

# Model in MVC

---

Dr. Youna Jung

Northeastern University

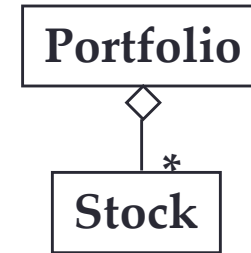
[yo.jung@northeastern.edu](mailto:yo.jung@northeastern.edu)



# OBSERVER PATTERNS

---

# Motivation

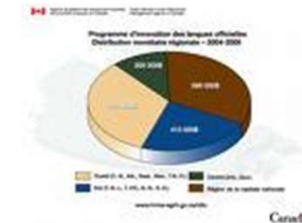
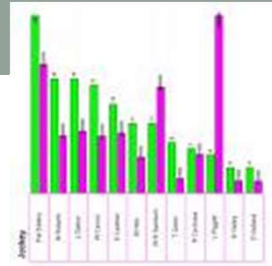


## Problem

- ✓ We have an **object** that **changes** its **state quite often**
  - Ex) A **Portfolio** of **stocks**
- ✓ We **want** to **provide multiple views** of the **current state**
  - Ex) **Histogram** view, **pie chart** view, **timeline** view, **alarm**

## Requirements

- ✓ The system **should maintain consistency across** the (redundant) **views**
- ✓ The system design **should be highly extensible**
  - It should be **possible** to **add new views without** having to ~~**recompile** the observed object or the existing views.~~



# Observer Design Pattern

## ❑ Name

- ✓ Observer

## ❑ Problem

- ✓ Need to notify a changing number of objects that something has changed

## ❑ Solution

- ✓ Define a one-to-many dependency between objects so that when one object changes state, all its dependents are notified and updated automatically

