OODP- OOA/OOD– Session 3-a

Session times

PT group 1 – Monday	18:00-21:00	room: Malet 403
PT group 2 – Thursday	18:00-21:00	room: Malet 407
FT - Tuesday	13:30-17:00	room: Malet 404

Email: oded@dcs.bbk.ac.uk

Web Page: http://www.dcs.bbk.ac.uk/~oded

Visiting Hours: Tuesday 17:00 to 19:00

Previously on OOAD

- In the beginning there was CHAOS
- Waterfall
- Agile
  - Iterative, Incremental, Interactive
    - Unified Process (UP)
      - Inception
      - Elaboration
      - …

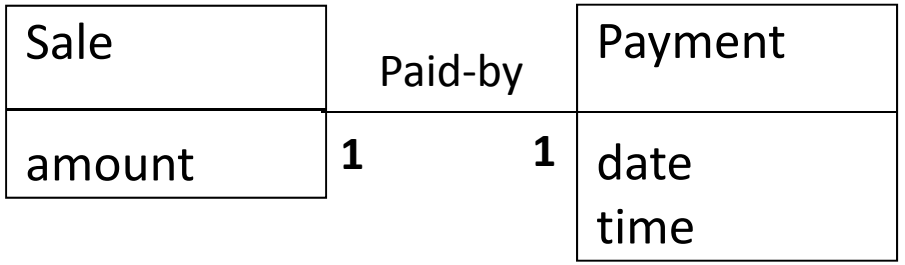
Previously on OOAD

Process Sale
.....
.....

UP Use-case Model

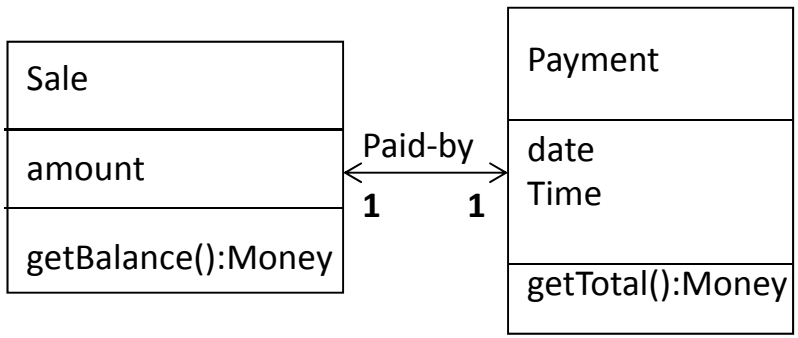
System sequence diagram

UP Domain Model

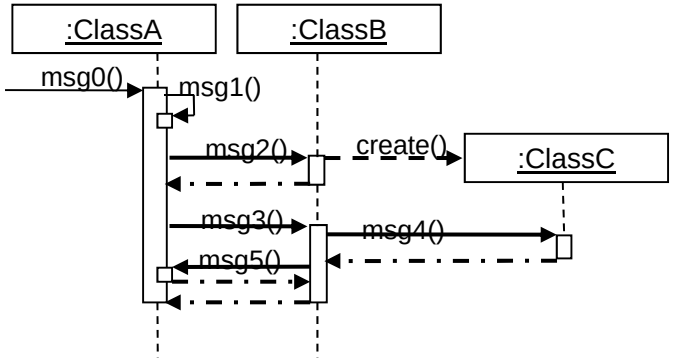


UP Design Model

Design Class Diagrams



Interaction Diagrams



Some remarks on previously

- Testing
- Instantiation Use Case
- Contracts etc.
- Coding

Starting Point, Getting Personal

- The use cases describe different tasks that must be performed in their context. Who is responsible for performing these tasks?
- We build system to do work for us.
- So the objects are responsible!
- Objects have responsibilities (grow up objects)

Responsibilities

Objects have responsibilities - obligations of an object in terms of its behaviour:

- Doing
  - Running a computation, creating an object
  - Initiating action in another object
  - Controlling and coordinating activities in other objects
- Knowing
  - Private encapsulated data
  - Related objects
  - What can it do

