Chapter 5 Labs

Getting Started

Follow these instructions from the Chapter 4 Labs to get started.

Library Catalog

The goal of this exercise is to implement a simple library catalog system. My intent with this exercise is to give you experience building one large system as opposed to many little ones like the previous labs. Additionally, you will practically start from scratch.

The lab is separated into three packages: <code>library.api</code>, <code>library.core</code>, and <code>library.test</code>. The first package contains three interfaces which describe the behaviors of the library system. Your goal is to write some classes that implement the functionality of these interfaces in the proper way (so that the tests pass). The classes you write should be placed in the <code>library.core</code> package, and the test file is contained in the <code>library.test</code> package.

The system is fairly simple (at least compared to actual library catalogs). Each of the methods should be pretty self-explanatory. The LibraryCatalog and Cardholder interfaces only really require one implementing class a piece (if you have trouble naming them, I suggest LibraryCatalogImpl or maybe SimpleLibraryCatalog). However, the CatalogItem interface must have at least three different classes which represent actual items found in a library (e.g. Book, Magazine, CD, DVD, etc.) along with methods that make sense.

When you're finished with the subclasses, you'll need to fill in some lines in LibraryCatalogTest.java. In the setupCatalog() method, there are spots to initialize catalog and cardholder (think catalog = new LibraryCatalogImpl()) and add some items to the catalog (e.g. catalog.addItem(new Book("Moby-Dick", "Herman Melville"))) keeping in mind the three unique CatalogItem class requirement. After that, you can run the tests like usual.