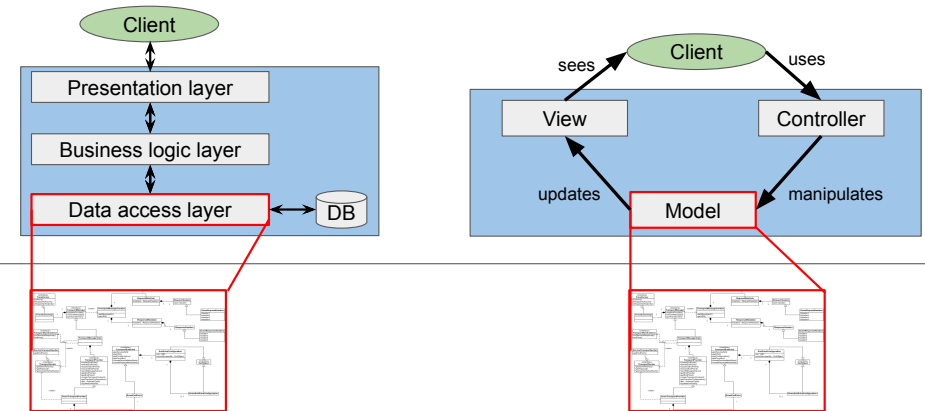


CSE 403

Software Engineering
Winter 2023

Software design and best practices

Recap: software architecture vs. design



Architecture and design

- Components and interfaces: understand, communicate, reuse
- Manage complexity: modularity and separation of concerns
- Process: allow effort estimation and progress monitoring

Today

- Software design and best practices
- A little quiz on best practices

- Additional material, not covered in class (refresher for 331)
 - UML crash course
 - OO design principles
 - OO design patterns

SW Design: Purposes, Concepts, and Misfits

Purposes, Concepts, Misfits, and a Redesign of Git

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology
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Concept and motivating purpose

“A **concept** is something you need to understand in order to use an application (and also something a developer needs to understand to work effectively with its code) and is invented to solve a particular problem, which is called the **motivating purpose**.”



Use cases are a good starting point for defining concepts for motivating purposes.

Operational principle and misfit

“A concept is defined by an **operational principle**, which is a scenario that illustrates how the concept fulfills its motivating purpose.”



Operational principle and misfit

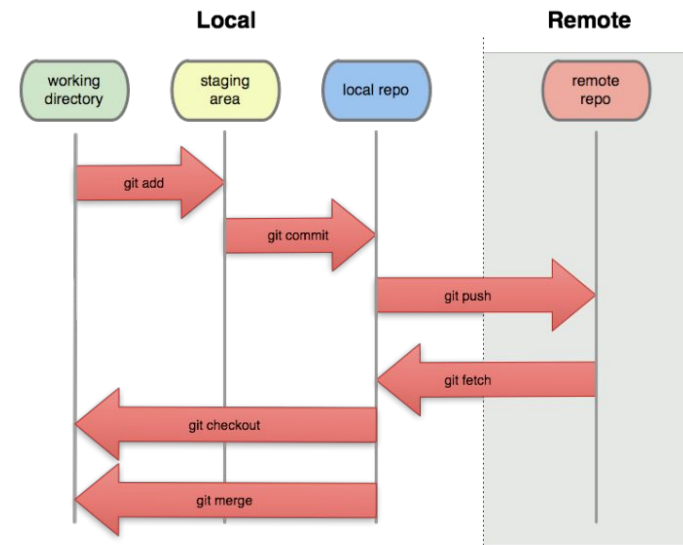
“A concept is defined by an **operational principle**, which is a scenario that illustrates how the concept fulfills its motivating purpose.”



“A concept may not be entirely fit for purpose. In that case, one or more **operational misfits** are used to explain why. The operational misfit usually does not contradict the operational principle, but presents a different scenario in which the prescribed behavior does not meet a desired goal.”



Git: another example for concepts and purposes



Properties of a good software design

Motivation

Each concept should be motivated by at least one purpose.

Coherence

Each concept should be motivated by at most one purpose.

Fulfillment

Each purpose should motivate at least one concept.

Non-division

Each purpose should motivate at most one concept.

Decoupling

Concepts should not interfere with one another's fulfillment of purpose.

Properties of a good software design

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Concepts should not interfere with one another's fulfillment of purpose.



Quiz: setup and goals

- Project groups or small teams
- 6 code snippets
- 2 rounds
 - **First round**
 - For each code snippet, decide whether it represents good or bad practice.
 - **Goal:** discuss and reach consensus on good or bad practice.
 - **Second round** (known “solutions”)
 - For each code snippet, try to understand why it is good or bad practice.
 - **Goal:** come up with an explanation or a counter argument.

Round 1: good or bad?



Snippet 1: good or bad?



```
public File[] getAllLogs(Directory dir) {
    if (dir == null || !dir.exists() || dir.isEmpty()) {
        return null;
    } else {
        int numLogs = ... // determine number of log files
        File[] allLogs = new File[numLogs];
        for (int i=0; i<numLogs; ++i) {
            allLogs[i] = ... // populate the array
        }
        return allLogs;
    }
}
```

Snippet 2: good or bad?



```
public void addStudent(Student student, String course) {
    if (course.equals("CSE403")) {
        cse403Students.add(student);
    }
    allStudents.add(student)
}
```

Snippet 3: good or bad?



```
public enum PaymentType {DEBIT, CREDIT}
public void doTransaction(double amount, PaymentType payType) {
    switch (payType) {
        case DEBIT:
            ... // process debit card
            break;
        case CREDIT:
            ... // process credit card
            break;
        default:
            throw new IllegalArgumentException("Unexpected payment type");
    }
}
```

Snippet 4: good or bad?



```
public int getAbsMax(int x, int y) {
    if (x<0) {
        x = -x;
    }
    if (y<0) {
        y = -y;
    }
    return Math.max(x, y);
}
```

Snippet 5: good or bad?



```
public class ArrayList<E> {
    public E remove(int index) {
        ...
    }
    public boolean remove(Object o) {
        ...
    }
    ...
}
```

Snippet 6: good or bad?



```
public class Point {
    private final int x;
    private final int y;
    public Point(int x, int y) {
        this.x = x;
        this.y = y;
    }
    public int getX() {
        return this.x;
    }
    public int getY() {
        return this.y;
    }
}
```

Quiz: setup and goals

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 - For each code snippet, try to understand why it is good or bad practice.
 - **Goal:** come up with an explanation or a counter argument.

<https://pollev.com/renejust859>

Round 2: why is it good or bad?



My take on this

- Snippet 1: bad
- Snippet 2: bad
- Snippet 3: good
- Snippet 4: bad
- Snippet 5: bad
- Snippet 6: good

Snippet 1: this is bad! why?



```
public File[] getAllLogs(Directory dir) {
    if (dir == null || !dir.exists() || dir.isEmpty()) {
        return null;
    } else {
        int numLogs = ... // determine number of log files
        File[] allLogs = new File[numLogs];
        for (int i=0; i<numLogs; ++i) {
            allLogs[i] = ... // populate the array
        }
        return allLogs;
    }
}
```



Snippet 1: this is bad! why?



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public File[] getAllLogs(Directory dir) {
    if (dir == null || !dir.exists() || dir.isEmpty()) {
        return null;
    } else {
        int numLogs = ... // determine number of log files
        File[] allLogs = new File[numLogs];
        for (int i=0; i<numLogs; ++i) {
            allLogs[i] = ... // populate the array
        }
        return allLogs;
    }
}
```



Null references...the billion dollar mistake.

Snippet 1: this is bad! why?



```
public File[] getAllLogs(Directory dir) {
    if (dir == null || !dir.exists() || dir.isEmpty()) {
        return null;
    } else {
        int numLogs = ... // determine number of log files
        File[] allLogs = new File[numLogs];
        for (int i=0; i<numLogs; ++i) {
            allLogs[i] = ... // populate the array
        }
        return allLogs;
    }
}
```



```
File[] files = getAllLogs();
for (File f : files) {
    ...
}
```

Don't return null; return an empty array instead.

Snippet 1: this is bad! why?



```
public File[] getAllLogs(Directory dir) {
    if (dir == null || !dir.exists() || dir.isEmpty()) {
        return null;
    } else {
        int numLogs = ... // determine number of log files
        File[] allLogs = new File[numLogs];
        for (int i=0; i<numLogs; ++i) {
            allLogs[i] = ... // populate the array
        }
        return allLogs;
    }
}
```



No diagnostic information.

Snippet 2: short but bad! why?



```
public void addStudent(Student student, String course) {
    if (course.equals("CSE403")) {
        cse403Students.add(student);
    }
    allStudents.add(student)
}
```



Snippet 2: short but bad! why?



```
public void addStudent(Student student, String course) {
    if (course.equals("CSE403")) {
        cse403Students.add(student);
    }
    allStudents.add(student)
}
```



Defensive programming: add an assertion (or write the literal first).
Use constants and enums to avoid literal duplication.

Snippet 3: this is good, but why?



```
public enum PaymentType {DEBIT, CREDIT}
public void doTransaction(double amount, PaymentType payType) {
    switch (payType) {
        case DEBIT:
            ... // process debit card
            break;
        case CREDIT:
            ... // process credit card
            break;
        default:
            throw new IllegalArgumentException("Unexpected payment type");
    }
}
```



Snippet 3: this is good, but why?