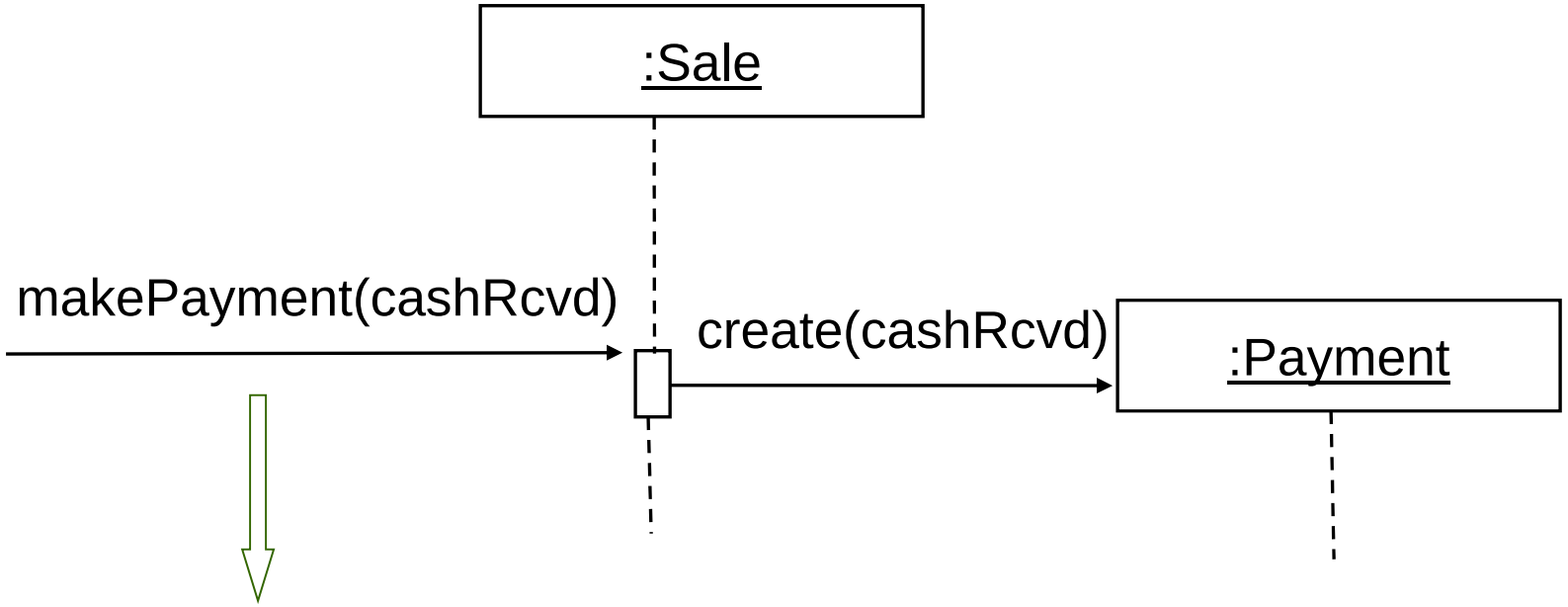
Responsibilities and methods

- In general, responsibilities are implemented using methods.
- Methods either act alone or **collaborate** with other object methods.

Object collaboration often results in dependencies.

Responsibilities and interaction diagrams

- How do we assign responsibilities (implemented as methods) to objects? Interaction diagrams show choices in assigning responsibilities.



It implies Sale objects “have” a responsibility to create Payments. This responsibility is invoked with a makePayment message and handled with a corresponding makePayment method.

Where are we now?

- We have UML classes that can be converted to software classes and attributes
- We have Interaction Diagrams that can be converted to methods
- We even got personal with the objects

What don't we have?

- The means to make this
  - Easier to Modify
  - Easier for Maintenance
  - Easier for Verification

Hand waving

Easier to Modify, Easier for Maintenance, Easier for Verification.

How?

- Low interdependency – any modification should have minimal implications
- “Well Structured” – similar functionality concentrated in the same place
- Modularity

Conclussion

- A critical task in the Design Model is to

  assign responsibilities to objects.

- How do we deal with this?

