES AS SALES WHERE SALES.SNR = :salesman");

   // the master-details connection
   String[] aMasterFields = new String[] {"SNR"}; // the field in the master form
   String[] aDetailFields = new String[] {"salesman"]; // the name in the detail form
   xSalesFormProps.setPropertyValue("MasterFields", aMasterFields);
   xSalesFormProps.setPropertyValue("DetailFields", aDetailFields);
```

The code snippet works on the following table structure:
The code is straightforward, except for setting up the connection between the two forms. The master form is bound to SALESMEN, and the detail form is bound to a statement that selects all fields from SALES, filtered for records where the foreign key, SALES.SNR, equals a parameter named \texttt{salesman}.

As soon as the \texttt{MasterFields} and \texttt{DetailFields} properties are set, the two forms are connected. Every time the cursor in the master form moves, the detail form reloads after filling the salesman parameter with the actual value of the master forms SNR column.

### Filtering and Sorting

Forms support quick and easy filtering and sorting like the underlying row sets. For this, the properties \texttt{com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:Filter}, \texttt{com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:ApplyFilter} and \texttt{com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet:Order} area used.

```java
// set this as filter on the form
String sCompleteFilter = "";
if ((null != sOdbcDate) && (0 != sOdbcDate.length())) {
    sCompleteFilter = "SALEDATE >= ";
    sCompleteFilter += sOdbcDate;
}
m_xSalesForm.setPropertyValue("Filter", sCompleteFilter);
m_xSalesForm.setPropertyValue("ApplyFilter", new Boolean(true));

// and reload the form
XLoadable xLoad = (XLoadable)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XLoadable.class, m_xSalesForm);
```
In this fragment, a filter string is built first. The "SALEDATE >= {D '2002-12-02'}" is an example for a filter string. In general, everything that appears after the WHERE clause of an SQL statement is set as a Filter property value. The same holds true for the Order property value and an ORDER BY clause.

Tip - The notation for the date in braces: This is the standard ODBC notation for date values, and it is the safest method to supply OpenOffice.org with date values. It also works if you are using non-ODBC data sources, as long as you do not switch on the Native SQL option. Refer to com.sun.star.sdbc.Statement:EscapeProcessing. OpenOffice.org understands and sometimes returns other notations, for instance, in the user interface where that makes sense, but these are locale-dependent, which means you have to know the current locale if you use them.

Then the ApplyFilter property is set to true. This is for safety, because the value of this property is unknown when creating a new form. Every time you have a form or row set, and you want to change the filter, remember to set the ApplyFilter property at least once. Afterwards, reload() is called.

In general, ApplyFilter allows the user of a row set to enable or disable the current filter quickly without remembering it. To see what the effects of the current filter are, set ApplyFilter to false and reload the form.

Parameters

Data Aware Forms are based on statements. As with other topics in this chapter, this is not form specific, instead it is a functionality inherited from the underlying com.sun.star.sdb.RowSet. Statements contain parameters where some values are not specified, and are not dependent on actual values in the underlying tables. Instead they have to be filled each time the row set is executed, that is, the form is loaded or reloaded.

A typical example for a statement containing a parameter is

```
SELECT * FROM SALES WHERE SALES.SNR = :salesman
```

There is a named parameter salesman, which is filled before a row set based on a statement is executed. The orthodox method to use is the com.sun.star.sdbc.XParameters interface, exported by the row set.

However, forms allow another way. They export the
com.sun.star.form.XDatabaseParameterBroadcaster interface that allows your component to add itself as a listener for an event which is triggered whenever the form needs parameter values.

In a form, filling parameters is a three-step procedure. Consider a form that needs three parameters for execution.

28. The master-detail relationship is evaluated. If the form's parent is a com.sun.star.form.component.DataForm, then the MasterFields and DetailFields properties are evaluated to fill in parameter values. For an example of how this relationship is evaluated, refer to chapter Sub Forms.

29. If there are parameter values left, that is, not filled in, the calls to the com.sun.star.sdbc.XParameters interface are examined. All values previously set through this interface are filled in.

30. If there are still parameter values left, the com.sun.star.form.XDatabaseParameterListeners are invoked. Any component can add itself as a listener using the com.sun.star.form.XDatabaseParameterBroadcaster interface implemented by the form. The listeners then have the chance to fill in anything still missing.

Unfortunately, OpenOffice.org Basic scripts currently cannot follow the last step of this procedure - there is a known implementation issue which prevents this.

Data Aware Controls

The second part of the Data Awareness capabilities of OpenOffice.org are data aware controls. While a form is always associated with a complete result set, it represents this result set, a single control is bound to one data column that is part of the form which is the control's parent.

As always, the relevant information is stored in the control model. The basic service for control models which are data-aware is com.sun.star.form.DataAwareControlModel.

There are two connections between a control model and the column it is bound to:

DataField

This is the property that determines the name of the field to bind to. Upon loading the form, a control model searches the data columns of the form for this
name, and connects to it. An explanation for "connects" is provided below.

Note that this property is a suggestion only. It tells the control model to connect to the data column, but this connection may fail for various reasons, for example, no such column may exist in the row set.

Even if this property is set to a non-empty string, this does not mean anything about the control being connected.

**BoundField**

Once a control model has connected itself to a data column, the respective column object is also remembered. This saves clients of a control model the effort to examine and handle the *DataField*, they simply rely on *BoundField*.

Opposite to the *DataField* property, *BoundField* is reliable in that it is a valid column object if and only if the control is properly connected.

The overall relationship for data awareness is as follows:

![Data awareness relationship](image)

**Control Models as Bound Components**

You expect that the control displays the current data of the column it is tied to. Current data means the data in the row that the com.sun.star.form.component.DataForm is currently located on. Now, the control does not know about data-awareness, only the control model does, but we already have a connection between the model and control: As described in the chapter about
model-view interaction, **Model-View Interaction**, the control listens for changes to the model properties, as well as updates them when a user interacts with the control directly.

For instance, you know the `Text` property of a simple text input field, `com.sun.star.form.component.TextField` that is updated by the control when the user enters text. When the property is updated through any other means, the control reacts appropriately and adjusts the text it displays.

This mechanism is found in all controls. The only difference is the property used to determine the contents to be displayed. For instance, numeric controls `com.sun.star.form.component.NumericField` have a property `Value` representing the current numerical value to be displayed. Although the name differs, all control models have a dedicated *content property*.

This is where the data-awareness comes in. A data-aware control model bound to a data column uses its content property to exchange data with this column. As soon as the column value changes, the model forwards the new value to its content property, and notifies its listeners. One of these listeners is the control that updates its display:

**Committing Controls**

The second direction of the data transfer is back from what the user enters into the control. The text entered by a user is immediately forwarded to the value property of the control model. This way, both the control and the control model are always
Committing Controls

consistent.

Next, the content property is transferred into the data column the control is bound to. As opposed to the first step, this is not done automatically. Instead, this control is committed actively.

Committing is the process of transferring the current value of the control to the database column. The interface used for this is com.sun.star.form.XBoundComponent that provides the method commit. Note that the XBoundComponent is derived from com.sun.star.form.XUpdateBroadcaster. This means that listeners are added to a component to monitor and veto the committing of data.

The following diagram shows what happens when the user decides to save the current record after changing a control:

![Diagram of control committing data]

Note that in the diagram, there is a controller instance involved. In general, this is any instance capable of controlling the user-form interaction. In OpenOffice.org, for every document view and form, there is an instance of the com.sun.star.form.FormController service, together with some not-yet UNO-based code that takes on the role of a controller.

External Value Suppliers

Chapter Data Aware Controls discussed form controls that exchange their value, as entered by the user, with database columns. At certain times, this type of form control initializes itself from the column, or writes its current value into the column.

In addition, list and combo box controls are able to retrieve, in various ways, their list content from a database.
Since OpenOffice.org 2.0, it is possible for form controls to exchange data with external components. This is a generalization of the data awareness concept: form controls are now able to bind their value to any external value supplier, without knowing anything about the value supplier except an abstract UNO interface.

Similarly, list and combo boxes can obtain their list content from an external component, as long as they support a certain interface.

The com.sun.star.form.binding module collects all interfaces and services related to this new functionality.

Value Bindings

Unlike the functionality for binding form controls to database columns, value bindings are *external* to the form control/model. A control that can be bound (note that not all existing controls actually can) supports a certain interface, and a binding supports another one. That is all both parties need to know.

The illustration below shows the most important interfaces and services collaborating here.
Basic class diagram for value components and value bindings

Note that there is yet no notion about form controls at all. Those interfaces are only concerned with components representing a value, and components implementing a binding for this value. In fact, the generic mechanism for binding values is described with a complete disregard of form controls. The components supporting the com.sun.star.form.binding.XBindableValue interface are called value components.

The central interface is com.sun.star.form.binding.XValueBinding, which is to be supported by components that want to impose their value on a value component. The following table describes its methods:

**Methods of com.sun.star.form.binding.XValueBinding**

- com.sun.star.form.binding.XValueBinding:getSupportedValueTypes() Allows negotiation of a type in which values are exchanged. Usually, both a binding and a value component only support a certain set of types, in which the values can be exchanged. If the sets of a given binding and a given value component do not intersect, both can not be knit together.
- com.sun.star.form.binding.XValueBinding:supportsType() Allows a value component to explicitly ask whether a given binding supports a given type.
This method can be used as shortcut: components do not need to examine the complete type sequence of a binding.

Additionally, this method is usually used to implement a precedence of types. A value component can ask a potential binding for certain supported types, in a certain order. The first type that is accepted by the binding (if any) can then be used for exchanging the value.

\[\text{com.sun.star.form.binding.XValueBinding:getValue()}\]

Retrieves the current value as represented by the binding. Callers specify a type of the value, and the binding must provide the value in exactly this type, or throw an \text{com.sun.star.form.binding.IncompatibleTypesException} if this is not possible.

\[\text{com.sun.star.form.binding.XValueBinding:setValue()}\]

Propagates a new value to the binding.

The \text{com.sun.star.form.binding.ValueBinding} service extends the \text{com.sun.star.form.binding.XValueBinding} interface with two aspects:

\text{com.sun.star.util.XModifyBroadcaster}

This allows a value binding to actively notify changes in its value. A value component can register itself as \text{com.sun.star.util.XModifyListener} at the binding. In fact, that is the only way that the relationship between the binding and the value component can become bidirectional. Without the support of the \text{com.sun.star.util.XModifyBroadcaster} interface, value components can only actively propagate their value to the binding, but not the reverse.

\textit{support for read-only bindings}

The \text{com.sun.star.form.binding.ValueBinding:ReadOnly} property can be used to specify that the value represented by a binding currently cannot be modified. If the read-only state of a binding’s value can change during its lifetime, it should allow registering \text{com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyChangeListeners} for the \text{com.sun.star.form.binding.ValueBinding:ReadOnly} property, so value components using the binding can act on the current state.
Form Controls accepting Value Bindings

How do form controls and value bindings relate to each other? When looking at all the form control functionality that has so far been discussed, the following questions need to be answered:

- Which control types do support value bindings?
- For a given control type, which aspect actually is its value, which is exchanged with an external binding?
- How do external value bindings interact with data awareness, for example, controls that exchange their value with a database column?
- What can you do with all this?

The first two questions are easy: Every control that allows user input also supports value bindings. The data that the user entered (this may be, for instance, plain text, or an image, or a check state) is considered the value of the control, and thus exchanged with the external binding.

The basic service is the com.sun.star.form.bindingBindableControlModel, which specifies a control model supporting external value bindings. For a concrete control type, for instance, a check box, a service such as BindableCheckBox would be expected, which specifies how a check box control model exchanges its value with an external binding.

However, all controls that potentially could support a binding also are data aware (see Data Aware Controls). Thus, the first step is to answer the third question from above. The service com.sun.star.form.bindingBindableDataAwareControlModel is about data aware control models with value binding capabilities. You are referred to the documentation of the com.sun.star.form.bindingBindableDataAwareControlModel service for all the details, but the two most interesting details are as follows:

**Priority** External value bindings overrule any active SQL-column binding. If an external component is bound to a control model that currently has an active SQL binding, this SQL binding is suspended until the external binding is revoked.

**Immediacy** When a com.sun.star.form.bindingBindableDataAwareControlModel is bound to an external value, then every change in the control model's value is immediately reflected in the external binding. This is a difference to SQL bindings of most com.sun.star.form.DataAwareControlModels, where changes in the model's value are only propagated to the bound column upon explicit request via com.sun.star.form.XBoundComponent:commit.

The illustration below shows the service hierarchy for control models that are also value components. It also shows how concrete control types fit in, for example by using check boxes.
The following covers the last question from the above list: What is this good for?

OpenOffice.org 2.0 already contains two practical applications:

**Spreadsheet cell bindings**

In a OpenOffice.org spreadsheet document, you always could insert form controls. From version 2.0, you can, in their properties, bind form controls to arbitrary cells within the document. That is, every change made in this cell is propagated to the control, and vice versa. This is implemented using the value binding mechanism described in this chapter. See com.sun.star.tableCellValueBinding for more details.

The following piece of code creates a cell value binding in a spreadsheet document, for cell A1 on the first sheet, and knits it to a numeric control model:

```java
// insert our sample control
XPropertySet numericControl = m_formLayer.insertControlLine("DatabaseFormattedField",
    "enter a value", "", 10);

// a value binding for cell A1 on the first
CellAddress address = new CellAddress((short)0, (short)0, (short)0);
Object[] initParam = new Object[] { new NamedValue("BoundCell",
    address ) };
XValueBinding cellBinding = (XValueBinding) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XValueBinding.class,
    m_document.createInstanceWithArguments(1344));
```
Form Controls accepting Value Bindings

"com.sun.star.table.CellValueBinding", initParam } });
// bind it to the control model
XBindableValue bindable = (XBindableValue)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XBindableValue.class, numericControl
);
bindable.setValueBinding( cellBinding );

XML form bindings

OpenOffice.org 2.0 features XML forms. These are form documents whose data model is a DOM tree. They are realized with the usual form controls and logical forms, and this time the controls are bound to DOM nodes using the value binding mechanism.

External List Sources

The previous chapter introduced an abstraction of the data aware mechanism for form controls: They can not exchange their value with database columns or with arbitrary value bindings, without recognizing anything except UNO interfaces.

When you look at what controls can do with database content, you may find list and combo boxes useful. They are able to retrieve the content of their lists from a database.

Similar to the value binding mechanism, there is also an abstraction available for components supplying list entries to form controls: com.sun.star.form.binding.ListEntrySource and com.sun.star.form.binding.XListEntrySink.

The relationship between com.sun.star.form.binding.XListEntrySources and com.sun.star.form.binding.XListEntrySinks is shown in the illustration below.
As with value bindings, OpenOffice.org already makes use of this concept in spreadsheet documents. The following piece of code, for instance, creates a `com.sun.star.table.CellRangeListSource`, and binds it to a list box. After that, the list boxes content will always be synchronized with the content in the chosen cell range.

```java
CellRangeAddress rangeAddress = new CellRangeAddress( sheet, column, topRow, column, bottomRow );
Object[] initParam = new Object[]{ new NamedValue( "CellRange", rangeAddress ) };
XListEntrySource entrySource = (XListEntrySource)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XListEntrySource.class, m_document.createInstanceWithArguments( "com.sun.star.table.CellRangeListSource", initParam ) );

XListEntrySink consumer = (XListEntrySink)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XListEntrySink.class, listBox );
consumer.setListEntrySource( entrySource );
```

Note that a `com.sun.star.table.CellRangeListSource` can not be obtained at a global service manager. Instead, you have to retrieve it from the document to whose cells you want to bind the list box.
Validation

Form controls in OpenOffice.org always featured a simple type of validation for their value. For instance, for a numeric field you can specify minimum an maximum values (com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlNumericFieldModel:ValueMin and com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlNumericFieldModel:ValueMax). However, those validity constraints have some disadvantages:

- They are enforced as soon as the control loses the focus. That is, if you enter a number into a numeric field that is greater than the allowed maximum, then it is automatically corrected to be the maximum.
- They are enforced silently. There is no warning to the user, and no visual feedback at the moment the value is invalid, and not yet corrected. In particular, there is no explanation about why a certain input was (or will be) automatically corrected.

OpenOffice.org 2.0 features an new mechanism for validating the content of form controls, at the time of user input.

The basic interface for this mechanism is com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidator:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidator:isValid</td>
<td>This is the central method of a validator. It is able to decide, for a given value, whether it is valid or not. Note that there is no notion about the semantics of valid. This is in the responsibility of the concrete service implementing this interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidator:explainInvalid</td>
<td>Explains, for a given value, why it is considered invalid. The explanation should be human-readable because other components are expected to present it to the user.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidator:addValidityConstraintListener</td>
<td>Registers a new validity listener. As a basic idea, a validator can not be stateless: Depending on its current internal state, the validator can consider the very same value as valid or invalid. Such validator components should notify a change in their state, and thus a potential change in the validity of associated com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidatable instances, to all listeners registered with this method. The listeners are encouraged to re-validate whatever data is guarded by the validator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidator:removeValidityConstraintListener</td>
<td>Revokes a previously registered validity listener.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A validator is to be used with a component that can be validated: `com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidatable`. This interface allows to set and to get a validator instance.

Until now, nothing has been said about form components. You may also note that nothing has been said about the data that is being validated. Though a value is passed to the `com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidator:isValid` method, there is no explanation about where it originates from. In particular, the `com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidatable` does not specify a means to obtain its value.

This is where `com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidatableFormComponent` comes in. Note that it derives from `com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidatable`.

### Methods of `com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidatableFormComponent`

- **`com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidatableFormComponent:isValid`**
  Determines whether the current value, as represented by the component, is valid. This is a shortcut to calling the validator's `com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidator:isValid` method, with the current value of the component.

- **`com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidatableFormComponent:getCurrentValue`**
  Specifies the current value, as represented by the component. As an example, a `com.sun.star.form.component.TextField` would return its text, while a `com.sun.star.form.component.DateField` would return its date value.

- **`com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidatableFormComponent:addFormComponentValidityListener`**
  Adds a listener to observe the validity of the component. This validity is determined by two aspects: The current value of the component, and the validator's opinion about this value (and thus implicitly by the current validator of the component, which may also change). To be notified of changes in this composed validity, you need to register a `com.sun.star.form.validation.XFormComponentValidityListener` at the form component.

- **`com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidatableFormComponent:removeFormComponentValidityListener`**
  Revokes a previously registered validity listener.

Now, the overall picture for services and interfaces concerned with form control validation can be seen in the following figure:
Validation of form controls

Notice the com.sun.star.form.validation.ValidatableControlModel service: It specifies the basic functionality of form control models, which allow their current value to be validated against an external validator.

In OpenOffice.org, there is one feature that uses the functionality introduced in this chapter: XML form documents. They are implemented using the interfaces and services from com.sun.star.xforms. In particular, an XForms binding (com.sun.star.xforms.Binding) is a validator. This way, OpenOffice.org form controls can be used to enter values for XForms DOM trees, respecting the restrictions imposed on those value as part of the XForms model.

Validation in OpenOffice.org

The OpenOffice.org Software Development Kit shows the power of form control validation with an example program. This program creates a form document with various types of controls, most of which are bound to external validators. Those
validator objects impose (exemplary and rather arbitrary) restrictions on the control values.

As shown in the example program, the form runtime environment of OpenOffice.org makes use of several features of the validation API, illustrating the advantage over the old, property-based, built-in validation mentioned in chapter Validation.

For instance, invalid values in form controls, where invalid is defined by the external validator object, are not enforcing a valid value automatically. Instead, the invalidity is shown with a red border around the control. If the control does not allow for a red border, its text is underlined with red waves. Additionally, the explanation why a certain value is invalid appears as tool tip at the respective control.

This way, the user who fills in a form receives immediate feedback about which values and controls need attention, without destroying whatever information has already been entered.

**Validation and Bindings**

Chapter Value Bindings introduced form components that can exchange the value with external components, as long as those support the com.sun.star.form.binding.XValueBinding interface. Also, chapter Validation introduced form components whose value can be validated by external components.

These concepts can be combined. This way, it is possible to build highly customized form documents.

In fact, this is what the com.sun.star.form.validation.ValidatableBindableControlModel service does: it combines the services com.sun.star.form.bindingBindableControlModel with the com.sun.star.form.validation.ValidatableControlModel.

As soon as you establish a validator at the model (com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidatable: setValidator), which is also an com.sun.star.form.binding.XBindableValue, then it is used both as value binding and as validator. Every attempt to establish another binding will be denied, as long as the combined validator/binding is in place.

**Note** – In OpenOffice.org, every form control model that can be validated and is also bindable, also supports the com.sun.star.form.validation.ValidatableBindableControlModel service. That is, the validator and the binding are coupled, if possible.
Scripting and Events

To create form documents that are able to do more than just reading and writing plain data, it is often necessary to enhance the form with scripting functionality. That is, for a given form component, you want to declare that a certain script should be called, when a certain event occurs.

For example, you may need a check box control, which calls a certain macro when its check state changes. Within this macro, you can, for instance, enable or disable other controls that depend on the check box being checked.

One possible solution is to use a completely programmatic approach: just bind a script to the OnLoad event of the whole document, create an com.sun.star.awt.XItemListener, and register it at the check box control in question, using the com.sun.star.awt.XCheckBox interface.

However, this method is inefficient, because the whole scripting engine starts when the document is loaded. The scripting engine should start at the latest possible point, which is the moment the user clicks the check box for the first time.

Form components feature a mechanism that is more efficient. For every form component part of a hierarchy of form components, you can specify a script to be called upon a certain event. You only specify this once, at the time the form component is created and placed in the document.

Look at the com.sun.star.form.FormComponents service, which was encountered previously. The service includes the interface com.sun.star.script.XEventAttacherManager. This interface allows you to manage the events that are associated with the elements in the com.sun.star.form.FormComponents container.

Note that an event together with an associated script is described by the com.sun.star.script.ScriptEventDescriptor, with the following elements:

- **Properties of com.sun.star.script.ScriptEventDescriptor**
  - com.sun.star.script.ScriptEventDescriptor:ListenerType: Specifies the completely qualified name of a listener interface. This implies that you can only register scripts for events that are notified using UNO.
  - com.sun.star.script.ScriptEventDescriptor:EventMethod: Specifies a method of the ListenerType interface. Together with the ListenerType member, this completely describes the event for which a script is to be registered.
  - com.sun.star.script.ScriptEventDescriptor:Parameter: Specifies a parameter that is to be used when...
Descriptor: AddListenerParam

Adding listeners, as described by the ListenerType element. For most listener types, this is not necessary.

com.sun.star.script.ScriptEvent

Specifies which type of script is to be associated with the event.

com.sun.star.form.FormComponents currently only support StarBasic here.

Descriptor: ScriptType

Specifies which script code to call. In case of ScriptType being StarBasic, this must specify a Basic procedure or function, either within the application-wide code repository, or within the document which the form component belongs to. In the first case, the script code starts with "application: "; else with "document: ".

The following example registers a certain Basic procedure for the event which is triggered when the state of a radio button control changes, for example, when a radio button has been selected or deselected:

```
Dim oEvent as new com.sun.star.script.ScriptEventDescriptor
    oEvent.ListenerType = "com.sun.star.awt.XItemListener"
    oEvent.EventMethod = "itemStateChanged"
    oEvent.ScriptType = "StarBasic"
    oEvent.ScriptCode = "application:Standard.macro_assignment.onColorChange"
    oSampleForm.registerScriptEvent( i, oEvent )
```

For the \textit{i}th sub component of \texttt{oSampleForm}, this associates the macro \texttt{onColorChange}, located in the module \texttt{macro_assignment} of the application-wide library \texttt{Standard}, with the \texttt{com.sun.star.awt.XItemListener.itemStateChanged} event. You can use this with every form component which supports notification of \texttt{com.sun.star.awt.XItemListeners}, in particular with radio buttons (\texttt{com.sun.star.awt.XRadioButton}) and check boxes (\texttt{com.sun.star.awt.XCheckBox}).

Note that simply registering script events at a \texttt{com.sun.star.form.FormComponents} instance does not do anything. In particular, registering script events does not yet mean that the script will be called automatically. In fact, the \texttt{com.sun.star.script.XEventAttacherManager} interface merely acts as a container to remember the associated events. In a living form document, there are controller instances involved, which take care of the scripts that are really being called, by adding themselves as \texttt{com.sun.star.script.XScriptListener} to the event attacher manager.

**Common Tasks**

This chapter is dedicated to problems that may arise when you are working with (or
script) form documents, and cannot be solved by OpenOffice.org’s built-in methods, but have a solution in the OpenOffice.org UNO API.

### Initializing Bound Controls

All form controls specify a default value that is used when initially displaying the control, and when it is reset. For instance, resetting (com.sun.star.form.XReset) happens when a form is moved to the insert row, that allows data to be inserted as a new row into the underlying row set.

Now, you do not want a fixed default value for new records, but a dynamically generated one that is dependent on the actual context at the moment the new record is entered.

Or, you want to have real null values for date fields. This is currently not possible, because the com.sun.star.form.component.DateField service interprets a null default as an instruction to use the current system date. Effectively, you cannot have date fields in forms which default to null on new records, but you can get this by programming the API.

```java
public void handleReset(EventObject aEvent) throws com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException {
    if (((Boolean)xFormProps.getPropertyValue("isNew")).booleanValue()) {
        // the form is positioned on the insert row
        Object aModifiedFlag = xFormProps.getPropertyValue("isModified");

        // get the columns of the form
        XColumnsSupplier xSuppCols =
            (XColumnsSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XColumnsSupplier.class, xFormProps);
        XNameAccess xCols = xSuppCols.getColumns();

        // and update the date column with a NULL value
        XColumnUpdate xDateColumn =
            (XColumnUpdate)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XColumnUpdate.class, xCols.getByName("SALEDATE"));
        xDateColumn.updateNull();

        // then restore the flag
        xFormProps.setPropertyValue("isModified", aModifiedFlag);
    }
}
```

The first decision is where to step in. We chose to add a reset-listener to the form, so that the form is reset as soon as it has been positioned on the new record. The com.sun.star.form.XResetListener:resetted() method is called after the positioning is
Initializing Bound Controls

done.

However, resets also occur for various reasons therefore check if the form is really positioned on the insert row, indicated by the IsNew property being true.

Now besides retrieving and updating the data column with the desired value, null, there is another obstacle. When the form is moved to the insert row, and some values are initialized, the row should not be modified. This is because a modified row is saved in the database, and we only initialized the new row with the defaults, the user did not enter data., We do not want to store the row, therefore we save and restore the IsModified flag on the form while doing the update.

Automatic Key Generation

Another problem frequently encountered is the automatic generation of unique keys. There are reasons for doing this on the client side, and missing support, for example, auto-increment fields in your database backend, or you need this value before inserting the row. OpenOffice.org is currently limited in re-fetching the server-side generated value after a record has been inserted.

Assume that you have a method called generateUniqueKey() to generate a unique key that could be queried from a key generator on a database server, or in a single-user-environment by selecting the maximum of the existing keys and incrementing it by 1. This fragment inserts the generated value into the given column of a given form:

```java
public void insertUniqueKey(XPropertySet xForm, String sFieldName) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // get the column object
    XColumnsSupplier xSuppCols = (XColumnsSupplier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XColumnsSupplier.class, xForm);
    XNameAccess xCols = xSuppCols.getColumns();
    XColumnUpdate xCol = (XColumnUpdate)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XColumnUpdate.class, xCols.getByName(sFieldName));

    xCol.updateInt(generateUniqueKey(xForm, sFieldName));
}
```

A solution to determine when the insertion is to happen has been introduced in a previous chapter, that is, we could fill in the value as soon as the form is positioned on the insert row, wait for the user's input in the other fields, and save the record.

Another approach is to step in immediately before the record is inserted. For this, the com.sun.star.sdb.XRowSetApproveBroadcaster is used. It notifies listeners when rows are inserted, the listeners can veto this, and final changes can be made to the
new record:

```java
public boolean approveRowChange(RowChangeEvent aEvent) throws com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException {
    if (RowChangeAction.INSERT == aEvent.Action) {
        // the affected form
        XPropertySet xFormProps = (XpropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XpropertySet.class, aEvent.Source);
        // insert a new unique value
        insertUniqueKey(xFormProps, m_sFieldName);
    }
    return true;
}
```

Data Validation

If you happen to have a scripting language that is not capable of creating own components, such as StarBasic, then the validation mechanisms described in chapter Validation can not be used: They rely on a component being created that implements the com.sun.star.form.validation.XValidator interface.

If, despite this, you want to validate data in controls bound to a database, then you have two alternative possibilities:

- From the chapter Committing Controls, you can approve updates, and veto the changes a control wants to write into the data column it is bound to.
- Additionally, you can step in later. You know how to use a com.sun.star.sdb.XRowSetApproveListener for doing last-minute changes to a record that is about to be inserted.

Besides this, you can use the listener to approve changes to the row set data. When the com.sun.star.sdb.RowChangeAction is sent to the listeners, it distinguishes between different kinds of data modification. You can implement listeners that act differently for insertions and simple updates.

Note the important differences between both solutions. Using an com.sun.star.form.XUpdateListener implies that the data operations are vetoed for a given control. Your listener is invoked as soon as the respective control is committed, for instance, when it loses the focus. This implies that changes done to the data column by other means than through this control are not monitored.

The second alternative is using an com.sun.star.sdb.XRowSetApproveListener meaning you veto changes immediately before they are sent to the database. Thus, it is irrelevant where they have been made previously. In addition, error messages that are raised when the user actively tries to save the record are considered less disturbing than error messages raised when the user simply leaves a control.
The example below shows the handling for denying empty values for a given control:

```java
public boolean approveUpdate(EventObject aEvent) throws com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException {
    boolean bApproved = true;

    // the control model which fired the event
    XPropertySet xSourceProps = UNO.queryPropertySet(aEvent.Source);

    String sNewText = (String)xSourceProps.getPropertyValue("Text");
    if (0 == sNewText.length()) {
        // say that the value is invalid
        showInvalidValueMessage();
        bApproved = false;

        // reset the control value
        // for this, we take the current value from the row set field the
        control
        // is bound to, and forward it to the control model
        XColumn xBoundColumn =
        UNO.queryColumn(xSourceProps.getPropertyValue("BoundField"));
        if (null != xBoundColumn) {
            xSourceProps.setPropertyValue("Text", xBoundColumn.getString());
        }
    }

    return bApproved;
}
```

## Programmatic Assignment of Scripts to Events

Sometimes, you want to create a document programmatically, including form controls, and assigning certain scripts to certain events for those controls. In the user interface, this is done by using the property browser. Programmatically, this is somewhat more difficult.

As an example, if you want to programmatically create a document containing radio buttons. When those radio buttons change their state (i.e. are selected), a certain StarBasic script should be called.

One possibility is to make use of the OnLoad event of the document as a whole. Using this event, you can create a listener of the desired type (in our sample case: com.sun.star.awt.XItemListener), and register it at the control in question.

**Tip** - In StarBasic, you can create an UNO listener using the procedure CreateUnoListener.
Programmatic Assignment of Scripts to Events

This approach has three disadvantages: First, it is expensive. The scripting environment is loaded every time the document is loaded, which is too early. It should be loaded as late as possible, which is when the radio buttons really change their state.

Second, it is error prone. There are certain circumstances where StarBasic listeners are automatically revoked, without the document being closed. In those cases, you need to manually reload the document, or re-run your OnLoad script for re-creating the listener.

Third, it is complex. You would, in your OnLoad initialization script, need to manually obtain the control in questions, which can involve a large amount of code.

A better solution is to use the event attacher manager mechanism described in Scripting and Events.

The following example creates a text document with three radio buttons, all three calling the same script when being selected.

Note – When you try the following code, you may need to adjust the location of the script being called. At the moment, it assumes a module name `macro_assignment` in the application-wide library named `Standard`.

```
REM ***** BASIC *****
Option Explicit
Sub Main
    ' create a new writer document
    Dim oDocument as Object
    Dim oEmptyArgs() as new com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue
    oDocument = StarDesktop.LoadComponentFromURL( "private:factory/swriter", "_blank", 0, oEmptyArgs ) Erase oEmptyArgs

    ' create a new logical form
    Dim oFormsCollection as Object
    oFormsCollection = oDocument.DrawPage.Forms
    Dim oSampleForm as Object
    oSampleForm = createUnoService( "com.sun.star.form.component.DataForm" )
    oFormsCollection.insertByName( "sample form", oSampleForm )

    ' create three radio buttons associated with three colors
    Dim oControlShape as Object
    Dim oControlModel as Object
    Dim sListenerInterfaceName as String
    sListenerInterfaceName = "com.sun.star.awt.XItemListener"
    Dim sListenerMethodName as String
    sListenerMethodName = "itemStateChanged"

    Dim sMacroLocation as String
    sMacroLocation = "application:Standard.macro_assignment.onColorChange" ' note that this
    ' assumes that the module is called macro_assignment, and
    ' resides in the "Standard" library of the application-wide Basic macros

    Dim sColors(2) as String
    sColors(0) = "red"  sColors(1) = "green"
    sColors(2) = "blue"
    Dim i as Integer
    For i = 0 To 2
        ' a shape
        oControlShape = oDocument.createInstance( "com.sun.star.drawing.ControlShape" )
        positionShape( oControlShape, 1000, 1000 + i * 800, 5000, 600 )
```
Programmatic Assignment of Scripts to Events

' a control model
oControlModel = createUnoService("com.sun.star.form.component.RadioButton")
oControlModel.Name = "colors"  oControlModel.Label = "make it " & UCase(sColors(i))
oSampleForm.insertByIndex(i, oControlModel)
' knit both
oControlShape.Control = oControlModel
' yes, unfortunately the terminology is inconsistent here...
' add the shape to the DrawPage
oDocument.DrawPage.add(oControlShape)
' bind a macro to the "stateChanged" event
Dim oEvent as new com.sun.star.script.ScriptEventDescriptor	oEvent.ListenerType = sListenerInterfaceName	oEvent.EventMethod = sListenerMethodName	oEvent.ScriptType = "StarBasic"  oEvent.ScriptCode = sMacroLocation
oSampleForm.registerScriptEvent(i, oEvent)
Next i
' switch the document (view) to alive mode
Dim oURL as new com.sun.star.util.URL
oURL.Complete = ".uno:SwitchControlDesignMode"
createUnoService("com.sun.star.util.URLTransformer").parseStrict(oURL)
Dim oDispatcher as Object
oDispatcher = oDocument.CurrentController.Frame.queryDispatch(oURL, ",", 63)
oDispatcher.dispatch(oURL, oEmptyArgs())
Erase oURL
' set the focus to the first control
oDocument.CurrentController.getControl(oSampleForm.getByIndex(0)).setFocus
End Sub

' this sets the size and position of a given shape ' Additionally, it anchors
this shape at a paragraph Sub positionShape(oShape as Object, X as Integer, Y
as Integer, Width as Integer, Height as Integer)
oShape.AnchorType = com.sun.star.text.TextContentAnchorType.AT_PARAGRAPH
' Not that this
implies that you can use it for text documents only. ' The rest of the
function also works for shapes in other documents
Dim oPos as new com.sun.star.awt.Point oPos.X = X oPos.Y = Y
oShape.setPosition(oPos) Erase oPos
Dim oSize as new com.sun.star.awt.Size oSize.Width = Width
oSize.Height = Height oShape.setSize(oSize) Erase oSize End Sub

' This will be bound to the radio button's state changes ' At the moment, it
simply changes their text color, but of course ' you could do more than this
here... Sub onColorChange(oClickEvent as Object)
If (oClickEvent.Selected > 0) Then
  Dim nColor as Long
  Select Case oClickEvent.Source.Model.Tag
    Case "red"  nColor = CLng("&HFF0000")
    Case "green"  nColor = CLng("&H00FF00")
    Case "blue"  nColor = CLng("&H0000FF")
  End Select
  Dim oControlParent as Object
  oControlParent = oClickEvent.Source.Model.Parent
  Dim i as Integer
  For i = 0 to oControlParent.getCount() - 1
    oControlParent.getByIndex(i).TextColor = nColor
  Next i
End If End Sub
Universal Content Broker

Capabilities

The *Universal Content Broker* (UCB) is a key part of the OpenOffice.org architecture. In general, the UCB provides a standard interface for generalized access to different data sources and functions for querying, modifying, and creating data contents. The OpenOffice.org document types are all handled by the UCB. In addition, it is used for help files, directory trees and resource links.

The advantage of delegating resource access to the UCB is, that document, folder and link handling can always be the same from the developer's perspective. It does not matter if you are storing in a file system, on an FTPWebDAV server, or in a document management system.

However, the UCB does not have to be used directly if you want to load and save OpenOffice.org documents. The com.sun.star.frame.Desktop service provides the necessary functions, hiding the comparably low-level UCB calls. See Handling Documents. The UCB allows you to administer files in a directory tree or read your own document stream, regardless of where the directory tree or the stream is located.
Architecture

Conceptually, the UCB can be pictured as an object system that consists of a core and a set of Universal Content Providers (UCPs). The UCPs are designed to mask the differences between access protocols, enabling developers to focus on the essentials of integrating resources through the UCB interface, instead of the complexities of an underlying protocol. To this end, each UCP implements an interface that facilitates access to a particular data source through a Uniform Resource Identifier (URI). When a client requests a particular resource, it addresses the UCB that calls a qualified UCP, based on the URI that is associated with the content.

As a rule, all data content is encapsulated in content objects. Each content object implements a standard set of interfaces, that includes functions for querying the content type and a select set of commands that can be run on the respective content, such as "open", "delete", and "move".

Note – Whenever we refer to UCB commands, we put them in double quotes as in "getPropertyValues" to make a distinction between UCB commands and methods in general, which are written as getPropertyValue(). UCB commands are explained in the section Executing Content Commands below.

Each content object also has a set of attributes that can be read and set by an application, that include the title, the media type (MIME type), and different flags. The UCB API defines a set of standard commands and properties. There is a set of mandatory properties and commands that must be supported by any content implementation, as well as optional commands and properties with predefined semantics. The illustration below shows the relationship between the UCB, UCPs and UCB content objects.
The relationship between UCB, UCPs and UCB content objects

When a client requests a particular content, it addresses the UCB and passes on the corresponding URI. The UCB analyzes the URI and then calls the corresponding UCP which creates an object for the requested resource.

For example, when an application requests a particular document, the URI of the document is passed to the Universal Content Broker. The UCB analyzes the URI and delegates it to the appropriate UCP. The UCP creates a content object for the requested resource and returns it to the UCB, which returns it to the application. The application now opens the content object or query, or set property values by executing the appropriate command.

Services and Interfaces

Each UCB content implements the service com.sun.star.ucb.Content. The UCB content service interfaces include:

- com.sun.star.ucb.XContent
- com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyContainer
- com.sun.star.container.XChild (optional)
- com.sun.star.ucb.XCommandProcessor
- com.sun.star.ucb.XCommandProcessor2 (optional)
- com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator (optional)

The interface com.sun.star.ucb.XContent provides access to a content's type and identifier. The com.sun.star.ucb.XCommandProcessor executes commands at the content object, such as opening a content that provides access to the content's data stream or its children, and setting and getting property values. The interface com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyContainer adds new properties to a content or removes properties that were previously added using this interface. The properties added are always made persistent.

**Warning** – If you change the set of properties by adding or removing properties, the cache of scripting languages, such as OpenOffice.org Basic might not reflect these changes. Thus, use the get/set methods to access the properties in scripting languages rather than relying on their automatic recognition of properties.

The com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator interface is for creating new resources, such as a new folder in the local file system. Not all content implementation can create new resources, therefore this interface is optional. The optional interface com.sun.star.container.XChild provides access to the content object's parent content.
object. Not all data sources represented by content implementations are organized hierarchically, therefore a parent cannot always be specified.

**Note** – The interface com.sun.star.ucb.XCommandProcessor2 is the improved version of com.sun.star.ucb.XCommandProcessor. It has been introduced to release command identifiers retrieved through `createCommandIdentifier()` at the XCommandProcessor interface. To avoid resource leaks, use XCommandProcessor2.

Some content commands defined by the UCB API are listed in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Command Names for com.sun.star.ucb.XCommandProcessor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;getCommandInfo&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;getCommandInfo&quot; obtains an interface that queries information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>commands supported by a content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;getPropertySetInfo&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;getPropertySetInfo&quot; obtains an interface that queries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>information on properties supported by a content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;getPropertyValues&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;getPropertyValues&quot; obtains property values from the content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;setPropertyValues&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;setPropertyValues&quot; sets property values of the content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;open&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;open&quot; gives access to the data stream of a document or to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the children of a folder.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;delete&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;delete&quot; destroys a resource.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;insert&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;insert&quot; commits newly-created resources. Writes new data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stream of existing document resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;transfer&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;transfer&quot; copies or moves a content object.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some interesting content properties defined by the UCB API:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Properties of UCB Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ContentType</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contains a unique(!), read-only type string for the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>content, for example, &quot;application/vnd.sun.star.hierarchy-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>link&quot;. This is not the Media-Type!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IsFolder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicates whether a content can contain other contents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IsDocument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicates whether a content is a document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contains the title of an object, for example, the name of a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>file.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DateCreated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contains the date and time the object was created.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DateModified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contains the date and time the object was last modified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MediaType</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contains the media type (MIME type) of a content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contains the size, usually in bytes, of an object.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Every UCP implements the service com.sun.star.ucb.ContentProvider. The UCP core interface is com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProvider. This interface facilitates the creation of content objects based on a given content identifier.

A UCB implements the service com.sun.star.ucb.UniversalContentBroker. The UCB core interfaces are com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProvider and com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProviderManager. The com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProvider interface implementation delegates requests to
create content objects to the content provider registered for the supplied content identifier. The com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProviderManager interface is used to query the UCPs registered with a given UCB, and to register and remove UCPs.

**Note** – A specification for the implementation for each of the UCPs, including URL schemes, content types, supported commands and properties is located in *Universal Content Providers*.

---

## Content Providers

The current implementation of the Universal Content Broker in a OpenOffice.org installation supplies UCPs for the following data sources:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data source</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>URL Schema</th>
<th>Service name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FILE</td>
<td>Provides access to the file system</td>
<td>&quot;file&quot;</td>
<td>com.sun.star.ucb.FileContentProvider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WebDAV and HTTP</td>
<td>Provides access to web-based file systems and includes HTTP</td>
<td>&quot;vnd.sun.star.webdav&quot; or &quot;http&quot;</td>
<td>com.sun.star.ucb.WebDAVContentProvider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FTP</td>
<td>Provides access to file transfer protocol servers</td>
<td>&quot;ftp&quot;</td>
<td>com.sun.star.ucb.fpx.ContentProvider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hierarchy</td>
<td>Virtual hierarchy of folders and links</td>
<td>&quot;vnd.sun.star.hier&quot;</td>
<td>com.sun.star.ucb.HierarchyContentProvider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZIP and JAR files</td>
<td>Packaged files</td>
<td>&quot;vnd.sun.star.pkg&quot;</td>
<td>com.sun.star.ucb.PackageContentProvider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help files</td>
<td>OpenOffice.org help system</td>
<td>&quot;vnd.sun.star.help&quot;</td>
<td>com.sun.star.help.XMLHelp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix C *Universal Content Providers* describes all the above content providers in more detail. The reference documentation for the commands and other features of these UCPs are located in the SDK or the ucb project on ucb.openoffice.org. Additionally, the ucb project offers information about other UCPs for OpenOffice.org, for example, a UCP for document management systems.

---

## Using the UCB API

This section explains how to use the API of the Universal Content Broker.
Instantiating the UCB

The following steps have to be performed before a process can use the UCB:

- Create and set the UNO service manager.
- Create an instance of the UNO service com.sun.star.ucb.UniversalContentBroker, passing the keys identifying a predefined UCB configuration to `createInstanceWithArguments()`.

There are several predefined UCB configurations. Each configuration contains data that describes a set of UCPs. All UCPs contained in a configuration are registered at the UCB that is created using this configuration. A UCB configuration is identified by two keys that are strings. The standard configuration is "Local" and "Office", which generally allows access to all UCPs available in a local installation.

```java
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.uno.Exception;
import com.sun.star.uno.XInterface;

boolean initUCB() {
    // Obtain Process Service Manager.
    XMultiServiceFactory xServiceFactory = ...

    // Create UCB. This needs to be done only once per process.
    XInterface xUCB;
    try {
        // Supply configuration to use for this UCB instance...
        String[] keys = new String[2];
        keys[ 0 ] = "Local";
        keys[ 1 ] = "Office";

        xUCB = xServiceFactory.createInstanceWithArguments(
                   "com.sun.star.ucb.UniversalContentBroker", keys);
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) { }

    if (xUCB == null)
        return false;

    return true;
}
```

For information about other configurations, refer to Configuration.
Accessing a UCB Content

Each UCB content can be identified using a URL that points to a folder or a document content in the data source you want to work with. To create a content object for a given URL:

31. Obtain access to the UCB.

32. Let the UCB create a content identifier object for the requested URL using `createContentIdentifier()` at the `com.sun.star.ucb.XContentIdentifierFactory` of the UCB.

33. Let the UCB create a content object for the content identifier using `queryContent()` at the `com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProvider` interface of the UCB.

The UCB selects a UCP according to the URL contained in the identifier object and dispatches the `queryContent()` call to it. The UCP creates the content implementation object and returns it to the UCB, which passes it on to the caller.

Creating a UCB content from a given URL:

```java
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.uno.XInterface;
import com.sun.star.ucb.*;

{
    String aURL = ...

    // Obtain access to UCB...
    XInterface xUCB = ...
    // Obtain required UCB interfaces XContentIdentifierFactory and
    XContentProvider
    XContentIdentifierFactory xIdFactory =
        (XContentIdentifierFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XContentIdentifierFactory.class, xUCB);
    XContentProvider xProvider =
        (XContentProvider)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XContentProvider.class, xUCB);

    // Obtain content object from UCB...
    // Create identifier object for given URL.
    XContentIdentifier xId = xIdFactory.createContentIdentifier(aURL);
    XContent xContent = xProvider.queryContent(xId);
}
```
Executing Content Commands

Each UCB content is able to execute commands. When the content object is created, commands are executed using its com.sun.star.ucb.XCommandProcessor interface. The com.sun.star.ucb.XCommandProcessor:execute() method at this interface expects a com.sun.star.ucb.Command, which is a struct containing the command name, command arguments and a handle:

Members of struct com.sun.star.ucb.Command

com.sun.star.ucb.Command:Name string, contains the name of the command
com.sun.star.ucb.Command:Handle long, contains an implementation-specific handle for the command
com.sun.star.ucb.Command:Argument any, contains the argument of the command

Refer to Appendix C Universal Content Providers for a complete list of predefined commands, the description of the UNO service com.sun.star.ucb.Content and the UCP reference that comes with the SDK. For the latest information, visit ucb.openoffice.org.

Note – Whenever we refer to UCB commands, we put them in double quotes as in "getPropertyValues" to make a distinction between UCB commands and methods in general that are written getPropertyValues().

If executing a command cannot proceed because of an error condition, the following occurs. If the execute call was supplied with a com.sun.star.ucb.XCommandEnvironment that contains a com.sun.star.task.XInteractionHandler, this interaction handler is used to resolve the problem. If no interaction handler is supplied by passing null to the execute() method, or it cannot resolve the problem, an exception describing the error condition is thrown.

The following method executeCommand() executes a command at a UCB content:

import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.ucb.*;

Object executeCommand(XContent xContent, String aCommandName, Object aArgument)
    throws com.sun.star.ucb.CommandAbortedException,
Executing Content Commands

```java
com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // Obtain command processor interface from given content.
    XCommandProcessor xCmdProcessor =
        (XCommandProcessor)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XCommandProcessor.class, xContent);

    // Assemble command to execute.
    Command aCommand = new Command();
    aCommand.Name = aCommandName;
    aCommand.Handle = -1; // not available
    aCommand.Argument = aArgument;

    // Note: throws CommandAbortedException and Exception since
    // we pass null for the XCommandEnvironment parameter
    return xCmdProcessor.execute(aCommand, 0, null);
}
```

Note – The method `executeCommand()` from the example above is used in the following examples whenever a command is to be executed at a UCB content.

Obtaining Content Properties

A UCB content maintains a set of properties. It supports the command "getPropertyValues", that obtains one or more property values from a content. This command takes a sequence of `com.sun.star.beans.Property` and returns an implementation of the interface `com.sun.star.sdbc.XRow` that is similar to a row of a JDBC resultset. To obtain property values from a UCB content:

1. Define a sequence of properties you want to obtain the values for.
2. Let the UCB content execute the command "getPropertyValues".
3. Obtain the property values from the returned row object.

The following example demonstrates the use of content properties. Note that the method `executeCommand()` is used from the example above to execute the "getPropertyValues" command that takes a command name and creates a `com.sun.star.ucb.Command` struct from it:

```java
import com.sun.star.ucb.*;
```
import com.sun.star.sdbc.XRow;
import com.sun.star.beans.Property;

{
    XContent xContent = ...
}

/////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////
// Obtain value of the string property Title and the boolean property
// IsFolder from xContent...
/////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////

// Define property sequence.
Property[] aProps = new Property[2];
Property prop1 = new Property();
prop1.Name = "Title";
prop1.Handle = -1;// n/a
aProps[0] = prop1;
Property prop2 = new Property();
prop2.Name = "IsFolder";
prop2.Handle = -1;// n/a
aProps[1] = prop2;

XRow xValues;
try {
    // Execute command "getPropertyValues"
    // using helper method executeCommand (see
    // CHAPTER:UCB.Using.Commands)
    xValues = executeCommand(xContent, "getPropertyValues", aProps);
}
catch (com.sun.star.ucb.CommandAbortedException e) {
    ... error ...
}
catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
    ... error ...
}

// Extract values from row object. Note that the
// first column is 1, not 0.

// Title: Obtain value of column 1 as string.
String aTitle = xValues.getString(1);
if (aTitle.length() == 0 && xValues.wasNull())
    ... error ...

// IsFolder: Obtain value of column 2 as boolean.
boolean bFolder = xValues.getBoolean(2);
if (!bFolder && xValues.wasNull())
    ... error ...
}

The returned row for the content above has two columns Title and IsFolder, and could
contain the following data. The column values are retrieved using the getXXX
methods of the com.sun.star.sdbc.Xrow interface. The command
"getPropertyValues" always returns a single row for contents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>IsFolder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Obtaining Content Properties

"MyFolder"  TRUE

Setting Content Properties

A UCB content maintains a set of properties. It supports the command "setPropertyValues", that is used to set one or more property values of a content. This command takes a sequence of com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue and returns void. To set property values of a UCB content:

- Define a sequence of property values you want to set.
- Let the UCB content execute the command "setPropertyValues".

Note that the command is not aborted if one or more of the property values cannot be set, because the requested property is not supported by the content or because it is read-only. Currently, there is no other method to check if a property value was set successfully other than to obtain the property value after a set-operation. This may change when status information could be returned by the command "setPropertyValues".

Setting property values of a UCB content:

```java
import com.sun.star.ucb.*;
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue;
{
    XContent xContent = ...;
    String aNewTitle = "NewTitle";

    // Set value of the string property Title...

    PropertyValue[] aProps = new PropertyValue[ 1 ];
    PropertyValue aProp = new PropertyValue();
    aProp.Name = "Title";
    aProp.Handle = -1;// n/a
    aProp.Value = aNewTitle;
    aProps[0] = aProp;

    try {
        // Execute command "setPropertyValues".
        // using helper method executeCommand (see [CHAPTER:UCB.Using.Commands]).
        executeCommand(xContent, "setPropertyValues", aProps);
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.ucb.CommandAbortedException e) {
        ... error ...
    }
```
Setting Content Properties

```java
  catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
    ... error ...
  }
```

## Folders

### Accessing the Children of a Folder

A UCB content that is a folder, that is, the value of the required property `IsFolder` is true, supports the command "open". This command takes an argument of type `com.sun.star.ucb.OpenCommandArgument2`. The value returned is an implementation of the service `com.sun.star.ucb.DynamicResultSet`. This `DynamicResultSet` holds the children of the folder and is a result set that can notify registered listeners about changes. To retrieve data from it, call `getStaticResultSet()` at its `com.sun.star.ucb.XDynamicResultSet` interface. The static result set is a `com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSet` that can be seen as a table, where each row contains a child content of the folder. Use the appropriate methods of `com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSet` to navigate through the rows:

```java
boolean first()
boolean last()
boolean next()
boolean previous()
boolean absolute([in] long row)
boolean relative([in] long rows)
void afterLast()
void beforeFirst()
boolean isBeforeFirst()
boolean isAfterLast()
boolean isFirst()
boolean isLast()
long getRow()
```

The child contents are accessed by traveling to the appropriate row and using the interface `com.sun.star.ucb.XContentAccess`, which is implemented by the returned result set:

```java
com::sun::star::ucb::XContent queryContent()
string queryContentIdentifierString()
com::sun::star::ucb::XContentIdentifier queryContentIdentifier()
```

You may supply a sequence of `com.sun.star.beans.Property` as part of the argument of the "open" command. In this case, the result set contains one column for each...
property value that is requested. The property values are accessed by traveling to the appropriate row and calling methods of the interface com.sun.star.sdbc.XRow. Refer to the documentation of com.sun.star.ucb.OpenCommandArgument2 for more information about other parameters that can be passed to the "open" command.

To access the children of a UCB content:

1. Fill the com.sun.star.ucb.OpenCommandArgument2 structure according to your requirements.

2. Let the UCB content execute the "open" command.

3. Access the children and the requested property values using the returned dynamic result set.

Accessing the children of a UCB folder content:

```java
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.ucb.*;
import com.sun.star.sdbc.XResultSet;
import com.sun.star.sdbc.XRow;

{ XContent xContent = ...