```
public enum PaymentType {DEBIT, CREDIT}
public void doTransaction(double amount, PaymentType payType) {
    switch (payType) {
        case DEBIT:
            ... // process debit card
            break;
        case CREDIT:
            ... // process credit card
            break;
        default:
            throw new IllegalArgumentException("Unexpected payment type");
    }
}
```



Type safety using an enum; throws an exception for unexpected cases (e.g., future extensions of PaymentType).

Snippet 4: also bad! huh?



```
public int getAbsMax(int x, int y) {
    if (x<0) {
        x = -x;
    }
    if (y<0) {
        y = -y;
    }
    return Math.max(x, y);
}
```



Snippet 4: also bad! huh?



```
public int getAbsMax(int x, int y) {
    if (x<0) {
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    }
    if (y<0) {
        y = -y;
    }
    return Math.max(x, y);
}
```



Method parameters should be final;
use local variables to sanitize inputs.

Snippet 5: Java API, but still bad! why?



```
public class ArrayList<E> {
    public E remove(int index) {
        ...
    }
    public boolean remove(Object o) {
        ...
    }
    ...
}
```



Snippet 5: Java API, but still bad! why?



```
public class ArrayList<E> {
    public E remove(int index) {
        ...
    }
    public boolean remove(Object o) {
        ...
    }
    ...
}
```



```
ArrayList<String> l = new ArrayList<>();
Integer index = Integer.valueOf(1);
l.add("Hello");
l.add("World");
l.remove(index);
```

What does the last call return (l.remove(index))?

Snippet 5: Java API, but still bad! why?



```
public class ArrayList<E> {  
    public E remove(int index) {  
        ...  
    }  
    public boolean remove(Object o) {  
        ...  
    }  
    ...  
}
```



```
ArrayList<String> l = new ArrayList<>();  
Integer index = Integer.valueOf(1);  
l.add("Hello");  
l.add("World");  
l.remove(index);
```

Avoid method overloading, which is statically resolved.
Autoboxing/unboxing adds additional confusion.

Snippet 6: this is good, but why?



```
public class Point {  
    private final int x;  
    private final int y;  
    public Point(int x, int y) {  
        this.x = x;  
        this.y = y;  
    }  
    public int getX() {  
        return this.x;  
    }  
    public int getY() {  
        return this.y;  
    }  
}
```



Snippet 6: this is good, but why?



