Aspect-Oriented Programming

with

AspectC++

Part II – AspectC++ Language

The Simple Queue Class Revisited

```
namespace util {
  class Item {
    friend class Queue;
    Item* next;
  public:
    Item() : next(0) {}
  };

  class Queue {
    Item* first;
    Item* last;
  public:
    Queue() : first(0), last(0) {}

    void enqueue( Item* item ) {
      printf( "  > Queue::enqueue()\n" );
      if( last ) {
        last->next = item;
        last = item;
      } else
        last = first = item;
      printf( "  < Queue::enqueue()\n" );
    }
    Item* dequeue() {
      printf("  > Queue::dequeue()\n");
      Item* res = first;
      if( first == last )
        first = last = 0;
      else
        first = first->next;
      printf("  < Queue::dequeue()\n");
      return res;
    }
  }; // class Queue

} // namespace util
```

Queue: Demanded Extensions

I. Element counting

Please extend the Queue class by an element counter!

II. Errorhandling
(signaling of errors by exceptions)

III. Thread safety
(synchronization by mutex variables)

Element counting: The Idea

- Increment a counter variable after each execution of `util::Queue::enqueue()`
- Decrement it after each execution of `util::Queue::dequeue()`

ElementCounter1

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  int counter;
  ElementCounter() {
    counter = 0;
  }

  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") : after() {
    ++counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)") : after() {
    if( counter > 0 ) --counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
};
```

ElementCounter1.ah

ElementCounter1 - Elements

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  int counter;
  ElementCounter() {
    counter = 0;
  }

  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") : after() {
    ++counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)") : after() {
    if( counter > 0 ) --counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
};
```

ElementCounter1.ah

We introduced a new **aspect** named *ElementCounter*.
An aspect starts with the keyword aspect and is syntactically much like a class.

ElementCounter1 - Elements

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  int counter;
  ElementCounter() {
    counter = 0;
  }

  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") : after() {
    ++counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)") : after() {
    if( counter > 0 ) --counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
};
```

Like a class, an aspect can define data members, constructors and so on

ElementCounter1.ah

ElementCounter1 - Elements

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  int counter;
  ElementCounter() {
    counter = 0;
  }

  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") : after() {
    ++counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)") : after() {
    if( counter > 0 ) --counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
};
```

ElementCounter1.ah

We give **after advice** (= some crosscuting code to be executed after certain control flow positions)

ElementCounter1 - Elements

This **pointcut expression** denotes where the advice should be given. (After **execution** of methods that match the pattern)

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  int counter;
  ElementCounter() {
    counter = 0;
  }

  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") : after() {
    ++counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)") : after() {
    if( counter > 0 ) --counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
};
```

ElementCounter1.ah

ElementCounter1 - Elements

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  int counter;
  ElementCounter() {
    counter = 0;
  }

  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") : after() {
    ++counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)") : after() {
    if( counter > 0 ) --counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", counter );
  }
};
```

Aspect member elements can be accessed from within the advice body

ElementCounter1.ah

ElementCounter1 - Result

```
int main() {
  util::Queue queue;

  printf("main(): enqueueing an item\n");
  queue.enqueue( new util::Item );

  printf("main(): dequeueing two items\n");
  Util::Item* item;
  item = queue.dequeue();
  item = queue.dequeue();
}
```

main.cc

```
main(): enqueueing am item
  > Queue::enqueue(00320FD0)
  < Queue::enqueue(00320FD0)
  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = 1
 main(): dequeueing two items
  > Queue::dequeue()
  < Queue::dequeue() returning 00320FD0
  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = 0
  > Queue::dequeue()
  < Queue::dequeue() returning 00000000
  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = 0
```

<Output>

ElementCounter1 – What's next?

