



# LECTURE 2

Design principles

# CONTENT

General Responsibility Assignment Principles  
(GRASP)

Package Design

- Cohesion Principles
- Coupling Principles

# REFERENCES

- Robert Martin  
<http://butunclebob.com/ArticleS.UncleBob.PrinciplesOfOod>
- Taylor, R., Medvidovic, N., Dashofy, E., Software Architecture: Foundations, Theory, and Practice, 2010, Wiley
- Craig Larman, Applying UML and Patterns: An Introduction to Object-Oriented Analysis and Design and Iterative Development, 3rd Ed, Addison Wesley, 2004 – Chapters 17, 18.

## Courses

- B. Meyer (ETH Zurich)
- R. Marinescu (Univ. Timisoara)

# LAST TIME

OOP concepts +

**S**ingle Responsibility

**O**pen-Closed

**L**iskov Substitution

**I**nterface Segregation

**D**ependency Inversion

# CHALLENGE

Overloading and  
polymorphism

Compiler error?

Output?

```
13  class Base{
    @Override
    public String toString() { return "This is base";}
15
16  }
17
18  class Sub extends Base{
19      @Override
20      public String toString() { return "This is subclass";}
21  }
22
23  class Host{
24      public String print(Base b)
25      {
26          return b.toString() + " din metoda cu base";
27      }
28      public String print(Sub b)
29      {
30          return b.toString() + " din metoda cu sub";
31      }
32  }
33
34  public class Polytest {
35      public static void main(String[] args){
36          Base abase = new Base();
37          Sub asub = new Sub();
38          Host h = new Host();
39          System.out.println(h.print(abase));
40          System.out.println(h.print(asub));
41      }
42  }
```

Output - CMSC (run) x



run:



This is base din metoda cu base

This is subclass din metoda cu sub

# CONTINUED

Delete one method

Error?

Output?

```
12 class Base{
13     @Override
14     public String toString() { return "This is base";}
15 }
16
17 class Sub extends Base{
18     @Override
19     public String toString() { return "This is subclass";}
20 }
21
22 class Host{
23     public String print(Base b)
24     {
25         return b.toString() + " din metoda cu base";
26     }
27     /*public String print(Sub b)
28     {
29         return b.toString() + " din metoda cu sub";
30     }*/
31 }
32
33
34 public class Polytest {
35     public static void main(String[] args){
36         Base abase = new Base();
37         Sub asub = new Sub();
38         Host h = new Host();
39         System.out.println(h.print(abase));
40         System.out.println(h.print(asub));
41     }
42 }
```

Output - CMSC (run) x



run:



This is base din metoda cu base

This is subclass din metoda cu base

# HOW TO FAIL WITH SOLID

**Single Responsibility Principle:** Each class has one (*very small*) specific responsibility. That can lead to thousands of classes.

**Open-Closed Principle:** Use *inheritance* to add every new feature.

**Interface Segregation Principle:** Everything is single-inheritance based

**Dependency Inversion Principle:** Everything is abstracted (data-driven to the extreme).

=> Every single class is ultimately inherited out of the same family tree, sometimes *hundreds* of layers deep.

# GRASP

General Responsibility Assignment Software Patterns

OO system = objects sending messages to other objects to complete operations.

Issues:

- **Responsibilities** assigned to objects
- **Interaction** ways between objects



# RESPONSIBILITIES

## **Knowing** responsibilities:

- knowing about private encapsulated data;
- knowing about related objects;
- knowing about things it can derive or calculate;

## **Doing** responsibilities:

- doing something itself;
- initiating action in other objects;
- controlling and coordinating activities in other objects;

A responsibility is not the same as a method, but methods are implemented to fulfil responsibilities.

# GRASP: GENERAL PRINCIPLES IN ASSIGNING RESPONSIBILITIES

From Craig Larman's 9 principles:

- **Expert**
- **Creator**
- **Controller**
- **Low Coupling**
- **High Cohesion**
- Polymorphism
- Pure Fabrication
- Indirection
- **Don't Talk to Strangers (Law of Demeter)**

# CASE STUDY — POS SYSTEM

A Point-Of-Sale (POS) system is an application used (in part) to record sales and handle payments; it is typically used in a retail store.

It includes hardware components such as a computer and bar code scanner, and software to run the system. It interfaces to various service applications, such as a third-party tax calculator and inventory control.

# MODELS

Challenge: How do we get from the narrative requirements to an implementable model?

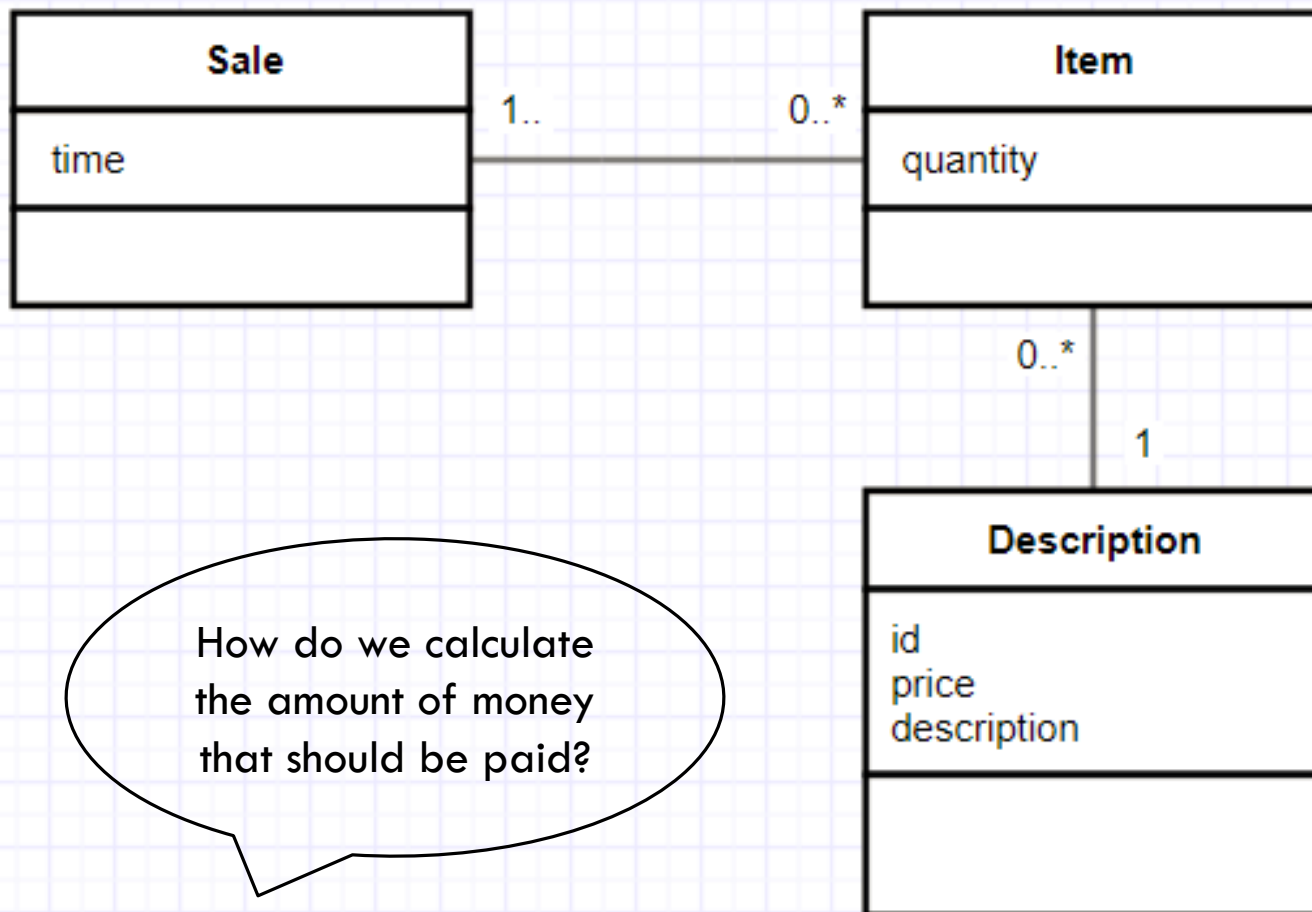
## Domain Model

- Sale
- Item
- Payment
- Product
- Register

## Design Model

- ?

# DESIGN MODEL



# INFORMATION EXPERT

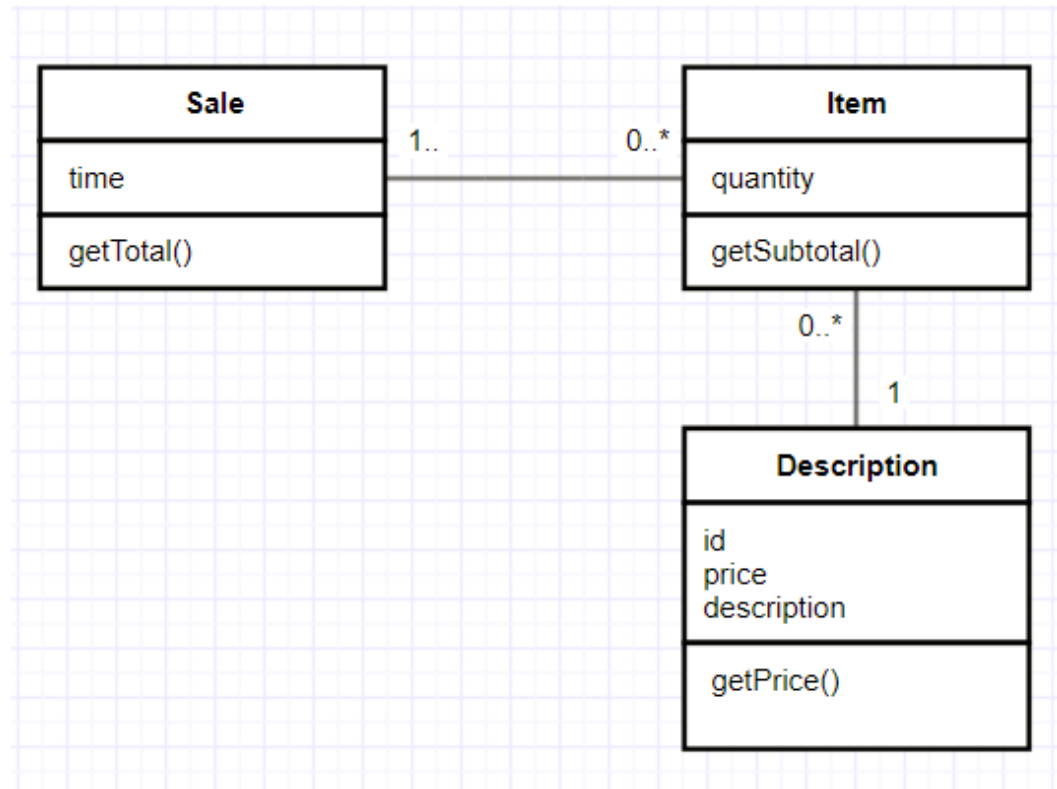
**Problem:** What is the most basic principle by which responsibilities are assigned in object-oriented design?