```
public class Point {  
    private final int x;  
    private final int y;  
    public Point(int x, int y) {  
        this.x = x;  
        this.y = y;  
    }  
    public int getX() {  
        return this.x;  
    }  
    public int getY() {  
        return this.y;  
    }  
}
```



Good encapsulation; immutable object.

Additional material, not discussed in class

UML crash course

UML crash course

The main questions

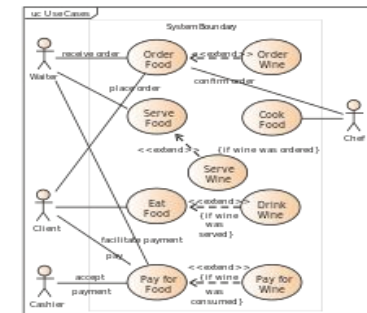
- What is UML?
- Is it useful, why bother?
- When to (not) use UML?

What is UML?

- Unified Modeling Language.
- Developed in the mid 90's, improved since.
- Standardized notation for modeling OO systems.
- A collection of diagrams for different viewpoints:
 - Use case diagrams
 - Component diagrams
 - Class and Object diagrams
 - Sequence diagrams
 - Statechart diagrams
 - ...

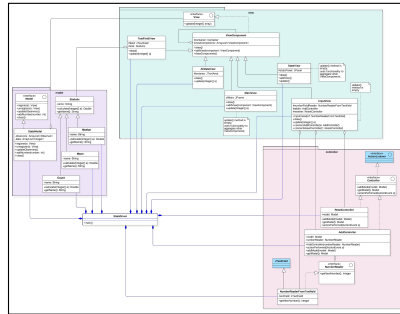
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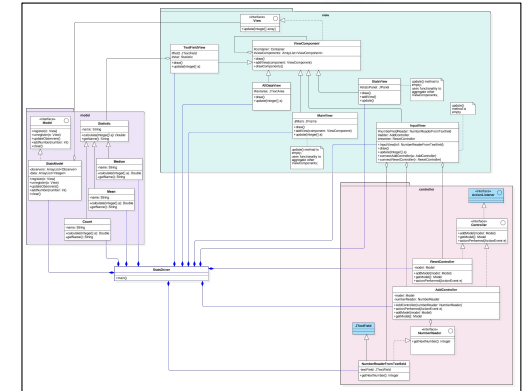
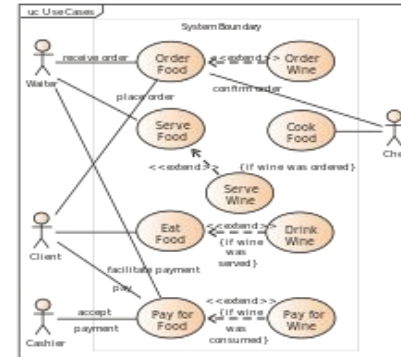


What is UML?

- Unified Modeling Language.
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 - Use case diagrams
 - Component diagrams
 - **Class and Object diagrams**
 - Sequence diagrams
 - Statechart diagrams
 - ...



Are UML diagrams useful?



Are UML diagrams useful?

Communication

- Forward design (before coding)
 - Brainstorm ideas (on whiteboard or paper).
 - Draft and iterate over software design.

Documentation

- Backward design (after coding)
 - Obtain diagram from source code.

In this class, we will use UML class diagrams mainly for visualization and discussion purposes.

Classes vs. objects

Class

- Grouping of similar objects.
 - Student
 - Car
- Abstraction of common properties and behavior.
 - Student: Name and Student ID
 - Car: Make and Model

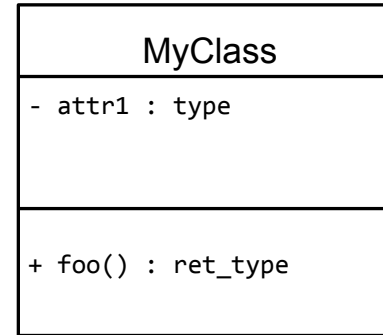
Object

- Entity from the real world.
- Instance of a class
 - Student: Joe (4711), Jane (4712), ...
 - Car: Audi A6, Honda Civic, ...

UML class diagram: basic notation



UML class diagram: basic notation



Name

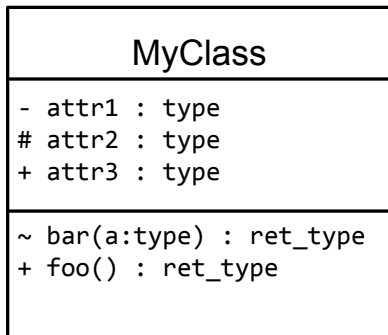
Attributes

<visibility> <name> : <type>

Methods

<visibility> <name>(<param>*) : <return type>
<param> := <name> : <type>

UML class diagram: basic notation



Name

Attributes

<visibility> <name> : <type>

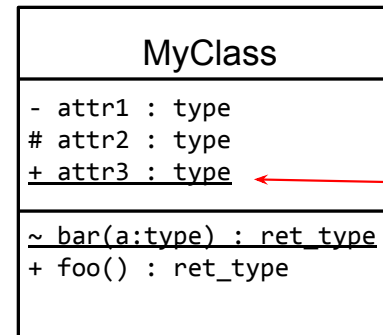
Methods

<visibility> <name>(<param>*) : <return type>
<param> := <name> : <type>

Visibility

- private
~ package-private
protected
+ public

UML class diagram: basic notation



Name

Attributes

<visibility> <name> : <type>

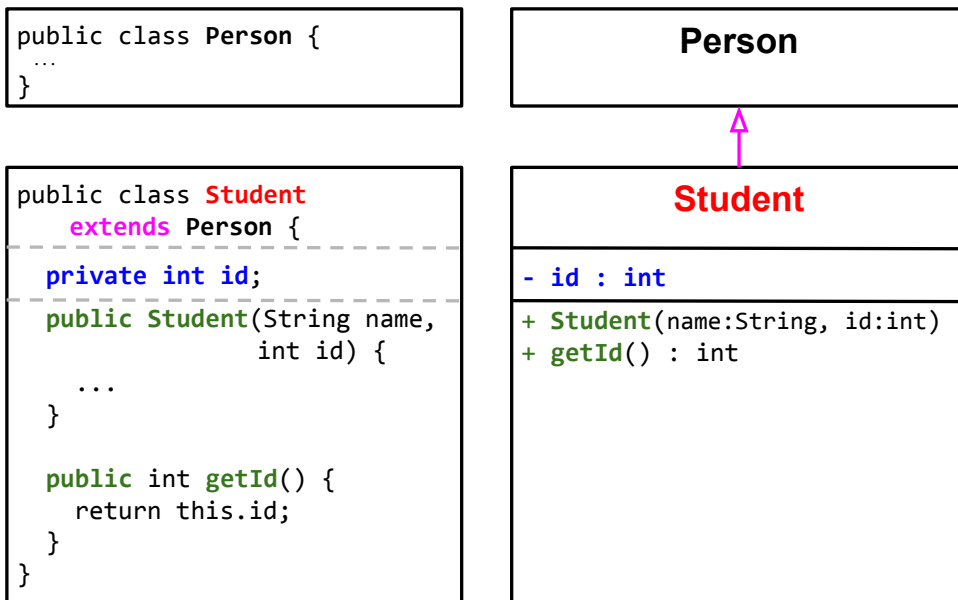
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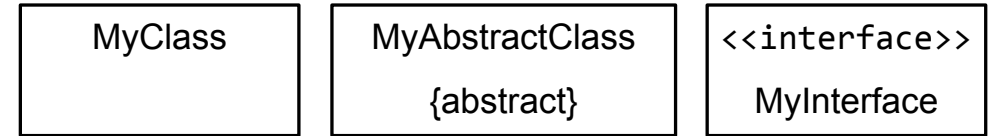
Visibility

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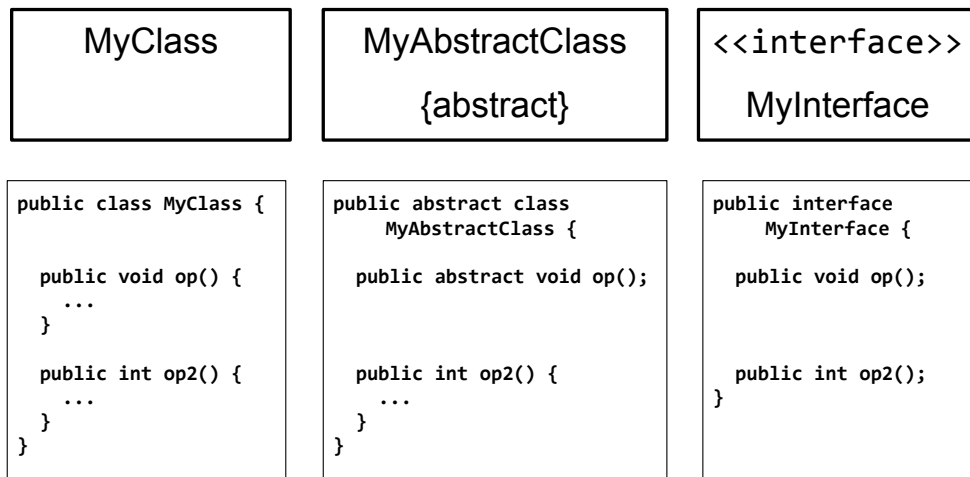
UML class diagram: concrete example



Classes, abstract classes, and interfaces

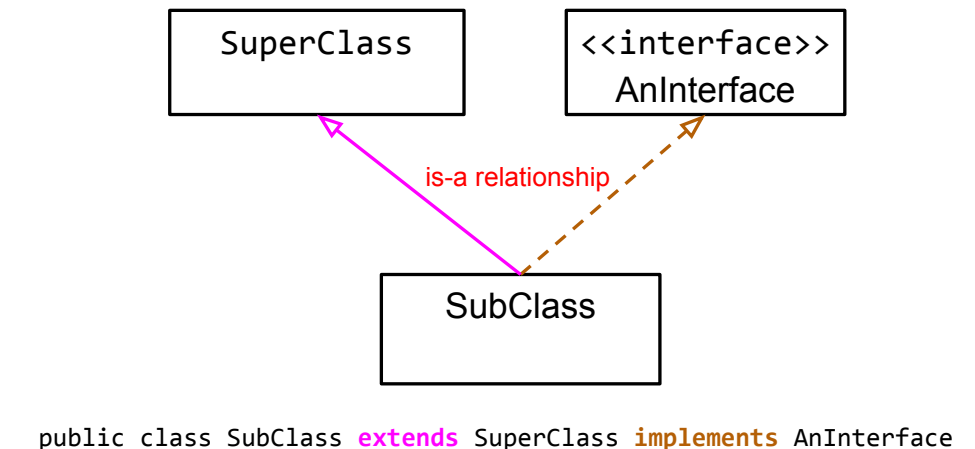


Classes, abstract classes, and interfaces

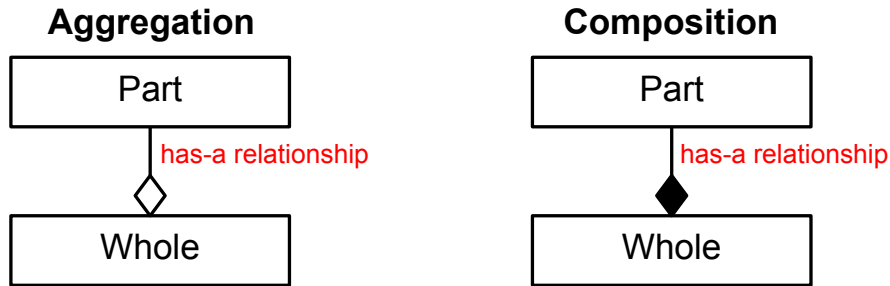


Level of detail in a given class or interface may vary and depends on context and purpose.

UML class diagram: Inheritance



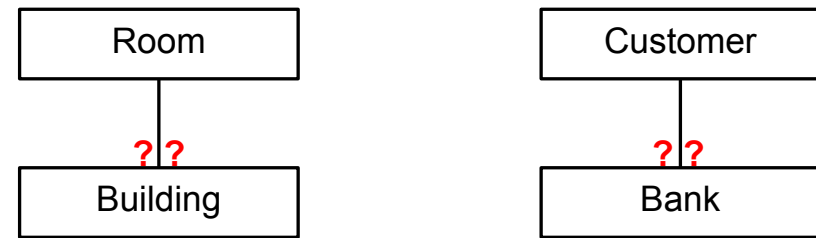
UML class diagram: Aggregation and Composition



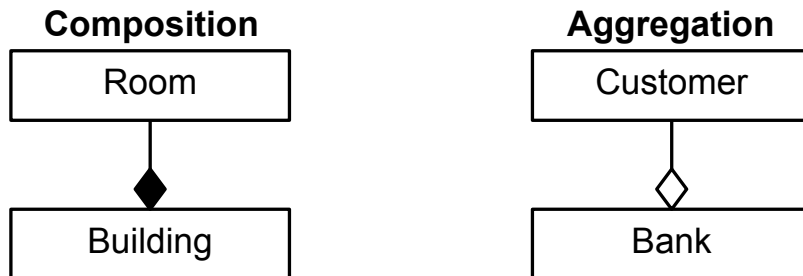
- Existence of Part does not depend on the existence of Whole.
- Lifetime of Part does not depend on Whole.
- No single instance of whole is the unique owner of Part (might be shared with other instances of Whole).

- Part cannot exist without Whole.
- Lifetime of Part depends on Whole.
- One instance of Whole is the single owner of Part.

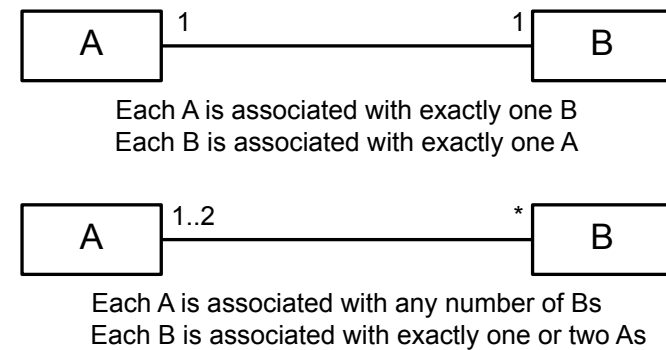
Aggregation or Composition?



Aggregation or Composition?

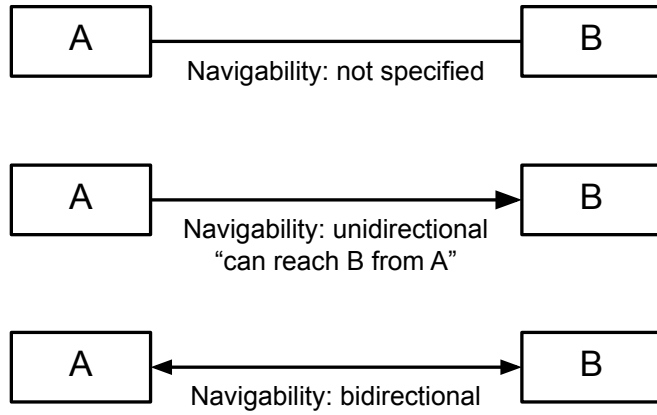


UML class diagram: multiplicity

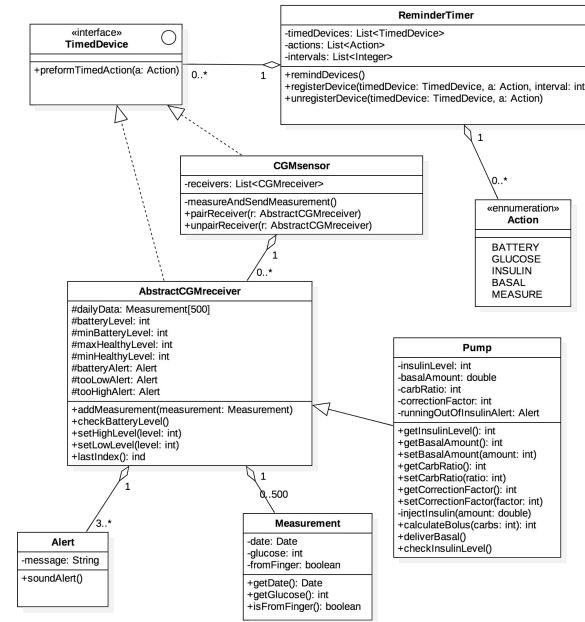


What about class and students or body and body parts?

UML class diagram: navigability



UML class diagram: example



Summary: UML

- Unified notation for modeling OO systems.
- Allows different levels of abstraction.
- Suitable for design discussions and documentation.

OO design principles

OO design principles

- **Information hiding (and encapsulation)**
- Polymorphism
- Open/closed principle
- Inheritance in Java
- The diamond of death
- Liskov substitution principle
- Composition/aggregation over inheritance

Information hiding

MyClass
+ nElem : int + capacity : int + top : int + elems : int[] + canResize : bool
+ resize(s:int):void + push(e:int):void + capacityLeft():int + getNumElem():int + pop():int + getElems():int[]

```
public class MyClass {  
    public int nElem;  
    public int capacity;  
    public int top;  
    public int[] elems;  
    public boolean canResize;  
    ...  
    public void resize(int s){...}  
    public void push(int e){...}  
    public int capacityLeft(){...}  
    public int getNumElem(){...}  
    public int pop(){...}  
    public int[] getElems(){...}  
}
```

Information hiding

MyClass
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public class MyClass {  
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    public boolean canResize;  
    ...  
    public void resize(int s){...}  
    public void push(int e){...}  
    public int capacityLeft(){...}  
    public int getNumElem(){...}  
    public int pop(){...}  
    public int[] getElems(){...}  
}
```

What does MyClass do?

