

Tecniche di Progettazione: Design Patterns

Design principles

Plan of the lecture

- ▶ Your state of the art
- ▶ SOLID
- ▶ Grasp (to be continued next week)

Short summary of what you must know

- ▶ Few things on design principles you surely already learned (at least in the IS course)
 - ▶ Encapsulation (Accessors & Mutators)
 - ▶ Cohesion
 - ▶ Decoupling
 - ▶ Separation of concerns

General design principle: Encapsulation

- ▶ Aka Information Hiding
- ▶ While encapsulation is a fundamental attribute of the Object- Oriented paradigm, it also describes a fundamental principle of good class design; namely, *hide all implementation details from the user of the class.*
- ▶ The reason for doing this is so that you can change the underlying implementation without requiring user changes.
- ▶ A class that makes internal representations visible is usually poorly designed.

Accessors & Mutators

(aka *getters and setters*)

- ▶ The usual way of accessing the properties (attributes) of a class.
 - ▶ Good encapsulation will hide the data representation.
 - ▶ The user of a class should be unaware of whether there is an actual field in the object for a property or if the property is calculated. The accessors and mutators are the interfaces to the properties.

Accessors

- ▶ **Accessors retrieve the property.**
 - ▶ An accessor should not have any side effects. This means that an accessor should not change the state of the property's object.
 - ▶ Further, it is not good practice to return a property as a value that, if you change it, will be reflected in the original object.
 - ▶ For example, assume object A has a Vector, v, that it uses to store some set of items and provides an accessor method, getV(). Now, if getV() returns the reference to the actual vector v, the caller to getV() can modify the contents of the vector.
 - ▶ Unless there is a critical need to allow such modifications, you should return a clone of the vector.

Mutators

- ▶ Mutators (or setters) are methods that allow (controlled) modification of properties. In effect, the mutators change the state of the object.
- ▶ Mutators should also be very specific in their effect. They should *only modify the property* specified and cause no other side effects to the state of the object.

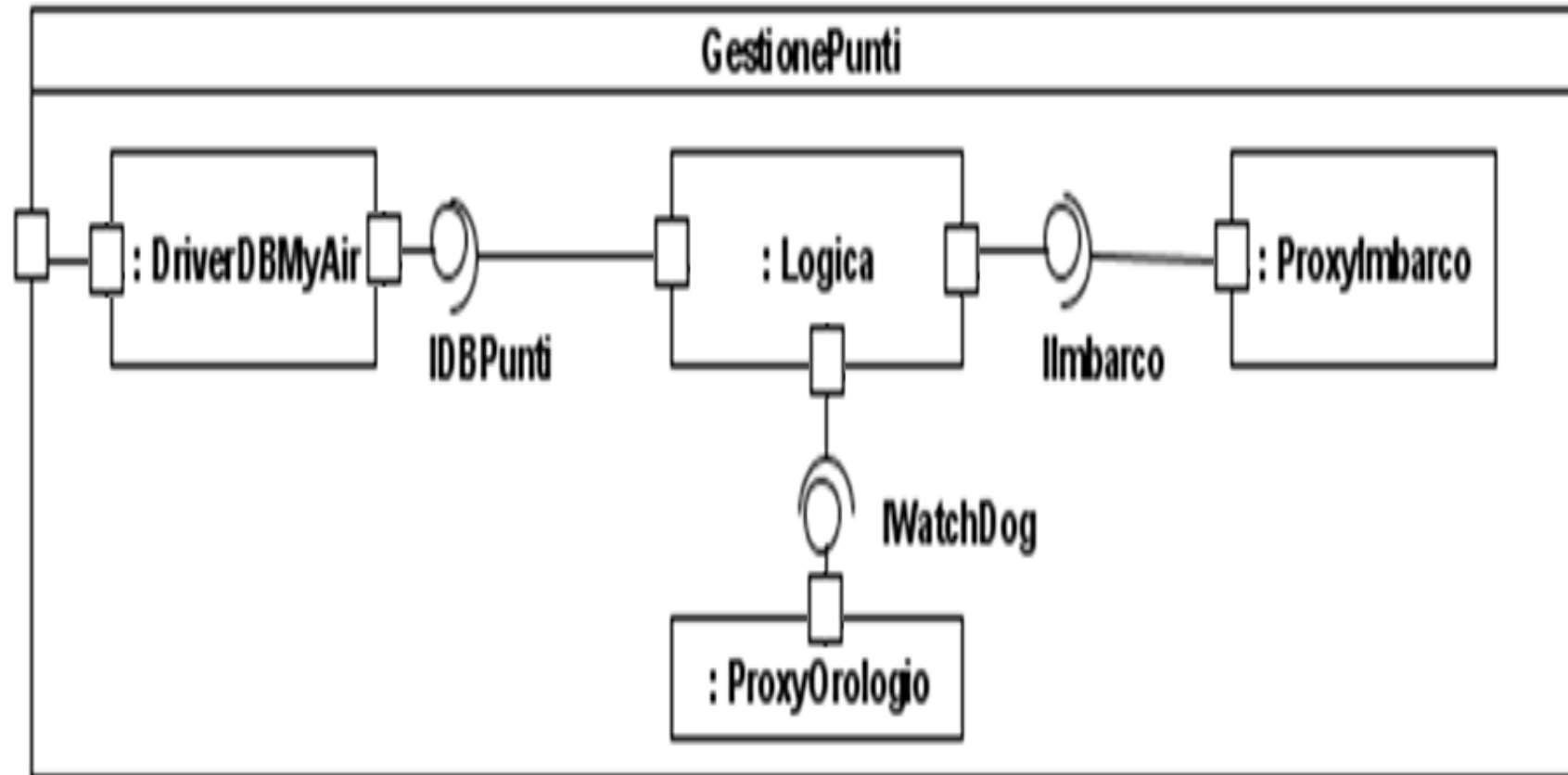
Discussion

- ▶ Most editors let you automatically generate accessor and mutator methods (getters and setters) for the fields that exist in your classes.
- ▶ Should you provide accessors and mutators for every property?
- ▶ There are several disadvantages in doing so.
 - ▶ First of all, you may not need them. Whenever you provide an accessor or mutator to a property, you are telling other programmers that they are free to use them. You have to maintain these methods from that point on.
 - ▶ Second, you may not want a property to change. If so, don't provide a mutator.

General design principle: Cohesion

- ▶ Cohesion examines how the activities within a module are related to one another. The cohesion of a module may determine how tightly it will be coupled to other modules.
- ▶ The objective of designers is to create highly cohesive modules where all the elements of a module are closely related.

Example of «pattern» to enhance cohesion (from IS: component structure)



General design principle: Decoupling

- ▶ Aka uncoupling, aka coupling
- ▶ The elements of one module should not be closely related to the elements of another module.
- ▶ Such a relationship leads to tight coupling between modules.
- ▶ Ensuring high cohesion within modules is one way of reducing tight coupling between modules.

Separation of concerns

- ▶ Term probably coined by Edsger W. Dijkstra in 1974
- ▶ Quality of the process more than quality of the product
 - ▶ Let me try to explain to you, what to my taste is characteristic for all intelligent thinking. It is, that one is willing to study in depth an aspect of one's subject matter in isolation for the sake of its own consistency, all the time knowing that one is occupying oneself only with one of the aspects. We know that a program must be correct and we can study it from that viewpoint only; we also know that it should be efficient and we can study its efficiency on another day, so to speak. In another mood we may ask ourselves whether, and if so: why, the program is desirable. But nothing is gained —on the contrary!— by tackling these various aspects simultaneously. It is what I sometimes have called "the separation of concerns", which, even if not perfectly possible, is yet the only available technique for effective ordering of one's thoughts, that I know of. This is what I mean by "focusing one's attention upon some aspect": it does not mean ignoring the other aspects, it is just doing justice to the fact that from this aspect's point of view, the other is irrelevant. It is being one- and multiple-track minded simultaneously.

SOLID

- ▶ Robert C. Martin.
 - ▶ Aka uncle Bob
- ▶ Five basic principles of object-oriented programming and design.
- ▶ Early 2000s.



SOLID

- ▶ Single Responsibility Principle
 - ▶ A class (or method) should only have one reason to change.
- ▶ Open Closed Principle
 - ▶ Extending a class shouldn't require any modification of existing classes.
- ▶ Liskov Substitution Principle
 - ▶ Derived classes must be substitutable for their base classes.
- ▶ Interface Segregation Principle
 - ▶ Make fine grained interfaces that are client specific.
- ▶ Dependency Inversion Principle
 - ▶ Program to the interface, not the implementation.



SINGLE RESPONSIBILITY PRINCIPLE

Just Because You Can, Doesn't Mean You Should

SOLID 1: Single Responsibility Principle

- ▶ A class (or method) should only have one reason to change.
 - ▶ In this context a responsibility is considered to be one reason to change. This principle states that if we have 2 reasons to change for a class, we have to split the functionality in two classes. Each class will handle only one responsibility and in the future if we need to make one change we are going to make it in the class which handles it. When we need to make a change in a class having more responsibilities the change might affect the other functionality of the classes.
 - ▶ Single Responsibility Principle was introduced by Tom DeMarco in his book *Structured Analysis and Systems Specification*, 1979. Robert Martin reinterpreted the concept and defined the responsibility as a reason to change.

