Chapter 9
Design Engineering

Design Engineering

- Encompasses the set of principles, concepts, and practices that lead to the development of a high quality system or product
- Design principles establish an overriding philosophy that guides the designer as the work is performed
- Design concepts must be understood before the mechanics of design practice are applied
- Goal of design engineering is to produce a model or representation that is bug free (firmness), suitable for its intended uses (commodity), and pleasurable to use (delight)

Software Design

- Design follows analysis and must conform to requirements specifications
- Design Model
  - Data/Class Design
  - Architectural Design
  - Interface Design
  - Component Level Design

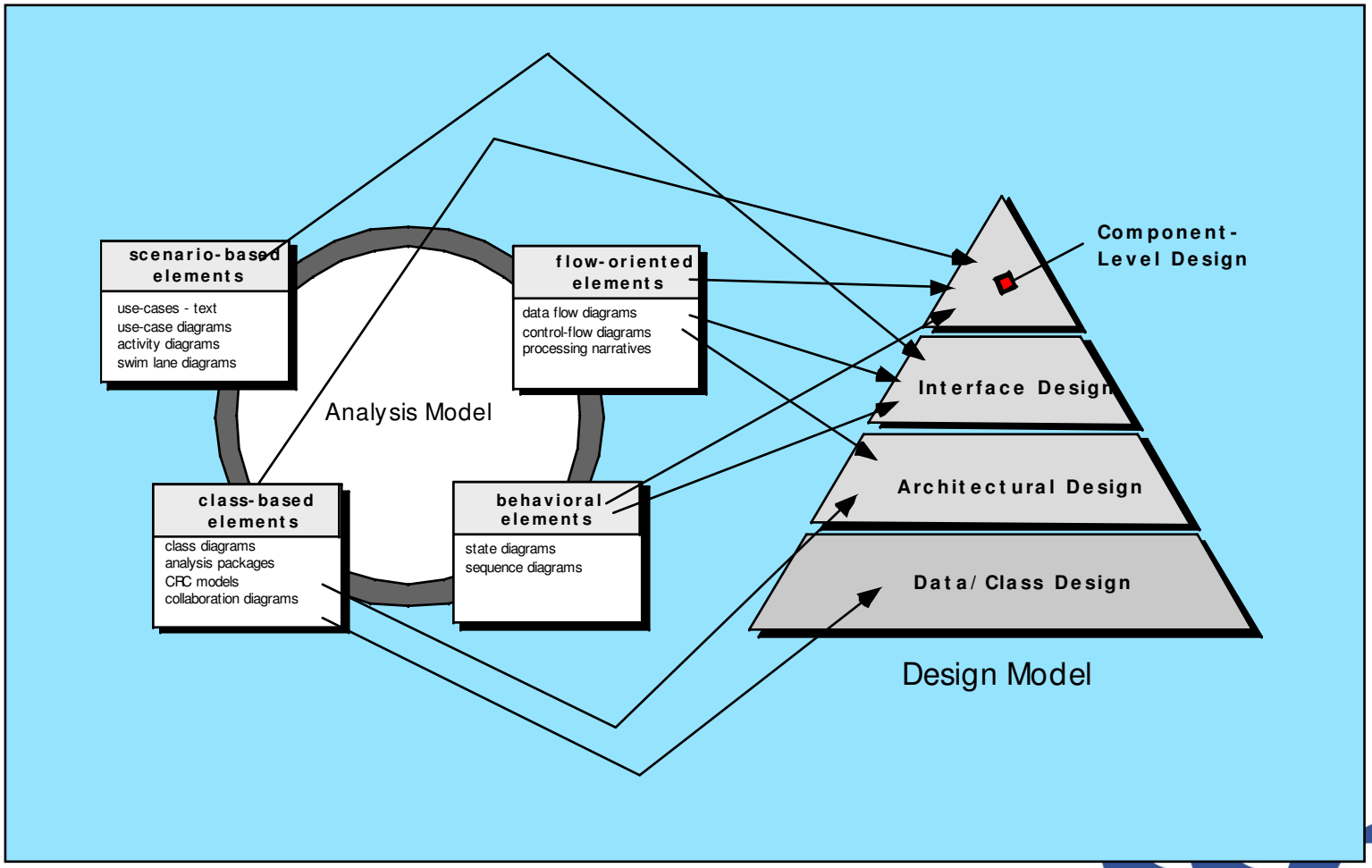
Design Specification Models

- Data/Class design - created by transforming the analysis model class-based elements into classes and data structures required to implement the software
- Architectural design - defines the relationships among the major structural elements of the software, it is derived from the class-based elements and flow-oriented elements of the analysis model
- Interface design - describes how the software elements, hardware elements, and end-users communicate with one another, it is derived from the analysis model scenario-based elements, flow-oriented elements, and behavioral elements
- Component-level design - created by transforming the structural elements defined by the software architecture into a procedural description of the software components using information obtained form the analysis model class-based elements, flow-oriented elements, and behavioral elements

Traceability

- Everything in the design should be there for a reason!
- All design work products must be traceable to requirements
- All design work products must be reviewed for quality.

Analysis Model -> Design Model



Design and Quality

- the design must implement all of the explicit requirements contained in the analysis model, and it must accommodate all of the implicit requirements desired by the customer.
- the design must be a readable, understandable guide for those who generate code and for those who test and subsequently support the software.
- the design should provide a complete picture of the software, addressing the data, functional, and behavioral domains from an implementation perspective.

Quality Guidelines

- A design should exhibit an architecture that

  (1) has been created using recognizable architectural styles or patterns,

  (2) is composed of components that exhibit good design characteristics and

  (3) can be implemented in an evolutionary fashion

  For smaller systems, design can sometimes be developed linearly.
- A design should be modular; that is, the software should be logically partitioned into elements or subsystems
- A design should contain distinct representations of data, architecture, interfaces, and components.
- A design should lead to data structures that are appropriate for the classes to be implemented and are drawn from recognizable data patterns.

Quality Guidelines (cont.)

- A design should lead to components that exhibit independent functional characteristics.
- A design should lead to interfaces that reduce the complexity of connections between components and with the external environment.
- A design should be derived using a repeatable method that is driven by information obtained during software requirements analysis.
- A design should be represented using a notation that effectively communicates its meaning.

FURPS Quality Factors

- Functionality
- Usability
- Reliability
- Performance
- Supportability

Design Principles

- The design process should not suffer from ‘tunnel vision.’
- The design should be traceable to the analysis model.
- The design should not reinvent the wheel.
- The design should “minimize the intellectual distance” [DAV95] between the software and the problem as it exists in the real world.
- The design should exhibit uniformity and integration.
- The design should be structured to accommodate change.
- The design should be structured to degrade gently, even when aberrant data, events, or operating conditions are encountered.
- Design is not coding, coding is not design.
- The design should be assessed for quality as it is being created, not after the fact.
- The design should be reviewed to minimize conceptual (semantic) errors.

From Davis [DAV95]

Design Process

- Software design is an iterative process traceable to requirements analysis process
- Many software projects iterate through the analysis and design phases several times
- Pure separation of analysis and design may not always be possible or desirable

"There are two ways of constructing a software design. One way is to make it so simple that there are obviously no deficiencies, and the other way is to make it so complicated that there are obviously no deficiencies. The first method is far more difficult."

