Date: January 2009

Ruby CORBA Language Mapping

FTF Beta 1

OMG Document Number: ptc/2009-01-01

Standard document URL: http://www.omg.org/spec/rclm/Beta1

Source document: RUBY submission (mars/2008-09-16)

This OMG document replaces the submission document (mars/2008-09-16, Alpha1). It is an OMG Adopted Beta Specification and is currently in the finalization phase. Comments on the content of this document are welcome, and should be directed to *issues* @omg.org by March 9, 2009.

You may view the pending issues for this specification from the OMG revision issues web page http://www.omg.org/issues/.

The FTF Recommendation and Report for this specification will be published on July 10, 2009. If you are reading this after that date, please download the available specification from the OMG Specifications Catalog.

Copyright © 2008, Object Management Group Copyright © 2006-2008 Remedy IT.

USE OF SPECIFICATION - TERMS, CONDITIONS & NOTICES

The material in this document details an Object Management Group specification in accordance with the terms, conditions and notices set forth below. This document does not represent a commitment to implement any portion of this specification in any company's products. The information contained in this document is subject to change without notice.

LICENSES

The companies listed above have granted to the Object Management Group, Inc. (OMG) a nonexclusive, royalty-free, paid up, worldwide license to copy and distribute this document and to modify this document and distribute copies of the modified version. Each of the copyright holders listed above has agreed that no person shall be deemed to have infringed the copyright in the included material of any such copyright holder by reason of having used the specification set forth herein or having conformed any computer software to the specification.

Subject to all of the terms and conditions below, the owners of the copyright in this specification hereby grant you a fully-paid up, non-exclusive, nontransferable, perpetual, worldwide license (without the right to sublicense), to use this specification to create and distribute software and special purpose specifications that are based upon this specification, and to use, copy, and distribute this specification as provided under the Copyright Act; provided that: (1) both the copyright notice identified above and this permission notice appear on any copies of this specification; (2) the use of the specifications is for informational purposes and will not be copied or posted on any network computer or broadcast in any media and will not be otherwise resold or transferred for commercial purposes; and (3) no modifications are made to this specification. This limited permission automatically terminates without notice if you breach any of these terms or conditions. Upon termination, you will destroy immediately any copies of the specifications in your possession or control.

PATENTS

The attention of adopters is directed to the possibility that compliance with or adoption of OMG specifications may require use of an invention covered by patent rights. OMG shall not be responsible for identifying patents for which a license may be required by any OMG specification, or for conducting legal inquiries into the legal validity or scope of those patents that are brought to its attention. OMG specifications are prospective and advisory only. Prospective users are responsible for protecting themselves against liability for infringement of patents.

GENERAL USE RESTRICTIONS

Any unauthorized use of this specification may violate copyright laws, trademark laws, and communications regulations and statutes. This document contains information which is protected by copyright. All Rights Reserved. No part of this work covered by copyright herein may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means--graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, or information storage and retrieval systems--without permission of the copyright owner.

DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTY

WHILE THIS PUBLICATION IS BELIEVED TO BE ACCURATE, IT IS PROVIDED "AS IS" AND MAY CONTAIN ERRORS OR MISPRINTS. THE OBJECT MANAGEMENT GROUP AND THE COMPANIES LISTED ABOVE MAKE NO WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, WITH REGARD TO THIS PUBLICATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY WARRANTY OF TITLE OR OWNERSHIP, IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE OBJECT MANAGEMENT GROUP OR ANY OF THE COMPANIES LISTED ABOVE BE LIABLE FOR ERRORS CONTAINED HEREIN OR FOR DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, RELIANCE OR COVER DAMAGES, INCLUDING LOSS OF PROFITS, REVENUE, DATA OR USE, INCURRED BY ANY USER OR ANY THIRD PARTY IN CONNECTION WITH THE FURNISHING, PERFORMANCE, OR USE OF THIS MATERIAL, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.

The entire risk as to the quality and performance of software developed using this specification is borne by you. This disclaimer of warranty constitutes an essential part of the license granted to you to use this specification.

RESTRICTED RIGHTS LEGEND

Use, duplication or disclosure by the U.S. Government is subject to the restrictions set forth in subparagraph (c) (1) (ii) of The Rights in Technical Data and Computer Software Clause at DFARS 252.227-7013 or in subparagraph (c)(1) and (2) of the Commercial Computer Software - Restricted Rights clauses at 48 C.F.R. 52.227-19 or as specified in 48 C.F.R. 227-7202-2 of the DoD F.A.R. Supplement and its successors, or as specified in 48 C.F.R. 12.212 of the Federal Acquisition Regulations and its successors, as applicable. The specification copyright owners are as indicated above and may be contacted through the Object Management Group, 140 Kendrick Street, Needham, MA 02494, U.S.A.

TRADEMARKS

MDA®, Model Driven Architecture®, UML®, UML Cube logo®, OMG Logo®, CORBA® and XMI® are registered trademarks of the Object Management Group, Inc., and Object Management GroupTM, OMGTM, Unified Modeling LanguageTM, Model Driven Architecture LogoTM, Model Driven Architecture DiagramTM, CORBA logosTM, XMI LogoTM, CWM LogoTM, IIOPTM, MOFTM, OMG Interface Definition Language (IDL)TM, and OMG Systems Modeling Language (OMG SysML)TM are trademarks of the Object Management Group. All other products or company names mentioned are used for identification purposes only, and may be trademarks of their respective owners.

COMPLIANCE

The copyright holders listed above acknowledge that the Object Management Group (acting itself or through its designees) is and shall at all times be the sole entity that may authorize developers, suppliers and sellers of computer software to use certification marks, trademarks or other special designations to indicate compliance with these materials.

Software developed under the terms of this license may claim compliance or conformance with this specification if and only if the software compliance is of a nature fully matching the applicable compliance points as stated in the specification. Software developed only partially matching the applicable compliance points may claim only that the software was based on this specification, but may not claim compliance or conformance with this specification. In the

event that testing suites are implemented or approved by Object Management Group, Inc., software developed using this specification may claim compliance or conformance with the specification only if the software satisfactorily completes the testing suites.

