CS 417 Design Patterns

Creational patterns: Builder

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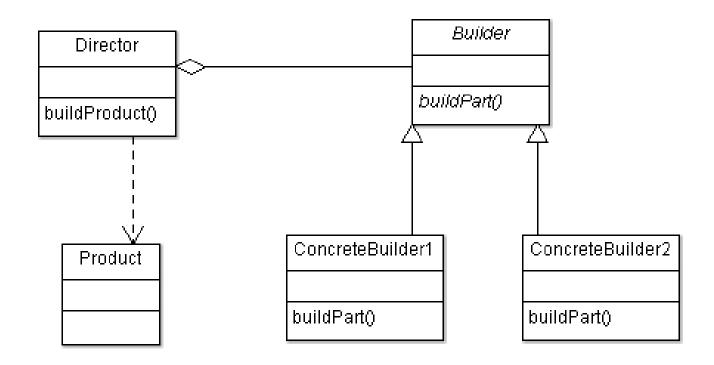
Design pattern: Builder

- Category: Creational design pattern
- Intent:
 - Separate construction of complex objects so same construction process can create complex object from different implementation parts

Applicability:

- When process for creating object should be independent of parts that make up the object
- When construction process should allow various implementations of the parts used for construction

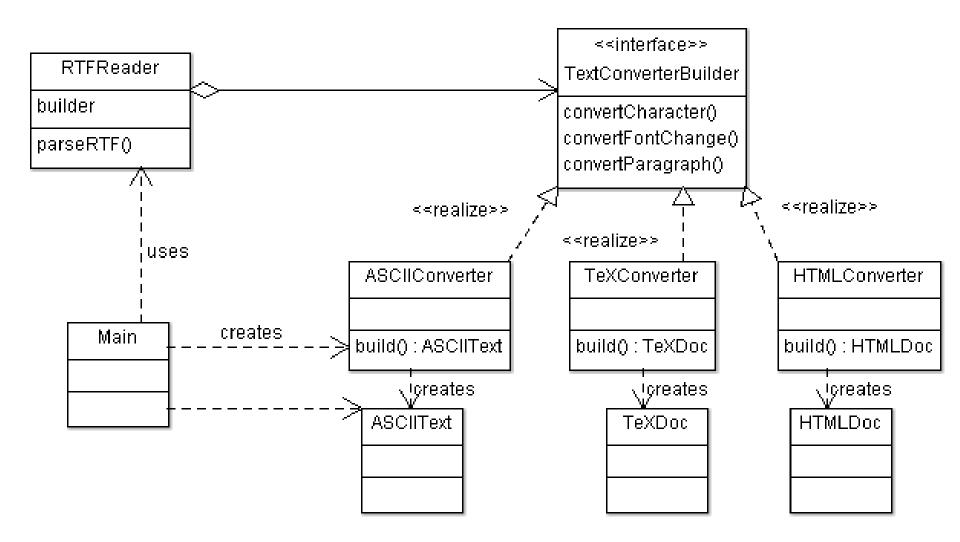
Builder UML



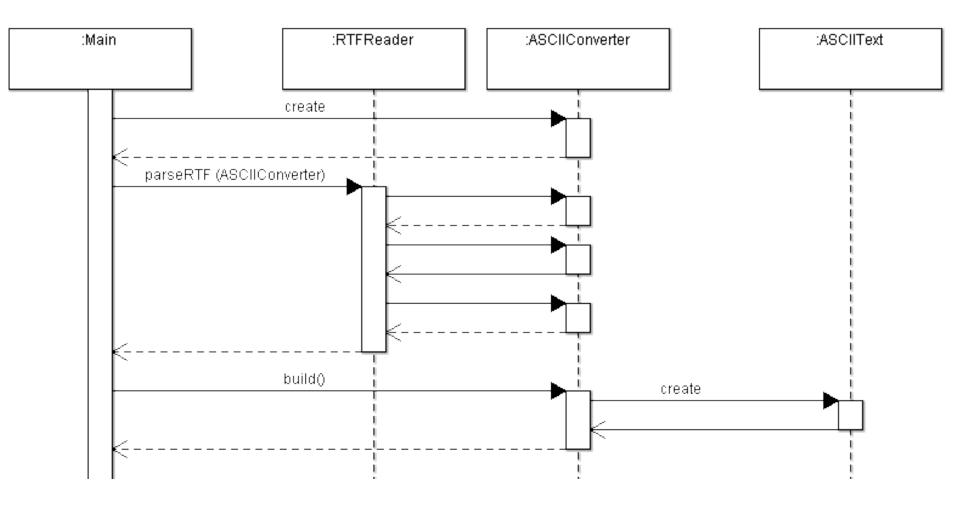
Builder roles

- Builder Defines interface for creating parts of Product object
- ConcreteBuilder Constructs and assembles parts of the product by implementing Builder interface
- Director Constructs a Product using the Builder interface
- **Product** complex object under construction

