Programming Guidelines

Prof. Dr. Dirk Riehle

Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg

ADAP B01

Licensed under CC BY 4.0 International

Programming Guidelines

- Programming guidelines ...
 - are are a set of rules and conventions that determine
 - naming,
 - formating and
 - structuring
 - of source code and related artifacts
- Programming guidelines ...
 - make developers more effective
 - ease reading source code
 - should be mandatory

First Rule of Programming Guidelines

Respect existing rules and conventions

Java Programming Guidelines [S97]

- We use the original Java guidelines: http://goo.gl/hNaJsG
 - While old, these are still the current guidelines
- Where those fail, we use Google's Java guidelines
 - See https://google.github.io/styleguide/javaguide.html

File Names

- Stick to established file naming conventions
 - For example, file names should match main class name
- Stick to established suffixes (.java, .gradle, .war)
- Stick with established file names (README, LICENSE)

File Organization

Stick with folder structure provided as default (web apps)

```
▼ # src/main/java
 ▶ Æ org.wahlzeit.agents
 ▶ ⊕ org.wahlzeit.apps
 ▶ Æ org.wahlzeit.handlers
 ▶ Æ org.wahlzeit.main
 ▶ Æ org.wahlzeit.model
 ▶ Æ org.wahlzeit.services
 ▶ ⊕ org.wahlzeit.services.mailing
 ▶ Æ org.wahlzeit.servlets
 ▶ ⊕ org.wahlzeit.tools
 ▶ ⊞ org.wahlzeit.utils
 ▶ Æ org.wahlzeit.webparts
```

```
▼ # src/test/java
 ▶ Æ org.wahlzeit.handlers
 ▶ ⊕ org.wahlzeit.model
 ▶ 

org.wahlzeit.model.persistence
 ▶ ⊕ org.wahlzeit.services
 ▶ ⊞ org.wahlzeit.services.mailing
 ▶ # org.wahlzeit.testEnvironmentProvider
```

File Content

- Beginning comments
 - Without the programmer name
- Package declaration
- Import statements
- Program code with comments
 - Class declaration
 - Field declarations
 - Method definition
 - ..

File Content Example

```
3.1.1 Beginning Comments

All source files should begin with a c-style comment that lists the class name, version information, date, and copyright notice:

/*

* Classname

*

* Version information

*

* Date

*

* Copyright notice

*/

...
```

Naming Elements

- Nouns
 - Classes
 - Interfaces
 - Packages
 - Fields
- Verbs
 - Methods

Order of Adjectives in the English Language

adjectives in English absolutely have to be in this order: opinionsize-age-shape-colour-origin-material-purpose Noun. So you can have a lovely little old rectangular green French silver whittling knife. But if you mess with that word order in the slightest you'll sound like a maniac. It's an odd thing that every English speaker uses that list, but almost none of us could write it out. And as size comes before colour, green great dragons can't exist.

Naming Objects and Classes 1/2

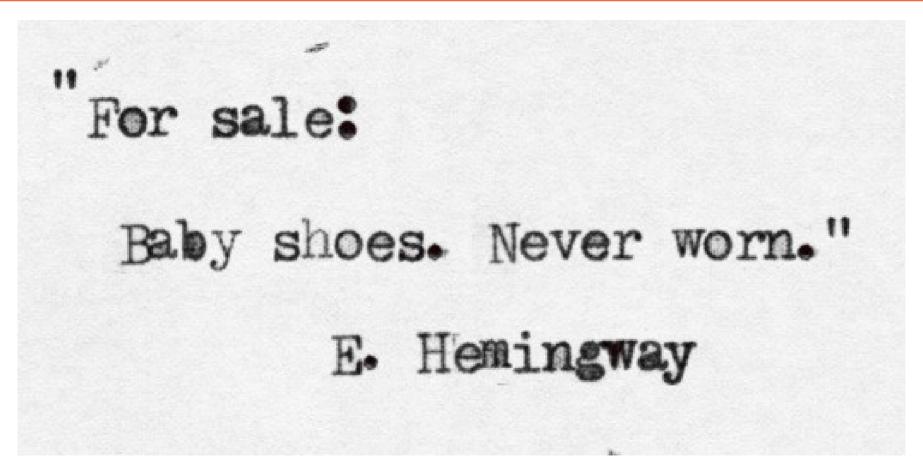
- Class and interface names
 - File // no adjective
 - TempFile // adding age
 - BigTempFile // adding size
 - BigTempHotRedFile // adding "color"
 - BigTempHotRedBinaryFile // adding "material"
 - BigTempSequentialHotRedBinaryFile // adding shape
- Object names (variable/field names)
 - invalidBigTempSequentialHotRedBinaryFile // adding opinion
 - doublyInvalidBigTempSequentialHotRedBinaryFile // adding quantity