OMG's Issue Reporting Procedure

All OMG specifications are subject to continuous review and improvement. As part of this process we encourage readers to report any ambiguities, inconsistencies, or inaccuracies they may find by completing the Issue Reporting Form listed on the main web page http://www.omg.org, under Documents, Report a Bug/Issue (http://www.omg.org/technology/agreement.htm).

Table of Contents

Pι	reface	iii
1	Scope	
2	Conformance	1
3	Normative References	. 1
4	Terms and Definitions	. 2
5	Symbols	2
6	Additional Information 6.1 How to Read this Specification 6.2 Acknowledgements 6.3 Proof of Concept	2 2
7	Ruby Language Mapping 7.1 Mapping Overview 7.2 Using Scoped Names 7.3 Mapping for Modules 7.4 Mapping for Interfaces 7.4.1 Object References	3 5 6
	7.5 Interface Inheritance	
	7.6 Nil Object Reference	8 9
	7.8 Mapping for Basic Data Types	.10 .11 .11

7.13	Mapping for Fixed Types	12
7.14	Mapping for Union Types	12
7.15	Mapping for Sequence Types	13
7.16	Mapping for Array Types	14
7.17	Mapping for Typedefs	14
7.18	Mapping for the Any Type	15
	7.18.1 Mapping Ruby Values to Any	15
	7.18.2 Mapping Any values to Ruby	16
7.19	Mapping for Valuetypes	16
	Mapping for Typecodes	
	Mapping for Abstract Interfaces	
	Mapping for Exception Types	
	Mapping for Operations and Attributes	
	The Dynamic Invocation Interface	
	Servant Implementation Mapping	
	7.25.1 Skeleton-Based Implementation	
	7.25.2 The Dynamic Skeleton Interface	
7 26	Ruby Definitions for CORBA	
1.20	7.26.1 CORBA namespace	
	7.26.2 Exception classes	
	7.26.3 ORB class	
	7.26.4 Object class	
	7.26.5 Any class	
	7.26.6 Request class	
	7.26.7 TypeCode class	
7.27	Not implemented Deprecated Definitions	26
- -	·····	

Preface

About the Object Management Group

OMG

Founded in 1989, the Object Management Group, Inc. (OMG) is an open membership, not-for-profit computer industry standards consortium that produces and maintains computer industry specifications for interoperable, portable and reusable enterprise applications in distributed, heterogeneous environments. Membership includes Information Technology vendors, end users, government agencies and academia.

OMG member companies write, adopt, and maintain its specifications following a mature, open process. OMG's specifications implement the Model Driven Architecture® (MDA®), maximizing ROI through a full-lifecycle approach to enterprise integration that covers multiple operating systems, programming languages, middleware and networking infrastructures, and software development environments. OMG's specifications include: UML® (Unified Modeling LanguageTM); CORBA® (Common Object Request Broker Architecture); CWMTM (Common Warehouse Metamodel); and industry-specific standards for dozens of vertical markets.

More information on the OMG is available at http://www.omg.org/.

OMG Specifications

As noted, OMG specifications address middleware, modeling and vertical domain frameworks. A catalog of all OMG Specifications is available from the OMG website at:

http://www.omg.org/technology/documents/spec_catalog.htm

Specifications within the Catalog are organized by the following categories:

OMG Modeling Specifications

- UML
- MOF
- XMI
- CWM
- Profile specifications.

OMG Middleware Specifications

- CORBA/IIOP
- IDL/Language Mappings
- Specialized CORBA specifications
- CORBA Component Model (CCM).

Platform Specific Model and Interface Specifications

CORBAservices

- CORBAfacilities
- OMG Domain specifications
- OMG Embedded Intelligence specifications
- OMG Security specifications.

All of OMG's formal specifications may be downloaded without charge from our website. (Products implementing OMG specifications are available from individual suppliers.) Copies of specifications, available in PostScript and PDF format, may be obtained from the Specifications Catalog cited above or by contacting the Object Management Group, Inc. (as of January 16, 2006) at:

OMG Headquarters 140 Kendrick Street Building A, Suite 300 Needham, MA 02494 USA Tel: +1-781-444-0404

Fax: +1-781-444-0320 Email: *pubs@omg.org*

Certain OMG specifications are also available as ISO standards. Please consult http://www.iso.org

Issues

The reader is encouraged to report any technical or editing issues/problems with this specification to http://www.omg.org/technology/agreement.htm.

1 Scope

The CORBA Language Mapping specifications contain language mapping information for several languages. Each language is described in a separate stand-alone volume.

This particular specification explains how OMG IDL constructs are mapped to the constructs of the Ruby programming language.

1.1 Alignment with CORBA

This language mapping is aligned with CORBA, v3.0.3:formal/04-03-12.

2 Conformance

The Ruby mapping tries to avoid limiting the implementation freedoms of ORB developers. For each OMG IDL and CORBA construct, the Ruby mapping explains the syntax and semantics of using the construct from Ruby. A client or server program conforms to this mapping (is CORBA-Ruby compliant) if it uses the constructs as described in the Ruby mapping chapters. An implementation conforms to this mapping if it correctly executes any conforming client or server program. A conforming client or server program is therefore portable across all conforming implementations.

2.1 Ruby Implementation Requirements

The mapping proposed here assumes that the target Ruby environment supports all the features described in the Programming Ruby; The Pragmatic Programmers' Guide.

2.2 No Implementation Descriptions

This mapping does not contain implementation descriptions. It avoids details that would constrain implementations, but still allows clients to be fully source-compatible with any compliant implementation. Some examples show possible implementations, but these are not required implementations.

3 Normative References

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this specification. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply.

- OMG CORBA 3.0.3 specification:formal/04-03-12.
- Programming Ruby; The Pragmatic Programmers' Guide. Pragmatic Bookshelf, September 2004. ISBN 0974514055.

4 Terms and Definitions

For the purposes of this specification, the terms and definitions given in the normative reference and the following apply.

5 Symbols

List of symbols/abbreviations.

GIOP - Generic Inter-ORB protocol

ORB - Object Request Broker

CORBA - Common Object Request Broker Architecture

IOR - Interoperable Object Reference

6 Additional Information

6.1 How to Read this Specification

The rest of this document contains the CORBA language mapping for the Ruby language.

