

EECS3311 Software Design

Summer 2015

Lab Exercises of Week 3

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Abstract

In this week's lab session, you are asked to do three exercises on the iterator pattern. It is critical for you to understand, and appreciate, how **information hiding** is applied here: the supplier's secret representation of the collection (e.g., *ARRAY*, *LINKED_LIST*, etc.) is completely hidden from the client; and clients only depend on a uniform interface that is defined in the *ITERABLE* and *ITERATION_CURSOR* classes. In the first exercise (Section 1), you will act as a client of an iterable class: use the Eiffel *across* constructs to write both contracts and implementations for iterating through items in the collection in a linear fashion. In the other two exercises, you will act as a supplier of an iterable class: implement the interface of the *ITERABLE* class. In the second exercise (Section 2), you will simply reuse the implementation from Eiffel library classes. In the second exercise (Section 3), you will develop the implementation of an iterable class on your own. Click on the heading of each section to link to its associated video.

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1 Acting as a Client: Using the across Constructs

In this exercise, you will be acting as a *client* of objects that are *iterable*. More precisely, you will use the **across** for both contracts (which correspond to the universal and existential quantifiers) and implementation (which corresponds to a loop).

Consider the *ITERABLE_UTILITIES* class:

```
class
  ITERABLE_UTILITIES
create
  make
feature -- Attributes
  collection: ITERABLE [INTEGER]
feature -- Constructors
  make (new_collection: ITERABLE [INTEGER])
    -- Initialize the iterable object for processing.
  do
    collection := new_collection
  end
```

invariant*all_non_negative:* $\forall item : \text{INTEGER} \mid item \in collection \bullet item \geq 0$

The *ITERABLE_UTILITIES* class above provides utility functions for inquiring about an iterable object (or a collection). There are two constraints: 1) the collection stores integers only; and 2) all stored integers should be non-negative.

Question: How should these constraints be reflected in the *ITERABLE_UTILITIES* class?

Task 1: Create the *ITERABLE_UTILITIES* class above and convert the mathematical pre- and post-conditions, as well as invariants, into Eiffel using the **across** constructs.

Now, consider the two new queries *min* and *has* below.

```

feature -- Queries
  min: INTEGER
    -- Minimum value in 'collection'.
    local
      cursor: ITERATION_CURSOR [INTEGER]
    do
      cursor := collection.new_cursor
      -- Your task: Write a loop that uses this returned cursor to find the minimum.
    ensure
      result_is_minimum:
         $\forall item : \text{INTEGER} \mid item \in collection \bullet \text{Result} \leq item$ 
    end

  has (v: INTEGER): BOOLEAN
    -- Is there a value in 'collection' equal to 'v'?
    local
      cursor: ITERATION_CURSOR [INTEGER]
    do
      cursor := collection.new_cursor
      -- Your task: Write a loop that uses this returned cursor to find the minimum.
    ensure
      result_valid:
        Result = ( $\exists item : \text{INTEGER} \mid item \in collection \bullet item = v$ )
    end

```

Task 2: Add the above two queries to the *ITERABLE_UTILITIES* class by converting the mathematical pre- and post-conditions into Eiffel using the **across** constructs.

Task 3: As for the body implementation of these two queries, try both possibilities:

1. a **from ... until ... do ... end** loop
2. an **across ... as ... loop ... end** construct

Task 4: Is your implementation of the *has* feature efficient? That is, if the number of integers stored in the collection is substantial, will your loop exit as soon as the item is found? Or will it examine the entire list no matter what?

Hint. Use a local variable *item_found*: **BOOLEAN** that is used as part of the loop exit condition (i.e., part of the *until* condition), and is set *True* if the current iteration finds the item.

2 Acting as a Supplier: an Iterable CART Class

This exercise builds on a previous tutorial video on information hiding, and the project resulted from that exercise can be downloaded here as the starter code for this exercise. However, you are supposed to finish that exercise by yourself before attempting the current exercise. Follow these steps:

1. Create a new class `GOOD_SHOP2` whose text is copied and pasted from `GOOD_SHOP`.
2. Create a new class `GOOD_CART2` whose text is copied and pasted from `GOOD_CART`.
3. Make the class `GOOD_CART2` inherit from `ITERABLE[ORDER]`.

Question: Why not inherit from `ITERABLE[G]`?

4. This will now force the inherited feature `new_cursor` to be effected (i.e., implemented) in `GOOD_CART2`.
5. Since the implementations suggested to you, i.e., `ARRAY` and `LINKED_LIST`, are both Eiffel library classes that are both already `ITERABLE`. This implies that both `ARRAY` and `LINKED_LIST` already support some concrete implementations for the `new_cursor` feature.
6. Therefore, the `new_cursor` feature in `GOOD_CART2` has a one-line implementation:

```
class
  GOOD_CART2
inherit
  ITERABLE[ORDER]
...
feature -- Iteration
  new_cursor: ITERATION_CURSOR[ORDER]
    -- A fresh cursor for iterating through orders in current cart.
  do
    Result := imp.new_cursor
  end
feature -- Implementation
  imp: ARRAY[ORDER] -- Or the type of imp can be LINKED_LIST[ORDER]
```

Question. When the supplier's secret, i.e., the detailed representation of the collection of orders, changes from `ARRAY` to `LINKED_LIST`, or vice versa, will the one-line implementation for `GOOD_CART2`'s `new_cursor` feature be affected? Justify your answer.

7. Now that you have implemented all features to make the `CART` class iterable, you can use it as a client in the `GOOD_SHOP2` class:

```
class
  GOOD_SHOP2
...
feature -- Attributes
  cart: CART
feature -- Queries
  checkout: INTEGER
    -- Total price of orders in current cart.
  do
    -- Your task to complete the calculation.
  end
```

Question: In the implementation body of `checkout`, you can no longer write `cart.orders`, why not?

