

Lec 06 - Design Principles I

Topic covered



- ♦ Introducing two design Principles:
 - Correctness
 - Robustness

Correctness





Correctness

Goal: That each artifact satisfies designated requirements, and that together they satisfy all of the application's requirements.

Approaches to correctness



- ♦ How can we know that a design is correct or even sufficient?
- ♦ Approaches to correctness.
 - Informal approaches.
 - Formal approaches .
- Informal approaches: to be convinced that the design covers the required functionality.
- ♦ Formal approaches
 - Formal methods for establishing correctness involve applying mathematical logic to analyzing the way in which the variables change.
 - Formal methods are usually applied when the design enters the detailed design.

Informal approaches to correctness



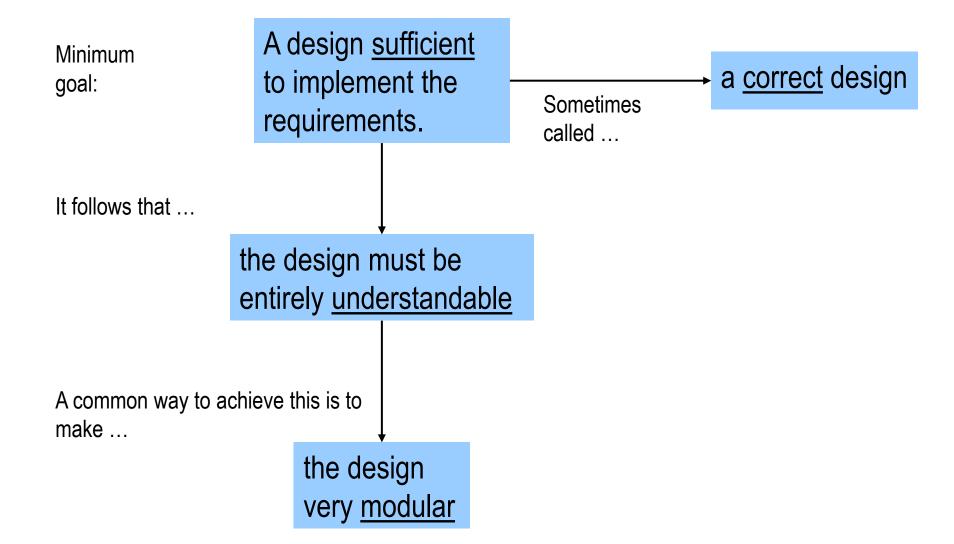
♦ Correctness by Informal Methods Simplify and modularize designs until they are convincing.

♦ Informal Approaches

- Informal approaches are based on the common sense idea that before we can proclaimed a design to be correct, we have to understand it completely.
- Informal approaches require that design must be
 - Readable (to enhance understanding)
 - Modular (to deal with complexity)

Sufficient Designs: Terminology and Rationale





Formal approaches to correctness



♦ Formal approaches

- Keeping variable changes under tight control.
- It can be achieved through invariants.
- Invariants are unchanging relationships among variable values.
- Invariants used at class level are class invariants.
- Examples:
 - "length>=0"
 - "length * breadth == area"

Invariants for Class Automobile



-- with variables *mileage*, *VehicleID*, *value*, *originalPrice*, and *type*:

- 1) mileage > 0
- *2) mileage* < 1000000
- 3) vehicleID has at least 8 characters
- 4) value >= -300
- (\$300 is the disposal cost of a worthless automobile)
- 5) originalPrice >= 0
- 6) (type == "REGULAR" && value <= originalPrice) ||
- (type == "VINTAGE" && value >= originalPrice)

Formal approaches to correctness (cont.)



- ♦ Some guidelines for achieving correctness at coding level.
 - Make variables private.
 - Change the variables values only through public accessor methods.
 - Accessors can be coded to maintain invariants.

Interfaces to modules



♦ Interfaces: collections of function prototypes: Make designs more understandable.

♦ Modularity

- Modularization is key to assess the correctness of a design
- A module can be either a class or a package of classes
- An interface is a set of functions forms (or prototypes).

Interfaces to modules



♦ Interfaces to classes

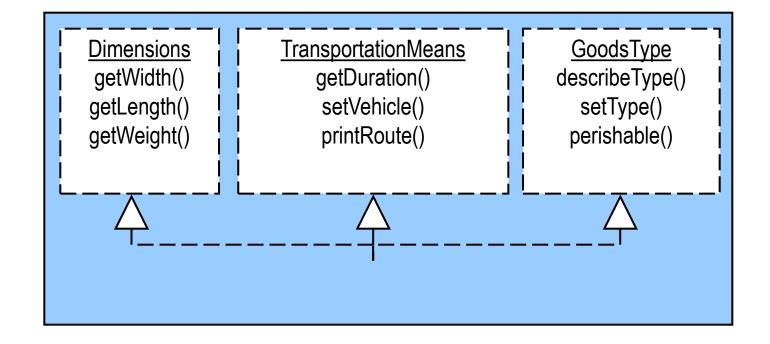
 When a class supports many methods, it is often beneficial to group them into several interfaces

Grouping allows reuse

Shipment setVehicle() perishable() getWidth() printRoute() describeType() getLength() getDuration() setType()

