Principles of Software Construction: Objects, Design, and Concurrency

Libraries and Frameworks

(Design for large-scale reuse)

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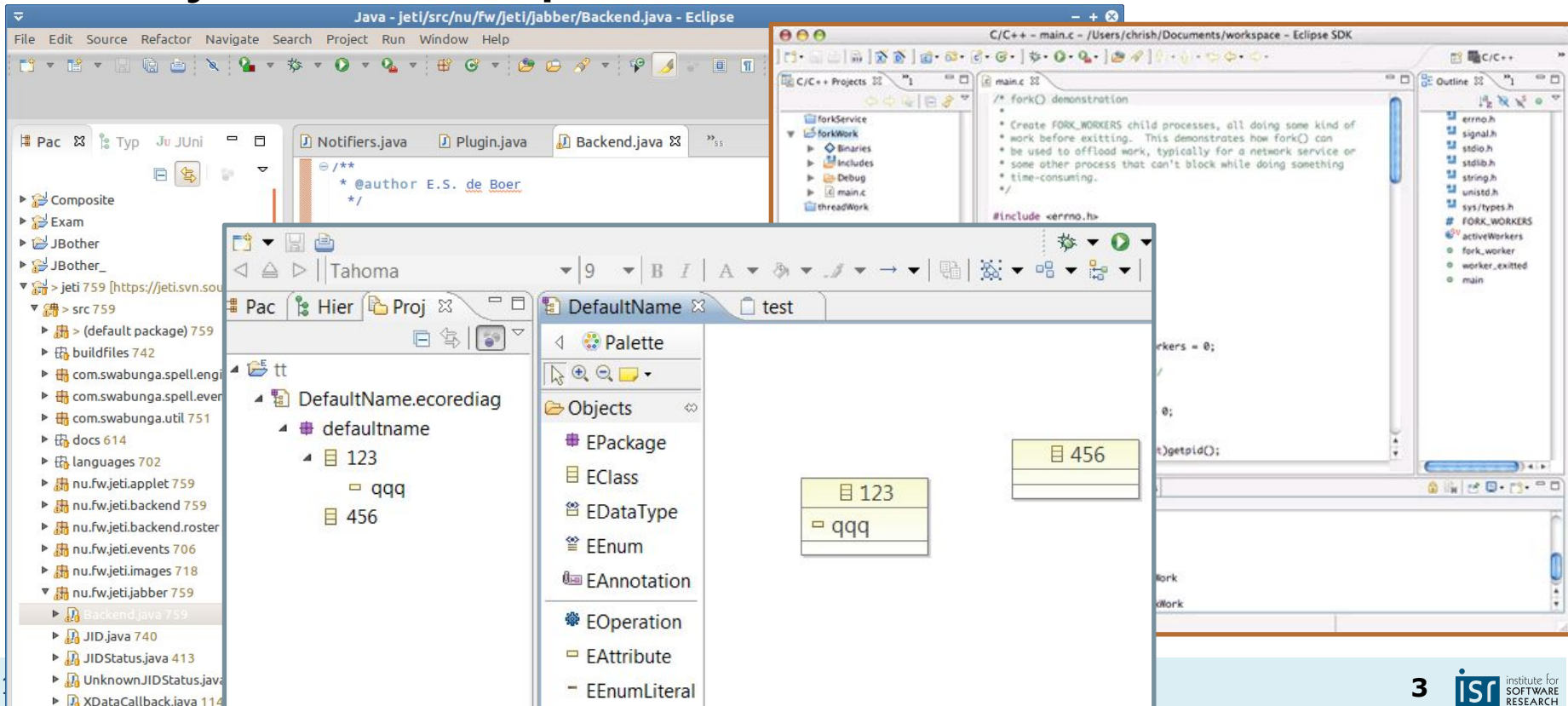
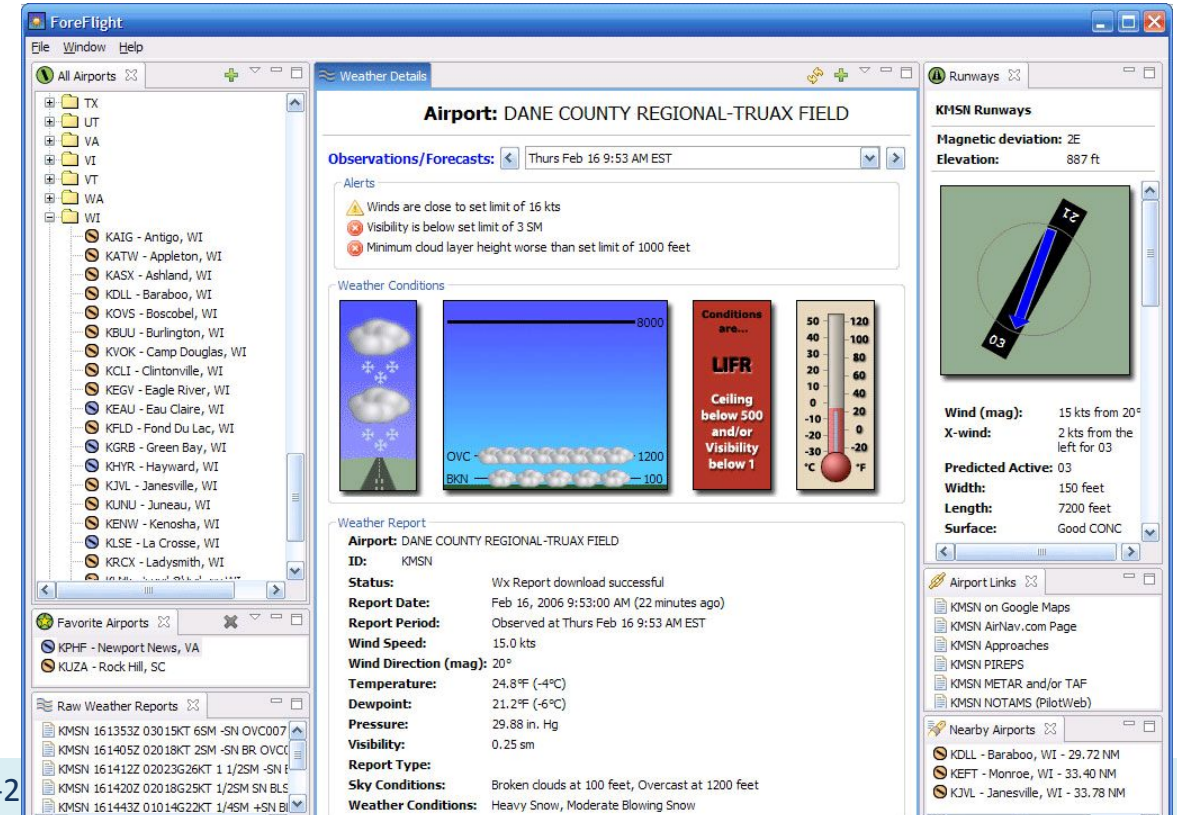
Learning goals for today