3 Acting as a Supplier: an Iterable `GENERIC_BOOK[G]` Class

This exercise builds on a previous tutorial video on genericity, and the project resulted from that exercise can be downloaded here as the starter code for this exercise. However, you are supposed to finish that exercise by yourself before attempting the current exercise.

Recall that to implement the mappings from names to records, we use two arrays (or two linked lists). Consequently, making this suppliers class (i.e., `GENERIC_BOOK[G]`) iterable will be a more challenging exercise compared with the case of `CART` (see Section 2). This is why:

- The `new_cursor` feature is already supported in the `ARRAY` and `LINKED_LIST` classes (since they are both descendant classes of `ITERABLE`).
- But there is no implementation of the `new_cursor` feature for two arrays (or for two linked lists), unless you implement one yourself!

Follow these steps:

1. First of all, you need to consider: What should be the return type for the `new_cursor` feature in `GENERIC_BOOK[G]`, if it inherits from `ITERABLE`? It cannot be simply `new_cursor: ITERATION_CURSOR[G]`, because it will then only reveal the record, but hide its associated name! That is, as clients iterate through a book object, in each iteration step they should be able to retrieve both a name and its associated record.
2. To achieve this, we introduce the `TUPLE` type in Eiffel. Each tuple object contains a list of values, each of which can be of a distinct type. For example, to declare a tuple type for name-date pairs, e.g., [`"Jim"`, 1970/03/20], [`"Jeremy"`, 1969/04/28], etc, we write either

```
TUPLE [STRING, DATE]
```

or

```
TUPLE [name: STRING; record: DATE]
```

Both of the above tuple types are valid. Note that member types in the first tuple type is separated by commas, whereas in the second tuple type they are separated by semi-colons. Furthermore, in the first tuple type, we can only use indices, starting from 1, to refer to tuple elements. In the second tuple type, we declare names for the members, which allows clients to refer to elements using those names. Here is an example of declaring and using tuples:

```
test_tuple: BOOLEAN  
local  
  pair: TUPLE[STRING, DATE]  
  pair2: TUPLE[name: STRING; record: DATE]  
  d: DATE  
do  
  create d.make (1970, 4, 23)  
  pair := ["Jim", d]  
  Result := pair[1] ~ "Jim" and pair[2] ~ d  
  
  pair2 := ["Jim", d]  
  Result := pair2.name ~ "Jim" and pair2.record ~ d  
  check Result end  
end
```

- Before making the *GENERIC_BOOK* class iterable, we first need a new class that implements the cursor for iterating through two arrays. Having introduced the *TUPLE* type, create a new class *TWO_ARRAY_ITERATION_CURSOR* which inherits from the *ITERATION_CURSOR* class:

```

class
  TWO_ARRAY_ITERATION_CURSOR[G]
inherit
  ITERATION_CURSOR[TUPLE[STRING, G]]
...
end

```

It is important to note that we instantiate the formal generic parameter *G* in the *ITERATION_CURSOR* class by *TUPLE[STRING, G]*, meaning that the cursor is going to let clients iterate through a collection of string-record tuples.

- Since *TWO_ARRAY_ITERATION_CURSOR* inherits from *ITERATION_CURSOR*, you will be forced to implement three inherited features that are deferred: *after*, *item*, and *forth*.

```

class
  TWO_ARRAY_ITERATION_CURSOR[G]
inherit
  ITERATION_CURSOR[TUPLE[STRING, G]]
create
  make
feature
  make (ns: ARRAY[STRING]; rs: ARRAY[G])
    -- Initialize a cursor from two arrays.
    do
      ...
    end
feature
  after: BOOLEAN
    do
      ...
    end
  item: TUPLE[STRING, G]
    do
      ...
    end
  forth
    do
      ...
    end
end
end

```

Note. The return type of the *item* feature is a tuple type, and its members are given names that can be referenced by clients (see the Boolean test case *test_iterable_book* below).

The implementation of the above features, in terms of two arrays, is left to you as an exercise. You might need additional attributes to keep track of the current position of the cursor. Notice that these auxiliary attribute should be hidden!

- Having defined your own version of an iteration cursor for two arrays, now inherit the *GENERIC_BOOK* class from *ITERABLE*, which will force the inherited feature *new_cursor* to be implemented:

```

class
  GENERIC_BOOK[G]
inherit
  ITERABLE[TUPLE[STRING, G]]
...
feature
  new_cursor: ITERATION_CURSOR[TUPLE[STRING, G]]
  local
    ic: TWO_ARRAY_ITERATION_CURSOR[G]
  do
    create ic.make (names, records)
  end

```

Question: Contrast this *inherit* clause with the one for making the *GOOD_CART2* class iterable (Section 2). Why in one case *G* is instantiated as *ORDER*, but in the other case it is instantiated by *TUPLE[STRING, G]*?

6. How would you use an iterable book? Here is an example test case:

```

test_iterable_book: BOOLEAN
local
  book: GENERIC_BOOK[DATE]
  today, d1, d2: DATE
  all_born_today: BOOLEAN
  pair: TUPLE[name: STRING; record: DATE]
do
  create book.make
  create today.make_now
  create d1.make_now
  create d2.make_now
  book.add ("Jim", d1)
  book.add ("Jeremy", d2)
  Result :=
    across
      book as cursor
    all
      cursor.item [2] ~ today
    end
  check Result end

  all_born_today := true
  across
    book as cursor
  loop
    pair := cursor.item
    if pair.record /~ today then
      all_born_today := false
    end
  end
  check Result end
end

```