Template Method

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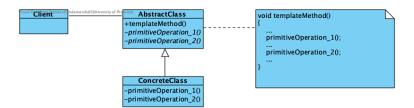


Name and Classification:

Template Method (Class Behavioural)

Intent: "Define the skeleton of an algorithm in an operation, deferring some steps to subclasses. Template Method lets subclasses redefine certain steps of an algorithm without changing the algorithm's structure." GoF(325)

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AbstractClass

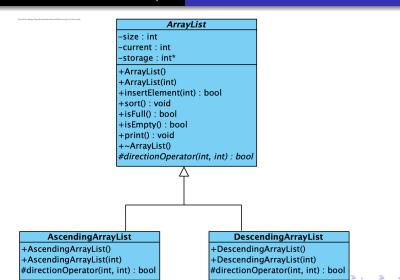
- defines abstract primitive operations that need to be defined by the concrete classes
- implements the template method operation that provides a skeleton of an algorithm

ConcreteClasss

 implements the primitive operations defined by the Abstract class

Related Patterns

- Factory Methods (107): Often called by template methods.
- **Strategy** (315): Varies the entire algorithm while template method varies part of the algorithm.



COS214

The Game example comprises 3 classes, Game an abstract class defining a Template Method (void playOneGame();). Monopoly and Chess are two games (concrete classes) inheriting from Game.

The Template Method (function) is defined by:

```
void Game :: playOneGame()
{
     initializeGame();
     int j = 0;
     while (!endOfGame())
     {
          makePlay(j);
          j = (j + 1) % playerCount;
     }
     printWinner();
}
```