

# ***Aspect-Oriented Programming***

## ***Radical Research in Modularity***

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**Software Practices Lab**



# Expressiveness

- The code looks like the design
- “What’s going on” is clear
- The programmer can say what they want to

*Programs must be written for people to read, and only incidentally for machines to execute.*

**[SICP, Abelson, Sussman w/Sussman ]**

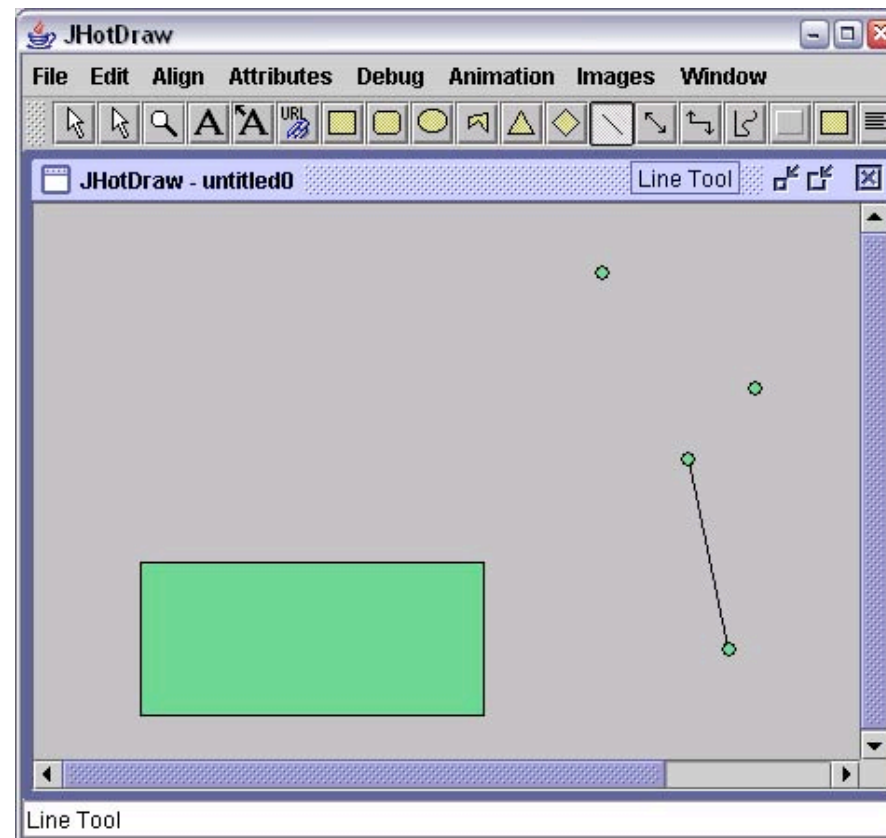


# Share An Emerging Debate

- About modularity and abstraction
  - foundational concepts of the field
  - but perhaps built on invalid implicit assumptions
    - generality of hierarchy
    - dynamicity of software configurations
    - source to machine code correspondence
    - developer's sphere of control
- Consider these definitions:
  - A module is a localized unit of source code with a well-defined interface.*
  - Abstraction means hiding irrelevant details behind an interface.*

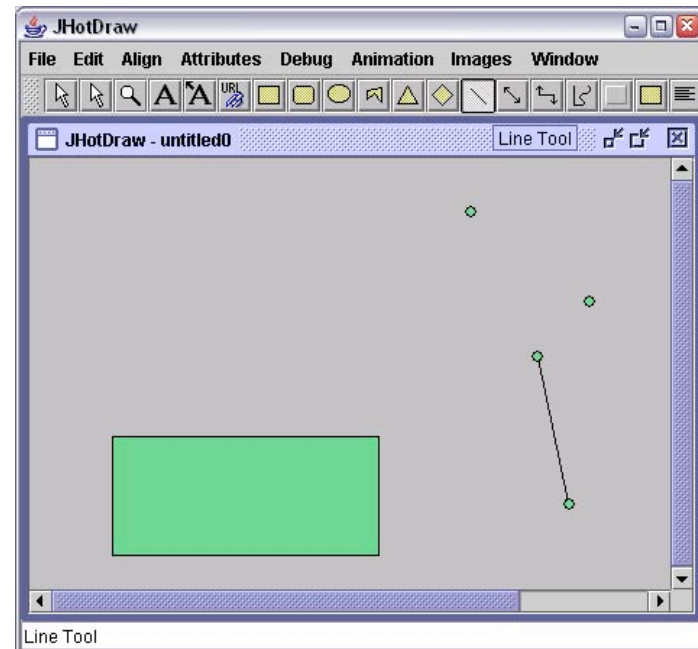


# Simple Drawing tool (i.e. JHotDraw)



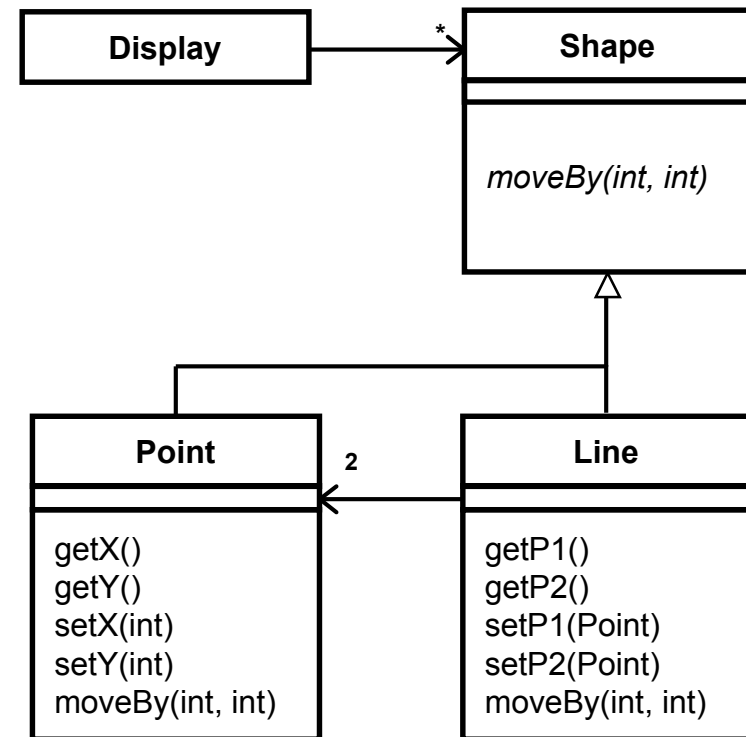
# Key Design Elements

- Shapes
  - simple (Point)
  - compound (Line...)
  - display state
  - displayed form
- Display
- ...
- Display update signaling
  - when shapes change
  - update display
  - aka Observer Pattern



# Using Objects

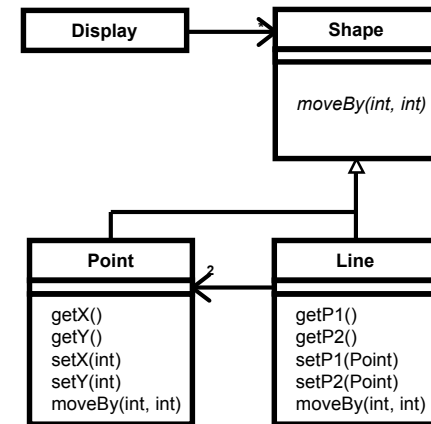
- Shapes
- Display
- Update signaling



# Using Objects

- Shapes
- Display
- Update signaling
  - Expressive
    - code looks like the design
    - “what’s going on” is clear
  - Modular
    - localized units
    - well defined interfaces
  - Abstract
    - focus on more or less detail

```
class Point extends Shape {  
    private int x = 0, y = 0;  
  
    int getX() { return x; }  
    int getY() { return y; }  
  
    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {  
        x = x + dx; y = y + dy;  
    }  
  
    void setX(int x) {  
        this.x = x;  
    }  
  
    void setY(int y) {  
        this.y = y;  
    }  
}
```



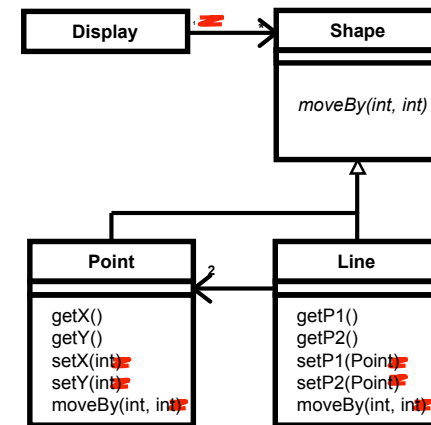
# Using Objects

- Shapes
- Display
- Update signaling
  - Expressive
    - Point, Line harder to read
    - structure of signaling
      - not localized, clear, declarative
  - Modular? Abstract?
    - signaling clearly not localized
    - Point, Line polluted
    - revisit this later

```
class Point extends Shape {
  private int x = 0, y = 0;

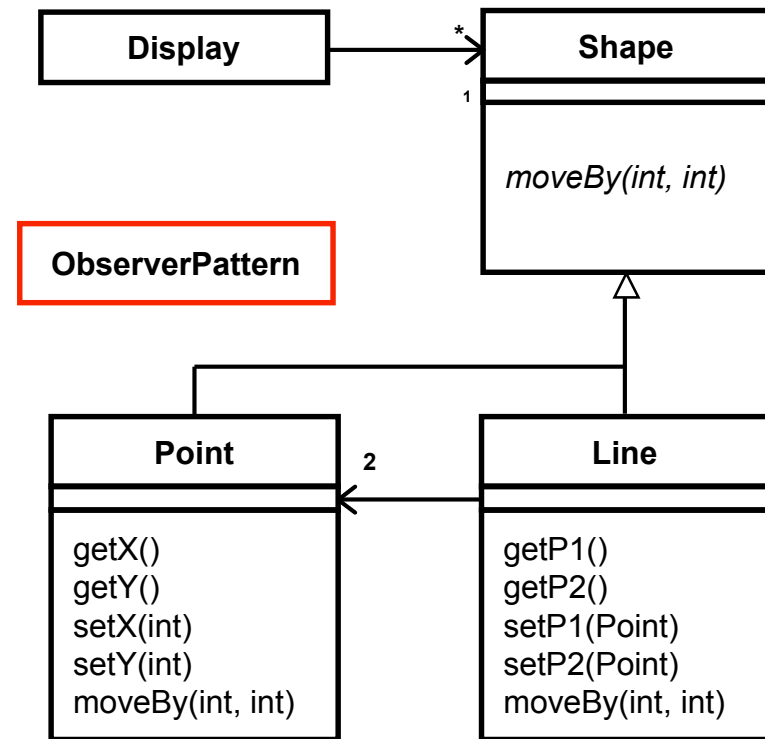
  int getX() { return x; }
  int getY() { return y; }

  void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {
    x = x + dx; y = y + dy;
    display.update(this);
  }
  void setX(int x) {
    this.x = x;
    display.update(this);
  }
  void setY(int y) {
    this.y = y;
    display.update(this);
  }
}
```



