

2. UML

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UML - Unified Modeling Language

UML Diagrams

- Unified Modeling Language to model systems
- The idea is to have a uniform way to represent the classes, objects, relationships and interactions within simple or complex systems to make it easier for developers and stakeholders to understand and communicate about the system.

UML Diagrams Importance

- **Visualization:** UML diagrams provide a visual representation of a system, making it easier to understand the structure, relationships, and interactions between

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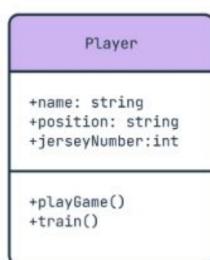
- **Documentation:** They serve as detailed documentation for the software architecture, which is useful for maintaining and scaling the system.
- **Communication:** UML diagrams are a common language for software designers, developers, and stakeholders, facilitating communication about the design.
- **Standardization:** Since UML is a standardized language, it ensures that everyone involved understands the system's design in the same way.

Basic Elements

1. **Class:** A blueprint for objects, defined with a name, attributes, and methods.
 - Example: `class User { name, age, login() }`
2. **Interface:** A contract that defines methods that a class must implement.
 - Example: `interface Loginable { login() }`
3. **Object:** An instance of a class at runtime.
4. **Association:** A relationship between two classes that represents interactions between objects.
5. **Inheritance:** Represents an "is-a" relationship, where a subclass inherits from a superclass.
6. **Composition:** A stronger association where one object is part of another and cannot exist independently.
7. **Aggregation:** A weaker form of association where one object contains another, but they can exist independently.

Class Diagrams

Class Diagram: Represents the static structure of a system, showing classes, attributes, methods, and the relationships between them (inheritance, association, etc.).



Association

ASSOCIATION

Association represents a relationship between two or more classes. In this case, each object in one class is associated with one or more objects of another class.

Aggregation

Aggregation is a weak "has-a" relationship where one class contains objects of another class. However, the contained objects can exist independently of the container object.

Aggregation Example

In this example, a **Department** is composed of multiple **Professors**, but the professors exist independently. Even if the department is dissolved, the professors can still exist.

Composition

Composition is a strong "has-a" relationship, where one class owns objects of another class. If the container object is destroyed, the contained objects are destroyed as well.

Inheritance

Inheritance defines an "is-a" relationship where a subclass inherits properties and behaviors (methods) from a superclass.

Dependency

This is a relationship where one class relies on another in some way, often through method parameters, return types or temporary associations.

Summary

- **Association:** Objects are related but can exist independently.
- **Aggregation:** A weak "has-a" relationship where the contained objects can exist independently.
- **Composition:** A strong "has-a" relationship where the contained objects cannot exist without the container.
- **Inheritance:** A subclass inherits from a superclass (is-a relationship).
- **Dependency:** One class depends on another for its functionality.
- **Realization:** A class implements the behavior defined by an interface.