SOLID 1: Single Responsibility Principle

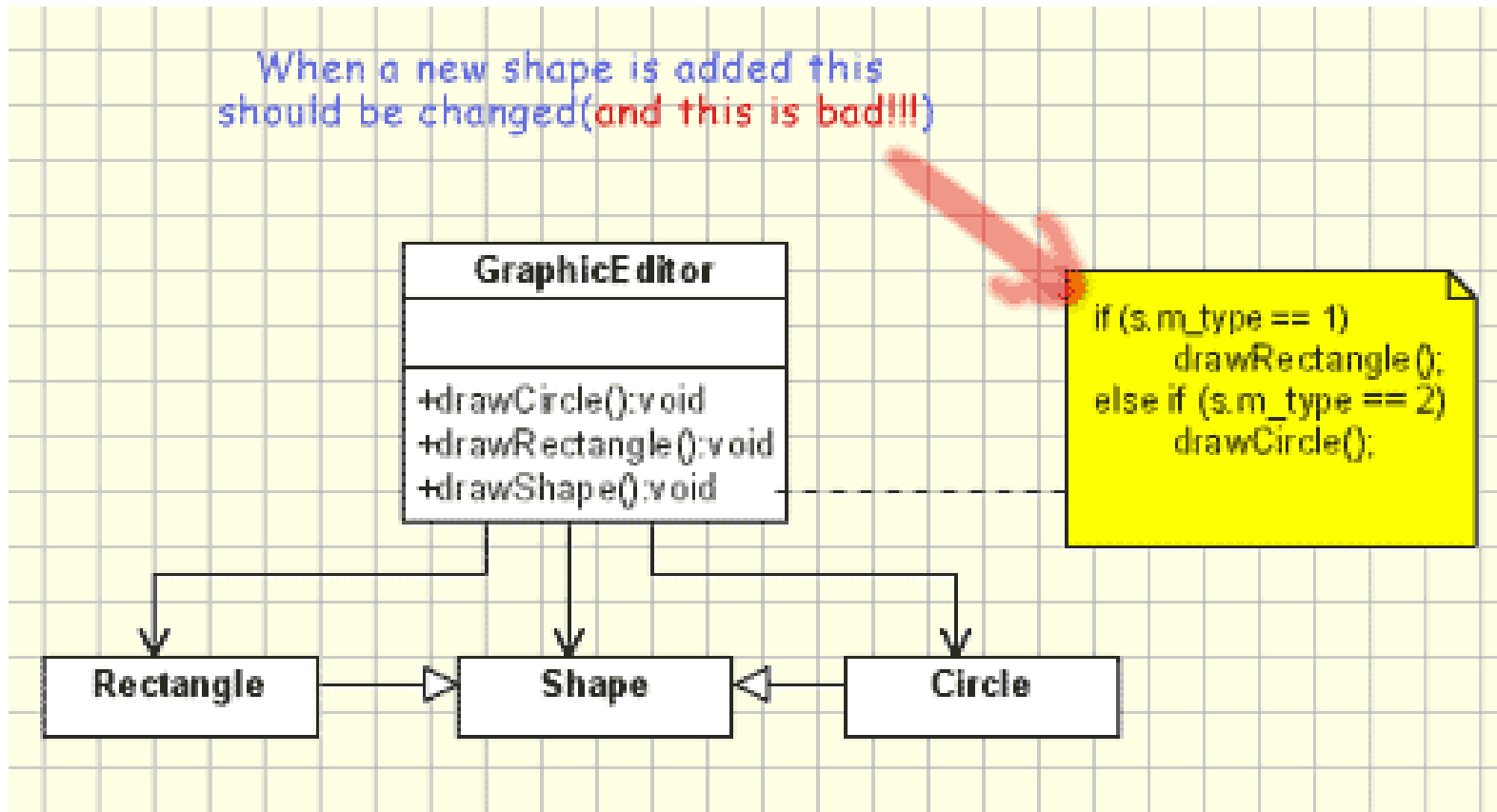
- ▶ **Question:**

- ▶ Does this concept reminds you of something ?

SOLID 2: Open Closed Principle

- ▶ Software entities like classes, modules and functions should be open for extension but closed for modifications.
 - ▶ Robert Martin paraphrasing Bertrand Meyer, from “The Principles of OOD”
- ▶ Extending a class shouldn't require any modification of existing classes.
 - ▶ OPC is a generic principle. You can consider it when writing your classes to make sure that when you need to extend their behavior you don't have to change the class but to extend it. The same principle can be applied for modules, packages, libraries.
 - ▶ OPC can be ensured by use of Abstract Classes and concrete classes for implementing their behavior.

SOLID 2: Open Closed Principle: ad ex.



SOLID 2: Open Closed Principle: bad ex.

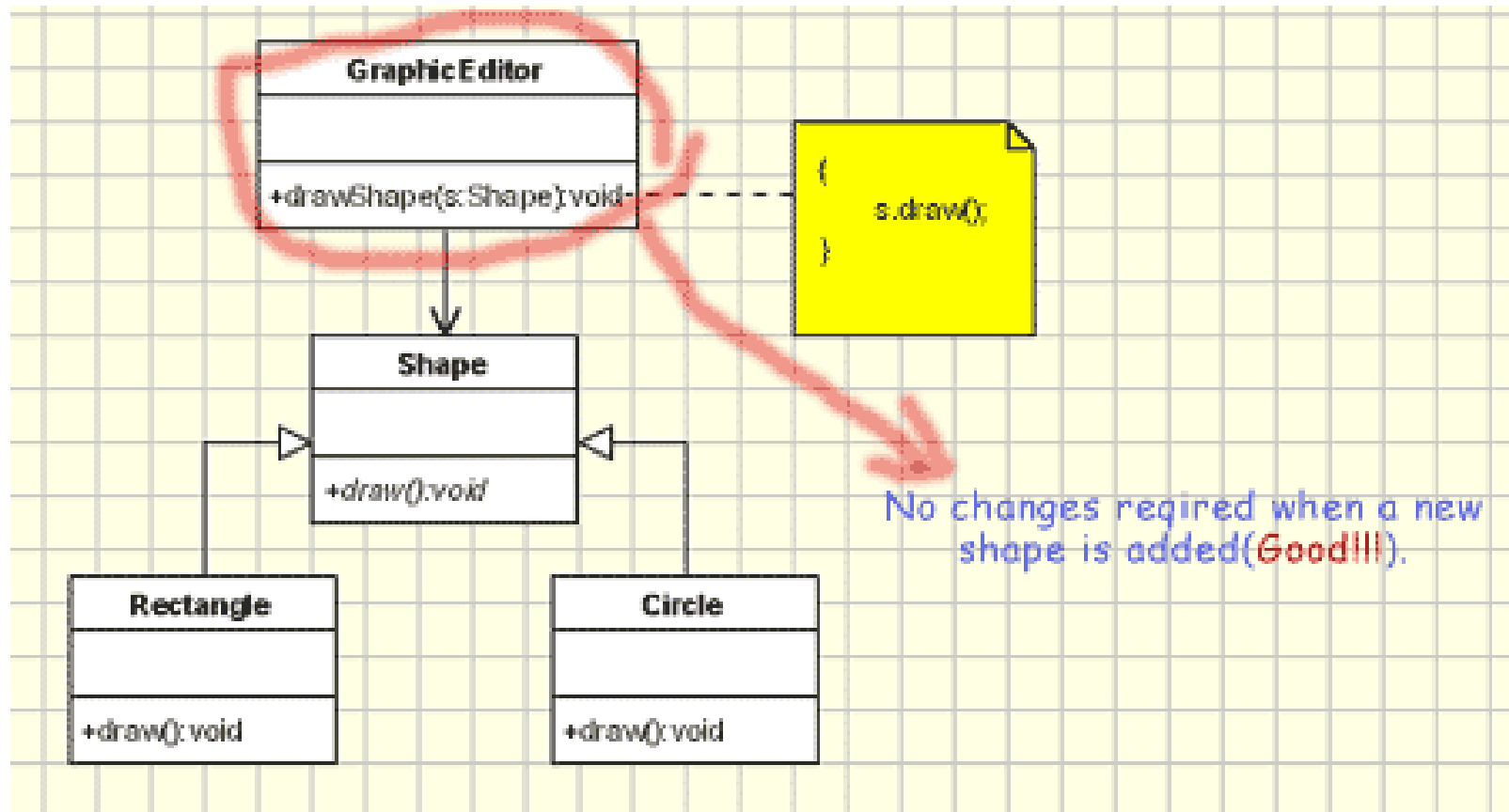
```
class GraphicEditor {
    public void drawShape(Shape s) {
        if (s.m_type==1) drawRectangle(s);
        else if (s.m_type==2) drawCircle(s);
    }
    public void drawCircle(Circle r) {...}
    public void drawRectangle(Rectangle r) {...}
}

class Shape {int m_type;}
class Rectangle extends Shape {
    Rectangle() {super.m_type=1;}
}
class Circle extends Shape {
    Circle() {super.m_type=2;}
}
```

SOLID 2: Open Closed Principe

- ▶ **Rely on abstractions**
 - ▶ Interfaces
 - ▶ Abstract classes

SOLID 2: Open Closed Principle applied



SOLID 2: Open Closed Principle applied

```
class GraphicEditor {  
    public void drawShape(Shape s) {  
        s.draw();  
    }  
}
```

```
class Shape {  
    abstract void draw();  
}
```

```
class Rectangle extends Shape {  
    public void draw() {  
        // draw the rectangle  
    }  
}
```

SOLID 3: Liskov Substitution Principle

- ▶ The Liskov Substitution Principle was described by Barbara Liskov at MIT. Basically, the LSP says:

Let S be a subtype of T , then

for each object o_1 of type S there is an object o_2 of type T such that for all programs P defined in terms of T , the behaviour of P is unchanged when o_1 is substituted for o_2 .

- ▶ Derived classes must be substitutable for their base classes.

SOLID 4: Interface Segregation Principle

- ▶ Make fine grained interfaces that are client specific.
- ▶ *Clients should not be forced to depend upon interfaces that they don't use.*
 - ▶ This principle teaches us to take care how we write our interfaces.
 - ▶ When we write our interfaces we should take care to add only methods that should be there.
 - ▶ If we add methods that should not be there the classes implementing the interface will have to implement those methods as well.

SOLID 4: Interface Segregation Principle



INTERFACE SEGREGATION PRINCIPLE

You Want Me To Plug This In, Where?

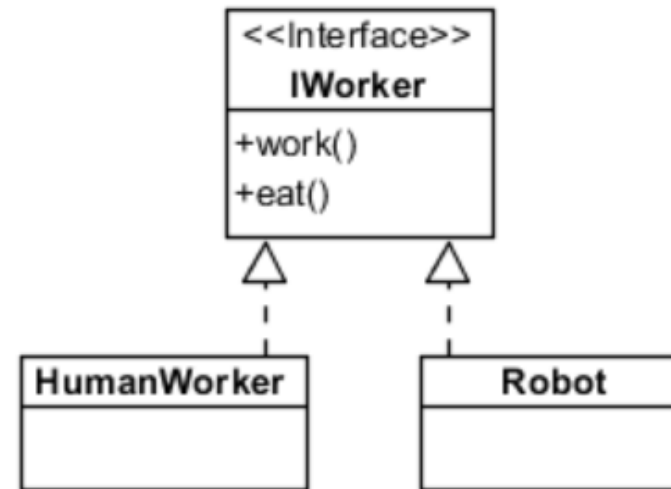
SOLID 4: Interface Segregation Principle

- ▶ For example if we create an interface called Worker and add a method lunch break, all the workers will have to implement it.
 - ▶ What if the worker is a robot?

- ▶ As a conclusion Interfaces containing methods that are not specific to it are called polluted or fat interfaces. Avoid them!

