Design Patterns (1)

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See also: Vince Huston, JavaCamp



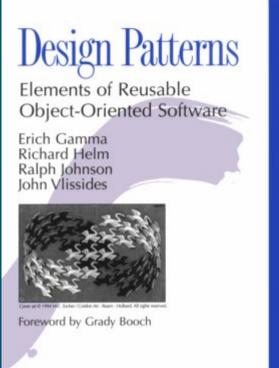
UML and reusable designs

- Diagrams for
 - Use-case scenarios
 - Component / CRC diagrams
 - Class diagram
 - Sequence diagram
- Christopher Alexander, "Notes on the Synthesis of Form", Harvard University Press, 1964
- Ref: Gamma, Helm, Johnson, Vlissides, "Design Patterns: Elements of Reusable OO Software"



Design patterns

- A pattern is a named abstraction
 - from a recurring concrete form
 - that expresses the essence of
 - a proven general solution
- A pattern has three parts:
 - some recurring problem from the real world
 - the context of the problem (when to solve it)
 - the rule telling us how to solve it
- Describe a class of problems and how to solve





Parts of a design pattern

- Name: should be meaningful
- Problem: desired goal and obstacles
- Context: preconditions on problem
- Forces: relevant constraints, trade-offs, caveats
- Solution: structure, relationships, how-to
- Related patterns: co-dependencies, "see also"
- Known uses: example applications





Classes of patterns (high to low)

- Conceptual/architectural
 - Structural organization of software systems
 - Set of predefined components
 - Relationships between components
- Design
 - How to refine each component
 - Commonly recurring structure of components
- Programming idiom
 - How to code a particular component feature

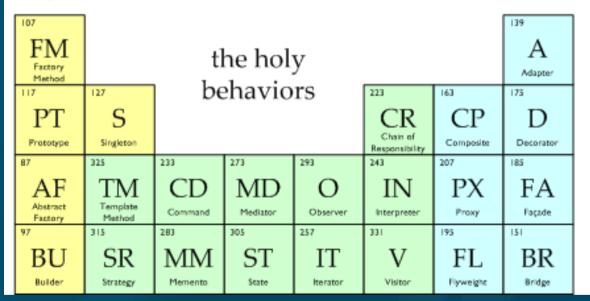


Classes of patterns (GoF)

- Creational patterns
 - Interfaces to generate new objects
- Structural patterns
 - How to organize a large system in components

The Sacred Elements of the Faith

the holy the holy structures



- Behavioural patterns
 - How components interact with each other to accomplish a common goal

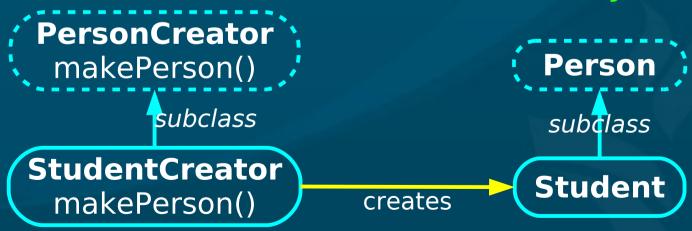
Creational patterns

- Factory Method: create a variety of objects
- Abstract Factory: group of related obj factories
- Builder: delegate creation of components
- Prototype: clone a template object
- Singleton: enforce having only one instance



Creational: factory method

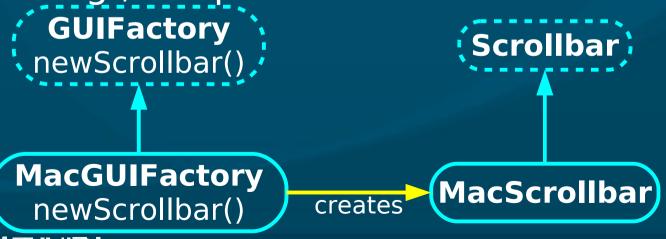
- An interface to create an object, but without specifying which subclass
- Analogy: plastic injection-mould determines shape of output
- e.g., need to create a new Person; don't know in advance if it's Student, Staff, or Faculty

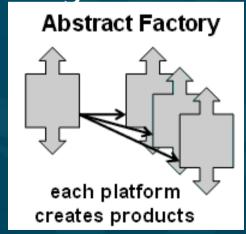




Creational: abstract factory

- Family of similar factories
 - Client code doesn't know/care which concrete factory is used
 - May use a collection of factory methods
- Analogy: press to stamp out auto parts
- e.g., adaptable look-and-feel of GUI widgets

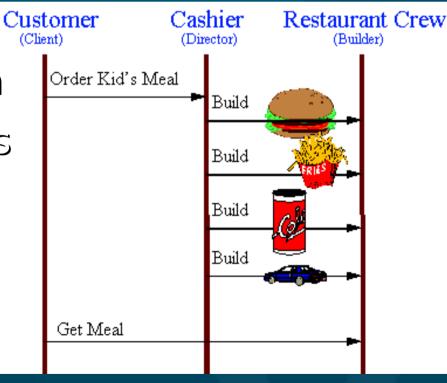




Creational pattern: builder

- Separate construction of a complex object from its representation
 - Analogy: assembling fast food kids' meals
- Director class parses the request and representation
- Hierarchy of Builder classes actually makes the objects







Creational pattern: prototype

- Create new objects by copying a prototype
 - Analogy: biological cell division
 - e.g., sheet-music editor: copy and paste notes
 - Staves are objects; each note is an object
 - Design each object so it knows how to copy itself: clone() method
 MusicElement
 - Copy constructor



clone()



JavaCamp, Wikipedia

Creational pattern: singleton

Ensure a class only has one instance, and provide a global point of access to it



- Analogy: only one Prime Minister
- Often implement by making constructor private
 - Provide a static get method for the singleton

```
public class PrimeMinister {
private PrimeMinister thePM;
private PrimeMinister() { /* create new PM */ };
public static getPM() {
  if (!thePM) thePM = new PrimeMinister();
  return thePM; }
```



Structural patterns

- Facade: unified/simplified interface to system
- Adapter/ wrapper: Convert the interface of a class into another interface clients expect
 - Lets otherwise incompatible classes cowork
- Bridge: decouple an abstraction from its implementation so they can vary independently
- Proxy: surrogate/placeholder for another object
- Decorator: dynamically add responsibilities / functionality to an object
- Flyweight: use sharing to support large TRINITY numbers of fine-grained objects efficiently

Structural pattern: facade

- Provide a unified interface to a set of interfaces in a subsystem
 - High-level interface: system is easier to use
 - e.g., web front-end to complex database:
 - want minimal number of widgets, input boxes