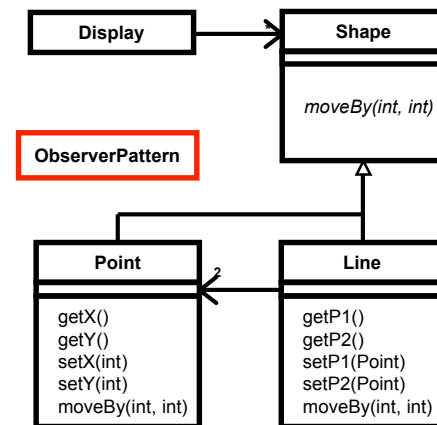


# Using Aspect-Oriented Programming



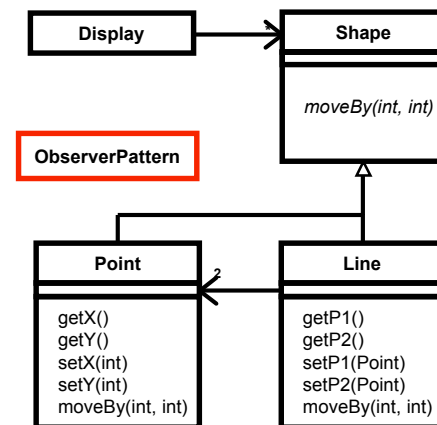
# Using Aspect-Oriented Programming

```
aspect UpdateSignaling {  
  
    private Display Shape.display;  
  
    pointcut change():  
        call(void Point.setX(int))  
        || call(void Point.setY(int))  
        || call(void Line.setP1(Point))  
        || call(void Line.setP2(Point))  
        || call(void Shape.moveBy(int, int));  
  
    after(Shape s) returning: change()  
        && target(s) {  
        s.display.update();  
    }  
}
```



# Using Aspect-Oriented Programming

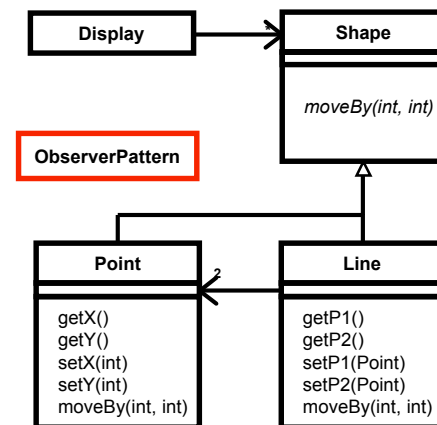
```
aspect UpdateSignaling {  
  
    private Display Shape.display;  
  
    pointcut change():  
        call(void Shape.moveBy(int, int))  
        || call(void Shape+.set*(..));  
  
    after(Shape s) returning: change()  
        && target(s) {  
        s.display.update();  
    }  
}
```



# Using Aspect-Oriented Programming

- Shapes
- Display
- Update signaling
  - Expressive
    - “what’s going on” is clear
  - Modular
    - localized units
    - well defined interfaces
  - Abstract
    - focus on more or less detail

```
aspect UpdateSignaling {  
  
    private Display Shape.display;  
  
    pointcut change():  
        call(void Shape.moveBy(int, int))  
        || call(void Shape+.set*(..));  
  
    after(Shape s) returning: change()  
        && target(s) {  
        s.display.update();  
    }  
}
```



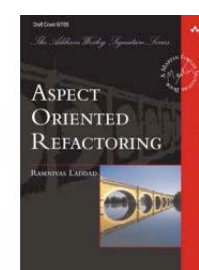
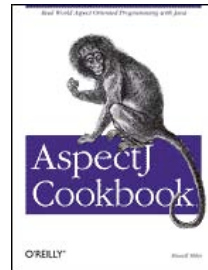
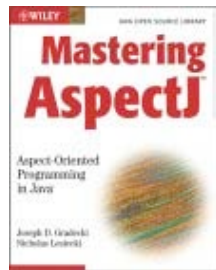
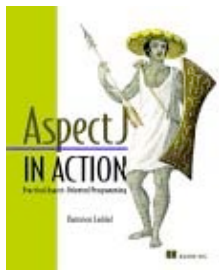
# Outline

- Introduction
- OOP/AOP Example
  
- Intro to AOP
- Other Examples
- Is AOP Code Modular, Abstract
  
- Join Point Models
- Future Possibilities



# AOP w/AspectJ

- AspectJ is
  - seamless extension to Java
  - Eclipse open source project
  - de-facto standard on Java platform
  - model for other AOP tools
  - supported by IBM, Interface 21, BEA



MIT Technology Review 10  
Leading technologies 2000

2002 World Technology  
Network Finalist

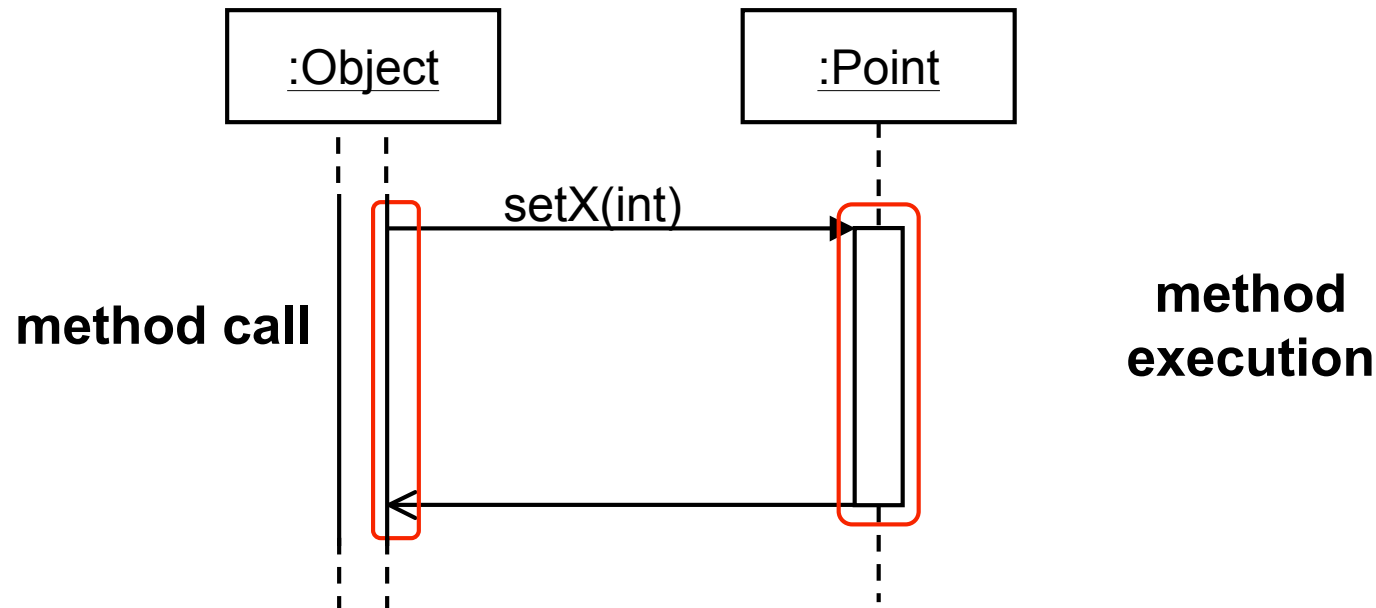


MIT Technology Review  
TR100 2004



# Dynamic Join Points

points of aspect  
correspondence



- 11 kinds of dynamic join point
  - well defined points in flow of execution
    - method, constructor, and advice execution
    - method & constructor call
    - field get & set
    - exception handler execution
    - static, object pre- and object initialization

# Pointcuts

means of identifying  
dynamic join points

a pointcut is a predicate on dynamic join points that:

- can match or not match any given join point
- says “what is true” when the pointcut matches
- can optionally expose some of the values at that join point

```
execution(void Line.setP1(Point))
```

matches method execution join points with this signature





# Pointcut Composition

pointcuts compose like predicates, using `&&`, `||` and `!`

```
execution(void Line.setP1(Point)) ||  
execution(void Line.setP2(Point));
```

whenever a Line executes a  
“`void setP1(Point)`” or “`void setP2(Point)`” method



# Primitive Pointcuts

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>call, execution, adviceexecution</b></li><li>- <b>get, set</b></li><li>- <b>handler</b></li><li>- <b>initialization, staticinitialization</b></li></ul>	<p>kinded</p> <p>match one kind of DJP using signature</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>within, withincode</b></li><li>- <b>this, target, args</b></li><li>- <b>cflow, cflowbelow</b></li></ul>	<p>non-kinded</p> <p>match all kinds of DJP using variety of properties</p>



# User-Defined Pointcuts

user-defined (aka named) pointcuts

- defined with pointcut declaration
- can be used in the same way as primitive pointcuts

**name**                      parameters

**pointcut** change () :

```
execution (void Line.setP1 (Point)) ||
execution (void Line.setP2 (Point)) ;
```

Every powerful language has three mechanisms for [combining simple ideas to form more complex ideas]:

- \* primitive expressions, which represent the simplest entities the language is concerned with,
- \* means of combination, by which compound elements are built from simpler ones, and
- \* means of abstraction, by which compound elements can be named and manipulated as units.

