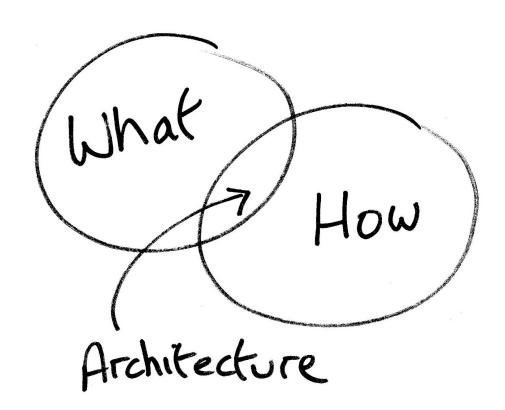
Emergent Architecture Design

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Abstract

This document specifies the architecture of this application and different design choices. Some of these choices include the implemented design patters, the Hardware/Software mapping, Persistent data management and concurrency within our application. We will also attempt to explain the design patters we have used and motivate why we used them.

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1 Introduction

For this project, we are attempting to create complex software in a rather short period of time. In order to prevent bugs and to improve the quality of our product, we of course need to have a good code. After all good implementation of a bad design still leaves you with useless software. This document will also serve as reference guide to third parties interested in our development process and those who are interested in our thought process after inspecting our source code itself.

1.1 Design Goals

1.1.1 Code Quality

The way in which our group works with Git attempts to improve code quality and guarantee that there is always a working version available. We maintain two different versions; A working version on the master branch and a developing version on the develop branch. Changes are first merged onto the develop branch during a sprint. Only once the develop branch is fully functional will we make these changes to the master branch. Pull-based development is a very important factor in ensuring the code quality of our product because of the code reviewing.

1.1.2 Component Independence

As is good practice in Object-Oriented Systems, we would like to achieve Component Independence. For that reason we chose to structure our software using the Model-View-Controller software architecture. Having independent components pays off greatly when you want to implement changes in your project. When two components depend on each other, changes in one component affect the other component. This greatly affects the time it takes to implement changes for the worse. Given that we only have approximately ten weeks to finish

1.1.3 Maintainability

Given that we are working on this project for ten weeks with a group of five people. If we do not pay attention to code maintainability, a lot of time would be wasted rewriting old code first in order for new functionality to be added during each sprint. In order for our code to be maintainable we test rigorously before new features are even added to our developing version of the code, let alone our version on the master branch.

2 Software Architecture Views

2.1 Subsystem Decomposition

We have designed our system following the MVC architecture, dividing it into multiple subsystems. Our project can be divided into three main parts: models, views and controllers.

The models can be found in the contextproject.models package. The classes included in this part of the project enable us to do the calculations and store the data we need to match tracks and construct the play-lists for the users. This package contains the following classes: BeatGrid, BeatRange, MusicalKey, Library, LibraryProperty, Playlist, Track and TrackProperty.

The controllers can be found in the contextproject.controllers class. These classes take care of the interaction between our models and our views. One of the classes in this package, the CliController, is intended specifically for our Command Line Interface.

The other controllers: LibraryController,Playlistcontroller,MenubarController, PlayerControlsController and WindowController are to be used in combination with our GUI.

Our views can be found under resources. We have separated them from the other code, because they are not implemented using Java and the team thought it was best not to mix java files with other file formats. Our views themselves are implemented in FXML, which is part of the JavaFX framework. This package also includes CSS style sheet, which contain all the styling elements of our views. For now we have the following views: library, menu_bar, player_controls, track_info and window. Each of these views has it's own style sheet.

Our project contains additional subsystems, that perform multiple auxiliary functions.

For instance, the context project.audio package contains services related to the music player in our application. It contains the Airhorn Processor, Complex-Onset Processor, Custom AudioDispatcher, Energy Level Processor, Onset Processor, Player Service, Progress Processor, skip AudioProcessor and Track Processor. The context project.formats contains classes that help us store data in the desired format. The class Xml Export helps us relevant information to an XML file. The M3U Builder class helps us construct play-list that can be played in a media player although without the transitions.

The contextproject.helpers is a package that contains the FileName, KeyBpmFinder, StackTrace, TextFileReader and TrackCompatibility class. The FileName comes in handy when dealing with MP3 files, the KeyBpmFinder does as its name says, the StackTrace class helps us during logging, the TextFileReader reads text files and turns them into an array of lines so these can then be properly displayed in text boxes and the TrackCompatibility performs the function of matching two tracks.

The sorters themselves can be found in the contextproject.sorters package. Currently we have two different sorters we can switch between. One of them is the GreedySort sorter and the other is the MaxFlow sorter. The package also contains the data structures used by this MaxFlow algorithm, such as the Graph, TrackNode, weightedEdge, TrackTree and the MaxFlow which calculates the maximum flow in the constructed graph.

