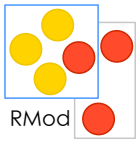
INRIA



Elements of Design - Inheritance/Composition

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A Formating Text Editor

With several possible algorithms

formatWithTex
formatFastColoring
formatSlowButPreciseColoring

Code Smells


```
Composition>>repair
    formatting == #Simple
        ifTrue: [ self formatWithSimpleAlgo]
        ifFalse: [ formatting == #Tex
                    ifTrue: [self formatWithTex]

                ....]
```


Inheritance?

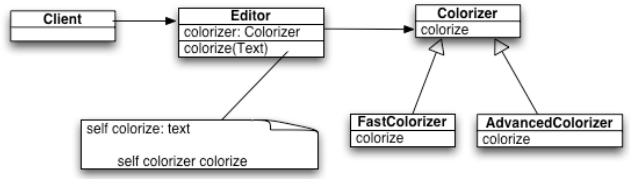
May not be the solution since:
- you have to create objects of the right class
- it is difficult to change the policy at run-time
- you can get an explosion of classes bloated with the use of a functionality and the functionalities.
- no clear identification of responsibility

Inheritance vs. Composition

Inheritance is not a panacea
- Require class definition
- Require method definition
- Extension should be prepared in advance
- No run-time changes

Ex: editor with spell-checkerS, colorizerS, mail-readerS….
- No clear responsibility
- Code bloated
- Cannot load a new colorizers

Delegating to other Objects



myEditor setColorizer: FastColorizer new.
myEditor setColorizer: AdvancedColorizer new.
Strategy design pattern

Composition Analysis

Pros
- Possibility to change at run-time
- Clear responsibility
- No blob
- Clear interaction protocol

Cons
- New class
- Delegation
- New classes