Behavioral Pattern: Interpreter

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Architect

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Coming Up

Describing the interpreter pattern

- Translating Arabic numerals to Roman numerals

Structure of the interpreter pattern

Coming Up

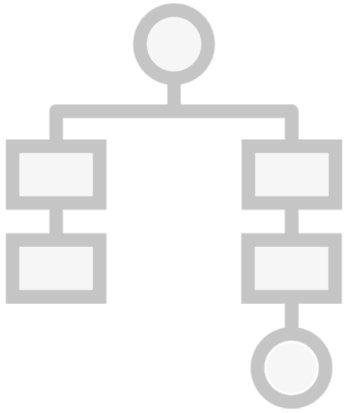
Use cases for this pattern

Pattern consequences

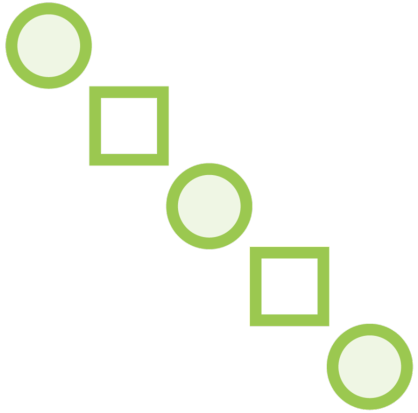
Related patterns

Describing the Interpreter Pattern

Creational



Structural

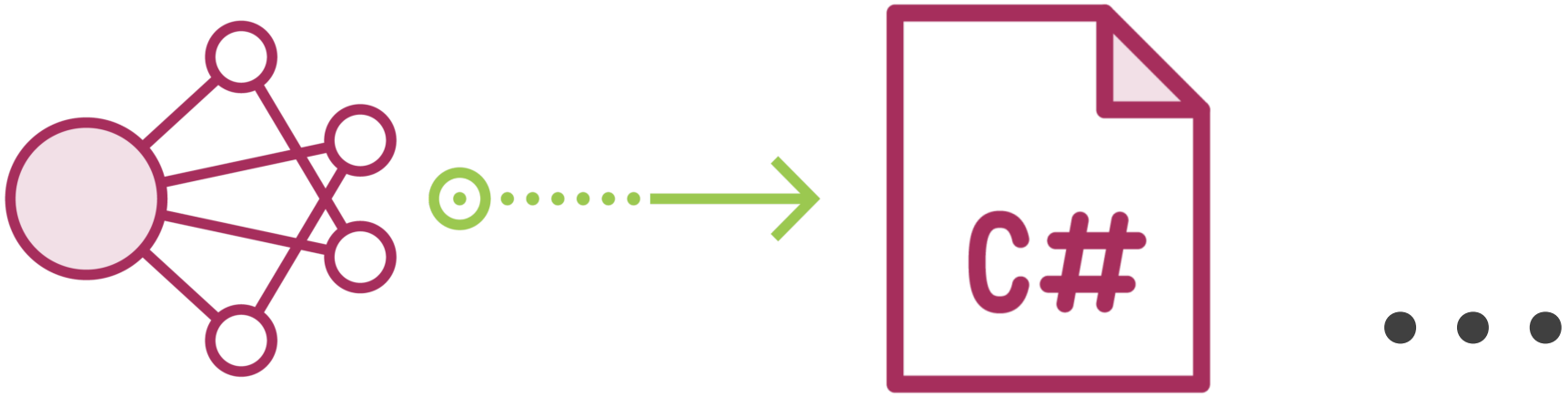


Behavioral

Interpreter

The intent of this pattern is to, given a language, define a representation for its grammar along with an interpreter that uses the representation to interpret sentences in the language

Describing the Interpreter Pattern



LINQ queries

Regular expressions

C# compiler

Describing the Interpreter Pattern

Translating Arabic (181) to Roman (CLXXXI) numerals

- Huge, unmanageable switch statement

Describing the Interpreter Pattern

Look at “181” as a sentence in a grammar

- Grammar consists of a set of expressions
- Each expression is responsible for translating a word