**Solution:** Assign a responsibility to the information expert - the class that **has the necessary information** to fulfil the responsibility.

# INFORMATION EXPERT EXAMPLE

In the POS application, what class has the information needed to calculate the total amount of money?

SALE



# CONCLUSION

## Discussion

- Expert - most used principle in the assignment of responsibilities
- Information is spread across different objects => they need to interact

## Benefits

- Information encapsulation is maintained since objects use their own information to fulfill tasks => supports low coupling
- Behavior is distributed across the classes that have the required information => more cohesive "lightweight" class definitions



# CREATOR

**Problem:** Who should be responsible for creating a new instance of some class?

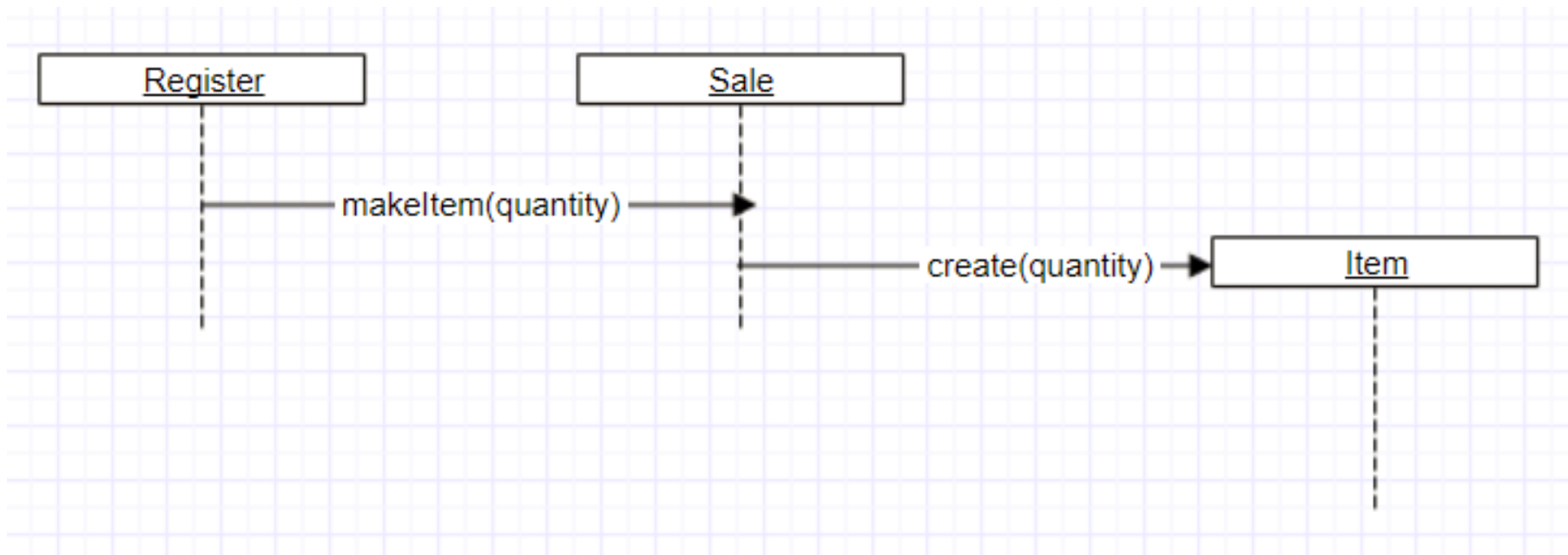
**Solution:** Assign class B the responsibility to create an instance of class A if one of the following is true:

- B contains A objects
- B closely uses A objects
- B has the initialising data that will be passed to A when it is created.

# CREATOR

**Example:** In the POS application who should be responsible for creating an Item instance?

SALE



# CONCLUSION

## Discussion:

- Creator guides assigning responsibilities related to the creation of objects.
- Sometimes a creator is the class that has the initialising data that will be used during creation.

For example, who should be responsible to create a Payment instance ?

## Benefits:

- Low Coupling is supported

## Issues:

- Complex creation procedures
- Solution ?

# CONTROLLER

**Problem:** Who should be responsible for handling a system event?

- A system event is a high level event generated by an external actor.
- A Controller is a non-user interface object responsible for handling a system event.

# CONTROLLER

**Solution:** Assign the responsibility for handling a system event to a class representing one of the following choices:

- **Facade controller**

- handles all the events
- represents the overall "system"

- **Role controller**

- handles the events associated to the role
- represents a person in the real-world

- **Use-case controller**

- handles the events associated to a use-case
- represents an artificial handler

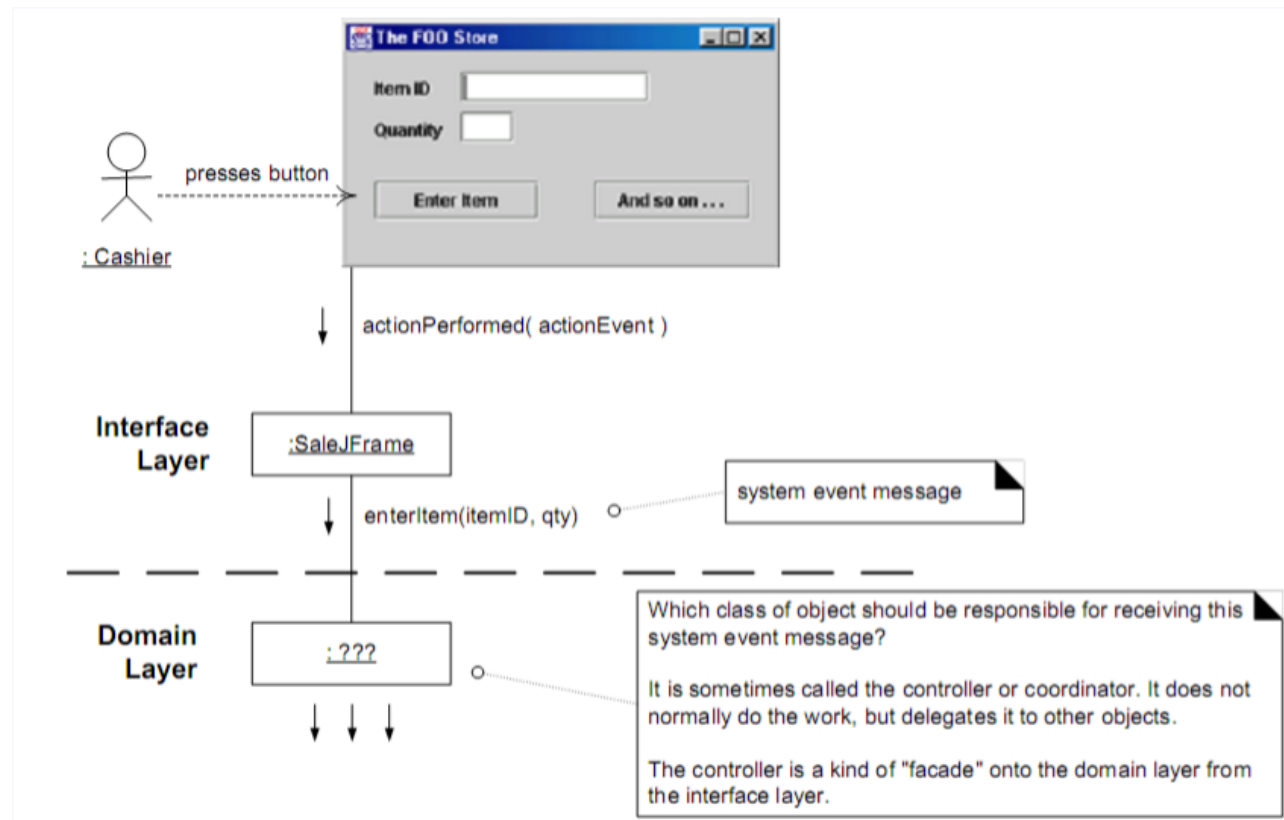
# CONTROLLER

**Example:** In the point of sale application the current system operations have been identified as:

endSale()

enterItem()

