301AA - Advanced Programming

Lecturer: **Andrea Corradini**
andrea@di.unipi.it
http://pages.di.unipi.it/corradini/

Course pages:
http://pages.di.unipi.it/corradini/Didattica/AP-18/

***AP-2018-11**: Frameworks and Inversion of Control*

Frameworks and Inversion of Control

- Recap: JavaBeans as Components
- Frameworks, Component Frameworks and their features
- Frameworks vs IDEs
- Inversion of Control and Containers
- Frameworks vs Libraries
- Decoupling Components
- Dependency Injection
- IoC Containers in Spring

Components: a recap

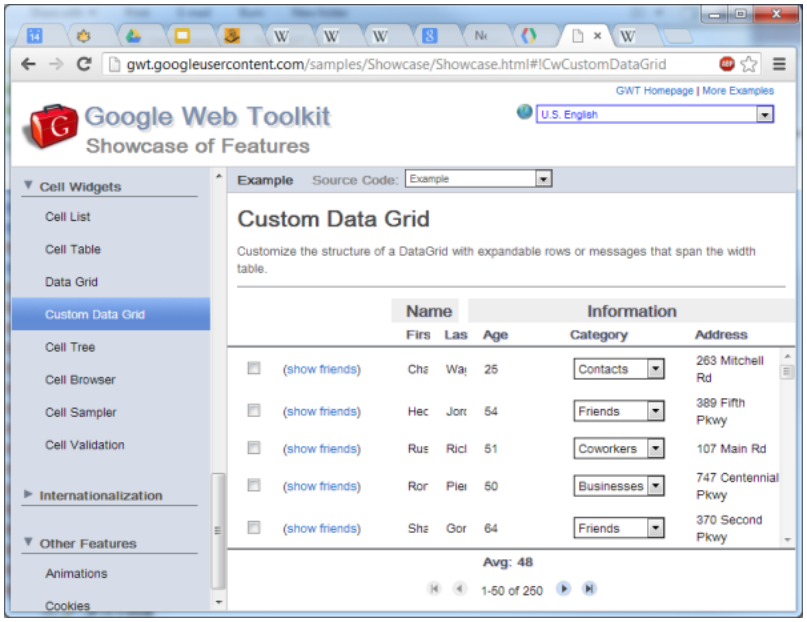
A **software component** is a **unit of composition** with **contractually specified interfaces** and **explicit context dependencies** only. A software component can be deployed independently and is **subject to composition** by third party.
Clemens Szyperski, ECOOP 1996

- Examples: ***Java Beans, CLR Assemblies***
- *Contractually specified interfaces*: events, methods and properties
- *Explicit context dependencies*: serializable, constructor with no argument
- *Subject to composition*: connection to other beans
  - Using connection oriented programming (event source and listeners/delegates)

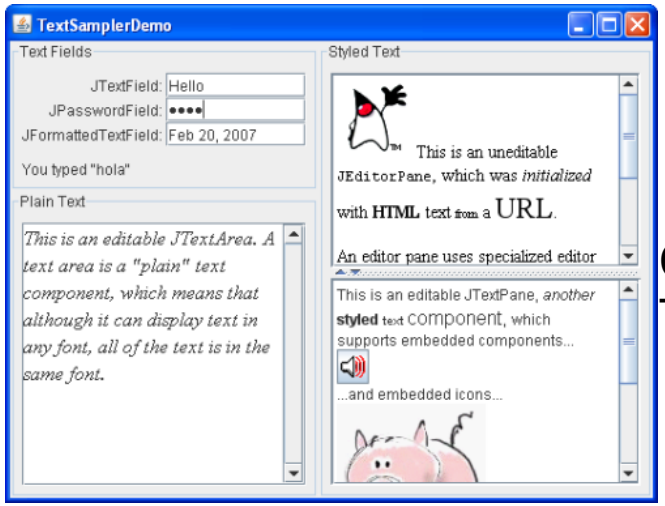
Towards Component Frameworks

- **Software Framework**: A collection of *common code* providing *generic functionality* that can be *selectively overridden or specialized* by user code providing *specific functionality*
- **Application Framework**: A software framework used to implement the *standard* structure of an application for a *specific* development environment.
- Examples:
  - **GUI Frameworks**
  - **Web Frameworks**
  - **Concurrency Frameworks**

Examples of Frameworks



Web Application Frameworks



GUI Toolkits

Examples: General Software Frameworks

- **.NET** – Windows platform. Provides language interoperability
- **Android SDK** – Supports development of apps in Java (but does not use a JVM!)
- **Cocoa** – Apple's native OO API for macOS. Includes C standard library and the Objective-C runtime.
- **Eclipse** – Cross-platform, easily extensible IDE with plugins

Examples: GUI Frameworks

- Frameworks for Application with GUI
  - **MFC** - Microsoft Foundation Class Library. C++ object-oriented library for Windows.
  - **Gnome** – Written in C; mainly for Linux
  - **Qt** - Cross-platform; written in C++