- The aspect is not the ideal place to store the counter, because it is shared between all Queue instances
- Ideally, counter becomes a member of Queue
- In the next step, we
  - move counter into Queue by **introduction**
  - **expose context** about the aspect invocation to access the current Queue instance

ElementCounter2

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  advice "util::Queue" : slice class {
    int counter;
  public:
    int count() const { return counter; }
  };
  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)")
                   && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    ++queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)")
                   && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    if( queue.count() > 0 ) --queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice construction("util::Queue")
                   && that(queue) : before( util::Queue& queue ) {
    queue.counter = 0;
  }
};
```

ElementCounter2.ah

ElementCounter2 - Elements

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  advice "util::Queue" : slice class {
    int counter;
  public:
    int count() const { return counter; }
  };
  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)")
                    && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    ++queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)")
                    && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    if( queue.count() > 0 ) --queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice construction("util::Queue")
                    && that(queue) : before( util::Queue& queue ) {
    queue.counter = 0;
  }
};
```

Introduces a **slice** of members into all classes denoted by the pointcut "util::Queue"

ElementCounter2.ah

ElementCounter2 - Elements

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  advice "util::Queue" : slice class {
    int counter;
  public:
    int count() const { return counter; }
  };
  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)")
                   && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    ++queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)")
                   && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    if( queue.count() > 0 ) --queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice construction("util::Queue")
                   && that(queue) : before( util::Queue& queue ) {
    queue.counter = 0;
  }
};
```

We introduce a private *counter* element and a public method to read it

ElementCounter2.ah

ElementCounter2 - Elements

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  advice "util::Queue" : slice class {
    int counter;
  public:
    int count() const { return counter; }
  };
  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)")
                    && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    ++queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)")
                    && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    if( queue.count() > 0 ) --queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice construction("util::Queue")
                    && that(queue) : before( util::Queue& queue ) {
    queue.counter = 0;
  }
};
```

A **context variable** *queue* is bound to *that* (the calling instance). The calling instance has to be an util::Queue

ElementCounter2.ah

ElementCounter2 - Elements

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  advice "util::Queue" : slice class {
    int counter;
  public:
    int count() const { return counter; }
  };
  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)")
                   && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    ++queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)")
                   && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    if( queue.count() > 0 ) --queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice construction("util::Queue")
                   && that(queue) : before( util::Queue& queue ) {
    queue.counter = 0;
  }
};
```

The context variable *queue* is used to access the calling instance.

ElementCounter2.ah

ElementCounter2 - Elements

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  advice "util::Queue" : slice class {
    int counter;
  public:
    int count() const { return counter; }
  };
  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)")
                   && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    ++queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)")
                   && that(queue) : after( util::Queue& queue )  {
    if( queue.count() > 0 ) --queue.counter;
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = %d\n", queue.count() );
  }
  advice construction("util::Queue")
                   && that(queue) : before( util::Queue& queue ) {
    queue.counter = 0;
  }
};
```

By giving **construction advice** we ensure that counter gets initialized

ElementCounter2.ah

ElementCounter2 - Result

```
int main() {
  util::Queue queue;
  printf("main(): Queue contains %d items\n", queue.count());
  printf("main(): enqueueing some items\n");
  queue.enqueue(new util::Item);
  queue.enqueue(new util::Item);
  printf("main(): Queue contains %d items\n", queue.count());
  printf("main(): dequeueing one items\n");
  util::Item* item;
  item = queue.dequeue();
  printf("main(): Queue contains %d items\n", queue.count());
}
```

main.cc

ElementCounter2 - Result

```
int main() {
  util::Queue queue;
  printf("main(): Queue contains %d items\n", queue.count());
  printf("main(): enqueueing some items\n");
  queue.enqueue(new util::Item);
  queue.enqueue(new util::Item);
  printf("main(): Queue contains
  printf("main(): dequeueing one
  util::Item* item;
  item = queue.dequeue();
  printf("main(): Queue contains
}
```

main.cc

```
main(): Queue contains 0 items
main(): enqueueing some items
  > Queue::enqueue(00320FD0)
  < Queue::enqueue(00320FD0)
  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = 1
  > Queue::enqueue(00321000)
  < Queue]::enqueue(00321000)
  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = 2
main(): Queue contains 2 items
main(): dequeueing one items
  > Queue::dequeue()
  < Queue::dequeue() returning 00320FD0
  Aspect ElementCounter: # of elements = 1
main(): Queue contains 1 items
```

<Output>

ElementCounter – Lessons Learned

You have seen...

