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Introduction to D-Bus

<https://aleksander.es/data/GNOMEASIA2014-Examples/>

...



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Introduction to D-Bus



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- 1) What is D-Bus?
- 2) Architecture
- 3) Use cases
- 4) GDBus
- 5) Example: service in C, with gdbus-codegen
- 6) Example: clients in Python and JavaScript
- 7) Other tools: d-feet, dbus-monitor, dbus-send

1. What is D-Bus?



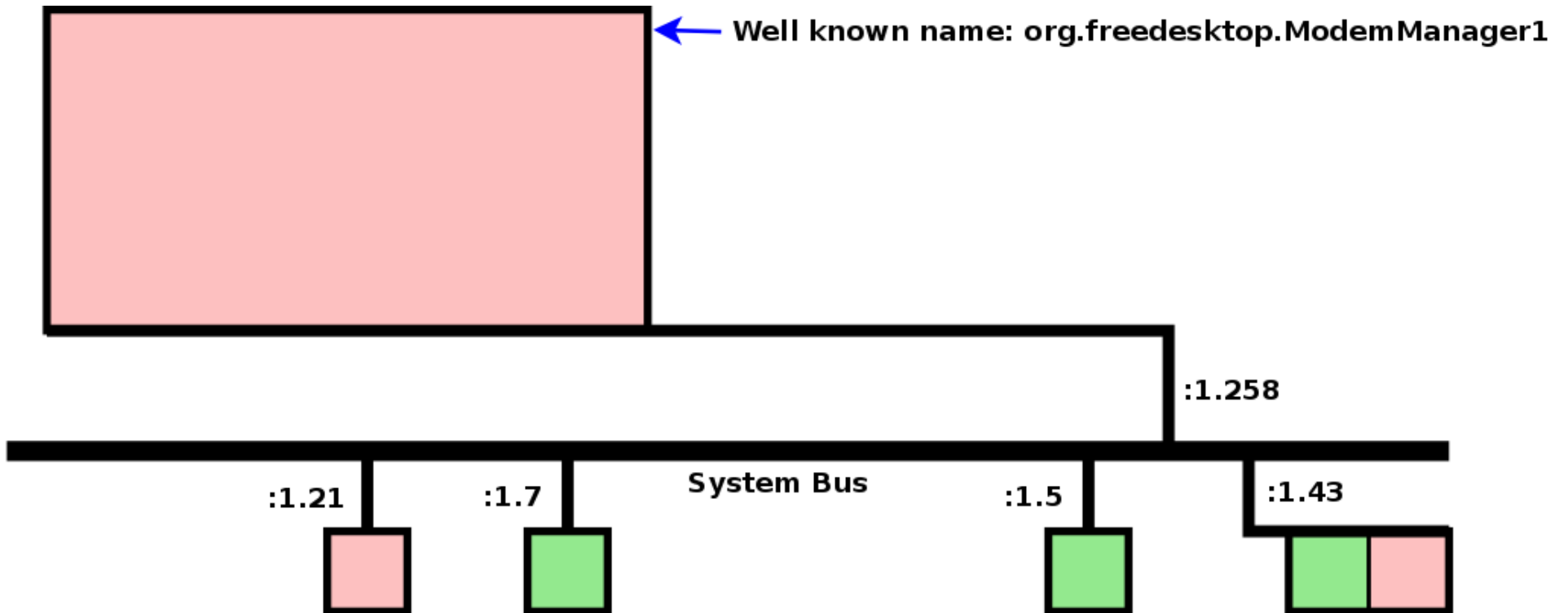
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- High level IPC (inter process comm.)
 - Multicast & point-to-point
 - OS/architecture/language independent
 - System Bus & Session Bus
 - Linux kernel: kdbus!
- freedesktop.org
 - GNOME, KDE, xfce

