



Guide to I/O System

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Table of Contents

About this Guide	8
Introduction.....	9
Overview.....	10
Levels.....	10
Configuration.....	10
I/O System.....	11
PSS9000.....	12
Rack objekt.....	12
Rack_SSAB.....	12
Attributes.....	12
Driver.....	12
Ssab_RemoteRack.....	12
Attributes.....	12
Di card.....	13
Ssab_BaseDiCard.....	13
Ssab_DI32D.....	13
Do cards.....	13
Ssab_BaseDoCard.....	13
Ssab_DO32KTS.....	14
Ssab_DO32KTS_Stall.....	14
Ai cards.....	14
Ssab_BaseACard.....	14
Ssab_AI8uP.....	14
Ssab_AI16uP.....	15
Ssab_AI32uP.....	15
Ssab_AI16uP_Logger.....	15
Ao cards.....	15
Ssab_AO16uP.....	15
Ssab_AO8uP.....	15
Ssab_AO8uPL.....	15
Co kort.....	15
Ssab_CO4uP.....	15
Profibus.....	17
The profibus configurator.....	17
Address.....	18
SlaveGsdData.....	18
UserPrmData.....	18
Module.....	19
Specify the data area.....	20
Digital inputs.....	20
Analog inputs.....	21
Digital outputs.....	21
Analog outputs.....	21
Complex dataareas.....	21
Driver.....	21
Agent object.....	21

Pb_Profiboard.....	21
Slave objects.....	21
Pb_Dp_Slave.....	21
ABB_ACS_Pb_Slave.....	22
Siemens_ET200S_IM151.....	22
Siemens ET200M_IM153.....	22
Module objects.....	22
Pb_Module.....	22
ABB_ACS_PPO5.....	22
Siemens_ET200S_Ai2.....	22
Siemens_ET200S_Ao2.....	22
Siemens_ET200M_Di4.....	22
Siemens_ET200M_Di2.....	22
Siemens_ET200M_Do4.....	22
Siemens_ET200M_Do2.....	22
Profinet.....	23
The profinet configurator.....	23
Network Settings.....	24
DeviceName.....	24
IP Address.....	24
Subnet mask.....	24
MAC Address.....	25
SendClock.....	25
ReductionRatio.....	25
Phase.....	25
ByteOrdering.....	25
DeviceInfo.....	25
Device.....	25
DAP.....	25
Slot1 - Slotx.....	25
ModuleType.....	26
ModuleClass.....	26
ModuleInfo.....	26
Subslot X.....	26
Profinet viewer.....	27
Agent object.....	28
PnControllerSoftingPNAK.....	28
Device objects.....	28
PnDevice.....	28
Siemens_ET200S_PnDevice.....	28
Siemens_ET200M_PnDevice.....	28
Sinamics_G120_PnDevice.....	28
ABB_ACS_PnDevice.....	28
Module objects.....	28
PnModule.....	28
BaseFcPPO3PnModule.....	28
Sinamics_Tgm1_PnModule.....	28
Siemens_Ai2_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_Ao2_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_Di4_PnModule.....	29

Siemens_Di2_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_Do4_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_Do2_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_Do32_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_D16_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_Do8_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_Di32_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_Di16_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_Di8_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_Dx16_PnModule.....	29
Siemens_Ai8_PnModule.....	30
Siemens_Ao8_PnModule.....	30
Siemens_Ai4_PnModule.....	30
Siemens_Ao4_PnModule.....	30
Modbus TCP Client.....	31
Configuration of a device.....	31
Master.....	31
Slaves.....	31
Modules.....	32
Specify the data area.....	33
Example.....	33
Master object.....	36
Modbus_Master.....	36
Slave objects.....	36
Modbus_TCP_Slave.....	36
Module objects.....	37
Modbus_Module.....	37
Modbus TCP Server.....	38
Data areas.....	38
Unit id.....	38
Port.....	38
MotionControl USB I/O.....	41
Driver.....	41
Rack object.....	41
MotonControl_USB.....	41
Card object.....	42
MotionControl_USBIO.....	42
Channels.....	42
Ai configuration.....	42
Ao configuration.....	43
Link file.....	43
Velleman K8055.....	44
Agent object.....	44
USB_Agent.....	44
Rack object.....	44
Velleman_K8055.....	44
Card object.....	44
Velleman_K8055_Board.....	44
Channels.....	45
Ai configuration.....	45

Ao configuration.....	45
Link file.....	45
Arduino Uno.....	47
Rack object.....	47
Arduino_USB.....	47
Card object.....	47
Arduino_Uno.....	47
Channels.....	47
GPIO.....	50
OneWire.....	51
Maxim_DS18B20.....	51
Adaption of I/O systems.....	53
Overview.....	53
Levels.....	53
Area objekt.....	54
I/O objects.....	54
Processes.....	54
Framework.....	54
Methods.....	55
Framework.....	55
Create I/O objects.....	57
Flags.....	59
Attributes.....	60
Description.....	60
Process.....	60
ThreadObject.....	60
Method objects.....	60
Agents.....	61
Racks.....	61
Cards.....	61
Connect-method for a ThreadObject.....	61
Methods.....	62
Local data structure.....	62
Agent-Methods.....	62
IoAgentInit.....	62
IoAgentClose.....	62
IoAgentRead.....	63
IoAgentWrite.....	63
IoAgentSwap.....	63
Rack-metoder.....	63
IoRackInit.....	63
IoRackClose.....	63
IoRackRead.....	63
IoRackWrite.....	63
IoRackSwap.....	63
Card-metoder.....	63
IoCardInit.....	63
IoCardClose.....	64
IoCardRead.....	64
IoCardWrite.....	64

IoCardSwap.....	64
Method registration.....	64
Class registration.....	64
Module in Proview base system.....	64
Project.....	64
Example of rack methods.....	65
Example of the methods of a digital input card.....	66
Example of the methods of a digital output card.....	69
Step by step description.....	72
Attach to a project.....	72
Create classes.....	72
Create a class volume.....	72
Open the classvolume.....	73
Create a rack class.....	74
Create a card class.....	75
Build the classvolume.....	81
Install the driver.....	81
Write methods.....	82
Class registration.....	86
Makefile.....	86
Link file.....	87
Configure the node hierarchy.....	87

About this Guide

The *Proview Guide to I/O System* is intended for persons who will connect different kinds of I/O systems to Proview, and for users that will gain a deeper understanding of how the I/O handling or proview works. The first part is an overview of the I/O systems adapted to Proview, and the second part a description of how to adapt new I/O systems to Proview.

Introduction

The Proview I/O handling consists of a framework that is designed to

- be portable and runnable on different platforms.
- handle I/O devices on the local bus.
- handle distributed I/O systems and communicate with remote rack systems.
- make it possible to add new I/O-systems with ease.
- allow projects to implement local I/O systems.
- synchronize the I/O-system with the execution of the plc-program, or application processes.

Overview

The I/O devices of a process station is configured by creating objects in the Proview database. The objects are divided in two trees, the Plant hierarchy and the Node hierarchy.

The Plant hierarchy describes how the plant is structured in various process parts, motors, pumps, fans etc. Here you find signal objects that represents the values that are fetched from various sensors and switches, or values that are put out to motors, actuators etc. Signal objects are of the classes Di, Do, Ai, Ao, Ii, Io, Co or Po.

The node hierarchy describes the configuration of the process station, with server processes and I/O system. The I/O system is configured by a tree of agent, rack, card and channel objects. The channel objects represent an I/O signal attached to the computer at a channel of an I/O card (or via a distributed bus system). The channel objects are of the classes ChanDi, ChanDo, ChanAi, ChanAo, ChanIi, ChanIo and ChanCo. Each signalobject in the plant hierarchy points to a channel object in the node hierarchy. The connection corresponds to the physical link between the sensor and the channel of a I/O unit.

Levels

The I/O objects in a process station are configured in a tree structure with four levels: Agent, Rack, Card and Channel. The Channel objects can be configured as individual objects, or reside as internal attributes in a Card object.

Configuration

When configuring an I/O system on the local bus, often the Rack and Card-levels are sufficient. A configuration can look like this. A Rack object is placed below the \$Node object, and below this a Card object for each I/O card that is installed in the rack. The cardobjects contains channelobjects for the channels on the cards. The channelobjects are connected to signalobjects in the plant hierarchy. The Channels for analog signals contains attributes for measurement ranges, and the card objects contains attributes for addresses.

The configuration of a distributed I/O system is a bit different. Still the levels Agent, Rack, Card and Channel are used, but the levels has another meaning. If we take Profibus as an example, the agentlevel consist of an object for the master card that is mounted on the computer. The racklevel consist of slave objects, that represent the profibus slaves that are connected to the Profibus circuit. The cardlevel consist of module objects that represent modules handled by the slaves. The Channel objects represent data sent on the bus from the mastercard to the modules or vice versa.

I/O System

This chapter contains descriptions of the I/O systems that are implemented in Proview.

PSS9000

PSS9000 consist of a set of I/O cards for analog input, analog output, digital input and digital output. There are also cards for counters and PID controllers. The cards are placed in a rack with the bus QBUS, a bus originally designed for DEC's PDP-11 processor. The rack is connected via a PCI-QBUS converter to an x86 PC, or connected via Ethernet, so called Remoterack.

The system is configured with objects from the SsabOx volume. There are objects representing the Rack and Carde levels. The agent level i represented by the \$Node object.

Rack objekt

Rack_SSAB

The Rack_SSAB object represents a 19" PSS9000 rack with QBUS backplane. The number of card slots can vary.

The rack is connected to a x86 PC with a PCI-QBUS converter card, PCI-Q, that is installed into the PC and connected to the rack with a cable. Several racks can be connected via bus extension card.

The rackobjects are placed below the \$Node objects and named C1, C2 etc (in older systems the naming convention R1, R2 etc can be found).

Attributes

Rack_SSAB doesn't contain any attributes used by the system.

Driver

The PCI-QBUS converter, PCI-Q, requires installation of a driver.

Ssab_RemoteRack

The Ssab_RemoteRack object configures a PSS9000 rack connected via Ethernet. A BFBETH card is inserted into the rack and connected Ethernet.

The object is placed below the \$Node object and named E1, E2 etc.

Attributes

<i>Attributes</i>	<i>Description</i>
Address	ip-adress for the BTBETH card.
LocalPort	Port in the process station.
RemotePort	Port for the BTBETH card. Default value 8000.
Process	Process that handles the rack. 1 the plcprogram, 2 io_comm.

<i>Attributes</i>	<i>Description</i>
ThreadObject	Thread object for the plc thread that should handle the rack. Only used if Process is 1.
StallAction	No, ResetInputs or EmergencyBreak. Default EmergencyBreak.

Di card

All digital inputcards have a common baseclass, Ssab_BaseDiCard, that contains attributes common for all di cards. The objects for each card type are extended with channel objects for the channels of the card.

Ssab_BaseDiCard

<i>Attributes</i>	<i>Description</i>
RegAddress	QBUS address.
ErrorHardLimit	Error limit that stops the system.
ErrorSoftLimit	Error limit that sends an alarm message.
Process	Process that handles the rack. 1 the plcprogram, 2 io_comm.
ThreadObject	Thread object for the plc thread that should handle the rack. Only used if Process is 1.
ConvMask1	The conversion mask states which channels will be converted to signal values. Handles channel 1 – 16.
ConvMask2	See ConvMask1. Handles channel 17 – 32.
InvMask1	The invert mask states which channels are inverted. Handles channel 1-16.
InvMask2	See InvMask1. Handles channel 17 – 32.

Ssab_DI32D

The object configures a digital inputcard of type DI32D. The card has 32 channels, which channel objects reside as internal attributes in the object. The object is placed as a child to a Rack_SSAB or Ssab_RemoteRack object. Attributes, see BaseDiCard.

Do cards

All digital outputcards have a common baseclass, Ssab_BaseDoCard, that contains attributes that are common for all do cards. The objects for each card type are extended with channel objects for the channels of the card.

Ssab_BaseDoCard

<i>Attributes</i>	<i>Description</i>
RegAddress	QBUS address.
ErrorHardLimit	Error limit that stops the system.
ErrorSoftLimit	Error limit that sends an alarm message.

<i>Attributes</i>	<i>Description</i>
Process	Process that handles the rack. 1 the plcprogram, 2 io_comm.
ThreadObject	Thread object for the plc thread that should handle the rack. Only used if Process is 1.
InvMask1	The invert mask states which channels are inverted. Handles channel 1-16.
InvMask2	See InvMask1. Handles channel 17 – 32.
FixedOutValue1	Bitmask for channel 1 to 16 when the I/O handling is emergency stopped. Should normally be zero.
FixedOutValue2	See FixedOutValue1. FixedOutValue2 is a bitmask for channel 17 – 32.
ConvMask1	The conversion mask states which channels will be converted to signal values. Handles channel 1 – 16.
ConvMask2	See ConvMask1. Handles channel 17 – 32.

Ssab_DO32KTS

The object configures a digital outputcard of type DO32KTS. The card has 32 output channels, whose DoChan objects are internal attributes in the card object. The object is positioned as a child to a Rack_SSAB or Ssab_RemoteRack object. Attributes, see BaseDoCard.

Ssab_DO32KTS_Stall

The object configures a digital outputcard of type DO32KTS Stall. The card is similar to DO32KTS, but also contains a stall function, that resets the bus, i.e. all outputs are zeroed on all cards, if no write or read is done on the card in 1.5 seconds.

Ai cards

All analog cards have a common baseclass, Ssab_BaseACard, that contains attributes that are common for all analog cards. The objects for each card type are extended with channel objects for the channels of the card.

Ssab_BaseACard

<i>Attribut</i>	<i>Beskrivning</i>
RegAddress	QBUS address.
ErrorHardLimit	Error limit that stops the system.
ErrorSoftLimit	Error limit that sends an alarm message.
Process	Process that handles the rack. 1 the plcprogram, 2 io_comm.
ThreadObject	Thread object for the plc thread that should handle the rack. Only used if Process is 1.

Ssab_AI8uP

The object configures an analog inputcard of type Ai8uP. The card has 8 channels, whose AiChan objects are internal attributes in the card object. The object is positioned as a child to a Rack_SSAB or Ssab_RemoteRack object. Attributes, see BaseACard.

Ssab_AI16uP

The object configures an analog inputcard of type Ai16uP. The card has 16 channels, whose AiChan objects is internal attributes in the card object. The object is positioned as a child to a Rack_SSAB or Ssab_RemoteRack object. Attributes, see BaseACard.

Ssab_AI32uP

The object configures an analog inputcard of type Ai32uP. The card has 32 channels, whose AiChan objects are internal attributes in the card object. The object is positioned as a child to a Rack_SSAB or Ssab_RemoteRack object. Attributes, see BaseACard.

Ssab_AI16uP_Logger

The object configures an analog inputcard of type Ai16uP_Logger. The card has 16 channels, whose AiChan objects are internal attributes in the card object. The object is positioned as a child to a Rack_SSAB or Ssab_RemoteRack object. Attributes, see BaseACard.

Ao cards

Ssab_AO16uP

The object configures an analog inputcard of type AO16uP. The card has 16 channels, whose AoChan objects are internal attributes in the card object. The object is positioned as a child to a Rack_SSAB or Ssab_RemoteRack object. Attributes, see BaseACard.

Ssab_AO8uP

The object configures an analog inputcard of type AO8uP. The card has 8 channels, whose AoChan objects are internal attributes in the card object. The object is positioned as a child to a Rack_SSAB or Ssab_RemoteRack object. Attributes, see BaseACard.

Ssab_AO8uPL

The object configures an analog inputcard of type AO8uP. The card has 8 channels, whose AoChan objects are internal attributes in the card object. The object is positioned as a child to a Rack_SSAB or Ssab_RemoteRack object. Attributes, see BaseACard.

Co kort

Ssab_CO4uP

The object configures a counter card of type CO4uP. The card has 4 channels, whose CoChan objects are internal attributes in the card object. The object is positioned as a child to a Rack_SSAB or Ssab_RemoteRack object. Attributes, see BaseACard.

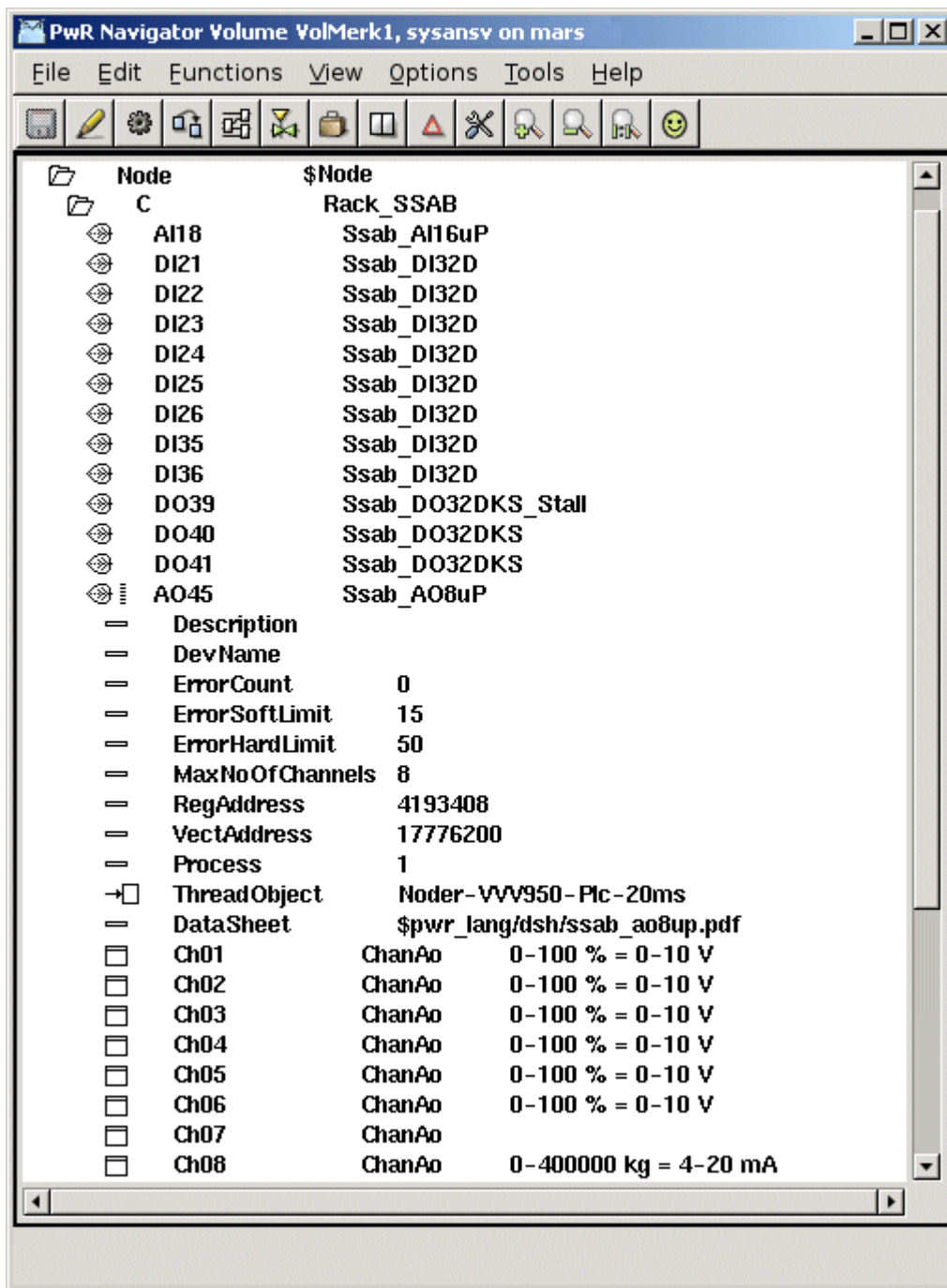


Fig PSS9000 configuration example

Profibus

Profibus is a fieldbus with nodes of type master and slave. The usual configuration is a monomastersystem with one master and up to 125 slaves. Each slave can handle one or several modules.

In the Proview I/O handling the master represents the agent level, the slaves the rack level, and the module the card level.

Proview has support for the mastercard *Softing PROFiboard PCI* (see www.softing.com) that is installed in the PCI-bus of the process station. The card is configured by an object of class Profibus:Pb_Profiboard that is placed below the \$Node object.

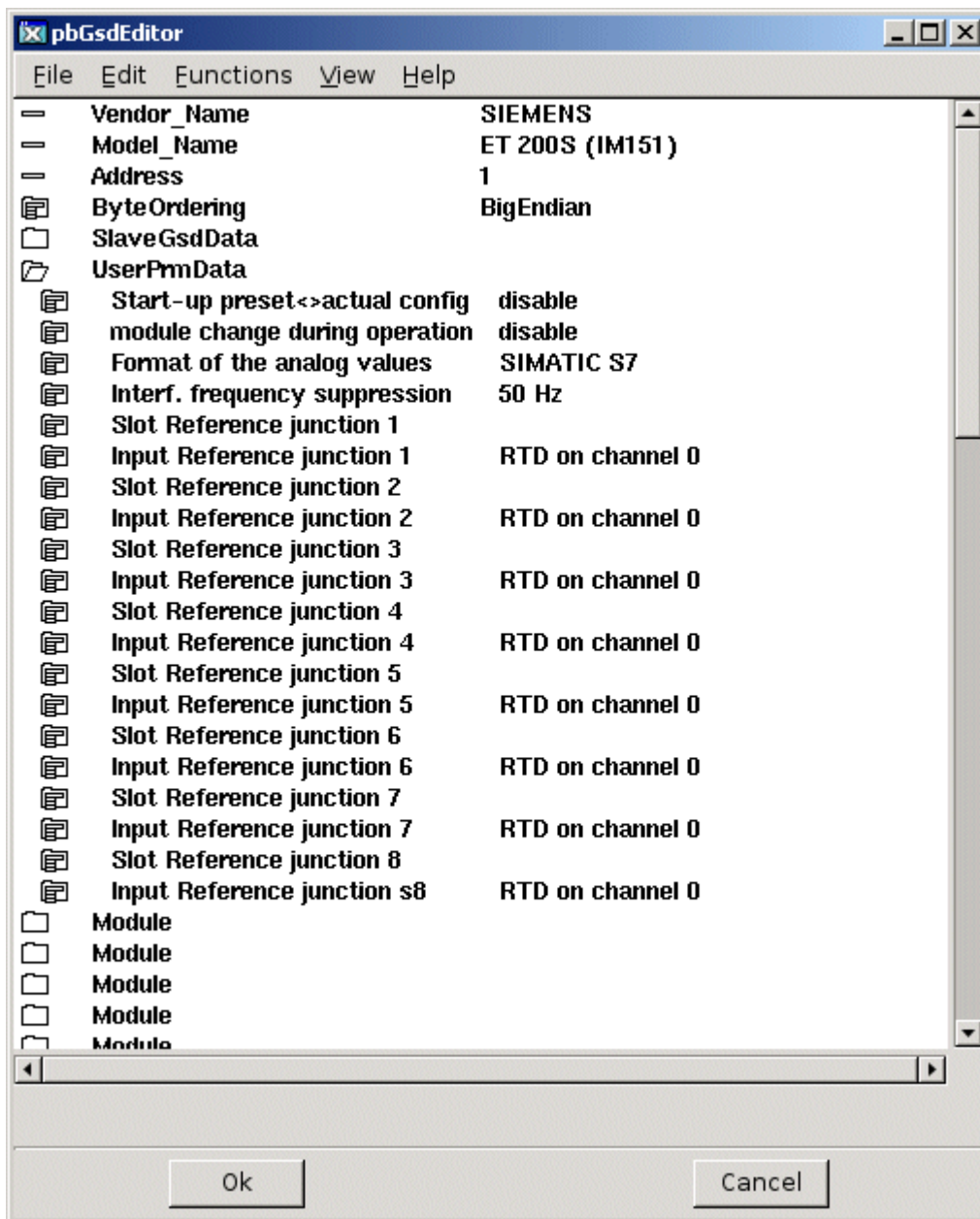
Each slave connected to the profibus circuit is configured with an object of class Pb_DP_Slave, or a subclass to this class. The slave objects are placed as children to the master object. For the slave objects, a profibus configurator can be opened, that configures the slave object, and creates module object for the modules that is handled by the slave. The profibus configurator uses the gsd-file for the slave. The gsd-file is a textfile supplied by the vendor, that describes the various configurations available for the actual slave. Before opening the profibus configurator you has to specify the name of the gsd-file. Copy the file to \$pwrp_exe and insert the filename into the attribute GSDfile in the slave object.

If there is a subclass present for the slave your about to configure, e.g. Siemens_ET200S_IM151, the gsd-file is already stated in the slave object, and the gsd-file is included in the Proview distribution.

When this operation is preformed, the profibus configurator is opened by rightclicking on the object and activating 'Configure Slave' from the popup menu.

The profibus configurator

The profibus configurator is opened for a slave object, i.e. an object of class Pb_DP_Slave or a subclass of this class. There has to be a readable gsd-file stated in the GSDfile attribute in the slave object.



Address

The address of the slave is stated in the Address attribute. The address has a value in the interval 0-125 that is usually configured with switches on the slave unit.

SlaveGsdData

The map *SlaveGsdData* contains informational data.

UserPrmData

The map *UserPrmData* contains the parameter that can be configured for the current slave.

Module

A slave can handle one or several modules. There are modular slaves with one single module, where the slave and the module constitutes one unit. and there are slaves of rack type, into which a large number of modules can be inserted. The Profibus configurator displays on map for each module that can be configured for the current slave.

Each slave is given an object name, e.g. M1 M2 etc. Modules on the same slave has to have different object names.

Also the module type is stated. This is chosen from a list of module types supported by the current slave. The list is found below *Type*.