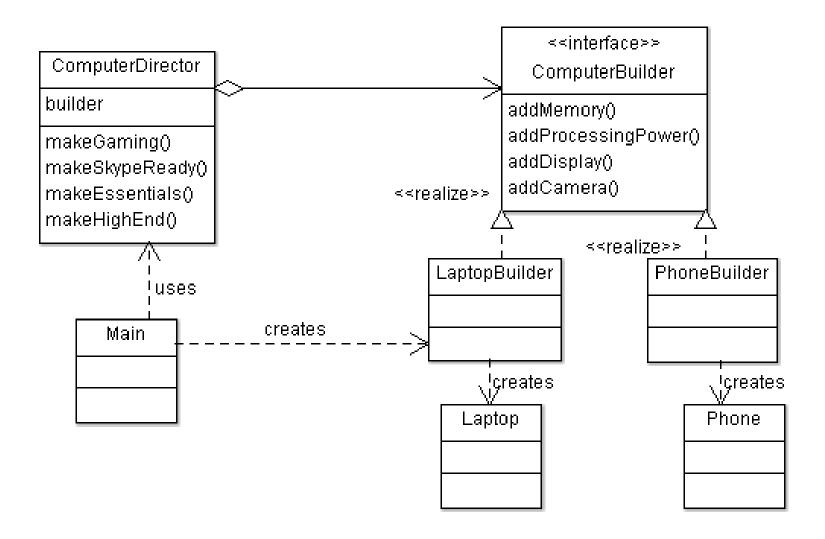
Document converter



Builder sequence



Computer/phone builder

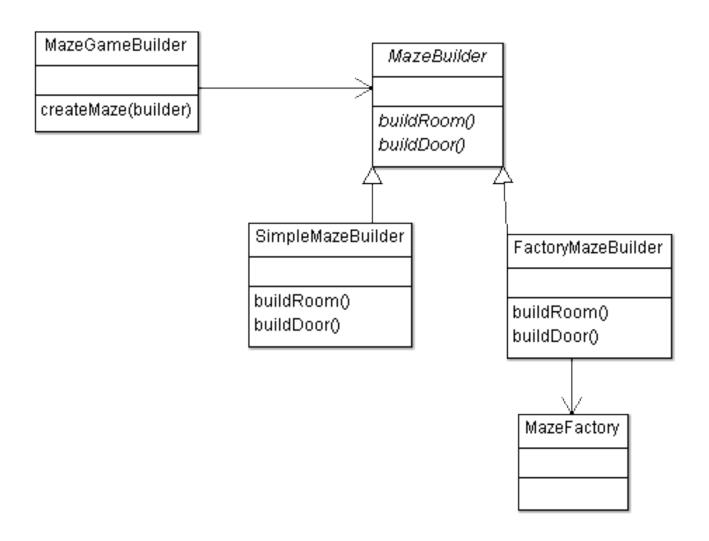


Builder pattern

- Pattern used when constructing objects is complex and repetitive
- Example for maze:

```
Room room1 = factory.makeRoom(1);
Room room2 = factory.makeRoom(2);
Door door1 = factory.makeDoor(room1, room2);
room1.setSide(Direction.NORTH, door1);
room1.setWall(Direction.EAST,
  factory.makeWall());
room1.setWall(Direction.WEST,
  factory.makeWall());
room1.setWall(Direction.SOUTH,
  factory.makeWall());
```

Maze builder



Builder pattern evolution

Reminder:

- Intent
 - Separate construction of complex objects so same construction process can create complex object from different implementation parts

Pattern has evolved to have additional flavors since original Gang of 4 vision

- Main change accomplish same intent, but less complexity needed for many implementations
- Easy to convert to original model should complexity change to justify it

Two primary new flavors

- Construction of objects with a lot of variety of construction mechanisms - uses similar pattern but for different goals (usually) – (what I will refer to as "simple builder" but not an official term)
- Construction of complex components with many aggregates that can change - fully realizes Gang of 4 goals (what I will refer to as "complex construction builder" but not an official term)
- Both generally implemented with nested static class as the builder with private constructor for object

"Simple builder"

- Intent: For objects that have many different ways of being constructed and potentially dependencies in construction
 - 20 possible attributes, numerous combinations of valid initial state, but "empty" instance would violate idea of valid object