- C.A.R Hoare

Generic Design Task Set

1. Select an architectural pattern appropriate to the software based on the analysis model
2. Partition the analysis model into design subsystems, design interfaces, and allocate analysis functions (classes) to each subsystem
3. Examine information domain model and design appropriate data structures for data objects and their attributes
4. Create a set of design classes
   - Translate analysis class into design class
   - Check each class against design criteria and consider inheritance issues
   - Define methods and messages for each design class
   - Select design patterns for each design class or subsystem after considering alternatives
   - Revise design classes and revise as needed

Generic Design Task Set

5. Design user interface
   - Review task analyses
   - Specify action sequences based on user scenarios
   - Define interface objects and control mechanisms
   - Review interface design and revise as needed
6. Conduct component level design
   - Specify algorithms at low level of detail
   - Refine interface of each component
   - Define component level data structures
   - Review components and correct all errors uncovered
7. Develop deployment model

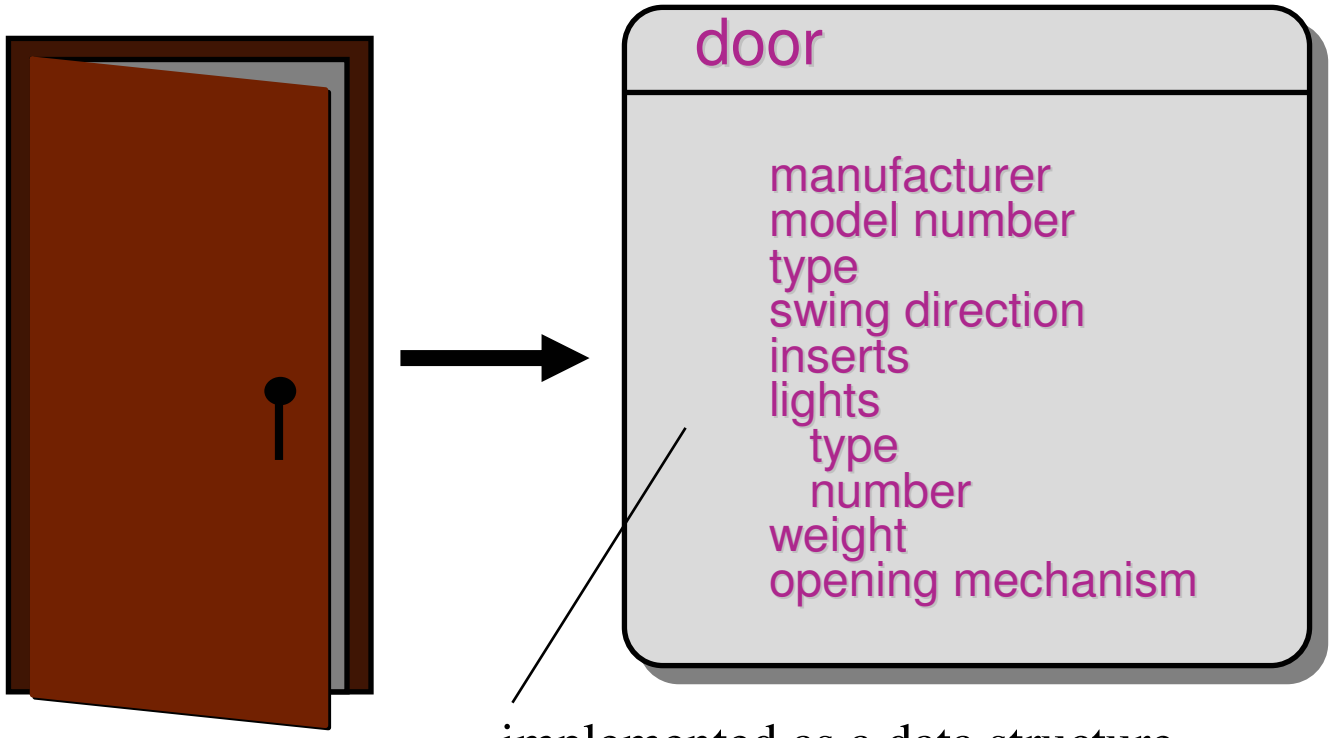
Design Concepts

- abstraction—data, procedure, control
- architecture—the overall structure of the software
- patterns—”conveys the essence” of a proven design solution
- modularity—compartmentalization of data and function
- Information Hiding - data and procedure
- Functional independence —single-minded function and low coupling
- refinement—elaboration of detail for all abstractions
- Refactoring—a reorganization technique that simplifies the design

Abstraction

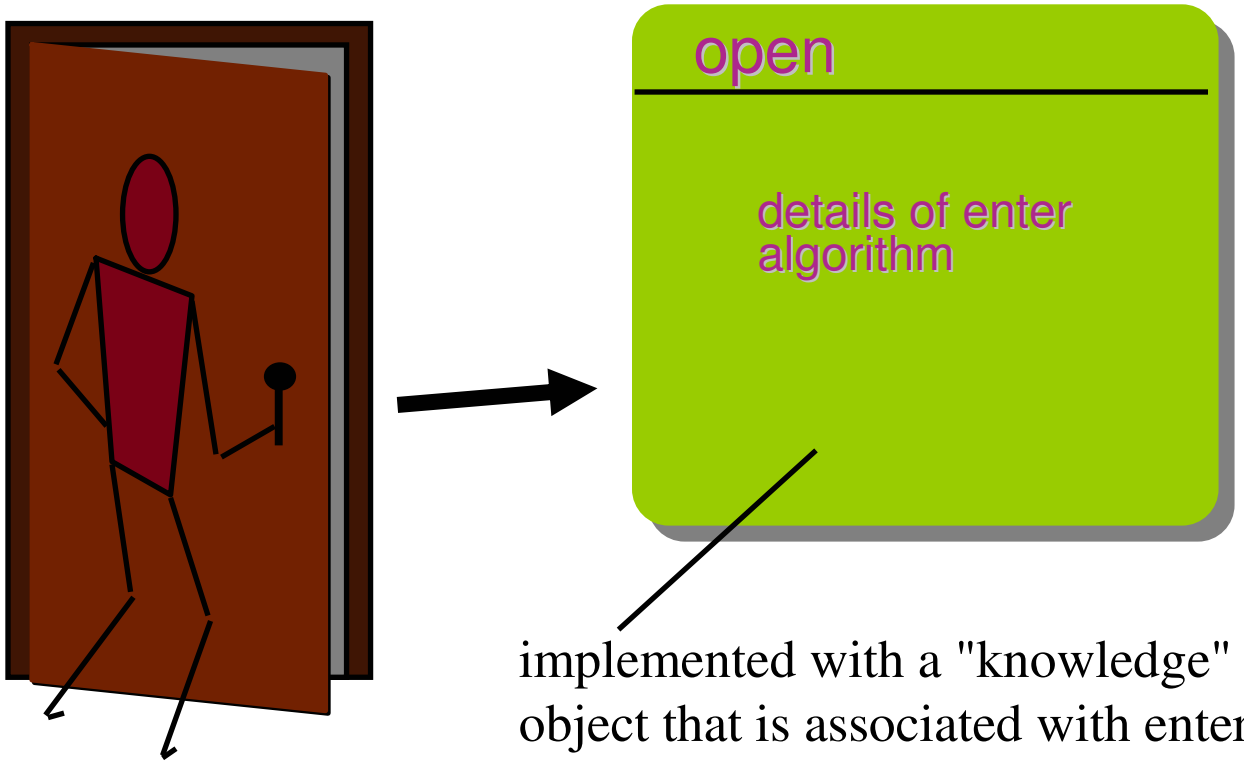
- Concentrate on problem at some level of generalization without considering irrelevant details
- Allows working with concepts/terms familiar in the problem environment

Data Abstraction



implemented as a data structure

Procedural Abstraction



implemented with a "knowledge" of the object that is associated with enter

Architecture

"The overall structure of the software and the ways in which that structure provides conceptual integrity for a system." [SHA95a]

Structural properties. This aspect of the architectural design representation defines the components of a system (e.g., modules, objects, filters) and the manner in which those components are packaged and interact with one another. For example, objects are packaged to encapsulate both data and the processing that manipulates the data and interact via the invocation of methods

Extra-functional properties. The architectural design description should address how the design architecture achieves requirements for performance, capacity, reliability, security, adaptability, and other system characteristics.