# Observer Pattern: Examples

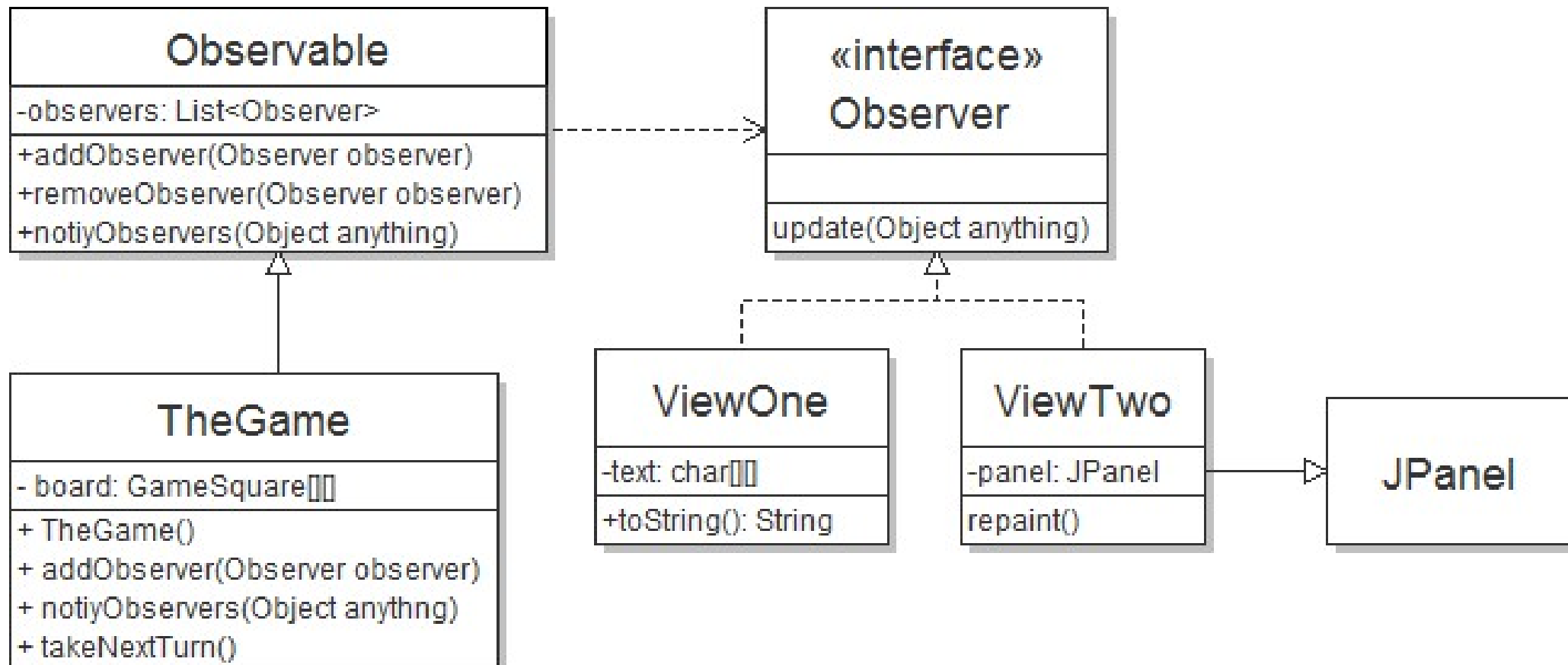
## ❑ Charts in Spreadsheet

- ✓ Data frequently changing (Model)
- ✓ Draw two charts (Observers = two Views)

## ❑ File Explorer

- ✓ File system (Model)
- ✓ File explorer = Observers (View)