6.2 Acknowledgements

The following companies submitted and/or supported parts of this specification:

Martin Corino, Remedy IT, Postbus 101, 2650 AC Berkel en Rodenrijs, The Netherlands, mcorino@remedy.nl

6.3 Proof of Concept

In Q4 2006 Remedy IT started the implementation of an OpenSource Ruby CORBA mapping (R2CORBA). Since there wasn't a standard CORBA Ruby Language Mapping Remedy IT created this mapping as a basis for the mapping implementation.

7 Ruby Language Mapping

7.1 Mapping Overview

The mapping of IDL to Ruby presented here does not prescribe a specific implementation. It follows the guidelines presented in Chapter 1.1 of the C Language Mapping (formal/99-07-39). The Ruby language features used in this mapping are available since Ruby 1.8, most of them are available in previous releases.

This document covers the following aspects of implementing CORBA-based architectures in Ruby:

- · Representation of IDL types, constants, and exceptions in Ruby
- Invocation of methods on a CORBA object using a generated stub
- Invoking methods dynamically
- Providing object implementations using generated stubs
- Access to ORB services

An implementation of this specification provides the predefined module CORBA. All names qualified with the CORBA module are also provided by the implementation.

7.2 Using Scoped Names

Ruby implements a module concept that is compatible with the IDL scoping mechanisms. Ruby naming conventions (partially hardwired into the language) differ however. The following naming conventions apply:

- Constant names (which in Ruby include module and class names) *must* start with an uppercase alphabetical character.
- Method and attribute names should start with a lowercase alphabetical character or underscore.

Scoped names are therefore translated into Ruby using the following rules:

- IDL modules are mapped onto Ruby modules. Nesting in IDL is supported without restrictions.
- IDL interfaces are mapped onto Ruby modules. The Ruby concept of Mixins applies neatly to the CORBA concept of narrowing interfaces.
- IDL definitions in global scope will also have global scope definitions in Ruby.
- The first character of IDL module, interface or constant names is forced to uppercase when mapped into Ruby.
- The first character of IDL attribute or method names is forced to lowercase when mapped into Ruby.

To avoid conflicts, every use in OMG IDL of a Ruby keyword as an identifier is mapped into the same name preceded by the prefix 'r_' or 'R_.' For example, an IDL interface named **alias** would be named **R_alias** when its name is mapped into Ruby.

Table 7.1 - Ruby Keywords

FILE	and	def	end	in	or	self	unless
LINE	begin	defined?	ensure	module	redo	super	until
BEGIN	break	do	false	next	rescue	then	when
END	case	else	for	nil	retry	true	while
alias	class	elsif	if	not	return	undef	yield

Likewise every use in OMG IDL of a builtin Ruby constant name as a name for an unscoped module or interface is mapped into the same name preceded by the prefix 'R_.' For example an IDL interface named **Array** would be named **R_Array** when its named is mapped into Ruby. When however the interface was declared within the scope of a module its name would be left untouched.

Table 7.2 - Ruby reserved constant names

Array	Bignum	Binding	Class	Continuation	Dir	Exception
FalseClass	File	Fixnum	Float	Hash	Integer	Ю
MatchData	Method	Module	NilClass	Numeric	Object	Proc
Process	Range	Regexp	String	Struct	Symbol	Thread
ThreadGroup	Time	TrueClass	UnboundMethod	Comparable	Enumerable	Errno
FileTest	GC	Kernel	Marshal	Math	ObjectSpace	Signal

Finally every use in OMG IDL of the standard name of a method of the Ruby Object class as a name for a member of an IDL construct is mapped into the same name preceded by the prefix 'r_.' For example the method of an IDL interface named **to_s** would be named **r_to_s** when mapped into Ruby.

Table 7.3 - Ruby reserverd member names

	······································					
id	send	abort	at_exit	autoload		
binding	callcc	caller	catch	chomp		
chop	clone	display	dup	eval		
exec	exit	extend	fail	fork		
format	freeze	getc	gets	global_variables		

Table 7.3 - Ruby reserverd member names

Table 1.3 - Ruby reserver	a mombor mamos			
gsub	hash	id	initialize	initialize_copy
inspect	instance_eval	instance_variable_ get	instance_variable_set	instance_variables
irb_binding	lambda	load	local_variables	loop
method	method_missing	methods	object_id	open
р	print	printf	private_methods	proc
protected_methods	public_methods	putc	puts	raise
rand	readline	readlines	remove_instance_ variable	require
scan	select	send	set_trace_func	singleton_method_ added
singleton_method_ removed	singleton_method_ undefined	singleton_methods	sleep	split
sprintf	srand	sub	syscall	system
taint	test	throw	to_a	to_s
trace_var	trap	type	untaint	untrace_var
warn				

7.3 Mapping for Modules

A module defines a scope and as such is mapped to a Ruby module using the naming conventions described in Section 7.2, "Using Scoped Names," on page 3.

```
// IDL
module M
{
    // definitions
};

# Ruby
module M
{
    ## definitions
}
```

7.4 Mapping for Interfaces

An interface is mapped to a Ruby module (using the naming conventions described in Section 7.2, "Using Scoped Names," on page 3) that contains public definitions of the types, constants, operations, and exceptions defined in the interface.

A CORBA Ruby compliant program cannot

 create or hold an instance of an interface module (this is in fact prohibited by the Ruby language which does not allow creating instances of modules).

In essence the generated module is a what the Ruby language calls a Mixin; an interface definition containing type definitions, constants and instance method implementations which can be "mixed in" with a class. This example shows the behavior of the mapping of an interface:

```
// IDL
interface myIntf
{
    struct S { short field; };
};

# Ruby
# Conformant uses
s = MyIntf::S.new ## create a struct instance
s.field = 3 ## field access
# Non-conformant uses:
# one cannot create an instance of an interface class...
a = MyIntf.new
```

7.4.1 Object References

The use of an interface type in OMG IDL denotes an object reference. As Ruby variables do not have an intrinsic type they can hold a reference to any object including CORBA object references. Since Ruby variables hold object references by nature which are 'cleaned up' using a mark/sweep garbage collection mechanism, there is also no need for special 'reference holder' types like the _var types from the C++ language mapping. The garbage collection mechanism has as a downside the effect that (CORBA) resources may be retained until the garbage collector kicks in at what may be, from the application developers point of view, an inopportune moment. To facilitate more 'planned' resource release the implementation defines a non-standard extension to the CORBA object reference interface; the #_free_ref() method. This method releases any resources allocated to a CORBA object reference. After calling this method calling CORBA::is_nil for the object reference will return true.