Families of related systems. The architectural design should draw upon repeatable patterns that are commonly encountered in the design of families of similar systems. In essence, the design should have the ability to reuse architectural building blocks.

Patterns

Design Pattern Template

Pattern name—describes the essence of the pattern in a short but expressive name

Intent—describes the pattern and what it does

Also-known-as—lists any synonyms for the pattern

Motivation—provides an example of the problem

Applicability—notes specific design situations in which the pattern is applicable

Structure—describes the classes that are required to implement the pattern

Participants—describes the responsibilities of the classes that are required to implement the pattern

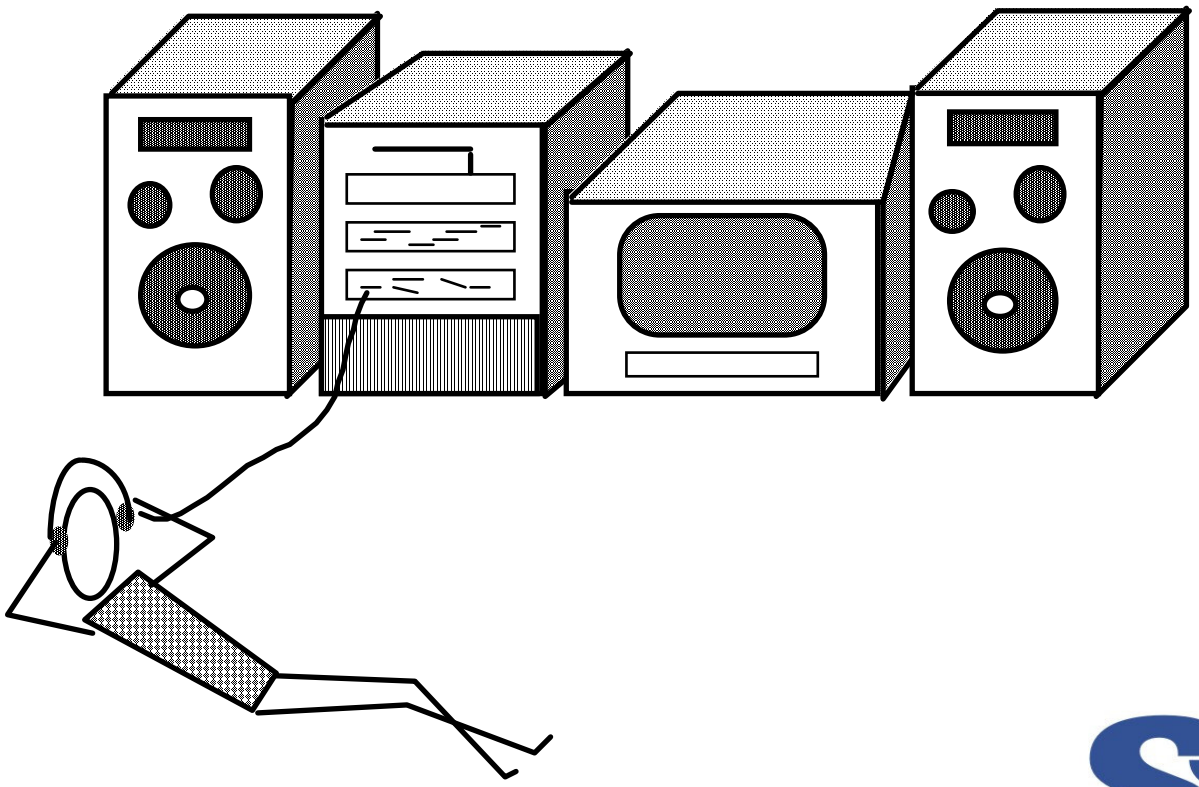
Collaborations—describes how the participants collaborate to carry out their responsibilities

Consequences—describes the "design forces" that affect the pattern and the potential trade-offs that must be considered when the pattern is implemented

Related patterns—cross-references related design patterns

Modular Design

easier to build, easier to change, easier to fix ...

