Object-Oriented Software Engineering Using UML, Patterns, and Java

Chapter 6 System Design: Decomposing the System

Requirements Elicitation & Analysis results in;

- Non-functional requirements and constraints
- Use-case model (functional model)
- Object Model
- Dynamic model

The activities of System design;

- Identify design goals
- Design the initial subsystem decomposition
- Refine the subsystem decomposition to address design goals



Design is Difficult

- There are two ways of constructing a software design (Tony Hoare):
 - One way is to make it so simple that there are obviously no deficiencies
 - The other way is to make it so complicated that there are no obvious deficiencies."
- Corollary (Jostein Gaarder):
 - If our brain would be so simple that we can understand it, we would be too stupid to understand it.



Sir Antony Hoare, *1934

- Quicksort
- Hoare logic for verification
- CSP (Communicating Sequential Processes): modeling language for concurrent <u>processes</u> (basis for Occam).



Jostein Gardner, *1952, writer Uses metafiction in his stories: Fiction which uses the device of fiction - Best known for: "Sophie's World".

Why is Design so Difficult?

- Analysis: Focuses on the application domain
- **Design:** Focuses on the solution domain
 - The solution domain is changing very rapidly
 - Halftime knowledge in software engineering: About 3-5 years
 - Design knowledge is a moving target

The Scope of System Design

- Bridge the gap
 - between a problem and an system in a manageable way
- How?
- Use Divide & Conquer:

 Identify design goals
 Model the new system design as a set of subsystems
 Address the major design goals.





Overview

System Design I (This Lecture)

- 0. Overview of System Design
- 1. Design Goals
- 2. Subsystem Decomposition, Software Architecture

System Design II (Next Lecture)

- 3. Concurrency: Identification of parallelism
- 4. Hardware/Software Mapping:

Mapping subsystems to processors

- 5. Persistent Data Management: Storage for entity objects
- 6. Global Resource Handling & Access Control: Who can access what?)
- 7. Software Control: Who is in control?
- 8. Boundary Conditions: Administrative use cases.

From Analysis to System Design



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Example of Design Goals

Design goals guide the decisions to be made by developers

- Reliability
- Modifiability
- Maintainability
- Understandability
- Adaptability
- Reusability
- Efficiency
- Portability
- Traceability of requirements
- Fault tolerance
- Backward-compatibility
- Cost-effectiveness
- Robustness
- High-performance

- Good documentation
- Well-defined interfaces
- User-friendliness
- Reuse of components
- Rapid development
- Minimum number of errors
- Readability
- Ease of learning
- Ease of remembering
- Ease of use
- Increased productivity
- □ Low-cost
- Flexibility

Stakeholders have different Design Goals



Typical Design Trade-offs

- Functionality v. Usability
- Cost v. Robustness
- Efficiency v. Portability
- Rapid development v. Functionality
- Cost v. Reusability
- Backward Compatibility v. Readability
- Security vs Usability

Subsystem Decomposition

Subsystem

- Collection of classes, associations, operations, events and constraints that are closely interrelated with each other
- The objects and classes from the object model are the "seeds" for the subsystems
- In UML subsystems are modeled as packages
- A subsystem is characterized by the services it provides to other subsystems

Service

- A set of named operations that share a common purpose
- The origin ("seed") for services are the use cases from the functional model
- Services are defined during system design.
- Advantage of System Decomposition?



Conway's Law

CONWAY ' S LAW

"Any organization that designs a system will inevitably produce a design whose structure is a copy of the organization's communication structure." Melvin E. Conway, 1967



The structure of software reflects the organizational structure that produced it

* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conway%27s_law

Conway's Law – Example

- Consider a large system S that the government wants to build. The government hires Company X to build system S. Say company X has three engineering groups, E1, E2 and E3 that participate in the project
- Conway's law suggest that it is likely that the resultant system will consist of 3 major subsystems (S1,S2, and S3), each built by one of the engineering groups.
- Further, the resultant interfaces among subsystems (S1-S2, S1-S3, S2-S3) will reflect the quality and nature of the realworld interpersonal communications among respective engineering groups (E1-E2, E1-E3, E2-E3)



Packages

- A **package** in the Unified Modeling Language is used to group elements (as **subsystem**).
- A package may contain other packages, thus providing for a hierarchical organization of packages.
- Pretty much all UML elements can be grouped into packages.



