

Mapping to a class-based object oriented model

course: Information Modelling

Translating entity types to classes

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Quick recap...

ENTITY

An **entity** is a “thing” which can be distinctly identified.

A specific person, company, or event is an example of an entity.

Peter Pin-Shan Chen. 1976.

Quick recap...

ENTITY SET

It is a **set (or collection) of entities** or **instances of an entity type** which share the similar properties or attributes.

Quick recap...

ENTITY TYPE

It is a **concept** for defining the entities which share the similar properties or attributes.


Ann and Jim are Member entities in VGC's UoD

- In OO parlance they are also called objects
- In this course we will use C# as a class-based OO language
- Leverage our existing C# knowledge

Mapping an entity type to a class

```
namespace Domain;  
  
public class Member(int memberNo, string name, string firstName)  
{  
  
    // TODO Add member-specific attributes  
  
}
```

Mapping an entity type to a class

ENTITY TYPE 

```
namespace Domain;
public class Member(int memberNo, string name, string firstName)
{
    // TODO Add member-specific attributes
}
```


Creating entities and entity sets

```
using Domain;
```

ENTITIES

```
Member c = new(1, "Theben Tervile", "Corneel");  
Member m = new(2, "De Groef", "Machteld");  
Member f = new(3, "Vlummens", "Frédéric");
```

ENTITY SET

```
ICollection<Member> members = [ c, m, f ];
```

```
Console.WriteLine(members.Count);
```

Translating attributes to classes

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Attributes: basic pattern

```
public class Member
{
    private final int _membershipNumber;
    private final string _lastName;
    private final string _firstName;
}
```

Accessors (getters) and mutators (setters) are to be defined as needed
(cfr. OO classes)

Attributes: basic pattern

```
public class Member(int memberNo, string name, string firstName)
{
    private int _memberNo = memberNo;
    private string _name = name;
    private string _firstName = firstName;
    ...
}
```

Mandatory attributes should be present upon creation of member

Attributes: basic pattern

```
public Member(int memberNo, string name, string firstName, string title)
{
    MemberNo = memberNo;
    Name = name;
    FirstName = firstName;
    Title = title;
}

public int MemberNo
{
    get => _memberNo;
    private set
    {
        ArgumentOutOfRangeException.ThrowIfLessThan(value, 1);
        _memberNo = value;
    }
}

public string Name
{
    get => _name;
    private set => _name = value ?? throw new ArgumentNullException(nameof(Name));
}
```

Mandatory attributes should be present upon creation of member ➔ even better

Translating optional attributes to classes

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Translating optional attributes to classes

```
private string? _title;

public Member(int memberNo, string name, string firstName, string? title = null)
{
    MemberNo = memberNo;
    Name = name;
    FirstName = firstName;
    Title = title;
}

public string? Title
{
    get => _title;
    private set => _title = value;
}
```

Translating derived attributes to classes

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Translating derived attributes to classes

- Remember: choosing information that changes continuously is not a good choice for attributes
- Example: **age**
- Better: use something that doesn't change, such as **date of birth**

Calculating the age

```
private DateOnly _dateOfBirth;

public Member(int memberNo, string name, string firstName, DateOnly dateOfBirth)
{
    MemberNo = memberNo;
    Name = name;
    FirstName = firstName;
    DateOfBirth = _dateOfBirth;
}

public int Age
{
    get
    {
        DateOnly today = DateOnly.FromDateTime(DateTime.Today);
        int age = today.Year - DateOfBirth.Year;

        if (today < DateOfBirth.AddYears(age))
        {
            age--;
        }

        return age;
    }
}
```

Calculating the age

```
private DateOnly _dateOfBirth;

public Member(int memberNo, string name, string firstName, DateOnly dateOfBirth)
{
    MemberNo = memberNo;
    Name = name;
    FirstName = firstName;
    DateOfBirth = _dateOfBirth;
}

public int Age
{
    get
    {
        DateOnly today = DateOnly.FromDateTime(DateTime.Today);
        int age = today.Year - DateOfBirth.Year;

        if (today < DateOfBirth.AddYears(age))
        {
            age--;
        }

        return age;
    }
}
```

Dynamically derive the (changing) age from the date of birth (which is constant in time)

Translating multivalued attributes to classes

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Translating multivalued attributes to classes

- Example: multiple telephone numbers
- 050/123456; 0475/654321; ...