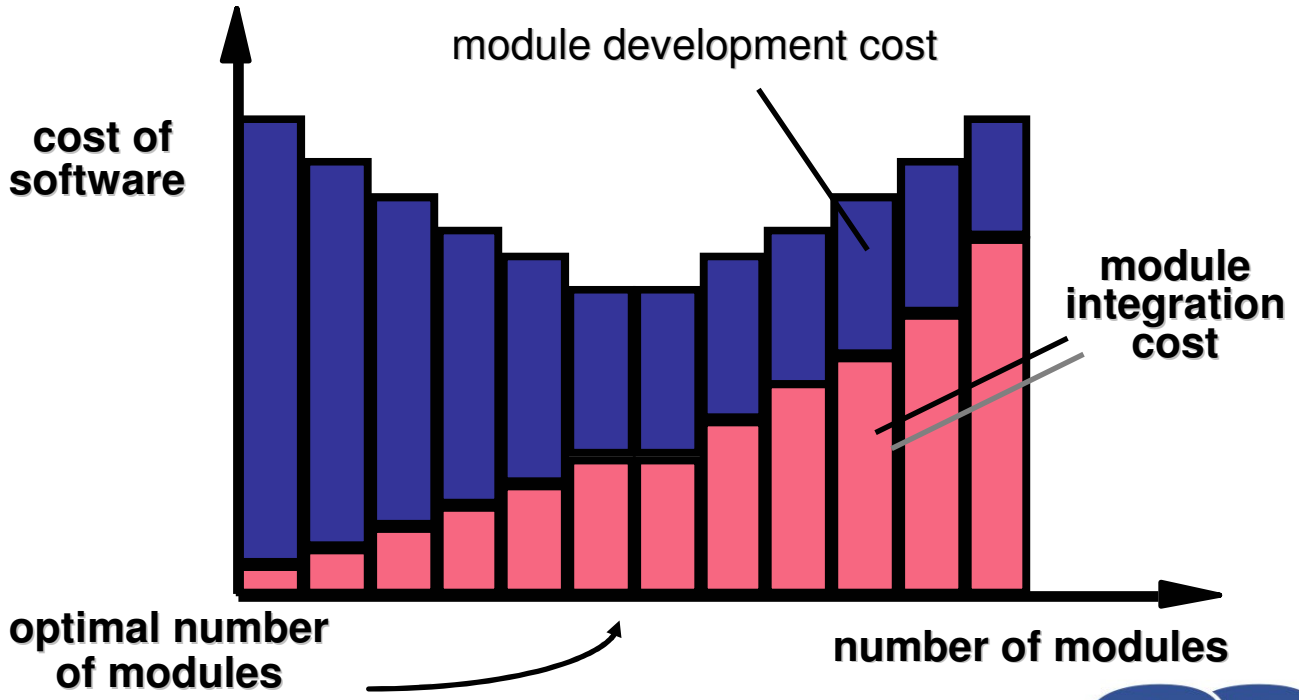


Effective Modular Design

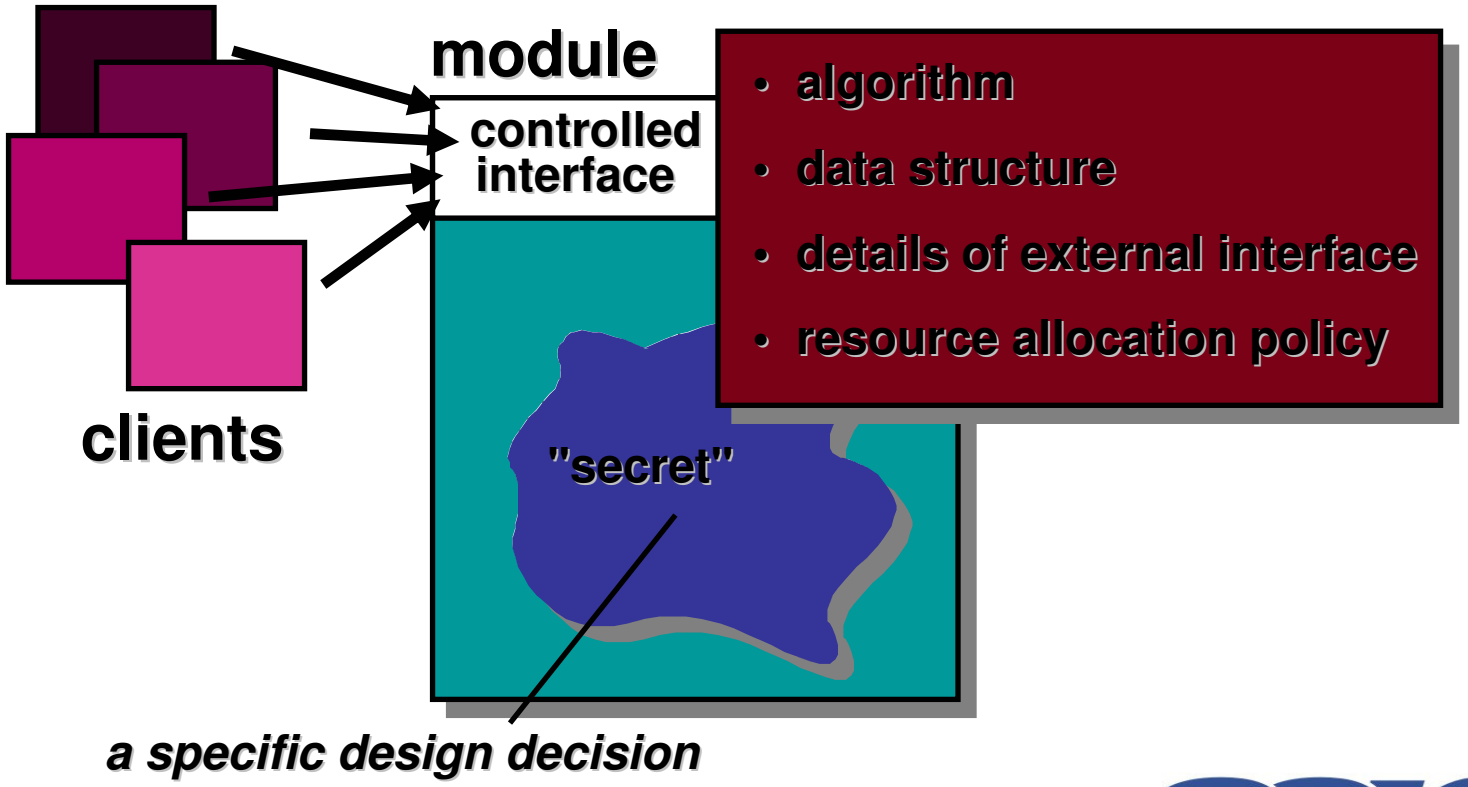
- Modularity
  - Division into separately named and addressable components (modules)
  - Allows complexity to be managed (“divide and conquer”)
- Functional independence - modules have high cohesion and low coupling
- Cohesion - qualitative indication of the degree to which a module focuses on just one thing
- Coupling - qualitative indication of the degree to which a module is connected to other modules and to the outside world

Modularity: Trade-offs

What is the "right" number of modules for a specific software design?



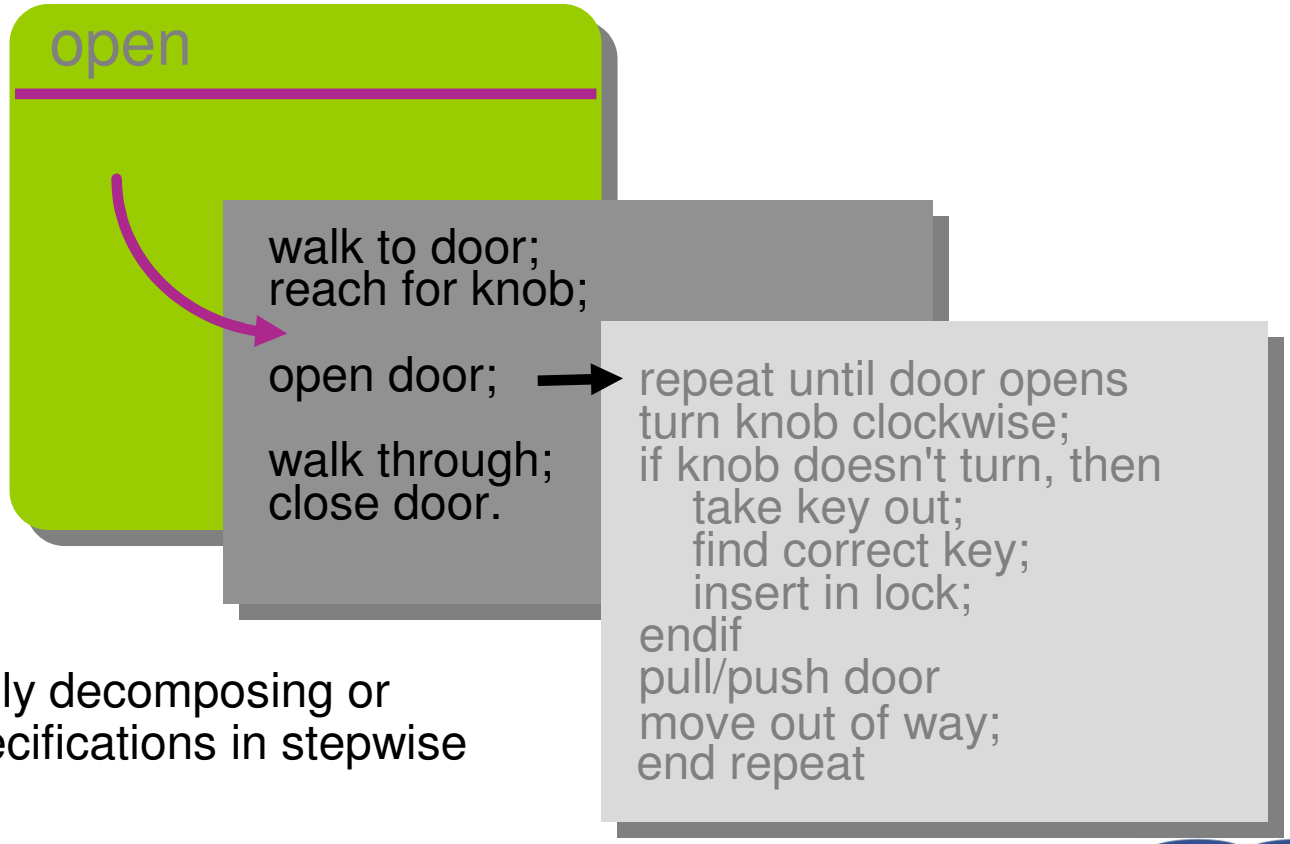
Information Hiding



Why Information Hiding?