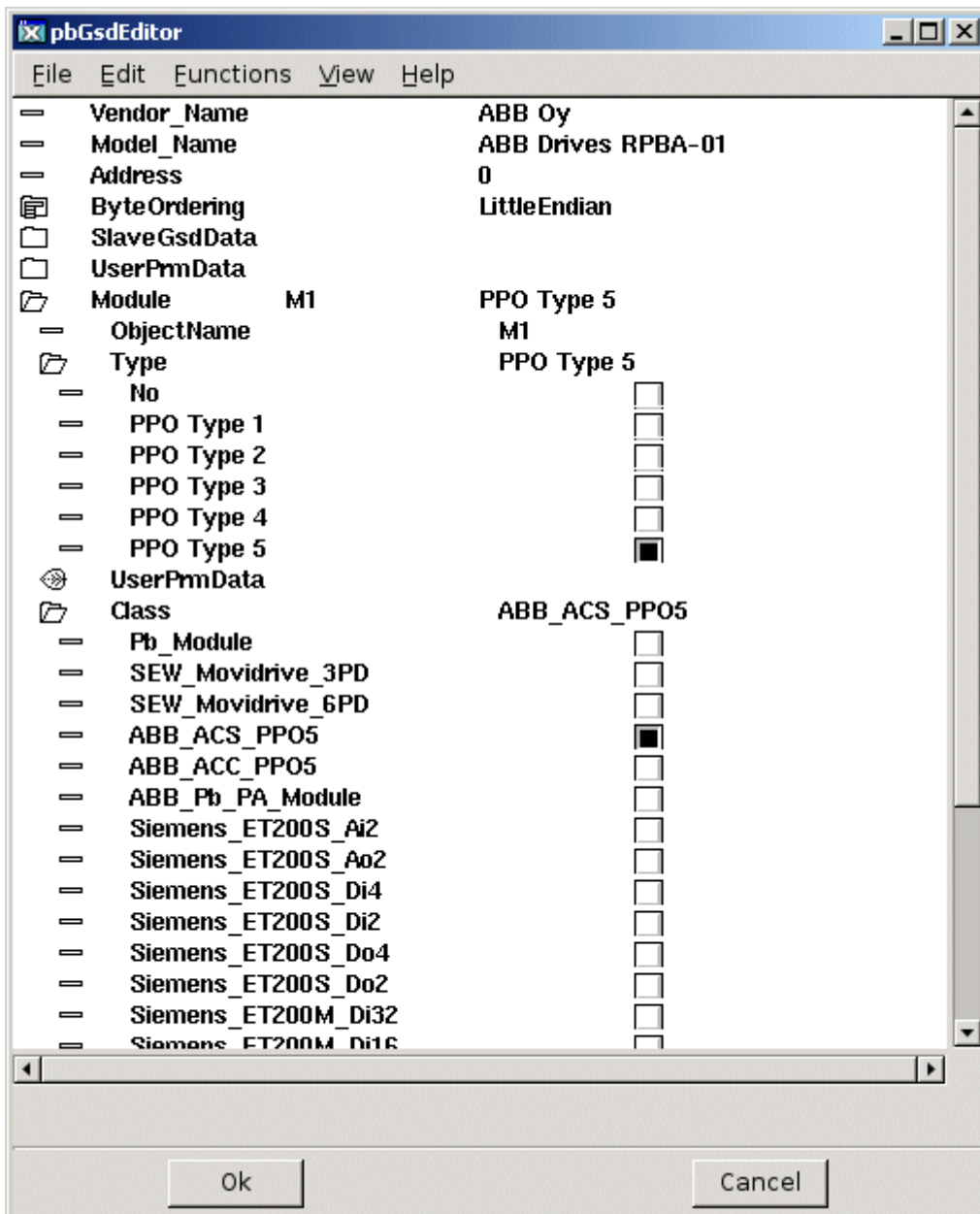


Fig Module Type and Class selected

When the type is chosen, the parameter of the selected module type is configured under *UserPmData*.

You also have to state a class for the module object. At the configuration, a module object is created for each configured module. The object is of class Pb_Module or a subclass of that class. Under

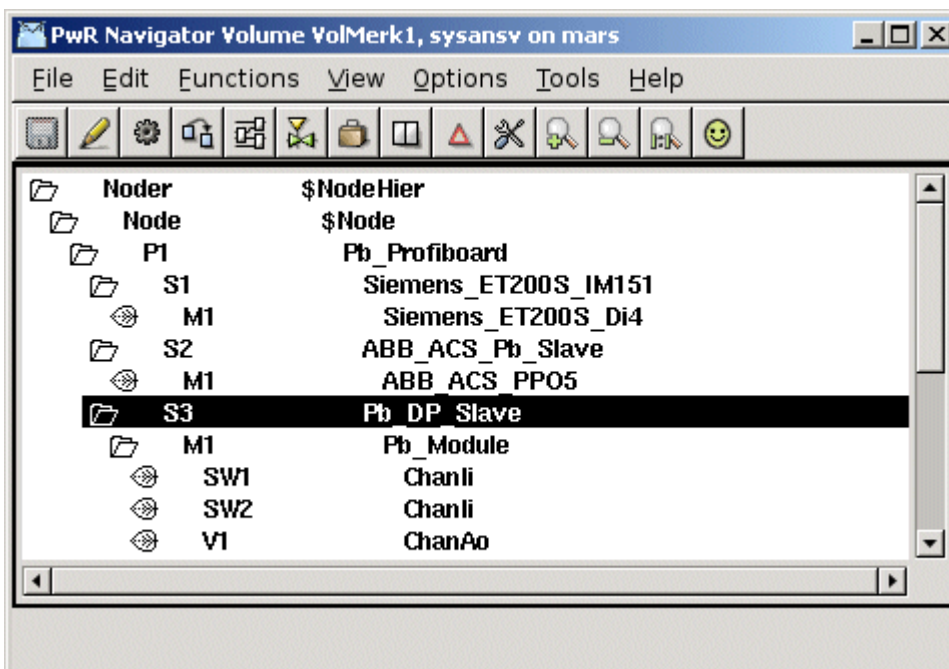
Class all the subclasses to Pb_Module are listed. If you find a class corresponding to the current module type, you select this class, otherwise you select the baseclass Pb_Module. The difference between the subclasses and the baseclass is that in the subclasses, the dataarea is specified with channel objects (see section Specify the data area).

When all the modules are configured you save by clicking on 'Ok' and leave by clicking 'Cancel'. The moduleobjects with specified objectnames and classes are now created below the slave object.

If you are lucky, you will find a moduleobject the corresponds to the current module. The criteria for the correspondence is whether the specified data area matches the current module or not. If you don't find a suitable module class there are two options: to create a new class with Pb_Module as baseclass, extended with channel objects to specify the data area, or to configure the channel as separate objects below a Pb_Module object. The second alternative is more convenient if there are one or a few instances. If there are several modules you should consider creating a class for the module.

Specify the data area

The next step is to specify the dataarea for a module. Input modules read data that are sent to the process station over the bus, and output modules receives data from the process station. There are also modules with both input and output data, e.g. frequency converters. The data areas that are sent and received via the bus has to be configured, and this is done with channel objects. The inarea is specified with ChanDi, ChanAi and ChanIi objects, the outarea with ChanDo, ChanAo and ChanIo objects. The channelobjects are placed as children to the moduleobject, or, if you choose do make a specific class for the module, as internal attributes in the module object. In the channel object you should set *Representation*, that specifies the format of a parameter, and in some cases also *Number* (for Bit representation). In the slave object you might have to set the *ByteOrdering* (LittleEndian or BigEndian) and *FloatRepresentation* (Intel or IEEE).



Digital inputs

Digital inputmodules send the value of the inputs as bits in a word. Each input is specified with a

ChanDi object. Representation is set to Bit8, Bit16, Bit32 or Bit64 dependent on the size of the word, and in Number the bit number that contains the channel value is stated (first bit has number 0).

Analog inputs

An analog input is usually transferred as a integer value and specified with a ChanAi object. Representation matches the integer format in the transfer. In some cases the value is sent as a float, and the float format has to be stated in *FloatRepresentation* (FloatIntel or FloatIEEE) in the slave object. Ranges for conversion to engineering value are specified in *RawValRange*, *ChannelSigValRange*, *SensorSigValRange* and *ActValRange* (as the signalvalue is not used *ChannelSigValRange* and *SensorSigValRange* can have the same value as *RawValRange*).

Digital outputs

Digital outputs are specified with ChanDo objects. *Representation* should be set to Bit8, Bit16, Bit32 or Bit64 dependent on the transfer format.

Analog outputs

Analog outputs are specified with ChanAo objects. Set *Representation* and specify ranges for conversion from engineering unit to transfer value (set *ChannelSigValRange* and *SensorSigValRange* equal to *RawValRange*).

Complex dataareas

Many modules sends a mixture of integer, float, bitmasks etc. You then have to combine channel objects of different type. The channelobjects should be placed in the same order as the data they represent is organized in the data area. For modules with both in and out area, the channels of the inarea i are usually placed first and thereafter the channels of the outarea.

Driver

Softing PROFiBoard requires a driver to be installed. Download the driver from www.softing.com.

Agent object

Pb_Profiboard

Agent object for a profibus master of type Softing PROFiBoard. The object is placed in the nodehierarchy below the \$Node object.

Slave objects

Pb_Dp_Slave

Baseobject for a profibus slave. Reside below a profibus agent object. In the attribute *GSDfile* the gsd-file for the current slave is stated. When the gsd-file is supplied the slave can be configured by the Profibus configurator.

ABB_ACS_Pb_Slave

Slave object for a frequencyconverter ABB ACS800 with protocol PPO5.

Siemens_ET200S_IM151

Slaveobject for a Siemens ET200S IM151.

Siemens ET200M_IM153

Slave object for a Siemens ET200M IM153.

Module objects

Pb_Module

Baseclass for a profibus module. The object is created by the Profibus configurator. Placed as child to a slave object.

ABB_ACS_PPO5

Moduleobject for a frequencyconverter ABB ACS800 with protocol PPO5.

Siemens_ET200S_Ai2

Moduleobject for a Siemens ET200S module with 2 analog inputs.

Siemens_ET200S_Ao2

Moduleobject for a Siemens ET200S module with 2 analog outputs.

Siemens_ET200M_Di4

Moduleobject for a Siemens ET200M module with 4 digital inputs.

Siemens_ET200M_Di2

Moduleobject for a Siemens ET200M module with 2 digital inputs.

Siemens_ET200M_Do4

Moduleobject for a Siemens ET200M module with 4 digital outputs.

Siemens_ET200M_Do2

Moduleobject for a Siemens ET200M module with 2 digital outputs.

Profinet

Profinet is a real time ethernet standard for automation. A Profinet IO system consists of three device-types.

- The IO Controller, which controls the automation task.
- The IO Device, which is a field device, monitored and controlled by an IO Controller.
- The IO Supervisor is a software used for setting parameters and diagnosing individual IO devices. Each device can consist of several modules and submodules.

Typically you have one controller controlling multiple IO devices. It is though possible to have several controllers on the same network.

In the Proview I/O handling the controller represents the agent level, the devices the rack level, and the module the card level.

Proview has support for a Profinet stack from the company *Softing* (see www.softing.com). The Profinet stack is implemented in form of three Linux kernel modules. The stack is configured by an object of class Profibus:PnControllerSoftingPNAK that is placed below the \$Node object.

Each device connected to the profinet controller is configured with an object of class PnDevice, or a subclass to this class. The device objects are placed as children to the master. For the device objects, a profinet configurator can be opened, that configures the device object and creates module objects for the modules that is handled by the device. The profinet configurator uses the gsdml-file for the specific device. The gsdml-file is a textfile supplied by the vendor, that describes the various configurations available for the actual device. Before opening the profinet configurator you have to specify the name of the gsdml-file. Copy the file to \$pwrp_exe and insert the filename into the attribute GSDMLfile in the device object.

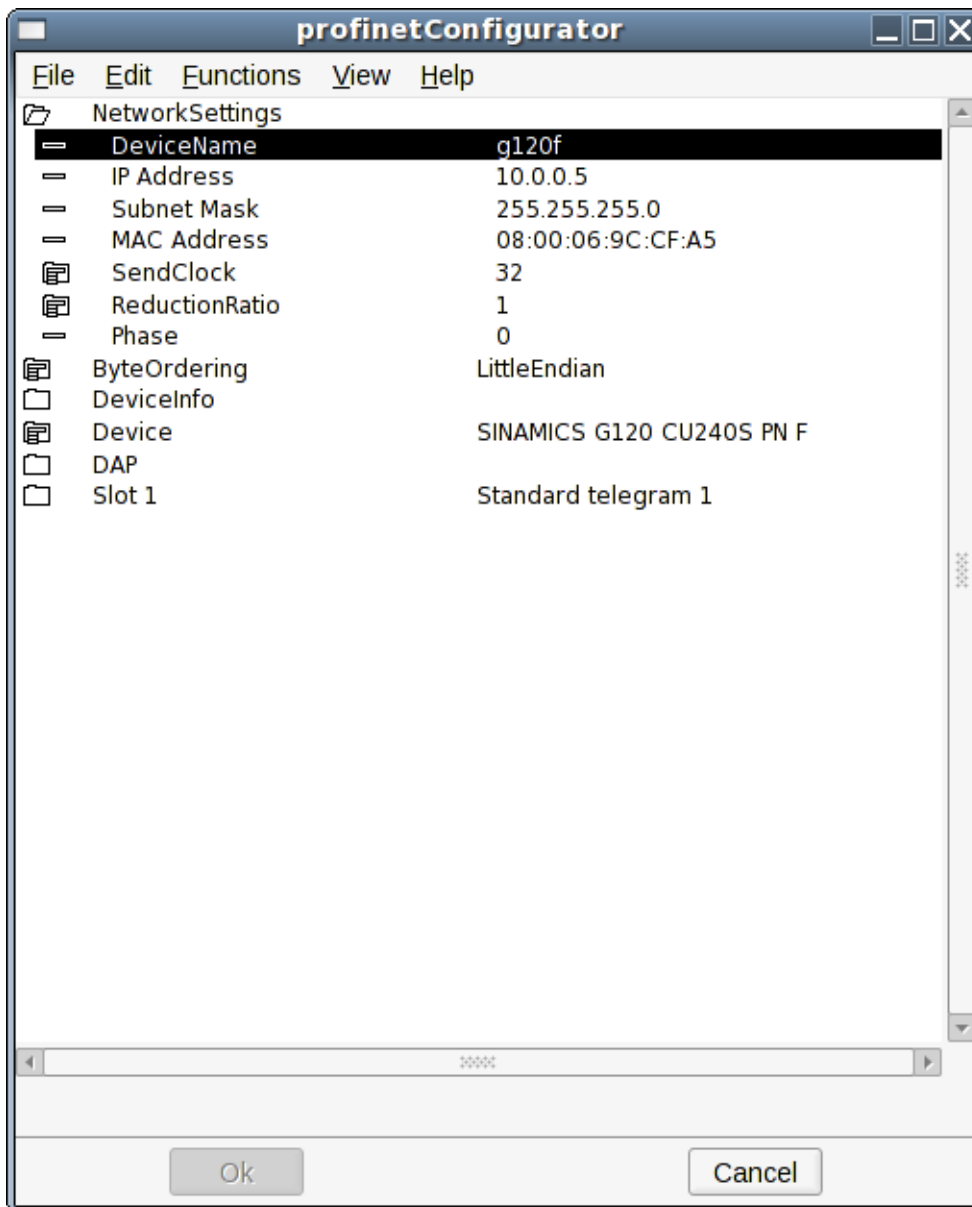
If there is a subclass present for the device you are about to configure, e.g.

Sinamics_G120_PnDevice, the gsdml-file is already stated in the slave object and the gsdml-file is included in the Proview distribution.

When this operation is performed, the profinet configurator is opened by rightclicking on the object and activating 'ConfigureDevice' from the popup menu.

The profinet configurator

The profinet configurator is opened for a device object, i.e. an object of class PnDevice or a subclass of this class. There has to be a readable gsdml-file stated in the GSDMLfile attribute in the device object.



Network Settings

Set the properties for the network settings.

DeviceName

This is the most important setting and defines the device on the network. When IO communication starts the Profinet stack will first look up all the devices on the network by the name.

IP Address

This is the ip-address of the device.

Subnet mask

The subnet mask of the device. Normally it should be set to 255.255.255.0.

MAC Address

The MAC Address should be given on the format XX:XX:XX:XX:XX:XX.

SendClock

The send clock factor is the number to multiply with $31,25 \mu\text{s}$ that results in the send clock. A send clock factor of 32 will give a send clock of 1 ms.

ReductionRatio

Reduction ratio applied to the send clock to form the send cycle time. A send clock factor of 32 and a reduction ratio of 32 will give send cycle time of 32 ms.

Phase

In case of a reduction ratio greater than one this property can be used to distribute the network traffic more evenly. E.g. For reduction ratio 3 (phase can be between 1 and 3): if phase is one, data will be sent on 1., 4., 7., etc. controller cycle (defined by the send clock). If phase is 2, it is sent on 2., 5., 8., ... cycle. Finally if phase is 3, data will be sent on 3., 6., 9., ... cycle.

ByteOrdering

Byte ordering of the device.

DeviceInfo

Information about the device as defined in the gsdml-file.

Device

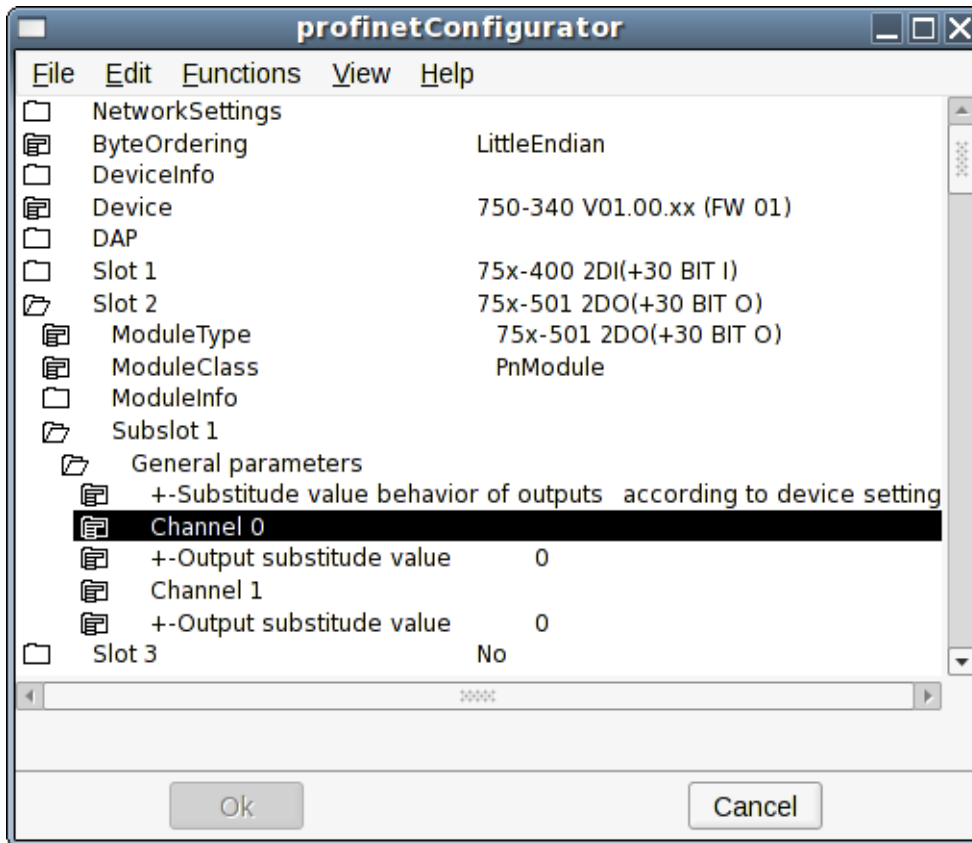
Definition of the device.

DAP

The device access point is always defined on slot 0. Device-specific data is defined in it.

Slot1 - Slotx

A device can have one or several slots. The configurator will show you how many slots that can be configured. For each slot you need to configure some things.



ModuleType

Pick the correct module type for this slot.

ModuleClass

Pick the Proview Profinet module class for this slot. The class PnModule will be valid for all types of modules. If this is picked, IO channels will automatically be created as children to the PnModule-object corresponding to the data area for this module. In many cases there exist prepared subclasses of the PnModule-class for the specific module. This is for example the case for a Siemens ET200M device. For the prepared classes the IO channels will exist as a part of the module-object. The prepared classes should be used if they exist.

ModuleInfo

Information about the module.

Subslot X

On some types of modules there are some parameters that can be set that will define the behaviour of the subslot. Very often there is nothing to configure for the subslots.

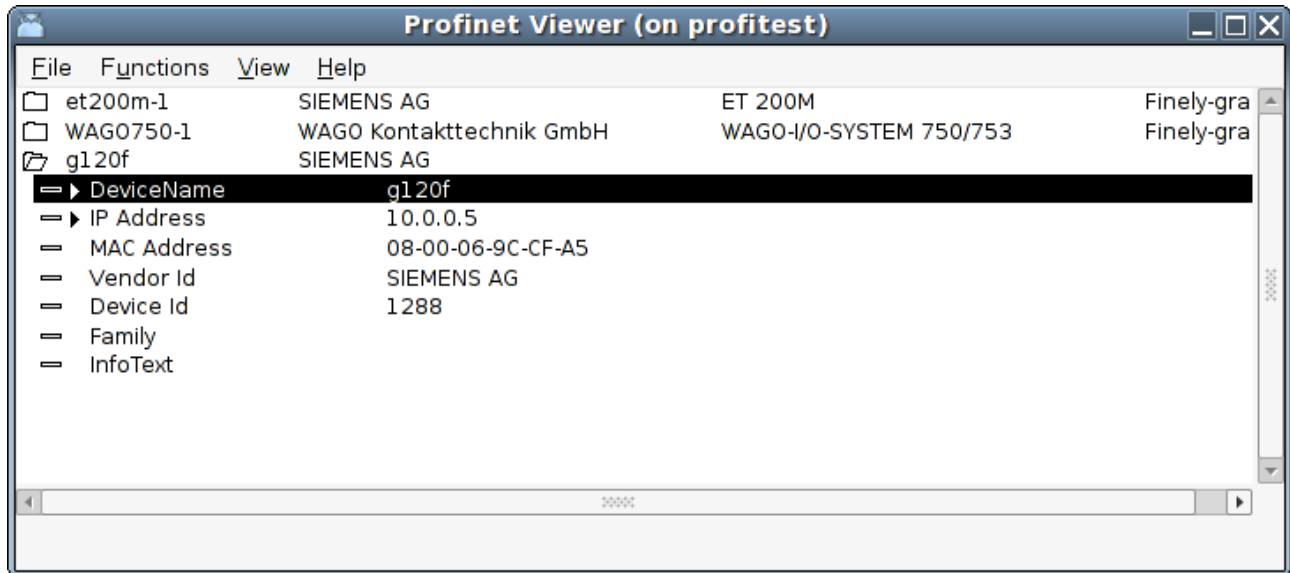
When all the slots are configured you save by clicking on 'Ok' and leave by clicking 'Cancel'. The moduleobjects with specified objectnames and classes are now created below the slave object.

Profinet viewer

There is a tool for searching a network for Profinet devices. In the Proview environment the viewer is started by issuing the command:

```
profinet_viewer [device]
```

Where 'device' is for example *eth0*. By default the `profinet_viewer` will connect to *eth1*.



The tool will start searching the network for available devices by issuing a broadcast message. Active devices will respond. After a certain time (a few seconds) you will get a list of the found devices. For each found device you will get information about:

DeviceName

Ip-address

MAC-address

Vendor Id

Device Id

Family

InfoText

For each of these devices it is possible to set the DeviceName and the IP Address. It is very important that you do this for all of the devices you intend to control.

In the *Functions*-menu you can choose to 'Update' the list or to 'Set Device Properties' for the marked device.

Agent object

PnControllerSoftingPNAK

Agent object for a profinet controller of type Softing Profinet Stack. The object is placed in the nodehierarchy below the \$Node object.

Device objects

PnDevice

Baseobject for a profinet device. Reside below a profinet agent object. In the attribute *GSDMfile* the gsdml-file for the current device is stated. When the gsdml-file is supplied the device can be configured by the Profinet configurator.

Siemens_ET200S_PnDevice

Device object for a Siemens ET200S.

Siemens_ET200M_PnDevice

Device object for a Siemens ET200M.

Sinamics_G120_PnDevice

Device object for a Sinamics G120 drive.

ABB_ACS_PnDevice

Device object for a ABB ACS800 drive with RETA-02 interface (profinet).

Module objects

PnModule

Baseclass for a profinet module. The object is created by the Profinet configurator. Placed as child to a device object.

BaseFcPPO3PnModule

Module object for a drive using Standard Telegram 1 / PPO3. The Io-attribute of this object can be directly connected to a drive object of type BaseFcPPO3 in the \$PlantHier. This one in turn can be connected to a function object in a plc-program of type BaseFcPPO3Fo.

Sinamics_Tgm1_PnModule

Module object for a drive using Standard Telegram 1. The Io-attribute of this object can be directly connected to a drive object of type Sinamics_G120_Tgm1 in the \$PlantHier. This one in turn can be connected to a function object in a plc-program of type Sinamics_G120_Tgm1Fo.

Siemens_Ai2_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 2 analog inputs.

Siemens_Ao2_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 2 analog outputs.

Siemens_Di4_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 4 digital inputs.

Siemens_Di2_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 2 digital inputs.

Siemens_Do4_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200M module with 4 digital outputs.

Siemens_Do2_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 2 digital outputs.

Siemens_Do32_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 32 digital outputs.

Siemens_D16_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 16 digital outputs.

Siemens_Do8_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 8 digital outputs.

Siemens_Di32_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 32 digital inputs.

Siemens_Di16_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 16 digital inputs.

Siemens_Di8_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 8 digital outputs.

Siemens_Dx16_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 16 digital outputs and 16 digital inputs.

Siemens_Ai8_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 8 analog inputs.

Siemens_Ao8_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 8 analog outputs.

Siemens_Ai4_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 4 analog inputs.

Siemens_Ao4_PnModule

Module object for a Siemens ET200 module with 4 analog outputs.

Modbus TCP Client

MODBUS is an application layer messaging protocol that provides client/server communication between devices. Proview implements the MODBUS messaging service over TCP/IP.

MODBUS is a request/reply protocol and offers services specified by function codes. For more information on the MODBUS protocol see the documents:

MODBUS Application Protocol Specification V1.1b

MODBUS Messaging on TCP/IP Implementation Guide V1.0b

Each device that is to be communicated with is configured with an object of class Modbus_TCP_Slave, or a subclass to this class. The interface to the device is defined by instances of the class Modbus_Module. Each instance of the Modbus_Module represents a function code for the service that is requested. The corresponding data area is defined with channels.

Configuration of a device

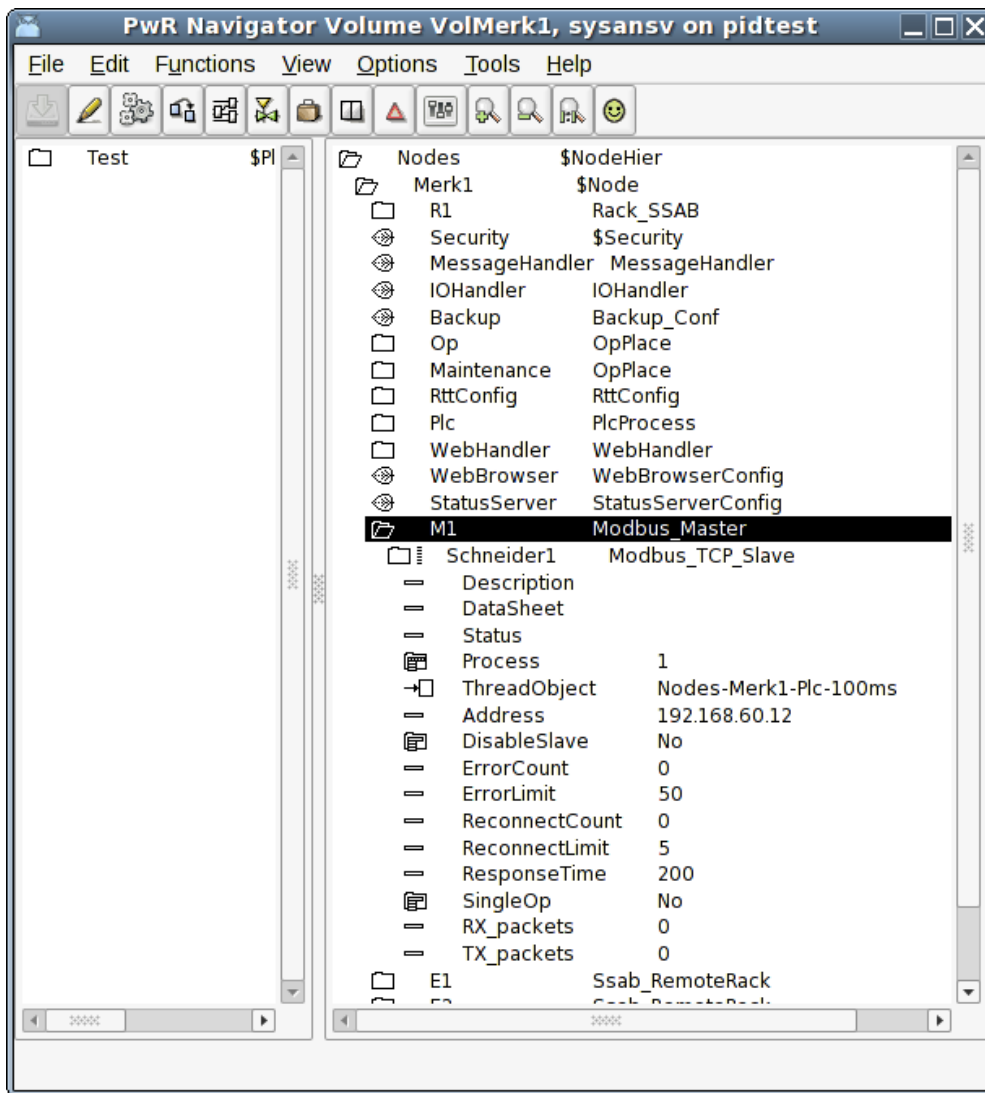
Master

Insert a Modbus_Master-object in the node-hierarchy. By default all modbus communication will be handled by one plc-thread. Connect the master to a plc-thread.

