CSE 331

Design Patterns 1: Iterator, Adapter, Singleton, Flyweight

slides created by Marty Stepp based on materials by M. Ernst, S. Reges, D. Notkin, R. Mercer http://www.cs.washington.edu/331/

Pattern: Adapter

an object that fits another object into a given interface

Adapter pattern

- *Problem:* We have an object that contains the functionality we need, but not in the way we want to use it.
 - Cumbersome / unpleasant to use. Prone to bugs.
- Example:
 - We are given an Iterator, but not the collection it came from.
 - We want to do a for-each loop over the elements, but you can't do this with an Iterator, only an Iterable:

```
public void printAll(Iterator<String> itr) {
    // error: must implement Iterable
    for (String s : itr) {
        System.out.println(s);
}
```

Adapter in action

• Solution: Create an adapter object that bridges the provided and desired functionality.

```
public class IterableAdapter implements Iterable<String> {
    private Iterator<String> iterator;
    public IterableAdapter(Iterator<String> itr) {
        this.iterator = itr;
    public Iterator<String> iterator() {
        return iterator;
public void printAll(Iterator<String> itr) {
    IterableAdapter adapter = new IterableAdapter(itr);
    for (String s : adapter) { ... } // works
```

Pattern: Singleton

A class that has only a single instance



Creational Patterns

- Constructors in Java are inflexible:
 - Can't return a subtype of the class they belong to.
 - Always returns a fresh new object; can never re-use one.
- Creational factories:
 - Factory method
 - Abstract Factory object
 - Prototype
 - Dependency injection
- Sharing:
 - Singleton
 - Interning
 - Flyweight

Restricting object creation

- *Problem:* Sometimes we really only ever need (or want) one instance of a particular class.
 - Examples: keyboard reader, bank data collection, game, UI
 - We'd like to make it illegal to have more than one.

• Issues:

- Creating lots of objects can take a lot of time.
- Extra objects take up memory.
- It is a pain to deal with different objects floating around if they are essentially the same.
- Multiple objects of a type intended to be unique can lead to bugs.
 - What happens if we have more than one game UI, or account manager?

Singleton pattern

- **singleton**: An object that is the only object of its type. (one of the most known / popular design patterns)
 - Ensuring that a class has at most one instance.
 - Providing a global access point to that instance.
 - e.g. Provide an accessor method that allows users to see the instance.

Benefits:

- Takes responsibility of managing that instance away from the programmer (illegal to construct more instances).
- Saves memory.
- Avoids bugs arising from multiple instances.

Restricting objects

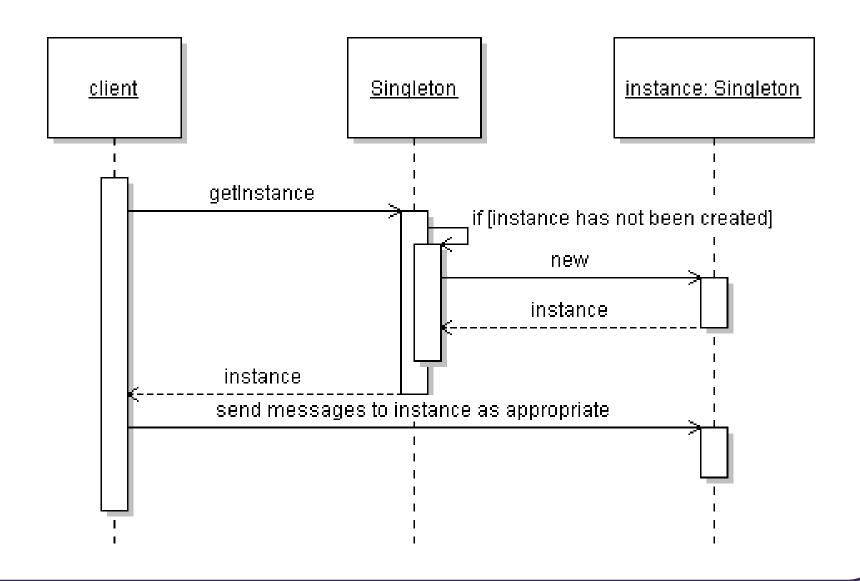
- One way to avoid creating objects: use static methods
 - Examples: Math, System
 - Is this a good alternative choice? Why or why not?