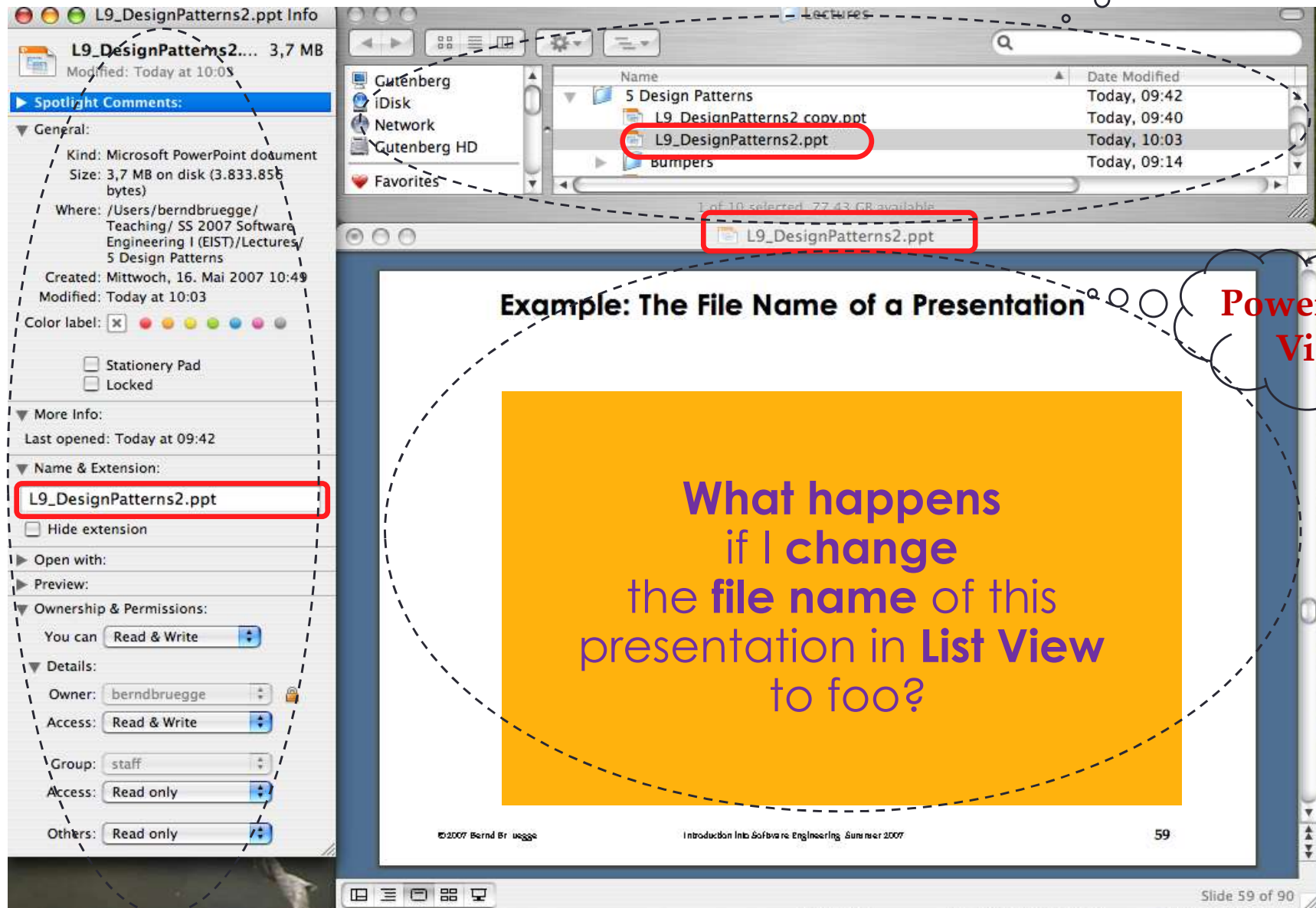
# Observer Example



# Example: The File Name of a Presentation

List View

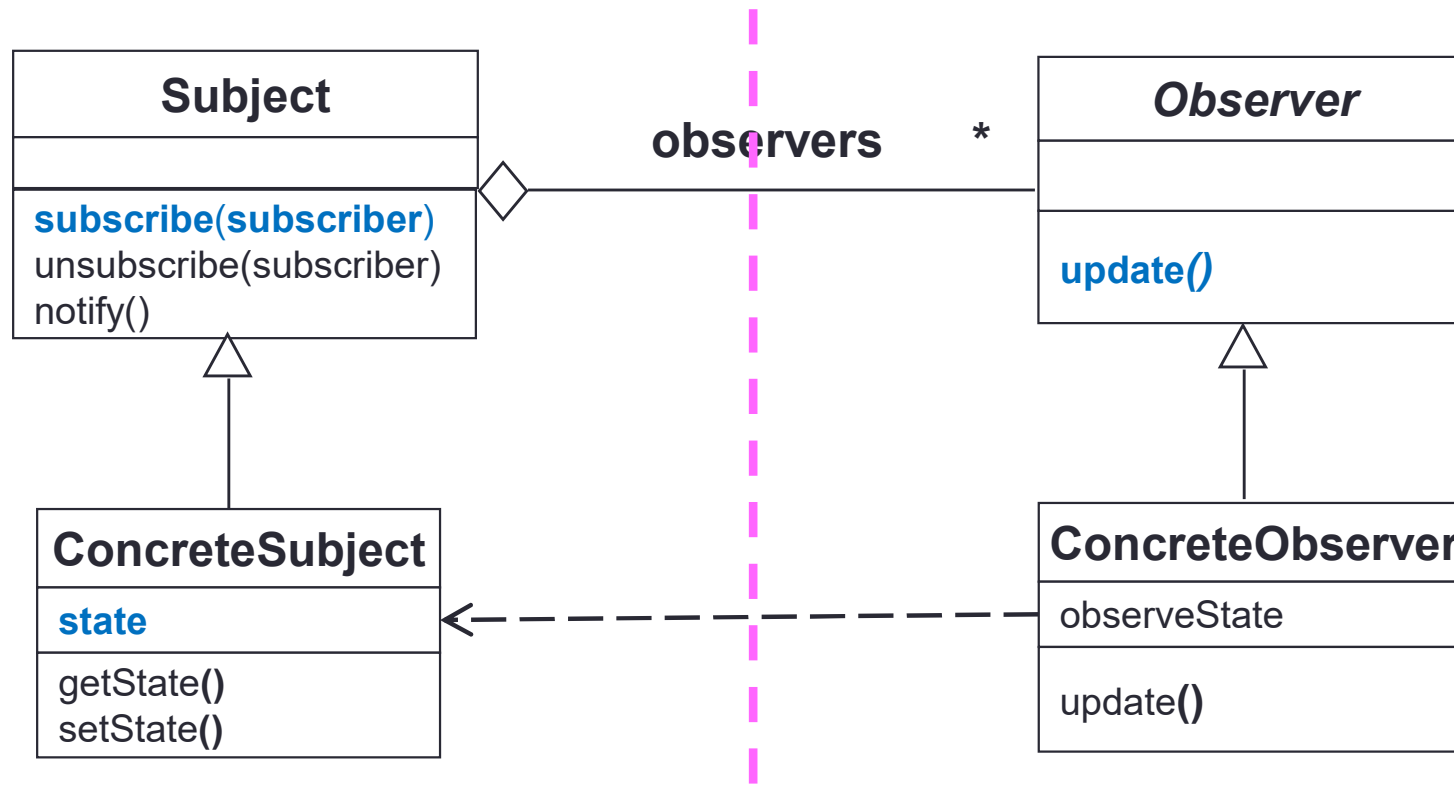
## 3 Possibilities to change the File Name



Info View

Powerpoint View

# Observer Pattern: Decouples from its Views



- ❑ **Subject** (“Publisher”) represents the **entity object**
- ❑ **Observers** (“Subscribers”) **attach** to the **Subject** by calling `subscribe()`
  - ✓ Each **Observer** has a **different view** of the **state** of the **entity object**
    - The **state** is contained in the subclass **ConcreteSubject**
    - The **state** can be **obtained** and **set** by subclasses of type **ConcreteObserver**.