SOLID 4: Interface Segregation Principle

- ▶ Method `eat()`,
must be implemented by all Workers
 - ▶ ...including Robots



- ▶ Polluted or fat interfaces.



interface segregation principle - bad example (even in the absence of Robots)

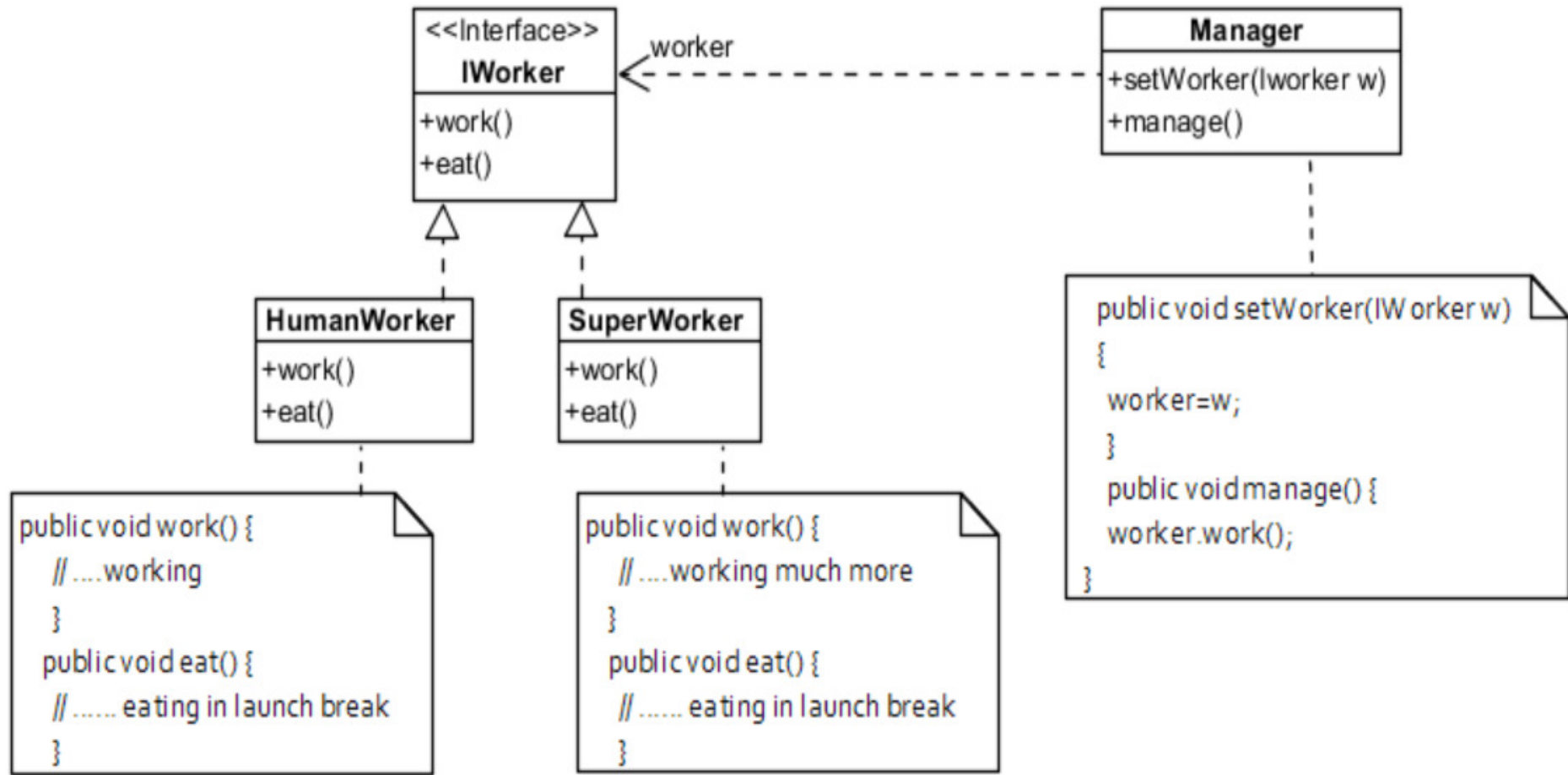
```
interface IWorker {
    public void work();
    public void eat();
}

class Worker implements IWorker{
    public void work() {
        // ....working
    }
    public void eat() {
        // ..... eating in launch break
    }
}

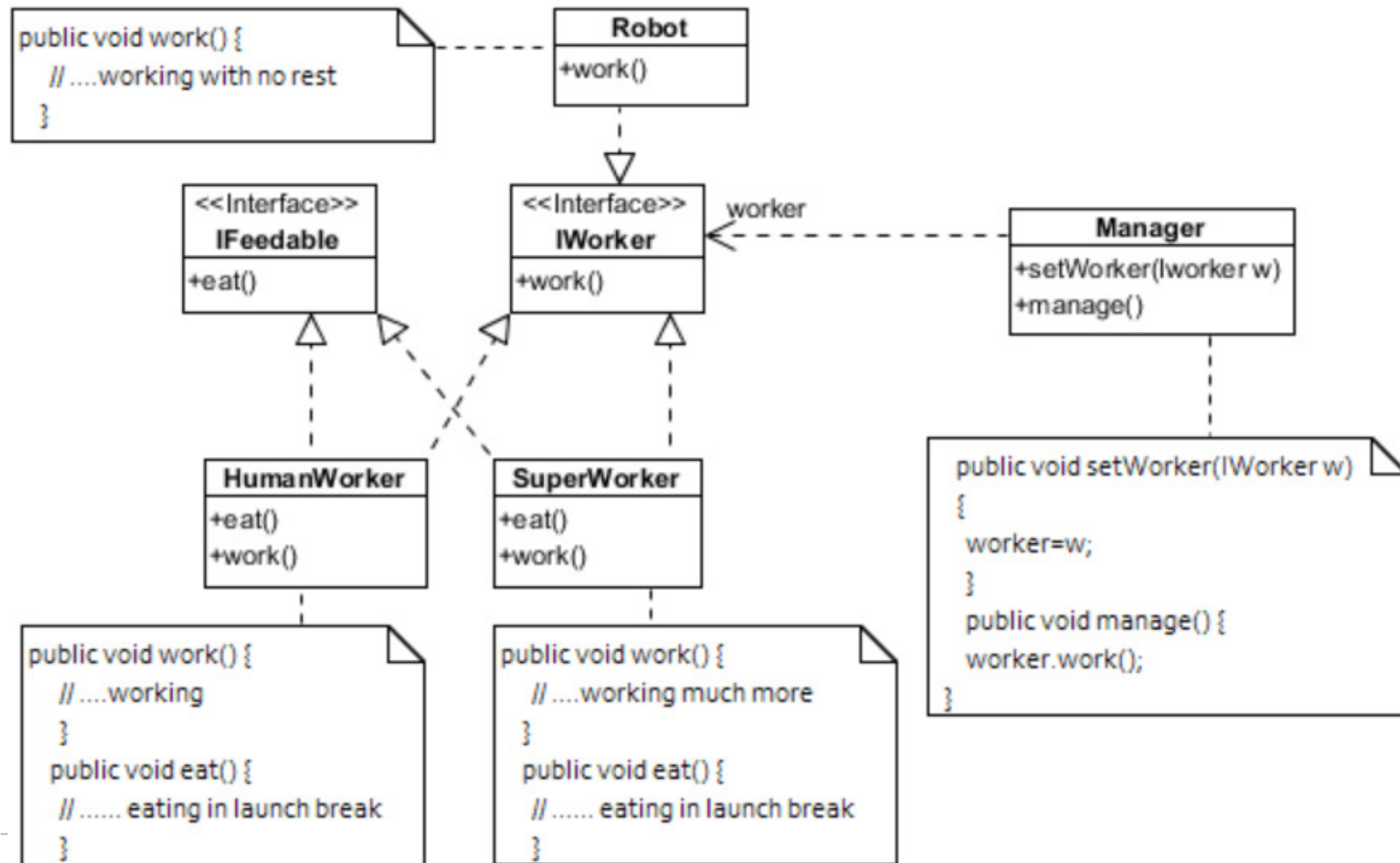
class SuperWorker implements IWorker{
    public void work() {
        //.... working much more
    }
    public void eat() {
        //.... eating in launch break
    }
}

class Manager {
    IWorker worker;
    public void setWorker(IWorker w) {
        worker=w;
    }
    public void manage() {
        worker.work();
    }
}
```

Class diagram of the bad example



interface segregation principle – example revised



interface segregation principle – example revises, the code

```
interface IWorkable {  
    public void work();  
}  
interface IFeedable{  
    public void eat();  
}  
class Worker implements IWorkable, IFeedable{  
    public void work() { // ....working  
    }  
    public void eat() { //.... eating in launch  
break  
    }  
}  
class Robot implements IWorkable{  
    public void work() { // ....working  
    }  
}
```

```
class SuperWorker implements IWorkable,  
IFeedable{  
    public void work() { //.... working much more  
    }  
    public void eat() { //.... eating in launch break  
    }  
}  
class Manager {  
    Workable worker;  
    public void setWorker(IWorkable w) {  
        worker=w;  
    }  
    public void manage() {  
        worker.work();  
    }  
}
```




DEPENDENCY INVERSION PRINCIPLE

Would You Solder A Lamp Directly To The Electrical Wiring In A Wall?

SOLID 5: Dependency Inversion Principle

- ▶ **Program to the interface, not the implementation.**
 - ▶ *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.*

SOLID 5: Dependency Inversion Principle

- ▶ It inverts the dependency: instead of writing our abstractions based on details, the we should write the details based on abstractions.
- ▶ Put simply, this says
 - ▶ "depend only on things which are abstract",
 - ▶ "interface programming" or "programming to the interface".
- ▶ In essence, you should not rely on any concrete implementations of any classes, be they your own or framework objects.

SOLID 5: Dependency Inversion Principle

- ▶ **Question:**

- ▶ Is DIP the same as information hiding?

SOLID 5: Dependency Inversion

Principle: bad ex

```
class EventLogWriter
{
    public void Write(string message)
    {
        //Write to event log here
    }
}
```

```
class AppPoolWatcher
{ // Handle to EventLog writer to write to the logs
    EventLogWriter writer = null;

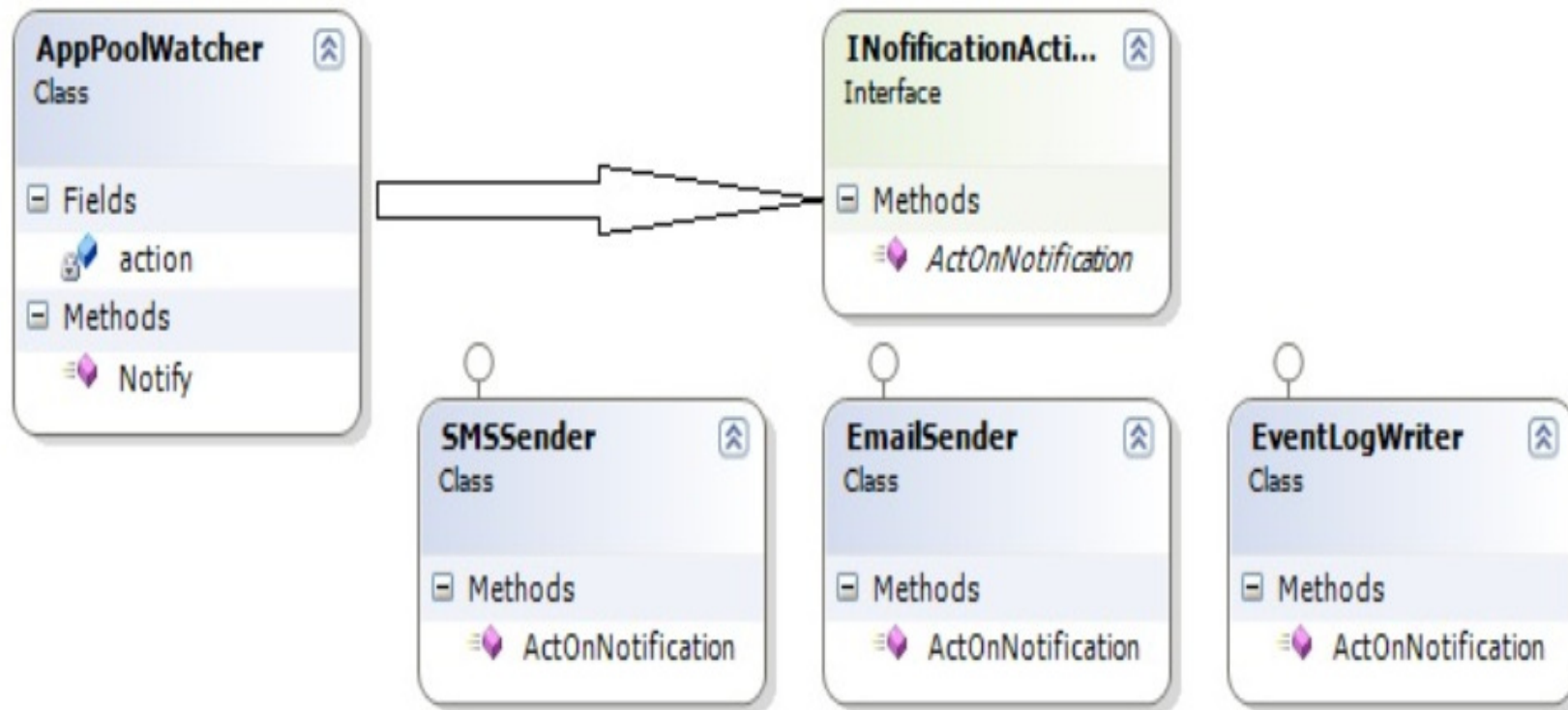
    // This function will be called when the app pool has problem
    public void Notify(string message)
    {
        if (writer == null)
        {writer = new EventLogWriter();}
        writer.Write(message);
    }
}
```