Examples: Web Frameworks

- Web Application Frameworks [based on Model-View-Controller design pattern]
  - **ASP.NET** by Microsoft for web sites, web applications and web services
  - **GWT** - Google Web Toolkit (GWT)
  - **Rails** - Written in Ruby - Provides default structures for databases, web services and web pages.
  - **Spring** - for Java-based enterprise web applications
  - **Flask** – micro-framework in Python, highly extensible (authentication, validation, OR mapper… as extensions)

`https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_web_frameworks`

Examples of Frameworks

- Concurrency
  - **Hadoop Map/Reduce** - software framework for applications which process big amounts of data in-parallel on large clusters (thousands of nodes) in a fault-tolerant manner.
    - **Map:** Takes input data and converts it into a set of tuples (key/value pairs).
    - **Reduce:** Takes the output from Map and combines the data tuples into a smaller set of tuples.

Features of Frameworks

- A framework embodies some abstract design, with more behavior built in.
- In order to use it you need to insert your behavior into various places in the framework either by subclassing or by plugging in your own classes.
- The framework's code then calls your code at these points.
- A very general concept, emphasizing ***inversion of control***: as opposed to libraries is the code of the framework that calls the code

Component Frameworks

- Frameworks that support development, deployment, composition and execution of components designed according to a given **Component Model**
- Support the **development of individual components**, enforcing the design of precise interfaces
- Support the **composition/connection of components** according to the mechanisms provided by the Component Model
- Allows instances of these components to be "plugged" into the component framework itself
- Provide **prebuilt functionalities**, such as useful components or automated assembly functions that automatically instantiate and compose components to perform common tasks.
- The component framework establishes **environmental conditions** for the component instances and regulates the **interaction** between component instances.

Frameworks vs Integrated Development Environments (IDEs)

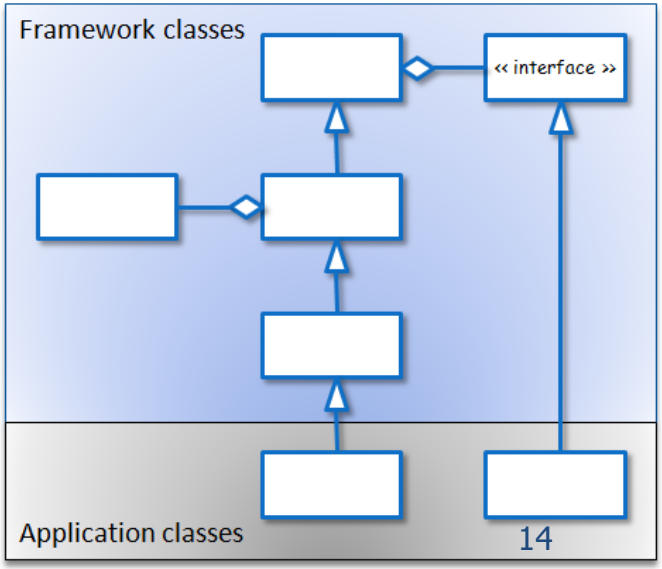
- Orthogonal concepts
- A framework can be supported by several IDEs
  - Eg: Spring supported by Spring Tool Suite (based on Eclipse), NetBeans, IntelliJ IDEA, Eclipse, …
- An IDE can support several frameworks
  - Eg: NetBeans supports JavaBeans, Spring, J2EE, Maven, Hibernate, JavaServer Faces, Struts, Qt,…

Frameworks Features

- Consist of **parts** that are found in many apps of that type
  - **Libraries** with APIs (classes with methods etc.)
  - Ready-made extensible programs ("**engines**")
  - Sometimes also **tools** (e.g. for development, configuration, content)
- Frameworks, like software libraries, provide ***reusable abstractions*** of code wrapped in a well-defined API
- But: **Inversion of control**
  - unlike in libraries, the overall program's flow of control is not dictated by the caller, but by the framework
- Helps solving recurring design problems
  - Providing a default behavior
  - Dictating how to fill-in-the-blanks
- Non-modifiable framework code
  - Extensibility: usually by selective overriding

Extensibility

- All frameworks can be extended to cater for app-specific functionality.
  - A framework is intended to be extended to meet the needs of a particular application
- Common ways to extend a framework:
  - Extension within the framework language:
    - Subclassing & overriding methods
    - Implementing interfaces
    - Registering event handlers
  - Plug-ins: framework can load certain extra code in a specific format



Two selected topics

We give a closer look to two general topics related to frameworks:

- Inversion of control
- Mastering dependencies among components

Inversion of Control (IoC) in GUIs

```
#ruby
puts 'What is your name?'
name = gets
process_name(name)
puts 'What is your quest?'
quest = gets
process_quest(quest)
```

TEXT

```
require 'tk'
root = TkRoot.new()
name_label = TkLabel.new() {text "What is Your Name?"}
name_label.pack
name = TkEntry.new(root).pack
name.bind("FocusOut") {process_name(name)}
quest_label = TkLabel.new() {text "What is Your Quest?"}
quest_label.pack
quest = TkEntry.new(root).pack
quest.bind("FocusOut") {process_quest(quest)}
Tk.mainloop()
```

GUI

- In text-based interaction, the order of interactions and of invocations is decided by the the code.
- In the GUI-based interaction, the GUI loop decides when to invoke the methods, based on the order of events
- Also known as **the Hollywood Principle – "Don't call us, we'll call you"**.