    // Open a folder content, request property values for the string
    // property Title and the boolean property IsFolder...
    // Fill argument structure...
    OpenCommandArgument2 aArg = new OpenCommandArgument2();
    aArg.Mode = OpenMode.ALL;// FOLDER, DOCUMENTS -> simple filter
    aArg.Priority = 32768;// Ignored by most implementations

    // Fill info for the properties wanted.
    Property[] aProps = new Property[2];
    Property prop1 = new Property();
    prop1.Name = "Title";
    prop1.Handle = -1;// n/a
    aProps[0] = prop1;
    Property prop2 = new Property();
    prop2.Name = "IsFolder";
    prop2.Handle = -1;// n/a
    aProps[1] = prop2;

    aArg.Properties = aProps;

    XDynamicResultSet xSet;
    try {
        // Execute command "open".
        // using helper method executeCommand (see
        xSet = executeCommand(xContent, "open", aArg);
```
```java
} catch (com.sun.star.ucb.CommandAbortedException e) {
    ... error ...
}
} catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
    ... error ...
}

XResultSet xResultSet = xSet.getStaticResultSet();

/////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////
// Iterate over children, access children and property values...
/////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////

try {
    // Move to begin.
    if (xResultSet.first()) {
        // obtain XContentAccess interface for child content access and
        // XRow for properties
        XContentAccess xContentAccess =
            (XContentAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XContentAccess.class, xResultSet);
        XRow xRow = (XRow)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XRow.class,
            xResultSet);
        do {
            // Obtain URL of child.
            String aId = xContentAccess.queryContentIdentifierString();

            // First column: Title (column numbers are 1-based!)
            String aTitle = xRow.getString(1);
            if (aTitle.length() == 0 && xRow.wasNull())
                ... error ...

            // Second column: IsFolder
            boolean bFolder = xRow.getBoolean(2);
            if (!bFolder && xRow.wasNull())
                ... error ...
        } while (xResultSet.next()) // next child
    }
} catch (com.sun.star.ucb.ResultSetException e) {
    ... error ...
}
```
Documents

Reading a Document Content

A UCB content that is a document, that is, the value of the required property IsDocument is true, supports the command "open". The command takes an argument of type com.sun.star.ucb.OpenCommandArgument2. Note that this command with the same argument type is also used to access the children of a folder. As seen in the examples, the argument's Mode member controls access to the children or the data stream, or both for contents that support both. If you are interested in the data stream, ignore the command's return value, which will presumably be a null value.

The caller must implement a data sink and supply this implementation as "open" command arguments to get access to the data stream of a document. These data sinks are called back by the implementation when the "open" command is executed. There are two different interfaces for data sinks to choose from, com.sun.star.io.XActiveDataSink and com.sun.star.io.XOutputStream.

- **XActiveDataSink:** If this type of data sink is supplied, the caller of the command is active. It consists of the following methods:

  ```java
  void setInputStream( [in] com::sun::star::io::XInputStream aStream)
  com::sun::star::io::XInputStream getInputStream()
  ```

  The implementation of the command supplies an implementation of the interface com.sun.star.io.XInputStream to the given data sink using setInputStream() and return. Once the execute-call has returned, the caller accesses the input stream calling getInputStream() and read the data using that stream, through readBytes() or readSomeBytes().

- **XOutputStream:** If this type of data sink is supplied, the caller of the command is passive. The data sink is called back through the following methods of XOutputStream:

  ```java
  void writeBytes( [in] sequence< byte > aData)
  void closeOutput()
  void flush()
  ```

  The implementation of the command writes all data to the output stream calling writeBytes() and closes it through closeOutput() after all data was successfully written. Only then will the open command return.

  The type to use depends on the logic of the client application. If the application is designed so that it passively processes the data supplied by an com.sun.star.io.XOutputStream using an output stream as sink is advantageous,
because many content providers implement this case efficiently without buffering any data. If the application is designed so that it actively reads the data, use an `com.sun.star.io.XActiveDataSink`, then any necessary buffering takes place in the implementation of the open command.

The following example shows a possible implementation of an `com.sun.star.io.XActiveDataSink` and its usage with the "open" command:

```java
import com.sun.star.io.XActiveDataSink;
import com.sun.star.io.XInputStream;

/////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////
// XActiveDataSink interface implementation.
/////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////

public class MyActiveDataSink implements XActiveDataSink {
    XInputStream m_aStream = null;

    public MyActiveDataSink() {
        super();
    }

    public void setInputStream(XInputStream aStream) {
        m_aStream = aStream;
    }

    public XInputStream getInputStream() {
        return m_aStream;
    }
};
```

Now this data sink implementation can be used with the "open" command. After opening the document content, `getInputStream()` returns the input stream containing the document data. The actual byte content is read using `readSomeBytes()` in the following fragment:

```java
import com.sun.star.ucb.*;
import ...MyActiveDataSink;

{XContent xContent = ...

    ///////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////
    // Read the document data stream of a document content using a
    // XActiveDataSink implementation as data sink....
    ///////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////
    
    OpenCommandArgument2 aArg = new OpenCommandArgument2;
    aArg.Mode = OpenMode.DOCUMENT;
    aArg.Priority = 32768;// Ignored by most implementations
    
    // Create data sink implementation object.
    XActiveDataSink xDataSink = new MyActiveDataDataSink;
    aArg.Sink = xDataSink;
```
Storing a Document Content

A UCB content that is a document, that is, the value of the required property **IsDocument** is true, supports the command "*insert*". This command is used to
overwrite the document's data stream. The command requires an argument of type com.sun.star.ucb.InsertCommandArgument and returns void. The caller supplies the implementation of an com.sun.star.io.XInputStream with the command argument. This stream contains the data to be written. An additional flag indicating if an existing content and its data should be overwritten is supplied with the command argument. Implementations that are not able to detect if there are previous data may ignore this parameter and will always write the new data.

Setting or storing the content data stream of a UCB document content is shown below:

```java
import com.sun.star.ucb.*;
import com.sun.star.io.XInputStream;

{  
  XContent xContent = ...  
  XInputStream xData = ... // The data to write.

  // Write the document data stream of a document content...

  // Fill argument structure...

  InsertCommandArgument aArg = new InsertCommandArgument();  
  aArg.Data = xData;  
  aArg.ReplaceExisting = true;

  try {  
    // Execute command "insert".  
    // using helper method executeCommand (see 
    // [CHAPTER:UCB.Using.Commands]).  
    executeCommand(xContent, "insert", aArg);
  }  
  catch (com.sun.star.ucb.CommandAbortedException e) {
    ... error ...
  }
  catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
    ... error ...
  }
}
```

### Managing Contents

You can create, delete, copy, move and link UCB content.
Creating

A UCB content that implements the interface com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator acts as a factory for new resources. For example, a file system folder can be a creator for other file system folders and files.

A new content object created by the com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator implementation can be considered as an *empty hull* for a content object of a special type. This new content object has to be filled with some property values to become fully functional. For example, a file system folder could require a name, represented by the property *Title* in the UCB. The interface com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator offers ways to determine what contents can be created and what properties need to be set. Information can be obtained on the general type, such as *FOLDER*, *DOCUMENT*, or *LINK*, of the objects. After the required property values are set, the creation process needs to be committed by using the command "insert". Note that this command is always executed by the new content, not by the content creator, because the creator is not necessarily the parent of the new content. The flag *ReplaceExisting* in the "insert" argument com.sun.star.ucb.InsertCommandArgument usually is *false*, because the caller does not want to destroy an already existing resource. The "insert" command implementation makes the new content persistent in the appropriate storage medium.

To create a new resource:

1. Obtain the interface com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator from a suitable UCB content.

2. Call *createNewContent()* at the content creator. Supply information on the type of content to create with the arguments. The argument expected is a com.sun.star.ucb.ContentInfo struct.

3. Obtain and set the property values that are mandatory for the content just created.

4. Let the new content execute the command "insert" to complete the creation process.

Creating a new resource:

```java
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.ucb.*;
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue;
import com.sun.star.io.XInputStream;

{  
    XContent xContent = ...
}
```
// Create a new file system file object...

// Obtain content creator interface.
XContentCreator xCreator = (XContentCreator)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XContentCreator.class, xContent);

// Note: The data for aInfo may have been obtained using
// XContentCreator::queryCreatableContentsInfo().
// A number of possible types is listed below

ContentInfo aInfo = new ContentInfo();
aInfo.Type = "application/vnd.sun.staroffice.fsys-file";
aInfo.Attributes = 0;

// Create new, empty content.
XContent xNewContent = xCreator.createNewContent(aInfo);

if (xNewContent == null)
  ... error ...

// Set mandatory properties...

// Obtain a name for the new file.
String aFilename = ...

// Define property value sequence.
PropertyValue[] aProps = new PropertyValue[1];
PropertyVlaue aProp = new PropertyValue;
aProp.Name = "Title";
aProp.Handle = -1; // n/a
aProp.Value = aFilename;
aProps[0] = aProp;
try {
  // Execute command "setPropertyValues".
  // using helper method executeCommand (see
  [CHAPTER:UCB.Using.Commands])
  executeCommand(xNewContent, "setPropertyValues",aProps);
}
catch (com.sun.star.ucb.CommandAbortedException e) {
  ... error ...
}
catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
  ... error ...
}

// Write the new file to disk...

// Obtain document data for the new file.
XInputStream xData = ...

// Fill argument structure...
Creating

```java
InsertCommandArgument aArg = new InsertCommandArgument();
aArg.Data = xData;
aArg.ReplaceExisting = false;

try {
    // Execute command "insert".
    executeCommand(xNewContent, "insert", aArg);
}
catch (com.sun.star.ucb.CommandAbortedException e) {
    ... error ...
}
catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
    ... error ...
}
}
```

Appendix C **Universal Content Providers** discusses the creation of contents for all available UCPs. The table below shows a number of com.sun.star.ucb.ContentInfo types for creatable contents. Additionally, you can ask the content creator for its creatable contents using `com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator:queryCreatableContentsInfo()`. The UCB reference in the SDK and on [ucb.openoffice.org](http://ucb.openoffice.org) offers comprehensive information about creatable contents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data source</th>
<th>Content Info Type</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Content Service that Creates the Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FILE</td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.office.fs youngster&quot;</td>
<td>folder</td>
<td>com.sun.star.ucb.FileFolderContent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.office.fs youngster&quot;</td>
<td>document</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WebDAV and HTTP</td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.webdav-collection&quot;</td>
<td>folder</td>
<td>com.sun.star.ucb.WebDAVFolderContent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.http-content&quot;</td>
<td>document</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.http-content&quot;</td>
<td>document</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hierarchy</td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.http-content&quot;</td>
<td>folder</td>
<td>com.sun.star.ucb.HierarchyFolderContent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.http-content&quot;</td>
<td>Link</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZIP and JAR files</td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.pkg-folder&quot;</td>
<td>folder</td>
<td>com.sun.star.ucb.PackageFolderContent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.pkg-stream&quot;</td>
<td>document</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter 14 · Universal Content Broker
Deleting

Executing the command "delete" on a UCB content destroys the resource it represents. This command takes a boolean parameter. If it is set to true, the resource is immediately destroyed physically.

**Warning** – The command also destroys all existing sub-resources of the resource to be destroyed!

If false is passed to this command, the caller wants to delete the resource "logically". This means that the resource is restored or physically destroyed later. A soft-deleted content needs to support the command "undelete". This command brings it back to life. The implementation of the delete command can ignore the parameter and may opt to always destroy the resource physically.

**Note** – Currently we do not have a trash service that could be used by UCB clients to manage soft-deleted contents.

Deleting a resource:

```java
import com.sun.star.ucb.*;
{
    XContent xContent = ... 
    /*-----------------------------------------------
    // Destroy a resource physically...
    /*-----------------------------------------------

    try {
        Boolean bDeletePhysically = new Boolean(true);
        // Execute command "delete",
        // using helper method executeCommand (see
        [CHAPTER:UCB.Using.Commands])
        executeCommand(xContent, "delete", bDeletePhysically);
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.ucb.CommandAbortedException e) {
        ... error ...
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
        ... error ...
    }
}
```
Copying, Moving and Linking

Copying, moving and creating links to a resource works differently from the other operations available for UCB Contents. There are three UCB Contents involved in these operations, the source object, target folder, and target object. There may even be two content Providers, for example, when moving a file located on an FTP server to the local file system of a workstation. Each implementation of the com.sun.star.ucb.UniversalContentBroker service supports the com.sun.star.ucb.XCommandProcessor interface. This command processor implements the command "globalTransfer" that can be used to copy and move UCB Contents, and create links to UCB Contents. The command takes an argument of type com.sun.star.ucb.GlobalTransferCommandArgument. To copy, move or create a link to a resource, execute the "globalTransfer" command at the UCB.

Note – The reasons for the different handling are mainly technical. We did not want to force every single implementation of the transfer command of a UCB content to accept nearly all types of contents. Instead, we wanted to have one single implementation that would be able to handle all types of contents.

Copying, moving and creating links to a resource are shown in the following example:

```java
import com.sun.star.ucb.*;
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.uno.XInterface;

{
    String aSourceURL = ... // URL of the source object
    String aTargetFolderURL = ... // URL of the target folder

    // Obtain access to UCB...
    XInterface xUCB = ...

    // Obtain XCommandProcessor interface from UCB...
    XCommandProcessor xProcessor =
        (XCommandProcessor)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XCommandProcessor.class, xUCB);

    if (xProcessor == null)
        ... error ...

    // Copy a resource to another location...
    GlobalTransferCommandArgument aArg = new
        GlobalTransferCommandArgument();
    aArg.TransferCommandOperation = TransferCommandOperation_COPY;
    aArg.SourceURL = aSourceURL;
    aArg.TargetURL = aTargetFolderURL;
```
Configuration

This section describes how to configure the Universal Content Broker (UCB). Before a process uses the UCB, it needs to configure the UCB. Configuring the UCB means registering a set of Universal Content Providers (UCPs) at a content broker instance. Only UCPs known to the UCB are used to provide content. Generally we provide two ways to configure a UCB:

- Create a default UCB with no UCPs registered and register all required UCPs manually.
- Define a UCB configuration and create a UCB that is automatically configured with the UCPs given in that configuration.

UCP Registration Information

Before registering a content provider, the following information that is provided by the implementer of the UCP is required. The Appendix Universal Content Providers provides these for the currently available UCPs.

- The UNO service name to instantiate the UCP, for example, "com.sun.star.ucb.FileContentProvider". Each UCP must be implemented and registered as a UNO component. Refer to chapter Writing UNO Components for more information on writing and registering UNO components.
- An URL template used by the UCB to select the registered UCPs that best fit an
incoming URL. See com.sun.star.ucb.XContentIdentifier. This can be the name of an URL scheme, for example, the file that selects the given UCP for all file URLs, or a limited regular expression, such as "http://[^/?#]*\.(com)\([^/]*\)". That will select the given UCP for all http URLs in the com domain. See the documentation of com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProviderManager:registerContentProvider() for details about these regular expressions.
- Additional arguments that may be needed by the UCP.

Unconfigured UCBs

A UCB is called *unconfigured* if it has no content providers, thus it is not able to provide any contents. Each UCB implements the interface com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProviderManager. This interface offers the functionality to register UCPs at runtime.

To create an unconfigured UCB and configure it manually:


2. Register the appropriate UCPs using the com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProviderManager interface of the UCB.

The XContentProviderManager contains the following methods:

```java
com::sun::star::ucb::XContentProvider registerContentProvider(
    [in] com::sun::star::ucb::XContentProvider Provider,
    [in] string Scheme,
    [in] boolean ReplaceExisting)
oneway void deregisterContentProvider(
    [in] com::sun::star::ucb::XContentProvider Provider,
    [in] string Scheme)
sequence< com::sun::star::ucb::ContentProviderInfo > queryContentProviders()
com::sun::star::ucb::XContentProvider queryContentProvider([in] string URL)
```

The XContentProvider configures a UCB for content providers, obtains com.sun.star.ucb.ContentProviderInfo structs describing the available providers, and the provider that is currently registered for a specific URL schema. The following example uses registerContentProvider() to configure an unconfigured UCB for a file content provider.

Unconfigured UCB:

```java
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.ucb.DuplicateProviderException;
```
import com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProvider;
import com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProviderManager;
import com.sun.star.uno.Exception;
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;

boolean initUCB() {

    // Obtain Process Service Manager.
    XMultiServiceFactory xServiceFactory = ...  

    // Create UCB. This needs to be done only once per process.
    XContentProviderManager xUCB;
    try {
        xUCB = (XContentProviderManager)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( 
            XContentProviderManager.class, xServiceFactory.createInstance( 
                "com.sun.star.ucb.UniversalContentBroker"));
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
    }
    if (xUCB == null)
        return false;

    // Instanciate UCPs and register at UCB.
    XContentProvider xFileProvider;
    try {
        xFileProvider = (XContentProvider)UnoRuntime.queryInterface( 
            XContentProvider.class, xServiceFactory.createInstance( 
                "com.sun.star.ucb.FileContentProvider"));
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
    }
    if (xFileProvider == null)
        return false;

    try {
        // Parameters: provider, URL scheme, boolean flag replaceExisting
        xUCB.registerContentProvider(xFileProvider, "file", new 
        Boolean(false));
    }
    catch (DuplicateProviderException ex) {
    }

    // Create/register other UCPs...
    return true;
}
Preconfigured UCBs

A UCB is called *preconfigured* if it was given a UCB configuration at the time it was instantiated. A UCB configuration contains a set of UCP registration information.

To create a preconfigured UCB:


2. Pass the configuration as a parameters to the creation function. The UCB instance returned offers all UCPs defined in the given configuration.

Preconfigured UCB:

```java
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.uno.Exception;
import com.sun.star.uno.XInterface;

boolean initUCB() {
    // Obtain Process Service Manager.
    XMultiServiceFactory xServiceFactory = ...
    // Create UCB. This needs to be done only once per process.
    XInterface xUCB;
    try {
        // Supply configuration to use for this UCB instance...
        String[] keys = new String[2];
        keys[0] = "Local";
        keys[1] = "Office";
        xUCB = xServiceFactory.createInstanceWithArguments(
            "com.sun.star.ucb.UniversalContentBroker", keys);
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
    }
    if (xUCB == null)
        return false;
    return true;
}
```

A UCB configuration used by a preconfigured UCB describes a set of UCPs available in a configuration. All UCPs contained in a configuration are registered at the UCB that is created using this configuration. A UCB configuration is identified by two keys
that are strings. The keys allow some structuring in the configuration files, but they do not have a purpose. See the example file below. The standard configuration is "Local" and "Office", that allows access to all UCPs. The XML sample below shows how these keys are used to organize UCB configurations.

The predefined configurations for OpenOffice.org are defined in the file <OfficePath>/share/config/data/org/openoffice/ucb/Configuration.xcd. This file must be adapted to add configurations or edit existing configurations. The XCD file is used during the OpenOffice.org build process to generate the appropriate XML file. This XML file is part of a OpenOffice.org installation and is located in <OfficePath>share/config/registry/instance/org/openoffice/ucb/Configuration.xml. The UCB tries to get configuration data from this XML file.

UCB Configuration (org/openoffice/ucb/Configuration.xcd):

```xml
<!DOCTYPE schema:package SYSTEM "../schema/schema.description.dtd">
    xmlns:cfg="http://openoffice.org/2000/registry/instance">
    <schema:templates template-id="org.openoffice.ucb.Configuration">
        <!-- ContentProvider -->
        <schema:group cfg:name="ContentProviderData">
            <schema:value cfg:name="ServiceName" cfg:type="string"/>
        </schema:value>
        <schema:value cfg:name="URLTemplate" cfg:type="string"/>
        <schema:value cfg:name="Arguments" cfg:type="string"/>
    </schema:group>

    <!-- ContentProvidersDataSecondaryKeys -->
    <schema:group cfg:name="ContentProvidersDataSecondaryKeys">
        <schema:set cfg:name="ProviderData"
            cfg:element-type="ContentProviderData"/>
    </schema:group>

    <!-- ContentProvidersDataPrimaryKeys -->
    <schema:group cfg:name="ContentProvidersDataPrimaryKeys">
        <schema:set cfg:name="SecondaryKeys"
            cfg:element-type="ContentProvidersDataSecondaryKeys"/>
    </schema:group>
</schema:templates>

<schema:component cfg:writable="true"
    component-id="org.openoffice.ucb.Configuration"
    cfg:notified="true" cfg:localized="false">
    <schema:set cfg:name="ContentProviders"
        cfg:element-type="ContentProvidersDataPrimaryKeys"/>
    <default:group cfg:name="Local">
        <default:set cfg:name="SecondaryKeys"
            cfg:element-type="ContentProvidersDataSecondaryKeys"/>
    </default:group>
</schema:component>
```
Content Provider Proxies

The UNO service implementing a UCP must be instantiated at the time the content provider is registered at the UCB. This is done using com.sun.star.ucb.XContentProviderManager's registerContentProvider() method. In some cases, this can consume resources, because instantiating a UNO service means loading the libraries containing its code. As a convention, each UNO component should reside in its own library.

Therefore, a special UNO service is offered that provides a generic proxy for a UCP.
Its purpose is to delay the loading of the real UCP code until it is needed. Generally, this does not happen before the first `createContentIdentifier()`/`queryContent()` calls are done at the proxy.

Instead of registering the real instantiated UCP at the UCB, a proxy is created for the UCP. The UCP registration information is passed to the proxy. The proxy only uses this information to instantiate the real UCP on demand. There is almost no performance overhead with this mechanism.

**Note** – When using preconfigured UCBs, the UCB implementation uses proxies instead of the real UCPs to avoid wasting resources.
Configuration Management

Capabilities

The OpenOffice.org configuration management component provides a uniform interface to get and set OpenOffice.org configuration data in an organized manner, independent of the physical data store used for the data.

The configuration API can be used to get and set existing configuration options. Additionally you can extend the configuration with new settings for your own purposes. For details, see Customizing Configuration Data.

Architecture

OpenOffice.org configuration data describes the state or environment of a UNO component or the OpenOffice.org application. There are different kinds of configuration data:

- Static configuration: This is data that describes the configuration of the software and hardware environment. This data is set by a setup tool and does not change at runtime. An example of static configuration data is information about installed filters.
Explicit settings: This is preference data that can be controlled by the user explicitly. There is a dedicated UI to change these settings. An example explicit settings are the settings controlled through the Tools - Options dialogs in OpenOffice.org.

Implicit settings: This is status information that is also controlled by the user, but the user does not change explicitly. The application tracks this state in the background, making it persistent across application sessions. An example implicit settings are window positions and states, or a list of the recently used documents.

This list is not comprehensive, but indicates the range of data characteristically stored by configuration management.

The configuration management component organizes the configuration data in a hierarchical structure. The hierarchical structure and the names and data types of entries in this database are described by a schema. Only data that conforms to one of the installed schemas is stored in the database.

The hierarchical database stores any hierarchical information that can be described as a configuration schema, but it is optimized to work with the data needed for application configuration and preferences. Small data items having a well-defined data type are supported efficiently, whereas large, unspecific binary objects should not be stored in the configuration database. These objects should be stored in separate files so that the configuration keeps the URLs of these files only.

Configuration schemas are provided by the authors of applications and components that use the data. When a component is installed, the corresponding configuration schemas are installed into the configuration management system.

Configuration data is stored in a backend data store. In OpenOffice.org, the standard backend consists of XML files stored in a directory hierarchy. You can add another backend component to be used instead. Support for combining data from multiple backends is planned for a future release.
For a given schema, multiple layers of data may exist that are merged together at runtime. One or more of these layers define default settings, possibly shared by several users. Additionally, there is a layer specific to a single user that contains personal preferences overriding the shared settings. In normal operations all changes to data affect only this user-specific layer.

Access to the merged configuration data for a user is managed by a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider object to connect to a data source, fetch and store data, and merge layers.

This provider provides views on the configuration data. A view is a subset of the entire configuration that can be navigated as an object hierarchy. The objects in this hierarchy represent nodes of the configuration hierarchy to navigate to other nodes and access values of data items.

All configuration items have a fixed type and a name.

The type is prescribed by the schema. The following kinds of items are available:

- 'Properties' are *data* items that contain a single data value or an array of values from a limited set of basic types.
- 'Groups' are *structural* nodes that contain a collection of child items of various types. The number and names of children, as well as their types, are *fixed* by the schema. Structural and data items can be mixed within one group.
- 'Sets' are *structural* nodes that serve as dynamic containers for a variable number
of elements. These elements must be all data or all structural items, and they
must all be uniform. In the first case, all values have the same basic type, and in
the latter case, all the sub-trees have the same structure. The schema contains
templates for container elements, which are prototypes of the element structure.

Properties hold the actual data. Group nodes form the structural skeleton defined in
the schema. Set nodes are used to dynamically add and remove configuration data
within the confines of the schema. Taken together, they can be used to build
hierarchical structures of arbitrary complexity.

Each configuration item has a name that uniquely identifies the item within its parent,
that is, the node in the hierarchical tree that immediately contains the item under
consideration. Paths spanning multiple levels of the hierarchy are built similarly to
UNIX file system paths. The separator for individual name components in paths is a
forward slash ('/'). Paths that begin with a slash are considered 'absolute paths' and
must completely specify the location of an item within the hierarchy. Paths that start
directly with a name are relative paths and describe the location of an item within one
of its ancestors in the hierarchy.

The top-level subdivisions of the configuration hierarchy are called configuration
modules. Each configuration module has a schema that describes the data items
available within that module. Modules are the unit of schema installation. The name
of a configuration module must be globally unique. The names of configuration
modules have an internal hierarchical structure using a dot ('.') as a separator, similar
to Java package names. The predefined configuration modules of OpenOffice.org
use package names from the super-package "org.openoffice.*".

The names of container elements are specified when data items are added to a
container. Data item names in the schema are limited to ASCII letters, digits and a
few punctuation marks, but there are no restrictions applied to the names of container
elements. This requires special handling when referring to a container element in a
path. A path component addressing a container element takes the form
	<template-pattern>['<escaped-name>']. Here <template-pattern> can be the name of the
template describing the element or an asterisk "*" to match any template. The
<escaped-name> is a representation of the name of the element where a few forbidden
characters are represented in an escaped form borrowed from XML. The quotes
delimiting the <escaped-name> may alternatively be double quote characters "". The
following character escapes are used:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Escape</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>&amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'</td>
<td>'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the table below, are some escaped forms for invented entries in the Set node
/org.openoffice.Office.TypeDetection/Filters for (fictitious) filters:
The UIName value of the last example filter would have an absolute path of /org.openoffice.Office.TypeDetection/Filters/Filter['Bob’s Filter']/UIName.

In several places in the configuration management, API arguments are passed to a newly created object instance as Sequence, for example, in the argument to com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory:createInstanceWithArguments. Such arguments are type com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue.

Note – For compatibility with older versions, arguments of type com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue are accepted as well. Only the com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue:Name and com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue:Value fields need to be filled.

Object Model

The centralized entry point for configuration access is a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider object. This object represents a connection to a single configuration data source providing access to configuration data for a single user.

The com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider service is an extended version of this service that enables administrative access to shared configuration data.

The com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider serves as a factory for configuration views. A configuration view provides access to the structure and data of a subset of the configuration database. This subset is accessible as a hierarchical object tree. When creating a configuration view, parameters are provided that describe the subset of the data to retrieve. In the simplest case, the only argument is an absolute configuration path that identifies a structural configuration item. This parameter is given as an argument named "nodepath". The configuration view then encompasses the sub-tree which is rooted in the indicated item.

A configuration view is not represented by a single object, but as an object hierarchy formed by all the items that are part of the selected sub-tree. The object that comes closest to representing the view as a whole is the root element of that tree. This object is the one returned by the factory method of the
com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider. In addition to the simple node-oriented interfaces, it also supports interfaces that apply to the view as a whole.

Configuration object model overview

Within a configuration view, UNO objects with access interfaces are used to represent all structural items. Value items are not represented as objects, but retrieved as types, usually wrapped inside an `any`.

The following types are supported for data items:

- `string`: Plain Text (Sequence of [printable] Unicode characters)
- `boolean`: Boolean value (true/false)
- `short`: 16-bit integer number
- `int`: 32-bit integer number
- `long`: 64-bit integer number
- `double`: Floating point number
- `binary`: Sequence of uninterpreted octets

Value items contain a single value, or a sequence or array of one of the basic types. The arrays must be homogeneous, that is, mixed arrays are not supported. The configuration API treats array types as atomic items, there is no built-in support for accessing or modifying individual array elements.

**Tip** - Binary values should be used only for small chunks of data that cannot easily be stored elsewhere. For large BLOBs it is recommended to store links, for example, as URLs, in the configuration. For example, bitmaps for small icons might be stored in the configuration, whereas large images are stored externally.

All of the structural objects implement the service `com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationAccess` that specifies interfaces to navigate the hierarchy and access values within the view. Different instances of this service support different sets of interfaces. The interfaces that an object supports depends on its structural type, that is, is it a group or a set, and context, that is, is it a group member, an element of a set or the root of the view.
A configuration view can be read-only or updatable. This is determined by the access requested when creating the view, but updatability may also be restricted by access rights specified in the schema or data. The basic com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationAccess service specifies read-only operations. If an object is part of an updatable view and is not marked read-only in the schema or the data, it implements the extended service com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess. This service adds interfaces to change values and modify set nodes.

These service names are also used to create the configuration views. To create a view for read access, call com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory:createClassWithArguments at the com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider to request a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationAccess. To obtain an updatable view, the service com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess must be requested.

The com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider supports the same service specifiers, but creates views on shared layers of configuration data.

The object initially returned when creating a configuration view represents the root node of the view. The choice of services and interfaces it supports depends on the type of configuration item it represents. The root object has additional interfaces pertaining to the view as a whole. For example, updates of configuration data within a view are combined into batches of related changes, which exhibit transaction-like behavior. This functionality is controlled by the root object of the view.

## Configuration Data Sources

Creating a view to configuration data is a two-step process.

1. Connect to a data source by creating an instance of a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider for user preferences or a com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider for shared preferences.

2. Ask the provider to create an access object for a specific nodepath in the configuration database using com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory:createClassWithArguments(). The access object can be a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationAccess or a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess.
Connecting to a Data Source

The first step to access the configuration database is to connect to a configuration data source.

To obtain a provider instance ask the global com.sun.star.lang.ServiceManager for a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider. Typically the first lines of code to get access to configuration data look similar to the following:

```java
// get my global service manager
XMultiServiceFactory xServiceManager = (XMultiServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XMultiServiceFactory.class, this.getRemoteServiceManager(
        "uno:socket,host=localhost,port=2083;urp;StarOffice.ServiceManager"));

final String sProviderService = "com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider";

// create the provider and remember it as a XMultiServiceFactory
XMultiServiceFactory xProvider = (XMultiServiceFactory)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiServiceFactory.class,
    xServiceManager.createInstance(sProviderService));
```

This code creates a default com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider. The most important interface a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider implements is com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory that is used to create further configuration objects.

The com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider always operates in the user mode, accessing data on behalf of the current user and directing updates to the user's personal layer.

For administrative access to manipulate the default layers the com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider is used. When creating this service, additional parameters can be used that select the layer for updates or that contain credentials used to authorize administrative access. The backend that is used determines which default layers exist, how they are addressed and how administrative access is authorized.

The standard file-based backend has several shared layers. One of these layers is used to store shared default data. The files for this layer are located in the share directory of the OpenOffice.org installation. To gain administrative access to this layer, no additional parameters are needed. An com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider for this backend automatically tries to read and write this shared layer. Additionally there are special layers that are used by the Extension Manager for deploying configuration data associated with extensions. For details, see Extensions.
Authorization for the file-based backend is done by the operating system based upon file access privileges. The current user requires write privileges in the shared configuration directory if an AdministrationProvider is supposed to update configuration data.

A com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider is created in the same way as a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider.

```java
// get my global service manager
XMultiServiceFactory xServiceManager = getServiceManager();

// get the arguments to use
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue aReinitialize = new
com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue()
    aReinitialize.Name = "reinitialize"
    aReinitialize.Value = new Boolean(true);

Object[] aProviderArguments = new Object[1];
aProviderArguments[0] = aReinitialize;

final String sAdminService = 
    "com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider";

// create the provider and remember it as a XMultiServiceFactory
XMultiServiceFactory xAdminProvider = (XMultiServiceFactory)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiServiceFactory.class,
        xServiceManager.createInstanceWithArguments(sAdminService,aProviderArguments));
```

As you see in the example above, the default com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider supports a special parameter for reinitialization:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Default</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>reinitialize</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>false</td>
<td>Discard any cached information from previous runs and regenerate from scratch.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some backend implementations use cached data to speed up access. If the reinitialize parameter is true, this cache will be recreated from the XML data when the AdministrationProvider is created. With the current implementation, the parameter has no effect.

When establishing the connection, specify the parameters that select the backend to use and additional backend-specific parameters to select the data source. When there are no parameters given, the standard configuration backend and data source of the OpenOffice.org installation is used.

The standard values for these parameters may be found in the configuration file `configmgr.ini` (`.ini` on Windows, `.rc` on Unix) in the program directory of the OpenOffice.org installation. The INI entries have a prefix "CFG_" before the parameter name.
**Note** – The list of available backends and the parameters they support may change in a future release. Using these parameters is normally not necessary and therefore is not recommended.

The following parameters are supported to select the backend component to use:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Default</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BackendService</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>&quot;com.sun.star.configuration.backend.LocalSingleBackend&quot;</td>
<td>This must be a UNO service or implementation name that can be used to create a service instance. The instance created must support either service com.sun.star.configuration.backend.Backend or service com.sun.star.configuration.backend.SingleBackend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BackendWrapper</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>&quot;com.sun.star.configuration.backend.SingleBackendAdapter&quot;</td>
<td>This parameter is used only, if the service specified by parameter &quot;BackendService&quot; only implements service com.sun.star.configuration.backend.SingleBackend, but does not support service com.sun.star.configuration.backend.Backend. It must be a UNO service or implementation name that can be used to create a service instance. The instance created must support service com.sun.star.configuration.backend.BackendAdapter.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following parameter was formerly supported to select the type of backend to use:
### Connecting to a Data Source

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Default</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>serverType</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>&quot;uno&quot;</td>
<td>Other values are not supported any more in OpenOffice.org. This setting formerly was used to select between several internal backend implementations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the "com.sun.star.configuration.backend.LocalSingleBackend" backend, the following parameters are used to select the location of data:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Default</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SchemaDataUrl</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>$(installurl)/share/registry/schema + locations used for extensions</td>
<td>This must be a file URL pointing to a directory, a whitespace-separated list of such URLs or a sequence of such URLs. The locations are searched in the given order until a schema is found.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DefaultLayerUrls</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>$(installurl)/share/registry + locations used for extensions</td>
<td>This must be a file URL pointing to a directory, a whitespace-separated list of such URLs or a sequence of such URLs. The layers are merged in the given order. The data is located in subdirectory data of each location. Additionally locale-specific data can be placed in subdirectory res.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UserLayerUrl</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>$(userurl)/user/registry</td>
<td>This must be a file URL pointing to a directory. If this is one of the entries of parameter &quot;DefaultLayerUrls&quot;, then only the entries before it will be used as default layers. The data is located in the subdirectory data of the given location.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Arguments can be provided that determine the default behavior of views created through this com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider. The following parameters may be used for this purpose:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Default</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Connecting to a Data Source

### Name

- **Locale**  
  **Type**: string  
  **Default**: The user's locale.  
  **Comments**: This parameter was called "locale" in a former version. The old name is still supported for compatibility. The old name is still supported for compatibility.

- **EnableAsync**  
  **Type**: boolean  
  **Default**: true  
  **Comments**: This parameter was called "lazywrite" in a former version. The old name is still supported for compatibility.

**Warning** – The default configuration provider obtained when no arguments are given will always be the same object. Be careful not to call com.sun.star.lang.XComponent:dispose() on this shared com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider. If you provide any arguments, then a new instance is created. You must then call com.sun.star.lang.XComponent:dispose() on this com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider.

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Using a Data Source

After a configuration provider is obtained, call com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory:createView() to create a view on the configuration data.

The following arguments can be specified when creating a view:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Default</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>nodepath</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>This parameter is required. It contains an absolute path to the root node of the view. Using this parameter, specify the locale to be used for selecting locale-dependent values. Use the ISO code for a locale, for example, en-US for U.S. English. This parameter was called &quot;lazywrite&quot; in a former version. The old name is still supported for compatibility. This parameter causes the view to be truncated to a specified...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locale</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>The user's locale (or &quot;.&quot;)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EnableAsync</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>true</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>depth</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td>(unlimited)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Using a Data Source

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Using a Data Source

To create a read-only view on the data, the service com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationAccess is requested:

```java
// Create a specified read-only configuration view
public Object createConfigurationView(String sPath) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // get the provider to use
    XMultiServiceFactory xProvider = getProvider();

    // The service name: Need only read access:
    final String sReadOnlyView = "com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationAccess";

    // creation arguments: nodepath
    aPathArgument.Name = "nodepath";
    aPathArgument.Value = sPath;

    Object[] aArguments = new Object[1];
    aArguments[0] = aPathArgument;

    // create the view
    Object xViewRoot = xProvider.createInstanceWithArguments(sReadOnlyView, aArguments);
    return xViewRoot;
}
```

To obtain updatable access, the service com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess is requested. In this case, there are additional parameters available that control the caching behavior of the configuration management component:

```java
// Create a specified updatable configuration view
Object createUpdatableView(String sPath, boolean bAsync) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // get the provider to use
    XMultiServiceFactory xProvider = getProvider();

    // The service name: Need update access:
    final String cUpdatableView = "com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess";

    // creation arguments: nodepath
    aPathArgument.Name = "nodepath";
    aPathArgument.Value = sPath;

    Object[] aArguments = new Object[2];
    aArguments[0] = aPathArgument;
    aArguments[1] = bAsync;

    // create the view
    Object xViewRoot = xProvider.createInstanceWithArguments(cUpdatableView, aArguments);
    return xViewRoot;
}
```
"com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess";

    // creation arguments: nodopath
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue aPathArgument = new
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue();
    aPathArgument.Name = "nodepath";
    aPathArgument.Value = sPath;

    // creation arguments: commit mode - write-through or write-back
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue aModeArgument = new
    com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue();
    aModeArgument.Name = "EnableAsync";
    aModeArgument.Value = new Boolean(bAsync);

    Object[] aArguments = new Object[2];
    aArguments[0] = aPathArgument;
    aArguments[1] = aModeArgument;

    // create the view
    Object xViewRoot = xProvider.createInstanceWithArguments(cUpdatableView,
    aArguments);

    return xViewRoot;
}

A com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider supports the same service specifiers, but creates views on shared layers of configuration data. It supports additional parameters to select the exact layer to work on or to specify authorization credentials. Independent of the backend, the following parameter is supported by the com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Default</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entity</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Identifies an entity that the backend can map to a sequence of layers to merge and a target layer for updates.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If no Entity is provided, the com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider uses the entity the backend provides through com.sun.star.configuration backend.XBackendEntities:getAdminEntity(). The supported entities and their meaning depend on the backend. For the default file-based backend an entity is a file URL that points to the base directory of a layer.

For a com.sun.star.configuration.AdministrationProvider, the default value for the locale parameter is "*".
The com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationAccess service is used to navigate through the configuration hierarchy and reading values. It also provides information about a node and its context.

The following example shows how to collect or display information about a part of the hierarchy. For processing elements and values, our example uses its own callback Java interface IConfigurationProcessor:

```java
// Interface to process information when browsing the configuration tree
public interface IConfigurationProcessor {
    // process a value item
    public abstract void processValueElement(String sPath_, Object aValue_);
    // process a structural item
    public abstract void processStructuralElement(String sPath_, XInterface xElement_);
}
```

Then, we define a recursive browser function:

```java
// Internal method to browse a structural element recursively in preorder
public void browseElementRecursively(XInterface xElement, IConfigurationProcessor aProcessor)
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // First process this as an element (preorder traversal)
    XHierarchicalName xElementPath = (XHierarchicalName) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
        XHierarchicalName.class, xElement);
    String sPath = xElementPath.getHierarchicalName();

    // call configuration processor object
    aProcessor.processStructuralElement(sPath, xElement);

    // now process this as a container of named elements
```
XNameAccess xChildAccess =
  (XNameAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameAccess.class,
xElement);

  // get a list of child elements
String[] aElementNames = xChildAccess.getElementNames();

  // and process them one by one
for (int i=0; i< aElementNames.length; ++i) {
  Object aChild = xChildAccess.getByName(aElementNames[i]);

    // is it a structural element (object) ... 
    if ( aChild instanceof XInterface ) {
    // then get an interface
    XInterface xChildElement = (XInterface)aChild;

        // and continue processing child elements recursively
        browseElementRecursively(xChildElement, aProcessor);
    }

    // ... or is it a simple value
    else {
        // Build the path to it from the path of
        // the element and the name of the child
        String sChildPath;
        sChildPath =
        xElementPath.composeHierarchicalName(aElementNames[i]);

        // and process the value
        aProcessor.processValueElement(sChildPath, aChild);
    }
  }
}

Now a driver procedure is defined which uses our previously defined routine
createConfigurationView() to create a view, and then starts processing:

/** Method to browse the part rooted at sRootPath 
of the configuration that the Provider provides. */
public void browseConfiguration(String sRootPath, IConfigurationProcessor
aProcessor)
  throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {

    // create the root element
    XInterface xViewRoot = (XInterface)createConfigurationView(sRootPath);

    // now do the processing
    browseElementRecursively(xViewRoot, aProcessor);

    // we are done with the view - dispose it
    // This assumes that the processor
    // does not keep a reference to the elements in processStructuralElement

    ((XComponent)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class,xViewRoot)).dispose();
xViewRoot = null;
Finally, as an example of how to put the code to use, the following is code to print the currently registered file filters:

```java
/** Method to browse the filter configuration.
   * Information about installed filters will be printed.
   */
public void printRegisteredFilters() throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    final String sProviderService =
        "com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider";
    final String sFilterKey =
        "/org.openoffice.Office.TypeDetection/Filters";

    // browse the configuration, dumping filter information
    browseConfiguration( sFilterKey,
                        new IConfigurationProcessor () { // anonymous implementation of our
                                      custom interface
                            // prints Path and Value of properties
                            public void processValueElement(String sPath_, Object aValue_) {
                                System.out.println("\tValue: " + sPath_ + " = " + aValue_);
                            }
                            // prints the Filter entries
                            public void processStructuralElement( String sPath_, XInterface xElement_) {
                                // get template information, to detect instances of the
                                'Filter' template
                                XTemplateInstance xInstance =
                                    ( XTemplateInstance ) UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XTemplateInstance .class,xElement_);
                                // only select the Filter entries
                                if (xInstance != null &&
                                    xInstance.getName().endsWith("Filter")) {
                                    XNamed xNamed =
                                        (XNamed)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class,xElement_);
                                    System.out.println("Filter " + xNamed.getName() + " (" + 
                                        sPath_ + ")");
                                }
                            }
                        });
}
```

For access to sub-nodes, a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationAccess supports container interfaces com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess and com.sun.star.container.XChild. These interfaces access the immediate child nodes in the hierarchy, as well as com.sun.star.container.XHierarchicalNameAccess for direct access to items that are nested deeply.

These interfaces are uniformly supported by all structural configuration items. Therefore, they are utilized by code that browses a sub-tree of the configuration in a generic manner.
Parts of the hierarchy where the structure is known statically can also be viewed as representing a complex object composed of properties, that are composed of sub-properties themselves. This model is supported by the interface com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet for child access and com.sun.star.beans.XHierarchicalPropertySet for access to deeply nested properties within such parts of the hierarchy. Due to the static nature of property sets, this model does not carry over to set nodes that are dynamic in nature and do not support the associated interfaces.

For effective access to multiple properties, the corresponding com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet and com.sun.star.beans.XMultiHierarchicalPropertySet interfaces are supported.

Note – In a read-only view, all properties are marked as com.sun.star.beans.PropertyAttribute:READONLY in com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySetInfo. Attempts to use com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet:setPropertyValue() to change the value of a property fail accordingly.

Typically, these interfaces are used to access a known set of preferences. The following example reads grid option settings from the OpenOffice.org Calc configuration into this structure:

```java
class GridOptions {
    public boolean visible;
    public int resolution_x;
    public int resolution_y;
    public int subdivision_x;
    public int subdivision_y;
};
```

These data may be read by a procedure such as the following. It demonstrates different approaches to read data:

```java
// This method reads information about grid settings
protected GridOptions readGridConfiguration() throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // The path to the root element
    final String cGridOptionsPath = "/org.openoffice.Office.Calc/Grid";

    // create the view
    Object xViewRoot = createConfigurationView(cGridOptionsPath);

    // the result structure
    GridOptions options = new GridOptions();

    // accessing a single nested value
    // the item /org.openoffice.Office.Calc/Grid/Option/VisibleGrid is a boolean data item
    XHierarchicalPropertySet xProperties =
```
(XHierarchicalPropertySet)UnoRuntime queryInterface(XHierarchicalPropertySet.class, xViewRoot);

Object aVisible = xProperties.getHierarchicalPropertyValue("Option/VisibleGrid");
options.visible = ((Boolean) aVisible).booleanValue();

// accessing a nested object and its subproperties
// the item /org.openoffice.Office.Calc/Grid/Subdivision has sub-properties XAxis and YAxis
Object xSubdivision = xProperties.getHierarchicalPropertyValue("Subdivision");

XMultiPropertySet xSubdivProperties = (XMultiPropertySet)UnoRuntime queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, xSubdivision);

// String array containing property names of sub-properties
String[] aElementNames = new String[2];
aElementNames[0] = "XAxis";
aElementNames[1] = "YAxis";

// getPropertyValueValues() returns an array of any objects according to the input array aElementNames
Object[] aElementValues = xSubdivProperties.getPropertyValues(aElementNames);

options.subdivision_x = ((Integer) aElementValues[0]).intValue();
options.subdivision_y = ((Integer) aElementValues[1]).intValue();

// accessing deeply nested subproperties
// the item /org.openoffice.Office.Calc/Grid/Resolution has sub-properties
// XAxis/Metric and YAxis/Metric
Object xResolution = xProperties.getHierarchicalPropertyValue("Resolution");

XMultiHierarchicalPropertySet xResolutionProperties = (XMultiHierarchicalPropertySet)UnoRuntime queryInterface(XMultiHierarchicalPropertySet.class, xResolution);

aElementNames[0] = "XAxis/Metric";
aElementNames[1] = "YAxis/Metric";

aElementValues = xResolutionProperties.getHierarchicalPropertyValues(aElementNames);

options.resolution_x = ((Integer) aElementValues[0]).intValue();
options.resolution_y = ((Integer) aElementValues[1]).intValue();

// all options have been retrieved - clean up and return
// we are done with the view - dispose it
((XComponent)UnoRuntime queryInterface(XComponent.class, xViewRoot)).dispose();
A com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationAccess also supports the interfaces com.sun.star.container.XNamed, com.sun.star.container.XHierarchicalName and com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySetInfo to retrieve information about the node, as well as interface com.sun.star.container.XChild to get the parent within the hierarchy. To monitor changes to specific items, register listeners at the interfaces com.sun.star.container.XContainer and com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.

The exact set of interfaces supported depends on the role of the node in the hierarchy. For example, a set node does not support com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet and related interfaces, but it supports com.sun.star.configuration.XTemplateContainer to get information about the template that specifies the schema of elements. The root object of a configuration view does not support com.sun.star.container.XChild, but it supports com.sun.star.util.XChangesNotifier to monitor all changes in the whole view.

### Updating Configuration Data

A com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess provides operations for updating configuration data, by extending the interfaces supported by a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationAccess.
For com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet and related interfaces, the semantics are extended to set property values. Support for container interfaces is extended to set properties in group nodes, and insert or remove elements in set nodes. Thus, a com.sun.star.configuration.GroupUpdate supports interface com.sun.star.container.XNameReplace and a com.sun.star.configuration.SetUpdate supports com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer. Only complete trees having the appropriate structure are inserted for sets whose elements are complete structures as described by a template. To support this, the set object is used as a factory that can create structures of the appropriate type. For this purpose, the set supports com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory.

Updates done through a configuration view are only visible within that view, providing transactional isolation. When a set of updates is ready, it must be committed explicitly to become visible beyond this view. All pending updates are then sent to the configuration provider in one batch. This batch update behavior is controlled through interface com.sun.star.util.XChangesBatch that is implemented by the root element of an updatable configuration view.
**Warning** – When a set of changes is committed to the provider it becomes visible to other views obtained from the same provider as an atomic and consistent set of changes. Thus, in the local scope of a single com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider a high degree of transactional behavior is achieved.

The configuration management component does not guarantee true transactional behavior. Committing the changes to the com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider does not ensure persistence or durability of the changes. When the provider writes back the changes to the persistent data store, they become durable. Generally, the com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider may cache and combine requests, so that updates are propagated to the data store at a later time.

If several sets of changes are combined before being saved, isolation and consistency may be weakened in case of failure. As long as the backend does not fully support transactions, only parts of an update request might be stored successfully, thus violating atomicity and consistency.

If failures occur while writing configuration data into the backend data store, the com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider resynchronizes with the data stored in the backend. The listeners are notified of any differences as if they had been stored through another view. If an application has more stringent error handling needs, the caching behavior can be adjusted by providing arguments when creating the view.

In summary, there are few overall guarantees regarding transactional integrity for the configuration database, but locally, the configuration behaves as if the support is in place. Depending on the backend capabilities, the com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider tries to provide the best approximation to transactional integrity that can be achieved considering the capabilities of the backend without compromising performance.

The following example demonstrates how the configuration interfaces are used to feed a user-interface for preference changes. This shows the framework needed to update configuration values, and demonstrates how listeners are used with configuration views. This example concentrates on properties in group nodes with a fixed structure. It uses the same OpenOffice.org Calc grid settings as the previous example. It assumes that there is a class `GridOptionsEditor` that drives a dialog to display and edit the configuration data:

```java
// This method simulates editing configuration data using a GridEditor dialog
class
public void editGridOptions() throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // The path to the root element
    final String cGridOptionsPath = "/org.openoffice.Office.Calc/Grid";

    // create a synchronous view for better error handling (lazywrite = false)
    Object xViewRoot = createUpdatableView(cGridOptionsPath, false);

    // the 'editor'
```
GridOptionsEditor dialog = new GridOptionsEditor();

// set up the initial values and register listeners
// get a data access interface, to supply the view with a model
XMultiHierarchicalPropertySet xProperties =
    (XMultiHierarchicalPropertySet)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiHierarchicalPropertySet.class,
    xViewRoot);

dialog.setModel(xProperties);

// get a listener object (probably an adapter) that notifies
// the dialog of external changes to its model
XChangesListener xListener = dialog.createChangesListener();

XChangesNotifier xNotifier =
    (XChangesNotifier)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XChangesNotifier.class,
    xViewRoot);

xNotifier.addChangesListener(xListener);

if (dialog.execute() == GridOptionsEditor.SAVE_SETTINGS) {
    // changes have been applied to the view here
    XChangesBatch xUpdateControl =
        (XChangesBatch)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XChangesBatch.class,xViewRoot);

    try {
        xUpdateControl.commitChanges();
    } catch (Exception e) {
        dialog.informUserOfError( e );
    }
}

// all changes have been handled - clean up and return
// listener is done now
xNotifier.removeChangesListener(xListener);

// we are done with the view - dispose it
((XComponent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class,
    xViewRoot)).dispose();
}

In this example, the dialog controller uses the com.sun.star.beans.XMultiHierarchicalPropertySet interface to read and change configuration values. If the grid options are changed and committed in another view, com.sun.star.util.XChangesListener:changesOccurred() is sent to the listener supplied by the dialog which can then update its display accordingly.

Note that a synchronous com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess was created for this example (argument lazywrite==false). As the action here is driven by user interaction, synchronous committing is used to detect errors immediately.

Besides the values for the current user, there are also default values that are
determined by merging the schema with any default layers. It is possible to retrieve the default values for individual properties, and to reset a property or a set node to their default states, thus backing out any changes done for the current user. For this purpose, group nodes support the interfaces com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyState and com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertyStates, offering operations to query if a property assumes its default state or the default value, and to reset an updatable property to its default state. The com.sun.star.beans.Property structs available through com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySetInfo:getPropertyByName() or com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySetInfo:getProperties() are used to determine if a particular item or node supports this operation.

Individual set elements can not be reset because set nodes do not support com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyState. Instead a com.sun.star.configuration.SetAccess supports com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyWithState that resets the set as a whole.

The following is an example code using this feature to reset the OpenOffice.org Calc grid settings used in the preceding examples to their default state:

```java
/// This method resets the grid settings to their default values
protected void resetGridConfiguration() throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // The path to the root element
    final String cGridOptionsPath = "/org.openoffice.Office.Calc/Grid";

    // create the view
    Object xViewRoot = createUpdatableView(cGridOptionsPath);

    // ### resetting a single nested value ###
    XHierarchicalNameAccess xHierarchicalAccess =
        (XHierarchicalNameAccess)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XHierarchicalNameAccess.class, xViewRoot);

    // get using absolute name
    Object xOptions = xHierarchicalAccess.getByHierarchicalName(cGridOptionsPath + "/Option");

    XPropertyState xOptionState =
        (XPropertyState)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertyState.class, xOptions);

    xOptionState.setPropertyToDefault("VisibleGrid");

    // ### resetting more deeply nested values ###
    Object xResolutionX =
        xHierarchicalAccess.getByHierarchicalName("Resolution/XAxis");

    Object xResolutionY =
        xHierarchicalAccess.getByHierarchicalName("Resolution/YAxis");

    XPropertyState xResolutionStateX =
        (XPropertyState)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertyState.class, xResolutionX);

    XPropertyState xResolutionStateY =
        (XPropertyState)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertyState.class, xResolutionY);
}````
```java
xResolutionStateX.setPropertyToDefault("Metric");
xResolutionStateY.setPropertyToDefault("Metric");

// ### resetting multiple sibling values ###
Object xSubdivision =
xHierarchicalAccess.getByHierarchicalName("Subdivision");

XMultiPropertyStates xSubdivisionStates =
(XMultiPropertyStates)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertyStates.class, xSubdivision);

xSubdivisionStates.setAllPropertiesToDefault();

// commit the changes
XChangesBatch xUpdateControl =
(XChangesBatch) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XChangesBatch.class, xViewRoot);

xUpdateControl.commitChanges();

// we are done with the view - dispose it
((XComponent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class, xViewRoot)).dispose();
```


Also, because the group nodes cannot be reset, the `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyState:setPropertyToDefault` or `com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertyStates:setAllPropertiesToDefault` cannot be used to reset all descendants of a node.

