

Advanced Programming Methods

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2022

Overview

Design patterns

Creational patterns

Factory Method

Abstract Factory

Structural patterns

Adapter

Composite

Decorator

Behavioural patterns

Observer

Strategy

Summary

References

The material in this lecture was inspired from:

- **Design Patterns: Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software**, by *Erich Gamma, Richard Helm, Ralph Johnson* and *John Vlissides*
- Refactoring guru: Design Patterns.
- Source making: Design Patterns
- Freeman, E., Robson, E., Bates, B., and Sierra, K. (2008). Head first design patterns. O'Reilly Media, Inc.

Design Patterns I

- When designing something new (a building, a novel, a computer program), designers make certain decisions.
- Experienced designers (architects, writers, software architects) know **not** to solve a problem from first principles, but to reuse good solutions that have worked in the past.
- Patterns are like templates that can be applied in many different situations.
- Software design patterns are recurring descriptions of classes and communicating objects that are customised to solve a general design problem in a particular context.

Design Patterns II

- They are general, flexible, reusable solutions to commonly occurring problems within a given context in software design.
- Object-oriented design patterns show relationships and interactions between classes or objects.
- Christopher Alexander: *"Each pattern describes a problem which occurs over and over again in our environment, and then describes the core of the solution to that problem, in such a way that you can use this solution a million times over, without ever doing it the same way twice"*.

Design Patterns III

- One of the most influential books for software engineering and object-oriented design theory and practice: **Design Patterns: Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software**, by *Erich Gamma, Richard Helm, Ralph Johnson and John Vlissides*.
- They are often referred to as the **Gang of Four (GoF)**.
- This book introduces the principles of design patterns and then offers a catalogue of such patterns (23 classic design patterns).

Essential elements of a pattern I

- **Pattern name**

- a word or two which describe the design problem, its solution and consequences;
- it is a part of the software developer vocabulary;
- "Finding good names has been one of the hardest parts of developing our catalog." (GoF)

- **Problem**

- describes when to apply the pattern;
- explains the problem and its context;
- it might include a list of conditions that must be met before it makes sense to apply the pattern.

Essential elements of a pattern II

- **Solution**

- describes the elements that make up the design, their relationships, responsibilities and collaborations;
- provides an abstract description of a design problem and how the general arrangement of elements (classes and objects) solves it.

- **Consequences**

- describe the results and trade-offs (space and time trade-offs) of applying the pattern;
- may address language and implementation issues as well;
- they include the pattern's impact on a system's flexibility, extensibility, or portability.

Patterns' purposes I

- The purpose of a pattern reflects what a pattern does.
- **Creational patterns**
 - concern the process of object creation;
 - E.g.: Abstract Factory, Builder, Factory Method, Prototype, Singleton.
- **Structural patterns**
 - are concerned with how classes are composed to form larger structures;
 - E.g.: Adapter, Bridge, Composite, Decorator, Façade, Flyweight, Proxy.

Patterns' purposes II

- **Behavioural patterns**
 - are concerned with algorithms and the assignment of responsibilities between objects;
 - E.g.: Chain of responsibility, Command, Interpreter, Iterator, Mediator, Memento, Observer, State, Strategy, Template Method, Visitor.
- Some patterns are often used together (e.g. Composite is often used with Iterator).
- Some patterns are alternatives (e.g. Prototype is often an alternative to Abstract Factory).

Creational patterns

- Creational patterns deal with object creation mechanisms and abstract the instantiating process.
- The goal is to increase system flexibility and make the system independent of how its objects are created, composed, and represented.
- These patterns encapsulate knowledge about which concrete classes the system uses.
- They hide how instances of these classes are created.

Factory Method I

Problem

- Creation of a GUI application (first version is only for Windows).
- Classes for Windows controls are created and managed.
- What happens when a user requires the application to work cross-platform?
- We want to avoid situations in which we have many conditionals that switch the application's behaviour based on the platform it is running on.

Solution

The **Factory Method** design pattern.

Factory Method II

Intent

An interface is defined for creating an object, but subclasses will decide which class to instantiate.

Also known as

Virtual constructor

- Objects can be created without having to specify the exact class of the object that will be created.
- A *factory method* is used to create objects instead of directly using constructors.

