

The Visitor Pattern - 'Revisited' using Data Oriented Programming techniques

Hello 🖐️



Design patterns are great 🤘

- You don't reinvent the wheel
- You can copy paste a proven template that has been industry tested
- But... are they all necessary?

some design patterns only exist in a programming language because that language lacks a way to elegantly and efficiently express it in its syntax

The strategy pattern - pre java 8

```
// Product Category Enum
enum ProductCategory {
    STANDARD, PREMIUM, LUXURY
}

// 1. Strategy Interface
interface TaxCalculationStrategy {
    double calculateTax(double amount);
}

// 2. Concrete Strategy Implementations
class StandardTaxCalculation implements TaxCalculationStrategy {
    @Override
    public double calculateTax(double amount) {
        return amount * 0.10; // 10% tax
    }
}

class PremiumTaxCalculation implements TaxCalculationStrategy {
    @Override
    public double calculateTax(double amount) {
        return amount * 0.20; // 20% tax
    }
}

class LuxuryTaxCalculation implements TaxCalculationStrategy {
    @Override
    public double calculateTax(double amount) {
        return amount * 0.30; // 30% tax
    }
}
```

```
// 3. Usage with switch statement
class TraditionalStrategyDemo {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        //...
        double base = 100.0;

        // Using switch statement to select strategy
        TaxCalculationStrategy strategy;
        switch (category) {
            case STANDARD:
                strategy = new StandardTaxCalculation();
                break;
            case PREMIUM:
                strategy = new PremiumTaxCalculation();
                break;
            case LUXURY:
                strategy = new LuxuryTaxCalculation();
                break;
            default:
                System.out.println("Unsupported product category");
                return;
        }

        double taxAmount = strategy.calculateTax(base);
        System.out.println("Tax for $" + base + " (" + category + "): $" + taxAmount);
    }
}
```

Java 8 - yay for lambdas! 🇯🇵

```
// Product Category Enum
enum ProductCategory {
    STANDARD, PREMIUM, LUXURY
}

// 1. Functional Interface (Strategy)
@FunctionalInterface
interface TaxCalculator {
    double calculate(double amount);
}

// 2. Usage with Lambda Expressions and switch statement
class Java8StrategyDemo {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        // ...
        double base = 100.0;

        // Using switch statement with lambda expressions
        TaxCalculator calculator;
        switch (category) {
            case STANDARD:
                calculator = amount1 -> amount1 * 0.10; // 10% tax
                break;
            case PREMIUM:
                calculator = amount1 -> amount1 * 0.20; // 20% tax
                break;
            case LUXURY:
                calculator = amount1 -> amount1 * 0.30; // 30% tax
                break;
            default:
                System.out.println("Unsupported product category");
                return;
        }

        double taxAmount = calculator.calculate(base);
        System.out.println("Tax for $" + base + " (" + category + "): $" + taxAmount);
    }
}
```

Java 14 - switch expressions 🧐

```
// Using switch statement with lambda expressions
TaxCalculator calculator;
switch (category) {
    case STANDARD:
        calculator = amount1 -> amount1 * 0.10; // 10% tax
        break;
    case PREMIUM:
        calculator = amount1 -> amount1 * 0.20; // 20% tax
        break;
    case LUXURY:
        calculator = amount1 -> amount1 * 0.30; // 30% tax
        break;
    default:
        System.out.println("Unsupported product category");
        return;
}
```



```
// 2. Usage with Switch Expressions
class ModernJavaStrategyDemo {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        double amount = 100.0;

        // Direct lambda assignment with switch expression
        TaxCalculator calculator = switch (category) {
            case STANDARD -> amount1 -> amount1 * 0.10; // 10% tax
            case PREMIUM -> amount1 -> amount1 * 0.20; // 20% tax
            case LUXURY -> amount1 -> amount1 * 0.30; // 30% tax
        };

        double taxAmount = calculator.calculate(amount);
        System.out.println("Tax for $" + amount + " (" + category + "): $" + taxAmount);
    }
}
```

Design patterns become language functionality

- The strategy pattern pre java 8 was verbose and less readable
- Twisting in turns because java lacks proper language support
- As Java evolves, design patterns become **first class language citizens**

Enter the visitor pattern...