2. Architecture



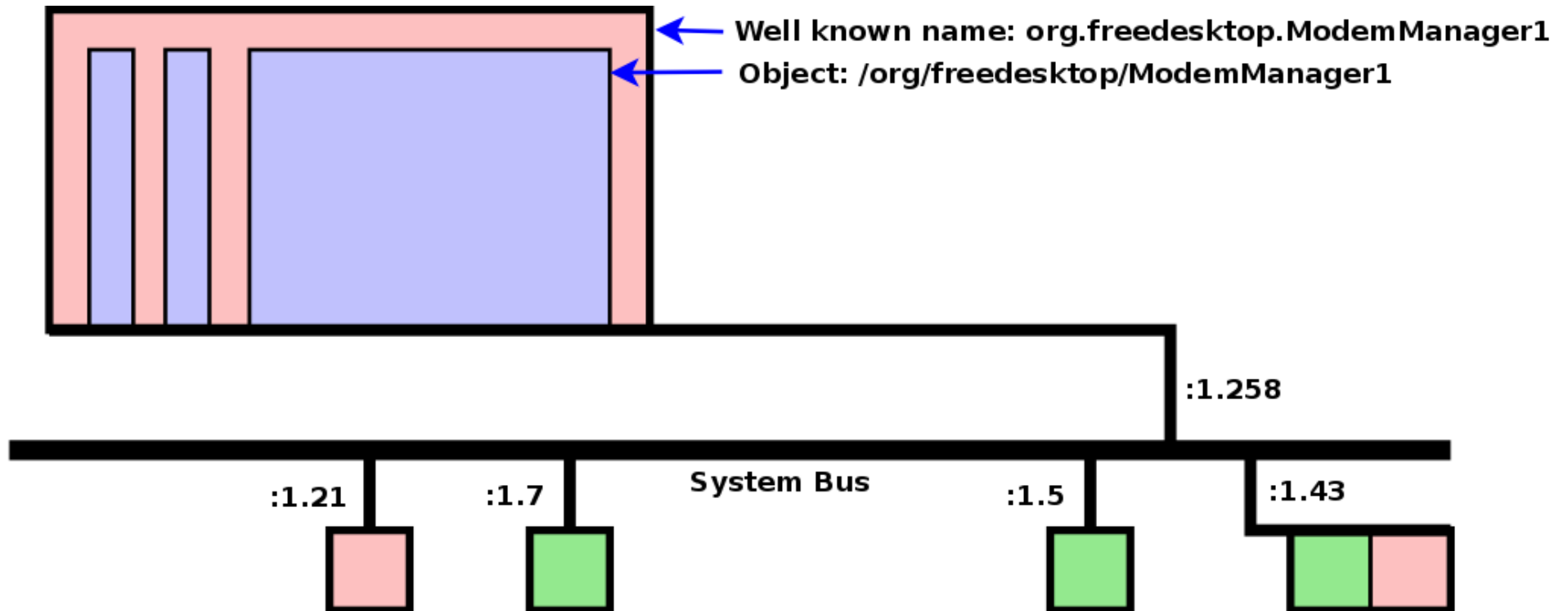
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2. Architecture



