

Symptoms of Poor Design (revisited)

1. Rigidity
2. Fragility
3. Immobility
4. Viscosity
5. Needless complexity
6. Needless repetition
7. Opacity

Rigidity

- The design is hard to change
 - changes propagate via dependencies to other modules
 - no continuity in the code
- Management reluctance to change anything becomes the policy
- Telltale sign: 'Huh, it was a lot more complicated than I thought.'



Fragility

- The design is easy to break
 - changes cause cascading effects to many places
 - the code breaks in unexpected places that have no conceptual relationship with the changed area
 - fixing the problems causes new problems
- Telltale signs
 - some modules are constantly on the bug list
 - time is used finding bugs, not fixing them
 - programmers are reluctant to change anything in the code



Immobility

- The design is hard to reuse
 - the code is so tangled that it is impossible to reuse anything
- Telltale sign: a module could be reused but the effort and risk of separating it from the original environment is too high



Viscosity

- Viscosity of the software
 - changes or additions are easier to implement by doing the wrong thing
- Viscosity of the environment
 - the development environment is slow and inefficient
 - high compile times, long feedback time in testing, laborious integration in a multi-team project
- Telltale signs
 - when a change is needed, you are tempted to hack rather than to preserve the original design
 - you are reluctant to execute a fast feedback loop and instead tend to code larger pieces



Needless Complexity

- Design contains elements that are not currently useful
 - too much anticipation of future needs
 - developers try to protect themselves against probable future changes
 - agile principles state that you should never anticipate future needs
- Extra complexity is needed *only* when designing an application framework or customizable component
- Telltale sign: investing in uncertainty



Needless Repetition

- The same code appears over and over again, in slightly different forms
 - developers are missing an abstraction
 - bugs found in a repeating unit have to be fixed in every repetition
- Telltale sign: overuse of cut-and-paste



Opacity

- The tendency of a module to become more difficult to understand
 - every module gets more opaque over time
 - a constant effort is needed to keep the code readable
 - easy to understand
 - communicates its design
- Telltale sign: you are reluctant to fix somebody else's code – or even your own!



Five Principles to Avoid the Symptoms

1. Single-Responsibility Principle
2. Open-Closed Principle
3. Liskov Substitution Principle
4. Dependency-Inversion Principle
5. Interface-Segregation Principle



SRP: The Single-Responsibility Principle

A CLASS SHOULD HAVE ONLY ONE REASON TO CHANGE.

- Cohesion: how good a reason the elements of a module have to be in the same module
- Cohesion and SRP: the forces that cause the module to change



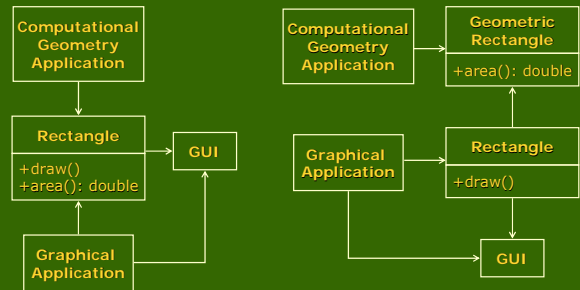
Responsibility

- Rationale behind SRP
 - changes in requirements → changes in class responsibilities
 - a 'cohesive' responsibility is a single axis of change → a class should have only one responsibility
 - responsibility = a reason to change
- Violation of SRP causes spurious transitive dependencies between modules that are hard to anticipate → fragility
- Separating the responsibilities into interfaces decouples them as far as rest of the application is concerned

SRP Example: Rectangle

More than one responsibility

Separated responsibilities



OCP: The Open-Closed Principle

SOFTWARE ENTITIES SHOULD BE OPEN FOR EXTENSION, BUT CLOSED FOR MODIFICATION.

– BERTRAND MEYER

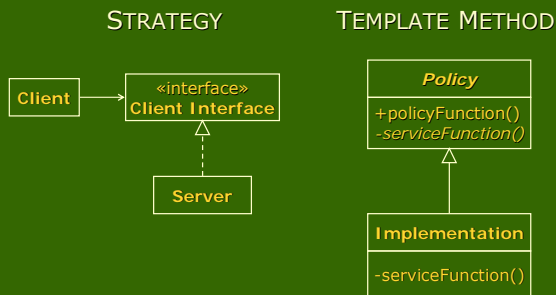
- 'Open for extension': the behaviour of a module can be extended with new behaviours to satisfy the changing requirements
- 'Closed for modification': extending the module must not result in changes to the source or even binary code of the module



OCP (cont'd)

- Reduces rigidity
 - a change does not cause a cascade of related changes in dependent modules
- Changing the module without changing its source code – a contradiction?!
- How to avoid dependency on a concrete class?
 - abstraction
 - dynamic binding

