

4. State Machine patterns

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Definition

Behavioural design pattern.

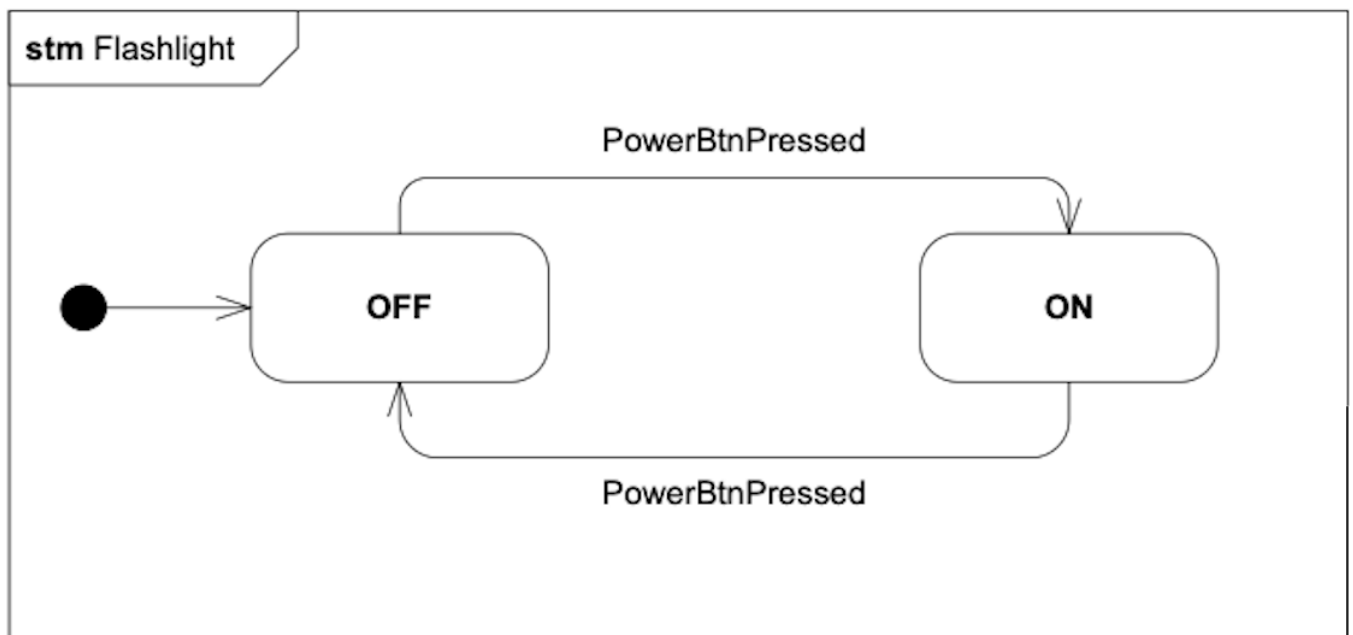
Definition: A state machine is model with states that is in one of a finite set of states. The state machine can transition between states when event occur

Different types:

- Switch/case
 - Good for small programs. Efficient.
- Table based
 - Runtime, Flexible, Logic and actions seperated.
- GoF State pattern
 - Combination (efficiency and flexibility)

GoF State Pattern

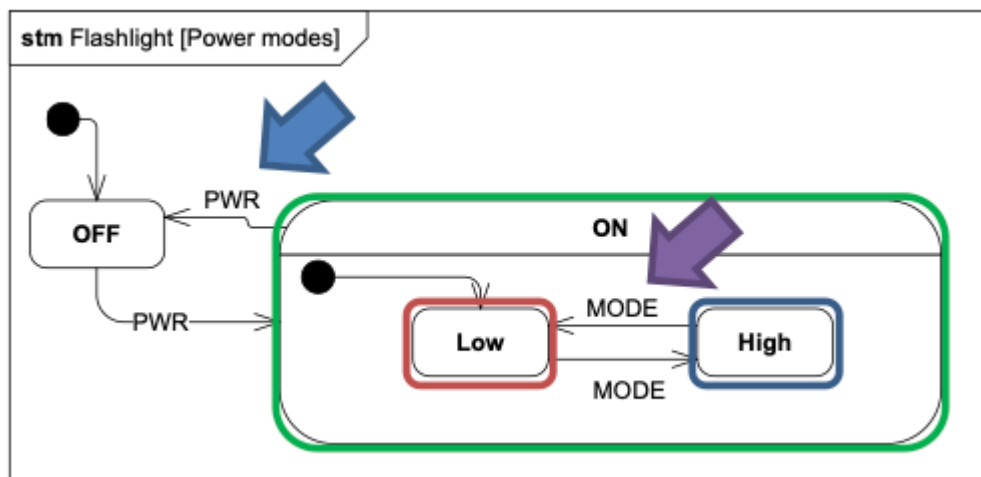
Definition: The state pattern allows an object to alter its behaviour when its internal state changes. The object will appear to change its class