Slaves

As children to the master-object you configure the devices that you want to communicate with. Each device will be represented by a Modbus_TCP_Slave-object.

Insert a Modbus_TCP_Slave-object in the node-hierarchy. Specify the ip-address of the MODBUS device. By default the device will be handled by a plc-thread. Connect the slave to a plc-thread. An example is given below.



Modules

With help of Modbus_Module's you define what type of actions you want to perform on the slave and at which address. The action is defined by a function code which means either reading or writing data to the Modbus slave. You also specify the address at which to read or write. The number of data to be read or written is defined by how you define the data area (see below).

The supported function codes are:

ReadCoils (FC 1)

This function code is used to read from 1 to 2000 contiguous status of coils in a remote device. Typically the input data area is defined by a number of ChanDi's which represent the number of coils you want to read. The representation on the ChanDi should be set to Bit8.

ReadDiscreteInputs (FC 2)

This function code is used to read from 1 to 2000 contiguous status of discrete inputs in a remote device. Typically the input data area is defined by a number of ChanDi's which represent the number of coils you want to read. The representation on the ChanDi should be set to Bit8.

ReadHoldingRegisters (FC 3)

This function code is used to read the contents of a contiguous block of holding registers in a remote device. A register is 2 bytes long. Typically the input data area is defined by a number of ChanLi's which represent the number of registers you want to read. The representation on the ChanLi should be set to UInt16 or Int16. ChanAi and ChanDi is also applicable. In case of ChanDi the representation should be set to Bit16.

ReadInputRegisters (FC 4)

This function code is used to read from 1 to 125 contiguous input registers in a remote device. Typically the input data area is defined by a number of ChanLi's which represent the number of registers you want to read. The representation on the ChanLi should be set to UInt16 or Int16. ChanAi and ChanDi is also applicable. In case of ChanDi the representation should be set to Bit16.

WriteMultipleCoils (FC 15)

This function code is used to force each coil in a sequence of coils to either ON or OFF in a remote Device. Typically the output data area is defined by a number of ChanDo's which represent the number of coils you want to write. The representation on the ChanDo should be set to Bit8.

WriteMultipleRegisters (FC 16)

This function code is used to write a block of contiguous registers (1 to 123 registers) in a remote device. Typically the output data area is defined by a number of ChanIo's which represent the number of registers you want to write. The representation on the ChanIo should be set to UInt16 or Int16. ChanAo and ChanDo is also applicable. In case of ChanDo the representation should be set to Bit16.

Specify the data area

To specify the data area a number of channel objects are placed as children to the module object. In the channel object you should set *Representation*, that specifies the format of a parameter, and in some cases also *Number* (for Bit representation). The data area is configured in much the same way as the Profibus I/O except for that you never have to think about the byte ordering which is specified by the MODBUS standard to be Big Endian.

To clarify how the data area is specified an example is given below.

Example

In this example we have a device which is a modular station of type *Schneider*. That means a station to which a number of different I/O-modules could be connected. We will use the function codes for reading and writing holding registers (FC3 and FC16). Our station consist of

1 Di 6 module

1 Do 6 module

1 Ai 2 module

1 Ao 2 module

According to the specification of this modular station the digital input module uses 2 registers, one to report data and one to report status. The digital output module uses one register to echo output data and reports one register as status. The analog input module uses 2 registers, one for each channel. The analog output module uses two registers for output data and reports 2 registers as status for each channel. Thus the data area looks like:

Input area

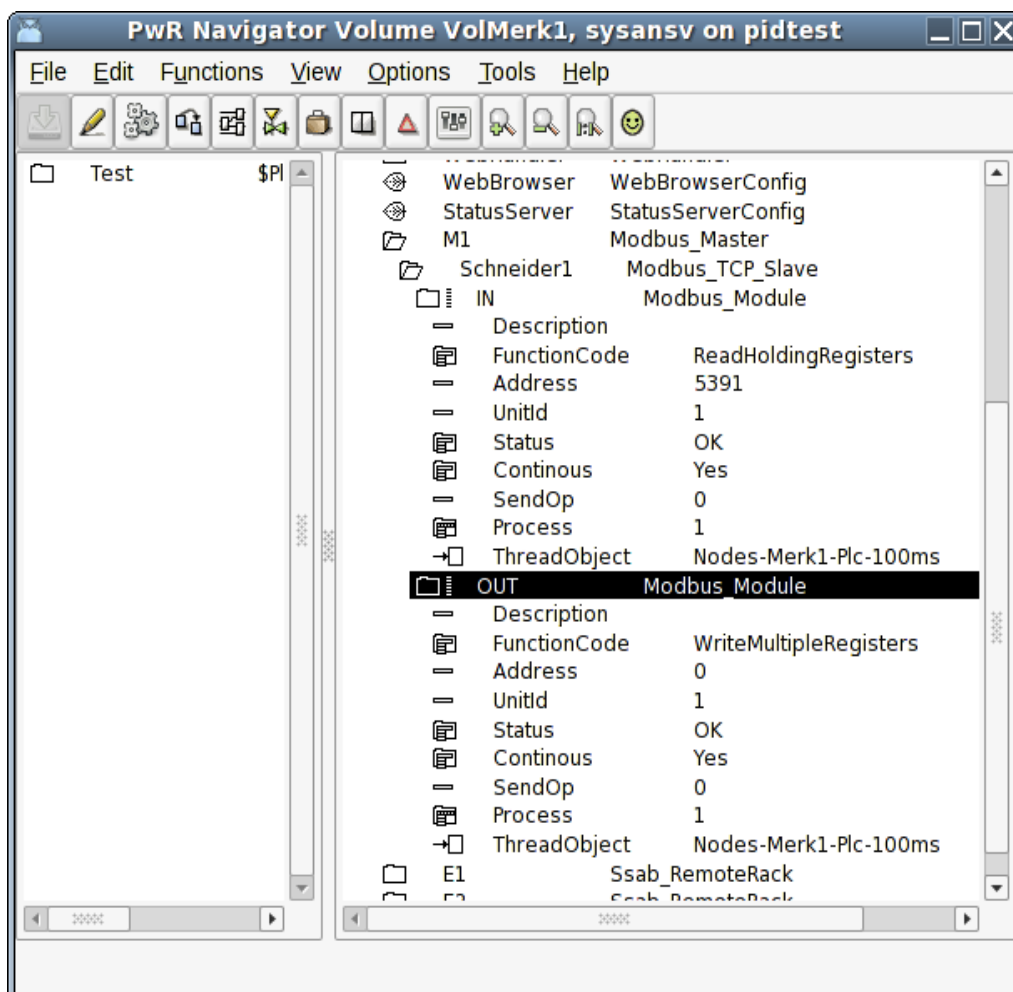
1 register (2 bytes) digital input data, 6 lowest bits represent the inputs
1 register (2 bytes) digital input status
1 register (2 bytes) echo digital output
1 register, digital output status
1 register, analog input channel 1
1 register, analog input channel 2
1 register, echo analog output channel 1
1 register, echo analog output channel 2

Output area

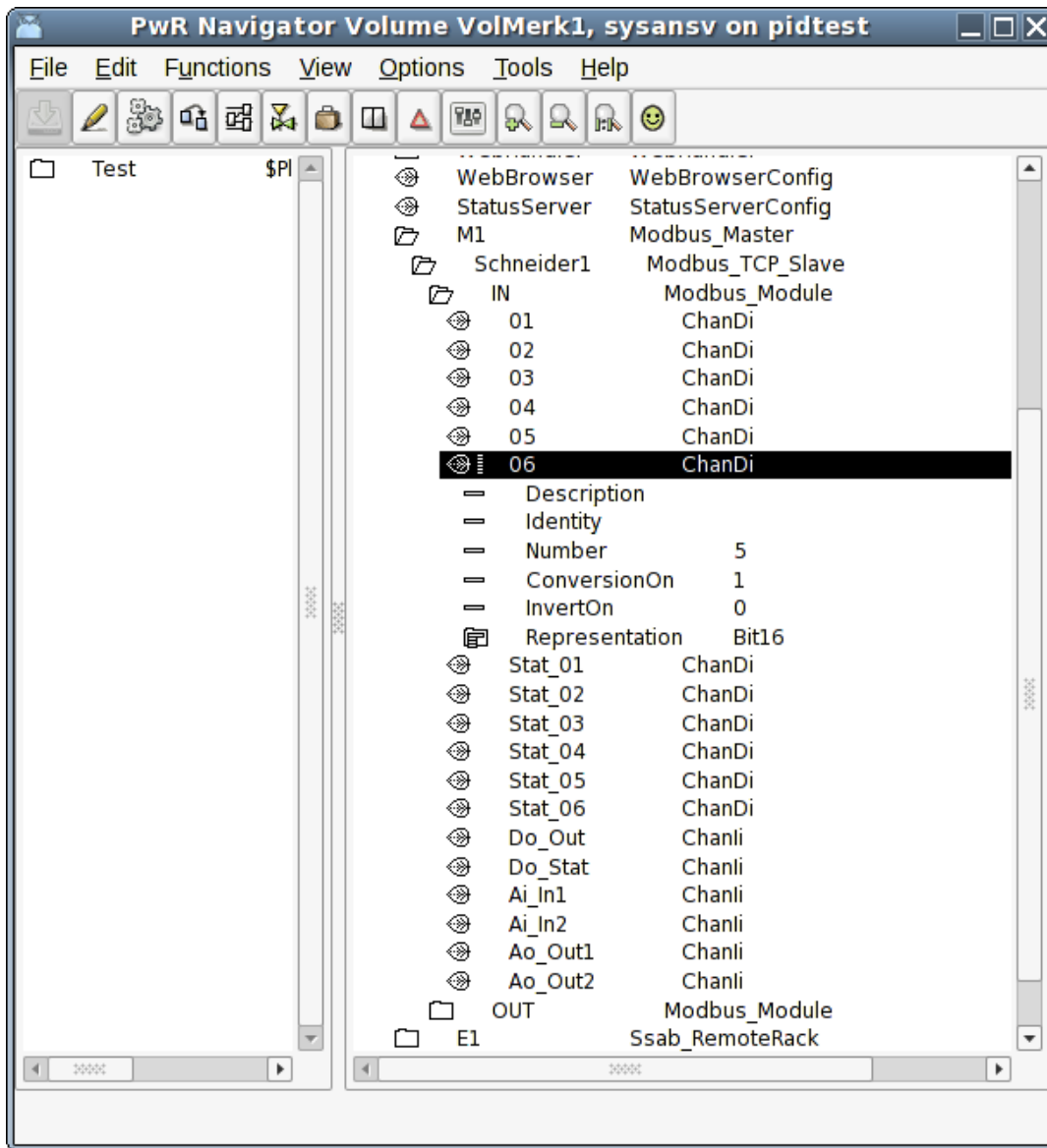
1 register digital output data, 6 lowest bits represent the outputs
1 register, analog output channel 1
1 register, analog output channel 2

Configuration

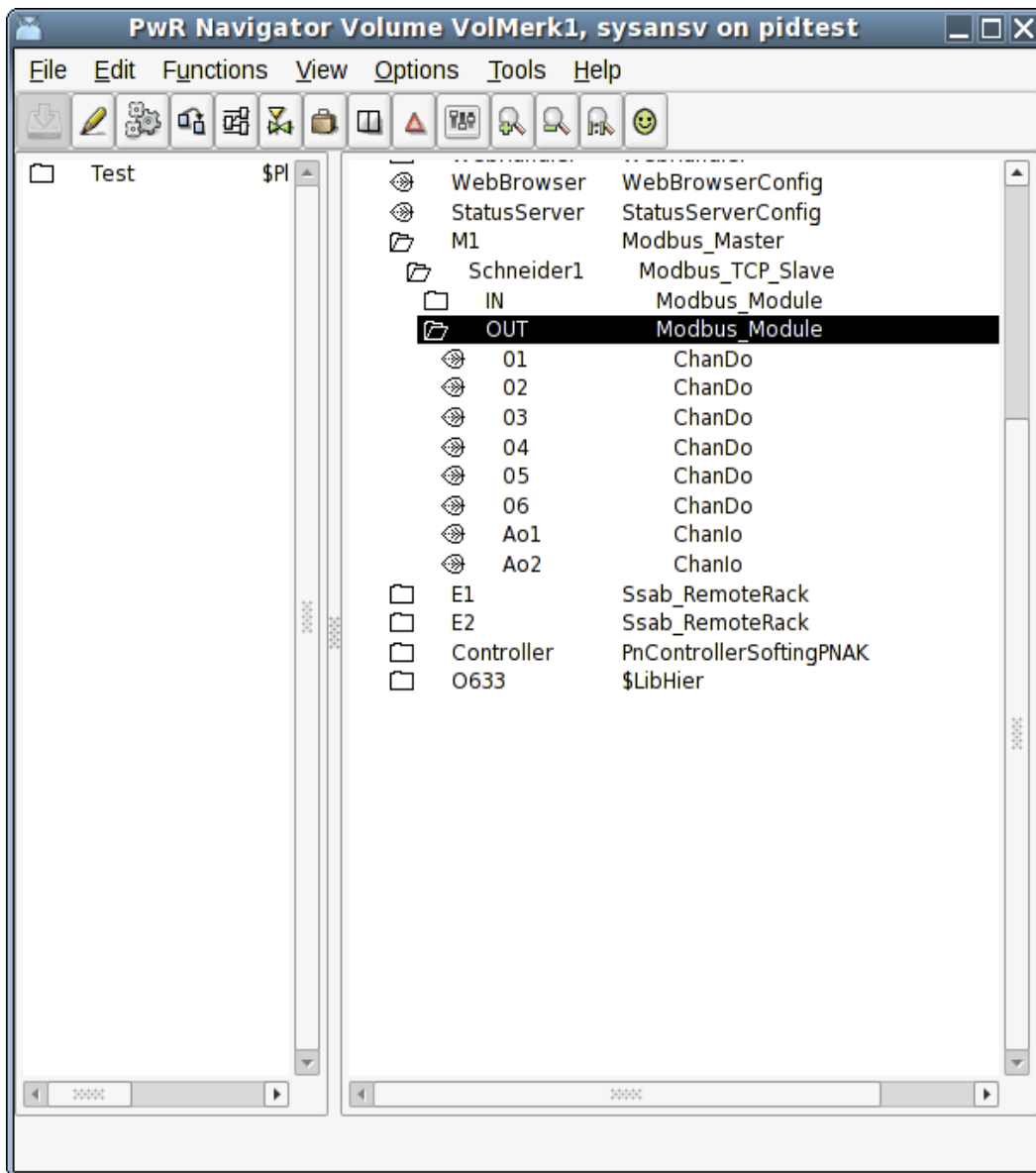
The configuration is made with 2 Modbus modules. One will read holding registers starting at address 5391 and one will write registers starting at address 0.



The input area is configured with channels as shown below. It consists of 6 ChanDi with representation Bit16 and numbered 0-5 meaning that in the first register (2 bytes, 16 bits) we will read the 6 lowest bits to the channels. The same is done for the statuses of the digital input channels. The rest of the input registers is read with ChanLi's with representation UInt16.



The output area is configured as shown below. The digital outputs are configured with ChanDo's with representation Bit16 and numbered 0 to 5. The analog outputs are specified with 2 ChanLi's, one for the respective channel.



Master object

Modbus_Master

Baseobject for a Modbus master. You need to have a master-object to be able to handle Modbus TCP communication at all. This is new since version V4.6.0 and was added to be able to handle the slaves in a little bit more intelligent way. Connect which plc-thread that will run the communication with the slaves.

Slave objects

Modbus_TCP_Slave

Baseobject for a Modbus slave. Reside in the node hierarchy and is placed as a child to a Modbus_Master-object. TCP/IP-address of the device is configured. See further information in the help for this class.

Module objects

Modbus_Module

Baseclass for a Modbus module. Placed as child to a slave object. Wanted function code is chosen. See further information in the help for this class.

Modbus TCP Server

With the Modbus TCP Server it is possible for external SCADA and storage systems to fetch data from a Proview system via Modbus TCP. It can also be used to exchange data between Proview systems

The server is configured with a `Modbus_TCP_Server` object in the node hierarchy, and below this with a `Modbus_TCP_ServerModule` object.

Data areas

The `Modbus_TCP_ServerModule` object handles two data areas. One area for reading, from which the clients can read at specified offsets, and one for writing, where clients can write data. Each area has a logical start address, which is stated in attributes in the `Modbus_TCP_ServerModule` object. `ReadAddress` is the start address for the read area, and `WriteAddress` is the start address for the write area. To perform a read or write operation, the client has to specify an address, and this address is the sum of the start address and the offset to the channel that is to be written or read. The start address makes it possible not to have overlapping address space for the read and write areas, which might cause confusion on the client side.

The data area are configured with channel objects below the server module. The `Representation` attributes in the channel objects states the size of each channel and how the data should be interpreted. The normal representation for `Di` and `Do` channels are `Bit8`, where the `Number` attributes specifies the bit number for the channel, and the normal representation for integer and analog channels are `Int16`.

Unit id

Several modules can be configured in a node, by creating one `Modbus_TCP_ServerModule` object for each module. Every module object has to have a unique unit identity, which is stated in the `UnitId` attribute. This identity is used by the clients to address a specific module.

Port

By default, the Modbus TCP communication uses the port 502.

If you, for example, want to use Modbus TCP for communication between two Proview systems, another port can be stated in the `Port` attribute of the `Modbus_TCP_Server` object. The same port also has to be specified in the slave object in the client node.

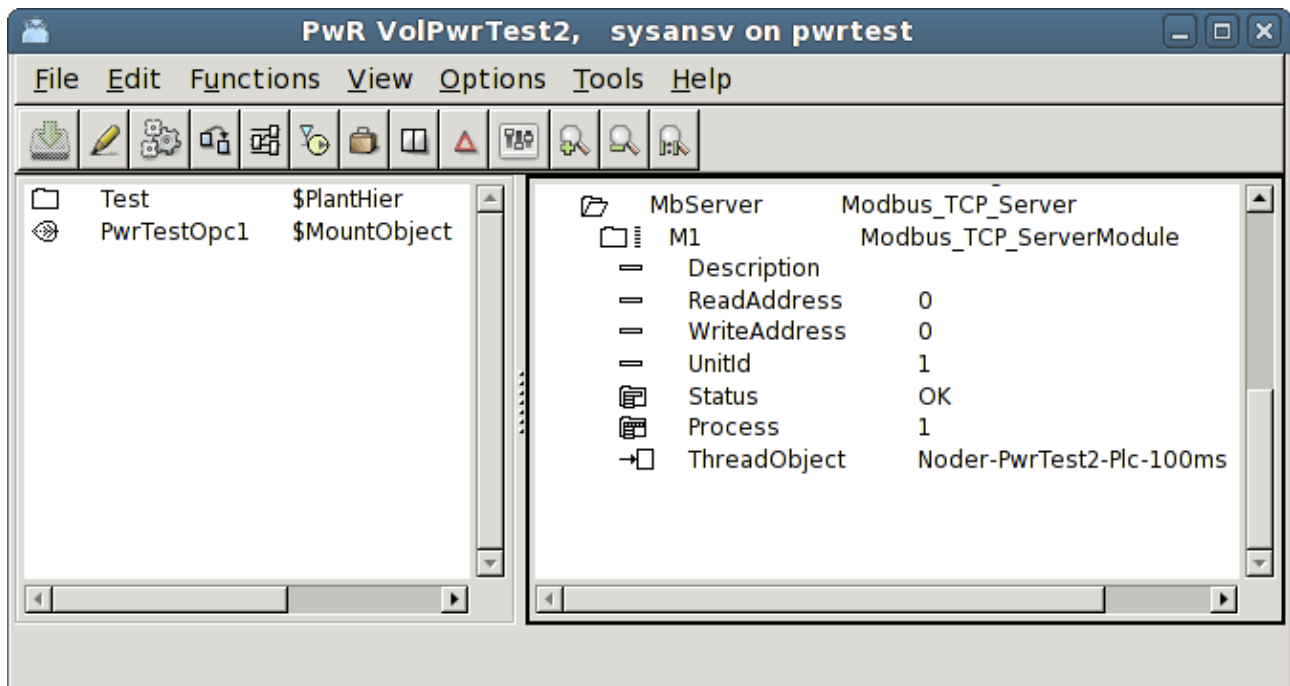


Fig Modbus Server configuration

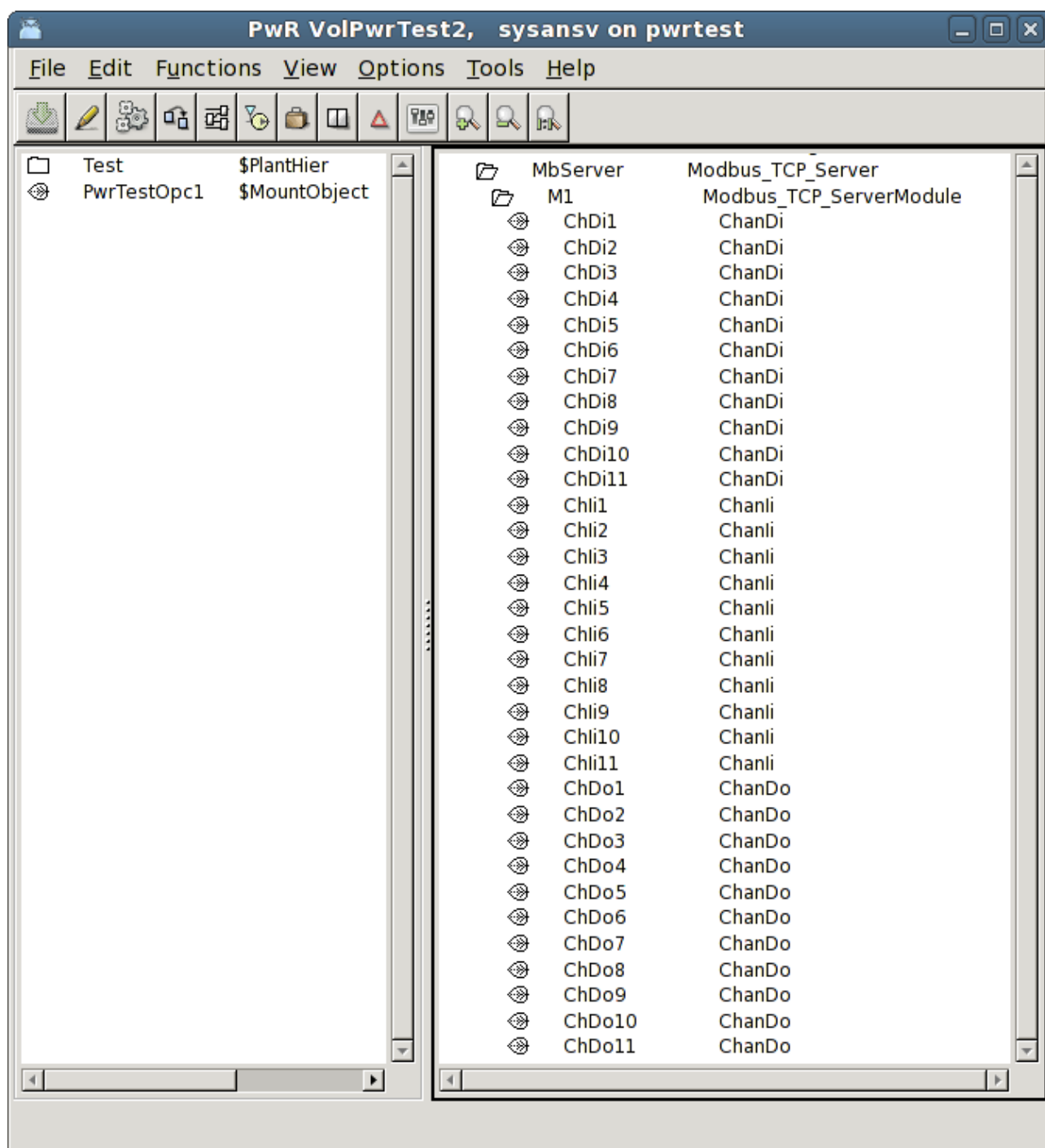


Fig Modbus Server channel configuration

MotionControl USB I/O

Motion Control USB I/O is a device manufactured by Motion Control, www.motioncontrol.se. The device is connected to the USB port on the pc. The unit contains 21 channels of different types, divided into 3 ports, A, B and C. The first four channels (A1 – A4) are Digital outputs of relay type for voltage up to 230 V. The next four channels (A5 – A8) are Digital inputs with optocouplers. Next eight channels (B1 – B8) can either be configured as digital outputs, digital inputs or analog inputs. The last 5 channels (C1 – C5) can be digital outputs or inputs, where C4 and C5 also can be configured as analog outputs.

In Proview USB I/O is configured with a rackobject, OtherIO:MotionControl_USB, that is positioned in the nodehierarchy under the \$Node object, and a card object, OtherIO:MotionControl_USBIO. Below the card object, channelobjects of the type that corresponds to the configuration of the card, are placed.

The card has a watchdog the resets the outputs of the card, if the card is not written to within a certain time.

For the moment, the driver can only handle one device.

Driver

Download and unback the tar-file for the driver.

```
> tar -xvzf usbio.tar.tz
```

Build the driver with make

```
> cd usbio/driver/linux-2.6
> make
```

Install the driver `usbio.ko` as root

```
> insmod usbio.ko
```

Allow all to read and write to the driver

```
> chmod a+rw /dev/usbio0
```

There is also an API to the driver with an archive, `usbio/test/libusbio.a`. Copy the archive to `/usr/lib` or `$pwrp_lib` on the development station.

Rack object

MotonControl_USB

The rack object is placed under the \$Node object in the node hierarchy. Process should be 1. Connect the object to a plc thread by selecting a PlcThread object and activate *Connect PlcThread* in the popup menu for the rack object.