Last but not least, in the contexproject package we have the App and the AppConfig class. The App starts the application itself and in fact properly glues the subsystems together, the AppConfig contains some settings such as whether to use the EscalatieTransition or FadeInOutTransition.

2.2 Hardware/Software Mapping

For the moment, our system just runs on one computer at a time. In that case, there is no inter-computer communication. The classes in contextproject.audio rely quite heavily on the functionality of the users sound card. Our audio library needs the drivers of a users sound card to function properly. This could possibly cause fatal timeouts in our application, but who would use a music service without a sound card in their computer in the first place!

For now no Internet connection is required whatsoever. The only thing that is also required is a music collection or a way to acquire new music. That could be a disk drive and Cd's or Internet. The choice is up to the user in that specific aspect.

We did it this way, because it risks greatly decreasing system performance. We didn't want to cut off ours users from their favorite music just because their connection is unstable. It would have cost us a lot of extra work for a function that would be likely to cause more annoyance than joy to the user.

2.3 Persistent Data Management

In this version we store all the user music data in an XML file at the program closing. So when the program starts all the play-list will be there and the calculating part has to be done once per play-list. Upon addition of a new music folder, the calculations are run again and the new play-list is added to the library.xml file. The other play-lists will remain untouched unless the user deletes them manually. We chose to store this data in XML-format for multiple reasons: it was fast to implement, it is a reliable format for storing data and we were familiar with storing data in this way. Besides the XML file, we also save the data the the track contains in the I3D of the .mp3 file. By saving data in the I3D the loading of a certain song is way faster when loaded for the second time in our program than for the first time, since it doesn't have to do heavy calculations like energy detection.

2.4 Concurrency

The initial version worked with a CLI and therefore it was not attractive to implement multi-threading in that release. All later releases include a fully-fledged GUI and more intricate sorting algorithms. This gave us enough incentive to

implement multi-threading in our application. We implemented these in the Audio player, so that it would not be interrupted when a user would interact with the GUI. Also, the TarsosDSP audio dispatchers each own a separate thread, where a track's audio is processed real-time and sent to the speakers. This includes skipping/pausing, mixing and tempo/pitch manipulation. Before a track is brought into play by transition, it is 'prepared' in the background. We do this by skipping the audio stream up until the desired point, and then calling wait() on the entire dispatcher thread. When we want the track to start playing, we notify the dispatcher thread that the transition can start.

2.5 Design Patterns

For the GUI of our application, we used the javaFX framework. Our views are therefore implemented through FXML files. This is a markup language and show strong similarities to XML. Our FXML files are all implemented following the composite design pattern. FXML is naturally compositional, because of the tree structure it employs.

Our project also contains classes designed following the Singleton design pattern. Our project only needs to include one instance of the App, Library and Logger classes. Therefore we have implemented them in ways that allow our application to run only one instance of these classes in the entire application.

The reason we use singleton for the library is that when there is more than one library, the libraries will overwrite each other on exit of the program, which will result in missing data. This will hinder one important feature of our project: storing matched play-list. If tracks suddenly go missing from your library, the entire experience we hope to offer to our users is lost on them. That would be very stupid of us to even consider taking such a risk. Going for this pattern was our only option in this case.

The logger has to be a singleton, otherwise you get inconsistencies. If there would be more than one logger, the process of logging would become very unstable. It is possible that the logger would create multiple logging files, one for each instance which would make our application memory inefficient. There could be inconsistencies within a file, such as some data being logged multiple times by each of the different loggers. This is a lot of risk to take for such a small part of our program. Although these errors are unlikely to occur, it wouldn't be the first time that Murphy's Law worked it's magic in a software project. Therefore we decided it to be best to avoid them altogether by using this design pattern.

We also used the Factory Pattern for the class TrackProperty. This way we could create Tracks that fit into a JavaFX tableview. We thought this was the cleanest and best way to represent songs in our GUI. It also turned out to be the easiest way to generate the list of tracks in the GUI. It was also great when we wanted to show an additional property of a track. You would just have to

add a new property to the TrackProperty class and a new column in the GUI and they would show up correctly.

3 Glossary

CLI - Command Line Interface.

Text based interfaced that requires interaction through typing commands. GUI - Graphical User Interface .

Interface that allows interaction through visual icons and mouse Factory Pattern.

