
CSE 331
Software Design & Implementation

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ADT Implementation: Abstraction Functions

Specifying an ADT

Immutable

1. overview
2. abstract state
3. creators
4. observers
5. producers
- ~~6. mutators~~

Mutable

1. overview
2. abstract state
3. creators
4. observers
5. producers (rare)
6. mutators

- Creators: return new ADT values (e.g., Java constructors)
- Observers / Getters: Return information about an ADT
- Producers: ADT operations that return new values
- Mutators: Modify a value of an ADT

Specifying an ADT

- Need a way write specifications for these procedures
 - need a [vocabulary](#) for talking about what the operations do (other than referencing the actual implementation)
- Use “math” (when possible) not actual fields to describe the state
 - abstract description of a state is called an **abstract state**
 - describes what the state “means” not the implementation
 - give clients an abstract way to think about the state
 - each operation described in terms of “creating”, “observing”, “producing”, or “mutating” the abstract state
- For familiar ideas from math (point, triangle, number, set, etc.), we can use those concepts as our abstract state
 - otherwise, we need to invent a concept for them

Specifying an ADT

Immutable

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Mutable

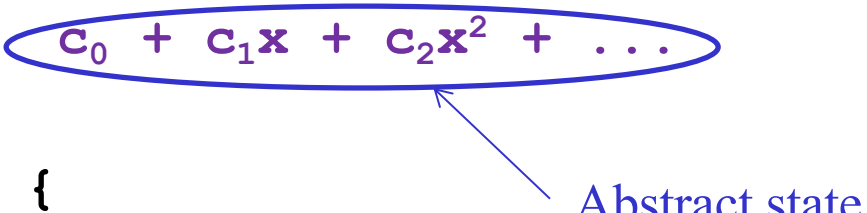
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Described in terms of how they change the **abstract state**

- abstract description of what the object means
 - difficult (unless concept is already familiar) but vital
- specs have no information about concrete representation
 - leaves us free to change those in the future

Poly, an immutable data type: overview

```
/**  
 * A Poly is an immutable polynomial with  
 * integer coefficients.  A typical Poly is  
 *  $c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + \dots$   
 */  
class Poly {
```



Overview: provide high level information about the type

- state if immutable (default not)
- define abstract states for use in operation specifications
 - easy here, but sometimes difficult — always vital!
- give an example (reuse it in operation definitions)

Poly: creators

```
// effects: makes a new Poly = 0  
public Poly()
```

```
// effects: makes a new Poly =  $cx^n$   
// throws: NegExponent if  $n < 0$   
public Poly(int c, int n)
```

Creators

- creates a new object

Note: Javadoc above omits many details...

- should be `/** ... */` not `// ...`
- should be `@spec.effects` not `effects`

Poly: observers

```
// returns: the degree of this polynomial,  
//   i.e., the largest exponent with a  
//   non-zero coefficient.  
//   Returns 0 if this = 0. ←———— “this” means the  
public int degree()                               abstract state  
  
// returns: the coefficient of the term  
//   of this polynomial whose exponent is d  
// throws: NegExponent if d < 0  
public int coeff(int d)
```

Observers

- obtains information about objects of that type

Notes on observers

Observers

- obtains information about objects of that type
- Specification uses the abstract state from the overview
- **Never** modifies the abstract state

Poly: producers

```
// returns: this + q  
public Poly add(Poly q)
```

```
// returns: this * q  
public Poly mul(Poly q)
```

```
// returns: -this  
public Poly negate()
```

Producers

- creates other objects of the same type

Notes on producers

Producers

- creates other objects of the same type
- Common in immutable types like `java.lang.String`
 - `String substring(int offset, int len)`
- No side effects
 - **never** modify the abstract state of existing objects

IntSet, a mutable datatype: overview and creator

```
// Overview: An IntSet is a mutable,  
// unbounded set of integers.  A typical  
// IntSet is { x1, ..., xn }.  
class IntSet {  
  
    // effects: makes a new IntSet = {}  
    public IntSet()  
  
}
```

(Note: Javadoc is highly simplified...)