quantity - opinion - size - age - shape - color - origin - material - purpose

Naming Objects and Classes 2 / 2

- An adjective can take the genitive form (but should rarely)
 - Usually only happens if the genitive form is an established domain term
 - Examples: FileOfBits vs BinaryFile, QuoteBook vs. BookOfQuotes
- Use of reserved adjectives (abstract, default, etc)
 - By default lead the noun (no other explanation but convention)
 - Examples: AbstractSequentialFile, DefaultHashMap
- Fields have an implied specifier (a, one, many, the, all)
 - It is often omitted for reasons of brevity
- More conventions in lectures on class and interface design

For Sale: Baby shoes. Never worn.



Naming Methods

- Methods are commands
 - Simplify, use active voice (e.g. prepare rather than bePreparedFor)
- Follow established patterns
 - Specifically, container(-like) classes have a fair number of conventions
 - Add and remove
 - Insert, prepend, append, remove
 - What is the difference between remove and delete?
- More conventions in lectures on method types and properties

Code Formatting

- One statement per line
- Semantic line wrapping after defined length
- Use of consistent bracketing
 - Sun's guidelines don't tell you how
 - How to decide what to use?
- Indentation for readability
 - Use tabs not spaces

Techniques for Avoiding Bugs

- Initialize fields where declared
- Declare variables only at beginning of blocks
- Bracket even single-statement blocks
- ...
- Consider using FindBugs or similar tools

Techniques that Depend on Context

```
if (arg == null) {
   return -1;
}

if (someCondition) {
   return 1;
}

if (anotherCondition) {
   return 2;
}

return 0;
```

```
int result = 0;
if (arg == null) {
  result = -1;
} else if (someCondition) {
    result = 1;
  } else if (anotherCondition) {
      result = 2;
    } else {
      result = 0;
return result;
```

Techniques Too Smart for the Rest of Us

```
if (null == arg) {
  doSomething();
```

Clear Commit Messages

```
Google Git
                                                                                                          Sign in
android / platform / packages / apps / GlobalSearch / 592150ac00086400415afe936d96f04d3be3ba0c^! / .
   commit 592150ac00086400415afe936d96f04d3be3ba0c
                                                           [log][tgz]
   author Anonymous Coward <nobody@android.com>
                                                           Wed Aug 19 15:44:42 2009 -0700
committer Anonymous Coward <nobody@android.com>
                                                           Wed Aug 19 15:56:16 2009 -0700
     tree 33a5517dcfba62a2652a5b809b71a6c9ff4514cd
   parent 500413e48c7b96743ea13357aa2fba856edd1c8c [diff]
 Remove the search engine setting. Hard-code the search engine to Google,
 using EnhancedGoogleSearchProvider if available, otherwise GoogleSearch if
 available, otherwise throwing a RuntimeException requiring one of these
 packages.
diff --git a/res/xml/preferences.xml b/res/xml/preferences.xml
index 25cd7f5..eae8034 100644
--- a/res/xml/preferences.xml
+++ b/res/xml/preferences.xml
@@ -20,16 +20,8 @@
     <PreferenceCategory
            android title= "Astring / web search category title">
```

Review / Summary of Session

- General programming guidelines
 - What are programming guidelines?
 - Why do we have them? What is their importance?
- Java programming guidelines
 - What are example guidelines?
 - How and where to read up for a complete set?
- Things not covered by guidelines
 - What naming conventions beyond guidelines are there?
 - What techniques? How and when to learn?