A set of expressions is called a syntax tree

Describing the Interpreter Pattern

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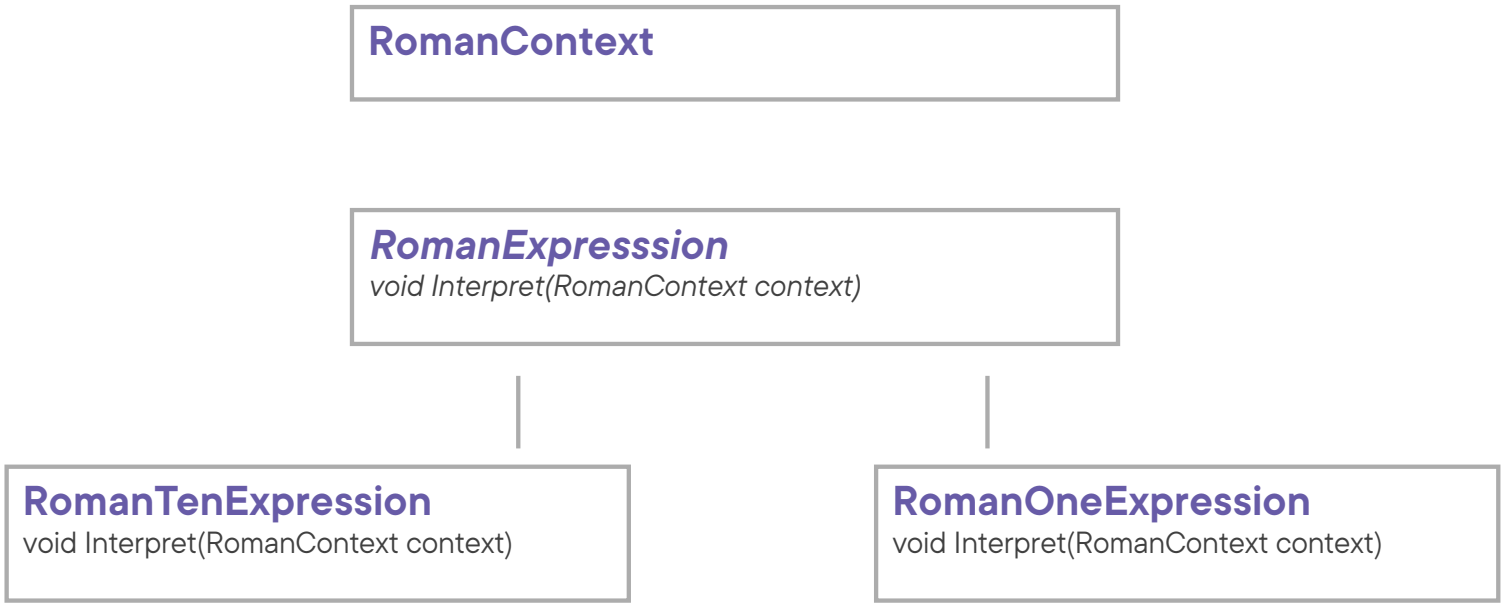
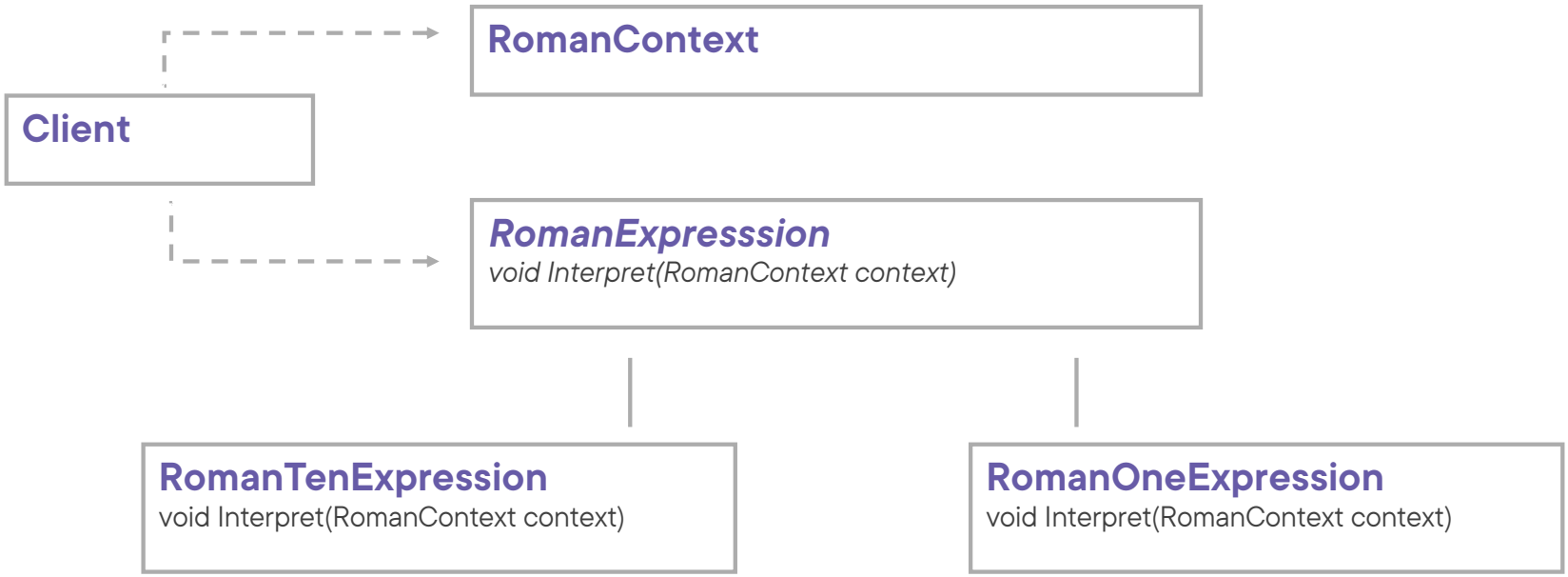
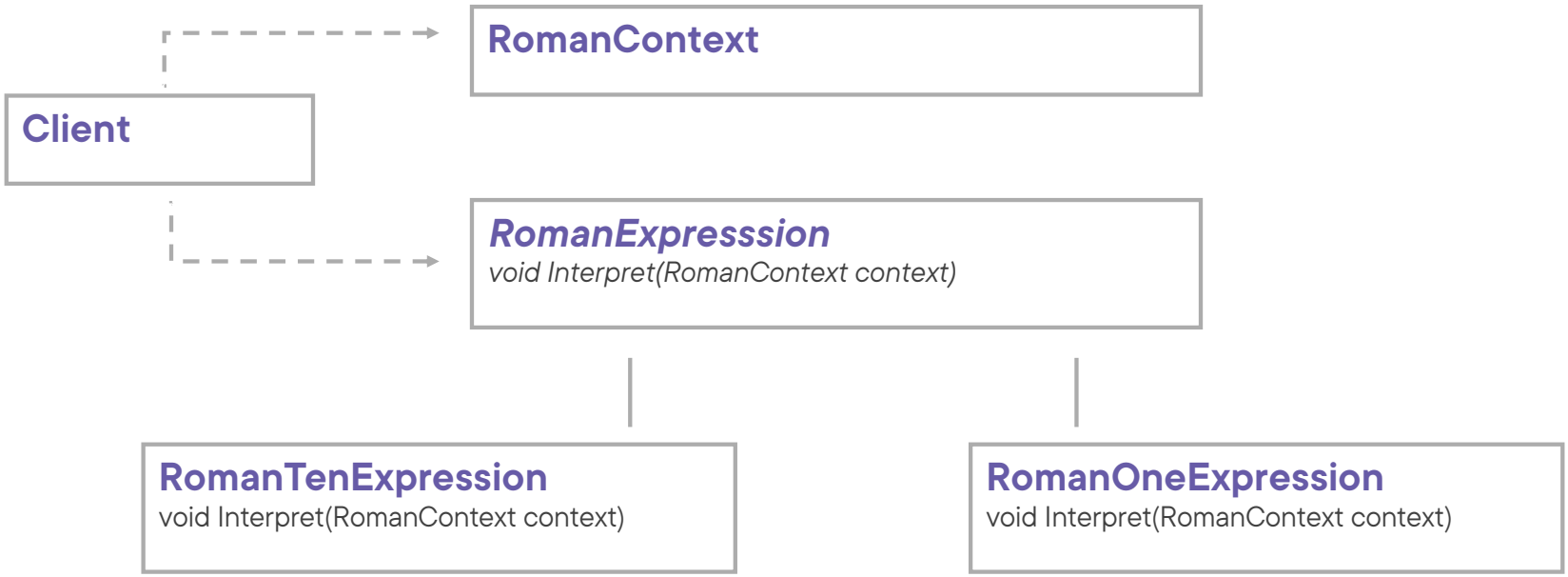