- reduces the likelihood of “side effects”
- limits the global impact of local design decisions
- emphasizes communication through controlled interfaces
- discourages the use of global data
- leads to encapsulation—an attribute of high quality design
- results in higher quality software

Stepwise Refinement



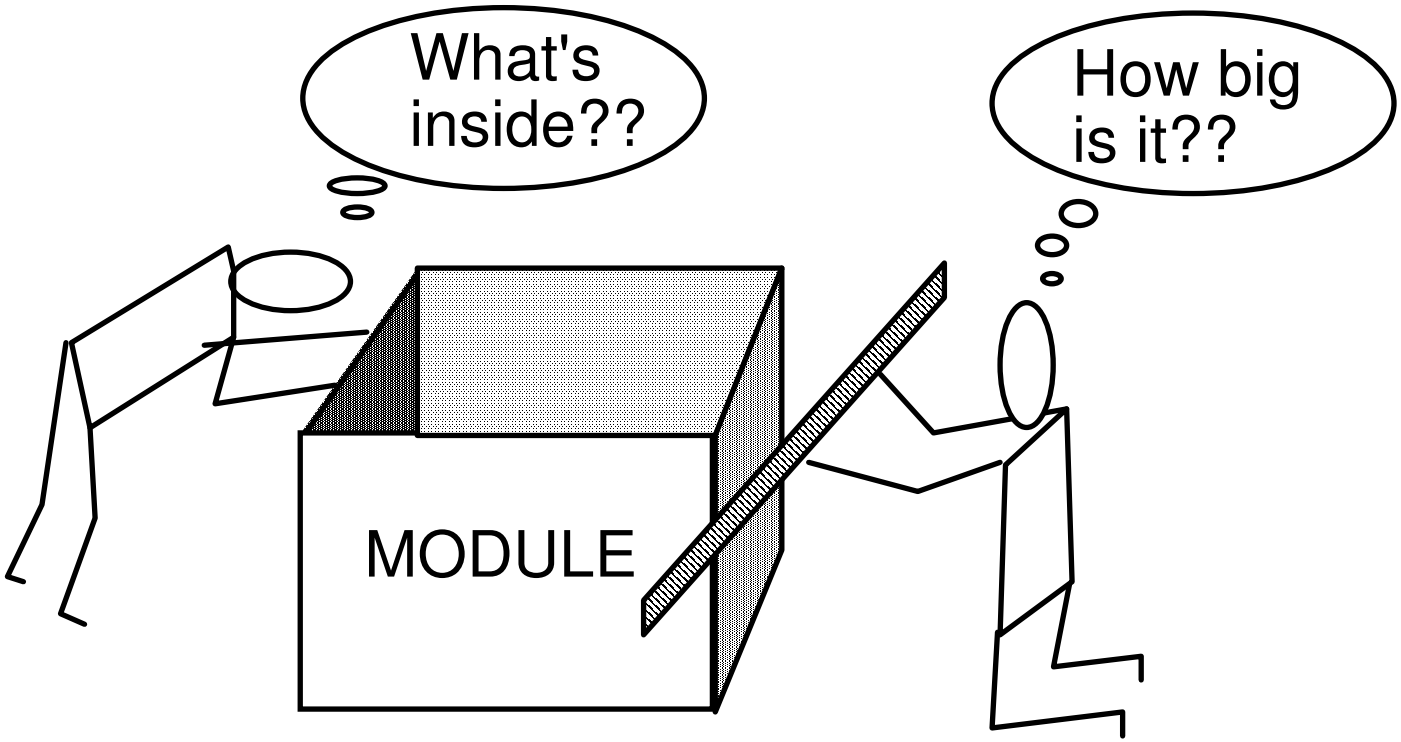
Successively decomposing or refining specifications in stepwise fashion

Functional Independence

COHESION - the degree to which a module performs one and only one function.

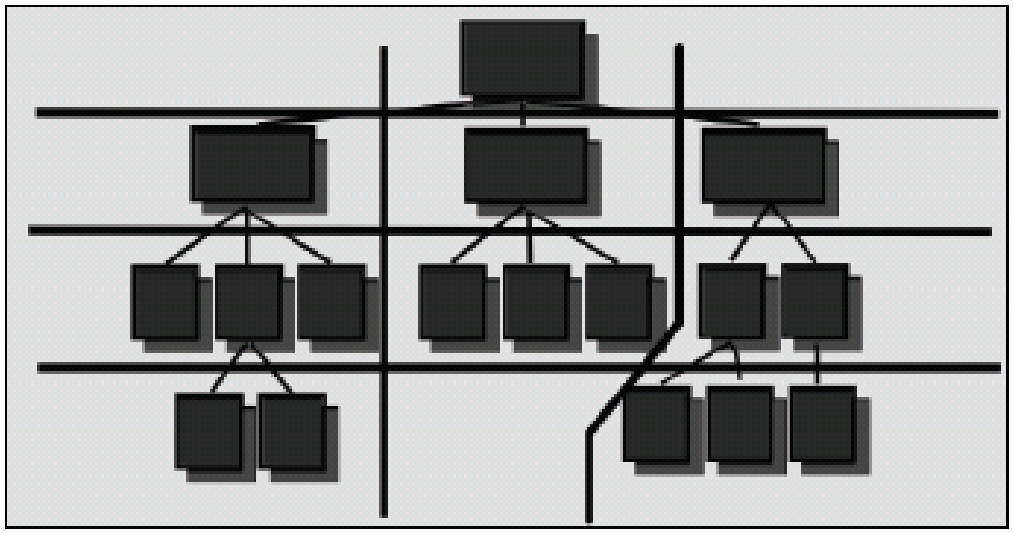
COUPLING - the degree to which a module is "connected" to other modules in the system.

Sizing Modules: Two Views



Structural partitioning

- Horizontal partitioning (division of functionality): separate branches of control hierarchy
- Vertical partitioning (factoring): distributing work to “worker” modules



Refactoring

- Fowler [FOW99] defines refactoring in the following manner:
  - "Refactoring is the process of changing a software system in such a way that it does not alter the external behavior of the code [design] yet improves its internal structure."
- When software is refactored, the existing design is examined for
  - redundancy
  - unused design elements
  - inefficient or unnecessary algorithms
  - poorly constructed or inappropriate data structures
  - or any other design failure that can be corrected to yield a better design.

