Introduction

Example: model train controller.

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Purposes of example

- Follow a design through several levels of abstraction.
- Gain experience with UML.

Model train setup



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Components

Requirements

- Console can control 8 trains on 1 track.Throttle has at least 63 levels.
- Inertia control adjusts responsiveness with at least 8 levels.
- Emergency stop button.
- Error detection scheme on messages.

Requirements form

model train controller
control speed of <= 8 model trains
throttle, inertia, emergency stop,
train #
train control signals
set engine speed w. inertia;
emergency stop
can update train speed at least 10
times/sec
\$50
wall powered
console comfortable for 2 hands; < 2
lbs.

Conceptual specification

- Before we create a detailed specification, we will make an initial, simplified specification.
 - Gives us practice in specification and UML.
 - Good idea in general to identify potential problems before investing too much effort in detail.

Basic system commands

command name

parameters

set-speed

set-inertia

estop

speed (positive/negative) inertia-value (nonnegative) none

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Typical control sequence



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Message classes



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Roles of message classes

- Implemented message classes derived from message class.
 - Attributes and operations will be filled in for detailed specification.
- Implemented message classes specify message type by their class.
 - May have to add type as parameter to data structure in implementation.

Subsystem collaboration diagram

Shows relationship between console and receiver (ignores role of track):

1..n: command



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System structure modeling

- Some classes define non-computer components.
 - Denote by *name.
- Choose important systems at this point to show basic relationships.

Major subsystem roles

Console:

- read state of front panel;
- format messages;
- transmit messages.

Train:

- receive message;
 - interpret message;
- control the train.

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Console system classes



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Console class roles

- panel: describes analog knobs and interface hardware.
- formatter: turns knob settings into bit streams.
- **transmitter:** sends data on track.

Train system classes



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Train class roles

 receiver: digitizes signal from track.
 controller: interprets received commands and makes control decisions.
 motor interface: generates signals required by motor.

Detailed specification

- We can now fill in the details of the conceptual specification:
 - more classes;
 - behaviors.
- Sketching out the spec first helps us understand the basic relationships in the system.

Train speed control

Motor controlled by pulse width modulation:



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Console physical object classes

knobs*

train-knob: integer speed-knob: integer inertia-knob: unsignedinteger emergency-stop: boolean mouse_click() draw_box



Panel and motor interface classes

panel

train-number() : integer
speed() : integer
inertia() : integer
estop() : boolean
new-settings()

motor-interface

speed: integer

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Class descriptions

panel class defines the controls.
new-settings() behavior reads the controls.
motor-interface class defines the motor speed held as state.

Transmitter and receiver classes

transmitter

send-speed(adrs: integer, speed: integer) send-inertia(adrs: integer, val: integer) set-estop(adrs: integer)

receiver

current: command new: boolean

Class descriptions

transmitter class has one behavior for each type of message sent.

- receiver function provides methods to:
 - detect a new message;
 - determine its type;
 - read its parameters (estop has no parameters).

Formatter class

formatter

current-train: integer current-speed[ntrains]: integer current-inertia[ntrains]: unsigned-integer current-estop[ntrains]: boolean

send-command()
panel-active() : boolean
operate()

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Formatter class description

- Formatter class holds state for each train, setting for current train.
- The operate() operation performs the basic formatting task.

Control input cases

- Use a soft panel to show current panel settings for each train.
- Changing train number:
 - must change soft panel settings to reflect current train's speed, etc.
- Controlling throttle/inertia/estop:
 read panel, check for changes, perform command.

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Control input sequence diagram



Formatter operate behavior



Panel-active behavior



Controller class

controller

current-train: integer current-speed[ntrains]: integer current-direction[ntrains]: boolean current-inertia[ntrains]: unsigned-integer

operate()
issue-command()

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Setting the speed

- Don't want to change speed instantaneously.
- Controller should change speed gradually by sending several commands.

Sequence diagram for setspeed command



Controller operate behavior



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Refined command classes



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Summary

Separate specification and programming.

- Small mistakes are easier to fix in the spec.
- Big mistakes in programming cost a lot of time.
- You can't completely separate specification and architecture.
 - Make a few tasteful assumptions.