# Observer Pattern (Publish and Subscribe)

- ❑ Models a **1:N dependency** between **objects**
  - ✓ **Connects** the **state** of an **observed object** (the **subject** with many observing objects) the **observers**
- ❑ Usage
  - ✓ Maintaining **consistency across** redundant **states**
  - ✓ **Optimizing** a batch of **changes** to **maintain consistency**
- ❑ 3 Ways to maintain the consistency
  - ✓ **Push Notification**
    - **Every time** the **state** of the **subject changes**, **ALL** the **observers** are **notified** of the **change**
  - ✓ **Push-Update Notification**
    - The **subject** also **sends** the **state** that **has been changed** to the observers
  - ✓ **Pull Notification**
    - An **observer inquires** about the **state** the of the subject

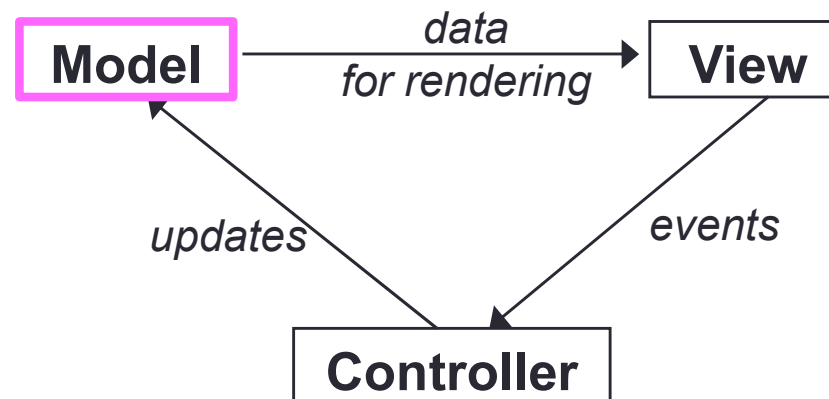
# OBSERVER & MVC

---

# Model-View-Controller Pattern

## □ Model

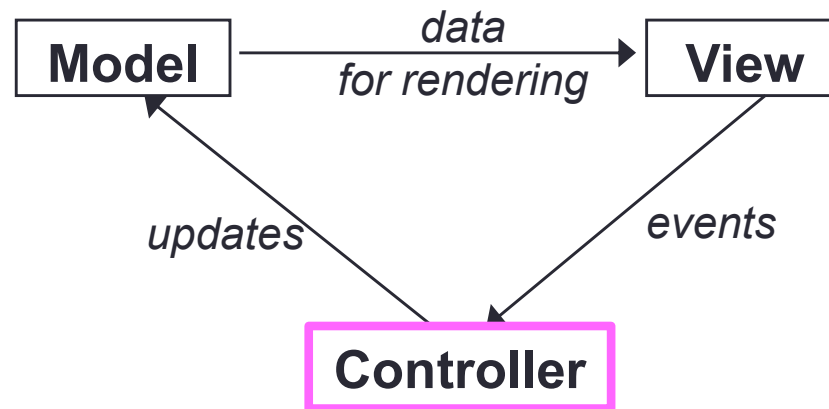
- ✓ **Classes** in your system that are **related** to the internal **representation** of **data** and **state** of the **system**
  - often part of the model is connected to **file(s)** or **database(s)**
  - Ex) **Card** game - **Card**, **Deck**, **Player**
  - EX) **Bank** system - **Account**, **User**, **UserList**
- ✓ **What it does**
  - **implements** all the **functionality**
- ✓ **Does not do**
  - does **not care about which functionality** is used **when**, **how results** are **shown** to the user