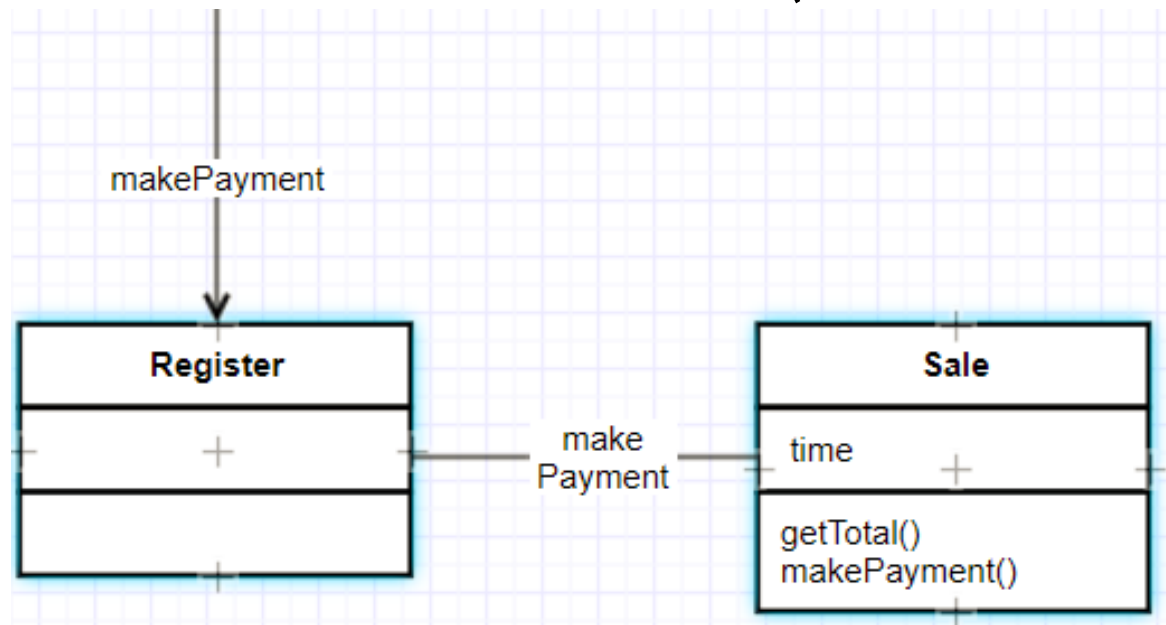
makePayment()



# SOLUTION

By the Controller pattern, here are some choices:

- Register, POSSystem: represents the overall "system" (Façade controller)
- ProcessSaleSession, ProcessSaleHandler: represents a handler of all system events of a use case scenario (Use-case controller)



# DISCUSSION

- Usually a controller delegates to other objects the work that needs to be done; it coordinates or controls the activity.
- Facade controllers are suitable when there are not "too many" system events
- A use case controller is an alternative to consider when placing the responsibilities in a facade controller leads to designs with low cohesion or high coupling
- Controller class is called bloated if
  - The class is overloaded with too many responsibilities.
    - Solution – Add more controllers
  - Controller class performs many tasks itself.
    - Solution – controller class has to delegate things to others.



# CONCLUSIONS

## **Benefits:**

Increased potential for reusable components:

- it ensures that business or domain processes are handled by the layer of domain objects rather than by the interface layer.
- the application is not bound to a particular interface.

Reason about the state of the use case:

- As all the system events belonging to a particular use case are assigned to a single class, it is easier to control the sequence of events that may be imposed by a use case (e.g. MakePayment cannot occur until EndSale has occurred).

# LOW COUPLING

How strongly are the objects connected to each other?

Coupling = object depending on other object.

When the independent element changes, it affects the dependent one.

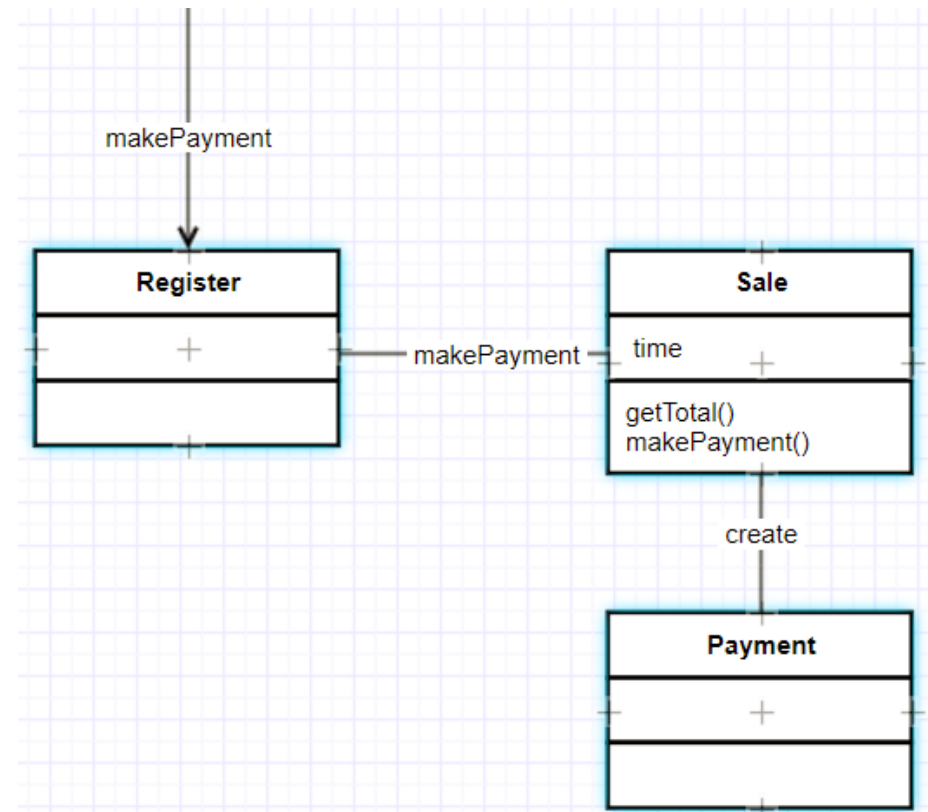
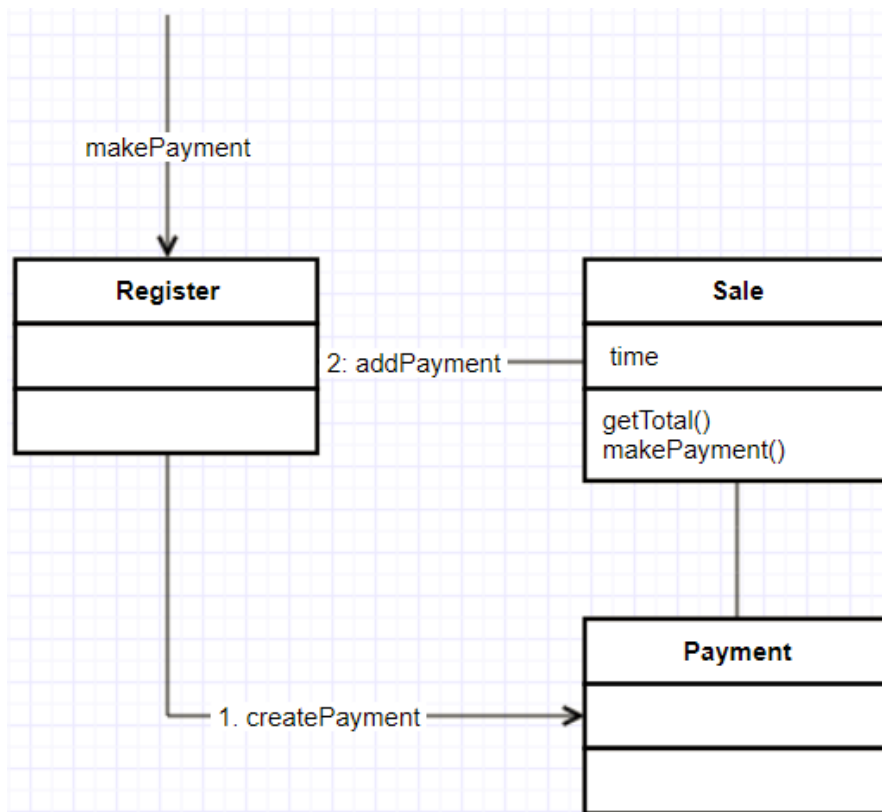
Prefer low coupling – assign responsibilities so that coupling remains low.

# COUPLING

TypeX depends on TypeY if

- TypeX has an **attribute that refers** to a TypeY instance, or TypeY itself.
- TypeX has a **method which references** an instance of TypeY, or TypeY itself, by any means. (Typically include a parameter or local variable of type TypeY, or the returned object is an instance of TypeY.)
- TypeX is a direct or indirect **subclass** of TypeY.
- TypeY is an interface, and TypeX **implements** that interface.

# WHICH IS BETTER COUPLED?



# MEASURING COUPLING

```
class Person
{
    public string Name { get; set; }
    public int Age { get; set; }
    public double Salary { get; set; }
}
```

Code Metrics Results

Hierarchy	Class Coupling
ConsoleApplication6	0
ConsoleApplication	0
Person	0

```
class Person
{
    public string Name { get; set; }
    public int Age { get; set; }
    public double Salary { get; set; }
}
```

```
class PersonStuff
{
    void DoSomething()
    {
        Person myPerson = new Person();
        myPerson.Age = 23;
        myPerson.Name = "Bubba";
        myPerson.Salary = 20.34;
    }
}
```

Code Metrics Results

Hierarchy	Class Coupling
ConsoleApplication6 (D	1
ConsoleApplication6	1
Person	0
PersonStuff	1
DoSomething()	1
PersonStuff()	0

```
class PersonStuff
{
    Person myPerson = new Person();

    void DoSomething()
    {
        myPerson.Age = 23;
        myPerson.Name = "Bubba";
        myPerson.Salary = 20.34;
    }
}
```

Code Metrics Results

Hierarchy	Class Coupling
ConsoleApplication6 (D	1
ConsoleApplication6	1
Person	0
PersonStuff	1
DoSomething()	1
PersonStuff()	1

# HIGH COHESION

How are the operations of any element functionally related?