Factory Method III

Structure

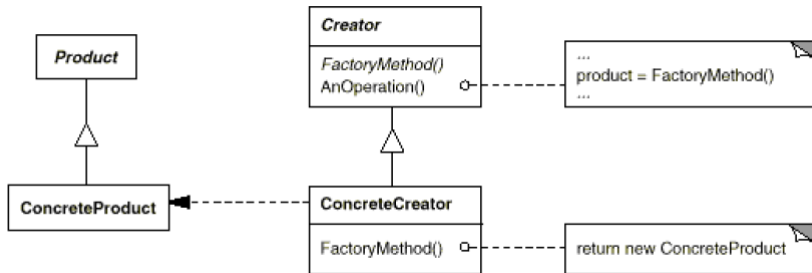


Figure: Figure source: GoF book

Factory Method IV

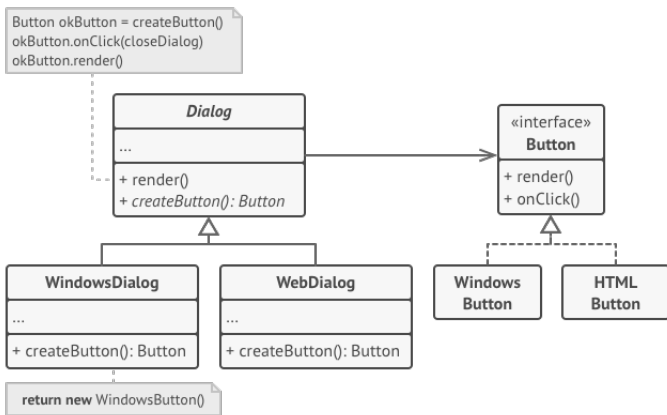


Figure: Figure source: [Refactoring guru: Factory Method](#)

Factory Method V

Factory method

FactoryMethod.Main

Factory Method VI

Applicability

Use the *Factory Method* when:

- a class cannot anticipate the class of objects it must create;
- we don't know beforehand the exact types and dependencies of the objects your code should work with;
- we want to allow the framework we create to easily extend its internal components.

Factory Method VII

Consequences

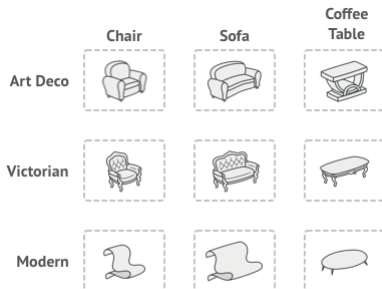
- The code only deals with the *Product* interface and therefore it can work with any *ConcreteProduct* class.
- Tight coupling between the creator and the concrete products is avoided.
- *Open/Closed Principle*: new types of products can be introduced into the program without breaking existing client code.
- *Single Responsibility Principle*: all product creation code can be moved into one place in the program, making the code easier to support.
- Introducing new subclasses can also make the code more complicated.

Abstract Factory I

Problem

- Furniture shop: provides several types of furniture items and different styles.
- We should be able to create objects such that they match the style.

Abstract Factory II



Product families and their variants.

Figure: Figure source: [Refactoring guru](#): Abstract Factory

Abstract Factory III

Solution

The **Abstract Factory** design pattern.

Intent

Provide an interface for creating families of related or dependent objects without specifying their concrete classes.

Also known as

Kit

Abstract Factory IV

- The idea is to create an interface for each piece of furniture (Chair, Sofa) and then the concrete classes will all implement the interface.
- Further, we create an **abstract factory**, which can create all sorts of pieces of furniture (Chair, Sofa) and we inherit a concrete factory for each style.
- In this way, each factory will only create furniture of that style.

Abstract Factory V

Structure

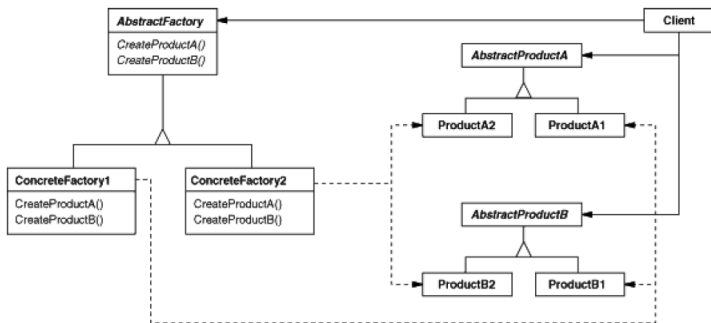
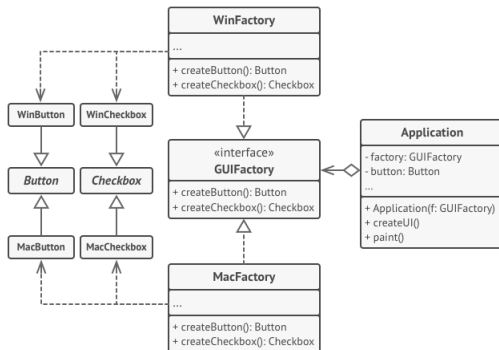


Figure: Figure source: GoF book

Abstract Factory VI



The cross-platform UI classes example.