The book curation system

- A curator tasks you to process a library of books
- Collect some interesting facts
- Cant touch the domain layer 
- An ideal candidate for the visitor pattern!

The Book Domain

Books always have the following properties:

- ISBN
- title
- author
- summary
- pages

However, the library also consists of fiction books and non-fiction books.

Fiction books

These are further subdivided in:

- Children's tale books
- Fantasy books
- Scifi books
 - with a ScifiTheme property

Non-fiction books

Non-fiction books are rated:

- They can optionally have 0, 1 or 2 ratings.
- A rating can be anonymous or be by a named reviewer.

The curators' rules

Non - fiction

- A NonFictionBook always needs to have an InterestingNessFactor of at least interesting in order to be deemed interesting.
- • A NonFictionBook also always needs to have two ratings:
 - OR: both the first and second rating are good and by named reviewers
 - OR: the first rating is good and by a named reviewer and the second rating is BAD.
 - OR: there are two bad ratings

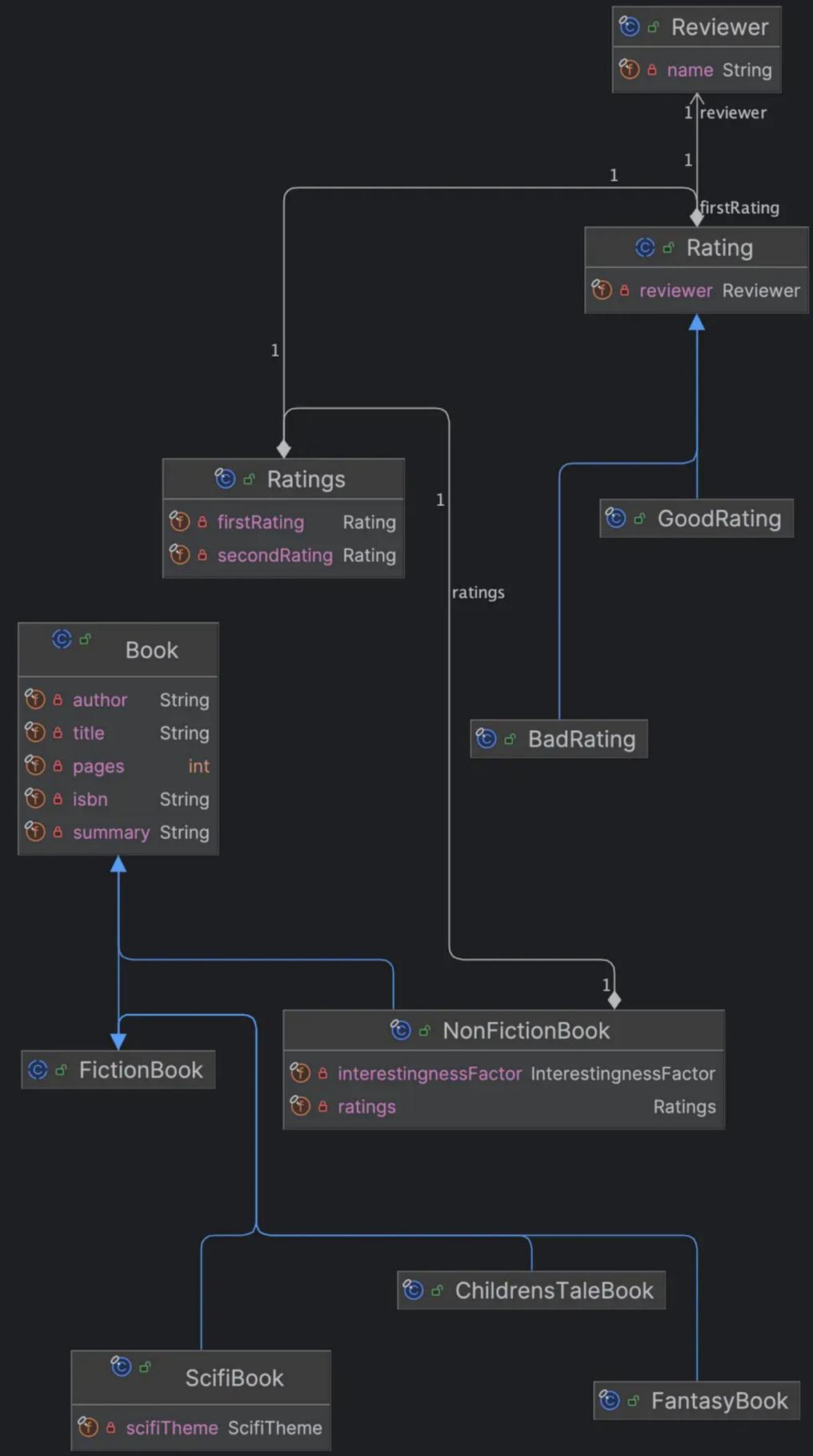
The curators' rules

Fiction

- Fantasy book
 - A fantasy book is always found interesting.
 - Sci-fi book (if theme is space exploration or time travel)
- Childrens' tale book
 - Books with 0 pages are considered interesting as they leave everything to imagination
 - Books with exactly 100 pages have a certain appeal
 - Books with 1000 or more pages are noteworthy due to their unusual length for children's literature

Everything that doesn't match
this pattern is uninteresting 🙄

The OOP implementation 🙄



Intermediate nodes

Book.java

```
public abstract class Book {  
  
    private final String isbn;  
    private final String title;  