Basic OCP Designs



Strategic Closure

- Conforming to the OCP is expensive, since it can incur needless complexity
- All changes cannot be anticipated
 - apply OCP to the most obvious changes
- Otherwise: 'Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me.'
 - once a change has occurred, it is more probable that a similar kind of change will occur later
 - apply OCP when it is needed for the first time
- A good strategy: stimulate early changes
 - fast iterations
 - constant feedback

OCP: Simple Heuristics

- Make all object data private
 - changes to public data are always at risk to 'open' the module
 - all clients of a module with public data members are open to one misbehaving module
 - errors can be difficult to find and fixes may cause errors elsewhere
- No global variables
 - it is impossible to close a module against a global variable

LSP: The Liskov Substitution Principle

SUBTYPES MUST BE SUBSTITUTABLE FOR THEIR BASE TYPES.

– BARBARA LISKOV

- Functions that refer to base classes must be able to use objects of both existing and future derived classes without knowing it
- Inheritance must be used in a way that any property proved about supertype objects also holds for the subtype objects



LSP and OCP

- LSP is motivated by OCP (at least partly)
 - abstraction and polymorphism allows us to achieve OCP, but how to use them?
 - key mechanism in statically typed languages: inheritance
- LSP restricts the use of inheritance in a way that OCP holds
- LSP addresses the questions of
 - what are the inheritance hierarchies that give designs conforming to OCP
 - what are the common mistakes we make with inheritance regarding OCP?
- Violation of LSP is a latent violation of OCP

Example: Inheritance Has Its Limits

```
public abstract class Bird {
    public abstract void fly();
}

public class Parrot extends Bird {
    public void fly() { /* implementation */ }
    public void speak() { /* implementation */ }
}


public class Penguin extends Bird {
    public void fly() {
        throw new UnsupportedOperationException();
    }
}
```

Example (cont'd)

```
public static void playWith(Bird bird) {
    bird.fly();
}

Parrot myPet;
playWith(myPet); // myPet "is-a" bird and can fly()


Penguin myOtherPet;
playWith(myOtherPet); // myOtherPet "is-a" bird
// and cannot fly()?!


```

Example (cont'd)

- What went wrong?
 - we did not model 'Penguins cannot fly'
 - we modelled 'Penguins may fly, but if they try it is an error'
- The design fails LSP
 - a property assumed by the client about the base type does not hold for the subtype
 - Penguin is not a subtype of Bird
- Subtypes must respect what the client of the base class can reasonably expect about the base class
 - but how can we anticipate what some client will expect?

Design by Contract

- A class declares its behaviour
 - requirements (preconditions) that must be fulfilled
 - promises (postconditions) that will hold afterwards
 - This forms a *contract* between the class and a client using its services
 - tells explicitly what the client may expect
 - B. Mayer (1988): When redefining a method in a derived (or inherited) class
 - the precondition can be replaced only by a weaker one
 - the postcondition can be replaced only by a stronger one
 - A derived class should require no more and provide no less than the base class
- 

LSP: Simple Heuristic

- Telltale signs of LSP violation:
 - degenerate functions in derived classes (i.e. overriding a base-class method with a method that does nothing)
 - throwing exceptions from derived classes
- Solution 1: inverse the inheritance relation
 - if the base class has only additional behaviour
- Solution 2: extract common a base class
 - if both initial and derived classes have different behaviors
 - penguins → Bird, FlyingBird, Penguin
- Sometimes it is not possible to edit the base class
 - example: Java Collections Hierarchy

DIP: The Dependency-Inversion Principle

HIGH-LEVEL MODULES SHOULD NOT DEPEND ON LOW-LEVEL MODULES. BOTH SHOULD DEPEND ON ABSTRACTIONS.

ABSTRACTIONS SHOULD NOT DEPEND ON DETAILS. DETAILS SHOULD DEPEND ON ABSTRACTIONS.

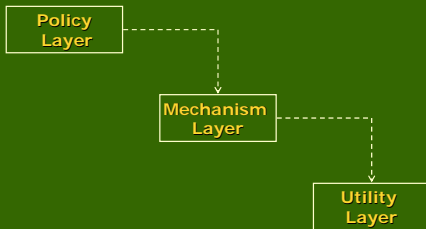
— ROBERT MARTIN



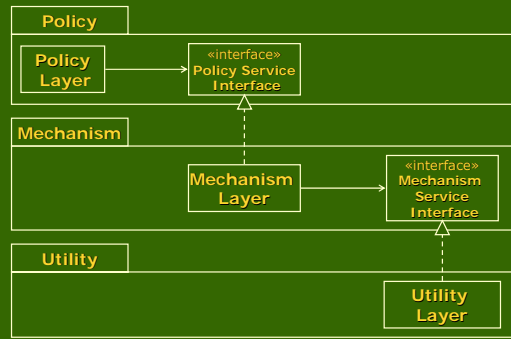
DIP (cont'd)

