Presentation Models for Design Pattern Detection Tools

Shouzheng Yang Oct. 26, 2011

Motivation

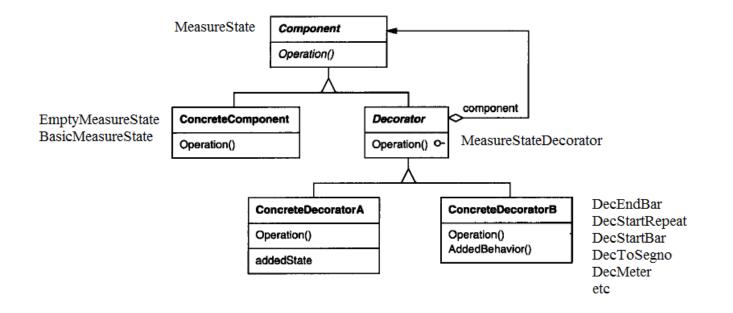
- How can we understand FINDER's results in a short time?
- Do the detected instances potentially contain some relations?
- Other design pattern detection tools also have this problem.
- As far as I know, nobody has done this in the literature.

First Stage

- We noticed that design patterns roles are not necessary equally important.
- E.g. Decorator Pattern
 - More important: Component, Decorator
 - Less important: Concrete Decorator, Concrete Component, Client

First Stage

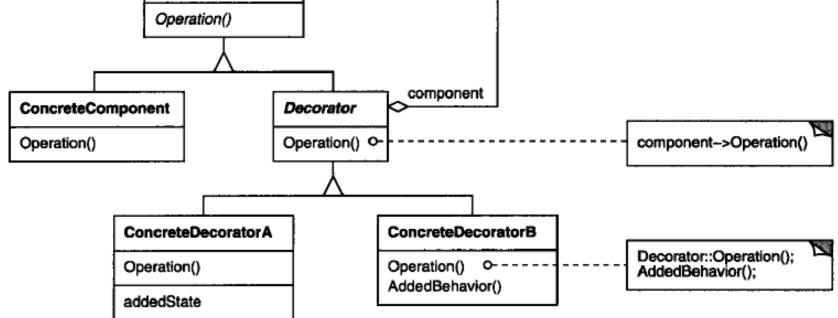
- Some role instances are often shared among multiple pattern instances.
- E.g. TAB2PS (Decorator)



First Stage

- So we see the need for grouping pattern instances by the "shared roles".
- Benefits:
 - Redundant information is removed.
 - Related pattern instances are able to be placed together for better overall comprehension.
 - It helps to quickly eliminate false positives.
 - It can potentially help to compare the results produced by different detection tools.

Second Stage We noticed some roles are independent of each other.



Second Stage

- In theory, all combinations of independent roles should be detected.
 - This can help verify the detection tools.
- We say there is a cross-product relation between independent roles.

Second Stage

- So what about dependent relations?
 - One-to-one
 - One-to-many
 - Many-to-many

In practice, many-to-many is often the case.

Second Stage

What can we do for dependent relations?

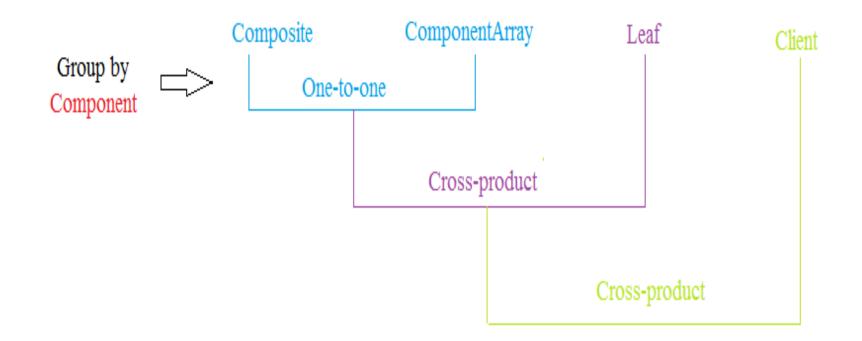
- Indicate the type of relation.
- Interactively mark potential false positives.
- Separate unrelated role instances.
 - E.g. (composite, componentArray)
 - A composite role could have multiple componentArrays.
 - Different composite roles should be separated as sub-groups.

Presentation Model

- In order to realize the aforementioned ideas, we need
 - A model for the description of design pattern presentation constraints.
 - Group by "shared role(s)".
 - Relationships between all non-shared role(s).

Presentation Model

E.g. Composite Pattern



Presentation Model

- A pattern could have more than one models for different implementation variants, or just for different views, like including/excluding client.
 - This allows for the presentation of the results even if some roles are missing.

