

Part 3

Using polymorphism, inheritance and abstraction

To use the strategy pattern with the Ai's, we made an abstract parent class called "AI". All the Ai's are children of "AI" and they override all the functions from it. When a player is created, we can input a parameter that is of class "AI", therefore we can input any of the Ai's since they are children of "AI". We set a attribute of type "AI" to this parameter and when the player has to do a certain action, let's say conquer, the attribute calls the function "aiConquers" from the appropriate Ai using polymorphism and the overriding mechanism.

We applied inheritance, abstraction and polymorphism in the Observer and Decorator pattern part of the project. The Observer class is abstract and is extended by views and a GameStatsInterface (which is used for decorators). GameStatsInterface is also abstract and adds further methods which must be implemented in its children. GameStatsInterface is extended by GameStats, a basic concrete implementation of GameStatsInterface, and GameStatsDecorator. GameStatsDecorator is further extended by DominationDecorator and VictoryCoinDecorator, allowing more specific information to be displayed to the user.

When using the decorators, the thing we are decorating is a pointer to type GameStatsInterface that is however pointing to an instance of GameStats. When we add decorators, we are then initializing decorators but still using the GameStatsInterface pointer.

One place where we should have used inheritance was for PowerBadgeDeck and RaceBannerDeck. Both of these are very similar and instead of being 2 separate classes, should have both extended a Deck class that had all the functionality that both used (such as draw for example)

For polymorphism, we have certain methods that have different parameters for different use cases. For example our game loop, PlayGame. If we want to allow the user to enter a number of players, it calls the method startGame() that takes in no parameters. Otherwise, like for the automated tournaments, there is a method startGame(int nbPlayers) that takes in a number which represents the number of players and automatically starts the game.

High cohesion and low coupling

To promote high cohesion and low coupling, we separated the ".cpp" files in folders that are linked with each other.

Furthermore, there is only one instance of a map and it is a global variable so it is easy to access from any other class.

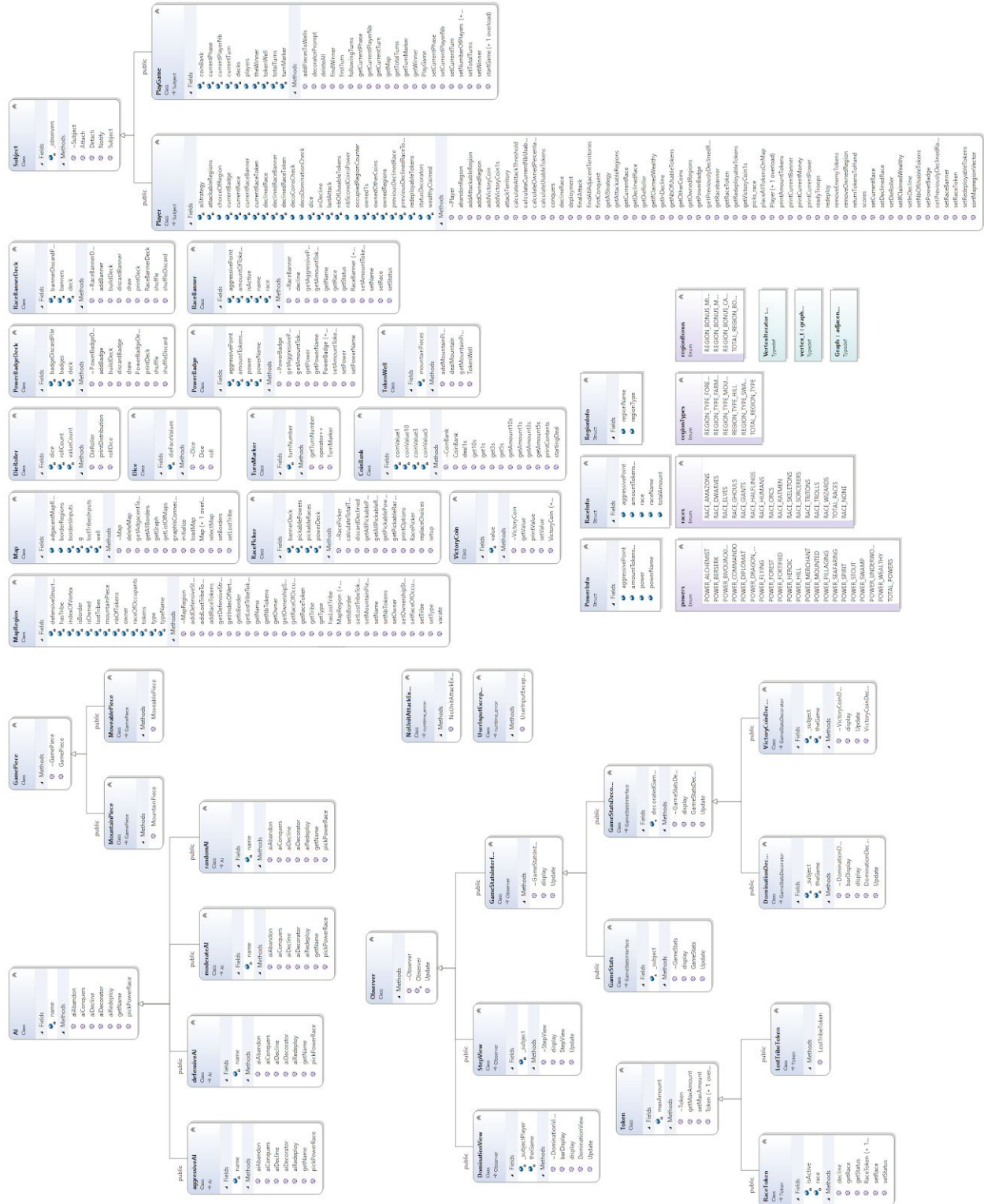
All the objects that need to be created for a game are attributes in the PlayGame class. For example, the raceBanner, powerBadgedeck, a vector of player's, etc. are attributes in PlayGame class. These attributes are all separately implemented and are used in the PlayGame class.