Nested & Ortogonal states

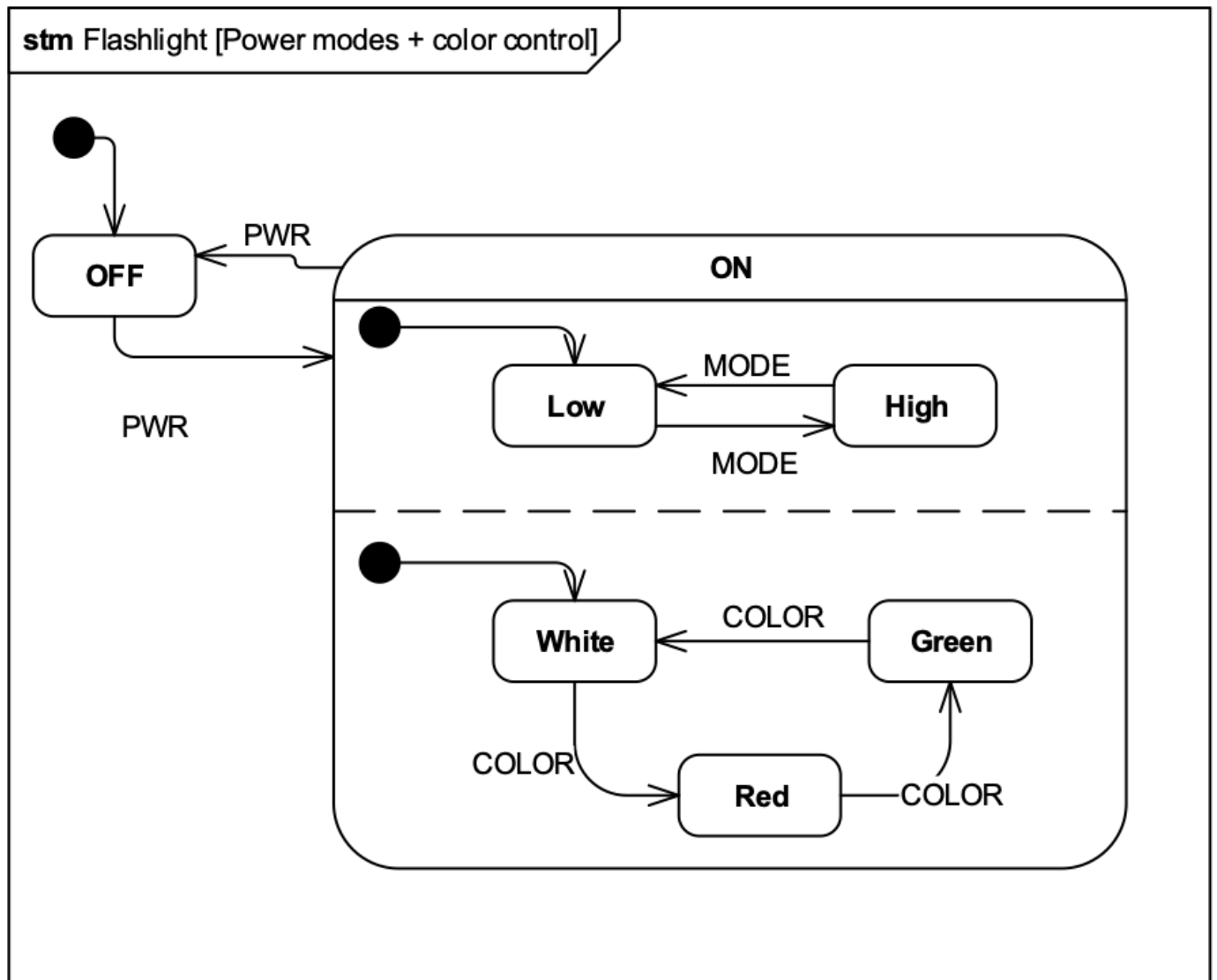
Nested states

States within states



Ortogonale states

Concurrent states.



SOLID

S Separates behaviour of an object into different states. Each state is responsible for handling specific behaviour.

O Ability to add more states without modifying existing code.

L Any state object can be substituted with any other state object without affecting the correctness of the state machine.

I Adheres to ISP by defining a separate interface which is responsible for the transitions.

D Adheres to DIP by decoupling client from state implementations. The client interacts with an abstract interface, not relying on concrete implementations.

Comparison

The State and Strategy Patterns share the same CD, but differ in intent.

Both encapsulate behaviour.

Strategy → client to select a specific behaviour at runtime, via an algorithm.

State machine → manages the behaviour of an object based on its state.