- Describe example well-known example frameworks
- Know key terminology related to frameworks
- Know common design patterns in different types of frameworks
- Discuss differences in design trade-offs for libraries vs. frameworks
- Analyze a problem domain to define commonalities and extension points (cold spots and hot spots)
- Analyze trade-offs in the use vs. reuse dilemma
- Know common framework implementation choices

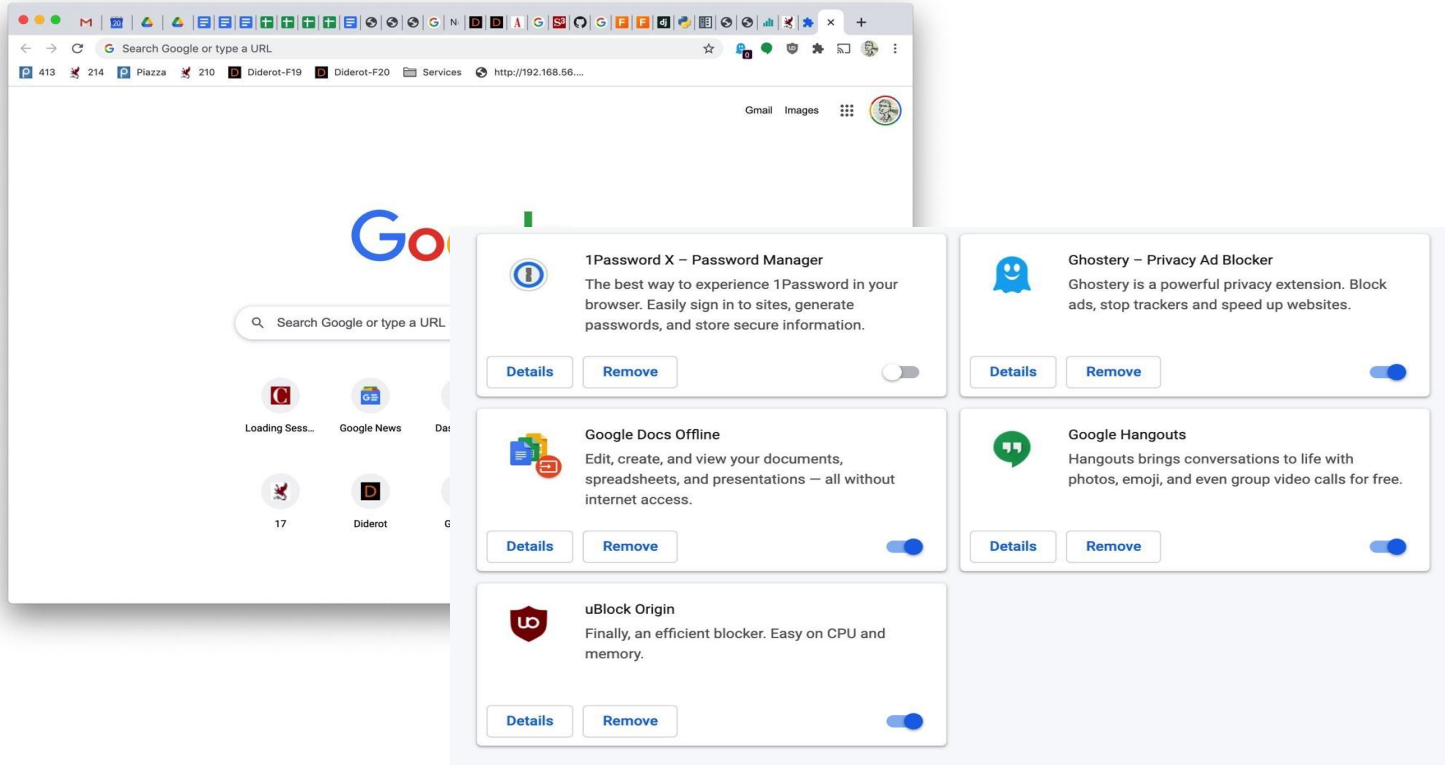
Reuse and variation: Family of development tools