  Experience

  (other peoples experience, especially if you don't have enough of your own)

Patterns

Experience

- Start from other peoples experience
- How is experience passed on in other engineering areas.
- Civil engineering
- Specifically: building bridges

Bridges

- A bridge is a structure which is used for traversing a chasm.
- In its basic form it consists of a beam constructed from a rigid material.
- The two ends of the beam are fixed at opposite edges of the chasm

- The bridge will fulfil its function if the rigidity of the beam can support the loads that go over it.
- Heavier loads may tax the rigidity of the bridge.
- The rigidity depends on both

  the length and the material

  that the beam is made of.

Modifying the design

If the bridge might fail:

- heaviness of the load
- size of span
- material of construction

Then modify bridge design

- increase the rigidity
- decrease the span

Increase the rigidity/redistribute the material

Civil engineering patterns

- These are ALL the patterns of bridge design.
- Civil engineers only build bridges following one of the designs shown.
- The idea of patterns comes from architects who also follow a fixed number of designs.
- Why should software design be different from design in other engineering disciplines?

What is a pattern?

“Each pattern describes a problem which occurs over and over again in our environment, and then describes the core of the solution to that problem in such a way that you can use this solution a million times over, without ever doing it the same way twice.”

Patterns

- Patterns guide object-oriented developers in the creation of software.
- They codify existing tried-and-true knowledge and principles; the more widely they are used, the better.
- They are expressed in a standard format:
  - **Pattern Name:** …
  - **Problem It Solves:** …
  - **Solution:** …

Why are patterns useful?

- Patterns are very simple to use.
- If one learns how to apply them properly, they will generate designs that are easy to understand, maintain and reuse.
- By referring to pattern names, designers can communicate easily and explain the reasons behind their design choices.
- Patterns provide a formal framework for generating good designs => avoid hand-waving.

GRASP

Basic Patterns

GRASP -

GRASP – General Responsibility Assignment Software Patterns

(some may principles and not patterns)

- A learning aid for understanding object design.

- Putting basic design ideas into words.

Pattern Example: The Information Expert

- **Pattern Name:** Information Expert
- **Problem It Solves:** What is a general principle of assigning responsibility to objects?
- **Solution:** Assign a responsibility to the information expert- the class that has the information necessary to fulfil the responsibility.
- **Consequences:** These are the results and trade-offs of applying the pattern. Critical for evaluating design decisions in terms of reusability , flexibility, portability.

The GRASP patterns

- **Information Expert**
- **Creator**
- **Low Coupling**
- **High Cohesion**
- **Controller**
- Polymorphism
- Indirection
- Pure Fabrication
- Protected Variation

What to look for in GRASP patterns

- Low Coupling –

  reducing the impact of change

- High Cohesion –

  similar functionality in the same place

- Low representational gap (LRP) –

  minimal conceptual gaps

The Creator pattern

- **Pattern Name:** Creator

  Solution: Assign class B the responsibility to create an instance of class A if one or more of the following is true:

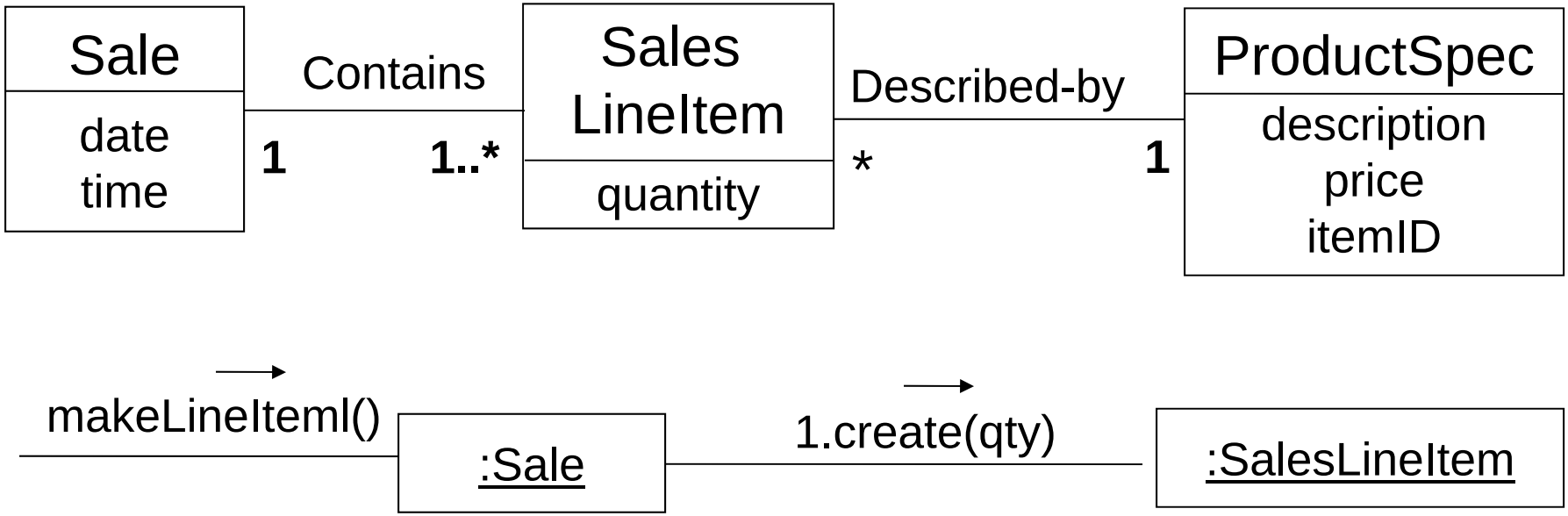
  - B aggregates A objects
  - B contains A objects
  - B records instances of A objects
  - B closely uses A objects
  - B has the initializing data that will be passed to A when it is created

  B is a *creator* of A objects. If more than one option applies, prefer a class B which aggregates or contains class A.

  Problem It Solves: What is a general principle of assigning responsibility to objects?

Creator example

- Which class should be responsible for creating a new SalesLineItem?



Discussion about the Creator

- Goal: find the creator of objects of a class
- Guideline: look for relationships like *aggregates, contains, records* etc. The enclosing aggregator, container or recorder is a good candidate for creating the object aggregated, contained or recorded.
- The creator may be chosen as the class that knows initializing data for the creation operation. Which other pattern does this remind you of?
- How does the Creator pattern achieve low coupling?

Contraindications

What if the creation requires heavy machinery?

(recycled instances, uncertainty about the class of the created object)

We may get

- Low Cohesion
- Strong coupling

Solution:

- Delegate to another class
- Use advanced patterns such as

Concrete Factory, Abstract Factory

The Information Expert pattern

- **Pattern Name:** Information Expert
- **Problem It Solves:**

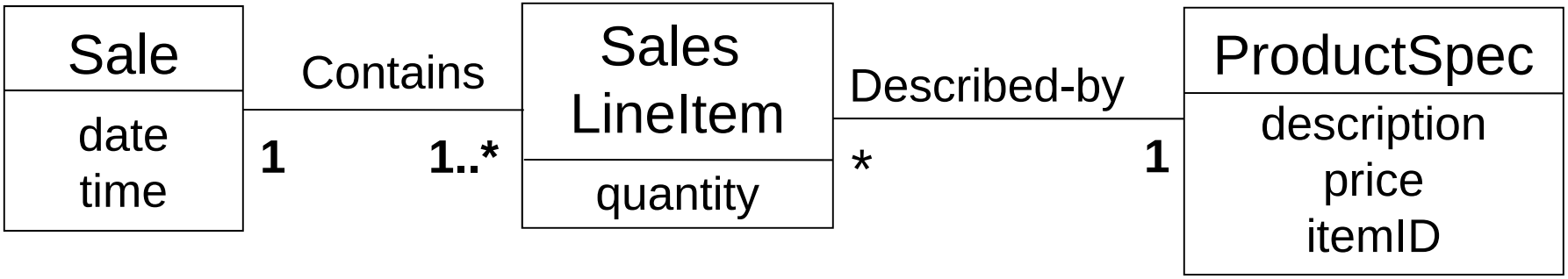
  What is a general principle of assigning responsibility to objects?

- **Solution:**

  Assign a responsibility to the information expert, i.e. the class that has the information necessary to fulfil the responsibility.