Since CORBA object references are represented by standard Ruby object references performing operations on CORBA objects and/or referencing attribute values follows normal Ruby language rules. This example shows the code to perform operations and reference attributes:

```
# Ruby
obj = ... ## somehow obtain an object reference
# perform operation
s = obj.get_string()
# reference attribute value
v = obj.my_value
```

The way Ruby handles values, objects and argument passing does however have an effect on the way argument passing and handling OUT values and return values are mapped as is discussed in Section 7.23, "Mapping for Operations and Attributes," on page 18.

7.5 Interface Inheritance

OMG IDL interface inheritance is mapped onto Ruby module Mixin methods. In the Ruby mapping modules representing derived OMG IDL interfaces get their base modules (representing the IDL base interface(s)) mixed in as shown in this example:

7.5.1 Narrowing Interfaces

The mapping for an interface defines a module method named _narrow that returns a new object reference given an existing reference. The _narrow method returns a nil object reference if the given reference is nil. The parameter to _narrow is a reference of an object of any interface type. If the actual (runtime) type of the parameter object can be narrowed to the requested interface's type, then _narrow will return a valid object reference.

For example, suppose A, B, C, and D are interface types, and D inherits from C, which inherits from B, which in turn inherits from A. If an object reference to a C object is narrowed to a variable called ap, then:

- A::_narrow(ap) returns a valid object reference
- B::_narrow(ap) returns a valid object reference
- C::_narrow(ap) returns a valid object reference
- D::_narrow(ap) raises a CORBA system exception

Narrowing to A, B, and C all succeed because the object supports all those interfaces. The D::_narrow fails because the C object does not support the D interface. For another example, suppose A, B, C, and D are interface types. C inherits from B, and both B and D inherit from A. Now suppose that an object of type C is passed to a function as an A. If the function calls B::_narrow or C::_narrow, a new object reference will be returned. A call to D::_narrow will fail. If successful, the _narrow function creates a new object reference.

7.6 Nil Object Reference

As Ruby variables do not have an intrinsic type there is no need for a specific Nil Object Reference. Instead the Ruby nil value will be returned whenever a nil object reference is expected. The CORBA helper method CORBA::is_nil will return true for any value which is either a Ruby nil or an Object reference for which the _is_nil method returns true, i.e:

```
# Ruby
my_ref = nil
puts "TRUE" if CORBA::is_nil(my_ref)
# ... retrieve object reference somewhere
if !my_obj.nil?
   puts "TRUE if my_obj._is_nil?()" if CORBA::is_nil(my_obj)
end
```

7.7 Mapping for Constants

OMG IDL constants are mapped directly to a Ruby constant definition taking into account the scoped names naming conventions as described in Section 7.2, "Using Scoped Names," on page 3. The following shows an example of the constants mapping.

```
// IDL
const string name = "testing";
interface A
{
    const float pi = 3.14159;
};

# Ruby
Name = "testing"

module A
...
    Pi = 3.14159
...
end
```

In certain situations, use of a constant in OMG IDL must generate the constant's value instead of the constant's name. For example:

```
// IDL
interface A
{
    const long n = 10;
    typedef long V[n];
};
// Ruby
module A
...
N = 10
```

7.7.1 Wide Character and Wide String Constants

As Ruby does not provide intrinsic language types for representing wide character and wide string constants these data types are mapped on Ruby integer and integer array types respectively. The following gives an example of this mapping.

```
// IDL
const wchar myWChar = L'a';
const wstring myWString = L"abc\u1234";
# Ruby
MyWChar = 97
MyWString = [97,98,99,4660]
```

7.7.2 Fixed Point Constants

This type is not supported in this version of the Language mapping.

7.8 Mapping for Basic Data Types

Because Ruby does not require type information for operation declarations, it is not necessary to introduce standardized type names, unlike the C or C++ mappings. Instead, the mapping of types to dynamic values is specified here. For most of the simple types, it is obvious how values of these types can be created. For the other types, the interface for constructing values is also defined. The mappings for the basic types are shown in Table 7.4.

Table 7.4 - Basic Data Type mappings

octet	Integer
short	Integer
long	Integer
unsigned short	Integer
unsigned long	Integer
long long	Integer
unsigned long long	Integer

Table 7.4 - Basic Data Type mappings

float	Float
double	Float
long double	CORBA::LongDouble
boolean	TrueClass or FalseClass
char	String of length 1 or Integer
wchar	Integer

For IN (INOUT) arguments the mapping implementation honours the Ruby Duck typing principal by allowing for certain data types implicit conversions using the strict type conversion methods #to str and #to in.

Implicit conversion is applied in the following cases:

- where the formal expected Ruby data type is Integer passing an object responding to #to int is allowed
- where the formal expected Ruby data type is String passing an object responding to #to_str is allowed

For the boolean type Ruby defines two distinct instances true and false.

For the long double type, the following interface must be provided:

- The method CORBA::LongDouble.new creates a new CORBA::LongDouble instance from a Float, a String or a BigDecimal with optional precision specified.
- The method to_f of a long double number converts it into a Float. For each Float f, CORBA::LongDouble(f).to_f==f.
- The CORBA::LongDouble instance has an internal representation that is capable of storing IEEE-754 compliant values, with sign, 31 bits of mantissa (offset 16383), and 112 bits of fractional mantissa. If numeric operations are provided, they offer the precision resulting from this specification.