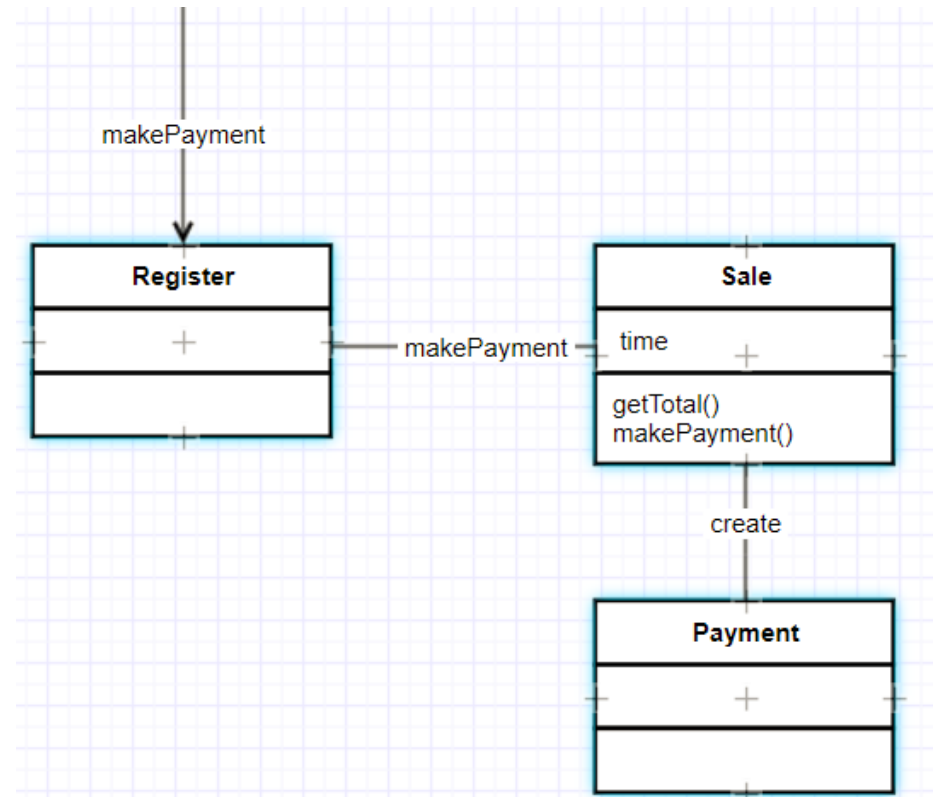
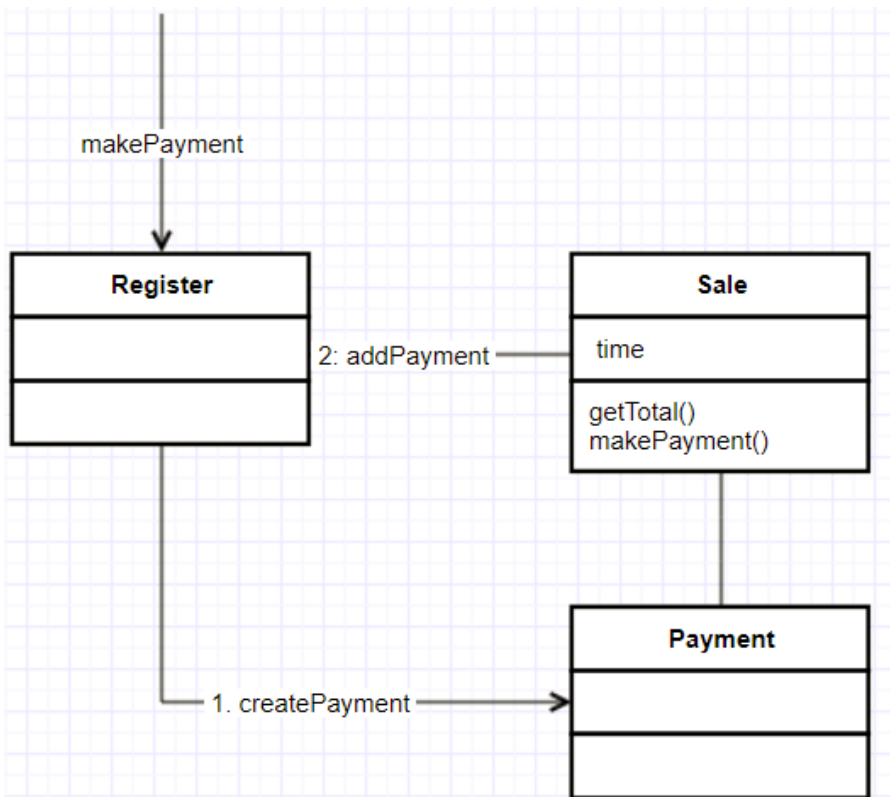
Related responsibilities are placed into one manageable unit.

Correlated to SRP!

## **Benefits**

- Easily understandable and maintainable.
- Code reuse
- Low coupling

# COHESIVE?



# LACK OF COHESION (LCOM)

LCOM measures the dissimilarity of methods in a class by instance variable or attributes.

- *Functional cohesion* - the design unit (module) performs a single well-defined function or achieves a single goal.
- *Sequential cohesion* - the design unit performs more than one function, but these functions occur in an order prescribed by the specification, i.e. they are strongly related.
- *Communication cohesion* - a design unit performs multiple functions, but all are targeted on the same data.



# LCOM CONT'D

- *Procedural cohesion* - a design unit performs multiple functions that are procedurally related. The code in each module represents a single piece of functionality defining a control sequence of activities.
- *Temporal cohesion* - a design unit performs more than one function, and they are related only by the fact that they must occur within the same time span (ex. a design that combines all data initialization into one unit and performs all initialization at the same time even though it may be defined and utilized in other design units).
- *Logical cohesion* - a design unit that performs a series of similar functions (ex. the Java class `java.lang.Math`)

# LCOM4

LCOM4 measures the number of "*connected components*" in a class.

A connected component is a set of related methods (and class-level variables).

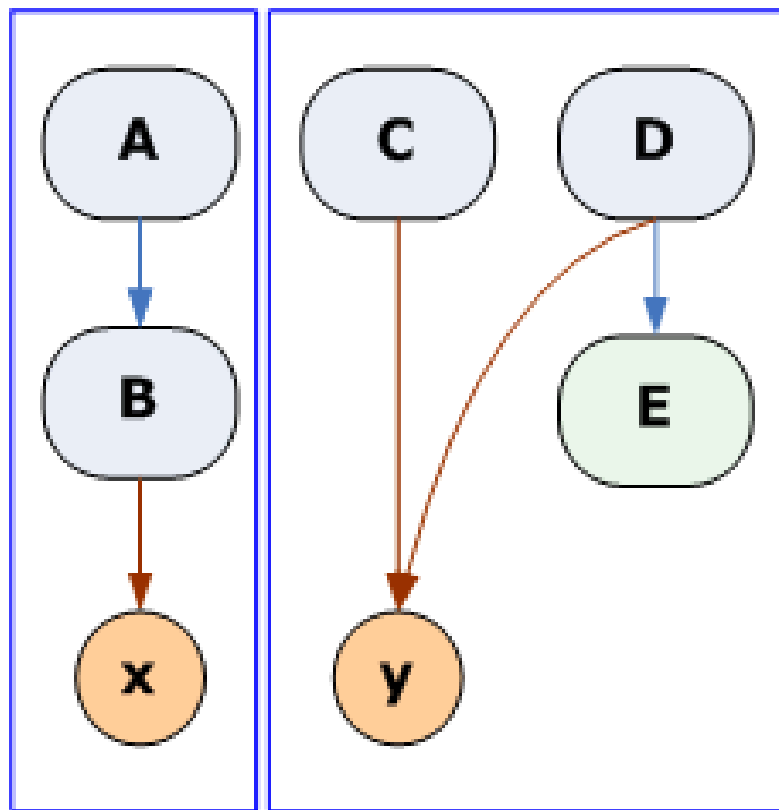
Methods **a** and **b** are related if:

- they both access the same class-level variable, or
- **a** calls **b**, or **b** calls **a**.

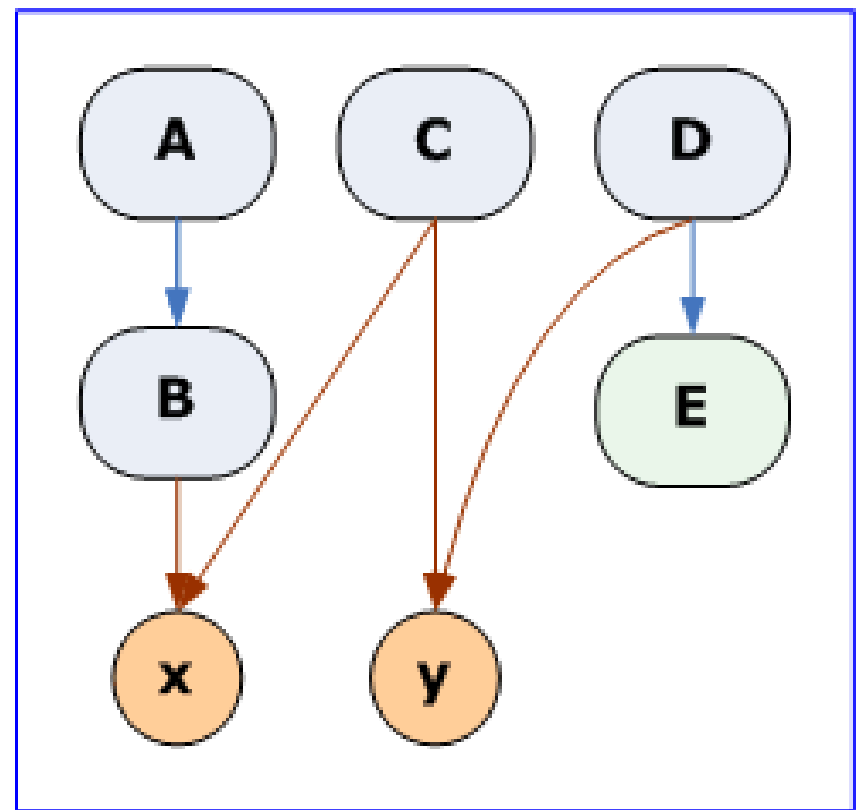
**There should be only one connected component in each class.**

If there are 2 or more components, the class should be split into so many smaller classes.