# MVC Pattern

## ❑ Controller

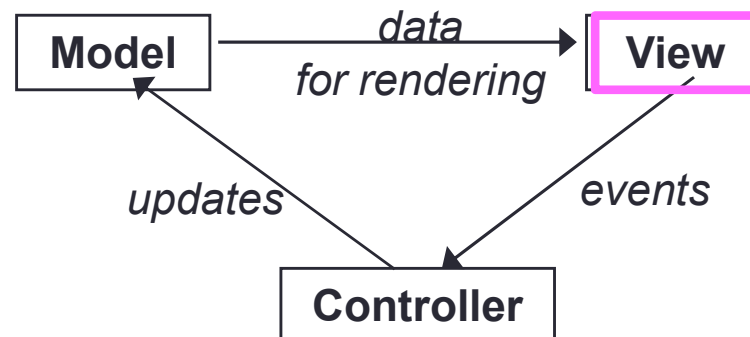
- ✓ **Classes** that **connect model** and **view**
  - defines **how user interface reacts** to user **input** (events)
  - **receives messages** from **view** (where events come from)
  - sends **messages** to **model** (tells what data to display)
- ✓ **What it does**
  - **Takes** user **inputs**, **tells model** what to **do** and **view** what to **display**
- ✓ **Does not do**
  - **does not care how model implements** functionality, screen layout to **display results**



# MVC Pattern

## □ 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**
    - Ex) Bar chart vs. pie chart
- ✓ **What it does**
  - **display results** to **user**
- ✓ **Does not do**
  - **does not care how the results were produced, when to respond** to user action



# Observer Pattern

## ❑ Observer

- ✓ An **object** that "**watches**" the **state** of **another object** and **takes action when** the **state changes** in some way
  - Ex) In Java: **event listeners** or `java.util.Observer`