    private final String author;  
    private final String summary;  
    private final int pages;  
  
    public Book(String isbn, String title, String author, String summary, int pages) {  
        this.isbn = isbn;  
        this.title = title;  
        this.author = author;  
        this.summary = summary;  
        this.pages = pages;  
    }  
  
    // getters omitted for brevity  
}
```

Leaf nodes

ChildrenTaleBook.java

```
public final class ChildrenTaleBook extends FictionBook {  
  
    public ChildrenTaleBook(String isbn, String title, String author, String summary, int pages) {  
        super(isbn, title, author, summary, pages);  
    }  
  
}
```

Time to add the visitor pattern...

Component 1 - Visitor interface

BookVisitor.java

```
public interface BookVisitor {  
  
    void visit(NonFictionBook nonFictionBook);  
  
    void visit(ChildrenTaleBook childrenTaleBook);  
  
    void visit(FantasyBook fantasyBook);  
  
    void visit(ScifiBook scifiBook);  
  
}
```

Time to add the visitor pattern...

Component 2 - Visitable interface (double dispatch)

Visitable.java

```
public interface Visitable {  
  
    void accept(BookVisitor visitor);  
  
}
```

Book.java

```
public abstract class Book implements Visitable { //... }
```

ChildrensTaleBook.java

```
public final class ChildrensTaleBook extends FictionBook {  
  
    public ChildrensTaleBook(String isbn, String title, String author, String summary, int pages) {  
        super(isbn, title, author, summary, pages);  
    }  
  
    // Each leaf node implements the interface like this:  
    @Override  
    public void accept(BookVisitor visitor) {  
        visitor.visit(this);  
    }  
  
}
```

Time to add the visitor pattern...