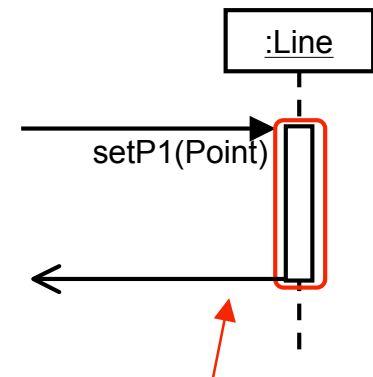
[SICP, Abelson, Sussman w/ Sussman]

# After Advice

means of semantic effect  
at dynamic join points

```
pointcut change() :  
    execution(void Line.setP1(Point)) ||  
    execution(void Line.setP2(Point));
```

```
after() returning: change()  
{  
    <code here runs after each change>  
}
```



after advice  
runs on the  
way back out

# A Simple Aspect

## ObserverPattern v1

```
aspect ObserverPattern {  
  
    pointcut change() :  
        execution(void Line.setP1(Point)) ||  
        execution(void Line.setP2(Point));  
  
    after() returning: change()  
    {  
        Display.update();  
    }  
}
```

box means complete running code



# How to Read This Code

## ObserverPattern v1

Here is the ObserverPattern aspect of the system.

Some points in the system's execution are a "change".

```
aspect ObserverPattern {  
  
    pointcut change() :  
        execution(void Line.setP1(Point)) ||  
        execution(void Line.setP2(Point));  
  
    after() returning: change()  
    {  
        Display.update();  
    }  
}
```

Specifically, these method executions.

After returning from change points-  
update the display.



# Without AspectJ

## ObserverPattern v1

```
class Line {
    private Point p1, p2;

    Point getP1() { return p1; }
    Point getP2() { return p2; }

    void setP1(Point p1) {
        this.p1 = p1;
        Display.update();
    }
    void setP2(Point p2) {
        this.p2 = p2;
        Display.update();
    }
}
```

what you would write if you didn't  
have AspectJ;  
NOT what AspectJ produces  
OR meaning of AspectJ code

- what you would expect
  - update calls are scattered and tangled
  - “what is going on” is less explicit



# How Do You Think About Objects?

- Objects
  - Define their own behavior
  - Have fields and methods
  - Clear interface
- A datastructure w/
  - Vector of fields
  - Pointer to method table
- Dispatch code
  - Method call → table entry
- Macrology to
  - Make fields look like vars
  - Method calls look nice





# Abstraction

- Objects
  - Define their own behavior
  - Have fields and methods
  - Clear interface

Helps to

- do OO *design*
- scale use of objects to large systems

- A datastructure w/
  - Vector of fields
  - Pointer to method table
- Dispatch code
  - Method call → table entry
- Macrology to
  - Make fields look like vars
  - Method calls look nice

Helps understand

- *one way* to implement OOP
- potential performance costs
- language semantics issues



# Abstraction

## Helps to

- do AO design
- scale use of aspects to large systems

## Helps understand

- one way to implement AOP
- potential performance costs
- language semantics issues

- Aspects
  - Define their own behavior
  - Have pointcuts, advice ...
  - Clear interface
- A datastructure w/
  - Vector of fields
  - Pointer to method table
- Code transformations
  - Find join point shadows
  - Insert interceptor calls



# Abstraction

- **Objects**
  - Define their own behavior
  - Have fields and methods
  - Clear interface
- **Aspects**
  - Define their own behavior
  - Have pointcuts, advice ...
  - Clear interface
- A datastructure w/
  - Vector of fields
  - Pointer to method table
- A datastructure w/
  - Vector of fields
  - Pointer to method table
- Dispatch code
  - Method call → table entry
- Code transformations
  - Find join point shadows
  - Insert interceptor calls
- Macrology to
  - Make fields look like vars
  - Method calls look nice



# A Multi-Class Aspect

## ObserverPattern v2

```
aspect ObserverPattern {  
  
    pointcut change() :  
        execution(void Shape.moveBy(int, int)) ||  
        execution(void Line.setP1(Point)) ||  
        execution(void Line.setP2(Point)) ||  
        execution(void Point.setX(int)) ||  
        execution(void Point.setY(int));  
  
    after() returning: change() {  
        Display.update();  
    }  
}
```



# Using Naming Convention

ObserverPattern v2b

```
aspect ObserverPattern {  
  
    pointcut change():  
        execution(void Shape.moveBy(int, int)) ||  
        execution(void Shape+.set*(*) );  
  
    after() returning: change() {  
        Display.update();  
    }  
}
```



# Using Attributes

## ObserverPattern v2c

```
aspect ObserverPattern {  
  
    pointcut change():  
        execution(@Change * *(..));  
  
    after() returning: change() {  
        Display.update();  
    }  
}
```

```
class Line {  
    private Point p1, p2;  
  
    Point getP1() { return p1; }  
    Point getP2() { return p2; }  
  
    @Change  
    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {  
        p1.moveBy(dx, dy);  
        p2.moveBy(dx, dy);  
    }  
  
    @Change  
    void setP1(Point p1) {  
        this.p1 = p1;  
    }  
  
    @Change  
    void setP2(Point p2) {  
        this.p2 = p2;  
    }  
}
```



# Values at Join Points

## ObserverPattern v3

- pointcut can explicitly expose certain values
- advice can use explicitly exposed values

```
aspect ObserverPattern {  
  
    pointcut change(Shape shape) :  
        this(shape) &&  
        (execution(void Shape.moveBy(int, int)) ||  
         execution(void Shape+.set*(*) ));  
  
    after(Shape s) returning: change(s) {  
        Display.update(s);  
    }  
}
```



# Crosscutting Structure

```
class Line {
    private Point p1, p2;

    Point getP1() { return p1; }
    Point getP2() { return p2; }

    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {
        p1.moveBy(dx, dy);
        p2.moveBy(dx, dy);
    }

    void setP1(Point p1) {
        this.p1 = p1;
    }
    void setP2(Point p2) {
        this.p2 = p2;
    }
}
```

```
class Point {
    private int x = 0, y = 0;

    int getX() { return x; }
    int getY() { return y; }

    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {
        x = x + dx; y = y + dy;
    }
    void setX(int x) {
        this.x = x;
    }
    void setY(int y) {
        this.y = y;
    }
}
```

```
aspect ObserverPattern {

    pointcut change(Shape shape):
        this(shape) &&
        (execution(void Shape.moveBy(int, int) ||
        execution(void Shape+.set*(*)));

    after(Shape s) returning: change(s) {
        Display.update(s);
    }
}
```

- Aspect and classes crosscut
- Pointcut cuts interface
  - through Point and Line
  - advice programs against interface
  - interface structure is declarative





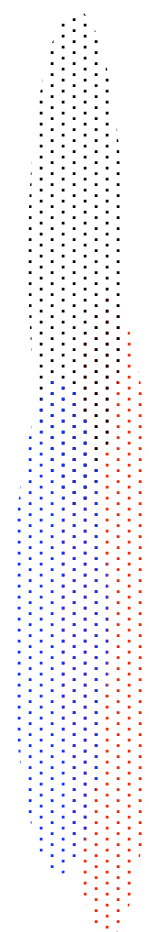
# Crosscutting

c1 and c2 crosscut wrt a common representation iff projections overlap, but do not contain [Masuhara, ECOOP03]

```
class Line {  
    private Point p1, p2;  
  
    Point getP1() { return p1; }  
    Point getP2() { return p2; }  
}
```

```
void th  
} void th  
}  
}  
  
class Point {  
    private int x = 0, y = 0;  
  
    int getX() { return x; }  
    int getY() { return y; }  
  
    void setX(int x) {  
        this.x = x;  
    }  
    void setY(int y) {  
        this.y = y;  
    }  
}
```

```
aspect ObserverPattern {  
  
    pointcut change(Shape shape):  
        this(shape) &&  
        (execution(void Shape.moveBy(int, int)) ||  
         execution(void Shape+.set*(*) ));  
  
    after(Shape s) returning: change(s) {  
        Display.update(s);  
    }  
}
```



```
class Line {  
    private Point p1, p2;  
  
    Point getP1() { return p1; }  
    Point getP2() { return p2; }  
  
    void setP1(Point p1) {  
        this.p1 = p1;  
        Display.update();  
    }  
    void setP2(Point p2) {  
        this.p2 = p2;  
        Display.update();  
    }  
}
```

```
class Point {  
    private int x = 0, y = 0;  
  
    int getX() { return x; }  
    int getY() { return y; }  
  
    void setX(int x) {  
        this.x = x;  
        Display.update();  
    }  
    void setY(int y) {  
        this.y = y;  
        Display.update();  
    }  
}
```



# Scattering and Tangling

```
class Shape {
    private Display display;

    abstract void moveBy(int, int);
}

class Line extends Shape {
    private Point p1, p2;

    Point getP1() { return p1; }
    Point getP2() { return p2; }

    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {
        p1.moveBy(dx, dy);
        p2.moveBy(dx, dy);
        display.update(this);
    }

    void setP1(Point p1) {
        this.p1 = p1;
        display.update(this);
    }
    void setP2(Point p2) {
        this.p2 = p2;
        display.update(this);
    }
}

class Point extends Shape {
    private int x = 0, y = 0;

    int getX() { return x; }
    int getY() { return y; }

    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {
        x = x + dx;
        y = y + dy;
        display.update(this);
    }

    void setX(int x) {
        this.x = x;
        display.update(this);
    }
    void setY(int y) {
        this.y = y;
        display.update(this);
    }
}
```