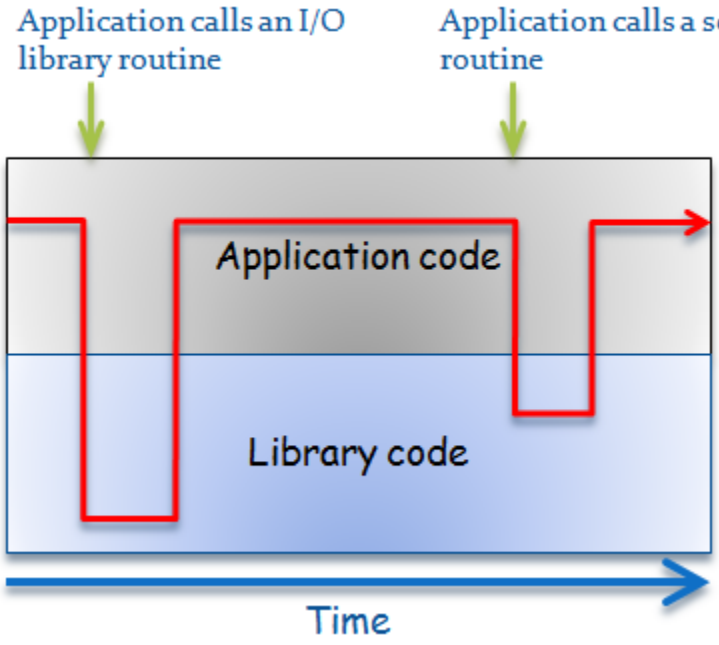
`https://martinfowler.com/bliki/InversionOfControl.html`

Inversion of Control in Frameworks

- With Frameworks the **Inversion of Control** becomes dominant
- The application architecture is often fixed, even if customizable, and determined by the Framework
  - When using a framework, one usually just implements a few callback functions or specializes a few classes, and then invokes a single method or procedure.
  - The framework does the rest of the work for you, invoking any necessary client callbacks or methods at the appropriate time and place.
- Example: Java's Swing and AWT classes, NetBeans projects
  - They have a huge amount of code to manage the user interface, and there is inversion of control because you start the GUI framework and then wait for it to call your listeners

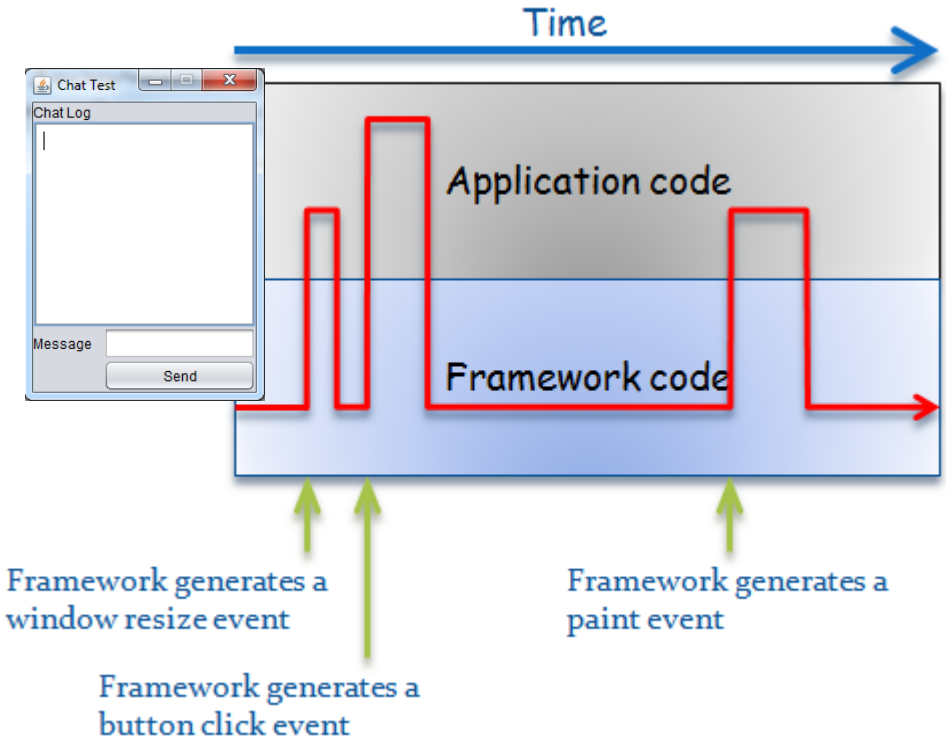
Inversion of Control

Traditional Program Execution



The app has control over the execution flow, calling library code when it needs to.