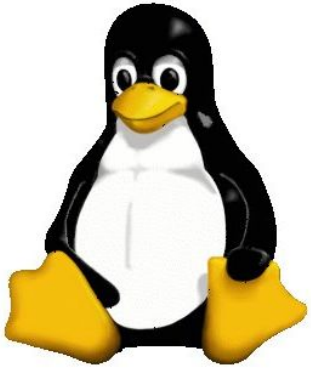
Reuse and variation: Eclipse Rich Client Platform

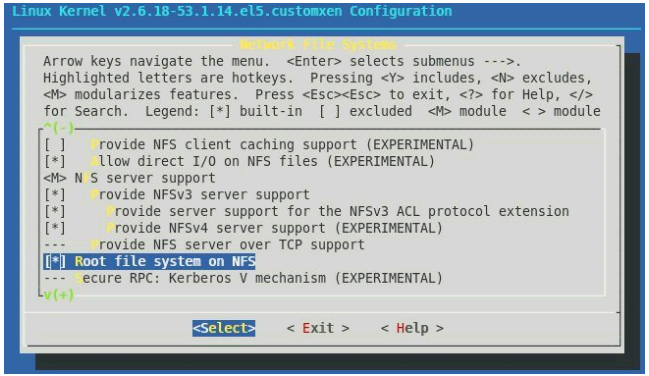


Reuse and variation: Web browser extensions



Reuse and variation: Flavors of Linux





Reuse and variation: Product lines

Earlier in this course: **Class-level** reuse

Language mechanisms supporting reuse

- Inheritance
- Subtype polymorphism (dynamic dispatch)
- Parametric polymorphism (generics)

Design principles supporting reuse

- Small interfaces
- Information hiding
- Low coupling
- High cohesion

Design patterns supporting reuse

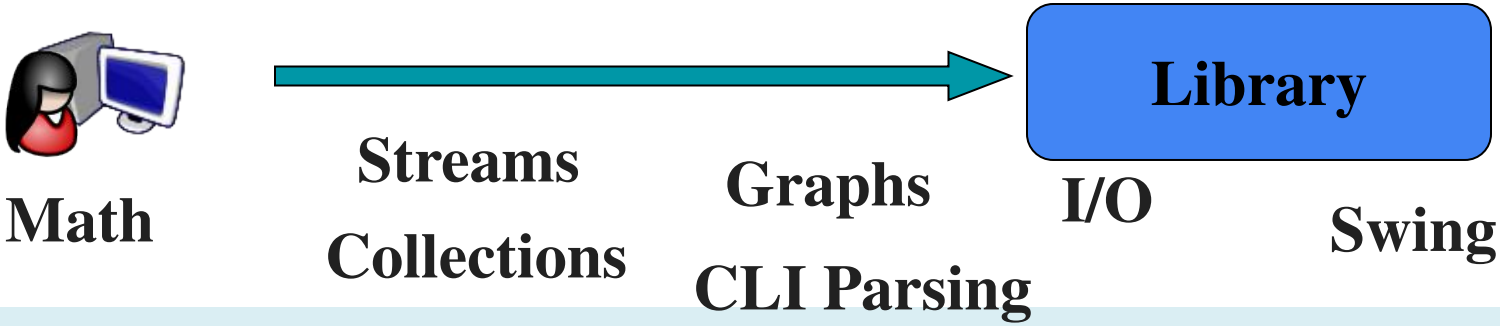
- Template method, decorator, strategy, composite, adapter, …

Today: Reuse **at scale**

- Examples, terminology
- Whitebox and blackbox frameworks
- Design considerations
- Implementation details
  - Responsibility for running the framework
  - Loading plugins

Terminology: Libraries

- Library: A set of classes and methods that provide reusable functionality



Terminology: Frameworks

- Framework: Reusable skeleton code that can be customized into an application
- Framework calls back into client code
  - The Hollywood principle: “Don’t call us. W

```
public MyWidget extends JContainer {

ublic MyWidget(int param) {/ setup
internals, without rendering
}

/ render component on first view and
resizing
protected void
paintComponent(Graphics g) {
// draw a red box on his
componentDimension d = getSize();
g.setColor(Color.red);
g.drawRect(0, 0, d.getWidth(),
d.getHeight());}
}
```

your code

IntelliJ Firefox Swing

Express NanoHttpd Spring

A calculator example (without a framework)


```
public class Calc extends JFrame {
  private JTextField textField;
  public Calc() {
      JPanel contentPane = new JPanel(new BorderLayout());
      contentPane.setBorder(new BevelBorder(BevelBorder.LOWERED));
      JButton button = new JButton();
      button.setText("calculate");
      contentPane.add(button, BorderLayout.EAST);
      textField = new JTextField("");
      textField.setText("10 / 2 + 6");
      textField.setPreferredSize(new Dimension(200, 20));
      contentPane.add(textfield, BorderLayout.WEST);
      button.addActionListener(/* calculation code */);
      this.setContentPane(contentPane);
      this.pack();
      this.setLocation(100, 100);
      this.setTitle("My Great Calculator");
      ...
  }
}
```

A simple example framework

- Consider a family of programs consisting of a button and text field only:

- What source code might be shared?

