

Report for W16 Team4

In this project, we as a team added scoring and logging features to the trainer, with a flexible design which allows for future maintenance and modification by the NERD team.

Changes made to the system regarding Scoring

To implement the scoring feature in the trainer. We as a team decided to implement a singleton factory with composite strategy pattern to add the feature to the system, while maintaining low coupling and high cohesion (see figure 1.1 below).

- The differing Scoring Rules

- To design the varying, but related scoring algorithms, and the ability to *change* and *extend* these algorithms easily, we chose to implement a strategy pattern.
- With the different types of scoring policies and strategies implementing a common interface that is **ScoreRule**. The **ScoreRule** possess a singular attribute that is score, as well as a single method that is `getScore()`.
- Implementing this design allows for an easily extendable system. In the future, when there is a need to implement additional scoring rules, we may have them implement **ScoreRule**, achieving high cohesion and low coupling as an aftermath.

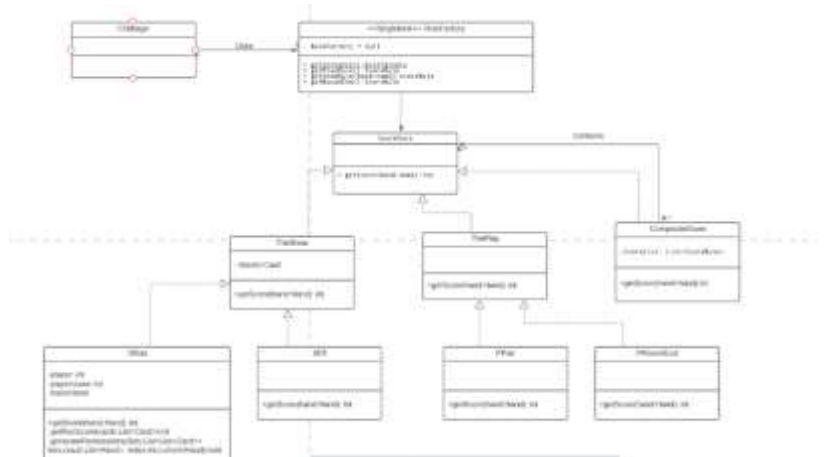


Figure 1.1 Design model for scoring system

- The Play and The Show

- To distinguish the scoring strategies between the Play and the Show, we decided to utilize polymorphism to support the Strategy pattern in order to achieve protected variation to provide flexibility as well as a more structured design to the system (see figure 1.1 & figure 1.2). This design pattern allows for future potential rules or scoring strategies to be easily added and extend the design.
- To resolve the problem that the parameters for calculating the play score and the show score are different, (the Show requires the player's hand as well as the starter card, the Play requires the total cards played) We implemented two abstract class **ThePlay** and **TheShow**, encapsulating the scoring strategies within the interface **ScoreRule** (see figure 1.2 *Additional strategies are neglected in the figure due to spacing reasons).

- Composite Scoring Strategies

- As the scores calculated through playing the show and the play requires applying all the appropriate rules to it, we decided to implement a Composite scoring strategy which would determine the compound scoring strategy, hence achieving low coupling and high cohesion

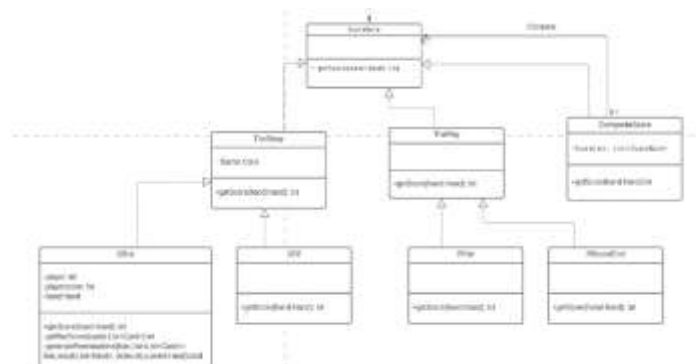


Figure 1.2 Using polymorphism

- Since the scoring rules for the Play and the Show is similar, as both would require the total addition of all the scoring rules achieved. We decided there is no need to implement multiple composite rules calculating strategies, instead we implemented a single composite class implementing this logic named **CompositeScore**.
- **Creation of the composite scoring strategies**
 - As the creation of this strategy composite pattern is complex. We implemented a **RuleFactory** class to solve this problem. By implementing a Factory class, we hide the complex score calculation logic and only make the access to the composite rule open. Hence achieving leaving the extensibility open and the access to users closed, improving the cohesion of this system.

Alternative designs that we considered

Alternative design 1

An alternative design that we considered regarding score calculation works with the realization that there are scoring strategies that are of the same nature. For example, the rule of pairs, both for the show and for the play the rule looks for existent cards with the same orders.

We developed a design that instead of having **ThePlay** and **TheShow**, we have an alternative polymorphism where the scoring rules act as a super class and the calculation of the rules as sub classes (see figure 2.1).

The reason we did not choose to implement this design is because of its lack of extensibility. As the number of rules grows, the code will have an increasingly difficult structure to maintain. It would also be difficult to manipulate the strategies within the factory.