It is intended to lift this restriction in a future release. To avoid unexpected changes in behavior when this change is introduced, you should apply `com.sun.star.beans.XPropertyState:setPropertyToDefault` only to actual properties, such as value items, or set nodes. In particular, you should avoid `com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertyStates:setAllPropertiesToDefault()` on group nodes.

A more comprehensive example is provided that shows how set elements are created and added, and how it employs advanced techniques for reducing the amount of data that needs to be loaded.

This example uses the OpenOffice.org configuration module `org.openoffice.Office.DataAccess`. This component has a set item `DataSources` that contains group items described by the template `DataSourceDescription`. A data source description holds information about the settings required to connect to a data
The template `org.openoffice.Office.DataAccess/DataSourceDescription` has the following properties that describe the data source connection:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>URL</td>
<td>String</td>
<td>Data source URL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IsPasswordRequired</td>
<td>Boolean</td>
<td>Is a password needed to connect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TableFilter</td>
<td>String []</td>
<td>Filters tables for display.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TableTypeFilter</td>
<td>String []</td>
<td>Filters tables for display.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>User</td>
<td>String</td>
<td>User name to be used for connecting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LoginTimeout</td>
<td>int</td>
<td>Default time-out for connection attempt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SuppressVersionColumns</td>
<td>Boolean</td>
<td>Controls display of certain data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DataSourceSettings</td>
<td>set node</td>
<td>Contains <code>DataSourceSetting</code> entries that contain driver-specific settings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookmarks</td>
<td>set node</td>
<td>Contains <code>Bookmark</code> entries that link to related documents, for example, Forms.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It also contains the binary properties `NumberFormatSettings` and `LayoutInformation` that store information for layout and display of the data source contents. It also contains the set items `Tables` and `Queries` containing the layout information for the data access views.

The example shows a procedure that creates and saves basic settings for connecting to a new data source. It uses an asynchronous `com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess`. Thus, when `com.sun.star.util.XChangesBatch:commitChanges` is called, the data becomes visible at the `com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider`, but is only stored in the provider's cache. It is written to the data store at later when the cache is automatically flushed by the `com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider`. As this is done in the background there is no exception when the write-back fails.

**Warning** – The recommended method to configure a new data source is to use the `com.sun.star.sdb.DatabaseContext` service as described in [DatabaseContext](#). This is a high-level service that ensures that all the settings required to establish a connection are properly set.

Among the parameters of the routine is the name of the data source that must be chosen to uniquely identify the data source from other parameters directly related to the above properties. There also is a parameter to pass a list of entries for the `DataSourceSettings` set.

The resulting routine is:

```java
// This method stores a data source for given connection data
void storeDataSource(
    String sDataSourceName,
) { }
```
String sDataSourceURL,
String sUser,
boolean bNeedsPassword,
int nTimeout,
com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue [] aDriverSettings,
String [] aTableFilter ) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {

    // create the view and get the data source element in a
    // helper method createDataSourceDescription() (see below)
    Object xDataSource = createDataSourceDescription(getProvider(),
    sDataSourceName);

    // set the values
    XPropertySet xDataSourceProperties =
    (XPropertySet)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(?class, xDataSource);

    xDataSourceProperties.setPropertyValue("URL", sDataSourceURL);
    xDataSourceProperties.setPropertyValue("User", sUser);
    xDataSourceProperties.setPropertyValue("IsPasswordRequired", new
    Boolean(bNeedsPassword));
    xDataSourceProperties.setPropertyValue("LoginTimeout", new
    Integer(nTimeout));

    if (aTableFilter != null)
        xDataSourceProperties.setPropertyValue("TableFilter", aTableFilter);

    // ### store the driver-specific settings ###
    if (aDriverSettings != null) {
        Object xSettingsSet =
        xDataSourceProperties.getPropertyValue("DataSourceSettings");
        // helper for storing (see below)
        storeSettings( xSettingsSet, aDriverSettings);
    }

    // ### save the data and dispose the view ###
    // recover the view root (helper method)
    Object xViewRoot = getViewRoot(xDataSource);

    // commit the changes
    XChangesBatch xUpdateControl = (XChangesBatch)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(?class, xViewRoot);

    xUpdateControl.commitChanges();

    // now clean up
    ((XComponent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class,
    xViewRoot)).dispose();
}

Notice the function createDataSourceDescription in our example. It is called to get a
DataSourceDescription instance to access a pre-existing item, or create and insert a
new item using the passed name.

The function is optimized to reduce the view to as little data as necessary. To this end
it employs the depth parameter when creating the view.

**Tip** - The "depth" parameter for optimization purposes is used here for demonstration purposes only. Use of the "depth" flag does not have a noticeable effect on performance with the current implementation of the OpenOffice.org configuration management components. Actually, there are few cases where the use of this parameter has any value.

This results in a view where descendants of the root are only included in the view up to the given nesting depth. In this case, where depth = 1, only the immediate children are loaded. If the requested item is found, the function gets a deeper view for only that item, otherwise it creates a new instance. In the latter case, the item returned is not the root of the view.

```java
/** This method gets the DataSourceDescription for a data source. It either gets the existing entry or creates a new instance.

The method attempts to keep the view used as small as possible. In particular there is no view created, that contains data for all data source that are registered.
*/

Object createDataSourceDescription(XMultiServiceFactory xProvider, String sDataSourceName)
throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    // The service name: Need an update access:
    final String cUpdatableView = "com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess";

    // The path to the DataSources set node
    final String cDataSourcesPath = "/org.openoffice.Office.DataAccess/DataSources";

    // creation arguments: nodepath
    aPathArgument.Name = "nodepath";
    aPathArgument.Value = cDataSourcesPath ;

    // creation arguments: commit mode
    aModeArgument.Name = "lazywrite";
    aModeArgument.Value = new Boolean(true);

    // creation arguments: depth
    aDepthArgument.Name = "depth";
    aDepthArgument.Value = new Integer(1);

    Object[] aArguments = new Object[3];
aArguments[0] = aPathArgument;
aArguments[1] = aModeArgument;
aArguments[2] = aDepthArgument;
```

OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009
aArguments[2] = aDepthArgument;

// create the view: asynchronously updatable, with depth 1
Object xViewRoot =
    xProvider.createInstanceWithArguments(cUpdatableView, aArguments);

XNameAccess xSetOfDataSources = (XNameAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
    XNameAccess.class, xViewRoot);

Object xDataSourceDescriptor = null; // the result
if (xSetOfDataSources .hasByName(sDataSourceName)) {
    // the element is there, but it is loaded only with depth zero !
    try {
        // the view should point to the element directly, so we need to
        extend the path
        XHierarchicalName xComposePath = (XHierarchicalName)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
                XHierarchicalName.class, xSetOfDataSources);

        String sElementPath =
            xComposePath.composeHierarchicalName(sDataSourceName);

        // use the name of the element now
        aPathArgument.Value = sElementPath;

        // create another view now (without depth limit)
        Object[] aDeepArguments = new Object[2];
        aDeepArguments[0] = aPathArgument;
        aDeepArguments[1] = aModeArgument;

        // create the view: asynchronously updatable, with unlimited
        depth
        xDataSourceDescriptor =
            xProvider.createInstanceWithArguments(cUpdatableView,
                aDeepArguments);

        if (xDataSourceDescriptor != null) // all went fine
            try {
                // dispose the other view
                ((XComponent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class,
                    xViewRoot)).dispose();
                xViewRoot = null;
            }
            catch (Exception e) {
                // something went wrong, we retry with a new element
                System.out.println("WARNING: An exception occurred while
                creating a view" +
                    " for an existing data source: " + e);
                xDataSourceDescriptor = null;
            }
    }
}

// do we have a result element yet?
if (xDataSourceDescriptor == null) {
    // get the container
    XNameContainer xSetUpdate =
        (XNameContainer) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XNameContainer.class, xSetOfDataSources);

    // create another view now (with limited depth)
    Object xViewRoot =
        xProvider.createInstanceWithArguments(cUpdatableView,
            aDeepArguments);

    if (xViewRoot != null) // all went fine
        try {
            // dispose the other view
            ((XComponent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class,
                xViewRoot)).dispose();
            xViewRoot = null;
        }
        catch (Exception e) {
            // something went wrong, we retry with a new element
            System.out.println("WARNING: An exception occurred while
            creating a view" +
                " for an existing data source: " + e);
            xDataSourceDescriptor = null;
        }
}
A method is required to recover the view root from an element object, because it is unknown if the item is the root of the view or a descendant:

```java
// This method get the view root node given an interface to any node in the view
public static Object getViewRoot(Object xElement) {
    Object xResult = xElement;
    // set the result to its parent until that would be null
    Object xParent;
    do {
        XChild xParentAccess =
            (XChild) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XChild.class, xResult);
        if (xParentAccess != null)
            xParent = xParentAccess.getParent();
        else
            xParent = null;
        if (xParent != null)
            xResult = xParent;
    } while (xParent != null);
    return xResult;
}
```

Another function used is `storeDataSource` or `storeSettings` to store an array of `com.sun.star.beans.NamedValues` in a set of `DataSourceSetting` items. A `DataSourceSetting` contains a single property named `Value` that is set to any of the basic types supported for configuration values. This example demonstrates the two steps required to add a new item to a set node:

```java
/// this method stores a number of settings in a set node containing DataSourceSetting objects
void storeSettings(Object xSettingsSet, com.sun.star.beans.NamedValue [] aSettings)
    throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
```
Updating Configuration Data

```java
if (aSettings == null)
    return;

// get the settings set as a container
XNameContainer xSettingsContainer =
    (XNameContainer) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameContainer.class,
    xSettingsSet);

// and get a factory interface for creating the entries
XSingleServiceFactory xSettingsFactory =
    (XSingleServiceFactory)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSingleServiceFactory.class, xSettingsSet);

// now insert the individual settings
for (int i = 0; i < aSettings.length; ++i) {
    // create a DataSourceSetting object
    XPropertySet xSetting = (XPropertySet)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class,
        xSettingsFactory.createInstance());

    // can set the value before inserting
    xSetting.setPropertyValue("Value", aSettings[i].Value);

    // and now insert or replace as appropriate
    if (xSettingsContainer.hasByName(aSettings[i].Name))
        xSettingsContainer.replaceByName(aSettings[i].Name, xSetting);
    else
        xSettingsContainer.insertByName(aSettings[i].Name, xSetting);
}
```

Besides adding a freshly created instance of a template, a set item can be removed from a set and added to any other set supporting the same template for its elements, provided both sets are part of the same view. You cannot move a set item between views, as this contradicts the transactional isolation of views. The set item you removed in one view will still be in its old place in the other. If a set item is moved between sets in one view and the changes are committed, the change appears in another overlapping view as removal of the original item and insertion of a new element in the target location, not as relocation of an identical element.
Tip - The methods com.sun.star.container.XNamed:setName() and com.sun.star.container.XChild:setParent() are supported by a com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationUpdateAccess only if it is a com.sun.star.configuration.SetElement. They offer another way to move an item within a set or from one set to another set. In the current release of OpenOffice.org, these methods are not supported correctly. You can achieve the same effect by using a sequence of remove item - insert item. In some cases you need to commit the changes in the current view between these two steps.

To rename an item:

```java
void renameSetItem(XNamed xNamedItem, String sNewName) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    XChild xChildItem = (XChild) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XChild.class, xNamedItem);
    XNameContainer xParentSet = (XNameContainer) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameContainer.class, xChildItem.getParent());

    String sOldName = xNamedItem.getName();
    // now rename the item
    xParentSet.removeByName(sOldName);
    // commit needed to work around known bug
ggetViewRoot(xParentSet).commitChanges();
    xParentSet.insertByName(sNewName, xNamedItem);
}
```

To move an item to a different parent:

```java
void moveSetItem(XChild xChildItem, XNameContainer xNewParent) throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {
    XNamed xNamedItem = (XNamed) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNamed.class, xChildItem);

    XNameContainer xOldParent = (XNameContainer) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameContainer.class, xChildItem.getParent());
    String sItemName = xNamedItem.getName();
    // now rename the item
    xOldParent.removeByName(sItemName);
    // commit needed to work around known bug
    getViewRoot(xOldParent).commitChanges();
xNewParent.insertByName(sItemName, xChildItem);
}
```
Customizing Configuration Data

The configuration management API is a data manipulation API. There is no support for data definition functionality. You cannot programmatically inspect, modify or create a configuration schema.

You can add configuration data for your own components by creating a new configuration schema file and installing it into the configuration backend. You can also create a configuration data file for either your own schema or an existing schema and import it into the configuration database. The file format used for both kinds of configuration documents is documented at http://util.openoffice.org/common/configuration/oor-document-format.html.

The standard file-based backend uses these file formats internally as well. Some information about the internal organization of this backend is available at http://util.openoffice.org/common/configuration/oor-registry.html.

Creating a Custom Configuration Schema

A configuration schema file is an XML file that conforms to the OOR Registry Component Schema Format defined in http://util.openoffice.org/common/configuration/oor-document-format.html. Normally, configuration schema files carry the extension .xcs.

Warning – Not all schemas that can be described using the OOR Registry Component Schema Format are accepted by the current version of OpenOffice.org. In particular support for extensible nodes is limited: Only group nodes that otherwise contain no child elements may be marked as extensible. Such nodes are represented as set nodes having property elements in the API.

As an example, consider the schema of the rg.openoffice.Office.Addons component. For details about configuration for Addon components, see Configuration.

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<oor:component-schema oor:name="Addons" oor:package="org.openoffice.Office"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
<templates>
  <group oor:name="MenuItem">
    <prop oor:name="URL" oor:type="xs:string"/>
    <prop oor:name="Title" oor:type="xs:string"/>
  </group>
</templates>
```
The schema has an XML root node that contains two parts, a list of template definitions and a definition of the component tree. The root node also declares XML namespaces that are used within the schema. Template definitions describe configuration tree fragments, which can be reused within the schema by reference or as element type of set nodes. In the case of set elements they serve as blueprints from which new instances of set items are built by the configuration management API components. Templates can either be \texttt{group} nodes or \texttt{set} nodes. The \texttt{component} part describes the actual data tree of the component. The component node is a special
Creating a Custom Configuration Schema

A group node that represents the root of the component tree. Both parts are optional in the schema definition. A schema may provide only templates for reuse by other components or it may describe only a component tree without defining any templates of its own.

The tree structure is built from `group` nodes, `set` nodes. Properties are represented as `prop` nodes. The XML elements contain the information necessary to identify the node and its type as attributes. They may further contain extra child elements that contain human-readable descriptions of the node or that specify constraints on the permissible or meaningful values of properties. Property elements may also contain a default value.

**Note** – Currently the OpenOffice.org configuration management components do not handle XML namespaces correctly. Namespace prefixes must be named and used exactly as in the example. Nevertheless, all namespaces used should be declared correctly, to enable processing configuration files by namespace-aware tools.

A schema must be installed into the backend to be usable. Once a schema is installed the component it describes can be accessed through the configuration management API. An installed schema is assumed to not change any more.

**Known Issues regarding schema handling**

- Reinstallation of an addon does not activate the new version completely.

**Preparing a Custom Configuration Schema**

A configuration data file is an XML file that conforms to the OOR Registry Update Format defined in [http://util.openoffice.org/common/configuration/oor-document-format.html](http://util.openoffice.org/common/configuration/oor-document-format.html). Normally, configuration data files carry the extension `.xcu`.

A configuration data file contains changes to a configuration tree. When configuration data is read, an initial configuration tree is constructed from the component data described in the component schema. Then the configuration data files from all applicable layers are successively applied to this configuration tree. A layer is applied by applying the changes to the tree described by the data file while respecting any access control attributes and ensuring that the changes conform to the schema. Simple schema violations, like trying to update a node that does not exist in the
configuration tree, are simply ignored. Outright schema violations, like updates that specify a data type that disagrees with the type specified in the schema, are considered errors and result in complete failure to read the component.

As an example, consider data for a sample Addon component. For details about configuration for Addon components, see Configuration.

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<oor:component-data xmlns:oor="http://openoffice.org/2001/registry"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" oor:name="Addons"
oor:package="org.openoffice.Office">
  <node oor:name="AddonUI">
    <node oor:name="OfficeMenuBar">
      <node oor:name="org.openoffice.example.addon" oor:op="replace">
        <prop oor:name="Title" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value xml:lang="en-US">Add-On example</value>
          <value xml:lang="de">Add-On Beispiel</value>
        </prop>
        <prop oor:name="Context" oor:type="xs:string">
          <value>com.sun.star.text.TextDocument</value>
        </prop>
        <node oor:name="Submenu">
          <node oor:name="m1" oor:op="replace">
            <prop oor:name="URL">
              <value>org.openoffice.Office.addon.example:Function1</value>
            </prop>
            <prop oor:name="Title">
              <value xml:lang="en-US">Add-On Function 1</value>
              <value xml:lang="de">Add-On Funktion 1</value>
            </prop>
            <prop oor:name="Target">
              <value>_self</value>
            </prop>
          </node>
        </node>
      </node>
    </node>
  </node>
</oor:component-data>
```

The component-data root element of the configuration data XML corresponds to the component element of the associated schema. The elements of the update format do not reflect the distinction between set nodes and group nodes. All changes to structural nodes are expressed in the same way as simple node elements. Changes to property nodes use their own element tag. If a property has been declared as localized in the schema, the data file may contain different values for different locales. Changes may contain an operation attribute, which describes how the data is to be combined with preexisting data from the configuration tree, in order to obtain the result configuration data tree.

Changes also may contain access control attributes that restrict how the data can be overwritten by data in subsequent data layers. These access control attributes are
not currently available directly through the configuration management API. But if a node in a default layer is protected from being overwritten by the user layer, the protection is reflected in the API by marking the corresponding node as read-only or non-removable.

**Note** – Currently the OpenOffice.org configuration management components do not handle XML namespaces correctly. Namespace prefixes must be named and used exactly as in the example. Nevertheless, all namespaces used should be declared correctly, to enable processing configuration files by namespace-aware tools.

Configuration data must be imported or installed into the backend to be effective.

## Installing a Custom Configuration Schema

The easiest way to install configuration schema or data files is by using the Extension Manager to deploy configuration data as part of an extension. For details, see Extensions.

To manually install configuration data for an existing schema, use the API to import the data into the backend. You can use service com.sun.star.configuration.backend.LocalDataImporter to import configuration data from a file. If you need more control or want to import data that is not stored in a local file, then you can directly use the services com.sun.star.configuration.backend.MergeImporter and com.sun.star.configuration.backend.CopyImporter, which the com.sun.star.configuration.backend.LocalDataImporter itself uses internally.

Using these services, the configuration data is imported directly into the backend, bypassing any existing com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider instances.

**Note** – After importing configuration data, a running OpenOffice.org instance should be terminated and restarted to make sure that the new data becomes visible despite internal caching.

If you can not use extensions, you can manually install schemas and associated data files into the standard, local file-based backend. The internal organization of that backend is described at http://util.openoffice.org/common/configuration/oor-registry.html.

To manually install a schema into the local file-based based backend, copy it to the
schema subdirectory corresponding to the package the schema belongs to and make
sure it has the proper name. For example, a schema for component
org.myorg.MySettings, has the name "MySettings" and package "org.myorg". To
install it, you have to create directory
<OfficeInstallation>/share/registry/schema/org/myorg and copy the schema file there
as MySettings.xcs.

To manually install the associated default configuration data, create the the
 corresponding configuration data directory
<OfficeInstallation>/share/registry/data/org/myorg and place the file there as
MySettings.xcu.

Adding a Backend Data Store

The configuration management components select and access a data store
according to parameters passed at runtime or specified in file configmgr(.ini|rc).

The parameter BackendService (ini-file entry: CFG_BackendService) specifies an UNO
service or implementation name. This name is used to create a service instance that
is used as backend. It must implement either service
com.sun.star.configuration.backend.Backend or service
com.sun.star.configuration.backend.SingleBackend. If service
com.sun.star.configuration.backend.SingleBackend is discovered, a
com.sun.star.configuration.backend.BackendAdapter is created, which implements
service com.sun.star.configuration.backend.Backend on top of a
com.sun.star.configuration.backend.SingleBackend. By default, a
com.sun.star.configuration.backend.SingleBackendAdapter is used; a different
implementation can be specified by the BackendWrapper (ini-file entry:
CFG_BackendWrapper) parameter.

You can provide your own implementation of services
com.sun.star.configuration.backend.Backend,
com.sun.star.configuration.backend.SingleBackend or
com.sun.star.configuration.backend.BackendAdapter to access a different data store.

You can use your own backend as the default backend within OpenOffice.org by
changing configmgr(.ini|rc) to name your implementations instead of the default
backends. You can use your own backend for selected data only by creating a
custom com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider with arguments that
override the default parameters.

We are working on providing an implementation of
com.sun.star.configuration.backend.Backend that allows combining layers from different data stores in a flexible manner. This feature will become available in a future version of OpenOffice.org. For more information, visit http://util.openoffice.org.
This chapter describes the `OOoBean` component, a generic Java Bean wrapper for OpenOffice.org components. It is assumed that the reader is familiar with the Java Beans technology. Additional information about Java Beans can be found at [http://java.sun.com/beans](http://java.sun.com/beans).

With the `OOoBean`, a developer can easily write Java applications, harnessing the power of OpenOffice.org. It encapsulates a connection to a locally running OpenOffice.org process, and hides the complexity of establishing and maintaining that connection from the developer.

It also allows embedding of OpenOffice.org documents within the Java environment. It provides a Java AWT window into which the backend OpenOffice.org process draws its visual representation. This window can then be plugged into the UI hierarchy of the hosting Java application. The embedded document is controlled from the Java environment, since the `OOoBean` allows developers to access the complete OpenOffice.org API from their Java environment giving them full control over the embedded document, its appearance and behavior.

### Using the OOOBean

The Java class `OOoBean` can be instantiated directly, or application classes can be derived from this class. If a real Java Bean is to be created, which for example can be used in Java Bean UI builders, it has to be subclassed. The application class then
might use the UNO bootstrapping mechanism to find the **OOoBean**, OpenOffice.org and its API classes. This mechanism is not built into **OOoBean** itself because it can not be used to find itself. And once the **OOoBean** class has been found, you intrinsically also find the OpenOffice.org installation and the API classes.

A standard OpenOffice.org is a prerequisite. The OpenOffice.org executable, as well as the UNO libraries and runtime, is found using the Java Class Loader. Moving or copying the needed class files will not result in a working **OOoBean**.

**Warning** – Since the Office Bean uses a native peer to render OpenOffice.org documents, Swing components, such as drop-down menus or list boxes appear behind it, or they are not displayed at all. One way to avoid this is by exclusively employing AWT components when using the Office Bean. Another, but only partial, solution is to tell Java Swing to create heavy weight windows for popup menus: `JPopupMenu.setDefaultLightWeightPopupEnabled`.

**Warning** – Currently the Office Bean is not available for Mac (see issue 54172 for more details).

### The OOoBean by Example

The **OOoBeanViewer** is a Java application that displays OpenOffice.org documents in a Java AWT applet, which allows for the control of some toolboxes, the menu bar and the status bar, as well as storing and loading the document content to/from an internal buffer.

![The OOoBean Viewer](image)

The **OOoBeanViewer** utilizes the class **OOoBean** directly without subclassing it:

```java
public class OOoBeanViewer extends java.applet.Applet
```
Initially, the OOoBean component does not contain a document. A document can be created with the loadFromURL method:

```java
private void createBlankDoc(String url, String desc)
{
    //Create a blank document
    try
    {
        aBean.loadFromURL( url, null );
        ....
    }
    catch ( com.sun.star.comp.beans.SystemWindowException aExc )
    {
        // this exception will be thrown when no system window parent can be found
        ....
    }
    catch ( com.sun.star.comp.beans.NoConnectionException aExc )
    {
        // this exception is thrown
        // when no connection to a [PRODUCTNAME] instance can be established
        ....
    }
    catch ( Exception aExc )
    {
        ...
    }
}
```

Some tool windows of the document window within the Java Bean can be controlled directly by the OOoBean API. For example, to toggle visibility of the menu bar:

```java
aBean.setMenuBarVisible( !aBean.isMenuBarVisible() );
```

The examples above provide an overview of how the OOoBean API is used to create Java Beans that can be used in Java applications and applets. For concrete Java Beans, you usually subclass OOoBean and create appropriate BeanInfo classes for integrating within an IDE (Integrated Development Environment), such as the Bean Development Kit or Forte for Java. Developers can use the examples as a guideline when using the OOoBean API to write new beans, or use or extend the example beans.
API Overview

The **OOoBean** offers methods that can be applied to all OpenOffice.org document types.

### Methods of `com.sun.star.comp.beans.OOoBean`

- **OOoBean()**
  - `constructor` - creates an OOoBean with an implicit connection

- **OOoBean(OfficeConnection)**
  - `constructor` - creates an OOoBean with an explicit connection

- **setOOoStartTimeout(…)**
  - `void` - sets the timeout for methods which start OpenOffice.org

- **setOOoCallTimeout(…)**
  - `void` - sets the timeout for other methods

- **setOOoCheckCycle(…)**
  - `void` - sets repeat period for cyclic OpenOffice.org alive check

- **setOOoConnection(…)**
  - `void` - sets an explicit connection to a OpenOffice.org instance

- **startOOoConnection(…)**
  - `void` - starts a connection with an explicit connection URL

- **isOOoConnected()**
  - `boolean` - returns whether the OOoBean is connected to a OpenOffice.org

- **stopOOoConnection()**
  - `void` - stops the current connection to OpenOffice.org

- **getOOoConnection()**
  - `OfficeConnection` - returns the current connection to OpenOffice.org

- **getMultiServiceFactory()**
  - `com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory` -- returns the service factory of the connected OpenOffice.org

- **getOOoDesktop()**
  - `com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop` - returns the desktop object of the connected OpenOffice.org

- **clearDocument()**
  - `void` -- resets the Bean to an empty document

- **clear()**
  - `void` - removes the document from the Bean

- **aquireSystemWindow()**
  - `void` - has to be called when the Bean has a parent component which has a valid system window

- **releaseSystemWindow()**
  - `void` -- has to be called before the parent component loses its system window, e.g. before it is removed from its parent component

- **loadFromURL()**
  - `void` -- loads a document into the Bean

- **loadFromStream()**
  - `void` -- loads a document from a Java stream into the Bean

- **loadFromByteArray()**
  - `void` -- loads a document from a byte array into the Bean

- **storeToURL()**
  - `void` - stores the document in the Bean to an URL

- **storeToStream()**
  - `void` - stores the document in the Bean to a stream

- **storeToByteArray()**
  - `void` - stores the document in the Bean to a byte array
getFrame()  
Frame -- returns a wrapper for com.sun.star.frame.Frame

getController()  
Controller -- returns a wrapper for com.sun.star.frame.Controller

document()  

setAllBarsVisible()  
void - sets visibility of all tool bars, known by this Bean

set...BarVisible()  
void - sets visibility of a specific tool bar

is...BarVisible()  
boolean - returns visibility of a specific tool bar

Configuring the Office Bean

The fundamental framework of the Office Bean is contained in the officebean.jar archive file that depends on a local library officebean.dll or libofficebean.so, depending on the platform. The interaction between the backend OpenOffice.org process, officebean local library, Office Bean and the Java environment is shown in the illustration below.

The Office Bean allows the developer to connect to and communicate with the OpenOffice.org process through a named pipe. It also starts up a OpenOffice.org instance if it cannot connect to a running office. This is implemented in the Office Bean local library. The Office Bean depends on three configuration settings to make this work. It has to find the local library, needs the location of the OpenOffice.org executable, and the bean and office must know the pipe name to use.
The Office Bean uses default values for all the configuration settings, if none are provided:

- Since OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 the `officebean.jar` is located in the `<OfficePath>/program/classes` directory.
- It looks for the local library (Windows: `officebean.dll`, Unix: `libofficebean.so`) relative to the `officebean.jar` in the `<OfficePath>/program` directory. The local library depends on the following shared libraries:
  a) The library `sal3` (Windows: `sal3.dll`, Unix: `libsal3.so`) is located in the `<OfficePath>/program` folder. It maybe necessary to add the `<OfficePath>/program` folder to the PATH environment variable if the bean cannot find sal3.
  b) The library `j.awt.dll` is needed in Windows. If the bean cannot find it, check the Java Runtime Environment binaries (`<JRE>/bin`) in your PATH environment variable.
- It expects the OpenOffice.org installation in the default install location for the current platform. The `soffice` executable is in the program folder of a standard installation.
- The pipe name is created using the value of the `user.name` Java property. The name of the pipe is created by appending "_office" to the name of the currently logged on user, for example, if the `user.name` is "JohnDoe", the name of the pipe is "JohnDoe_office".

Based on these default values, the Office Bean tries to connect to an office. The office must run in in listening mode. That is, it must have been started with the `-accept` command line option. If there is no running office, then it attempts to start one. The exact parameters used by the bean are:

```bash
# WINDOWS soffice.exe -bean
-accept=pipe,name=<user.name>_Office;urp;StarOffice.NamingService
# UNIX soffice -bean "-
accept=pipe,name=<user.name>_Office;urp;StarOffice.NamingService"
```

**Warning** – There is a limitation in the communication process with the Office Bean and older versions of OpenOffice.org. If a OpenOffice.org process is already running that was not started with the proper `-accept=pipe` option, the Office Bean does not connect to it. Since OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 this limitation is obsolete.

In case an office document is displayed outside of the Java frame, then the office has probably been started with wrong or no arguments. Providing the proper command-line arguments is necessary, so that the OpenOffice.org process can open a correctly named pipe, through which it communicates with the Java application. Only if this pipe can be established, the office will display the document in the Java window.
You can avoid providing the command-line options by editing the file `<OfficePath>`\user\config\registry\instance\org\openoffice\Setup.xml. Within the `<Office/>` element, the developer adds an `<ooSetupConnectionURL/>` element with settings for a named pipe. The following example shows a user-specific Setup.xml that configures a named pipe for a user named JohnDoe:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<Setup state="modified" cfg:package="org.openoffice"
   xmlns="http://openoffice.org/2000/registry/components/Setup"
   xmlns:cfg="http://openoffice.org/2000/registry/instance"
   xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/1999/XMLSchema-instance">
   <Office>
     <ooSetupConnectionURL cfg:type="string">
       pipe,name=JohnDoe_Office;urp;StarOffice.NamingService
     </ooSetupConnectionURL>
     <Factories cfg:element-type="Factory">
       <Factory cfg:name="com.sun.star.text.TextDocument">
         <ooSetupFactoryWindowAttributes cfg:type="string">
           193,17,1231,1076;1;
         </ooSetupFactoryWindowAttributes>
       </Factory>
     </Factories>
   </Office>
</Setup>
```

With this user-specific Setup.xml file, the office opens a named pipe JohnDoe_Office whenever it starts up. It does not matter if the user double clicks a document, runs the Quickstarter, or starts a new, empty document from a OpenOffice.org template.

**Customized Configuration**

Besides these default values, the Office Bean can be configured to use other parameters. There are three possibilities:

- starting the connection with an explicit UNO URL including path and pipe name parameters
- creating the connection manually and handing this object to the OOoBean
- creating the OOoBean with such a manually created connection object.

The first method that a developer uses to configure the Office Bean is through the UNO URL passed in the `setUnoUrl()` call. The syntax of the UNO URL is as follows:

```java
url := 'uno:localoffice[','<params>']';urp;StarOffice.NamingService' params := <path>[','<pipe>] path := 'path'=<path> pipe := 'pipe'=<pipev> pathv := platform_specific_path_to_the_local_office_distribution pipev := local_office_connection_pipe_name
```

Here is an example of how to use `setUnoUrl()` in code:
Customized Configuration

```java
OfficeConnection officeConnection = new LocalOfficeConnection();
officeConnection.setUnoUrl("uno:localoffice,path=/home/user/staroffice6.0/program;urp;StarOffice.Naming Service");
aBean = new OOoBean( officeConnection );
```

**Warning** – In OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 the properties mechanism was removed and cannot be used any longer. The following section about the Office Bean properties and the `officebean.properties` file are only valid for older OpenOffice.org versions. Since OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 the Office Bean uses an implicit find mechanism over the classpath for the office and the local Office Bean library so that no properties file is necessary.

**Internal Architecture**

These details are not needed for developers utilizing the OOoBean class. This information is directed to developers who want to adapt the OOoBean mechanisms to other technologies, e.g. to implement access to a remote OpenOffice.org instance.

Internally, the OOoBean consists of three major parts which are all included in the `officebean.jar` file. The classes `LocalOfficeWindow` and `LocalOfficeConnection` implement a fundamental framework that makes it possible to connect to the office and display the document window of a local OpenOffice.org installation in an AWT or Swing frame.

**The Internal Office Bean API**


**Note** – These interfaces are Java interfaces in the `com.sun.star.comp.beans` package, they are not UNO interfaces.
Note – Prior to OpenOffice.org 2.0 all Office Bean classes were in the com.sun.star.bean package. As of OpenOffice.org 2.0 the classes are contained in the com.sun.star.comp.bean package. The classes of the com.sun.star.bean package are still contained in the officebean.jar but they are deprecated. Further development and bug fixing will occur only in the com.sun.star.comp.bean package.


The following sections describe the Office Bean interfaces OfficeConnection and OfficeWindow. Refer to the section Using the OOoBean for an explanation of how the implementation classes are used.

OfficeConnection Interface

The com.sun.star.comp.beans.OfficeConnection interface contains the methods used to configure, initiate, and manage the connection to OpenOffice.org. These methods are:

- public void setUnoUrl(String URL) throws java.net.MalformedURLException
- public com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext getComponentContext()
- public OfficeWindow createOfficeWindow(Container container)
- public void setContainerFactory(ContainerFactory containerFactory)

The client uses setUnoUrl() to specify to the Office Bean how it connects to the
OfficeConnection Interface

OpenOffice.org process. See the section Configuring the Office Bean for a description of the syntax of the URL. A java.net.MalformedURLException is thrown by the concrete implementation if the client passes a badly formed URL as an argument.

The method getComponentContext() gets an object that implements the com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext interface from the Office Bean. This object is then used to obtain objects implementing the full OpenOffice.org API from the backend OpenOffice.org process.

A call to createOfficeWindow() requests a new OfficeWindow from the OfficeConnection. The client obtains the java.awt.Component from the OfficeWindow to plug into its UI. See the getAWTComponent() method below on how to obtain the Component from the OfficeWindow. The client provides java.awt.Container that indicates to the implementation what kind of OfficeWindow it is to create.

The method setContainerFactory() specifies to the Office Bean the factory object it uses to create Java AWT windows to display popup windows in the Java environment. This factory object implements the com.sun.star.comp.beans.ContainerFactory interface. See below for a definition of the ContainerFactory interface.

If the client does not implement its own ContainerFactory interface, the Office Bean uses its own default ContainerFactory creating instances of java.awt.Canvas.

OfficeWindow Interface

The com.sun.star.comp.beans.OfficeWindow interface encapsulates the relationship between the AWT window that the client plugs into its UI, and the com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer object, which the OpenOffice.org process uses to draw into the window. It provides two public methods:

```java
public java.awt.Component getAWTComponent()
public com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer getUNOWindowPeer()
```

The client uses getAWTComponent() to obtain the Component window associated with an OfficeWindow. This Component is then added to the clients UI hierarchy.

The method getUNOWindowPeer() obtains the UNO com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer object associated with an
ContainerFactory Interface

The interface `com.sun.star.comp.beans.ContainerFactory` defines a factory class that the client implements if it needs to control how popup windows generated by the backend OpenOffice.org process are presented within the Java environment. The factory has only one method:

```java
public java.awt.Container createContainer()
```

It returns a `java.awt.Container`.

**Note** – For more background on handling popup windows generated by OpenOffice.org, and possible threading issues to consider, see [Java Window Integration](#).

LocalOfficeConnection and LocalOfficeWindow

The class `LocalOfficeConnection` implements a connection to a locally running OpenOffice.org process that is an implementation of the interface `OfficeConnection`. Its method `createOfficeWindow()` creates an instance of the class `LocalOfficeWindow`, that is an implementation of the interface `OfficeWindow`.

Where `LocalOfficeConnection` keeps a single connection to the OpenOffice.org process, there are multiple, shared `LocalOfficeWindow` instances for multiple beans. The `LocalOfficeWindow` implements the embedding of the local OpenOffice.org document window into a `java.awt.Container`. 
Accessibility

There are certain circumstances where OpenOffice.org applications can not be used with the usual input and output devices, such as a mouse, keyboard, monitor and printer. This may be because the user is sitting in a car and can only occasionally look at the screen and has no keyboard at all. Maybe the user is disabled and can not see or hear or use traditional keyboards. Alternative input and output devices are called assistive technology, or AT. Examples of AT are Braille terminals, which are used mainly for display of single text lines where each character is represented by raised or lowered dots and can be read by touching them with the finger tips, screen magnifiers, which magnify the screen contents and optionally change color, and screen readers, which use speech synthesis to read displayed text or descriptions of objects out loud in a human language.

To make OpenOffice.org applications accessible to the disabled or to people in mobile environments, alternative input and output devices have to be supported. In order to support a wide variety of ATs, the approach taken by Java and Gnome has been adopted: an API tailored to the specific needs of AT and modeled closely after its Java counterpart is used as an interface between the available data of the elements visible on screen and the AT, which transforms that data and presents an alternative view of the screen contents.

Overview

As previously stated, the UNO Accessibility API, or UAA, is closely modeled after the
Java Accessibility API, and to some extent the Gnome Accessibility API. This section describes some differences with common UNO styles and standards.

The purpose of the accessibility API is to represent what is currently visible on screen. To be kept up-to-date, users of the accessibility API are informed of any relevant changes of the screen content by events. This focus on visual appearance is another point in which the accessibility API differs from other parts of UNO, which are strictly model centered. The accessibility API provides a tree structure or, to be more specific, a forest of accessibility objects that, as a whole, represent the on-screen data.

The transition point from the UNO API to the accessibility API is windows, which both support the com.sun.star.awt.XWindow and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible interfaces. A list of all top-level windows, from which you can get the roots of the associated accessibility trees, can be retrieved from the toolkit through the com.sun.star.awt.XExtendedToolkit interface.

The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible interface can be queried for the actual accessibility object with its only function com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible:getAccessibleContext(). With this technique, the implementations of the accessibility interfaces can be kept apart from that of the other UNO interfaces. The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible:getAccessibleContext() function returns a reference to an object that implements the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext interface. This interface is the center of the accessibility API. On the one hand it provides the functionality to traverse the accessibility tree and on the other hand gives access to basic information that represents the object that is being made accessible. These two aspects are described in more detail in the following sections Accessibility Tree and Content Information.

The accessibility API is as self-contained as possible. You should not need to use the UNO API outside its accessibility API subset. However, there are some exceptions to this. The most important one is the initial access to the root nodes of the accessibility tree over the toolkit.

**Bridges**

There are several ways that ATs can be realized. They differ in two important points. The first one is how the AT represents the information it obtains from OpenOffice.org and presents it to the user. The second difference is how ATs obtain this information in the first place.
In its simplest form, the communication between AT and OpenOffice.org involves only the accessibility API and, where necessary, some additional features from other parts of the UNO API. Existing ATs, however, do not know anything yet about the accessibility API. They use one of several ways to access OpenOffice.org by using one or more bridges that translate between different APIs:

- The **UNO access bridge** translates between the accessibility API and the Java Accessibility API. Note that this is not the same as the Java version of the accessibility API.
- The **Windows/Java access bridge** translates between the Java and the C versions of the Java Accessibility API.
- The **Gnome access bridge** translates between the accessibility API and the Gnome Accessibility API.

In order to make OpenOffice.org accessible, it is necessary to support the accessibility API. The characteristics of the bridges have to be taken into account as well.

Under Windows, OpenOffice.org itself has a switch that can turn on or off the accessibility support. This switch can be reached through **Tools – Options – Accessibility**. Under Linux and Solaris, an equivalent setting can be made in the Gnome environment. When accessibility is activated, on every launch OpenOffice.org will start its own Java VM, which in turn starts all registered AT tools. This will be explained in the next section.

### Accessibility Tree

The screen content is presented to AT as a tree - or a forest, to be more specific - of accessibility objects. Each displayed object that wants to be accessible has to support the `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible` interface. From this interface, you obtain the actual *accessibility object* by calling the `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible:getAccessibleContext()` function. The returned object has to at least support the `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext` interface.

Accessibility objects are organized in one or more hierarchies, one for each top-level window. So there is a tree for a single top-level window, and a forest when there is more than one top-level window. Internal nodes of a tree are containers of other accessibility objects. A container can represent window frames, toolbars, menus, group shapes, or shapes that contain text. Leaves represent objects like menu entries without sub-menus, buttons, icons, shapes without text, or text paragraphs.
You can move up and down within the tree of a given accessibility object. All functions for obtaining an object's parent and children are part of the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext interface. The ability to move up towards the tree root is provided by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleParent() function. Like all other accessibility functions that return a reference to another accessibility object, it returns a reference to a com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible object. Moving down the tree towards the leaves requires two functions. The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleChildCount() function returns the number of children. The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleChild() function allows you to access any child by specifying the appropriate index.

**Warning** – Between the call to com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleChildCount() and the final com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleChild() call (when accessing all children one after the other) the number of children may have changed. You can keep track of the number of children by registering as listener and waiting for com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventId:CHILD events. Additionally, you have to cope with com.sun.star.lang.IndexOutOfBoundsException exceptions that denote bad indices.

When children are added or removed from an accessibility object, the indices of the new and remaining children may change. You can use the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleIndexInParent() function to get the current indices.

**Content Information**

Content information of accessibility objects establishes the connection to the objects that are visible on the screen. This information gives a detailed description of what is visible on the screen, the size of the object, and its location on the screen. Access to the content information is provided by several interfaces of the UNO accessibility API, which are described in the following sections.

The accessibility API allows you to divide the implementation of an accessible object into an accessibility related and an accessibility unrelated part. This is done with the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible interface. The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible:getAccessibleContext() method returns an object that implements the other interfaces related to accessibility. This object may be the same as the object that is made accessible, but it can be a different object as
well. Once you have the accessibility object, you can use the usual UNO type cast mechanisms to change from one interface to another.

Listeners and Broadcasters

The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEventBroadcaster and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEventListener interface combo lets you register and unregister listeners. Events are represented by com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject structure. The different event types are listed and explained in the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventId constants group.

Again, event types can be divided into two classes depending on whether they describe changes in the structure of the accessibility tree or changes in the internal state or the visual appearance of an accessible object. The first group consists of com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventId:CHILD and com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventId:INVALIDATE_ALL_CHILDREN. The first denotes a newly inserted or a removed child. The second is used in cases where more than one child has been inserted or removed and tells the listener to re-fetch a complete list of children.

The second group comprises all other event types. Typical members are com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventId:VISIBLE_DATA_CHANGED and com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventId:STATE_CHANGED, which inform listeners that the visual appearance of an object has changed (for example, to a different text color) or that one of its states has been switched on or off (for example, when an object becomes focused or selected).

Listeners and Broadcasters

Events are sent after the respective change of an accessible object took place. This enables the listener to retrieve up-to-date values that are sent with the event.

Note – A problem arises when the number of children becomes very large, as with Calc tables where the number of cells is 256??32000=8192000. Registering at every cell certainly is not an option. The solution to this problem is the introduction of the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleStateType:TRANSIENT state, which tells an AT not to register but to expect com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventId:ACTIVE_DESCENDANT_CHANGED events sent from their parent. To prevent the AT from having to ask every child whether it is transient, the parent must set the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleStateType:MANAGES_DESCENDANTS state.

Implementing Accessible Objects

Implementation Rules

There are some rules to observe when implementing the UNO accessibility API that go beyond simply following the specifications in the IDL files of the accessibility API's interfaces. These rules have to do with what kind of data ATs expect from an application.

One such rule is that only objects that are visible on the screen are included into the accessibility tree. If, for example, you have a text document with a large number of pages, usually only parts of one or two pages are visible, and only accessibility objects for these parts should be part of the accessibility hierarchy. Another closely related rule is that the bounding boxes of objects are clipped to the visible area.

However, there are exceptions to these rules. For reasons of consistency with the behavior of Java tables represented through the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable interface, access is granted to all of their cells regardless of whether they are visible or not. Menus are another example. The whole menu structure is represented, even when only the menu bar is visible.

Another rule is that bounding boxes of accessibility objects as returned by com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getBounds() must not overlap the bounding boxes of their parents. This is crucial to enable ATs to find the accessibility
object that lies under a given screen coordinate, such as the mouse position. With properly nesting bounding boxes, ATs can prune whole sub-trees from the search when the bounding box of the root object does not contain the point.

**Services**

There are only two services in the accessibility API, which have to be supported by any accessible object.

The com.sun.star.accessibility.Accessible service contains the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible interface and must be supported by every UNO object that is accessible.

The com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleContext service contains the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext interface and, optionally, the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEventBroadcaster interface. This service must be supported by every accessible object that is returned by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible:getAccessibleContext() function.

**Using the Accessibility API**

When you are writing your own ATs and want to use the UNO accessibility API directly, you must first connect to OpenOffice.org. Connecting to OpenOffice.org is explained elsewhere in this document. Once a connection is established, the toolkit with its com.sun.star.awt.XExtendedToolkit interface can be used to retrieve a list of all currently open top-level windows. From these, you can then get the accessible root nodes of the accessibility object trees associated with the windows. When you register an com.sun.star.awt.XTopWindowListener you will then be informed about new top-level windows, as well as top-level windows that have disappeared.

With the top-level accessible objects at hand, you can use the Java version of the accessibility API as it is described in detail in the following sections. To be informed about focus changes - so that, for example, a screen reader can track the currently focused object and read it to the user - an AT has to register all non-transient objects of an accessibility tree.

The general operation of a simple AT consists of the following steps:
36. Connect to OpenOffice.org.

37. Retrieve the currently visible top-level windows and register as top window listener to keep the list up-to-date.

38. Traverse the trees by getting their root elements from each window. See the description of the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext for a code example for this.

39. Register each accessible object as com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEventListener.

40. If called back with an com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject object, then process two kinds of events:

1. Events that denote a state change with either com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject:OldValue or com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject:NewValue containing the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleStateType:FOCUSED constant indicate that the source object of this event got either focused or unfocused.

2. When receiving events of type com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventId:CHILD, register as listener at the object that is specified by the event, as well as all of the object's children.

A Simple Screen Reader

To illustrate the use of the UNO accessibility API, we will describe how to implement a simple AT. The simple screen reader, or SSR, will display some information about the currently focused object. As you can see in Illustration 18.1, the SSR consists of three windows. The bottom window logs all events that the SSR receives from any of the accessibility objects to which it is registered.
A Simple Screen Reader

The simple screen reader shows information on the currently focused object in two different views. A textual display on the top left shows its description, states and bounding box as well as the names of its ancestors. The graphical view on the top right shows the bounding boxes of the object itself (green) and its ancestors (gray). The bottom window logs all events sent by any of the accessibility objects.

The two upper windows display information about the currently focused object, which in this screen shot is a shape in a presentation document. The left window displays the names of all the ancestors of the focused object and the path from that object to the root object of the accessibility tree. The left window also displays the focused object's description, its state, its location, and its size on the screen. In this example, the focused object is named “Rectangle2”, which corresponds to the red rectangular shape. Its parent is called “Drawing View” and the root of the tree has the name of the document, which is “Untitled1”, followed by the product name and some debug information.

The upper right window displays similar information graphically. The focused object is shown as a green rectangle, while its ancestors are drawn as gray rectangles. You can see how the objects are nested. This corresponds to the requirement that the bounding of child objects must not overlap that of their parents. Note that the blue rectangular shape is not visible in this window, because it is a sibling of the focused red rectangle, but does not lie on that object's path to the root of the root object. Also note that some of the rectangles are off-center and smaller than they should be. This is because the rectangles that represent accessible objects, which in turn represent part of the GUI, are drawn with their screen location and size relative to the whole screen; the outermost rectangle that is enclosed by the gray background represents the screen of which the screen shot shows only a part.

The bottom window logs all the events that the SSR receives from the accessible objects it has register as event listener at.
Features

The SSR was designed to be a simple program that illustrates how to use the UNO accessibility API. However, we have not always chosen the most simple way to do something. There are therefore some features that may be useful in the “real” AT:

- The SSR has a background connection timer task that waits for a OpenOffice.org application to start and then connects automatically to that application.
- It uses independent threads to register as listener at a whole accessibility (sub-)tree of new top-level application windows or newly created accessible objects. The same is true for removing the listener from windows not visible anymore or accessible objects that are removed from their tree.
- There are two different views that display information about the currently focused object. This illustrates how information of a certain accessibility object is retrieved by using different interfaces of the accessibility API.
- A message area shows all received events regardless of whether they are necessary to keep track of the currently focused object. With this, the SSR serves as simple event monitor as well.

Class Overview

The SSR is implemented with the following classes and interfaces:

SSR

This is the main class of the tool. It is responsible for setting up and managing the GUI

ConnectionTask

The connection task is a thread that waits in the background for a OpenOffice.org application to start. As soon as there is one, it connects to it and initiates the registration at all of its accessible objects.

RegistrationThread

Each object of this class creates one thread that adds or removes the event listener at all accessible objects in one tree, with one tree per application window. This is done in separate threads so that the normal operation of the tool is not blocked while registering to complex applications with many objects.
**EventListenerProxy**

This is a singleton class. Its only instance is registered as listener at all accessible objects. It runs in its own thread and delivers the received events eventually to the actual event handler. This de-coupling between event reception and event handling is necessary to avoid deadlocks. Soon this will become obsolete.

**EventHandler**

There is usually only one object of this class. It prints log messages for all the events it receives and provides special handling some of events:

1. Top window events denoting new or removed application windows are not accessibility events in a strict sense. They have to be listened to, however, to add or remove the event listener to the accessibility objects that correspond to these windows.

2. State events that inform the listener of a set or reset `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleStateType:FOCUSED` state. This is the most important event for the SSR in order to keep track of the currently focused object.

3. Events that signal a change of the geometric property of the currently focused object trigger a redisplay of the two windows that display that object. This ensures that you always see the current position of the object.

**TextualDisplay**

This widget displays textual information about the focused object as described previously.

**GraphicalDisplay**

This widget displays graphical information about the focused object as described previously.

**IaccessibleObjectDisplay**

This is the interface supported by the two display widgets. It defines how the event handler tells the displays about focus and geometry changes. You can add other displays as well by adding a widget that implements this interface to the event handler and to the GUI.

**MessageArea**

The message area at the bottom is a simple text widget that scrolls its content.
so that the last line that contains the most recent message is always visible.

**NameProvider**

This is a useful helper class that converts numerical IDs into names, roles, events, or states.

Parts of some of these classes will be explained at later points in this text. Others, like the `ConnectionTask` class, are a mere technicality with respect to the accessibility API and will not be detailed any further.

### Putting the Accessibility Interfaces to Work

Once an accessible object has been obtained by a call to `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible:getAccessibleContext()`, you can switch between the interfaces belonging to the accessibility API by using the usual UNO cast mechanisms. There is, however, no way back to the object from which the accessible object has been obtained through procedures provided by the accessibility API.

### XAccessibleContext

`com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext` is the central interface of the accessibility API. In addition to the hierarchy information described previously, it provides access to some important information. The functions `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleRole()`, `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleName()` and `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleDescription()` return descriptions of the object in increasing detail:

**Role**

The role classifies all accessibility objects into a handful of different classes. Most roles are taken from the Java accessibility API, such as `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRole:PUSH_BUTTON`, `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRole:RADIO_BUTTON`, `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRole:SCROLL_BAR` or `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRole:TEXT`. Some have been defined for the accessibility API so that, in addition to GUI elements, documents can be
made accessible. These roles are com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRole:DOCUMENT for document windows or views, com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRole:PARAGRAPH for text sections, or com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRole:SHAPE for graphical objects. Roles are described in the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRole constants group.

Name

Names allow you to distinguish between objects with the same role. For example, the buttons at the bottom of a dialog all have the role com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRole:PUSH_BUTTON. Their names may be "OK", "Cancel" or "Help". Where necessary, names are made unique with respect to the object’s siblings. Names for shapes can be "Rectangle 0", "Ellipse 1", "Rectangle 2", or "Curve 3".

Description

To further describe the purpose of accessibility objects, description strings are provided. Descriptions of shapes can contain their style and some properties whose values differ from that style. If you have changed the color of a rectangle to red, its description may look like "Rectangle with style=default and color=red".

Names and descriptions are strings localized according to the locale returned by com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getLocale().

Two functions of the interface have not been mentioned so far. The function com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleRelationSet() returns the set of relations defined for an accessibility object. Likewise com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleStateSet() returns a set of states that are active for an object.
The `showParents()` method from the `TextualDisplay` class of the SSR displays the path from a given object to the root of the accessibility tree by printing each object's accessible name indented relative to its father.

```java
private String showParents (XAccessibleContext xContext) {

    Vector aPathToRoot = new Vector();
    while (xContext != null) {
        aPathToRoot.add (xContext);
        // Go up the hierarchy one level to the object's parent.
        try {
            XAccessible xParent = xContext.getAccessibleParent();
            if (xParent != null)
                xContext = xParent.getAccessibleContext();
            else
                xContext = null;
        }
        catch (Exception e) {
            System.err.println ("caught exception " + e + " while getting path to root");
        }
    }

    This is done in two steps. First, a call to the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleParent() method to get the parent of the object and thereby moving to the previous level in the accessibility tree. Second, from the returned com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible reference, the accessible context is retrieved by calling com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible:getAccessibleContext(). This is repeated until an object is reached that has no parent and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleParent() returns null.

    The path of the accessibility tree is now printed by appending text to the msTextContext member variable, which later is displayed in a JtextArea widget. To cope with accessibility objects that return an empty name, the role of these objects is used to represent them. Note how the indentation string is updated after every object by appending the msIndentation member.