Information hiding

Stack
+ nElem : int + capacity : int + top : int + elems : int[] + canResize : bool
+ resize(s:int):void + push(e:int):void + capacityLeft():int + getNumElem():int + pop():int + getElems():int[]

```
public class Stack {  
    public int nElem;  
    public int capacity;  
    public int top;  
    public int[] elems;  
    public boolean canResize;  
    ...  
    public void resize(int s){...}  
    public void push(int e){...}  
    public int capacityLeft(){...}  
    public int getNumElem(){...}  
    public int pop(){...}  
    public int[] getElems(){...}  
}
```

Anything that could be improved in this implementation?

Information hiding

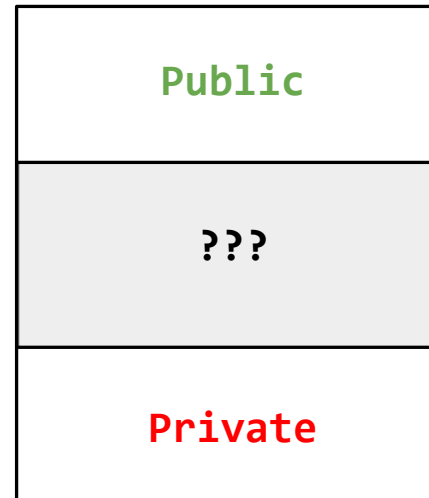
Stack
+ nElem : int + capacity : int + top : int + elems : int[] + canResize : bool
+ resize(s:int):void + push(e:int):void + capacityLeft():int + getNumElem():int + pop():int + getElems():int[]

Stack
- elems : int[] ...
+ push(e:int):void + pop():int ...

Information hiding:

- Reveal as little information about internals as possible.
- Segregate public interface and implementation details.
- Reduces complexity.

Information hiding vs. visibility



Information hiding vs. visibility



- Protected, package-private, or friend-accessible (C++).
- Not part of the public API.
- Implementation detail that a subclass/friend may rely on.

OO design principles

- Information hiding (and encapsulation)
- **Polymorphism**
- Open/closed principle
- Inheritance in Java
- The diamond of death
- Liskov substitution principle
- Composition/aggregation over inheritance

A little refresher: what is Polymorphism?



A little refresher: what is Polymorphism?

An object's ability to provide different behaviors.

Types of polymorphism

- Ad-hoc polymorphism (e.g., operator overloading)
 - `a + b` ⇒ *String vs. int, double, etc.*
- Subtype polymorphism (e.g., method overriding)
 - `Object obj = ...;` ⇒ *toString() can be overridden in subclasses and therefore provide a different behavior.*
`obj.toString();`
- Parametric polymorphism (e.g., Java generics)
 - `class LinkedList<E> {` ⇒ *A LinkedList can store elements regardless of their type but still provide full type safety.*
`void add(E) {...}`
`E get(int index) {...}`

A little refresher: what is Polymorphism?

An object's ability to provide different behaviors.

Types of polymorphism

- Subtype polymorphism (e.g., method overriding)
 - `Object obj = ...;` ⇒ *toString() can be overridden in subclasses and therefore provide a different behavior.*
`obj.toString();`

Subtype polymorphism is essential to many OO design principles.

OO design principles

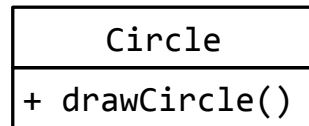
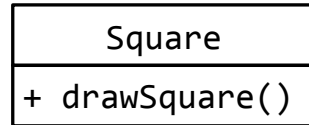
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- Polymorphism
- **Open/closed principle**
- Inheritance in Java
- The diamond of death
- Liskov substitution principle
- Composition/aggregation over inheritance

Open/closed principle

Software entities (classes, components, etc.) should be:

- **open** for extensions
- **closed** for modifications

```
public static void draw(Object o) {
    if (o instanceof Square) {
        drawSquare((Square) o)
    } else if (o instanceof Circle) {
        drawCircle((Circle) o);
    } else {
        ...
    }
}
```



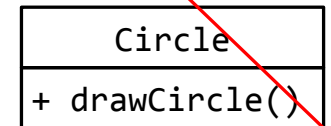
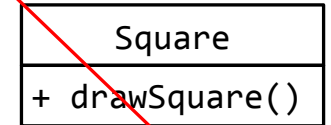
Good or bad design?

Open/closed principle

Software entities (classes, components, etc.) should be:

- **open** for extensions
- **closed** for modifications

```
public static void draw(Object o) {
    if (o instanceof Square) {
        drawSquare((Square) o)
    } else if (o instanceof Circle) {
        drawCircle((Circle) o);
    } else {
        ...
    }
}
```



Violates the open/closed principle!

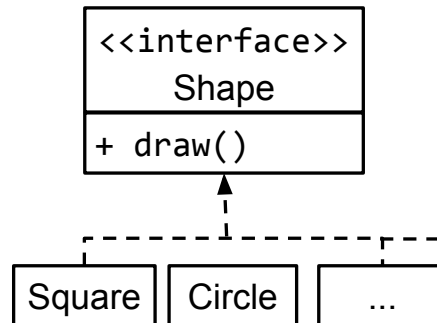
Open/closed principle

Software entities (classes, components, etc.) should be:

- **open** for extensions
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```
public static void draw(Object s) {
    if (s instanceof Shape) {
        s.draw();
    } else {
        ...
    }
}
```

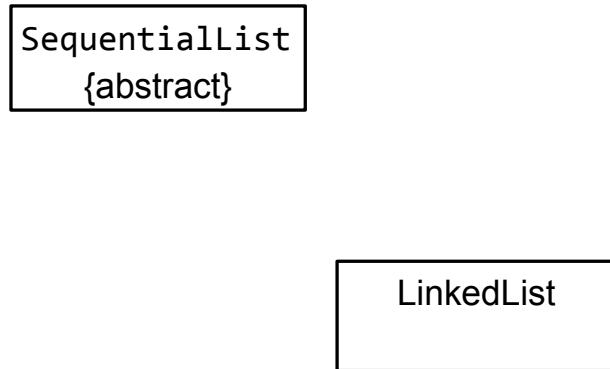
```
public static void draw(Shape s) {
    s.draw();
}
```



OO design principles

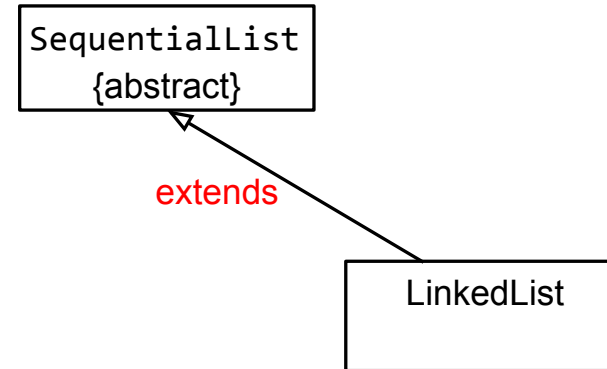
- Information hiding (and encapsulation)
- Polymorphism
- Open/closed principle
- **Inheritance in Java**
- The diamond of death
- Liskov substitution principle
- Composition/aggregation over inheritance

Inheritance: (abstract) classes and interfaces



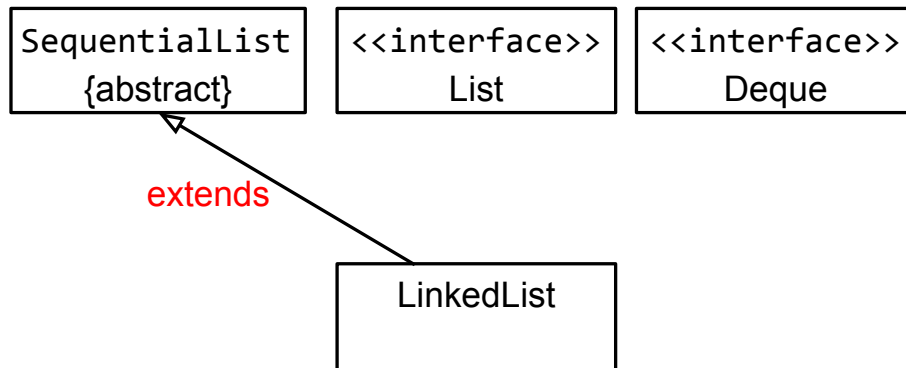
Inheritance: (abstract) classes and interfaces

LinkedList extends SequentialList



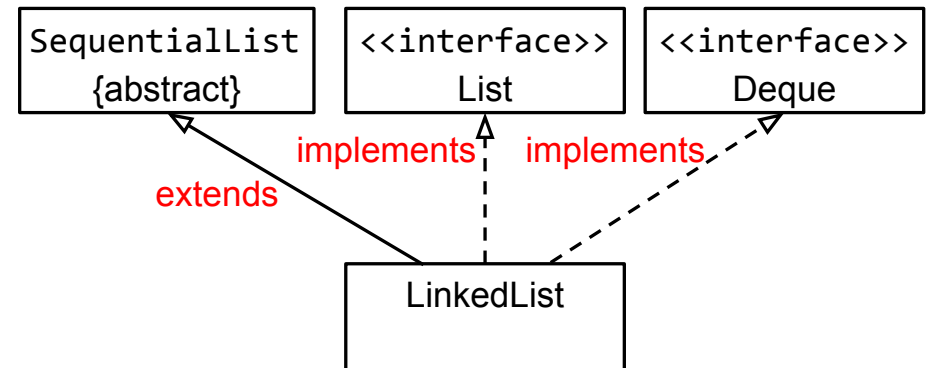
Inheritance: (abstract) classes and interfaces

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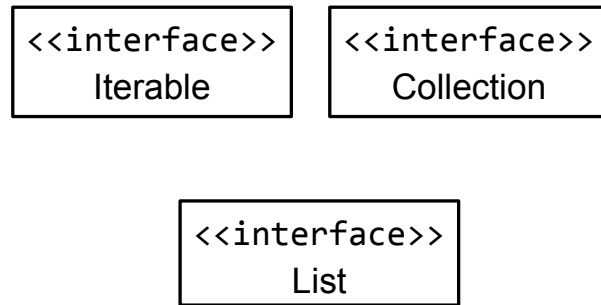


Inheritance: (abstract) classes and interfaces

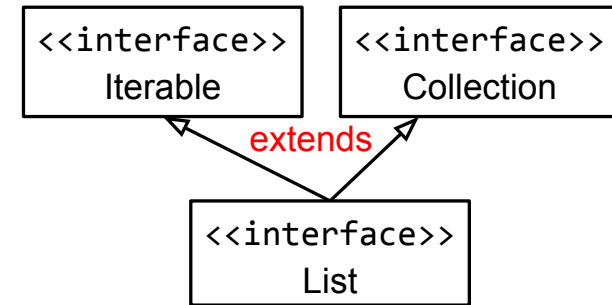
LinkedList extends SequentialList implements List, Deque



Inheritance: (abstract) classes and interfaces

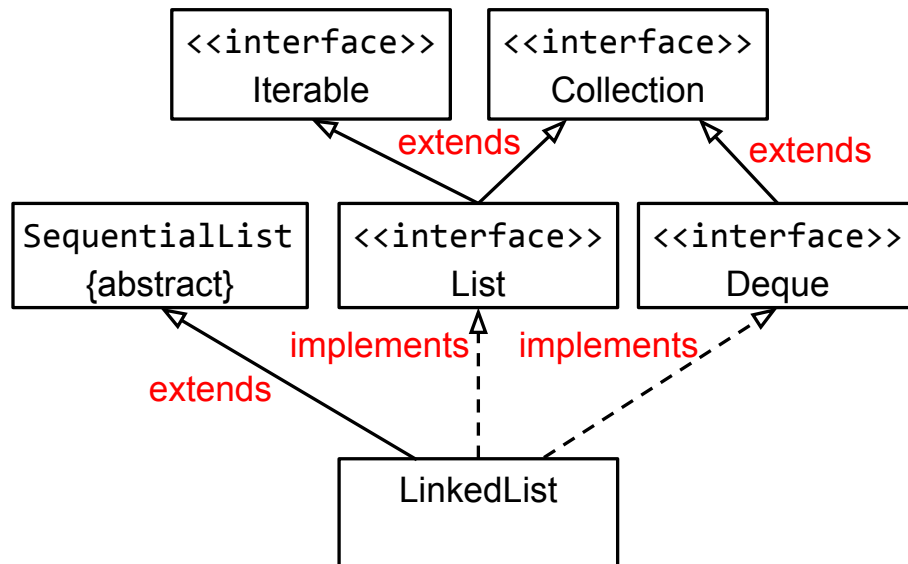


Inheritance: (abstract) classes and interfaces



List **extends** Iterable, Collection

Inheritance: (abstract) classes and interfaces

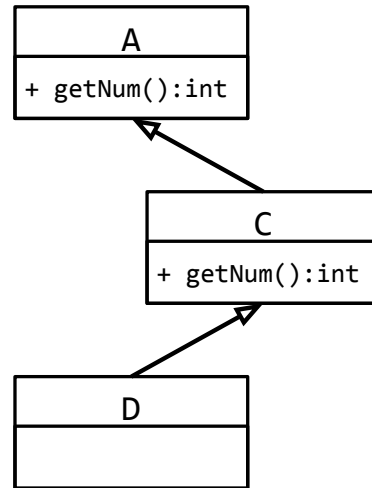


OO design principles

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The “diamond of death”: the problem

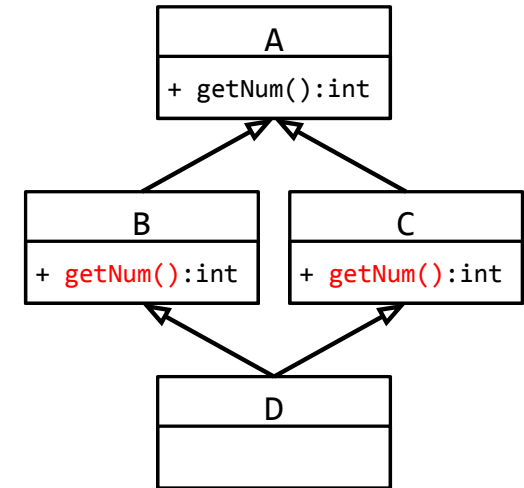
```
...  
A a = new D();  
int num = a.getNum();  
...
```



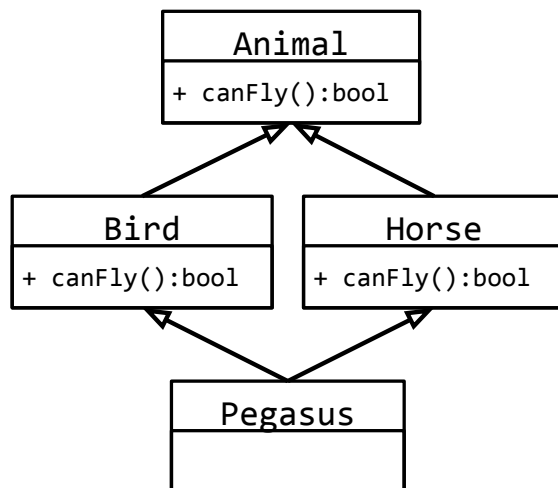
The “diamond of death”: the problem