OO Design Concepts

- Design classes
  - Entity classes
  - Boundary classes
  - Controller classes
- Inheritance—all responsibilities of a superclass is immediately inherited by all subclasses
- Messages—stimulate some behavior to occur in the receiving object
- Polymorphism—a characteristic that greatly reduces the effort required to extend the design

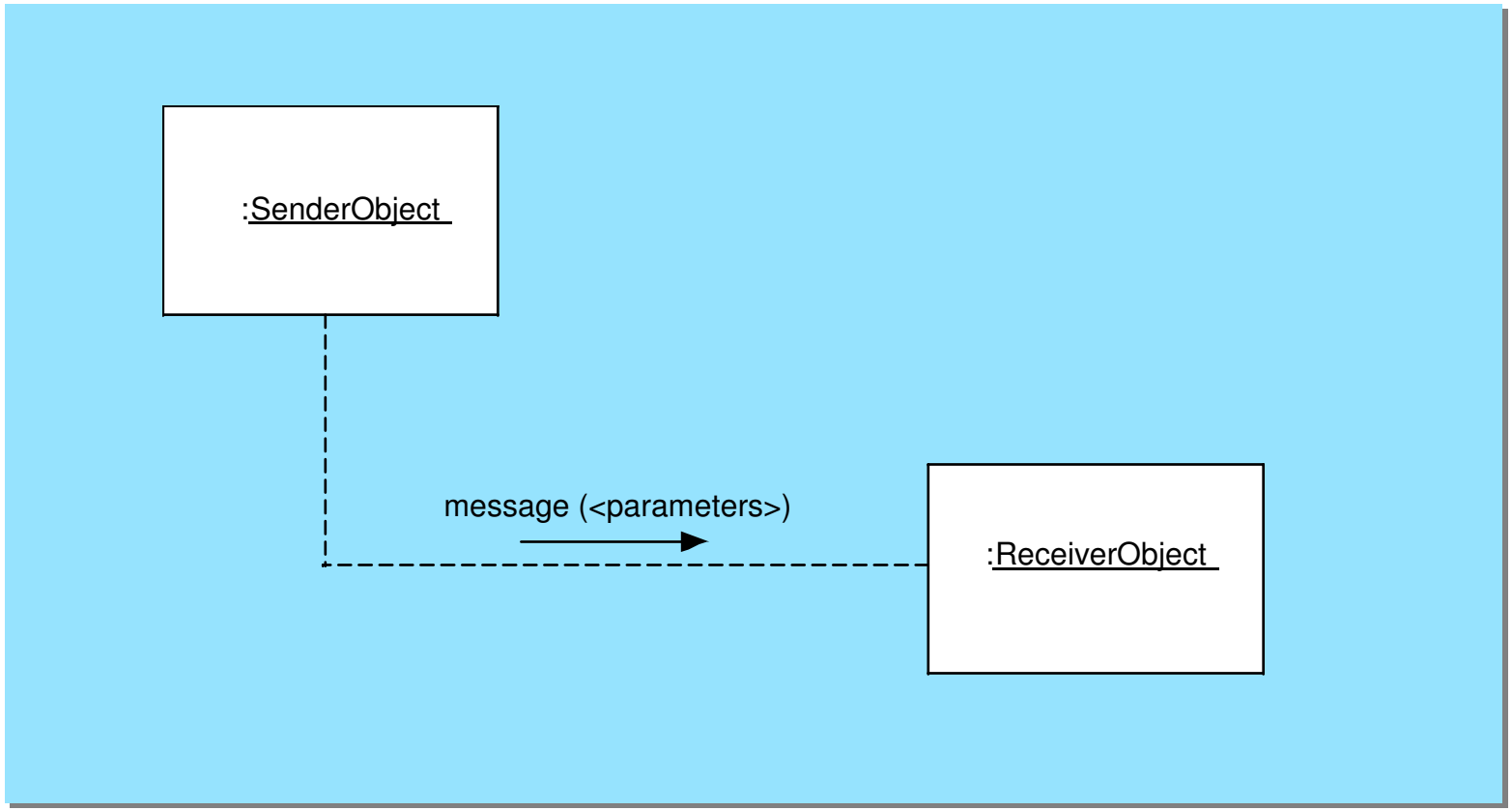
Design Classes

- Analysis classes are refined during design to become entity classes
- Boundary classes are developed during design to create the interface (e.g., interactive screen or printed reports) that the user sees and interacts with as the software is used.
  - Boundary classes are designed with the responsibility of managing the way entity objects are represented to users.
- Controller classes are designed to manage
  - the creation or update of entity objects;
  - the instantiation of boundary objects as they obtain information from entity objects;
  - complex communication between sets of objects;
  - validation of data communicated between objects or between the user and the application.

Inheritance

- Design options:
  - The class can be designed and built from scratch. That is, inheritance is not used.
  - The class hierarchy can be searched to determine if a class higher in the hierarchy (a super class) contains most of the required attributes and operations. The new class inherits from the superclass and additions may then be added, as required.
  - The class hierarchy can be restructured so that the required attributes and operations can be inherited by the new class.
  - Characteristics of an existing class can be overridden and different versions of attributes or operations are implemented for the new class.