Figure: Figure source: [Refactoring guru](#)

Abstract Factory VII

Abstract Factory

AbstractFactory.Main

Abstract Factory VIII

Applicability

Use the *Abstract Factory* when:

- a system should be independent of how its products are created, composed, and represented;
- a system should be configured with one of multiple families of products;
- a family of related product objects is designed to be used together, and we need to enforce this constraint.

Abstract Factory IX

Consequences

- All products that we get from a factory are compatible with each other.
- Tight coupling between the concrete products and the client code is avoided.
- *Open/Closed Principle*: new variants of products can be introduced into the program without breaking existing client code.
- *Single Responsibility Principle*: all product creation code can be moved into one place in the program, making the code easier to support.
- Introducing new subclasses can also make the code more complicated.

Structural patterns

- Structural patterns are concerned with how classes and objects are composed to form larger structures.
- These structures are being maintained flexible and efficient.
- They describe ways to compose objects to realise new functionality.
- The added flexibility of object composition comes from the ability to change the composition at run-time.

Adapter I

Problem

- You have an application that uses PayPal as payment service.
- As the application advances, you need to integrate other payment services, with completely different interfaces (payment functionality).

Solution

The **Adapter** design pattern.

- We create an adapter that converts the interfaces of the new services to something our program knows how to work with.

Adapter II

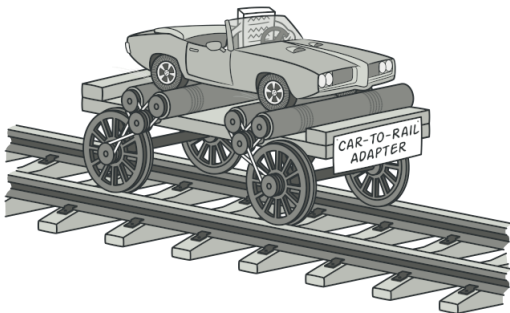


Figure: Figure source: [Refactoring guru: Adapter](#)

Adapter III

Intent

- Convert the interface of a class to another interface that a client expects.
- Is used to allow classes that could not communicate because of incompatible interfaces to work together.

Also Known As

- Wrapper.

Adapter IV

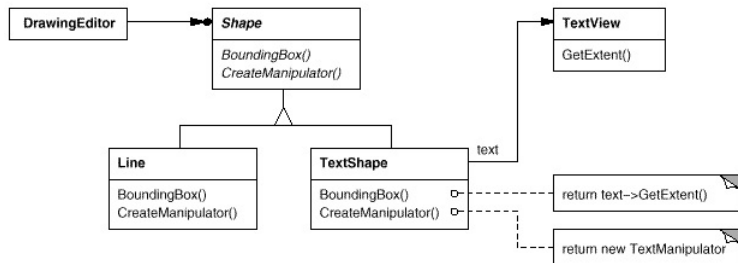


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Adapter V

Applicability

Use *Adapter* when:

- an existing class could be used, but its interface does not match the one we need.
- we want to create a reusable class that cooperates with unrelated classes (classes that don't necessarily have compatible interfaces).

Adapter VI

Structure

A class adapter uses multiple inheritance to adapt one interface to another.

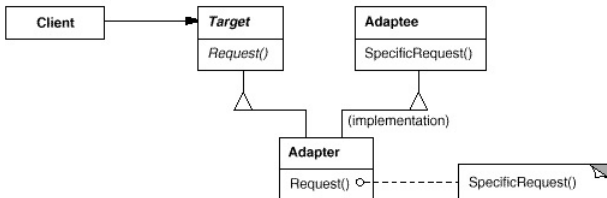


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Adapter VII

An object adapter relies on object composition.