```
...  
A a = new D();  
int num = a.getNum();  
...
```

Which `getNum()` method should be called?



The “diamond of death”: concrete example



Can this happen in Java? Yes, with default methods in Java 8.

OO design principles

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Design principles: Liskov substitution principle

Motivating example

We know that a square is a special kind of a rectangle. So, which of the following OO designs makes sense?



Design principles: Liskov substitution principle

Subtype requirement

Let object x be of type $T1$ and object y be of type $T2$. Further, let $T2$ be a subtype of $T1$ ($T2 <: T1$). Any provable property about objects of type $T1$ should be true for objects of type $T2$.

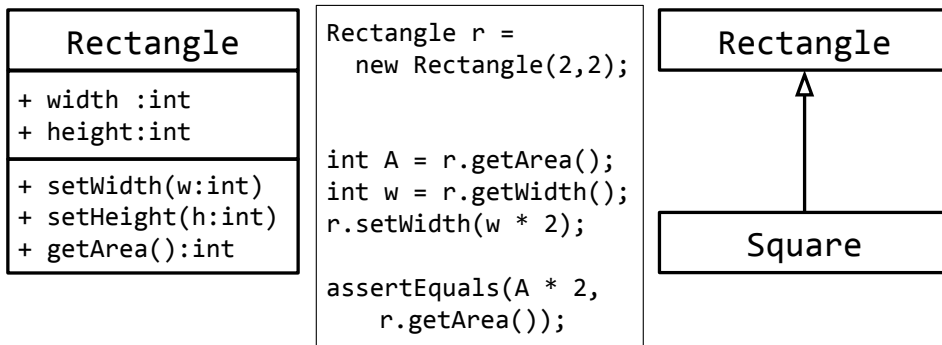


Is the subtype requirement fulfilled?

Design principles: Liskov substitution principle

Subtype requirement

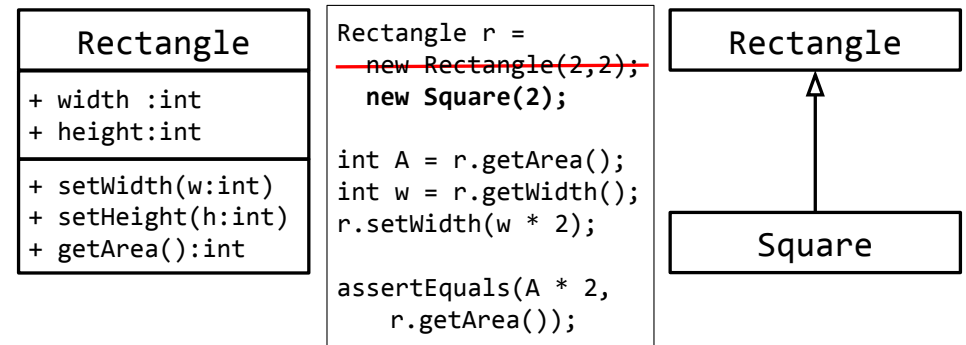
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Design principles: Liskov substitution principle

Subtype requirement

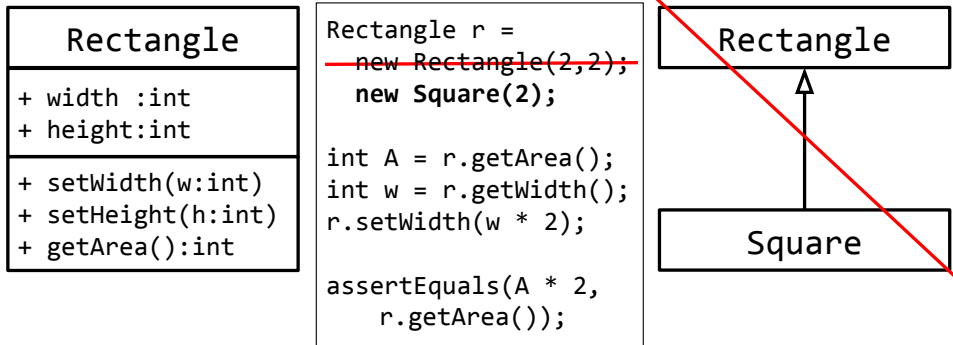
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Design principles: Liskov substitution principle

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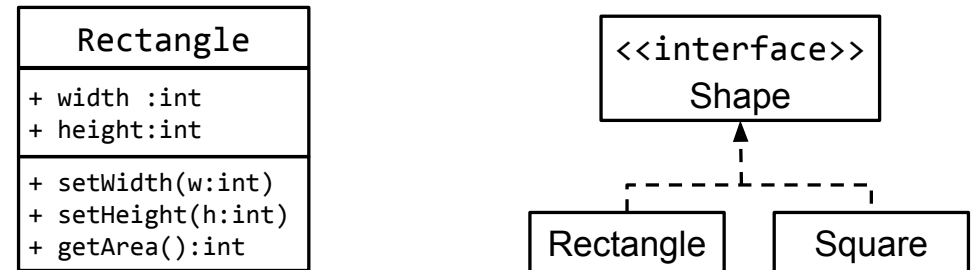


Violates the Liskov substitution principle!

Design principles: Liskov substitution principle

Subtype requirement

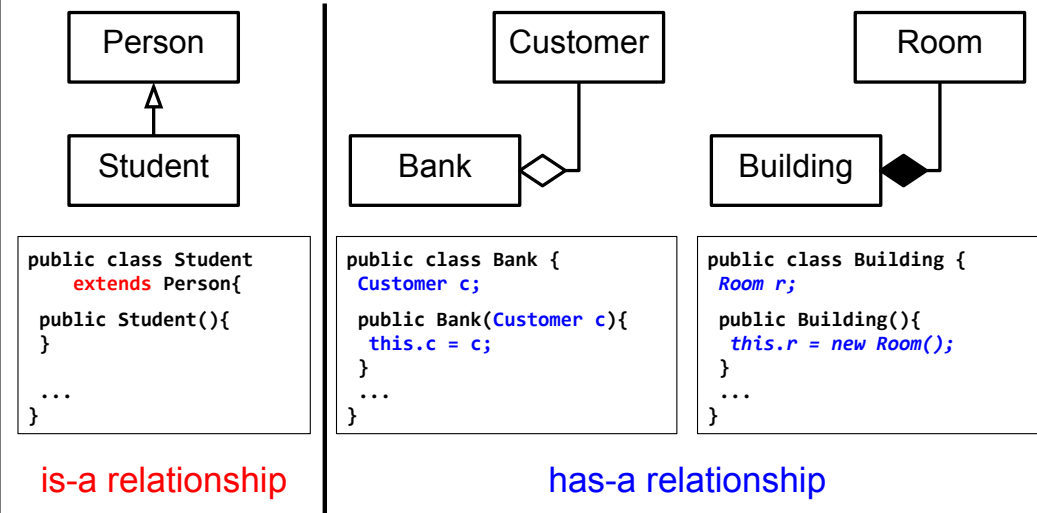
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OO design principles

