

Task manager (C#)

Technical design

1 Introduction

Goal: A task manager (for the software development area) should be implemented using C# programming language.

2 Requirements and Implementation

The solution consists of 3 projects:

1. TaskManagerCore – implements business logic
2. TaskManagerConsole – implements Console UI
3. TaskManagerWinForms – implements GUI

There is also the UnitTests project – implements Unit Tests

2.1 OOP

2.1.1 At least 10 classes

See the class diagram in Appendix A.

2.1.2 Encapsulation

Almost each class contain at least one private Field or Method. Private field names start with “v”, according to SC C# Style Guide. Usually such a fields are used in a pair with a public Property, e.g.:

```
private string vUserName = "";  
public string UserName { get { return vUserName; } }
```

2.1.3 Polymorphism

There are few classes which override ancestor’s methods (excluding the “standard” IDisposable implementation which overrides Dispose()):

1. AuthForms.AuthenticateUser() overrides Authenticator.AuthenticateUser() – implements user authentication via WinForms GUI
2. AuthConsole.AuthenticateUser() overrides Authenticator.AuthenticateUser() – implements user authentication via Console

2.1.4 Inheritance

The solution contains 3 inheritance trees:

1. User → {Admin, Manager, Developer}
2. BaseTask → {DevTask, TestTask}
3. Authenticator → {AuthConsole, AuthForms}

2.1.5 Interfaces

The solution contains 2 interfaces:

1. IStorage – general interface to the Data Access Layer
2. IAuthenticator – interface to the user authentication subsystem

There is also a placeholder for the ITask interface.

Interface IDisposable has been implemented for the UserSessions class.

2.1.6 Abstract class

The solution contains 2 abstract classes: User and BaseTask

2.2 Multithreading and Events/Delegates

1. Class UserSession implements the DoHandleActions() method which runs in a separate thread:

```
vActionHandler = new Task(DoHandleActions, (object)this,
SessionCancellationTokenSource.Token,
TaskCreationOptions.AttachedToParent |
TaskCreationOptions.PreferFairness);
vActionHandler.Start();
```

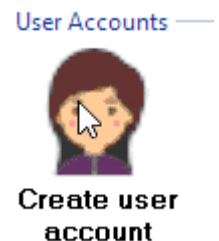
The UserSessions could be of the following types (UserSessionTypes):

1. Automatic – background session, no live user interface
2. InertactiveConcole – session, which interacts with a live user via the Console
3. InteractiveGUI – session, which interacts with a live user via WinForms GUI

DoHandleActions() method runs a loop checking the Cancellation token. Inside the loop it checks the UserTask queue:

```
private ConcurrentQueue<UserTask> vUserTasks = new
ConcurrentQueue<UserTask>();
```

In the GUI implementation a UserTask is enqueued into the current user's queue when the user presses on an action item. Currently a UserTask contains a MethodInfo variable (all the GUI actions are bound to some class and method, see the Custom Attributes section).



If the queue contains a task, it takes it and tries to request the task parameters for the MethodInfo method via DoAskParameters **delegate**.

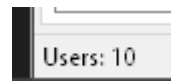
In the GUI implementation the DoAskParameters call path looks like that:

UserSession.DoAskParameters→TaskManager.DoAskParameters→Form1.DoAskParameters---<this.Invoke()>--->Form1.FormAskParameters, which makes it possible to access the GUI elements from another thread. There is a DoAskParametersAutomatic

DoHandleActions() method also raises the **SessionChangedEvent** event, once in the beginning, another in the end. It has the same call path and is used to update the Status Bar with the information about running UserSessions.

It also used to switch the GUI either to the Authorisation page, or to the Shutdown/Logoff page.

2. When a user logs on for the first time, 10 background user sessions are started via UserSession.Run method which creates a separate Task. In the Console version one can see the test output from these threads.