Observer pattern is

*scattered* –  
spread around

*tangled* –  
mixed in with other concerns



# Only Top-Level Changes

ObserverPattern v4

```
aspect ObserverPattern {  
  
    pointcut change(Shape shape) :  
        this(shape) &&  
        (execution(void Shape.moveBy(int, int)) ||  
         execution(void Shape+.set*(*) ));  
  
    pointcut topLevelChange(Shape shape) :  
        change(shape) && !cflowbelow(change(Shape));  
  
    after(Shape s) returning: topLevelChange(s) {  
        Display.update(s);  
    }  
}
```



# Compositional Crosscutting

```
class Line {
  private Point p1, p2;

  Point getP1() { return p1; }
  Point getP2() { return p2; }

  void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {
    p1.moveBy(dx, dy);
    p2.moveBy(dx, dy);
  }

  void setP1(Point p1) {
    this.p1 = p1;
  }

  void setP2(Point p2) {
    this.p2 = p2;
  }
}
```

```
class Point {
  private int x = 0, y = 0;

  int getX() { return x; }
  int getY() { return y; }

  void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {
    x = x + dx; y = y + dy;
  }

  void setX(int x) {
    this.x = x;
  }

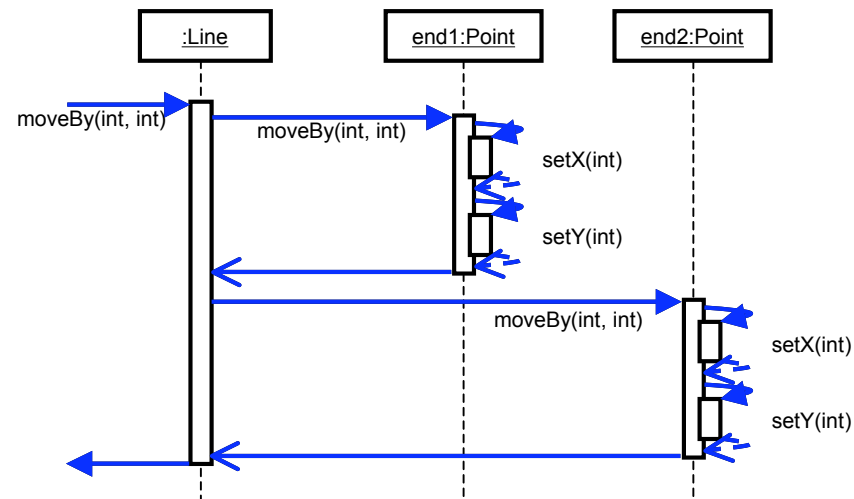
  void setY(int y) {
    this.y = y;
  }
}
```

```
aspect ObserverPattern {

  pointcut change(Shape shape):
    this(shape) &&
    (execution(void Shape.moveBy(int, int)) ||
     execution(void Shape+.set*(*)));

  pointcut topLevelChange(Shape shape):
    change(shape) && !cflowbelow(change(Shape));

  after(Shape s) returning: topLevelChange(s) {
    Display.update(s);
  }
}
```



# Outline

- Introduction
- OOP/AOP Example
  
- Intro to AOP
- Other Examples
- Is AOP Code Modular, Abstract
  
- Join Point Models
- Future Possibilities



# Design Invariants

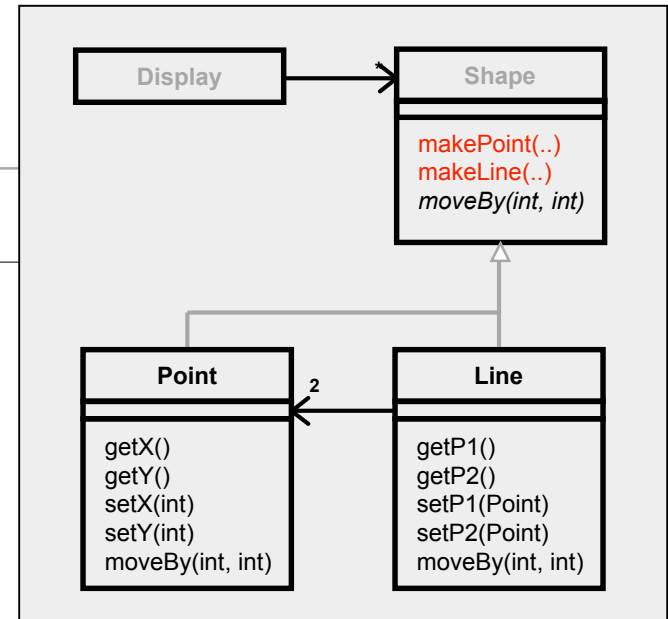
```
aspect FactoryEnforcement {
```

```
    pointcut newShape() :  
        call(Shape+.new(..));
```

```
    pointcut inFactory() :  
        withincode(Shape+ Shape.make*(..));
```

```
    pointcut illegalNewShape() :  
        newShape() && !inFactory();
```

```
    before() : illegalNewShape() {  
        throw new RuntimeException("Must call factory method...");  
    }  
}
```



# Design Invariants

```
aspect FactoryEnforcement {
```

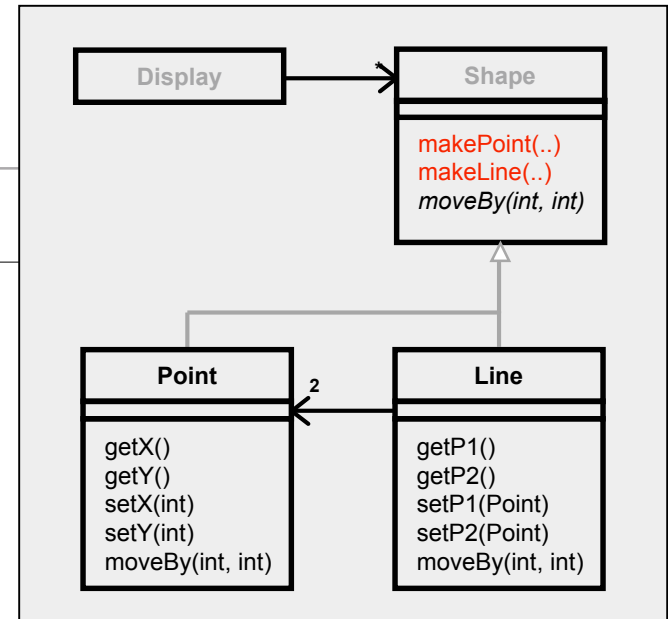
```
    pointcut newShape() :  
        call(Shape+.new(..));
```

```
    pointcut inFactory() :  
        withincode(Shape+ Shape.make*(..));
```

```
    pointcut illegalNewShape() :  
        newShape() && !inFactory();
```

```
    declare error: illegalNewShape() :  
        "Must call factory method to create figure elements.";
```

```
}
```



# (Simple) Authentication State FSM

```
public aspect AccessibilityFSM {  
  
    private enum State { INIT, AUTHENTICATED, REJECTED };  
  
    private State curr = State.INIT; // global state  
  
    pointcut authenticate(): ...;  
  
    pointcut access(): ...;  
  
    after() returning: authenticate() { curr = State.AUTHENTICATED; }  
    after() throwing:  authenticate() { curr = State.REJECTED;   }  
  
    before(): access() {  
        if( curr != State.AUTHENTICATED )  
            throw new AccessException();  
    }  
}
```





# FFDC [Colyer et. al. AOSD 2004]

```
public aspect FFDC {  
  
    private Log log = <appropriate global log>;  
  
    after() throwing (Error e):  
        execution(* com.ibm..*(..)) {  
        log.log(e);  
    }  
}
```

- Logs every error as soon as its thrown
- Consistent policy makes logs meaningful
- Real FFDC implementations are more complex



# From a Spacewar Game

```
class Ship {
    ...
    public void fire() { ... }
    public void rotate(int direction) { ... }
    public void fire() { ... }
    ...
    static aspect EnsureShipIsAlive {

        pointcut helmCommand(Ship ship):
            this(ship) &&
            ( execution(void Ship.rotate(int))      ||
              execution(void Ship.thrust(boolean)) ||
              execution(void Ship.fire()) );

        void around(Ship ship): helmCommand(ship) {
            if ( ship.isAlive() ) {
                proceed(ship);
            }
        }
    }
}
```



# One Display per Shape

ObserverPattern v5

```
aspect ObserverPattern {  
    private Display Shape.display;  
  
    static void setDisplay(Shape s, Display d) {  
        s.display = d;  
    }  
  
    pointcut change(Shape  
        this(shape) &&  
        (execution(void Sh  
            execution(void Sh  
  
    after(Shape s) return  
        s.display.update(s  
  
}
```

private with respect to aspect

- inter-type declarations
- aka open classes [Cannon 78]
- declares members of other types
  - fields, methods
- display field
  - is in objects of type Shape
  - but belongs to ObserverPattern aspect



# From a Compiler

```
/**
 * Implements the crosscutting relationships concerning the different kinds of
 * labels that different kinds of statements (and one expr) have. The declare
 * parents block can be read as table of what ASTs have what labels.
 *
 */
aspect HasLabel {

    private interface Label    {} //enclosing loop's label
```

```
WhileStat    implements    TopLabel,                DoneLabel;
ForStat      implements    TopLabel, IncrLabel,      DoneLabel;
BreakStat    implements    Label                    ;
ContinueStat implements    Label                    ;
BinaryExpr   implements    TrueLabel,                DoneLabel;
IfStat       implements    TrueLabel, FalseLabel,   DoneLabel;
```

```
declare parents: IfStat    implements    TrueLabel, FalseLabel, DoneLabel;
```

```
private String Label.label;
public String Label.getLabel() { return label; }
private void  Label.setLabel(String label) { this.label = label; }
```

```
...
```

```
}
```