SOLID 5: Dependency Inversion

Principle: problems with the example

- ▶ The next requirement is to send email to network administrator for some specific set of error.
 - ▶ Now, how will we do that?
 - ▶ One idea is to create a class for sending emails and keeping its handle in the AppPoolWatcher but at any moment we will be using only one object either EventLogWriter or EmailSender.
- ▶ The problem will get even worse when we have more actions to take selectively, like sending SMS.
 - ▶ Then we will have to have one more class whose instance will be kept inside the AppPoolWatcher.
 - ▶ The dependency inversion principle says that we need to decouple this system in such a way that the higher level modules i.e. the AppPoolWatcher in our case will depend on a simple abstraction and will use it. This abstraction will in turn will be mapped to some concrete class which will perform the actual operation.

SOLID 5: Dependency Inversion Principle: solution



APPLYING UML AND PATTERNS

An Introduction to Object-Oriented Analysis
and Design and the Unified Process

SECOND EDITION



"People often ask me which is the best book to introduce them to the world of OO design.
Ever since I came across it, *Applying UML and Patterns* has been my unreserved choice."

—Martin Fowler, author, *UML Distilled* and *Refactoring*

CRAIG LARMAN

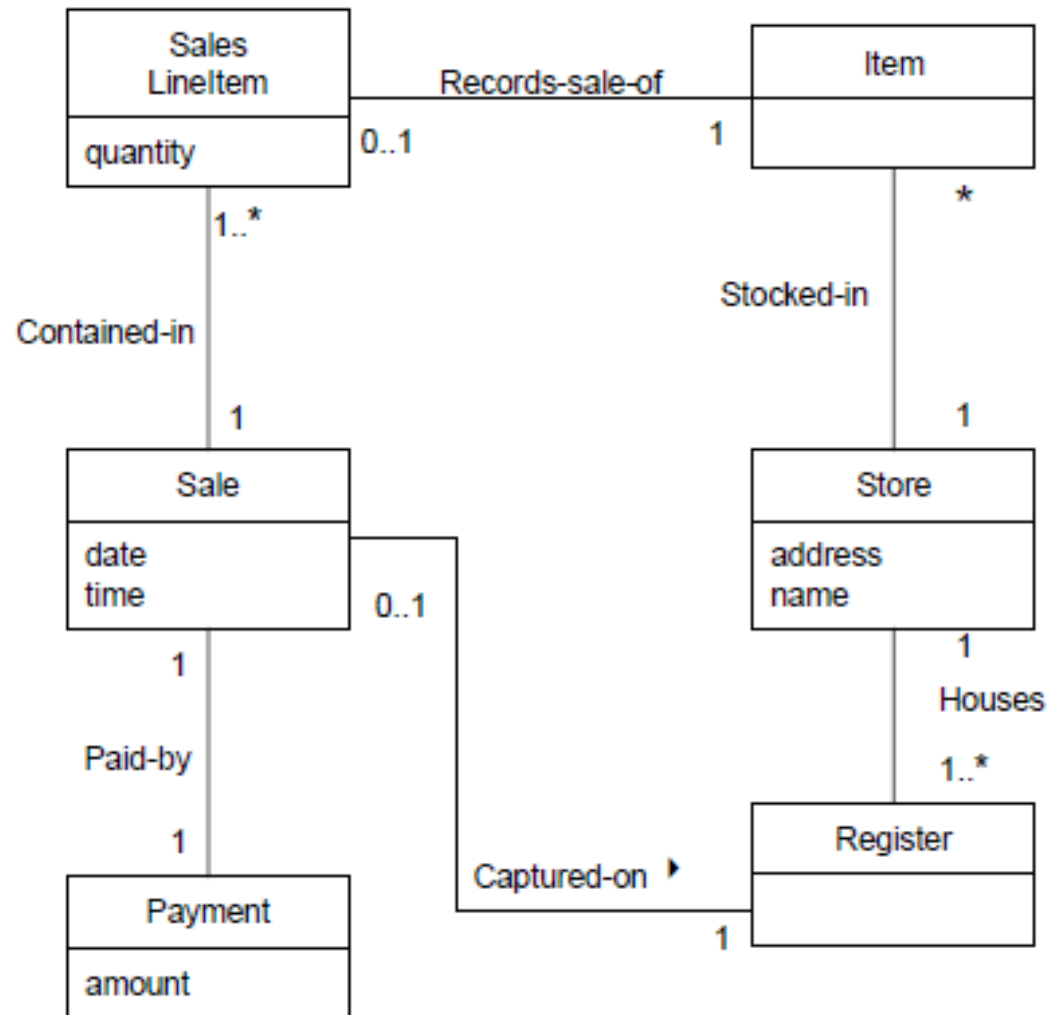
Foreword by Phillippe Kruchten

GRASP

- ▶ General Responsibility Assignment Software Patterns
- ▶ “Applying UML and Patterns” by Craig Larman
- ▶ These are not ‘design patterns’, rather fundamental principles of object design: GRASP patterns focus on one of the most important aspects of object design, assigning responsibilities to classes
- ▶ *Information Expert, Creator, Controller, Low Coupling, High Cohesion, Polymorphism, Pure Fabrication, Indirection, Protected Variations*

Example – domain model

point of sale
application



OO design

- ▶ A (too 😊) simple definition :
- ▶ In the analysis part of the current and previous iterations you have
 - ▶ Identified use cases and created use case descriptions to get the requirements
 - ▶ Created and refined the domain concept model
- ▶ Now in order to make a piece of object design you
 - ▶ Assign methods to software classes
 - ▶ Design how the classes collaborate (i.e. send messages) in order to fulfill the functionality stated in the use cases.

Central tasks in design

- ▶ Deciding what methods belong where
- ▶ How the objects should interact

- ▶ *A use-case realization*
 - ▶ *describes how a particular use case is realized within the design model in terms of collaborating objects.*
 - ▶ Use-case realization work is a design activity, the design grows with every new use case realization.
 - ▶ Interaction diagrams and patterns apply while doing use-case realizations.

Def of responsibilities

- ▶ Responsibilities are related to the problem domain
- ▶ In design model, responsibilities are obligations of an object in terms of its behavior.
- ▶ There are two main types of responsibilities:
 - ▶ *Doing responsibilities:*
 - ▶ Doing something itself, such as creating an object or doing a calculation
 - ▶ Initiating action in other objects
 - ▶ Controlling and coordinating activities in other objects.
 - ▶ *Knowing responsibilities*
 - ▶ Knowing about private encapsulated data
 - ▶ Knowing about related objects.
 - ▶ Knowing about things it can derive or calculate.
 - ▶ *Knowing are often easy to infer from the domain model, where the attributes and associations are illustrated.*

Responsibility vs method

- ▶ The translation of problem domain responsibilities into classes and methods is influenced by the granularity of the responsibility.
 - ▶ A responsibility is not the same thing as a method, but methods are implemented to fulfill responsibilities.
- ▶ **Example**
 - ▶ The *Sale* class might define a methods to know its total; say, a method named *getTotal*.
 - ▶ To fulfill that responsibility, the *Sale* may collaborate with other objects, such as sending a *getSubtotal* message to each *SalesLineItem* object asking for its subtotal.

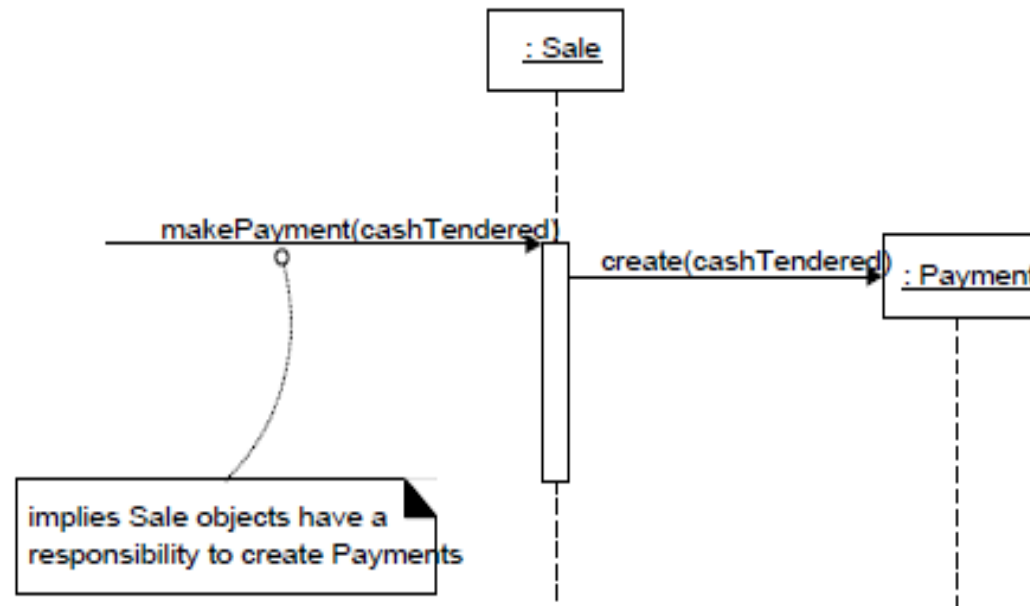
GRASP – learning and doing Basic Design

- ▶ The GRASP patterns are a learning aid to help one understand essential object design.
- ▶ Design reasoning is applied in a methodical, rational, explainable way.
- ▶ GRASP approach is based on assigning responsibilities, thus creating the basic object and control structures
 - ▶ *Guided by patterns of assigning responsibilities*

Responsibilities and Sequence Diagrams

- ▶ Responsibilities are illustrated and assigned to classes by creating mainly sequence diagrams.
- ▶ *Sale objects are given a responsibility to create Payments.*
- ▶ The responsibility is invoked with a *makePayment* message

- ▶ Note that during this design work you should stay at the *specification perspective, thinking about the service interfaces of objects, not their internal implementation*



The nine GRASP Patterns

- ▶ Creator
- ▶ Information Expert
- ▶ High Cohesion
- ▶ Low Coupling
- ▶ Controller
- ▶ Polymorphism
- ▶ Indirection
- ▶ Pure Fabrication
- ▶ Protected Variations



Creator

- ▶ **Problem**

- ▶ Who should be responsible for creating new instances of a class?