Thank you! Questions?

dirk.riehle@fau.de – http://osr.cs.fau.de

dirk@riehle.org – http://dirkriehle.com – @dirkriehle

Credits and License

- Original version
 - © 2012-2019 Dirk Riehle, some rights reserved
 - Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License
- Contributions

• ..

Programming Guidelines

Prof. Dr. Dirk Riehle Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg

ADAP B01

Licensed under CC BY 4.0 International

It is Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg – FAU, in short. Corporate identity wants us to say "Friedrich-Alexander University".

Programming Guidelines

- Programming guidelines ...
 - are are a set of rules and conventions that determine
 - naming,
 - formating and
 - structuring
 - · of source code and related artifacts
- Programming guidelines ...
 - make developers more effective
 - · ease reading source code
 - should be mandatory

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

First Rule of Programming Guidelines

Respect existing rules and conventions

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Java Programming Guidelines [S97]

- We use the original Java guidelines: http://goo.gl/hNaJsG
 - While old, these are still the current guidelines
- Where those fail, we use Google's Java guidelines
 - See https://google.github.io/styleguide/javaguide.html

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

File Names

- Stick to established file naming conventions
 - For example, file names should match main class name
- Stick to established suffixes (.java, .gradle, .war)
- Stick with established file names (README, LICENSE)

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

File Organization

Stick with folder structure provided as default (web apps)

- ▼ # src/main/java
- ▶ # org.wahlzeit.agents
- ▶ ⊕ org.wahlzeit.apps
- ▶ # org.wahlzeit.handlers
- ▶ 🔠 org.wahlzeit.main
- ▶ # org.wahlzeit.model
- ▶ **#** org.wahlzeit.model.persistence
- ▶ ∰ org.wahlzeit.services
- ▶ **#** org.wahlzeit.services.mailing
- ▶ 🔠 org.wahlzeit.servlets
- ▶ ⊕ org.wahlzeit.tools
- ▶ 曲 org.wahlzeit.utils
- ▶ 🔠 org.wahlzeit.webparts

- ▼ # src/test/java
- ▶ # org.wahlzeit.handlers
- ▶ ∰ org.wahlzeit.model
- ▶ # org.wahlzeit.model.persistence
- ▶ ⊕ org.wahlzeit.services
- ▶ # org.wahlzeit.services.mailing
- ▶ # org.wahlzeit.testEnvironmentProvider
- ▶ # org.wahlzeit.utils

File Content

- Beginning comments
 - Without the programmer name
- Package declaration
- Import statements
- Program code with comments
 - · Class declaration
 - Field declarations
 - Method definition
 - ...

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

File Content Example

```
3.1.1 Beginning Comments
All source files should begin with a c-style comment that lists the class name, version information, date, and copyright notice:

/*

* Classname

*

* Version information

*

* Date

*

* Copyright notice

*/

...
```

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Naming Elements

- Nouns
 - Classes
 - Interfaces
 - Packages
 - Fields
- Verbs
 - Methods

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Order of Adjectives in the English Language

adjectives in English absolutely have to be in this order: opinion-size-age-shape-colour-origin-material-purpose Noun. So you can have a lovely little old rectangular green French silver whittling knife. But if you mess with that word order in the slightest you'll sound like a maniac. It's an odd thing that every English speaker uses that list, but almost none of us could write it out. And as size comes before colour, green great dragons can't exist.