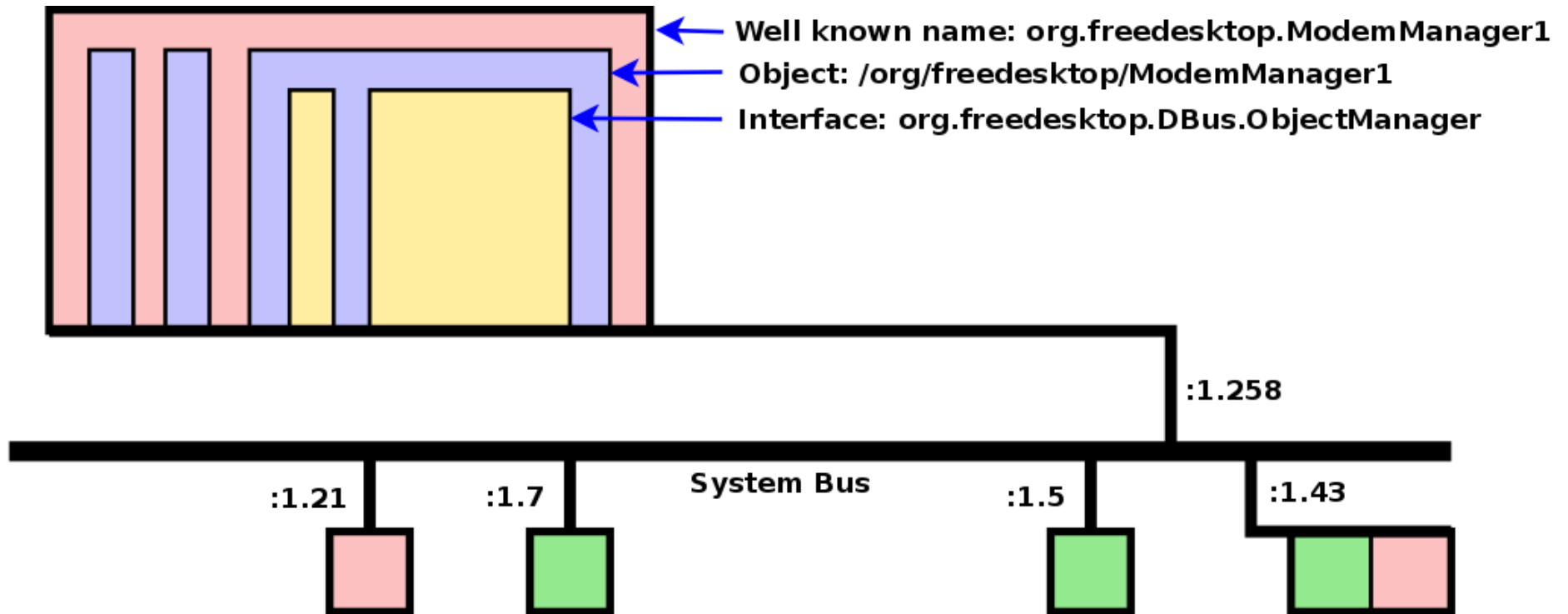
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2. Architecture



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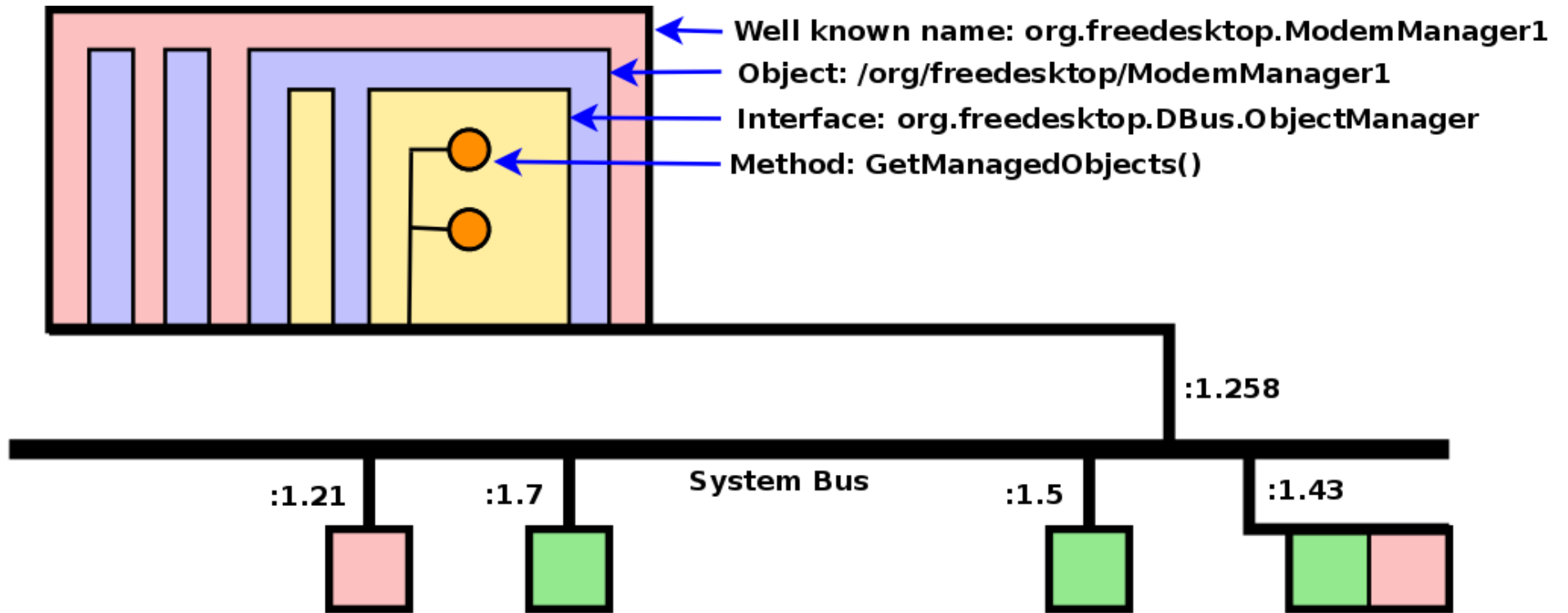


