CMSC 132: Object-Oriented Programming II

Object-Oriented Design

Department of Computer Science
University of Maryland, College Park
Applying Object-Oriented Design

1. Look at objects participating in system
   - Find **nouns** in problem statement (requirements & specifications)
   - Noun may represent class needed in design
   - Relationships (e.g., “has” or “belongs to”) may represent fields

2. Look at interactions between objects
   - Find **verbs** in problem statement
   - Verb may represent message between objects

3. Design classes accordingly
   - Determine relationship between classes
   - Find state & methods needed for each class
Classes

- A class or interface defines and describes a set of objects
- It describes a set of methods or messages that the object responds to
  - Not only the name and signature of the method, but the contract the method respects
- Classes also provide/describe fields and method implementations
1) Finding Classes

- Thermostat uses dial setting to control a heater to maintain constant temperature in room

Nouns
- Thermostat
- Dial setting
- Heater
- Temperature
- Room
Finding Classes

Analyze each noun

- Does noun represent class needed in design?
- Noun may be outside system
- Noun may describe state in class
Analyzing Nouns

- Thermostat
  - Central class in model
  - Dial setting
    - State in class (Thermostat)
- Heater
  - Class in model
- Room
  - Class in model
- Temperature
  - State in class (Room)
Finding Classes

- Decision not always clear
  - Possible to make everything its own class
    - Approach taken in Smalltalk
    - Overly complex
      - \(2+3 = 5\) vs. \(\text{NUM}_2.\text{add}(\text{NUM}_3) = \text{NUM}_5\)
  - Impact of design
    - More classes \(\Rightarrow\) more abstraction, flexibility
    - Fewer classes \(\Rightarrow\) less complexity, overhead
  - Choice (somewhat) depends on personal preference
Singleton Classes

- A Singleton class is a class for which there will only ever be one instance.
- Makes sense if the class is a subclass of another class.
  - For example, you might have a class Person, and a singleton subclass Elvis.
- Avoid making verbs/functions into classes.
  - Examples – class ListSorter, NameFinder.
  - Unless you might have multiple verb classes that all implement a common interface.
    - The Strategy design pattern.
2) Finding Messages

Thermostat *uses* dial setting to *control* a heater to *maintain* constant temperature in room

**Verbs**

- Uses
- Control
- Maintain
Finding Messages

- Analyze each verb
  - Does verb represent interaction between objects?
- For each interaction
  - Assign methods to classes to perform interaction
Analyzing Verbs

**Uses**

- “Thermostat uses dial setting…”
  - ⇒ Thermostat.setDesiredTemp(int degrees)

**Control**

- “To control a heater…”
  - ⇒ Heater.turnOn()
  - ⇒ Heater.turnOff()

**Maintain**

- “To maintain constant temperature in room”
  - ⇒ Room.getTemperature()
Example Messages

- Thermostat
  - setDesiredTemp()
- Room
  - getTemperature()
- Heater
  - turnOn()
  - turnOff()
Resulting Classes

- **Thermostat**
  - State – dialSetting
  - Methods – setDesiredTemp()

- **Heater**
  - State – heaterOn
  - Methods – turnOn(), turnOff()

- **Room**
  - State – temp
  - Methods – getTemperature()
Subtypes

- If a class Y extends class X and implements interface A
  - then Y is a subtype of both X and A

- If Q is a subtype of P, then Q satisfies P’s contract
  - Anyone who expects a P can be given a Q

- This is known as the Liskov Substitution Principle (named for Prof. Barbara Liskov)
  - Not always strictly followed, but an ideal to approach
  - For example, some iterators don’t support remove
Which Could be a Subtype?

Class B {
    /** Search for x in a, 
     * return location of first occurrence, 
     * -1 if not found */
    int search(int x, int a[]) { ... } }

Class C {
    /** .. same as above...
        uses binary search for speed;
        the array a must be sorted */
    int search(int x, int a[]) { ... } }

Which Could be a Subtype?

Class B {
/** Search for x in a, *
 * return location of first occurrence,
 -1 if not found */
int search(int x, int a[]) { ... } }

Class C {
/** * Search for x in a, *
 * return location of any occurrence,
 -1 if not found */
int search(int x, int a[]) { ... } }
is-a vs. has-a

Say we have two classes, Engine and Car

Two possible designs

- A Car object has a reference to an Engine object
  - has-a
- The Car class is a subtype of Engine
  - is-a
Generally, prefer composition/delegation (has-a) to subtyping (is-a)

- Subtyping is very powerful, but easy to overuse and can create confusion and lead to mistakes

- Using is-a restricts you from having a car with more than one engine, or with no engine

- Tempting to use subclassing in places where it doesn’t really make conceptual sense to avoid having to delegate methods

- Don’t

http://www.feed-squirrel.com/index.cfm?evt=viewItem&ID=53216
Forms of Inheritance

- **Extension**
  - Adds new functionality to subclass
    - In Java → new method

- **Limitation**
  - Restricts behavior of subclass
    - In Java → override method, throw exception

- **Combination**
  - Inherits features from multiple superclasses
  - Also called multiple inheritance
  - Not possible in Java
    - In Java → implement interface instead
Multiple Inheritance Example

Combination

- AlarmClockRadio has two parent classes
- State & behavior from both Radio & AlarmClock

![Class Diagram]