Card object

MotionControl_USBIO

The card object is positioned under the rack object. Process should also here be 1 and the object should be connected to a plc thread. State the card identity, that is found on the circuit card, in the Address attribute. The watchdog is activated if a value is set in WatchdogTime, that states the timeout time in seconds.

Channels

The channels of the card are configured under the card object with channels objects. The Number attribute of the channel object states which channel the object configures (0 – 20), and the class of the object states if the channel is used as a Di, Do, Ai or Ao. The table below displays how the channels can be configured.

<i>Channel</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Number</i>
A1	ChanDo	0
A2	ChanDo	1
A3	ChanDo	2
A4	ChanDo	3
A5	ChanDi	4
A6	ChanDi	5
A7	ChanDi	6
A8	ChanDi	7
B1	ChanDi, ChanDo or ChanAi	8
B2	ChanDi, ChanDo or ChanAi	9
B3	ChanDi, ChanDo or ChanAi	10
B4	ChanDi, ChanDo or ChanAi	11
B5	ChanDi, ChanDo or ChanAi	12
B6	ChanDi, ChanDo or ChanAi	13
B7	ChanDi, ChanDo or ChanAi	14
B8	ChanDi, ChanDo or ChanAi	15
C1	ChanDi or ChanDo	16
C2	ChanDi or ChanDo	17
C3	ChanDi or ChanDo	18
C4	ChanDi, ChanDo or ChanAo	19
C5	ChanDi, ChanDo or ChanAo	20

Ai configuration

The Ai channels has rawvalue range 0 – 1023 and signalvalue range 0 – 5 V, i.e. RawValRange and ChannelSigValRange should be set to

RawValRangeLow	0
RawValRangeHigh	1023
ChannelSigValRangeLow	0
ChannelSigValRangeHigh	5

For example, to configure ActualValue range to 0 – 100, set SensorSigValRange 0 - 5 and ActValRange 0 – 100.

Ao configuration

The Ao channels has rawvalue range 0 – 5 and signalvalue range 0 – 5, i.e. RawValRange and ChannelSigValRange should be set to

RawValRangeLow	0
RawValRangeHigh	5
ChannelSigValRangeLow	0
ChannelSigValRangeHigh	5

For example, to configure ActualValue range to 0 – 100, set SensorSigValRange 0 – 5 and ActValRange 0 – 100.

Link file

The archive with the driver API has to be linked to the plcprogram. This is done by creating the file \$pwrp_exe/plc_'nodename'_'busnumber'.opt, e.g. \$pwrp_exe/plc_mynode_0517.opt with the content

```
$pwr_obj/rt_io_user.o -lpwr_rt -lusbio -lpwr_usb_dummy -lpwr_pnak_dummy
```

Velleman K8055

Velleman K8055 is an USB experiment board with 2 Ai, 5 Di, 8 Do and 2 Ao. It is can be purchased as a kit, K8055, or as an assembled board, VM110. The card can be used to test Proview with some simple application. Note that there are no watchdog or stall function on the board.

The board is quite slow, a read write cycle takes about 25 ms.

On the board are two switches for address setting, SK5 and SK6. Four different addresses can be set:

Adress	SK5	SK6
0	on	on
1	off	on
2	on	off
3	off	off

The card doesn't require any special driver, however the package libusb-1.0 has to be installed. Proview has to have read and write access to the device. The device will appear under /dev/bus/usb, e.g. /dev/usb/002/003. With the command

```
> sudo chmod a+rw /dev/usb/002/003
```

all users are given read and write access.

Velleman K8055 is tested on Ubuntu 10.4. It does not work on Debian Lenny.

The card is configured in Proview with the agent object USB_Agent, the rack object Velleman_K8055 and the card object Velleman_K8055_Board.

Agent object

USB_Agent

A USB_Agent object is configured under the node object. This is a general object for devices that are accesed by libusb. State the Process (Plc) and plc thread in the PlcThread attribute.

Rack object

Velleman_K8055

Under the USB_Agent object a Velleman_K8055 object is configured. Also in this object, the Process and PlcThread has to be stated.

Card object

Velleman_K8055_Board

Beneath the rack object, a card object of type Velleman_K8055_Board is configured. You can have

up to 4 cards in one system. State Process and PlcThread, and state the card address in the Address attribute.

Channels

All channelobjects reside internally in the card object, Velleman_K8055_Board. There are one array with two ChanAi objects, one array with 5 ChanDi objects, one array with 2 ChanAo objects, and one array with ChanDo objects. Connect the channel object to suitable signal objects.

Ai configuration

The Ai channels has rawvalue range 0 – 255 and signalvalue range 0 – 5 V, i.e. RawValRange and ChannelSigValRange should be set to

RawValRangeLow	0
RawValRangeHigh	255
ChannelSigValRangeLow	0
ChannelSigValRangeHigh	5

For example, to configure ActualValue range to 0 – 100, set SensorSigValRange 0 - 5 and ActValRange 0 – 100.

Ao configuration

The Ao channels has rawvalue range 0 – 255 and signalvalue range 0 – 5, i.e. RawValRange and ChannelSigValRange should be set to

RawValRangeLow	0
RawValRangeHigh	255
ChannelSigValRangeLow	0
ChannelSigValRangeHigh	5

For example, to configure ActualValue range to 0 – 100, set SensorSigValRange 0 – 5 and ActValRange 0 – 100.

Link file

The archive libusb-1.0 has to be linked to the plcprogram. This is done by creating the file \$pwrp_exe/

plc_'nodename'_'busnumber'.opt, e.g.
\$pwrp_exe/plc_mynode_0517
.opt with the content

```
$pwr_obj/rt_io_user.o -lpwr_rt -lusb-1.0 -lpwr_usbio_dummy -lpwr_pnak_dummy
```

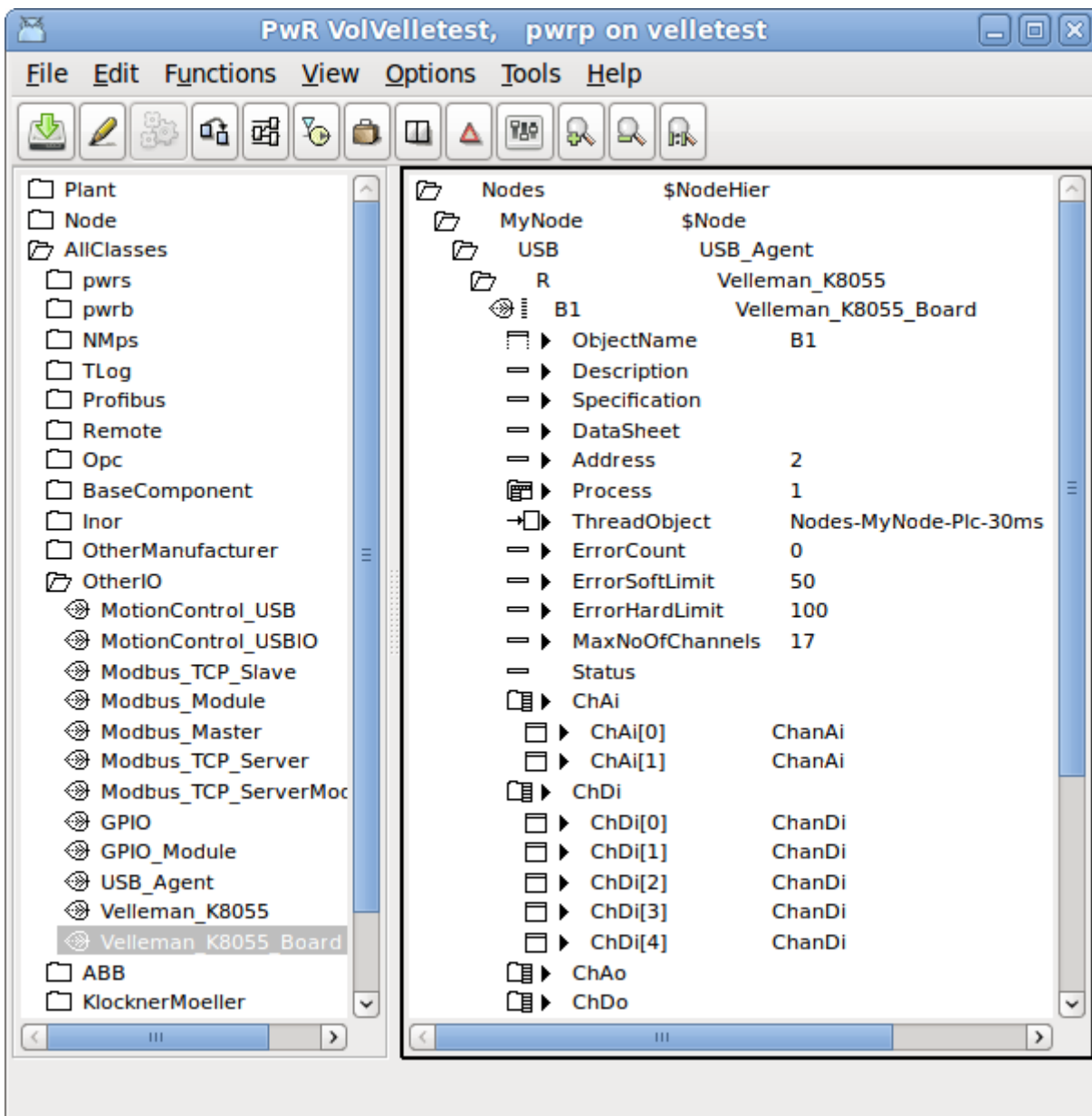


Fig Velleman K8055 configuration

Arduino Uno

Interface to Arduino USB boards, e.g. Uno and Mega2560.

Initialization of the Arduino board

Install the Arduino environment on you development station and upload the sketch \$pwr_inc/pwr_arduino_uno.pde to the board. See www.arduino.cc for more information.

The communication is quite slow, a read write cycle takes about 45 ms.

Don't use digital channels 0 and 1, which seems to interfere with the USB communication.

The card is configured in Proview with the rack object Arduino_USB and the card object Arduino_Uno.

Rack object

Arduino_USB

A Arduino_USB object is configured under the node object. State the Process (Plc) and plc thread in the PlcThread attribute.

Card object

Arduino_Uno

Beneath the rack object, a card object of type Arduino_Uno is configured. You can have several cards in one system. State Process and PlcThread, and state the card address in the Address attribute. Also state the device name of the USB port, e.g. /dev/ttyACM0.

Channels

Create channel objects under the Arduino_Uno object. For digital channels (2-13 on Uno and 2-53 on Mega2560), create ChanDi for the pins you want to use a digital inputs, and ChanDo for the pins you want to use as digital outputs. Set attribute Number to the pin number. Connect to suitable signal objects. Only the channels that are going to be used have to be configured.

Create ChanAi objects for the analog input channels (0-5 on Uno and 0-15 on Mega2560). Set Number to the channel number.

The Ai channels has rawvalue range 0 – 1023 and signalvalue range 0 – 5 V, i.e. RawValRange and ChannelSigValRange should be set to

RawValRangeLow	0
RawValRangeHigh	1023
ChannelSigValRangeLow	0
ChannelSigValRangeHigh	5

For example, to configure ActualValue range to 0 – 100, set SensorSigValRange 0 - 5 and

ActValRange 0 – 100.

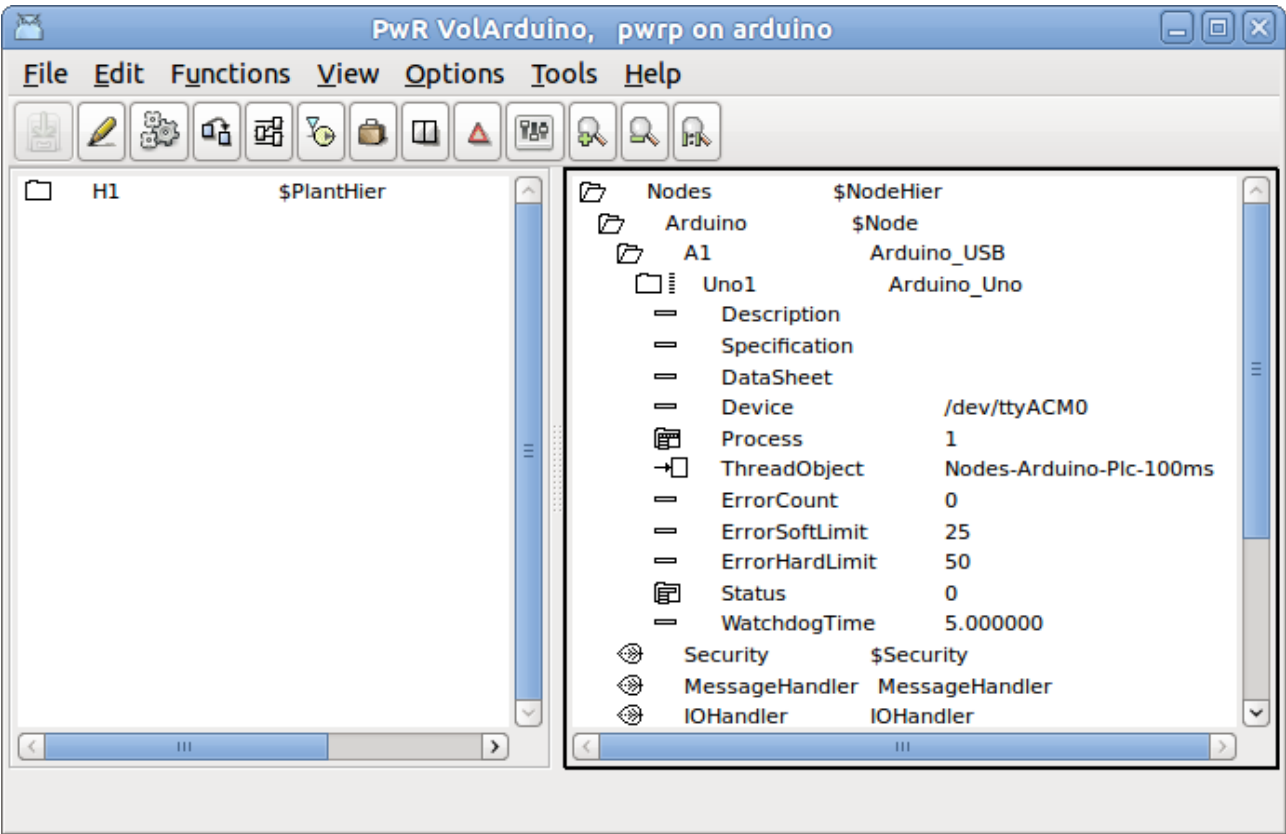


Fig Arduino Uno configuration

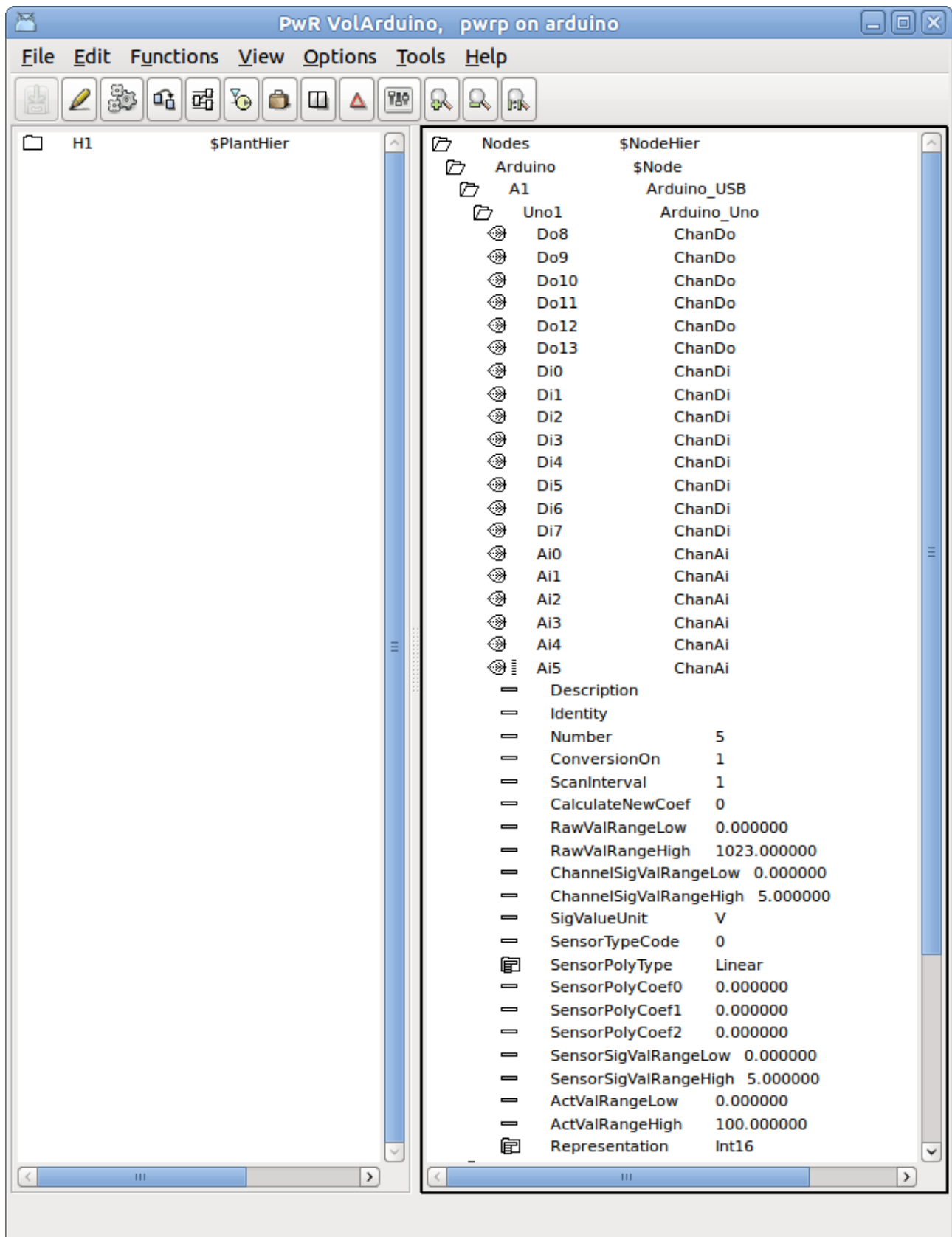


Fig Arduino Uno channel configuration

GPIO

GPIO, General Purpose I/O, are available on some micro processors. As they are connected directly to the processor chip, they have very limited current and voltage tolerance, and are not ideal for use for process control. Usually some intermediate electronic circuit is needed for this type of applications.

The GPIO implementation in Proview uses the support for GPIO in the Linux kernel. GPIO has to be specified in the kernel setup.

The rack level is configured with a GPIO object, and the card level with a GPIO_Module object. Below the card level, the GPIO channels are specified with ChanDi and ChanDo objects. In the Number attribute of the channel object, the identity of the channel is stated.

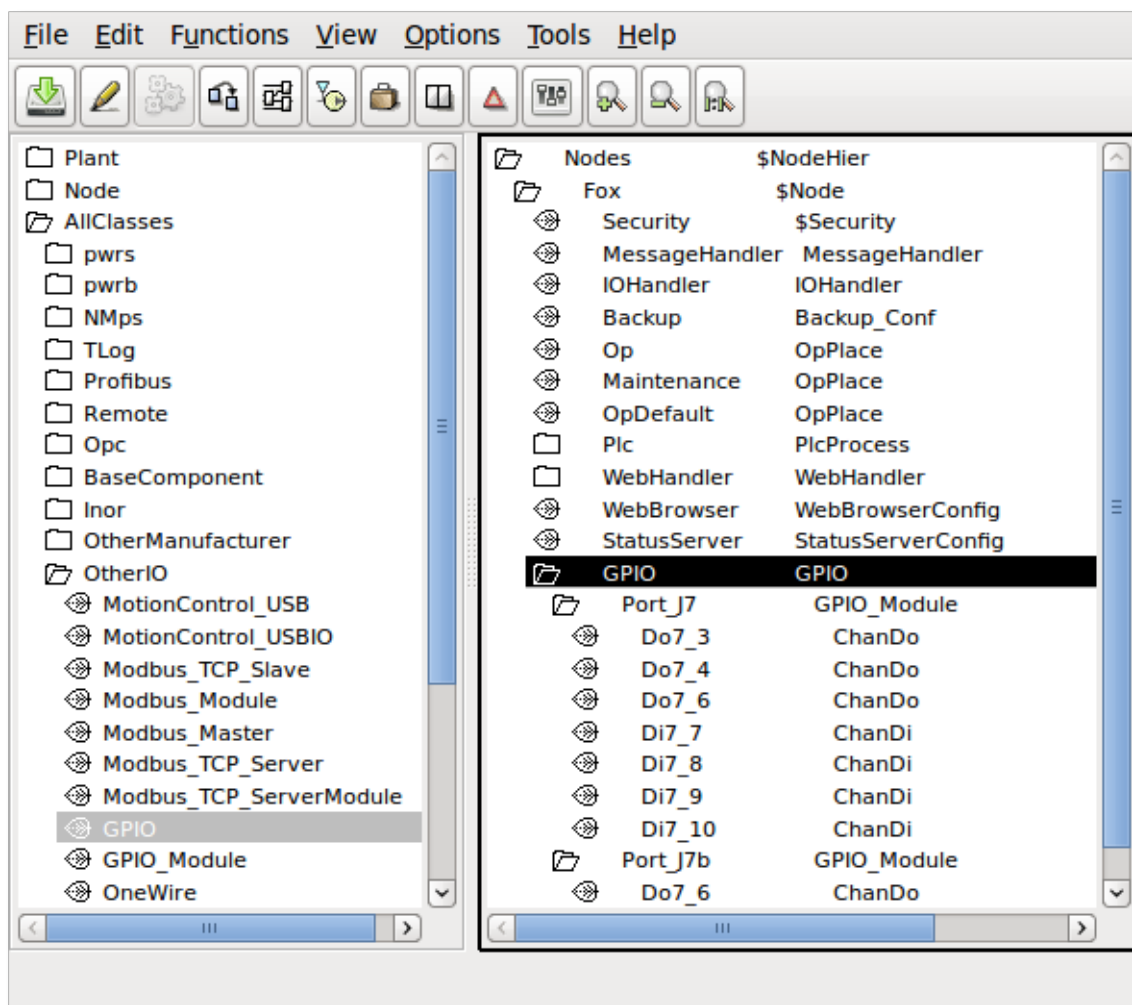


Fig GPIO configuration

OneWire

1-Wire is a serial bus system with low speed data transfer.

The rack level is configured with a OneWire object, and below this, the card objects for components attached to the 1-Wire circuit.

The 1-Wire implementation in Proview uses the support for 1-Wire in the Linux kernel. 1-Wire has to be specified in the kernel setup.

1-Wire devices has an identity that has to be stated in the Address attribute of the card object. The identity should be stated in decimal form. To retrieve the identity, attach the sensor to the bus, and list the directory /sys/bus/w1/w1 bus master.

```
> ls /sys/bus/w1/w1\ bus\ master  
28-0000028fa89c
```

The first number is the family (28) and the last number is the identity (28fa89c) in hexadecimal form. This should be converted to decimal and inserted into the Address attribute.

Maxim_DS18B20

Card object for a DS18B20 temperature sensor. The identity of the sensor should be stated in the Address attribute. The object contains a ChanAi object that should be connected to an Ai object. The rawvalue range is -55000 – 125000 which corresponds to an actual range of -55 – 125 C. A read operation with 12 bit resolution takes about 750 ms.

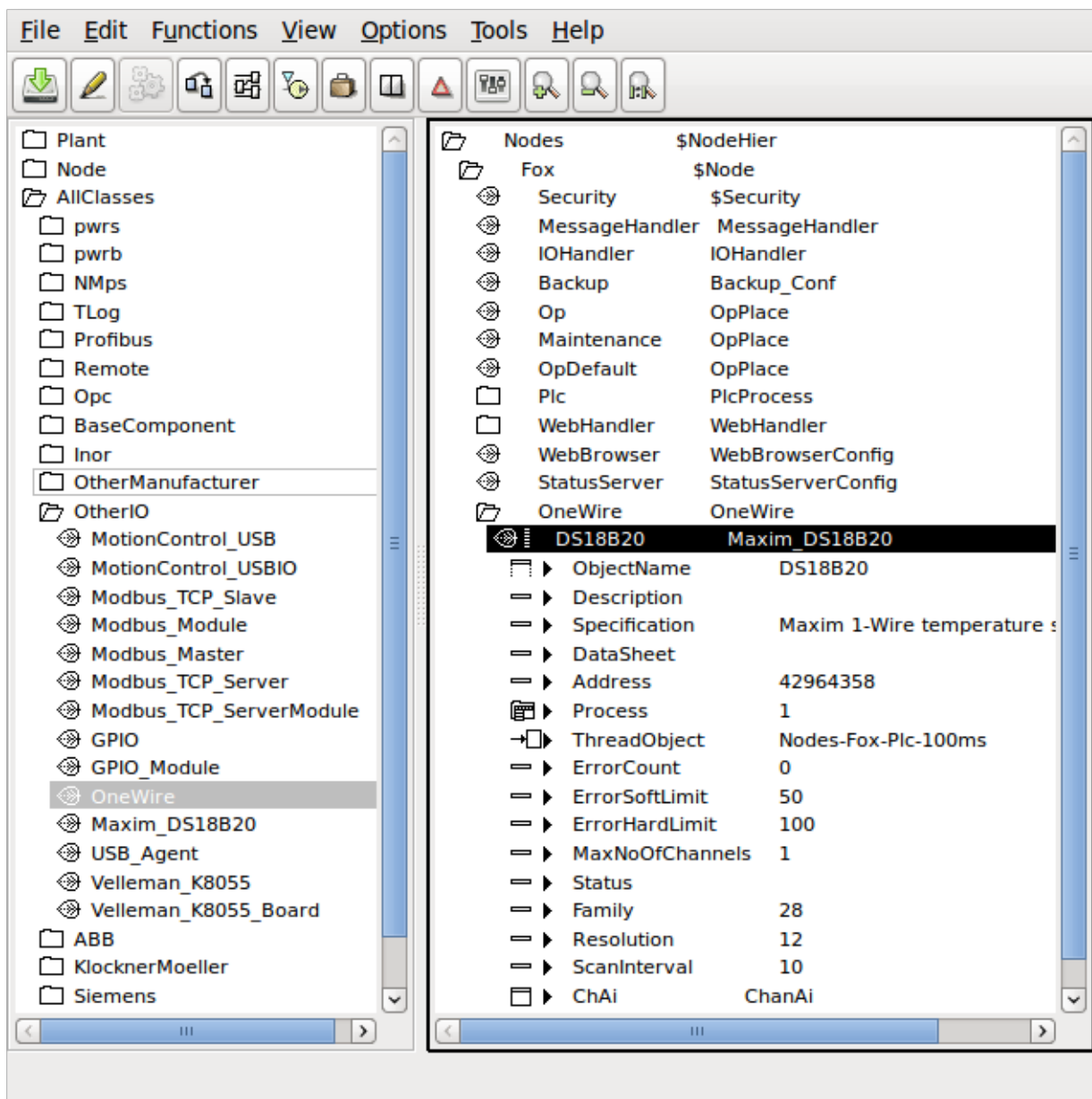


Fig 1-Wire configuration with a DS18B20 temperature sensor

Adaption of I/O systems

This section will describe how to add new I/O systems to Proview.

Adding a new I/O system requires knowledge of how to create classes in Proview, and baseknowledge of c programming.

