Module 13:
"Proxy"

Agenda

▸ Introductory Example: Web Shop Products
▸ Challenges
▸ Implementing the Proxy Pattern
▸ Pattern: Proxy
▸ Overview of Proxy Pattern
▸ Variation: Simple Proxy
▸ Use Cases for Proxy

Introductory Example: Web Shop Products

```csharp
interface IProductRepository
{
    Product GetById( int id );
    IEnumerable<Product> GetAll();
    void Add( Product product );
}
```

```csharp
IProductRepository products = new ProductRepository();
products.Add( new Product( ... ) );
IEnumerable<Product> books = products
                .GetAll()
                .Where(p => p.Category == Category.Book);
foreach (Product product in books)
{
    Console.WriteLine( product );
}
```

Challenges

▸ How can we control that only administrators can add new products?
 - Cannot change the source code of the web shop library component!

Pattern: Proxy

▸ *Provide a surrogate or place-holder for another object to control access to it.*

▸ Outline
- Define a substitute object with the same interface
- Implement additional functionality or restriction in substitute object
- Clients cannot tell whether they interact with the real object or a proxy

▸ Origin: Gang of Four

Overview of Proxy Pattern
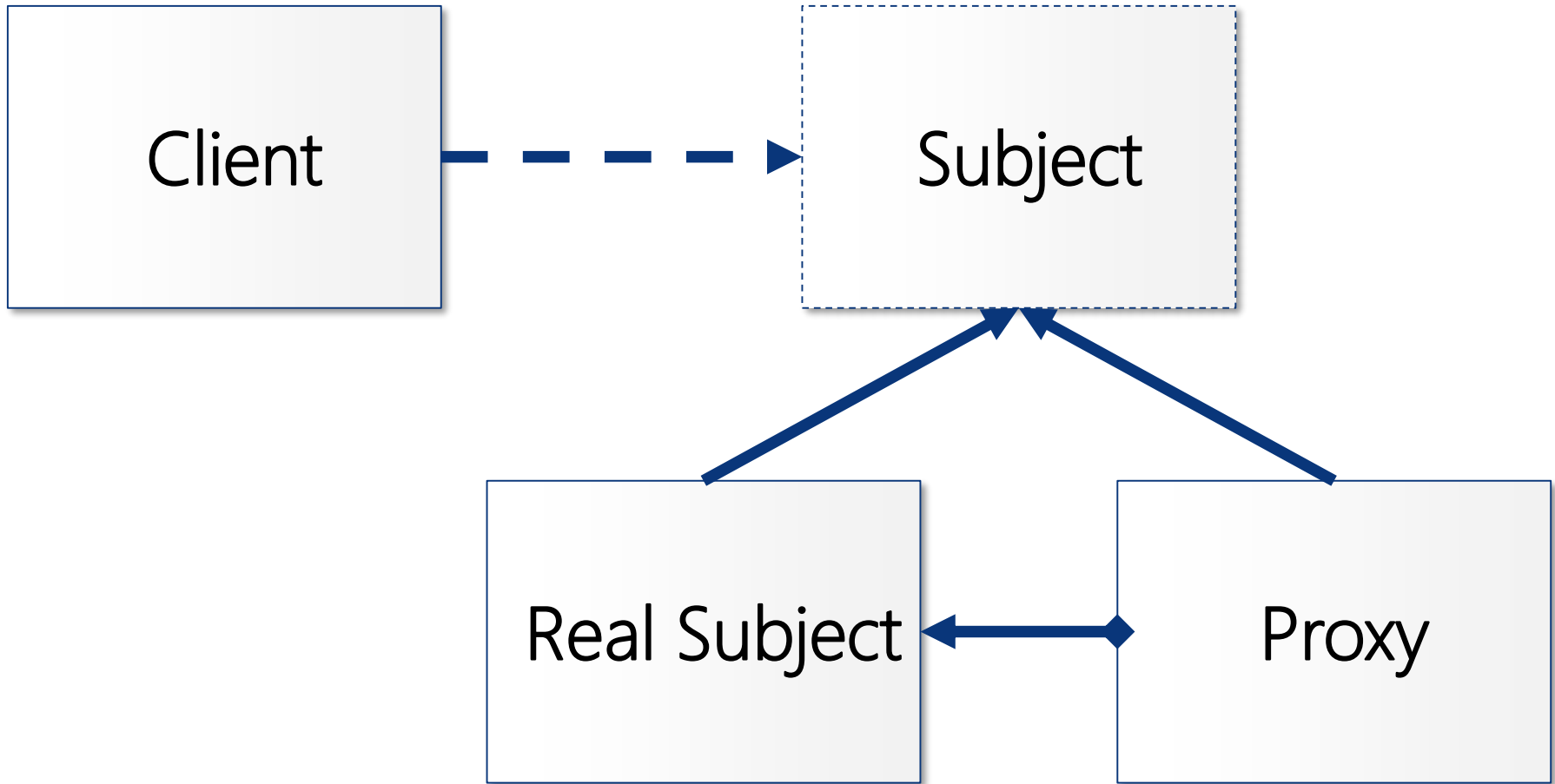
Overview of Proxy Pattern

▸ Client
  • Interacts with any Subject through a general interface

▸ Subject
  • Interface or base class to subject functionality

▸ Real Subject
  • Concrete subject class implementing Subject interface
  • Provides concrete functionality

▸ Proxy
  • Substitute subject class implementing Subject interface
  • Implements added functionality or control restrictions to underlying Real Subject being controlled

Variation: Simple Proxy

Simple Proxy Pros and Cons

- Simple to implement
- Easier to maintain
- Only works when Real Subject is suitably "open"

- Violates Single Responsibility Principle of SOLID
- Uses inheritance instead of composition

- Fits well when there is no general interface to proxy

Proxy vs. Adapter

▸ Proxy
- Simple, nice and clean to implement
- Can be a slight burden to maintain if not autogenerated
- Satisfies SOLID principles – Fits beautifully with Dependency Injection
- Keeps same interface

▸ Adapter
- <u>Changes</u> the interface

Use Cases for Proxy

- Use cases include
  - Virtual proxies
    - Lazy loading
    - Caching (See Lab 13.1)
  - Remote proxies
    - Distributed communication
  - Protection proxies

- Very frequently used

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