

CS 635 Advanced Object-Oriented Design & Programming
Spring Semester, 2007
Doc 6 Strategy
Feb 15, 2007

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Reference

Design Patterns: Elements of Resuable Object-Oriented Software,
Gamma, Helm, Johnson, Vlissides, Addison-Wesley, 1995, pp. 315-324

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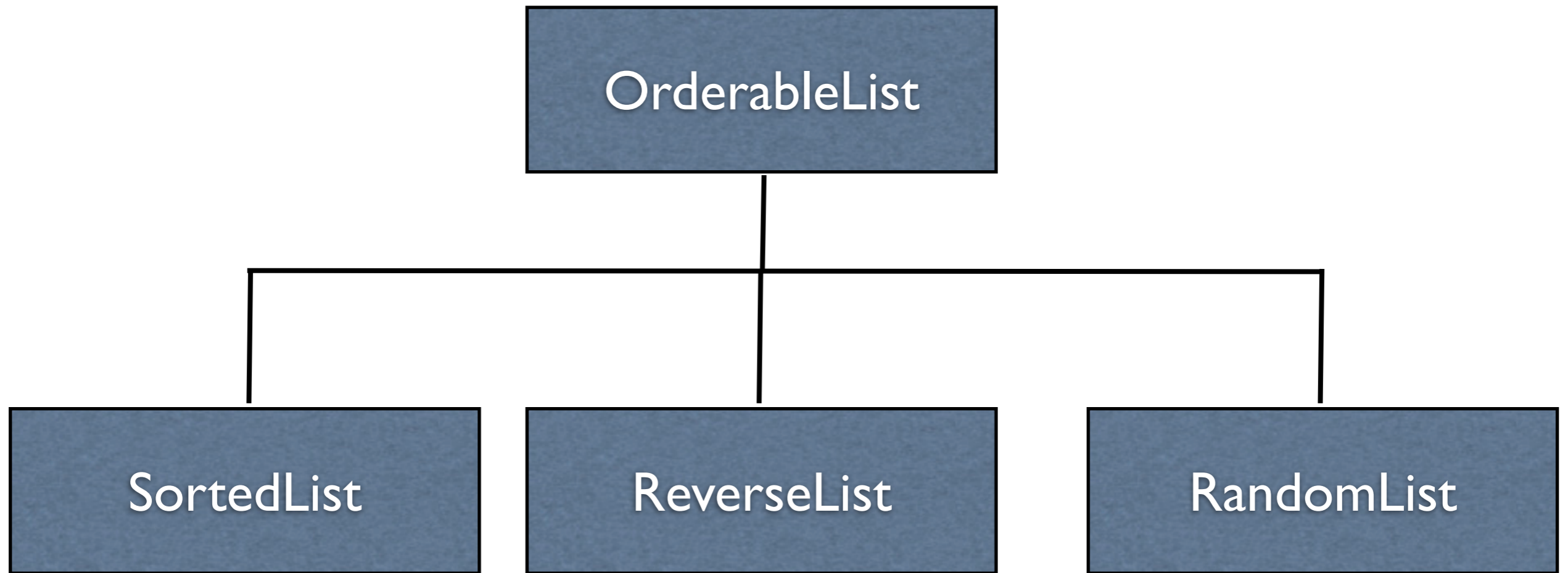
Favor
Composition
over
Inheritance