An I/O system can be added for a single project, for a number of projects, or for the Proview base system. In the latter case you have to install and build from the Proview source code.

Overview

The I/O handling in Proview consist of a framework that identifies the I/O objects on a process node, and calls the methods of the I/O objects to fetch or transmit data.

Levels

The I/O objects in a process node are configured in four levels: agent, rack, cards and channels. The channelobjects can be configured as individual objects or as internal objects in a card object.

To the agent, rack and card objects methods can be registered. The methods can be of type Init, Close, Read, Write or Swap, and is called by the I/O framework in a specific order. The functionality of an I/O object consists of the attributes of the object, and the registered methods of the object. Everything the framework does is to identify the objects, select the objects that are valid for the current process, and call the methods for these objects in a specific order.

Look at a centralized I/O system with digital inputcards and digital outputcards mounted on the local bus of the process node. In this case the agent level is superfluous and represented by the \$Node object. Below the \$Node object is placed a rack object with an open and a close method. The open method attaches to the driver of the I/O system. Below the rack object, cardobjects for the Di and Do cards are configured. The Di card has an Open and a Close method that initiates and closes down the card, and a Read method the fetches the values of the inputs of the card. The Do card also has Open and Close methods, and a Write method that transfers suitable values to the outputs of the card.

If we study another I/O system, Profibus, the levels are not as easy to identify as in the previous example. Profibus is a distributes system, with a mastercard mounted on the local PCI-bus, that communicates via a serial connection to slaves positioned in the plant. Each slave can contain modules of different type, e.g. one module with 4 Di channels, and one with 2 Ao channels. In this case the mastercard represents the agentlevel, the slaves the racklevel and the modules the cardlevel.

The Agent, rack and card levels are very flexible, and mainly defined by the attributes and the methods of the classes of the I/O system. This does not apply to the channel level that consists of the object ChanDi, ChanDo, ChanAi, ChanAo, ChanLi, ChanIo and ChanCo. The task for the channel object is to represent an input or output value on an I/O unit, and transfer this value to the signal object that is connected to the channel object. The signalobject reside in the plant hierarchy and represents for example a sensor or an order to an actuator in the plant. As there is a physical

connection between the sensor in the plant and the channel on the I/O card, also the signalobjects are connected to the channel object. Plcprograms, HMI and applications refer to the signalobject that represents the component in the plant, not the channelobject, representing a channel on an I/O unit.

Area objekt

Values that are fetched from input units and values that are put out to output units are stored in special area objects. The area objects are created dynamically in runtime and reside in the systemvolume under the heirarchy pwrNode-active-io. There are one area object for each signal type. Normally you refer to the value of a signal through the ActualValue attribute of the signal. This attribute actually contains a pointer that points to the area object, and the attribute ValueIndex states in which index in the areaobject the signal value can be found. The reason to this construction with area objects is that during the execution of a logical net, you don't want any changes of signal values. Each plc-tread therefor takes a copy of the area objects before the start of the execution, and reads signalvalues from the copy, calculated output signalvalues though, are written in the area object.

I/O objects

The configuration of the I/O is done in the node hierarchy below the \$Node object. To each type of component in the I/O hierchy you create a class that contains attributes and methods. The methods are of type Open, Close, Read, Write and Swap, and is called by the I/O framework. The methods connects to the bus and read data that are transferred to the area objects, or fetches data from the area objects that are put out on the bus.

Processes

There are two system processes in Proview that calls the I/O framework, the plc process and rt_io_comm. In the plc process each thread makes an initialization of the I/O framework, which makes it possible to read and write I/O units synchronized with the execution of the plc code for the threads.

Framework

The main task for the I/O framework is to identify I/O objects and call the methods that are registred for the objects.

A first initialization is made at start of the runtime environment, when the areaobjects are created, and each signal is allocated a place in the area object. The connections between signals and channels are also checked. When signals and channels are connected in the development environment, the identity for the channel is stored in the signals *SigChanCon* attribute. Now the identity of the signal object is put into the channels *SigChanCon* attribute, thus making it easy to find the signal from the channel.

The next initialization is made by every process that wants to connect to the I/O handling. The plc process and rt_io_comm does this initialization, but also applications that need to read or write directly to I/O units can connect. At the initialization a datastructure is allocated with all agents, racks, cards and channels that is to be handled by the current process, and the init methods for them are called. The process then makes a cyclic call of a read and write function, that calls the read and write methods for the I/O objects in the data structure.

Methods

The task of the methods are to initiate the I/O system, perform reading and writing to the I/O units, and finally disconnect the I/O system. How these tasks are divided, depend on the construction of the I/O system. In a centralized I/O on the local bus, methods for the different card objects can attach the bus and read and write data themselves to their unit, and the methods for the agent and rack object doesn't have much to do. In a distributed I/O the information for the units are often gathered in a package, and it is the methods of the agent or rack object that receives the package and distribute its content on different card objects. The card object methods identifies data for its channels, performs any conversion and writes or reads data in the area object.

Framework

A process can initiate the I/O framework by calling `io_init()`. As argument you send a bitmask that indicates which process you are, and the threads of the plc process also states the current thread. `io_init()` performs the following

- creates a context.
- allocates a hierarchic data structure of I/O objects with the levels agent, rack, card and channel. For agents a struct of type `io_sAgent` is allocated, for racks a struct of type `io_sRack`, for cards a struct of type `io_sCard`, and finally for channels a struct of type `io_sChannel`.
- searches for all I/O objects and checks their Process attributes. If the Process attribute matches the process sent as an argument to `io_init()`, the object is inserted into the data structure. If the object has a descendant that matches the process it is also inserted into the data structure. For the plc process, also the thread argument of `io_init()` is checked against the ThreadObject attribute in the I/O object. The result is a linked tree structure with the agents, racks, card and channel objects that is to be handled by the current process.
- for every I/O objects that is inserted, the methods are identified, and pointers to the methods/functions are fetched. Also pointers to the object and the objects name, is inserted in the data structure.
- the init methods for the I/O objects in the data structure is called. The methods of the first agent is called first, and then the first rack of the agent, the first card of the rack etc.

When the initialization is done, the process can call `io_read()` to read from the I/O units that are present in the data structure, and `io_write()` to put out values. A thread in the plc process calls `io_read()` every scan to fetch new values from the process. Then the plc-code is executed and `io_write()` is called to put out new values. The read methods are called in the same order as the init methods, and the write methods in reverse order.

When the process terminates, `io_close()` is called, which calls the close methods of the objects in the data structure. The close methods are called in reverse order compared to the init methods.

When a soft restart is performed, a restart of the I/O handling is also performed. First the close methods are called, and then, during the time the restart lasts, the swap methods are called, and then the init-methods. The call to the swap methods are done by `rt_io_comm`.

`io_init`, function to initiate the framework

```
pwr_tStatus io_init(  
    io_mProcess process,
```

```

    pwr_tObjid    thread,
    io_tCtx       *ctx,
    int           relativ_vector,
    float         scan_time
);

```

io_sCtx, the context of the framework

```

struct io_sCtx {
    io_sAgent    *agentlist;    /* List of agent structures */
    io_mProcess   Process;       /* Callers process number */
    pwr_tObjid    Thread;        /* Callers thread objid */
    int           RelativVector; /* Used by plc */
    pwr_sNode     *Node;         /* Pointer to node object */
    pwr_sClass_IOHandler *IOHandler; /* Pointer to IO Handler object */
    float         ScanTime;      /* Scantime supplied by caller */
    io_tSupCtx    SupCtx;        /* Context for supervise object lists */
};

```

Data structure for an agent

```

typedef struct s_Agent {
    pwr_tClassId   Class;        /* Class of agent object */
    pwr_tObjid     Objid;        /* Objid of agent object */
    pwr_tOName     Name;         /* Full name of agent object */
    io_mAction     Action;       /* Type of method defined (Read/Write)*/
    io_mProcess     Process;      /* Process number */
    pwr_tStatus    (* Init) ();   /* Init method */
    pwr_tStatus    (* Close) ();  /* Close method */
    pwr_tStatus    (* Read) ();   /* Read method */
    pwr_tStatus    (* Write) ();  /* Write method */
    pwr_tStatus    (* Swap) ();   /* Write method */
    void           *op;          /* Pointer to agent object */
    pwr_tDlId      DlId;         /* DlId for agent object pointer */
    int            scan_interval; /* Interval between scans */
    int            scan_interval_cnt; /* Counter to detect next time to scan */
    io_sRack       *racklist;    /* List of rack structures */
    void           *Local;       /* Pointer to method defined data structure*/
    struct s_Agent *next;        /* Next agent */
} io_sAgent;

```

Datastructure for a rack

```

typedef struct s_Rack {
    pwr_tClassId   Class;        /* Class of rack object */
    pwr_tObjid     Objid;        /* Objid of rack object */
    pwr_tOName     Name;         /* Full name of rack object */
    io_mAction     Action;       /* Type of method defined (Read/Write)*/
    io_mProcess     Process;      /* Process number */
    pwr_tStatus    (* Init) ();   /* Init method */
    pwr_tStatus    (* Close) ();  /* Close method */
    pwr_tStatus    (* Read) ();   /* Read method */
    pwr_tStatus    (* Write) ();  /* Write method */
    pwr_tStatus    (* Swap) ();   /* Swap method */
    void           *op;          /* Pointer to rack object */
    pwr_tDlId      DlId;         /* DlId för rack object pointer */
    pwr_tUInt32    size;         /* Size of rack data area in byte */
    pwr_tUInt32    offset;       /* Offset to rack data area in agent */
    int            scan_interval; /* Interval between scans */
    int            scan_interval_cnt; /* Counter to detect next time to scan */
};

```



```

    int                AgentControlled; /* TRUE if kontrollled by agent */
    io_sCard           *cardlist;       /* List of card structures */
    void               *Local;          /* Pointer to method defined data structure*/
    struct s_Rack      *next;           /* Next rack */
} io_sRack;

```

Data structure for a card

```

typedef struct s_Card {
    pwr_tClassId      Class;            /* Class of card object */
    pwr_tObjid        Objid;            /* Objid of card object */
    pwr_tOName        Name;             /* Full name of card object */
    io_mAction        Action;           /* Type of method defined (Read/Write)*/
    io_mProcess       Process;          /* Process number */
    pwr_tStatus       (* Init) ();      /* Init method */
    pwr_tStatus       (* Close) ();     /* Close method */
    pwr_tStatus       (* Read) ();      /* Read method */
    pwr_tStatus       (* Write) ();     /* Write method */
    pwr_tStatus       (* Swap) ();     /* Write method */
    pwr_tAddress       *op;             /* Pointer to card object */
    pwr_tDlId         DlId;             /* DlId for card object pointer */
    pwr_tUInt32       size;             /* Size of card data area in byte */
    pwr_tUInt32       offset;          /* Offset to card data area in rack */
    int               scan_interval;    /* Interval between scans */
    int               scan_interval_cnt; /* Counter to detect next time to scan */
    int               AgentControlled; /* TRUE if kontrollled by agent */
    int               ChanListSize;     /* Size of chanlist */
    io_sChannel       *chanlist;       /* Array of channel structures */
    void              *Local;          /* Pointer to method defined data structure*/
    struct s_Card     *next;           /* Next card */
} io_sCard;

```

Data structure for a channel

```

typedef struct {
    void              *cop;             /* Pointer to channel object */
    pwr_tDlId         ChanDlId;        /* DlId for pointer to channel */
    pwr_sAttrRef      ChanAref;        /* AttrRef for channel */
    void              *sop;            /* Pointer to signal object */
    pwr_tDlId         SigDlId;         /* DlId for pointer to signal */
    pwr_sAttrRef      SigAref;         /* AttrRef for signal */
    void              *vbp;            /* Pointer to valuebase for signal */
    void              *abs_vbp;        /* Pointer to absvaluebase (Co only) */
    pwr_tClassId      ChanClass;       /* Class of channel object */
    pwr_tClassId      SigClass;        /* Class of signal object */
    pwr_tUInt32       size;            /* Size of channel in byte */
    pwr_tUInt32       offset;          /* Offset to channel in card */
    pwr_tUInt32       mask;            /* Mask for bit oriented channels */
} io_sChannel;

```

Create I/O objects

For a process node the I/O system is configured in the node hierarchy with objects of type agent, rack and card. The classes for these objects are created in the class editor. The classes are defined with a \$ClassDef object, a \$ObjBodyDef object (RtBody), and below this one \$Attribute object for each attribute of the class. The attributes are determined by the functionality of the methods of the class, but there are some common attributes (*Process*, *ThreadObject* and *Description*). In the \$ClassDef objects, the *Flag* word should be stated if it is an agent, rack or card object, and the methods are defined with specific Method objects.

It is quite common that several classes in an I/O system share attributes and maybe even methods. An input card that is available with different number of inputs, can often use the same methods. What differs is the number of channel objects. The other attributes can be stored in a baseclass, that also contains the methods-objects. The subclasses inherits both the attributes and the methods. They are extended with channel objects, that can be put as individual attributes, or, if they are of the same type, as a vector of channelobjects. If the channels are put as a vector or as individual attributes, depend on the how the reference in the plc documents should look. With an array you get an index starting from zero, with individual objects you can control the naming of the attributes yourself.

In the example below a baseclass is viewed in Fig *Example of a baseclass* and a subclass in Fig *Example of a cardclass with a superclass and 32 channel objects*. The baseclass Ssab_BaseDiCard contains all the attributes used by the I/O methods and the I/O framework. The subclass Ssab_DI32D contains the Super attribute with TypeRef Sasb_BaseDiCard, and 32 channelattributes of type ChanDi. As the index for this cardtype by tradition starts from 1, the channels are put as individual attributes, but they could also be an array of type ChanDi.

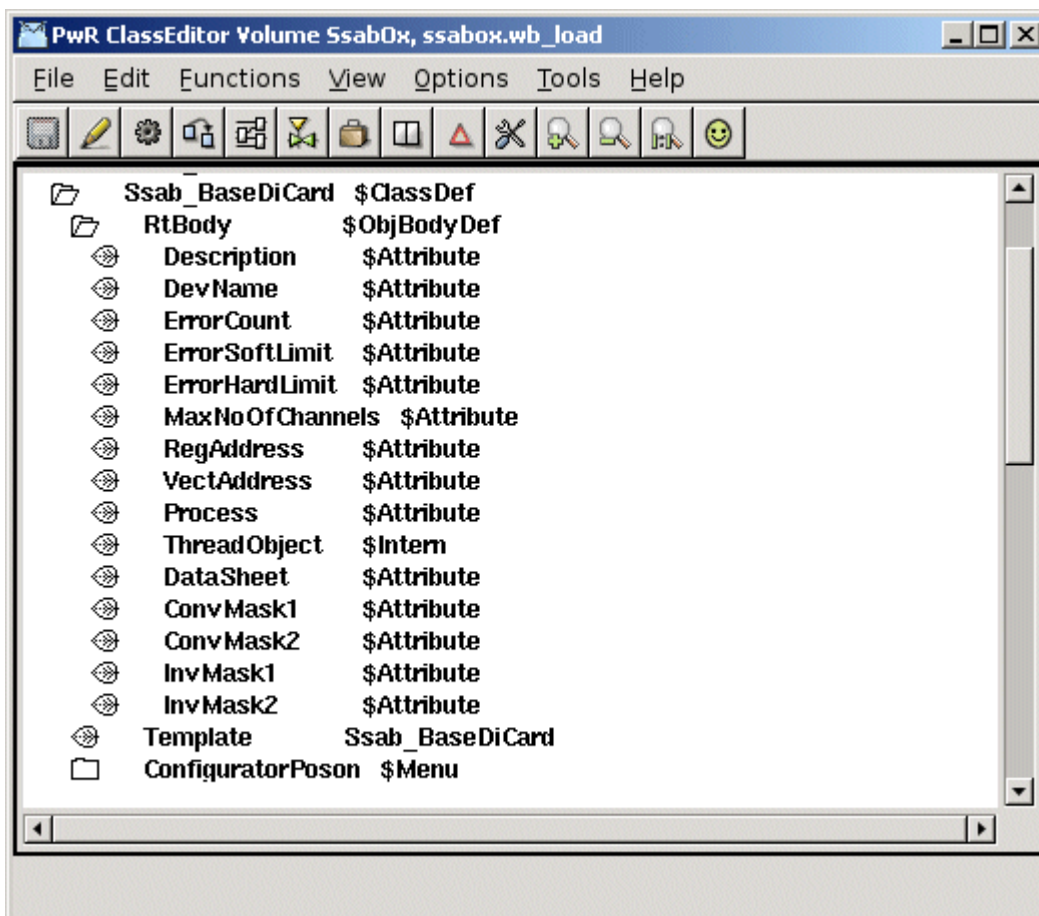


Fig Example of a baseclass for a card

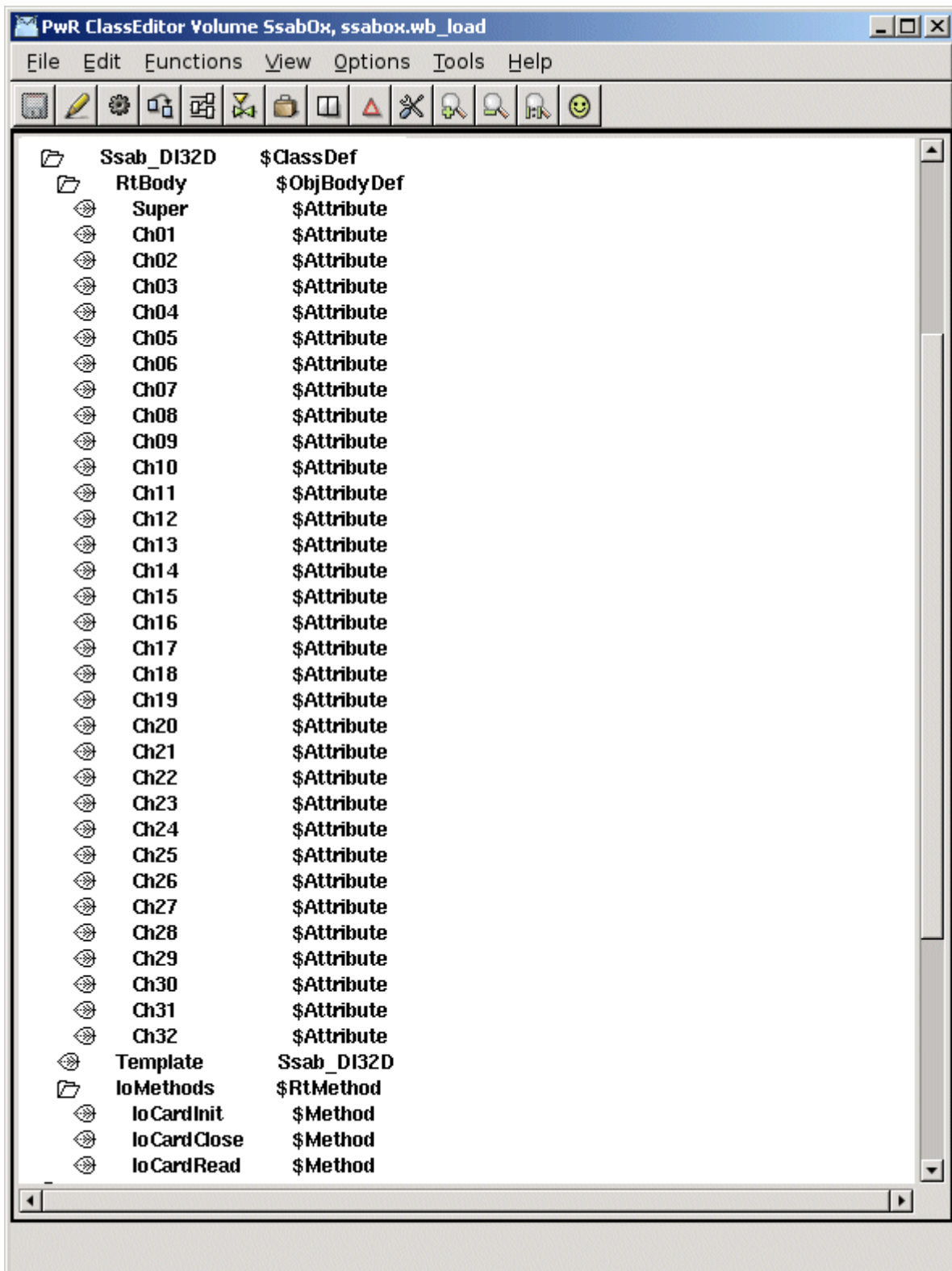


Fig Example of a cardclass with a superclass an 32 channel objects

Flags

In the *Flag* attribute of the *\$ClassDef* object, the *IOAgent* bit should be set for agent classes, the *IORack* bit for rack classes and the *IOCard* bit for card classes.

	Rack_SSAB	\$ClassDef	
	Editor	0	
	Method	1	
	Flags	8208	
	DevOnly		<input type="checkbox"/>
	System		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Multinod		<input type="checkbox"/>
	ObjXRef		<input type="checkbox"/>
	RtBody		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	AttrXRef		<input type="checkbox"/>
	ObjRef		<input type="checkbox"/>
	AttrRef		<input type="checkbox"/>
	TopObject		<input type="checkbox"/>
	NoAdopt		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Template		<input type="checkbox"/>
	IO		<input type="checkbox"/>
	IOAgent		<input type="checkbox"/>
	IORack		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	IOCard		<input type="checkbox"/>
	HasCallBack		<input type="checkbox"/>

Fig IORack bit set for a rack class

Attributes

Description

Attribute of type pwr:Type-\$String80. The content is displayed as description in the navigator.

Process

Attribute of type pwr:Type-\$UInt32. States which process should handle the unit.

ThreadObject

Attribute of type pwr:Type-\$Objid. States which thread in the plcprocess should handle the uing.

	Ssab_BaseDoCard	\$ClassDef
	RtBody	\$ObjBodyDef
	Description	\$Attribute
	Process	\$Attribute
	ThreadObject	\$Attribute

Fig Standard attributes

Method objects

The method objects are used to identify the methods of the class. The methods consist of c-functions that are registered in the c-code with a name, a string that consists of classname and methodname, e.g. "Ssab_AluP-IoCardInit". The name is also stored in a method object in the class description, and makes is possible for the I/O framework to find the correct c-function for the class.

Below the \$ClassDef object, a \$RtMethod object is placed with the name IoMethods. Below this one \$Method object is placed for each method that is to be defined for the class. In the attribute MethodName the name of the method is stated.

Agents

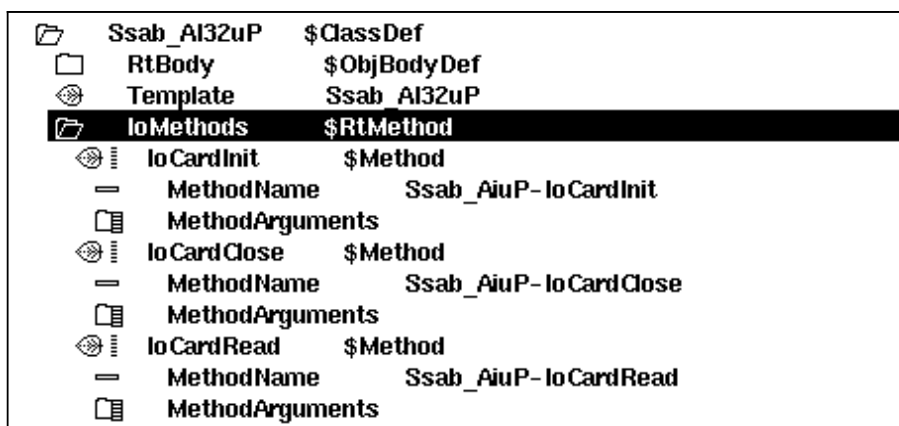
For agents, \$Method objects with the name IoAgentInit, IoAgentClose, IoAgentRead and IoAgentWrite are created.

Racks

For racks, \$Method objects with the names IoRackInit, IoRackClose, IoRackRead och IoRackWrite are created.

Cards

For cards \$Method objects with the names IoCardInit, IoCardClose, IoCardRead och IoCardWrite are created.



	Ssab_AI32uP	\$ClassDef
	RtBody	\$ObjBodyDef
	Template	Ssab_AI32uP
	IoMethods	\$RtMethod
	IoCardInit	\$Method
	MethodName	Ssab_AiuP-IoCardInit
	MethodArguments	
	IoCardClose	\$Method
	MethodName	Ssab_AiuP-IoCardClose
	MethodArguments	
	IoCardRead	\$Method
	MethodName	Ssab_AiuP-IoCardRead
	MethodArguments	

Fig Method objects

Connect-method for a ThreadObject

When the thread object in attribute *ThreadObject* should be stated for an I/O object, it can be typed manually, but one can also specify a menu method that inserts the selected threadobject into the attribute. The method is activated from the popup menu of the I/O object in the configurator.

The method is defined in the class description with a \$Menu and a \$MenuButton object, se *Fig Connect Metod*. Below the \$ClassDef object a \$Menu object with the name *ConfiguratorPoson* is placed. Below this, another \$Menu object named *Pointed*, and below this a \$MenuButton object named *Connect*. State *ButtonName* (text in the popup menu for the method), *MethodName* and *FilterName*. The method and the filter used is defined in the \$Objid class. *MethodName* should be \$Objid-Connect and *FilterName* \$Objid-IsOkConnected.

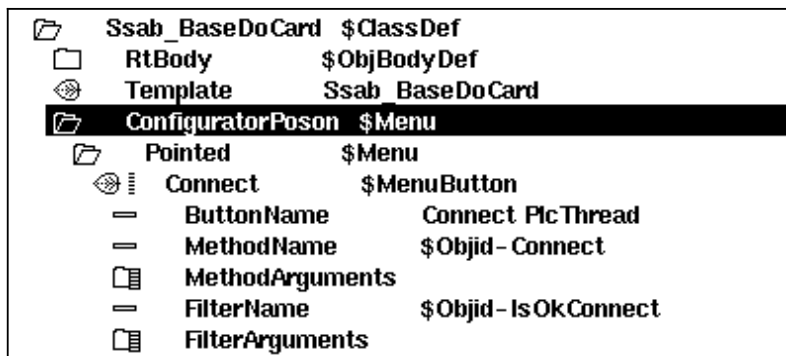


Fig Connect method

Methods

For the agent, rack and card classes you write methods in the programming language c. A method is a c function that is common for a class (or several classes) and that is called by the I/O framework for all instances of the class. To keep the I/O handling as flexible as possible, the methods are doing most of the I/O handling work. The task for the framework is to identify the various I/O objects and to call the methods for these, and to supply the methods with proper data structures.

There are five types of methods: Init, Close, Read, Write and Swap.

- Init-method is called at initialization of the I/O handling, i.e. at startup of the runtime environment and at soft restart.
- Close-method is called when the I/O handling is terminated, i.e. when the runtime environment is stopped or at a soft restart.
- Read-method is called cyclic when its time to read the input cards.
- Write-method is called cyclic when its time to put out values to the output cards.
- Swap-method is called during a soft restart.

Local data structure

In the datastructures io_sAgent, io_sRack and io_sCard there is an element, *Local*, where the method can store a pointer to local data for an I/O unit. Local data is allocated by the init-method and then available at each method call.