# LCOM4



LCOM4 = 2



LCOM4 = 1

# LAW OF DEMETER

## Weak Form

Inside of a method *M* of a class *C*, data can be accessed and messages can be sent to only the following objects:

- **this** and **super**
- **data members (attributes)** of class *C*
- **parameters** of the method *M*
- **objects created** within *M*
  - by calling directly a constructor
  - by calling a method that creates the object
- **global variables**

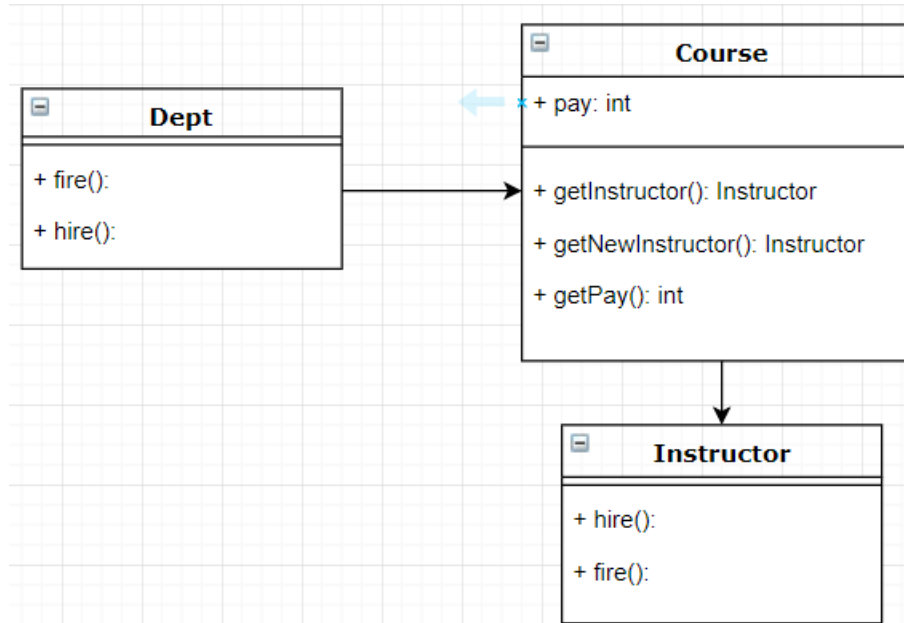
## Strong Form

In addition to the Weak Form, you are not allowed to access directly inherited members

# LOD EXAMPLE

```
class Demeter {  
    private A a;  
  
    public void example(B b)  
    {  
        C c;  
        c = func();  
        b.invert(); passed parameters  
        a = new A();  
        a.setActive(); attribute  
        c.print(); local variable  
    }  
}
```

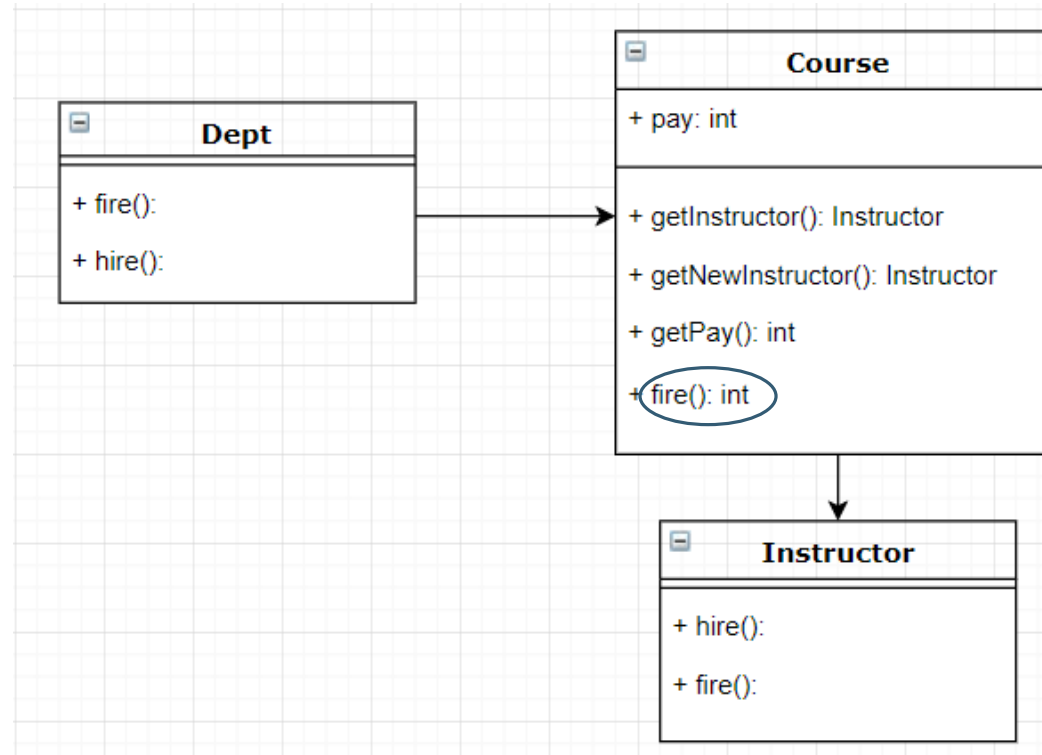
# LOD COUNTER EXAMPLE



```
class Course
{
    Instructor boring = new Instructor();
    int pay = 5;
    public Instructor getInstructor() { return boring; }
    public Instructor getNewInstructor() {return new Instructor(); }
    public int getPay() {return pay; }
}
```

```
class Dept {
    Course test = new Course();
    public void fire() { test.getInstructor().fire(); }
    public void hire() { test.getNewInstructor().hire(); }
    public int raisePay() { return test.getpay() + 10;}
}
```

# LOD GOOD EXAMPLE



```
class Course {
    Instructor boring = new Instructor();
    int pay = 5;
    public Instructor fire() { boring.fire(); }
    public Instructor getNewInstructor() { return new Instructor(); }
    public int getPay() { return pay ; }
}
```

```
class Dept {
    Course test = new Course();
    public void fire() { test.fire(); }
    public void hire() { test.getNewInstructor().hire(); }
    public int raisePay() { return test.getpay() + 10; }
}
```

# LOD FOR CHILDREN

You can play *with yourself.*

You can play with *your own toys*

You can play with *toys that were given to you.*

You can play with *toys you've made yourself.*



# LOD BENEFITS

## Coupling Control

- reduces data coupling

## Information hiding

- prevents from retrieving subparts of an object

## Information restriction

- restricts the use of methods that provide information

## Few Interfaces

- restricts the classes that can be used in a method

## Explicit Interfaces

- states explicitly which classes can be used in a method

# ACCEPTABLE LOD VIOLATIONS

If optimization requires violation

- Speed or memory restrictions

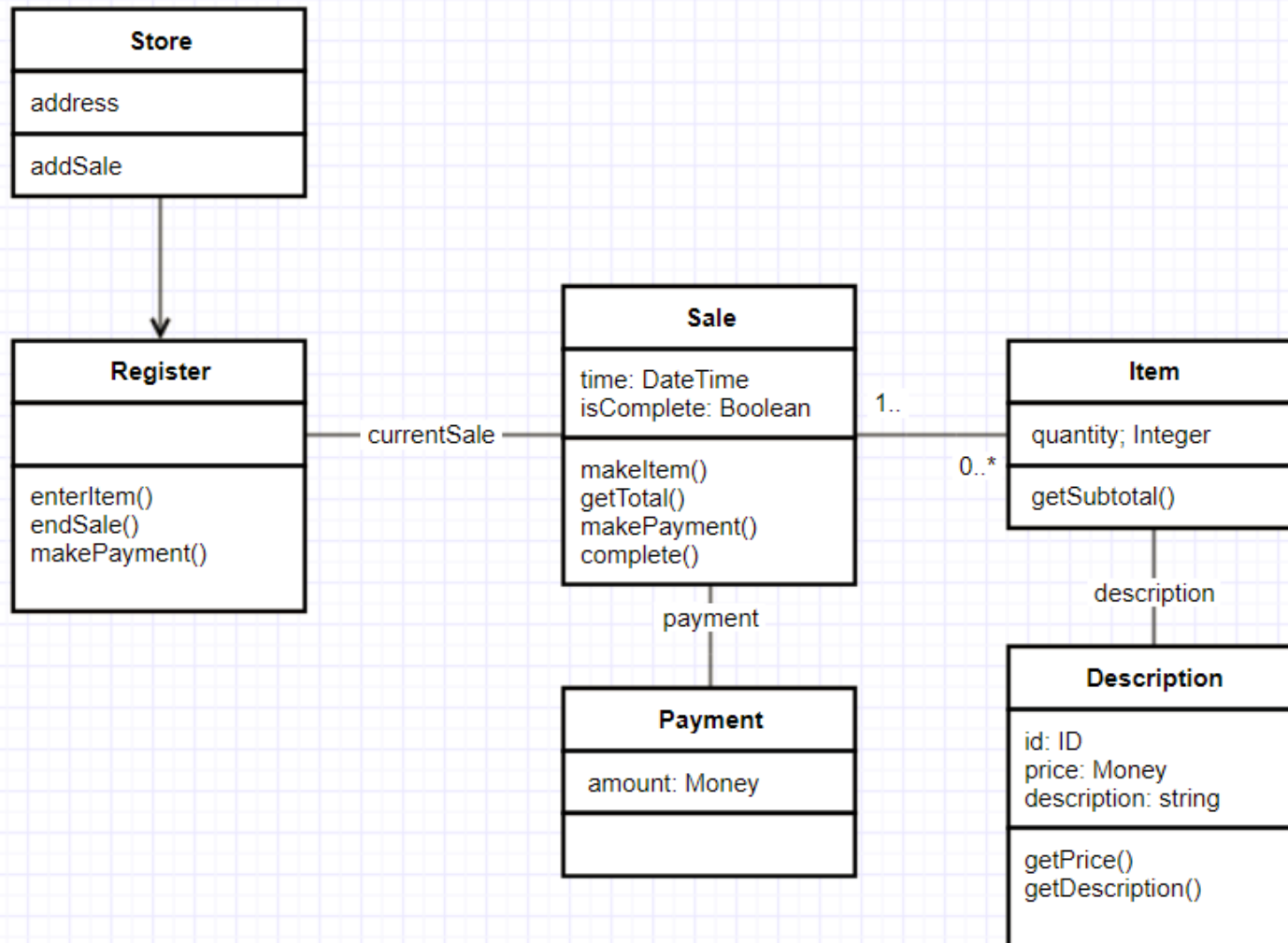
If module accessed is a fully stabilized “Black Box”

- No changes to interface can reasonably be expected due to extensive testing, usage, etc.