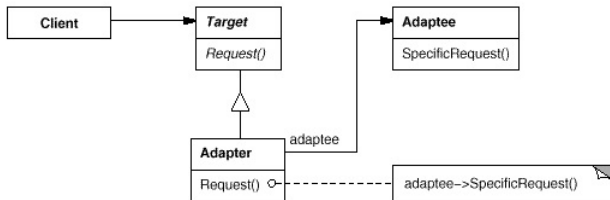
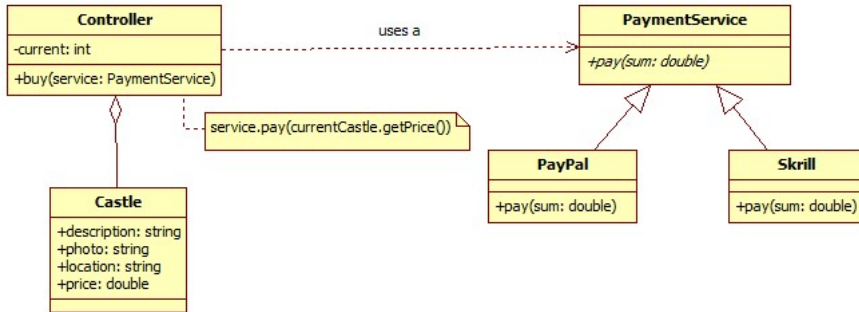
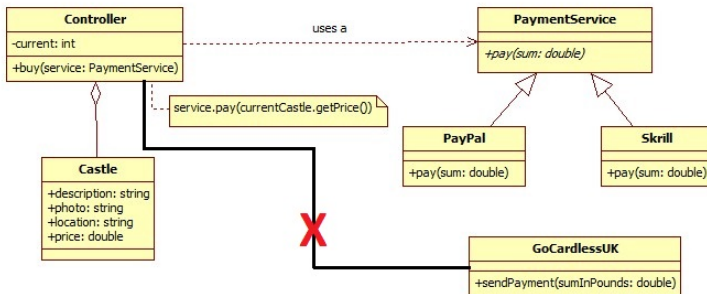


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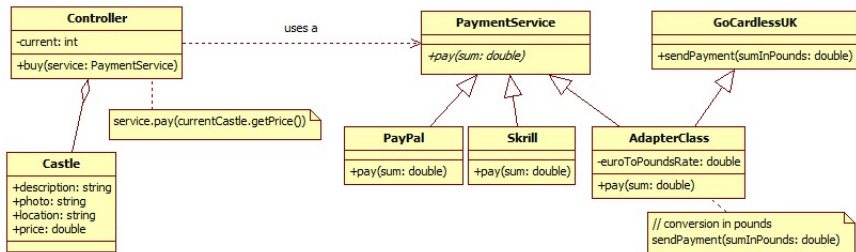
Adapter VIII



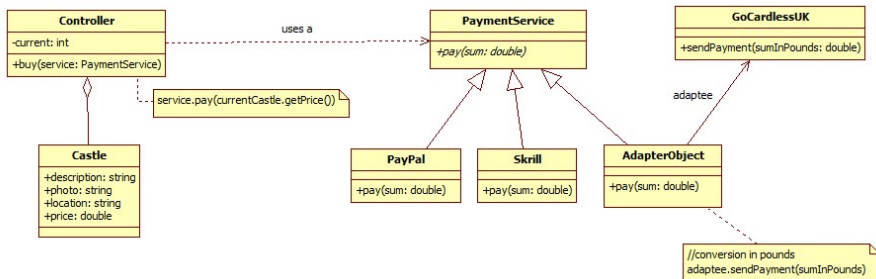
Adapter IX



Adapter X



Adapter XI



Adapter XII

Adapter

Adapter.Main

Adapter XIII

Consequences

- A class adapter:
 - because it extends the *Adaptee* class, it will not work when we want to adapt a class *and all its subclasses*.
 - the *Adapter* can override some of the *Adaptee*'s behaviour.
- An object adapter:
 - lets a single *Adapter* work with many *Adaptees*.
 - makes it harder to override *Adaptee* behavior (will require subclassing *Adaptee* and making *Adapter* refer to the subclass).

Composite I

Problem

- We have an application in which we can have simple (primitive) objects and more complex objects.
- A simple object is processed differently than a more complex one, however we want to be able to process them in a unitary manner.

Solution

The **Composite** design pattern.