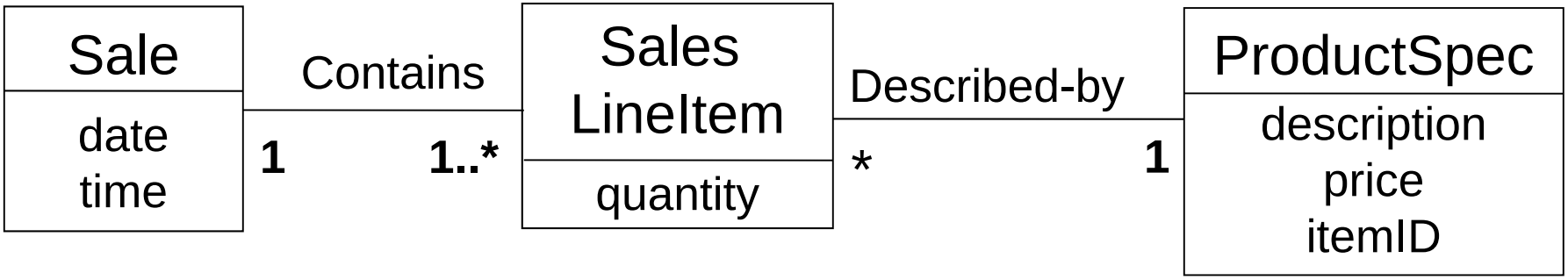
Information Expert example

- Which classes are responsible for evaluating the total of a sale, the subtotal of a SalesLineItem, the price of a product?



Information Expert example

Design Class	Knowing Responsibility
Sale	**Sale total**
SalesLineItem	**Logical Design Diagrams**
ProductDescription	**Product Price**



Discussion about the Information Expert

- The Information Expert is the most widely used guiding principle in object design.
- Information is spread across many classes => “partial” information experts that collaborate
- Software objects are “alive” (animated), they can do things based on the information they hold.
- Contraindication of using the Information Expert: *Who should be responsible for saving a Sale to the database?*
- How is Information Expert related to low coupling and high cohesion?

Contraindication

- What if Sale should be saved in a database
- Should this be a responsibility of Sale?

What is the Problem?

Solution?

The Low Coupling pattern

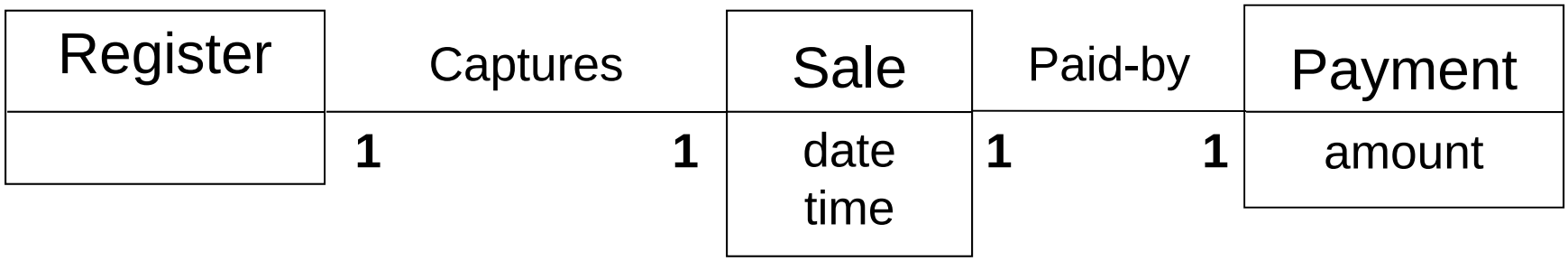
- **Pattern Name:** Low Coupling
- **Problem It Solves:**

