# Applying AspectMaps to HealthWatcher

Now that you are acquainted with *AspectMaps*, we would like you to use this tool to perform a number of tasks. To this end, we will apply the tool to another case study: the HealthWatcher system.

# Case study

HealthWatcher is a real-world web application for handling health complaints. Within the aspect-oriented software development community, the system is known as a concrete test-bed for aspect technology. Throughout the development process of this system, from the requirements engineering phase to the implementation phase, aspect-oriented techniques have been applied to this system. Within the implementation, aspects are used to modularize both functional as well as non-functional concerns.

## **Tasks**

The goal is that you execute these tasks to the best of your ability, however, if you get stuck do not hesitate to skip the current (sub)task and continue with the next one. If this happens however, please indicate that you were not able to finish the task on the answer sheet. There is no upper time limit in order to execute these tasks.

#### Task 1

One of the crosscutting concerns implemented in *HealthWatcher* using aspects is exception handling. Although this is a relatively simple concern, the implementation of this concern contains a bug. In particular, there is a problem within the HWDistributionExceptionHandler aspect.

- a) Locate the aspect in the system. In which package is it defined? List its pointcuts.
- **b)** Where does the aspect intervene in the system?
- c) How would you update the pointcut to have the aspect behave correctly?

## Task 2

Complaints within	HealthWatcher of	can go through	a transition o	of various states	(e.g., open	, closed,).	This
transition between	states is impleme	ented using asp	ects				

a) The names of all code entities related to this concern contain the string 'ComplaintState'. Find all these entities in the system. Which three groups can you distinguish?

**b)** We are going to study the role of the aspects in this crosscutting concern. Where do the aspects intervene in the system? (Hint: the 'Enabled Asp' button can be useful for accomplishing this task)

c) By looking at the visualization you can see that the aspects interact at particular places. Which of the aspects interact? And where?

**d)** Study the interaction (the places where multiple aspects intervene). What is the impact of this interaction on the type of complaint state that gets set?

## Task 3

Objects in *HealthWatcher* can be made persistent. Part of this persistence mechanism, in particular transaction management, are implemented using aspects. In this task we will investigate how this transaction management works.

a) There are two aspects contributing to this concern: HWTransactionManagement and HWTransaction-ExceptionHandler. Find both aspects in the system. Where do they intervene?

**b)** Study the places where the HWTransactionManagement aspect intervenes. How is the transactional logic (begin, commit, abort) structured using aspects.

c) Where does error handling regarding transaction management occur? Is there any other error handling occurring at these locations? (Hint: exception handlers use the word 'Exception' in their name)

# Task 4

ln	HealthWatche	er a	number	of	inter-type	declarations	$\operatorname{add}$	metho	ods to	classes	or	aspects.	In	this	task	we	will
inν	estigate if the	re a	are many	suc	h methods:	and if their	exec	ution	is inte	rcepted	by	any aspe	ct.				

a) In what packages are inter-type declarations of methods defined or do they apply? (Hint: use the root level context menu to change the color parameter on packages)

b) In what classes do these methods apply? How many methods are they?

c) One of these above methods is affected by an aspect. Which is it? How does this aspect modify the behavior of the method?