Composite II

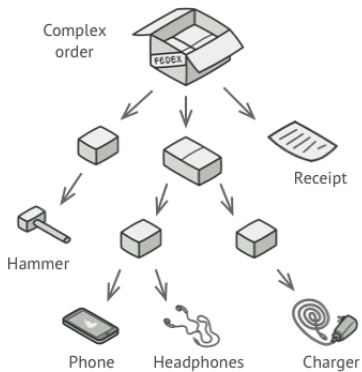


Figure: Figure source: [Refactoring guru: Composite](#)

Composite III

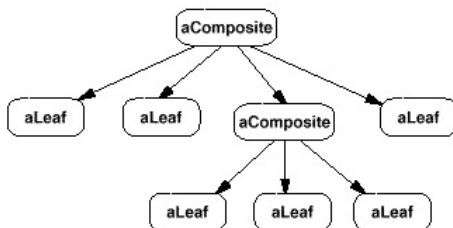


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Composite IV

Intent

- Compose objects into tree structures to represent part-whole hierarchies.
- Composite lets clients treat individual objects and compositions of objects uniformly.

Composite V

Applicability

Use *Composite* when:

- we want to represent part-whole hierarchies of objects.
- we want client code to be able to ignore the difference between compositions of objects and individual objects. Clients will treat all objects in the composite structure uniformly.

Composite VI

Structure

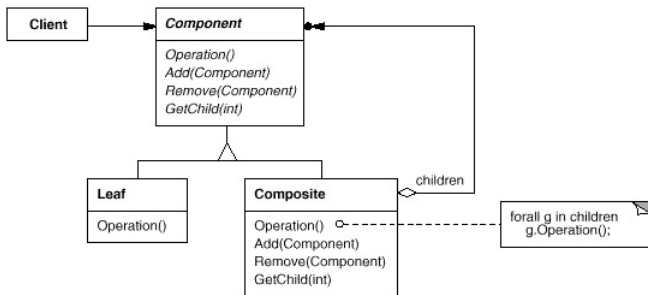


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Composite VII

Example

- Graphic application for building complex diagrams out of simple components.
- The user can group components to form larger components, which in turn can be grouped to form still larger components.
- A simple implementation could define classes for graphical primitives such as Text and Lines plus other classes that act as containers for these primitives.
- Code must treat primitive and container objects differently and this makes the application more complex.

Composite VIII

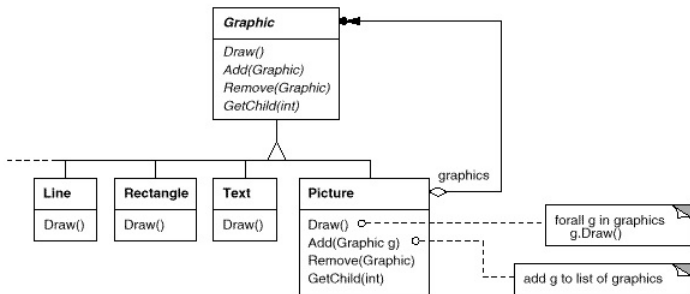


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Composite IX

- The key to the Composite pattern is an abstract class that represents *both* primitives and their containers - class **Graphic**.
- This class will define operations that are specific to all graphical objects (e.g. *Draw()* and implement child-related operations).
- The "primitives" (Line, Rectangle, Text) will know how to draw themselves, but they do not need to manage any children.
- More complex objects (e.g. a Picture), which contain more Graphic objects will call *Draw()* on its children.

Composite X

How it works

- **Component** (Graphic)
 - declares the interface for objects in the composition.
 - declares an interface for accessing and managing its child components.
- **Leaf** (Rectangle, Line, Text, etc.)
 - represents leaf objects in the composition. A leaf has no children.
 - defines behavior for primitive objects in the composition.

Composite XI

- **Composite** (Picture)
 - defines behaviour for components having children.
 - stores child components.
 - implements child-related operations in the Component interface.
- **Client**
 - manipulates objects in the composition through the Component interface.

Composite

Composite.Main

Composite XII

Consequences

- Primitive objects can be composed into more complex objects, which in turn can be composed, and so on recursively. Wherever client code expects a primitive object, it can also take a composite object.
- Makes the client simple. Clients can treat composite structures and individual objects uniformly.
- Makes it easier to add new kinds of components. Clients don't have to be changed for new Component classes.

Decorator I

Problem

- In a coffee shop we have different types of coffee and several types of condiments that can be added, each having different prices.
- How can we create an application in which the classes can be easily extensible and incorporate behaviour without modifying existing code?