Describing the Interpreter Pattern



Structure of the Interpreter Pattern



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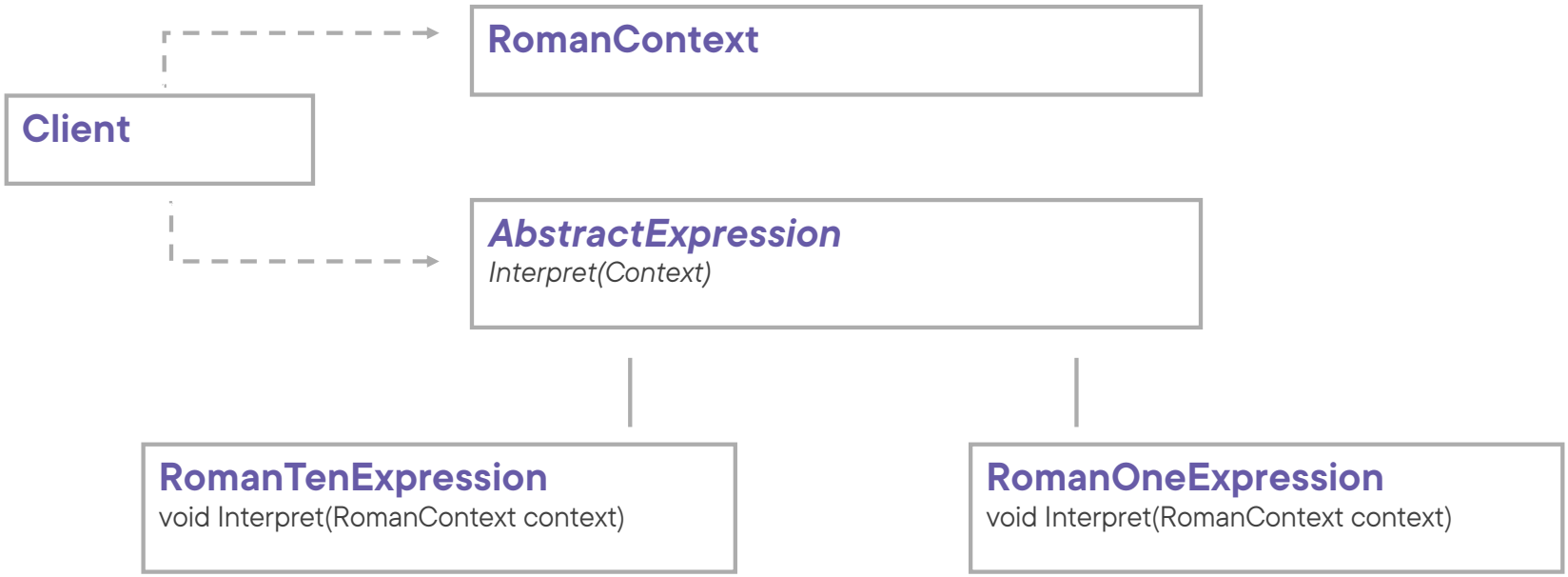
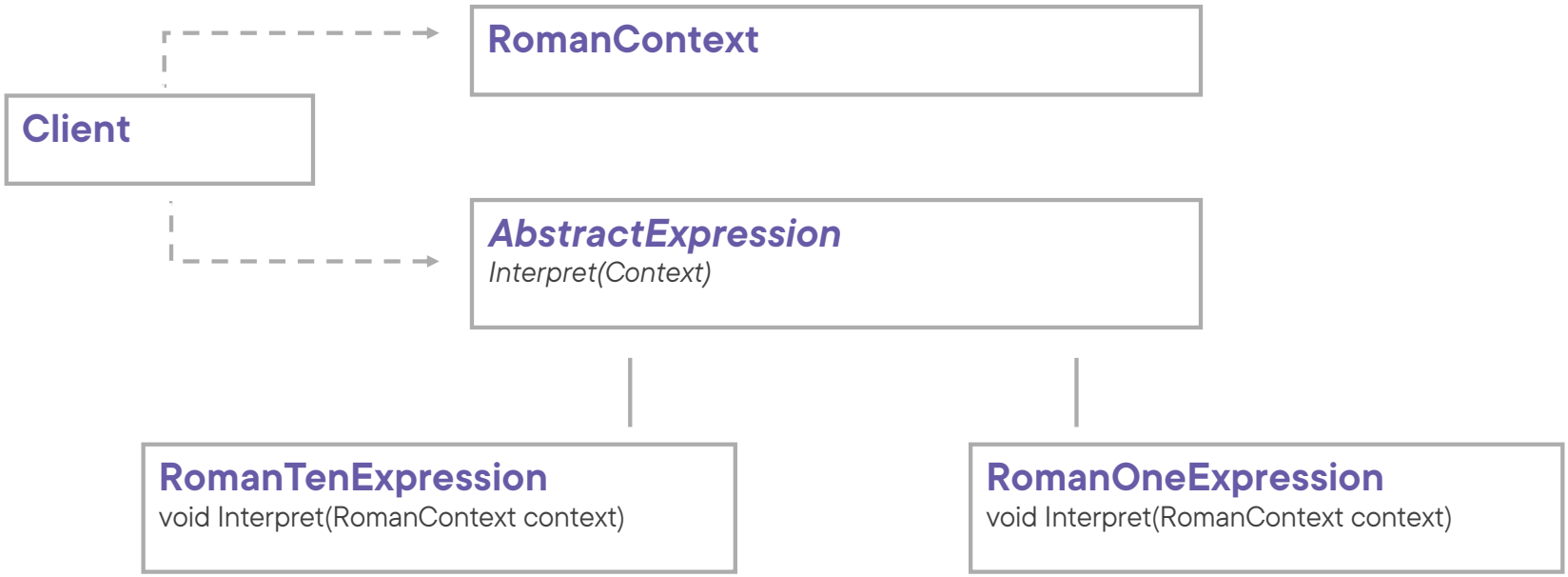