A calculator example (without a framework)


```
public class Calc extends JFrame {
  private JTextField textField;
  public Calc() {
      JPanel contentPane = new JPanel(new BorderLayout());
      contentPane.setBorder(new BevelBorder(BevelBorder.LOWERED));
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      textField.setPreferredSize(new Dimension(200, 20));
      contentPane.add(textfield, BorderLayout.WEST);
      button.addActionListener(/* calculation code */);
      this.setContentPane(contentPane);
      this.pack();
      this.setLocation(100, 100);
      this.setTitle("My Great Calculator");
```

A simple example framework

```
public abstract class Application extends JFrame {
  protected String getApplicationTitle() { return ""; }
  protected String getButtonText() { return ""; }
  protected String getInitialText() { return ""; }
  protected void buttonClicked() { }
  private JTextField textField;
  public Application() {
      JPanel contentPane = new JPanel(new BorderLayout());
      contentPane.setBorder(new BevelBorder(BevelBorder.LOWERED));
      JButton button = new JButton();
      button.setText(getButtonText());
      contentPane.add(button, BorderLayout.EAST);
      textField = new JTextField("");
      textField.setText(getInitialText());
      textField.setPreferredSize(new Dimension(200, 20));
      contentPane.add(textField, BorderLayout.WEST);
      button.addActionListener((e) -> { buttonClicked(); });
      this.setContentPane(contentPane);
      this.pack();
```

Using the example framework

```
public abstract class Application extends JFrame {
  protected String getApplicationTitle() { return ""; }
  protected String getButtonText() { return ""; }
  protected String getInitialText() { return ""; }
  ...
  ...
  ...
    textField.setPreferredSize(new Dimension(200, 20));
    contentPane.add(textField, BorderLayout.WEST);
    button.addActionListener((e) -> { buttonClicked(); });
    this.setContentPane(contentPane);
    this.pack();
```

```
public class Calculator extends Application {
  protected String getApplicationTitle() { return "My Great Calculator"; }
  protected String getButtonText() { return "calculate"; }
  protected String getInititalText() { return "(10 - 3) * 6"; }
  protected void buttonClicked() {
    JOptionPane.showMessageDialog(this, "The result of " + getInput() +
        " is " + calculate(getInput()));
  }
  private String calculate(String text) { ... }
}
```

Using the example framework again

```
public abstract class Application extends JFrame {
  protected String getApplicationTitle() { return ""; }
  protected String getButtonText() { return ""; }
  protected String getInitialText() { return ""; }
```

```
public class Calculator extends Application {
  protected String getApplicationTitle() { return "My Great Calculator"; }
  protected String getButtonText() { return "calculate"; }
  protected String getInititalText() { return "(10 - 3) * 6"; }
  protected void buttonClicked() {
    JOptionPane.showMessageDialog(this, "The result of " + getInput() +
        " is " + calculate(getInput()));
  }
```

```
public class Ping extends Application {
  protected String getApplicationTitle() { return "Ping"; }
  protected String getButtonText() { return "ping"; }
  protected String getInititalText() { return "127.0.0.1"; }
  protected void buttonClicked() { ... }
}
```

General distinction: Library vs. framework

```
public MyWidget extends JContainer {

ublic MyWidget(int param) {/ setup
internals, without rendering
}

/ render component on first view and
resizing
protected void
paintComponent(Graphics g) {
// draw a red box on his
componentDimension d = getSize();
g.setColor(Color.red);
g.drawRect(0, 0, d.getWidth(),
d.getHeight());}
}
```

your code

Library

user interacts

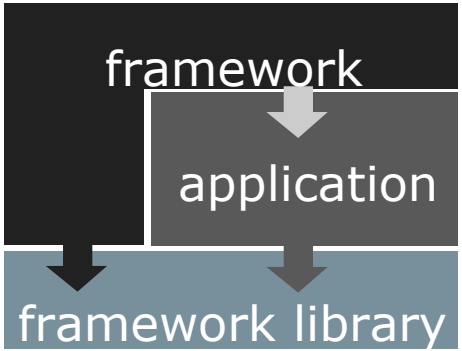
Framework

```
public MyWidget extends JContainer {

ublic MyWidget(int param) {/ setup
internals, without rendering
}

/ render component on first view and
resizing
protected void
paintComponent(Graphics g) {
// draw a red box on his
componentDimension d = getSize();
g.setColor(Color.red);
g.drawRect(0, 0, d.getWidth(),
d.getHeight());}
```

your code

Libraries and frameworks in practice

- Defines key abstractions and their interfaces
- Defines object interactions & invariants
- Defines flow of control
- Provides architectural guidance
- Provides defaults



credit: Erich Gamma

Framework or library?

- IntelliJ / VSCode
- Java Collections / Node Streams

Framework or library?

- IntelliJ / VSCode
- Java Collections / Node Streams
- Command line parser
- Express/NanoHttpd
- Handlebars (the template library used in HW4)

- On a piece of paper:
  1. Describe the software (<= one sentence)
  2. Describe one way the software is like a library.
  3. Describe one way the software is like a framework.