- the most important concepts of AspectC++
  - Aspects are introduced with the keyword *aspect*
  - They are much like a class, may contain methods, data members, types, inner classes, etc.
  - Additionaly, aspects can give advice to be woven in at certain positions (*joinpoints*). Advice can be given to
    - Functions/Methods/Constructors: code to execute (*code advice*)
    - Classes or structs: new elements (*introductions*)
  - Joinpoints are described by *pointcut expressions*
- We will now take a closer look at some of them

Syntactic Elements

aspect name

pointcut expression

advice type

```
aspect ElementCounter {

  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") : after()
  {
    printf( "  Aspect ElementCounter: after Queue::enqueue!\n" );
  }

  ...
};
```

ElementCounter1.ah

advice body

Joinpoints

- A **joinpoint** denotes a position to give advice
  - **Code** joinpoint
    a point in the **control flow** of a running program, e.g.
    - **e**xecution of a function
    - call of a function
  - **Name** joinpoint
    - a **named C++ program entity** (identifier)
    - class, function, method, type, namespace
- Joinpoints are given by **pointcut expressions**
    - a pointcut expression describes a **set of joinpoints**

Pointcut Expressions

- Pointcut expressions are made from ...
  - **match expressions**, e.g. "% util::queue::enqueue(...)"
    - are matched against C++ programm entities → name joinpoints
    - nested entities are matched implicitly, e.g. “util” matches util::queue
    - support wildcards
  - **pointcut functions**, e.g execution(...), call(...), that(...)
    - **execution:** all points in the control flow, where a function is about to be executed → code joinpoints
    - **call:** all points in the control flow, where a function is about to be called → code joinpoints
- Pointcut functions can be combined into expressions
    - using logical connectors: &&, ||, !
    - Example: call("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") && within("% main(...)")

Advice

Advice to functions

- **before advice**
  - Advice code is executed **before** the original code
  - Advice may read/modify parameter values
- **after advice**
  - Advice code is executed **after** the original code
  - Advice may read/modify return value
- **around advice**
  - Advice code is executed **instead of** the original code
  - Original code may be called explicitly: `tjp->proceed()`

Introductions

- A ***slice*** of additional methods, types, etc. is added to the class
- Can be used to extend the interface of a class

Before / After Advice

with execution joinpoints:

advice execution(“void ClassA::foo()”) : **before**()

advice execution(“void ClassA::foo()”) : **after**()

```
class ClassA {
public:
  void foo(){
    printf(“ClassA::foo()”\n);
  }
}
```

with call joinpoints:

advice call (“void ClassA::foo()”) : **before**()

advice call (“void ClassA::foo()”) : **after**()

```
int main(){
  printf(“main()\n”);
  ClassA a;
  a.foo();
}
```

Around Advice

with execution joinpoints:

advice execution(“void ClassA::foo()”) : **around**()
before code

tjp->proceed()

after code

```
class ClassA {
public:
  void foo(){
    printf(“ClassA::foo()”\n);
  }
}
```

with call joinpoints:

advice call(“void ClassA::foo()”) : **around**()
before code

tjp->proceed()

after code

```
int main(){
  printf(“main()\n”);
  ClassA a;
  a.foo();
}
```

Introductions

advice "ClassA" : **slice class** {
element to introduce

public:
element to introduce
};

```
class ClassA {

public:

  void foo(){
    printf("ClassA::foo()"\n);
  }
}
```

Queue: Demanded Extensions

I. Element counting

II. Errorhandling
(signaling of errors by exceptions)

I want Queue to throw exceptions!