    String sIndentation = new String ();
    for (int i=aPathToRoot.size()-1; i>=0; i--) {
        XAccessibleContext xParentContext = (XAccessibleContext)aPathToRoot.get(i);
        String sParentName = xParentContext.getAccessibleName();
        if (sParentName.length() == 0)
            sParentName = "<unnamed> / Role " + NameProvider.getRoleName(xParentContext.getAccessibleRole());
        msTextContent += sIndentation + sParentName + "\n";
        sIndentation += msIndentation;
    }

    The indentation is returned so that further output can be properly aligned.
```
The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent interface gives access to geometric properties, such as size and position on the screen. This interface should be implemented by every object that has a visible representation, that is, by all objects that are not simple containers.

The coordinates used by the functions of this interface are returned and are expected in pixel values and not, as is elsewhere in the UDK, in internal coordinates (100\textsuperscript{th} of mm). There are three different origins to which coordinates may be specified:

- Relative to an object's bounding box. This is relative to the object itself. Used by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:containsPoint() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getAccessibleAtPoint() functions.
- Relative to an object's parent. Used by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getBounds() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getLocation() functions.
- Absolute or relative to the screen origin. Used by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getLocationOnScreen() function.

Because all three coordinate systems are based on pixel values, the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getSize() function is independent of the coordinate system.

The bounding rectangle that encloses the visual presentation of an object can be retrieved by calling com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getBounds(). If you only need the location or the size, then call com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getLocation() or com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getSize(). The function com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getLocationOnScreen() returns the absolute screen coordinates.

There or two functions that determine whether the bounding boxes of the object or one of its children contain a given test point. The function com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:containsPoint() checks whether the test point lies within the bounding box of the object. Children can be tested with com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getAccessibleAtPoint(). When one of the direct children contains the test point, a reference to this object is returned.
In addition to the geometrical functions, there are the two com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getForeground() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getBackground() functions that describe an object’s appearance. Keep in mind that an object does not necessarily have a monochrome background color. There can be a hatching, gradient, or bitmap as well. The returned background color in this case is an approximation.

The showComponentInfo() method of the TextualDisplay class takes as argument a reference to the accessible object for which geometrical information is shown, as well as the indentation string computed in the showParents() method.

```java
private void showComponentInfo (XAccessibleContext xContext, String sIndentation) {
  XAccessibleComponent xComponent =
    (XAccessibleComponent)UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
      XAccessibleComponent.class, xContext);
  if (xComponent != null) {
    Point aLocation = xComponent.getLocationOnScreen();
    msTextContent += sIndentation + "Position : " + aLocation.X + ", " + aLocation.Y + "\n";
    Size aSize = xComponent.getSize();
    msTextContent += sIndentation + "Size : " + aSize.X + "x" + aSize.Y + "\n";
  }
}
```

If the cast was successful, then simply call the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getLocationOnScreen() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getSize() methods to obtain the object’s bounding box in screen coordinates. If com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent:getBounds() is called instead, the parent’s screen coordinates must be added to obtain an absolute position.
XAccessibleExtendedComponent

While the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleComponent interface should be implemented by almost every accessible object, the support of the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleExtendedComponent interface is optional. Its most important function, com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleExtendedComponent:getFont() returns the font used to display text.

The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleExtendedComponent:getTitledBorderText() function returns the text that is displayed on an object’s window borders, which in the case of OpenOffice.org is only relevant for top-level windows.

The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleExtendedComponent:getToolTipText() function returns the tool tip text that is displayed when the mouse pointer rests long enough over one point of the object.

XAccessibleText

The interface com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText handles read-only text. It serves three purposes: to obtain certain parts of a text, to obtain the text’s size and location on the screen, and to handle the caret position. An accessibility object that implements this interface usually represents only a part of a larger text. Typically, this is a single or a small number of paragraphs. You can use the relation types com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRelationType:CONTENT_FLOWS_FROM and com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRelationType:CONTENT_FLOWS_TO to explicitly represent the text flow from one text part to another. Without these relations, the text flow has to be determined from the structure of the accessibility tree alone.
Selection

Represented text may contain a selected text portion, which is typically displayed highlighted (inverse). There are four functions to access and modify the selection. The selected text, as well as its start and end index, can be accessed with the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getSelectedText(), com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getSelectionStart() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getSelectionEnd() functions respectively. To modify the selection, call com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:setSelection() with the new start and end indices.

Text type

The functions com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getTextAtIndex(), com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getTextBeforeIndex() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getTextBehindIndex() return parts of the text where the part or length of text returned is specified by the text type. Defined in the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleTextType constants collection, some of these text types further explanation:

com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleTextType:LINE

The type com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleTextType:LINE indicates all text on a single line as it is displayed on the screen. This may include a hyphen at the line end. The hyphen is not actually part of the text, but is visible on the screen. They are only included in text parts of type com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleTextType:LINE.

com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleTextType:CHARACTER, com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleTextType:GLYPH

Glyph is used in this context to mean that everything between two adjacent cursor positions is considered to be a glyph. In Thai, for example, you can stack up to four (Unicode) characters upon each other. When moving with the cursor keys, those character groups are interpreted as single glyphs, and the cursor can only be set in front or after such glyphs, but not inside.

The definition of words, sentences and paragraphs are implementation and locale dependent.

com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleTextType:ATTRIBUTE_RUN

An attribute run is a sequence of characters of maximal length, where all characters have the same attributes. For example the text "This is an example" consists of three attribute runs: "This", "is an" and "example". The first and last one each have only a single attribute, italic respectively bold. The second run has both attributes at the same time. Note that all three spaces belong to one of the attribute runs.

There are other functions to access text. To retrieve the whole text represented by an object, use com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getText(). Call com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getTextRange() to get only a part of text between and including two given indices. A single character can be accessed with the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getCharacter() function.


**Caret and Text Indices**

The caret is often referred to as the cursor and is typically displayed as a vertical line. On the screen, it is always placed between two adjacent glyphs, or at the beginning or the end of a text line. When specifying its position in terms of character positions, the position of the character to its right is used. Thus, the index 0 says that the caret is at the very beginning of the text. When the caret is located behind the last character, then its position equals the text length, that is, the number of characters of the text as returned by com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getCharacterCount().

When the caret changes its position, an event must be sent to all listeners so that the old and new position can be indicated.

The caret position is returned by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getCaretPosition() function, and can be set by calling com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:setCaretPosition().
Other index-related functions are com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getCharacterAttributes(), which returns the attributes at the specified index, com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getCharacterBounds(), which returns the bounding box of the character at the specified index, and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getIndexAtPoint(), which returns the index of the character at the specified position.

XAccessibleEditableText

The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEditableText interface extends the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText interface by adding functions that let you modify the text. The interface is therefore only implemented when the text represented by the implementing object is readable and writable.


Finally, the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEditableText:setAttributes() function is the counterpart of com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getCharacterAttributes() in the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText interface. With this function, you can replace the existing attributes with the given set. To add one attribute, first use com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText:getCharacterAttributes() to get the current set of attributes, add the attribute to that set, and finally call com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEditableText:setAttributes() to set the new set of attributes.
The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable interface represents two-dimensional tables of data. The Calc application is one example of its implementation. It grants access to individual cells or groups of cells.

Global information about a table can be accessed with two functions:
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleCaption() returns the caption and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleSummary() returns a summary describing the content of a table.

A table is organized in horizontal rows and vertical columns. The number of rows and columns - and indirectly the number of cells - can be determined by calling the functions com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleRowCount() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleColumnCount(). Here, in contrast to the general rule of only giving access to visible objects, all cells are represented by a table. This exception is necessary to stay consistent with Java tables.

Information on rows and columns is returned by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleRowDescription() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleColumnDescription() functions. Note that both functions return objects implementing the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable interface themselves. The headers of rows and columns can be retrieved by calling com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleRowHeaders() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleColumnHeaders().

To obtain a reference to a certain cell specified by its row and column indices, use com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleCellAt(). A table cell may span multiple rows and columns. You can determine the number of rows and columns that a cell spans with the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleRowExtentAt() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleColumnExtentAt() functions.

Selections in tables can have two different forms. You can have a multi-selection of rectangular areas of single or multiple cells, or you can select whole rows and columns. The function com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:isAccessibleSelected() determines whether a single cell that spans a position specified by a row and a column index is selected. To determine whether certain rows or columns are selected, use the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:isAccessibleRowSelected() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:isAccessibleColumnSelected() functions.
Finally, the functions
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getSelectedAccessibleRows() and
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getSelectedAccessibleColumns() each
return a sequence of indices of the currently selected row and columns.

There are three functions that can be used to switch between cell indices and row
and column indices. Cell indices are the same as the child indices used by the
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleChildCount() and
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleChild() functions of the
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext interface. Row and column indices
have been used previously, and specify each cell by stating its row and column. The
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleIndex() function returns the
corresponding cell index for a given row and column index. The
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleRow() and
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable:getAccessibleColumn() functions return
the corresponding row and column index, respectively, for a given cell index.

XAccessibleEventBroadcaster

Most accessible objects need to broadcast events that describe changes of its
internal state or visual appearance - this can be done with the
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEventBroadcaster interface. If you want to be
informed of such changes, you can register a listener with the
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEventBroadcaster:addEventListener() function,
or remove it with
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEventBroadcaster:removeEventListener().

**Warning** – Be sure to cast an object reference to the
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEventBroadcaster interface before calling
these functions, because there are other broadcaster interfaces with functions of the
same name.

The SSR registers the event listener in separate threads. The major work is done by
a method called **traverseTree()** that takes an accessible context and traverses the
whole tree rooted in this object.

```
public long traverseTree (XAccessibleContext xRoot) {
    long nNodeCount = 0;
    // ... code ...
}
```

After casting the context reference to a reference of the
com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEventBroadcaster interface, it either adds or
removes the listener maListener at the accessibility object.
if (xRoot != null) {
    // Register the root node.
    XAccessibleEventBroadcaster xBroadcaster =
        (XAccessibleEventBroadcaster) UnoRuntime.queryInterface (XAccessibleEventBroadcaster.class,
            xRoot);
    if (xBroadcaster != null) {
        if (mbRegister)
            xBroadcaster.addEventListener (maListener);
        else
            xBroadcaster.removeEventListener (maListener);
        nNodeCount += 1;
    }
}

Once the given object is handled, the traversing of the tree continues by calling this
method recursively for every child.

try {
    int nChildCount = xRoot.getAccessibleChildCount();
    for (int i=0; i<nChildCount; i++) {
        XAccessible xChild = xRoot.getAccessibleChild (i);
        if (xChild != null)
            nNodeCount += traverseTree
                (xChild.getAccessibleContext());
    }
}

Because the iteration over the direct children of the given accessible context may
take a while, there is the possibility that some of the children do not exist anymore. It
is therefore important to catch com.sun.star.lang.IndexOutOfBoundsException and
com.sun.star.lang.DisposedException exceptions. Note that this is not a perfect
solution, because children that are added to the given object are not handled
properly. A better algorithm would listen to events of the new and removed children of
the object to which it was recently registered:

catch (com.sun.star.lang.IndexOutOfBoundsException aException) {
    // The set of children has changed since our last call to
    // getAccessibleChildCount(). Don't try any further on this
    // sub-tree.
}
catch (com.sun.star.lang.DisposedException aException) {
    // The child has been destroyed since our last call to
    // getAccessibleChildCount(). That is OK. Don't try any
    // further on this sub-tree.
}
return nNodeCount;
}

This method keeps track of how many objects it has added to the listener. This
number is used in the run() method to write an informative message.

public void run () {
    System.out.println ("starting registration");
    long nNodeCount = traverseTree (mxRoot);
    System.out.println ("ending registration");
XAccessibleEventBroadcaster

```java
if (mbShowMessages) {
    if (!mbRegister)
        MessageArea.print("un");
    MessageArea.println("registered at " + nNodeCount + " objects in accessibility tree of " + mxRoot.getAccessibleName());
}
```

XAccessibleEventListener

The interface `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEventListener` is the counterpart to the accessible event broadcaster, and is called for every change of any accessible object at which it has been registered. The `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleEventListener:notifyEvent()` function is called with an `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject` structure. That structure comprises four fields: the `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject:EventId` field, which is one of the `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventId` constants, describes the type of the event. The object that sent the event is referenced from the `Source` field. The `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject:OldValue` and `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject:NewValue` fields contain event type specific values that contain the changed value before and after the modification took place. The type of content that is expected in the `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject:OldValue` and `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject:NewValue` fields is explained together with the `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventId` event types.

The `notifyEvent()` method of the `EventHandler` class is not called directly from the accessibility objects. There is an instance of the `EventListenerProxy` class in between. That class simply forwards the events at the right time and is therefore not explained in more detail here.

```java
public void notifyEvent (com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject aEvent) {

    // Guard against disposed objects.
    try {
        switch (aEvent.EventId) {
            case AccessibleEventId.CHILD:
                handleChildEvent (objectToContext (aEvent.OldValue), objectToContext (aEvent.NewValue));
                break;
        }
    }
```
The handling of the rest of the event types is omitted here to keep this explanation simple.

Again, it is important to guard against the possibility of events arriving after the object they were sent for has been destroyed. For this simple tool, it is sufficient to silently ignore the resulting exception.

```java
catch (com.sun.star.lang.DisposedException e) {
}
```

Before showing you the actual handling of child events, you can look at the `objectToContext()` method that is used to convert the `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject:OldValue` and `com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleEventObject:NewValue` fields of the event structure from UNO Anys to `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext` references. It takes a weakness of the accessibility API IDL specification into account: the type of the content of the `com.sun.star.lang.EventObject:Source` field is not explicitly stated. As a result, it contains references to both the `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible` and the `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext` interfaces. To cope with this, the conversion method first uses the `com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter` class to retrieve an `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible` reference from the event source.

```java
private XAccessibleContext objectToContext (Object aObject) {
    XAccessibleContext xContext = null;
    XAccessible xAccessible = null;
    try {
        xAccessible = (XAccessible)AnyConverter.toObject(
            new Type(XAccessible.class), aObject);
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException e) {
    }
    if (xAccessible != null)
        xContext = xAccessible.getAccessibleContext();
    else
        try {
            xContext = (XAccessibleContext)AnyConverter.toObject(
                new Type(XAccessibleContext.class), aObject);
        }
        catch (com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException e) {
        }
    return xContext;
}
```

If that was successful, the accessible context from the object is returned.

```java
if (xAccessible != null)
    xContext = xAccessible.getAccessibleContext();
```

If retrieving an `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessible` reference from the event's source field failed, this is repeated directly with the `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext` interface.

```java
else
    try {
        xContext = (XAccessibleContext)AnyConverter.toObject(
            new Type(XAccessibleContext.class), aObject);
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException e) {
    }
    return xContext;
```
Handling the child event itself is comparably simple: create a new RegistrationThread object that adds (or removes) the listener to the object and all of its children.

```java
private void handleChildEvent (XAccessibleContext aOldChild,
XAccessibleContext aNewChild) {
    if (aOldChild != null)
        // Remove event listener from the child and all of its descendants.
        new RegistrationThread (maListenerProxy, aOldChild, false, false);
    else if (aNewChild != null)
        // Add event listener to the new child and all of its descendants.
        new RegistrationThread (maListenerProxy, aNewChild, true, false);
}
```

### XAccessibleSelection

While the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleTable interfaces already support selection of text and table cells, respectively, there is a special interface for the general case. The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleSelection interface manages a sub-set of an object's children that form the selection. The number of selected children is returned by com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleSelection:getSelectedAccessibleChildCount(), which, of course, is smaller than or equal to the total number of children as returned by com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleChildCount() of the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext interface. The selected children can be retrieved by calling the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleSelection:getSelectedAccessibleChild() function. Note that the same index passed to com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleSelection:getSelectedAccessibleChild() and to com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleChild() will generally return different objects.

The selection can be modified with various functions. The functions com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleSelection:selectAllAccessibleChildren() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleSelection:clearAccessibleSelection() select or deselect, respectively, all of the children. To select or deselect a single child, use com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleSelection:selectAccessibleChild() or com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleSelection:deselectAccessibleChild(). Whether a child belongs to the selection can be determined by calling the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleSelection:isAccessibleChildSelected() function.

Each child that belongs to the selection is expected to have the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleStateType:SELECTED state set. When the selection changes, two kinds of events are expected to be broadcast. One for each
child that is selected or deselected that tells the listeners about the toggled com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleStateType:SELECTED state, and one event from their parent that informs the listeners of the modified selection as represented by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleSelection interface.

**XAccessibleRelationSet**

In addition to the parent-child relationship that defines the accessibility object tree, each accessible object may have one or more relations to other accessible objects, independent of that hierarchy. The types of possible relations are defined and explained in the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRelationType set of constants.

One example is the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRelationType:LABEL_FOR and com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRelationType:LABELED_BY pair of relations that is used to express the case where one object is the label for a one or more controls of the GUI. The label and its controls may be spatially adjacent to make their relationship clear to the sighted user. But in the accessibility object tree, they may belong to different sub-trees. With a set of relations, these objects can be linked together.

Each relation is an com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRelation structure that contains the relation type and a set of references to its target objects. In the previous example, there would be one com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRelationType:LABEL_FOR relation for the label with all its controls in the target set and one com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRelationType:LABELED_BY relation from each control to the label.

For each relation type there may be one relation belonging to a relation set as represented by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleRelationSet interface. Therefore, the number of relations that is returned by com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleRelationSet:getRelationCount() can not be greater than the number of relation types. Relations can be accessed either by calling the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleRelationSet:getRelation() function with an index, or by calling the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleRelation:RelationType() function with a relation type. Note that there are no fixed mappings from relation types to indices. You can test whether a relation set contains a relation of a given type by using the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleRelationSet:containsRelation() function.
**XAccessibleRelationSet**

**Note** – The relation set returned by com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleRelationSet() returns a copy of the relation set of an accessible object. Modifying that copy does not change the relation set of the object.

**XAccessibleStateSet**

An accessible object can be in one or more states, which are available through the interface com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleStateSet. An object that is currently focused will have the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleStateType:FOCUSED state set. One that belongs to the selection of its parent has the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleStateType:SELECTED state set. Independent of the current focus and selection, such an object would also have the states com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleStateType:FOCUSABLE and com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleStateType:SELECTABLE set to indicate that it may be focused and may be selected. All states are described in the com.sun.star.accessibility.AccessibleStateType constants collection.

Call the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleStateSet:isEmpty() function to query whether a state set has no state set at all. To query a state set for one or more states, use the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleStateSet:contains() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleStateSet:containsAll() functions respectively. A sequence containing all the set states is returned by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleStateSet:getStates() function.

**Note** – The state set returned by com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext:getAccessibleStateSet() returns a copy of the state set of an accessible object. Modifying that copy does not change the states of the object. Therefore, modifying a state set is not useful and consequently no modifying functions are supported by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleStateSet interface. States are set or reset indirectly by using the standard UNO interfaces or the GUI.
The `showStates()` method of the `TextualDisplay` class of the SSR first obtains a state set object from the given accessible context and prints a list of all the states contained therein by using the `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleStateSet:getStates()` method to convert the state set into an array of state IDs. It then iterates over all IDs and uses the `NameProvider` class to convert the numerical IDs into human readable strings.

```java
private void showStates (XAccessibleContext xContext, String sIndentation) {
    // Get the state set object...
    XAccessibleStateSet xStateSet = xContext.getAccessibleStateSet();
    // ...and retrieve an array of numerical IDs.
    short aStates[] = xStateSet.getStates();

    // Iterate over the array and print the names of the states.
    msTextContent += sIndentation + "States : ";
    for (int i=0; i<aStates.length; i++) {
        if (i > 0)
            msTextContent += ", ";
        msTextContent += NameProvider.getStateName(aStates[i]);
    }
    msTextContent += "\n";
}
```

**X.AccessibleValue**

In a typical GUI, there are many controls whose characteristic feature can be represented by a single numerical value. Examples are spin boxes, scales and sliders, or combo boxes that contain only numbers, such as the font size. These objects should support the `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleValue` interface.

The current value can be read and set with the

**XAccessibleImage**

The main purpose of the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleImage interface is to be an indicator that an object represents an image or a bitmap. The functions of this interface do not add functionality that is not already present in the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleContext interface.

The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleImage:getAccessibleImageDescription() function returns a localized description of the image. The functions com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleImage:getAccessibleImageHeight() and com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleImage:getAccessibleImageWidth() return the size of the image in pixels.

**XAccessibleAction**

With the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleAction interface, an accessible object can provide access to actions that can be performed on the object. These actions may or may not correspond to actions that are already available over the GUI.

The number of available actions is returned by com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleAction:getAccessibleActionCount(). To execute an action call com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleAction:doAccessibleAction() with the index of the desired action. The description of an action is returned by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleAction:getAccessibleActionDescription().

The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleAction:getAccessibleActionKeyBinding() function tells you what key bindings exist for a certain action. See the description of the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleKeyBinding interface below.
XAccessibleKeyBinding

The purpose of the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleKeyBinding interface is to represent an arbitrary set of key strokes. When a key binding is associated with an action (see the description of the interface above) then each of its key strokes executes that action. A key stroke itself consists of one or more keys to be pressed. See com.sun.star.awt.KeyStroke for details.

XAccessibleHypertext

The interface com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHypertext is derived from com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleText. This interface represents text that contains hyperlinks. Those hyperlinks are represented by com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHyperlink objects, which are described next.

To iterate over all hyperlinks in a text, use com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHypertext:getHyperLinkCount() to determine the number of links. The com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHypertext:getHyperLink() function returns the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHyperlink object for a specific index. If you want to know whether there is a link at a certain text position, use the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHypertext:getHyperLinkIndex() function to obtain the corresponding object. When the returned reference is empty then there is no hyperlink at that position.

XAccessibleHyperlink

Hyperlinks contained in a hypertext document are modeled by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHyperlink interface. In its simplest form, a hyperlink corresponds to an HTML link. However, there may be more complex hyperlinks where there is more than one action assigned to a single hyperlink. An example of this is HTML image maps. To give access to the actions, the interface is derived from the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleAction interface. In addition to the information provided by the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleAction interface, you can request an action's anchor and object. A typical return value of the com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHyperlink:getAccessibleActionAnchor() function for HTML links would be the text between the <a href...> and </a> tags.
Likewise, the `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHyperlink:getAccessibleActionObject()` function returns a HTML link’s URL.

A hyperlink specifies its text relative to the enclosing hypertext by providing a start- and end index through the `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHyperlink:getStartIndex()` and `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHyperlink:getEndIndex()` functions. You can ask a link about the validity of the referenced target by calling its `com.sun.star.accessibility.XAccessibleHyperlink:isValid()` function. Note that this state is volatile and may change without notice.
A OpenOffice.org macro is a short program used to automate a number of steps. The Scripting Framework is a new feature in OpenOffice.org. It allows users to write and run macros for OpenOffice.org in a number of programming and scripting languages including:

- Java ([http://www.java.com](http://www.java.com))
- OpenOffice.org Basic [OpenOffice.org Basic](http://www.openoffice.org)

The framework is designed so that developers can add support for new languages.

**Note** – In this chapter, the terms *macro* and *script* are interchangeable.

### Structure of this Chapter

This chapter is organized into the following sections:

- Section **Using the Scripting Framework** describes the user interface features of the Scripting Framework
  
  1. Describes how to run a macro using the Run Macro dialog.
  
  2. Describes how to use the Organizer dialogs to create, edit and manage macros.
Section Writing Macros provides a guide on how to get started with writing Scripting Framework macros.

3. Describes how to write a simple HelloWorld macro.

4. Describes how Scripting Framework macros interact with OpenOffice.org and the OpenOffice.org API.

5. Describes how to create a dialog from a Scripting Framework macro.

6. Describes how to compile and deploy a Java macro.

Section How the Scripting Framework Works describes how the plug-able architecture of the Scripting Framework allows support for new scripting languages to be added easily.

Section Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component using the Java Helper Classes describes how to use the Scripting Framework Java helper classes to add support for a new scripting language.

7. Describes how to use the ScriptProvider abstract base class.

8. Describes how to add editor and management support.

9. Describes how to build and register a ScriptProvider.

Section Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component From Scratch describes how to write a LanguageScriptProvider UNO component.

Who Should Read this Chapter

If you are interested in automating OpenOffice.org using BeanShell, JavaScript, Java or OpenOffice.org Basic then you should read sections Using the Scripting Framework and Writing Macros.

If you are interested in adding support to run and write macros in a language with a Java based interpreter then you should read section Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component using the Java Helper Classes.

If you are interested in adding support for a scripting language from scratch then you should read section Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component From Scratch.
Using the Scripting Framework

This section describes how to run and organize macros using the **Tools-Macros** submenu:

To run a macro, use the menu item **Tools > Macros > Run Macro...** This opens the **Macro Selector dialog**:

The Library list box contains a tree representation of all macro libraries. At the top level, there are three entries:

- **My Macros** (macros belonging to the current user)
- **OpenOffice.org Macros** (macros available to all users of the installation)
- **DocumentName Macros** (macros contained in the currently active document)

Each of these entries can be expanded to show any macro libraries they contain. When a library has been selected, the macros contained in that library are displayed in the Macro name list box. When a macro is selected, its description, if one exists, is displayed at the bottom of the dialog. Selecting a macro and clicking Run will close the dialog and run the macro. Clicking Cancel will close the dialog without running a macro.
Macros can also be run directly from the Macro Organizer Editing, Creating and Managing Macros and from some of the macro editors.

Editing, Creating and Managing Macros

The Scripting Framework provides support for editing, creating and managing macros via the Tools > Macro > Organize Macros menu. From there you can open a macro management dialog for BeanShell, JavaScript or OpenOffice.org Basic macros.

The Organizer dialogs for BeanShell and JavaScript

The Organizer dialogs for BeanShell and JavaScript dialogs work in the same way. The dialog allows you to run macros and edit macros, and create, delete and rename macros and macro libraries.

BeanShell Organizer

The dialog displays the complete hierarchy of macro libraries and macros that are available for the language. The buttons in the dialog are enabled or disabled depending on which item is selected, so for example, if a read only library is selected the Create button is disabled. The buttons in the dialog are used as follows:

- Run
  Closes the dialog and runs the selected macro.

- Create
  Pops up a dialog prompting the user for a name for the new library (if a top-level entry is selected) or macro (if a library is selected). The dialog will suggest
The Organizer dialogs for BeanShell and JavaScript

a name which the user can change if they wish. When the OK button is clicked, the new library or macro should appear in the Organizer.

- **Edit**
  
  Opens an Editor window for the selected macro.

- **Rename**
  
  Opens a dialog prompting the user for a new name for the selected library or macro. By default the dialog will contain the current name, which the user can then change. If the user presses OK the library or macro is renamed in the Organizer.

- **Delete**
  
  Deletes the currently selected entry.

**BeanShell Editor**

The macro source is listed in the main window with line numbers in the left-hand sidebar. The editor supports simple editing functions (Ctrl-X to cut, Ctrl-C to copy, Ctrl-V to paste, double click to select a word, triple click to select a line). The Run button executes the source code as displayed in the Editor window.
Clicking the Edit button in the JavaScript Organizer will open the Rhino JavaScript Debugger:

The source of the JavaScript macro is displayed in the main window. The line numbers are shown in the left-hand sidebar. Clicking in the sidebar will set and remove breakpoints in the macro. There is currently a bug in the debugger which is not clearing the symbol in the sidebar when breakpoints are removed.

The contents of the text window can be saved by selecting the **File > Save** menu item. The macro can be run by selecting the **File > Run** menu item. This activates the four buttons above the main text window:

- **Break**
  - Sets a breakpoint at the line where the cursor is.

- **Go**
  - Runs the macro, stopping at the next breakpoint (if one is set).

- **Step Into**
  - Runs a single line of code, stepping into functions if they exist and then stop.

- **Step Over**
  - Runs a single line of code, without stepping into functions and then stop.

- **Step Out**
Continues the execution of the macro until it exits the current function.

There are two other panes in the debugger which are hidden by default. These allow the developer to view the stack and watch variables:

![JavaScript Debugger with Stack and Watch tabs displayed](image)

For more information on the Rhino JavaScript Debugger see [http://www.mozilla.org/rhino/debugger.html](http://www.mozilla.org/rhino/debugger.html).

**Basic and Dialogs**

The OpenOffice.org Basic and Dialog Organizers are described in the [OpenOffice.org Basic](http://www.openoffice.org) chapter.

**Macro Recording**

Macro Recording is only supported for OpenOffice.org Basic and is accessible via the Tools > Macro > Record Macro menu item.
Writing Macros

The HelloWorld macro

When the user creates a new macro in BeanShell or JavaScript, the default content of the macro is the HelloWorld. Here is what the code looks like for BeanShell:

```java
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument; import com.sun.star.text.XText; import com.sun.star.text.XTextRange;
oDoc = context.getDocument(); xTextDoc = (XTextDocument) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextDocument.class,oDoc); xText = xTextDoc.getText(); xTextRange = xText.getEnd(); xTextRange.setString( "Hello World (in BeanShell)" );
// BeanShell OpenOffice.org scripts should always return 0 return 0;
```

Here is the same code in JavaScript:

```javascript
importClass(Packages.com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime);
importClass(Packages.com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument);
importClass(Packages.com.sun.star.text.XText);
importClass(Packages.com.sun.star.text.XTextRange);

oDoc = XSCRIPTCONTEXT.getDocument();
xTextDoc = UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextDocument,oDoc);
xText = xTextDoc.getText();
xTextRange = xText.getEnd();
xTextRange.setString( "Hello World (in JavaScript)" );
```

Here is the code for HelloWorld in Java:

```java
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.frame.XModel;
import com.sun.star.text.XTextDocument;
import com.sun.star.text.XTextRange;
import com.sun.star.text.XText;
import com.sun.star.script.provider.XScriptContext;

public class HelloWorld {
    public static void printHW(XScriptContext xScriptContext) {
        XModel xDocModel = xScriptContext.getDocument();
        // getting the text document object
        XTextDocument xtextdocument = (XTextDocument)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(
            XTextDocument.class, xDocModel);

        XText xText = xtextdocument.getText();
        XTextRange xTextRange = xText.getEnd();
```
Writing Macros

xTextRange.setString( "Hello World (in Java)" );
}
}

The table below outlines some of the features of macro development in the different languages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Interpreted</th>
<th>Typeless</th>
<th>Editor</th>
<th>Debugger</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BeanShell</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JavaScript</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Java</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note – Instructions on compiling and deploying Java macros can be found later in this chapter.

Using the OpenOffice.org API from macros

All BeanShell, JavaScript and Java macros are supplied with a variable of type com.sun.star.script.provider.XScriptContext which can be used to access the OpenOffice.org API. This type has three methods:

- com.sun.star.frame.XModel getDocument()
  
  Returns the XModel interface of the document for which the macro was invoked (see Using the Component Framework)

- com.sun.star.frame.XDesktop getDesktop()
  
  Returns the XDesktop interface for the application which can be used to access open document, and load documents (see Using the Desktop)

- com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext getComponentContext()
  
  Returns the XComponentContext interface which is used to create instances of services (see Service Manager and Component Context)

Depending on the language the macro accesses the XScriptContext type in different ways:

- **BeanShell**: Using the global variable XSCRIPTCONTEXT
  
  oDoc = XSCRIPTCONTEXT.getDocument();

- **JavaScript**: Using the global variable XSCRIPTCONTEXT
  
  oDoc = XSCRIPTCONTEXT.getDocument();

- **Java**: The first parameter passed to the macro method is always of type XScriptContext
  
  Xmodel xDocModel = xScriptContext.getDocument();
Handling arguments passed to macros

In certain cases arguments may be passed to macros, for example, when a macro is assigned to a button in a document. In this case the arguments are passed to the macro as follows:

- **BeanShell**: In the global `Object[]` variable `ARGUMENTS`
  
  ```
  event = (ActionEvent) ARGUMENTS[0];
  ```

- **JavaScript**: In the global `Object[]` variable `ARGUMENTS`
  
  ```
  event = ARGUMENTS[0];
  ```

- **Java**: The arguments are passed as an `Object[]` in the second parameter to the macro method
  
  ```
  public void handleButtonPress( XScriptContext xScriptContext, Object[] args)
  ```

  Each of the arguments in the `Object[]` are of the UNO type Any. For more information on how the Any type is used in Java see [Type Mappings](#).

  The ButtonPressHandler macros in the Highlight library of a OpenOffice.org installation show how a macro can handle arguments.

Creating dialogs from macros

Dialogs which have been built in the Dialog Editor can be loaded by macros using the `com.sun.star.awt.XDialogProvider` API. The `XDialogProvider` interface has one method `createDialog()` which takes a string as a parameter. This string is the URL to the dialog. The URL is formed as follows:

```
vnd.sun.star.script:DIALOGREF?location=[application|document]
```

where `DIALOGREF` is the name of the dialog that you want to create, and location is either application or document depending on where the dialog is stored.

For example if you wanted to load dialog called MyDialog, which is in a Dialog Library called MyDialogLibrary in the OpenOffice.org dialogs area of your installation then the URL would be:

```
vnd.sun.star.script:MyDialogLibrary.MyDialog?location=application
```

If you wanted to load a dialog called MyDocumentDialog which in a library called MyDocumentLibrary which is located in a document then the URL would be:

```
```
The following code shows how to create a dialog from a Java macro:

```java
public XDialog getDialog(XScriptContext context)
{
    XDialog theDialog;

    // We must pass the XModel of the current document when creating a
    DialogProvider object
    Object[] args = new Object[1];
    args[0] = context.getDocument();

    Object obj;
    try {
        obj = xmcf.createInstanceWithArgumentsAndContext(
            "com.sun.star.awt.DialogProvider", args,
            context.getComponentContext());
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e) {
        System.err.println("Error getting DialogProvider object");
        return null;
    }

    XDialogProvider xDialogProvider = (XDialogProvider)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDialogProvider.class, obj);

    // Got DialogProvider, now get dialog
    try {
        theDialog = xDialogProvider.createDialog(
            "vnd.sun.star.script:MyDialogLibrary.MyDialog?
            location=application");
    }
    catch (java.lang.Exception e) {
        System.err.println("Got exception on first creating dialog: " +
            e.getMessage());
    }
    return theDialog;
}
```

Compiling and Deploying Java macros

Because Java is a compiled language it is not possible to execute Java source code as a macro directly from within OpenOffice.org. The code must first be compiled and then deployed within a OpenOffice.org installation or document. The following steps show how to create a Java macro using the HelloWorld example code:

- Create a `HelloWorld` directory for your macro
- Create a `HelloWorld.java` file using the HelloWorld source code
- Compile the `HelloWorld.java` file. The following jar files from the `program/classes` directory of a OpenOffice.org installation must be in the classpath: `ridl.jar`, `unoil.jar`, `jurt.jar`
Writing Macros

- Create a HelloWorld.jar file containing the HelloWorld.class file
- Create a parcel-descriptor.xml file for your macro

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<parcel language="Java" xmlns:parcel="scripting.dtd">
  <script language="Java">
    <locale lang="en">
      <displayname value="HelloWorld"/>
      <description>
        Prints "Hello World".
      </description>
    </locale>
    <functionname value="HelloWorld.printHW"/>
    <logicalname value="HelloWorld.printHW"/>
    <languagedepprops>
      <prop name="classpath" value="HelloWorld.jar"/>
    </languagedepprops>
  </script>
</parcel>
```

The parcel-descriptor.xml file is used by the Scripting Framework to find macros. The functionname element indicates the name of the Java method which should be executed as a macro. The classpath element can be used to indicate any jar or class files which are used by the macro. If the classpath element is not included, then the directory in which the parcel-descriptor.xml file is found and any jar files in that directory will be used as the classpath. The necessary Java UNO classes are available automatically.

- Copy the HelloWorld directory into the share/Scripts/java directory of a OpenOffice.org installation or into the user/Scripts/java directory of a user installation. If you want to deploy the macro to a document you need to place it in a Scripts/java directory within the document zip file.
- If OpenOffice.org is running, you will need to restart it in order for the macro to appear in the Macro Selector dialog.

Note – The parcel-descriptor.xml file is also used to detect BeanShell and JavaScript macros. It is created automatically when creating macros using the Organizer dialogs for BeanShell and JavaScript.

How the Scripting Framework Works

The goals of the ScriptingFramework are to provide plug-able support for new scripting languages and allow macros written in supported languages to be:

- Executed
- Displayed
Organized
Assigned to OpenOffice.org events, key combinations, menu and toolbar items

This is achieved by enabling new language support to be added by deploying an UNO component that satisfies the service definition specified by com.sun.star.script.provider.LanguageScriptProvider. The ScriptingFramework detects supported languages by discovering the available components that satisfy the service specification and obey the naming convention "com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptProviderFor[Language]"

OpenOffice.org comes with a number of reference LanguageScriptProviders installed by default.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>LanguageScriptProviders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Java</td>
<td>com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptProviderForJava</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JavaScript</td>
<td>com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptProviderForJavaScript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BeanShell</td>
<td>com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptProviderForBeanShell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptProviderForBasic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more details on naming conventions, interfaces and implementation of a LanguageScriptProvider please see Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component From Scratch and Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component using the Java Helper Classes.
How the Scripting Framework Works

The illustration above shows the simplified interaction between the Office Process and the ScriptingFramework when invoking a macro. Macros are identified by a URI and are represented by objects implementing the com.sun.star.script.provider.XScript interface. When the getScript() method is called the ScriptingFramework uses the URI to determine the correct LanguageScriptProvider to call getScript() on. The LanguageScriptProvider translates a URI into a object that implements XScript. Office can then invoke the macro by calling invoke on that object.

Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component using the Java Helper Classes

The Scripting Framework provides a set of Java Helper classes which make it easier to add support for scripting languages for which a Java interpreter exists. This set of
classes will handle all of the UNO plumbing required to implement a LanguageScriptProvider, leaving the developer to focus on writing the code to execute their scripting language macros. The steps to add a new LanguageScriptProvider using Java are:

41. Create a new ScriptProviderForYourLanguage by inheriting from the abstract ScriptProvider Java base class

42. Implement the com.sun.star.script.provider.XScript UNO interface with code to run your scripting language interpreter from Java

43. Optionally, add support for editing your scripting language macros by implementing the ScriptEditor Java interface

44. Build and register your ScriptProvider

The ScriptProvider Abstract Base Class

The ScriptProvider class is an abstract Java class with three abstract methods:

```java
// this method is used to get a script for a script URI
public abstract XScript getScript(String scriptURI)
    throws com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException,
            com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptFrameworkErrorException;

// This method is used to determine whether the ScriptProvider has a ScriptEditor
public abstract boolean hasScriptEditor();

// This method is used to get the ScriptEditor for this ScriptProvider
public abstract ScriptEditor getScriptEditor();
```

The most important method is the `getScript()` method which must be implemented in order for OpenOffice.org to execute macros in your scripting language. Fortunately this is made easy by a set of helper methods in the ScriptProvider class, and by a set of helper classes which implement the BrowseNode API described in Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component From Scratch.

Here is an example of a ScriptProvider implementation for a new ScriptProviderForYourLanguage:

```java
import com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.lang.XSingleServiceFactory;
import com.sun.star.registry.XRegistryKey;
import com.sun.star.comp.loader.FactoryHelper;
import com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo;
```
import com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization;
import com.sun.star.script.provider.XScriptContext;
import com.sun.star.script.provider.XScript;
import com.sun.star.script.framework.provider.ScriptProvider;
import com.sun.star.script.framework.provider.ScriptEditor;
import com.sun.star.script.framework.container.ScriptMetaData;

public class ScriptProviderForYourLanguage
{
    public static class _ScriptProviderForYourLanguage extends ScriptProvider
    {
        public _ScriptProviderForYourLanguage(XComponentContext ctx)
        {
            super (ctx, "YourLanguage");
        }

        public XScript getScript(String scriptURI)
            throws com.sun.star.uno.RuntimeException,
                   com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptFrameworkErrorException
        {
            YourLanguageScript script = null;
            try
            {
                ScriptMetaData scriptMetaData = getScriptData(scriptURI);
                XScriptContext xScriptContext = getScriptingContext();
                script = new YourLanguageScript(xScriptContext,
                                                  scriptMetaData);
            }
            catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception e)
            {
                System.err.println("Failed to get script: " + scriptURI);
            }
            return script;
        }

        public boolean hasScriptEditor()
        {
            return true;
        }

        public ScriptEditor getScriptEditor()
        {
            return new ScriptEditorForYourLanguage();
        }
    }
}

// code to register and create a service factory for ScriptProviderForYourLanguage
// this code is the standard code for registering classes which implement UNO services
public static XSingleServiceFactory __getServiceFactory( String implName,
                                                         XMultiServiceFactory multiFactory,
                                                         XRegistryKey regKey )
{
The ScriptProvider Abstract Base Class

```java
XSingleServiceFactory xSingleServiceFactory = null;

if ( implName.equals( ScriptProviderForYourLanguage._ScriptProviderForYourLanguage.class.getName() ) ) {
    xSingleServiceFactory = FactoryHelper.getServiceFactory(
        ScriptProviderForYourLanguage._ScriptProviderForYourLanguage.class,
        "com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptProviderForYourLanguage",
        multiFactory,
        regKey );
}
return xSingleServiceFactory;
}

public static boolean __writeRegistryServiceInfo( XRegistryKey regKey ) {
    String impl = "ScriptProviderForYourLanguage$_ScriptProviderForYourLanguage";
    String service1 = "com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptProvider";
    String service2 = "com.sun.star.script.provider.LanguageScriptProvider";
    String service3 = "com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptProviderForYourLanguage";
    FactoryHelper.writeRegistryServiceInfo(impl, service1, regKey);
    FactoryHelper.writeRegistryServiceInfo(impl, service2, regKey);
    FactoryHelper.writeRegistryServiceInfo(impl, service3, regKey);
    return true;
}
```

The `getScriptData()` and `getScriptingContext()` methods, make the implementation of the `getScript()` method easy.

The `__getServiceFactory()` and `__writeRegistryServiceInfo()` methods are standard OpenOffice.org methods for registering UNO components. The only thing you need to change in them is the name of your ScriptProvider.

## Implementing the XScript Interface

The next step is to provide the `YourLanguageScript` implementation which will
Implementing the XScript Interface

execute the macro code. The following example shows the code for the
YourLanguageScript class:

```java
import com.sun.star.uno.Type;
import com.sun.star.uno.Any;
import com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException;
import com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException;
import com.sun.star.reflection.InvocationTargetException;
import com.sun.star.script.CannotConvertException;
import com.sun.star.script.provider.XScriptContext;
import com.sun.star.script.provider.XScript;
import com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptFrameworkErrorException;
import com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptFrameworkErrorType;
import com.sun.star.script.framework.provider.ClassLoaderFactory;
import com.sun.star.script.framework.container.ScriptMetaData;

public class YourLanguageScript implements XScript
{
    private XScriptContext xScriptContext;
    private ScriptMetaData scriptMetaData;

    public YourLanguageScript(XScriptContext xsc, ScriptMetaData smd)
    {
        this.xScriptContext = xsc;
        this.scriptMetaData = smd;
    }

    public Object invoke( Object[] aParams,
                         short[][] aOutParamIndex,
                         Object[][] aOutParam )
        throws com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptFrameworkErrorException,
               com.sun.star.reflection.InvocationTargetException
    {
        // Initialise the out parameters - not used at the moment
        aOutParamIndex[0] = new short[0];
        aOutParam[0] = new Object[0];

        // Use the following code to set up a ClassLoader if you need one
        ClassLoader cl = null;
        try {
            cl = ClassLoaderFactory.getURLClassLoader( scriptMetaData );
        }
        catch ( java.lang.Exception e )
        {
            // Framework error
            throw new ScriptFrameworkErrorException( e.getMessage(), null,
                                                      scriptMetaData.getLanguageName(),
                                                      ScriptFrameworkErrorType.UNKNOWN );
        }

        // Load the source of your script using the scriptMetaData object
        scriptMetaData.loadSource();
        String source = scriptMetaData.getSource();
        Any result = null;
    }
```
// This is where you add the code to execute your script
// You should pass the xScriptContext variable to the script
// so that it can access the application API
result = yourlanguageinterpreter.run( source );

// The invoke method should return a com.sun.star.uno.Any object
// containing the result of the script. This can be created using
// the com.sun.star.uno.AnyConverter helper class
if (result == null)
{
    return new Any(new Type(), null);
}
return result;
}

If the interpreter for YourLanguage supports Java class loading, then the
ClassLoaderFactory helper class can be used to load any class or jar files associated
with a macro. The ClassLoaderFactory uses the parcel-descriptor.xml file (see
Compiling and Deploying Java macros) to discover what class and jar files need to be
loaded by the script.

The ScriptMetaData class will load the source code of the macro which can then be
passed to the YourLanguage interpreter.

Implementing the ScriptEditor Interface

If you want to add support for editing scripts you need to implement the ScriptEditor
interface:

package com.sun.star.script.framework.provider;

import com.sun.star.script.provider.XScriptContext;
import com.sun.star.script.framework.container.ScriptMetaData;

public interface ScriptEditor
{
    public Object execute() throws Exception;
    public void indicateErrorLine( int lineNum );
    public void edit(XScriptContext context, ScriptMetaData entry);
    public String getTemplate();
    public String getExtension();
}

The edit() method is called when a user presses the Edit button in the Macro
Organizer. The ScriptEditor implementation can use the ScriptMetaData object to
obtain the source code for the macro and display it.
Implementing the ScriptEditor Interface

The `getTemplate()` method should return a template of a macro in your language, for example the code to write `HelloWorld` into a document. The `getExtension()` method should return the filename extension used for macros written in your language. These methods are called when the **Create** button is pressed in the Macro Organizer.

The `execute()` and `indicateErrorLine()` methods are not called by the Macro Organizer and so they do not have to do anything. They are used by the implementation of the `ScriptProviderForBeanShell` to execute the source code that is displayed in the `ScriptEditorForBeanShell`, and to open the `ScriptEditorForBeanShell` at the line for which an error has occurred. The developer may wish to do the same when writing their `ScriptProviderForYourLanguage` and `ScriptEditorForYourLanguage`.

The following code shows an example `ScriptEditorForYourLanguage.java` file:

```java
import com.sun.star.script.framework.provider.ScriptEditor;
import com.sun.star.script.provider.XScriptContext;
import com.sun.star.script.framework.container.ScriptMetaData;
import javax.swing.*;

public class ScriptEditorForYourLanguage implements ScriptEditor {
    public Object execute() throws Exception {
        return null;
    }

    public void indicateErrorLine(int lineNum) {
        return;
    }

    public void edit(XScriptContext context, ScriptMetaData entry) {
        JFrame frame = new JFrame();
        frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.DISPOSE_ON_CLOSE);
        JTextArea ta = new JTextArea();
        entry.loadSource();
        ta.setText(entry.getSource());
        frame.getContentPane().add(ta);
        frame.setSize(400, 400);
        frame.show();
    }

    public String getTemplate() {
        return "the code for a YourLanguage script";
    }

    public String getExtension() {
        return "your_language";
    }
}
```
Building and Registering Your ScriptProvider

In order to compile these classes you need to include the UNO and Scripting Framework jar files in your classpath. You can find these in the program/classes directory of your OpenOffice.org installation. The jar files that you need to include are: ridl.jar, unoil.jar, jurt.jar and ScriptFramework.jar.

To compile ScriptProviderForYourLanguage:

1. Compile the ScriptProviderForYourLanguage.java, ScriptEditorForYourLanguage.java and YourLanguageScript.java files

2. Create a jar file for ScriptProviderForYourLanguage with the following in the manifest file. (Use the -m switch to the jar command to add the manifest data)

   Built-By: Yours Truly RegistrationClassName: ScriptProviderForYourLanguage

   1. Register the ScriptProviderForYourLanguage jar file using the Extension Manager.

Now you should see an entry for YourLanguage in the Tools - Macros - Organize Macros... menu.

Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component From Scratch

To provide support for a new scripting language a new LanguageScriptProvider for that language needs to be created. The new LanguageScriptProvider, an UNO component, must be written in a language from which there is an existing UNO bridge. Details about UNO bridges can be found at UNO C++ Bridges.

The LanguageScriptProvider is an UNO component that provides the environment to execute a macro for a specific language. For example when OpenOffice.org encounters a Scripting Framework URI (see Scripting Framework URI Specification) the ScriptingFramework finds the appropriate LanguageScriptProvider to execute
Writing a LanguageScriptProvider UNO Component From Scratch

the script. A LanguageScriptProvider has the following responsibilities:

- It must support the com.sun.star.script.provider.LanguageScriptProvider service.
- It is responsible for creating the environment necessary to run a script.
- It is responsible for implementing the com.sun.star.script.browse.BrowseNode service to allow macros to be organized and browsed.
- Given a script URI it is responsible for returning a command like object that implements the com.sun.star.script.provider.XScript interface that can execute the macro indicated by the URI.
- The name of the any LanguageScriptProvider service must be of the form "com.sun.star.script.provider.ScriptProviderFor[Language]", where Language is the language name as it appears in a script URI.

Note – The name of the LanguageScriptProvider MUST be as above otherwise it will not operate correctly.

Scripting Framework URI Specification

vnd.sun.star.script:MACROREF?language=Language&location=[user|share|document]

where:

- MACROREF is a name that identifies the macro and the naming convention for MACROREF identifiers is LanguageScriptProvider specific. It allows the LanguageScriptProvider to associate MACROREF with a macro. In the case of the LanguageScriptProviders for the Java based languages supported by OpenOffice.org e.g. (Java, JavaScript & Beanshell) the convention is Library.functionname where Library is the subdirectory under the language specific directory and functionname is the function name from the parcel-descriptor.xml in the Library directory. See Scripting Framework URI Specification.
- Language specifies the LanguageScriptProvider needed to execute the macro as described.

Example 1 – URI for a JavaScript macro Library1.myMacro.js located in the share directory of a OpenOffice.org installation.

vnd.sun.star.script:Library1.myMacro.js?language=JavaScript&location=share

In general macros contained in extensions have the format

vnd.sun.star.script:MACROREF?language=TheLanguage&location=[user:uno_packages/packageName|share:uno_packages/packageName]
Example 2 - URI for a JavaScript macro Library1.myMacro.js located in an extension called myUnoPkg.oxt located in share directory of a OpenOffice.org installation.

```
vnd.sun.star.script:Library1.myMacro.js?
language=JavaScript&location=share:uno_packages/myUnoPkg.oxt
```

**Note** – In the case of the OpenOffice.org Basic language, no distinction is made internally between macros deployed in extensions and those not deployed extensions. Therefore in the case of a OpenOffice.org Basic macro located in an extension the location attribute in the URI contains just “user” or “share”.

## Storage of Scripts

A **LanguageScriptProvider** is responsible for knowing about how its own macros are stored: where, what format and what kind of directory structure is used. The Scripting Framework attempts to standardize how to store and discover macros by defining:

- A default directory structure.
  
  Macros can only be stored under a directory with the language name (as it appears in the script URI) in lowercase under a directory called *Scripts*, which is located in either the user or share directories of a OpenOffice.org installation or a OpenOffice.org document.

  **Example for a LanguageScriptProvider** for the “JavaScript” macro library. It is located in `<OfficePath>/share/Scripts/JavaScript/Highlight`

- A generic mechanism for enabling discovery of macros in macro libraries and associating meta-data with scripts located in this libraries. See *parcel-descriptor.xml* in **Compiling and Deploying Java Macros**. Example the parcel-descriptor for the JavaScript Highlight macro library is located in `<OfficePath>/share/Scripts/JavaScript/Highlight/parcel-descriptor.xml`

## Implementation

A **LanguageScriptProvider** implementation must follow the service definition com.sun.star.script.provider.LanguageScriptProvider.

Since a **LanguageScriptProvider** is an UNO component, it must additionally contain the component operations needed by a UNO service manager. These operations are
certain static methods in Java or export functions in C++. It also has to implement the core interfaces used to enable communication with UNO and the application environment. For more information on the component operations and core interfaces, please see Component Architecture and Core Interfaces to Implement.

LanguageScriptProvider

The interface Initialization supports method:

```java
void initialize( [in] sequence<any> arguments )
```

The LanguageScriptProvider is responsible for organizing and execution of macros written in a specific language for a certain location. The possible locations for macros are within a document or either the user or share directories in a OpenOffice.org installation. The LanguageScriptProvider is initialized for given location context which is passed as the first argument to the initialize() method. The location context is a string with the following possible values

- **user** String. Denotes the user directory in a OpenOffice.org installation
- **share** String. Denotes the share directory in a OpenOffice.org installation
- **url** String. For user or share directory, the url has scheme vnd.sun.star.expand

example:

```plaintext
user directory "vnd.sun.star.expand:/$SYSBINDIR/bootstraprc/::UserInstallation
/user"

share directory "vnd.sun.star.expand:/$SYSBINDIR/bootstraprc/::BaseInstallation"
```
Where for a currently open document the url has scheme
vnd.sun.star.tdoc

Example:
vnd.sun.star.tdoc:/1

The com.sun.star.script.browse.XBrowseNode interface supported by a LanguageScriptProvider service is the initial point of contact for the [PRODUCTNAME] application. In order for the %PRODUCTNAME to process and display macros it needs to be able to list those macros. Additionally the MacroOrganizer dialogs use the com.sun.star.script.browse.BrowseNode service to create/delete new macros and macro libraries.

The interface com.sun.star.script.browse.XBrowseNode supports the following methods:

```
string getName() sequence < ::com::sun::star::script::browse::XBrowseNode >
getChildNodes() boolean hasChildNodes() short getType()
```

The method `getName()` returns the name of the node.

**Note** – For the root node of a LanguageScriptProvider, the name returned from `getName()` is expected be the language name as it would appear in a script URI e.g. Basic

The method `getChildNodes()` method should return the nodes which represent the next level in the hierarchy of macros and macro Libraries the LanguageScriptProvider is managing.

The method `getType()` returns the type of the node.

Nodes can be of three types represented by the constants com.sun.star.script.browse.BrowseNodeTypes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.script.browse.BrowseNodeTypes:SCRIPT</td>
<td>Indicates that the node is a script.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.script.browse.BrowseNodeTypes:CONTAINER</td>
<td>Indicates that the node is a container of other nodes e.g. Library</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The objects implementing XBrowseNodes can must also implement com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet.
Properties of object implementing com.sun.star.script.browse.BrowseNode

**Uri**
string. Found on script nodes only, is the script URI for the macro associated with this node.

**Description**
string. Found on script nodes only, is a description of the macro associated with this node.

**Creatable**
boolean. True if the implementation can create a new container or macro as a child of this node.

**Creatable**
boolean. True if the implementation can delete this node.

**Editable**
boolean. True if the implementation is able to open the macro in an editor.

**Renamable**
boolean. True if the implementation can rename this node.

Note that a node that has the Creatable, Deletable, Editable or Renamable properties set to true is expected to implement the com.sun.star.script.XInvocation interface.