All player objects hold their victory point score and owned regions as attributes. The player class mainly interacts with the global map object.

For low coupling, we try to have helper functions instead of giant functions. Therefore these smaller functions may be reused in many spots. For example, in Player.cpp, the deploy method is used in redeploy and ready troops.

Additionally, when we modified one module, others were not really affected, because the interfaces (public functions of each class) are how each class communicated with each other.

One instance of high cohesion, is the fact that our classes only do what they are made to do and do not do the functionality of other classes. For example, our mapRegions just give information about what is contained in each map region. Another example is how the player class has all the functionality for actions a player can take and all the information that other modules may want from a player.



Part 4

Concept used	Brief definition/description	Give: class/function/file name including extension
Pointer/smart pointers	A pointer is an object, whose value refers to another values memory address / Smart pointers function the same as normal pointers, but they have reduce bugs, retain efficiency and control memory management by the use of automated methods	SmallWorldApp/PlayGame/ PlayGame.cpp void PlayGame::firstTurn()
Memory management	Memory management is how the memory can be managed with garbage collection. It can be managed automatically by the use of smart pointers or manually with the use of the “new” and “delete” reserved words in c++.	SmallWorldApp/PlayGame/ PlayGame.cpp PlayGame class void PlayGame::deleteAll()
Vectors	Similar to an array but it’s size can increase and decrease as needed. Using “at” and “size” prevent subscript range errors.	SmallWorldApp/Headers/AI. h From aggressiveAi class int aiConquers(Player* aiPlayer, vector<MapRegion*> regions)
Data structure	A data structure is a system that can efficiently store and modify data in memory.	SmallWorldApp/Headers/To kens.h PowerBadgeDeck class std::queue<PowerBadge*> deck;

Operator overloading	It is polymorphism where an operator have a different implementation depending on its arguments. Example: we can overload the implementation of "<" to have a way to sort objects of a certain class.	<p>SmallWorldApp/Headers/TurnMarker.h</p> <p>In the TurnMarker's header</p> <pre>void operator++() { ++turnNumber; }</pre>
File I/O	It is a way to input some data in a file or to output data from a file.	<p>SmallWorldApp/Map/Map.cpp</p> <pre>void Map::loadMap(string filename)</pre>
Exception handling	It is a mechanism that allows to communicate to the user when a program has encountered an anomaly during the execution of a program. Also, to decide what the program will do after the error occurred.	<p>SmallWorldApp/Players/Player.cpp</p> <p>Player class</p> <pre>int Player::attackTerritory(Map Region *region)</pre>
Templates	Templates in c++ is a feature that allows functions to use generic types. This allows the function to be used with any type of data.	<p>Anytime we use lists or vectors, we are using templates</p> <p>SmallWorldApp/Headers/Subject.h</p> <pre>std::list<Observer*> *_observers;</pre>
Any library including GUI	It's many files that simplify coding by giving useful tools such as functions and classes. It includes development tools to build a Graphical User Interface.	<p>SmallWorldApp/Map/Map.cpp</p> <pre>bool Map::graphIsConnected()</pre> <p>We used boost library</p>