Otherwise, do not violate this law!!

- Long-term costs will be very prohibitive

# POS FINAL DESIGN



# HIGHER-LEVEL DESIGN

Dealing with *large-scale systems*

- team of developers, rather than an individual

Classes are a valuable but not sufficient mechanism

- too *fine-grained* for organizing a large scale design
- need mechanism that impose a higher level of order

## **Packages**

- a logical grouping of declarations that can be imported in other programs
- containers for a group of classes (UML)
- reason at a higher-level of abstraction

# ISSUES OF HIGHER-LEVEL DESIGN

## Goal

- *partition* the classes in an application according to some *criteria* and then *allocate* those partitions to packages

## Issues

- What are the best partitioning criteria?
- What principles govern the design of packages?
  - *creation* and *dependencies* between packages

## Approach

- Define principles that govern package design
  - the creation and interrelationship and use of packages

# PRINCIPLES OF OO HIGHER-LEVEL DESIGN

## Cohesion Principles

- Reuse/Release Equivalency Principle (REP)
- Common Reuse Principle (CRP)
- Common Closure Principle (CCP)

## Coupling Principles

- Acyclic Dependencies Principle (ADP)
- Stable Dependencies Principle (SDP)
- Stable Abstractions Principle (SAP)

# WHAT IS REALLY REUSABILITY ?

Does copy-paste mean reusability?

- Disadvantage: **You own that copy!**
  - you must change it, fix bugs.
  - eventually the code diverges

Martin's Definition:

- *I reuse code if, and only if, I never need to look at the source-code*
- treat reused code like a *product*  $\Rightarrow$  don't have to maintain it

Clients (re-users) may decide to use a newer version of a component release

# REUSE/RELEASE EQUIVALENCY PRINCIPLE (REP)

*The granule of reuse is the granule of release. Only components that are released through a tracking system can be efficiently reused. [R. Martin]*

*Either all the classes in a package are reusable or none of it is! [R. Martin]*



# WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Reused code = product

- Released, named and maintained by the producer.

Programmer = client

- Doesn't have to maintain reused code
- Doesn't have to name reused code
- May choose to use an older/newer release

# THE COMMON REUSE PRINCIPLE

*All classes in a package [library] should be reused together. If you reuse one of the classes in the package, you reuse them all. [R.Martin]*

*If I depend on a package, I want to depend on every class in that package! [R.Martin]*

# WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Criteria for grouping classes in a package:

- Classes that tend to be **reused** together.

Packages have physical representations (shared libraries, DLLs, assembly)

- Changing just one class in the package => re-release the package => revalidate the application that uses the package.

# COMMON CLOSURE PRINCIPLE (CCP)

*The classes in a package should be closed against the same kinds of changes.*

*A change that affects a package affects all the classes in that package*

[R. Martin]

# WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Another criteria of grouping classes: **Maintainability!**

- Classes that tend to change together for the same reasons
- Classes highly dependent

SRP at packages level

# REUSE VS. MAINTENANCE

REP and CRP makes life easier for **reuser**

- packages very small

CCP makes life easier for **maintainer**

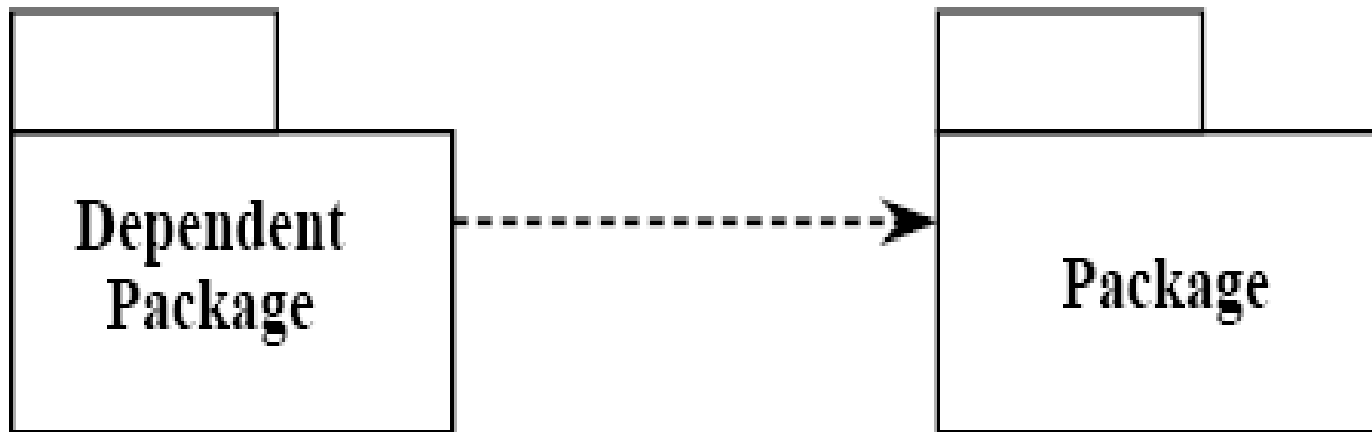
- larger packages

**Packages are not fixed in stone**

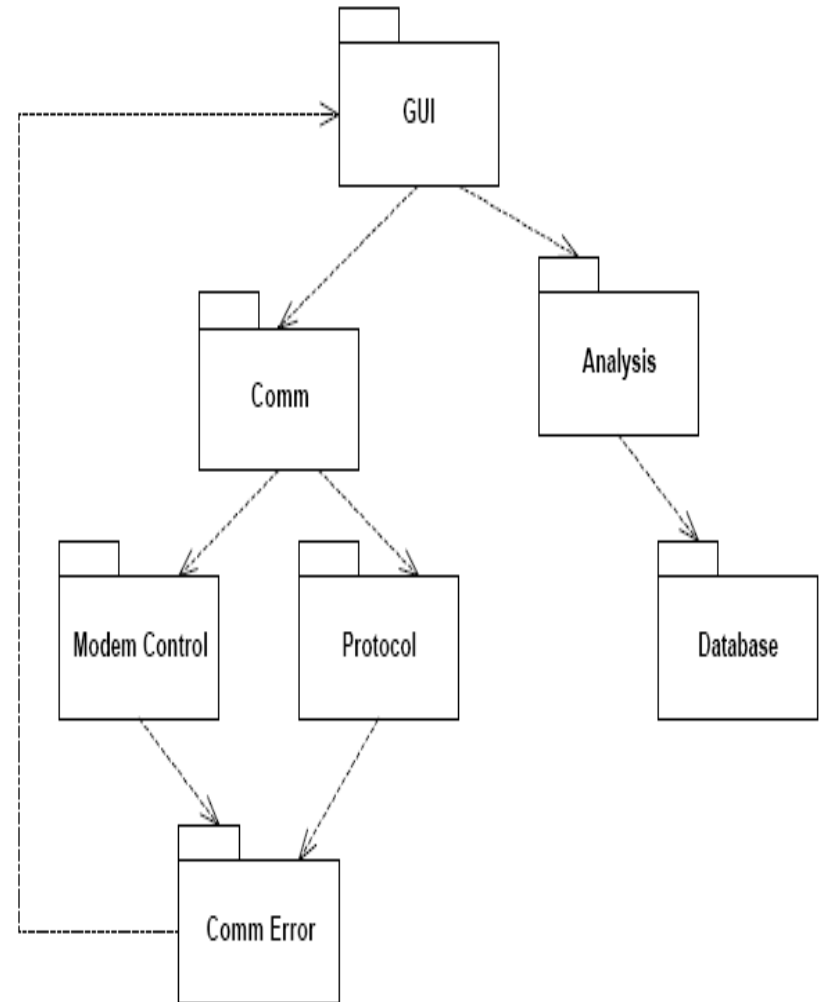
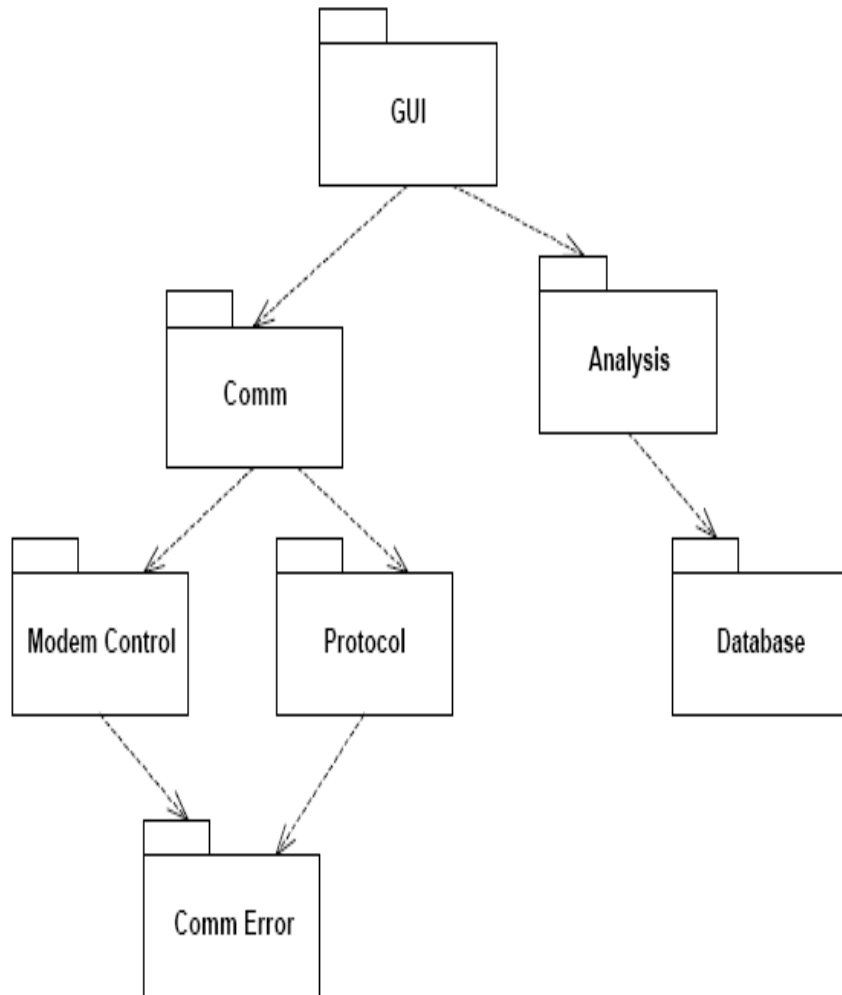
- early in project focus on CCP
- later when architecture stabilizes: focus on REP and CRP