2. Architecture



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1 2 3 4



2. Architecture



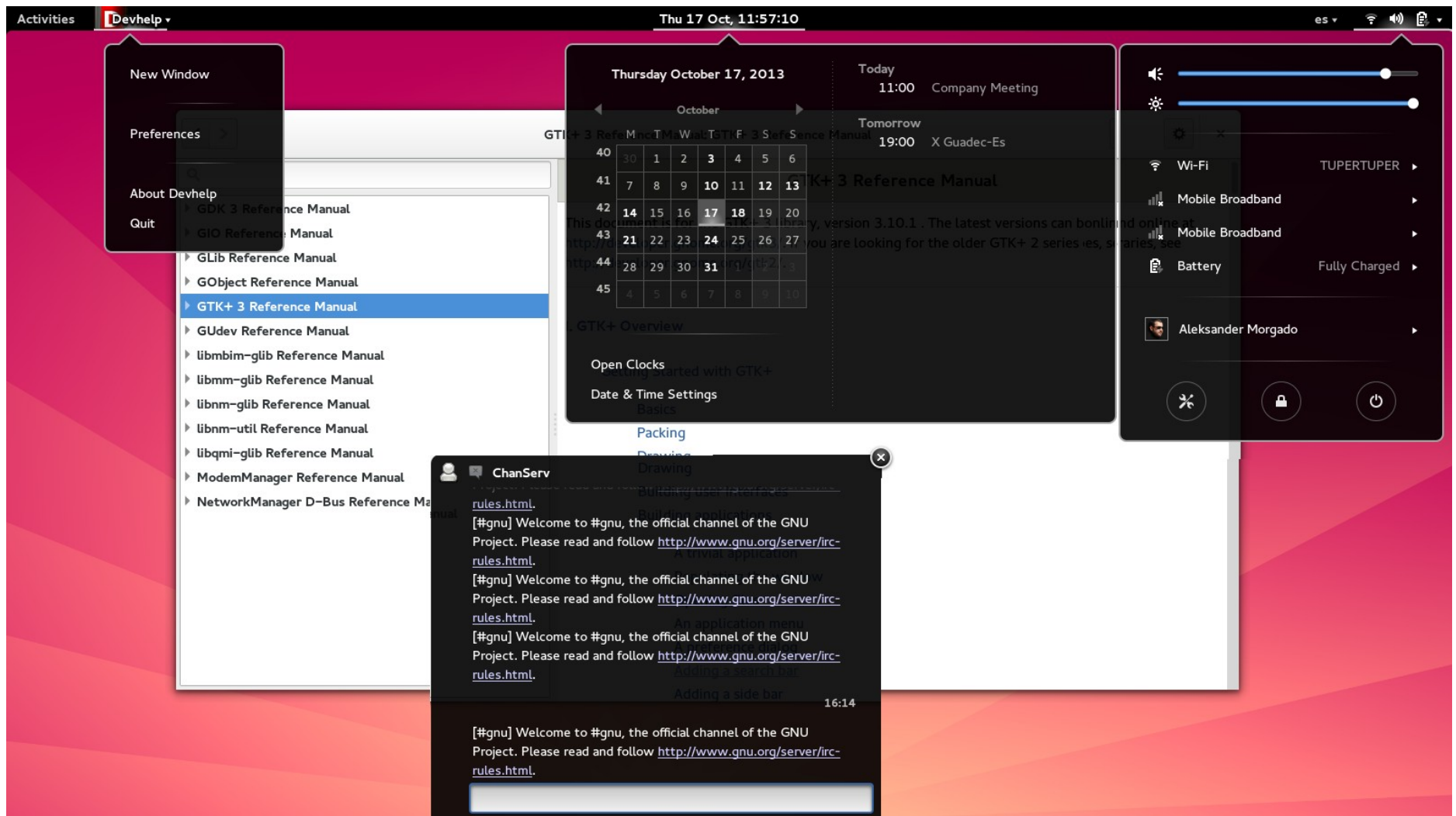
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- Unique name
 - Servers: well-known name
 - Objects
 - Interfaces
 - Methods
 - Properties (R/W)
 - Signals