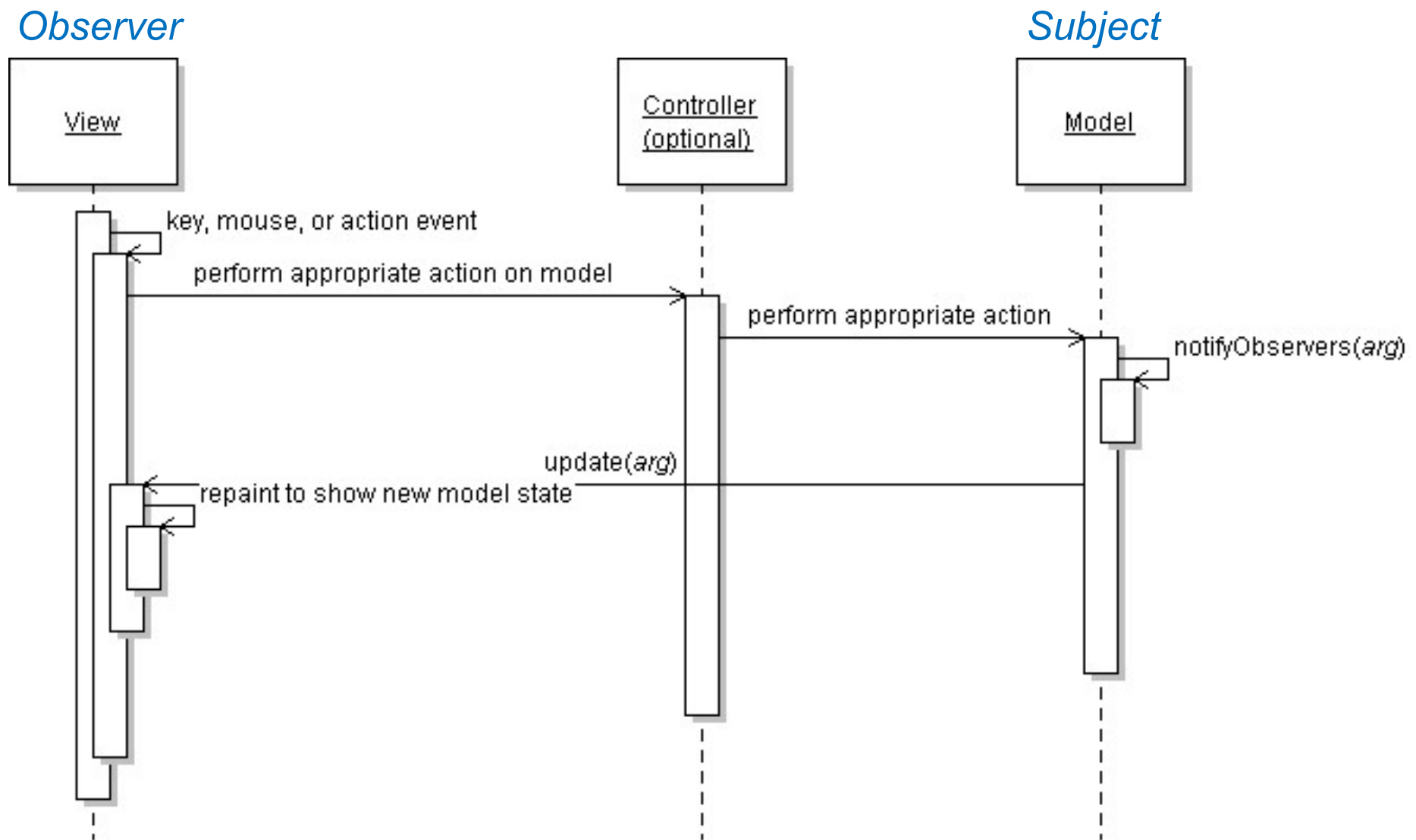
## ❑ observable object

- ✓ An **object** that **allows observers** to **examine** it and **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** → 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

- ❑ The **update ()** method will be called when the **observable model changes**
  - ✓ Need to put the appropriate code to handle the change inside **update ()**

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

# Observable class

- ❑ `public void addObserver(Observer o)`
- ❑ `public void deleteObserver(Observer o)`
  - ✓ Adds/removes `o` to/from the **list** of **Observer** 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.
  - ✓ `Object arg`
    - An **optional** 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 into observers**
  - ✓ Model like GUI panels that draw the model on screen
  - ✓ have the panels take action when the model notifies them of events (e.g. `repaint`, play sound, show option dialog, etc.)

# Using Multiple Views

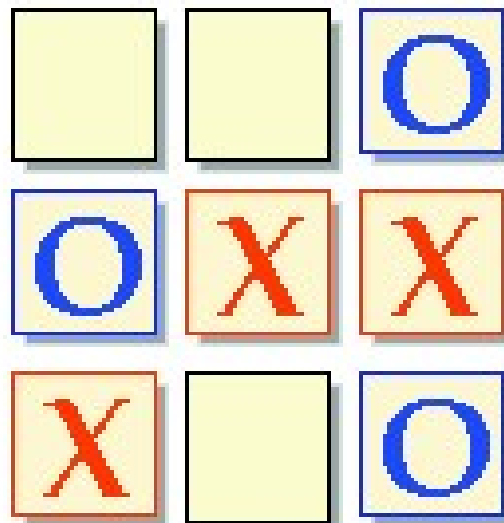
- ❑ make an **Observable model**
- ❑ write a **View interface** or abstract class
  - ✓ make View an observer
- ❑ extend/implement **View** for **all actual views**
  - ✓ give **each** its own unique inner components and **code** to **draw the model's state** in **its own way**
- ❑ provide **mechanism**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

# TIC-TAC-TOE

---

# Tic-Tac-Toe Game

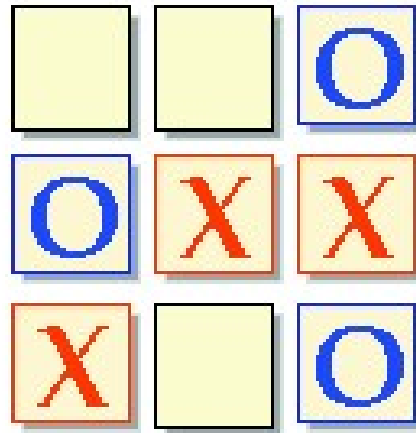
- ❑ Let us first play the game!
  - ✓ <https://boulter.com/ttt/index.cgi>



**YOU ARE** 

# Rules

- ❑ The game is played on a 3 X 3 grid.
- ❑ 2 players, **X** and **O**.
- ❑ Players take turns putting their marks in empty squares.

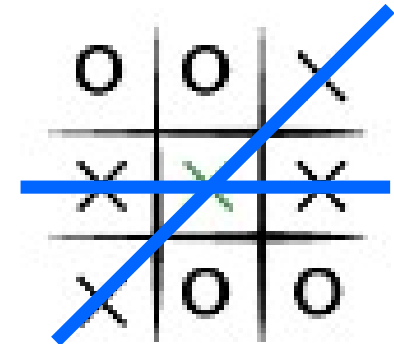


**YOU ARE** 

# Win, Lose, or Tie?

## ❑ How to **win**?

- ✓ The first player to **get 3 of her marks in a row** is the winner.
  - Vertically, horizontally, or diagonally