- Disadvantage: Lacks flexibility.
 - Static methods can't be passed as an argument, nor returned.
- Disadvantage: Cannot be extended.
 - Example: Static methods can't be subclassed and overridden like an object's methods could be.

Implementing Singleton

- Make constructor(s) private so that they can not be called from outside by clients.
- Declare a single private static instance of the class.
- Write a public getInstance() or similar method that allows access to the single instance.
 - May need to protect / synchronize this method to ensure that it will work in a multi-threaded program.

Singleton sequence diagram



Singleton example

• Class RandomGenerator generates random numbers.

Lazy initialization

Can wait until client asks for the instance to create it:

```
public class RandomGenerator {
    private static RandomGenerator gen = null;
    public static RandomGenerator getInstance() {
        if (gen == null) {
            gen = new RandomGenerator();
        return gen;
    private RandomGenerator() {}
```

Singleton Comparator

• Comparators make great singletons because they have no state:

```
public class LengthComparator
        implements Comparator<String> {
    private static LengthComparator comp = null;
    public static LengthComparator getInstance() {
        if (comp == null) {
            comp = new LengthComparator();
        return comp;
    private LengthComparator() {}
    public int compare(String s1, String s2) {
        return s1.length() - s2.length();
```

Pattern: Flyweight

a class that has only one instance for each unique state

Redundant objects

- Problem: Redundant objects can bog down the system.
 - Many objects have the same state.
 - example: File objects that represent the same file on disk

```
new File("mobydick.txt")
new File("mobydick.txt")
new File("mobydick.txt")
...
new File("notes.txt")
```

example: Date objects that represent the same date of the year

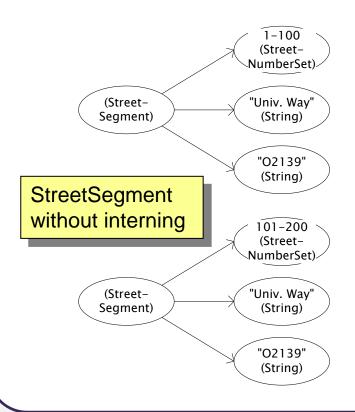
```
new Date(4, 18)new Date(4, 18)
```

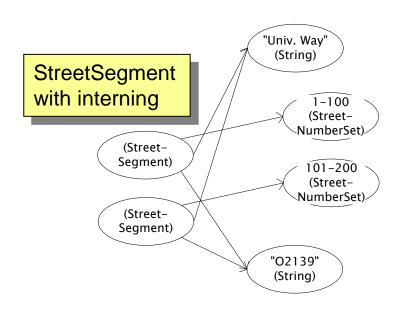
Flyweight pattern

- flyweight: An assurance that no more than one instance of a class will have identical state.
 - Achieved by caching identical instances of objects.
 - Similar to singleton, but one instance for each unique object state.
 - Useful when there are many instances, but many are equivalent.
 - Can be used in conjunction with Factory Method pattern to create a very efficient object-builder.
 - Examples in Java: String, Image, Toolkit, Formatter, Calendar, JDBC

Flyweight diagram

- Flyweighting shares objects and/or shares their internal state
 - saves memory
 - allows comparisons with == rather than equals (why?)