III. Thread safety
(synchronization by mutex variables)

Errorhandling: The Idea

- We want to check the following constraints:
  - enqueue() is never called with a NULL item
  - dequeue() is never called on an empty queue
- In case of an error an exception should be thrown

- To implement this, we need access to ...
  - the parameter passed to enqueue()
  - the return value returned by dequeue()

  ... from within the advice

ErrorException

```
namespace util {
  struct QueueInvalidItemError {};
  struct QueueEmptyError {};
}

aspect ErrorException {

  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") && args(item)
      : before(util::Item* item) {
    if( item == 0 )
      throw util::QueueInvalidItemError();
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)") && result(item)
      : after(util::Item* item) {
    if( item == 0 )
      throw util::QueueEmptyError();
  }
};
```

ErrorException.ah

ErrorException - Elements

```
namespace util {
  struct QueueInvalidItemError {};
  struct QueueEmptyError {};
}

aspect ErrorException {

  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") && args(item)
      : before(util::Item* item) {
    if( item == 0 )
      throw util::QueueInvalidItemError();
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)") && result(item)
      : after(util::Item* item) {
    if( item == 0 )
      throw util::QueueEmptyError();
  }
};
```

We give advice to be executed *before* enqueue() and *after* dequeue()

ErrorException.ah

ErrorException - Elements

```
namespace util {
  struct QueueInvalidItemEr
  struct QueueEmptyError {}
}

aspect ErrorException {

  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") && args(item)
      : before(util::Item* item) {
    if( item == 0 )
      throw util::QueueInvalidItemError();
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)") && result(item)
      : after(util::Item* item) {
    if( item == 0 )
      throw util::QueueEmptyError();
  }
};
```

A **context variable** *item* is bound to the first **argument** of type *util::Item** passed to the matching methods

ErrorException.ah

ErrorException - Elements

```
namespace util {
  struct QueueInvalidItemEr
  struct QueueEmptyError {};
}

aspect ErrorException {

  advice execution("% util::Queue::enqueue(...)") && args(item)
      : before(util::Item* item) {
    if( item == 0 )
      throw util::QueueInvalidItemError();
  }
  advice execution("% util::Queue::dequeue(...)") && result(item)
      : after(util::Item* item) {
    if( item == 0 )
      throw util::QueueEmptyError();
  }
};
```

Here the **context variable** *item* is bound to the **result** of type *util::Item** returned by the matching methods

ErrorException.ah

ErrorException – Lessons Learned

You have seen how to ...

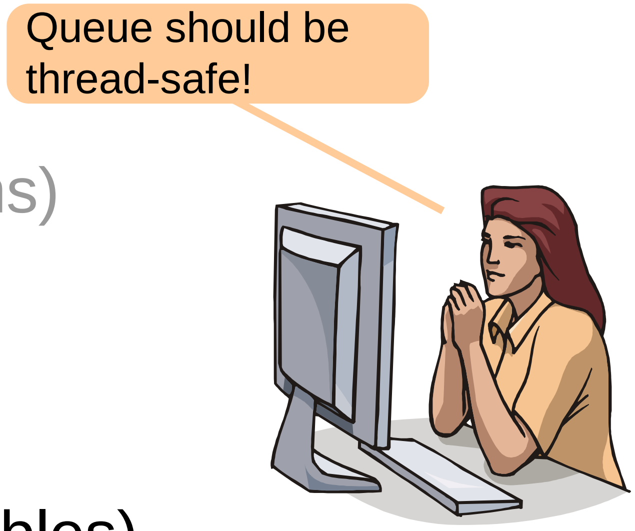
- use different types of advice
  - **before** advice
  - **after** advice
- expose context in the advice body
  - by using **args** to read/modify parameter values
  - by using **result** to read/modify the return value

Queue: Demanded Extensions

I. Element counting

II. Errorhandling
(signaling of errors by exceptions)

III. Thread safety
(synchronization by mutex variables)



Thread Safety: The Idea

- Protect enqueue() and dequeue() by a mutex object

- To implement this, we need to
  - introduce a mutex variable into class Queue
  - lock the mutex before the execution of enqueue() / dequeue()
  - unlock the mutex after execution of enqueue() / dequeue()

- The aspect implementation should be exception safe!
  - in case of an exception, pending after advice is not called
  - solution: use around advice

LockingMutex

```
aspect LockingMutex {
  advice "util::Queue" : slice class { os::Mutex lock; };

  pointcut sync_methods() = "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";

  advice execution(sync_methods()) && that(queue)
  : around( util::Queue& queue ) {
    queue.lock.enter();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      queue.lock.leave();
      throw;
    }
    queue.lock.leave();
  }
};
```