- ▶ **Solution:**

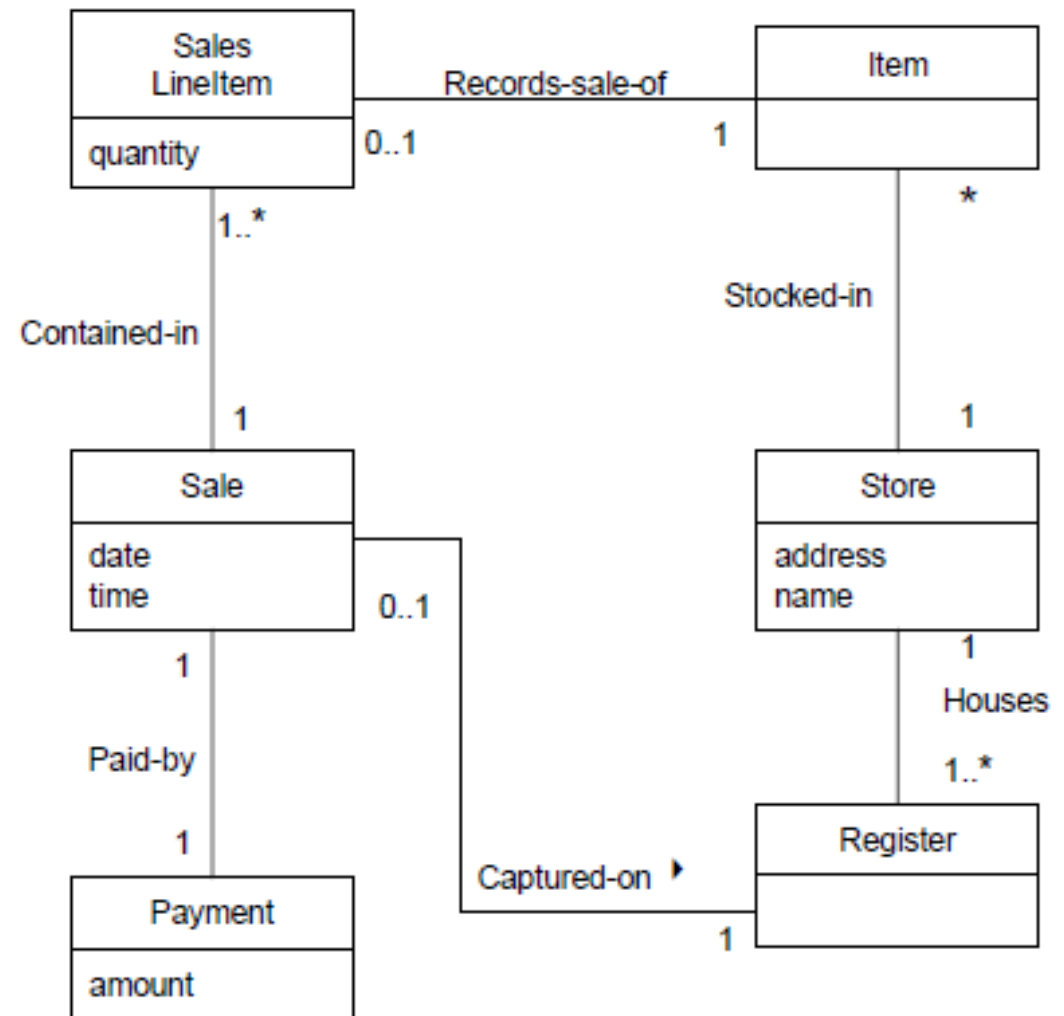
- ▶ Assign class B the responsibility to create an instance of class A if one or more of the following is true:

- ▶ B aggregates A objects.
- ▶ B contains A objects.
- ▶ B records instances of A objects.
- ▶ B closely uses A objects.
- ▶ B has the initializing data

- ▶ **Question: which is the intent?**

Example

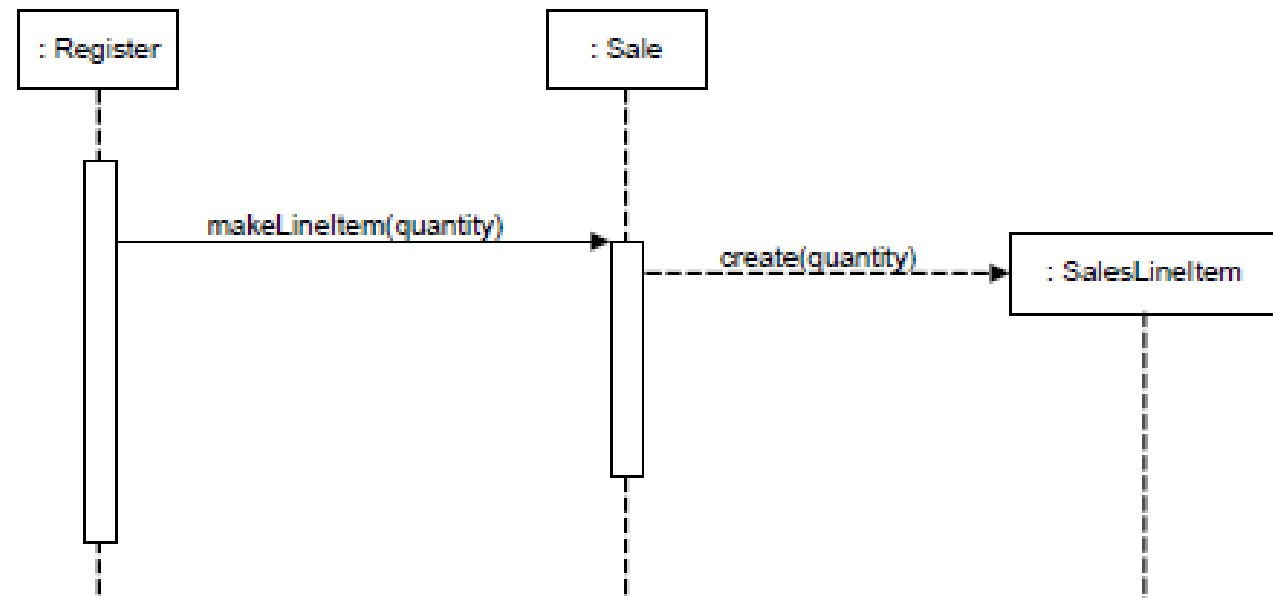
- ▶ Who should be responsible for creating a *SalesLineItem* instance?
- ▶ Applying Creator, we look for a class that aggregates, contains, and so on, *SalesLineItem* instances.



Creating SalesLineItem

- ▶ a Sale contains many SalesLineItem objects, thus the Creator pattern suggests that Sale is a good candidate to have the responsibility of creating SalesLineItem instances.

This assignment of responsibilities requires that a *makeLineItem* method be defined in Sale.



Creator: discussion

- ▶ The ‘basic rationale’ behind Creator pattern is to find a creator that needs to be connected to the created object in any event.
 - ▶ Thus assigning it ‘creating responsibility’ supports low coupling
 - ▶ Composite objects are good candidates for creating their parts
- ▶ Sometimes you identify a creator by looking for the class that has the initialization data that will be passed to constructor during creation.
 - ▶ This in fact is an application of Expert pattern (we’ll see later).
 - ▶ For example, *Payment instance* needs to be initialized, when created with the *Sale total*.
 - ▶ Since *Sale knows the total*, *Sale is a candidate creator of the Payment*.

Creator: discussion (cont'd)

▶ Benefits

- ▶ Low coupling is supported, which implies lower maintenance dependencies and higher opportunities for reuse.

▶ Contradictions

- ▶ Often, creation is a complex design issue involving many contradicting forces
- ▶ In these cases, it is advisable to delegate creation to a helper class called a *Factory*.
- ▶ GoF patterns contain many factory patterns that may inspire a better design for creation.

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Information Expert

- ▶ **Problem**

- ▶ What is the general principle of assigning responsibilities to objects.

- ▶ **Solution**

- ▶ Assign a responsibility to the information expert, that is the class that has the information necessary to fulfill the responsibility.

Information Expert: discussion

▶ Question

- ▶ Do we look at the Domain Model or the Design Model to analyze the classes that have the information needed?
 - ▶ Domain model illustrates conceptual classes, design model software classes

▶ Answer

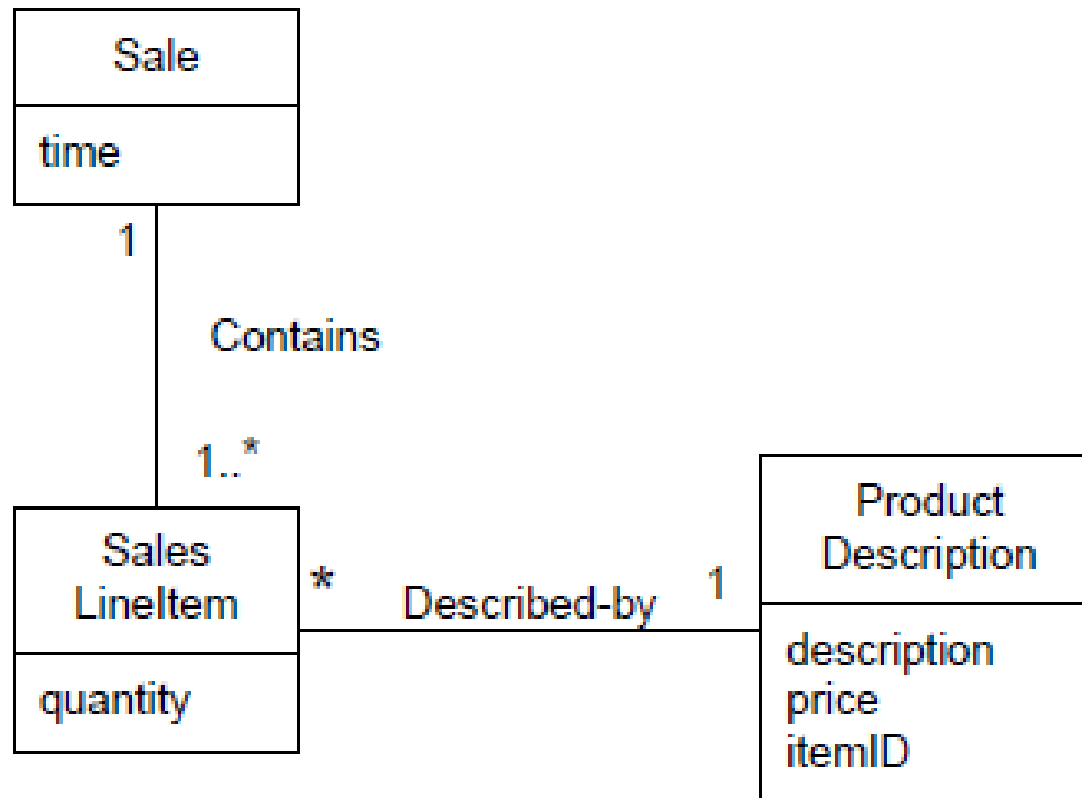
- ▶ If there are relevant classes in the Design Model, look there first.
- ▶ Otherwise, look in the Domain Model, and attempt to use (or expand) its representations to inspire the creation of corresponding design classes