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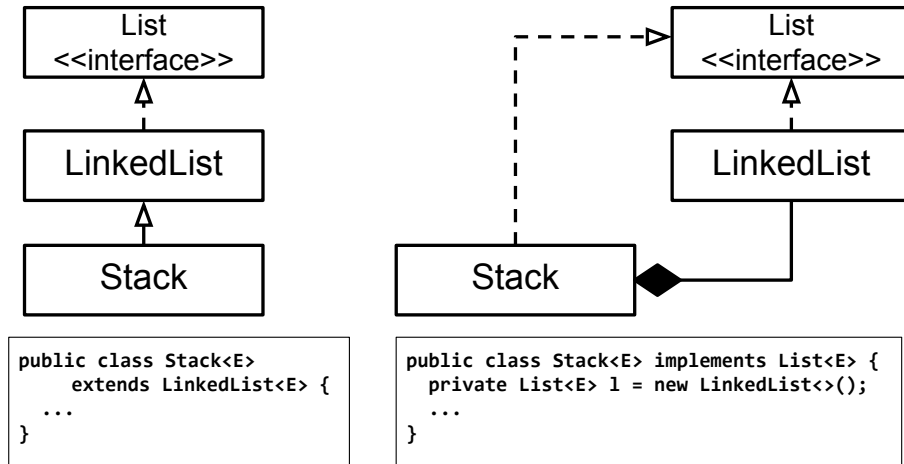
Inheritance vs. (Aggregation vs. Composition)



is-a relationship

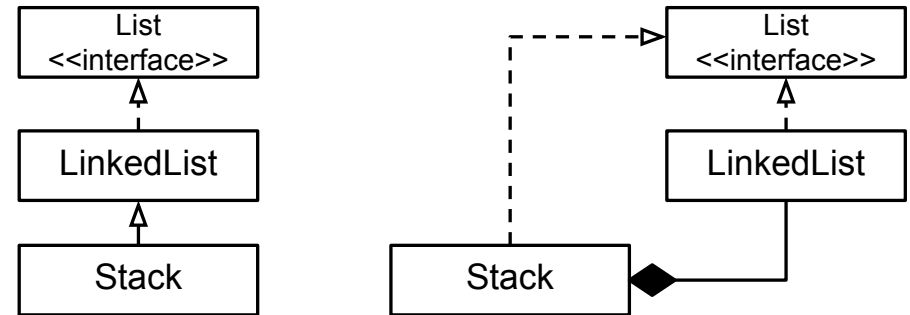
has-a relationship

Design choice: inheritance or composition?



Hmm, both designs seem valid -- what are pros and cons?

Design choice: inheritance or composition?



Pros

- No delegation methods required.
- Reuse of common state and behavior.

Cons

- Exposure of all inherited methods (a client might rely on this particular superclass -> can't change it later).
- Changes in superclass are likely to break subclasses.

Pros

- Highly flexible and configurable: no additional subclasses required for different compositions.

Cons

- All interface methods need to be implemented -> delegation methods required, even for code reuse.

Composition/aggregation over inheritance allows more flexibility.

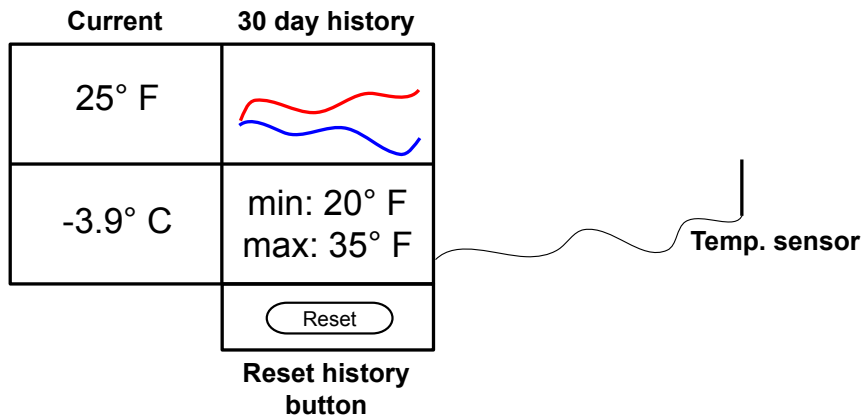
OO design principles: summary

- Information hiding (and encapsulation)
- Open/closed principle
- Liskov substitution principle
- Composition/aggregation over inheritance

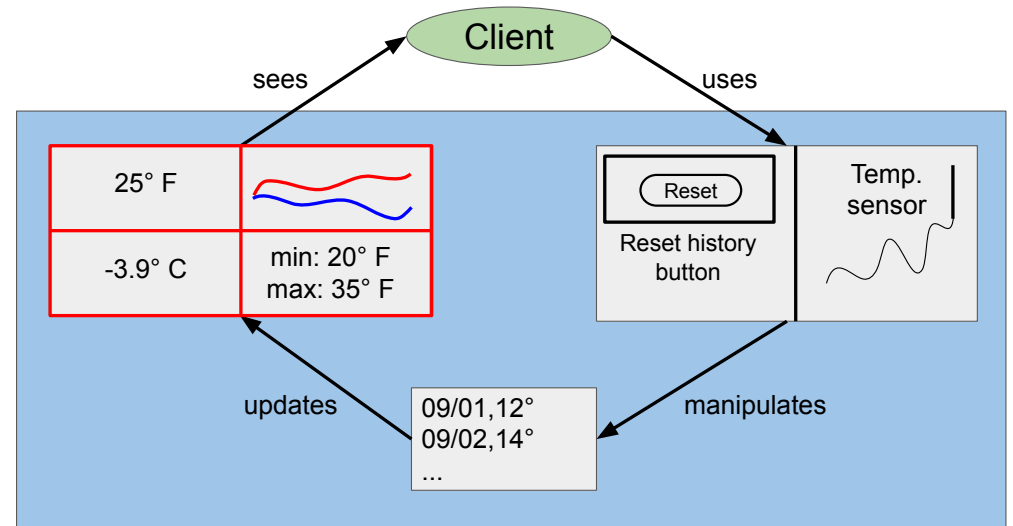
OO design patterns

A first design problem

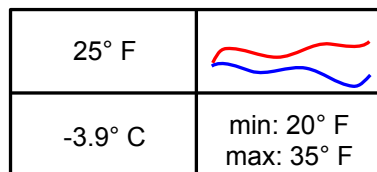
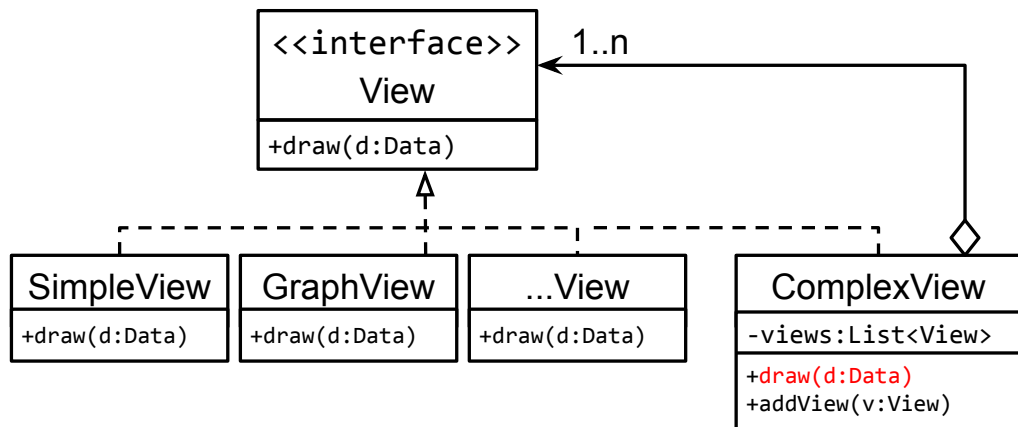
Weather station revisited



What's a good design for the view component?

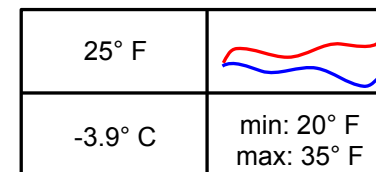
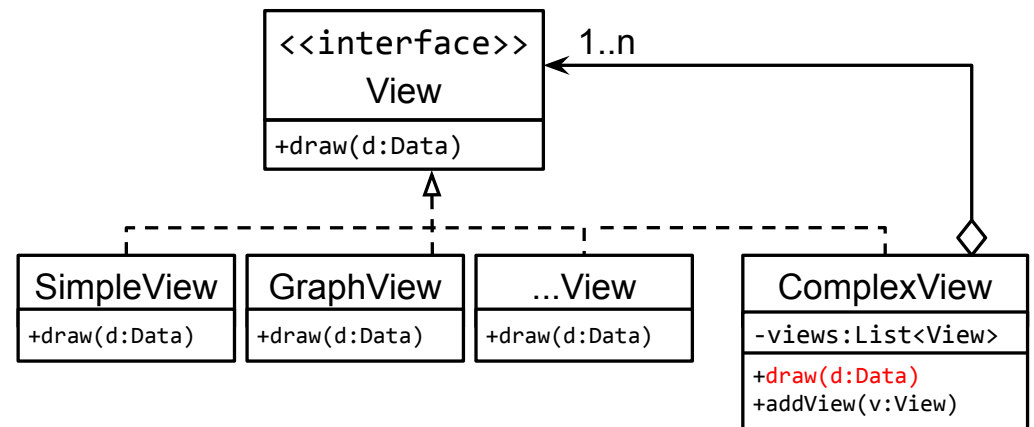


Weather station: view



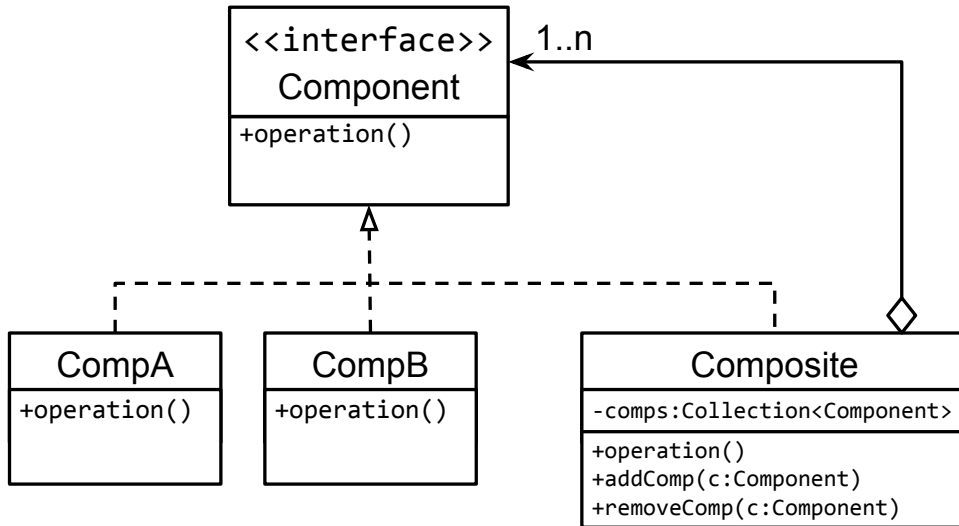
How do we need to implement draw(d:Data)?

Weather station: view

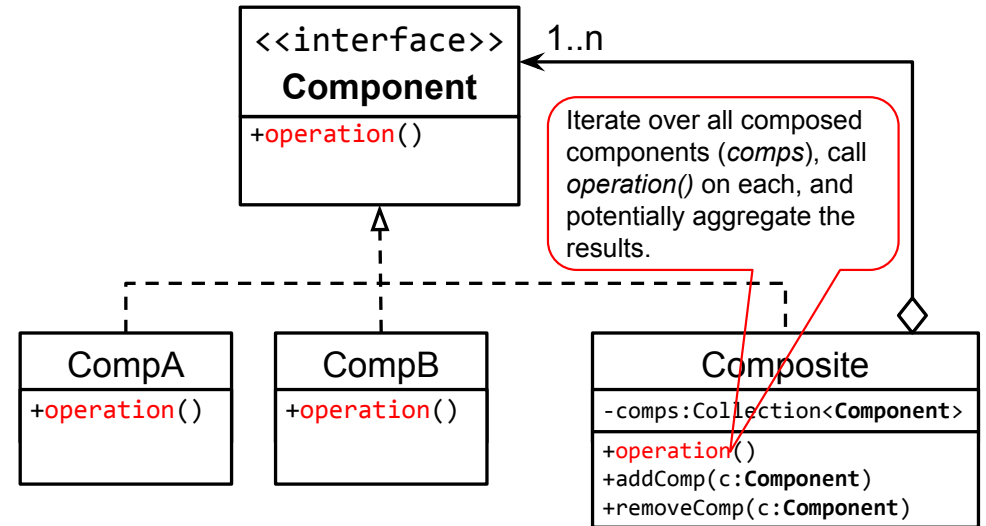