Agent-Methods

IoAgentInit

Initialization method for an agent.

```
static pwr_tStatus IoAgentInit( io_tCtx      ctx,
                               io_sAgent    *ap)
```

IoAgentClose

Close method för en agent.

```
static pwr_tStatus IoAgentClose( io_tCtx      ctx,  
                                io_sAgent    *ap)
```

IoAgentRead

Read method for an agent.

```
static pwr_tStatus IoAgentRead( io_tCtx      ctx,  
                                io_sAgent    *ap)
```

IoAgentWrite

Write method for an agent.

```
static pwr_tStatus IoAgentWrite( io_tCtx      ctx,  
                                io_sAgent    *ap)
```

IoAgentSwap

Swap method for an agent.

```
static pwr_tStatus IoAgentSwap( io_tCtx      ctx,  
                                io_sAgent    *ap)
```

Rack-metoder

IoRackInit

```
static pwr_tStatus IoRackInit( io_tCtx      ctx,  
                                io_sAgent    *ap,  
                                io_sRack     *rp)
```

IoRackClose

```
static pwr_tStatus IoRackClose( io_tCtx      ctx,  
                                io_sAgent    *ap,  
                                io_sRack     *rp)
```

IoRackRead

```
static pwr_tStatus IoRackRead( io_tCtx      ctx,  
                                io_sAgent    *ap,  
                                io_sRack     *rp)
```

IoRackWrite

```
static pwr_tStatus IoRackWrite( io_tCtx      ctx,  
                                io_sAgent    *ap,  
                                io_sRack     *rp)
```

IoRackSwap

```
static pwr_tStatus IoRackSwap( io_tCtx      ctx,  
                                io_sAgent    *ap,  
                                io_sRack     *rp)
```

Card-metoder

IoCardInit

```
static pwr_tStatus IoCardInit( io_tCtx      ctx,  
                                io_sAgent    *ap,
```

```

        io_sRack      *rp,
        io_sCard      *cp)

```

IoCardClose

```

static pwr_tStatus IoCardClose( io_tCtx      ctx,
                                io_sAgent    *ap,
                                io_sRack     *rp,
                                io_sCard     *cp)

```

IoCardRead

```

static pwr_tStatus IoCardRead( io_tCtx      ctx,
                                io_sAgent    *ap,
                                io_sRack     *rp,
                                io_sCard     *cp)

```

IoCardWrite

```

static pwr_tStatus IoCardWrite( io_tCtx      ctx,
                                io_sAgent    *ap,
                                io_sRack     *rp,
                                io_sCard     *cp)

```

IoCardSwap

```

static pwr_tStatus IoCardSwap( io_tCtx      ctx,
                                io_sAgent    *ap,
                                io_sRack     *rp,
                                io_sCard     *cp)

```

Method registration

The methods for a class have to be registered, so that you from the the method object in the class description can find the correct functions for a class. Below is an example of how the methods IoCardInit, IoCardClose and IoCardRead are registered for the class Ssab_AiuP.

```

pwr_dExport pwr_BindIoMethods(Ssab_AiuP) = {
    pwr_BindIoMethod(IoCardInit),
    pwr_BindIoMethod(IoCardClose),
    pwr_BindIoMethod(IoCardRead),
    pwr_NullMethod
};

```

Class registration

Also the class has to be registered. This is done in different ways dependent on whether the I/O system is implemented as a module in the Proview base system, or as a part of a project.

Module in Proview base system

If the I/O system are implemented as a module in the Proview base system, you create a file lib/rt/src/rt_io_'modulename'.meth, and list all the classes that have registered methods in this file.

Project

If the I/O system is a part of a project, the registration is made in a c module that is linked with the plc program. In the example below, the classes Ssab_Rack and Ssab_AiuP are registered in the file ra_plc_user.c


```

#include "pwr.h"
#include "rt_io_base.h"

pwr_dImport pwr_BindIoUserMethods(Ssab_Rack);
pwr_dImport pwr_BindIoUserMethods(Ssab_Aiup);

pwr_BindIoUserClasses(User) = {
    pwr_BindIoUserClass(Ssab_Rack),
    pwr_BindIoUserClass(Ssab_Aiup),
    pwr_NullClass
};

```

The file is compiled and linked with the plc-program by creating a link file on \$pwrp_exe. The file should be named plc_'nodename'_'busnumber'.opt, e.g. plc_mynode_0517.opt. The content of the file is sent as input data to the linker, ld, and you must also add the module with the methods of the class. In the example below these modules are supposed to be found in the archive \$pwrp_lib/libpwrp.a.

```
$pwr_obj/rt_io_user.o -lpwrp -lpwr_rt -lpwr_usbio_dummy -lpwr_usb_dummy -lpwr_pnak_dummy
```

Example of rack methods

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <errno.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <fcntl.h>

#include "pwr.h"
#include "pwr_baseclasses.h"
#include "pwr_ssaboxclasses.h"
#include "rt_io_base.h"
#include "rt_errh.h"
#include "rt_io_rack_init.h"
#include "rt_io_m_ssab_locals.h"
#include "rt_io_msg.h"

/* Init method */
static pwr_tStatus IoRackInit( io_tCtX ctx,
                              io_sAgent *ap,
                              io_sRack *rp)
{
    io_sRackLocal *local;

    /* Open Qbus driver */
    local = calloc( 1, sizeof(*local));
    rp->Local = local;

    local->Qbus_fp = open("/dev/qbus", O_RDWR);
    if ( local->Qbus_fp == -1) {
        errh_Error( "Qbus initialization error, IO rack %s", rp->Name);
        ctx->Node->EmergBreakTrue = 1;
        return IO__ERRDEVICE;
    }

    errh_Info( "Init of IO rack %s", rp->Name);
    return 1;
}

/* Close method */
static pwr_tStatus IoRackClose( io_tCtX ctx,
                              io_sAgent *ap,

```

```

                                io_sRack *rp)
{
    io_sRackLocal    *local;

    /* Close Qbus driver */
    local = rp->Local;

    close( local->Qbus_fp);
    free( (char *)local);

    return 1;
}

/* Every method to be exported to the workbench should be registered here. */

pwr_dExport pwr_BindIoMethods(Rack_SSAB) = {
    pwr_BindIoMethod(IoRackInit),
    pwr_BindIoMethod(IoRackClose),
    pwr_NullMethod
};

```

Example of the methods of a digital input card

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <errno.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

#include "pwr.h"
#include "rt_errh.h"
#include "pwr_baseclasses.h"
#include "pwr_ssaboxclasses.h"
#include "rt_io_base.h"
#include "rt_io_msg.h"
#include "rt_io_filter_di.h"
#include "rt_io_ssab.h"
#include "rt_io_card_init.h"
#include "rt_io_card_close.h"
#include "rt_io_card_read.h"
#include "qbus_io.h"
#include "rt_io_m_ssab_locals.h"

/* Local data */
typedef struct {
    unsigned int    Address[2];
    int            Qbus_fp;
    struct {
        pwr_sClass_Di *sop[16];
        void          *Data[16];
        pwr_tBoolean Found;
    } Filter[2];
    pwr_tTime      ErrTime;
} io_sLocal;

/* Init method */
static pwr_tStatus IoCardInit( io_tCtx    ctx,
                               io_sAgent  *ap,
                               io_sRack   *rp,
                               io_sCard   *cp)

```

```

{
    pwr_sClass_Ssab_BaseDiCard *op;
    io_sLocal *local;
    int i, j;

    op = (pwr_sClass_Ssab_BaseDiCard *) cp->op;
    local = calloc( 1, sizeof(*local));
    cp->Local = local;

    errh_Info( "Init of di card '%s'", cp->Name);

    local->Address[0] = op->RegAddress;
    local->Address[1] = op->RegAddress + 2;
    local->Qbus_fp = ((io_sRackLocal *) (rp->Local))->Qbus_fp;

    /* Init filter */
    for ( i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        /* The filter handles one 16-bit word */
        for ( j = 0; j < 16; j++)
            local->Filter[i].sop[j] = cp->chanlist[i*16+j].sop;
        io_InitDiFilter( local->Filter[i].sop, &local->Filter[i].Found,
            local->Filter[i].Data, ctx->ScanTime);
    }

    return 1;
}

/* Close method */
static pwr_tStatus IoCardClose( io_tCtx ctx,
                                io_sAgent *ap,
                                io_sRack *rp,
                                io_sCard *cp)
{
    io_sLocal *local;
    int i;

    local = (io_sLocal *) cp->Local;

    errh_Info( "IO closing di card '%s'", cp->Name);

    /* Free filter data */
    for ( i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        if ( local->Filter[i].Found)
            io_CloseDiFilter( local->Filter[i].Data);
    }
    free( (char *) local);

    return 1;
}

/* Read method */
static pwr_tStatus IoCardRead( io_tCtx ctx,
                                io_sAgent *ap,
                                io_sRack *rp,
                                io_sCard *cp)
{
    io_sLocal *local;
    io_sRackLocal *r_local = (io_sRackLocal *) (rp->Local);
    pwr_tUInt16 data = 0;
    pwr_sClass_Ssab_BaseDiCard *op;
    pwr_tUInt16 invmask;
    pwr_tUInt16 convmask;

```

```

int          i;
int          sts;
qbus_io_read      rb;
pwr_tTime        now;

local = (io_sLocal *) cp->Local;
op = (pwr_sClass_Ssab_BaseDiCard *) cp->op;

for ( i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
    if ( i == 0) {
        convmask = op->ConvMask1;
        invmask = op->InvMask1;
    }
    else {
        convmask = op->ConvMask2;
        invmask = op->InvMask2;
        if ( !convmask)
            break;
        if ( op->MaxNoOfChannels == 16)
            break;
    }

    /* Read from local Q-bus */
    rb.Address = local->Address[i];
    sts = read( local->Qbus_fp, &rb, sizeof(rb));
    data = (unsigned short) rb.Data;

    if ( sts == -1) {
        /* Increase error count and check error limits */
        clock_gettime(CLOCK_REALTIME, &now);

        if (op->ErrorCount > op->ErrorSoftLimit) {
            /* Ignore if some time has expired */
            if (now.tv_sec - local->ErrTime.tv_sec < 600)
                op->ErrorCount++;
        }
        else
            op->ErrorCount++;
        local->ErrTime = now;

        if ( op->ErrorCount == op->ErrorSoftLimit)
            errh_Error( "IO Error soft limit reached on card '%s'", cp->Name);
        if ( op->ErrorCount >= op->ErrorHardLimit)
        {
            errh_Error( "IO Error hard limit reached on card '%s', IO stopped", cp-
>Name);
            ctx->Node->EmergBreakTrue = 1;
            return IO__ERRDEVICE;
        }
        continue;
    }

    /* Invert */
    data = data ^ invmask;

    /* Filter */
    if ( local->Filter[i].Found)
        io_DiFilter( local->Filter[i].sop, &data, local->Filter[i].Data);

    /* Move data to valuebase */
    io_DiUnpackWord( cp, data, convmask, i);
}

```

```

    return 1;
}

/* Every method to be exported to the workbench should be registered here. */

pwr_dExport pwr_BindIoMethods(Ssab_Di) = {
    pwr_BindIoMethod(IoCardInit),
    pwr_BindIoMethod(IoCardClose),
    pwr_BindIoMethod(IoCardRead),
    pwr_NullMethod
};

```

Example of the methods of a digital output card

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <errno.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

#include "pwr.h"
#include "rt_errh.h"
#include "pwr_baseclasses.h"
#include "pwr_ssaboxclasses.h"
#include "rt_io_base.h"
#include "rt_io_msg.h"
#include "rt_io_filter_po.h"
#include "rt_io_ssab.h"
#include "rt_io_card_init.h"
#include "rt_io_card_close.h"
#include "rt_io_card_write.h"
#include "qbus_io.h"
#include "rt_io_m_ssab_locals.h"

/* Local data */
typedef struct {
    unsigned int    Address[2];
    int             Qbus_fp;
    struct {
        pwr_sClass_Po *sop[16];
        void          *Data[16];
        pwr_tBoolean Found;
    } Filter[2];
    pwr_tTime       ErrTime;
} io_sLocal;

/* Init method */
static pwr_tStatus IoCardInit( io_tCtx   ctx,
                               io_sAgent *ap,
                               io_sRack  *rp,
                               io_sCard  *cp)
{
    pwr_sClass_Ssab_BaseDoCard *op;
    io_sLocal                   *local;
    int                         i, j;

    op = (pwr_sClass_Ssab_BaseDoCard *) cp->op;
    local = calloc( 1, sizeof(*local));
    cp->Local = local;

    errh_Info( "Init of do card '%s'", cp->Name);

```

```

local->Address[0] = op->RegAddress;
local->Address[1] = op->RegAddress + 2;
local->Qbus_fp = ((io_sRackLocal *)(rp->Local))->Qbus_fp;

/* Init filter for Po signals */
for ( i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
    /* The filter handles one 16-bit word */
    for ( j = 0; j < 16; j++) {
        if ( cp->chanlist[i*16+j].SigClass == pwr_cClass_Po)
            local->Filter[i].sop[j] = cp->chanlist[i*16+j].sop;
    }
    io_InitPoFilter( local->Filter[i].sop, &local->Filter[i].Found,
                    local->Filter[i].Data, ctx->ScanTime);
}

return 1;
}

/* Close method */
static pwr_tStatus IoCardClose( io_tCtx ctx,
                                io_sAgent *ap,
                                io_sRack *rp,
                                io_sCard *cp)
{
    io_sLocal *local;
    int i;

    local = (io_sLocal *) cp->Local;

    errh_Info( "IO closing do card '%s'", cp->Name);

    /* Free filter data */
    for ( i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        if ( local->Filter[i].Found)
            io_ClosePoFilter( local->Filter[i].Data);
    }
    free( (char *) local);

    return 1;
}

/* Write method */
static pwr_tStatus IoCardWrite( io_tCtx ctx,
                                io_sAgent *ap,
                                io_sRack *rp,
                                io_sCard *cp)
{
    io_sLocal *local;
    io_sRackLocal *r_local = (io_sRackLocal *)(rp->Local);
    pwr_tUInt16 data = 0;
    pwr_sClass_Ssab_BaseDoCard *op;
    pwr_tUInt16 invmask;
    pwr_tUInt16 testmask;
    pwr_tUInt16 testvalue;
    int i;
    qbus_io_write wb;
    int sts;
    pwr_tTime now;

    local = (io_sLocal *) cp->Local;
    op = (pwr_sClass_Ssab_BaseDoCard *) cp->op;

```

```

for ( i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
    if ( ctx->Node->EmergBreakTrue && ctx->Node->EmergBreakSelect == FIXOUT) {
        if ( i == 0)
            data = op->FixedOutValue1;
        else
            data = op->FixedOutValue2;
    }
    else
        io_DoPackWord( cp, &data, i);

    if ( i == 0) {
        testmask = op->TestMask1;
        invmask = op->InvMask1;
    }
    else {
        testmask = op->TestMask2;
        invmask = op->InvMask2;
        if ( op->MaxNoOfChannels == 16)
            break;
    }

    /* Invert */
    data = data ^ invmask;

    /* Filter Po signals */
    if ( local->Filter[i].Found)
        io_PoFilter( local->Filter[i].sop, &data, local->Filter[i].Data);

    /* Testvalues */
    if ( testmask) {
        if ( i == 0)
            testvalue = op->TestValue1;
        else
            testvalue = op->TestValue2;
        data = (data & ~ testmask) | (testmask & testvalue);
    }

    /* Write to local Q-bus */
    wb.Data = data;
    wb.Address = local->Address[i];
    sts = write( local->Qbus_fp, &wb, sizeof(wb));

    if ( sts == -1) {
        /* Increase error count and check error limits */
        clock_gettime(CLOCK_REALTIME, &now);

        if (op->ErrorCount > op->ErrorSoftLimit) {
            /* Ignore if some time has expired */
            if (now.tv_sec - local->ErrTime.tv_sec < 600)
                op->ErrorCount++;
        }
        else
            op->ErrorCount++;
        local->ErrTime = now;

        if ( op->ErrorCount == op->ErrorSoftLimit)
            errh_Error( "IO Error soft limit reached on card '%s'", cp->Name);
        if ( op->ErrorCount >= op->ErrorHardLimit)
        {
            errh_Error( "IO Error hard limit reached on card '%s', IO stopped", cp-

```

```

>Name);
    ctx->Node->EmergBreakTrue = 1;
    return IO__ERRDEVICE;
}
continue;
}
}
return 1;
}

/* Every method to be exported to the workbench should be registered here. */
pwr_dExport pwr_BindIoMethods(Ssab_Do) = {
    pwr_BindIoMethod(IoCardInit),
    pwr_BindIoMethod(IoCardClose),
    pwr_BindIoMethod(IoCardWrite),
    pwr_NullMethod
};

```

Step by step description

This sections contains an example of how to attach an I/O system to Proview.

The I/O system in the example is USB I/O manufactured by Motion Control. It consists of a card with 21 channels of different type. The first four channels (A1 – A4) are Digital outputs of relay type for voltage up to 230 V. The next four channels (A5 – A8) are Digital inputs with optocouplers. Next eight channels (B1 – B8) can either be configured as digital outputs, digital inputs or analog inputs. The last 5 channels (C1 – C5) can be digital outputs or inputs, where C4 and C5 also can be configured as analog outputs. In our example, not wanting the code to be too complex, we lock the configuration to: channel 0-3 Do, 4-7 Di, 8-15 Ai, 16-18 Di and 19-20 Ao.

Attach to a project

In the first example we attach the I/O system to a project. We will create a classvolume, and insert rack and card classes into it. We will write I/O methods for the classes and link them to the plc program. We create I/O objects i the nodehierachy in the rootvolume, and install the driver for USB I/O, and start the I/O handling on the process station.

Create classes

Create a class volume

The first step is to create classes for the I/O objects. The classes are defined in classvolumes, and first we have to create a classvolume in the project. The classvolume first has to registered in the GlobalVolumeList. We start the aministrator with

```
> pwra
```

and opens the GlobalVolumeList by activating *File/Open/GlobalVolumeList* in the menu. We enter edit mode and create a VolumeReg object with the name *CVolMerk1*. The volume identity for user classvolumes should chosen in the interval 0.0.2-249.1-254 and we choose 0.0.99.20 as the identity for our classvolume. In the attribute Project the name of our project is stated, *mars2*.

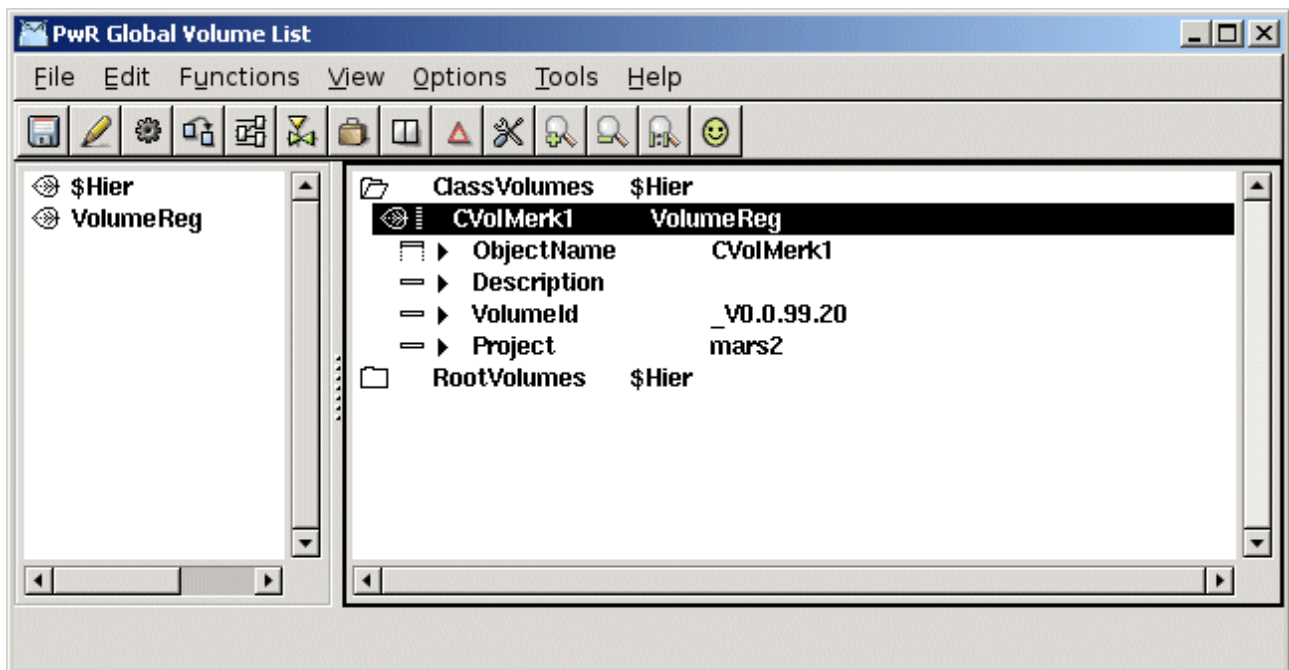


Fig Classvolume registration

Open the classvolume

Next step is to configure and create the classvolume in the project. This is done in the directory volume.

We enter the directory volume