The interface com.sun.star.script.XInvocation supports the following methods:

```java
com::sun::star::beans::XIntrospectionAccess getIntrospection();
any invoke( [in] string aFunctionName, [in] sequence<any> aParams, [out] sequence<short> aOutParamIndex, [out] sequence<any> aOutParam )
void setValue( [in] string aPropertyName, [in] any aValue )
any getValue( [in] string aPropertyName )
boolean hasMethod( [in] string aName )
boolean hasProperty( [in] string aName )
```

The `invoke()` function is passed as an argument the property keys of the com.sun.star.script.browse.BrowseNode service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>aFunctionName</th>
<th>aParams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Editable</strong></td>
<td>None required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creatable</strong></td>
<td>aParam[0] should contain the name of the new child node to be created.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deletable</strong></td>
<td>None required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Renamable</strong></td>
<td>aParam[0] should contain the new name for the node.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Uri</strong></td>
<td>None required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>None required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Access to a macro if provided for by the com.sun.star.script.provider.XScriptProvider interface which supports the following method:

```java
::com::sun::star::script::provider::XScript getScript( [in] string sScriptURI )
```

The `getScript()` method is passed a script URI `sScriptURI` and the
LanguageScriptProvider implementation needs to parse this URI so it can interpret the details and validate them. As the LanguageScriptProvider is responsible for exporting and generating the URI associated with a macro it is also responsible for performing the reverse translation for a given URI and returning an object implementing com.sun.star.script.provider.XScript interface which will allow the macro to be invoked.

com.sun.star.script.provider.XScript which supports the following methods:

```java
any invoke( [in] sequence<any> aParams,              
            [out] sequence<short> aOutParamIndex,              
            [out] sequence<any> aOutParam )
```

In addition to the parameters that may be passed to an object implementing com.sun.star.script.provider.XScript it is up to the that object to decide what extra information to pass to a running macro. It makes sense to pass information to the macro which makes the macro writer's job easier. Information such as a reference to the document (context), a reference to the service manager (available from the component context passed into the LanguageScriptProvider component's constructor by UNO), and a reference to the desktop (available from UNO using this service manager).

All of the Java based reference LanguagesScriptProvider provided with OpenOffice.org make this information available to the running macro in the form of an object implementing the interface com.sun.star.script.provider.XScriptContext. This provides accessor methods to get the current document, the desktop and the component context. Depending on the constraints of the language this information is passed to the macros in different ways, for example in Beanshell and JavaScript this is available as an environment variable and in the case of Java it is passed as the first argument to the macro.

**Integration with Extension Manager**

The Extension Manager is a tool for deploying components, configuration data and macro libraries (see chapter Extensions). It provides a convenient mechanism for macro developers to distribute their macros.

The scripting framework supports deployment of macros in extensions. Currently only extensions for the media type "application/vnd.sun.star.framework-script" are supported. Macros deployed in extensions of this media type must use the ScriptingFramework storage scheme and parcel-descriptor.xml to function correctly. An implementation of the com.sun.star.deployment.PackageRegistryBackend service is provided which supports deployment of macro libraries of media type "application/vnd.sun.star.framework-script" with the Extension Manager.
Integration with Extension Manager

**Note** – OpenOffice.org Basic macros are handled via a separate media type "application/vnd.sun.star.basic-script" and hence handled by a different mechanism.

**Overview of how ScriptingFramework integrates with the Extension Manager API**

Registration of macro library using Package Manager

**Registration**

Macro libraries contained in extensions are registered by the Extensions Manager. It informs the LanguageScriptProvider by calling its insertByName() method. The LanguageScriptProvider persists the registration of the macro library in order to be
Integration with Extension Manager

Deregistration

Deregistration of a macro library contained in an extension is similar to the registration process described above, the Extension Manager informs the LanguageScriptProvider that a macro library has been removed by calling its removeByName() method. The LanguageScriptProvider removes the macro library from its persisted store of registered macro libraries.

Implementation of LanguageScriptProvider with support for Package Manager

In order for the LanguageScriptProvider to handle macro libraries contained in UNO packages with media type "application/vnd.sun.star.framework-script" it's initialize() method must be able to accept a special location context that indicates to the LanguageScriptProvider that it is dealing with extensions.

Location context

"user:uno_packages" String. Denotes the user installation deployment context.
"share:uno_packages" String. Denotes the share installation deployment context.

On initialization the LanguageScriptProvider needs to determine what macro libraries are already deployed by examining its persistent store.
Integration with Extension Manager

**Note** – LanguageScriptProviders created by implementing the abstract Java helper class `com.sun.star.script.framework.provider.ScriptProvider` do not need to concern themselves with storing details of registered macro libraries in extensions. This support is provided automatically. An XML file called `unopkg-desc.xml` contains the details of deployed UNO script packages. This file located in either `<OfficePath>/user/Scripts` or `<OfficePath>/share/Scripts` depending on the installation deployment context. The DTD for `unopkg-desc.xml` follows:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE unopackages SYSTEM "unopackages.dtd">
```

An example of a sample `uno-desc.xml` file is shown below.

```xml
<unopackages xmlns:unopackages="unopackages.dtd">
  <language value="BeanShell">
  </language>
  <language value="JavaScript">
  </language>
</unopackages>
```

An **LanguageScriptProvider** that does not use the Java abstract helper class `com.sun.star.script.framework.provider.ScriptProvider` will need to persist the extensions deployed for the supported language themselves.

The **LanguageScriptProvider** additionally needs to support the `com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer` interface which supports the following methods:

```java
void insertByName( [in] string aName,
                   [in] any aElement )
void removeByName( [in] string Name )
```

On registration of an extension containing scripts the **LanguageScriptProvider**’s `insertByName()` method is called with `aName` containing the URI to a macro library contained in the extension and `aElement` contains an object implementing...
Integration with Extension Manager

com.sun.star.deployment.XPackage. Note that the URI contains the full path to the macro library contained in the extension. For example, if the library is named my macros then the path includes the mymacros directory.

On deregistration of an extension containing scripts the LanguageScriptProvider’s removeByName() method is called with aName containing the URL to a macro library to be de-registered.

com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer interface itself inherits from com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess which supports the following method boolean hasByName( [in] string aName )

To determine whether the macro library in an extension is already registered the LanguageScriptProvider’s hasByName() is called with aName containing the URL to the script library. The other methods of the interfaces inherited by com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer are omitted for brevity and because they are not used in the interaction between the Extension Manager and the LanguageScriptProvider. A Developer however still must implement these methods.

Implementation of the BrowseNode service

The LanguageScriptProvider created for an installation deployment context needs to expose the macro and macro libraries that it is managing. How this is achieved is up to the developer. A LanguageScriptProviders created by extending the Java abstract helper class com.sun.star.script.framework.provider.ScriptProvider creates nodes for each extension that contain macro libraries for the supported language. Each extension node contains the macro library nodes for the supported language and those nodes in turn contain macro nodes.

An alternative implementation could merge the macro libraries into the existing tree for macro libraries and not distinguish whether the macros are located in an extension or not. This is loosely the approach taken for OpenOffice.org Basic.

Example of creating a extension containing a macro library suitable for deploying with Extension Manager. The following example shows how to create an UNO package from the Beanshell macro library Capitalize. This macro library is located in the <OfficeDir>/share/beanshell/Capitalize directory of a OpenOffice.org installation. The extension created will be deployable using the Extension Manager.

First create a scratch directory for example called temp. Copy the macro library directory and its contents into temp. In temp create a sub-directory called META-INF and within this directory create a file called manifest.xml.
The contents of the *manifest.xml* file for the Capitalize macro library are as follows:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE manifest:manifest PUBLIC "-//OpenOffice.org//DTD Manifest 1.0//EN" "Manifest.dtd">
<manifest:manifest
    xmlns:manifest="http://openoffice.org/2001/manifest">
  <manifest:file-entry manifest:media-type="application/vnd.sun.star.framework-script"
                          manifest:full-path="Capitalise/"/>
</manifest:manifest>
```

Next create a zip file containing the contents (but not including the `temp` directory). The name of the file should have the extension ".oxt" e.g. `Capitalise.oxt`.

Deploying a macro library contained in an extension. To deploy the extension you need to use the Extension Manager (see chapter Extensions). Once the extension has been deployed successfully the macro will be available for assignment or execution.
Graphical User Interfaces

The com.sun.star.awt API-module is used to access and design user interface features. The concepts that this module are based on are similar to java.awt. This module provides services and interfaces to create and handle the large set of GUI elements that are demanded by today's modern components. This chapter is directed to extension developers who want to add functionality to their OpenOffice.org application and want to create a consistent user interface.

Implementation Details

You can use the UNO module Abstract Window Toolkit (UNO-AWT) to create a graphical user interface. The concept of UNO-AWT is based on Java/AWT. Java provides the AWT and Swing user interface design packages within its Java Foundation Classes class library. The implementation of java.awt components is based on the implementation of the peer components of the operating system. This is known as a "heavyweight" implementation. com.sun.star.awt components are lightweight controls because their implementation is based solely on OpenOffice.org. This gives you platform independence. The functionality of heavyweight controls may only be as high as the lowest common denominator of all involved operating systems, however, OpenOffice UI components are meant to emulate the design of the corresponding components of the operating system. The layer responsible for this is called VCL or Visual Class Library. The layer on top of the VCL is the Toolkit layer. This layer maps all interfaces of com.sun.star.awt to VCL.
Basic Concepts

The basic concepts that are used in com.sun.star.awt are described in previous chapters:

- Event Model describes how to use event listeners at controls. With Event-Listeners at controls you can determine how a window reacts to mouse or keyboard driven events.
- Exceptions explains how to handle errors as Exceptions.
- Introduction describes factories.
- Data Types describes the basic UNO types, and provides information about how to convert these types to and from various target languages.
- OpenOffice.org Basic provides information for developers who want to implement Basic macros.
- Accessing Dialogs explains how dialogs created with the dialog engine can be embedded within OpenOffice.org extensions.

Exception Handling

In theory, robust exception handling reacts to all unpredictable situations. In practice, many of these situations can be avoided by preventive runtime behavior or by making sure that the methods defined to raise exceptions are only used in a defined context. In these cases empty exception handling as done in the example code is justifiable.

Dialogs and Controls

The com.sun.star.awt module provides a set of services specifying UNO components that can be used within dialogs. The controls as well as the dialog itself, follow the Model-View-Controller (MVC) paradigm, which separates the component into three logical units, the model, view, and controller. The model represents the data and the low-level behavior of the component and has no specific knowledge of its controllers or its views. In practice this separation is not always strictly followed. The UNO control models can contain information about the visual display of the controls.

The view manages the visual display of the state represented by the model. The controller manages the user interaction with the model. Toolkit controls combine the view and the controller into one logical unit that forms the user interface for the
Dialogs and Controls

component. For example, the text field model is implemented by the com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEditModel service that extends the com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlModel service. All aspects of the model are described as a set of properties which are accessible through the com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet interface. The view is responsible for the display of the text field and its content.

The controller handles the user input provided through the keyboard and mouse. If the user changes the text in a text field, the controller updates the corresponding model property. The controller also updates the view. For example, when the user selects some text in a text field and presses the delete key on the keyboard, the marked text in the text field is deleted.

A more detailed description of the MVC paradigm can be found in The Model-View Paradigm.

The base for all the Toolkit controls is the com.sun.star.awt.UnoControl service that exports the following interfaces:

- The com.sun.star.awt.XControl interface specifies control basics. For example, it gives access to the model, view and context of a control.
- The interfaces com.sun.star.awt.XWindow, com.sun.star.awt.XWindow2, com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer specify operations for a window component. They are all based on an equal footing and are available on arbitrary UNO-objects representing windows.
- The com.sun.star.awt.XView interface provides methods for attaching an output device and drawing an object.

Dialog Creation

To create a dialog you can design the dialog within the dialog engine (as explained in OpenOffice.org Basic) and add it to an extension project (as described in Accessing Dialogs). A programmatic approach to create a dialog is illustrated in the following process sequence:

Instantiation of a Dialog

The first step to create a dialog is to instantiate the dialog and its corresponding model. As can be seen in the following code example, the dialog as well as its model
are created by the global MultiComponentFactory. The model is assigned to the
dialog using setModel(). The dialog model is a
com.sun.star.container.XNameContainer that keeps all control models and accesses
them by their name. Similarly the dialog implements the interface
com.sun.star.awt.XControlContainer that accesses the controls via the method
getControl(). In a later step, each control model must be added to the Name-
Container of the dialog model, which is why these object variables are defined with a
public scope in the code example. Alternatively you can also retrieve the dialog model
using the method getModel() at the dialog interface com.sun.star.awt.XControl.

```java
public XNameContainer m_xDlgModelNameContainer = null;
public XControlContainer m_xDlgContainer = null;
...

private void createDialog(XMultiComponentFactory _xMCF) {
    try {
        Object oDialogModel =
            _xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogModel",
            m_xContext);

        // The XMultiServiceFactory of the dialogmodel is needed to instantiate
        the controls...
        m_xMSFDialogModel = (XMultiServiceFactory)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiServiceFactory.class, oDialogModel);

        // The named container is used to insert the created controls into...
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer = (XNameContainer)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameContainer.class, oDialogModel);

        // create the dialog...
        Object oUnoDialog =
            _xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialog",
            m_xContext);
        m_xDialogControl = (XControl) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControl.class,
            oUnoDialog);

        // The scope of the control container is public...
        m_xDlgContainer = (XControlContainer)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControlContainer.class, oUnoDialog);

        m_xTopWindow = (XTopWindow) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTopWindow.class,
            m_xDlgContainer);

        // link the dialog and its model...
        XControlModel xControlModel = (XControlModel)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControlModel.class, oDialogModel);
        m_xDialogControl.setModel(xControlModel);
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception exception) {
        exception.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
}
```
Setting Dialog Properties

When the dialog has been instantiated as described in the coding example, the dialog is ready to be configured.

The dialog model supports the service `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogModel` that includes the service `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlModel`, and this includes `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogElement`. This service specifies the following properties:

**Properties of com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogElement**

- `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogElement:Height` long. Attributes denoting the position and size of controls are also available at the control, but the these properties should be set at the model because they use the Map AppFont unit. Map AppFont units are device and resolution independent. One Map AppFont unit is equal to one eighth of the average character (Systemfont) height and one quarter of the average character width. The dialog editor also uses Map AppFont units, and sets their values automatically.

- `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogElement:PositionX` long. The Step property is described in detail in the next section.

- `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogElement:PositionY` string. The Name property is required, because all dialogs and controls are referenced by their name. In the dialog editor this name is initially created from the object name and a number that makes the name unique, for example, "TextField1".

- `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogElement:Width` short. The TabIndex property determines the tabulator index of the control within the tabulator order of all controls of the dialog. The tabulator order denotes the order in which the controls are focused in the dialog when you press the Tab key. In a dialog that contains more than one control, the focus moves to the next control in the tabulator order when you press the Tab key. The default tab order is derived from the insertion
Setting Dialog Properties

order of the controls in the dialog. The index of the first element has the value 0.

The TabIndex must not be directly sequential to the predecessor control. If the program logic requires you to insert an uncertain number of controls between two controls during runtime, a number of tab indices can be kept free in between the two controls.

com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogElement:Tag

string. The Tag property can be used to store and evaluate additional information at a control. This information may then be used in the program source code.

A dialog model exports the interfaces com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet and com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet. When you set multiple properties at the same time you should use com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet because then multiple properties can be set with a single API call. When you use com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet you must remember to pass the properties in alphabetical order (see the examples in the following chapters).

Warning – Note: Toolkit control models are generally configured by attributes that are defined in the service descriptions, whereas controls usually implement interfaces. This same principle applies to dialogs.

The following code snippet demonstrates the assignment of the most important dialog properties:

```java
// Define the dialog at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
String[] sPropertyNames = new String[] {"Height", "Moveable", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Step", "TabIndex", "Title", "Width"};

Object[] oObjectValues = new Object[] { new Integer(380), Boolean.TRUE, "MyTestDialog", new Integer(102), new Integer(41), new Integer(0), new Short((short) 0), "OpenOffice", new Integer(250)};

setPropertyValues( sPropertyNames, oObjectValues);
...

public void setPropertyValues(String[] PropertyNames, Object[] PropertyValue)
    try{
        XMultiPropertySet xMultiPropertySet = (XMultiPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, m_xDlgModelNameContainer);
        xMultiPropertySet.setPropertyValues(PropertyNames, PropertyValue);
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) { ex.printStackTrace(System.out); }
```
Multi-Page Dialogs

A dialog may have several pages that can be traversed step-by-step. This feature is used in the OpenOffice.org wizards. The dialog-model property Step defines which page of the dialog is active. At runtime, the next page of a dialog is displayed by increasing the Step value by 1. The Step property of a control defines the page of the dialog that the control is visible on. For example, if a control has a Step value of 1, it is only visible on page 1 of the dialog. If the Step value of the dialog is increased from 1 to 2, then all controls with a Step value of 1 are removed and all controls with a Step value of 2 become visible. A special role has the Step value 0. If the control's Step is assigned to a value of 0, the control is displayed on all dialog pages. If the dialog's Step property is assigned to 0, all controls regardless their Step value are displayed. The property Visible, specified in the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlModel determines if a control should appear on a certain step or not. However, the effective visibility of a control also depends on the value of the Step property. A control is visible only when the Visible property is set to true and when the value of the control Step property is equal to the dialog Step property.

Adding Controls to a Dialog

After the dialog and its model have been instantiated and configured, the dialog controls can be added as described in Programming Dialogs and Dialog Controls.

Displaying Dialogs

After you have inserted the controls, you can create a WindowPeer, a low level object that makes sure the window is displayed correctly, and the dialog can be executed. A dialog implements com.sun.star.awt.XWindow. To access the window toolkit implementation, a com.sun.star.awt.XWindowPeer must be created. The dialog control is shown by calling the execute() method of the com.sun.star.awt.XDialog interface. It can be closed by calling endExecute(), or by offering a Cancel or OK Button on the dialog Command Button. Dialogs such as this one are described as modal because they do not permit any other program action until they are closed. While the dialog is open, the program remains in the execute() call. The dispose() method at the end of the code frees the resources used by the dialog. It is important to note that dispose() - the method to free the memory - must be positioned directly after the execute() call and not behind endExecute();
The method `createPeer()` creates an internal or low level peer-object, that makes sure that the window is displayed correctly.

### Dialog Handling

When a designed dialog has been executed either after it has been created via a dialog editor or programmatically, there usually is a demand to interact with the dialog, or query its state or the states of its contained controls during runtime. This topic will help you become familiar with how to handle UNO dialogs during runtime, and it will provide you with an overview of all of the supported dialog controls. It does not provide a complete description of all involved facets. It is meant to provide you with the information you need to solve individual problems on your own. Additional information can be found in the respective interface and service descriptions.

**Tip** - You will most probably want your extension to integrate into OpenOffice.org. The OpenOffice.org style guide under `DialogSpecificationandGuidelines.odt` defines the rules that user interface elements must follow in order to give the application a consistent look and feel.
Events

OpenOffice.org dialogs are based on an event-oriented programming model where you can assign event handlers to the control elements. An event handler runs a predefined procedure when a particular action occurs. Event handlers are always added directly to the control (not to the control models). All dialog controls implement the interface com.sun.star.awt.XControl which extends the interface com.sun.star.awt.XWindow. Listeners are added to a control with a specific add<ListenerName>Listener() method like addMouseListener( [in] XMouseListener xListener ). Listeners are removed with a specific remove<ListenerName>Listener() method like removeMouseListener( [in] XMouseListener xListener ).

The methods of all listener interfaces have a parameter of a type derived from com.sun.star.lang.EventObject, for example com.sun.star.awt.MouseEvent, com.sun.star.awt.FocusEvent etc. This event object always carries a property Source by which it is possible to query the control an event has been triggered at.

The following code example shows how to implement an XActionListener. You must remember to implement the disposing() method as dictated by com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener. disposing() is supposed to be triggered when a dispose() command at the control has been invoked.

```java
public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent rEvent) {
    try{
        // get the control that has fired the event,
        XControl xControl = (XControl) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControl.class, rEvent.Source);
        XControlModel xControlModel = xControl.getModel();
        XPropertySet xPSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xControlModel);
        String sName = (String) xPSet.getPropertyValue("Name");
        // just in case the listener has been added to several controls,
        // we make sure we refer to the right one
        if (sName.equals("CommandButton1")){
            //...
        }
    }catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
        /* perform individual exception handling here.
        * Possible exception types are:
        * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
        * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
        */
    }
}
```

Tip - A specification guide that defines the general behavior of OpenOffice.org assistance is Wizards_NewConcept.sxw.
Mouse Listeners

Events that correspond to mouse actions are triggered by a com.sun.star.awt.XMouseListener that react to mouse movements over a control. Popular use-cases for a mouse listener are changing the mouse pointer when the mouse moves over the window or querying the click count of the event mousePressed([in] com.sun.star.awt.MouseEvent e) when you want to differentiate between a single-click and a double-click. For this purpose all methods carry a parameter <idls>com.sun.star.awt.MenuEvent</idls>, a structure that contains amongst other things, the member ClickCount. Other members (PositionX and PositionY) are to query the mouse position during the event invocation and Buttons that refers to the pressed mouse buttons.

A MouseMotionListener that implements com.sun.star.awt.XMouseMotionListener can be used when a movement of the mouse pointer must be observed. The following example code shows a part of an implementation of a mouse motion listener that is executed when the mouse is entering a control. For further information about WindowPeers, see Displaying Dialogs.

```java
public void mouseEntered(MouseEvent _mouseEvent) {
    try {
        // retrieve the control that the event has been invoked at...
        XControl xControl = (XControl)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControl.class, _mouseEvent.Source);
        Object tk =
            m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit", m_xContext);
        XToolkit xToolkit = (XToolkit)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XToolkit.class, tk);
        // create the peer of the control by passing the windowpeer of the parent
        xControl.createPeer(xToolkit, m_xWindowPeer);
        // in this case the windowpeer of the control
        XPointer xPointer = (XPointer)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPointer.class, oPointer);
        // finally set the created pointer at the windowpeer of the control
        xControl.getPeer().setPointer(xPointer);
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) {
        throw new java.lang.RuntimeException("cannot happen...");
    }
}
```
Keyboard Listener

Keyboard events can be captured by a KeyListener that implements com.sun.star.awt.XKeyListener. This allows you to verify each keyboard stroke. This listener is very useful for edit controls. The interface dictates the implementation of the two methods keyPressed() and keyReleased().

```java
public void keyReleased(KeyEvent keyEvent) {
    int i = keyEvent.KeyChar;
    int n = keyEvent.KeyCode;
    int m = keyEvent.KeyFunc;
}
```

Focus Listener

A focus listener implementing com.sun.star.awt.XFocusListener is notified when the focus is entering (focusGained()) or leaving (focusLost()) a control.

The FocusListener is usually used to verify the user input when the control loses the focus.

This example demonstrates how to use the focusEvent:

```java
public void focusLost(FocusEvent _focusEvent) {
    short nFocusFlags = _focusEvent.FocusFlags;
    int nFocusChangeReason = nFocusFlags & FocusChangeReason.TAB;
    if (nFocusChangeReason == FocusChangeReason.TAB) {
        // get the window of the Window that has gained the Focus...
        // Note that the xWindow is just a representation of the
        // controlwindow
        // but not of the control itself
        XWindow xWindow = (XWindow) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XWindow.class,
            _focusEvent.NextFocus);
    }
}
```

Paint Listener

Paint Listeners implementing com.sun.star.awt.XPaintListener are used to repaint areas that have become invalid.
Control element-specific events

Control element-specific events are events that only occur in relation to certain control elements.

The **When initiating** event is implemented in some control-button models. It is particularly useful because it is sent by either a key-press or a mouse-down action. Thus, it provides a consistent interface for users who navigate by mouse or by keyboard. If the model implements the **Repeat** capability, **When initiating** is the event that is repeatedly sent.

### Dialog Controls

Dialog controls follow the MVC paradigm [Frame-Controller-Model Paradigm in OpenOffice.org](http://openoffice.org). Many attributes are offered by the control model that you would normally expect to find in the control itself. Properties like **Visible** or **Printable** are examples of typical view attributes that are available in the model.

All control models within a UNO dialog support the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlModel, that includes com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDialogElement, as described in [Setting Dialog Properties](http://openoffice.org). It exports the interfaces com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet and com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet. When you set multiple properties at the same time you should use [IDL:com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet] because then multiple properties can be set with a single API call. When you use com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet make sure you pass the properties in alphabetical order. All relevant properties may be set directly in the control model. Some controls offer similar functionality, but by default you should always work in the control model.

The coding examples in the following sections concentrate on control models as the default.

Controls are required to:

- Attach listeners.
- Get Window or device dependent information.
- Use the "convenience" functionality offered by list boxes.
- Adjust the size according to the content. The interface com.sun.star.awt.XLayoutConstrains offers methods like `getPreferredSize()` that can be helpful when the size of the control is to be adjusted to its content.
must remember that the Unit of the returned size is according to the specification in com.sun.star.awt.Size in 1/100\textsuperscript{th} mm. This size may be applied with \texttt{setSize()} at the control.

## Common Properties

The common set of properties that are used by all controls are:

### Common Properties of all control models

- **Enabled**
  The \texttt{Enabled} property can be set to \texttt{true} or \texttt{false} to enable or disable a button during runtime.

- **HelpText**
  Help text is displayed as a tip on the control when the mouse moves over the control.

- **HelpURL**
  The \texttt{HelpURL} is the URL of a help document. When the control has the focus, you can press \texttt{F1} to open the help document. This feature is not yet available for embedded custom help documents. See issue \url{http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=20164} for more information.

Currently the only supported "Help URL scheme" follows the pattern \texttt{"HID:<HELPID>"}.

- **Printable**
  If \texttt{Printable} set to \texttt{false}, the control is not visible on printer outputs.

- **Tabstop**
  The \texttt{Tabstop} property defines if a control can be reached with the \texttt{TAB} key.

- **Visible**
  The property \texttt{Visible} defines whether a dialog control is shown on its assigned dialog-step or not. The effective Visibility of a control is thus derived from the values of both properties \texttt{Step} and \texttt{Visible}. For example if the \texttt{Step} property of the control model is not equal to the \texttt{Step} property of the dialog model (that denotes the actual visible dialog step) the control will not be visible. In contrast, the method \texttt{setVisible( [in] boolean Visible )} at the interface \texttt{com.sun.star.awt.XWindow} can be applied to the control and will set the Visibility of the control regardless the value of the \texttt{Step} property.

## Font-specific Properties

The following properties are available on all controls with descriptive texts such as
Font-specific Properties

Text fields, command buttons, radio buttons and check boxes. They are in all respective service specifications of these controls (it is the model’s service description). When you are working with font properties, [http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=71482](http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=71482) must be considered.

### Properties referring to Font Attributes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[FontDescriptor]</td>
<td>The property <code>FontDescriptor</code> applies to the structure <code>com.sun.star.awt.FontDescriptor</code>, where all available characteristics of the font may be set.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[FontEmphasisMark]</td>
<td>Determines the type and position of an emphasis mark in Asian texts. It can accept any of the values in <code>com.sun.star.awt.FontEmphasisMark</code>. The <code>FontRelief</code> property accepts three values: (com.sun.star.text.FontRelief.) none (default), embossed or engraved. The embossed relief makes the characters appear as if they are raised above the page. The engraved relief makes the characters appear as if they are pressed into the page.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[FontCharWidth]</td>
<td>float. Specifies the character width.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[FontCharset]</td>
<td>short. Specifies the character set which is supported by the font. It can be any of the constants defined in <code>com.sun.star.awt.CharSet</code>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[FontName]</td>
<td>string. Specifies the exact name of the font.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[FontFamily]</td>
<td>Specifies the family style of a font and can accept values from the constants group com.sun.star.awt.FontFamily. This defines the group of typefaces with similar characteristics. Recognized families are Roman, Swiss, Modern, Script, and Decorative. For example, &quot;Arial&quot;, &quot;Arial Bold&quot;, &quot;Arial Bold Italic&quot;, &quot;Arial Italic&quot;, Small Fonts, and MS Sans Serif are all part of the sans serif Swiss font family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[FontHeight]</td>
<td>short. Specifies the height of the font in the measure of the destination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[FontWidth]</td>
<td>short. Specifies the width of the font in the measure of the destination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[FontKerning]</td>
<td>boolean. Font kerning defines the process of adjusting letter spacing in a proportional font.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
riptor.Kerning])

[FontOrientation]
{{com.sun.star.awt.FontDescription.Orientation}}

[FontPitch]
{{com.sun.star.awt.FontDescription.Pitch}}

short. Specifies the rotation of the font in degrees where 0 is the baseline.

short. The font pitch defines whether the width of a character of a font is fixed (as in monospaced fonts) or variable. It may accept one of the values defined in the constants group com.sun.star.awt.FontPitch.

[FontSlant]
{{com.sun.star.awt.FontDescription.Slant}}

Specifies how slanted the characters should be. It can be any value of the enumeration com.sun.star.awt.FontSlant, denoting (reverse) italic or (reverse) oblique or none slants.

[FontStrikeout]
{{com.sun.star.awt.FontDescription.Strikeout}}

Specifies the strikeout style of the text as defined by the constants group com.sun.star.awt.FontStrikeout.

[FontStyleName]
{{com.sun.star.awt.FontDescription.StyleName}}

string. Indicates the individual style of a font. For example "Bold", "Bold Italic" and "Italic" are defined styles of the font "Arial".

short. Specifies the technology of the font representation as defined by the constants group com.sun.star.awt.FontType. These constants either indicate if a font is a raster font. A scalable font (or "vector font" or "outline font") is one defined as vector graphics, i.e. as a set of lines and curves to define the border of glyphs, as opposed to a bitmap font, which defines each glyph as an array of pixels. A device font is a font that is only presentable on a special device like a printer. OpenOffice may use device independent metrics to display these fonts.

[FontUnderline]
{{com.sun.star.awt.FontDescription.Underline}}

[FontWeight]
{{com.sun.star.awt.FontDescription.Weight}}

float. Specifies the thickness of the font lines as a percentage relative to the inherited font weight.

[FontWordLineMode]
{{com.sun.star.awt.FontDescription.WordLineMode}}

boolean. Specifies if only words get underlined. True means that only non-space characters get underlined, false means that the spacing also gets underlined. This property is only valid if the
Font-specific Properties

Font properties may either be set as single properties or as a whole by means of the font descriptor which is useful when you want to assign the same properties to multiple objects.

Other Common Properties

The following properties are used by most controls:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[BackgroundColor]</td>
<td>long. Sets the background color of the control. Its value is an integer type representing an RGB value as described in com.sun.star.util.Color.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[TextColor]</td>
<td>long. Refers to the color of the text. When no specific text color is applied, it returns void.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[TextLineColor]</td>
<td>long. Refers to the underlining style color of the text. If Underlining is not applied it is void. See also Font-specific Properties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[BorderColor]</td>
<td>long. Refers to the color of the border (see Border-property). When no specific text color is applied, it returns void. Not every border style may support coloring. For example, a border with 3D effect will usually ignore the BorderColor Setting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Label]</td>
<td>string. The actual text displayed in a control is set by the Labelproperty of the model. A shortcut key can be defined for any control with a label by adding a tilde (~) before the character that will be used as a shortcut. When the user presses the character key simultaneously with the ALT key, the control automatically gets the focus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[MultiLine]</td>
<td>boolean. By default, the label displays the text from the Labelproperty in a single line. If the text exceeds the width of the control, the text is truncated (but not the data of the text). This behavior is changed by setting the MultiLineproperty to true, so that the text is displayed on more than one line if needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Align]</td>
<td>short. Specifies the horizontal alignment of the text in the control.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[VerticalAlign]</td>
<td>short. Specifies the vertical alignment of the text in the control.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other Common Properties

- control. Available options are (com.sun.star.style.VerticalAlignment).TOP, BOTTOM and MIDDLE.
- Many controls support this property which accepts three values from the enumeration com.sun.star.awt.VisualEffect that defines if no Border, a flat border or a 3D border is to be applied.

As OpenOffice.org emulates the look and feel of the operating system, changing some of these properties may not have any effect. There is no strict rule to be followed when property changes are ignored or not.

**Property Propagation Between Model and Control**

One particularity in the relationship of UNO controls and their models must be considered. Following the principles of the MVC paradigm all changes applied to the control model are directly propagated to the control and (its peer object). However, conversely not all changes applied to the control will notify the model. The general rule is that whenever an attribute of a control is modifiable by the user, a change of this attribute is also propagated to the model. The following table sums up all methods which invocation at UNO controls is propagated to the respective control model. The controls and interfaces are described in detail in the following sections.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Control Service Name in module</th>
<th>Interface in com.sun.star.awt</th>
<th>Method Name</th>
<th>Model Service in com.sun.star.awt</th>
<th>Affected Property at the model</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UnoControlCheckBox</td>
<td>XCheckBox</td>
<td>get]State</td>
<td>UnoControlCheckBoxModel</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnoControlRadioButton</td>
<td>XRadioButton</td>
<td>get]State</td>
<td>UnoControlRadioButtonModel</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnoControlScrollBar</td>
<td>XScrollBar</td>
<td>get]Value</td>
<td>UnoControlScrollBarModel</td>
<td>ScrollValue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnoControlComboBox</td>
<td>XComboBox</td>
<td>get]Item[s], add/removeItem</td>
<td>UnoControlComboBoxModel</td>
<td>Text, StringItemList</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnoControlListBox</td>
<td>XListBox</td>
<td>get]Item[s], [add</td>
<td>remove]Item, select</td>
<td>UnoControlListBoxModel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnoControlEdit</td>
<td>XTextComponent</td>
<td>get]Text;</td>
<td>UnoControlEditModel</td>
<td>Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnoControlCurrencyField</td>
<td>XCurrencyField</td>
<td>get]Value,</td>
<td>UnoControlCurrencyModel</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cyField</td>
<td>cyModel</td>
<td>Property Method</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnoControlDateField</td>
<td>UnoControlDateModel</td>
<td>XDateField</td>
<td>[set</td>
<td>get]Text get]Date,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>XTextComponent</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnoControlTimeField</td>
<td>UnoControlTimeModel</td>
<td>XTimeField</td>
<td>[set</td>
<td>get]Text get]Time,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>XTextComponent</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnoControlNumericField</td>
<td>UnoControlNumericFieldModel</td>
<td>XNumericField</td>
<td>[set</td>
<td>get]Text get]Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>XTextComponent</td>
<td>Value</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnoControlPatternField</td>
<td>UnoControlPatternFieldModel</td>
<td>XPatternField</td>
<td>[set</td>
<td>get]Text get]String,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>XTextComponent</td>
<td>Text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Common Workflow to add Controls**

For any existing dialog controls there is a common workflow to follow to insert a control into a dialog:

45. Instantiate the control model at the MultiServiceFactory of the dialog.

46. Set the Properties at the control model (for performance reasons, use the interface com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet).

47. Insert the control model at the control model container of the dialog model. In our coding examples we refer to this container by the public object variable m_xDlgModelNameContainer created in the code example of Instantiation of a Dialog.

48. Query the control from the dialog control container by referencing the name (that you have previously assigned to the control model). Note: According to the MVC paradigm there is no way to retrieve the control from the model.

**The Example Listings**

As is generally known, an example is worth a thousand words. This is especially true for UNO. Sourcecode written in UNO is very often self-explanatory and for this reason the following sections provide a large set of example listings. Some of them are ready-to-use, whereas the focus of other examples is on demonstrating concepts.
All coding examples that demonstrate how to insert controls into a dialog make use of the following method:

```java
/** makes a String unique by appending a numerical suffix
 * @param _xElementContainer the com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess container
 * that the new Element is going to be inserted to
 * @param _sElementName the StemName of the Element
 */
public static String createUniqueName(XNameAccess _xElementContainer, String _sElementName) {
    boolean bElementexists = true;
    int i = 1;
    String sIncSuffix = "";
    String BaseName = _sElementName;
    while (bElementexists) {
        bElementexists = _xElementContainer.hasByName(_sElementName);
        if (bElementexists) {
            i += 1;
            _sElementName = BaseName + Integer.toString(i);
        }
    }
    return _sElementName;
}
```

As already explained, the dialog keeps the controls in a NamedContainer that implements com.sun.star.container.XNameAccess. It is absolutely necessary for the controls to have a unique name before they are added to the dialog to prevent a com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException. This method appends a suffix to the scheduled name of the control to make sure that the name is unique.

## Label Field

A label field control supports the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFixedText and the model com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFixedTextModel. It displays descriptive texts that are not meant to be edited by the user, such as labels for list boxes and text fields. By default, the label field control is drawn without a border. The format of the text can be set by the properties as described in Font-specific Properties. Label controls can be used to assign shortcut keys for controls without labels that succeed the label field control. To assign a shortcut key to a control without a label such as a text field, the label field is used. The tilde (~) prefixes the corresponding character in the Label property of the label field. A fixed text control cannot receive the focus, so the focus automatically moves to the next control in the tab order. It is important that the label field and the text field have consecutive tab indices.

The following example demonstrates how to create a UnoControlFixedText control. You can create all types of dialog controls in the same way as is shown in this
example. This example assumes that a dialog has already been created as described in *Instantiation of a Dialog*. This example also shows how to add a mouse listener.

```java
public XFixedText insertFixedText(XMouseListener _xMouseListener, int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth, int _nStep, String _sLabel)
{
    XFixedText xFixedText = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "Label");

        // create a control model at the multiservice factory of the dialog model...
        Object oFTModel = m_xMSFDiallogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFixedTextModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xFTModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oFTModel);
        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
        xFTModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            new String[] {"Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Step", "Width"},
            new Object[]{new Integer(8), sName, new Integer(_nPosX), new Integer(_nPosY), new Integer(_nStep), new Integer(_nWidth)});

        // add the model to the NameContainer of the dialog model
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oFTModel);

        // The following property may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
        XPropertySet xFTPSet = (XPropertySet)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oFTModel);
        xFTPSet.setPropertyValue("Label" , _sLabel);

        // reference the control by the Name
        XControl xFTControl = m_xDlgContainer.getControl(sName);
        xFixedText = (XFixedText) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFixedText.class, xFTControl);
        XWindow xWindow = (XWindow) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XWindow.class, xFTControl);
        xWindow.addMouseListener(_xMouseListener);
    }catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
        /* perform individual exception handling here.
        * Possible exception types are:
        * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
        * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
        * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
        * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
        */
        ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
    return xFixedText;
}
```
# Command Button

The command button com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButton allows the user to perform an action by clicking on it. Usually a command button displays a label that is set by the Label property of the control model that supports the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel.

A command button supports the display of images as explained in [Image Control](#).

### Properties of com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel:DefaultButton</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>The DefaultButton property specifies that the command button is the default button on the dialog. Pressing the ENTER key chooses the button even if another control has the focus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel:ImagePosition</td>
<td>short</td>
<td>The position of an image may be set. This is useful because the ImagePosition property is defined as relative to the Label of the control. It accepts one of the values defined in the constants group com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel:ImagePosition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel:ImageURL</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>The ImageURL property contains the path to a graphics file. The image can be shown on the command button.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel:Graphic</td>
<td>com.sun.star.</td>
<td>All standard graphics formats are supported, such as .gif, .jpg, .tif, .wmf and .bmp. The ImageAlign property defines the alignment and accepts one of the values defined in com.sun.star.awt.ImageAlign. The image is not automatically scaled, and can be cut off.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel:ImageAlign</td>
<td>short</td>
<td>The default action of the command button is defined by the PushButtonType property. It accepts the values defined in the enumeration com.sun.star.awt.PushButtonType. An OK button returns 1 on execute(). The default action of a Cancel button is to close the dialog, and execute() will return 0.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel:PushButtonType | boolean | If this property is set to true, a single operation of the command button control (pressing space while it is focused, or clicking onto it) toggles it between a pressed and a not-
Command Button

pressed state. The default for this property is false, which means the button behaves like a usual push button.

`com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel:Repeat` boolean. If this property is set to true, a single operation on the command button control (pressing and holding space while it is focused, or pressing and holding the mouse button) sends repeated events (When Initiating). Mouse events are sent at intervals of `RepeatDelay` milliseconds. This is similar to the functionality of the arrows on a scroll bar.

`com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel:RepeatDelay` long. Delay in milliseconds between repeated mouse events (see Repeat, above). Keyboard repeat timing is controlled elsewhere. Only significant if Repeat is set.

```java
public XButton insertButton(XActionListener _xActionListener, int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth, String _sLabel, short _nPushButtonType){
    XButton xButton = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "CommandButton");

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oButtonModel = m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlButtonModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xButtonMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oButtonModel);
        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
        xButtonMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            new String[] {"Height", "Label", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "PushButtonType", "Width" },
            new Object[] {new Integer(14), _sLabel, sName, new Integer(_nPosX), new Integer(_nPosY), new Short(_nPushButtonType), new Integer(_nWidth)});

        // add the model to the NameContainer of the dialog model
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oButtonModel);
        XControl xButtonControl = m_xDlgContainer.getControl(sName);
        xButton = (XButton) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XButton.class, xButtonControl);
        // An ActionListener will be notified on the activation of the button...
        xButton.addActionListener(_xActionListener);
    }
    catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
        /* perform individual exception handling here.
        * Possible exception types are:
        * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
        * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
        * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
        * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
    }
```
In the example, an action listener is attached to the command button. An action listener implements the interface `com.sun.star.awt.XActionListener` and its method `actionPerformed()` is invoked when the user clicks on the button. (see also Events).

The following code snippet shows an example of how to use the action listener.

```java
public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent rEvent)
    { try{
        // get the control that has fired the event,
        XControl xControl = (XControl) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControl.class, rEvent.Source);
        XControlModel xControlModel = xControl.getModel();
        XPropertySet xPSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xControlModel);
        String sName = (String) xPSet.getPropertyValue("Name");
        // just in case the listener has been added to several controls,
        // we make sure we refer to the right one
        if (sName.equals("CommandButton1"){
            //...
        }
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
        /* perform individual exception handling here.
        * Possible exception types are:
        * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
        * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
        */
        ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
}
```

Graphics

When an image source is used several times it may be better to keep the image in its own object variable. The following code snippet shows how you can create such a variable:

```java
// creates a UNO graphic object that can be used to be assigned
// to the property "Graphic" of a controlmodel
public XGraphic getGraphic(String _sImageUrl){
    XGraphic xGraphic = null;
    try{
        // create a GraphicProvider at the global service manager...
        Object oGraphicProvider = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.graphic.GraphicProvider", m_xContext);
        XGraphicProvider xGraphicProvider = (XGraphicProvider)
```
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XGraphicProvider.class, oGraphicProvider);
    // create the graphic object
    PropertyValue[] aPropertyValues = new PropertyValue[1];
    PropertyValue aPropertyValue = new PropertyValue();
    aPropertyValue.Name = "URL";
    aPropertyValue.Value = _sImageUrl;
    aPropertyValues[0] = aPropertyValue;
    xGraphic = xGraphicProvider.queryGraphic(aPropertyValues);
    return xGraphic;
}catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
    throw new java.lang.RuntimeException("cannot happen...");
}}

This object variable may be assigned to the property Graphic that is also supported
by image controls Image Control, check boxes Check Box, radio buttons Radio
Button and command buttons. Note: Issue
http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=76718 has not yet been resolved.
The graphic may only be assigned to the control after the peer of the dialog has been
created (see Displaying Dialogs).

Image Control

If you want to display an image without the command button functionality, the image
control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlImageControl and its model
com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlImageControlModel is the control of choice. The location
of the graphic for the command button is set by the ImageURL property. Usually, the
size of the image does not match the size of the control, therefore the image control
automatically scales the image to the size of the control by setting the ScaleImage
property to true.

One problem with URLs in OpenOffice.org is that the developer, in certain contexts,
may only know the system dependent path to his or her image file. A system path is
not accepted by ImageURL. The following example shows how you can convert this
path to a URL that can then be passed to the property ImageURL.

    public void insertImageControl(XMultiComponentFactory _xMCF, String
   _sImageSystemPath, int _nPoxX, int _nPoyY, int _nHeight, int _nWidth){
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer,
"ImageControl");
        // convert the system path to the image to a FileUrl
        java.io.File oFile = new java.io.File(_sImageSystemPath);
        Object oFCProvider =
          _xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.ucb.FileContentProvider",
this.m_xContext);
        XFileIdentifierConverter xFileIdentifierConverter =
          (XFileIdentifierConverter)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFileIdentifierConverter.class, oFCProvider);
String sImageUrl = xFileIdentifierConverter.getFileURLFromSystemPath(_sImageSystemPath, oFile.getAbsolutePath());
XGraphic xGraphic = getGraphic(sImageUrl);

// create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
Object oICModel = m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlImageControlModel");
XMultiPropertySet xICModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oICModel);

// Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
// The image is not scaled
xICModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(new String[] {"Border", "Graphic", "Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "ScaleImage", "Width"},
    new Object[]{new Short((short) 1), xGraphic, new Integer(_nHeight), sName, new Integer(_nPosX), new Integer(_nPosY), Boolean.FALSE, new Integer(_nWidth)});

// The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog container
m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oICModel);
}
catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
    /* perform individual exception handling here.
    * Possible exception types are:
    * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
    * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
    * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
    * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
    * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
    * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
    */
    ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
}

// creates a UNO graphic object that can be used to be assigned
// to the property "Graphic" of a controlmodel public XGraphic getGraphic(String _sImageUrl){
    XGraphic xGraphic = null;
    try{
        // create a GraphicProvider at the global service manager...
        Object oGraphicProvider = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.graphic.GraphicProvider", m_xContext);
        XGraphicProvider xGraphicProvider = (XGraphicProvider) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XGraphicProvider.class, oGraphicProvider);
        // create the graphic object
        PropertyValue[] aPropertyValues = new PropertyValue[1];
        PropertyValue aPropertyValue = new PropertyValue();
        aPropertyValue.Name = "URL";
        aPropertyValue.Value = _sImageUrl;
        aPropertyValues[0] = aPropertyValue;
        xGraphic = xGraphicProvider.queryGraphic(aPropertyValues);
Extension developers will be confronted with the problem that the graphic to be displayed by the image is located within the extension file. Currently there is no direct way to query the path to the extension. This problem has been identified and addressed by [http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=74195](http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=74195). Until this bug is resolved, there is a manual workaround that can be used.

The path to the images of the extension should be set in a configuration file of the component. For example:

```xml
<prop oor:name="Images" oor:type="xs:string">
    <value>%origin%/images</value>
</prop>
```

The variable `%origin%` will be automatically assigned the value of the URL of the component file when this entry is queried during runtime:

```java
/**
 * @param _sRegistryPath the path a registryNode
 * @param _sImageName the name of the image
 */
public String getImageUrl(String _sRegistryPath, String _sImageName){
    String sImageUrl = "";
    try {
        // retrieve the configuration node of the extension
        XNameAccess xNameAccess = getRegistryKeyContent(_sRegistryPath);
        if (xNameAccess != null){
            if (xNameAccess.hasByName(_sImageName)){
                // get the Image Url and process the Url by the macroexpander...
                sImageUrl = (String) xNameAccess.getByName(_sImageName);
                Object oMacroExpander =
                    this.m_xContext.getValueByName("/singletons/com.sun.star.util.theMacroExpander");
                XMacroExpander xMacroExpander = (XMacroExpander)
                    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMacroExpander.class, oMacroExpander);
                sImageUrl = xMacroExpander.expandMacros(sImageUrl);
                sImageUrl = sImageUrl.substring(new String("vnd.sun.star.expand:").length(), sImageUrl.length());
                sImageUrl = sImageUrl.trim();
                sImageUrl += "/" + _sImageName;
            }
        }
    } catch (Exception ex) {
        /* perform individual exception handling here. 
         * Possible exception types are:
         * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException, 
         * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException, 
         */
        ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
    return sImageUrl;
```
public XNameAccess getRegistryKeyContent(String _sKeyName) {  
    try {  
        Object oConfigProvider;
        PropertyValue[] aNodePath = new PropertyValue[1];
        oConfigProvider = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationProvider", this.m_xContext);
        aNodePath[0] = new PropertyValue();
        aNodePath[0].Name = "nodepath";
        aNodePath[0].Value = _sKeyName;
        XMultiServiceFactory xMSFConfig = (XMultiServiceFactory) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiServiceFactory.class, oConfigProvider);
        Object oNode = xMSFConfig.createInstanceWithArguments("com.sun.star.configuration.ConfigurationAccess", aNodePath);
        XNameAccess xNameAccess = (XNameAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNameAccess.class, oNode);
        return xNameAccess;
    } catch (Exception exception) {
        exception.printStackTrace(System.out);
        return null;
    }
}

For further information about the development of extensions and configuration file handling, please see Integrating Components into OpenOffice.org.

## Check Box

The check box control model com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlCheckBoxModel is used in groups to display multiple choices. When a check box is selected it displays a check mark. Check boxes work independently of each other. A user can select any number or combination of check boxes. The State property of the model service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlCheckBoxModel defines three values, where 0 is not checked, 1 is checked, and 2 is undetermined. You can enable the tri-state mode of a check box by setting the TriState property to True. A tri-state check box used to give the user the option of setting or unsetting an option.

```java
    public XCheckBox insertCheckBox(XItemListener _xItemListener, int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth){
        XCheckBox xCheckBox = null;
        try{
            // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
            String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "CheckBox");
```
// create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
Object oCBModel = 
m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlCheckBoxModel");

    // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
    XMultiPropertySet xCBMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oCBModel);
    xCBMPSet.setPropertyValues(
        new String[] {"Height", "Label", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Width" },
        new Object[] {new Integer(8), "~Include page number", sName, new
        Integer(_nPosX), new Integer(_nPosY), new Integer(_nWidth)});

    // The following property may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we
    // use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
    XPropertySet xCBModelPSet = (XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xCBMPSet);
    xCBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("TriState", Boolean.TRUE);
    xCBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("State", new Short((short) 1));

    // add the model to the NameContainer of the dialog model
    m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oCBModel);
    XControl xCBControl = m_xDlgContainer.getControl(sName);
    xCheckBox = (XCheckBox) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XCheckBox.class,
    xCBControl);
    // An ActionListener will be notified on the activation of the button...
    xCheckBox.addItemListener(_xItemListener);
    }catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
    /* perform individual exception handling here.
    * Possible exception types are:
    * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
    * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
    * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
    * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
    * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
    * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
    */
    ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
    } 
    return xCheckBox;
}

In this example, a com.sun.star.awt.XItemListener is attached to the check box control. This listener is notified on each change of the State property in the control model. Listeners on check boxes are often used to enable or disable controls whose functionality is dependent on the state of a check box:

public void itemStateChanged(ItemEvent itemEvent) {
    try{
        // retrieve the control that the event has been invoked at...
        XCheckBox xCheckBox = (XCheckBox)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XCheckBox.class, itemEvent.Source);
        // retrieve the control that we want to disable or enable
        XControl xControl = (XControl) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControl.class,
        m_xDlgContainer.getControl("CommandButton1"));


XPropertySet xModelPropertySet = (XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xControl.getModel());
short nState = xCheckBox.getState();
boolean bdoEnable = true;
switch (nState){
case 1: // checked
    bdoEnable = true;
    break;
case 0: // not checked
    case 2: // don't know
    bdoEnable = false;
    break;
}
// Alternatively we could have done it also this way:
// bdoEnable = (nState == 1);
xModelPropertySet.setPropertyValue("Enabled", new Boolean(bdoEnable));
}catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
    /* perform individual exception handling here.
     * Possible exception types are:
     * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException
     * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
     * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
     * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException
     * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
     */
    ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
}

A check box may also display images similar to a button as described in Command Button.

Radio Button

A radio button control model com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRadioButtonModel is a simple switch with two states selected by the user. Usually these controls are used in groups to display several options that the user may select. While they are very similar to check boxes, selecting one radio button deselects all the radio buttons in the same group. To assemble several radio buttons to a control group it is important to know that there may not be any control TabIndex between the tab indices of the radio buttons although it is not necessary for the tab indices to be directly consecutive. Two groups of radio buttons can be separated by any control with a tab index that is between the tab indices of the two groups. Usually a group box, or horizontal and vertical lines are used because those controls visually group the radio buttons together. In principal, any control can be used to separate groups of radio buttons. There is no functional relationship between a radio button and a group box Group Box. The state of an radio button is accessed by the State property in the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRadioButtonModel, where 0 is not checked and 1 is checked.
A radio button may also display images similar to a button as described in Command Button.