- **dflow**
- **remote**
- **ffdc**



# Outline

- Introduction
- OOP/AOP Example
  
- Intro to AOP
- Other Examples
- Is AOP Code Modular, Abstract
  
- Join Point Models
- Future Possibilities



# Is the AOP Code Modular, Abstract?

- Reactionary
- Experientially
- Refers to relations
- Business options
- [Kiczales, Mezini ICSE05]



# Is the AOP Code Modular, Abstract?

- Remember original definitions

*A module is a localized unit of source code with a well-defined interface.*

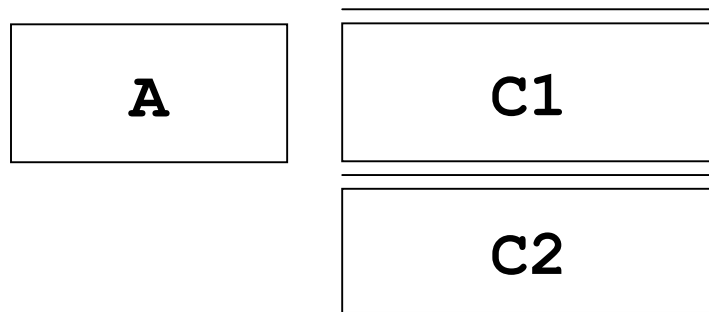
*Abstraction means hiding irrelevant details behind an interface.*





# “AOP is Anti-Modular”

- “it changes the behavior of my code”



- A can affect behavior visible at interface to C1
- But C2 can do that also
- That's the nature of modularity:
  - A module implements its behavior in terms of other well-defined behaviors



# The VI Argument

- In non-AOP programmers can easily chase module references
  - to know what has to be consulted
  - to determine complete behavior of C1
  - we don't want to have to use tool support
- But
  - include files are 'easy' to chase down?
  - write enterprise code w/o tools?



...

- Nuance of original definitions

*statically*

*A module is a localized unit of source code with a well-defined interface.*

*Abstraction means hiding irrelevant **for all time** details behind an interface*

- Anti-modular and VI arguments reduce to
  - idea that modularity implies hierarchy
    - designer/implementer/owner of a module has complete responsibility for everything at that level and down
    - implicitly controls all contexts of use

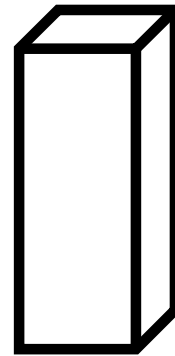
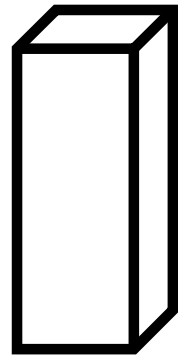


# Crosscutting Concerns are Real

- Crosscutting concerns are a fact of life
- Even simple ObserverPattern
  - cannot be implemented modularly w/o AOP
  - hierarchical (de)composition alone isn't enough
  - without AOP, users will scatter code
- CVS tells no lies

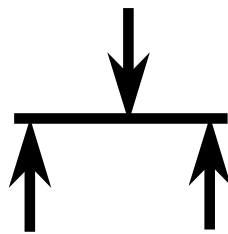
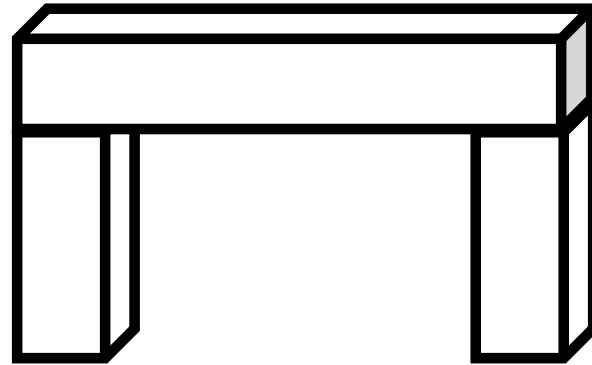


# Crosscutting In Other Domains

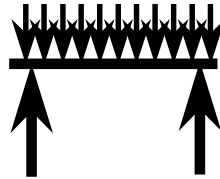


putting 3 blocks together

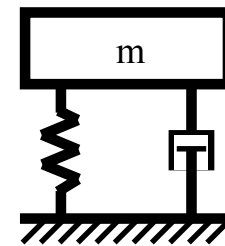
# Crosscutting Models



simple  
statics



more detailed  
statics



simple  
dynamics

# Without AspectJ

## ObserverPattern v5

```
class Shape {  
    private Display display;  
  
    abstract void moveBy(int, int);  
}
```

```
class Line extends Shape {  
    private Point p1, p2;  
  
    Point getP1() { return p1; }  
    Point getP2() { return p2; }  
  
    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {  
        p1.moveBy(dx, dy);  
        p2.moveBy(dx, dy);  
        display.update(this);  
    }  
  
    void setP1(Point p1) {  
        this.p1 = p1;  
        display.update(this);  
    }  
    void setP2(Point p2) {  
        this.p2 = p2;  
        display.update(this);  
    }  
}
```

```
class Point extends Shape {  
    private int x = 0, y = 0;  
  
    int getX() { return x; }  
    int getY() { return y; }  
  
    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {  
        x = x + dx;  
        y = y + dy;  
        display.update(this);  
    }  
  
    void setX(int x) {  
        this.x = x;  
        display.update(this);  
    }  
    void setY(int y) {  
        this.y = y;  
        display.update(this);  
    }  
}
```

- Replaying the same evolution
- Through 4 versions
- In plain OO (Java)

“display updating” is not modular

- evolution is cumbersome
- changes are scattered
- have to track & change all callers
- it is harder to think about



# With AspectJ

## ObserverPattern v5

```
class Shape {
```

```
    abstract void moveBy(int, int);  
}
```

```
class Line extends Shape {
```

```
    private Point p1, p2;  
  
    Point getP1() { return p1; }  
    Point getP2() { return p2; }  
  
    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {  
        p1.moveBy(dx, dy);  
        p2.moveBy(dx, dy);  
    }  
  
    void setP1(Point p1) {  
        this.p1 = p1;  
    }  
  
    void setP2(Point p2) {  
        this.p2 = p2;  
    }  
}
```

```
class Point extends Shape {
```

```
    private int x = 0, y = 0;  
  
    int getX() { return x; }  
    int getY() { return y; }  
  
    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {  
        x = x + dx;  
        y = y + dy;  
    }  
  
    void setX(int x) {  
        this.x = x;  
    }  
  
    void setY(int y) {  
        this.y = y;  
    }  
}
```

```
aspect ObserverPattern {
```

```
    private Display Shape.display;
```

```
    static void setDisplay(Shape s, Display d) {  
        s.display = d;  
    }
```

```
    pointcut change(Shape shape):  
        this(shape) &&  
        (execution(void Shape.moveBy(int, int)) ||  
         execution(void Shape+.set*(*)));
```

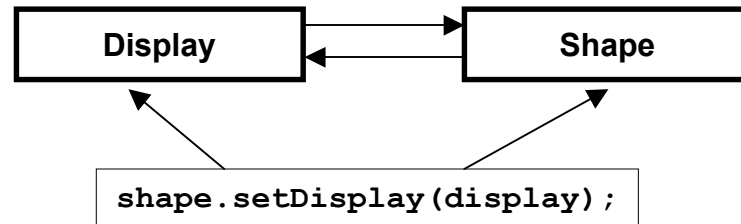
```
    after(Shape s) returning: change(s) {  
        shape.display.update(s);  
    }  
}
```

- ObserverPattern is modular
- all changes in single aspect
  - evolution is modular
  - it is easier to think about

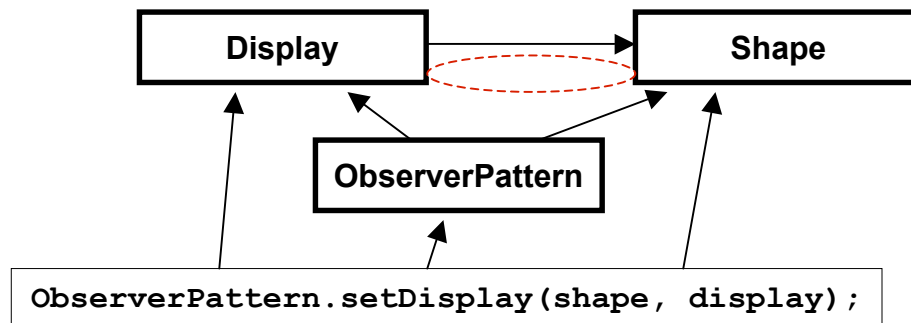




# Comparing *refers to* relations



Plain Java



w/ AspectJ 1

# Selling Different Service Aspects

- Major turning point
  - during internal exploration of AspectJ @ IBM
- Product-line potential of
  - FFDC and related serviceability aspects
- “So we could sell different logging policies?”