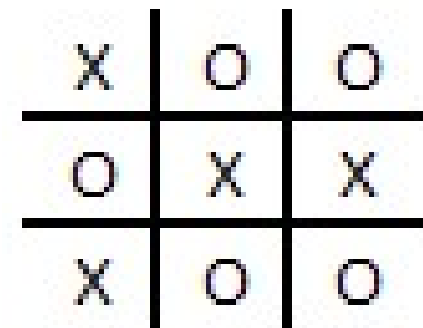


## ❑ **End** of the game?

- ✓ **When** a player **wins**
- ✓ When **all 9 squares are full**

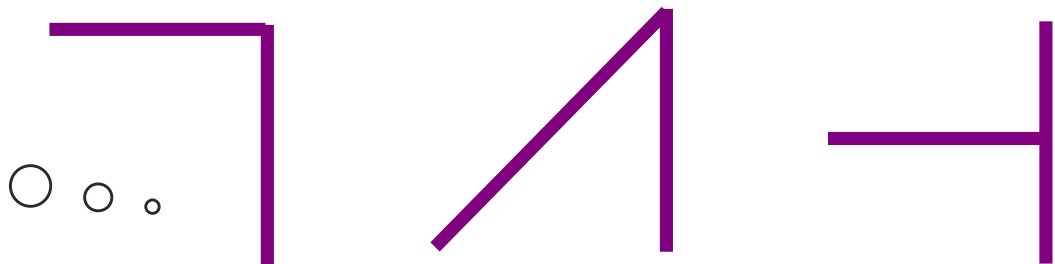
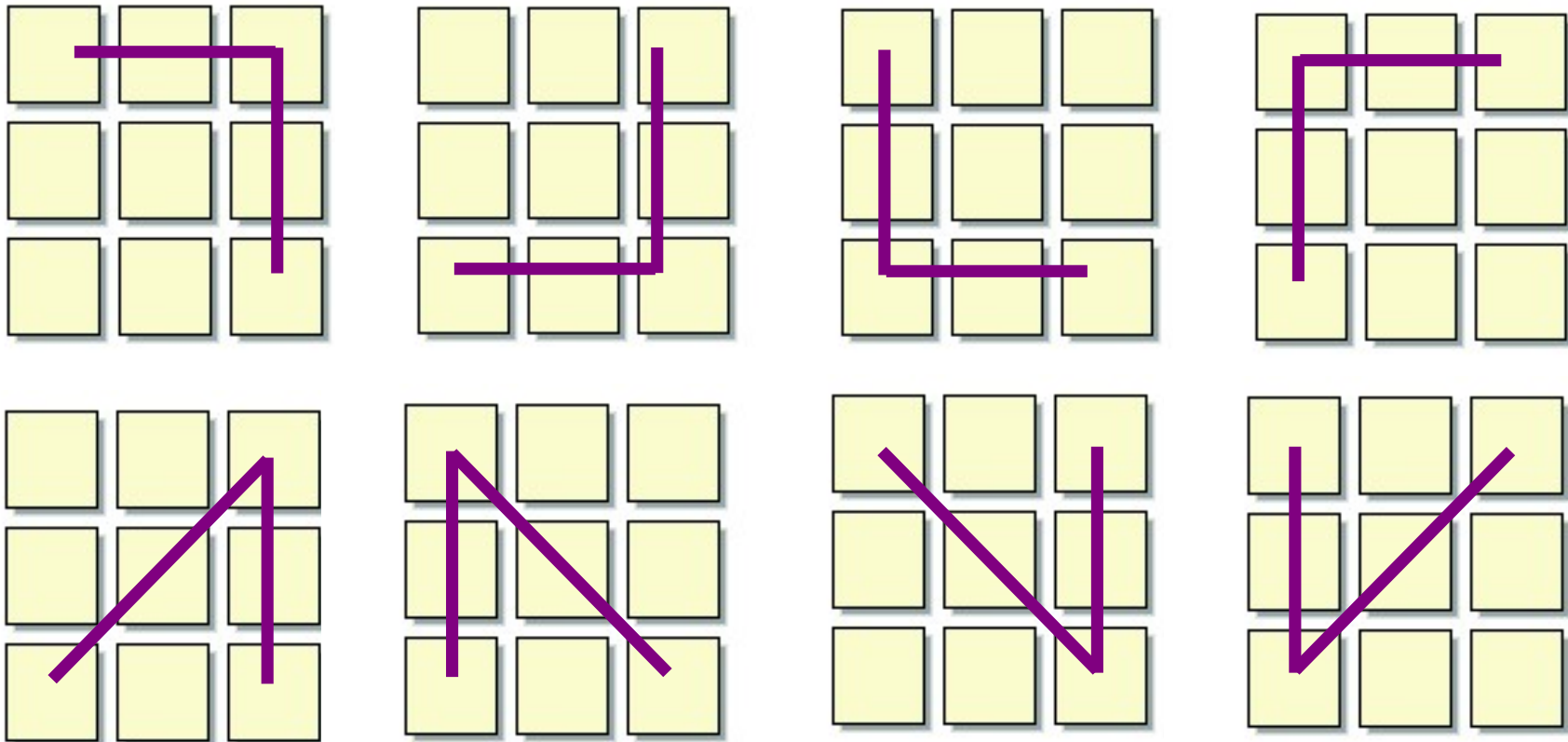
## ❑ Possible to **tie**?