The following example demonstrates the way a group of two radio buttons may be created. Note the assignment of the tab indices to each radio button.

```java
public void insertRadioButtonGroup(short _nTabIndex, int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth){
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "OptionButton");

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oRBModel =
            m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRadioButtonModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xRBMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oRBModel);
        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
        xRBMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            new Object[] {new Integer(8), "~First Option", sName, new Integer(_nPosX), new Integer(_nPosY), new Short((short) 1), new Short(_nTabIndex++),new Integer(_nWidth)});
        // add the model to the NameContainer of the dialog model
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oRBModel);

        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "OptionButton");

        oRBModel =
            m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRadioButtonModel");
        xRBMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oRBModel);
        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
        xRBMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            new String[] {"Height", "Label", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "TabIndex", "Width" },
            new Object[] {new Integer(8), "~Second Option", sName, new Integer(130),
            new Integer(214), new Short(_nTabIndex), new Integer(150)});
        // add the model to the NameContainer of the dialog model
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oRBModel);
    }catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
        /* perform individual exception handling here.
        * Possible exception types are:
        * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
        * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
        * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
        * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
        */
    }
}```
Scroll Bar

A com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlScrollBar can be used to display arbitrary content. This can be content that is too large in size to fit into a dialog or any other measurable content. It offers assistance to the user for the navigation through a container, like a group of controls. The user positions the thumb in the scroll bar to determine which part of the content is to be displayed in the viewing area of the dialog. The component that uses the scroll bar then typically adjusts the display so that the end of the scroll bar represents the end of the contents that can be displayed, or 100%. The start of the scroll bar is the beginning of the content that can be displayed, or 0%. The position of the thumb within those bounds then translates to the corresponding percentage representing the position within the total content.

Typically a com.sun.star.awt.XAdjustmentListener is added to the control by means of the method addAdjustmentListener() of the interface com.sun.star.awt.XScrollBar. The method adjustmentValueChanged is called each time the position of the thumb in the scroll bar changes. The model com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlScrollBarModel offers the following properties:

- **Properties of com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlScrollBarModel**
  - `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlScrollBarModel:LineIncrement` long. The LineIncrement property specifies the change of the scroll value per mouse click on an arrow.
  - `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlScrollBarModel:BlockIncrement` long. The BlockIncrement property specifies the change of the ScrollValue property when clicking in a scroll bar in the region between the thumb and the arrows.
  - `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlScrollBarModel:RepeatDelay` long. Specifies the delay in milliseconds between repeating events. A repeating event occurs when clicking on a button or the background of a scroll bar while keeping the mouse button pressed for...
Scroll Bar

com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlScrollBarModel:ScrollValueMax long. The ScrollValueMax property defines the maximum value of the Scrollvalue property.
com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlScrollBarModel:VisibleSize long. The property VisibleSize defines the visible size of the thumb and represents the percentage of the currently visible content and the total content that can be displayed.

You can also set these attributes com.sun.star.awt.XScrollBar interface.

This example demonstrates how you can set up a scroll bar:

```java
public XPropertySet insertVerticalScrollBar(XAdjustmentListener _xAdjustmentListener, int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nHeight){
    XPropertySet xSBModelPSet = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "ScrollBar");
        Integer NOrientation = new Integer(com.sun.star.awt.ScrollBarOrientation.VERTICAL);

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oSBModel = 
            m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlScrollBarModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xSBModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oSBModel);
        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
        xSBModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            new String[] {"Height", "Name", "Orientation", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Width"},
            new Object[] { new Integer(_nHeight), sName, NOrientation, new Integer(_nPosX), new Integer(_nPosY), new Integer(8)});

        // The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog container
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oSBModel);
        xSBModelPSet = (XPropertySet)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oSBModel);
        // The following properties may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we
        // use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
        xSBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("ScrollValueMin", new Integer(0));
        xSBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("ScrollValueMax", new Integer(100));
        xSBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("ScrollValue", new Integer(5));
        xSBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("LineIncrement", new Integer(2));
        xSBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("BlockIncrement", new Integer(10));

        // Add an Adjustment that will listen to changes of the scrollbar...
        XControl xSBControl = m_xDlgContainer.getControl(sName);
    }
    catch (Exception e) {
        // handle exception
    }
}
```
XScrollBar xScrollBar = (XScrollBar)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XScrollBar.class, xSBControl);
xScrollBar.addAdjustmentListener(_xAdjustmentListener);
}
catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
/* perform individual exception handling here.
 * Possible exception types are:
 * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
 * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
 * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
 * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
 * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
 * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
 */
ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
}
return xSBModelPSet;
}

The adjustmentListener, that has been added to the example scroll bar must implement the method adjustmentValueChanged():

public void adjustmentValueChanged(AdjustmentEvent _adjustmentEvent) {
    switch (_adjustmentEvent.Type.getValue()){
        case AdjustmentType.ADJUST_ABS_value:
            System.out.println( "The event has been triggered by dragging the thumb..." );
            break;
        case AdjustmentType.ADJUST_LINE_value:
            System.out.println( "The event has been triggered by a single line move.." );
            break;
        case AdjustmentType.ADJUST_PAGE_value:
            System.out.println( "The event has been triggered by a block move..." );
            break;
    }
    System.out.println( "The value of the scrollbar is: " + 
_adjustmentEvent.Value);
}

List Box

The list box control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlListBox displays a list of items that the user can select one or more of. If the number of items exceeds what can be displayed in the list box, scroll bars automatically appear on the control. The model of a list box supports the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlListBoxModel:

Properties of com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlListBoxModel
com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlListBoxModel:Dropdown boolean. If the Dropdown property is set to true, the list of items is displayed in a drop-down box.
com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlListBoxModel:Dropdown boolean. If the Dropdown property is set to true, the
The list box allows you to register a `com.sun.star.awt.XItemListener` as well as a `com.sun.star.awt.XActionListener`. Double-clicking a list box item will invoke the method `actionPerformed()` of the action listener. If items are selected with a single click or even programmatically, the method `itemStateChanged()` is called when an item listener is registered at the list box control.

The list box control that supports the interface `com.sun.star.awt.XListBox` offers more convenient functions than the list box model. For example, it offers the method `selectItemPos(int nPos, boolean bSelect)` to select or deselect a single item in the list box. As can be seen in the following example, to achieve the same result with the model, a sequence of all selected list box item indices must be assigned.

```java
public XListBox insertListBox(int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth, int _nStep, String[] _sStringItemList){
    XListBox xListBox = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "ListBox");

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oListBoxModel = m_xMSFDlgModelNameContainer.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlListBoxModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xLBModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oListBoxModel);
        xLBModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(  
            new String[] {"Dropdown", "Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY",  
                "Step", "StringItemList", "Width" },
            new Object[] {Boolean.TRUE, new Integer(12), sName, new Integer(_nPosX),  
                new Integer(_nPosY), new Integer(_nStep), _sStringItemList, new  
                Integer(_nWidth)});

        // The following property may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we  
        // use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
        XPropertySet xLBModelPSet = (XPropertySet)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xLBModelMPSet);
        xLBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("MultiSelection", Boolean.TRUE);
        short[] nSelItems = new short[] {(short) 1, (short) 3};
        xLBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("SelectedItems", nSelItems);
    }
    ...
}
```
List Box

```
// add the model to the NameContainer of the dialog model
m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, xLBModelMPSet);
XControl xControl = m_xDlgContainer.getControl(sName);
// retrieve a ListBox that is more convenient to work with than the
Model of the ListBox...
xListBox = (XListBox) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XListBox.class, xControl);
}catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
    /* perform individual exception handling here.*/
    * Possible exception types are:
    * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
    * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
    * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
    * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
    * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
    * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
*/
ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
}
return xListBox;
```
// create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog
Object oComboBoxModel =
  m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlComboBoxModel");
XMultiPropertySet xCbBModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oComboBoxModel);
// Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property
names in alphabetical order!
xCbBModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
  new String[] {"Dropdown", "Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY",
    "StringItemList", "Width" },
  new Object[] {Boolean.TRUE, new Integer(12), sName, new Integer(_nPosX),
    new Integer(_nPosY), sStringItemList, new Integer(_nWidth)});

// The following property may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we
// use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
XPropertySet xCbBModelPSet = (XPropertySet)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xCbBModelMPSet);
xCbBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("MaxTextLen", new Short((short) 10));
xCbBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("ReadOnly", Boolean.FALSE);

// add the model to the NameContainer of the dialog model
m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, xCbBModelMPSet);
XControl xControl = m_xDlgContainer.getControl(sName);
// retrieve a ListBox that is more convenient to work with than the
Model of the ListBox...
xComboBox = (XComboBox) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComboBox.class,
xControl);
}
catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
  /* perform individual exception handling here. */
  // Possible exception types are:
  * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
  * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
  * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
  * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
  * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
  * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
  */
  ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
}
return xComboBox;

Progress Bar

The progress bar control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlProgressBar displays a
growing or shrinking bar to give the user feedback during a persisting task. The
minimum and the maximum progress value of the control is set by the
ProgressValueMin and the ProgressValueMax properties of the control model that
supports the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlProgressBarModel. The progress value is controlled by the ProgressValue property. The fill color can be changed by setting the property FillColor. The control implements the interface com.sun.star.awt.XProgressBar which allows you to control the progress bar. The progress bar interface com.sun.star.awt.XReschedule helps to update and repaint the progress bar while a concurrent task is running, but this interface interrupts the main thread of the office. Issue http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=i71425 is assigned to find an appropriate solution for this problem.

```java
public XPropertySet insertProgressBar(int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth, int _nProgressMax)
{
    XPropertySet xPBModelPSet = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "ProgressBar");

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oPBModel = m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlProgressBarModel" );

        XMultiPropertySet xPBModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oPBModel);

        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
        xPBModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            new String[] {"Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Width"},
            new Object[] {new Integer(8), sName, new Integer(_nPosX), new Integer(_nPosY), new Integer(_nWidth)}) ;

        // The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog container
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oPBModel);
        XPropertySet xPBModelPSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oPBModel);

        // The following properties may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we
        // use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
        xPBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("ProgressValueMin", new Integer(0));
        xPBModelPSet.setPropertyValue("ProgressValueMax", new Integer(_nProgressMax));
    }catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
        /* perform individual exception handling here.
        * Possible exception types are:
        * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
        * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
        * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
        * com.sun.star.uno.Exception */
        ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
}
```

Chapter 19 · Graphical User Interfaces
Horizontal/Vertical Line Control

The line control service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFixedLine describes the behavior of simple lines in a dialog. In most cases, the line control is used to visually subdivide a dialog. The line control may provide horizontal or vertical orientation which is determined by the Orientation property of the model as specified in com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFixedLineModel. The label of a line control is set by the Label property. The label is only displayed if the control has a horizontal orientation.

This example inserts a line with a horizontal orientation (Orientation == 0) in a dialog:

```java
public void insertHorizontalFixedLine(int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth, String _sLabel){
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "FixedLine");

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oFLModel = m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFixedLineModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xFLModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oFLModel);

        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
        xFLModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            new String[] {"Height", "Name", "Orientation", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Width"},
            new Object[] { new Integer(2), sName, new Integer(0), new Integer(_nPosX), new Integer(_nPosY), new Integer(_nWidth)});

        // The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog container
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oFLModel);

        // The following property may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we
        // use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
        XPropertySet xFLPSet = (XPropertySet)
        UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oFLModel);
        xFLPSet.setPropertyValue("Label", _sLabel);
    }catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
        /* perform individual exception handling here. *
        * Possible exception types are: *
        * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException, *
        * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException, *
        * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException, *
        * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException, *
    }
```

return xPBMModelPSet;
}
Group Box

The group box control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlGroupBox creates a frame to visually group other controls together, such as option buttons and check boxes. Controls can be added to the group box at any time. The group box control does not provide any container functionality for other controls, it is merely a visual control, and is always transparent. The group box contains a label embedded within the border and is set by the Label property. OpenOffice.org uses fixed lines Horizontal/Vertical Line Control to visually subdivide a dialog into logical control groups.

```java
public void insertGroupBox(int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nHeight, int _nWidth){
  try{
    // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
    String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer,
    "FrameControl");

    // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
    Object oGBModel = m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlGroupBoxModel");
    XMultiPropertySet xGBModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oGBModel);

    // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
    xGBModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
      new String[] {"Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Width"},
      new Object[] { new Integer(80), sName, new Integer(106), new Integer(114), new Integer(100)});

    // The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog container
    m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oGBModel);

    // The following property may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
    XPropertySet xGBPSet = (XPropertySet)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oGBModel);
    xGBPSet.setPropertyValue("Label", "~My GroupBox");
  }
  catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
    /* perform individual exception handling here. */
    * Possible exception types are:
    * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
    * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
    * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
    */
    ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
  }
}
```
Text Field

The text field, described by the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEdit and its respective model - specified in com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEditModel - is used to receive input from the user during runtime. As can be seen in the following table, most of the control settings can also be applied to the model. When a text field receives the focus by pressing the TAB key, the displayed text is selected and highlighted by default. The default cursor position within the text field is to the right of the existing text. If the user starts typing while a block of text is selected, the selected text is replaced. In some cases, the user may change the default selection behavior and set the selection manually. This is done using the com.sun.star.awt.XTextComponent interface.

**Properties of com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEditModel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEditModel:EchoChar</td>
<td>short</td>
<td>The UnoControlEditModel control is also commonly used for entering passwords. The property EchoChar specifies the Unicode index of the character that is displayed in the text field while the user enters the password. In this context, the MaxTextLen property is used to limit the number of characters that are typed in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEditModel:HardLineBreaks</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Specifies if hard line breaks are included in the text returned by the Text property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEditModel:HideInactiveSelection</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Specifies whether selected text within the control remains selected when the focus is not on the control. The default is true and hides the selection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEditModel:MaxTextLen</td>
<td>short</td>
<td>The maximum number of characters that can be entered by the user is specified with the MaxTextLen property. A value of 0 means that there is no limitation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEditModel:MultiLine</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>By default, a UnoControlEdit displays a single line of text. This behavior is changed by setting the property MultiLine to true.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The text field is used for text that can be edited. It can be set read-only by setting the `ReadOnly` property to `true`.

The actual text displayed in a text field is controlled by the `Text` property.

The `HScroll` and `VScroll` properties are used to display a horizontal or vertical scroll bar to scroll the content in either direction. The properties are ignored if `MultiLine` is set to `false`.

This example demonstrates how you can use a `UnoControlEditControl`:

```java
public XTextComponent insertEditField(XTextListener _xTextListener,
XFocusListener _xFocusListener, int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth){
XTextComponent xTextComponent = null;
try{
    // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
    String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "TextField");

    // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog
    XMultiPropertySet xTFModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oTFModel);

    // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property
    // names in alphabetical order!
    xTFModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
        new String[] { "Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Text",
        "Width"},
        new Object[] { new Integer(12), sName, new Integer(_nPosX), new
        Integer(_nPosY), "MyText", new Integer(_nWidth)});

    // The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog
    // container
    m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oTFModel);
    XPropertySet xTFModelPSet = (XPropertySet)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oTFModel);

    // The following property may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we
    // use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
    xTFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("EchoChar", new Short((short) '*'));
    XControl xTFControl = m_xDlgContainer.getControl(sName);

    // add a textlistener that is notified on each change of the
    // controlvalue...
    xTextComponent = (XTextComponent)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextComponent.class, xTFControl);
} catch (...){}
```

Chapter 19 · Graphical User Interfaces
XWindow xTFWindow = (XWindow) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XWindow.class, xTFControl);
    xTFWindow.addFocusListener(_xFocusListener);
    xTextComponent.addTextListener(_xTextListener);
    xTFWindow.addKeyListener(this);
} catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) {
    /* perform individual exception handling here.
    * Possible exception types are:
    * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
    * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
    * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
    * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
    * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
    * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
    */
    ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
} return xTextComponent;

The text listener must implement the method textChanged:

```java
public void textChanged(TextEvent textEvent) {
    try{
        // get the control that has fired the event,
        XControl xControl = (XControl) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControl.class, textEvent.Source);
        XControlModel xControlModel = xControl.getModel();
        XPropertySet xPSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xControlModel);
        String sName = (String) xPSet.getPropertyValue("Name");
        // just in case the listener has been added to several controls,
        // we make sure we refer to the right one
        if (sName.equals("TextField1")){
            String sText = (String) xPSet.getPropertyValue("Text");
            System.out.println(sText);
            // insert your code here to validate the text of the control...
        }
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) {
        /* perform individual exception handling here.
        * Possible exception types are:
        * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
        * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
        */
        ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
}
```

The control that supports the interface com.sun.star.awt.XTextComponent offers additional methods to query and set selections and insert part texts in the control.
Text Field Extensions

A user can enter any kind of data into a text field. These values are always stored as a string in the Text property. This can cause some problems when you are evaluating the user input. These controls offer specific solutions to this issue:

- Formatted field.
- Date field.
- Time field.
- Currency field.
- Numeric field.
- Pattern field.

**Common Properties of Extensions of a UnoEditControl (text field)**

[IDLS:StrictFormat] boolean. If set to true, only the allowed characters as defined by the format of the control are accepted. All other entries typed with the keyboard are ignored.

[IDLS:EnforceFormat] boolean. If set to true, the allowed characters are checked when leaving the focus.

[IDLS:Spin] boolean. The Spin property defines whether the control displays a spin button.

Formatted Field

The formatted field control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFormattedField specifies a format that is used for formatting the entered and displayed data.

**Properties of com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFormattedFieldModel**

- boolean. If the TreatAsNumber property is set to true, the text of the control is interpreted as a number.
- The FormatsSupplier property returns a com.sun.star.util.XNumberFormatsSupplier that offers access to the number format of the control. Initially, when no number formats supplier is assigned, a default number formatter is set. Further information about the management of number formats can be found in Number Formats.
- long. The unique key that represents the number format of the control may be set and queried by
the property `FormatKey`.

**com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFormattedFieldModel:EffectiveDefault**

any. Specifies the default value of the control. Depending on the value of `TreatAsNumber`, this may be a string or a numeric (double) value.

double. Specifies the maximum value that the user may enter.

**com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFormattedFieldModel:EffectiveMax**

double. Specifies the maximum value that the user may enter.

**com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFormattedFieldModel:EffectiveMin**

any. Specifies the current value of the control. In dependence on the value of `TreatAsNumber` this may be a string or a numeric (double) value.

As any kind of number format at the model of the formatted field may be set, this control can be universally used instead of the date field, time field, numeric field or currency field controls that are designed for special purposes as described in the following sections.

The following example demonstrates the creation of a formatted field. One critical point is to assign the `NumberFormatsSupplier` to the property `FormatsSupplier`. In the example, this is created directly at the global `ServiceManager` (`m_xMCF`). It is also possible to assign an existing `NumberFormatsSupplier`, like a spreadsheet document or a text document.

```java
public XPropertySet insertFormattedField(XSpinListener _xSpinListener, int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth){
    XPropertySet xFFModelPSet = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "FormattedField");

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oFFModel = m_xMSFDialo
```
aLocale.Country = "US";
aLocale.Language = "en";
// this Format is only compliant to the english locale!
String sFormatString = "NNNMDDMM DD, YYYY";

// a NumberFormatsSupplier has to be created first "in the open countryside"
Object oNumberFormatsSupplier = 
m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.util.NumberFormatsSupplier", m_xContext);
XNumberFormatsSupplier xNumberFormatsSupplier = (XNumberFormatsSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XNumberFormatsSupplier.class, oNumberFormatsSupplier);
XNumberFormats xNumberFormats = xNumberFormatsSupplier.getNumberFormats();
// is the numberformat already defined?
int nFormatKey = xNumberFormats.queryKey(sFormatString, aLocale, true);
if (nFormatKey == -1){
  // if not then add it to the NumberFormatsSupplier
  nFormatKey = xNumberFormats.addNew(sFormatString, aLocale);
}

// The following property may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we
// use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
xffModelPSet.setPropertyValue("FormatsSupplier", xNumberFormatsSupplier);
xffModelPSet.setPropertyValue("FormatKey", new Integer(nFormatKey));

// The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog
container
m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oFFModel);

// finally we add a Spin-Listener to the control
XControl xFFControl = m_xDlgContainer.getControl(sName);
// add a SpinListener that is notified on each change of the
controlvalue...
XSpinField xSpinField = (XSpinField) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSpinField.class, xFFControl);
xSpinField.addSpinListener(_xSpinListener);
}

}catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
  /* perform individual exception handling here.
** Possible exception types are:
** com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
** com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
** com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
** com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
** com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
** com.sun.star.uno.Exception
*/
ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
}
return xFFModelPSet;
}

The attached spin listener in this code example must implement com.sun.star.awt.XSpinListener which, among other things, includes up()
public void up(SpinEvent spinEvent) {
    try {
        // get the control that has fired the event,
        XControl xControl = (XControl) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XControl.class,
            spinEvent.Source);
        XControlModel xControlModel = xControl.getModel();
        XPropertySet xPSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, xControlModel);
        String sName = (String) xPSet.getPropertyValue("Name");
        // just in case the listener has been added to several controls,
        // we make sure we refer to the right one
        if (sName.equals("FormattedField1")) {
            double fvalue = AnyConverter.toDouble(xPSet.getPropertyValue("EffectiveValue"));
            System.out.println("Controlvalue: " + fvalue);
            // insert your code here to validate the value of the control...
        }
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) {
        /* perform individual exception handling here.
         * Possible exception types are:
         * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
         * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
         * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
         */
        ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
}

public void down(SpinEvent spinEvent) {
}

public void last(SpinEvent spinEvent) {
}

public void first(SpinEvent spinEvent) {
}

public void disposing(EventObject rEventObject) {
}

## Numeric Field

For developers who want to use a simple numeric field control and find the number formatter too difficult to handle, they can use the numeric field control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlNumericField. The control model, specified in com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlNumericFieldModel is simple to set up as the following table illustrates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties of com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlNumericFieldModel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlNumericFieldModel:DecimalAccuracy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The `DecimalAccuracy` property specifies the number of digits displayed to the right of the decimal point.
Numeric Field

boolean. Determines whether thousands separators are used.

double. Specifies the current value of the control.

double. Specifies the maximum value that the user can enter.

double. Specifies the minimum value that the user can enter.

double. Specifies the interval steps when using the spin button.

The code example sets up a numeric field with a defined number format and defines the numerical range within which the Value may be modified.

```java
public XPropertySet insertNumericField( int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth,
                                      double _fValueMin, double _fValueMax,
                                      double _fValue, double _fValueStep,
                                      short _nDecimalAccuracy)
{
    XPropertySet xNFModelPSet = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer,
                                          "NumericField");
        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog
        // model...
        Object oNFModel =
            m_xMSFDialogModelContainer.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlNumericFieldModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xNFModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oNFModel);
        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property
        // names in alphabetical order!
        xNFModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            new String[]{"Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Spin",
                         "StrictFormat", "Width"},
            new Object[]{new Integer(12), sName, new Integer(_nPosX),
                         new Integer(_nPosY), Boolean.TRUE, Boolean.TRUE,
                         new Integer(_nWidth)});

        // The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog
        container
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oNFModel);
        xNFModelPSet = (XPropertySet)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oNFModel);
        // The following properties may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we
        // use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
        xNFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("ValueMin", new Double(_fValueMin));
        xNFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("ValueMax", new Double(_fValueMax));
        xNFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("Value", new Double(_fValue));
        xNFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("ValueStep", new Double(_fValueStep));
        xNFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("ShowThousandsSeparator", Boolean.TRUE);
        xNFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("DecimalAccuracy", new
```

Chapter 19 · Graphical User Interfaces
Short(_nDecimalAccuracy));
} catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
    /* perform individual exception handling here.
     * Possible exception types are:
     * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
     * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
     * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
     * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
     * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
     * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
     */
    ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
}
return xNFModelPSet;

---

**Currency Field**

The currency field control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlCurrencyField can be considered a specialization of the com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlNumericField. It is used for entering and displaying currency values. In addition to the currency value, reflected by the property `Value`, a currency symbol, set by the `CurrencySymbol` property, is displayed. If the `PrependCurrencySymbol` property is set to `true`, the currency symbol is displayed in front of the currency value.

```java
public XTextComponent insertCurrencyField(XTextListener _xTextListener, int _nPositionX, int _nPositionY, int _nWidth){
    XTextComponent xTextComponent = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "CurrencyField");

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oCFModel = m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlCurrencyFieldModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xCFModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oCFModel);

        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
        xCFModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            new String[] {"Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Width"},
            new Object[] { new Integer(12), sName, new Integer(_nPositionX), new Integer(_nPositionY), new Integer(_nWidth)});

        // The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog container
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oCFModel);
        XPropertySet xCFModelPSet = (XPropertySet)
Currency Field

```java
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oCFModel);

    // The following properties may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but
    // we
    // use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
    xCFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("PrependCurrencySymbol", Boolean.TRUE);
    xCFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("CurrencySymbol", "$");
    xCFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("Value", new Double(2.93));

    // add a textlistener that is notified on each change of the
    controlvalue...
    Object oCFControl = m_xDlgContainer.getControl(sName);
    xTextComponent = (XTextComponent)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTextComponent.class, oCFControl);
    xTextComponent.addTextListener(_xTextListener);
    }catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
        /* perform individual exception handling here.
        * Possible exception types are:
        * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
        * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
        * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
        * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
        */
        ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
    return xTextComponent;
```

Date Field

The date field control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateField extends the text field control and is used for displaying and entering dates. The model is described in com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateFieldModel:

### Properties of com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateFieldModel

- **com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateFieldModel:Date**
  
  `long`. The date value displayed in the control. The type of the property is long and specified by the number format YYYYMMDD, where YYYY denotes fully qualified years, MM months, and DD days.

- **com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateFieldModel:DateFormat**
  
  `short`. The `DateFormat` is a key that determines the number format of the displayed date.

- **com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateFieldModel:DateMax**
  
  `long`. The maximum date that the user can enter

- **com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateFieldModel:DateMin**
  
  `long`. The minimum date that the user can enter

This property is deprecated and should not be
Date Field

- `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateTimeFieldModel:DateShowCentury` boolean. The `DateShowCentury` property enables a calendar that the user can drop down to select a date.

- `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateTimeFieldModel:Dropdown` boolean. The `Dropdown` property defines whether the control displays a spin button. This method reduces scrolling and selecting, to a one-step process.

- `com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateTimeFieldModel:StrictFormat` boolean. If set to `true`, only the allowed characters as specified by the `DateFormat` property are accepted. All other entries typed with the keyboard are ignored.

```java
public XPropertySet insertDateField(XSpinListener _xSpinListener, int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth){
    XPropertySet xDFModelPSet = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "DateField");

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oDFModel = m_xMSFDiallogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlDateTimeFieldModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xDFModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oDFModel);

        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
        xDFModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            new String[] {"Dropdown", "Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Width"},
            new Object[] {Boolean.TRUE, new Integer(12), sName, new Integer(_nPosX), new Integer(_nPosY), new Integer(_nWidth)});

        // The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog container
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oDFModel);
        xDFModelPSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oDFModel);

        // The following properties may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we
        // use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
        xDFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("DateFormat", new Short((short) 7));
        xDFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("DateMin", new Integer(20070401));
        xDFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("DateMax", new Integer(20070501));
        xDFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("Date", new Integer(20000415));
        Object oDFControl = m_xDlgContainer.getControl(sName);

        // add a SpinListener that is notified on each change of the controlvalue...
        XSpinField xSpinField = (XSpinField) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSpinField.class, oDFControl);
```
xSpinField.addSpinListener(_xSpinListener);
    }catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
        /* perform individual exception handling here.
        * Possible exception types are:
        * com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
        * com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
        * com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
        * com.sun.star.beans.UnknownPropertyException,
        * com.sun.star.uno.Exception
        */
        ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
    return xDFModelPSet;
}

Note – OpenOffice.org Basic developers can use the runtime functions CDateToIso() or CDateFromIso() to convert the date in ISO format from or to a serial date number that is generated by the DateSerial() or the DateValue() function.

Although the date field control provides a spin button, there is no Step property. In this control, the interval steps of the spin button are set automatically and depend on the position of the cursor within the date display. This means that if, for example, the cursor is within the month section of the date display, only the months are controlled by the spin button.

## Time Field

The time field control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlTimeField and its model com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlTimeFieldModel displays and enters time values.

### Properties of com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlTimeFieldModel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlTimeFieldModel:Time</td>
<td>long. The time value is set and retrieved by the Time property. The time value is of type long and is specified in the ISO format HHMMSShh, where HH are hours, MM are minutes, SS are seconds and hh are hundredth seconds. See the example below.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlTimeFieldModel:TimeFormat</td>
<td>short. The format of the displayed time is specified by the TimeFormat key that denotes defined formats as specified below where a Time value of 15182300 is assumed:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>24h short</td>
<td>15:18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>24h long</td>
<td>15:18:23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Similar to the UnoControlDateField, the minimum and maximum time value that can be entered is given by the TimeMin and TimeMax properties. If the value of Time exceeds one of these two limits the value is automatically reset to the according maximum or minimum value.

Although the time field provides a spin button, there is no Step property. In this control the interval steps are set automatically and depend on the position of the cursor within the time display. For example, if the cursor is within the minute section of the time display only the minutes are controlled by the spin button.

```java
public XPropertySet insertTimeField(int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth, int _nTime, int _nTimeMin, int _nTimeMax){
    XPropertySet xTFModelPSet = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "TimeField");

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oTFModel = m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlTimeFieldModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xTFModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oTFModel);

        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
        xTFModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            new String[] {"Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Spin", "Width"},
            new Object[] { new Integer(12), sName, new Integer(_nPosX), new Integer(_nPosY), Boolean.TRUE, new Integer(_nWidth)});

        // The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog container
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oTFModel);
        xTFModelPSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oTFModel);

        // The following properties may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
        xTFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("TimeFormat", new Short((short) 5));
        xTFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("TimeMin", new Integer(_nTimeMin));
        xTFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("TimeMax", new Integer(_nTimeMax));
        xTFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("Time", new Integer(_nTime));
    }
    catch (...){}
}
```
Pattern Field

The pattern field control com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlPatternField defines a character code that restricts the user input. This character code that determines what the user may enter is defined by the `EditMask` property. The length of the edit is equivalent to the number of the possible input positions. If a character is entered that does not correspond to the edit mask, the input is rejected. For example, in the edit mask "NNLNNLLLL" the character "L" has the meaning of a text constant and the character "N" means that only the digits 0 to 9 can be entered. A complete list of valid characters can be found in the table below. The `LiteralMask` property contains the initial values that are displayed in the pattern field. The length of the literal mask should always correspond to the length of the edit mask. An example of a literal mask which fits to the edit mask would be "____2002". In this case, the user enters only 4 digits when entering a date. If `StrictFormat` is set to `true`, the text will be checked during user input. If `StrictFormat` is not set to `true` the text is not checked until the focus is leaving the control.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character of property</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EditMask</strong></td>
<td>A text constant. This position cannot be edited. The character is displayed at the corresponding position of the Literal Mask.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>The characters a-z and A-Z can be entered. Capital characters are not converted to lowercase characters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>The characters A-Z can be entered. If a lowercase letter is entered, it is automatically converted to a capital letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>The characters a-z, A-Z, and 0-9 can be entered. Capital characters are not converted to lowercase characters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>The characters A-Z and 0-9 can be entered. If a lowercase letter is entered, it is automatically converted to a capital letter.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
N Only the characters 0-9 can be entered.
X All printable characters can be entered.
X All printable characters can be entered. If a lowercase letter is used, it is automatically converted to a capital letter.

```java
public XPropertySet insertPatternField(int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth)
{
    XPropertySet xPFModelPSet = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "PatternField");

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oPFModel = m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlPatternFieldModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xPFModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oPFModel);

        // Set the properties at the model - keep in mind to pass the property names in alphabetical order!
        xPFModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(new String[] {"Height", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Width"},
                                           new Object[] { new Integer(12), sName, new Integer(_nPosX), new Integer(_nPosY), new Integer(_nWidth)});

        // The controlmodel is not really available until inserted to the Dialog container
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oPFModel);
        xPFModelPSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oPFModel);

        // The following properties may also be set with XMultiPropertySet but we
        // use the XPropertySet interface merely for reasons of demonstration
        xPFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("LiteralMask", "___.05.2007");
        // Allow only numbers for the first two digits...
        xPFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("EditMask", "NNLLLLLLLL");
        // verify the user input immediately...
        xPFModelPSet.setPropertyValue("StrictFormat", Boolean.TRUE);
    }catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex){
        /* perform individual exception handling here. */
        // Possible exception types are:
        // com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException,
        // com.sun.star.lang.WrappedTargetException,
        // com.sun.star.container.ElementExistException,
        // com.sun.star.beans.PropertyVetoException,
        // com.sun.star.uno.Exception
        ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
    return xPFModelPSet;
}
```
Roadmap Control

The roadmap control that supports the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRoadmap is a container of roadmap items supporting com.sun.star.awt.RoadmapItem. The roadmap control was designed to give an overview about all existing steps in a dialog as done in all OpenOffice.org wizards. The roadmap items are labels with some additional functionality as described later in the text. They are due to give the user a clue about "what is going on" on a certain dialog step. Roadmap items can be programmatically accessed by their respective index using the interface com.sun.star.container.XIndexContainer at the roadmap model that is described by com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRoadmapModel.

Roadmap Item

Each roadmap item delivers the following information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties of com.sun.star.awt.RoadmapItem</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.RoadmapItem :ID</td>
<td>short. The ID uniquely identifies the roadmap item and can be used to refer to the value of a dialog step.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.RoadmapItem :Label</td>
<td>The label of a roadmap item is displayed similar to the label of a fixed text control. Each label is prefixed with an index and a &quot;.&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.RoadmapItem :Activated</td>
<td>boolean. Setting Activated to true will automatically change the mouse pointer to a refhand and underline the label for the time the mouse pointer resides over the roadmap item. Clicking the mouse pointer will then notify the roadmap container. The property Activated is readonly because it is adapted from the container of the roadmap item, the roadmap model. When the user clicks on the roadmap item of an activated roadmap the ID of the triggered roadmap item automatically gets selected - similarly to the selection of a list box item. Automatically the property CurrentItemID of the roadmap model is set to the value of the property ID of the roadmap item element.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>com.sun.star.awt.RoadmapItem :Enabled</td>
<td>boolean. Determines whether a roadmap item is enabled or disabled. As roadmap items usually refer to a dialog step they are disabled when the...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
the actions taking place on that step have become unnecessary for example because of user input.

### Roadmap Controlmodel

**Properties of com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRoadmapModel**

- **com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRoadmapModel:BackgroundColor**
  - `long`. Specifies the background color (RGB) of the control. The Default value is white.

- **com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRoadmapModel:Activated**
  - `boolean`. Determines whether the roadmap items are set activated or not. To "activate" a roadmap may demand some extra implementation work because the developer will then be responsible to check if for each roadmap item the necessary prerequisites are fulfilled to allow the user to enter the respective dialog step.

- **com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRoadmapModel:Complete**
  - `boolean`. Determines whether the control container is complete or not. It might occur that the exact roadmap of an assistant is not clear from the beginning because it contains one or several branches where the input of the user impacts the content of the roadmap. If it is unclear how the roadmap is moving on after a branch the following step after the branch is visualized with "...". In this case the property Complete is previously set to false. The steps afterwards are unavailable as long as the state of this branch is uncertain.

- **com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRoadmapModel:ImageURL**
  - `string`. Refers to an image that is displayed in the bottom right corner of the roadmap. The image is meant to contain a metaphor that can easily be associated with the task of the wizard or the subtask of an according step.

- **com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRoadmapModel:Text**
  - `string`. Specifies the bold and underlined text displayed in the top of the control

- **com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRoadmapModel:CurrentItemID**
  - `short`. Refers to the ID of the currently selected roadmap item. Initially this property is set to '-1' which is equal to 'undefined.'
Roadmap

Specifies a Roadmap control. A roadmap implements the interface
com.sun.star.awt.XItemEventBroadcaster, which is helpful to add an ItemListener to
the roadmap, when the property Interactive of the roadmap model is set to true.
The listener is then always notified about changes of the property CurrentItemID and
has an opportunity to adjust the property Step of the dialog.

The following example listings are supposed to give an idea how a roadmap can be
used to control the displayed steps of a dialog:

```java
// Globally available object variables of the roadmapmodel
XPropertySet m_xRMPSet;
XSingleServiceFactory m_xSSFRoadmap;
XIndexContainer m_xRMIIndCont;

public void addRoadmap(XItemListener _xItemListener) {
    try {
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sRoadmapName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer,
               "Roadmap");

        XPropertySet xDialogModelPropertySet = (XPropertySet)
                UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, m_xMSFDialogModel);
        // Similar to the office assistants the roadmap is adjusted to the
        // height of the dialog
        // where a certain space is left at the bottom for the buttons...
        int nDialogHeight = ((Integer)
                xDialogModelPropertySet.getPropertyValue("Height")).intValue();

        // instantiate the roadmapmodel...
        Object oRoadmapModel =
                m_xMSFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlRoadmapModel");

        // define the properties of the roadmapmodel
        XMultiPropertySet xRMPFSet = (XMultiPropertySet)
                UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oRoadmapModel);
        xRMPFSet.setPropertyValues(new String[]{"Complete", "Height", "Name",
                "PositionX", "PositionY", "Text", "Width" },
                new Object[]{Boolean.FALSE, new Integer(nDialogHeight - 26),
                sRoadmapName, new Integer(0), new Integer(0), "Steps", new Integer(85)});
        m_xRMPSet = (XPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class,
                oRoadmapModel);

        // add the roadmapmodel to the dialog container..
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sRoadmapName, oRoadmapModel);

        // the roadmapmodel is a SingleServiceFactory to instantiate the
        roadmapitems...
        m_xSSFRoadmap = (XSingleServiceFactory)
                UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XSingleServiceFactory.class, oRoadmapModel);
        m_xRMIIndCont = (XIndexContainer)
                UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XIndexContainer.class, oRoadmapModel);
    }
}
```
The following code snippet inserts a roadmap item into the roadmap control model.

```java
/**
 * To fully understand the example one has to be aware that the passed
 * "Index" parameter
 * refers to the position of the roadmap item in the roadmap model container
 * whereas the variable "_ID" directly references to a certain step of
 * dialog.
 */
public void insertRoadmapItem(int Index, boolean _bEnabled, String _sLabel,
                                          int _ID) {
    try {
        // a roadmap is a SingleServiceFactory that can only create roadmap items
        // that are the only possible
        // element types of the container
        Object oRoadmapItem = m_xSSFRoadmap.createInstance();
        XPropertySet xRMItemPSet = (XPropertySet)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oRoadmapItem);
        xRMItemPSet.setPropertyValue("Label", _sLabel);
        // sometimes steps are supposed to be set disabled depending on the
        // program logic...
        xRMItemPSet.setPropertyValue("Enabled", new Boolean(_bEnabled));
        // in this context the "ID" is meant to refer to a step of the dialog
        xRMItemPSet.setPropertyValue("ID", new Integer(_ID));
        m_xRMIndexCont.insertByIndex(Index, oRoadmapItem);
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception exception) {
        exception.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
}
```

The following example demonstrates the way an ItemListener could evaluate the information of the roadmap control to adjust the step of the dialog:

```java
public void itemStateChanged(com.sun.star.awt.ItemEvent itemEvent) {
    try {
        // get the new ID of the roadmap that is supposed to refer to the new
        // step of the dialog model
        int nNewID = itemEvent.ItemId;
        XPropertySet xDialogModelPropertySet = (XPropertySet)
            UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, m_xMSFDialogModel);
        int nOldStep = ((Integer)
            xDialogModelPropertySet.getPropertyValue("Step")).intValue();
        // in fact in this case they denot the same
        if (nNewID != nOldStep) {
            xDialogModelPropertySet.setPropertyValue("Step", new Integer(nNewID));
        }
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception exception) {
    }
```
File Control

The file control supports the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFileControl and covers a lot of the functionality of an UnoControlEdit control and a command button that is built in the control. This is put into practice by a control supporting the service com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlEdit. Similar to a Text Field the content may be retrieved by a Text property. The value of Text denotes the path of the control. Clicking this button brings up a file dialog in which the user may select a file that is taken over by the file control like a text field. The following example sets up a file control. It is initialized with the configured Workpath of the office installation that is converted to a system path before passed to the Text property of the control Path Settings.

```java
public XTextComponent insertFileControl(XTextListener _xTextListener, int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth){
    XTextComponent xTextComponent = null;
    try{
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "FileControl");

        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog model...
        Object oFCModel = m_xMCFDialogModel.createInstance("com.sun.star.awt.UnoControlFileControlModel");
        XMultiPropertySet xFCModelMPSet = (XMultiPropertySet) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMultiPropertySet.class, oFCModel);
        xFCModelMPSet.setPropertyValues(
            Chapter 19 · Graphical User Interfaces
            1565
```
The file control also allows the configuration of the file dialog. File dialogs implementing the service com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.FilePicker do not belong to the module com.sun.star.awt, but, as they are frequently used by extension developers, this topic shall also be covered in this chapter.

Currently the control does not yet offer the described complete functionality which is addressed by [http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=71041](http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=71041).

### File Picker

A file picker supports the service com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.FilePicker and may depict a file-open or a file-save dialog in all conceivable facets. OpenOffice.org supports a great variety of filters. These may be applied to the file picker by means of the filter manager. Filters also affect the list of files displayed by the dialog and enable the file picker to append the file extension automatically. The names of the filters and their
titles may be queried programmatically from the OpenOffice.org registry or - much easier like in the coding example below - be retrieved from Framework/Article/Filter. The following listing illustrates how to customize and raise a file-save dialog and query the result afterwards. The result is a file URL pointing to the location where a file is to be stored.

```java
public String raiseSaveAsDialog() {
    String sStorePath = "";
    XComponent xComponent = null;
    try {
        // the filepicker is instantiated with the global Multicomponentfactory...
        Object oFilePicker = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.FilePicker", m_xContext);
        XFilePicker xFilePicker = (XFilePicker) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFilePicker.class, oFilePicker);

        // the defaultname is the initially proposed filename..
        xFilePicker.setDefaultName("MyExampleDocument");

        // set the initial displaydirectory. In this example the user template directory is used
        Object oPathSettings = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.util.PathSettings", m_xContext);
        XPropertySet xPropertySet = (XPropertySet) com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPropertySet.class, oPathSettings);
        String sTemplateUrl = (String) xPropertySet.getPropertyValue("Template_writable");
        xFilePicker.setDisplayDirectory(sTemplateUrl);

        // set the filters of the dialog. The filternames may be retrieved from // http://wiki.services.openoffice.org/wiki/Framework/Article/Filter
        XFilterManager xFilterManager = (XFilterManager) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFilterManager.class, xFilePicker);
        xFilterManager.appendFilter("OpenDocument Text Template", "writer8_template");
        xFilterManager.appendFilter("OpenDocument Text", "writer8");

        // choose the template that defines the capabilities of the filepicker dialog
        XInitialization xInitialize = (XInitialization) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XInitialization.class, xFilePicker);
        Short[] listAny = new Short[] { new Short(com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.TemplateDescription.FILESAVE_AUTOEXTENSION)};
        xInitialize.initialize(listAny);

        // add a control to the dialog to add the extension automatically to the filename...
        XFilePickerControlAccess xFilePickerControlAccess = (XFilePickerControlAccess) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFilePickerControlAccess.class, xFilePicker);
        xFilePickerControlAccess.setValue(com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.ExtendedFilePickerElementIds.CHECKBOX_AUTOEXTENSION, (short) 0, new Boolean(true));
    }
```
The directory that the file dialog initially displays is set by the setDisplayDirectory() method. Of course it must be set as a file URL. If no directory is passed, the customized Work-directory of the office application is shown.

Next to the file picker service it is also possible to raise a folder picker implementing the service com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.FolderPicker. Unlike the file picker the folder picker only displays folders.

```java
/** raises a folderpicker in which the user can browse and select a path
 * @param _sDisplayDirectory the path to the directory that is initially displayed
 * @param _sTitle the title of the folderpicker
 * @return the path to the folder that the user has selected. if the user has closed
 * the folderpicker by clicking the "Cancel" button
 * an empty string is returned
 * @see com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.FolderPicker
 */
public String raiseFolderPicker(String _sDisplayDirectory, String _sTitle) {
    String sReturnFolder = ""
    XComponent xComponent = null;
    try {
        // instantiate the folder picker and retrieve the necessary interfaces...
        Object oFolderPicker = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.FolderPicker", m_xContext);
        XFolderPicker xFolderPicker = (XFolderPicker) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFolderPicker.class, oFolderPicker);
        // execute the dialog...
        XExecutableDialog xExecutable = (XExecutableDialog) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XExecutableDialog.class, xFilePicker);
        short nResult = xExecutable.execute();
        // query the resulting path of the dialog...
        if (nResult == com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.ExecutableDialogResults.OK){
            String[] sPathList = xFilePicker.getFiles();
            if (sPathList.length > 0){
                sStorePath = sPathList[0];
            }
        }
    }
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception exception) {
        exception.printStackTrace();
    } finally{
        //make sure always to dispose the component and free the memory!
        if (xComponent != null){
            xComponent.dispose();
        }
    }
    return sReturnPath;
}
```
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFolderPicker.class, oFolderPicker);
XExecutableDialog xExecutable = (XExecutableDialog)
UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XExecutableDialog.class, oFolderPicker);
xComponent = (XComponent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class, oFolderPicker);
xFolderPicker.setDisplayDirectory(_sDisplayDirectory);
// set the dialog title...
xFolderPicker.setTitle(_sTitle);
// show the dialog...
short nResult = xExecutable.execute();

// User has clicked "Select" button...
if (nResult == com.sun.star.ui.dialogs.ExecutableDialogResults.OK){
    sReturnFolder = xFolderPicker.getDirectory();
}
}
catch( Exception exception ) {
    exception.printStackTrace(System.out);
}
finally{
    //make sure always to dispose the component and free the memory!
    if (xComponent != null){
        xComponent.dispose();
    }
}

// return the selected path. If the user has clicked cancel an empty string is
return sReturnFolder;

Message Box

Message boxes contain a defined message and title that may be combined with predefined icons and buttons. Again the central instance to create a Message box is the service com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit. It serves as a factory that exports the interface com.sun.star.awt.XMessageBoxFactory. Its method createMessageBox() allows the creation of message boxes in various defined facets.

- The first parameter of createMessageBox() denotes the peer of the parent window. In analogy to all OpenOffice.org windows the peer of the window parent must be conveyed.
- The second parameter aPosSize may be empty (but not null).
- The third parameter aType describes the special usecase of the message box. The interface description lists a bunch of defined strings like "errorbox" or "querybox". The message box type is than differentiated by its contained icon.
- Depending on the use case, different combinations of buttons in the message box are possible and reflected by a value of the constants group com.sun.star.awt.MessageBoxButtons. This is the fourth parameter aButtons.
The last two parameters reflect the title (aTitle) and the message (aMessage) of the message box.

This example creates and executes a message box.

```java
/** shows an error messagebox */
* @param _xParentWindowPeer the windowpeer of the parent window
* @param _sTitle the title of the messagebox
* @param _sMessage the message of the messagebox
*/
public void showErrorMessageBox(XWindowPeer _xParentWindowPeer, String _sTitle, String _sMessage){
    Object oToolkit = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit", m_xContext);
    XMessageBoxFactory xMessageBoxFactory = (XMessageBoxFactory) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMessageBoxFactory.class, oToolkit);
    Rectangle aRectangle = new Rectangle();
    XMessageBox xMessageBox = xMessageBoxFactory.createMessageBox(_xParentWindowPeer, aRectangle, "errorbox", com.sun.star.awt.MessageBoxButtons.BUTTONS_OK, _sTitle, _sMessage);
    xComponent = (XComponent) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponent.class, xMessageBox);
    if (xMessageBox != null){
        short nResult = xMessageBox.execute();
    }
} catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) {
    ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
}
finally{
    if (xComponent != null){
        xComponent.dispose();
    }
}
```

The Toolkit Service

The Service com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit is the central instance to create Windows. For this purpose the interface com.sun.star.awt.XToolkit is of major interest. The two methods getDesktopWindow() and getWorkArea() were used when OpenOffice.org offered an integrated DesktopWindow, and are now deprecated. An instance of the com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit is created at the global MultiServicefactory. One way to get this peer from the frame of the document window can be seen in the following example.
Before investigating this example, it is reasonable to briefly describe the character of a frame. A frame exports the interface com.sun.star.frame.XFrame and serves as a container for arbitrary content - mostly document models. To visualize this content it uses a window (com.sun.star.awt.XWindow). It is the central coordination instance that brings together menus, documents, LayoutManager (see com.sun.star.frame.XLayoutManager) and progress bars. For more information see Using the Component Framework. Another important responsibility is the delivery of commands - for example commands fired from tool bar buttons - to the components. See Dispatch Framework and Using the Dispatch Framework for more information on this. A frame may be embedded in a hierarchy of other frames. The following example demonstrates the creation of a very basic window that is attached to a desktop frame.

```java
public XTopWindow showTopWindow( Rectangle _aRectangle) {
    XTopWindow xTopWindow = null;
    try {
        // The Toolkit is the creator of all windows...
        Object oToolkit = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit", m_xContext);
        XToolkit xToolkit = (XToolkit) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XToolkit.class, oToolkit);

        // set up a window description and create the window. A parent window is always necessary for this...
        com.sun.star.awt.WindowDescriptor aWindowDescriptor = new com.sun.star.awt.WindowDescriptor();
        aWindowDescriptor.Type = WindowClass.TOP;
        aWindowDescriptor.Bounds = _aRectangle;
        aWindowDescriptor.WindowAttributes = WindowAttribute.SHOW + WindowAttribute.MOVEABLE + WindowAttribute.SIZEABLE + WindowAttribute.CLOSEABLE;

        // create the window...
        XWindowPeer xWindowPeer = xToolkit.createWindow(aWindowDescriptor);
        XWindow xWindow = (XWindow) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XWindow.class, xWindowPeer);

        // create a frame and initialize it with the created window...
        Object oFrame = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.Frame", m_xContext);
        m_xFrame = (XFrame) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFrame.class, oFrame);

        Object oDesktop = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", m_xContext);
        XFramesSupplier xFramesSupplier = (XFramesSupplier) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XFramesSupplier.class, oDesktop);
        m_xFrame.setCreator(xFramesSupplier);

        // get the XTopWindow interface..
        xTopWindow = (XTopWindow) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XTopWindow.class, xWindow);
    } catch (com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException ex) {
        ex.printStackTrace();
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) {
        ex.printStackTrace();
    }
}
```
As can be seen, the window is described by a [IDL:com.sun.star.awt.WindowDescriptor] that manifests all the facets of the window and also the window attributes as defined in [IDL:com.sun.star.awt.WindowAttribute]. It is possible, but not necessary, to define a parent window. The member Type of the winordescriptor distinguishes between various values of the enumeration com.sun.star.awt.WindowClass.

**Values of com.sun.star.awt.WindowClass**
- **TOP**: Specifies if a window is a TopWindow with the ability to include a menubar and a titlebar.
- **MODALTOP**: Specifies if a window is a modal TopWindow that imperatively waits for user input.
- **CONTAINER**: Specifies if a window may include child windows.
- **SIMPLE**: A simple window that may also be a container.

The following example shows how a document is loaded into a window that has been previously inserted into a dialog. The example method expects the peer of the parent dialog to be passed over.

```java
public void showDocumentinDialogWindow(XWindowPeer _xParentWindowPeer, Rectangle _aRectangle, String _sUrl){
  try {
    // The Toolkit is the creator of all windows...
    Object oToolkit = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.awt.Toolkit", m_xContext);
    XToolkit xToolkit = (XToolkit) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XToolkit.class, oToolkit);
    // set up a window description and create the window. A parent window is always necessary for this...
    com.sun.star.awt.WindowDescriptor aWindowDescriptor = new com.sun.star.awt.WindowDescriptor();
    // a simple window is enough for this purpose...
    aWindowDescriptor.Type = WindowClass.SIMPLE;
    aWindowDescriptor.WindowServiceName = "dockingwindow";
    // assign the parent window peer as described in the idl description...
    aWindowDescriptor.Parent = _xParentWindowPeer;
    aWindowDescriptor.ParentIndex = 1;
    aWindowDescriptor.Bounds = _aRectangle;
    // set the window attributes...
    // The attribute CLIPCHILDREN causes the parent to not repaint the areas of the children...
    aWindowDescriptor.WindowAttributes = VclWindowPeerAttribute.CLIPCHILDREN + WindowAttribute.BORDER + WindowAttribute.SHOW;
    XWindowPeer xWindowPeer = xToolkit.createWindow(aWindowDescriptor);
    XWindow xWindow = (XWindow) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XWindow.class,
```
As can be seen, the procedure to create the window and its frame is quite straightforward. The example clarifies the role of the frame as the central instance to bring together the window, layout manager and the document (model). You must set the windowAttribute VclWindowPeerAttribute.CLIPCHILDREN to make sure that the graphical operations on the parent window do not interfere with child windows.

Of course, there are use cases where no parent windowpeer is directly available, so this must be retrieved from a frame beforehand.

From the following example you can learn how to get the windowpeer from a frame

```java
/** gets the WindowPeer of a frame
 * @param _xFrame the UNO Frame
 * @return the windowpeer of the frame
 */
public XWindowPeer getWindowPeer(XFrame _xFrame){
    XWindow xWindow = _xFrame.getContainerWindow();
    XWindowPeer xWindowPeer = (XWindowPeer) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XWindowPeer.class, xWindow);
    return xWindowPeer;
}
```

The ComponentWindow is the window that displays just the view of a document. The
Containerwindow is the complete window including its title bar and border.

There are several ways to retrieve a frame. The easiest way to retrieve a frame is to query the frame that has the focus:

```java
public XFrame getCurrentFrame(){
    XFrame xRetFrame = null;
    try {
        Object oDesktop = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", m_xContext);
        XDesktop xDesktop = (XDesktop) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDesktop.class, oDesktop);
        xRetFrame = xDesktop.getCurrentFrame();
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) {
        ex.printStackTrace();
    }
    return xRetFrame;
}
```

This should only be used for debugging purposes. The method `getCurrentFrame` is based on the implementation of the window handler of the operating system and you cannot be sure that the returned frame is always the desired one on all supported platforms, or that a valid frame is returned at all. Usually each OpenOffice.org extension provides a frame as explained in Integrating Components into OpenOffice.org.

Dockable Windows

The interface `<idl>com.sun.star.awt.XDockableWindow</idl>` is currently unpublished and only used internally to control layout manager based tool bars. Although the interface is exported by Windows too, its method is not fully supported. It is planned to support dockable windows in a future version of OpenOffice.org.

Creating Menus

If the developer wants to add menus to the OpenOffice.org menu bar these should be added according the detailed description of the OpenOffice.org Wiki article Implementing an extended recent file popup menu controller.

Add-ons can use the menu bar integration of the add-on feature. More information can be found in Add-Ons.
Creating Menus

Programmatic insertion of menus to a menu bar is possible for all windows that support the interface com.sun.star.awt.XTopWindow.

Unlike in Java, in OpenOffice.org the term "PopupMenu" is used for all menus that can be either be used as location independent context menus or "ordinary" menus that are added to a menu bar.