Component 3 - Glue code

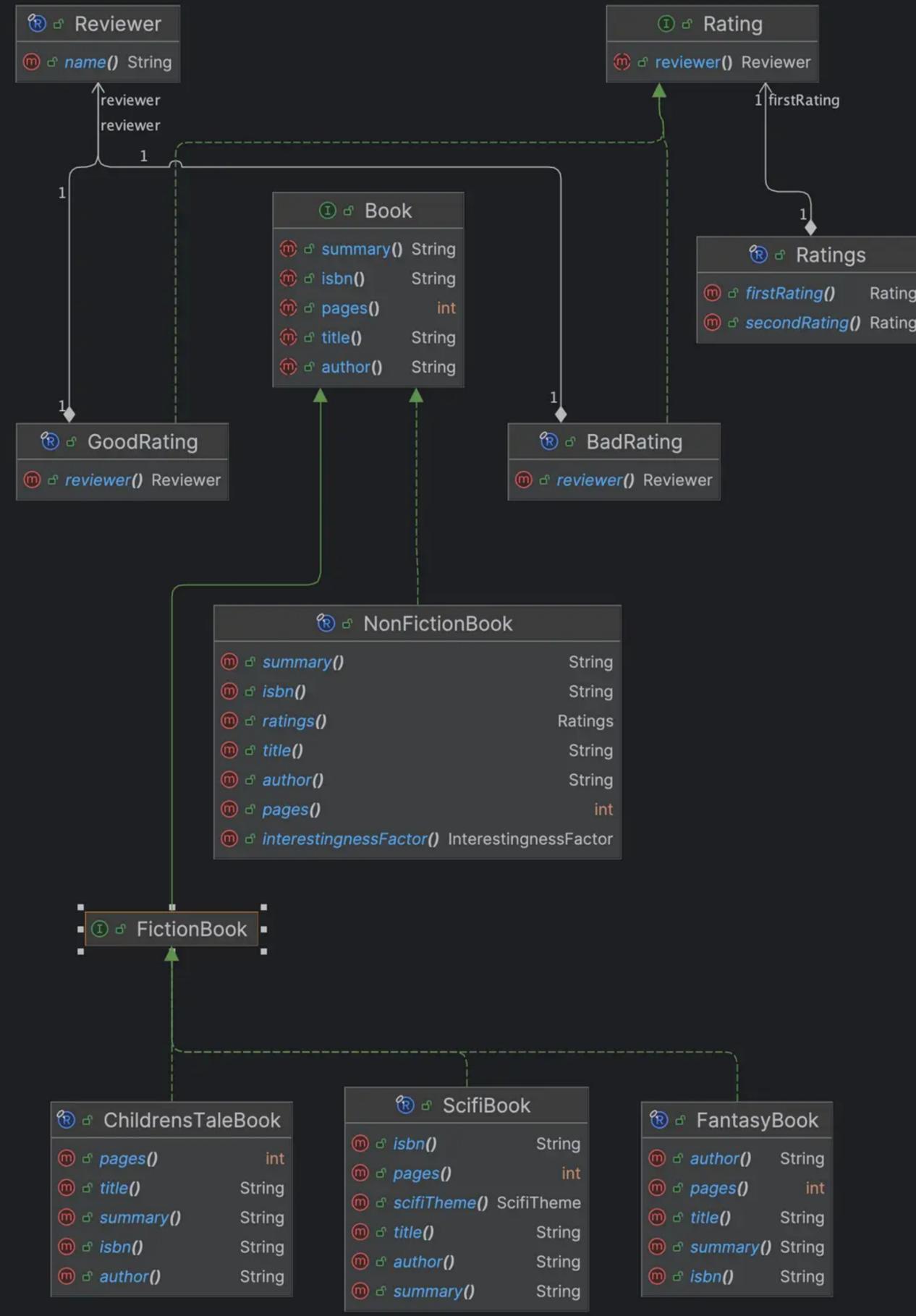
00PSolution.java

```
public class 00PSolution {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        var mockLibrary = BookProvider.createMockLibrary();
        BookInterestingInfoVisitor booksInterestingInfoVisitor = new BookInterestingInfoVisitor();
        System.out.println("-- Begin collecting interesting information ---");
        for (Book book : mockLibrary) {
            book.accept(booksInterestingInfoVisitor);
        }
        System.out.println("-- End collecting interesting information ---");
        System.out.println(booksInterestingInfoVisitor.retrieveInformationCollection());
    }
}
```

And now... the algorithm 🍌

DOP to the rescue





Seal the hierarchy : sealed interfaces!

Book.java

```
public sealed interface Book permits FictionBook, NonFictionBook {  
    String isbn();  
    String title();  
    String author();  
    String summary();  
    int pages();  
}
```

FictionBook.java

```
public sealed interface FictionBook extends Book permits ChildrenTaleBook, FantasyBook, ScifiBook { }
```

Seal the hierarchy : sealed interfaces!

- Let data just be data
- Define a closed type hierarchy for the compiler
- Switch statement will iterate *exhaustively* over these finite states later on
- Interfaces instead of classes: records cant extend sealed classes

The leaf nodes are records now!

FantasyBook.java

```
public record FantasyBook(  
    String isbn,  
    String title,  
    String author,  
    String summary, int pages) implements FictionBook{}
```

And now... the algorithm 🙌

Are you excited about DOP yet?

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8FRU_aGY4mY -> talk by Nicolai Parlog
- <https://www.infoq.com/articles/data-oriented-programming-java/>
- <https://www.manning.com/books/data-oriented-programming-in-java>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GurtoM8i2TE> -> future of pattern matching
- <https://wimdetroyer.com/blog/visitor-pattern-in-dop> this presentation in blog form