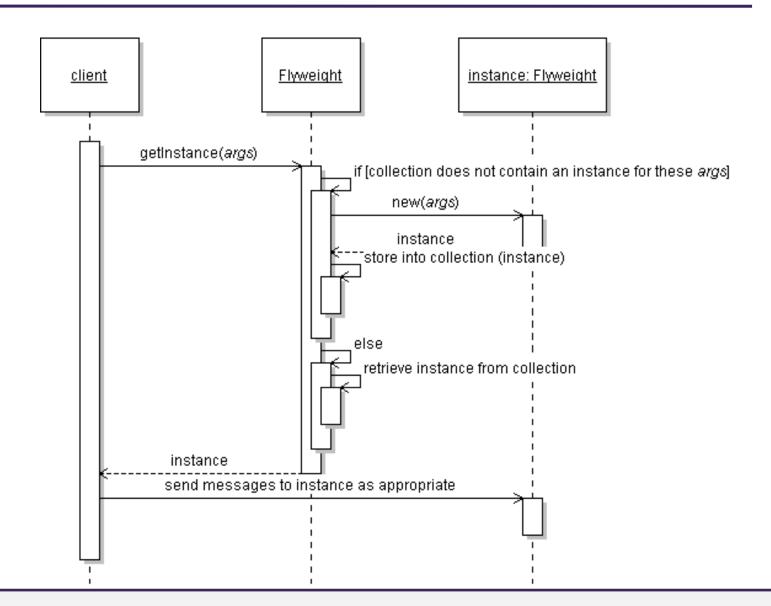


Implementing a Flyweight

- Flyweighting works best on immutable objects. (Why?)
- Class pseudo-code sketch:

```
public class Name {
    * static collection of instances
    * private constructor
    * static method to get an instance:
        if (we have created this kind of instance before):
            get it from the collection and return it.
        else:
            create a new instance, store it in the collection and return it.
}
```

Flyweight sequence diagram



Implementing a Flyweight

```
public class Flyweighted {
    private static Map<KeyType, Flyweighted> instances
              = new HashMap<KeyType, Flyweighted>();
    private Flyweighted(...) { ... }
    public static Flyweighted getInstance(KeyType key) {
        if (!instances.contains(key)) {
             instances.put(key, new Flyweighted(key));
        return instances.get(key);
```

Class before flyweighting

```
public class Point {
    private int x, y;
    public Point(int x, int y) {
        this.x = x;
        this.y = y;
    public int getX() { return x; }
    public int getY() { return y; }
    public String toString() {
        return "(" + x + ", " + y + ")";
```

Class after flyweighting

```
public class Point {
    private static Map<String, Point> instances =
        new HashMap<String, Point>();
    public static Point getInstance(int x, int y) {
        String key = x + ", " + y;
        if (!instances.containsKey(key)) {
            instances.put(key, new Point(x, y));
        return instances.get(key);
    private final int x, y; // immutable
    private Point(int x, int y) {
```

String flyweighting

- interning: Synonym for flyweighting; sharing identical instances.
 - Java String objects are automatically interned (flyweighted) by the compiler whenever possible.
 - If you declare two string variables that point to the same literal.
 - If you concatenate two string literals to match another literal.

```
String a = "neat";

String b = "neat";

String c = "n" + "eat";
```

• So why doesn't == always work with Strings?

Limits of String flyweight

```
String a = "neat";
Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
String b = console.next(); // user types "neat"
if (a == b) { ... // false
```

- There are many cases the compiler doesn't / can't flyweight:
 - When you build a string later out of arbitrary variables
 - When you read a string from a file or stream (e.g. Scanner)
 - When you build a new string from a StringBuilder
 - When you explicitly ask for a new String (bypasses flyweighting)
- You can force Java to flyweight a particular string with intern:

```
b = b.intern();
if (a == b) { ...  // true
```

String interning questions

```
String fly = "fly"; String weight = "weight";
String fly2 = "fly"; String weight2 = "weight";
```

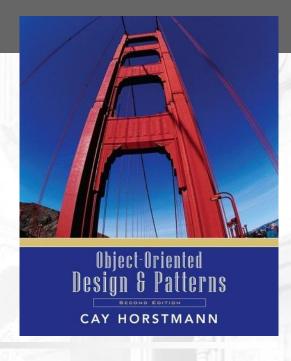
Which of the following expressions are true?

```
a) fly == fly2
b) weight == weight2
c) "fly" + "weight" == "flyweight"
d) fly + weight == "flyweight"
  String flyweight = new String("fly" + "weight");
e) flyweight == "flyweight"
  String interned1 = (fly + weight).intern();
  String interned2 = flyweight.intern();
f) interned1 == "flyweight"
g) interned2 == "flyweight"
```









Design Patterns and GUI Programming

Reading:

Object-Oriented Design and Patterns, Ch. 5 (Horstmann)