Translating multivalued attributes to classes

```
public class Member
{
    private ISet<string> _phoneNumbers = new HashSet<string>();

    public void AddPhoneNumber(string phoneNumber)
    {
        _phoneNumbers.Add(phoneNumber);
    }

    public IReadOnlySet<string> PhoneNumbers => _phoneNumbers.ToHashSet();
}
```

Translating multivalued attributes to classes

```
public class Member
{
    private ISet<string> _phoneNumbers = new HashSet<string>();

    public void AddPhoneNumber(string phoneNumber)
    {
        _phoneNumbers.Add(phoneNumber);
    }

    public IReadOnlySet<string> PhoneNumbers => _phoneNumbers.ToHashSet();
}
```

Translating multivalued attributes to classes

```
public class Member
{
    private ISet<PhoneNumber> _phoneNumbers = new HashSet<PhoneNumber>();

    public void AddPhoneNumber(PhoneNumber phoneNumber)
    {
        _phoneNumbers.Add(phoneNumber);
    }

    public IReadOnlySet<PhoneNumber> PhoneNumbers => _phoneNumbers.ToHashSet();
}
```

Not limited to built-in types such as ints and strings
You can also create new entities (e.g. PhoneNumber) and
keep these as a collection (set/list/map/...).

Translating composite attributes to classes

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Translating composite attributes to classes

- No out of the box solution
- If the composite attributes are isolated in a separate entity, you can build a separate class

Translating composite attributes to classes

```
public class PhoneNumber(string countryCode, string prefix, string number)
{
    public string CountryCode => countryCode;
    public string Prefix => prefix;
    public string Number => number;

    public override string ToString() => $"#{countryCode}{prefix}{number}";
}
```

Translating identity to classes

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Translating identity to classes

- Each member has a unique membership number
- How can we tell the CLR when two members are compared whether they are equal?

Translating identity to classes

- Each member has a unique membership number
- How can we tell the CLR when two members are compared whether they are equal?
- Solution: implement the Equals and GetHashCode methods

Translating identity to classes

```
public class PhoneNumber(string countryCode, string prefix, string number)
{
    protected bool Equals(PhoneNumber other)
    {
        return _countryCode == other._countryCode && _prefix == other._prefix && _number == other._number;
    }

    public override bool Equals(object? obj)
    {
        if (obj is null) return false;
        if (ReferenceEquals(this, obj)) return true;
        if (obj.GetType() != GetType()) return false;
        return Equals((PhoneNumber)obj);
    }

    public override int GetHashCode()
    {
        return GetHashCode.Combine(_countryCode, _prefix, _number);
    }
}
```

Translating identity to classes

```
public class PhoneNumber(string countryCode, string prefix, string number)
{
    protected bool Equals(PhoneNumber other)
    {
        return _countryCode == other._countryCode && _prefix == other._prefix && _number == other._number;
    }

    public override bool Equals(object? obj)
    {
        if (obj is null) return false;
        if (ReferenceEquals(this, obj)) return true;
        if (obj.GetType() != GetType()) return false;
        return Equals((PhoneNumber)obj);
    }

    public override int GetHashCode()
    {
        return GetHashCode.Combine(_countryCode, _prefix, _number);
    }
}
```

The screenshot shows a 'Generate' dialog box with the following settings:

- Generate equality members**: Select members to participate in equality operations.
 - ☒ `_countryCode : string`
 - ☒ `_prefix : string`
 - ☒ `_number : string`
- No description available**
- String comparison:** Ordinal
- ☒ Use 'System.HashCode' to implement 'GetHashCode'
- GetHashCode already exists:** Replace
- Equals already exists:** Replace
- ☐ Overload equality operators
- ☐ Implement `IEquatable<T>` interface
- Comparand type check:** Exactly the same type as 'this'

Buttons: Cancel, OK

Translating weak entities to classes

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DEFINITION

WEAK ENTITY



If the existence of an entity depends on the existence of another entity, we say the entity is a weak entity.

Peter Pin-Shan Chen. 1976.

Weak entities

– VGC:



Translating weak entities to classes

```
public class Subscription(Member member, DateTimeOffset startDate, DateTimeOffset endDate, decimal fee)
{
    public Member Member => member;
    public DateTimeOffset StartDate => startDate;
    public DateTimeOffset EndDate => endDate;
    public decimal Fee => fee;

    private bool Equals(Subscription other)
    {
        return Member.Equals(other.Member) && StartDate.Equals(other.StartDate);
    }

    public override bool Equals(object? obj)
    {
        if (obj is null) return false;
        if (ReferenceEquals(this, obj)) return true;
        return obj.GetType() == GetType() && Equals((Subscription)obj);
    }

    public override int GetHashCode()
    {
        return HashCode.Combine(Member, StartDate);
    }
}
```