Orderable List

Sorted

Reverse Sorted

Random



One size does not fit all



Issue 1 - Orthogonal Features

Order

Sorted

Reverse Sorted

Random

Threads

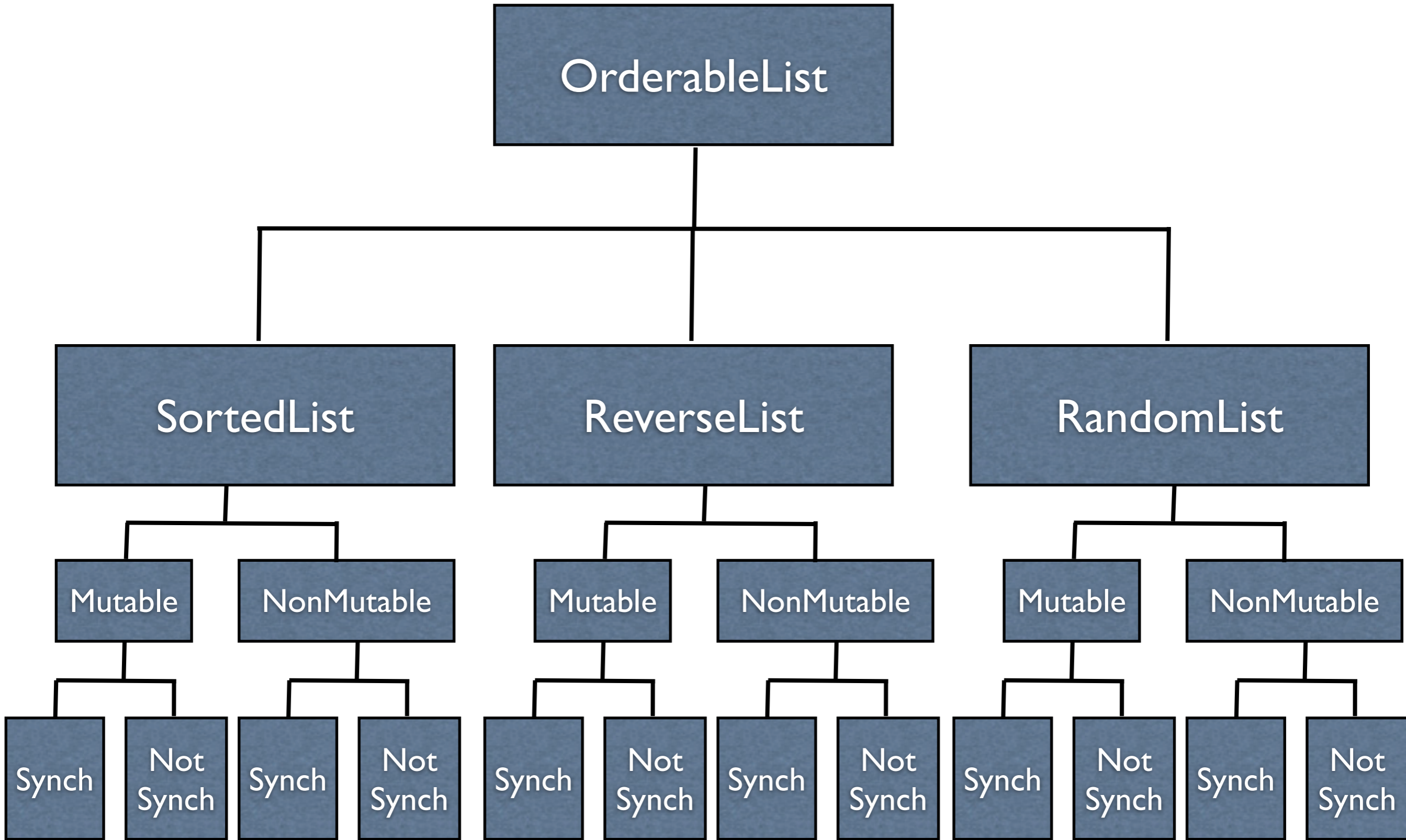
Synchronized

Unsynchronized

Mutability

Mutable

Non-mutable



Issue 2 - Flexibility



Change behavior at runtime

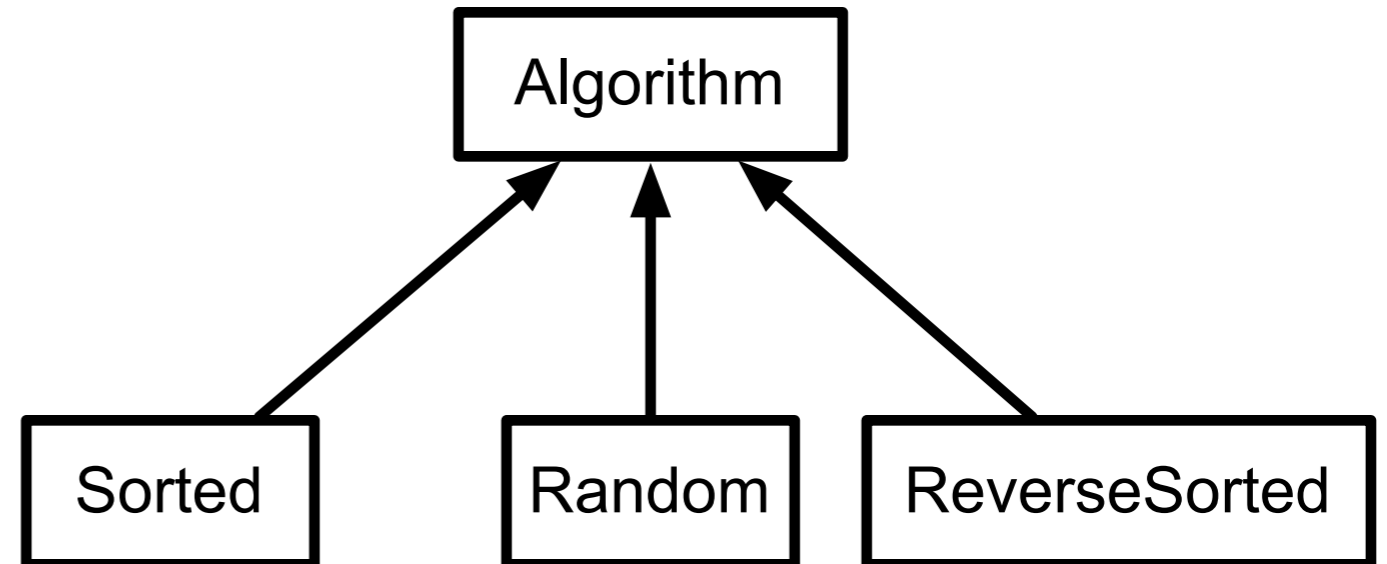
```
OrderableList x = new OrderableList();  
x.makeSorted();  
x.add(foo);  
x.add(bar);  
x.makeRandom();
```

Configure objects behavior at runtime

Strategy Pattern

```
class OrderableList {  
    private Object[ ] elements;  
    private Algorithm orderer;
```

```
    public OrderableList(Algorithm x) {  
        orderer = x;  
    }  
}
```



The algorithm is the operation

Context contains the data

How does this work?

Example - Java Layout Manager

```
import java.awt.*;
class FlowExample extends Frame {

    public FlowExample( int width, int height ) {
        setTitle( "Flow Example" );
        setSize( width, height );
        setLayout( new FlowLayout( FlowLayout.LEFT) );

        for ( int label = 1; label < 10; label++ )
            add( new Button( String.valueOf( label ) ) );
        show();
    }

    public static void main( String args[] ) {
        new FlowExample( 175, 100 );
        new FlowExample( 175, 100 );
    }
}
```

Example - Smalltalk Sort blocks

```
| list |
```

```
list := #( 1 6 2 3 9 5 ) asSortedCollection.
```

```
Transcript
```

```
    print: list;
```

```
    cr.
```

```
list sortBlock: [:x :y | x > y].
```

```
Transcript
```

```
    print: list;
```

```
    cr;
```

```
    flush.
```

Costs

Clients must be aware of different Strategies

Communication overhead between Strategy and Context

Increase number of objects

Benefits

Alternative to subclassing of Context

Eliminates conditional statements

Replace in Context code like:

```
switch ( flag ) {  
    case A: doA(); break;  
    case B: doB(); break;  
    case C: doC(); break;  
}
```

With code like:

```
strategy.do();
```

Gives a choice of implementations