

Adapting interfaces

The INFDEV team

Hogeschool Rotterdam
Rotterdam, Netherlands

INFDEV02-4

Introduction

Lecture topics

- Issues arising from connecting domains
- The adapter design pattern
- Examples and considerations
- Conclusions

Issues:

- Independent domains based each its interface(s)
- They share no code, so we cannot make them communicate
- Sometimes the logics of one might still be compatible with the other

Examples:

- Legacy systems
- Different frameworks
- Closed libraries
- Etc..

Adapter

Introduction

- Today we are going to study code adapters
- In particular, we are going to study how to make existing classes work within other domains without modifying their code
- How? By means of a design pattern: the adapter (a behavioral design pattern)
- A clean and general mechanism that allows an instance of an interface to be used where another interface is expected

Adapting existing classes

- A further constraint is that we cannot change the original implementation
- Why?

Adapting existing classes

- A further constraint is that we cannot change the original implementation
- Why?
- *We might break other programs depending on such implementation*

Examples:

- An option as an iterator,
- A traditional iterator as a safe iterator,
- A class belonging to a closed library with the interface required by our application,
- A shape in another drawing library,
- Etc.

An example of similar but incompatible classes

- Consider the following two classes LegacyLine and LegacyRectangle
- Both implementing a draw method

```
1  class LegacyLine {  
2      public void Draw(int x1,int y1,int x2,int y2) {  
3          Console.WriteLine("line from (" + x1 + ',' + y1 + ") to (" + x2 + ',' +  
4              y2 + ')');  
5      }  
6      class LegacyRectangle {  
7          public void Draw(int x,int y,int w,int h) {  
8              Console.WriteLine("rectangle at (" + x + ',' + y + ") with width " + w +  
9                  " and height " + h);  
10         }  
11     }  
12 }
```

Consuming our LegacyLine and LegacyRectangle

- Suppose we wished to build a drawing system
- We need to group lines and rectangles together
- Cast to Object?

```
1 List<Object> shapes = new List<Object>();
2 shapes.Add(new LegacyLine());
3 shapes.Add(new LegacyRectangle());
4 foreach(Object shape in shapes){
5     if(shape is LegacyLine) {
6         (LegacyLine)shape.Draw(...);
7     }
8     if(shape is LegacyRectangle) {
9         (LegacyRectangle)shape.Draw(...);
10    }
11 }
```

Issues with consuming LegacyLine and LegacyRectangle

- As we can see from the example consuming instances of such classes is complex and error-prone
- We could of course apply a visitor, but in this case it is not possible, since we cannot touch the implementation
- We wish now to reduce such complexity and to achieve safety

Consuming “safely” LegacyLine and LegacyRectangle: idea

- A solution would be to define an intermediate mediating layer that abstracts instances of both LegacyLine and LegacyRectangle
- For this implementation we first define an interface Shape with one method signature Draw
- This interface defines the entry of our own domain

```
1 interface Shape {  
2     void Draw(int x1,int y1,int x2,int y2);  
3 }
```

An adapter for our LegacyLine

- We declare a class Line that takes as input a LegacyLine object
- Whenever the Draw method is called also the Draw of the LegacyLine object is called
- Line exists both in the legacy and our new domain

```
1  class Line : Shape {  
2      private LegacyLine underlyingLine;  
3      public Line(LegacyLine line) {  
4          this.underlyingLine = line;  
5      }  
6      public void Draw(int x1,int y1,int x2,int y2) {  
7          underlyingLine.Draw (...);  
8      }  
9  }
```


An adapter for our LegacyRectangle

- We apply the same mechanism to our LegacyRectangle

```
1 class Rectangle : Shape {  
2     private LegacyRectangle underlyingRectangle;  
3     public Rectangle(LegacyRectangle rectangle) {  
4         this.underlyingRectangle = rectangle;  
5     }  
6     public void Draw(int x1,int y1,int x2,int y2) {  
7         underlyingRectangle.Draw(...);  
8     }  
9 }
```