LockingMutex.ah

LockingMutex - Elements

```
aspect LockingMutex {
  advice "util::Queue" : slice class { os::Mutex lock; };

  pointcut sync_methods() = "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";

  advice execution(sync_methods()) && that(queue)
  : around( util::Queue& queue ) {
    queue.lock.enter();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      queue.lock.leave();
      throw;
    }
    queue.lock.leave();
  }
};
```

LockingMutex.ah

We introduce a mutex member into class Queue

LockingMutex - Elements

```
aspect LockingMutex {
  advice "util::Queue" : slice class { os::Mutex lock; };

  pointcut sync_methods() = "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";

  advice execution(sync_methods()) && that(queue)
  : around( util::Queue& queue ) {
    queue.lock.enter();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      queue.lock.leave();
      throw;
    }
    queue.lock.leave();
  }
};
```

LockingMutex.ah

Pointcuts can be named. *sync_methods* describes all methods that have to be synchronized by the mutex

LockingMutex - Elements

```
aspect LockingMutex {
  advice "util::Queue" : slice class { os::Mutex lock; };

  pointcut sync_methods() = "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";

  advice execution(sync_methods()) && that(queue)
  : around( util::Queue& queue ) {
    queue.lock.enter();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      queue.lock.leave();
      throw;
    }
    queue.lock.leave();
  }
};
```

LockingMutex.ah

sync_methods is used to give around advice to the execution of the methods

LockingMutex - Elements

```
aspect LockingMutex {
  advice "util::Queue" : slice class { os::Mutex lock; };

  pointcut sync_methods() = "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";

  advice execution(sync_methods()) && that(queue)
  : around( util::Queue& queue ) {
    queue.lock.enter();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      queue.lock.leave();
      throw;
    }
    queue.lock.leave();
  }
};
```

LockingMutex.ah

By calling tjp->proceed() the original method is executed

LockingMutex – Lessons Learned

You have seen how to ...

- use named pointcuts
  - to increase readability of pointcut expressions
  - to reuse pointcut expressions
- use around advice
  - to deal with exception safety
  - to explicit invoke (or don't invoke) the original code by calling `tjp->proceed()`
- use wildcards in match expressions
  - "% util::Queue::%queue(...)" matches both enqueue() and dequeue()

Queue: A new Requirement

I. Element counting

II. Errorhandling
(signaling of errors by exceptions)

III. Thread safety
(synchronization by mutex variables)

IV. Interrupt safety
(synchronization on interrupt level)

Interrupt Safety: The Idea

- Scenario
  - Queue is used to transport objects between kernel code (interrupt handlers) and application code
  - If application code accesses the queue, interrupts must be disabled first
  - If kernel code accesses the queue, interrupts must not be disabled
- To implement this, we need to distinguish
  - if the call is made from kernel code, or
  - if the call is made from application code

LockingIRQ1

```
aspect LockingIRQ {

  pointcut sync_methods() = "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";
  pointcut kernel_code()  = "% kernel::%(...)";

  advice call(sync_methods()) && !within(kernel_code()) : around() {
    os::disable_int();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      os::enable_int();
      throw;
    }
    os::enable_int();
  }
};
```

LockingIRQ1.ah

LockingIRQ1 – Elements

```
aspect LockingIRQ {

  pointcut sync_methods() = "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";
  pointcut kernel_code()  = "% kernel::%(...)";

  advice call(sync_methods()) && !within(kernel_code()) : around() {
    os::disable_int();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      os::enable_int();
      throw;
    }
    os::enable_int();
  }
};
```

LockingIRQ1.ah

We define two pointcuts. One for the methods to be synchronized and one for all kernel functions

LockingIRQ1 – Elements

```
aspect LockingIRQ {

  pointcut sync_methods() = "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";
  pointcut kernel_code()  = "% kernel::%(...)";

  advice call(sync_methods()) && !within(kernel_code()) : around() {
    os::disable_int();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      os::enable_int();
      throw;
    }
    os::enable_int();
  }
};
```