AbstractExpression declares an abstract Interpret operation that is common to all nodes in the abstract syntax tree

TerminalExpression implements an Interpret operation associated with terminal symbols in the grammar

Structure of the Interpreter Pattern



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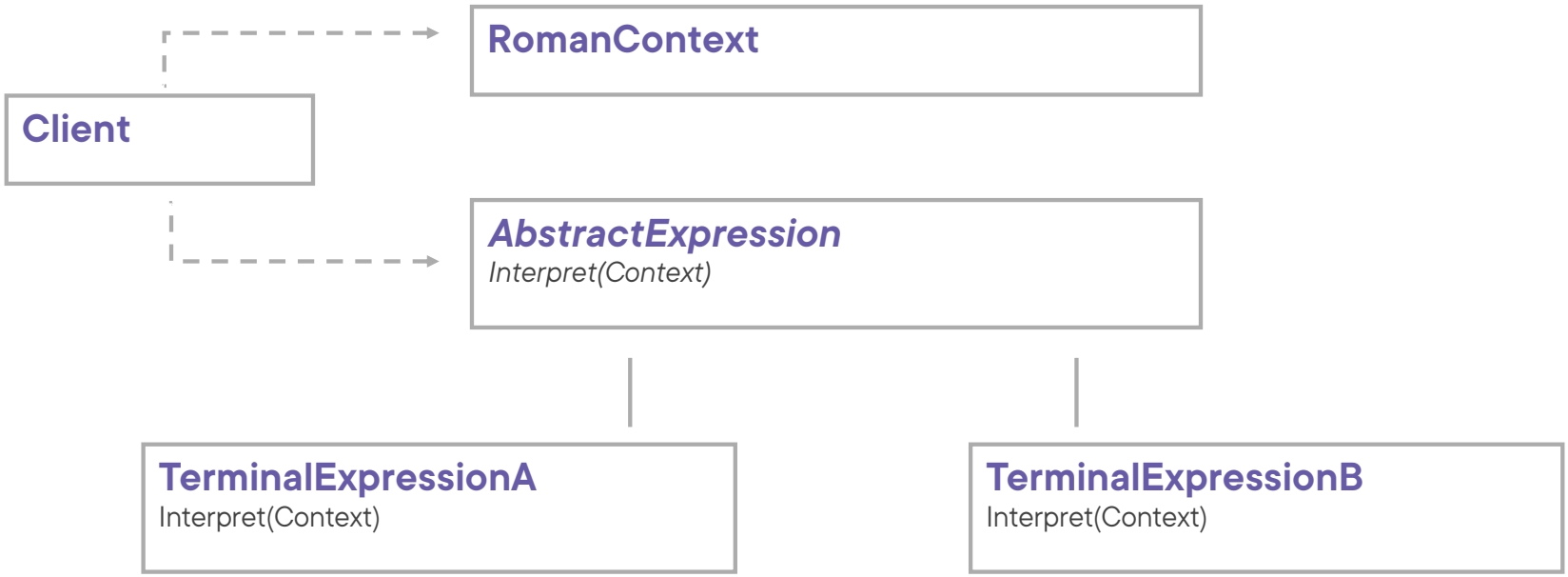