3. Use cases



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4. GDBus



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- Available since Glib/GIO 2.30
 - Replaces dbus-glib
- GObject Introspection --> JS, Python...
- GVariant
- Native support for:
 - org.freedesktop.Dbus.Properties
 - org.freedesktop.Dbus.ObjectManager
- gdbus-codegen

5. Examples: Service



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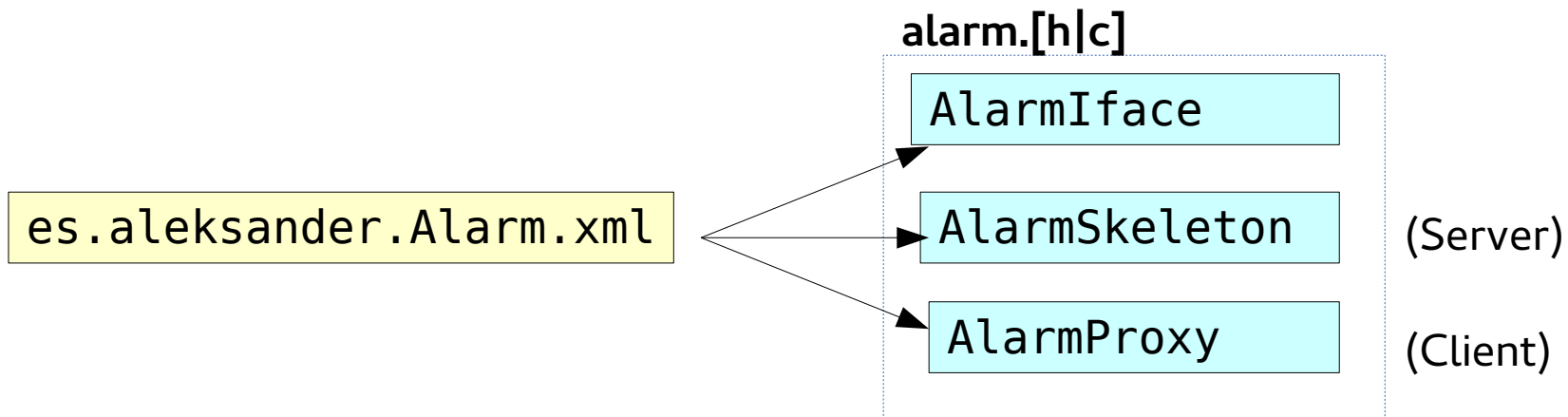
```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<node name="/" xmlns:doc="http://www.freedesktop.org/dbus/1.0/doc.dtd">
  <interface name="es.aleksander.Alarm">
    <method name="Configure">
      <arg name="seconds" type="u" direction="in" />
    </method>
    <property name="Activated" type="b" access="read" />
    <signal name="Beeeeeeeeeep" />
  </interface>
</node>
```

5. Examples: gdbus-codegen



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```
$ gdbus-codegen \  
  --interface-prefix es.aleksander \  
  --generate-c-code alarm \  
  es.aleksander.Alarm.xml
```



5. Examples: Service in C



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```
void main (void)
{
    GMainLoop *loop;

    loop = g_main_loop_new (NULL, FALSE);
    g_bus_own_name (G_BUS_TYPE_SESSION,
                   "es.aleksander.Alarm",
                   G_BUS_NAME_OWNER_FLAGS_NONE,
                   NULL,
                   on_name_acquired,
                   NULL,
                   NULL,
                   NULL);
    g_main_loop_run (loop);
}
```