The following example shows that:

- Menus are created at the global service manager.
- Following the definition of the constants group com.sun.star.awt.MenuItemStyle menu items may either work like radio buttons, check boxes or ordinary menu items. The constant AUTOCHECK changes the behavior of the menu in such a way that the menu item gets checked on its selection.
- The first parameter nItemId of the method insertItem denotes an identifier of a menu item. This must be a unique identifier if you want to recognize a selected menu item unambiguously. The last parameter nPos denotes the position of the menu item in the menu. The unique identifier is ignored for non-selectable menu items. For all other menu items the identifier must always be unique.
- "Radio-menuitems" are identified as a group by their positions within the menu, meaning that consecutive "radio - menuitems" automatically belong to the same radio button - group.
- There is no Object representation for the menu items. After their creation, menu items are accessed by their ItemID within the menu.
- To assign a shortcut key to a menu item, the tilde "~" prefixes the corresponding character of the menu text.

```java
public XPopupMenu getPopupMenu(){
    try{
        // create a popup menu
        Object oPopupMenu = m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("stardiv.Toolkit.VCLXPopupMenu", m_xContext);
        XPopupMenu xPopupMenu = (XPopupMenu) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XPopupMenu.class,
                                      oPopupMenu);
        XMenuExtended xMenuExtended = (XMenuExtended) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMenuExtended.class,
                                                                              xPopupMenu);

        xPopupMenu.insertItem((short) 0, "~First Entry", MenuItemStyle.AUTOCHECK, (short) 0);
        xPopupMenu.insertItem((short) 1, "~First Radio Entry", (short)
                               MenuItemStyle.RADIOCHECK + MenuItemStyle.AUTOCHECK, (short) 1);
        xPopupMenu.insertItem((short) 2, "~Second Radio Entry", (short)
                               MenuItemStyle.RADIOCHECK + MenuItemStyle.AUTOCHECK, (short) 2);
        xPopupMenu.insertItem((short) 3, "~Third RadioEntry", (short)
                               MenuItemStyle.RADIOCHECK + MenuItemStyle.AUTOCHECK, (short) 3);
        xPopupMenu.insertSeparator((short)4);
        xPopupMenu.insertItem((short) 4, "~fifth Entry", (short)
                               MenuItemStyle.CHECKABLE + MenuItemStyle.AUTOCHECK, (short) 5);
        xPopupMenu.insertItem((short) 5, "~Fourth Entry", (short)
                               MenuItemStyle.CHECKABLE + MenuItemStyle.AUTOCHECK, (short) 6);
        xPopupMenu.enableItem((short) 1, false);
    }
```
Creating Menus

```java
xPopupMenu.insertItem((short) 6, "~Sixth Entry", (short) 0, (short) 7);
xPopupMenu.insertItem((short) 7, "~EightEntry", (short)
(MenuItemStyle.RADIOCHECK + MenuItemStyle.AUTOCHECK), (short) 8);
xPopupMenu.checkItem((short) 2, true);
xPopupMenu.addMenuListener(this);
}
catch( Exception e ) {
    throw new java.lang.RuntimeException("cannot happen...");
}
return xPopupMenu;
```

Issue [http://qa.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=76363](http://qa.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=76363) addressed the deprecated notation of the service "stardiv.Toolkit.VCLXPopupMenu"

The added `XMenuListener` of the menu has to implement several methods such as

- **select** - invoked when the menu item is activated
- **highlight** - invoked when the menu item is highlighted, for example when the mouse moves over it
- **activate/deactivate** - depending on the context, menu items may be activated (enabled) or deactivated (disabled)

All these methods carry a `com.sun.star.awt.MenuEvent` parameter. The menu item at which the method has been triggered can be identified by the `MenuId` of this struct.

```java
public void select(MenuEvent menuEvent) {
    // find out which menu item has been triggered,
    // by getting the menu-id...
    switch (menuEvent.MenuId){
        case 0:
            // add your menu-item-specific code here:
            break;
        case 1:
            // add your menu-item-specific code here:
            break;
        default:
            //..
    }
}
```

```java
public void highlight(MenuEvent menuEvent) {
}
```

```java
public void deactivate(MenuEvent menuEvent) {
}
```

```java
public void activate(MenuEvent menuEvent) {
}
```

As we see, we encounter the `Id` again that helps us to identify the triggered menu item.

At last the create menu has to be added to a menu bar: As can be seen from the idl description of `com.sun.star.awt.XMenuBar`, it is a direct descendant of
Creating Menus

com.sun.star.awt.XMenu. The menus below the menu bar items are added by means of the method setPopupMenu.

```java
public void addMenuBar(XTopWindow _xTopWindow, XMenuListener _xMenuListener){
    try{
        // create a menubar at the global MultiComponentFactory...
        Object oMenuBar =
        m_xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("stardiv.Toolkit.VCLXMenuBar", m_xContext);
        // add the menu items...
        XMenuBar xMenuBar = (XMenuBar) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XMenuBar.class, oMenuBar);
        xMenuBar.insertItem((short) 0, '~First MenuBar Item',
                com.sun.star.awt.MenuItemStyle.AUTOCHECK, (short) 0);
        xMenuBar.insertItem((short) 1, '~Second MenuBar Item',
                com.sun.star.awt.MenuItemStyle.AUTOCHECK, (short) 1);
        xMenuBar.setPopupMenu((short) 0, getPopupMenu());
        xMenuBar.addMenuListener(_xMenuListener);
        _xTopWindow.setMenuBar(xMenuBar);
    }catch( Exception e ) {
        throw new java.lang.RuntimeException("cannot happen...");
    }
}
```

Accessibility

Certainly for many OpenOffice.org extension developers, accessibility is an important issue. Luckily all UNO-AWT-elements automatically bring support for various accessibility aspects like keyboard navigation, scheming, assistive technology (AT), and much more, so that the developer does not even have to worry accessibility. A good introduction to this topic is the Wiki article at Accessibility. Some problems may arise and shall be dealt with in this chapter.

In the following scenario, a command button is inserted into a dialog. The label "->" of the button indicates that the activation of the button shifts some data from the left side to the right. As this label cannot be interpreted by the screenreader, an "AccessibleName" must be set at the control. Unfortunately this is not yet possible due to the issue http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=70296. At this stage, only a temporary solution can be offered that uses the deprecated interface com.sun.star.awt.XVclWindowPeer.

```java
/** sets the AccessibilityName at a control
 * @param _xControl the control that the AccessibilityName is to be assigned to
 * @param _sAccessibilityName the AccessibilityName
 */
public void setAccessibleName(XControl _xControl, String _sAccessibilityName){
    XVclWindowPeer xVclWindowPeer = (XVclWindowPeer)
    UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XVclWindowPeer.class, _xControl.getPeer());
    xVclWindowPeer.setProperty(""AccessibilityName"", "MyAccessibleName");
```
OpenOffice.org offers a high contrast mode, in which objects are displayed without fill colors or text colors. This mode will automatically be used when high contrast is chosen in the system settings. Extension developers with the demand to create accessible applications must consider this and provide High-Contrast images for their dialog controls. Also for this usecase, only a temporary solution based on the deprecated interface com.sun.star.awt.XVclWindowPeer can be offered:

```java
/**
 * @param _xVclWindowPeer the windowpeer of a dialog control or the dialog itself
 * @return true if HighContrastMode is activated or false if HighContrastMode is deactivated
 */

public boolean isHighContrastModeActivated(XVclWindowPeer _xVclWindowPeer){
    boolean bIsActive = false;
    try {
        if (_xVclWindowPeer != null){
            int nUIColor = AnyConverter.toInt(_xVclWindowPeer.getProperty("DisplayBackgroundColor"));
            int nRed = getRedColorShare(nUIColor);
            int nGreen = getGreenColorShare(nUIColor);
            int nBlue = getBlueColorShare(nUIColor);
            int nLuminance = (( nBlue*28 + nGreen*151 + nRed*77 ) / 256 );
            boolean bIsActive = (nLuminance <= 25);
            return bIsActive;
        }
    } catch (IllegalArgumentException e) {
        e.printStackTrace(System.out);
    }
    return bIsActive;
}

public static int getRedColorShare(int _nColor){
    int nRed = (int) _nColor/65536;
    int nRedModulo = _nColor % 65536;
    int nGreen = (int) (nRedModulo / 256);
    int nGreenModulo = (nRedModulo % 256);
    int nBlue = nGreenModulo;
    return nRed;
}

public static int getGreenColorShare(int _nColor){
    int nRed = (int) _nColor/65536;
    int nRedModulo = _nColor % 65536;
    int nGreen = (int) (nRedModulo / 256);
    return nGreen;
}

public static int getBlueColorShare(int _nColor){
    int nRed = (int) _nColor/65536;
    int nRedModulo = _nColor % 65536;
    int nGreen = (int) (nRedModulo / 256);
    return nGreen;
}
```
The method `isHighContrastModeActivated` expects a `com.sun.star.awt.XVclWindowPeer` reference from any existing dialog control or of the dialog itself.

Issue [http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=74568](http://www.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=74568) addresses this problem and will certainly lead to a more elegant solution.

## Rendering

The module `com.sun.star.awt` offers a set of interfaces to render graphics. These interfaces are not deprecated as they are used internally. Developers are advised not to use these interfaces because the future belongs to a new API called the SimpleCanvas API ([http://gsl.openoffice.org/canvas/api/rendering/XSimpleCanvas.html](http://gsl.openoffice.org/canvas/api/rendering/XSimpleCanvas.html)). For this reason these interfaces shall only be briefly explained.

`com.sun.star.awt.XDevice` The pixel model is extremely device dependent because it is applicable to printers as well as to screens with all kind of resolutions. This interface provides information about a graphical output device. For example the method `setFont()` returns an object implementing `com.sun.star.awt.XFont` that describes a font on the respective device. The methods `createBitmap()` and `createDisplayBitmap()` create bitmap objects with the device depth (these objects are primarily used for internal use of graphic operations). The method `createGraphics()` returns an object providing a set of output operations by implementing the interface `com.sun.star.awt.XGraphics`. It offers methods to draw geometric figures like `drawLine()`, `drawRect()`, etc. and permits the assignment of clip regions that implement `com.sun.star.awt.XRegion`. By defining a clipping region the output is reduced to a certain area of a window in order to prevent other parts like the border or the menubar from being overdrawn by output operations.

`com.sun.star.awt.XRegion` manages multiple rectangles which make up a region. Its main task is to perform adding, excluding, intersecting and moving operations on regions. A raster graphics image is defined by grid of pixels, that individually define a color. They are distinguished from vector graphics in that vector graphics represent an image through the use of geometric objects such as curves and polygons. The method `setRasterOp()` of `com.sun.star.awt.XGraphics` applies values specified in the enumeration `com.sun.star.awt.RasterOperation` on the pixels of a graphic.
Summarizing Example to Create a UNO Dialog

Last but not least, a final example shall give an overall demonstration about how a dialog is created. The aim of the dialog is to inspect an arbitrary UNO-object and display its supported services, exported interfaces, methods and properties. It uses the code fragments that were introduced in the previous chapters. These code fragments are encapsulated in the class UnoDialogSample, that is not listed here. The creation of the dialog is implemented within the main method. Before this takes place an UNO object – an empty writer document - is created. This code piece can of course be exchanged and only serves as an example UNO object. The class UnoDialogSample2 is a deduction of UnoDialogSample and incorporates all the functionality used to create and display this specific dialog. Keep in mind that all variables prefixed with “m_” are member variables defined in the constructor.

```java
import com.sun.star.awt.PushButtonType;
import com.sun.star.awt.XControl;
import com.sun.star.awt.XDialog;
import com.sun.star.awt.XFixedText;
import com.sun.star.awt.XListBox;
import com.sun.star.awt.XWindow;
import com.sun.star.beans.MethodConcept;
import com.sun.star.beans.Property;
import com.sun.star.beans.PropertyValue;
import com.sun.star.beans.XIntrospection;
import com.sun.star.beans.XIntrospectionAccess;
import com.sun.star.beans.XMultiPropertySet;
import com.sun.star.beans.XPropertySet;
import com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader;
import com.sun.star.lang.XMultiComponentFactory;
import com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo;
import com.sun.star.lang.XTypeProvider;
import com.sun.star.reflection.XIdlMethod;
import com.sun.star.uno.Type;
import com.sun.star.uno.UnoRuntime;
import com.sun.star.uno.XComponentContext;

class UnoDialogSample2 extends UnoDialogSample {
    XIntrospectionAccess m_xIntrospectionAccess = null;
    Object m_oUnoObject = null;
    // define some constants used to set positions and sizes
    // of controls. For further information see
    //
    final static int nFixedTextHeight = 8;
    final static int nControlMargin = 6;
    final static int nDialogWidth = 250;
    final static int nDialogHeight = 140;
    // the default roadmap width == 80 MAPs
    final static int nRoadmapWidth = 80;
    final static int nButtonHeight = 14;
    final static int nButtonDownWidth = 50;
    /**
    */
```
* Creates a new instance of UnoDialogSample2
  */
public UnoDialogSample2(XComponentContext _xContext, XMultiComponentFactory _xMCF, Object _oUnoObject) {
  super(_xContext, _xMCF);
  try {
    m_oUnoObject = _oUnoObject;
    Object o = _xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.beans.Introspection", m_xContext);
    XIntrospection m_xIntrospection = ( XIntrospection ) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XIntrospection.class, o );
    // the variable m_xIntrospectionAccess offers functionality to access all methods and properties
    // of a variable
    m_xIntrospectionAccess = m_xIntrospection.inspect(_oUnoObject);
  } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) {
    ex.printStackTrace();
  }
}

public static void main(String args[]) {
  UnoDialogSample2 oUnoDialogSample2 = null;
  try {
    XComponentContext xContext = com.sun.star.comp.helper.Bootstrap.bootstrap();
    if(xContext != null )
      System.out.println("Connected to a running office ...");
    XMultiComponentFactory xMCF = xContext.getServiceManager();
    PropertyValue[] aPropertyValues = new PropertyValue[]{};
    // create an arbitrary Uno-Object - in this case an empty writer document...
    Object oDesktop = xMCF.createInstanceWithContext("com.sun.star.frame.Desktop", xContext);
    XComponentLoader xComponentLoader = (XComponentLoader) UnoRuntime.queryInterface(XComponentLoader.class, oDesktop);
    Object oUnoObject = xComponentLoader.loadComponentFromURL("private:factory/swriter", ":default", 0, aPropertyValues);
    // define some coordinates where to position the controls
    final int nButtonPosX = (int)((nDialogWidth/2) - (nButtonWidth/2));
    final int nButtonPosY = nDialogHeight - nButtonHeight - nControlMargin;
    final int nControlPosX = nRoadmapWidth + 2*nControlMargin;
    final int nControlWidth = nDialogWidth - 3*nControlMargin - nRoadmapWidth;
    final int nListBoxHeight = nDialogHeight - 4*nControlMargin - nButtonHeight;
    oUnoDialogSample2 = new UnoDialogSample2(xContext, xMCF, oUnoObject);
    oUnoDialogSample2.initialize( new String[] {"Height", "Moveable", "Name", "PositionX", "PositionY", "Step", "TabIndex", "Title", "Width"}, new Object[] { new Integer(nDialogHeight), Boolean.TRUE, "Dialog1", new Integer(102), new Integer(41), new Short((short) 0), "Inspect a Uno-Object", new Integer(nDialogWidth) });
    String sIntroLabel = "This Dialog lists information about a given Uno-Object. It offers a view to inspect all supported servicenames, exported interfaces, methods and properties.";
    oUnoDialogSample2.insertMultiLineFixedText(nControlPosX, 27, nControlWidth, 4, 1, sIntroLabel);
Summarizing Example to Create a UNO Dialog

// get the data from the UNO object...
String[] sSupportedServiceNames = oUnoDialogSample2.getSupportedServiceNames();
String[] sInterfaceNames = oUnoDialogSample2.getExportedInterfaceNames();
String[] sMethodNames = oUnoDialogSample2.getMethodNames();
String[] sPropertyNames = oUnoDialogSample2.getPropertyNames();

// add controls to the dialog...
oUnoDialogSample2.insertListBox(nControlPosX, nControlMargin,
    nListBoxHeight, nControlWidth, 2, sSupportedServiceNames);
oUnoDialogSample2.insertListBox(nControlPosX, nControlMargin,
    nListBoxHeight, nControlWidth, 3, sInterfaceNames);
oUnoDialogSample2.insertListBox(nControlPosX, nControlMargin,
    nListBoxHeight, nControlWidth, 4, sMethodNames);
oUnoDialogSample2.insertListBox(nControlPosX, nControlMargin,
    nListBoxHeight, nControlWidth, 5, sPropertyNames);
oUnoDialogSample2.insertButton(oUnoDialogSample2, nButtonPosX,
    nButtonPosY, nButtonWidth, "~Close", (short) PushButtonType.OK_value);
oUnoDialogSample2.insertHorizontalFixedLine(0, nButtonPosY -
    nControlMargin, nDialogWidth, "");

// create the windowpeer;
// it must be kept in mind that it must be created after the insertion
// of the controls
// (see http://qa.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=75129)
oUnoDialogSample2.createWindowPeer();

// add the roadmap control. Note that the roadmap may not be created
before the windowpeer of the dialog exists
// (see http://qa.openoffice.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=67369)
oUnoDialogSample2.addRoadmap(oUnoDialogSample2.getRoadmapItemStateChange
Listener());
oUnoDialogSample2.insertRoadmapItem(0, true, "Introduction", 1);
oUnoDialogSample2.insertRoadmapItem(1, true, "Supported Services", 2);
oUnoDialogSample2.insertRoadmapItem(2, true, "Interfaces", 3);
oUnoDialogSample2.insertRoadmapItem(3, true, "Methods", 4);
oUnoDialogSample2.insertRoadmapItem(4, true, "Properties", 5);
oUnoDialogSample2.m_xRMPSet.setPropertyValue("CurrentItemID", new
Short((short) 1));
oUnoDialogSample2.m_xRMPSet.setPropertyValue("Complete", Boolean.TRUE);
oUnoRuntime.queryInterface(XDialog.class, oUnoDialogSample2.m_xDialogControl);
oUnoDialogSample2.xDialog.execute();
}
}
catch( Exception ex ) {  
ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
}

finally{
//make sure always to dispose the component and free the memory!
if (oUnoDialogSample2 != null){
    if (oUnoDialogSample2.m_xComponent != null){
        oUnoDialogSample2.m_xComponent.dispose();
    }
}
}

public String[] getMethodNames(){
    String[] sMethodNames = new String[]{};
    try {
        XIdlMethod[] xIdlMethods = m_xIntrospectionAccess.getMethods(MethodConcept.ALL);
    }
    return sMethodNames;
}
sMethodNames = new String[xIdlMethods.length];
for (int i = 0; i < xIdlMethods.length; i++){
    sMethodNames[i] = xIdlMethods[i].getName();
}
}
}
catch( Exception e ) {  
    System.err.println( e );  
}
return sMethodNames;
}

// returns the names of all supported servicenames of a UNO object
public String[] getSupportedServiceNames(){
    String[] sSupportedServiceNames = new String[]{};
    // If the Uno-Object supports "com.sun.star.lang.XServiceInfo"
    // this will give access to all supported servicenames
    XServiceInfo xServiceInfo = ( XServiceInfo ) UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XServiceInfo.class, m_oUnoObject);
    if ( xServiceInfo != null ){  
        sSupportedServiceNames = xServiceInfo.getSupportedServiceNames();
    }
    return sSupportedServiceNames;
}

// returns the names of all properties of a UNO object
protected String[] getPropertyNames(){
    String[] sPropertyNames = new String[]{};
    try {
        Property[] aProperties = m_xIntrospectionAccess.getProperties(com.sun.star.beans.PropertyConcept.ATTRIBUTES + com.sun.star.beans.PropertyConcept.PROPERTYSET);
        sPropertyNames = new String[aProperties.length];
        for (int i = 0; i < aProperties.length; i++){
            sPropertyNames[i] = aProperties[i].Name;
        }
    }
    catch( Exception e ) {  
        System.err.println( e );  
    }
    return sPropertyNames;
}

// returns the names of all exported interfaces of a UNO object
protected String[] getExportedInterfaceNames(){
    Type[] aTypes = new Type[]{};
    String[] sTypeNames = new String[]{};
    // The XTypeProvider interfaces offers access to all exported interfaces
    XTypeProvider xTypeProvider = ( XTypeProvider ) UnoRuntime.queryInterface( XTypeProvider.class, m_oUnoObject);
    if ( xTypeProvider != null ) {
        aTypes = xTypeProvider.getTypes();
        sTypeNames = new String[aTypes.length];
        for (int i = 0; i < aTypes.length - 1; i++){
            sTypeNames[i] = aTypes[i].getTypeName();
        }
    }
    return sTypeNames;
public XListBox insertListBox(int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nHeight, int _nWidth, int _nStep, String[] _sStringItemList) {
    XListBox xListBox = null;
    try {
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "ListBox");
        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog
        Object oListBoxModel = m_xMSFDialoModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, xLBModelMPSet);
        m_xDlgModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, oListBoxModel);
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) {
        throw new java.lang.RuntimeException("cannot happen...");
    }
    return xListBox;
}

public void insertMultiLineFixedText(int _nPosX, int _nPosY, int _nWidth, int _nLineCount, int _nStep, String _sLabel) {
    try {
        // create a unique name by means of an own implementation...
        String sName = createUniqueName(m_xDlgModelNameContainer, "Label");
        // create a controlmodel at the multiservicefactory of the dialog
        Object oFTModel = m_xMSFDialoModelNameContainer.insertByName(sName, xLBModelMPSet);
    } catch (com.sun.star.uno.Exception ex) {
        throw new java.lang.RuntimeException("cannot happen...");
    }
}
Summarizing Example to Create a UNO Dialog

```java
* com.sun.star.uno.Exception
*
    ex.printStackTrace(System.out);
}}
// end of class
```

Chapter 19 · Graphical User Interfaces
OpenOffice.org API-Design-Guidelines

The following rules apply to all external programming interface specifications for OpenOffice. The API consists of the following stereotypes or design elements:

**Structures**

Structures are used to specify simple composed data elements. (Structures only consist of data, not methods.)

**Exceptions**

Exceptions are used for error handling. (Exceptions can be thrown or transported using an any.)

**Interfaces**

Interfaces are used to specify a single aspect in behavior. (Interfaces only consist of methods, not data.)

**Services**

Services are used to specify abstract objects. (Services specify properties and the interaction of the supported interfaces.)

**Typedefs**

Typedefs are used to define basic types for specific purposes. (This stereotype should be used carefully.)
General Design Rules

These rules describe basic concepts used in OpenOffice.org API design. They are mandatory for all OpenOffice.org contributions. They are recommended good practice for development of third-party software.

Universality

It is preferable to design and use universal interfaces instead of specialized ones. Interface reuse should prevail. Whenever a new interface is about to be created, consider the possibility of similar requirements in other application areas and design the interface in a general manner.

Orthogonality

The functionality of interfaces should extend each other. Avoid redundancy, but if it leads to a major simplification for application programmers, proceed. In general, functionality that can be acquired from basic interfaces should not be added directly. If necessary, create an extra service which provides the functionality and works on external data.

Inheritance

All interfaces are derived from com.sun.star.uno.XInterface. Other superclasses are only allowed if the following terms are true:

- the derived interface is a direct extension of the superclass
- the superclass is necessary in every case for the interface and inheritance if it is logical for the application programmer
- the superclass is the only possible superclass due to this definition
General Design Rules

Uniformity

All identifiers have to follow uniform rules for semantics, lexical names, and order of arguments. Programmers and developers who are familiar with any portion of the API can work with any other part intuitively.

Correct English

Whoever designs API elements is responsible for the correct spelling and meaning of the applied English terms, especially for lexical names of interfaces, methods, structures and exceptions, as well as members of structures and exceptions. If not absolutely certain, use Merriam-Webster's Dictionary (http://www.m-w.com). We use U.S. spelling.

Mixed capitalization or underscores (the latter only for lexical constants and enumeration values) are used to separate words within single identifiers. Apply the word separation appropriately. English generally does not have compound words, unlike, for example, German.

Identifier Naming Convention

For common naming of identifiers, and to prevent potential restrictions for identifiers in UNO language bindings, a general naming convention has been defined. This naming convention allows a restricted set of identifiers, where no problems in any language bindings are expected. However, this cannot be guaranteed.

See the following pseudo-grammar, which shows, in a short but precise form, the permitted set of identifiers.

```
GRAMMAR
r*      : zero or more r's, where r is a regular expression
r+      : one or more r's
r?      : zero or one r (that is, "an optional r")
r|s     : either an r or a s
[abc]   : a "character class"; in this case the pattern matches
either an 'a', a 'b' or a 'c'
[a-z]   : a "character class" with a range; matches any letter from 'a' through 'z'
"xy"    : the literal string xy
(r)     : match an r; parenthesis are used to override precedence
DIGIT   [0-9]  CAPITAL  [A-Z] SMALL  [a-z]  ALPHA  CAPITAL|
SMALL IDENTIFIER  (ALPHA(ALPHA|DIGIT)*)|(CAPITAL("_"?(ALPHA|DIGIT)+)*)
```

The following examples of valid and invalid identifiers should make the preceding
grammar clear.

Valid identifiers:
- `getByName`
- `XText`
- `XText_2`
- `CLOSEABLE`
- `FATAL_ERROR`
- `Message`

Invalid identifiers:
- `_getByName`
- `_Name`
- `_name`
- `get_Name`
- `myName_2`

When you define your own IDL specification, you should take this naming convention into account.

**Warning** – You will find incorrect identifiers in the current API, but this cannot be changed for compatibility reasons. Nevertheless, you should adhere to this naming convention for your own IDL specifications.

Definition of API Elements

In this chapter, several API elements are defined, and how they are used and the rules that apply.

Attributes

Attributes are used to access data members of objects through an interface.
Naming

Attributes are defined in interfaces as get and optional set methods. Although UNOIDL knows attributes for compatibility reasons, this feature is not used. The attribute identifier begins with a capital letter. The mixed upper and lower case method is used to separate single words. Only letters and numbers are allowed with no underscores, for example, `getParent()` and `setParent()`.

Usage

Attributes are used to express structural relationships, with and without lifetime coupling. For scripting languages, the attributes are accessed as properties.

Methods

Methods are functions defined within an interface. Technically, an interface only consists of methods. There is a syntax for attributes, but these map to methods.

Naming

Method identifiers begin with a verb in lowercase, for example, close, and continue with initial caps, that is, the first letter of each word is capitalized with no underscores. For example, `getFormat()`.

Method names consisting of a verb without any additional terms can only be used if they refer to the object as a whole, and do not operate on parts of the object specified with arguments of this method. This makes names semantically more precise, and we avoid the risk of two method names of two different interfaces at the same object folding into each other causing problems with scripting languages.

Special attention should be given to uniformity within semantically related interfaces. This means, if a method is named `destroyRecord()`, an insert method should be called `insertRecord()`.
If a method refers to a part of the object and an argument specifies this part, the type or role of the part is appended to the verbal part of the method, for example, `removeFrame( [in] XFrame xFrame )`. If the name of the part or its position is specified as an argument, `ByName` or `ByIndex` is additionally appended, for example, `removeFrameByName( [in] string aName )` or `removeFrameByIndex( [in] long nIndex )`.

The following method prefixes have special meanings:

**get**

To return non-boolean values or interfaces of other objects that have a lasting relationship with the object the associated interface belongs to, similar to being an attribute. This prefix is generated automatically for readable attributes. Multiple calls to the same method at the same object with the same arguments, without modifying the object in between, returns the same value or interface.

**set**

To set values or interfaces of other objects that get into a lasting relationship with the object the associated interface belongs to, similar to becoming attribute values. This prefix is generated automatically for writable attributes.

**query**

This prefix is used to return values, including interfaces that have to be calculated at runtime or do not have the character of being a structural part of the object which belongs to the associated interface. Multiple calls, even without modifying the object in between, do not necessarily return the same value and interface; but this can be specified in the specific methods.

**is/has**

Usage is similar to get, and is used for boolean values.

**create**

This prefix is used for factory methods. Factory methods create and return new instances of objects. In many cases, the same or a related interface has an insert or add method.

**insert**

This prefix inserts new sub objects into an object when the insertion position is specified.
add

This prefix inserts new sub objects into an object when the insertion position is not specified by any argument of the method.

append

This prefix inserts new sub objects into an object when the new sub object gets appended at the end of the collection of sub objects.

remove

This prefix removes sub objects from a container. Use destroy if the removal implies the explicit destruction of the sub object. If the sub object is given as an argument, use it's type or role additionally, for example, removeFrame() if the argument is a Frame. If the position index or name of the sub object to remove is given, use a name similar to removeFrameByName(). For generic interfaces, use removeByName() without the type name or role, which are unknown in that case.

destroy

This prefix removes sub objects from a container and explicitly destroys them in this process. Use destroy as a verbal prefix. For more details, see the description of remove.

clear

This prefix clears contents of an object as a whole, the verb itself, or certain parts of the object, such as add a specifying name giving something like clearDelegates().

dispose

This prefix initiates a broadcast message to related objects to clear references to the object. Normally, this verb is only used in XComponent.

approve

This prefix is used for the approval notification in listener interfaces of prohibited events.
Usage

Non-structural attributes are represented by the property concept, and not by get and set methods, or attributes of interfaces.

Consider possible implementations if there are several possible interfaces where you could put a method. For example, a file cannot destroy itself, but the container directory could.

Do not use `const` as an attribute for methods, because future versions of UNOIDL will not support this feature.

Interfaces

Interfaces are collections of methods belonging to a single aspect of behavior. Methods do not have data or implementation.

Once an interface gets into an official release of the API, it may no longer be changed. This means that no methods or attributes can be added, removed or modified, not even arguments of methods. This rule covers syntax, as well as semantics.

Interfaces are identified by their name.

Naming

Identifiers of interfaces begin with the prefix 'X' followed by the name itself in initial caps, capitalizing the first letter after the 'X', for example, XFrameListener. Avoid abbreviations.

We apply the prefix 'X', because interfaces have to be treated differently than pointers in C/C++ and also in normal interfaces in Java. It is also likely that the main interface of a service should get the same name as the service that can cause confusion or ambiguity in documentation.

It is a bad design if the name or abbreviation of a specific component appears within the name of an interface, for example, XSfxFrame or XVclComponent.
Interfaces

Usage

Interfaces represent stable aspects of design objects. A single interface only contains methods that belong to one aspect of object behavior, never collections of arbitrary methods. Both aspects of usage, client and server, should be considered in design. Keep the role of the object in mind. If some methods of your new interface are only used in one role and others in another role, your design is probably flawed.

Properties

Properties are descriptive attributes of an objects that can be queried and changed at runtime using the XPropertySet interface.

Naming

In non-scripting languages, such as Java or C/C++, property identifiers are simply strings. These identifiers always begin with an uppercase letter and use initial caps, for example, BackgroundColor. Avoid abbreviations.

Usage

Properties are used for non-structural attributes of an object. For structural attributes (composition) use get and set methods in an interface instead.

Events

Events are notifications that you can register as listeners. This concept is actually expressed by registration or unregistration methods for the broadcaster, listener interfaces for the listener and event structures for the event.
Naming

If an object broadcasts a certain event, it offers a pair of methods like `addEventNameListener()` and `removeEventNameListener()`. This scheme conforms to the naming scheme of JavaBeans and does not mean that the implementation keeps track of a separate list for each event.

The event methods of the listener interface use the past tense form of the verb that specifies the event, usually in combination with the subject to which it applies, for example, `mouseDragged()`. For events which are notified before the event actually happens, the method begins with `notify`, for example, `notifyTermination()`. Event methods for prohibited events start with the prefix `approve`, for example, `approveTermination()`.

Usage

Use events if other, previously unknown objects have to be notified about status changes in your object.

Normally, the methods `add...Listener()` and `remove...Listener()` have a single argument. The type of argument is an interface derived from `com.sun.star.lang.XEventListener`.

The event is a struct derived from `com.sun.star.lang.EventObject`, therefore this struct contains the source of the event.

Services

Services are collections of related interfaces and properties. They specify the behavior of implementation objects at an abstract level by specifying the relationship and interaction between these interfaces and properties. Like interfaces, services are strictly abstract.
Naming

Service identifiers begin with an uppercase letter and are put in initial caps, for example, com.sun.star.text.TextDocument. Avoid abbreviations.

Usage

Services are used by a factory to create objects which fulfill certain requirements. Not all services are able to be instantiated by a factory, but they are used for documentation of properties or interface compositions. In a service, you can specify in detail what methods expect as arguments or what they return.

Exceptions

Exceptions are special classes which describe exceptional states.

Naming

Exception identifiers begin with a capital uppercase letter, and are put in initial caps and always end with Exception, for example, com.sun.star.lang.IllegalArgumentException. Avoid abbreviations.

Usage

The OpenOffice.org API uses exceptions as the general error handling concept. However, the API should be designed that it is possible to avoid exceptions in typical error situations, such as opening non-existent files.
Enums

Enums are non-arbitrary sets of identifying values. If an interface uses an enum type, all implementations have to implement all specified enum values. It is possible to specify exceptions at the interface. Extending enums is not allowed, because this would cause incompatibilities.

Naming

Enum types begin with an uppercase letter and are put in initial caps. Avoid abbreviations. If there is a possible name-conflict with structs using the same name, add Type or Style to the enum identifier.

Enum values are completely capitalized in uppercase and words are separated by underscores. Do not use a variant of the enum type name as a prefix for the values, because some language bindings will do that automatically.

```plaintext
enum FooBarType
{
    NONE,
    READ,
    WRITE,
    USER_DEFINED = 255
};

struct FooBar
{
    FooBarType Type;
    string FileName
};
```

Three typical endings of special enum values are _NONE, _ALL and _USER_DEFINED.

Usage

If by general fact an enum represents the most common values within an open set, add a value for USER_DEFINED and specify the actual meaning by a string in the same object or argument list where the enum is used. In this case, offer a method that returns a sequence of all possible values of this string.
Typedefs

Typedefs specify new names for existing types.

Naming

Typedefs begin with an uppercase letter and are put in initial caps. Avoid abbreviations.

Usage

Do not use typedefs in the OpenOffice.org API.

Structs

Structs are static collections of multiple values that belong to a single aspect and could be considered as a single, complex value.

Naming

Structs begin with an uppercase letter and are put in initial caps. Avoid abbreviations.

If the actual name for the struct does not sound correct, do not add Attributes, Properties or the suffixes suggested for enums. These two words refer to different concepts within the OpenOffice.org API. Instead, use words like Format or Descriptor.
Usage

Use structs as data containers. Data other than interfaces are always copied by value. This is an efficiency gain, especially in distributed systems.

Structs with just a single member are wrong by definition.

Parameter

Parameters are names for arguments of methods.

Naming

Argument identifiers begin with a special lowercase letter as a prefix and put in initial caps later, for example, nItemCount.

Use the following prefixes:
- 'x' for interfaces
- 'b' for boolean values
- 'n' for integer numbers
- 'f' for floating point numbers
- 'a' for all other types. These are represented as classes in programming languages.

Usage

The order of parameters is defined by the following rule: Where, What, How. Within these groups, order by importance. For example, insertContent(UWORD nPos, XContent xContent, and boolean bAllowMultiInsert.
Special Cases

Error Handling (Exceptions/Error-Codes)

Runtime errors caused by the wrong usage of interfaces or do not happen regularly, raise exceptions. Runtime errors that happen regularly without a programming mistake, such as the non-existence of a file for a file opening method, should be handled by using error codes as return values.

Collection Interfaces

Collection-Services usually support one or multiple X...Access-Interfaces and sometimes add access methods specialized to the content type. For example, XInterface XIndexAccess::getElementByIndex(unsigned short) becomes XField XFields::getFieldByIndex(unsigned short).

Postfix Document for Document-like Components

Components, whose instances are called a document, get the postfix Document to their name, for example, service com.sun.star.text.TextDocument.

Postfixes Start/End vs. Begin/End

The postfixes ...Start/...End are to be preferred over ...Begin/...End.
Abbreviations

Avoid abbreviations in identifiers of interfaces, services, enums, structs, exceptions and constant groups, as well as identifiers of constants and enum values. Use the following open list of abbreviations if your identifier is longer than 20 characters. Remain consistent in parallel constructions, such as `addSomething()` or `removeSomething()`.

- **Abs**: Absolute
- **Back**: Background
- **Char**: Character
- **Doc**: Document
- **Ext**: Extended, Extension
- **Desc**: Description, Descriptor
- **Ref**: Reference
- **Hori**: Horizontal
- **Orient**: Orientation
- **Para**: Paragraph
- **Var**: Variable
- **Rel**: Relative
- **Vert**: Vertical

Source Files and Types

For each type, create a separate IDL file with the same base name and the extension `.idl`. 

OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009
IDL Documentation Guidelines

The reference manual of the OpenOffice.org API is automatically generated by the tool autoDoc from the idl files that specify all types used in the OpenOffice.org API. These files are part of the SDK. This appendix discusses how documentation comments in the idl files are used to create correct online documentation for the OpenOffice.org API.

Process

The autoDoc tool evaluates the UNOIDL elements and special JavaDoc-like documentation comments of these files, but not the C++/Java-Style comments. For each element that is documented, the preceding comment is used. Put the comment within /** .... */ for multiple-line documentation, or put behind /// for single-line documentation.

Warning – Do not put multiple documentation comments! Only the last will be evaluated for each element and appear in the output.

Most XHTML tags can be used within the documentation, that is, only tags that occur between the <body>...</body> tags. Additionally, other XML tags are supported and JavaDoc style @-tags can be used. These are introduced later.
It is good practice and thus recommended to build a local version of newly written IDL documentation and browse the files with an HTML client to check if all your layouts appear correctly.

### File Assembly

Each individual idl file only contains a single type, that is, a single interface, service, struct, enum, constants group or exception. Nested types are not allowed for OpenOffice.orgs local API., even though they are supported by UNOIDL.

### Readable & Editable Structure

The idl files have to be structured for easy reading and re-editing. Indentation or line-breaks are generated automatically in the output of autodoc, but the simple ASCII layout of the documentation comments has to be structured for readability of the idl files. Due to HTML interpretation, the line-breaks do not appear in the output, except in `<pre>...</pre>` and similar areas.

The idl files should not contain any `#ifdef` or `#if` directives than those mentioned in this document because they are read by the OpenOffice.org community and others. Do not introduce task force or version dependent elements, use CVS branches instead.

Avoid leading asterisks within documentation blocks. Misplaced asterisks must be removed when reformatting is necessary, thus time consuming.

**Warning** – Do not use leading asterisks as shown here:
```
/* does something special. */ /* This is just an example for what you must NOT do: Using leading asterisks. */
```

### Contents

The idl files should not contain implementation specific information. Always consider idl files as part of the SDK delivery, so that they are visible to customers.
File structure

This chapter provides information about the parts of each idl file, such as the header, body and footer, the character set to be used and the general layout to be applied.

General

Length of Lines

Lines in the idl files should not be longer than 78 characters, and documentation comment lines should not be longer than 75 characters. The preferable length of lines is upto 70 characters. This makes it readable in any ASCII editor and allows slight changes, that is, due to English proofreading without the need of reformatting.

Character Set and Special Characters

Only 7-bit ASCII characters are used in UNOIDL, even in the documentation comments. If other characters are necessary, the XHTML representation is to be used. See http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml-special.ent for a list of the encodings.

Completeness of Sentences

In general, build grammatically complete sentences. One exception is the first sentence of an elements documentation, it may begin with a lowercase letter, in which case the described element itself is the implied subject.
**Indentation**

The indentation of sub-elements and for others is four spaces for each level of indentation.

**Delimiters**

Each major element has to be delimited by a 75 to 78-character long line from the other major elements. This line consists of “//” followed by equal signs to match the regular expression "//\*=*$". Place it immediately in the line above the documentation comment that it belongs to.

Major elements are typedef, exception, struct, constants, enum, interface and service.

The sub elements can be delimited by a 75 to 78-character long line matched by the regular expression "\(\)*/-*$" from the other minor elements and the major element. This is a line consisting of a multiple of four spaces, followed by “//” and dashes. Place it immediately in the line above the documentation comment that it belongs to. Minor elements are structure and exception fields, methods and properties. Interfaces and services supported by services as single constants are to be grouped by delimiters.

Examples for major and minor elements are given below.

**File-Header**

For legal reasons, the header has to be exactly as shown in the following snippet. Exceptions of this rule are the dynamic parts within "$\ldots\$" and the list of contributors at the end.

```plaintext
/**
 * OpenOffice.org - a multi-platform office productivity suite
 * $RCSfile: MyNewIDLType.idl,v $ $Revision: 1.0 $ $Date: 2005/09/07 20:25:41 $ $Author: jsc $
 * The Contents of this file are made available subject to the terms of GNU Lesser General Public License Version 2.1.
 * GNU Lesser General Public License Version 2.1
 * Copyright 2007 by Sun Microsystems, Inc.
 * This library is free software; you can redistribute it and/or modify it
 */
```
under the terms of the GNU Lesser General Public License version 2.1, as published by the Free Software Foundation. This library is distributed in the hope that it will be useful, but WITHOUT ANY WARRANTY; without even the implied warranty of MERCHANTABILITY or FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. See the GNU Lesser General Public License for more details. You should have received a copy of the GNU Lesser General Public License along with this library; if not, write to the Free Software Foundation, Inc., 59 Temple Place, Suite 330, Boston, MA 02111-1307 USA.

The filename in "$RCSfile: MyNewIDLType.idl,v $" is replaced automatically by the version control system, as well as "$Revision: 1.1 $", "$Author: jsc $" and "$Date: 2007/07/05 10:30:56 $". Contributors add their names to the list at the end.

The copyright date has to be adapted to the actual last year of work on the file.

The #ifdef and #define identifiers consist of two underscores "__", the module specification, each nested module separated by a single underscore "_" and the name of the file separated with a single underscore "_" as shown above and trailing two underscores "__".

File-Footer

The files do not have a footer with VCS fields. The history can only be viewed from CVS directly. This is to avoid endless expanding log lists.

Element Documentation

General Element Documentation

Each element consists of three parts:

49. a summary paragraph with XHTML/XML markups
50. the main description with XHTML/XML markups
51. extra parts formed by @-tags
Summary Paragraph

The first part ending with an XHTML paragraph tag, that is, `<p>`, `<dl>`, `<ul>`, `<ol>` etc., or "@..." tag, is used as the summary in indexes.

**Warning** – In contrast to JavaDoc, the first sentence is not used for the summary, but the first paragraph.

The first sentence begins with a lowercase letter if the name of the described element is the implied noun. In this case, the sentence must be logical when reading it with that name. Sometimes an auxiliary verb, in the most cases "is", has to be inserted.

Main Description

Between the summary paragraph and the "@..." tag there should be a clear and complete description about the declared element. This part must be delimited from the summary paragraph with an XHTML paragraph tag, including "<dl>" and "<ol>", that are starting a new paragraph.

@-Tagged Part

Put the @ tags at the end of each element's documentation. The tags are dependent on the kind of element described. Each of the @-tag ends when the elements documentation ends or the next @-tag begins.

The @author tag is superfluous, because the author is logged by the version control system. They are only used for OpenOffice.org contributions if declarations are taken from other projects, such as Java.

The @version tag, known from JavaDoc, is not valid, because there cannot be more than one version of any UNOIDL element, due to compatibility.

On the same line behind the @-tag, only a single structural element is allowed. The parameter name is @param without the type and any attributes, the qualified exception is @throws, the qualified type is @see, and the programming language is @example. The @returns is by itself on the same line.
Warning – Do not put normal text behind an @-tag on the same line:
/** ...
@param nPos put nothing else but the argument name here! it is correct to
put your documentation for the parameter here.
@throws com::sun::star::beans::UnknownPropertyException nothing else here!
when <var>aName</var> is not a known property. */

Example for a Major Element Documentation

Each major element gets a header similar to the example shown below for an interface:

```cpp
//===========================================================================
/** controls lifetime of the object. Always needs a specified object owner.
<p><em>Logical</em> "Object" in this case means that the interfaces actually
can be supported by internal (i.e. aggregated) physical objects. </p>
@see com::sun::star::uno::XInterface for further information.
@since OOo 2.1.0 */ interface XComponent: XInterface { 
```

Example for a Minor Element Documentation

Each minor element gets a header similar to the example shown below for a method:

```cpp
//----------------------------------------------------------------------
 /** adds an event listener to the object. 
<p>The broadcaster fires the disposing method of this listener if the
<method>XComponent::dispose()</method> method is called. </p>
@param xListener refers the the listener interface to be added.
@returns <TRUE/> if the element is added, <FALSE/> otherwise.
@see removeEventListener */ boolean addEventListener( [in]XEventListener xListener );
```

Special Markups

These markup tags are evaluated by the XSL processor that generates a layout
version of the documentation, that is, into HTML or XHTML. These tags have to be
well formed and in pairs with exactly the same upper and lowercase, as well.
To accentuate identifiers in the generated documentation and generate hyperlinks automatically when building the cross-reference table and checking consistency, all identifiers have to be marked up. Additionally, it is important for proofreading, because a single-word method name cannot be distinguished by a verb. Identifiers have to be excluded from re-editing by the proofreading editor.

The following markups are used:

<atom>

This markup is used for identifiers of atomar types, such as long, short, and string. If a sequence or array of the type is referred to, add the attribute dim with the number of bracket-pairs representing the number of dimensions.

Example:

<atom>long</atom>

For an example of sequences, see <type>.

<type>

This markup is used for identifiers of interfaces, services, typedefs, structs, exceptions, enums and constants-groups. If a sequence or array of the type is referred to, add the attribute dim with the number of bracket-pairs representing the number of dimensions.

Example:

<type scope="com::sun::star::uno">XInterface</type> <type dim="[]
[]">PropertyValue</type>

<member>

This markup substitutes the deprecated method, field and property markups, and is used for fields of structs and exceptions, properties in service specifications and methods of interfaces.
Example:

```xml
<member scope="com::sun::star::uno">XInterface::queryInterface()</member>
```

**<const>**

This markup is used for symbolic constant identifiers of constant groups and enums.

Example:

```xml
<const scope="...">ParagraphAdjust::LEFT</const>
```

**<TRUE/>**, **<FALSE/>**

These markups represent the atomic constant for the boolean values TRUE and FALSE.

Example:

```xml
@returns <TRUE/> if the number is valid, otherwise <FALSE/>.
```

**<NULL/>**

This markup represents the atomic constant for a NULL value.

**<void/>**

This markup represents the atomic type void. This is identical to `<atom>void</atom>`. 
**<code>**

This markup is used for inline code.

Example:

Use `<code>queryInterface( NULL )</code>` for:

```listing
This markup is used for multiple line code examples. Example:
@example StarBASIC
aCmp = StarDesktop.loadComponentFromURL( ... )
if ( isnull(aCmp) ) .... endif
</listing>
```

---

**Special Documentation Tags**

This group of special tags are analogous to JavaDoc. Only what has previously been mentioned in this guideline can appear in the line behind these tags. The pertaining text is put into the line following . Each text belonging to a tag ends with the beginning of the next special tag ("@") or with the end of the documentation comment.

**@author Name of the Author**

This tag is only used if an element is adapted from an externally defined element, that is, a Java class or interface. In this case, the original author and the in-house author at Sun Microsystems is mentioned.

Example:

```author
author John Doe
```

**@since Product Version**

For OpenOffice.org APIs, all new IDL elements, such as types, properties, and enum values, must use the @since tag to identify in which version the element was introduced.

The document generator tool autodoc translates Product Version into a more human-
readable form. OpenOffice.org derivatives can translate it to their own product name and version.

Example:

@since OOo 2.1.0

@see qualifiedIdentifier

This tag is used for extra cross references to other UNOIDL-specified elements. Some are automatically generated, such as all methods using this element as a parameter or return value, and services implementing an interface or include another service. If there is no other method that should be mentioned or an interface with a similar functionality, it should be referenced by this @see statement.

An @see-line can be followed by further documentation.

Example:

@see com::sun::star::uno::XInterface::queryInterface For this interface you have always access to ...

Warning – Do not use markups on the identifier on the same line behind the @see-tag!
/** ... @see <type>these markups are wrong</type */

@param ParameterName

This tag describes the formal parameters of a method. It is followed by the exact name of the parameter in the method specification. The parameter by itself may be the implicit subject of the following sentence, if it begins with a lowercase letter.

Examples:

@param xListener contains the listener interface to be added. @param aEvent Any combination of ... can be used in this parameter.
@return/@returns

This tag starts the description of the return value of a method. The description is in the line following. If it begins with a lowercase letter, the method is the implied subject and "returns" is the implied verb. See the following example:

```
@returns  an interface of an object which supports the <type>Foo</type>
           service.
```

@throws qualifiedException

This tag starts the description of an exception thrown by a method in a particular case. The exception type is stated behind in the same line and must be fully qualified, if it is not in the same module. The description is in the line following. If it begins with a lowercase letter, the method is the implied subject and "throws" is the implied verb.

Example:

```
@throws com::sun::star::uno::lang::InvalidArgumentException if the specified number is not a specified ID.
```

@version VersionNumber

This was originally used to set a version number for the element. This tag is deprecated and should not be used.

Useful XHTML Tags

Only a few XHTML tags are required for writing the documentation in idl files. The most important ones are listed in this section.
Paragraph: `<p> ... </p>`

This tag marks a normal paragraph. Consider that line breaks and empty lines in the idl file do not cause a line break or a paragraph break in the layout version. Explicit paragraph break markups, are necessary.

**Warning** – Do not use `<br/>` or CR/LF for marking paragraphs. CR and LF are ignored, except within `<pre>...</pre>` and `<listing>...</listing>` areas. The `<br/>` tag is only for rare cases of explicit linebreaks.

`/** does this and that. This sentence should start with a "<p>". If not, it still belongs to the previous paragraph! This still belongs to the first paragraph. <br/> As this sentence is as well */`  
Consider using `&lt;` for `<` and `&gt;` for `>`, as shown in the example above.

Line Break: `<br/>`

This tag marks up a line break within the same paragraph. Consider line breaks and empty lines in the idl file do not cause a line break or a paragraph break when presented by the HTML browser. Explicit paragraph break markups are necessary.

Unordered List: `<ul><li> ... </li>... </ul>`

These tags mark the beginning and end of an unordered list, as list items.

Example:

```html
<ul>
  <li>the first item</li>
  <li>the second item</li>
  <li>the third item</li>
</ul>
```

results in a list similar to:

- the first item
- the second item
- the third item
Ordered List: `<ol>`<li> ... </li>... </ol>

These tags mark the beginning and end of an ordered list, as list items.

Example:

```html
<ol>
    <li>the first item</li>
    <li>the second item</li>
    <li>the third item</li>
</ol>
```

results in a list similar to:

1.the first item
2.the second item
3.the third item

Definition List: `<dl>`<dt> ... </dt><dd> ... </dd>... </dl>

These tags mark the beginning and end of a definition list, the definition tags and the definition data.

Example:

```html
<dl>
    <dt>the first item</dt>
    <dd>asfd asdf asdf asdf asdf</dd>
    <dt>the second item</dt>
    <dd>asfd asdf asdf asdf asdf</dd>
    <dt>the third item</dt>
    <dd>asfd asdf asdf asdf asdf</dd>
</dl>
```

results in a list similar to:

the first item

1.asfd asdf asdf asdf

the second item the third item
Table: `<table><tr><td>...</td>...</tr>...</table>

Defines a table with rows (tr) and columns (td).

**Strong Emphasis: `<strong> ... </strong>`**

These tags present a piece of text that is emphasized. In most cases this is bold, but the HTML-client defines what it actually is.

**Slight Emphasis: `<em> ... </em>`**

These tags present a piece of text emphasized slightly. In most cases this is italic, but the HTML-client defines what it actually is.

**Anchor: `<a href="..."> ... </a>`**

These tags specify a link to external documentation. The first "..." specifies the URL.
Universal Content Providers

The Universal Content Providers consist of the:

- Hierarchy content
- File content
- FTP content
- WebDAV content
- Package content
- Help content

The Hierarchy Content Provider

The Hierarchy Content Provider (HCP) implements a content provider for the Universal Content Broker (UCB). It provides access to a persistent, customizable hierarchy of contents.

HCP Contents

The HCP provides three different types of contents: link, folder and root folder.
52. An HCP link is a content that "points" to another UCB content. It is always contained in an HCP Folder. An HCP Link has no children.

53. An HCP folder is a container for other HCP Folders and HCP Links.

54. There is at least one instance of an HCP root folder at a time. All other HCP contents are children of this folder. The HCP root folder contains HCP folders and links. It has the URL vnd.sun.star.hier://.

![A Hierarchy Content Provider](image)

**Creation of New HCP Content**

HCP folders and the HCP root folder implement the interface com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator. HCP links and HCP folders support the command "insert" allowing all the HCP folders, as well as the HCP root folder to create new HCP folders and HCP links. To create a new child of an HCP folder:

1. The parent folder creates a new content by calling its `createNewContent()` method. The content type for new folders is "application/vnd.sun.star.hier-folder". To create a new link, use the type string "application/vnd.sun.star.hier-link".

2. Set a title at the new folder or link. The new child executes the "setPropertyValues" command that sets the property `Title` to a non-empty value. For a link, set the property `TargetURL` to a non-empty value.

3. The new child, not the parent executes the command "insert". This commits the creation process.
URL Scheme for HCP Contents

Each HCP content has an identifier corresponding to the following scheme:

```
vnd.sun.star.hier:/<path>
```

where `<path>` is a hierarchical path of the form

```
<name>/<name>/*<!--...//<name>
```

where `<name>` is an encoded string according to the URL conventions.

Examples:

```
vnd.sun.star.hier://(The URL of the HCP Root Folder)
vnd.sun.star.hier:/Bookmarks/Sun%20Microsystems%20Home%20Page
vnd.sun.star.hier:/Workplace/Printers
```

Commands and Properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UCB Type (returned by XContent::getContentType)</th>
<th>Properties</th>
<th>Commands</th>
<th>Interfaces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Root Folder application/vnd.sun.star.hier-folder</td>
<td>[readonly] ContentType, [readonly] IsDocument, [readonly] IsFolder, Title</td>
<td>getCommandInfo, getInfoSetInfo, getInfoValues, setPropertyValues</td>
<td>same as HCP Link, plus com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Hierarchy Content Provider

The "transfer" command only transfers HCP-contents to HCP folders. It does not handle contents with a URL scheme other then the HCP-URL-scheme.

The File Content Provider

The File Content Provider (FCP), a content provider for the Universal Content Broker (UCB), provides access to the local file system by providing file content objects that represent a directory or a file in the local file system. The FCP is able to restrict access to the file system to a number of directories shown to the client under configurable aliases.

File Contents

The FCP provides content representing a directory or file in the local file system.

1. A directory contains other directories or files.

2. A file is a container for document data or content. The FCP can not determine the 
   MediaType property of a file content.