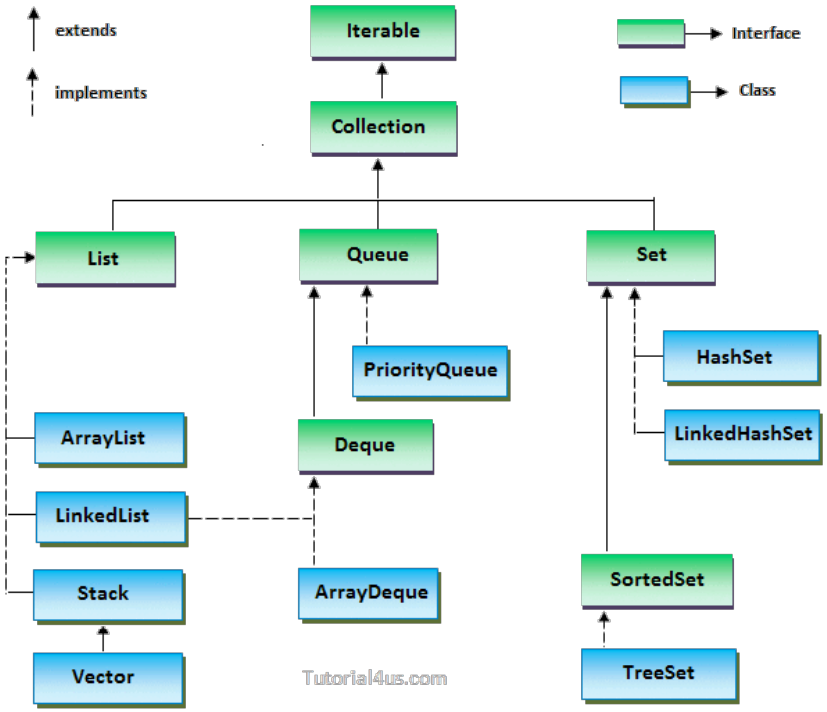
Inversion of Control



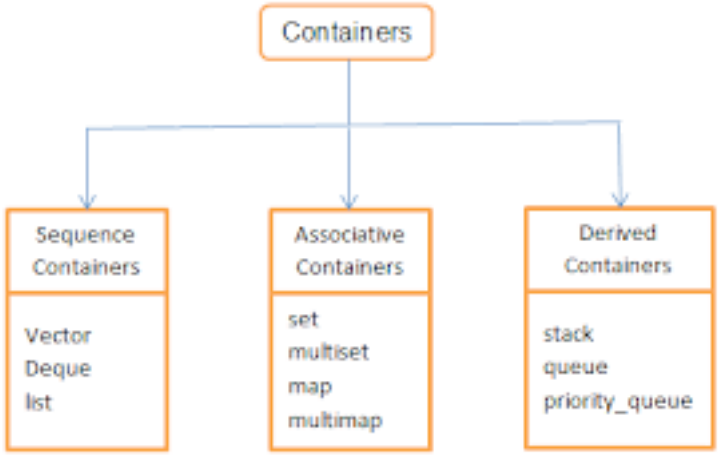
The framework has control over the execution flow, calling app code for app-specific behavior.

Frameworks vs Libraries

- Frameworks consist of large sets of classes / interfaces, suitably packaged
- Not much different from libraries
- (Possible) Key feature: wide use of Inversion of Control
- “Framework” sometimes intended as “well-designed library”
- “Java Collection Framework” vs “Standard Template Library”: are them *frameworks* or *libraries?*