# [Kiczales, Mezini, ICSE 05]

- Starts w/ AspectJ style AOP
- Provides more flexible definition of module
  - modules are statically localized
  - but interfaces are more dynamic
    - constructed based on complete system configuration
- Shows that modular reasoning
  - is possible
  - works better than non AOP if there are crosscutting concerns



# IDE support

- AJDT (AspectJ Development Tool)
- An Eclipse Project
- Goal is JDT-quality AspectJ support
  - highlighting, completion, wizards...
  - structure browser
    - immediate
    - outline
    - overview



# Outline

- Introduction
- OOP/AOP Example
  
- Intro to AOP
- Other Examples
- Is AOP Code Modular, Abstract
  
- Join Point Models
- Future Possibilities



# [Smith, On the Origin of Objects<sup>1</sup>]

- How is it that we can see the world in different ways?
- Registration is
  - process of ‘parsing’ objects out of fog of undifferentiated stuff
  - constantly registering and re-registering the world
  - mediates different perspectives on a changing world
  - enables moving in and out of connection with the world
- Critical properties of registration
  - multiple routes to reference
    - morning star, evening star
  - ability to exceed causal reach
    - person closest to average height in Gorbachev's office now
  - indexical reference
    - the one in front of him

---

1. On this slide, object means in the real-world.



# Traditional Mechanisms

```
class Line {  
    private Point p1, p2;  
  
    Point getP1() { return p1; }  
    Point getP2() { return p2; }  
  
    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {  
        p1.moveBy(dx, dy);  
        p2.moveBy(dx, dy);  
    }  
    void setP1(Point p1) {  
        this.p1 = p1;  
    }  
    void setP2(Point p2) {  
        this.p2 = p2;  
    }  
}
```

```
class Point {  
    private int x = 0, y = 0;  
  
    int getX() { return x; }  
    int getY() { return y; }  
  
    void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {  
        x = x + dx; y = y + dy;  
    }  
    void setX(int x) {  
        this.x = x;  
    }  
    void setY(int y) {  
        this.y = y;  
    }  
}
```



*stream of instructions*

- Modular program structures
- Give rise to execution stream
- Only one place has static direct causal access to given point
  - via single module that gives rise to it
  - equivalent to static hierarchy assumption

# Join Point Models

```
class Line {  
    private Point p1, p2;
```

```
aspect ObserverPattern {
```

```
    pointcut change(Shape shape):  
        this(shape) &&  
        (execution(void Shape.moveBy(int, int)) ||  
         execution(void Shape+.set*(*)));
```

```
    pointcut topLevelChange(Shape shape):  
        change(shape) && !cflowbelow(change(Shape));
```

```
    after(Shape s) returning: topLevelChange(s) {  
        Display.update(s);  
    }
```

```
}
```

```
int getX() { return x; }  
int getY() { return y; }  
  
void moveBy(int dx, int dy) {  
    x = x + dx; y = y + dy;  
}  
void setX(int x) {  
    this.x = x;  
}  
void setY(int y) {  
    this.y = y;  
}  
}
```



*stream of instructions*

- Pointcuts
  - pick out dynamic join points in instruction stream
  - unconstrained by original program modularity
  - ‘register’ instructions in own form
  - create a crosscutting modularity



# Join Point Models

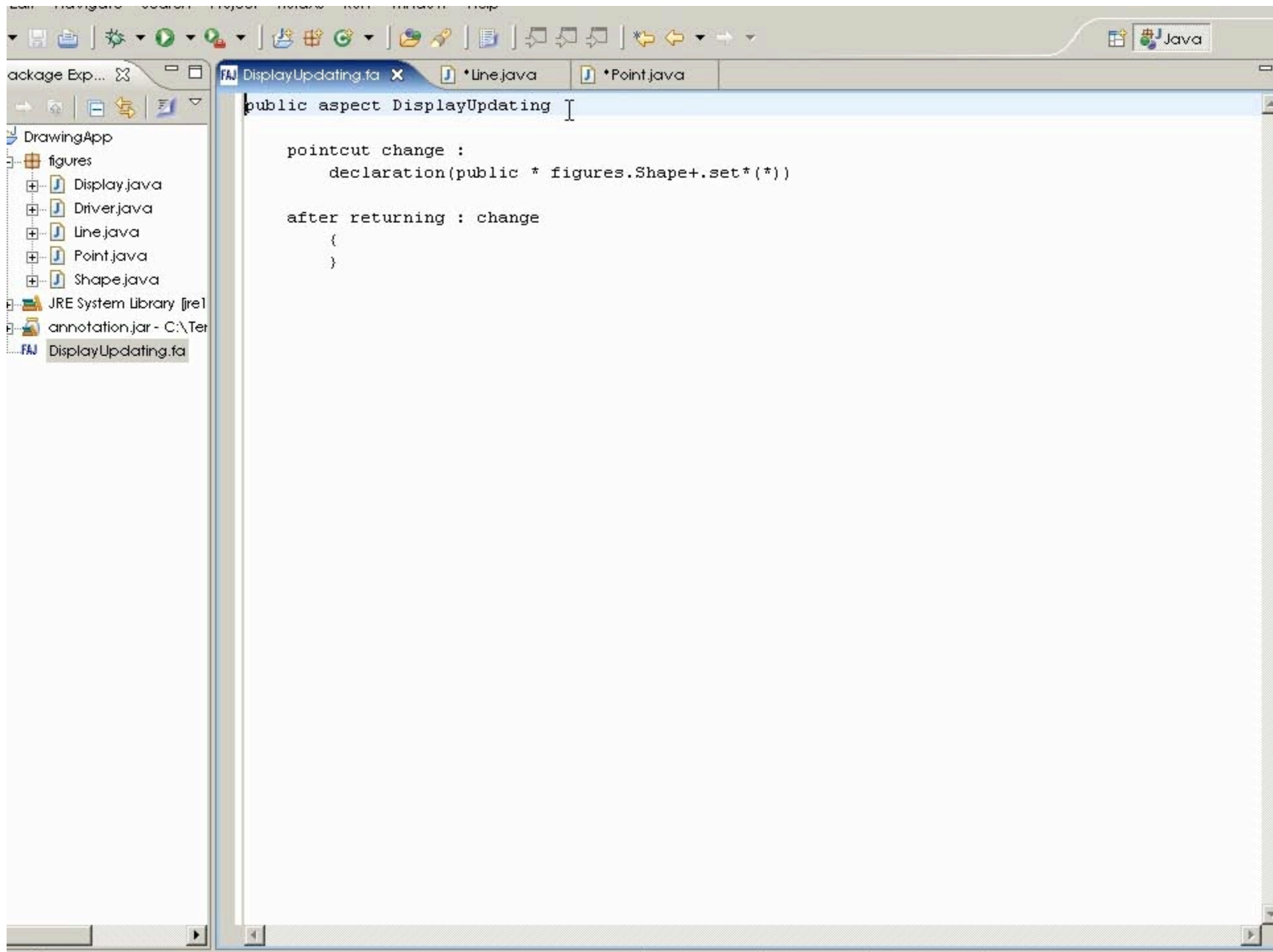
- (De)compose software in different ways
- Register aspects out of fog of undifferentiated points
  - means of identifying JPs (aka pointcut) registers
  - aspects/slices/concerns... group over that
- Connect and have effect through that registration
  - means of semantic effect (aka advice)
- Critical properties of registration
  - multiple routes to reference
    - `void setX(int nx) { ... }, call(void setX(int)), cflow(...)`
  - exceed causal reach
    - `within(com.sun..*)`, `!within(com.mycompany.mysystem)`
  - indexical reference
    - `cflow(...)`