Messages



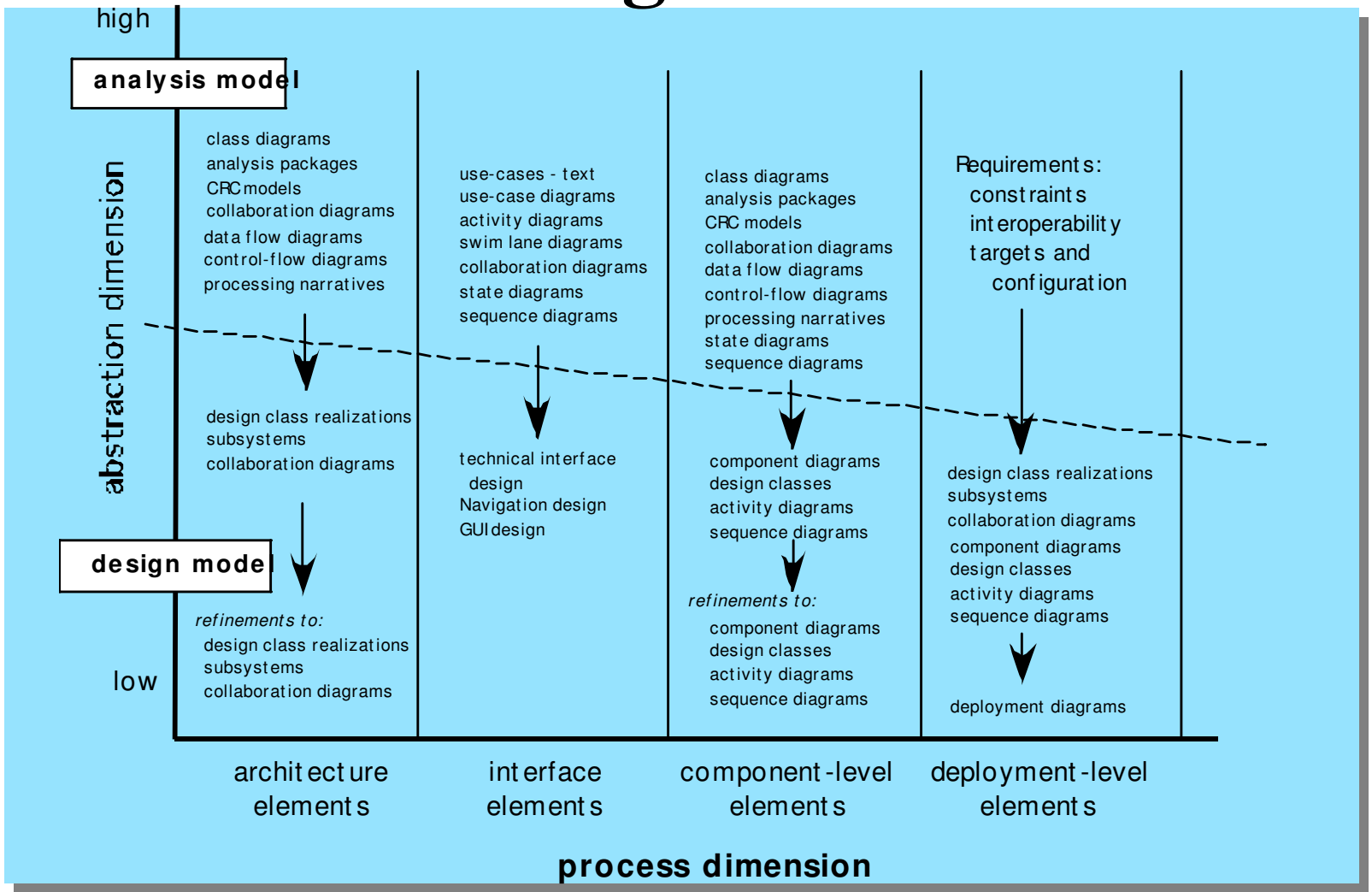
Polymorphism

Conventional approach …

```
case of graphtype:
        if graphtype = linegraph then DrawLineGraph (data);
        if graphtype = piechart then DrawPieChart (data);
        if graphtype = histogram then DrawHisto (data);
        if graphtype = kiviat then DrawKiviat (data);
end case;
```

All of the graphs become subclasses of a general class called graph. Using a concept called overloading [TAY90], each subclass defines an operation called *draw*. An object can send a *draw* message to any one of the objects instantiated from any one of the subclasses. The object receiving the message will invoke its own *draw* operation to create the appropriate graph.

The Design Model



Design Model Elements

- Data elements
  - Data model --> data structures
  - Data model --> database architecture
- Architectural elements
  - Application domain
  - Analysis classes, their relationships, collaborations and behaviors are transformed into design realizations
  - Patterns and “styles” (Chapter 10)
- Interface elements
  - the user interface (UI)
  - external interfaces to other systems, devices, networks or other producers or consumers of information
  - internal interfaces between various design components.
- Component elements
- Deployment elements

Interface Elements

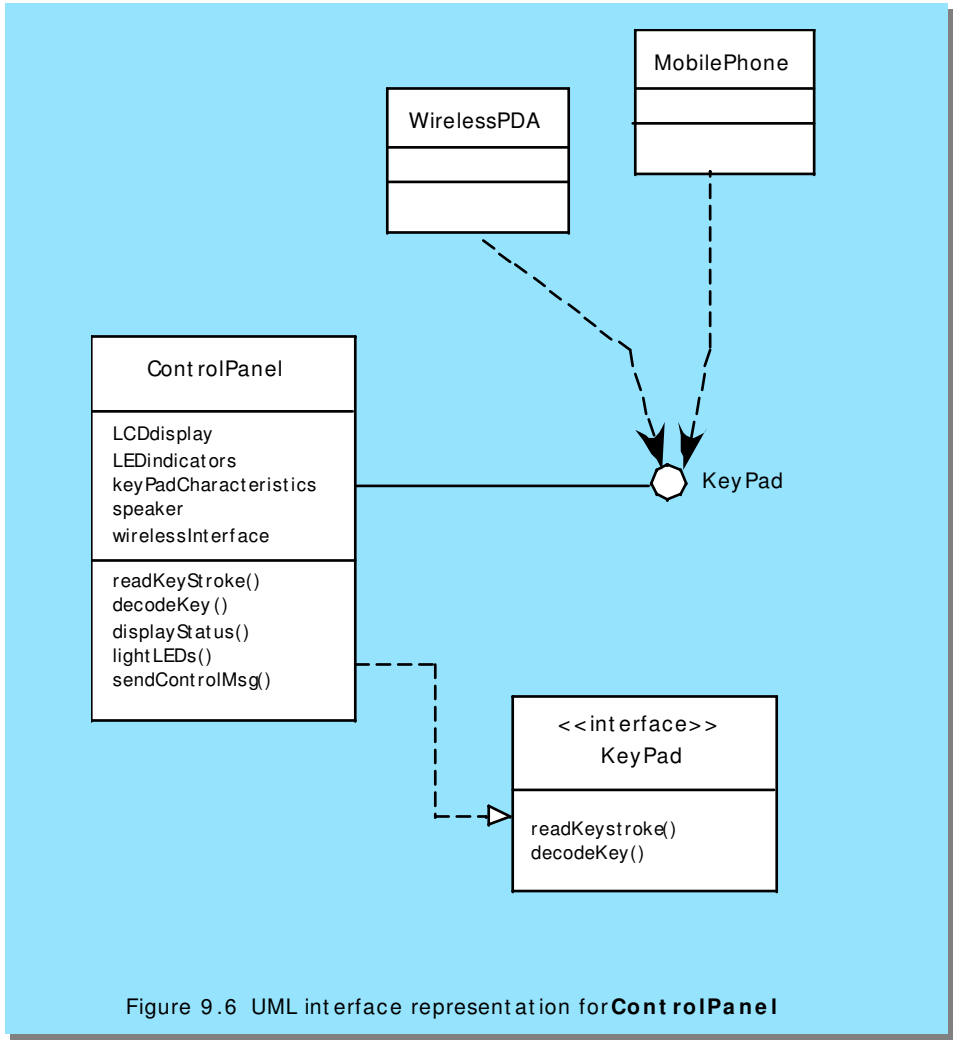
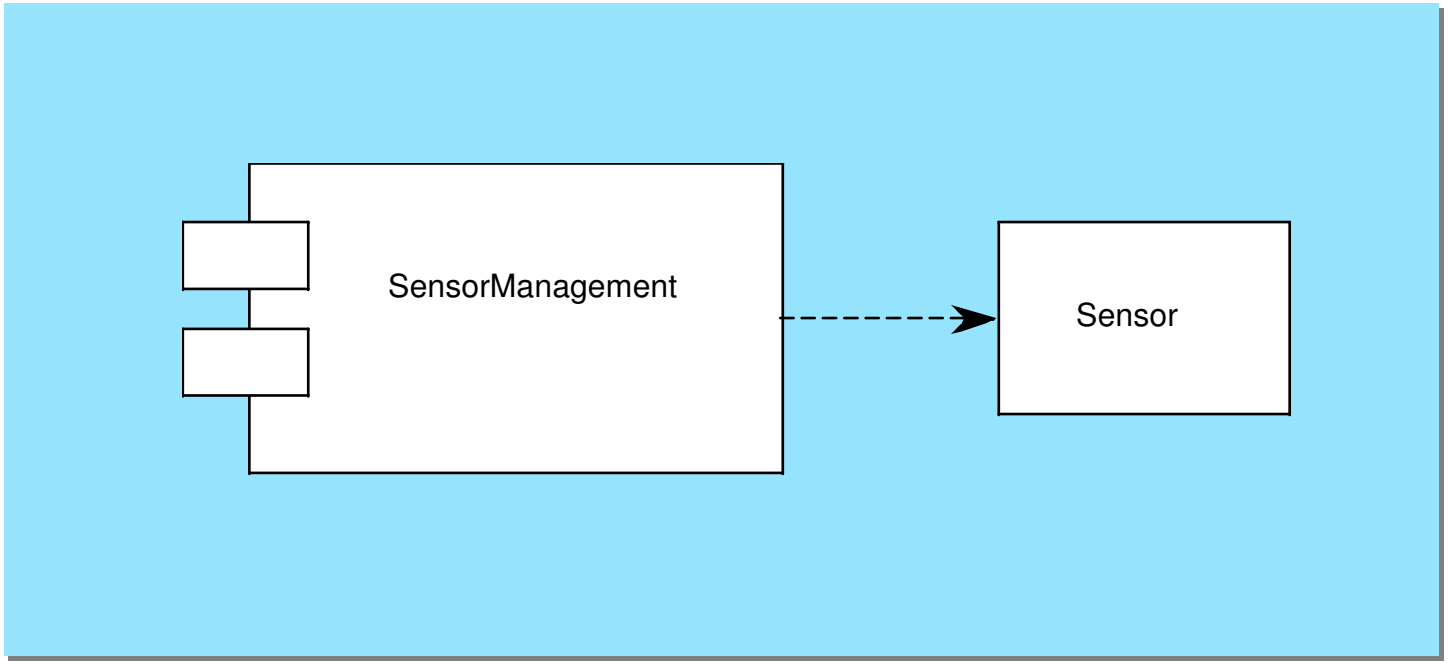