This is a software design pattern where the developers use special methods to create new instances of specific objects

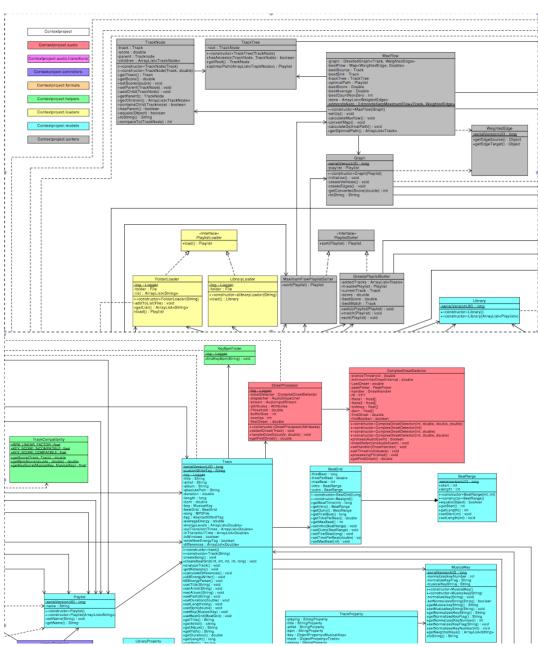
MVC - Model-View-Controller

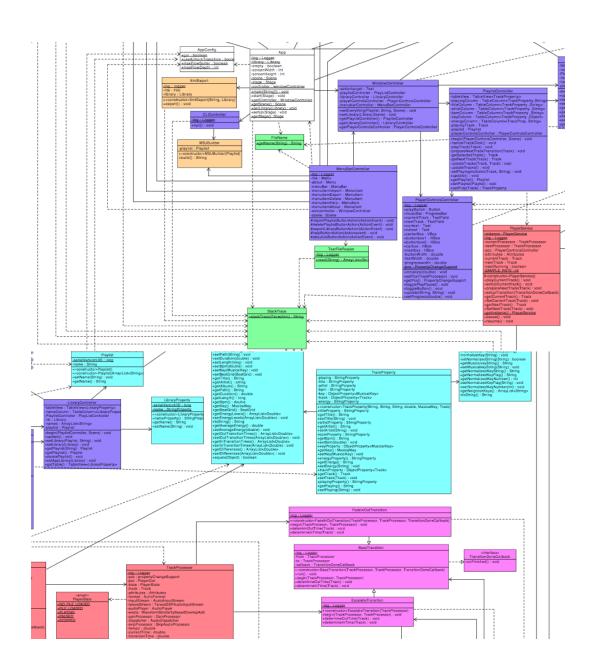
Software Architecture that dictates seperation of GUI-code: The View and the main code that handles the data in the code. These layer are linked by another layer, the controllers.

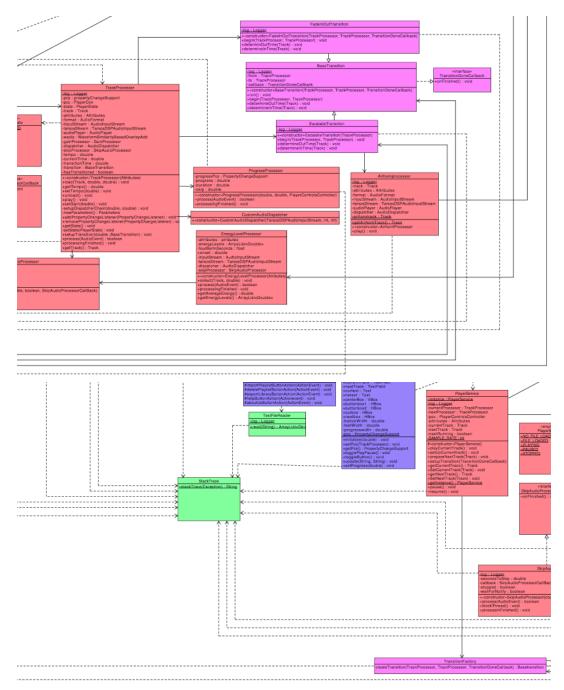
Singleton Pattern

Software Design Pattern that only allows one instance of a class to exist in the entire application.

A UML Diagram







for full picture with download for zoom see our drive.

B Testing Report

For testing our application we used a combination automatic and manual testing. Most of our packages were tested mostly using JUnit, as they were easy to test automatically. However, three of our packages: THe contextproject, contextproject.audio and contextproject.audio were very hard to test automatically. That is why we tested these ones manually. It was possible, but you would have to load an actual track into the jUnit test case which does not really go well with continuous integration tools like Travis.

Aside from JUnit, we also used other Frameworks for testing: Mockito and TestFX. We used Mockito for dependency injection were possible. This was not always possible, because we required very specific data from a class, which doesn't go well when mocking these instances.

. We used TestFX for testing the controllers package. TestFX includes a robot, the FXRobot, which can simulate user interaction such as clicking, typing and even entering files. The test were structure using the following pattern: we would set-up a dummy version of the window and perform all kinds of interactions through the TestFX robots and check if it had had the desired effect. These include matters like the correct changes in CSS id's and opening of new windows.