IntSet: observers

```
// returns: true if and only if x in this set
```

```
public boolean contains(int x)
```

```
// returns: the cardinality of this set
```

```
public int size()
```

```
// returns: some element of this set
```

```
// throws: EmptyException when size()==0
```

```
public int choose()
```

IntSet: mutators

```
// modifies: this  
// effects:  change this to this + {x}  
public void add(int x)
```

```
// modifies: this  
// effects:  change this to this - {x}  
public void remove(int x)
```

Mutators

- modify the abstract state of the object

Notes on mutators

Mutators

- modify the abstract state of the object
- Rarely modify anything (available to clients) other than **this**
 - list **this** in modifies clause
- Typically have no return value
 - “do one thing and do it well”
 - (sometimes return “old” value that was replaced)

Mutable ADTs may have producers too, but that is less common

Is everything an ADT?

- Purpose of an ADT is to hide the representation details
- Some classes are not trying to hide their representation
 - Example: `Pair` with fields `first` and `second`
 - representation is very unlikely to change
 - reasonable to expose every field via a method
- Some classes do not have a representation
 - they are more “processes” than data
 - Example: `PrinterController` with various `print` methods
 - it may store data, but client does not need to think about it

Implementing a Data Abstraction (ADT)

To implement an ADT:

- select the representation of instances
- implement operations using the chosen representation

Choose a representation so that:

- it is possible to implement required operations
- the most frequently used operations are efficient / simple / ...
 - abstraction allows the rep to change later
 - almost always better to start simple

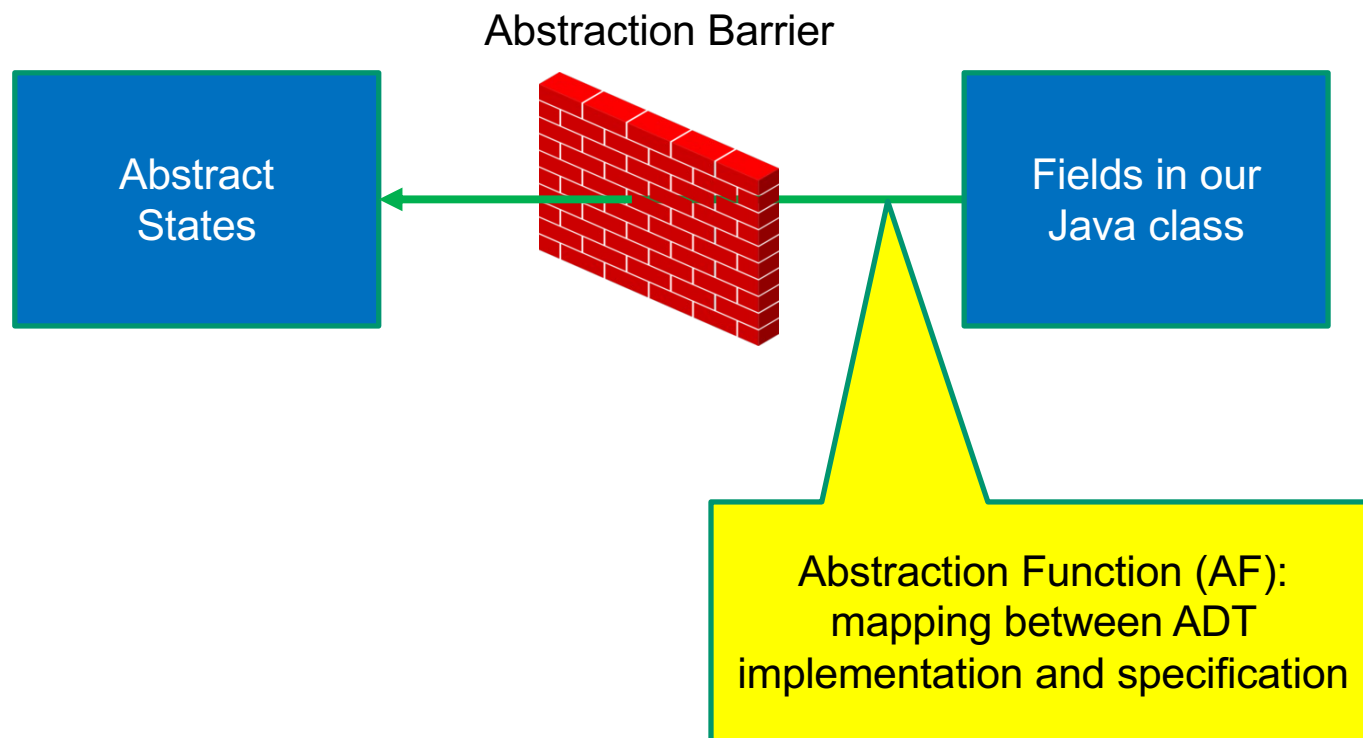
Use **reasoning** to verify the operations are correct

- specs are written in terms of *abstract states* not *actual fields*
- need a new tool for this...