- Modules with detailed implementations are not depended upon, but depend themselves upon abstractions
- High-level modules contain the important business model of the application, the policy
 - independent of details
 - should be the focus of reuse
 - greatest benefits are achievable here
- Results from the rigorous use of LSP and OCP
 - OCP states the goal
 - LSP enables it
 - DIP shows the mechanism to achieve the goal

Example: Naïve Layering Scheme



Example: Inverted Layers



Design to an Interface

- Rationale
 - abstract classes/interfaces tend to change less frequently
 - abstractions are 'hinge points' where it is easier to extend/modify
 - no need to modify classes/interfaces that represent the abstraction
- All relationships should terminate to an abstract class or interface
 - no variable should refer to a concrete class
 - use inheritance to avoid direct bindings to concrete classes
 - no class should derive from a concrete class
 - concrete classes tend to be volatile
 - no method should override an implemented method of any of its base classes
- Exceptions
 - some classes are very unlikely to change → a little benefit in inserting an abstraction layer
 - you can depend on a concrete class that is not volatile (e.g. `String` class)
 - a module that creates objects automatically depends on them

ISP: The Interface-Segregation Principle

CLIENTS SHOULD NOT BE FORCED TO DEPEND UPON METHODS THAT THEY DO NOT USE.

- Many client-specific interfaces are better than one general purpose interface
 - no 'fat' interfaces
 - no non-cohesive interfaces
- Related to SRP



Fat Interfaces

- Fat interface = general purpose interface ≠ client-specific interface
 - can cause bizarre couplings between its clients
 - when one client forces a change, all other clients are affected
- Break a fat interface into many separate interfaces
 - targeted to a single client or a group of clients
 - clients depend only on the methods they use (and not on other clients' needs)
 - impact of changes to one interface are not as big
 - probability of a change reduces
 - no interface pollution

Example: Door and Timer

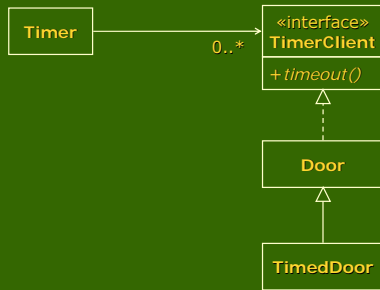
```

public class Door {
    public void lock() { /* implementation */ }
    public void unlock() { /* implementation */ }
    public boolean isOpen() { /* implementation */ }
}

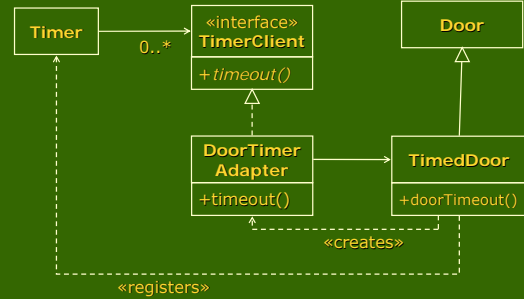
public class Timer {
    public void register(int timeout,
                       TimerClient client) {
        /* implementation */
    }
}

public interface TimerClient {
    public void timeout();
}
    
```

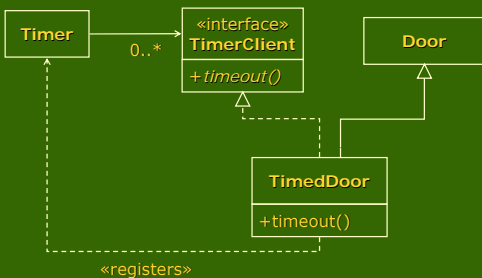
Example: Timer Client at Top of Hierarchy



Example: Separation Through Delegation



Example: Separation Through Multiple Inheritance



Role-Based Interface Design

- Interfaces are designed from the viewpoint of the service user, not the service provider
 - clients own the interfaces
- Interfaces should represent roles that clients take when using the services of a class or component
- Classes implement many interfaces, interfaces are implemented by many classes
 - example: flying birds (as well as bats) implement interface `FlyingCreature`, but penguins do not
- Version control by adding new interfaces for clients requiring new services → less viscosity

Reading for the Next Week

- Section 3: The Payroll Case Study
 - Chapter 13: COMMAND and ACTIVE OBJECT
 - Chapter 14: TEMPLATE METHOD & STRATEGY: Inheritance vs. Delegation
 - Chapter 15: FACADE and MEDIATOR
 - Chapter 16: SINGLETON and MONOSTATE
 - Chapter 17: NULL OBJECT
 - Chapter 18: The Payroll Case Study: Iteration One Begins
 - Chapter 19: The Payroll Case Study: Implementation