LockingIRQ1.ah

This pointcut expression matches any call to a *sync_method* that is **not** done from *kernel_code*

LockingIRQ1 – Result

```
util::Queue queue;
void do_something() {
  printf("do_something()\n");
  queue.enqueue( new util::Item );
}
namespace kernel {
  void irq_handler() {
    printf("kernel::irq_handler()\n");
    queue.enqueue(new util::Item);
    do_something();
  }
}
int main() {
  printf("main()\n");
  queue.enqueue(new util::Item);
  kernel::irq_handler();  // irq
  printf("back in main()\n");
  queue.dequeue();
}
```

main.cc

```
main()
os::disable_int()
  > Queue::enqueue(00320FD0)
  < Queue::enqueue()
os::enable_int()
kernel::irq_handler()
  > Queue::enqueue(00321030)
  < Queue::enqueue()
do_something()
os::disable_int()
  > Queue::enqueue(00321060)
  < Queue::enqueue()
os::enable_int()
back in main()
os::disable_int()
  > Queue::dequeue()
  < Queue::dequeue() returning 00320FD0
os::enable_int()
```

<Output>

LockingIRQ1 – Problem

```
util::Queue queue;
void do_something() {
  printf("do_something()\n");
  queue.enqueue( new util::Item );
}
namespace kernel {
  void irq_handler() {
    printf("kernel::irq_handler()\n");
    queue.enqueue(new util::Item);
    do_something();
  }
}
int main() {
  printf("main()\n");
  queue.enqueue(new util::Item);
  kernel::irq_handler();  // irq
  printf("back in main()\n");
  queue.dequeue();
}
```

main.cc

The pointcut within(*kernel_code*) does not match any **indirect** calls to *sync_methods*

```
mai
os:
  > Queue::enqueue(00320FD0)
  < Queue::enqueue()
os::enable_int()
kernel::irq_handler()
  > Queue::enqueue(00321030)
  < Queue::enqueue()
do_something()
os::disable_int()
  > Queue::enqueue(00321060)
  < Queue::enqueue()
os::enable_int()
back in main()
os::disable_int()
  > Queue::dequeue()
  < Queue::dequeue() returning 00320FD0
os::enable_int()
```

<Output>

LockingIRQ2

```
aspect LockingIRQ {

  pointcut sync_methods() = "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";
  pointcut kernel_code()  = "% kernel::%(...)";

  advice execution(sync_methods())
  && !cflow(execution(kernel_code())) : around() {
    os::disable_int();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      os::enable_int();
      throw;
    }
    os::enable_int();
  }
};
```

LockingIRQ2.ah

Solution

Using the **cflow** pointcut function

LockingIRQ2 – Elements

```
aspect LockingIRQ {

  pointcut sync_methods() = "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";
  pointcut kernel_code()  = "% kernel::%(...)";

  advice execution(sync_methods())
  && !cflow(execution(kernel_code())) : around() {
    os::disable_int();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      os::enable_int();
      throw;
    }
    os::enable_int();
  }
};
```

LockingIRQ2.ah

This pointcut expression matches the execution of *sync_methods* if no *kernel_code* is on the call stack. cflow checks the call stack (control flow) at runtime.

LockingIRQ2 – Result

```
util::Queue queue;
void do_something() {
  printf("do_something()\n");
  queue.enqueue( new util::Item );
}
namespace kernel {
  void irq_handler() {
    printf("kernel::irq_handler()\n");
    queue.enqueue(new util::Item);
    do_something();
  }
}
int main() {
  printf("main()\n");
  queue.enqueue(new util::Item);
  kernel::irq_handler();  // irq
  printf("back in main()\n");
  queue.dequeue();
}
```

main.cc

```
main()
os::disable_int()
  > Queue::enqueue(00320FD0)
  < Queue::enqueue()
os::enable_int()
kernel::irq_handler()
  > Queue::enqueue(00321030)
  < Queue::enqueue()
do_something()
  > Queue::enqueue(00321060)
  < Queue::enqueue()
back in main()
os::disable_int()
  > Queue::dequeue()
  < Queue::dequeue() returning 00320FD0
os::enable_int()
```

<Output>

LockingIRQ – Lessons Learned

You have seen how to ...