Is Santorini a Framework?

More terms

- *API*: Application Programming Interface, the interface of a library or framework
- *Client*: The code that uses an API
- *Plugin*: Client code that customizes a framework
- *Extension point*: A place where a framework supports extension with a plugin

More terms

- *Protocol*: The expected sequence of interactions between the API and the client
- *Callback*: A plugin method that the framework will call to access customized functionality
- *Lifecycle method*: A callback method that gets called in a sequence according to the protocol and the state of the plugin

WHITE-BOX VS BLACK-BOX* FRAMEWORKS

* old terms, not aware of common replacements; maybe Inheritance-Based vs Delegation-Based Frameworks

Whitebox (inheritance-based) frameworks

- Extension via subclassing and overriding methods
- Common design pattern(s):
  - Template method
- Subclass has main method but gives control to framework

Blackbox (delegation-based) frameworks

- Extension via implementing a plugin interface
- Common design pattern(s):
  - Strategy
  - Command
  - Observer
- Plugin-loading mechanism loads plugins and gives control to the framework

Is this a whitebox or blackbox framework?

```
public abstract class Application extends JFrame {
  protected String getApplicationTitle() { return ""; }
  protected String getButtonText() { return ""; }
  protected String getInitialText() { return ""; }
```

```
public class Calculator extends Application {
  protected String getApplicationTitle() { return "My Great Calculator"; }
  protected String getButtonText() { return "calculate"; }
  protected String getInititalText() { return "(10 - 3) * 6"; }
  protected void buttonClicked() {
    JOptionPane.showMessageDialog(this, "The result of " + getInput() +
        " is " + calculate(getInput()));
  }
```

```
public class Ping extends Application {
  protected String getApplicationTitle() { return "Ping"; }
  protected String getButtonText() { return "ping"; }
  protected String getInititalText() { return "127.0.0.1"; }
  protected void buttonClicked() { ... }
}
```

An example blackbox framework

```
public class Application extends JFrame {
  private JTextField textField;
  private Plugin plugin;
  public Application() { }
  protected void init(Plugin p) {
      p.setApplication(this);
      this.plugin = p;
      JPanel contentPane = new JPanel(
      contentPane.setBorder(new BevelBorder(BevelBorder.LOWERED));
      JButton button = new JButton();
      button.setText(plugin != null ? plugin.getButtonText() : "ok");
      contentPane.add(button, BorderLayout.EAST);
      textField = new JTextField("");
      if (plugin != null) textField.setText(plugin.getInititalText());
      textField.setPreferredSize(new Dimension(200, 20));
      contentPane.add(textField, BorderLayout.WEST);
      if (plugin != null)
          button.addActionListener((e) -> { plugin.buttonClicked(); } );
      this.setContentPane(contentPane);
```

```
public interface Plugin {
    String getApplicationTitle();
    String getButtonText();
    String getInititalText();
    void buttonClicked() ;
    void setApplication(Application app);
}
```

An example blackbox framework

```
public class Application extends JFrame {
  private JTextField textField;
  private Plugin plugin;
  public Application() { }
  protected void init(Plugin p) {
      p.setApplication(this);
      this.plugin = p;
```

```
public interface Plugin {
    String getApplicationTitle();
    String getButtonText();
    String getInititalText();
    void buttonClicked() ;
    void setApplication(Application app);
```

```
public class CalcPlugin implements Plugin {
  private Application app;
  public void setApplication(Application app) { this.app = app; }
  public String getButtonText() { return "calculate"; }
  public String getInititalText() { return "10 / 2 + 6"; }
  public void buttonClicked() {
      JOptionPane.showMessageDialog(null, "The result of "
              + application.getInput() + " is "
              + calculate(application.getInput()));
  }
  public String getApplicationTitle() { return "My Great Calculator"; }
```

An aside: Plugins could be reusable too…

```
public class Application extends JFrame implements InputProvider {
  private JTextField textField;
  private Plugin plugin;
  public Application() { }
  protected void init(Plugin p) {
      p.setApplication(this);
      this.plugin = p;
```

```
public interface Plugin {
    String getApplicationTitle();
    String getButtonText();
    String getInititalText();
    void buttonClicked() ;
    void setApplication(InputProvider app);
```

```
public class CalcPlugin implements Plugin {
  private InputProvider app;
  public void setApplication(InputProvider app)
  public String getButtonText() { return "calcul
  public String getInititalText() { return "10 / 2 + 6"; }
  public void buttonClicked() {
      JOptionPane.showMessageDialog(null, "The result of "
              + application.getInput() + " is "
              + calculate(application.getInput()));
  }
  public String getApplicationTitle() { return "My Great Calculator"; }
```

```
public interface InputProvider {
    String getInput();
}
```