- ✓ If no player has 3 marks in a row, the game ends in a tie.





# Winning Strategy for Tic-Tac-Toe



# Tic-Tac-Toe: Model

## ❑ **Model** in MVC

- ✓ Creates and maintains data
- ✓ implements all the **functionality**

## ❑ To design the model

- ✓ specify what **functionality** has to be offered by the program
- ✓ distill that information into a set of operations
  - which can be divided into one or more classes

# Tic-Tac-Toe: Model

## ❑ Expected **Functionality**

- ✓ Play a **move** as X or O.
- ✓ **Find** out **whose turn** it is.
- ✓ **Find** out the **contents** of the **grid**, perhaps in order to **display** it.
- ✓ **Find** out **whether** the **game** is **over**, and if so, **who** the **winner** is, if any.



**Define Interface, Classes, and Methods**

## ❑ For the model to enforce the rules of the game, it should **signal an exception** in these cases

- ✓ Attempting to **play out of turn**.
- ✓ Attempting to **move** on an **occupied cell**.
- ✓ Attempting to **play** after the **game is over**.
- ✓ Attempting to **play** in a **cell that doesn't exist**.

# How to move?

- ❑ `moveAsX()` and `moveAsO()`? → `move()` and update a turn

```
/**
 * Places an X or O mark in the specified cell. Whether it places an X
 * or O depends on which player's turn it is.
 *
 * @param column the column of the cell
 * @param row    the row of the cell
 * @throws IllegalStateException if the game is over, or if there is
 * already a mark in the cell.
 * @throws IndexOutOfBoundsException if the cell is out of bounds.
 */
void move(int column, int row);
```

- ❑ The model must throw an **exception** if
  - ✓ Attempting to **play out of turn**, move on an **occupied cell**, play **after the game is over**, or play in a cell that doesn't exist → **IllegalArgumentException, IllegalStateException**

# Whose turn is it?

❑ Option 1: `boolean isXsTurn();`

```
/** [mutatis mutandis] */  
boolean isYsTurn();
```

❑ Option 2:

```
public class TicTacToeModel implements TicTacToe {  
    private final Player[][] board;  
    private Player turn;
```

```
@Override  
public Player getTurn() {  
    return turn;  
}
```

❑ Must **throw** an **IllegalStateException** if a **game** is already **over**.

# Getting the Grid?

- ❑ Need to offer a way for a client of our model to get the current state of the game

✓ `Player[][] getBoard()` ? → Querying a specific cell

```
/**
 * Returns the {@link Player} whose mark is in the cell at the given
 * coordinates, or {@code null} if that cell is empty.
 *
 * @param column the column of the cell
 * @param row    the row of the cell
 * @return a {@code Player} or {@code null}
 * @throws IndexOutOfBoundsException if the cell is out of bounds.
 */
Player getMarkAt(int column, int row);
```

# Game is over?

- ❑ Need some way to find out when the game is over

```
/**  
 * Determines whether the game is over.  
 *  
 * @return whether the game is over  
 */  
boolean isGameOver();
```

# Who is the winner?

- ❑ Need some way to find out who, if anyone, won

```
/**
 * Returns the winner of the game, or {@code null} if the game is a
 * tie.
 *
 * @return the winner or {@code null}
 * @throws IllegalStateException if the game isn't over
 */
Player getWinner();
```

- ❑ Return **NULL** if there is **NO winner** (game is a **tie**)



# Tic-Tac-Toe: Model

- ❑ Please complete the three java files provided
  - ✓ TicTacToe.java
  - ✓ TicTacToeModel.java
  - ✓ TicTacToeModelTest.java