Consuming “safely” LegacyLine and LegacyRectangle

- Our drawing system can now define a list of shapes

```
1 List<Shape> shapes = new List<Shape>();  
2 shapes.Add(new Line(new LegacyLine()));  
3 shapes.Add(new Rectangle(new LegacyRectangle()));  
4 foreach(Shape shape in Shapes){  
5     shape.Value.Draw(...);  
6 }
```

Consuming “safely” LegacyLine and LegacyRectangle

- We could even extend our Shape with a visitor

```
1 interface Shape {  
2     void Draw(int x1,int y1,int x2,int y2);  
3     U Visit<U>(Func<U> onLegacyLine,Func<U> onLegacyRectangle);  
4 }
```

Considerations

- As we can see our program now manages instances of both `LegacyLine` and `LegacyRectangle` without requiring to manually deal with their details
- This makes the code not only more maintainable but also safer, since the original implementation remains the same
- In this way our program deals with objects of type `Rectangle` and `Line` as if they are concrete `LegacyLine` and `LegacyRectangle` objects without changing concrete functionalities

Adapter

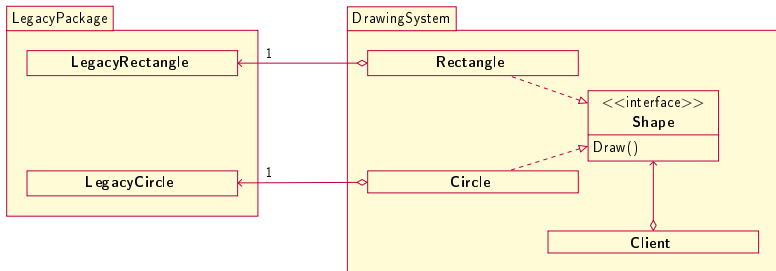
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Adapter

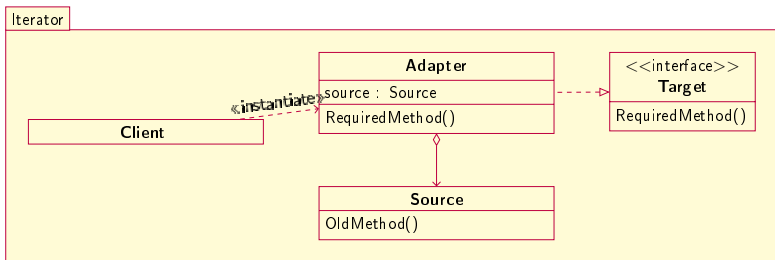


The adapter design pattern

- By means of adapters, we “convert” the interface of a class into another, without touching the class sources
- In what follows we will study such design pattern and provide a general formalization

The adapter design pattern structure

- Given two different interfaces Source and Target
- An Adapter is built to adapt Source to Target
- The Adapter implements Target and contains a reference to textttSource
- A Client interacts with the Adapter whenever it a Target, but we have a Some
- In the following we provide a UML for such structure



Example:

- Consider the `Option` data type
- It is a collection of sorts
- It could be iterated, but it does not implement an iterator!

Iterating an Option<T>

- In this case Target is Iterator<T>, Source is Option<T>, and Adapter is IOptionIterator<T>
- Now, GetNext returns Some only the at the first iteration
- Note, if we iterate a None entity we return None

```
1 class IOptionIterator<T> : Iterator<T> {  
2     private Option<T> option;  
3     private bool visited = false;  
4     public IOptionIterator(Option<T> option) {  
5         this.option = option;  
6     }  
7     Option<T> GetNext() {  
8         if(visited) {  
9             return new None<T>();  
10        }  
11        else{  
12            visited = true;  
13            if(option.IsSome()) {  
14                return new Some<T>(option.GetValue());  
15            }  
16            else{  
17                return new None<T>();  
18            }  
19        }  
20    }  
21 }
```