7.9 Mapping for Enums

An OMG IDL enum maps to a series of Ruby integer constants as shown in the example below. Furthermore a Ruby class is defined to carry the enum name and typecode information.

```
// IDL
enum test_enum
{
    TE_ZEROTH,
    TE_FIRST,
    TE_SECOND,
    TE_THIRD,
    TE_FOURTH
};
```

```
# Ruby
class Test_enum
...
end # enum Test_enum
TE_ZEROTH = 0
TE_FIRST = 1
TE_SECOND = 2
TE_THIRD = 3
TE FOURTH = 4
```

7.10 Mapping for String Types

The OMG IDL string type, whether bounded or unbounded, is mapped to String. Ruby does not have a class that would match IDL-bounded strings. As a result, the programmer is responsible for enforcing the bound of bounded strings at run time.

The Ruby mapping will not implement functionality to prevent assignment of a string value to a bounded string type if the string value exceeds the bound. It will however detect attempts to pass a string value that exceeds the bound as a parameter across an interface. Such a condition will be signaled by a **MARSHAL** system exception.

7.11 Mapping for Wide String Types

The OMG IDL string type, whether bounded or unbounded, is mapped to a Ruby Array where the array elements are restricted to Fixnum instances within the 0...0xFFFF range. The Ruby mapping will not implement functionality to check insertion/addition of invalid element types to such an array. It will however detect attempts to pass arrays containing invalid element types as a parameter across an interface. Such a condition will be signaled by a MARSHAL system exception.

The Ruby mapping will allow passing String objects as values for IN/INOUT arguments. These values will be implicitly converted to arrays of Fixnum values.

Ruby does not have a class that would match IDL-bounded wide strings. As a result, the programmer is responsible for enforcing the bound of bounded wide string mapped arrays at run time. The Ruby mapping will not implement functionality to prevent extending a wide string mapped array beyond its bound. It will however detect attempts to pass a wide string value that exceeds the bound as a parameter across an interface. Such a condition will be signaled by a **MARSHAL** system exception.

7.12 Mapping for Struct Types

An OMG IDL struct maps to a Ruby class, with each OMG IDL struct member mapped to a corresponding instance variable of the Ruby class. Ruby style accessor methods with the names of the IDL struct members are provided for read and modify access to the member values. The constructor for the class expects zero or more values to initialize the instance variables in the same order as the corresponding IDL structure members. Values which are not provided in the constructor call result in initialization of the instance variable with the value nil.

For the example the IDL definition

```
// IDL
struct point {
 long x;
```

```
long y;
      };
is translated in Ruby like
      # Ruby
      class Point
        attr accessor :x
        attr accessor :y
        def initialize(*param )
           @y = param
        end
      end
and can be used in Ruby code like
      # Ruby
      pt = Point.new(10, 15)
      # print coordinate
      puts "Point = {#{pt.x}, #{pt.y}}"
      # change coordinate
      pt.x = pt.y * 2
      pt.y = 1
```

The Ruby mapping will provide type information concerning the struct and its members accessible through the Ruby class for use in typechecking code when the struct class is used as a parameter to be passed across an interface.

7.13 Mapping for Fixed Types

This type is not supported in this version of the Language mapping.

7.14 Mapping for Union Types

Unions map to Ruby classes with Ruby style accessor methods for the union members and discriminant. Both read and modify accessor methods are provided.

The union class has two instance variables, one for the discriminator value and one for the active member value. The constructor initializes the union class to a nil state; i.e. the discriminator and initial member value of the union are initialized as **nil**. It is an error for a compliant Ruby application to use a union class instance before setting it's value explicitly.

The union discriminant accessor and modifier methods have the name _disc. The _disc discriminator modifier can only be used to set the discriminant to a value within the same union member. Attempting to set the value outside the active union member will result in a BAD PARAM system exception.

The discriminator value for a default case is represented by the Ruby symbol value_:default. This value can be used to set the discriminant of a union with an implicit default member. A union has an implicit default member if it does not have a default case and not all permissible values of the union discriminant are listed. The Ruby mapping implementation provides the method _is_at_default? to test if the default member is active.

Setting the union value through a modifier method automatically sets the discriminant. If a modifier for a union member with multiple legal discriminant values is used to set the value of the discriminant, the union implementation is free to set the discriminant to any one of the legal values for that member. The actual discriminant value chosen under these circumstances is implementation-dependent. The discriminant accessor can be used to set another value for the discriminant as long as this value belongs to the same union member.

Accessor methods for union members provide semantics similar to that of struct data members.

The following example helps illustrate the mapping for union types:

```
// IDL
union U1 switch(long)
{
 case 0: long m_l;
 case 1:
 case 2: string m_str;
 default: boolean m_bool;
};
# Ruby
class U1
  def disc; ... end
  def disc=(val); ... end
  def is at default?; ... end
  def m 1; ... end
  def m l=(val); ... end
  def m str; ... end
  def m str=(val); ... end
  def m bool; ... end
  def m bool=(val); ... end
end #of union U1
```

7.15 Mapping for Sequence Types

An IDL sequence is mapped to a Ruby Array where the element values should be restricted to the type specified in the IDL declaration. The Ruby mapping will not implement functionality to check insertion/addition of invalid element types to such an array. It will however detect attempts to pass arrays containing invalid element types as a parameter across an interface. Such a condition will be signaled by a MARSHAL system exception.

The Ruby mapping will allow the following implicit conversions for Ruby objects passed as values for Sequence type IN/INOUT arguments:

- where a sequence of char or octet is expected a Ruby String object is allowed
- where a sequence is expected a Ruby object responding to #to ary is allowed

Ruby does not have a class that would match IDL-bounded sequences. As a result, the programmer is responsible for enforcing the bound of bounded sequence mapped arrays at run time. The Ruby mapping will not implement functionality to prevent extending a bounded sequence mapped array beyond its bound. It will however detect attempts to pass a sequence value that exceeds the bound as a parameter across an interface. Such a condition will be signaled by a **MARSHAL** system exception.

7.16 Mapping for Array Types

An IDL array is mapped to a Ruby Array where the element values should be restricted to the type specified in the IDL declaration. The Ruby mapping will not implement functionality to check insertion/addition of invalid element types to such an array. It will however detect attempts to pass arrays containing invalid element types as a parameter across an interface. Such a condition will be signaled by a MARSHAL system exception.