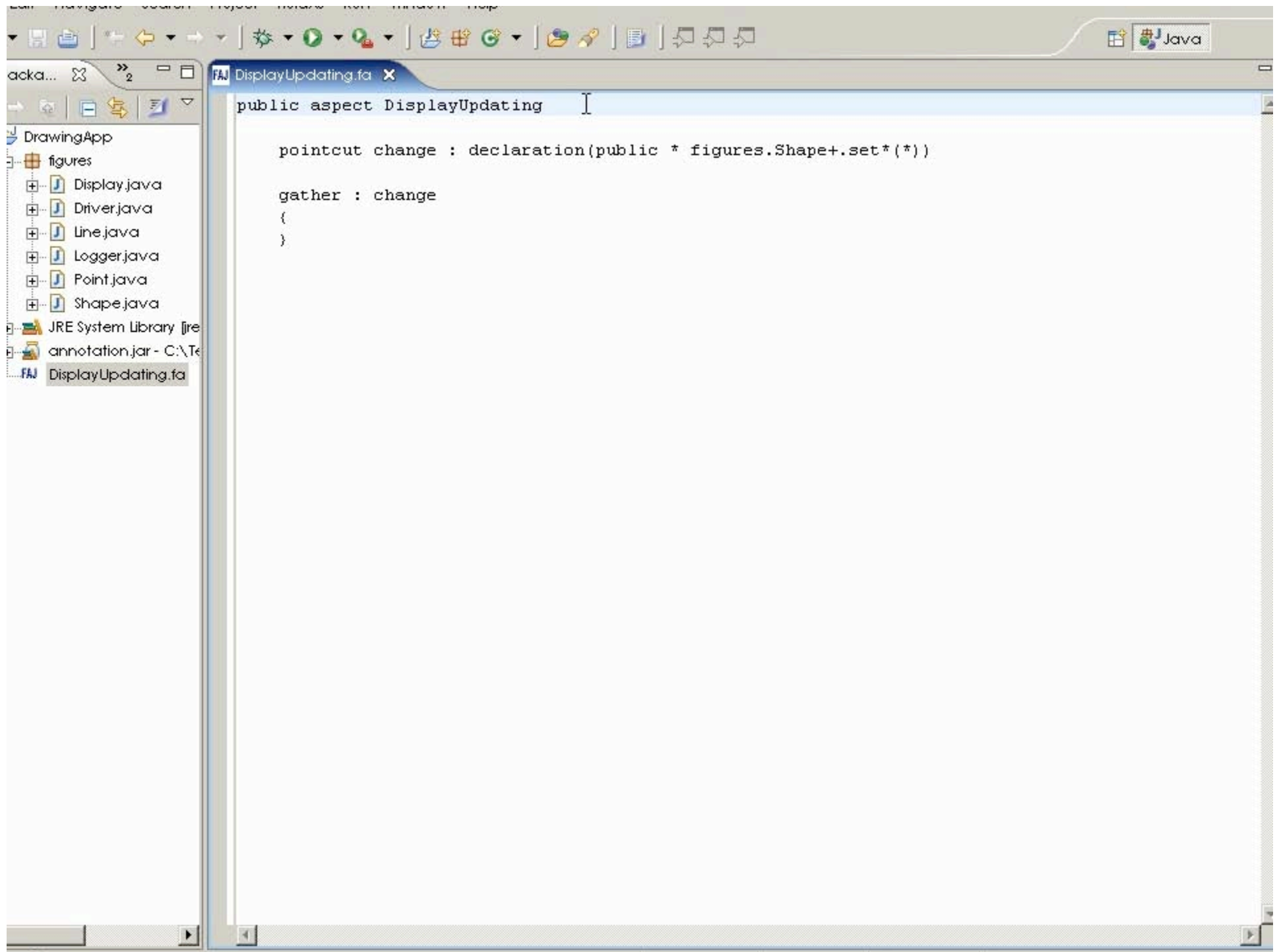


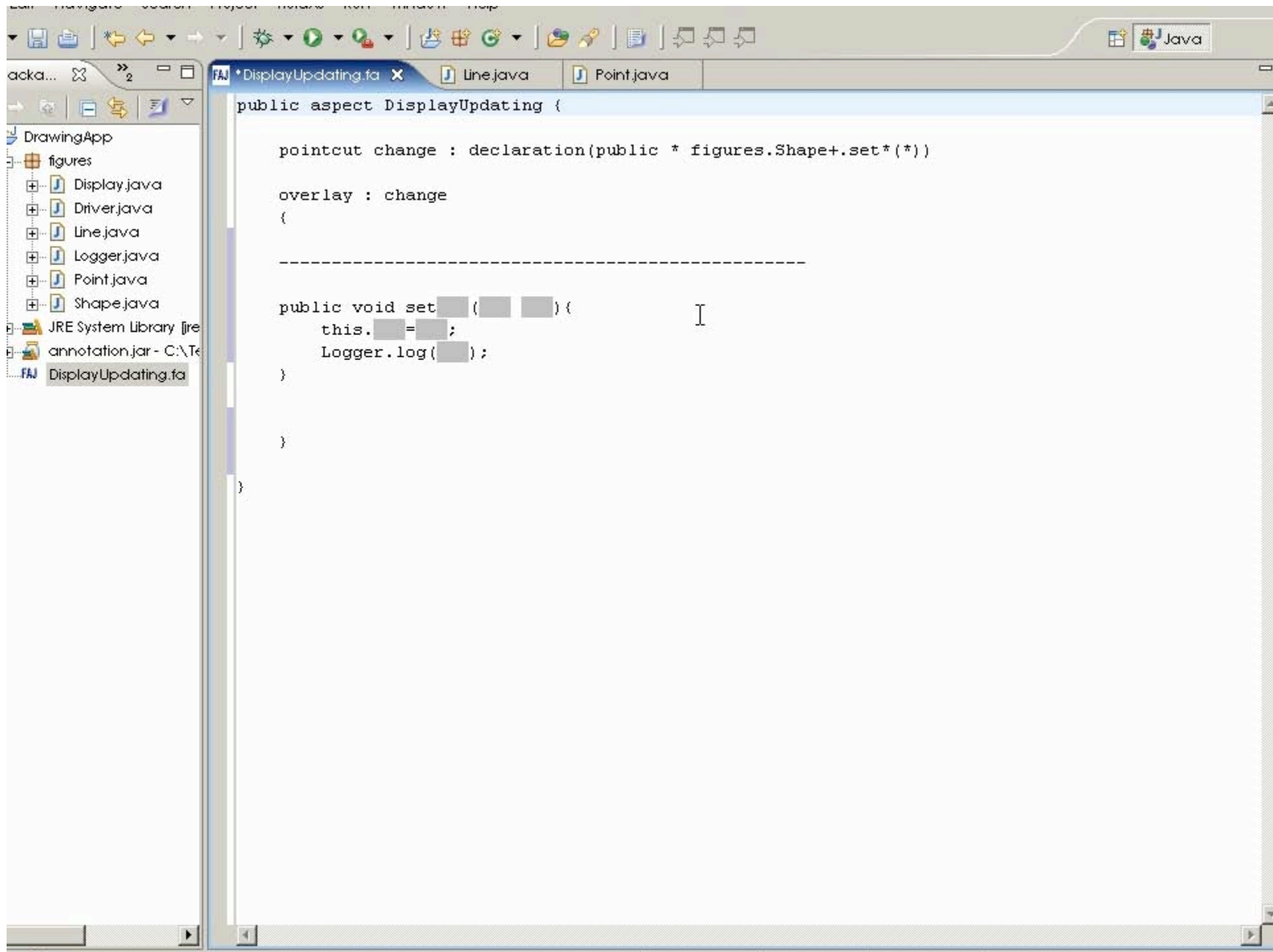
# Outline

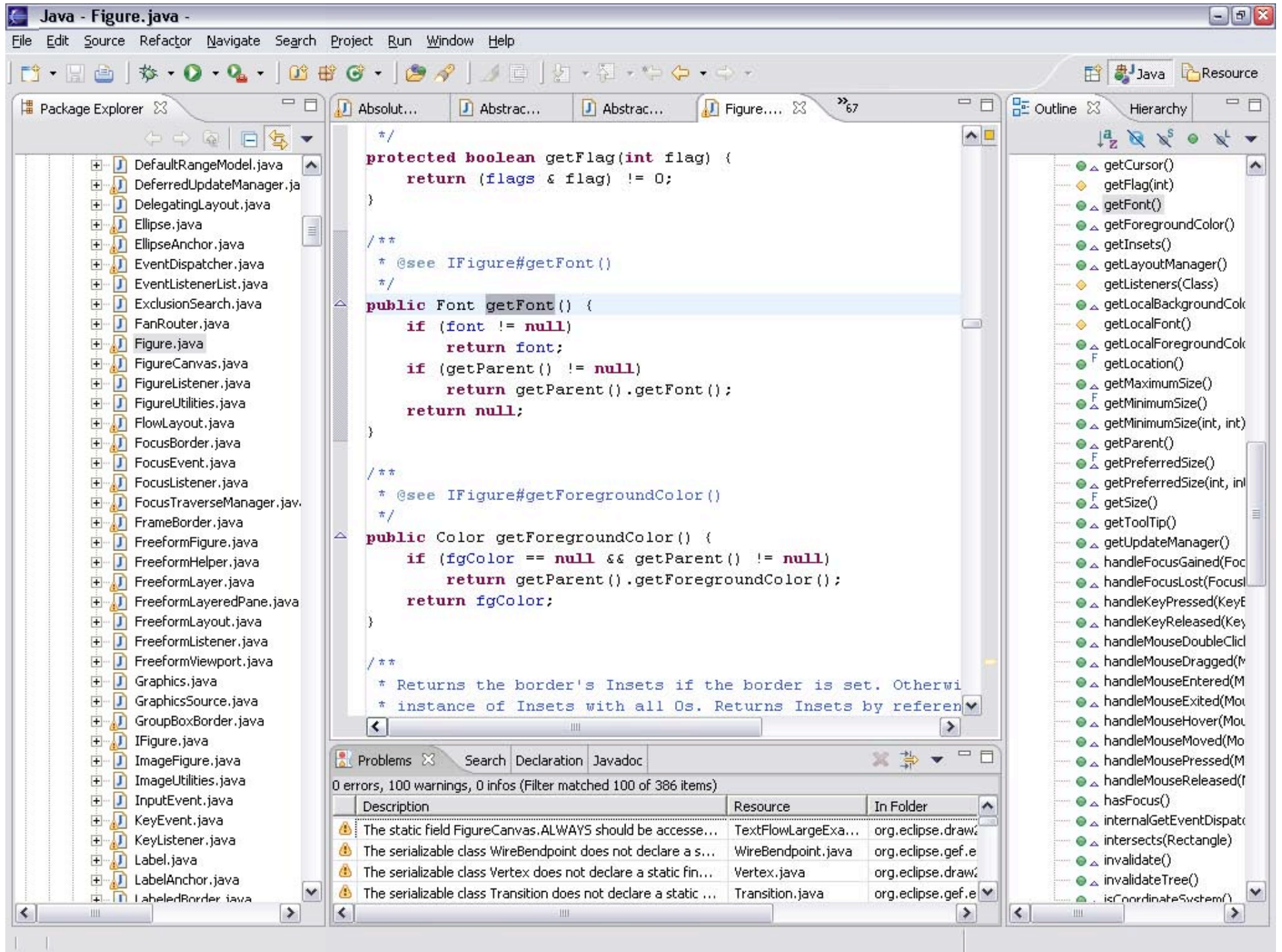
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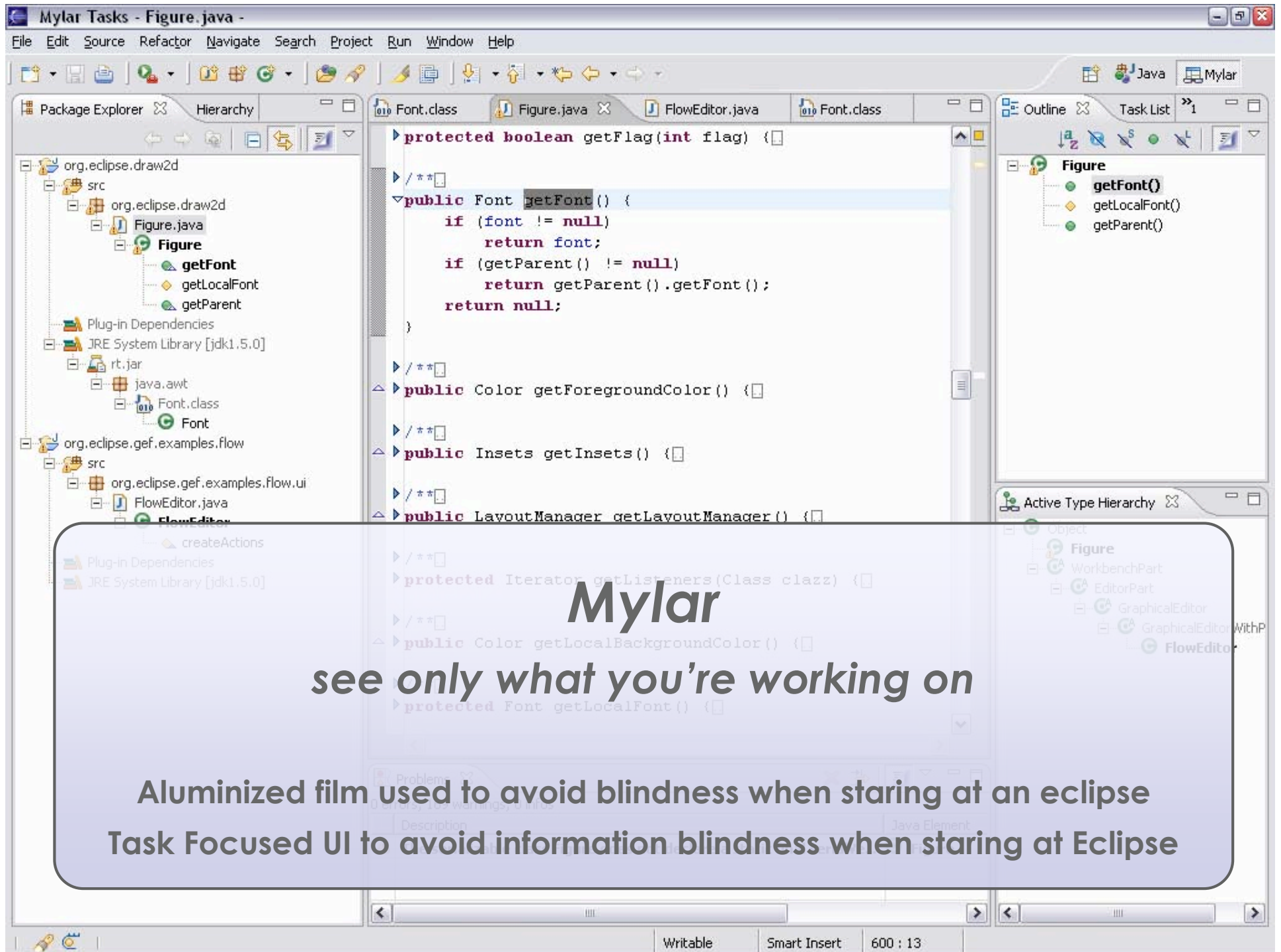