```
> pwr s
```

in edit mode and create an object of type ClassVolumeConfig in the volumehierarchy. The object is named with the volumename CVolMerk1. After saving and leaving edit mode we can open the classvolume by activating *OpenClassEditor...* in the popup menu of the object.

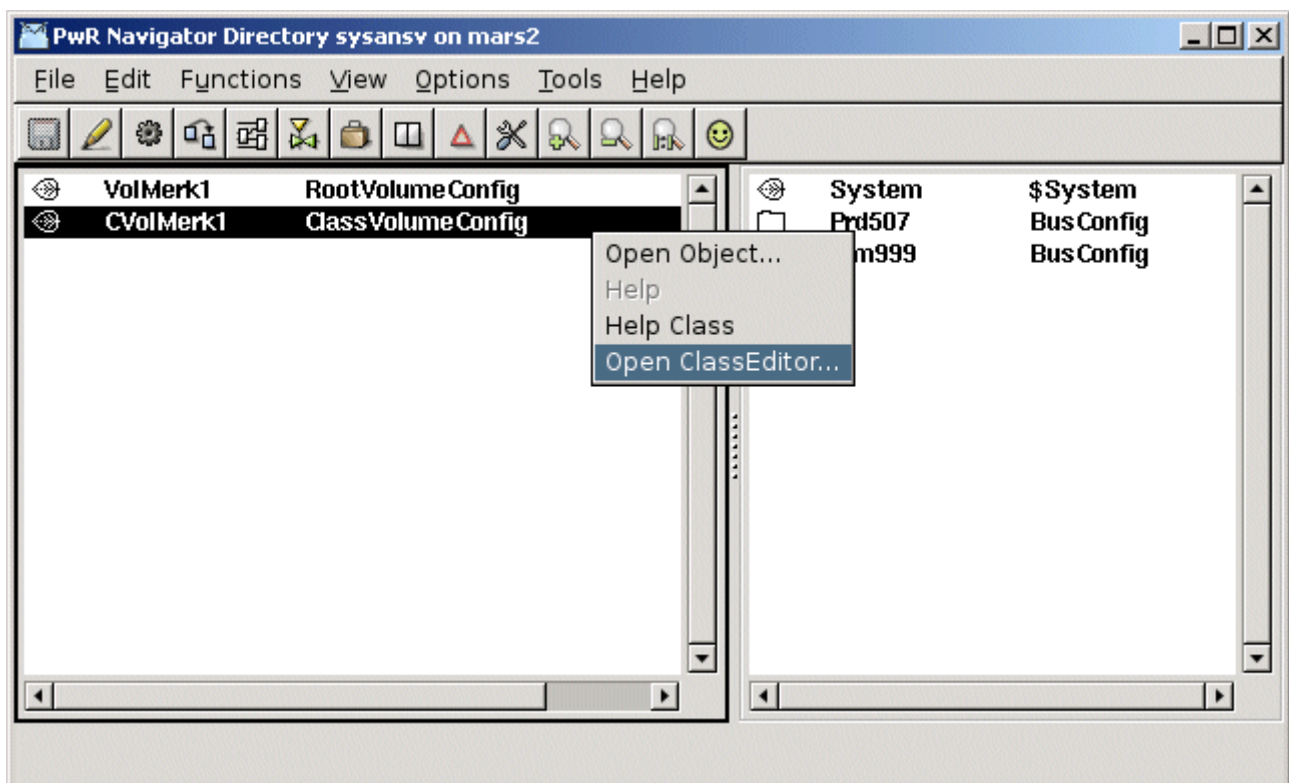


Fig Configuration of the classvolume in the directory volume and start of classeditor

In the classeditor classes are defined with specific classdefinition objects. We are going to create two classes, a rack class, *MotionControl_USB* and a card class *MotionControl_USBIO*.

Note! The class names has to be unic, which actually is not true for these names any more as they exist in the volume OtherIO.

Create a rack class

In our case the card class will do all the work and contain all the methods. The rack class is there only to inhabit the rack level, and doesn't have any methods or attributes. We will only put a description attribute in the class. We create a \$ClassHier object, and under this a \$ClassDef object for the class rack. The object is named MotionControl_USB and we set the IORack and IO bits in the Flag attribute.

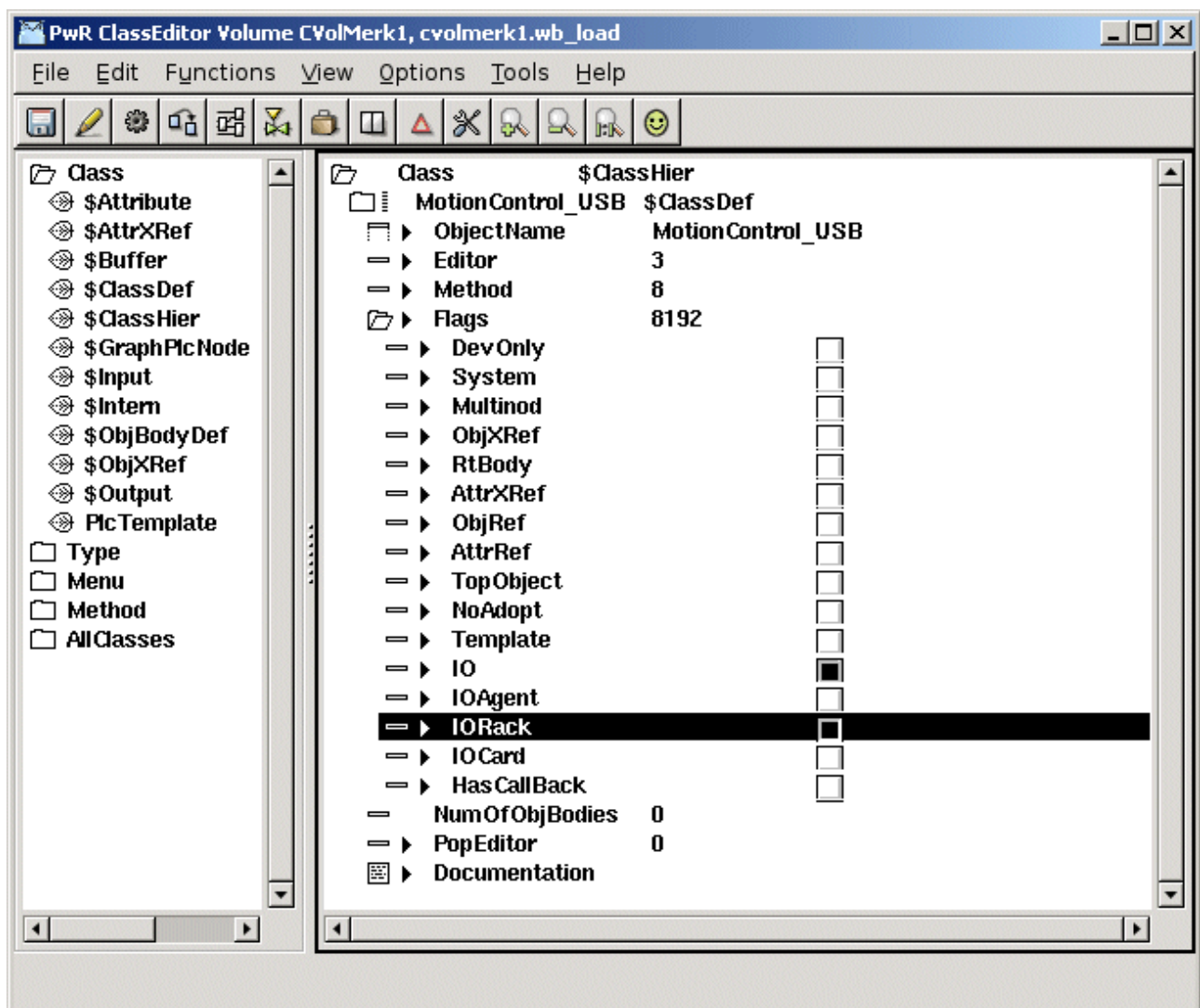


Fig The IO and IORack bits in Flags

Below the \$ClassDef object the attributes of the class are defined. We create a \$ObjBodyDef object and below this a \$Attribute object with the name Description and with type (TypeRef) pwrs:Type-\$String80.

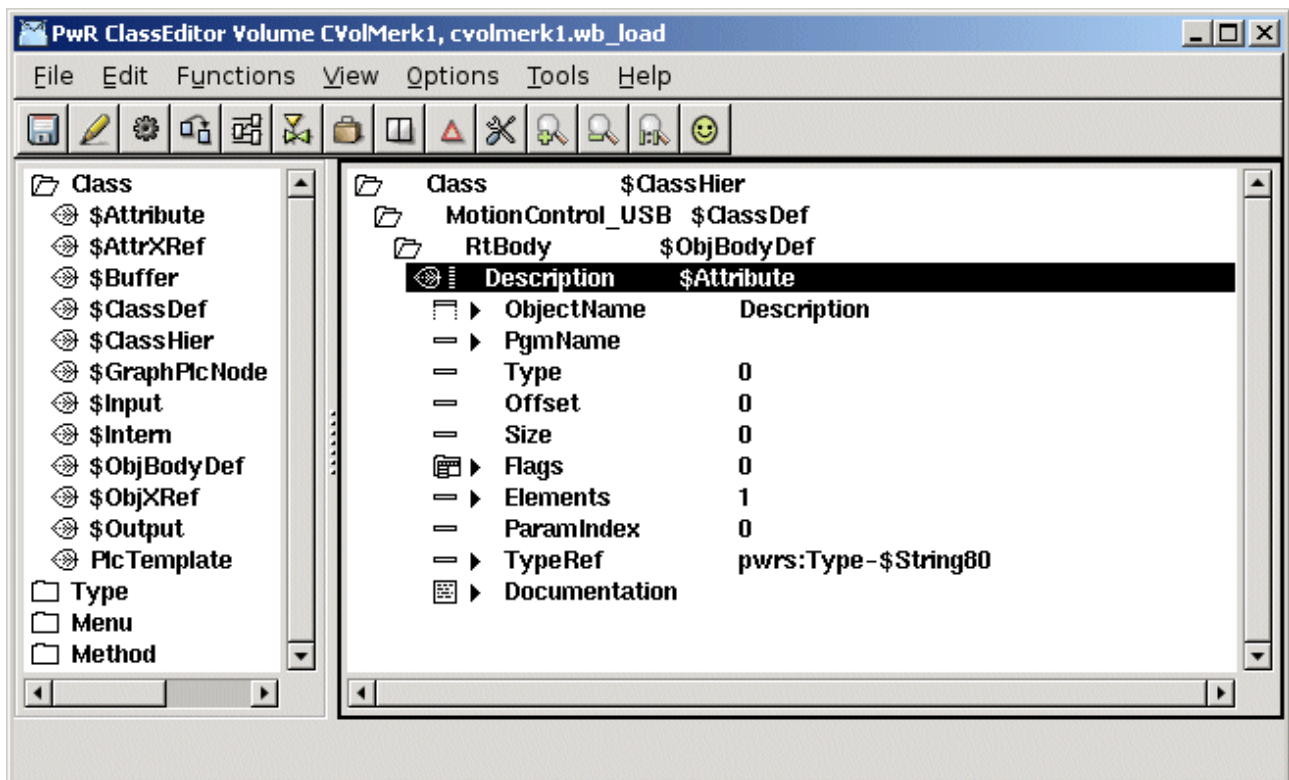


Fig Attribute object

Create a card class

There is a baseclass for card objects, *Basecomponent:BaseIOCard*, that we can use, and that contains the most common attributes in a card object. We create another \$ClassDef object with the name MotionControl_USBIO, and set the IOCard and IO bits in the Flags attribute.

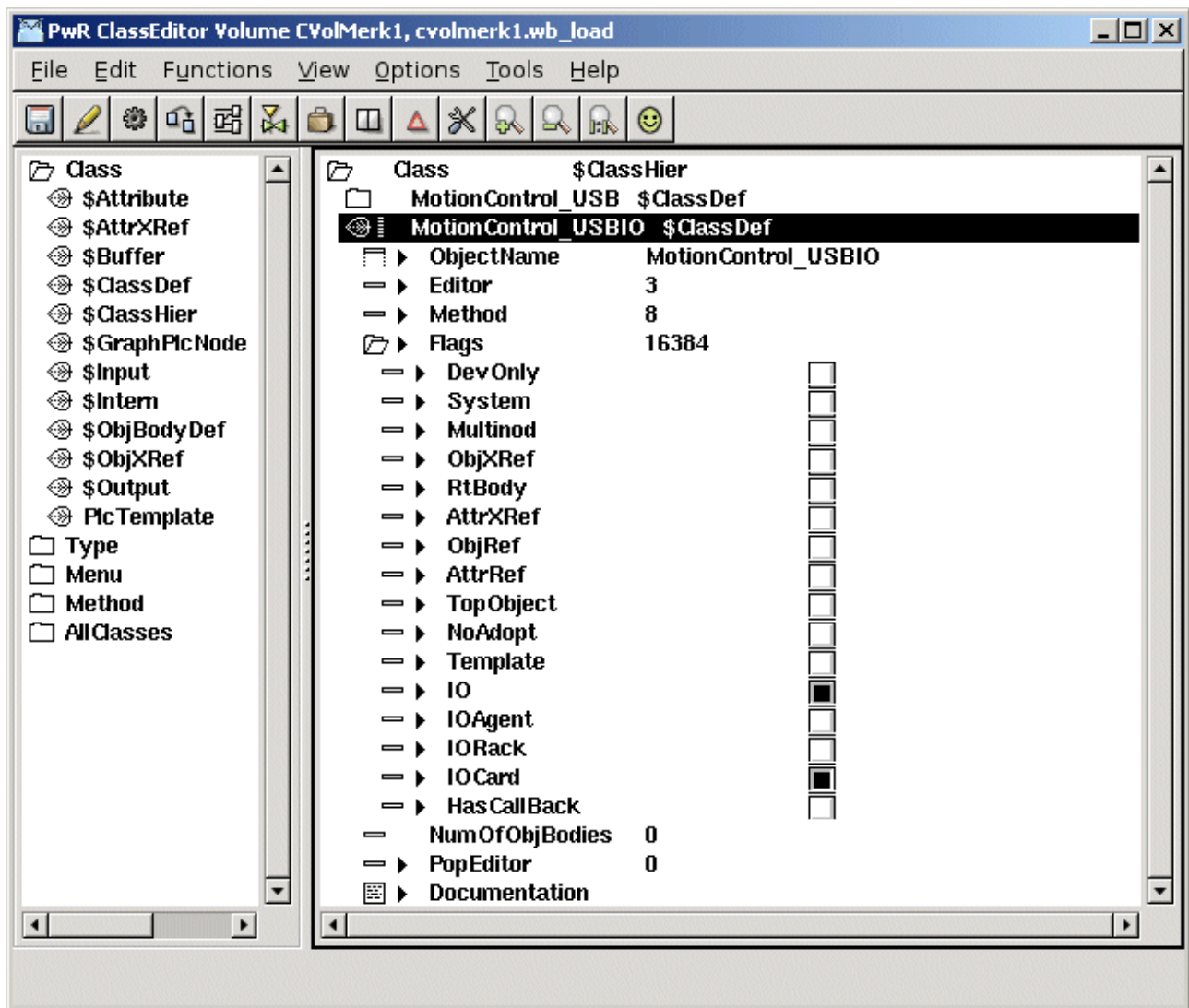


Fig The IO and IOCard bits in Flags

We create an \$ObjBodyDef object and an \$Attribute object to state BaseIOCard as a superclass. The attribute is named Super and in TypeRef Basecomponent:Class-BaseIOCard is set. We will now inherit all attributes and methods defined in the class BaseIOCard.

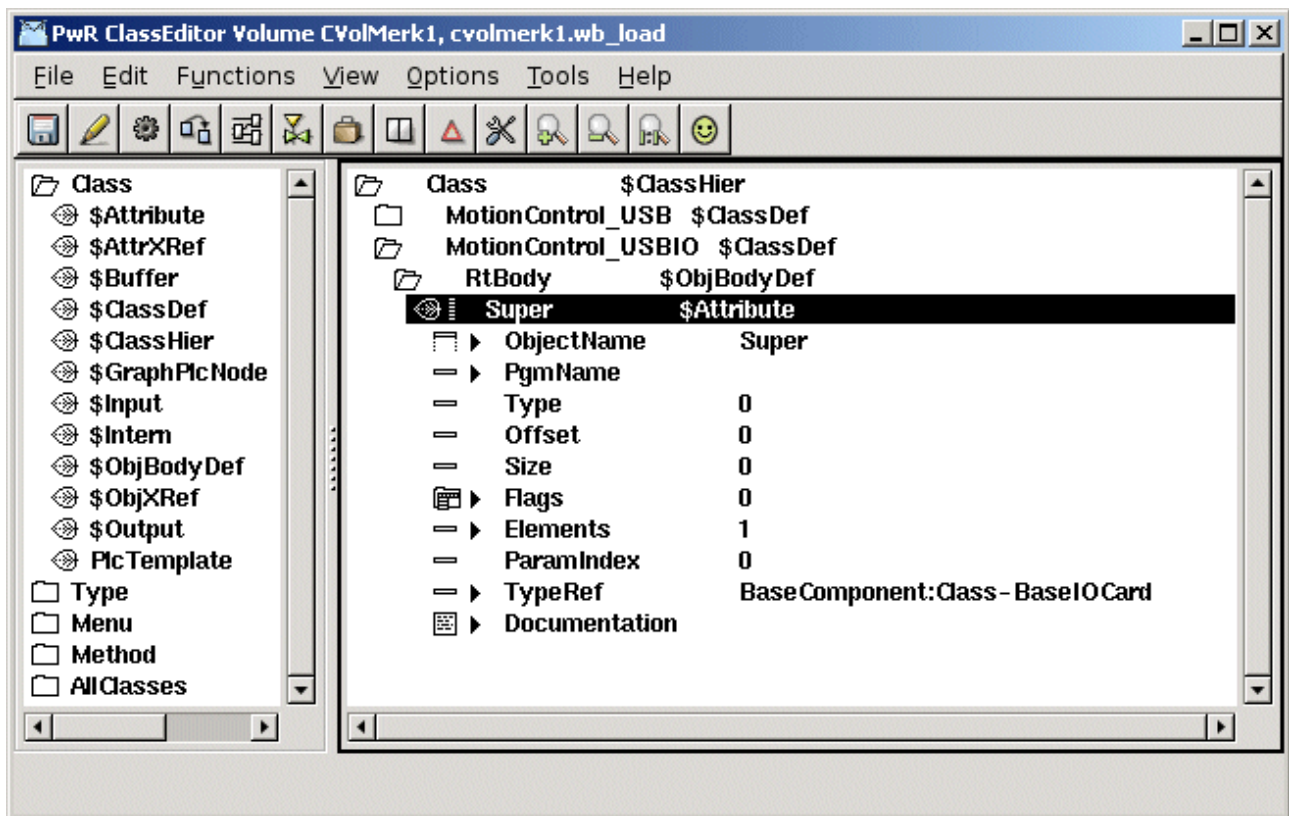


Fig Configuration of the superclass BaseIOCard

We add another attribute for the card status, and for the status we create an enumeration type, MotionControl_StatusEnum, that contains the various status codes that the status attribute can contain.

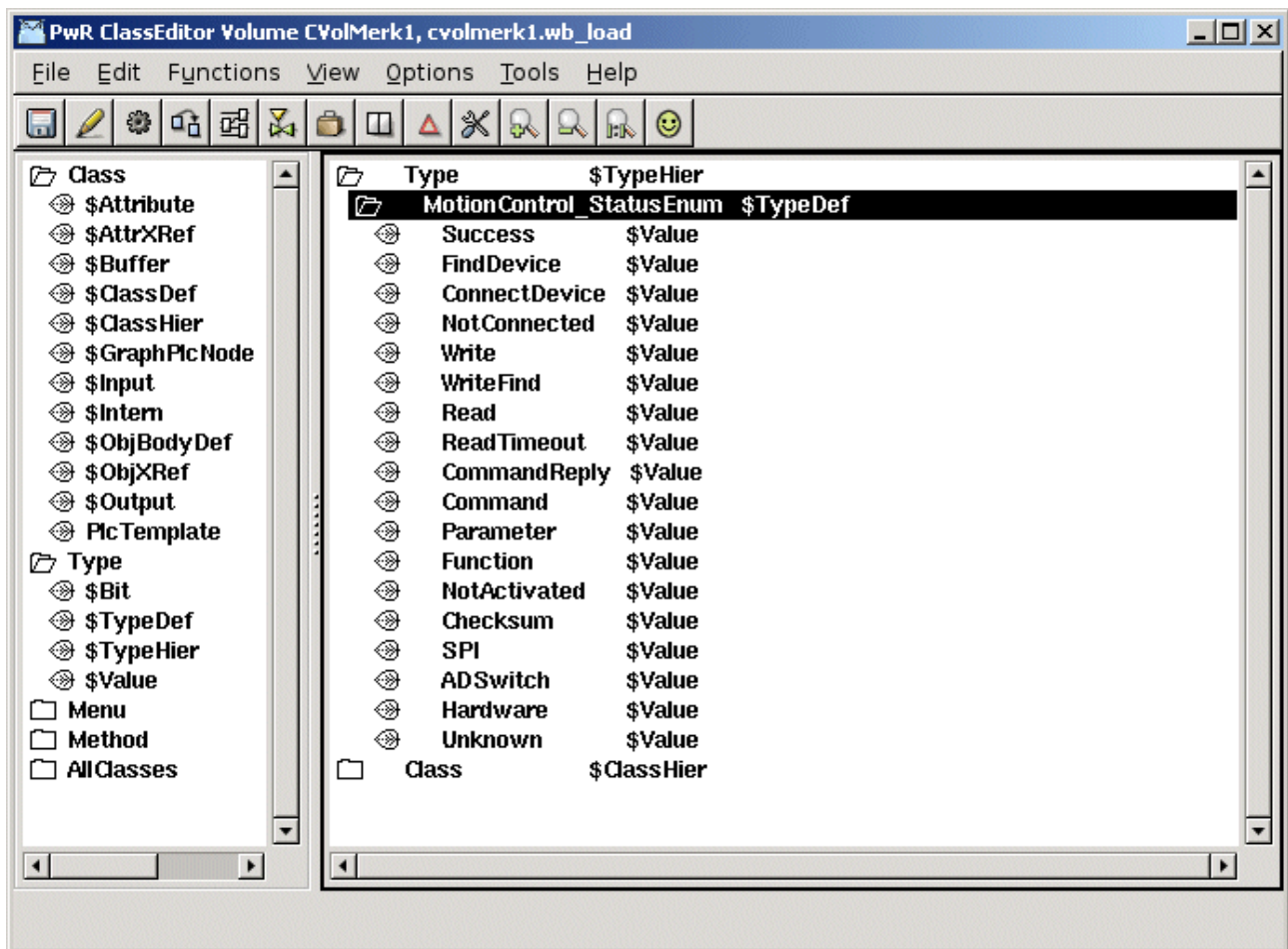


Fig Definition of an enumeration type

The type of the status attribute is set to the created status type, and in Flags, the bits *State* and *NoEdit* is set, as this attribute is not to be set in the configurator, but will be given a value in the runtime environment.

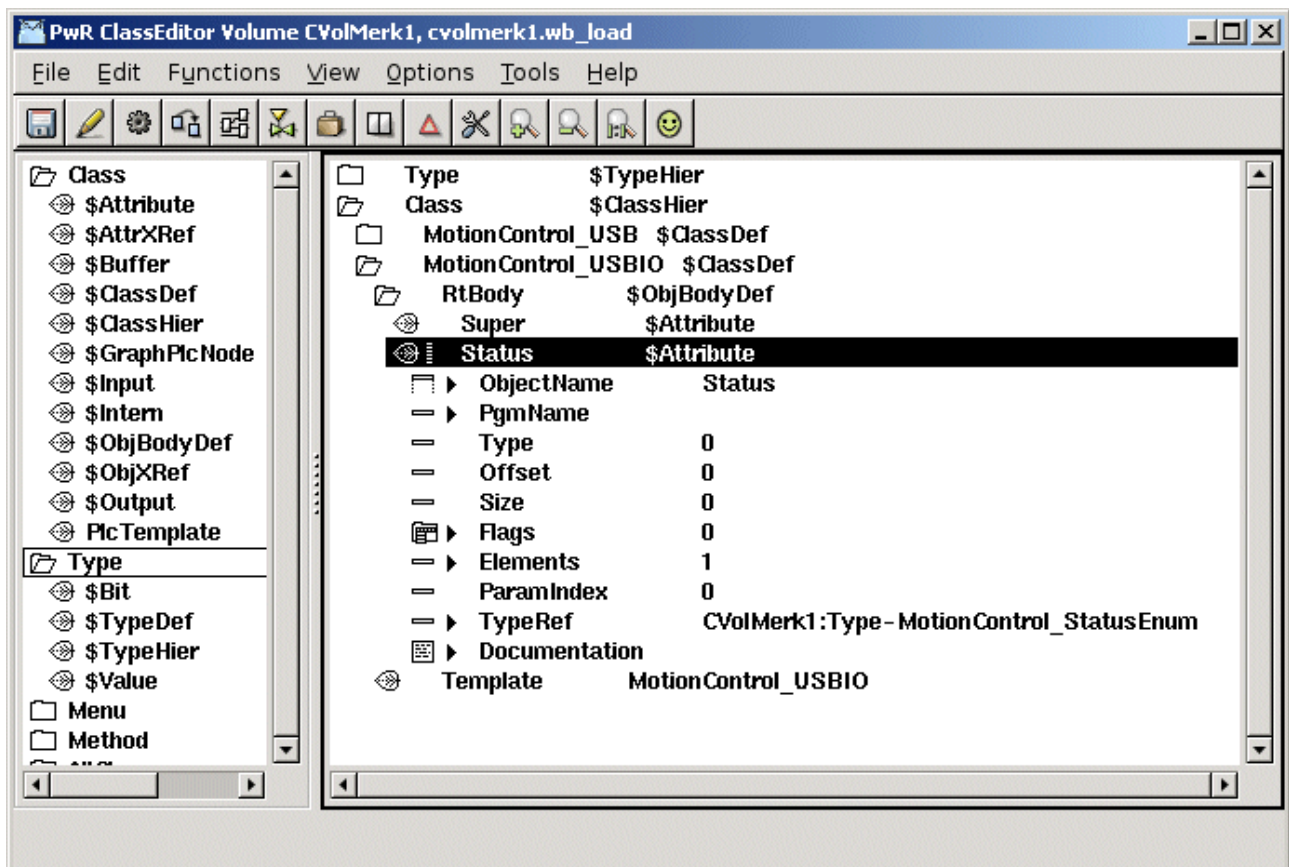


Fig Status attribute of enumeration type

Normally you also add attributes for the channel objects in the card class, but as the USB I/O device is so flexible, the same channel can be configured as a Di, Do or Ai channel, we choose not to place the channel objects as attributes. They will be configured as individual objects and placed as children to the card object in the root volume.

USB I/O contains a watchdog that will reset the unit if it is not written to within a certain time. We also add the attribute WatchdogTime to configure the timeout time.

When a class is saved for the first time, a Template object is created under the \$ClassDef object. This object is an instance of the actual class where you can set default values of the attributes. We state Specification, insert an URL to the datasheet, and set Process to 1. We also set MaxNoOfChannels to 21, as this card has 21 channels.

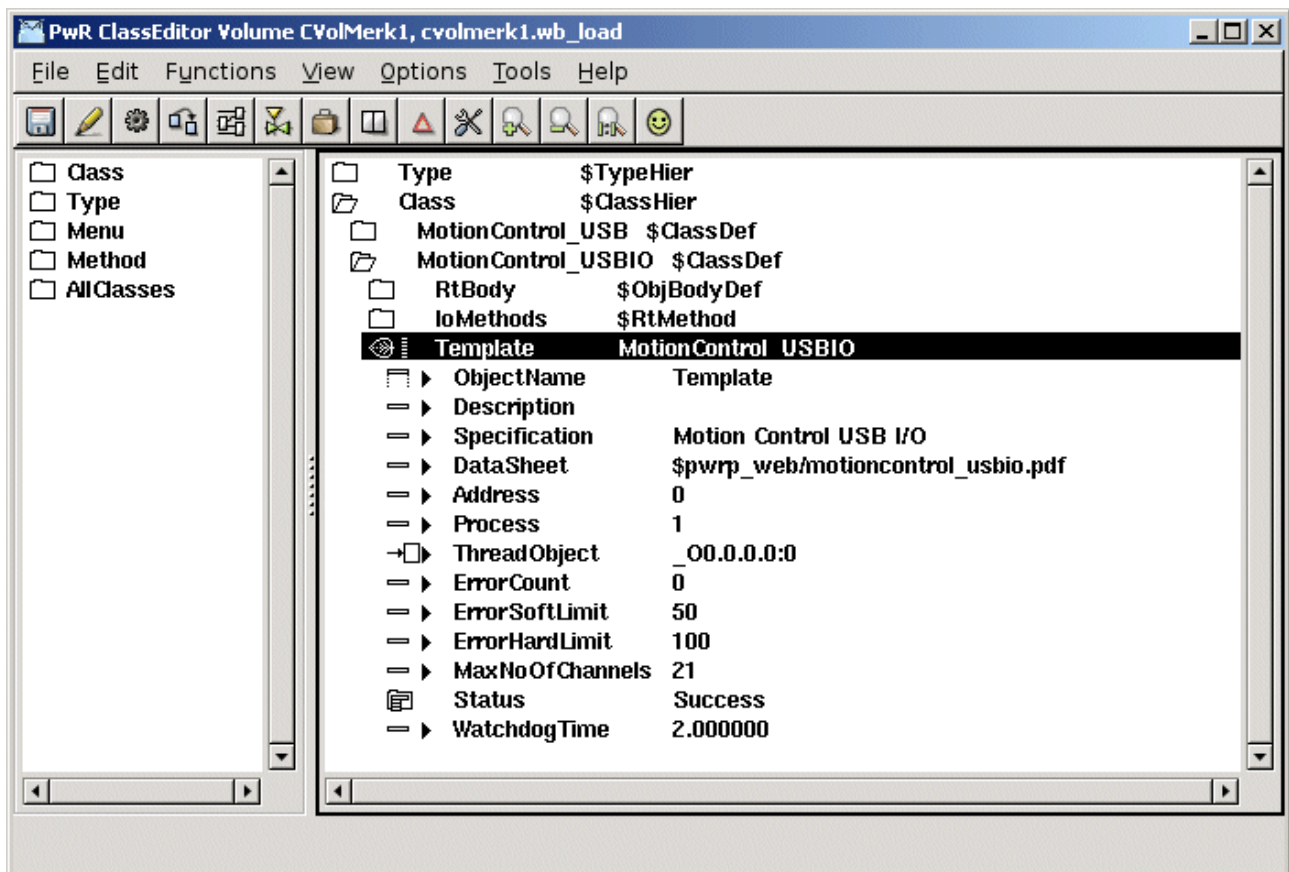


Fig Template object

Next step is to add the methods to the class description. While the card contains both inputs and outputs, we need to create Init, Close, Read and Write methods. These will be configured with methodobjects of type \$Method. First we put a \$RtMethod object, named IoMethods, under the \$ClassDef object. Below this, we create one \$RtMethod object for each method. The objects are named IoCardInit, IoCardClose, IoCardRead and IoCardWrite. In the attribute MethodName we state the string with which the methods will be registered in the c-code, i.e. "MotionControl_USBIO-IoCardInit", etc.

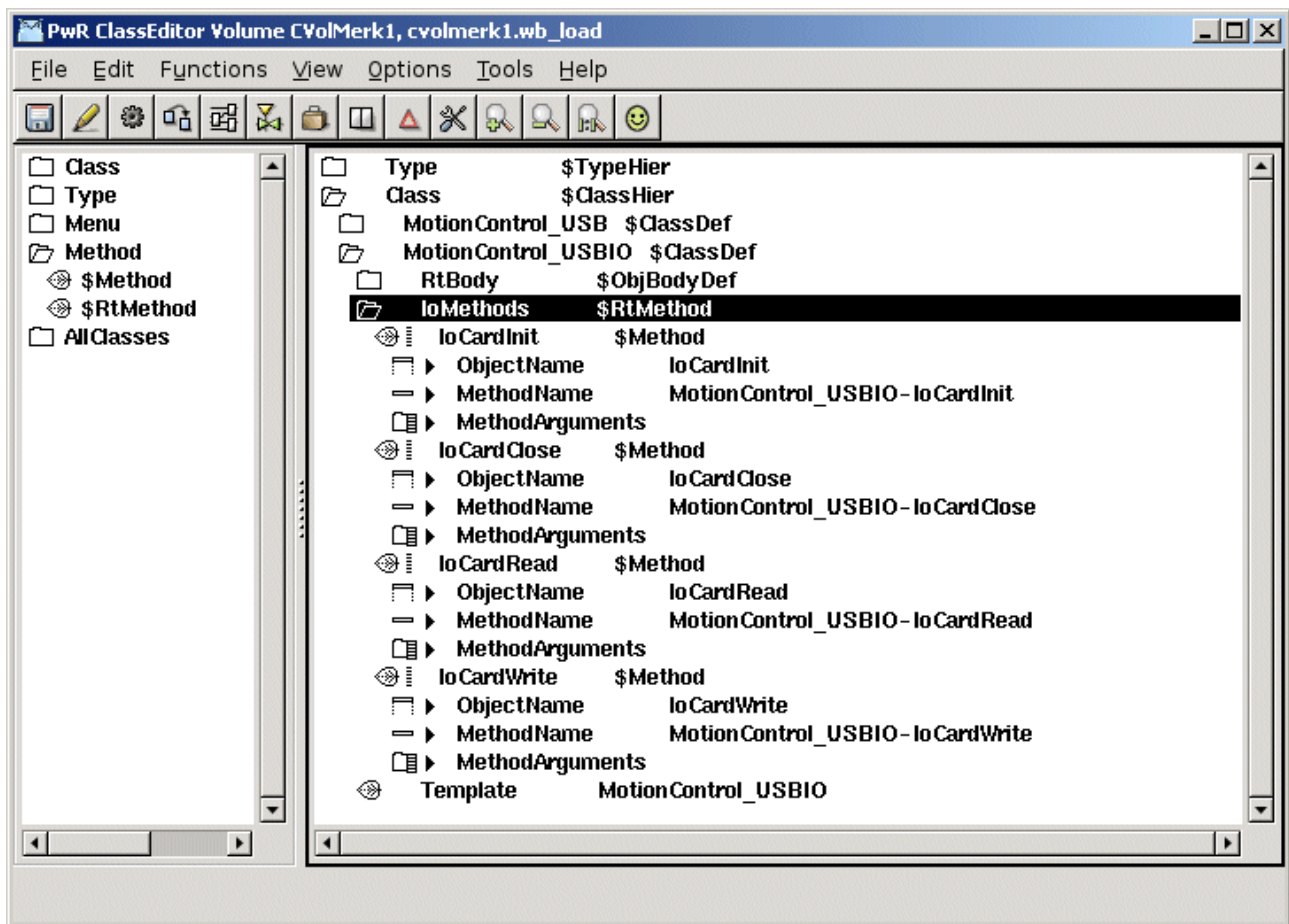


Fig I/O method configuration

From the superclass BaseIOCard we inherit a method to connect the object to a plc thread in the configurator.

Build the classvolume

Now the classes are created, and we save, leave edit mode, and create loadfiles for the classvolume by activating *Functions/Build Volume* in the menu. An include-file containing c structs for the classes, \$pwrp_inc/pwr_cvolmerk1classes.h, is also created when building the volume.

Install the driver

Download the driver and unpack the tar-file for the driver