```
public void draw(Data d) {
    for (View v : views) {
        v.draw(d);
    }
}
```

The general solution: Composite pattern



The general solution: Composite pattern



What is a design pattern?

- Addresses a recurring, common design problem.
- Provides a generalizable solution.
- Provides a common terminology.

What is a design pattern?

- Addresses a recurring, common design problem.
- Provides a generalizable solution.
- Provides a common terminology.

Pros

- Improves communication and documentation.
- “Toolbox” for novice developers.

Cons

- Risk of over-engineering.
- Potential impact on system performance.

More than just a name for common sense and best practices.

Design patterns: categories

1. Structural

- Composite
- Decorator
- ...

2. Behavioral

- Template method
- Visitor
- ...

3. Creational

- Singleton
- Factory (method)
- ...

Design patterns: categories

1. Structural

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- Decorator
- ...

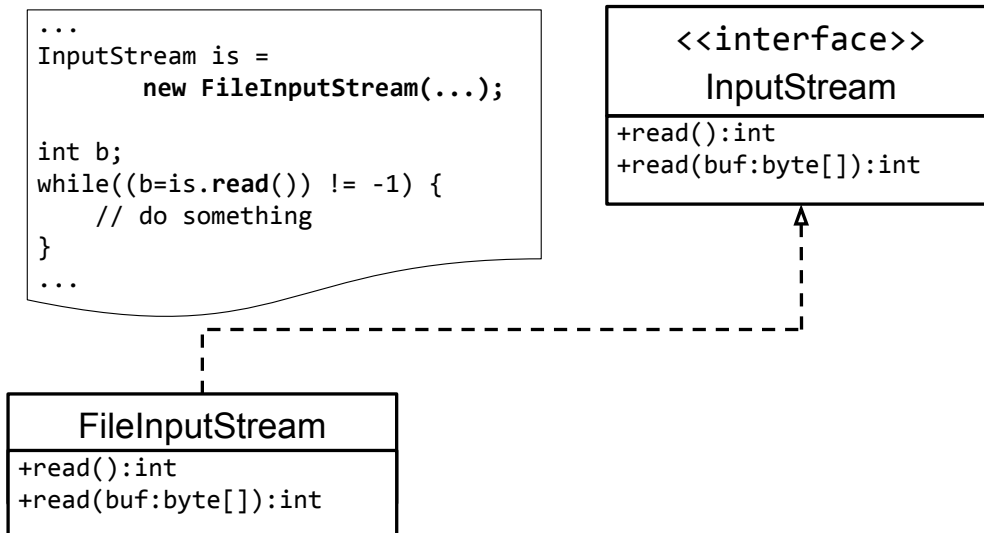
2. Behavioral

- Template method
- Visitor
- ...

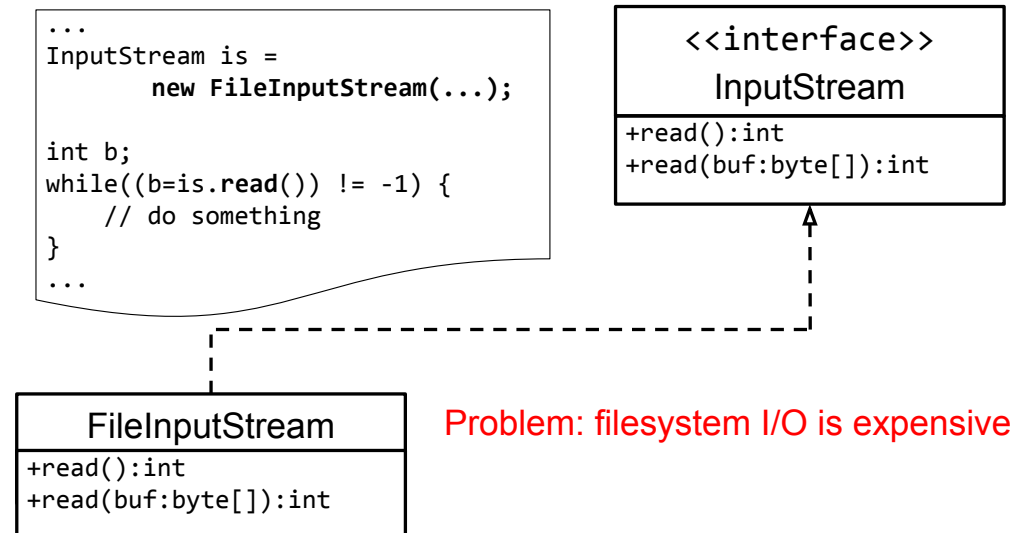
3. Creational

- Singleton
- Factory (method)
- ...

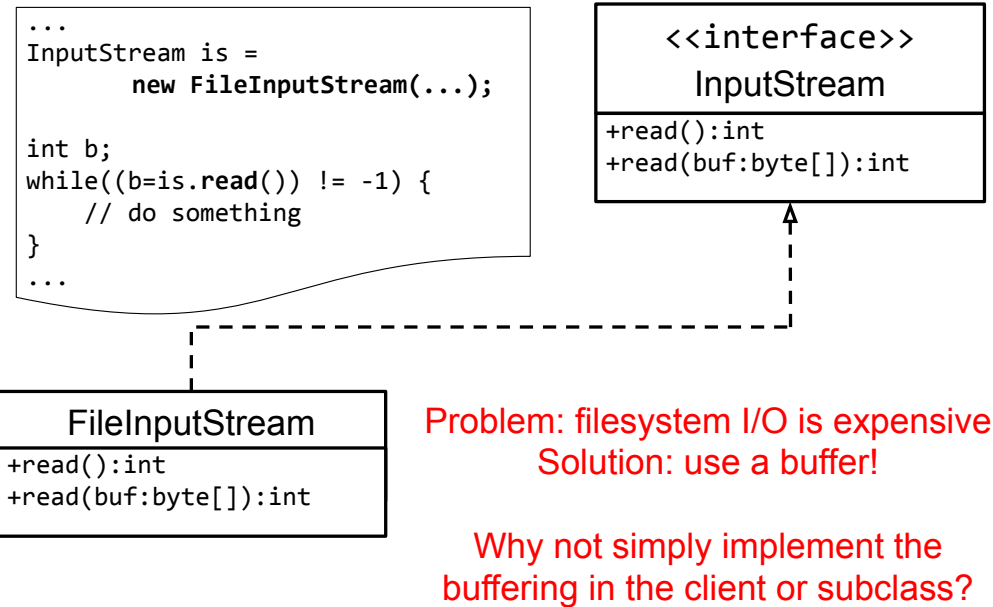
Another design problem: I/O streams



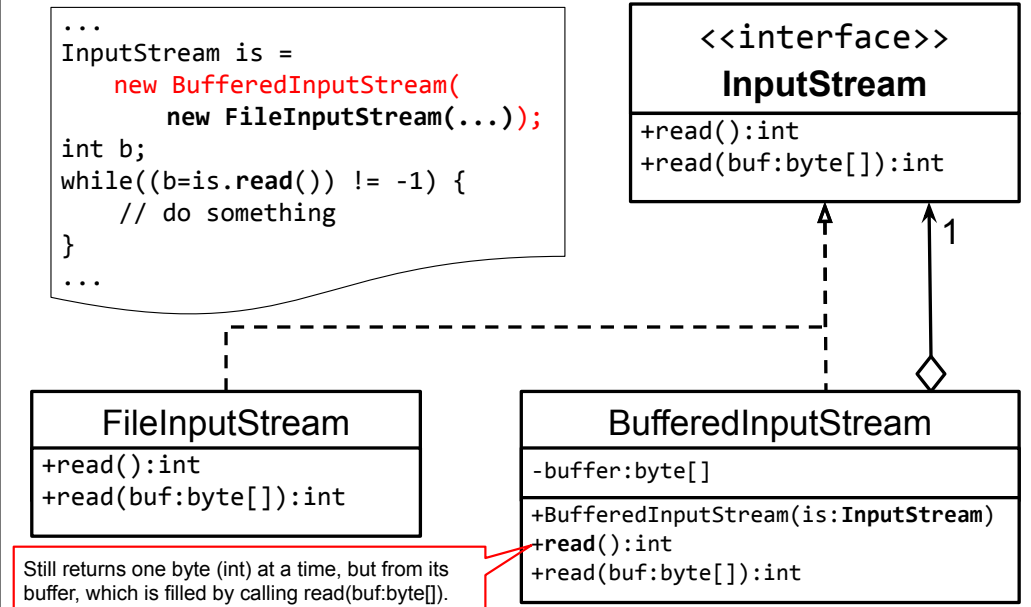
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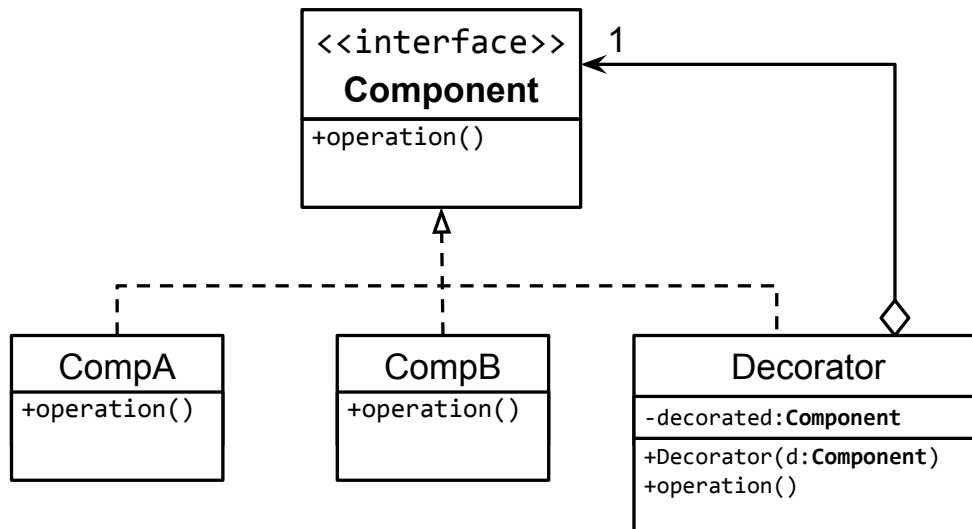
Another design problem: I/O streams



Another design problem: I/O streams



The general solution: Decorator pattern



Composite vs. Decorator