Figure 9.6 UML interface representation for **ControlPanel**

Component Elements



Deployment Elements

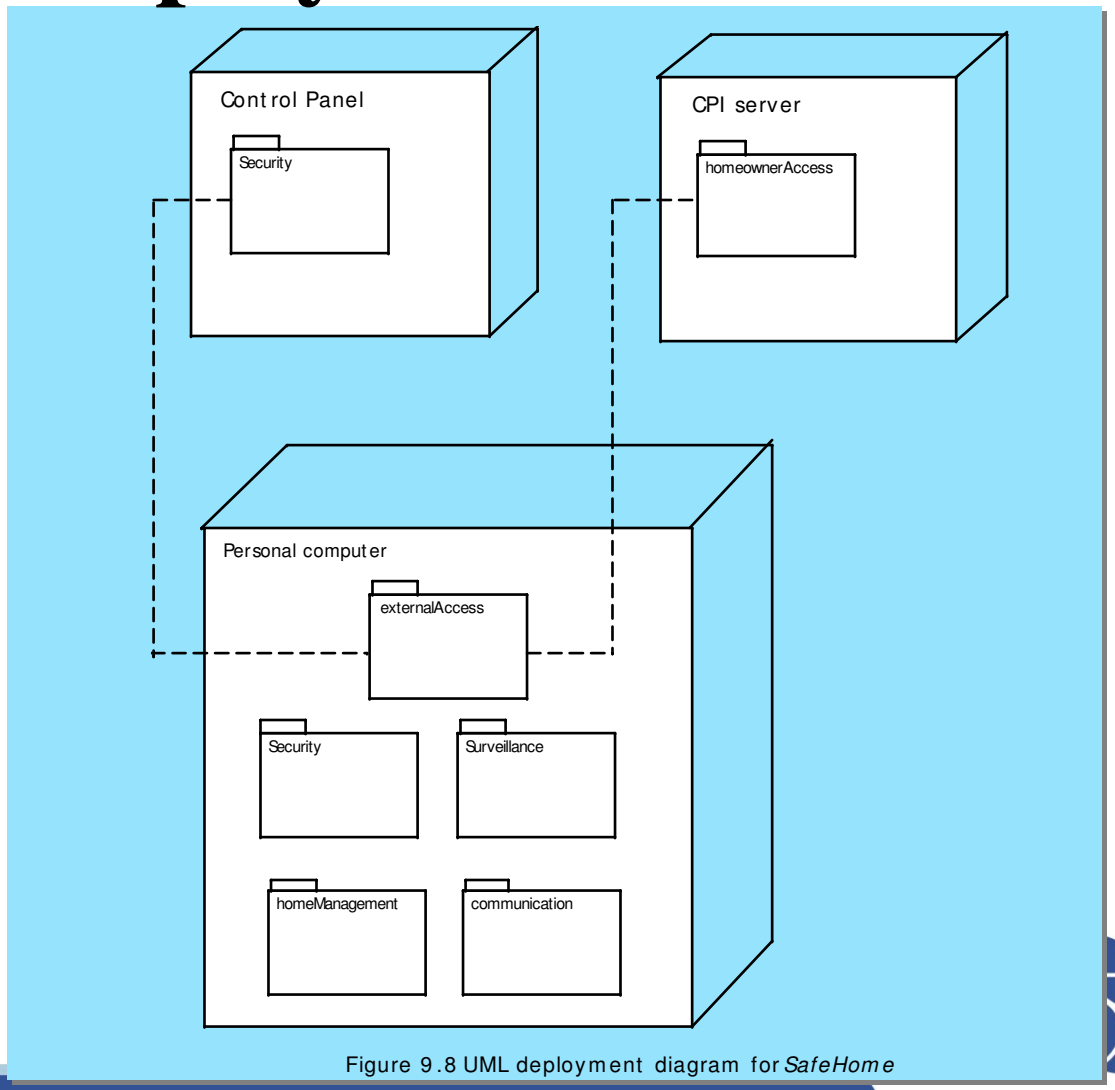


Figure 9.8 UML deployment diagram for *SafeHome*

Design Patterns

- The best designers in any field have an uncanny ability to see patterns that characterize a problem and corresponding patterns that can be combined to create a solution
- A description of a design pattern may also consider a set of design forces.
  - *Design forces* describe non-functional requirements (e.g., ease of maintainability, portability) associated the software for which the pattern is to be applied.
- The pattern characteristics (classes, responsibilities, and collaborations) indicate the attributes of the design that may be adjusted to enable the pattern to accommodate a variety of problems.

Frameworks

- A framework is not an architectural pattern, but rather a skeleton with a collection of "plug points" (also called *hooks* and *slots*) that enable it to be adapted to a specific problem domain.
- Plug points enable designers to integrate problem specific functionality within the skeleton
- In an object-oriented context a skeleton is a collection of cooperating classes
- Gamma et al note that:
  - Design patterns are more abstract than frameworks.
  - Design patterns are smaller architectural elements than frameworks
  - Design patterns are less specialized than frameworks

Data Design

- High level model depicting user's view of the data or information
- Design of data structures and operators is essential to creation of high quality applications
- Translation of data model into database is critical to achieving system business objectives
- Reorganizing databases into data warehouse enables data mining or knowledge discovery that can impact success of business itself

Architectural Design

- Derived from
  - Information about the application domain relevant to software
  - Relationships and collaborations among specific analysis model elements
  - Availability of architectural patterns and styles
- Usually depicted as a set of interconnected systems that are often derived from the analysis packages

Interface Design

- Interface is a set of operations that describes the externally observable behavior of a class and provides access to its operations
- Important elements
  - User interface (UI)
  - External interfaces to other systems
  - Internal interfaces between various design components
- Modeled using UML collaboration diagrams

Component-Level Design

- Describes the internal detail of each software component
- Defines
  - Data structures for all local data objects
  - Algorithmic detail for all component processing functions
  - Interface that allows access to all component operations
- Modeled using UML component diagrams, UML activity diagrams, and pseudo code (PDL)

Deployment-Level Design

- Indicates how software functionality and subsystems will be allocated within the physical computing environment
- Modeled using UML deployment diagrams