```
> tar -xvzf usbio.tar.tz
```

Build the driver with make

```
> cd usbio/driver/linux-2.6
```

```
> make
```

Install the driver usbio.ko as root

```
> insmod usbio.ko
```

Allow all users to read and write to the driver

```
> chmod a+rw /dev/usbio0
```

Write methods

The next step is to write the c-code for the methods.

The c-file `ra_io_m_motioncontrol_usb.c` are created on `$pwrp_src`.

As Proview has a GPL license, also the code for the methods has to be GPL licensed if the program is distributed to other parties. We therefor put a GPL header in the beginning of the file.

To simplify the code we limit our use of USB I/O to a configuration where channel 0-3 are digital outputs, 4-7 digital inputs, 8-15 analog inputs, 16-18 digital inputs and 19-20 analog outputs.

`ra_io_m_motioncontrol_usb.c`

```
/*
 * Proview    $Id$
 * Copyright (C) 2005 SSAB Oxelösund.
 *
 * This program is free software; you can redistribute it and/or
 * modify it under the terms of the GNU General Public License as
 * published by the Free Software Foundation, either version 2 of
 * the License, or (at your option) any later version.
 *
 * This program 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 General Public License for more details.
 *
 * You should have received a copy of the GNU General Public License
 * along with the program, if not, write to the Free Software
 * Foundation, Inc., 675 Mass Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA.
 */

#include "pwr.h"
#include "pwr_basecomponentclasses.h"
#include "pwr_cvolmerklclasses.h"
#include "rt_io_base.h"
#include "rt_io_card_init.h"
#include "rt_io_card_close.h"
#include "rt_io_card_read.h"
#include "rt_io_card_write.h"
#include "rt_io_msg.h"
#include "libusbio.h"

typedef struct {
    int USB_Handle;
} io_sLocal;

// Init method
static pwr_tStatus IoCardInit( io_tCtx ctx,
                               io_sAgent *ap,
                               io_sRack *rp,
                               io_sCard *cp)
{
    int i;
    int timeout;
    io_sLocal *local;
    pwr_sClass_MotionControl_USBIO *op = (pwr_sClass_MotionControl_USBIO *)cp->op;

    local = (io_sLocal *) calloc( 1, sizeof(io_sLocal));
    cp->Local = local;
}
```

```

// Configure 4 Do and 4 Di on Port A
op->Status = USBIO_ConfigDIO( &local->USB_Handle, 1, 240);
if ( op->Status)
    errh_Error( "IO Init Card '%s', Status %d", cp->Name, op->Status);

// Configure 8 Ai on Port B
op->Status = USBIO_ConfigAI( &local->USB_Handle, 8);
if ( op->Status)
    errh_Error( "IO Init Card '%s', Status %d", cp->Name, op->Status);

// Configure 3 Di and 2 Ao on Port C
op->Status = USBIO_ConfigDIO( &local->USB_Handle, 3, 7);
if ( op->Status)
    errh_Error( "IO Init Card '%s', Status %d", cp->Name, op->Status);
op->Status = USBIO_ConfigAO( &local->USB_Handle, 3);
if ( op->Status)
    errh_Error( "IO Init Card '%s', Status %d", cp->Name, op->Status);

// Calculate conversion coefficients for Ai
for ( i = 8; i < 16; i++) {
    if ( cp->chanlist[i].cop &&
        cp->chanlist[i].sop &&
        cp->chanlist[i].ChanClass == pwr_cClass_ChAi)
        io_AiRangeToCoef( &cp->chanlist[i]);
}

// Calculate conversion coefficients for Ao
for ( i = 19; i < 21; i++) {
    if ( cp->chanlist[i].cop &&
        cp->chanlist[i].sop &&
        cp->chanlist[i].ChanClass == pwr_cClass_ChAo)
        io_AoRangeToCoef( &cp->chanlist[i]);
}

// Configure Watchdog
timeout = 1000 * op->WatchdogTime;
op->Status = USBIO_ConfigWatchdog( &local->USB_Handle, 1, timeout, 1,
                                   port_mask, port, 3);

errh_Info( "Init of USBIO card '%s'", cp->Name);

return IO__SUCCESS;
}

// Close method
static pwr_tStatus IoCardClose( io_tCtx ctx,
                                io_sAgent *ap,
                                io_sRack *rp,
                                io_sCard *cp)
{
    free( cp->Local);
    return IO__SUCCESS;
}

// Read Method
static pwr_tStatus IoCardRead( io_tCtx ctx,
                                io_sAgent *ap,
                                io_sRack *rp,

```

```

        io_sCard  *cp)
{
    io_sLocal *local = cp->Local;
    pwr_sClass_MotionControl_USBIO *op = (pwr_sClass_MotionControl_USBIO *)cp->op;
    int value = 0;
    int i;
    unsigned int m;
    pwr_tUInt32 error_count = op->Super.ErrorCount;

    // Read Di on channel 4 - 8
    op->Status = USBIO_ReadDI( &local->USB_Handle, 1, &value);
    if ( op->Status)
        op->Super.ErrorCount++;
    else {
        // Set Di value in area object
        m = 1 << 4;
        for ( i = 4; i < 8; i++) {
            *(pwr_tBoolean *)cp->chanlist[i].vbp = ((value & m) != 0);
            m = m << 1;
        }
    }

    // Read Ai on channel 8 - 16
    for ( i = 0; i < 8; i++) {
        io_sChannel *chanp = &cp->chanlist[i + 8];
        pwr_sClass_ChanaAi *cop = (pwr_sClass_ChanaAi *)chanp->cop;
        pwr_sClass_Ai *sop = (pwr_sClass_Ai *)chanp->sop;

        if ( cop->CalculateNewCoef)
            // Request to calculate new coefficients
            io_AiRangeToCoef( chanp);

        op->Status = USBIO_ReadADVal( &local->USB_Handle, i + 1, &ivalue);
        if ( op->Status)
            op->Super.ErrorCount++;
        else {
            io_ConvertAi( cop, ivalue, &actvalue);

            // Filter the Ai value
            if ( sop->FilterType == 1 &&
                sop->FilterAttribute[0] > 0 &&
                sop->FilterAttribute[0] > ctx->ScanTime) {
                actvalue = *(pwr_tFloat32 *)chanp->vbp +
                    ctx->ScanTime / sop->FilterAttribute[0] *
                    (actvalue - *(pwr_tFloat32 *)chanp->vbp);
            }

            // Set value in area object
            *(pwr_tFloat32 *)chanp->vbp = actvalue;
            sop->SigValue = cop->SigValPolyCoef1 * ivalue + cop->SigValPolyCoef0;
            sop->RawValue = ivalue;
        }
    }

    // Check Error Soft and Hard Limit

    // Write warning message if soft limit is reached
    if ( op->Super.ErrorCount >= op->Super.ErrorSoftLimit &&
        error_count < op->Super.ErrorSoftLimit)
        errh_Warning( "IO Card ErrorSoftLimit reached, '%s'", cp->Name);

    // Stop I/O if hard limit is reached

```

```

if ( op->Super.ErrorCount >= op->Super.ErrorHardLimit) {
    errh_Error( "IO Card ErrorHardLimit reached '%s', IO stopped", cp->Name);
    ctx->Node->EmergBreakTrue = 1;
    return IO__ERRDEVICE;
}

return IO__SUCCESS;
}

// Write method
static pwr_tStatus IoCardWrite( io_tCtx ctx,
                                io_sAgent *ap,
                                io_sRack *rp,
                                io_sCard *cp)
{
    io_sLocal *local = cp->Local;
    pwr_sClass_MotionControl_USBIO *op = (pwr_sClass_MotionControl_USBIO *)cp->op;
    int value = 0;
    float fvalue;
    int i;
    unsigned int m;
    pwr_tUInt32 error_count = op->Super.ErrorCount;
    pwr_sClass_Chao *cop;

    // Write Do on channel 1 - 4
    m = 1;
    value = 0;
    for ( i = 0; i < 4; i++) {
        if ( *(pwr_tBoolean *)cp->chanlist[i].vbp)
            value |= m;
        m = m << 1;
    }
    op->Status = USBIO_WriteDO( &local->USB_Handle, 1, value);
    if ( op->Status) op->Super.ErrorCount++;

    // Write Ao on channel 19 and 20
    if ( cp->chanlist[19].cop &&
        cp->chanlist[19].sop &&
        cp->chanlist[19].ChanClass == pwr_cClass_Chao) {
        cop = (pwr_sClass_Chao *)cp->chanlist[19].cop;

        if ( cop->CalculateNewCoef)
            // Request to calculate new coefficients
            io_AoRangeToCoef( &cp->chanlist[19]);

        fvalue = *(pwr_tFloat32 *)cp->chanlist[19].vbp * cop->OutPolyCoef1 +
            cop->OutPolyCoef0;
        op->Status = USBIO_WriteAO( &local->USB_Handle, 1, fvalue);
        if ( op->Status) op->Super.ErrorCount++;
    }

    if ( cp->chanlist[20].cop &&
        cp->chanlist[20].sop &&
        cp->chanlist[20].ChanClass == pwr_cClass_Chao) {
        cop = (pwr_sClass_Chao *)cp->chanlist[20].cop;

        if ( cop->CalculateNewCoef)
            // Request to calculate new coefficients
            io_AoRangeToCoef( &cp->chanlist[20]);

        fvalue = *(pwr_tFloat32 *)cp->chanlist[20].vbp * cop->OutPolyCoef1 +

```

```

        cop->OutPolyCoef0;
    op->Status = USBIO_WriteAO( &local->USB_Handle, 2, fvalue);
    if ( op->Status) op->Super.ErrorCount++;
}

// Check Error Soft and Hard Limit

// Write warning message if soft limit is reached
if ( op->Super.ErrorCount >= op->Super.ErrorSoftLimit &&
    error_count < op->Super.ErrorSoftLimit)
    errh_Warning( "IO Card ErrorSoftLimit reached, '%s'", cp->Name);

// Stop I/O if hard limit is reached
if ( op->Super.ErrorCount >= op->Super.ErrorHardLimit) {
    errh_Error( "IO Card ErrorHardLimit reached '%s', IO stopped", cp->Name);
    ctx->Node->EmergBreakTrue = 1;
    return IO__ERRDEVICE;
}

return IO__SUCCESS;
}

// Every method should be registered here

pwr_dExport pwr_BindIoUserMethods(MotionControl_USBIO) = {
    pwr_BindIoUserMethod(IoCardInit),
    pwr_BindIoUserMethod(IoCardClose),
    pwr_BindIoUserMethod(IoCardRead),
    pwr_BindIoUserMethod(IoCardWrite),
    pwr_NullMethod
};

```

Class registration

To make it possible for the I/O framework to find the methods of the class, the class has to be registered. This is done by creating the file `$pwrp_src/rt_io_user.c`. You use the macros `pwr_BindIoUserMethods` and `pwr_BindIoUserClass` for each class that contains methods.

rt_io_user.c

```

#include "pwr.h"
#include "rt_io_base.h"

pwr_dImport pwr_BindIoUserMethods(MotionControl_USBIO);

pwr_BindIoUserClasses(User) = {
    pwr_BindIoUserClass(MotionControl_USBIO),
    pwr_NullClass
};

```

Makefile

To compile the c-files we create a make-file on `$pwrp_src`, `$pwrp_src/makefile`. This will compile `ra_io_m_motioncontro_usbio.c` and `rt_io_user.c`, and place the object modules on the directory `$pwrp_obj`.

makefile

```

mars2_top : mars2

include $(pwr_exe)/pwrp_rules.mk

```

```

mars2_modules = $(pwrp_obj)/ra_io_m_motioncontrol_usbio.o \
                $(pwrp_obj)/rt_io_user.o

# Main rule
mars2 : $(mars2_modules)
        @ echo "***** Mars2 modules built *****"

# Modules

$(pwrp_obj)/ra_io_m_motioncontrol_usbio.o : \
$(pwrp_src)/ra_io_m_motioncontrol_usbio.c \
        $(pwrp_inc)/pwr_cvolmerk1classes.h

$(pwrp_obj)/rt_io_user.o : $(pwrp_src)/rt_io_user.c

```

Link file

We choose to call the methods from the plc process, and have to link the plc program with the object modules of the methods. To do this, we create a link file on \$pwrp_exe. We also have to add the archive with the USB I/O driver API, `libusbio.a`. The name fo the link file contains nodename and busnumber.

plc_mars2_0507.opt

```

$pwrp_obj/rt_io_user.o $pwrp_obj/ra_io_m_motioncontrol_usbio.o -lpwr_rt \
-lusbio -lpwr_usb_dummy -lpwr_pnak_dummy

```

Configure the node hierarchy

Now its time to configure the I/O objects in the node hierarchy with objects of the classes that we have created.

The rootvolume in our project is VolMerk1 and we open the configurator with

```
> pwrs volmerk1
```

In the palette to the left, under the map AllClasses we find the classvolme of the project, and under this the two classes for the USB I/O that we have created. Below the \$Node object we place a rack-object of class MotionControl_USB, and below this a card object of class MotionControl_USBIO. As the channelobjects are not internal objects in the cardobject, we have to create channel objects for the channels that we are going to use, below the card object. See the result in *Fig The Nodehierarchy*.

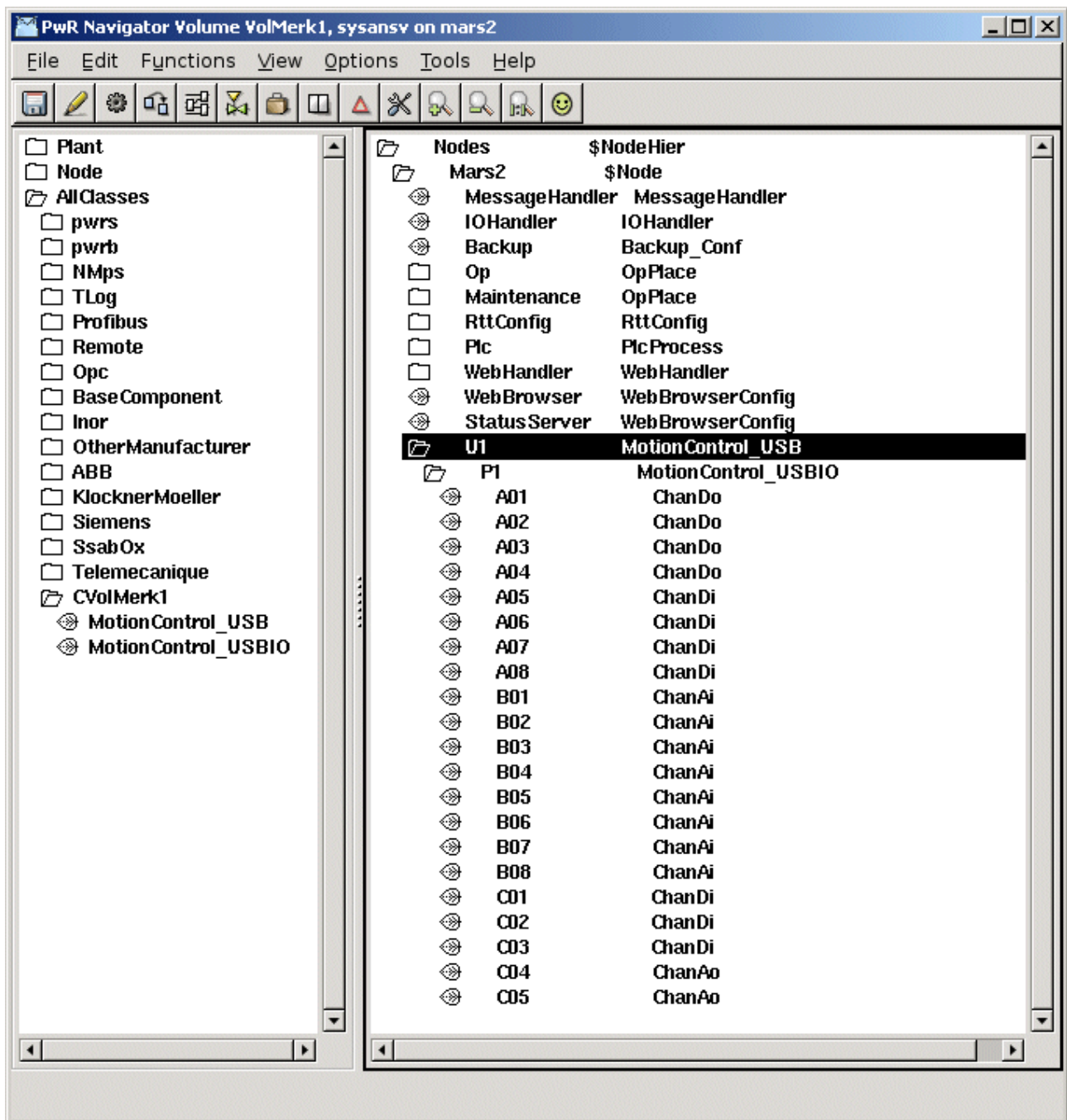


Fig The Nodehierarchy

We set the attribute Number, which states the index in the channel list, to 0 for the first channel object, 1 for the second etc. We set Process to 1 in the rack and card objects, and connects these objects to a plc thread by selecting a PlcThread object, and activating Connect PlcThread in the popumenu for the rack and card object.

For the analog channels, ranges for conversion to/from ActualValue unit, has to be stated. The RawValue range for Ai channels are 0-1023, and the signal range 0-5 V. We configure the channels with an ActualValue range 0-100 in *Fig Ai channel*.

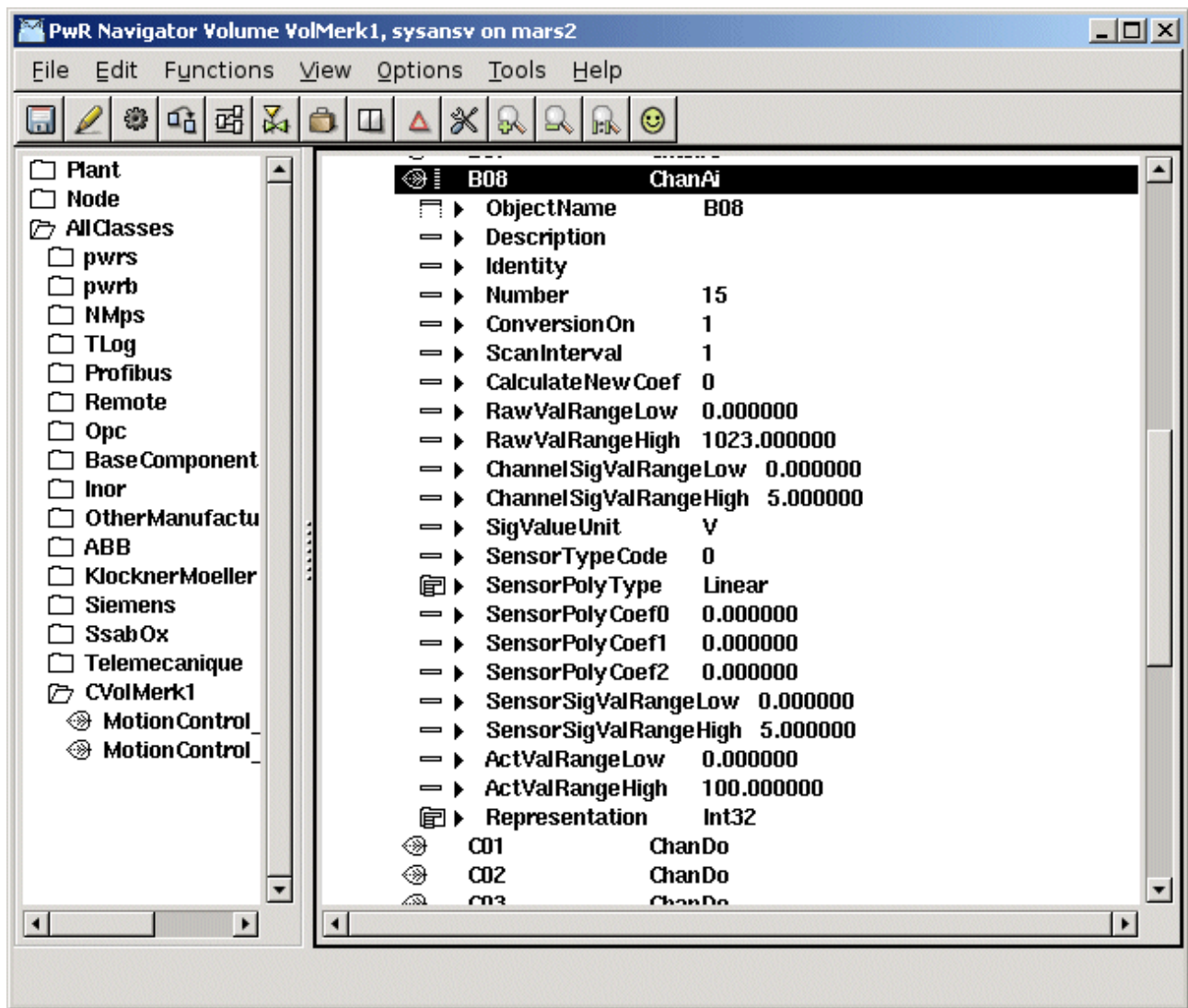


Fig Ai channel

When reading the Ao channels, you receive the signal value 0-5 V, and a configuration for ActualValue range 0-100 can be seen in *Fig Ao channel*.

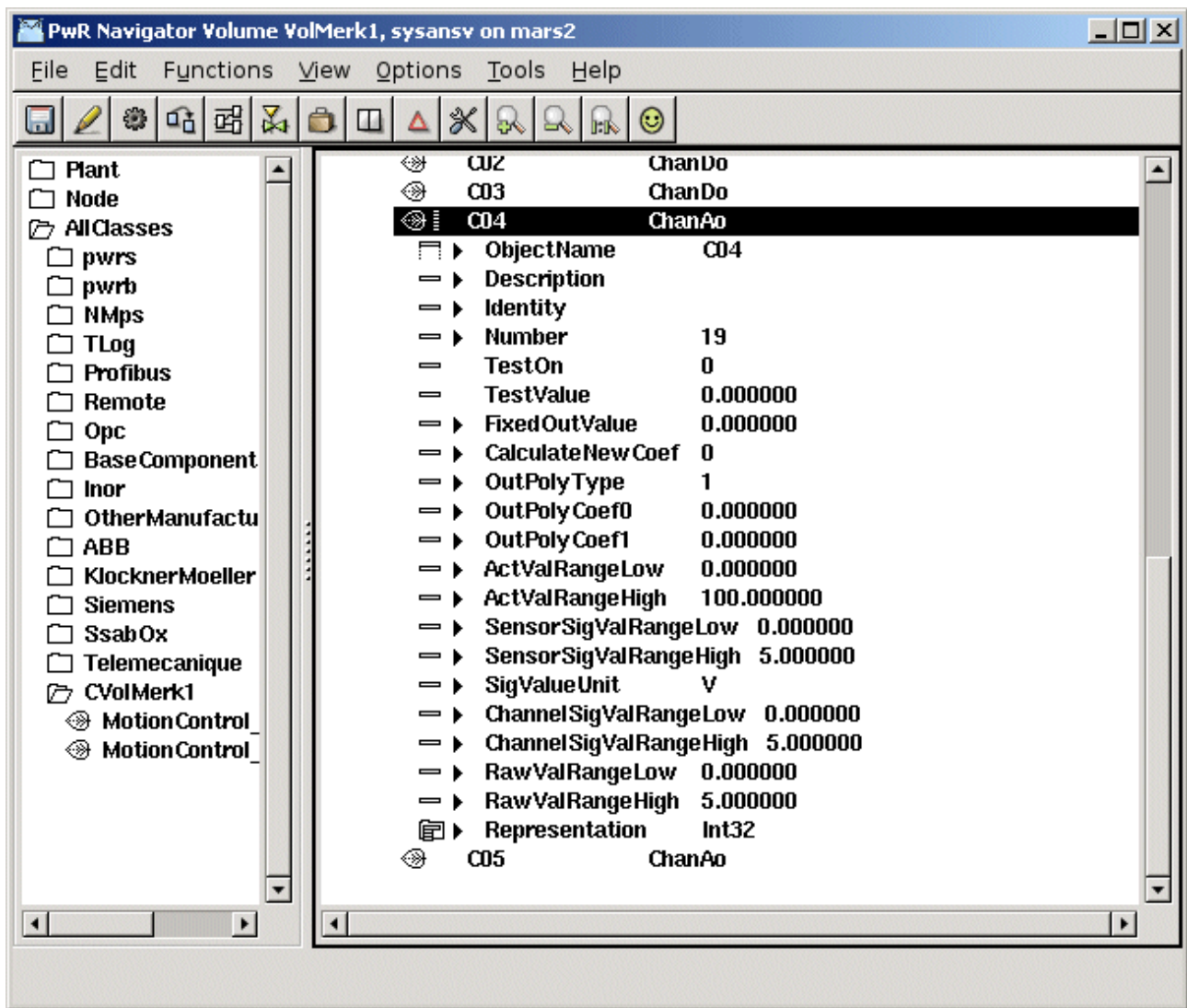


Fig Ao channel

We also have to create signal objects in the plant hierarchy of types Di, Do, Ai and Ao, and connect these to each channel respectively. There also has to be a PlcPgm on the selected thread, to really create a thread in runtime. The remaining activities now are to build the node, distribute, check the linkage of the USB I/O device, connect it to the USB port and start Preview.