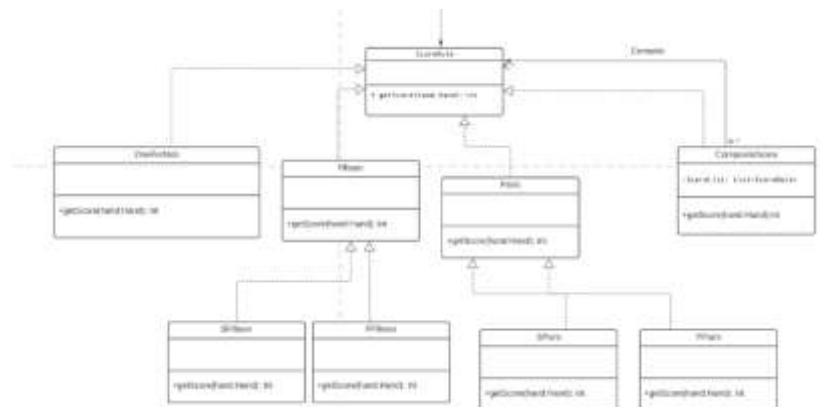


Figure 2.1 Alternative design 1

Alternative design2

Another alternative design is like the previous design but instead of using polymorphism, we implemented multiple functions in the ScoreRule interface (see figure 2.2). Where `getShowScore()` would return the scores calculated in *the show* logic and `getPlayScore()` would return the scores calculated in *the play* logic. These methods will then be implemented by each of the rules.

The reason we chose not to implement this design is because of its low cohesion, poor extensibility, and the confusion that may arise. For example, for strategies such as One for the Nob are only for *the show* rules, it does not make much sense for it to have a method that is getting the play version of it.

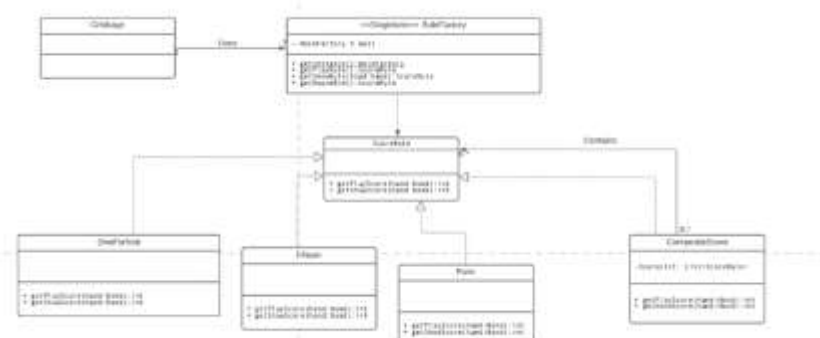


Figure 2.2 Alternative design 2

Changes made to system regarding logging

To implement the Logging functionality, we decided to implement a **logger** that controls all the logging methods. We would then call the logger within **Cribbage** and call whichever methods we require to log the data.

To better implement the logging functionality in the framework given, we decided to refactor the **canonical** methods within the original framework and embed them as methods within the **logger** by the *information expert* pattern as well as *the creator pattern*. We believe that assigning the **canonical** methods to **logger**, where they are being used closely, would achieve a higher cohesion and lower coupling than to leave them in the **cribbage** class, where they are not used at all.

Alternatives

We have considered using a *Façade* controller design pattern or using *an observer pattern*.

Façade controller design pattern

We have considered implementing a design where we would have a *façade controller* that hides all the logging logic and only presents the necessary methods to the **cribbage** class. However, as we implement the logging methods, we find that our reasons of using a *façade controller* would not be justified. As a *façade controller* is designed for a system where it “requires a common, unified interface to a disparate set of implementations or interfaces—such as within a subsystem—is required.”. However, within the logging system there isn’t really a dissimilar set of implementations. Hence, we did not choose to implement a *façade controller*. (See figure 3.1)

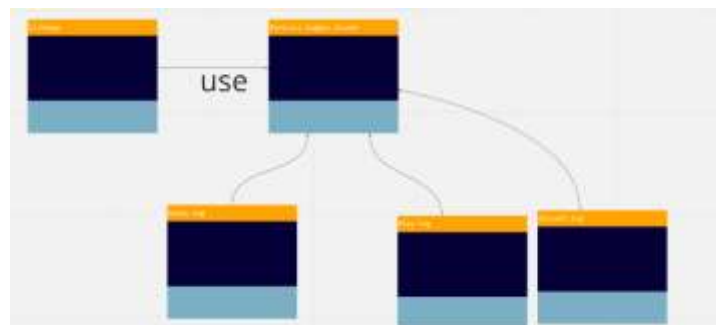


Figure 3.1 Alternative design using Façade controller

Observer pattern

We find the concept of an *observer pattern* would fit nicely within a system where logging and scorings are interested in the state changes of the cards and would react in their own way (logging and scoring) when the **cribbage** system generates an event. However, with the framework provided and the system that we are currently working with, with the **jcardgame** and **jgamegrid** libraries, we do not see a way of implementing it, as the *observer* would be observing the **cribbage** class, and updating the **cribbage** class, which seems counter intuitive.

Potentials of an observer pattern

The design for logging may be improved. Potentially having a *façade controller* to unify the **jcardgame** as well as the **jgamegrid** libraries and de-couple the **cribbage** class. Which would then allow for an implementation of *observer pattern*, where the observer would be observing the change in state of cards and log or score accordingly.

Refactoring of the code

GameDisplay

To provided framework has low coupling and low cohesion, having the play card, discard card, etc. operation logic and the display of the cards within the same class. To improve upon the cohesion within this system. We refactored the code utilized *pure fabrication* to create a new class named **GameDisplay** to support high cohesion, low coupling, and reusability as well as based on the *information expert*. As we believe the current **Cribbage** class is bloated and consists of variables and methods that are not cohesive when implemented within the class. Hence the responsibility is delegated to **GameDisplay**. This class contains the functionality of drawing the cards and storing the necessary information of the style of the presentation, such as fonts and text locations.