Data abstraction outline

ADT specification

ADT implementation



Connecting implementations to specs

For implementers / debuggers / maintainers of the implementation:

Abstraction Function: maps Object \rightarrow abstract state

- says what the data structure *means* in vocabulary of the ADT
- maps the fields to the abstract state they represent
 - can check that the abstract value after each method meets the postcondition described in the specification

Representation Invariant: (next lecture)

Example: Circle

```
/** Represents a mutable circle in the plane. For example,  
 * it can be a circle with center (0,0) and radius 1. */  
public class Circle {  
  
    // Abstraction function:  
    // AF(this) = a circle with center at this.center  
    // and radius this.rad  
    private Point center;  
    private double rad;  
  
    // ...  
  
}
```

Example: Circle 2

```
/** Represents a mutable circle in the plane. For example,  
 * it can be a circle with center (0,0) and radius 1. */  
public class Circle {  
  
    // Abstraction function:  
    // AF(this) = a circle with center at this.center  
    //   and radius this.center.distanceTo(this.edge)  
    private Point center, edge;  
  
    // ...  
  
}
```

Example: Polynomial

```
/** An immutable polynomial with integer coefficients.
 * Examples include 0, 2x, and 3x^2 + 5x + 6. */
public class IntPoly {

    // Abstraction function:
    // AF(this) = sum of coeffs[i] * x^i
    //             for i = 0 .. coeffs.length-1
    private final int[] coeffs;

    // ...

}
```

Example: Polynomial 2

```
/** An immutable polynomial with integer coefficients.
 * Examples include 0, 2x, and 3x^2 + 5x + 6. */
public class IntPoly {

    // Abstraction function:
    // AF(this) = sum of monomials in this.terms
    private final LinkedList<IntTerm> terms;

    // ...

}
```

Example: Stack

```
/** List that only allows insert/remove at right end. */  
public class IntStack {  
  
    // AF(this) = vals[0..len-1]  
    private int[] vals;  
    private int len;  
  
    // ...  
  
}
```

Example: Stack

```
// AF(this) = vals[0..len-1]
private int[] vals;
private int len;
```

```
// Creates an empty stack.
```

```
public IntStack() {
    vals = new int[3];
    start = len = 0;
}
```

AF(this) = vals[0..-1] = []



Example: Stack

```
// AF(this) = vals[0..len-1]
private int[] vals;
private int len;
```

```
// @return number of elements in the collection
public length() {
    return len;
}
```

length of this = length of vals[0..len-1] = len



Example: Stack

```
// AF(this) = vals[0..len-1]
private int[] vals;
private int len;

// @modifies this
// @effects this = this + [value]
public push(int value) {
    ensureEnoughSpace(len+1); // make sure vals[len] exists
    vals[len] = value
    len = len + 1;
}
```

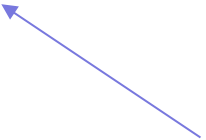
← AF(this) = vals[0 .. len - 1]
= vals₀ [0 .. len - 2] + [value]
= vals₀ [0 .. len₀ - 1] + [value]
= AF(this₀) + [value]

Example: Stack

```
// AF(this) = vals[0..len-1]
private int[] vals;
private int len;
```

```
// @requires length > 0
// @modifies this
// @effects this = this[0..length-2]
public pop() {
    ...
}
```

talks about “this” **not vals** and
“length” **not len**



Example: Stack

```
// AF(this) = vals[0..len-1]
private int[] vals;
private int len;

// @requires length > 0
// @modifies this
// @effects this = this[0..length-2]
public pop() {
    len = len - 1;
}
```

Example: Stack

```
// AF(this) = vals[0..len-1]
private int[] vals;
private int len;
```

```
// @requires length > 0
// @modifies this
// @effects this = this[0..length-2]
```

```
public pop() {
  {{ length > 0 }}
  len = len - 1;
  {{ this = this0[0 .. len0 - 2] }}
}
```

→ {{ len > 0 }}
↓ {{ len₀ > 0 and len = len₀ - 1 }}
⇒ {{ AF(this) = vals[0 .. len - 1]
= vals[0 .. len₀ - 2] }}

Summary: the abstraction function

- Purely conceptual (not a Java function)
- Allows us to check correctness
 - use reasoning to show that the method leaves the abstract state such that it satisfies the postcondition