# ACYCLIC DEPENDENCIES PRINCIPLES (ADP)

*The dependency structure for released component must be a Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG). There can be no cycles. [R. Martin]*

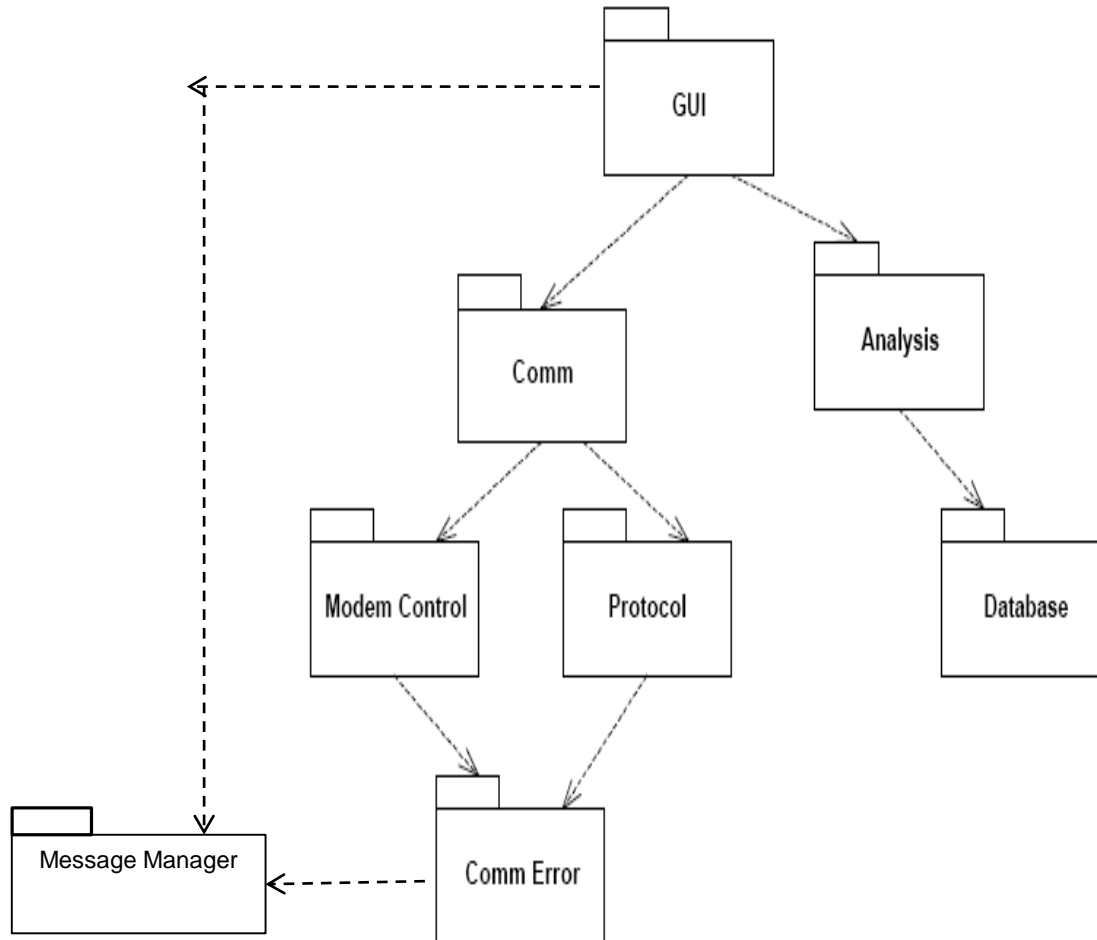


# DEPENDENCY GRAPHS





# BREAKING THE CYCLE

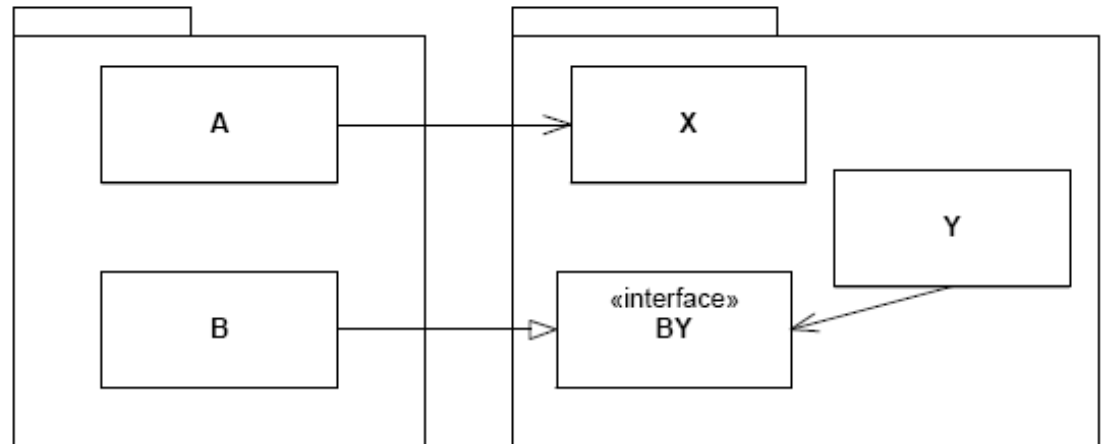
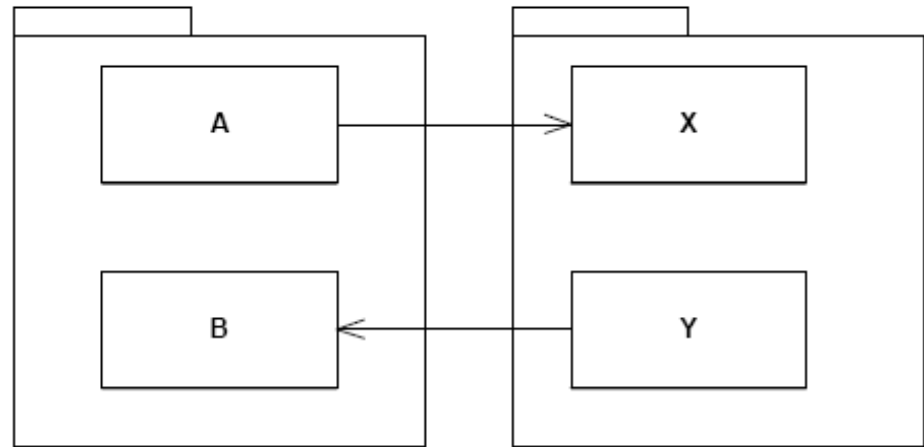


Take out of the GUI package the classes that Comm Error depend on

=> Add a new package (i.e. Message Manager)