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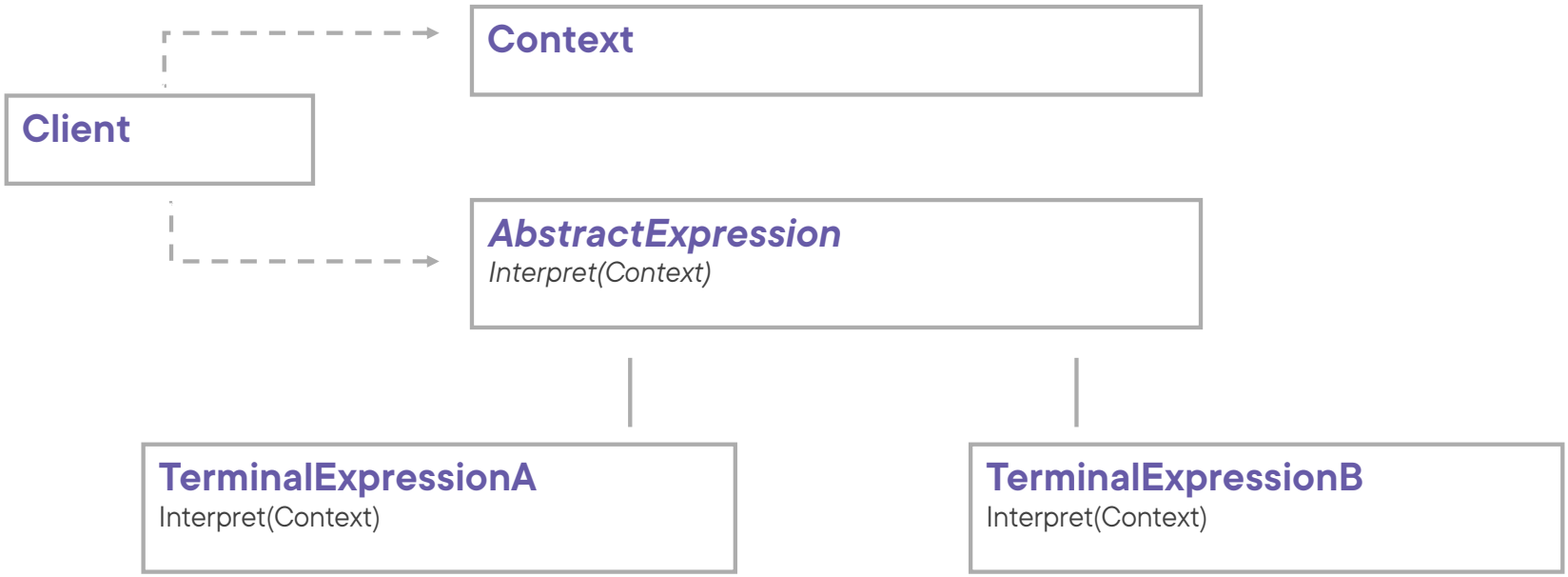
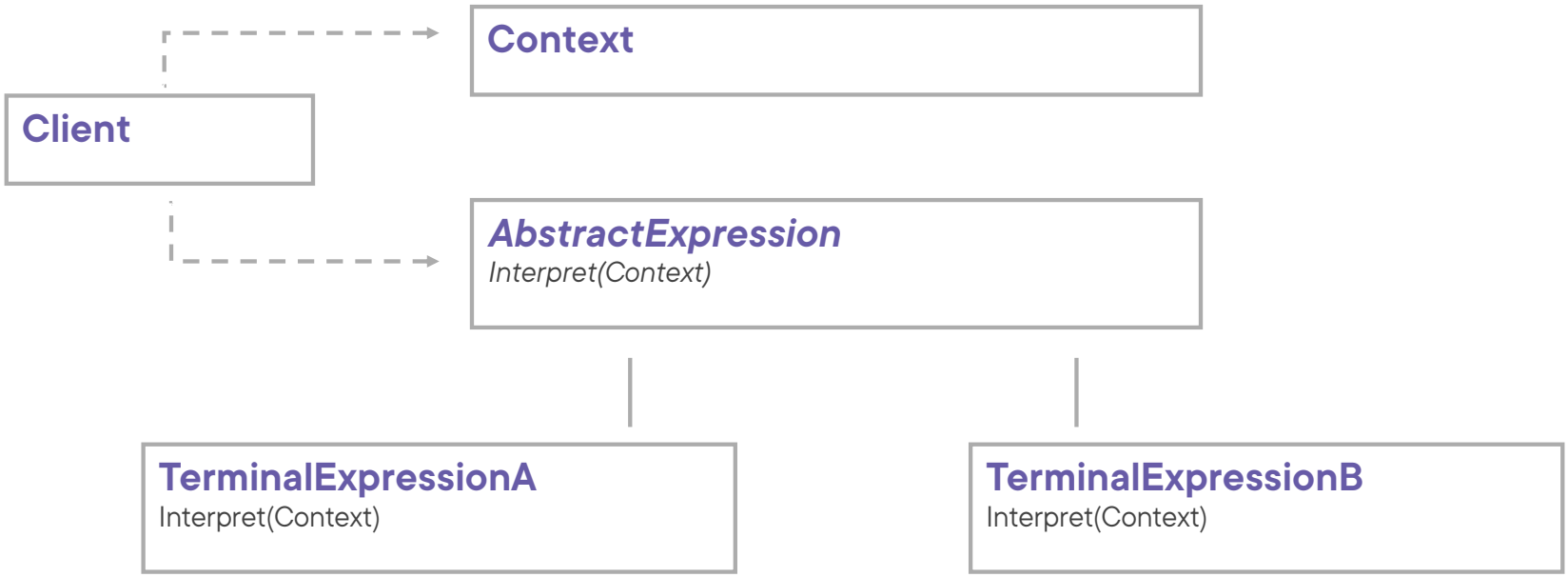