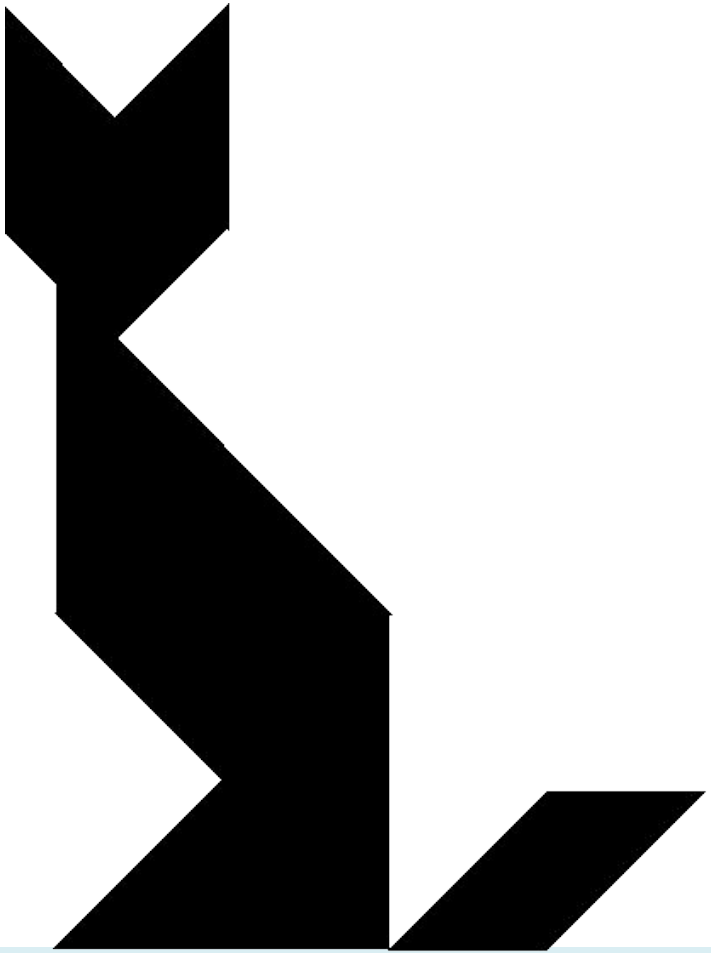
Framework summary

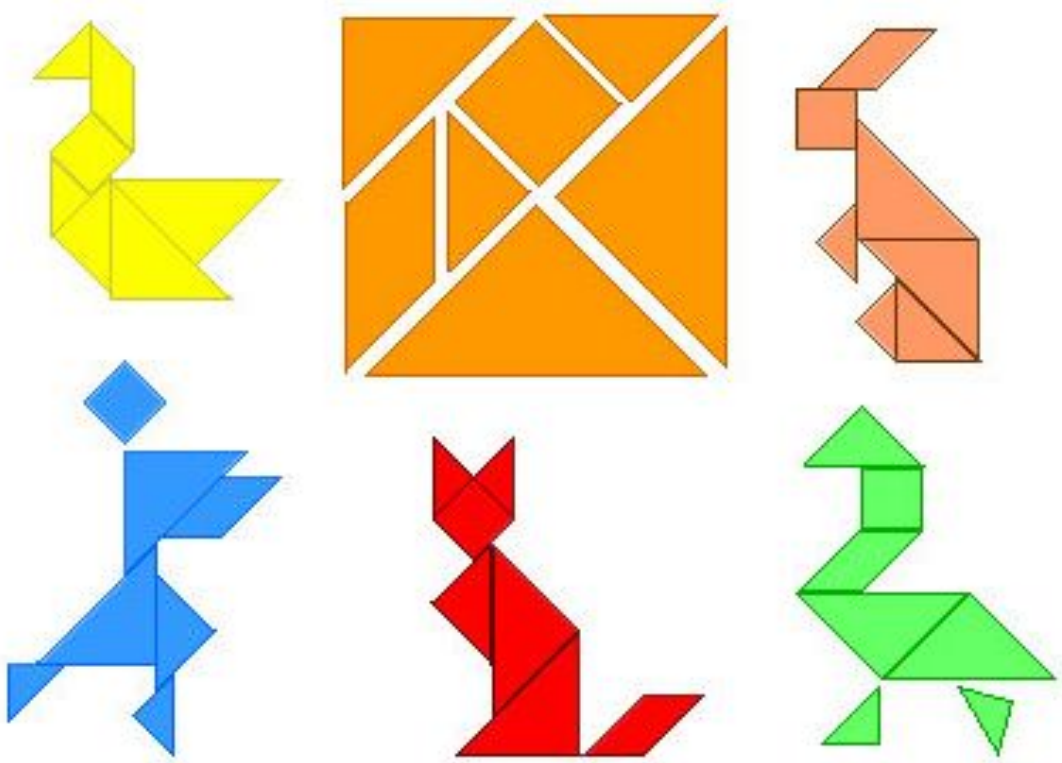
- Whitebox frameworks use subclassing
  - Allows extension of every nonprivate method
  - Need to understand implementation of superclass
  - Only one extension at a time
  - Compiled together
  - Often so-called developer frameworks
- Blackbox frameworks use composition
  - Allows extension of functionality exposed in interface
  - Only need to understand the interface
  - Multiple plugins
  - Often provides more modularity
  - Separate deployment possible (.jar, .dll, …)
  - Often so-called end-user frameworks, platforms

Framework design considerations

- Once designed there is little opportunity for change
- Key decision: Separating common parts from variable parts
  - What problems do you want to solve?
- Possible problems:
  - Too few extension points: Limited to a narrow class of users
  - Too many extension points: Hard to learn, slow
  - Too generic: Little reuse value

USE VS REUSE: DOMAIN ENGINEERING





(one modularization: tangrams)