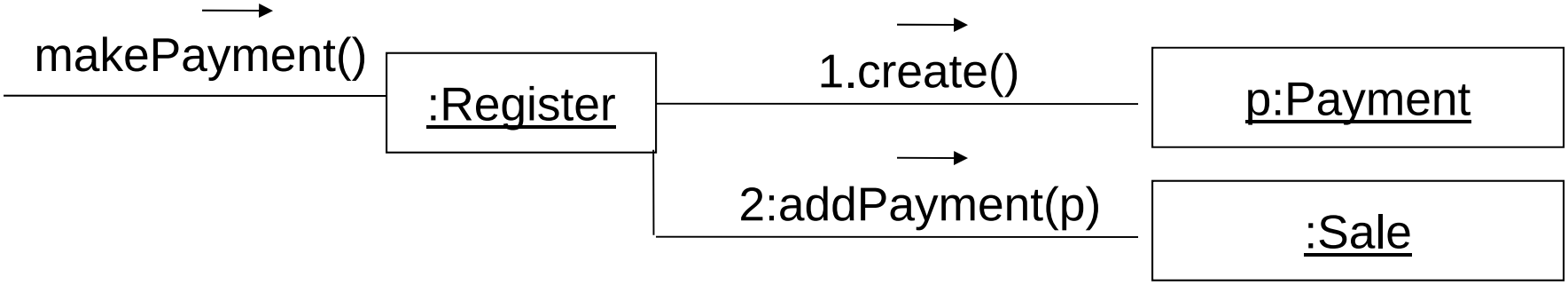
  How to support low dependency, low change impact, and increased reuse?
- **Solution:**

  Assign a responsibility so that coupling remains low.

Low coupling example

- Who should be responsible for creating a Payment and associating it with a Sale?