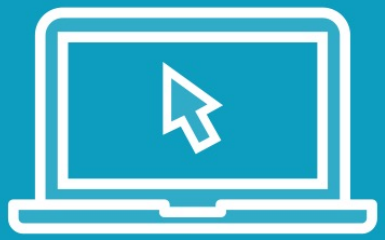
Context contains information
that's global to the **Interpreter**

Structure of the Interpreter Pattern



Client builds or is given the abstract syntax tree which represents a sentence in the language that the grammar defines. **Client** invokes the Interpret operation.

Demo



Implementing the interpreter pattern

Terminal Versus NonTerminal Expressions

Terminal expression

A symbol (the smallest meaningful part or unit of a language) is called a Terminal

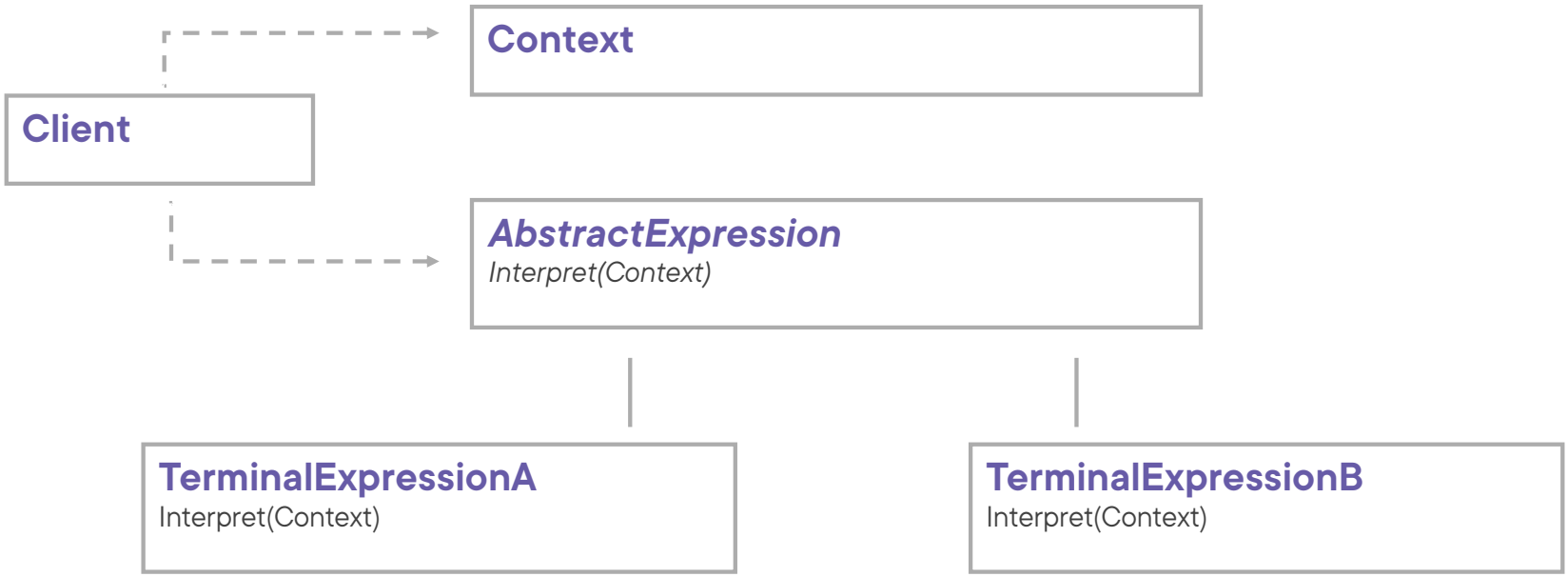
Implemented through a Terminal expression