Translating weak entities to classes

```
public class Subscription(Member member, DateTimeOffset startDate, DateTimeOffset endDate, decimal fee)
{
    public Member Member => member;
    public DateTimeOffset StartDate => startDate;
    public DateTimeOffset EndDate => endDate;
    public decimal Fee => fee;

    private bool Equals(Subscription other)
    {
        return Member.Equals(other.Member) && StartDate.Equals(other.StartDate);
    }

    public override bool Equals(object? obj)
    {
        if (obj is null) return false;
        if (ReferenceEquals(this, obj)) return true;
        return obj.GetType() == GetType() && Equals((Subscription)obj);
    }

    public override int GetHashCode()
    {
        return HashCode.Combine(Member, StartDate);
    }
}
```

Translating relationships to classes

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Different types of relationships

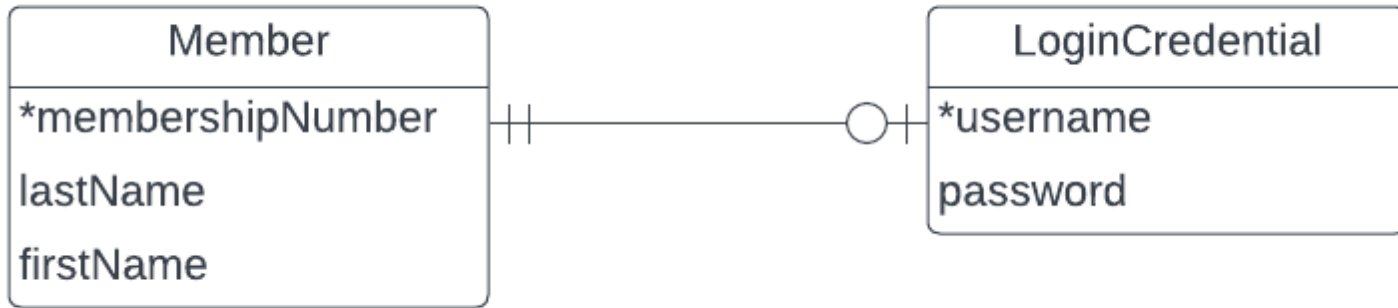
- One-to-one
- One-to-many
- Many-to-many

Remember...

PARTICIPATION and CARDINALITY

The **participation of a relationship** defines the **minimum** number of related entities on a relationship (0 or 1), the **cardinality of a relationship** defines the **maximum** number of related entities on a relationship (1 or more).

One-to-one



- All members are defined
- Some members may choose to use the self-service website and therefore create a username/password combo

Composition and one-to-one

```
public class Member
{
    private readonly IDictionary<DateOnly, Subscription> _subscriptions = new Dictionary<DateOnly, Subscription>();
    private readonly IList<BoardGame> _reservedBoardGames = new List<BoardGame>();
    private readonly LoginCredential? _loginCredential;

    public Member(int memberNo, string name, string firstName, LoginCredential? loginCredential = null)
    {
        ArgumentOutOfRangeException.ThrowIfLessThan(memberNo, 1);

        MemberNo = memberNo;

        Name = name ?? throw new ArgumentNullException(nameof(name));

        FirstName = firstName ?? throw new ArgumentNullException(nameof(firstName));

        _loginCredential = loginCredential;
    }
}
```



One-to-many



- A Member has one or more subscriptions
- Here, Subscription is a weak entity → identified by `memberNo` and `startDate`

One-to-many

```
public class Subscription(Member member, DateOnly startDate,
    DateOnly endDate, decimal fee)
{
    public Member Member => member;
    public DateOnly StartDate => startDate;
    public DateOnly EndDate => endDate;
    public decimal Fee => fee;
}
```

```
public class Member
{
    public void Subscribe(DateOnly startDate, int months, decimal fee)
    {
        try
        {
            Subscription subscription = new(this, startDate,
startDate.AddMonths(months).AddDays(-1), fee);
            _subscriptions.Add(startDate, subscription);
        }
        catch (ArgumentException)
        {
            throw new VgcException($"Subscription for {startDate} already exists");
        }
    }

    public IDictionary<DateOnly, Subscription> Subscriptions => _subscriptions.AsReadOnly();

    public void AddReservation(BoardGame game)
    {
        _reservedBoardGames.Add(game);
    }
}
```

One-to-many

```
public class Subscription(Member member, DateOnly startDate,
    DateOnly endDate, decimal fee)
{
    public Member Member => member;
    public DateOnly StartDate => startDate;
    public DateOnly EndDate => endDate;
    public decimal Fee => fee;
}
```