Package Diagram

- To simplify complex class diagrams, you can group classes into **packages**. A package is a collection of logically related UML elements
- A **package diagram** depicts the dependencies between the packages
- The dotted arrows are **dependencies**. One package depends on another if changes in the other could possibly force changes in the first



http://edn.embarcadero.com/article/31863

Subsystem Decomposition - Example

Accident Management System



Coupling and Coherence of Subsystems

Good Design

- Goal: Reduce system complexity while allowing change
- Coherence measures dependency among classes
- High coherence: The classes in the subsystem perform similar tasks and are related to each other via associations
 - Low coherence: Lots of miscellaneous and auxiliary classes, no associations
- Coupling measures dependency among subsystems
 - High coupling: Changes to one subsystem will have high impact on the other subsystem

Low coupling: A change in one subsystem does not affect any other subsystem

Coupling and Dependency



How to achieve high Coherence

- High coherence can be achieved if most of the interaction is within subsystems, rather than across subsystem boundaries
- Questions to ask:
 - Does one subsystem always call another one for a specific service?
 - Yes: Consider moving them together into the same subystem.
 - Which of the subsystems call each other for services?
 - Can this be avoided by restructuring the subsystems or changing the subsystem interface?
 - Can the subsystems even be hierarchically ordered (in layers)?

Examples of Reducing the coupling of subsystems

Alternative 1: Direct access to the Database subsystem



Example of Reducing the couple of subsystems

Alternative 2: Indirect access to the Database through a Storage subsystem



Decision Tracking System

 Decision Tracking system for recording design problems, discussions, decisions etc.



Alternative System Decomposition



Subsystem Interfaces vs API

- Subsystem interface: Set of fully typed UML operations
 - Specifies the interaction and information flow from and to subsystem boundaries, but not inside the subsystem
 - Refinement of service, should be well-defined and small
 - Subsystem interfaces are defined during object design
- Application programmer's interface (API)
 - The API is the specification of the subsystem interface in a specific programming language
 - APIs are defined during implementation
- The terms subsystem interface and API are often confused with each other
 - The term API should not be used during system design and object design, but only during implementation.

Example: Notification subsystem

- Service provided by Notification Subsystem
 - LookupChannel()
 - SubscribeToChannel()
 - SendNotice()
 - UnscubscribeFromChannel()
- Subsystem Interface of Notification Subsystem
 - Set of fully typed UML operations
- API of Notification Subsystem
 - Implementation in Java

Properties of Subsystems: Layers and Partitions

- A layer is a subsystem that provides a service to another subsystem with the following restrictions:
 - A layer only depends on services from lower layers
 - A layer has no knowledge of higher layers
- A layer can be divided horizontally into several independent subsystems called partitions
 - Partitions provide services to other partitions on the same layer
 - Partitions are also called "weakly coupled" subsystems.

3-Layer Architectural Style

A 3-Layer Architectural Style is a hierarchy of 3 layers usually called presentation, application and data layer



Appeared first in 1965, proposed by Dijkstra, in the design of the T.H.E. system.

Relationships between Subsystems

- Two major types of Layer relationships
 - Layer A "depends on" Layer B (compile time dependency)
 - Example: Build dependencies (make, ant, maven)
 - Layer A "calls" Layer B (runtime dependency)
 - Example: A web browser calls a web server
 - Can the client and server layers run on the same machine?
 - Yes, they are layers, not processor nodes
 - Mapping of layers to processors is decided during the Software/hardware mapping!
- Partition relationship
 - The subsystems have mutual knowledge about each other
 - A calls services in B; B calls services in A (Peer-to-Peer)
- UML convention:
 - Runtime dependencies are associations with dashed lines
 - Compile time dependencies are associations with solid lines. Bernd Bruegge & Allen H. Dutoit

Example of a Subsystem Decomposition



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Building Systems as a Set of Layers

A system is a hierarchy of layers, each using language primitives offered by the lower layers



Closed Architecture (Opaque Layering)

 Each layer can only call operations from layer below

Design goals: Maintainability, flexibility



Opaque Layering in ARENA



Open Architecture (Transparent Layering)

 Each layer can call operations from any layer below

Design goal: Runtime efficiency



Architectural Style vs Architecture

- Subsystem decomposition: Identification of subsystems, services, and their association to each other (hierarchical, peer-to-peer, etc)
- Architectural Style: A pattern for a subsystem decomposition
- Software Architecture: Instance of an architectural style.

