CS 417 Design Patterns

Design patterns: Designing generic components

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Generic components

- Also know as reusable components
- Extended or reused in many different contexts without having to change the code
- Two basic techniques
 - Refactoring
 - Generalization

Mechanisms

- To build generic components use
 - Inheritance
 - Delegation
- Abstract classes and interfaces also play key role

Refactoring

- Identify recurring code same logic in multiple different places
- Capture the logic in a single place on a generic component
- Restructure program so all existing code uses generic implementation (ie. Remove duplication)

Why refactor

- Faster implementation of new components that use the method
- Bug fixes must be made in all duplicate methods making it easy to fix in someplaces but not all
- Duplicate code can lead to drifting of implementations making understanding of code more difficult even though same task done
- Be careful not all code that looks alike is alike!

Function/method refactoring

```
class Computation{
class Computation{
                           void computeAll() {
  void method1(){
                             computeStep1();
    computeStep1();
                             computeStep2();
    computeStep1();
                             computeStep3();
    computeStep1();
                           void method1() {
                             computeAll();
  void method2(){
    computeStep1();
                           void method2() {
    computeStep1();
                             computeAll();
    computeStep1();
```

Method refactoring limitations

- Method refactoring is the easiest but has several limitations
 - Only effective when common code is contained in a single method, can become much more difficult when spread across multiple functions
 - Only possible when duplicate code is all within the same class

Refactoring across classes

- Commonalities in code across classes has several complications
 - Similar/duplicate code may refer to variables that are not accessible by other duplicate code
 - Strongly tying code together due to similarity of a function alone violates encapsulation
- Solution → refactoring by inheritance or delegation

Refactoring by inheritance

- If duplicate code appears across two different classes may be able to refactor by inheritance
- Common code pulled into either shared parent class or new parent class created
- Any variables used also pulled to parent class

inheritance refactoring

```
class Computation {
class Computation1{
                             void computeAll() {
  void method1(){
                              computeStep1();
                              computeStep2();
     computeStep1();
                              computeStep3();
     computeStep2();
                           class Computation1 extends
     computeStep3();
                                    Computation {
                             void method1(){
                              computeAll();
class Computation2{
                           class Computation2 extends
                                    Computation {
  void method2(){
                            void method2() {
     computeStep1();
                              computeAll();
     computeStep2();
     computeStep3();
```

Refactoring by inheritance limitations

- Creates problems if the two classes are not related enough to justify inheriting from same class
- Due to limitation of single inheritance, if either class has a different parent its not possible to move code to parent

Refactoring by delegation

- Duplicate code pulled to different class and implementation of the common code is *delegated* to this class
- Requires original classes to have a reference to the delegated class
- Any non-visible variables need to be passed into helper class

delegation refactoring

```
class Computation1{
                         class Helper{
                           void computeAll(int length) {
  void method1(){
                             computeStep1(length);
     computeStep1();
                             computeStep2();
                             computeStep3();
     computeStep2();
                         class Computation1{
     computeStep3();
                           Helper myHelper = new Helper();
                           void method1(){
                             myHelper.computeAll(this.length);
class Computation2{
                         class Computation2 {
  void method2(){
                           Helper myHelper = new Helper();
                           void method2(){
     computeStep1();
                             myHelper.computeAll(this.length);
     computeStep2();
     computeStep3();
```

Refactoring decisions

- Refactoring by delegation can always be used and has the advantage of not putting inheritance restrictions (ie. Avoid problem with single inheritance limitation)
- Refactoring by delegation is most complex and most difficult to understand through reading the code. Therefore its often preferable to use refactoring by inheritance

Maximizing extensibility

- When code is refactored the goal is to better the chance the code can be reused
- One way this is done is making the code extensible
 - Allow calling component to alter context the code runs in
 - Extend functionality through making changes to parameters of execution

Extensibility

- Changing the parameters of execution
 - Allow calling component to set context of super class or helper class through accessors
 - Ex. setNumberOfSidesShape
 - Allow calling component to pass in parameters of execution
 - Ex. drawShape(color)

Inheritance complications

- Complications arise when duplicate code but different detailed implementations
- Ex.

```
public class Computation1

// this portion of Computation1 and

// Computation 2 are identical

void compute() {
   computeA();
   computeB(); // implementation differs
   computeC();
}
```

Extensibility of methods

- Duplicate code may make same function calls but be implemented differently
- Extensibility can also be applied to methods
 - Option 1: Provide a default implementation of method in super class, which can then be overridden
 - Option 2: If no default implementation make super class abstract and the method in question

Extensible methods ex.

```
public abstract class Shape{
  public void computeAll() {
    calculatePerimeter();
    calculateArea();
  public void calculatePerimeter() {
    // add all sides
  abstract public void calculateArea();
public class square extends Shape{
  public void calculate() {
    computeAll();
  public void calculateArea() { area = side * side; }
public class circle extends Shape{
  public void calcValue() {
    computeAll();
  pubic void calculatePerimeter() { perim = 2*pi*r; }
  public void calculateArea() { area = pi * r^2;}
```

Preventing misuse

- When extracting duplicate code to super class there are times when some portion of the duplicate code should not be overridden while some portion could be
 - Ex. initialization
- Solution is to introduce methods aimed at extensibility while limiting misuse
- Code that should not be overridden would then be marked final

Avoiding misuse example

```
public abstract class Shape{
 public void drawShape() {
    init();
    initShapeImplementation();
    getCenter();
    getPerimeter();
    drawShape();
  final public void init() {
    // initialize drawing canvas
  abstract public void initShapeImplementation(){}
public class Square extends Shape{
  public void changeSize() {
    drawShape();
 public void initShapeImplementation() {
    // initialize shape specific drawing features
```

Complications with delegation

- Complications arise when duplicate code but different detailed implementations
- Ex.

```
public class Helper

// this portion of Computation1 and

// Computation 2 are identical

void compute() {
  computeA();
  computeB(); // implementation differs
  computeC();
}
```

Complications with delegation

- With inheritance refactoring different implementations of the same method pose little problem
- Method with common code simply calls parent method or abstract method
- With delegation refactoring different implementations are more complex
- Implementation of individual methods is not extracted

Delegation solution

- With delegation, in order to support different implementations the calling class needs to pass itself to the Helper class
- Helper class then calls the method on the passed in object
- Because different objects do not have the same parent class (otherwise inheritance refactoring would have been used) implementing a common interface is needed

Delegation example

```
public class Helper{
  public void computeAll(ShapeComputer passedInstance) {
    computeA();
    passedInstance.computeB();
    computeC();
public interface ShapeComputer{
  public void computeB();
public class square implements ShapeComputer{
  public void calculate() {
    computeAll();
  public void computeB() { area = side * side;}
public class circle implements ShapeComputer{
  public void calcValue() {
    computeAll();
  public void computeB() { area = pi * r^2;}
```

Result is delegation is more likely to become complex than inheritance refactoring