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Benefits of using patterns

- patterns are a common design vocabulary
 - allows engineers to abstract a problem and talk about that abstraction in isolation from its implementation
 - embodies a culture; domain-specific patterns increase design speed
- patterns capture design expertise and allow that expertise to be communicated
 - promotes design reuse and avoid mistakes
- improve documentation (less is needed) and understandability (patterns are described well once)



Gang of Four (GoF) patterns

Creational Patterns

(abstracting the object-instantiation process)

Factory Method

Abstract Factory

Builder

Prototype

Singleton

Structural Patterns

(how objects/classes can be combined to form larger structures)

Adapter

Bridge

Composite

Decorator

Facade

Flyweight

Proxy

Behavioral Patterns

(communication between objects)

Command

Interpreter

Iterator

Mediator

Observer

State

Strategy

Chain of Responsibility

Visitor

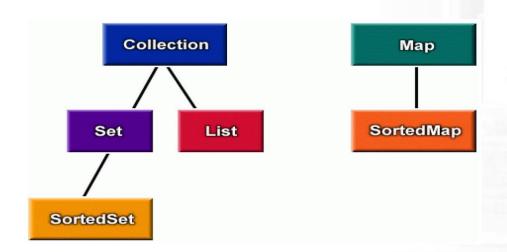
Template Method





Pattern: Iterator

objects that traverse collections





Iterator pattern

- iterator: an object that provides a standard way to examine all elements of any collection
 - uniform interface for traversing many different data structures
 - supports concurrent iteration and element removal

```
for (Iterator<Account> itr = list.iterator(); itr.hasNext(); ) {
    Account a = itr.next();
    System.out.println(a);
}

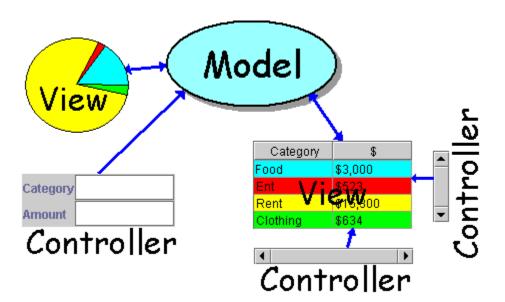
map.keySet().iterator()
map.values().iterator()
```

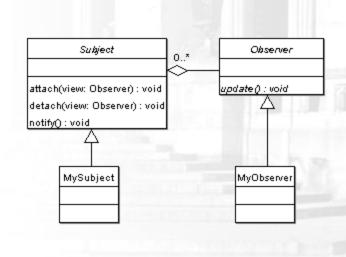




Pattern: Observer

objects whose state can be watched









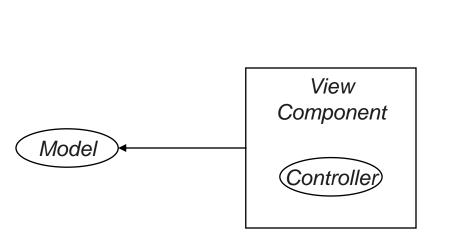
- model: classes in your system that are related to the internal representation of the state of the system
 - often part of the model is connected to file(s) or database(s)
 - examples (card game): Card, Deck, Player
 - examples (bank system): Account, User, UserList
- view: classes in your system that display the state of the model to the user
 - generally, this is your GUI (could also be a text UI)
 - should not contain crucial application data
 - Different views can represent the same data in different ways
 - Example: Bar chart vs. pie chart
 - examples: PokerPanel, BankApplet

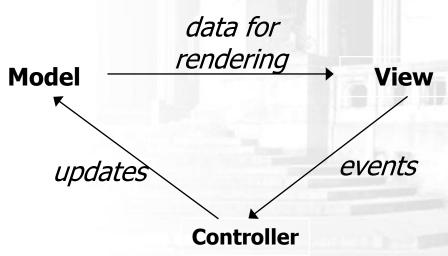


Model-view-controller



- model-view-controller (MVC): common design paradigm for graphical systems
- controller: classes that connect model and view
 - defines how user interface reacts to user input (events)
 - receives messages from view (where events come from)
 - sends messages to model (tells what data to display)
 - sometimes part of view (see left)