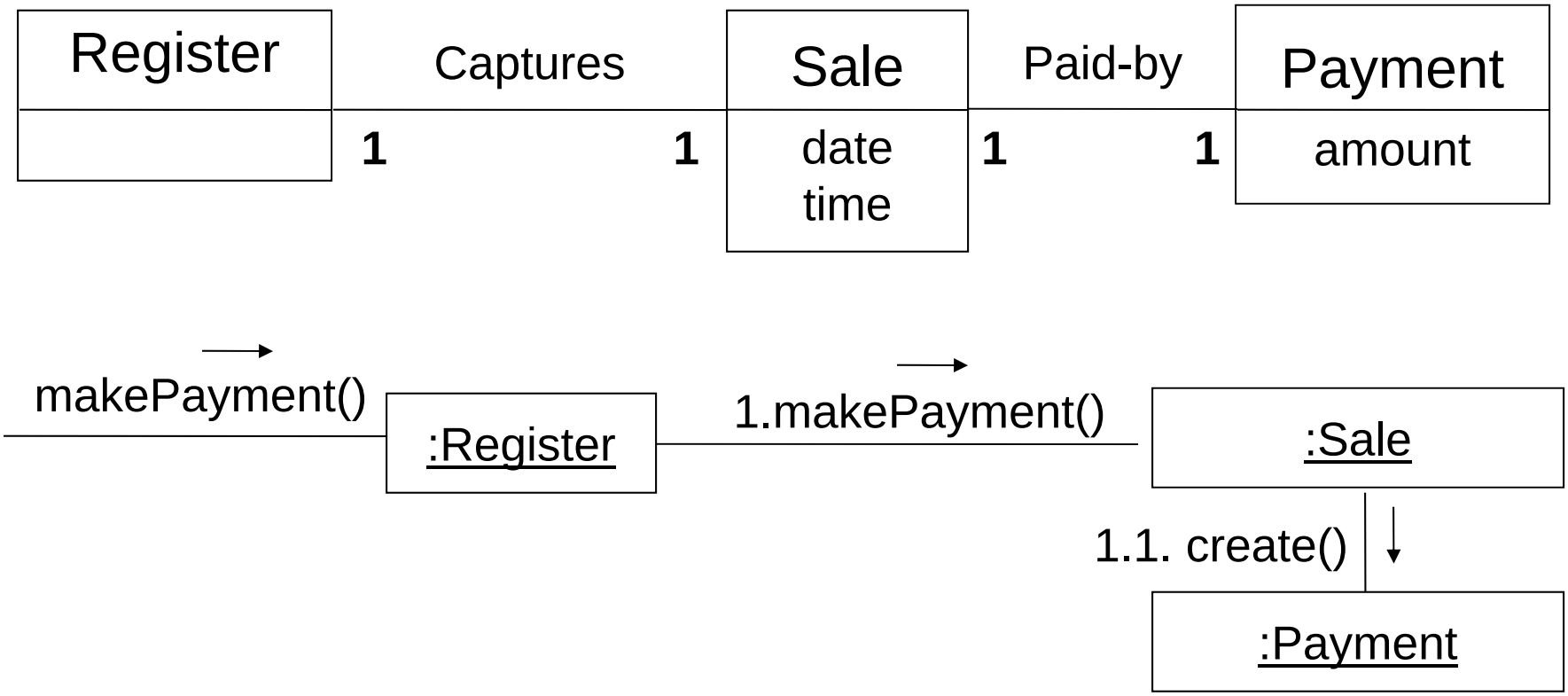




Is this the best possible design? How many objects are related to (coupled with) the Register object? Can we achieve lower coupling?

Low coupling example

- Who should be responsible for creating a Payment and associating it with a Sale?



Register is now coupled with objects of one class (Sale). If the class Payment is modified, only Sale will be affected. This design is preferred because it provides lower coupling between classes.

Discussion about Low Coupling

- Common forms of coupling from TypeX to TypeY include:
  - TypeX has an attribute that refers to a TypeY instance
  - TypeX calls on services of a TypeY object
  - TypeX has a method that references an instance of TypeY, or TypeY itself
  - TypeX is a direct or indirect subclass of TypeY
  - TypeY is an interface, and TypeX implements that inteface
- Low coupling supports the design of classes that are more independent => reduces impact of change

Discussion about Low Coupling

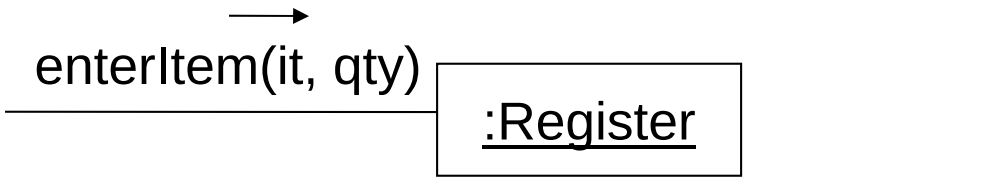
- Classes that are inherently generic and are reused in many places must have a particularly low degree of coupling
- Contraindication: It is safe to couple a class to stable classes (e.g. classes in Java libraries)
- Coupling becomes problematic when *unstable* elements (classes) are involved. What does it mean for a class to be unstable?
- Benefits of low coupling
  - Easy maintenance
  - Classes easy to understand
  - Software reuse

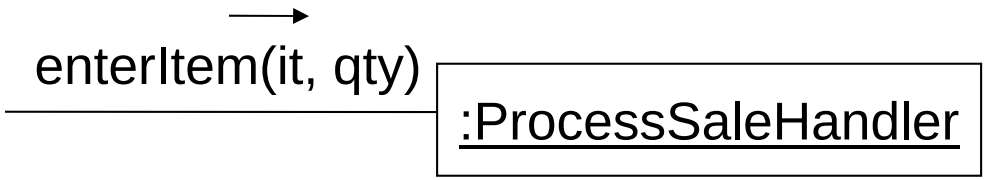
The Controller pattern

- **Pattern Name:** Controller
- **Problem It Solves:** Who should be responsible for handling an input system event?
- **Solution:** Assign the responsibility for receiving or handling a system event message to a class representing one of the following choices:
  - Represents the overall system, device, or subsystem (*facade controller)*
  - Represents a use case scenario within which the system event occurs, often named <UseCase>Handler, <UseCase> Coordinator, or <UseCase>Session *(use-case or session controller)*

Controller example

- Who should be responsible of handling external system events (e.g. enterItem)? Which of the following interaction diagrams is preferred?





Discussion about the Controller

- The Controller pattern provides guidance about which object will handle external events.
- If all system events of a use case are handled in the same class, it is possible to identify out-of-sequence system events.
- Common defect in the design of controllers: too much responsibility
- A controller delegates work to other objects. It plays the role of a coordinator, but does not actually do the work.

Discussion about the Controller

- System operations should be handled at the domain layer by controllers, not at the interface layer by GUI objects.