Examples of Architectural Styles

- Client/Server
- Peer-To-Peer
- Repository
- Model/View/Controller
- Three-tier, Four-tier Architecture
- Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA)
- Pipes and Filters

Client/Server Architectural Style

- One or many servers provide services to instances of other subsystems, called clients
- Each client calls on the server, which performs some service and returns the result The clients know the *interface* of the server
 The server does not need to know the interface of the client
- The response in general is immediate
- End users interact only with the client.



Client/Server Architectures

- Well suited for distributed systems that manage large amounts of data
- Often used in the design of database systems
 - Front-end: User application (client)
 - Back end: Database access and manipulation (server)
- Functions performed by client:
 - Input from the user (Customized user interface)
 - Front-end processing of input data
- Functions performed by the database server:
 - Centralized data management
 - Data integrity and database consistency
 - Database security

Design Goals for Client/Server Architectures

Service Portability

Location-Transparency

High Performance

Scalability

Flexibility

Reliability

Server runs on many operating systems and many networking environments

Server might itself be distributed, but provides a single "logical" service to the user

Client optimized for interactive displayintensive tasks; Server optimized for CPU-intensive operations

Server can handle large # of clients

User interface of client supports a variety of end devices (PDA, Handy, laptop, wearable computer)

A measure of success with which the observed behavior of a system confirms to the specification of its behavior (Chapter 11: Testing)

Problems with Client/Server Architectures

- Client/Server systems do not provide peer-topeer communication
- Peer-to-peer communication is often needed
- Example:
 - Database must process queries from application and should be able to send notifications to the application when data have changed



Peer-to-Peer Architectural Style

Generalization of Client/Server Architectural Style **"Clients can be servers and servers can be clients"** Introduction a new abstraction: Peer **"Clients and servers can be both peers"** How do we model this statement? With Inheritance?



Model-View-Controller Architectural Style

 Subsystems are classified into 3 different types
 Model subsystem: Responsible for application domain knowledge

View subsystem: Responsible for displaying application domain objects to the user

Controller subsystem: Responsible for sequence of interactions with the user and notifying views of changes in the model

- **Model**: encapsulates core data and functionality; independent of specific output representations or input behavior
- View: Display information to the user; obtains data from the model; multiple views of the same model are possible.
- **Controller**: Receive input events which are translated to model and view services; user interacts solely through controller
- Well suited for interactive systems, especially when multiple views of the same model are needed.

Model-View-Controller Example



Political Elections

Model-View-Controller Architectural Style

 Subsystems are classified into 3 different types
 Model subsystem: Responsible for application domain knowledge

View subsystem: Responsible for displaying application domain objects to the user

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Better understanding with a Collaboration Diagram



3-Layer Architectural Style

A 3-Layer Architectural Style is a hierarchy of 3 layers usually called presentation, application and data layer



3-Layer-Architectural Style 3-Tier Architecture

Definition: 3-Layer Architectural Style

- An architectural style, where an application consists of 3
 hierarchically ordered subsystems
 - A user interface, middleware and a database system
 - The middleware subsystem services data requests between the user interface and the database subsystem

Definition: 3-Tier Architecture

- A software architecture where the 3 layers are allocated on 3 separate hardware nodes
- Note: Layer is a type (e.g. class, subsystem) and Tier is an instance (e.g. object, hardware node)
- Layer and Tier are often used interchangeably.

Example of a 3-Layer Architectural Style

- Three-Layer architectural style are often used for the development of Websites:
 - 1. The Web Browser implements the user interface
 - 2. The Web Server serves requests from the web browser
 - 3. The Database manages and provides access to the persistent data.

MVC vs. 3-Tier Architectural Style

- The MVC architectural style is nonhierarchical (triangular):
 - View subsystem sends updates to the Controller subsystem
 - Controller subsystem updates the Model subsystem
 - View subsystem is updated directly from the Model subsystem
- The 3-tier architectural style is hierarchical (linear):
 - The presentation layer never communicates directly with the data layer (opaque architecture)
 - All communication must pass through the middleware layer

Summary

- System Design
 - An activity that reduces the gap between the problem and a solution
- Design Goals Definition
 - Describes the important system qualities
 - Defines the values against which options are evaluated
- Subsystem Decomposition
 - Decomposes the overall system into manageable parts by using the principles of cohesion and coherence
- Architectural Style
 - A pattern of a typical subsystem decomposition
- Software architecture
 - An instance of an architectural style
 - Client Server, Peer-to-Peer, Model-View-Controller.