- observer: an object that "watches" the state of another object and takes action when the state changes in some way
 - examples in Java: event listeners; java.util.Observer
- observable object: an object that allows observers to examine it (often the observable object notifies the observers when it changes)
 - permits customizable, extensible event-based behavior for data modeling and graphics

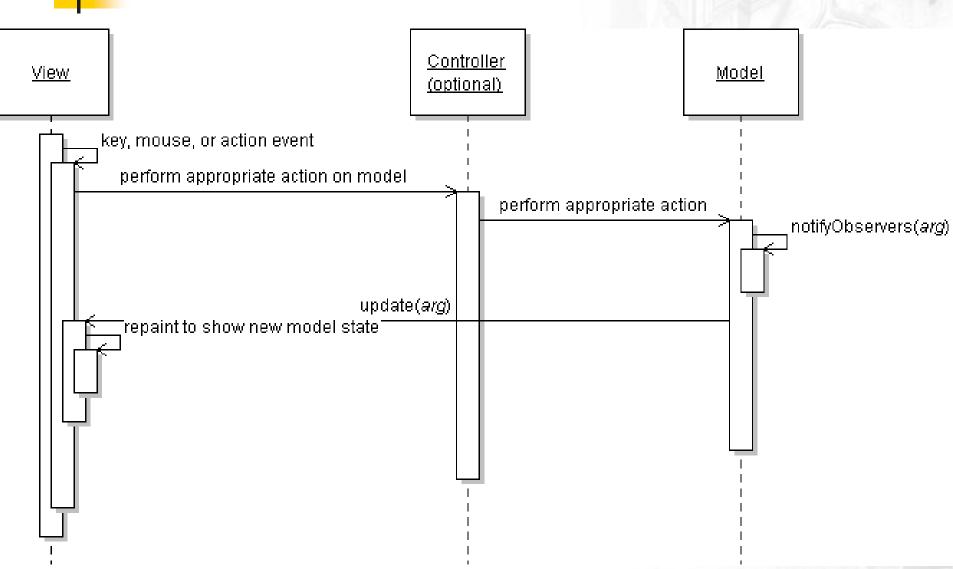


Benefits of observer

- abstract coupling between subject and observer; each can be extended and reused individually
- dynamic relationship between subject and observer; can be established at run time (can "hot-swap" views, etc) gives a lot more programming flexibility
- broadcast communication: notification is broadcast automatically to all interested objects that subscribed to it
- Observer can be used to implement model-view separation in Java more easily



Observer sequence diagram







Observer interface

```
package java.util;

public interface Observer {
   public void update(Observable o, Object arg);
}
```

Idea: The update method will be called when the observable model changes, so put the appropriate code to handle the change inside update



Observable class

- public void addObserver(Observer o)
- public void deleteObserver (Observer o) Adds/removes o to/from the list of objects that will be notified (via their update method) when notifyObservers is called.
- public void notifyObservers()
- public void notifyObservers (Object arg)
 Inform all observers listening to this Observable object of an event that has occurred. An optional object argument may be passed to provide more information about the event.
- public void setChanged()
 Flags the observable object as having changed since the last event; must be called each time before calling notifyObservers.





Common usage of Observer

- 1. write a model class that extends Observable
 - have the model notify its observers when anything significant happens
- 2. make all views of that model (e.g. GUI panels that draw the model on screen) into observers
 - have the panels take action when the model notifies them of events (e.g. repaint, play sound, show option dialog, etc.)