How to apply the pattern

- ▶ Start by clearly stating the responsibility:
 - ▶ “Who should be responsible for knowing the total of a sale?”
- ▶ Apply “Information Expert” pattern...
- ▶ Assume we are just starting design work and there is no Design Model or a minimal one, therefore
 - ▶ Search the Domain Model for information experts; the real-world Sale is a good candidate.
 - ▶ Then, add a software class to the Design Model similarly called *Sale*, and give it the responsibility of knowing its total, expressed with the method named *getTotal*.
- ▶ *CRC cards*

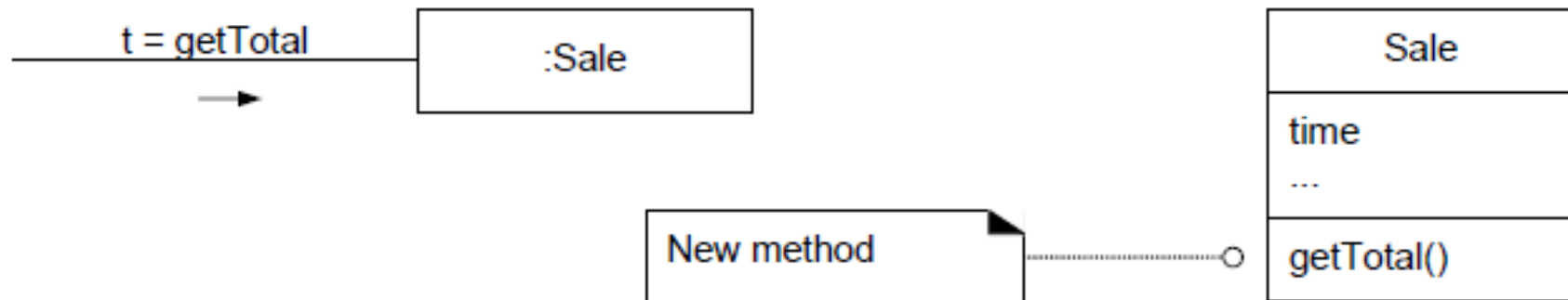
Example

- ▶ Consider the following partial Domain Model



Discussion

- ▶ What information is needed to determine the grand total?
 - ▶ It is necessary to know about all the SalesLineItem instances of a sale and the sum of their subtotals.
- ▶ A Sale instance contains these; therefore,
 - ▶ by the guideline of Information Expert, Sale is a suitable class of object for this responsibility.

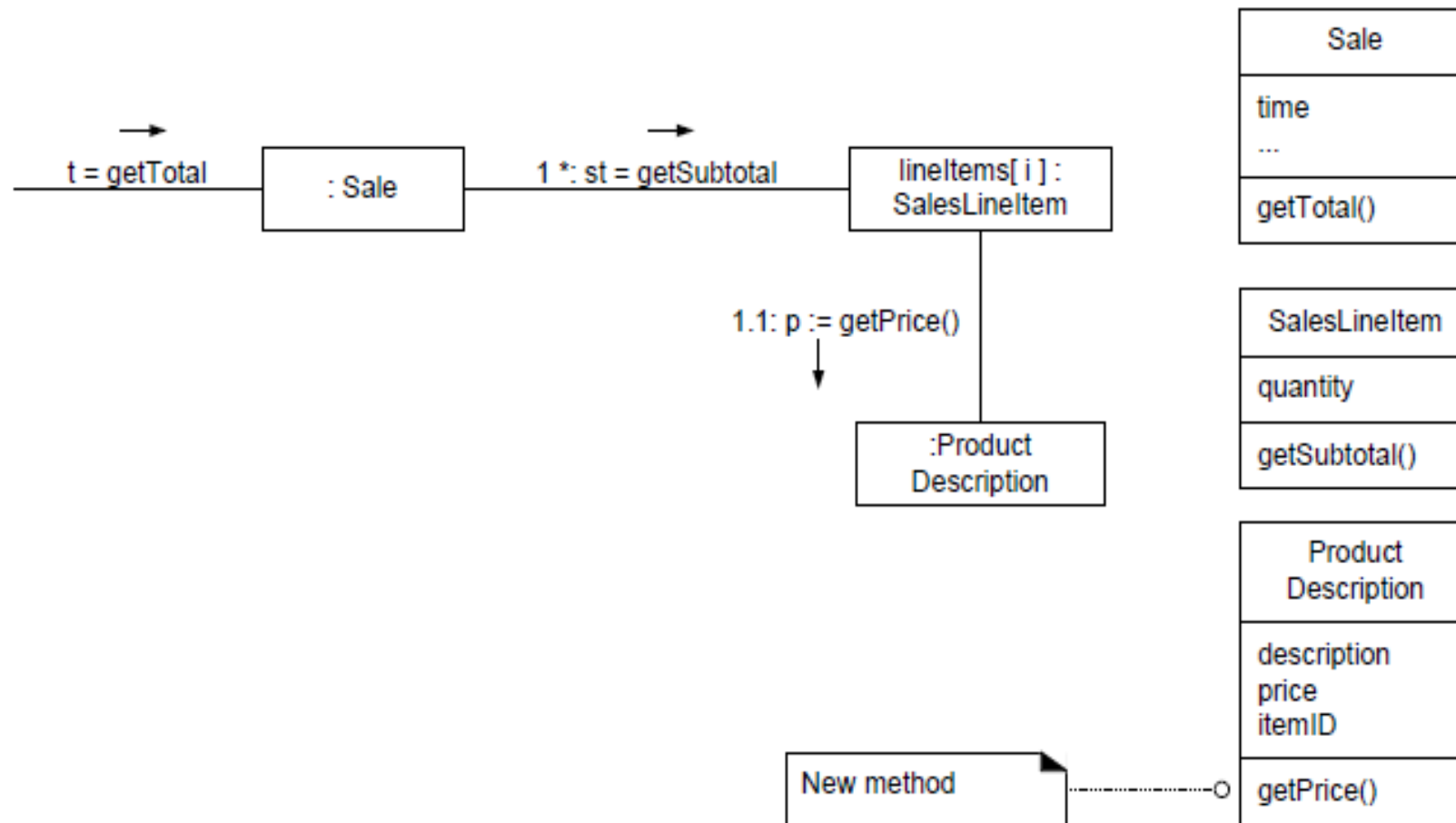


A cascade of responsibilities

- ▶ What is needed to determine the line item subtotal?
 - ▶ by Expert, *SalesLineItem* should determine the subtotal
 - ▶ To fulfill this responsibility, a *SalesLineItem* needs to know the product price.
 - ▶ By Expert, the *ProductDescription* is an information expert on answering its price
- ▶ In conclusion, to fulfill the responsibility of knowing and answering the sale's total, three responsibilities were assigned to three design classes:

Design Class	Responsibility
Sale	Knows sale total
SalesLineItem	knows line item subtotal
ProductSpecification	knows product price

The assigned responsibilities illustrated with a collaboration diagram.



Information Expert: discussion

- ▶ Information Expert is a basic guiding principle used continuously in object design.
- ▶ The fulfillment of a responsibility often requires information that is spread across different classes
 - ▶ This implies that there are many "partial" information experts who will collaborate in the task.
 - ▶ Different objects will need to interact via messages to share the work.
- ▶ The Information Expert should be an early pattern considered in every design unless the design implies a controller or creation problem, or is contraindicated on a higher design level.

Information Expert: Benefits

- ▶ Information encapsulation is maintained, since objects use their own information to fulfill tasks.
 - ▶ This usually supports low coupling.
- ▶ Behavior is distributed across the classes that have the required information,
 - ▶ thus encouraging cohesive "lightweight" class definitions that are easier to understand and maintain

Information Expert: Contradictions

- ▶ In some situations a solution suggested by Expert is undesirable, because of problems in coupling and cohesion.
- ▶ For example, who should be responsible for saving a *Sale* in a database?
 - ▶ If *Sale* is responsible, then each class has its own services to save itself in a database. The *Sale* class must now contain logic related to database handling, such as related to SQL and JDBC.
 - ▶ This will raise its coupling and duplicate the logic. The design would violate a separation of concerns – a basic *architectural design goal*.
- ▶ Thus, even though by Expert there could be justification on object design level, it would result a poor architecture design

The nine GRASP Patterns

- ▶ Creator
- ▶ Information Expert
- ▶ Low Coupling
- ▶ High Cohesion
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Low Coupling

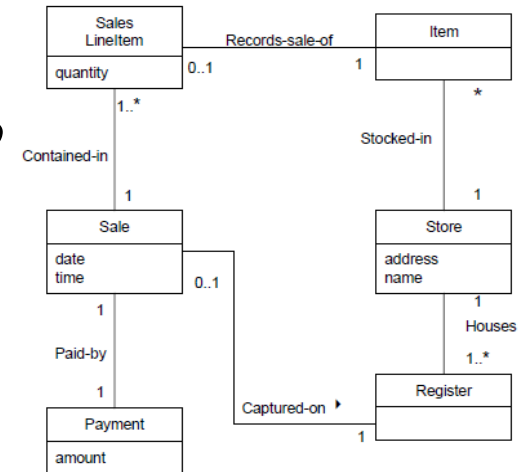
- ▶ **Problem**
 - ▶ How to support low dependency, low change impact, and increased reuse?
- ▶ **Solution**
 - ▶ Assign a responsibility so that coupling remains low.
- ▶ **Coupling is a measure of how strongly one element is connected to, has knowledge of, or relies on other elements.**
- ▶ **An element with low (or weak) coupling is not dependent on too many other elements**

Low Coupling: discussion

- ▶ A class with high (strong) coupling suffers from the following problems:
 - ▶ Forced local changes because of changes in related classes.
 - ▶ Harder to understand in isolation.
 - ▶ Harder to reuse because its use requires the additional presence of the classes on which it is dependent.

Example

- ▶ We need to create a *Payment* instance and associate it with *Sale*.
- ▶ What class should be responsible for this?
- ▶ Since *Register* “records” a *Payment*, the Creator pattern suggests *Register* as a candidate for creating the *Payment*.
- ▶ The *Register* instance could then send an *addPayment* message to the *Sale*, passing along the new *Payment* as a parameter.