Java Collection Framework



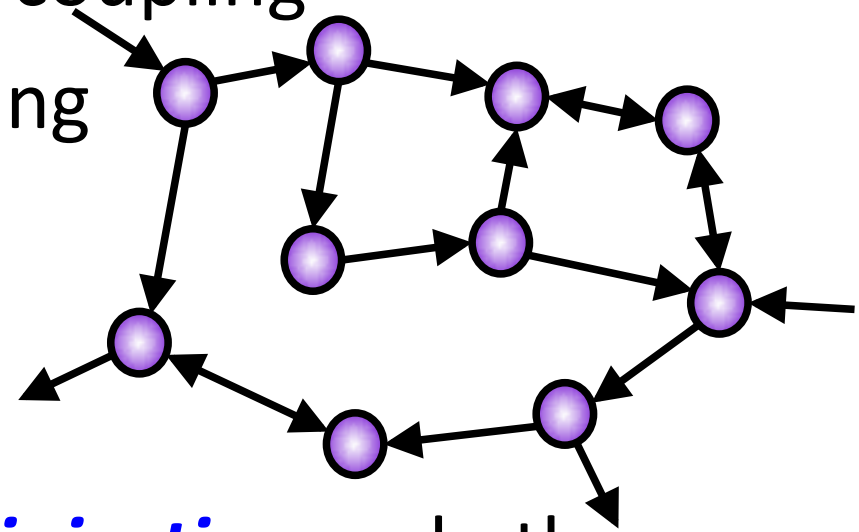
Standard Template Library

Components, Containers and IoC

- Often Frameworks provide ***containers*** for deploying components
- A container may provide at runtime functionalities needed by the components to execute
- Example: ***EJB containers*** are responsible of the persistent storage of data and of the availability of EJB's for all authorized clients
- Using IoC, EJB containers can invoke on session beans methods like *ejbRemove*, *ejbPassivate* (store to secondary storage), and *ejbActivate* (restore from passive state).
- **Spring's IoC containers**: a related concept…

Loosely coupled systems: advantages and techniques

- Good OO Systems should be organised as web of interacting objects
- Goal: High cohesion, low coupling
- Advantages of low coupling
  - Extensibility
  - Testability
  - Reusability

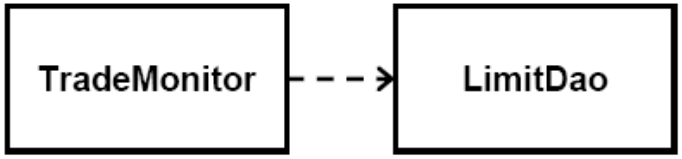


- We discuss ***Dependency injection*** and other techniques to achieve it

A Concrete Example – A Trade Monitor

As a trader I want the system to reject trades when my exposure reaches a certain limit.

Trade Monitor – The design



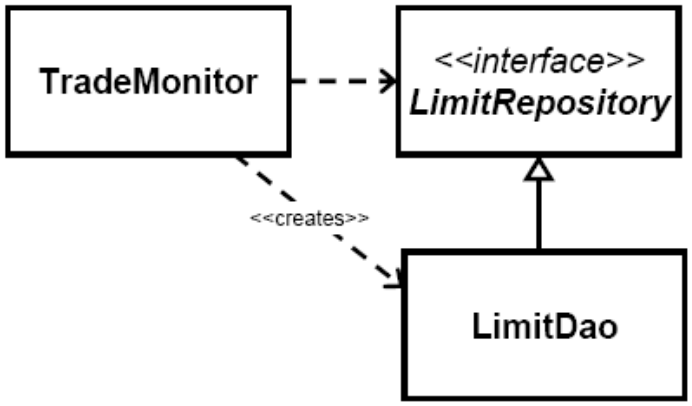

```
public class TradeMonitor
{
    private LimitDao limitDao;

    public TradeMonitor()
    {
        limitDao = new LimitDao();
    }

    public bool TryTrade(string symbol, int amount)
    {
        int limit = limitDao.GetLimit(symbol);
        int exposure = limitDao.GetExposure(symbol);
        return (exposure + amount > limit) ? false : true;
    }
}
```

```
public class LimitDao
{
    public int GetExposure(string symbol)
    {
        // Do something with the database
    }

    public int GetLimit(string symbol)
    {
        // Do something with the database
    }
}
```

- TradeMonitor is coupled to LimitDao [Data Access Object] – this is not good!
  - ***Extensibility*** – what if we replace the database with a distributed cache?
  - ***Testability*** – where do the limits for test come from?
  - ***Reusability*** – logic is fairly generic . . .

Trade Monitor – The Design Refactored (1)

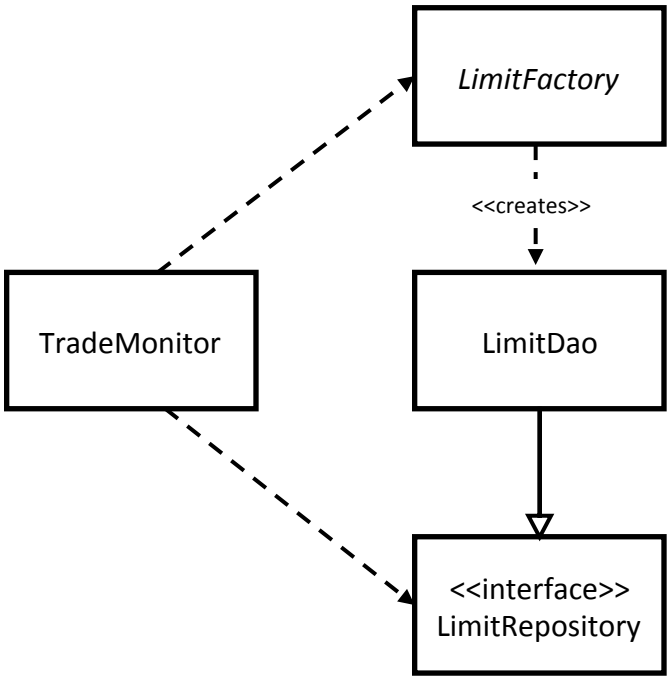
- Introduce interface/implementation separation
  - Logic does not depend on DAO anymore.
  - Does this really solve the problem?
- The constructor still has a static dependency on DAO




```
public interface LimitRepository
{
      int GetExposure(string symbol);
      int GetLimit(string symbol);
}

public class TradeMonitor
{
      private LimitRepository limitRepository;

      public TradeMonitor()
      {
         limitRepository = new LimitDao();
      }

      public bool TryTrade(string symbol, int amount)
      {
        . . .
      }
}
```