Ruby does not have a class that would match the fixed bound nature of IDL arrays. As a result, the programmer is responsible for enforcing the bound of IDL-array mapped arrays at run time. The Ruby mapping will not implement functionality to check IDL-array mapped array bounds compliance. It will however detect attempts to pass an array value that does not comply to the IDL bounds specification as a parameter across an interface. Such a condition will be signaled by a MARSHAL system exception.

In case of multi dimensional arrays the mapping specifies nested Ruby Array instances; i.e. the elements of the 'outer' array instance(s) are supposed to be Array instances. For example the IDL definition

```
// IDL
typedef long Long_Matrix[3][3];
```

is mapped to a Ruby Array value like

```
# Ruby [[1,2,3],[4,5,6],[7,8,9]]
```

7.17 Mapping for Typedefs

A typedef creates an alias for a type. The mapping implementation will record these type aliases and their relation to structured type members and/or operation parameters for use in type checking code when passing values across interfaces.

The original type for the typedef determines the mapping to the actual Ruby type used in the implementation. For example the IDL definition

```
// IDL
typedef string<30> TNameString;
typedef sequence<TNameString> TNames;
```

is mapped on a Ruby Array where the elements are string instances like

```
["one", "two", "three"]
```

7.18 Mapping for the Any Type

Because of the dynamic typing in Ruby, there is no need for a strictly type-safe mapping of the any type as in the C or C++ mappings. Instead, all that needs to be available at run-time is the value and the type code corresponding to the type of the value.

7.18.1 Mapping Ruby Values to Any

Values of IDL generated types (interfaces, structured types, aliases) are always associated with a type code (see also Section 7.20, "Mapping for Typecodes," on page 16) which provides the mapping implementation the required information.

Values of basic data types do not require an associated typecode as their mapping is implicit, based on the rules described in section 5.8, "Mapping for Basic Data Types," on page 9.

There are however exceptions where an additional typecode 'direction' would be necessary. This applies most particularly to the numeric basic types.

As these types have explicit subtypes in IDL which map onto a single type in Ruby it is often necessary to direct the Any mapping to the actual type code to use when using Ruby values to pass as Any across interfaces (without distinct direction the value would be mapped to the 'largest,' signed, subtype by default which might not match the expectations). The Ruby mapping provides support for this in the form of the CORBA:: Any class.

The CORBA::Any.to_any() method can be used to wrap Ruby values requiring explicit typecode direction as an Any as shown in the following example:

```
# Ruby
# Ruby Integer value which by default is mapped to IDL type 'long'
int_val = 123

# creat CORBA::Any with specific type code direction
any_val = CORBA::Any.to_any(int_val, CORBA._tc_ushort)

puts int_val==any_val._value # prints 'true'

puts CORBA._tc_ushort.equal?(any_val._tc) # prints 'true'
```

The type code direction requirement also applies to integer constants generated by the IDL compiler for IDL enum types (see Section 7.9, "Mapping for Enums," on page 10) passed as Any. These values should be wrapped as follows:

```
// IDL
module Test {
    enum test_enum
    {
        TE_ZEROTH,
        TE_FIRST,
        TE_SECOND,
        TE_THIRD,
        TE_FOURTH
    };
};
```

```
# Ruby
enum any = CORBA::Any.to any(Test::TE FIRST, Test::Test enum. tc)
```

7.18.2 Mapping Any values to Ruby

As CORBA Any values contain all required type code information the Ruby mapping implementation is capable of automatically mapping incoming Any values to their corresponding Ruby types. This goes for basic types (using the mapping described in Section 7.8, "Mapping for Basic Data Types," on page 9) as well as for all IDL defined types.

Object references mapped from Any values will also be automatically narrowed if the Any contained a specific interface type.

7.19 Mapping for Valuetypes

This type is not supported in this version of the Language mapping.

7.20 Mapping for Typecodes

A TypeCode represents OMG IDL type information.

The TypeCode interface is defined in IDL in chapter 4.11 of the core CORBA specification (OMGspec formal/04-03-12). TypeCodes are represented by pseudo object references in the Ruby mapping.

All predefined TypeCode constants as defined in the core specification are available through accessor methods of the CORBA namespace as CORBA._tc_{type} where {type} refers to the typenames of the types represented by the TypeCodes such as null (CORBA._tc_null), long (CORBA._tc_long) etc.

For each basic and defined OMG IDL type, the Ruby mapping implementation provides access to a TypeCode pseudo object reference through a accessor method of the module or class representing the type like {type}._tc. TypeCode pseudo object references may be used to set types for Any values, as arguments for equal, and so on.

The Ruby mapping implementation provides a full range of derived TypeCode classes defined within the **CORBA::TypeCode** namespace (actually the CORBA::TypeCode class) which can be used to construct TypeCode references for user defined types.

The following code for example create a TypeCode reference for the CosNaming::NamingContext interface:

```
CORBA::TypeCode::ObjectRef.new(
   "IDL:omg.org/CosNaming/NamingContext:1.0","NamingContext")
```

And this code creates a TypeCode reference for a typedef-fed string type defined in the scope of a module (or interface) **Test**:

```
CORBA::TypeCode::Alias.new(
    'IDL:Test/TString:1.0','TString', self,CORBA:: tc string)
```

Since the availability of the TypeCode derived classes provides all required support the create_XXX_tc() methods of the ORB interface are not implemented in the Ruby mapping.

7.21 Mapping for Abstract Interfaces

This type is not supported in this version of the Language mapping.

7.22 Mapping for Exception Types

An IDL exception is translated into a Ruby class derived from CORBA::UserException. System exceptions are derived from CORBA::SystemException. Both base classes are derived from CORBA::Exception which in turn is derived from the Ruby exception class StandardError. The parameters of the exception are mapped in the same way as the fields of a struct definition. When raising an exception, a new instance of the class is created. The constructor expects the exception parameters. For example, the definition

```
// IDL
      module My
       interface Intf
        exception PermissionDenied { string details; };
        Intf create(in string name) raises (PermissionDenied);
       };
      };
is mapped like
      # Ruby
      module My
        module Intf
           class PermissionDenied < CORBA::UserException</pre>
             attr accessor :details
             def initialize(* param)
               @details = param
             end
           end
           def create(name)
           end
           . . .
         end
      end
and can be used as
      # Ruby
      # catch exception (possibly) raised by servant
        new intf = my intf.create("a name")
      rescue My::Intf::PermissionDenied => exc
        puts exc.to s
        puts exc.details
      end
```

```
# raise exception
raise My::Intf::PermissionDenied.new('just a test')
```

7.23 Mapping for Operations and Attributes

A CORBA object reference is represented by a Ruby object at run-time. This object provides all the operations that are available on the interface of the object. The nil object is represented by nil.