Using multiple views

- make an Observable model
- write a View interface or abstract class
 - make View an observer
- extend/implement View for all actual views
 - give each its own unique inner components and code to draw the model's state in its own way
- provide mechanism in GUI to set view (perhaps through menus)
 - to set view, attach it to observe the model



Example: changing views

```
// in the frame's action listener:
// hide old view; show new one

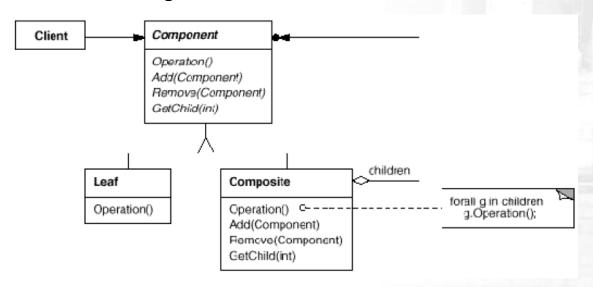
model.deleteObserver(view1);
model.addObserver(view2);
view1.setVisible(false);
view2.setVisible(true);
```





Pattern: Composite

objects that can serve as containers, and can hold other objects like themselves







- composite: an object that is either an individual item or a collection of many items
 - composite objects can be composed of individual items or of other composites
 - recursive definition: objects that can hold themselves
 - often leads to a tree structure of leaves and nodes:

```
- <node> ::= <leafnode> | <compositenode>
```

- <compositenode> ::= <node>*
- examples in Java:
 - collections (a List of Lists)
 - GUI layout (panels containing panels containing buttons, etc.)



Composite example: panels

```
Container north = new JPanel(new FlowLayout());
north.add(new JButton("Button 1"));
north.add(new JButton("Button 2"));
Container south = new JPanel(new BorderLayout());
south.add(new JLabel("Southwest"), BorderLayout.WEST);
south.add(new JLabel("Southeast"), BorderLayout.EAST);
// overall panel contains the smaller panels (composite)
JPanel overall = new JPanel(new BorderLayout());
overall.add(north, BorderLayout.NORTH);
overall.add(new JButton("Center Button"), BorderLayout.CENTER);
overall.add(south, BorderLayout.SOUTH);
                                              👸 Composite layout
frame.add(overall);
```

Southeast

Button 1

Southwest

Button 2

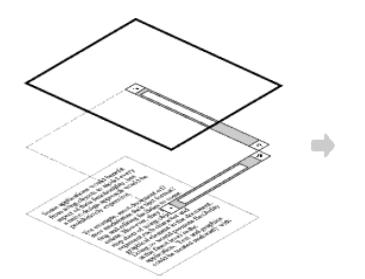
Center Button





Pattern: Decorator

objects that wrap around other objects to add useful features



Some applications would benefit, from using objects to model every aspect of their functionality, but a naive design approach would be prohibitively expensive.

For example, most document editions modularize their text formalting and editing facilities to some extent. However, they mariably stop short of using objects to represent each character and graphical element in the document. Doing so would promote flexibility at the lineat level in the application. Text and graphics could be treated uniformly with

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Decorator pattern

- decorator: an object that modifies behavior of, or adds features to, another object
 - decorator must maintain the common interface of the object it wraps up
 - used so that we can add features to an existing simple object without needing to disrupt the interface that client code expects when using the simple object
 - the object being "decorated" usually does not explicitly know about the decorator
- examples in Java:
 - multilayered input streams adding useful I/O methods
 - adding scroll bars to GUI controls



Decorator example: I/O

- normal InputStream class has only public int read() method to read one letter at a time
- decorators such as BufferedReader or Scanner add additional functionality to read the stream more easily

```
// InputStreamReader/BufferedReader decorate InputStream
InputStream in = new FileInputStream("hardcode.txt");
InputStreamReader isr = new InputStreamReader(in);
BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(isr);

// because of decorator streams, I can read an
// entire line from the file in one call
// (InputStream only provides public int read() )
String wholeLine = br.readLine();
```

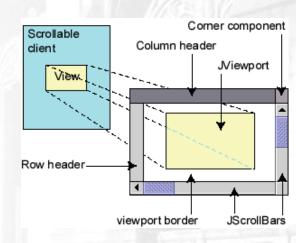




Decorator example: GUI

- normal GUI components don't have scroll bars
- JScrollPane is a container with scroll bars to which you can add any component to make it scrollable

```
// JScrollPane decorates GUI components
JTextArea area = new JTextArea(20, 30);
JScrollPane scrollPane = new JScrollPane(area);
contentPane.add(scrollPane);
```



JComponents also have a setBorder method to add a "decorative" border. Is this another example of the Decorator pattern? Why or why not?