Trade Monitor – The Design Refactored (2)

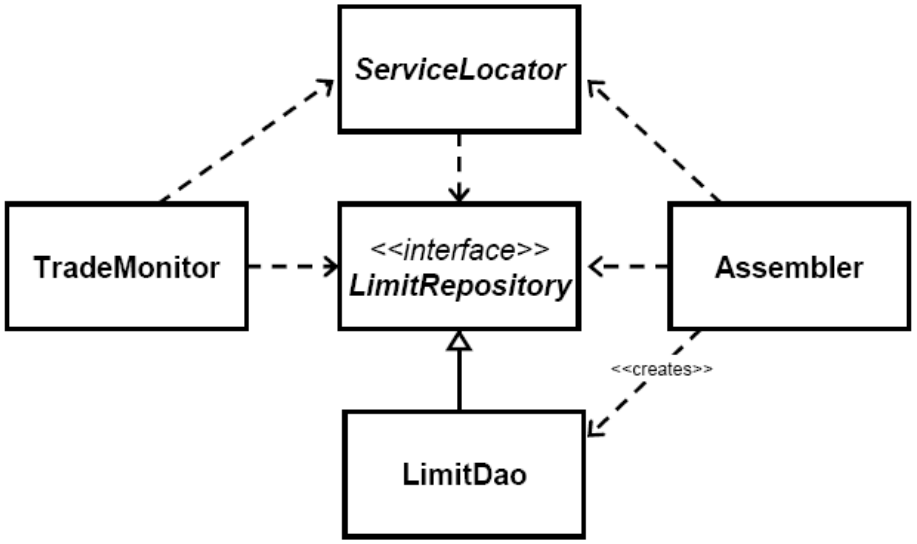
- Introduce a ***Factory***. It has the responsibility to create the required instance.
- TradeMonitor decoupled from LimitDao
- LimitDao still tightly-coupled albeit to Factory




```
public class LimitFactory
{
    public static LimitRepository GetLimitRepository()
    {
        return new LimitDao();
    }
}

public class TradeMonitor
{
    private LimitRepository limitRepository;

    public TradeMonitor()
    {
        limitRepository = LimitFactory.GetLimitRepository();
    }

    public bool TryTrade(string symbol, int amount)
    {
        ...
    }
}
```

Trade Monitor – The Design Refactored (3)

- Introduce a ***ServiceLocator***. This object acts as a (static) registry for the LimitDao you need.
- This gives us extensibility, testability, reusability

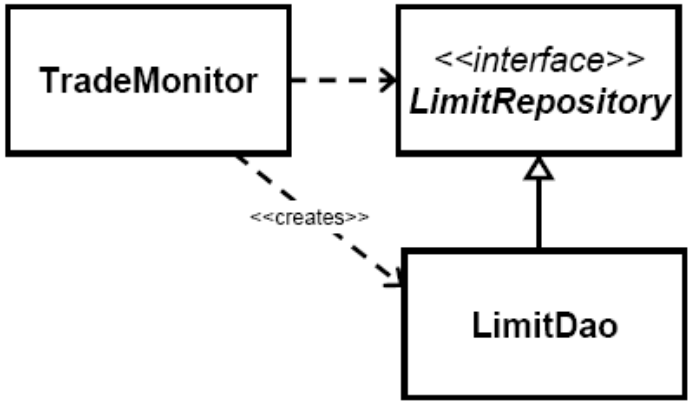



```
public class ServiceLocator{

   public static void RegisterService(Type type, object
impl)    {. . .}
   public static object GetService(Type type) {. . .}
}

public class TradeMonitor{
    private LimitRepository limitRepository;

    public TradeMonitor(){
       object o =
ServiceLocator.GetService(typeof(LimitRepository));
       limitRepository = (LimitRepository) o;
    }

    public bool TryTrade(string symbol, int amount){
       . . .
    }
}
```

ServiceLocator – Pros and cons

- The Service Locator pattern succeeds in decoupling the **TradeMonitor** from the **LimitDao**
- It can be generalized in several ways, eg. to cover dynamic lookup
- Cons:
  - A form of sequence dependence remains
  - Cumbersome setup in tests
  - Service depends on infrastructure code (the ***ServiceLocator***)
  - Code needs to handle lookup problems