If an operation expects parameters of the IDL Object type, any Ruby object representing an object reference might be passed as actual argument.

Operations of an interface map to methods available on the Ruby objects. Parameters with an attribute of in or inout are passed from left to right to the method, skipping out parameters. The return value of a method depends on the number of out parameters and the return type. If the operation returns a value, this value forms the first result value. All inout or out parameters form consecutive result values returned in the order in which the respective parameters were defined in IDL. The method result depends then on the number of result values:

- If there is no result value, the method returns **nil**.
- If there is exactly one result value, it is returned as a single value.
- If there is more than one result value, all of them are packed into an array, and this array is returned.

Assuming the IDL definition

```
// IDL
interface Intf
{
    oneway void stop();
    bool more_data();
    void get_data(out string name,out long age);
};
a client could write

# Ruby
    names = {}
    while my_Intf.more_data()
        name,age = my_Intf.get_data()
        names [name] = age
    end
    my_Intf.stop()
```

If an interface defines an attribute 'firstname', the attribute is mapped into a CORBA operation request name <code>_get_ 'firstname</code>, as defined. If the attribute is not readonly, there is an additional operation name <code>_set_firstname</code>, as defined in the OMG IDL Syntax and Semantics chapter, "Attribute Declaration" section, of the Common Object Request Broker Architecture: Core Specification document.

The Ruby mapping implementation however provides runtime accessor methods for objects implementing IDL interfaces which more naturally match the 'attribute' style.

For the read operation on the attribute the mapping provides an accessor method with the name of the attribute without any decoration and for the write operation (if allowed) a Ruby assignment style accessor method is provided (also with the name of the attribute). This allows a client to use a mapping for IDL like

```
// IDL
interface Intf
{
    attribute string firstname;
};
in the following manner

# Ruby
# get firstname
my_name = my_intf.firstname
# set firstname
```

my intf.firstname = 'Martin'

7.24 The Dynamic Invocation Interface

The operations _request and _create_request of CORBA::Object instances return a CORBA::Request object which can be used to invoke an operation on the object reference for which the request was created in several ways.

The Ruby mapping implements the following standard CORBA methods on the Request object:

- target
- operation
- · arguments
- · exceptions
- · add exception
- add_in_arg
- add_out_arg
- add_inout_arg
- set_return_type
- return_value
- invoke
- send_oneway
- · send_deferred
- get_response
- poll_response

7.25 Servant Implementation Mapping

Central to the Object Request Broker architecture is the object adapter, which communicates the requests to the servant implementation. CORBA explicitly allows for multiple object adapters, including non-standardized ones. The only object adapter that is standardized for CORBA 2.3 is the Portable Object Adapter.

This specification only defines a servant implementation mapping for the POA.

7.25.1 Skeleton-Based Implementation

This specification defines an inheritance-based mapping for implementing servants. There is no Ruby imposed reason to use a delegation-based approach but if needed this could be implemented on top of the inheritance-based approach.

For the POA all modules/interfaces generated from IDL definitions are contained in a toplevel POA namespace. Following the name mapping scheme for Ruby, the Ruby class corresponding to an IDL interface can be used as a base class for the servant implementation class. For example, the following interface in file 'Test.idl.'

As Ruby only implements single inheritance a servant implementation class can only be derived from a single IDL generated skeleton class.

To accommodate implementing multiple IDL interfaces in a single servant implementation class the mapping implementation supports including IDL generated skeleton classes into the servant class as if they were Mixin modules. Using this mechanism the following IDL interfaces:

```
// IDL
module Mod
{
  interface Intf
  {
    void foo();
  };
```

```
interface Intf 2
        void foo_2();
       };
      };
could be implemented in Ruby either as
      # Ruby
      require 'TestS.rb'
      class MyIntfs < POA::Mod::Intf</pre>
           include POA::Mod::Intf 2
           def foo()
               # do something ...
           end
           def foo 2()
               # do something else ...
           end
      end
or as
      # Ruby
      require 'TestS.rb'
      class MyIntfs < PortableServer::Servant</pre>
           include POA::Mod::Intf
           include POA::Mod::Intf 2
           def foo()
               # do something ...
           end
           def foo 2()
                # do something else ...
           end
      end
```

If a servant implementation method requires returning one or more **out** parameters with or without a result value these should always be returned as an array. If no result is expected the object adapter will ignore any result returned from the method implementation.

The implementation method result depends then on the number of result values:

- If no result value is expected, the method returns **nil**.
- If a result value is expected but **no** out parameters a single value is returned.
- If one or more **out** parameters are expected with or without (void) a result value, they are returned as an array (of length 1 or more). If a result value is required this will be the first value in the array.

The skeleton class (POA::Mod::Intf in the example) supports the following operations:

• __default_POA() returns the POA reference that manages that object. It can be overridden by implementations to indicate they are managed by a different POA. The standard implementation returns the same reference as ORB.resolve_initial_references('RootPOA''), using the default ORB.

• _this() returns the reference to the object that a servant incarnates during a specific call. This works even if the servant incarnates multiple objects. Outside the context of an operation invocation, it can be used to initiate the implicit activation, if the POA supports implicit activation. In any case, it should return an object that supports the operations of the corresponding IDL interface.

The base class for all skeleton classes is the class CORBA::PortableServer::Servant.

7.25.2 The Dynamic Skeleton Interface

An implementation class is declared as dynamic by inheriting from

CORBA::PortableServer::DynamicImplementation. Derived classes need to implement the method invoke, which is called whenever a request is received. The invoke method is passed a request object.