Task Manager v.0.1

FileEditFunctions

User sessions

Class map

User actions

Session monitor

	Session		Session type	User	User name	User type	Session State
▶	0	02-02-2017 18:08:26	InteractiveGUI	ARMS	Arthur Matthews	Administrator	Running
	0	02-02-2017 18:08:26	Automatic	PIDN	Parvani Devgan	Manager	Running
	0	02-02-2017 18:08:26	Automatic	SMCN	Sorm Chamroeun	Developer	Running
	0	02-02-2017 18:08:26	Automatic	USML	Ushas Mall	Manager	Running
	0	02-02-2017 18:08:26	Automatic	MRDS	Mukhtyar Dabas	Administrator	Running
	0	02-02-2017 18:08:26	Automatic	JAGT	Joshua Garrett	Developer	Running
	0	02-02-2017 18:08:26	Automatic	SMCN	Sorm Chamroeun	Manager	Running
	0	02-02-2017 18:08:26	Automatic	VLKL	Varunpal Kehal	Administrator	Running
	0	02-02-2017 18:08:26	Automatic	PABE	Patricia Blake	Manager	Running
	0	02-02-2017 18:08:26	Automatic	YNPA	Yun Putrea	Developer	Running

- On Exit each UserSession's Cancellation token is raised, so each user thread stops after completion of current task.
- Async/await is used in the GUI for long-running tasks, e.g.:

```
Task taskShutdown = Task.Run(() => vTaskManager.Shutdown());
await taskShutdown;
```

2.3 Custom Attributes

The UserActions attribute is implemented:

```
UserAction(string description, UserTypes[] usersAllowed)
```

It is applied to classes and methods. All other cases are ignored. If the attribute is applied to a class, it defines an Action Group for the GUI. If being applied to a method, it defines an Action. Also usersAllowed fields defines the UserTypes (Administrator, Developer, Manager) which have an access to the Group/Action (images are assigned randomly):

User actions for [LEMR] Laurie Miller (Developer)

Actions Data list

Tasks

Close task

Features

Close task

Projects

Projects

General

All Projects All Tasks My Developme... My Test Tasks

User actions for [TYJS] Tommy Johns (Manager)

Actions Data list

Tasks

Assign task Close task Reject task

Features

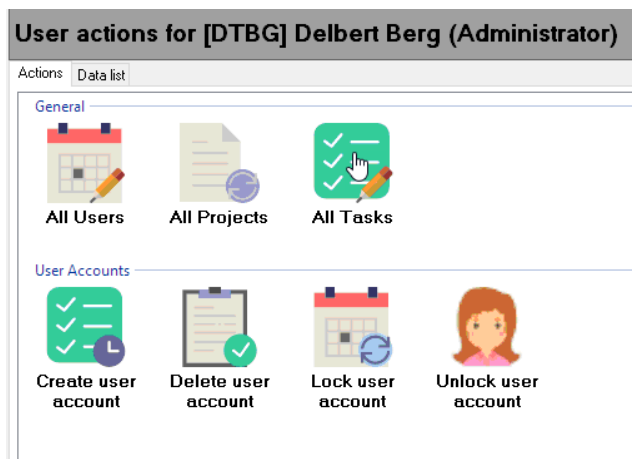
Assign task Close task Reject task

Projects

Projects Create project Close project Open projects

General

All Projects All Tasks My Projects



Typical usage looks like this:

```
[UserAction("Tasks", new UserTypes[] {
UserTypes.Administrator,UserTypes.Manager,UserTypes.Developer})]
    public abstract class BaseTask {
        [UserAction("Assign task", new UserTypes[] { UserTypes.Manager})]
        public void Assign() { }
```

```
        [UserAction("Close task", new UserTypes[] { UserTypes.Manager,
UserTypes.Developer })]
        public void Close() { }
```

```
        [UserAction("Reject task", new UserTypes[] { UserTypes.Manager })]
        public void Reject() { }
    }
```