NonTerminal expression

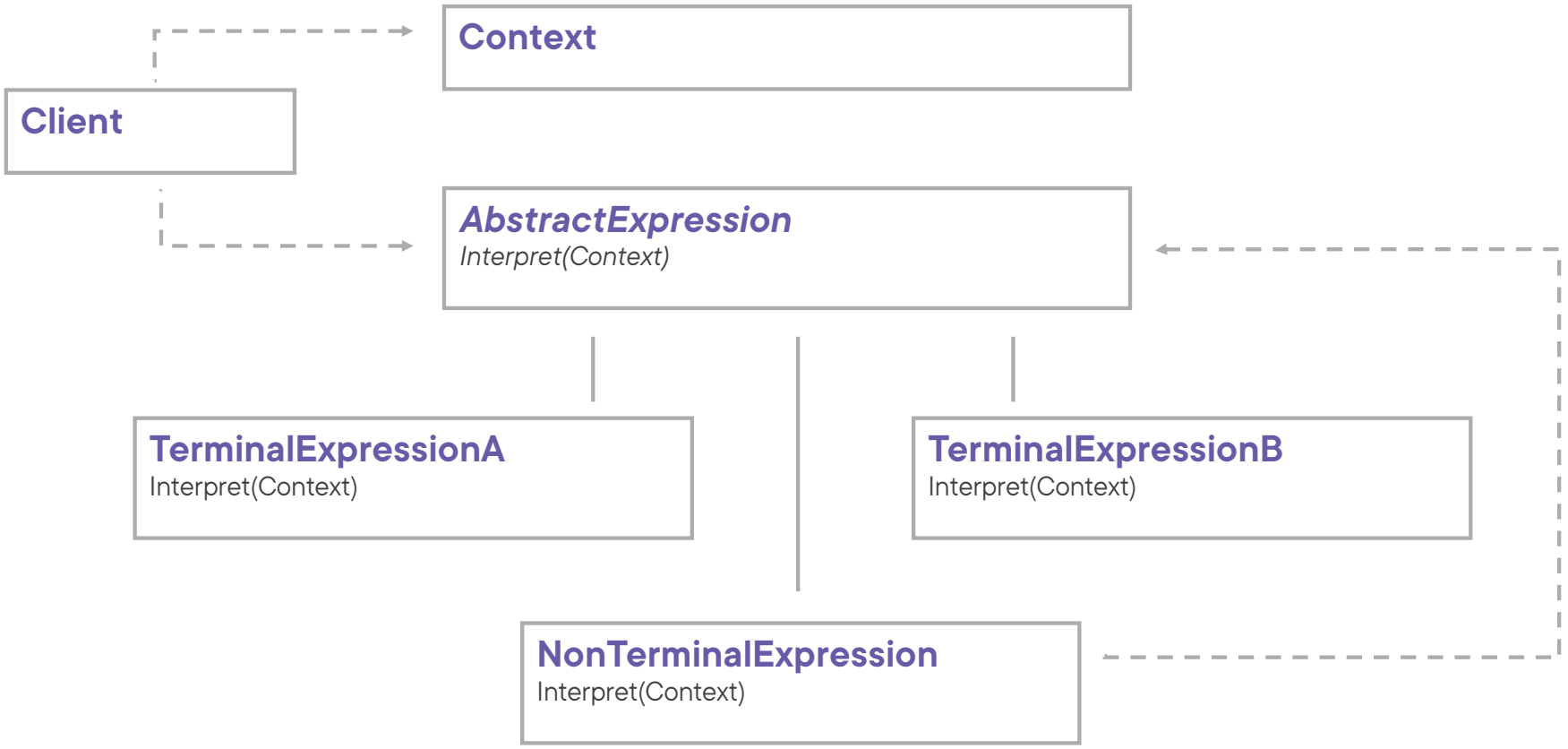
Statements that are made up of terminals and are allowed by a language are called NonTerminals

Can consist of Terminal(s) and/or NonTerminal(s)

Terminal Versus NonTerminal Expressions



Terminal Versus NonTerminal Expressions



Use Cases for the Interpreter Pattern

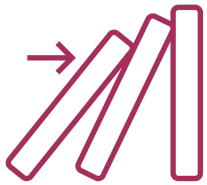
When there's a language you can interpret and you can represent statements in the language as abstract syntax trees

AND when the grammar is simple

AND when the best possible efficiency isn't required

Pattern Consequences

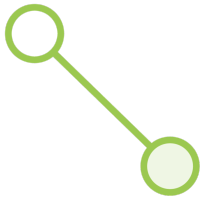
It’s easy to change and extend the grammar



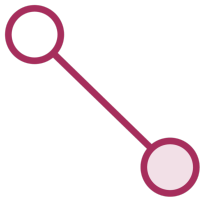
It’s easy to implement the grammar

Complex grammars are hard to maintain

Related Patterns



Composite
The abstract syntax tree is an instance of the composite pattern



Iterator
You can use an iterator to traverse the tree

Summary

Intent of the interpreter pattern:

- To, given a language, define a representation for its grammar along with an interpreter that uses the representation to interpret sentences in the language

Summary

A symbol (the smallest meaningful part or unit of a language) is called a Terminal

Statements that are made up of terminals and are allowed by a language are called NonTerminals

The End is Nigh...

Questions?
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to be Awesome !!!
@kevinDockx