The request object provides access to the request parameters. The DSI servant implementation must first provide the request object with precise descriptions of the expected arguments before being able to access the argument values. The request 'description' includes the following information:

- The typecode for the result value in case of a twoway invocation request (this includes **void** results). Without a result type the request is assumed to be oneway and no return values will be processed.
- Argument name (can be nil), argument mode (IN/OUT/INOUT) and typecode for each formal argument.

The **invoke** method returns either with a result according to the same specifications as for static skeletons, or by raising an appropriate exception.

The implementation class must also implement the method **_primary_interface**, which must return a non-nil repository id representing the most derived interface for a given object id.

The Ruby mapping implementation defines a default implementation of the #invoke method as:

The default method implementation expects a servant implementation to define a class constant named **OPTABLE** containing a Hash of request descriptions as described above as values with the operation name as key.

The method class could look like

```
['parm2', CORBA::ARG_OUT, CORBA::_tc_long] ] }

...
def echo(str)
    [message.to_s, message.to_s.size]
end

def shutdown
    ... # handle shutdown request
end
    ...
def _primary_interface(oid, poa)
        return 'IDL:Foo:1.0'
end
    ...
end
```

Of course a servant implementation could overload the default **#invoke** implementation and provide a different dispatching mechanism for requests.

7.26 Ruby Definitions for CORBA

This section provides a partial set of Ruby definitions for the CORBA module. The definitions appear within the Ruby namespace named CORBA.

```
# Ruby
module CORBA
...
end
```

Any implementations shown here are merely sample implementations: they are not the required definitions for these types. Furthermore, in some cases these types do not define the complete interfaces of their IDL counterparts; if any type is missing one or more operations, those operations are assumed to follow normal Ruby mapping rules for their signatures, parameter passing rules, etc.

7.26.1 CORBA namespace

```
module CORBA
  def CORBA.ORB_init(*args); ... end
  def CORBA.is_nil(obj); ... end
end
```

7.26.2 Exception classes

```
module CORBA
  class Exception < StandardError
  end
  class UserException < CORBA::Exception
  end
  class SystemException < CORBA::Exception
  def initialize(reason="", minor=0, completed=nil); ... end</pre>
```

```
attr_accessor :reason, :minor, :completed
end
end
```

7.26.3 ORB class

```
module CORBA
  module ORB
    def object to string(obj); ... end
    def string to object(str); ... end
    def create list(count); ... end
    def create operation list(oper); ... end
    def get default context(); ... end
    def send multiple request oneway(req); ... end
    def send multiple request deferred(req); ... end
    def poll next response(); ... end
    def get_next_response(); ... end
    def get service information(service type); ... end
    def list initial services(); ... end
    def resolve initial references (identifier); ... end
    def register initial reference (identifier, obj); ... end
    def create struct tc(id, name, members); ... end
    def create union tc(id, name, discriminator type, members); ... end
    def create enum tc(id, name, members); ... end
    def create alias tc(id, name, original type); ... end
    def create exception tc(id, name, members); ... end
    def create interface tc(id, name); ... end
    def create_string_tc(bound); ... end
    def create wstring tc(bound); ... end
    def create fixed tc(digits, scale); ... end
    def create sequence tc(bound, element type); ... end
    def create array tc(length, element type); ... end
    def create value tc(id, name, type modifier, concrete base, members); ...
end
    def create value box tc (id, name, boxed type); ... end
    def create_native_tc(id, name); ... end
    def create recursive tc(id); ... end
    def create abstract interface tc(id, name); ... end
    def work_pending(); ... end
    def perform work(); ... end
    def run(); ... end
    def shutdown (wait for completion); ... end
    def destroy(); ... end
    def create policy(type, val); ... end
    def register value factory(id, factory); ... end
    def unregister value factory(id); ... end
    def lookup value factory(id); ... end
  end # ORB
end
```

7.26.4 Object class

```
module CORBA
 module Object
   def get interface(); ... end
   def _is_nil?(); ... end
   def duplicate(); ... end
   def release(); ... end
   def is a?(logical type id); ... end
   def non existent?(); ... end
   def is equivalent? (other object); ... end
   def hash (maximum); ... end
   def _repository_id(); ... end
   def interface repository id(); ... end
   def get policy(policy type); ... end
   def set_policy_overrides(policies, set_add); ... end
   def _get_orb(); ... end
   def create(opname); ... end
   def _create_request(opname, arglist, result, exceptions=nil); ... end
   def free ref(); ... end
  end # Object
end # CORBA
```

7.26.5 Any class

```
module CORBA
  class Any
   def _tc(); ... end
  def _value(); ... end

  def Any.to_any(value, tc); ... end
  def Any.typecode_for_any(any); ... end
  def Any.value_for_any(any); ... end
  end
end
```

7.26.6 Request class

```
module CORBA
  class Request
   def target(); ... end
  def operation(); ... end
  def arguments(); ... end
  def exceptions(); ... end
  def exceptions=(exception_typecodes); ... end
  def add_in_arg(arg_tc, arg_val, arg_name=nil); ... end
  def add_out_arg(arg_tc, arg_name=nil); ... end
  def add_inout_arg(arg_tc, arg_val, arg_name=nil);; ... end
  def set_return_type(return_tc); ... end
  def return_value(); ... end
  def invoke(arg_list=nil, return_type=nil, exceptions=nil); ... end
```

```
def send_oneway(arg_list=nil); ... end
  def send_deferred(); ... end
  def get_response(); ... end
  def poll_response(); ... end
  end
end
```

7.26.7 TypeCode class

```
module CORBA
  class TypeCode
    def kind; ... end
    def get compact typecode; ... end
    def equal?(tc); ... end
    def equivalent?(tc); ... end
    def id; ... end
    def name; ... end
    def member count; ... end
    def member name(index); ... end
    def member type(index); ... end
    def member label(index); ... end
    def discriminator type; ... end
    def default index; ... end
    def length; ... end
    def content_type; ... end
    def fixed digits; ... end
    def fixed scale; ... end
    def member_visibility; ... end
    def type modifier; ... end
    def concrete base type; ... end
  end
end
```

7.27 Not implemented Deprecated Definitions

The Ruby mapping does not implement the following deprecated IDL definitions:

- Context
- · Environment and non-native exceptions
- Principal