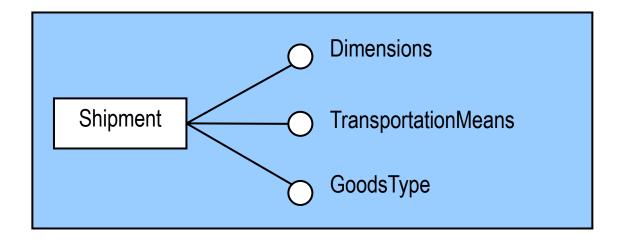
Introducing Interfaces





Introducing Interfaces





Shipment
setVehicle()
perishable()
getWidth()
printRoute()
describeType()
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Interfaces to modules

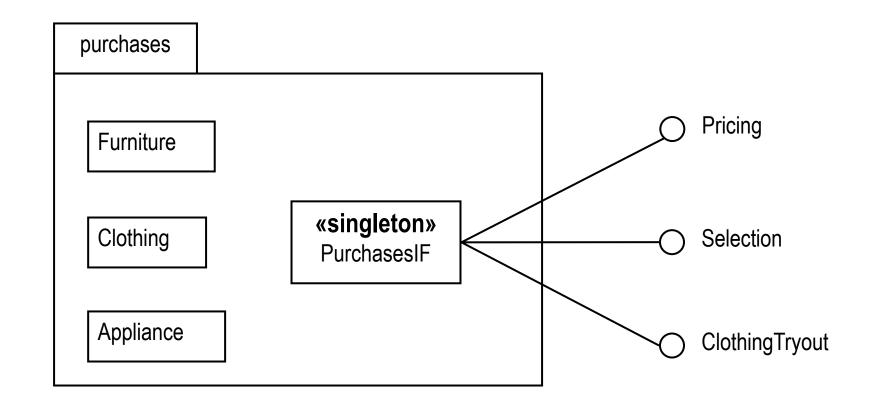


♦ Interfaces to Packages

- Interface to package is different idea than an interface to a class
- Provide an interface for a designated object of a class in the package or
- Define a class in a package and define its interface as static methods

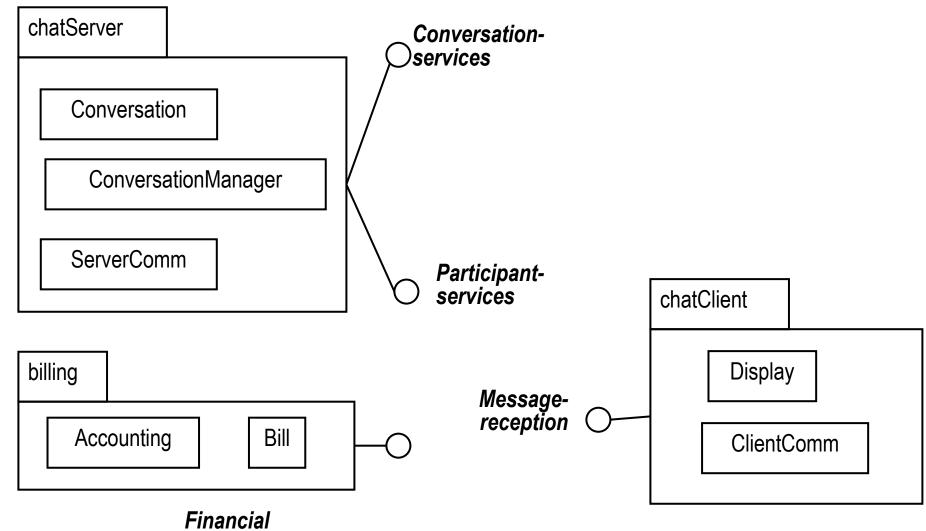
Package Interfaces





Example of Package Interfaces





Modularization



- ♦ To modularize an object-oriented application
 - Create packages at the higher level
 - Create classes at the lower level

- ♦ Choosing classes (Two kinds of classes)
 - Domain classes
 - classes that pertain to the specific application under design.
 - Can be obtained from the sequence diagrams of use cases.
 - Non-domain classes
 - generalization of domain classes

Domain vs. Non-Domain Classes



- ♦ Domain classes: Particular to the application
 - Examples: BankCustomer, BankTransaction, Teller
 - Typically not GUI classes
 - Sufficient to classify all requirements

- ♦ Non-Domain classes: Generic
 - Examples: abstract classes, utility classes (e.g. Person: teller or customer)
 - Arise from design and implementation considerations

Robustness



- ♦ The ability to handle anomalous situations
 - Incorrect user input
 - Faulty data communication
 - Developer errors
- ♦ Verifying Input.
 - Robustness is promoted by verifying data values before using them.
 - Check all inputs for constraints. It can include:
 - Type verification, Preconditions, Invariants, Postconditions
- Initialize variables and objects at declaration/ creation time improve robustness

Sources of Errors



- Robustness --- ability to handle anomalous situations even in the presence of errors
- ♦ Sources of error:
 - Faulty input
 - User input
 - Input, not from users
 - Data communication
 - Function calls made by other applications
 - Developer errors
 - Faulty design
 - Faulty implementation

Summary



- ♦ Correctness of a Design or Code
 - Supports the requirements
 - In general, many correct designs exist

- ♦ Robustness of a Design or Code
 - Absorbs errors
 - -- of the user
 - -- of developers