2.4 Custom Exceptions

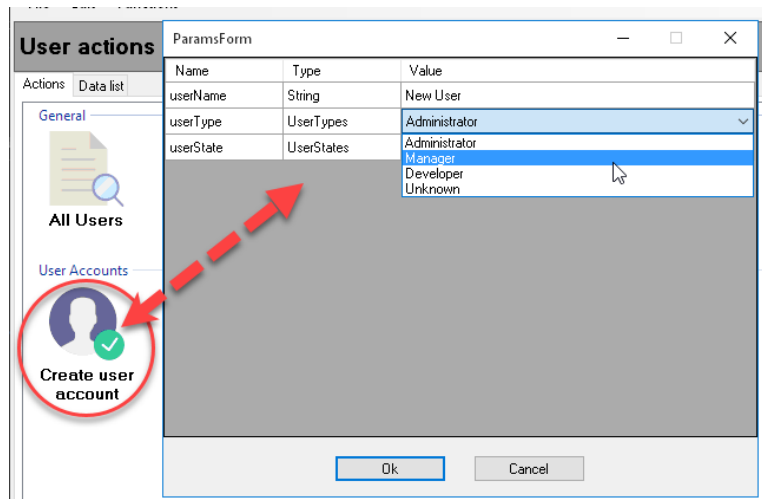
There is only one custom exception in the solution:

```
public class UserException:Exception
```

2.5 Reflection (class map)

Reflection is used widely in the solution.

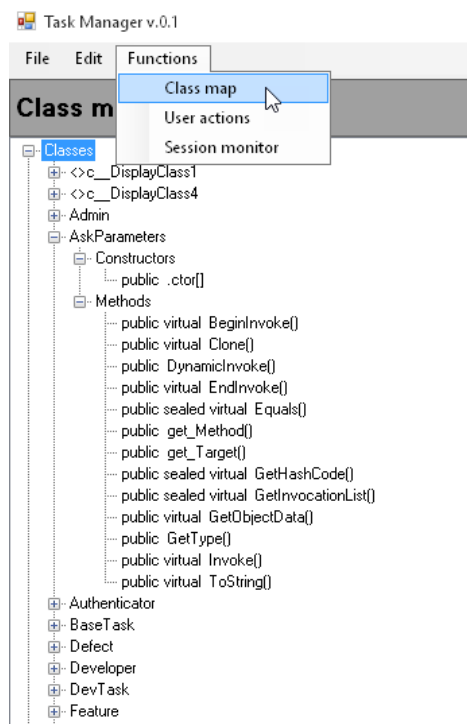
1. There is the ReflectionInfo class which provides different application metadata.
2. The GUI Groups and Actions are based on the UserAction custom attribute.
3. When a user clicks on an Action, it passes the MethodInfo instance down to the working thread, where it's handled further.
4. The ParamsForm form accepts the MethodInfo instance, parses it for a method parameters, and shows the parameter grid:



The corresponding code is:

```
[UserAction("Create user account", new UserTypes[] { UserTypes.Administrator })]
public User Create(string userName, UserTypes userType, UserStates userState) {
```

5. There is a dedicated "Class map" page in the application:



2.6 LINQ

There are few places in the solution where LINQ is used. Typically it's used for reordering and some filtering:

1.

```
int sessionCount = (from UserSession us in
vTaskManager.UserSessions where (us.ActionHandler.Status ==
TaskStatus.Running) select us).ToList().Count;
```

```
2. var constInfo = new List<MethodBase>(from rtCons in
    refType.GetConstructors() orderby rtCons.Name select rtCons);
    var metInfo = new List<MethodBase>((from mt in refType.GetMethods()
    orderby mt.Name select mt));
    foreach (var mi in constInfo.Union(metInfo)) {...
```

2.7 Patterns

The Factory pattern is implemented in the Users class:

```
public static User Factory(string userName, UserTypes userType) {
    User user = null;
    switch (userType) {
        case UserTypes.Administrator: { user = new Admin(userName); }
        break;
        case UserTypes.Developer: { user = new Developer(userName); }
        break;
        case UserTypes.Manager: { user = new Manager(userName); }
        break;
        default:
        break;
    }
    return user;
}
```

2.8 Unit Testing

There is a small Unit Test project in the solution:

```
namespace UnitTests {
    [TestClass]
    public class UnitTest1 {
        [TestMethod]
        public void TestMethod1() {
            Storage storage = new Storage();
            Assert.AreEqual(0, storage.ListUsers().Count);
            storage.Load();
            Assert.AreNotEqual(0, storage.ListUsers().Count);
            //Assert.Fail("Oops");
        }
    }
}
```

2.9 MVC

(View: Form1) → (Controller: TaskManager, UserSession) → (Model: Storage)

2.10 GitHub

<https://www.github.com/atom80/CSharp-course>

Appendix A