General form

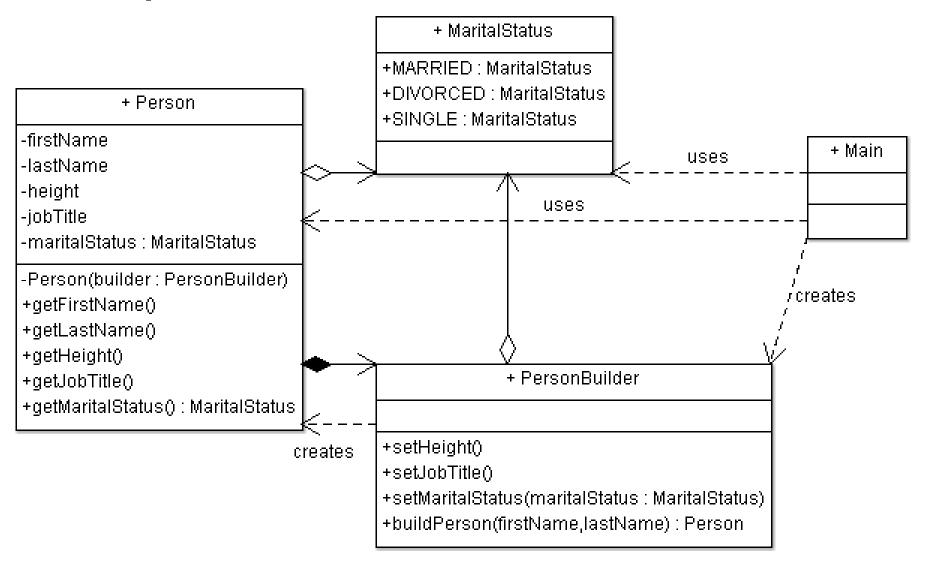
- Single class plus potentially enumerations
- Nested static builder with private outer class constructor
- Flow Create builder, populate builder, build

Oddities of coding for convenience

Within nested builder common to return an instance of that builder with each call:

```
public PersonBuilder age(int passedAge) {
  this.nestedAge = passedAge;
  return this;
Why?
Person myPerson = new Person.PersonBuilder("John", "Doe")
             .age (30)
             .phone ("1234567")
             .address("Fake address 1234")
             .build();
```

Simple builder version



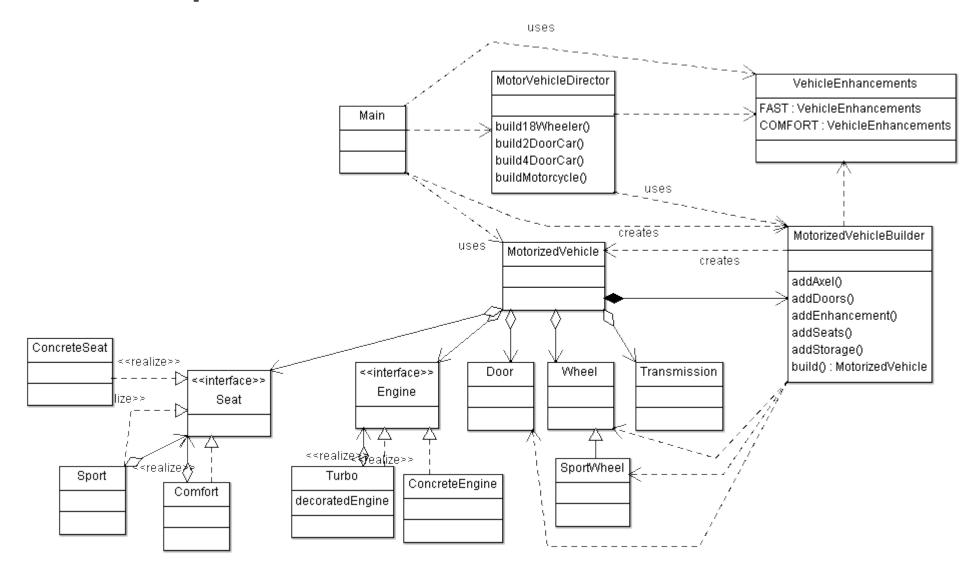
"Complex construction builder"

- Intent: For objects that have many different parts, dependencies, and ways of being constructed; separate construction of complex object from complexities of internal representation.
 - External object asks to build concept director and builder hide complexities that make up internal construction and structure

General form

- Class with several aggregate classes that can be identified from a general concept
- Nested static builder with private outer class constructor
- Director that encapsulates complex or repetitive build operations
- Flow Create builder, call director passing builder, call build on builder

"Complex construction builder"



Group work

• Describe in detail how you could use either the Gang of 4 builder pattern or the "Complex construction builder" pattern within your project