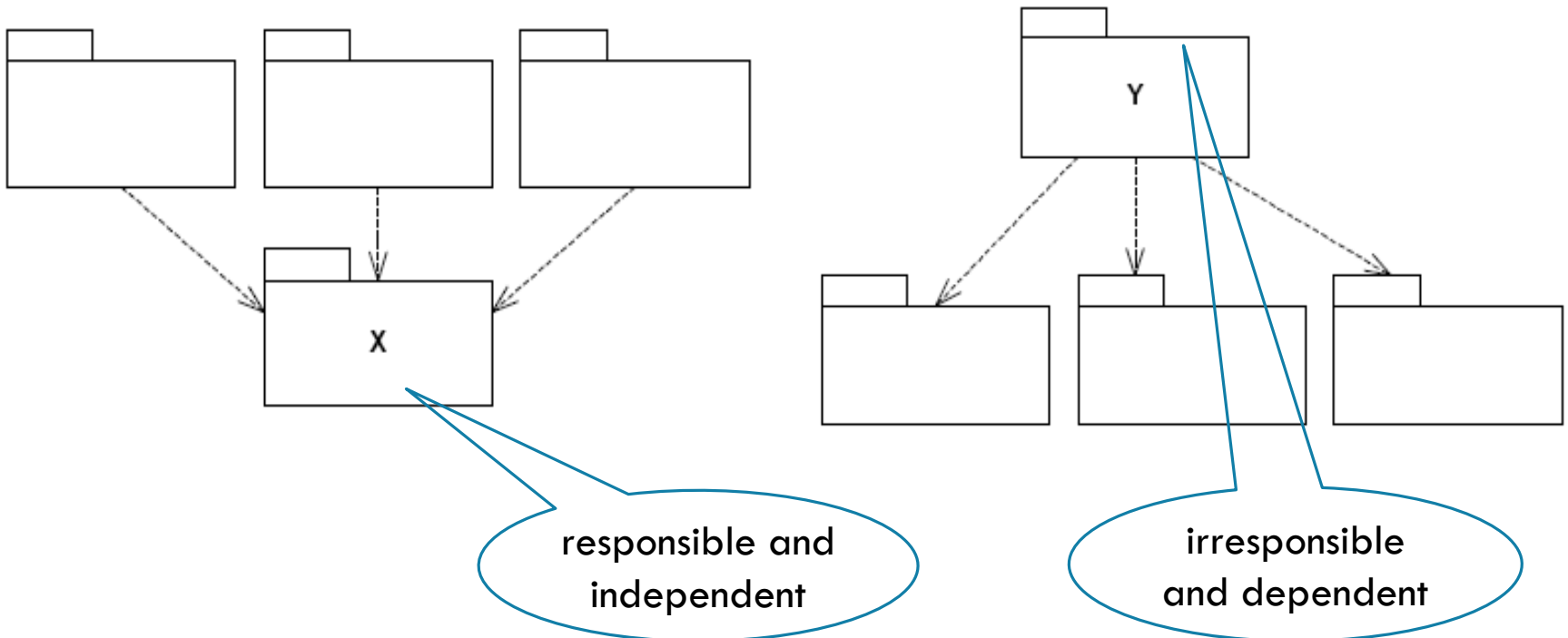
# BREAKING THE CYCLE

DIP + ISP



# STABILITY

Stability is related to the amount of work in order to make a change.



Driven by Responsibility and Independence

# STABILITY METRICS

$C_a$  – Afferent coupling (incoming dependencies)

- How responsible am I?

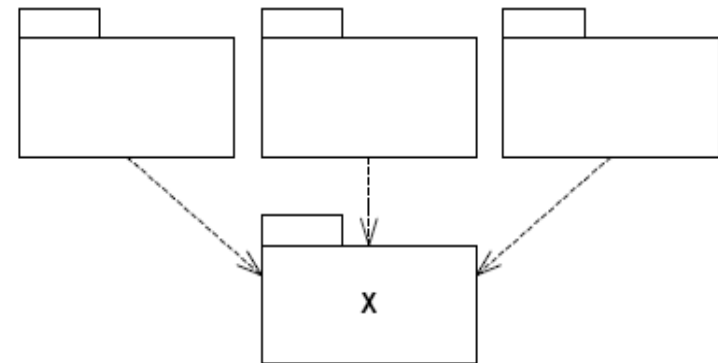
$C_e$  – Efferent coupling (outgoing dependencies)

- How dependant am I?

Instability  $I = C_e / (C_a + C_e)$

Example for X:

$C_a = 3, C_e = 0 \Rightarrow I = 0$  (very stable)



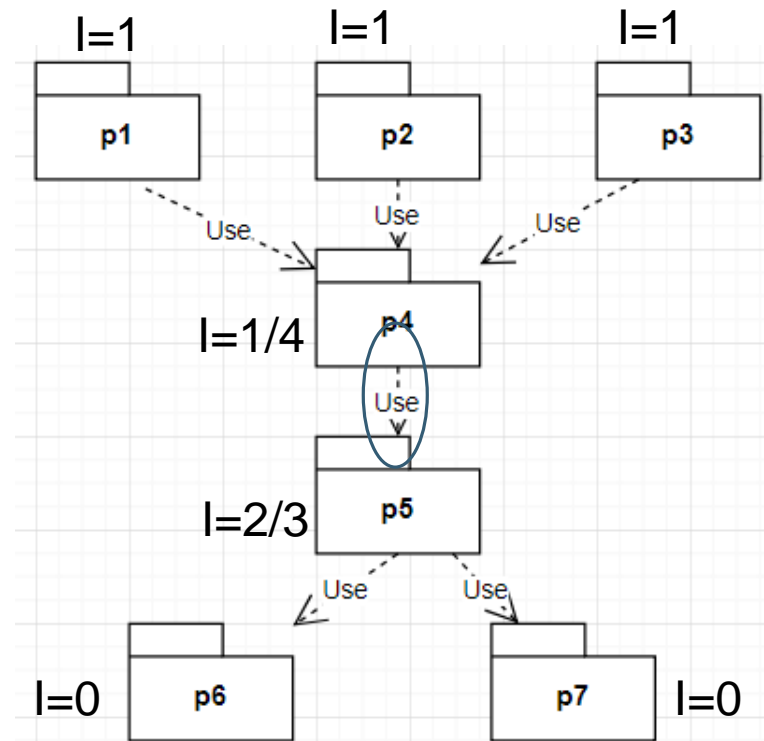
# STABLE DEPENDENCY PRINCIPLE (SDP)

Depend in the direction of stability.

What does this mean?

- Depend upon packages whose  $I$  is lower than yours.

**Counter-example**



# WHERE TO PUT HIGH-LEVEL DESIGN?

High-level architecture and design decisions don't change often

- shouldn't be volatile  $\Rightarrow$  place them in stable packages
- design becomes hard to change  $\Rightarrow$  *inflexible design*

**How can a totally stable package ( $I = 0$ ) be flexible enough to withstand change?**

Answer: ***The Open-Closed Principle***

- Classes that can be extended without modifying them  
 $\Rightarrow$  **Abstract Classes**

# STABLE ABSTRACTIONS PRINCIPLE (SAP)

Stable packages should be abstract packages.

What does this mean?

- Stable packages should be depended upon
- Flexible packages should be dependent
- OCP => Stable packages should be highly abstract

# ABSTRACTNESS METRICS

$N_c$  = number of classes in the package

$N_a$  = number of abstract classes in the package

*Abstractness*  $A = N_a / N_c$

Example:

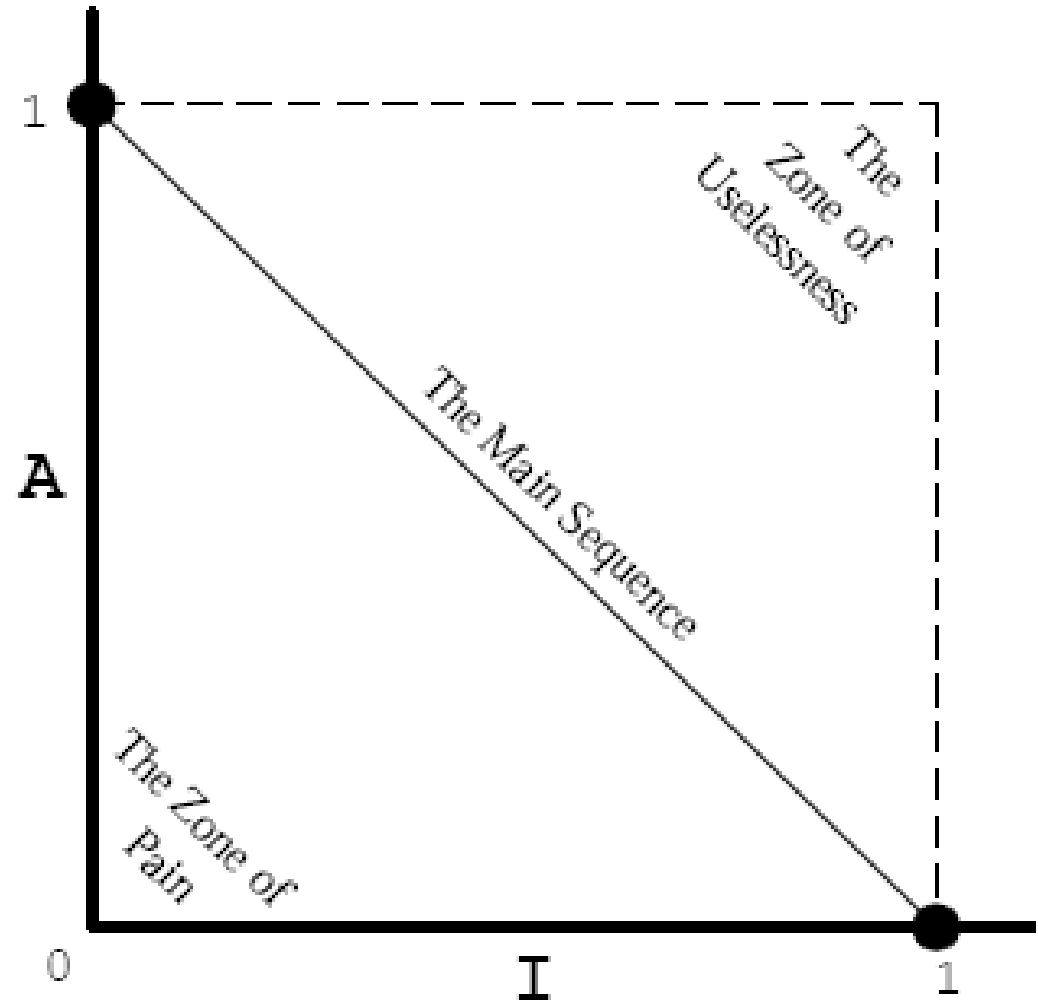
- *All classes are concrete*  $N_a = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0$

What about hybrid classes?



# THE MAIN SEQUENCE

$I$  should increase as  $A$  decreases



# THE MAIN SEQUENCE

## Zone of Pain

- highly stable and concrete  $\Rightarrow$  rigid
- famous examples:
  - database-schemas (volatile and highly depended-upon)
  - concrete utility libraries (instable but non-volatile)

## Zone of Uselessness

- instable and abstract  $\Rightarrow$  useless
  - no one depends on those classes

## Main Sequence

- maximizes the distance between the zones we want to avoid
- depicts the balance between abstractness and stability.

# WRAP-UP

Principles for good class design related to

- Assigning Responsibilities (GRASP)
- Package design
  - Coupling
  - Cohesion