- Benefits:
  - Reuse of domain layer software, by plugging different interfaces
  - Control of out-of-sequence system operations

The High Cohesion pattern

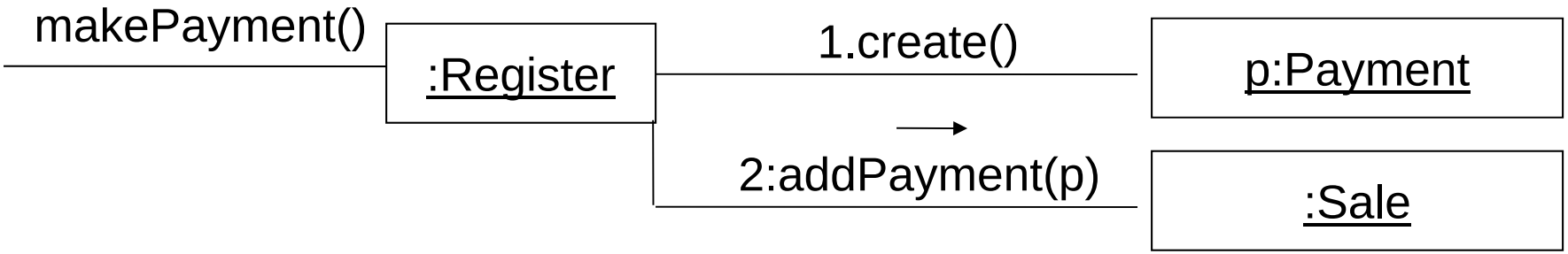
- **Pattern Name:** High Cohesion
- **Problem It Solves:**

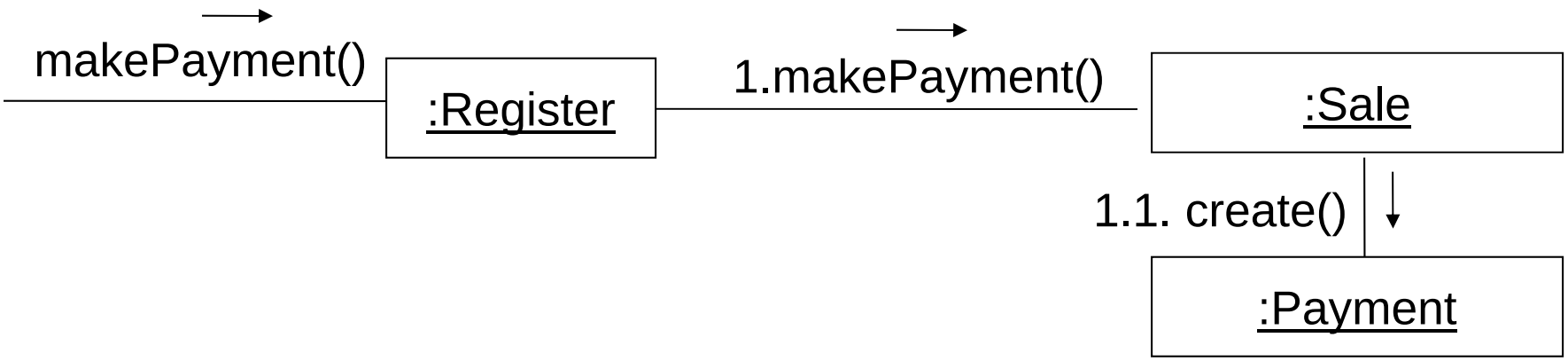
  How to keep complexity manageable? How to keep objects focused.
- **Solution:**

  Assign a responsibility so that cohesion remains high.

High cohesion example

- Who should be responsible for creating a Payment and associating it with a Sale? Comment on the level of cohesion of Register in the two diagrams. Is Register at risk of becoming incohesive in the future and why?





Discussion about High Cohesion

- A class with high cohesion has a relatively small number of methods, with highly related functionality, and does not do too much work.
- Benefits of high cohesion:
  - Easy maintenance
  - Classes easy to understand
  - Software reuse
- Coupling and cohesion viewed together => modular design

  Modularity is the property of a system that has been decomposed into a set of cohesive and loosely coupled modules [Booch94]
- Contraindications: maintenance by one person, remote communication

Next Time

Advanced Patterns

&

Use Case Realization