Decorator II

Types of coffee

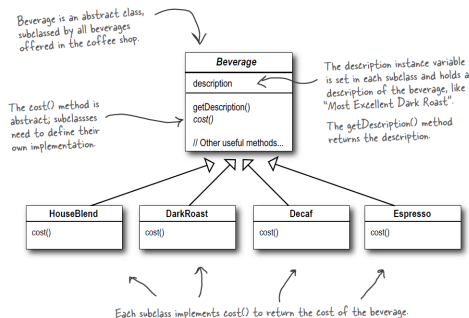


Figure: Figure source: Freeman, E., Robson, E., Bates, B., and Sierra, K. (2008). Head first design patterns. O'Reilly Media, Inc.

Decorator III

Types of condiments

- steamed milk, chocolate (mocha), hazelnuts, whipped milk.

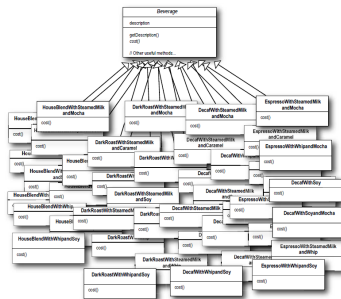


Figure: Figure source: Freeman, E., Robson, E., Bates, B., and Sierra, K. (2008). Head first design patterns. O'Reilly Media, Inc.

Decorator IV

Intent

- Attach additional responsibilities to an object dynamically.
- Provide a flexible alternative to subclassing for extending functionality.

Also known as

Wrapper

Decorator V

Applicability

Use *Decorator* when:

- we want to add or withdraw responsibilities to/from individual objects dynamically and without affecting other objects.
- extension by subclassing is impractical (see example above).

Decorator VI

Structure

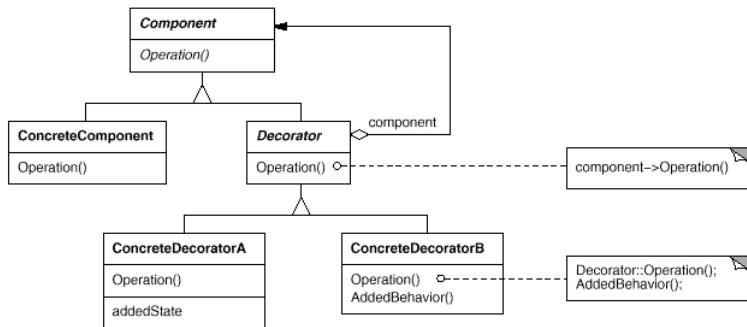


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Decorator VII

Solution for the coffee shop

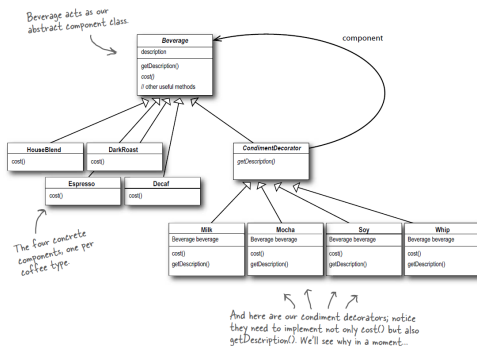


Figure: Figure source: Freeman, E., Robson, E., Bates, B., and Sierra, K. (2008). Head first design patterns. O'Reilly Media, Inc.

Decorator VIII

- The key to the Decorator pattern is an interface that represents objects that have responsibilities that can be added to them dynamically.
- The Decorator maintains a reference to a Component object and defines an interface that conforms to Component's interface, while a concrete Decorator actually adds responsibilities to the component.

Decorator IX

Consequences

- The patterns provides more flexibility than static inheritance.
- Responsibilities can be added and removed at runtime by simply attaching or detaching them.
- The complexity of the system is decreased (compared to the case when using just inheritance - class explosion).
- Decorators allow adding the same property twice (e.g. coffee with double chocolate).

Behavioural patterns

- Behavioural patterns are concerned with algorithms and the assignment of responsibilities between objects.
- They describe not just patterns between objects, but patterns of communications between them and the way objects are interconnected.
- They characterise complex control flow that's difficult to follow at run-time.