Towards Dependency Injection



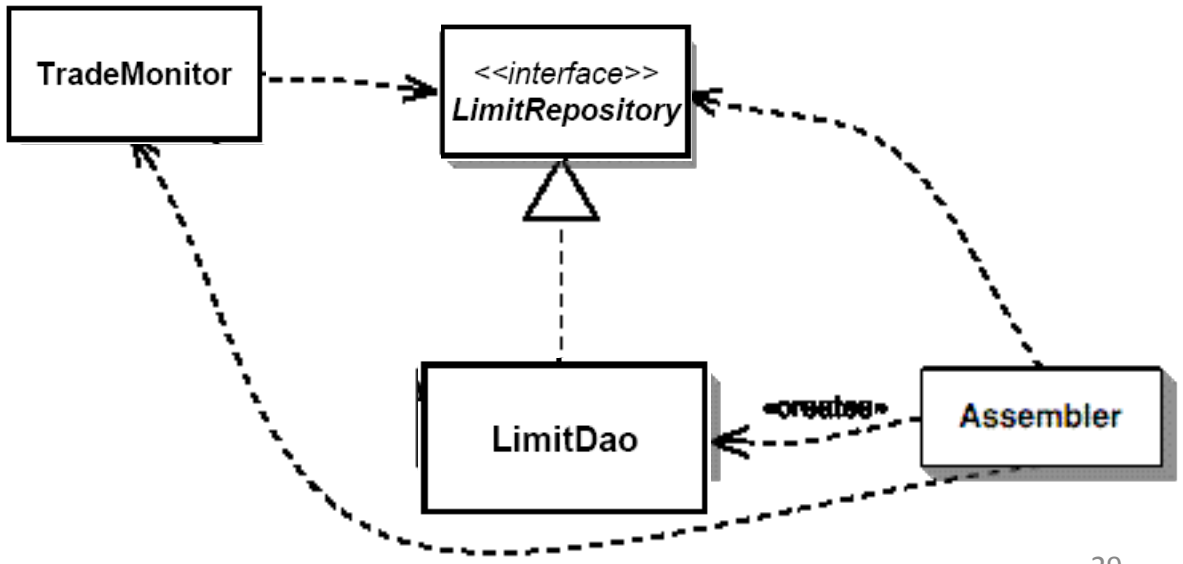
- In the original situation, we aim at relaxing the coupling using solutions based on ***Inversion of Control***

Q: Which "control" is inverted?

A: The lookup of the LimitRepository instance from TradeMonitor

The plugin is created by an external ***Assembler*** and it is passed to TradeMonitor in some way.

The dependency is ***injected*** in the main component.



Dependency Injection

- **Dependency injection** allows avoiding hard-coded dependencies (strong coupling) and changing them
- Allows selection among multiple implementations of a given dependency interface at run time
- Examples:
  - load plugins dynamically
  - replace ***mock objects*** in test environments vs. real objects in production environments
- Three forms:
  - Setter injection
  - Constructor injection
  - *(Interface injection)*

Dependency injection based on setter methods

- Idea: add a **setter**, and let something else worry about creation and resolution.

```
public class TradeMonitor
{
      private LimitRepository limitRepository;

      public TradeMonitor()
      {
      }

      public LimitRepository Limits
      {
         set { limitRepository = value;}
      }
      public bool TryTrade(string symbol, int amount){
            . . .
      }
}
```

This is ***Setter Injection***

- Widely used in ***Spring***

- The dependencies are injected from the outside
- Components are passive and are not concerned with locating or creating dependencies

Dependency Injection based on Constructors

- Why not just use the constructor?

```
public class TradeMonitor
{
   private LimitRepository limitRepository;

   public TradeMonitor(LimitRepository limitRepository)
   {
      this.limitRepository = limitRepository;
   }
   public bool TryTrade(string symbol, int amount){
                . . .
    }
}
```

This is ***Constructor Injection***

- Widely used in ***PicoContainer***

- No setters for dependent components, (obviously)
- One-shot initialisation – components are always initialised correctly
- All dependencies are clearly visible from code
- It is impossible to create cyclic dependencies

Exploiting Constructor Injection for Testing

```
public class TradeMonitor
{
   private LimitRepository repository;

   public TradeMonitor(LimitRepository repository) { this.repository = repository; }

   public bool TryTrade(string symbol, int amount)
   {
      int limit = repository.GetLimit(symbol);
      int exposure = repository.GetExposure(symbol);
      return ((amount + exposure) <= limit);
   }
}
```

```
[TestFixture]
public class TradeMonitorTest
{
   [Test]
   public void MonitorBlocksTradesWhenLimitExceeded()
   {
      DynamicMock mockRepository = new DynamicMock(typeof(LimitRepository));
      mockRepository.SetupResult('GetLimit', 1000000, new Type[] { typeof(string) });
      mockRepository.SetupResult('GetExposure', 999999, new Type[] { typeof(string) });

      TradeMonitor monitor = new TradeMonitor((LimitRepository)mockRepository.MockInstance);
      Assert.IsFalse(monitor.TryTrade('MSFT', 1000), 'Monitor should block trade');
   }
}
```

Which solution to use?