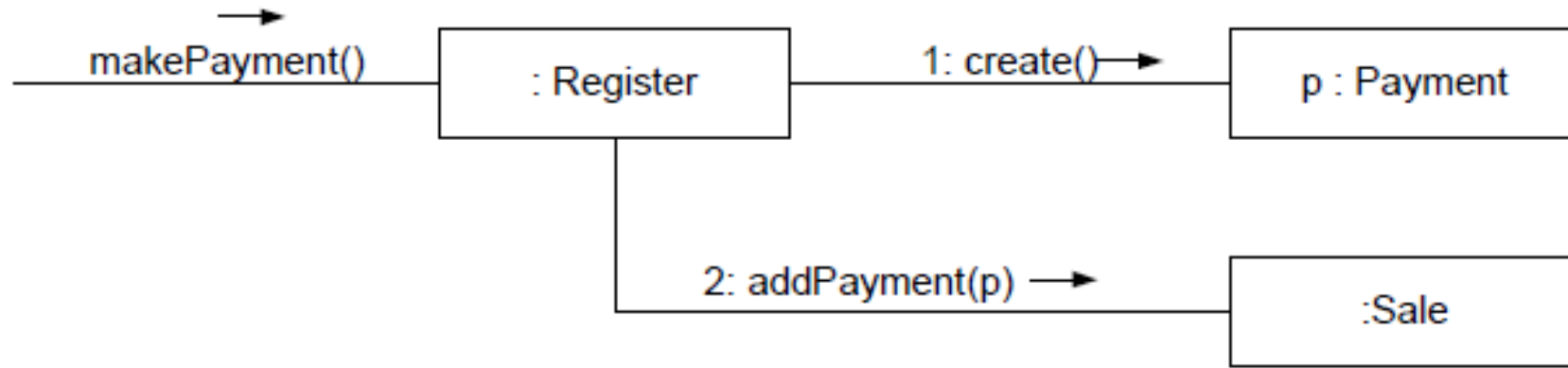


Payment

Register

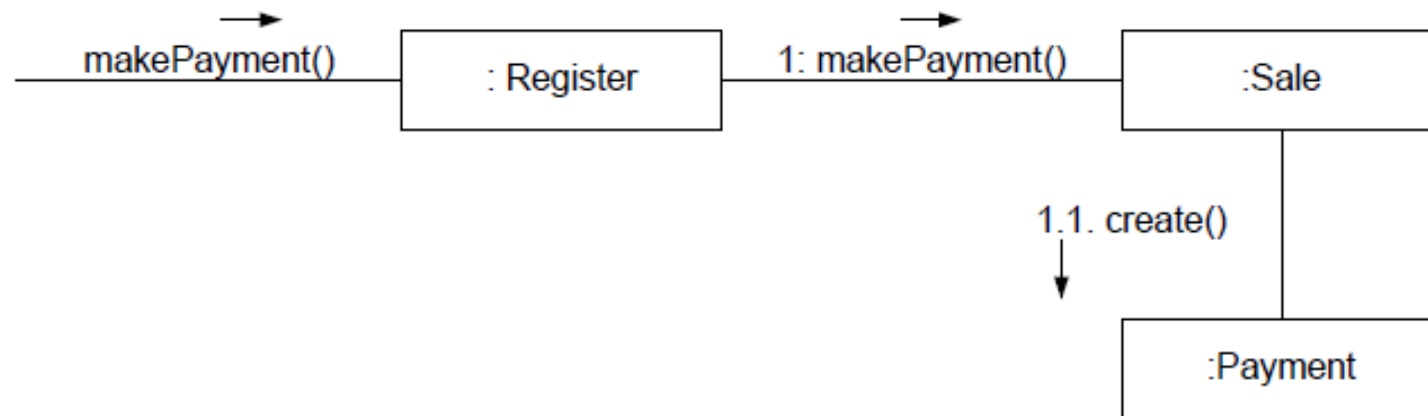
Sale

Unnecessary high coupling



- ▶ This assignment of responsibilities couples the *Register* class to knowledge of the *Payment* class.
- ▶ Register is also coupled to Sale, as it will be in any design solution. This hints us of another solution, according to low coupling pattern

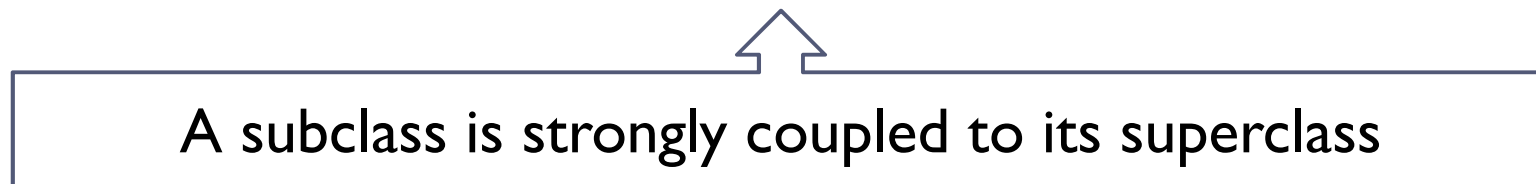
Low coupling solution



- ▶ Two patterns suggested different designs. This is very common. Creating a design is balancing contradicting forces.
- ▶ In practice, the level of coupling alone can't be considered in isolation from other principles such as Expert and Creator. Nevertheless, it is one important factor to consider in improving a design.

Discussion

- ▶ In OO languages common forms of coupling from type X to type Y include:
 - ▶ X has an attribute (data member or instance variable) that refers to a Y instance, or Y itself.
 - ▶ A X object calls on services of a Y object.
 - ▶ X has a method that references an instance of Y , or Y itself, by any means. E.g. a parameter or local variable of type Y , or the object returned from a message being an instance of Y .
 - ▶ X is a direct or indirect subclass of Y .
 - ▶ Y is an interface, and X implements that interface.



Discussion (cont'd)

- ▶ It is not high coupling per se that is the problem; the problem is high coupling to elements that are *unstable* in some dimension, such as their interface, implementation or presence.
- ▶ Coupling to stable or pervasive elements is seldom a problem
- ▶ Pick your battles
- ▶ Focus on the points of realistic high instability or future evolution
- ▶ Encapsulate the variability
- ▶ Low coupling between variable part and rest of the system

The nine GRASP Patterns

- ▶ Creator
- ▶ Information Expert
- ▶ Low Coupling
- ▶ High Cohesion
- ▶ Controller
- ▶ Polymorphism
- ▶ Indirection
- ▶ Pure Fabrication
- ▶ Protected Variations



High Cohesion

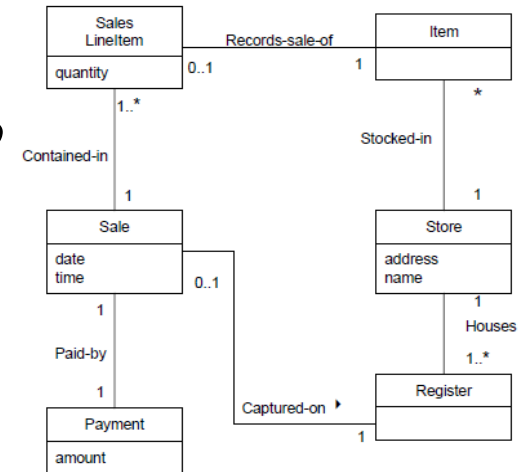
- ▶ **Problem (one of them)**
 - ▶ How to keep complexity manageable?
- ▶ **Solution**
 - ▶ Assign a responsibility so that cohesion remains high.
- ▶ **Cohesion (or more specifically, functional cohesion)**
 - ▶ Is a measure of how strongly related and focused the responsibilities of an element are.
 - ▶ An element with highly related responsibilities, and which does not do a tremendous amount of work, has high cohesion.
 - ▶ A class with low cohesion does many unrelated things, or does too much work.

Low Cohesion Problems

- ▶ A class with low cohesion suffer from the following problems:
 - ▶ Hard to comprehend (understand)
 - ▶ Hard to reuse
 - ▶ Delicate; constantly affected by change.
 - ▶ Hard to maintain
- ▶ Low cohesion classes have taken on responsibilities that should have been delegated to other objects.

Example

- ▶ We need to create a *Payment* instance and associate it with *Sale*.
- ▶ What class should be responsible for this?
- ▶ Since *Register* “records” a *Payment*, the Creator pattern suggests *Register* as a candidate for creating the *Payment*.
- ▶ The *Register* instance could then send an *addPayment* message to the *Sale*, passing along the new *Payment* as a parameter.

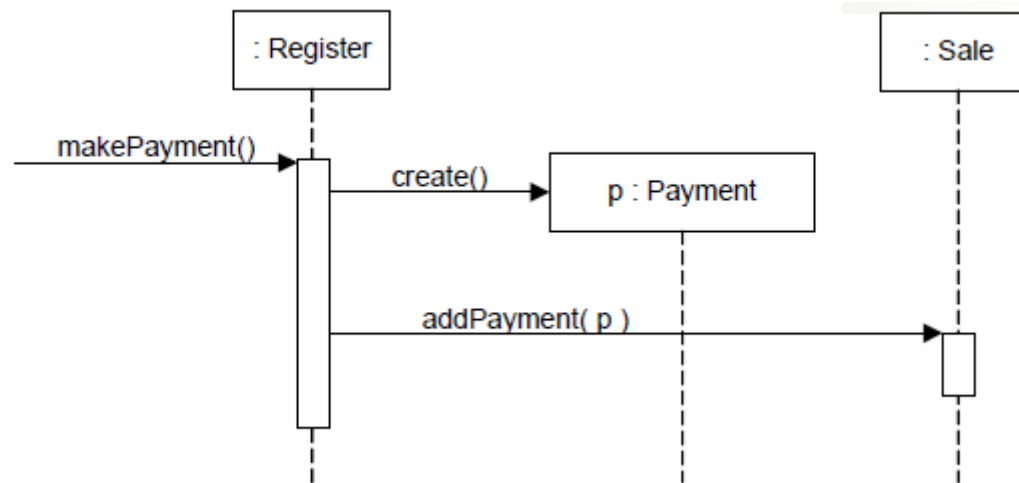


Payment

Register

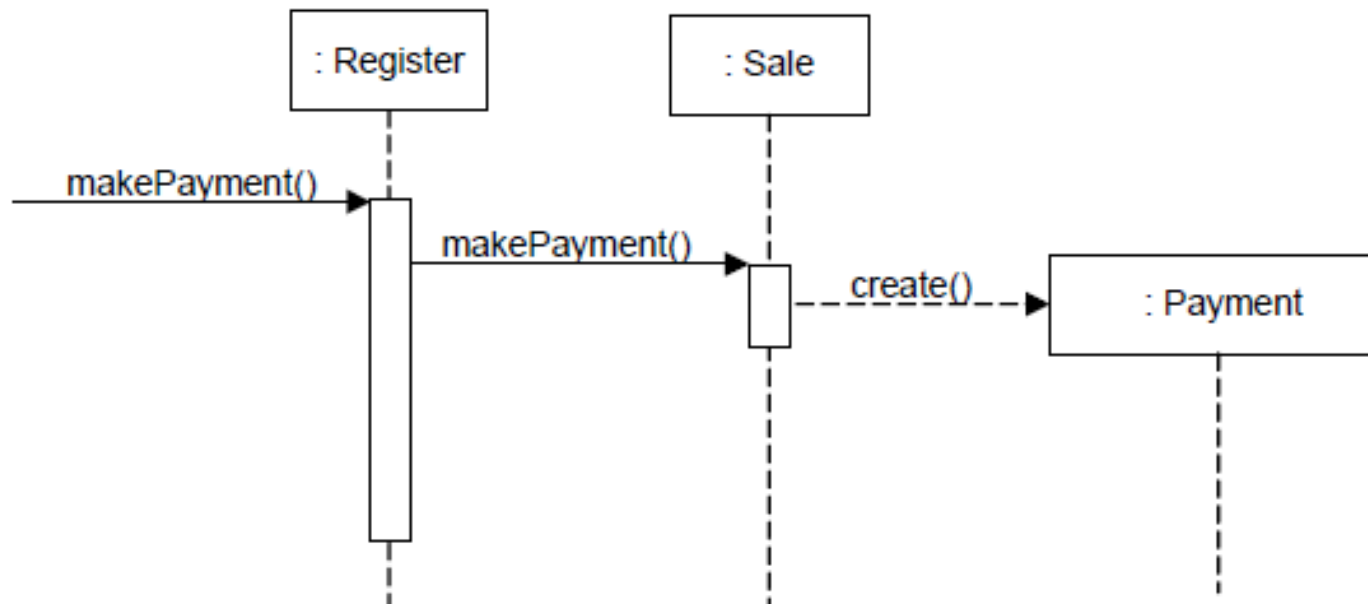
Sale

Suggested (wrong) Solution



- ▶ This places part of the responsibility for making a payment in the *Register*. *This is acceptable in isolated ex.*
- ▶ However, if we continue to make the *Register class responsible* for doing some or most of the work, assigning it more system operations, it will become incohesive.