The use vs. reuse dilemma

- Large rich components are very useful, but rarely fit a specific need
- Small or extremely generic components often fit a specific need, but provide little benefit

“maximizing reuse minimizes use”

C. Szyperski

Domain engineering

- Understand users/customers in your domain: What might they need? What extensions are likely?
- Collect example applications before designing a framework
- Make a conscious decision what to support *(scoping)*
- e.g., the Eclipse policy:
  - Plugin interfaces are internal at first
    - Unsupported, may change
  - Public stable extension points created when there are at least two distinct customers

The cost of changing a framework

```
public class Application extends JFrame {
        private JTextField textfield;
        private Plugin plugin;
        public Application(Plugin p) { this.plugin=p; p.setA
        protected void init() {
            JPanel contentPane = new JPanel(new BorderLayou
            contentPane.setBorder(new BevelBorder(BevelBord
            JButton button = new JButton();
            if (plugin != null)
                button.setText(plugin.getButtonText());
            else
                butto
            contentPane
            textfield =
            if (plugin
                textf
```

```
public interface Plugin {
    String getApplicationTitle();
    String getButtonText();
    String getInititalText();
    void buttonClicked() ;
    void setApplication(Application app);
}
```

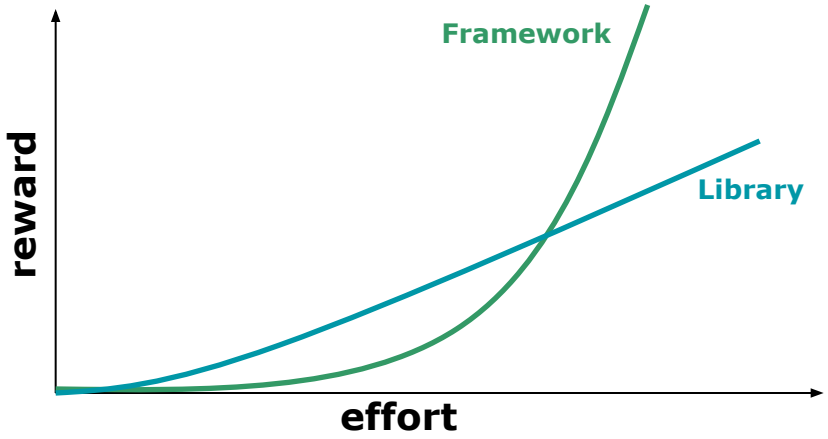
```
public class CalcPlugin implements
    private Application application;
    public void setApplication(Application app) { this.application = app; }
    public String getButtonText() { return "calculate"; }
    public String getInititalText() { return "10 / 2 + 6"; }
    public void buttonClicked() {
```

```
l, "The result of "
() + " is "
n.getText())); }
) { return "My Great Calculator"; }
```

Consider adding an extra method.
Many changes require changes to *all* plugins.

Learning a framework

- Documentation
- Tutorials, wizards, and examples
- Communities, email lists and forums
- Other client applications and plugins



Typical framework design and implementation

Define your domain

- Identify potential common parts and variable parts

Design and write sample plugins/applications

Factor out & implement common parts as framework

Provide plugin interface & callback mechanisms for variable parts

- Use well-known design principles and patterns where appropriate…

Get lots of feedback, and iterate

FRAMEWORK MECHANICS

Running a framework

- Some frameworks are runnable by themselves
  - e.g. Eclipse, VSCode, IntelliJ
- Other frameworks must be extended to be run
  - MapReduce, Swing, JUnit, NanoHttpd, Express

Methods to load plugins

Client writes main function, creates a plugin object, and passes it to framework

(see blackbox example above)

Framework has main function, client passes name of plugin as a command line argument or environment variable

(see next slide)

Framework looks in a magic location

Config files or .jar/.js files in a plugins/ directory are automatically loaded and processed

GUI for plugin management

An example plugin loader using Java Reflection

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
     if (args.length != 1)
          System.out.println("Plugin name not specified");
     else {
          String pluginName = args[0];
          try {
               Class<?> pluginClass = Class.forName(pluginName);
               new Application((Plugin) pluginClass.newInstance()).setVisible(true);
          } catch (Exception e) {
               System.out.println("Cannot load plugin " + pluginName
                    + ", reason: " + e);
          }
     }
}
```

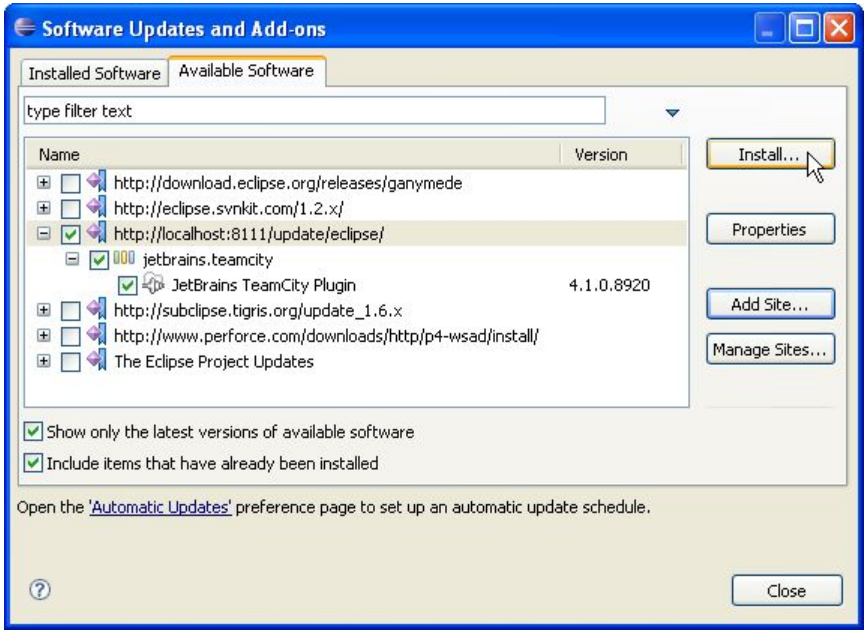
An example plugin loader in Node.js

