

Adding a Die and a DieHandle: A Case of Double Dispatch

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What You Will Learn

- How conditionals can be turned into extensible design using messages
- Basis for more complex situation such as the Visitor Design Pattern

Remember Die and DieHandle

We create a die handle and add some die to it

```
| handle |
handle := DieHandle new
addDie: (Die withFaces: 6);
addDie: (Die withFaces: 10);
yourself.
handle roll
```

Remember DieHandle

We add dieHandle together as in role playing games

```
DieHandleTest >> testSumming
| handle |
handle := 2 D20 + 3 D10.
self assert: handle diceNumber = 5.
```

- We could add dices to a dice handle
- We could add dice handle to another dice handle

New Requirements

We want to add two dices together

(Die withFaces: 6) + (Die withFaces: 6)

Now we want to be able to add a dice to an dice handle

(Die withFaces: 6) + 2 D20

2 D20 + (Die withFaces: 6)

aNewRequirement asTest

```
DieTest >> testAddTwoDice

| hd |
hd := (Die withFaces: 6) + (Die withFaces: 6).
self assert: hd dice size = 2.
```

```
DieTest >> testAddingADieAndHandle
| hd |
hd := (Die faces: 6)
+
(DieHandle new
addDie: 6;
yourself).
self assert: hd dice size equals: 2
```

Propose a solution!

Our approach

When we add two elements (die or dieHandle) together.

We always do the same:

- we tell the argument that we want to add the receiver
- we are explicit about the receiver state since we know it
 - when the receiver is a die we say to the argument that we want to add a die
 - when the receiver is a die handle we say to the argument that we want to add a die handle

Let us do it now!

First adding two dice

```
Die >> + aDie
```

^ DieHandle new addDie: self; addDie: aDie; yourself

Limits

```
Die >> + aDie
```

^ DieHandle new addDie: self; addDie: aDie; yourself

But aDie can be

- a dice
- a die handle

A first step

Adding two dice is usefull, let us keep it and rename it:

Die >> sumWithDie: aDie

^ DieHandle new addDie: self; addDie: aDie; yourself

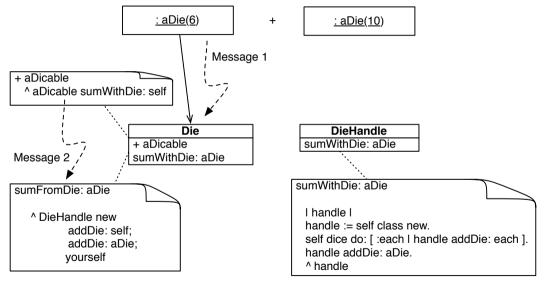
Now we just say to the argument that we want to add a die

Die >> + aDicable

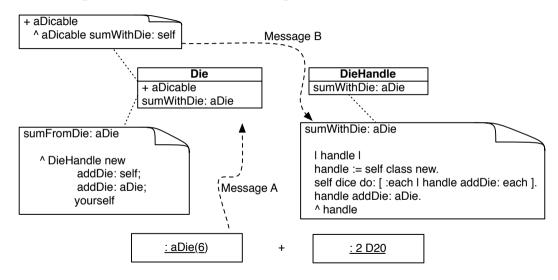
^ aDicable sumWithDie: self



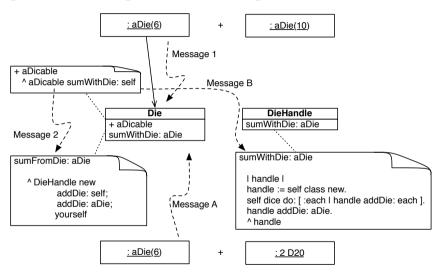
Adding Two Dice and Ready for More



Handling DieHandle as Argument



Sending a Message is Making a Choice



DieHandle as a receiver

We apply the same principle

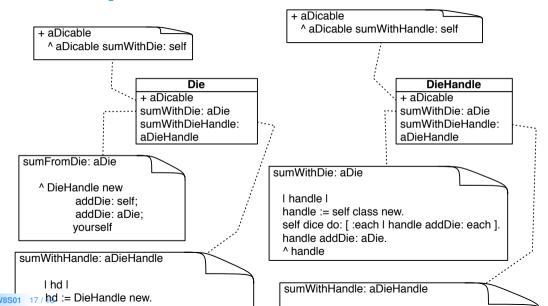
```
DieHandle >> + aDicable
^ aDicable sumWithHandle: self
```

```
DieHandle >> sumWithHandle: aDieHandle | handle | handle := self class new. self dice do: [:each | handle addDie: each ]. aDieHandle dice do: [:each | handle addDie: each ]. ^ handle
```

Now the argument can be a die

```
Die >> sumWithHandle: aDieHandle
| handle |
handle := DieHandle new.
aDieHandle dice do: [:each | handle addDie: each ].
handle addDie: self
^ handle
```

Double Dispatch between Die and DieHandle



Conclusion

- Basis for advanced design such as the Visitor Design Pattern
- Powerful
- Modular (compiler with 70 nodes scales without problems)
- Just sending an extra message to an argument and using late binding once again

A course by

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