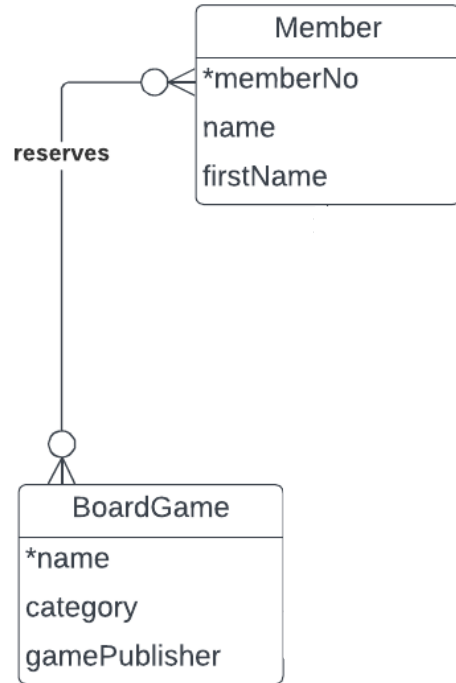
```
public class Member
{
    private readonly IDictionary<DateOnly, Subscription> _subscriptions
        = new Dictionary<DateOnly, Subscription>();

    public void Subscribe(DateOnly startDate, int months, decimal fee)
    {
        try
        {
            Subscription subscription = new(this, startDate,
startDate.AddMonths(months).AddDays(-1), fee);
            _subscriptions.Add(startDate, subscription);
        }
        catch (ArgumentException)
        {
            throw new VgcException($"Subscription for {startDate} already exists");
        }
    }

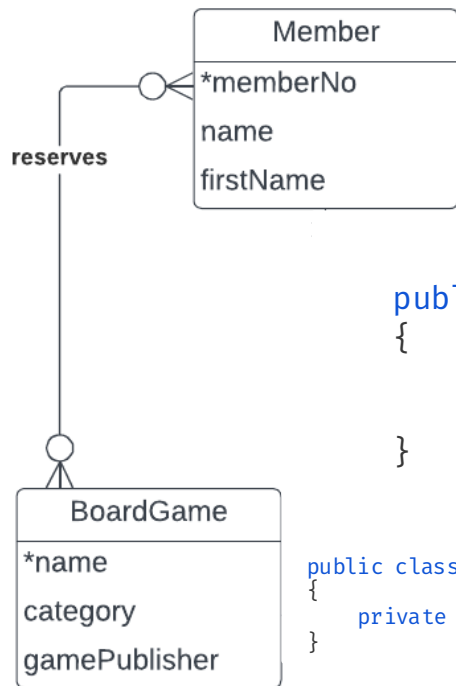
    public IDictionary<DateOnly, Subscription> Subscriptions => _subscriptions.AsReadOnly();

    public void AddReservation(BoardGame game)
    {
        _reservedBoardGames.Add(game);
    }
}
```

Many-to-many



Many-to-many



```
public class Member
{
    private readonly IDictionary<DateOnly, Subscription> _subscriptions
        = new Dictionary<DateOnly, Subscription>();
    private readonly IList<BoardGame> _reservedBoardGames = new List<BoardGame>();
}
```

```
public void ReserveBoardGame(BoardGame boardGame, Member member)
{
    boardGame.AddReservation(member);
    member.AddReservation(boardGame);
}
```

Facade

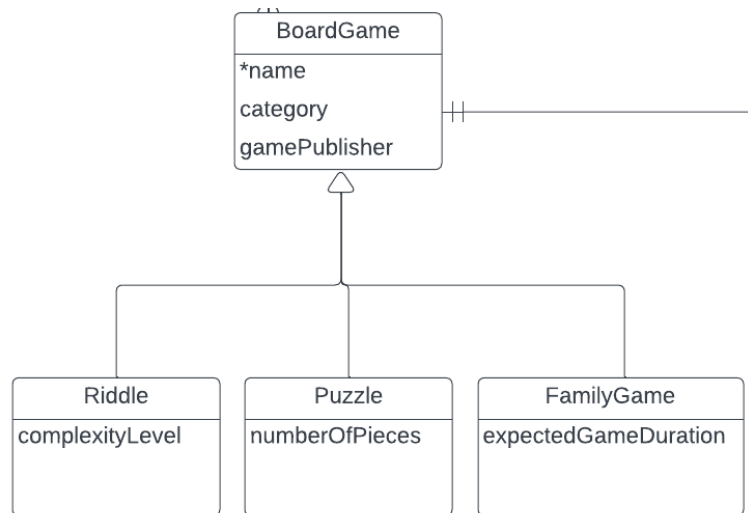
```
public class BoardGame(int boardGameId, string name, Category category, string gamePublisher)
{
    private readonly IList<Member> _reservingMembers = new List<Member>();
}
```

Inheritance

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Inheritance

```
public class FamilyGame(int boardGameId, string name, Category category, string
gamePublisher, int expectedGameDuration, int numberOfPlayers)
    : BoardGame(boardGameId, name, category, gamePublisher)
{
    // ...
}
```



Mapping to a class-based object oriented model

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