

Software Product Line Engineering

Lab class 10 / Assignment 6 + Q/A

Task 1) Terminology

- Aspect-orientation: Modularization of cross-cutting concerns
- **Aspects** are encapsulations of a cross-cutting concern's implementation.
- A **joinpoint** is an event during execution of a program, can serve as a hook for an aspect.
- A **pointcut** is a declarative specification of a set of joinpoints.
- An **advice** is a piece of code that is executed if an associated event (joinpoint) arises.
- An **inter-type declaration** is the declaration of fields, methods, and constructors, which are added to the base implementation by an aspect.
- **Quantification** is the process of selecting several joinpoints via declarative specification (pointcut)

Task 2a-c) Pointcuts in AspectJ

- *//every execution of method Client.send(text)*
pointcut *sendExecutionInClientWithParam*(String text): **execution**(void client.Client.send(String)) && args(text);

before(String msgText): *sendExecutionInClientWithParam*(msgText) {
 System.err.println("sendInClient: " + msgText);
}
- *//every invocation of a method with name send*
pointcut *allCallsToSend*(): **call**(* *.send(..));

before(): *allCallsToSend*() {
 System.err.println("Call to send()");
}
- *//every execution of a public method*
pointcut *allPublicMethodExecutions*(): **execution**(public * *(..));

before(): *allPublicMethodExecutions*() {
 System.err.println("Public method execution");
}

Task 2d-e) Pointcuts in AspectJ

- *//every invocation of a method send in class Client not originating in the class Client itself*
pointcut *callsToSendInClientButNotFromClient()*: **call**(public void client.Client.send(..)) && **!within**(client.Client);

before(): *callsToSendInClientButNotFromClient()* {
 System.err.println("Call to client.Client.send(..), not from client.Client");
}
- *//every read-access of the socket on the Server*
pointcut *allReadsOfServerSocket()*: **get**(* server.Server.server);

before(): *allReadsOfServerSocket()* {
 System.err.println("Read access to server socket");
}

Task 2f-g) Pointcuts in AspectJ

- *//every instantiation of class Connection*
pointcut *allConnectionInstantiations()*: **call**(server.Connection.new(..));

before(): *allConnectionInstantiations()* {
 System.err.println("Instantiation of server.Connection");
}
- *//every method invocation inside the method Server.broadcast() unless the target is an instance of class Connection*
pointcut *allCallsInsideBroadcastExceptToConnection()*:
 withincode(void server.Server.broadcast(String)) && **call**(* *(..)) && **!target**(server.Connection);

before(): *allCallsInsideBroadcastExceptToConnection()* {
 System.err.println("Call inside server.Server.broadcast, but not to server.Connection");
}

Task 3) Advices in AspectJ

```
public aspect Advice {
    after(Foo foo, int i): call(void foo.Foo.firstOperation(int)) && args(i) & this(foo) {
        foo.log("firstOperation executed with parameter " + i);
    }

    around(String parameter, Locker locker): execution(void foo.Foo.main(String, Locker)) && args(parameter, locker) {
        int lockId = locker.lock();
        try {
            proceed(parameter, locker);
        } finally {
            locker.unlock(lockId);
        }
    }
}
```

```
1 public class Foo {
2     void main(String parameter, Locker locker) {
3
4
5         int i = parameter.length();
6         firstOperation(i);
7
8         secondOperation();
9
10
11
12     }
13 }
```

Task 4) Obliviousness Principle

a) What is the obliviousness principle?

The base implementation is unaware of aspects.

b) What are its advantages and disadvantages?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No preplanning required• Developer do not need to be skilled in aspect-oriented languages/tools | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• fragile pointcut problem• aspect-oriented language need to be powerful (increased complexity)• aspects may alter the base implementation execution unexpectedly |
|--|---|

c) How can one solve the fragile pointcut problem?

- Convention / Documentation
- Tool support (e.g., Eclipse + AJDT)
- Interfaces between base code and aspects (discarding the obliviousness principle)