- restrict advice invocation to a specific calling context
- use the within(...) and cflow(...) pointcut functions
  - **within** is evaluated at **compile time** and returns all code joinpoints of a class' or namespaces lexical scope
  - **cflow** is evaluated at **runtime** and returns all joinpoints where the control flow is below a specific code joinpoint

AspectC++: A First Summary

- The Queue example has presented the most important features of the AspectC++ language
  - aspect, advice, joinpoint, pointcut expression, pointcut function, ...
- Additionaly, AspectC++ provides some more advanced concepts and features
  - to increase the expressive power of aspectual code
  - to write broadly reusable aspects
  - to deal with aspect interdependence and ordering
- In the following, we give a short overview on these advanced language elements

AspectC++: Advanced Concepts

- Attributes
  - an alternative to named pointcuts; machine-readable intentions
- Join Point API
  - provides a uniform interface to the aspect invocation context
- Abstract Aspects and Aspect Inheritance
  - reuse parts of an aspect and overwrite others
- Generic Advice
  - exploits static type information in advice code
- Aspect Ordering
  - allows to specify the invocation order of multiple aspects
- Aspect Instantiation
  - allows to implement user-defined aspect instantiation models

Attributes

- can be used to annotate code (C++ 11 syntax)

```
[[OS::uninterrupted]] void enqueue( Item* item ) {
  printf( " > Queue::enqueue()\n" );
 ...
 }
```

The execution of this function must never be interrupted. We specifify **what** we want, but **not how** it is achieved.

- must be declared

(User-defined) attributes can be declared in a **namespace**, **class**, or **aspect**.

```
namespace OS {
  attribute uninterrupted();
}
```

- are an alternative to named pointcuts

```
advice execution(OS::uninterrupted())
&& !cflow(execution(kernel_code())) : around() { … }
```

The Joinpoint API

- Inside an advice body, the current joinpoint context is available via the **implicitly passed tjp** variable:

```
advice ... {
  struct JoinPoint {
    ...
  } *tjp;       // implicitly available in advice code
  ...
}
```

- You have already seen how to use tjp, to ...
  - execute the original code in around advice with **tjp->proceed()**
- The joinpoint API provides a rich interface
  - to expose context **independently** of the aspect target
  - this is especially useful in writing **reusable aspect code**

The Join Point API (Excerpt)

Types (compile-time)

```
// object type (initiator)
That

// object type (receiver)
Target

// result type of the affected function
Result

// type of the i'th argument of the affected
// function (with 0 <= i < ARGS)
Arg<i>::Type
Arg<i>::ReferredType
```

Consts (compile-time)

```
// number of arguments
ARGS

// unique numeric identifier for this join point
JPID

// numeric identifier for the type of this join
// point (AC::CALL, AC::EXECUTION, ...)
JPTYPE
```

Values (runtime)

```
// pointer to the object initiating a call
That* that()

// pointer to the object that is target of a call
Target* target()

// pointer to the result value
Result* result()

// typed pointer the i'th argument value of a
// function call (compile-time index)
Arg<i>::ReferredType* arg()

// pointer the i'th argument value of a
// function call (runtime index)
void* arg( int i )

// textual representation of the joinpoint
// (function/class name, parameter types...)
static const char* signature()

// executes the original joinpoint code
// in an around advice
void proceed()

// returns the runtime action object
AC::Action& action()
```

Abstract Aspects and Inheritance

- Aspects can inherit from other aspects...
  - Reuse aspect definitions
  - Override methods and pointcuts
- Pointcuts can be pure virtual
  - Postpone the concrete definition to derived aspects
  - An aspect with a pure virtual pointcut is called **abstract aspect**
- Common usage: Reusable aspect implementations
  - Abstract aspect defines advice code, but pure virtual pointcuts
  - Aspect code uses the joinpoint API to expose context
  - Concrete aspect inherits the advice code and overrides pointcuts

