

Using the Emfatic Ecore Editor

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Introduction

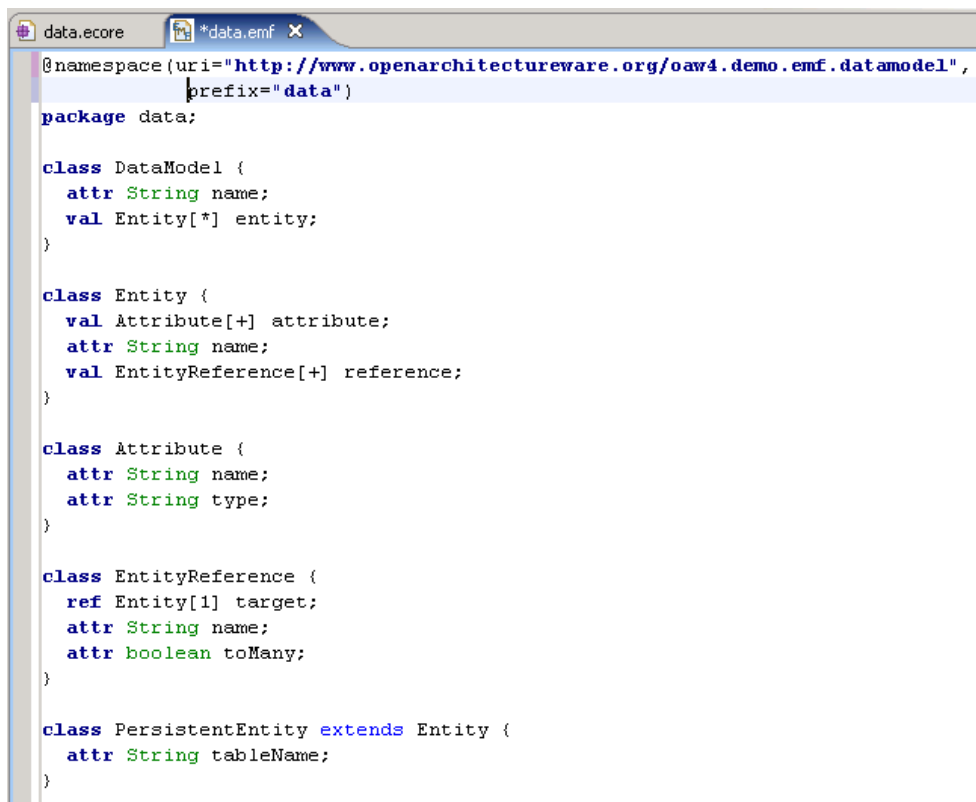
Metamodelling based on EMF's tree views is not a very good solution. A better solution is a textual representation for Ecore models. The IBM Emfatic plugin provides this support.

Installation

Install the Emfatic plugins from <http://www.alphaworks.ibm.com/tech/emfatic>.

Working with Emfatic

If you already have an ecore file (such as our example's *data.ecore*) you can right-click on the file and select the *Generate Emfatic Source* item. The following code is generated from our *data.ecore* file into a file called *data.emf*. After changing the source in the emf file, you can right-click that file and select *Generate Ecore Model* to transfer it back.



```
@namespace(uri="http://www.openarchitectureware.org/oaw4.demo.emf.datamodel",
          prefix="data")
package data;

class DataModel {
    attr String name;
    val Entity[*] entity;
}

class Entity {
    val Attribute[+] attribute;
    attr String name;
    val EntityReference[+] reference;
}

class Attribute {
    attr String name;
    attr String type;
}

class EntityReference {
    ref Entity[1] target;
    attr String name;
    attr boolean toMany;
}

class PersistentEntity extends Entity {
    attr String tableName;
}
```

The syntax should be self-explaining. One remark: To render *containment* relationships, emfatic uses the *val* keyword, not *ref*, see in the screenshot in the Entities attributes, for example.

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