```
const args = process.argv
if (args.length < 3)
    console.log("Plugin name not specified");
else {
    const plugin = require("plugins/"+args[2]+".js")()
    startApplication(plugin)
}
```

Another plugin loader using Java Reflection

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
     File config = new File(".config");
     BufferedReader reader = new BufferedReader(new FileReader(config));
     Application = new Application();
     Line line = null;
     while ((line = reader.readLine()) != null) {
          try {
               Class<?> pluginClass = Class.forName(pluginName);
               application.addPlugin((Plugin) pluginClass.newInstance());
          } catch (Exception e) {
               System.out.println("Cannot load plugin " + pluginName
                    + ", reason: " + e);
          }
     }
     reader.close();
     application.setVisible(true);
}
```

GUI-based plugin management



Supporting multiple plugins

- Observer design pattern is commonly used
- Load and initialize multiple plugins
- Plugins can register for events
- Multiple plugins can react to same events
- Different interfaces for different events possible

```
public class Application {
     private List<Plugin> plugins;
     public Application(List<Plugin> plugins) {
          this.plugins=plugins;
          for (Plugin plugin: plugins)
           plugin.setApplication(this);
     }
     public Message processMsg (Message msg) {
          for (Plugin plugin: plugins)
           msg = plugin.process(msg);
          ...
          return msg;
     }
}
```

Example: An Eclipse plugin

- A popular Java IDE
- More generally, a framework for tools that facilitate “building, deploying and managing software across the lifecycle.”

- Plugin framework based on OSGI standard
- Starting point: Manifest file
  - Plugin name
  - Activator class
  - Meta-data

```
Manifest-Version: 1.0
Bundle-ManifestVersion: 2
Bundle-Name: MyEditor Plug-in
Bundle-SymbolicName: MyEditor;
singleton:=true
Bundle-Version: 1.0.0
Bundle-Activator:
 myeditor.Activator
Require-Bundle:
 org.eclipse.ui,
 org.eclipse.core.runtime,
 org.eclipse.jface.text,
 org.eclipse.ui.editors
Bundle-ActivationPolicy: lazy
Bundle-RequiredExecutionEnvironment:
JavaSE-1.6
```

Example: An Eclipse plugin

- plugin.xml
  - Main configuration file
  - XML format
  - Lists extension points
- Editor extension
  - extension point: org.eclipse.ui.editors
  - file extension
  - icon used in corner of editor
  - class name
  - unique id
    - refer to this editor
    - other plugins can extend with new menu items, etc.!

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<?eclipse version="3.2"?>
<plugin>

   <extension
         point="org.eclipse.ui.editors">
      <editor
               name="Sample XML Editor"
               extensions="xml"
               icon="icons/sample.gif"
contributorClass="org.eclipse.ui.texteditor.BasicText
EditorActionContributor"
            class="myeditor.editors.XMLEditor"
            id="myeditor.editors.XMLEditor">
      </editor>
   </extension>

</plugin>
```

Example: An Eclipse plugin

- At last, code!
- XMLEditor.java
  - Inherits TextEditor behavior
    - open, close, save, display, select, cut/copy/paste, search/replace, …
    - REALLY NICE not to have to implement this
    - But could have used ITextEditor interface if we wanted to
  - Extends with syntax highlighting
    - XMLDocumentProvider partitions into tags and comments
    - XMLConfiguration shows how to color partitions

```
package myeditor.editors;

import org.eclipse.ui.editors.text.TextEditor;

public class XMLEditor extends TextEditor {
	private ColorManager colorManager;

	public XMLEditor() {
		super();
		colorManager = new
			ColorManager();
		setSourceViewerConfiguration(
			new XMLConfiguration(colorManager));
		setDocumentProvider(
			new XMLDocumentProvider());
	}

	public void dispose() {
		colorManager.dispose();
		super.dispose();
	}
}
```

Example: A JUnit Plugin

```
public class SampleTest  {
      private List<String> emptyList;

      @Before
      public void setUp() {
          emptyList = new ArrayList<String>();
      }

      @After
      public void tearDown() {
          emptyList = null;
      }

      @Test
      public void testEmptyList() {
          assertEquals("Empty list should have 0 elements",
                       0, emptyList.size());
      }
}
```

Here the important plugin mechanism is Java annotations

Summary

- Reuse and variation essential
  - Libraries and frameworks
- Whitebox frameworks vs. blackbox frameworks
- Design for reuse with domain analysis
  - Find common and variable parts
  - Write client applications to find common parts