Iterating an Option<T>

- Which with visitor becomes:

```
1 class IOptionIterator<T> : Iterator<T> {
2     private Option<T> option;
3     private bool visited = false;
4     public IOptionIterator(Option<T> option) {
5         this.option = option;
6     }
7     Option<T> GetNext() {
8         if(visited) {
9             return new None<T>();
10        }
11        else{
12            visited = true;
13            return option.Visit<Option<T>>(() => new None<T>(), t => new Some<T>(t)
14                );
15        }
16    }
17 }
```

Considerations about bijectivity

- Adapters map behaviors across domains
- Adapting may not change or add behaviors

Considerations about bijectivity

- Consider the `TraditionalIterator` and `Iterator` example
- We can adapt in both directions!

```
1 class MakeSafe<T> : Iterator<T> {  
2     private TraditionalIterator<T> iterator;  
3     public MakeSafe(TraditionalIterator<T> iterator) {  
4         this.iterator = iterator;  
5     }  
6     Option<T> GetNext() {  
7         if(iterator.MoveNext()) {  
8             return new Some<T>(iterator.GetCurrent());  
9         }  
10        else{  
11            return new None<T>();  
12        }  
13    }  
14 }
```

Which in Java then becomes:

```
1 class MakeSafe<T> implements Iterator<T> {  
2     private TraditionalIterator<T> iterator;  
3     public MakeSafe(TraditionalIterator<T> iterator) {  
4         this.iterator = iterator;  
5     }  
6     Option<T> GetNext() {  
7         if(iterator.MoveNext()) {  
8             return new Some<T>(iterator.GetCurrent());  
9         }  
10        else{  
11            return new None<T>();  
12        }  
13    }  
14 }
```

```
1 class MakeUnsafe<T> : TraditionalIterator<T> {  
2     private _current T;  
3     private Iterator<T> iterator;  
4     public MakeUnsafe(Iterator<T> iterator) {  
5         this.iterator = iterator;  
6     }  
7     T GetCurrent() {  
8         return _current;  
9     }  
10    bool MoveNext() {  
11        Option<T> opt = iterator.GetNext();  
12        if(opt.IsSome()) {  
13            _current = iterator.GetValue();  
14            return true;  
15        }  
16        else{  
17            return false;  
18        }  
19    }  
20 }
```


Which in Java then becomes:

```
1  class MakeUnsafe<T> implements TraditionalIterator<T> {  
2      private _current T;  
3      private Iterator<T> iterator;  
4      public MakeUnsafe(Iterator<T> iterator) {  
5          this.iterator = iterator;  
6      }  
7      T GetCurrent() {  
8          return _current;  
9      }  
10     bool MoveNext() {  
11         Option<T> opt = iterator.GetNext();  
12         if(opt.IsSome()) {  
13             _current = iterator.GetValue();  
14             return true;  
15         }  
16         else{  
17             return false;  
18         }  
19     }  
20 }
```

Considerations about bijectivity

- What is the behavior of `new MakeSafe(new MakeUnsafe(it))` for a generic iterator `it`?

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- What is the behavior of `new MakeSafe(new MakeUnsafe(it))` for a generic iterator `it`?
- No change! The two behave exactly the same!

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- No change! The two behave exactly the same!

Considerations about bijectivity

- An adapter does not add or remove information, in order to preserve the correctness of the involved interface adapters
- Adapters are simply “bridges” to let abstractions vary independently, and contain no domain logic

Conclusion

- Code comes in different forms
- Sometimes code cannot be changed: a library, a framework, etc..
- Sometimes it is hard to make existing code work in a specific target application (for example because it is written with other conventions or is simply legacy)
- The adapter pattern allows the adaptation of such code in a way that makes the resulting solution flexible and safe
- How? By providing an custom adapter that mediates between the targeted client and the code to adapt

The best of luck, and thanks for the
attention!