# Radical Research in Modularity

- AOP ala AspectJ can make programs
- Hierarchical structure insufficient
  - does not support all needed (de)composition
  - even a simple example shows this
- Crosscutting structure is inherent
  - and can be supported modularly
  
- A module should be able to be
  - any unit of concern
  - at any time, we should support
    - identification, localization, interface construction...
- Abstraction should be
  - ability to set aside currently irrelevant details
  
- For example
  - AspectJ style AOP
    - static modules, dynamically constructed interfaces
  - Fluid AOP, Mylar
    - dynamic modules, dynamic interfaces
  
- This might put some more 'soft' in software?

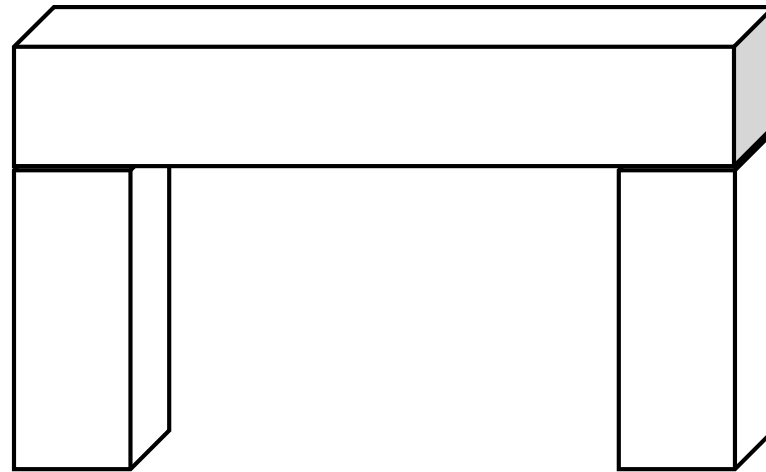




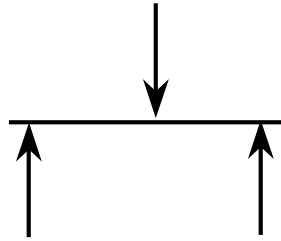




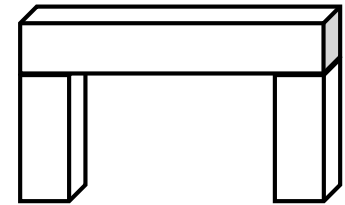
# a simple bridge



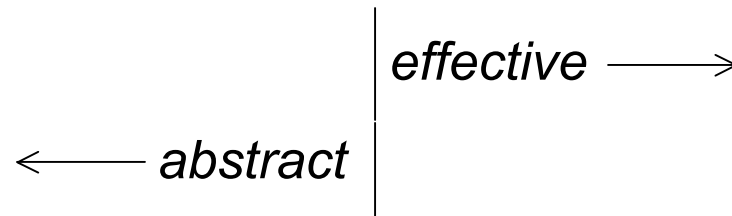
# models, programs and systems



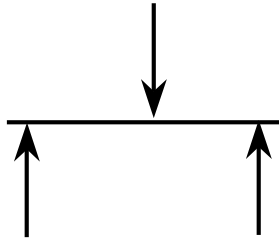
**model**



**system**

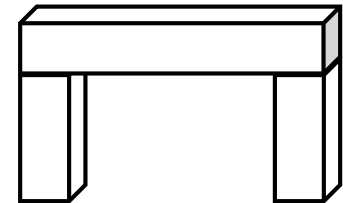


# models, programs and systems



**model**

```
i = 1
while (i < 4) {
  print(i)
  i = i + 1
}
```



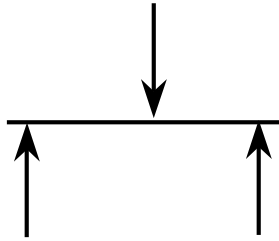
**system**

*effective* →

← *abstract*

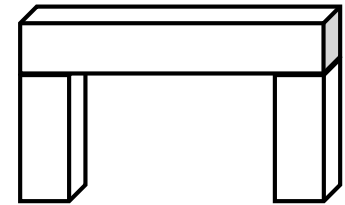
*programs live in  
this magic space*

# models, programs and systems



**model**

```
i = 1
while (i < 4) {
  print(i)
  i = i + 1
}
```



**system**

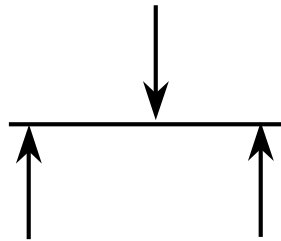
*effective* →

← *abstract*

*programs live in  
this magic space*

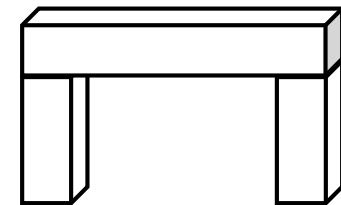
*Brian's account talks  
(in part) about this space*

# models, programs and systems

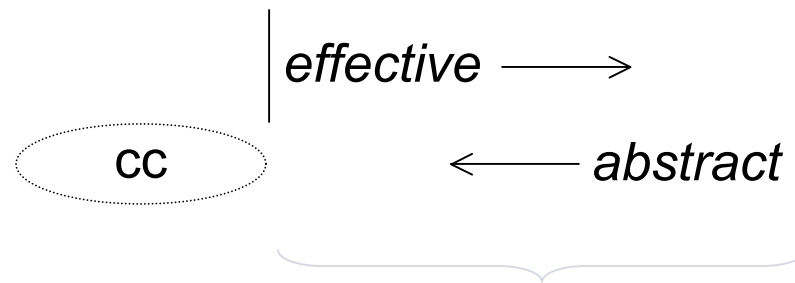


**model**

```
i = 1
while (i < 4) {
  print(i)
  i = i + 1
}
```



**system**

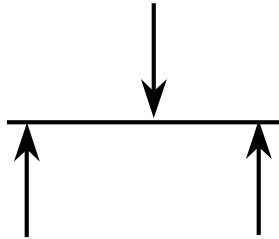


*programs live in  
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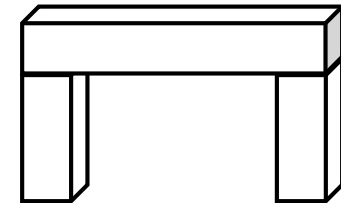


# models, programs and systems

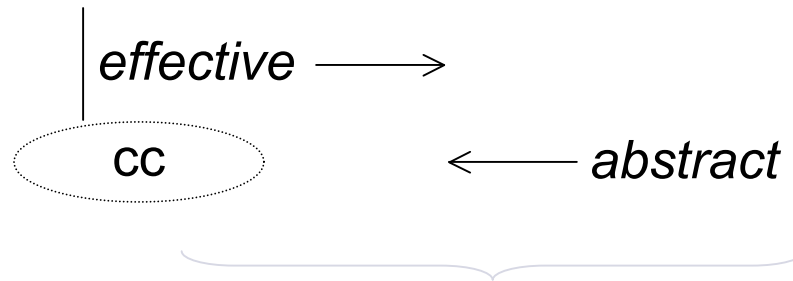


**model**

```
i = 1
while (i < 4) {
  print(i)
  i = i + 1
}
```



**system**



*programs live in  
this magic space*

*Brian's account talks  
(in part) about this space*





# Review So Far

- Aspect is a unit of design, decomposition, composition
  - supported by mechanisms
  - a “learned intuitive way of thinking”
- Mechanisms
  - Pointcuts and advice
    - dynamic join points, pointcuts, advice
  - Inter-type declarations
- Different concepts for different structure of concerns
  - procedure holds computeRadius, setX...
  - class holds Point, Line...
  - aspect holds ObserverPattern...
- Aspects
  - modular units of implementation
  - look like modular units of design
  - improves design and code

