SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

CSE 470 – Class Diagram Design

BRAC University



Guidelines

for Analyzing Requirements / Use Cases

- A common or improper noun implies a class of objects
- A proper noun implies an instance of a class
- A collective noun implies a class of objects made up of groups of instances of another class



Guidelines for Analyzing Requirements / Use Cases (2)

- An adjective implies an attribute of an object
- A doing verb implies an operation
- A being verb implies a relationship between an object and its class
- A having verb implies an aggregation or association relationship



Guidelines for Analyzing Requirements / Use Cases (3)

- ☐ A transitive verb implies an operation
- An intransitive verb implies an exception
- A predicate or descriptive verb phrase implies an operation
- An adverb implies an attribute of a relationship or an operation



Class Diagram

- Ensure that the classes are both necessary and sufficient to solve the underlying problem
 - no missing attributes or methods in each class
 - no extra or unused attributes or methods in each class
 - no missing or extra classes





Discarding Unnecessary and Incorrect Classes

- Redundant Classes: Some potential classes differ only in name.
- Irrelevant Classes: Classes that have nothing to do with the system. Example: computer connection
- Vague Classes: Classes whose meaning is not clear at all. Examples: system and software



Discarding Unnecessary and Incorrect Classes

- Attributes: Some nouns in the list above are likely to be modeled as attributes rather as classes. Examples: author, title
- Operations: Some nouns are likely to be operations rather than classes. Example: book search.
- Roles: Some nouns are roles of objects involved in associations rather than classes.
- Implementation Constructs: Anything that is not part of the real-world problem.



Types of Classes

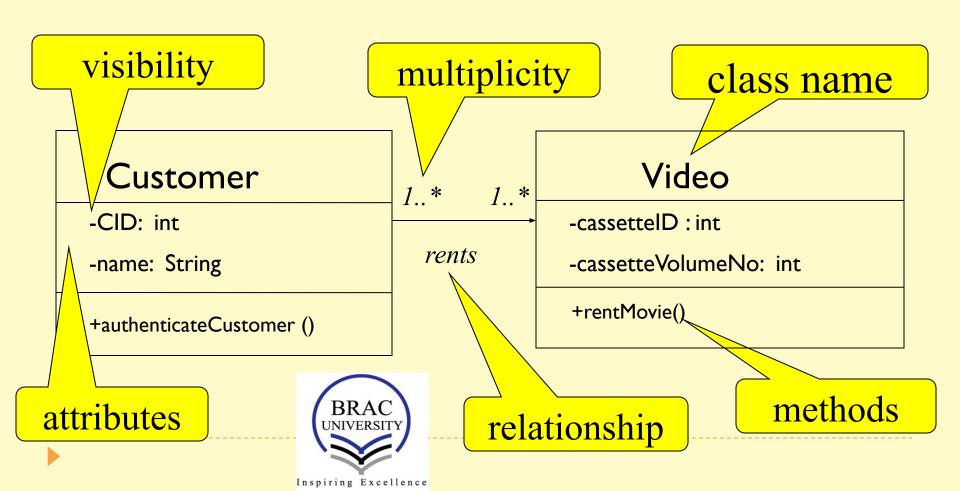
- Ones found during analysis:
 - people, places, events, and things about which the system will capture information
 - ones found in application domain
- Ones found during design
 - specific objects like windows and forms that are used to build the system



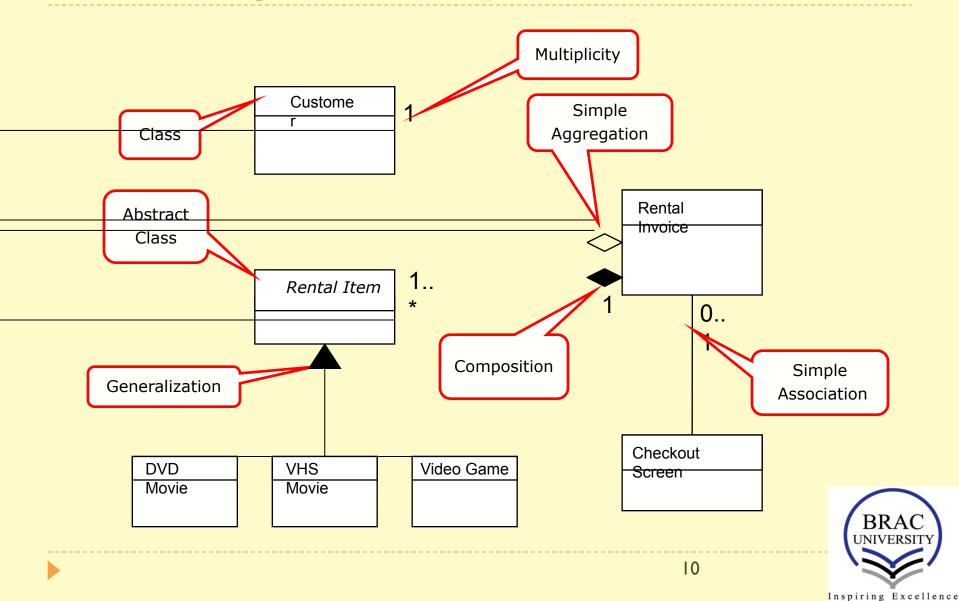


Example of a Class Diagram

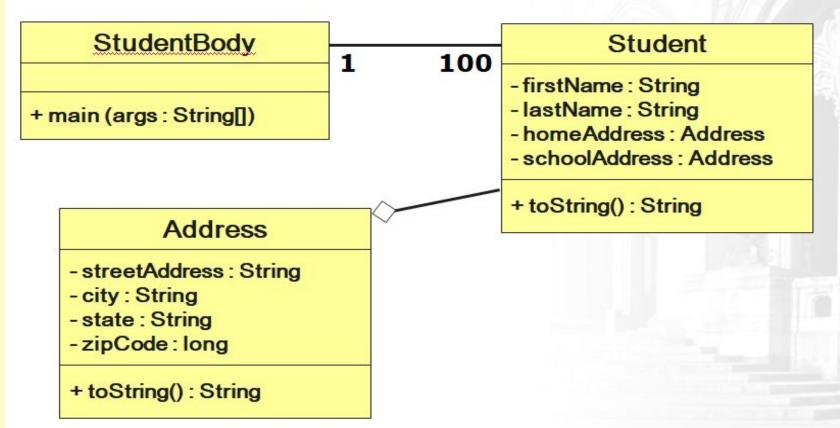
Video Rental System



Class diagram example 1



Class diagram example 2



Class Diagram Example 3