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Naming Objects and Classes 1/2

- · Class and interface names
 - File // no adjective
 - TempFile // adding age
 - BigTempFile // adding size
 - BigTempHotRedFile // adding "color"
 - BigTempHotRedBinaryFile // adding "material"
 - BigTempSequentialHotRedBinaryFile // adding shape
- Object names (variable/field names)
 - invalidBigTempSequentialHotRedBinaryFile // adding opinion
 - doublyInvalidBigTempSequentialHotRedBinaryFile // adding quantity

quantity - opinion - size - age - shape - color - origin - material - purpose

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

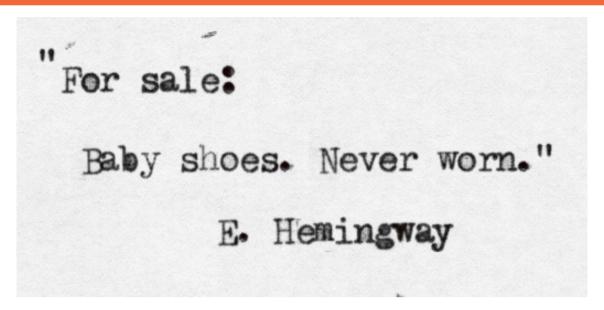
<u> 11</u>

Naming Objects and Classes 2/2

- An adjective can take the genitive form (but should rarely)
 - · Usually only happens if the genitive form is an established domain term
 - Examples: FileOfBits vs BinaryFile, QuoteBook vs. BookOfQuotes
- Use of reserved adjectives (abstract, default, etc)
 - By default lead the noun (no other explanation but convention)
 - Examples: AbstractSequentialFile, DefaultHashMap
- Fields have an implied specifier (a, one, many, the, all)
 - · It is often omitted for reasons of brevity
- · More conventions in lectures on class and interface design

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

For Sale: Baby shoes. Never worn.



Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Naming Methods

- · Methods are commands
 - Simplify, use active voice (e.g. prepare rather than bePreparedFor)
- Follow established patterns
 - · Specifically, container(-like) classes have a fair number of conventions
 - Add and remove
 - Insert, prepend, append, remove
 - What is the difference between remove and delete?
- More conventions in lectures on method types and properties

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Code Formatting

- One statement per line
- Semantic line wrapping after defined length
- Use of consistent bracketing
 - Sun's guidelines don't tell you how
 - How to decide what to use?
- Indentation for readability
 - Use tabs not spaces

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Techniques for Avoiding Bugs

- · Initialize fields where declared
- Declare variables only at beginning of blocks
- Bracket even single-statement blocks
- Consider using FindBugs or similar tools

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Techniques that Depend on Context

```
if (arg == null) {
   return -1;
}

if (someCondition) {
   return 1;
}

if (anotherCondition) {
   return 2;
}

return 0;
```

```
int result = 0;
if (arg == null) {
    result = -1;
} else if (someCondition) {
    result = 1;
} else if (anotherCondition) {
    result = 2;
} else {
    result = 0;
}
}
return result;
```

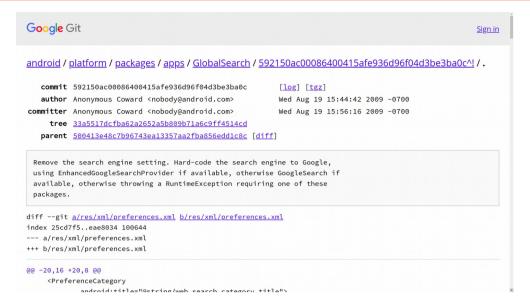
Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Techniques Too Smart for the Rest of Us

```
if (null == arg) {
    doSomething();
}
```

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Clear Commit Messages



Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Review / Summary of Session

- · General programming guidelines
 - What are programming guidelines?
 - Why do we have them? What is their importance?
- Java programming guidelines
 - · What are example guidelines?
 - · How and where to read up for a complete set?
- Things not covered by guidelines
 - · What naming conventions beyond guidelines are there?
 - What techniques? How and when to learn?

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved

Thank you! Questions? dirk.riehle@fau.de - http://osr.cs.fau.de dirk@riehle.org - http://dirkriehle.com - @dirkriehle DR

Credits and License

- Original version
 - © 2012-2019 Dirk Riehle, some rights reserved
 - Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License
- Contributions

Advanced Design and Programming © 2019 Dirk Riehle - Some Rights Reserved