A better Solution



- ▶ This design delegates the payment creation responsibility to the *Sale*, which supports higher cohesion in register.
- ▶ This design supports both high cohesion and low coupling and is desirable.

Discussion

- ▶ Like Low Coupling, High Cohesion is a principle to keep in mind during all design decisions
 - ▶ It is important to evaluate design constantly with respect to these principles, regardless of the design result.
- ▶ **Cohesion Benefits**
 - ▶ Clarity and ease of comprehension of the design is increased.
 - ▶ Maintenance and enhancements are simplified.
 - ▶ Low coupling is often supported.
 - ▶ The fine grain of highly related functionality supports reuse

Discussion (cont'd)

- ▶ There are cases in which lower cohesion is justified.
 - ▶ to simplify maintenance by one person. E.g. if there is only one or two SQL experts know how to best define and maintain this SQL.
 - ▶ If performance implications associated with remote objects and remote communication
 - ▶ As a simple example, instead of a remote object with three fine-grained operations *setName*, *setSalary*, and *setHireDate*, there is one remote operation *setData* which receives a set of data. This results in less remote calls, and better performance.

Suggested biblio

- ▶ Chapter 16 of Applying UML and Patterns, Craig Larman (online)

Homework

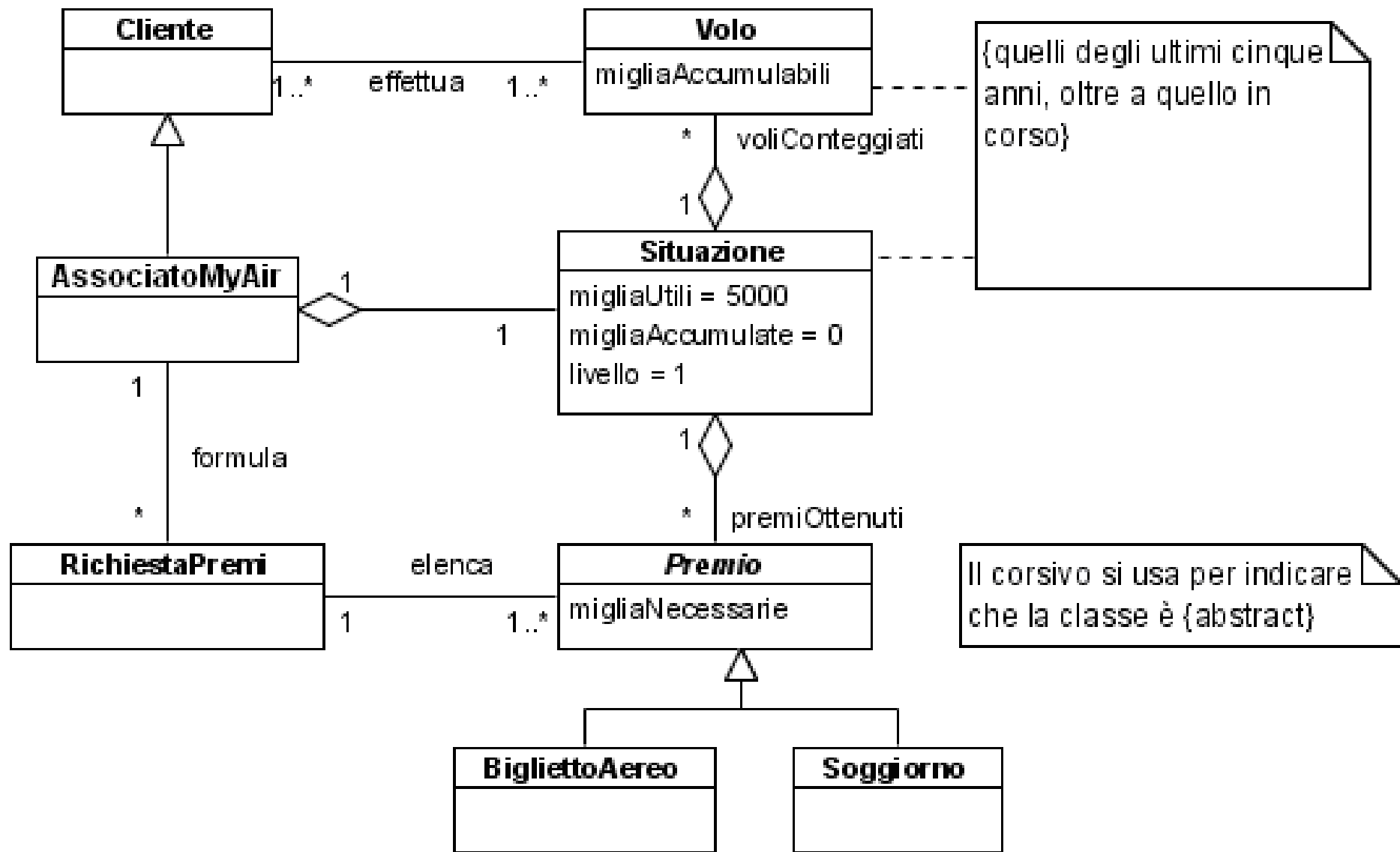
Analyse an example taken from the IS course.

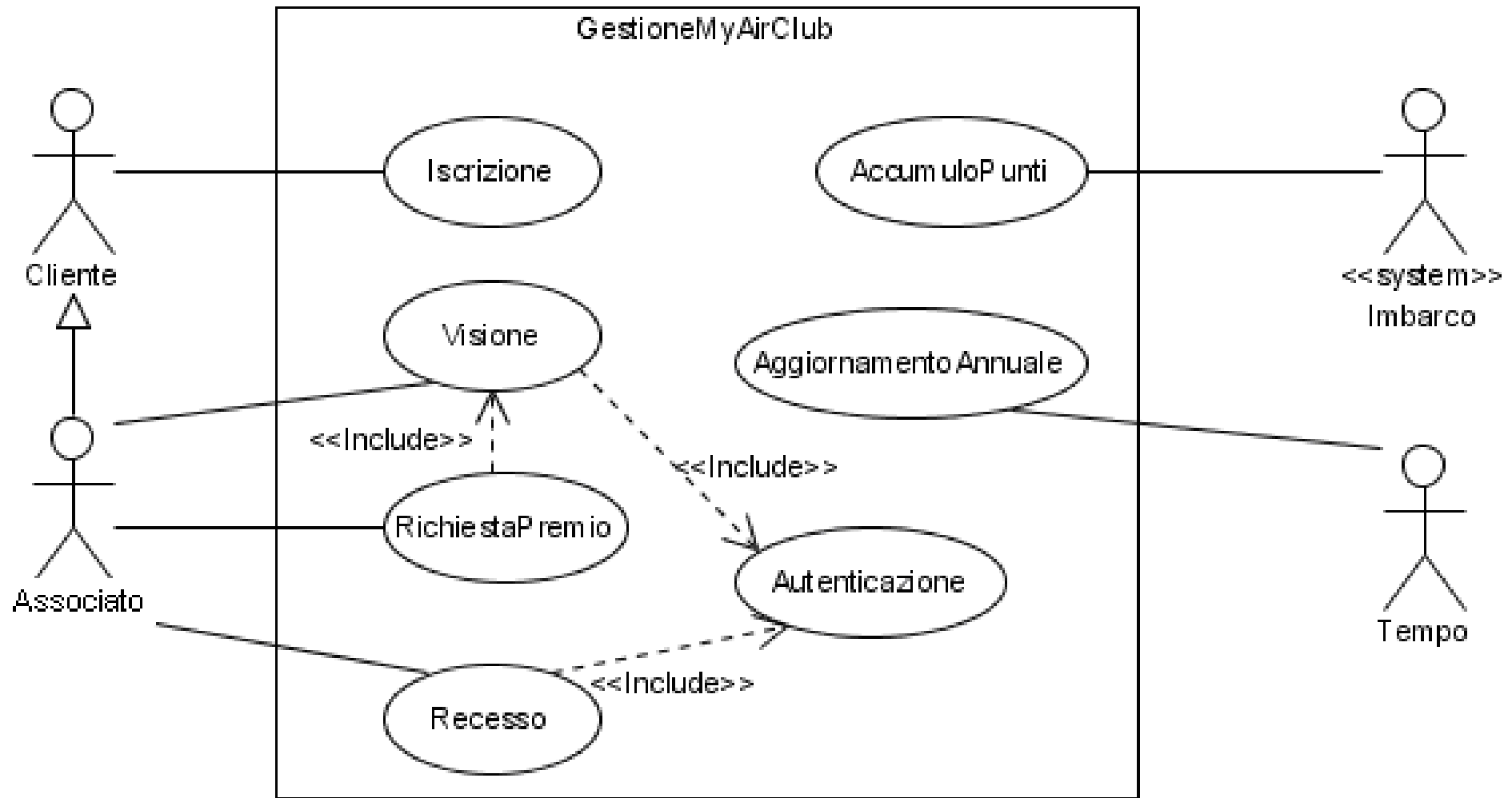
E.g. MyAir

MyAir (to be translated)

Vola con MyAir! Entra a far parte del club MyAir: sarai trattato con l'attenzione che ti meriti ma, soprattutto, potrai ricevere in omaggio biglietti aereo o soggiorni in località da sogno. Iscriviti al programma e da semplice cliente diventerai un associato MyAir, guadagnando immediatamente un bonus di 5.000 miglia utili. Ogni volta che volerai con MyAir le miglia accumulabili del volo saranno sommate alle tue miglia utili, permettendoti di raggiungere in poco tempo le miglia necessarie per richiedere uno dei nostri favolosi premi. Ricordati che la richiesta premi deve essere effettuata mediante il portale dedicato ai associati MyAir. Non dovrai compilare moduli o inviare lettere, semplicemente scegli il tuo premio, stampa la ricevuta e inizia a sognare! Ma essere associati MyAir non è solo questo: se accumulerai almeno 15.000 miglia (miglia accumulate) sarai promosso dal livello standard al livello argento, usufruendo di particolari agevolazioni al momento dell'imbarco. Se invece accumulerai almeno 100.000 miglia entrerai a far parte del ristretto numero di associati del livello oro².

- ▶ 1. Soggetto a disponibilità di miglia utili nella situazione dell'associato MyAir e di disponibilità del premio scelto. I premi riscossi danno luogo a una diminuzione immediata delle miglia utili. La situazione è aggiornata il 31 dicembre, mantenendo solo le miglia dei voli effettuati negli ultimi 5 anni.
- ▶ 2. Tutte le condizioni si riferiscono esclusivamente alle miglia accumulate in un anno. Il passaggio da un livello all'altro è effettuato il 31 dicembre. La permanenza nel livello da un anno all'altro è soggetta al rispetto degli stessi requisiti per entrare nel livello. Il bonus iniziale non concorre al raggiungimento delle miglia richieste per cambiare o mantenere un livello.





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- ▶ Send (the pdf) by Tuesday do me (semini@di.unipi.it) with subject
 - ▶ DPhomework1