5. Examples: Service in C



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```
static void
on_name_acquired (GDBusConnection *connection,
                  const gchar *name,
                  gpointer user_data)
{
    Alarm *skeleton;

    skeleton = alarm_skeleton_new ();
    g_signal_connect (skeleton,
                     "handle-configure",
                     G_CALLBACK (on_handle_configure),
                     NULL);

    g_dbus_interface_skeleton_export (G_DBUS_INTERFACE_SKELETON (skeleton),
                                      connection,
                                      "/es/aleksander/Alarm",
                                      NULL);
}
```



5. Examples: Service in C



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```
static gboolean
on_handle_configure (Alarm *skeleton,
                    GDBusMethodInvocation *invocation,
                    guint seconds,
                    gpointer user_data)
{
    if (alarm_get_activated (skeleton)) {
        g_dbus_method_invocation_return_error_literal (
            invocation, G_IO_ERROR, G_IO_ERROR_EXISTS, "Exists");
        return;
    }

    alarm_set_activated (skeleton, TRUE);
    g_timeout_add_seconds (seconds, emit_alarm_cb, skeleton);
    alarm_complete_configure (skeleton, invocation);
}
```



5. Examples: Service in C



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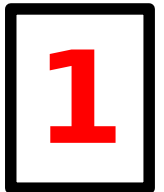
```
static gboolean
emit_alarm_cb (gpointer skeleton)
{
    alarm_emit_beeeeeeeeeep (ALARM (skeleton));
    alarm_set_activated (ALARM (skeleton), FALSE);
    return FALSE;
}
```

1 2 3 4

6. Examples: Client in JS



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```
const InterfaceAlarm = <interface name="es.aleksander.Alarm">
    <signal name="Beeeeeeeeeep" />
</interface>;
const ProxyAlarm = Gio.DBusProxy.makeProxyWrapper(InterfaceAlarm);

let proxy = new ProxyAlarm(Gio.DBus.session,
    'es.aleksander.Alarm',
    '/es/aleksander/Alarm');
proxy.connectSignal('Beeeeeeeeeep',
    Lang.bind(this, function(proxy, sender_name) {
        print('\n\nBEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEP!\n\n')
    }));

Mainloop.run();
```

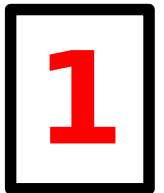
6. Examples: Client in Python



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```
connection = Gio.bus_get_sync(Gio.BusType.SESSION, None)
proxy = Gio.DBusProxy.new_sync(connection,
                                Gio.DBusProxyFlags.NONE,
                                None,
                                "es.aleksander.Alarm",
                                "/es/aleksander/Alarm",
                                "es.aleksander.Alarm",
                                None)

try:
    proxy.call_sync("Configure",
                    GLib.Variant("(u)", (10,)),
                    Gio.DBusCallFlags.NONE,
                    -1,
                    None)
except Exception as e:
    sys.stderr.write("Error: %s\n" % str(e))
```



7. Tools: dbus-send



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```
$ dbus-send \
  --session \
  --print-reply \
  --dest=es.aleksander.Alarm \
  /es/aleksander/Alarm \
  es.aleksander.Alarm.Configure \
  uint32:10
```

7. Tools: dbus-monitor



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- Monitors all messages going through the bus
 - `dbus-monitor --session`
 - `dbus-monitor --system`

7. Tools: d-feet

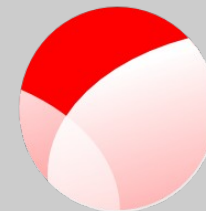


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The screenshot shows the d-feet tool interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'System Bus' and 'Session Bus'. The main window displays the details of the 'es.aleksander.Alarm' service. The address is 'unix:abstract=/tmp/dbus-yahHXSpOog,guid=978184f546573ad65e6654ae525d0446' and the name is 'es.aleksander.Alarm'. The unique name is ':1.713'. The object path is '/es/aleksander/Alarm'. The service implements several interfaces: 'es.aleksander.Alarm', 'org.freedesktop.DBus.Introspectable', 'org.freedesktop.DBus.Peer', and 'org.freedesktop.DBus.Properties'. The 'es.aleksander.Alarm' interface has the following methods, properties, and signals:

- Methods:**
 - Configure (UInt32 seconds) ⇨ ()
- Properties:**
 - Boolean Activated (read)
- Signals:**
 - Beeeeeeeeep ()

Thanks!



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