- Both **Service Locator** and **Dependency Injection** provide the desired decoupling
- With service locator, the desired component is obtained after request by the **TradeMonitor** to the **Locator**: no IoC
- With dependency injection there is no explicit request: the component appears in the application class
- Inversion of control a bit harder to understand
- With Service Locator the application still depends on the locator
- It is easier to find dependencies of component if Dependency Injection is used
  - Check constructors and setters vs check all invocations to locator in the source code

Towards IoC Containers

- There are still some open questions
  - Who creates the dependencies?
  - What if we need some initialisation code that must be run after dependencies have been set?
  - What happens when we don't have all the components?
- **IoC Containers** solve these issues [eg: **Spring**]
  - Have configuration – often external
  - Create objects
  - Ensure all dependencies are satisfied
  - Provide lifecycle support

Other possible solutions

- **Reflection** can be used to determine dependencies, reducing the need for config files.
  - Make components known to container.
  - Container examines constructors and determines dependencies.
- Most IoC containers support **auto-wiring**: automatic wiring between properties of a bean and other beans based, eg, on name or type
- Auto-wiring provides other benefits:
  - Less typing.
  - Static type checking by IDE at edit time.
  - More intuitive for developer.

Some IoC Containers and their Features

Container	Setter DI	Ctor DI	External config	Code config	Auto-wiring	Lifecycle support`	Url
System.ComponentModel				✔		✔	Part of .Net framework
PicoContainer.Net	✔	✔		✔	✔	✔	http://picocontainer.org
Windsor	✔	✔	✔	?	✔		http://www.castleproject.org
StructureMap	✔	✔	✔	P	✔		http://sourceforge.net/projects/structuremap
Spring.Net	✔	✔	✔	?	✔	✔	http://www.springframework.net/
ObjectBuilder	✔	✔	✔	✔	??	✔	http://msdn.microsoft.com

? = Setter based DI required for primitive dependencies

P = Partial still requires configuration to point to assemblies to scan

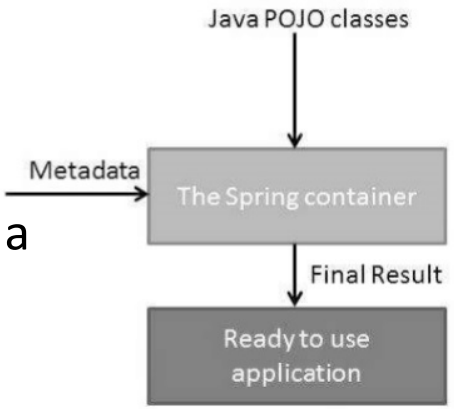
?? = More investigation

Dependency injection in Spring

- The objects that form the backbone of a Spring application are called **beans**
- A bean is an object that is instantiated, assembled, and otherwise managed by a **Spring IoC container** *(ApplicationContext)*
- Bean definition contains the information called **configuration metadata**, which is needed for the container to know the following
  - How to create a bean
  - Bean's lifecycle details
  - Bean's dependencies
- The configuration metadata can be supplied to the container in three possible ways:
  - **XML based configuration file** (the standard)
  - **Annotation-based** configuration
  - **Java-based** configuration

Spring IoC containers

- The **Spring container** is at the core of the Spring Framework.
- The container will create the objects, wire them together, configure them, and manage their complete life cycle from creation till destruction.
- The Spring container uses **Dependency Injection** to manage the components that make up an application.
- The container gets its instructions on what objects to instantiate, configure, and assemble by reading the **configuration metadata** provided.
- The diagram to the right represents a high-level view of how Spring works. The Spring IoC container makes use of Java POJO classes and configuration metadata to produce a fully configured and executable system or application.
- Quickly browsing the ***Spring Architecture***… https://docs.spring.io/spring/docs/3.0.x/reference/overview.html#overview-modules



```
public class HelloWorld {
      private String message;
      public void setMessage(String message){
            this.message  = message;
      }
      public void getMessage(){
            System.out.println("Your Message : " + message);
      }
}
```

The bean: a POJO (Plain Old Java Object)

Setter Injection (performed by the IoC container)

```
<?xml version = "1.0" encoding = "UTF-8"?>
<beans xmlns = "http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans"
  xmlns:xsi = "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation = "http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans
  http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans/spring-beans-3.0.xsd">
  <bean id = "helloWorld" class = "com.tutorialspoint.HelloWorld">
    <property name = "message" value = "Hello World!"/>
  </bean>
</beans>
```

The Configuration Metafile (XML)

```
// imports…
public class MainApp {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    ApplicationContext context = new ClassPathXmlApplicationContext("Beans.xml");
    HelloWorld obj = (HelloWorld) context.getBean("helloWorld");
    obj.getMessage();
  }}
```

The main class, loading an Application Context