Creation of New File Contents

A content representing directories implements the interface com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator. A file content object supports the command "insert". To create a new directory or file in a directory:

1. The parent directory creates a new content by calling its createNewContent() method. The content type for new folders is 
   "application/vnd.sun.staroffice.fsys-folder". To create a new file, use the type 
   string "application/vnd.sun.staroffice.fsys-file". A new file content object is the return value.
2. Set a title at the new file content object. The new child executes a "setPropertyValues" command that sets the property Title to a non-empty value.

3. The new file content object, not the parent, executes the command "insert". This creates the corresponding physical file or directory. For files, supply the implementation of an com.sun.star.io.XInputStream with the command's parameters that provide access to the stream data.

### URL Schemes for File Contents

#### The file URL Scheme

Each file content has an identifier corresponding to the following scheme:

```plaintext
file: //<path>
```

where `<path>` is a hierarchical path of the form

```plaintext
<name1>/<name>/.../<name>.
```

The first part of `<path>` ( `<name1>` ) is not required to denote a physically existing directory, but may be remapped to such a directory. If this is done, the FCP refuses file access for any URL whose `<name1>`-part is not an element of a predefined list of alias names.

#### The vnd.sun.star.wfs URL Scheme

In the Sun ONE Webtop, the server-side file system is addressed with *vnd.sun.star.wfs* URLs. The *wfs* stands for *Webtop File System*. The file URL scheme is reserved for a potential client-side file system.

The *vnd.sun.star.wfs* URL scheme is completely hidden from the FCP, that is, the server side FCP internally works with file URLs, like any other FCP: There is a Remote Access Content Provider (RAP) between the UCB and the FCP. The RAP, among other things, can route requests to another UCP and rewrite URLs. This
The File Content Provider feature is used so that the client of the UCB works with vnd.sun.star.wfs URLs and the FCP remains unmodified and works with file URLs, with a RAP in between that maps between those two URL schemes.

Except for the different scheme name, the syntax of the vnd.sun.star.wfs URL scheme is exactly the same as the file URL scheme.

## Commands and Properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UCB Type (returned by XContent::getContentType)</th>
<th>Properties</th>
<th>Commands</th>
<th>Interfaces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
The FTP Content Provider

The FTP content provider implements a content provider for the Universal Content Broker (UCB). It provides access to the contents, folders and documents, made available by FTP servers.

FTP Contents

The FTP Content Provider provides three different types of contents: accounts, folders and documents.

1. An FTP account is a content that represents an account for an FTP server. An account is uniquely determined by a combination of a user name and the host name of the FTP server. Anonymous FTP accounts have the string "anonymous" as a user name. An FTP account also represents the base directory, that is, the directory that is selected when the user logs in to the FTP server, and behaves like an FTP folder.

2. An FTP folder is a content that represents a directory on an FTP server. An FTP folder never has a content stream, but it can have FTP folders and FTP documents as children.

3. An FTP document is a content that represents a single file on an FTP server. An FTP document always has a content stream and never has children.
The FTP Content Provider

Creation of New FTP Content
FTP accounts and FTP folders implement the interface
com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator. FTP folders and FTP documents support the
command "insert"allowing all the FTP accounts and FTP folders to create new FTP
folders and FTP documents. To create a new child of an FTP account or FTP folder:
1. The folder creates a new content by calling its createNewContent() method. The
content type for new folders is "application/vnd.sun.staroffice.ftp-folder". To
create a new document, use the type string "application/vnd.sun.staroffice.ftpfile".
2. Set a title at the new folder or document. The new child executes a
"setPropertyValues" command that sets the property Title to a non-empty value.
3. The new child, not the parent, executes the command "insert". This commits the
creation process. For documents, supply an com.sun.star.io.XInputStream, whose
contents are transferred to the FTP server with the command's parameters.
FTP accounts cannot be created the way new FTP folders or FTP documents are
created. When you call the FTP content provider's queryContent() method with the
URL of an FTP account, a content object representing that account, user name and
host combination, is automatically created. The same as the URL of an already
existing FTP folder or FTP document.

URL Scheme for FTP Contents
Each FTP content has an identifier corresponding to the following scheme (see also
RFCs 1738, 2234, 2396, and 2732):
ftp-URL ::=
"ftp://" login *("/" segment) login ::=
[user [":" password] "@"] hostport user ::=
*(escaped /
unreserved / "$" / "&" / "+" / "," / ";" / "=") password ::=
*(escaped / unreserved / "$" / "&" / "+" / "," / ";" / "=") hostport ::=
host [":" port] host ::=
incomplete-hostname / hostname /
IPv4address incomplete-hostname ::= *(domainlabel ".") domainlabel
hostname ::=
*(domainlabel ".") toplabel ["."] domainlabel ::=
alphanum [*(alphanum / "-") alphanum] toplabel ::=
ALPHA
[*(alphanum / "-") alphanum] IPv4address ::=
1*3DIGIT "." 1*3DIGIT "."
1*3DIGIT "." 1*3DIGIT port ::=
*DIGIT segment ::=
*pchar pchar ::=
escaped / unreserved / "$" / "&" / "+" / "," /
":" / "=" / "@" escaped ::=
"%" HEXDIG HEXDIG unreserved ::=
alphanum / mark alphanum ::=
ALPHA / DIGIT mark ::=
"!" / "'" / "(" / ")" / "*" / "-" / "." / "_" / "~"

1626

OpenOffice.org 3.1 Developer's Guide · April 2009


FTP accounts have a login part, optionally followed by a single slash, and no segments. FTP folders have a login part followed by one or more nonempty segments that must be followed by a slash. FTP documents have a login part followed by one or more nonempty segments that must not be followed by a slash, that is, the FTP content provider uses a potential final slash of a URL to distinguish between folders and documents. Note that this is subject to change in future versions of the provider.

Examples:

```
ftp://me@ftp.host"
```

The account of user "me" on the FTP server "ftp.host".

```
ftp://ftp.host/pub/doc1.txt"
```

A document on an anonymous FTP account.

```
ftp://me:secret@ftp.host/secret-documents/"
```

A folder within the account of user "me" with the password specified directly in the URL. Not recommended.

### Commands and Properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UCB Type (returned by XContent::getContentType)</th>
<th>Properties</th>
<th>Commands</th>
<th>Interfaces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

\(^1\) ServerBase property may only be available if the FTP server supports the SITE command.

\(^2\) For anonymous accounts, ServerBase usually contains "", so the ServerName is returned.

\(^3\) Transfer is either via binary or ASCII mode depending on the protocol settings.
The property **FTPAccount** is similar to **Password**. Some FTP servers not only require authentication through a password, but also through a second token called an "account".

2 The property **ServerBase** is used to override the default directory associated with an FTP account.

3 The "**transfer**" command only transfers contents within one FTP Account. It cannot transfer contents between different FTP accounts or between the FTP content provider and another content provider.

The **WebDAV Content Provider**

The WebDAV Content Provider (DCP) implements a content provider for the Universal Content Broker (UCB). An overview is provided at URLs [http://www.webdav.org](http://www.webdav.org) and [http://www.fileangel.org/docs/DAV_2min.html](http://www.fileangel.org/docs/DAV_2min.html). It provides access to WebDAV and standard HTTP servers. The DCP communicates with the server by using the WebDAV protocol that is an extension to the HTTP protocol, or by using the plain HTTP protocol if the server is not WebDAV-enabled.

**DCP Contents**

The DCP provides two types of content: a folder or document that corresponds to a collection or non-collection, of nodes and leafs, in WebDAV, respectively.

1. A DCP folder is a container for other DCP Folders or Documents.
2. A DCP document is a container for document data or content. The data or content can be any type. A WebDAV server, like an HTTP server, does not mandate what type of data or content is contained within Documents. The type of data or content is defined by the MediaType property which is different from the content type returned from the getContentType() method. The MediaType property is mapped to the equivalent WebDAV property and the WebDAV server calculates the value.

![WebDAV Content Provider Diagram]

Creation of New DCP Contents

DCP folders implement the interface com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator. DCP documents and DCP folders support the command "insert". To create a new child of a DCP folder:

1. The parent folder creates a new content by calling its createNewContent() method. The content type for new folders is "application/vnd.sun.star.webdav-collection". To create a new document, use the type string "application/http-content".

2. Set a title for the new folder or document. The new child executes a "setPropertyValues" command that sets the property Title to a non-empty value.

3. The new child, not the parent, executes the command "insert". This commits the creation process and makes the newly-created content on the WebDAV server persistent.
Authentication

DAV resources that require authentication are accessed using the interaction handler mechanism of the UCB. The DAV content calls an interaction handler supplied by the client to let it handle an authentication request. The implementation of the interaction handler collects the user name or password from a location, for example, a login dialog, and supplies this data as an interaction response.

Property Handling

In addition to the mandatory UCB properties, the DCP supports reading and writing all DAV live and dead properties. Some DAV live properties are mapped in addition to the UCB properties and conversely, that is, DAV:creationdate is mapped to DateCreated. Adding and removing dead properties is also supported by the implementation of the XPropertyContainer interface of a DCP content.

Property Values

The DCP cannot determine the semantics of unknown properties, thus the values of such properties will always be presented as plain text, as they were returned from the server.

Namespaces

The following namespaces are known to the DCP:

- DAV:
- http://apache.org/dav/props/

Properties with these namespaces are addressed using a UCB property name which is the concatenation of namespace and name, that is, DAV:getcontentlength.

Dead properties with namespaces that are not well-known to the DCP are addressed using a special UCB property name string, that contains both the namespace and the property name. A special property name string must be similar to the following:

<prop:the_propname xmlns:prop="the_namespace">
The DCP internally applies the namespace \url{http://ucb.openoffice.org/dav/props/} to all UCB property names that:

- are not predefined by the UCB API.
- do not start with a well-known namespace.
- do not use the special property name string to encode namespace and name.

For example, a client does an `addProperty( .... "MyAdditionalProperty" ... )`. The resulting DAV property has the name `MyAdditionalProperty`, its namespace is \url{http://ucb.openoffice.org/dav/props/}. However, the DCP client never sees that namespace, but the client can always use the simple name `MyAdditionalProperty`.

**DAV / UCB Property Mapping**

- DAV:creationdate \rightarrow DateCreated
- DAV:getlastmodified \rightarrow DateModified
- DAV:getcontenttype \rightarrow MediaType
- DAV:getcontentlength \rightarrow Size
- DAV:resourcetype \rightarrow (used to set IsFolder, IsDocument, ContentType)

**URL Scheme for DCP Contents**

Each DCP content has an identifier corresponding to the following scheme:

\url{vnd.sun.star.webdav://host:port/<path>}

where `<path>` is a hierarchical path of the form

`<name>/<name>/.../<name>`

where `<name>` is an encoded string according to the URL conventions.

It is also possible to use standard HTTP URLs. The implementation determines if the requested resource is DAV enabled.

**Examples:**

\url{vnd.sun.star.webdav://localhost/davhome/}
\url{vnd.sun.star.webdav://davserver.com/Documents/report.sdw}
\url{http://davserver.com/Documents/report.sdw}
Note – Note that the WebDAV URL namespace model is the same as the HTTP URL namespace model.

## Commands and Properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UCB Type (returned by XContent::getContentTy pe)</th>
<th>Properties</th>
<th>Commands</th>
<th>Interfaces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## The Package Content Provider

The Package Content Provider (PCP) implements a content provider for the Universal Content Broker (UCB). It provides access to the content of ZIP and JAR archive files. It maybe extended to support other packages, such as OLE storages, in the future.
PCP Contents

The PCP provides two different types of contents: stream and folder.

1. A PCP stream is a content that represents a file inside a package. It is always contained in a PCP folder. A PCP stream has no children.

2. A PCP folder is a container for other PCP folders and PCP streams.

Creation of New PCP Contents

PCP folders implement the interface com.sun.star.ucb.XContentCreator. PCP streams and PCP folders support the command "insert", therefore all PCP folders can create new PCP folders and PCP streams. To create a new child of a PCP folder:

1. The parent folder creates a new content by calling its createNewContent() method. The content type for new folders is "application/vnd.sun.star.pkg-folder". To create a new stream, use the type string "application/vnd.sun.star.pkg-stream".

2. Set a title for the new folder or stream. The new child executes a "setPropertyValues" command that sets the property Title to a non-empty value.

3. The new child, not the parent, executes the command "insert". This commits the creation process. For streams, supply the implementation of an com.sun.star.io.XInputStream with the command parameters that provide access to the stream data.

Another convenient method to create streams is to assemble the URL for the new
content where the last part of the path becomes the title of the new stream and obtain a Content object for that URL from the UCB. Then, let the content execute the command "insert". The command fails if you set the command parameter "ReplaceExisting" to false and there is already a stream with the title given by the content's URL.

URL Scheme for PCP Contents

Each PCP content has an identifier corresponding to the following scheme:

```
package-URL ::= "vnd.sun.star.pkg://" orig-URL [ abs-path ] abs-path ::= "/" path-segments path-segments ::= segment * ( "/" segment ) segment ::= unreserved | escaped | "@" | "#" | "=" | "+" | "$" | "," unreserved ::= alphanum | mark mark ::= _ | "." | "!" | "~" | ";" | "*" | "" escaped ::= "%" hex hex orig-URL1 ::= * ( unreserved | escaped | "$" | "," | ";" | "*" | "" | "@" | ";" | "#" | "=" | "+")
```

Examples:

`vnd.sun.star.pkg://file:%2F%2F%2Fe:%2Fmy.xsw/`

The root folder of the package located at file:///e:/my.xsw.

`vnd.sun.star.pkg://file:%2F%2F%2Fe:%2Fmy.xsw/Content`

The folder or stream named "Content" that is contained in the root folder of the package located at file:///e:/my.xsw.

`vnd.sun.star.pkg://file:%2F%2F%2Fe:%2Fmy.xsw/Content%20A`

The folder or stream named "Content A" that is contained in the root folder of the package located at file:///e:/my.xsw.

You may use the service com.sun.star.uri.VndSunStarPkgUrlReferenceFactory as a helper to correctly encode the URL.

Commands and Properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UCB Type (returned by XContent::getContentTypeInfo)</th>
<th>Properties</th>
<th>Commands</th>
<th>Interfaces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stream</td>
<td>application/vnd.sun.star.pkg</td>
<td>[readonly]</td>
<td>getCommandInfo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The property Compressed is introduced by package streams to explicitly state if you want a stream to be compressed or not. The default value of this property is determined according to the value suggested by the underlying packager implementation.

2 The "transfer" command only transfers PCP folders or streams to other PCP folders. It does not handle contents with a URL scheme other then the PCP-URL scheme.

3 'flush' is a command introduced by the PCP Folder. It takes a void argument and returns void. This command is used to write unsaved changes to the underlying package file. Note that in the current implementation, PCP contents never flush automatically! Operations which require a flush to become persistent are: "setPropertyValues(Title | MediaType)", "delete", "insert".

The Help Content Provider

Currently, the Help Content Provider has the following responsibilities:

1. It is the interface to a search engine that allows a full-text search, including searching specific scopes, such as headers. The range of accessible scopes depends on the indexing process and is currently not changeable after setup.
2. It delivers a keyword index to its clients.

3. The actual help content has media type "text/html," with some images of type "image/gif" embedded. The content is generated from packed xml files that have to be transformed according to an xsl-transformation to produce the resulting XHTML. There is a cascading style sheet used for formatting the XHTML files of media type "text/css".

4. It provides its clients the modules for which help is available.

Help Content Provider Contents

The responsibilities mentioned above are fulfilled by providing different kinds of content objects to the client, namely:

- a root content giving general information about the installed help files
- a module content serving as the interface to all search functionality
- picture and XHTML Contents providing the actual content of the transformed help files and pictures

These contents are described below.

URL Scheme for Help Contents

Each Help content has an identifier corresponding to the following scheme:

```
URL ::= scheme delimiter path? query? anchor? scheme ::= "vnd.sun.star.help" delimiter ::= "://" | ":/" path ::= module ( "/" id )? query ::= "?" key-value-list? keyvalue::= keyvalue ( "&" keyvalue )? keyvalue::= key "=" value anchor ::= "#" anchor-name
```

Currently, to have a fault-tolerant system, some enveloping set of this is allowed, but without carrying more information.

Examples:

```
vnd.sun.star.help://?System=WIN&Language=de
```

```
vnd.sun.star.help://swriter?
System=WIN&Language=de&Query=text&HitCount=120&Scope=Heading
```
Some information must be given in every URL, namely the value of the keys "System"/"Language."

"System" may be one of "UNIX," "WIN," "OS2" and "MAC". This key parameterizes the XSL transformation applied to the help files and their content changes according to this parameter, and is mandatory only for help contents delivering XHTML-files. This may change in the future.

"Language" is coded as ISO639 language code, optionally followed by "-" and ISO3166 country code. Only the language code part of "Language" is used and directly determines the directory, which is relative to the installation path where the help files are found.

In the following, the term "help-directory" is used to determine the directory named "help" in the office/portal installation. The term "help-installation-directory" is used to denote the particular language-dependent subdirectory of the help-directory that contains the actual help files as a packed jar file, the index, the config files and some other items not directly used by the help content provider.

Properties and Commands

Every creatable content can execute the following commands. It is not constrained to a particular URL-scheme:

```java
com::sun::star::ucb::XCommandInfo getCommandInfo()
com::sun::star::beans::XPropertySetInfo getPropertySetInfo()
com::sun::star::sdbc::XRow getPropertyValues([in] sequence<
com::sun::star::beans::Property > ) void setPropertyValues([in] sequence<
com::sun::star::beans::PropertyValue > )
```

These commands repeat the information given in the following. The available properties and commands are explained by the following URL examples:

Root Content

vnd.sun.star.help://?System=WIN&Language=de

Properties:
The Help Content Provider

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'Title'</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>&quot;root&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'IsFolder'</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>true</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'IsDocument'</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>true</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'ContentType'</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.help&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'MediaType'</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>&quot;text/css&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commands:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Type</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Argument Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XDynamicResultSet</td>
<td>open1</td>
<td>OpenCommandArgument2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Return value of this command contains the modules available in the particular installation for the requested language. The modules are currently determined by looking for the files in the help-installation-directory matching "*.db", with the exception of the file "picture.db".

Generally, a module corresponds to a particular application, namely, if the writer application is installed, there should be a module "vnd.sun.star.help://swriter" and so forth.

The written XOutputStream or the set XInputStream (set at XActiveDataSink) makes the cascading style sheet available, which is used to format the XHTML files. Physically, the stream contains the content of the file custom.css in the help-directory of the office or portal installation.

Only the key "Language" is used. Any other key may be set, but is ignored.

Module Content

vnd.sun.star.help://swriter?
System=WIN&Language=de&Query=text&HitCount=120&Scope=Heading

Properties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>determined from config file in help-installation-directory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IsFolder</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>true</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IsDocument</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>false</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ContentType</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.help&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KeyWordList       sequence< string > (See below)
KeyWordRef        sequence< sequence < string > (See below)
The help files contain specially marked keywords. The alphabetically sorted list of keywords is contained in the property `KeywordList`.

For example, you are looking for keyword `KeywordList[i]`, where `i` is an integer. The help module in which this keyword should be found is determined by the module part of the content URL, "swriter" in our example. Now `KeywordRef[i]` contains a list of document ids, where the document belonging to that id contains the keyword string "docid = KeywordRef[i][j]".

The location in the XHTML document where this particular keyword refers to is marked by an HTML anchor element:

```html
<A name="anchor"/>
```

Here the anchor is given by the string "anchor = KeywordAnchorForRef[i][j]".

For our example, the URL of the `j` document in the swriter module containing the keyword `Keyword[i]` is determined as `vnd.sun.star.help://swriter/docid?System=WIN&Language=de#anchor`.

The keys "HitCount", "Query" and "Scope" have no value with regards to the keywords.

The title of the resulting document is determined directly without having to instantiate the content by the value of "KeywordTitleForRef[i][j]".

The module contents are also the interface to the search engine. A number of additional keys in the URL are necessary, namely the keys:

- HitCount
- Query
- Scope

The value of Scope should be one of the strings given by the property `SearchScopes`, currently "Heading" or "FullText". Leaving the key undefined defaults to a full-text search, Setting it to "Heading" means to search in only the document titles.

There may be any number of Query key definitions in the URL. Many Query keys determine a query search, first for documents containing all the values, then searching for those containing only subsets of all the values. The requested number
of results is determined by the value of the key `HitCount`. The actual returned number may be smaller. The interface to the results returned by the search engine is given by an `com.sun.star.ucb.XDynamicResultSet`, which is the return value of the command "open":

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Type</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Argument Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XDynamicResultSet</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>OpenCommandArgument2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**XHTML Content or Picture Content**


Properties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>determined from database</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IsFolder</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>false</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IsDocument</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>true</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ContentType</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>&quot;application/vnd.sun.star.help&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MediaType¹</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>&quot;text/html&quot; or &quot;image/gif&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ The MediaType "image/gif" corresponds to a URL which contains a module part "picture", as opposed to "portal" in the example.

Commands:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Type</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Argument Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>void</td>
<td>&quot;open&quot;¹</td>
<td>OpenCommandArgument2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Returns the transformed XHTML-content, or the gif-content of a `PictureContent`.

There is one special document for every module, namely those named `start` (replace 4711 by `start` in our example). It identifies the main help page for every module.

There is an additional key named `HelpPrefix`. If set, every link in a generated document pointing to another help-document, either XHTML or image document, is first encoded and then prefixed by the URL-decoded form of the value of this key. This key is only used by Sun One Webtop.
UNOIDL Syntax Specification

The following listing comprises the language specification for UNOIDL in pseudo BNF notation.

```
idl-specification ::= declaration*
enum-decl ::= ["published"] "enum" identifier 
{" enum-member-decl (" "," enum-member-decl)+ " } ";
enum-member-decl ::= identifier ["=" expr]
plain-struct-decl ::= ["published"] "struct" identifier [single-inheritance] 
{" struct-member-decl "} ";
single-inheritance ::= ":" name
struct-member-decl ::= type identifier ";"
poly-struct-template-decl ::= ["published"] "struct" identifier struct-params 
{" poly-struct-member-decl+ "} ";
struct-params ::= "<" identifier (" "," identifier)+ ">"
poly-struct-member-decl ::= struct-member-decl | parametric-member-decl
parametric-member-decl ::= identifier identifier ";"
exception-decl ::= ["published"] "exception" identifier [single-inheritance] 
{" struct-member-decl+ "} ";
interface-forward-decl ::= ["published"] "interface" identifier ";"
interface-decl ::= ["published"] "interface" identifier [single-inheritance] 
{" interface-member-decl+ "} ";
interface-member-decl ::= interface-inheritance-decl | attribute-decl | method-decl
```


interface-inheritance-decl ::= ["[ "optional" "]"] "interface" name ";"
attribute-decl ::= attribute-flags type identifier ["{" attribute-access-decl* "]"] ";"
attribute-flags ::= ["" (attribute-flag ",")* "attribute" ("," attribute-flag)* "]"
attribute-flag ::= "bound" | "readonly"
attribute-access-decl ::= attribute-get-decl | attribute-set-decl
attribute-get-decl ::= "get" exception-spec ";"
attribute-set-decl ::= "set" exception-spec ";"
exception-spec ::= "raises" "(" name "," name)* ")"
method-decl ::= ["[ "oneway" "]"] [type] identifier "{" [method-param (","
method-param)* "]") [exception-spec "]"
method-param ::= ["[ "direction" "]"] type identifier
direction ::= "in" | "out" | "inout"
typedef-decl ::= ["published"] "typedef" type identifier ";"
constant-decl ::= ["published"] const-decl
const-decl ::= "const" type identifier "=" expr ";"
constants-decl ::= ["published"] "constants" identifier ["{" const-decl* "]"] ";"
module-decl ::= "module" identifier "{" declaration* "]"] ";"
interface-service-decl ::= ["published"] "service" identifier ["":" name"] ["{"
constructor-decl+ "]"] ";"
constructor-decl ::= identifier "{" [constructor-params] "]") [exception-spec "]"
constructor-params ::= rest-param | ctor-param ("," ctor-param)*
rest-param ::= ["[ "in" "]"] "any" "..." identifier
ctor-param ::= ["[ "in" "]"] type identifier
accumulated-service-decl ::= ["published"] "service" identifier ["":" name"] ["{"
service-member-decl+ "]"] ";"
service-member-decl ::= service-inheritance-decl | interface-inheritance-decl
| property-decl
service-inheritance-decl ::= ["[ "optional" "]"] "service" name ";"
property-decl ::= property-flags type identifier ";"
property-flags ::= ["" (property-flag ",")* "property" ("," property-flag)* "]"
property-flag ::= "bound" | "constrained" | "maybeambiguous" | "maybedefault" |
"maybevoid" | "optional" | "readonly" | "removable" | "transient"
interface-singleton-decl ::= ["published"] "singleton" identifier ";"
service-singleton-decl ::= ["published"] "singleton" identifier ";"
type ::= simple-type | sequence-type | poly-struct-type | name
simple-type ::= "void" | "boolean" | "byte" | "short" | "unsigned" "short" | "long" |
"unsigned" "long" | "hyper" | "unsigned" "hyper" | "float" | "double" |
"char" | "string" | "type" | "any"
sequence-type ::= "sequence" "<" type ">"
poly-struct-type ::= name "<" type ("," type)* ">"
expr ::= [expr "]"] xor-expr
xor-expr ::= [xor-expr "^^"] and-expr
and-expr ::= [and-expr "&"] shift-expr
shift-expr ::= [shift-expr shift-op] add-expr
shift-op ::= "<" | ">"|
add-expr ::= [add-expr add-op] mult-expr
add-op ::= "+" | "-"
mult-expr ::= [mult-expr mult-op] unary-expr
mult-op ::= "*" | "/" | "%"
unary-expr ::= [unary-op] primary-expr
unary-op ::= "+" | "-" |
primary-expr ::= name | literal | "(" expr ")"
literal ::= boolean-literal | <INTEGER-LITERAL> | <FLOATING-POINT-LITERAL>
boolean-literal ::= "False" | "FALSE" | "True" | "TRUE"
name ::= ["::"] (identifier ":")* identifier
identifier ::= <IDENTIFIER>
Glossary

A

Abstraction

The term abstraction denotes the process or the result of a generalization. Generalization describes objects by qualities common to all objects of a certain class of objects. The principle of the generalization is to disregard individual properties of the objects, consequently it is impossible that an abstract object exists anywhere but in theory.

Accessibility

Ability of an application to provide its functionality also in situations where the usage of input and output devices is restricted for some reason. For instance, this can be due to restrictions of the devices, the environment or a physical disability of the user. Often assistive technology is used to provide accessibility, for instance screen readers or braille terminals. From version 1.1.0, OpenOffice.org has an API for accessibility, which can be used with Java and Gnome accessibility.

Add-In

An add-in is a functional extension for the OpenOffice.org application on the
basis of UNO components, which interact with parts of the application that were especially laid out to be extended. Examples of Add-Ins are Chart and Calc Add-Ins.

Any

All purpose data type for variables in UNOIDL. An any variable contains whichever data type is specified for UNOIDL.

API

Application Programming Interface. The entirety of published methods, properties and other means for software developers to access an application through software they write using this application.

Assistive Technology

Devices which can be used to improve accessibility, see Accessibility.

AT

Assistive Technology, devices which can be used to improve accessibility. See Accessibility.

Automation

Communication protocol between OLE automation objects. See OLE Automation.

AWT

Abstract Window Toolkit. The OpenOffice.org API contains a module <idlmodule>com.sun.star.awt</idlmodule> with abstract specifications for a window toolkit that handles graphical devices, window environments and user interfaces. In the current implementation of this specification, the specified features are mapped to platform-specific window systems, such as Windows, X Windows or Java AWT. The current C++ implementation is based on the Visual Component Library, a platform independent C++ library for GUIs, which is part of OpenOffice.org.
Binary UNO Interface

When method calls are transported over a UNO bridge, a single generic C method is used to dispatch all method calls across the bridge. This method and its parameters is also known as the binary UNO interface.

Bridge

Code that connects different language environments, such as C++, Java and indirectly OpenOffice.org Basic, with each other. The connection is exclusively used to transport method calls with their parameters, and return values back and forth between the language environments.

Calendar

Calendaring information in an internationally used application pose the problem to translate between the various calendar systems used in the world. In the context of OpenOffice.org, local calendars are supported through the I18N API.

Calc

OpenOffice.org spreadsheet document or components of the OpenOffice.org application containing the functionality necessary for spreadsheet documents in OpenOffice.org. Although there might be an scalc executable on some platforms, it does not contain the Calc functionality, it starts up a calc document using soffice.exe and its dependencies.

Chart

Embedded diagram document or components of the OpenOffice.org application containing the functionality necessary for embedded diagrams in OpenOffice.org. These diagrams visualize numeric and textual data, such as lines, bars, and pies.

CJK

China-Japan-Korea. A group of Asian languages that require similar treatment
in user interfaces for common principles, such as the writing direction and other features of Asian document editing.

Class

Class is the description of the common qualities of individual objects in object-oriented languages. This description can be expressed in an object-oriented programming language. A class description may be abstract where it does not contain sufficient implementation to create fully functional instances of a class, or it can be fully implemented. Fully implemented classes are used to create individual instances of objects that act according to the class description.

Client

An object using the services of a server. See server.

Clipboard

The clipboard is common storage place on a computer platform. Information is copied or cut from one application context and transferred to this storage where users paste it into another application context. A variety of file formats can be written to the clipboard making the information useful in many different contexts.

Collation

In the context of OpenOffice.org, ordering of textual information according to ordering rules local to a cultural community. The rules for alphabetical ordering in Latin writing differ from country to country, and there are completely different ordering rules in other cultural communities. OpenOffice.org supports localized collation through its I18N API.

Collection (UNO Collection)

UNO collections are gatherings of objects that are retrieved by enumeration, index or name through collection interfaces. UNO collections are not necessarily UNO containers, because they do not support the addition of new objects to the collection - though a collection can be a container too.

COM

Component Object Model. An object communication framework created as a part of OLE by Microsoft (R). See OLE.

Command URL

A string containing a command in the OpenOffice.org dispatch framework. See
URL.

Commit

Acknowledgment of an open transaction. See transaction.

Complex Text Layout

Complex Text Layout Languages: In CTL languages (such as Thai, Hebrew, Arabic and Indian) multiple characters may combine to form a display cell

Component

The term component has two uses in the UNO context. There are UNO components and XComponents, that is, objects implementing the interface `com.sun.star.lang.XComponent`.

UNO components are shared libraries containing implementations of UNO objects that are registered with and instantiated by a UNO service manager or service factory. If the component only uses a UNO environment, it is a well formed component.

An XComponent is a UNO object that allows its owner object to control its lifetime and a user object to register as a listener to be informed when the owner disposes of the XComponent. Occasionally, the term component is used as a short form for XComponent. For example, since OpenOffice.org documents loaded by the desktop must always support XComponent, it has become customary to call them components or desktop components. Loaded documents are not UNO components in the sense of a well formed component. They have no shared libraries and cannot be registered and instantiated at a service manager. It should always be clear from the context if the term component means well formed UNO component or XComponent.

Configuration

In the context of OpenOffice.org often used for XML based configuration files. OpenOffice.org has an API to access this configuration, the Extension Manager can insert configuration items, and users can edit the files manually.

Constant

A named value in a computer program that does not change during runtime. Constants are used to handle cryptic parameters in an understandable manner as in `com.sun.star.text.HoriOrientation:LEFT`. Furthermore, if constants are used, it is possible to alter the internal value of a constant without changing
every occurrence of this value in written code. But it is not possible to change the value of UNO IDL constants.

Constants Group

A named group of constant values, for example, the group com.sun.star.text.HoriOrientation contains constant values that describe possible horizontal orientations, such as LEFT, CENTER, and RIGHT. See constant.

Container (UNO Container)

UNO collection of objects with the additional option to add new objects to the collection and to remove objects. See collection.

Connection

An UNO Connection is an open communication channel between a UNO client and server. For example, if a Java program uses OpenOffice.org over the Java language binding, the Java client program connects to the OpenOffice.org application, which then acts as server for the Java client.

A Database Connection is an open communication channel between a database management system and an authenticated user.

Controller

A controller in the frame-controller-model paradigm of OpenOffice.org is a service that controls a visual representation of a OpenOffice.org document model. It may offer interfaces to access the visual representation, but it is not used to change the model it presents. In the frame-controller-model paradigm the view is a hidden implementation detail behind the controller. See frame-controller-model paradigm.

CORBA

Common Object Request Broker Architecture. Platform independent architecture for object communication. CORBA served as one of the examples for UNO.

CTL

see Complex Text Layout
DB

Abbreviation for database.

DBMS

Database Management System

DCOM

Distributed Component Object Model. It adds to COM objects the ability to communicate with COM objects on other machines.

DDE

A Windows protocol allowing applications to exchange data automatically. The OpenOffice.org supports DDE through the Edit - Paste Special command. OpenOffice.org Basic also uses DDE.

DDL

Data Definition Language. Parts of SQL used to create and alter tables, and modify rules for relational integrity.

Deadlock

A state where two processes wait for another so that they can continue their work. They have to wait until the deadlock is released from outside. For example this can happen if process A locks resource X and process B locks resource Y, and then process B tries to lock resource X and process A tries to lock resource Y.

Desktop

Central management instance for viewable components in the OpenOffice.org application.

Dialog (UNO Dialog)

A UNO dialog shows a window for user input. A dialog contains control elements, such as text fields, buttons, list boxes, and combo boxes. Currently, UNO dialogs are always modal, which means that they must be closed before
the process displaying the dialog can continue with its tasks. Furthermore, UNO dialogs do not support data aware controls, rather database connectivity has to be implemented manually. If you want to offer a non-modal window or work with data, consider using a UNO form.

Dispatch Framework

OpenOffice.org has a mechanism that sees documents as targets for uniform command tokens, which are handled for example by documents with methods specific to the document. This alleviates writing a user interface that does not need to know about the internal structure of a document. The user interface asks the document the command tokens it supports, and displays matching menus and toolbars. A toolbar icon like Background Color is used for many different objects without knowing in advance about the target object.

The command tokens have to be written in URL notation, therefore they are called command URLs, and are sent or dispatched to a target frame. The corresponding specification is called Dispatch API.

DML

Data Manipulation Language. Part of SQL.

Draw

OpenOffice.org drawing document or components of the OpenOffice.org application which contain the functionality necessary for drawing in OpenOffice.org. Although there might be an sdraw executable on some platforms, it does not contain the actual Draw functionality, it merely starts up a Draw document, using soffice.exe and its dependencies.

Draw Page

A layer for graphical objects in OpenOffice.org documents. Each of the document types Writer, Calc, Draw, and Impress have one or multiple draw pages for shapes. Most graphical shapes on a drawpage are geometrical objects, but embedded documents and forms are also located on the draw page of a document.

Document Controller

A part of the frame-controller-model paradigm in OpenOffice.org. The controller of a document is responsible for screen presentation, display control and the current view status of a document.
E

Enum

A named group of predefined values in the OpenOffice.org API comprising all plausible values for a variable in a certain context. Only one enum value can apply at a time. An example for an enum is `com.sun.star.text.PageNumberType` with the possible values `NEXT`, `PREV` and `CURRENT`.

Enumeration

A collection of UNO objects supporting the interface `com.sun.star.container.XEnumeration` accessed one by one using a loop construction. An XEnumeration has to be created at a `com.sun.star.container.XEnumerationAccess` interface.

Event

In the OpenOffice.org API, an event is an incident between an observable and an observer. The observable sends a message that something has happened that the observer wanted to know about. See listener.

Exception

The exception is a concept for error handling that separates the normal program flow from error conditions. Instead of returning error values as function return codes, an exception interrupts the normal program flow at anytime, transports detailed information about the error and passes it along the chain of callers until it is handled in code. This is helpful for the user to achieve a low-level function, therefore react appropriately, while it is still able to find out exactly what went wrong.

Extension

An extension is a file intended for the distribution of code and/or data which is to be used by OOo. The file has the file extension "oxt" (formerly `.uno.pkg` and `.zip`), and it acts as a container for various items, such as libraries, JARs, configuration data, type libraries, Basic libraries, Basic dialogs, etc. Before OOo can use any content of the extension, it needs to be installed by the Extension Manager.

Extension Manager

The Extension Manager is a tool for managing extensions and other deployable
items, such as separate libraries, JARs, configuration data files. This includes adding, removing, enabling and disabling of these items.

F

FCM

Frame-Controller-Model paradigm. See frame-controller-model.

Filter

There are two kinds of filters in OpenOffice.org, data filters and import/export filters.

Data filters reduce the number of records in a list or database to those records that match the given filter criteria. Examples of filters are those filters in a spreadsheet or database form.

The import and export filters read and write document data for specific file formats. They create OpenOffice.org documents from the files they support in a running OpenOffice.org instance, and create a target file in a supported format from a loaded document.

Form

A form is a OpenOffice.org document with a set of controls that allows users to enter data, and submit the data to a web server or store them in a database.

Data-aware forms support data-aware controls that display data from a database and write changes to a database automatically. Furthermore, they have built-in filtering and sorting capabilities. It is also possible to create subforms in forms.

Without a connection to a server, forms are only partially useful, because the integration with the surrounding document is still incomplete. Forms cannot be printed well, because text boxes do not shrink or grow, and list boxes and subforms are cut off in printing. It is not possible to have control borders in the user interface and hide them in printing.

Frame

Part of the frame-controller-model paradigm in OpenOffice.org. See frame-
controller-model paradigm.

Frame-Controller-Model Paradigm (FCM)

The architectural separation of content, visual representation, and binding to the surrounding window system in OpenOffice.org. Loaded office documents consist of:

1. a model object for document data with document manipulation methods
2. one or more controllers for screen presentation, display control and current view status of a document model
3. one frame per controller that links the controller with the surrounding windowing system, and dispatches command URLs it receives. It makes the document environment exchangeable. For instance, aside from the standard document windows there can be frames for documents in JavaBeans, Browser Plug-ins, MDI Windows, and embedded windows.

Programming with the FCM paradigm is simple: To change the document, use the model. To access the visual representation, ask the controller. To work with the window, obtain the frame.

If you know the Smalltalk model-view-controller paradigm (MVC), it is probably best to see frame-controller-model as a different concept with a few similarities to MVC. The main differences are:

1. The controller in FCM incorporates the visual presentation layer: Controller and visual representation are no different objects on API level. It controls the visual representation such as the current page or the visual cursor position, but it is generally not used to control the document content.
2. FCM has a frame, which is unknown in MVC.
G

GUI

Graphical User Interface, as opposed to a command line interface. A user interface is the point where a user and a software application meet and interact. A graphical user interface uses graphical representations of commands, status feedbacks and data of an application, and offers methods to interact with it through graphical devices, such as a mouse or tablets.

H

Helpers

Classes or methods with ready-to-use implementations that are used to implement fully functional UNO components. The goal is that implementers of UNO components can concentrate on the functionality they want to deliver, without having to cope with the intricacies of UNO.

I

I18N

Internationalization, written I18N because of the 18 letters between the 'i' and 'n' in internationalization. It provides the functionality to adapt a software to the needs of an international community with their deviating standards. For example, documents should be fully interchangeable, that is, a date should be the same date no matter where the document is edited, but the date needs to be displayed and edited according to the conventions followed in the user's country. Also, the user should be able to combine documents from other countries with his own documents without having to convert date formats.

IDE

Integrated Development Environment is a tool used for software development that integrates editing, debugging, graphical interface design and online help, and advanced features, such as version control, object browsing and project
management in a unified user interface. OpenOffice.org contains a small IDE for OpenOffice.org Basic.

IDL

Interface Definition Language is used in environments where interfaces are used for object communication. An interface definition language is frequently used to describe interfaces independently of a particular target language. For instance, CORBA and OLE have their own interface definition languages. UNO does not stand behind these component technologies and specifies its own IDL called UNO IDL.

Implementation

The process of writing a fully functional software according to a specification. Implementation also means the concrete, realized thing as opposed to an abstract concept. For instance, the current version of OpenOffice.org is one possible implementation of the OpenOffice.org API.

Impress

OpenOffice.org presentation document or components of the OpenOffice.org application that contains the functionality necessary for presentation documents in OpenOffice.org. Although there might be an simpress executable on some platforms, it does not contain the Impress functionality, it starts up a presentation document using soffice.exe and its dependencies.

Initialization of UNO Services

UNO objects are initialized when they are instantiated by a service manager if they support the interface com.sun.star.lang.XInitialization. The service manager automatically passes the arguments given in createInstanceWithArguments() or createInstanceWithArgumentsAndContext() to the method initialize() of the new UNO object. The service specification for the object documents the arguments if XInitialize is supported.

Instance

An instance is a concrete, individual object specimen created on the basis of an implemented class. In UNO, it is common to ask a service manager for an instance of a service. The service manager chooses a suitable implementation and sets up an object in memory on the basis of this implementation.

Interface

In object-oriented programming environments, the term interface is used for
sets of methods that describe aspects of external object behavior in terms of method definitions. The term interface implies that the described aspects abstract from the described functionality. Thus, an interface for a functionality is completely independent of the inner workings of an object that is necessary to support functionality. Interfaces lead to exchangeable implementations, that is, code that is based on stable interfaces works across product versions, while it is relatively easy to extend or replace existing interface implementations.

UNO interfaces have a common base interface com.sun.star.uno.XInterface that introduces basic lifetime control by reference counting, and the ability to query an object for an interface it supports.

I/O

Input/Output. The I/O is the physical transfer of byte stream between random access memory and devices that provide data or process data.

J / K

Java Bean

Reusable software component that can be visually manipulated in builder tools.

Job

UNO component that is set off upon an event. A job component must support the services [IDL:com.sun.star.task.Job] and/or [IDL:com.sun.star.task.AsyncJob]. Currently there are two ways to activate a job: either by triggering an event at the job executor service or by dispatching a specialized command URL of the protocol vnd.sun.star.jobs: at the dispatch framework.

Job Execution Environment

Environment in OpenOffice.org for generic jobs that are implemented as UNO components. A job can be executed upon an event and use configuration data for arbitrary purposes. It is guarded by the job execution environment which takes care of the job during its lifetime and writes back configuration data after the job has finished its work.
L

L10N

Localization, written L10N because of the 10 letters between the 'l' and 'n' in localization. It is the process of adapting a software to the requirements of users in a cultural community or country. For example, this includes translation of user interfaces and the necessary adaptation to the writing used in that community.

Language Binding

Programming language or programming environment that is used with UNO. It is possible to access OpenOffice.org from component technologies, such as OLE, through programming languages.

Listener

Listeners are objects that are set up to receive method calls when predefined events occur at other objects. They follow the observer pattern, that is, an object wants to update itself whenever it observes a change in another object registers with the object it wants to observe, and is called back when the prearranged event occurs at the observed object. The observable maintains a list of observers that want to be notified about certain events. This pattern avoids constant polling and ensures that observers are always up-to-date. Listeners in OpenOffice.org are specialized for the UNO environment. A listener implements a UNO listener interface with predefined call back methods. This interface is passed to the corresponding event broadcaster in an addXXXListener() method. The broadcaster calls methods on this interface on listener-specific events. The callback methods of a listener take an object that is derived from the base event struct com.sun.star.lang.EventObject. This object contains additional information about the event that lead to the listener callback.

Locale

A locale is a string which uniquely identifies a specific cultural community, defined by the country where a community lives, and by the language spoken. In the I18N API of OpenOffice.org, a locale consists of two parts encoded as <language>_<COUNTRY>: a two-letter language code (ISO-639) and a two-letter country code (ISO-3166). Examples are en_US for American English with American date, time, measuring and currency conventions, en_UK for British English and British conventions, de_DE for German as spoken in Germany with German conventions, es_ES for Spanish as spoken in Spain, es_MX for Spanish as spoken in Mexico. Locales sometimes occur with a third variant part which is used to denote further sub-divisions and variants, such as
es_ES_TRADICIONAL for Spanish with traditional collation rules, as opposed to modern collation. The variant part is user-dependent.

M / N

Math

Math is the embedded formula document or components of the OpenOffice.org application that contains the functionality necessary for embedded formulas in OpenOffice.org. Formula documents create mathematical formulas based on a meta description.

Model

The Model is an object representing document data and document manipulation methods, and is part of the frame-controller-model paradigm. See frame-controller-model paradigm.

Module

In UNO IDL, a module is a namespace for type definitions. The OpenOffice.org API is divided in 55 modules, such as awt, uno, lang, util, lang, text, sheet, drawing, presentation, chart, and sdb. The modules text, sheet drawing and presentation do not map directly to Writer, Calc, Draw and Impress documents, but the interfaces in these modules are used across all document types.

MVC

The Model-View-Controller paradigm that is the separation of document data, presentation and user interaction into independent functional areas. The frame-controller-model paradigm in OpenOffice.org has been designed with MVC in mind.

O

Object

As a general term, an object in the context of this manual is an implemented
class that is instantiated and has methods you can call. A UNO object is an object with the ability to be instantiated in the UNO context and to communicate with other UNO objects. For this purpose, it supports the UNO base interface com.sun.star.uno.XInterface in addition to the interfaces for the individual functionality it offers.

Object Identity

In UNO, a comparison of object references must be true for all references to an identical object. This rule is called object identity.

OLE

Object Linking and Embedding. It is a set of various technologies offering an infrastructure for object communication across language environments, and is indigenous on the Windows platform. In Inside OLE (Redmond 1995), Kraig Brockschmidt defines OLE "OLE is a unified environment of object-based services with the capability of both customizing those services and arbitrarily extending the architecture through custom services, with the overall purpose of enabling rich integration between components."

Among others, OLE comprises compound documents, visual editing, OLE Automation, the Component Object Model and OLE controls. Moreover, the term OLE as a collective term for a number of technologies has been superseded by ActiveX, which comprises even more technologies.

Although there are implementations for certain aspects of OLE on other platforms, Windows is the primary OLE platform. OpenOffice.org supports a certain aspect of OLE Automation, that is, OpenOffice.org is an OLE Automation server that offers the complete [PRODUCTNAME] API to Automation clients.

The term OLE is sometimes used for document embedding techniques within OpenOffice.org. OpenOffice.org documents are embedded into each other, and appear as "OLE Objects" on draw pages. That means, they are edited in place, and act like embedded OLE documents, but the platform infrastructure for OLE is not used. Therefore, this also works on platforms other than Windows. Real OLE objects are handled differently, the embedded object is handed to the application which is registered for the embedded document and opened in an independent application window.

OLE Automation

Automation is the part of the OLE technology that allows developers to call methods in applications supporting OLE automation. An OLE application publishes methods to be used from other OLE enabled applications. The called application acts as server, and the caller as client in this relationship. Under
Windows, an OpenOffice.org application object is available that offers almost the complete OpenOffice.org API to automation clients.

P

pkgchk

Legacy command-line tool of the Extension Manager. See unopkg.

Prepared Statement

Precompiled SQL statement that are parameterized and sent to a DBMS.

Protocol Handler

UNO component that handles custom URL protocols. A URL protocol is the part of a URL that stands before the colon, as in ftp: (file transfer protocol) or http: (hypertext transfer protocol). This mechanism is used as of OpenOffice.org version 1.1.0 to integrate OpenOffice.org extensions into the user interface. For example, a menu item can be configured to dispatch a command URL vnd.company.oo.newcomponent:NewFunction. A protocol handler for the protocol vnd.company.oo.newcomponent: could route this command to the corresponding routine newFunction(). This technique also forms the basis for the job execution environment, where vnd.sun.star.jobs: URLs are routed to components that support suitable job interfaces.

Q

Query

See database query, query interfaces, query adapter.

R

Redline
Text portion in a text document that reflects changes to a text document.

**Reference Counting, Ref Counting**

Controlling the lifetime of an object by counting the number of external references to the object. A ref counted object is destroyed automatically when the number of external references drops to zero.

**Registry Database**

Backend repository that contains information about UNO components registered with the service manager.

**Rollback**

Is the rejection of an open transaction. The data are restored to the state before the transaction was started. See transaction.

**Ruby**

Asian text layout feature, similar to superscript and subscript in western text. See [www.w3.org/TR/ruby/](http://www.w3.org/TR/ruby/).

**S**

**SAL**

System Abstraction Layer. C++ wrappers to system-dependent functionality. UNO objects written in C++ use the types and methods of SAL to create platform-independent code.

**Sequence**

Sequence is a set of UNO data types accessed directly without using any interface calls. The sequence maps to arrays in most language bindings.

**Server**

A server is an object that offers services to clients. OpenOffice.org frequently acts as server when it is accessed through UNO, but it can also be a client to UNO components, instantiating and using UNO objects in another application. The simplest use for OpenOffice.org calling objects in other processes are
listener callbacks. See client.

Service (UNO Service)

A UNO service describes a UNO object by combining interfaces and properties into an abstract object specification. This definition of the term service is specific to UNO, therefore do not confuse it with the general meaning of the word service in "a server offers services to its clients".

Service Manager

Factory for UNO services. A service manager supports the service com.sun.star.lang.ServiceManager, and its main task is to provide instances of UNO objects by their service name. This is done by factory methods that take a service name and optional arguments. The service manager looks in its registry database for UNO components that implement the requested service, chooses an implementation and uses a component loader to instantiate the implementation. It finally returns the interface com.sun.star.uno.XInterface of the new instance.

Singleton

Singletons specify named objects. Only one instance exists during the lifetime of a UNO component context. A singleton references one service and specifies that the only existing instance of this service is reached over the component context using the name of the singleton. If no instance of the service exists, the component context instantiates a new one.

Specification

Is an abstract description of qualities required for a certain task. The realization of a specification is its implementation.

SQL

Structured Query Language, pronounce SEE-KWEL. A standard language for defining databases, and for editing data in a database. SQL is used with relational database management systems.

Statement

An object in the sdbc module of the OpenOffice.org API that encapsulates a static SQL statements. See prepared statement.

Stored Procedure
The server-side process on a SQL server that executes several SQL commands in a single step, and is embedded in a server language for stored procedures with enhanced control capabilities.

Style

A predefined package of format settings applied to objects in OpenOffice.org documents.

Subform

Database form that depends on a main form. Usually a subform is used to display selected data, matching to the current record of the subform, for example, a main form could show a company address, and a subform could list the contact persons in that company. When a user browses through the companies in the main form, the subform is constantly updated to show only the contacts in the current company. This is achieved by a parameterized query in the subform, which takes a unique key from the main form and selects multiple records that match this key.

SVG

Scalable Vector Format. A W3C specification for a language describing two-dimensional vector, and mixed vector or raster graphics in XML. See www.w3.org/TR/SVG/.

Thread

Computer programs in single-task operating systems have a predefined course with a defined starting and ending point. Between these points, it is clear which instruction the CPU is currently executing, and that the next instruction in the program will be executed next by the CPU. On pre-emptive multi-tasking systems, the ability of modern CPUs to switch their current execution context is used to spawn sub-processes that run simultaneously with the original process. These sub-processes are called threads. In this situation, the CPU always knows which instruction it executes next, but the applications do not know if the CPU will execute their next instruction after the current instruction. Other threads might alter commonly used data. This makes it necessary to write thread-safe programs. A thread-safe program is aware that other threads might interfere with the current thread, and take precautions to shield commonly used
data from other threads.

**Transaction**

A batch of SQL commands that are considered a unity. All commands must be executed successfully, or the data must be restored to the state before the transaction was started. When using transactions, you tell the DBMS that it should start a transaction, then issue all SQL commands you need. After all the commands have been executed, commit the transaction. If an error occurred during one of the commands, restore the previous state by telling the DBMS to roll back the transaction. Transactions can become tricky, because your process or other processes can have open transactions in which they are altering data and locking rows. Therefore, plan carefully if you want to see changes before they are committed, or ensure that the data does not change when you read them again (transaction isolation).

**Transliteration**

Conversion of characters according to conversion rules that are valid for a cultural community, such as case conversions, conversions between Hiragana and Katagana, and Half-width and Full-width.

**Type Mapping**

The UNO interface definition language uses meta types for its type definitions are mapped to types of a real programming language. How the UNO IDL types are mapped is defined by the language binding for a target language.

**UCP**

Universal Content Provider. Subsystem of the UCB for one particular storage system or data source.

**UCB**

Universal Content Broker. Unification layer for access to storage systems or data sources, such as file, ftp, and webDAV.

**UI**
User Interface. See GUI.

Unicode

Unicode is a standardization effort by the Unicode consortium to provide a unique number for every character, regardless of platform, program and language. See http://www.unicode.org.

UNO IDL

UNO Interface Definition Language. See IDL.

UNO

Universal Network Objects. Platform-independent component technology used as a basis for OpenOffice.org.

UNO Component

See component.

UNO Collection

See collection.

UNO Container

See container.

UNO Dialog

See dialog.

UNO Object

See object.

unopkg

The command-line tool of the Extension Manager.

UNO Proxy

A UNO proxy (proxy is used as a shortform) is created by a bridge and is a language object that represents a UNO object in the target language. It provides the same functionality as the original UNO object. There are two terms which
further specialize a UNO proxy. The UNO interface proxy is a UNO proxy that represents exactly one interface of a UNO object, whereas a UNO object proxy represents an UNO object with all of its interfaces.

URL

Uniform Resource Locator. In addition to the public URL schemes defined in RFC 1738, OpenOffice.org uses several URL schemes of its own, such as command URLs for the dispatch API, UNO Connection URLs for the com.sun.star.bridge.UnoUrlResolver service, private:factory URLs for the interface com.sun.star.frame.XComponentLoader and database URLs to create database connections, com.sun.star.sdbc.XDriverManager.

V

VCL


View

A view is the presentation of document data in a GUI. In the OpenOffice.org frame-controller-model paradigm, there are no view objects separate from controllers, but the controller contains the view it controls.

W

Weak Reference

Reference to a UNO object which has to be converted to a hard reference before it can be used. A weak reference automatically turns into a null reference when the referred object is destroyed, and it does not keep the referred object alive.

Writer

The Writer is the OpenOffice.org word processor document or components of
the OpenOffice.org application containing the functionality necessary for word processing in OpenOffice.org. Although there might be an swriter executable on some platforms, it does not contain the actual Writer functionality, it starts up a Writer document using *soffice.exe* and its dependencies.

**X / Y / Z**

X<Interface Identifier>

Prefix for UNO Interfaces.

XML

Extensible Markup Language. Multitude of standards developed by the W3C for the definition and the processing of structured file formats. See [www.w3.org/XML/](http://www.w3.org/XML/)