Abstract Aspects and Inheritance

The abstract locking aspect declares two **pure virtual pointcuts** and uses the **joinpoint API** for an context-independent advice implementation.

```
#include "mutex.h"
aspect LockingA {
  pointcut virtual sync_classes() = 0;
  pointcut virtual sync_methods() = 0;

  advice sync_classes() : slice class {
    os::Mutex lock;
  };
  advice execution(sync_methods()) : around() {
    tjp->that()->lock.enter();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      tjp->that()->lock.leave();
      throw;
    }
    tjp->that()->lock.leave();
  }
};
```

LockingA.ah

```
#include "LockingA.ah"

aspect LockingQueue : public LockingA {
  pointcut sync_classes() =
    "util::Queue";
  pointcut sync_methods() =
    "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";
};
```

LockingQueue.ah

Abstract Aspects and Inheritance

```
#include "mutex.h"
aspect LockingA {
  pointcut virtual sync_classes() = 0;
  pointcut virtual sync_methods() = 0;

  advice sync_classes() : slice class {
    os::Mutex lock;
  };
  advice execution(sync_methods()) : around() {
    tjp->that()->lock.enter();
    try {
      tjp->proceed();
    }
    catch(...) {
      tjp->that()->lock.leave();
      throw;
    }
    tjp->that()->lock.leave();
  }
};
```

LockingA.ah

The concrete locking aspect **derives** from the abstract aspect and **overrides** the pointcuts.

```
#include "LockingA.ah"

aspect LockingQueue : public LockingA {
  pointcut sync_classes() =
    "util::Queue";
  pointcut sync_methods() =
    "% util::Queue::%queue(...)";
};
```

LockingQueue.ah

Generic Advice

Uses static JP-specific type information in advice code

- in combination with C++ overloading
- to instantiate C++ templates and template meta-programs

```
aspect TraceService {
  advice call(...) : after() {
    ...
    cout << *tjp->result();
  }
};
```

... operator <<(..., **int**)

... operator <<(..., **long**)

... operator <<(..., **bool**)

... operator <<(..., **Foo**)

Generic Advice

Uses static JP-specific type information in advice code

- in combination with C++ overloading
- nplate meta-programs

Resolves to the **statically typed** return value
no runtime type checks are needed
unhandled types are detected at compile-time
functions can be inlined

```
aspect TraceService {
  advice call(...) : after() {
    ...
    cout << *tjp->result();
  }
};
```

... operator <<(..., **int**)

... operator <<(..., **long**)

... operator <<(..., **bool**)

... operator <<(..., **Foo**)

Aspect Ordering

- Aspects should be independent of other aspects
  - However, sometimes inter-aspect dependencies are unavoidable
  - Example: Locking should be activated before any other aspects
- Order advice
  - The aspect order can be defined by ***order advice***
    advice *pointcut-expr* : order(*high, ..., low*)
  - Different aspect orders can be defined for different pointcuts
- Example

```
advice "% util::Queue::%queue(...)"
    : order( "LockingIRQ", "%" && !"LockingIRQ" );
```

Aspect Instantiation

- Aspects are singletons by default
  - **aspectof()** returns pointer to the one-and-only aspect instance
- By overriding aspectof() this can be changed
  - e.g. one instance per client or one instance per thread

```
aspect MyAspect {
  // ....
  static MyAspect* aspectof() {
    static __declspec(thread) MyAspect* theAspect;
        if( theAspect == 0 )
          theAspect = new MyAspect;
    return theAspect;
  }
};
```

MyAspect.ah

Example of an user-defined aspectof() implementation for per-thread aspect instantiation by using thread-local storage.

(Visual C++)

Summary

- AspectC++ facilitates AOP with C++
  - AspectJ-like syntax and semantics + C++-style generic code
- Full obliviousness and quantification
  - aspect code is given by **advice**
  - joinpoints are given declaratively by **pointcuts**
  - implementation of crosscutting concerns is fully encapsulated in **aspects**
  - **attributes** let programmers express their intentions in an aspect-readable manner
- Good support for reusable and generic aspect code
  - **aspect inheritance** and **virtual pointcuts**
  - rich **joinpoint API**

And what about tool support?