Observer I

Problem

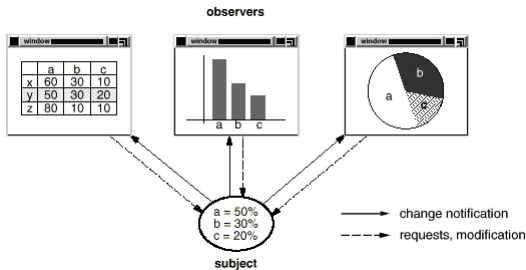


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Observer II

Intent

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

Also Known As

- Dependents, Publish-Subscribe.

Observer III

How it works

- Key objects: **subject** and **observer**.
- A subject may have many observers.
- All observers are notified when the subject is changed.
- Each observer will query the subject to synchronize its state with the subject's state.

Observer IV

Applicability

Use *Observer* when:

- a change to one object requires changing others, and you don't know how many objects need to be changed.
- an object should be able to notify other objects without making assumptions about who these objects are.

Observer V

Structure

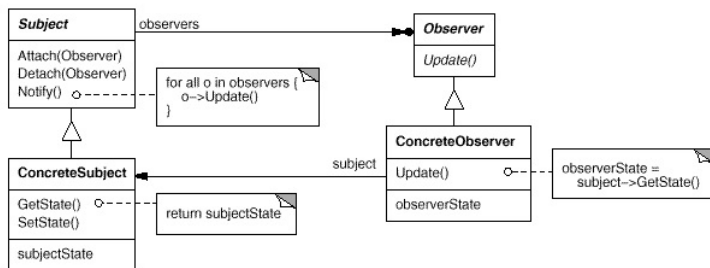


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Observer VI

Consequences

- The subject and the observer are *loosely coupled* (the subject knows that it has a list of observers, but does not know their concrete classes).
- Support for broadcast communication; observers can be added or removed at any time.

Observer VII

Observer in Java

- **Observer** (interface) and **Observable** (class) had been implemented in Java, but have been **deprecated** since Java 9.
- Observers could be added/removed to/from the observable object using the function **addObserver()/deleteObserver()**.
- Whenever the **Observable** changed, it had to be marked as having been changed (method **setChanged()**) and it could notify observers via the method **notifyObservers**.

Example

Please see Seminar7 (Order and OrderController).

Strategy I

Problem

- Route building application: builds routes between sources and destination, by car.
- Later, we decide to add walking routes.
- Later, routes using public transport.
- Later, routes for cyclists.
- The class that computes the navigation routes becomes bigger and bigger.

Strategy II

Intent

- Algorithms from a class that do something specific, each one differently, are extracted into separate classes called *strategies*.
- Using Strategy, we can define a family of algorithms, encapsulate each one, and make them interchangeable.
- Strategy lets the algorithm vary independently from clients that use it.

Also Known As

- Policy

Strategy III

Applicability

Use *Strategy* when:

- many related classes differ only in their behaviour. Strategies provide a way to configure a class with one of many behaviours.
- you need different variants of an algorithm.

Strategy IV

Structure

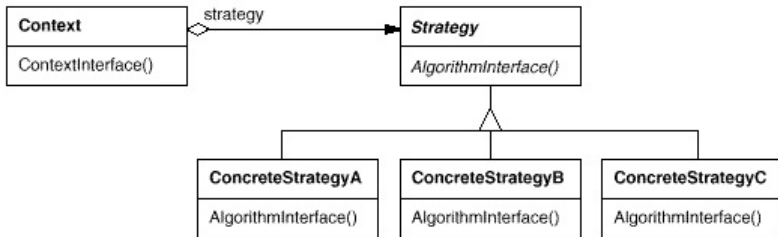


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Strategy V

Consequences

- We can create families of related algorithms and using inheritance we can factor out common functionality of these algorithms.
- Strategies eliminate conditional statements.
- Strategies can also provide different implementations of the same behaviour.
- A drawback is that the client must be aware of different existing strategies.
- Another drawback is that the number of objects in the application is increased.

Strategy VI

Example

Please see Seminar6 (PaymentStrategy).

Summary I

- Software design patterns: recurring descriptions of classes and communicating objects that are customised to solve a general design problem in a particular context.
- Three categories: creational (factory method, abstract factory), structural (adapter, composite, decorator), behavioural (observer, strategy, command).

Summary II

- Knowing what pattern to apply in which situation (applicability) and the consequences it has allows one to design better, reusable architectures.
- *"Design patterns help a designer get a design "right" faster".* (GoF book).
- *Next week:*
 - Introduction in C#.