FAYE: A Java Implement of the Frame/Stream/Stop Analysis Model.

S. Patton

LBNL, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA

FAYE, The Frame AnalYsis Executable, is a Java based implementation of the Frame/Stream/Stop model for analyzing data. Unlike traditional Event based analysis models, the Frame/Stream/Stop model has no preference as to which part of any data is to be analyzed, and an Event get as equal treatment as a change in the high voltage. This model means that FAYE is a suitable analysis framework for many different type of data analysis, such as detector trends or as a visualization core. During the design of FAYE the emphasis has been on clearly delineating each of the executable's responsibilities and on keeping their implementations as completely independent as possible. This leads to the large part of FAYE being a generic core which is experiment independent, and smaller section that customizes this core to an experiments own data structures. This customization can even be done in C++, using JNI, while the executable's control remains in Java. This paper reviews the Frame/Stream/Stop model and then looks at how FAYE has approached its implementation, with an emphasis on which responsibilities are handled by the generic core, and which parts an experiment must provide as part of the customization portion of the executable.

1. Introduction

The Frame/Stream/Stop model developed for CLEO III analysis was originally developed in C++ [1]. Since then is has been successfully deployed in a number of rolls at CLEO. Meanwhile the IceCube experiment, which has adopted Java as its main language for DAQ and Data Handling, wanted to use the Frame/Stream/Stop model in its code. This meant that a Java version of the model needed to be developed.

2. The Frame/Stream/Stop Model

Before examining the Java implementation of the Frame/Stream/Stop model it is worthwhile reviewing the model itself. The core idea of the model is that any analysis of data taken from a H.E.P. experiment is essentially based upon an "electronic picture" of the experiment at certain moments in time. This "picture" is made up of various different elements which change over time and, most importantly, change at different rates, e.g. a detector's geometry should change much less frequently than its high voltage (HV) status. Given these ideas the following components are defined in the Frame/Stream/Stop model.

- **Record** This is a set of related data, all of which all will conceptually change at the same time.
- **Frame** The "electronic picture" of the experiment that is composed of different types of Records, all of whom are related to the same time.
- **Stream** A set of Record, all of the same type, from different times.
- **Stop** The occurrence of a new Record in a Stream "of interest". When this occurs during execution the Frame corresponding to the Stop is passed to analysis routines for processing.

- Active Stop A Stop which occurs on a sequential Stream (the Stream does not have to be ordered).
- **Passive Stop** A Stop which occurs in response to, and precedes, an Active Stop. i.e. if the Record in some Stream of interest changes when an Active Stop occurs, the The Frame corresponding to this Stream of interest is passed for processing before the Frame corresponding to the Active Stop is supplied.

Figure 1 shows off the ideas of a Record, a Stream and a set of Frames. In this Figure the three horizontal bands, from top to bottom, in each diagram represent the Geometry, HV and Event Streams. The solid blocks of color in these Stream represent an appropriate Record in that Stream, with the label indicating the time associated with that Record. The tall black open rectangle represents a Frame which contained either the Records corresponding to the time of the Frame, the most recent Record in a Stream which has no Record matching the time of the Frame (as seen for the Geometry Stream in Figure 1(b)), or no Record for a Stream that has no record prior to the time of the Frame (as seen for the Event Stream in Figure 1(b)).

Figure 2 helps demonstrate the difference between Active and Passive Stops using the example of an Event Display. In this case the Event and Geometry Streams are the Streams of interest for this executable. The executable is driven by a sequence of Event Records each of which generate an Active Stop. The Geometry Stream Records, on the other hand, are not provided sequentially but rather are read from a database to fill in the Frames needed for the Active Stops. As can be seen in the Figure, before the first Active Stop can be supplied, a Passive Stop cause by the reading of the initial Geometry Record should be supplied to the analyses so that they can process this initial geometry before processing the first Event.

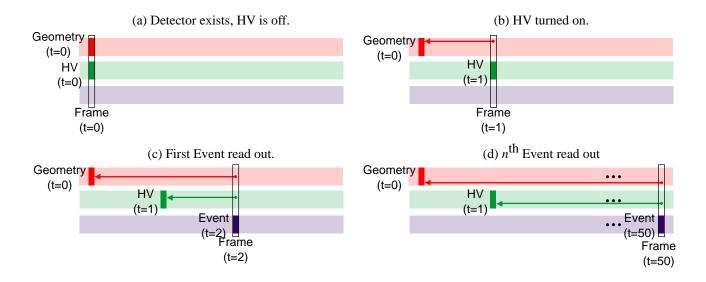


Figure 1: The ideas of a Record, a Stream and a set of Frames.

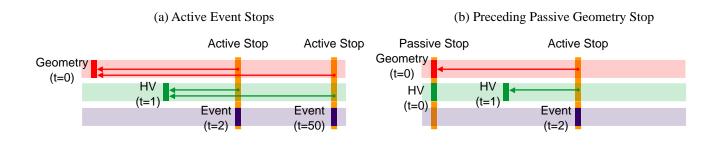


Figure 2: An illustration of the difference between Active and Passive Stops.

3. Implemention of the Frame/Stream/Stop model

The Java implementation of the Frame/Stream/Stop model is broken down into three separate layers. The first and most general layer is a generic record processing loop. This part of the implementation is based on the classic source/listener pattern that is used throughout the standard Java libraries. In fact, this layer is so general that it is scheduled to become part of the freehep Java library [2]

The next layer implements the major ideas of the Frame/Stream/Stop model and, as such, contains the logic needed to supply Frames to analyses. However as the exact definitions of Records and Streams are experiment dependent these detail are included in the third layer, rather than the second.

The third layer is the only layer that an experiment needs to provide to tailor FAYE to work with their experiment. This layer includes the definition of Records and Streams and also includes the mechanism to dispatch Frames to the correct analysis routines.

3.1. The freehep Layer

The generic record loop code is contained in the **org.freehep.record** packages. The core interface in these part of the code is the **RecordListener** interface.

3.1.1. The RecordListener interface

The RecordListener interface defines the methods that any analysis class must implement in order to be executed as part of a record loop. Figure 3 shows the life-cycle that all implementations of the RecordListener interface are expected to follow.

When a **RecordListener** instance is created it starts off in a **dormant** state. When a record loop is about to begin, the instance will receive a **configure** message and transition into the **configured** state. This transition gives the instance an opportunity to read

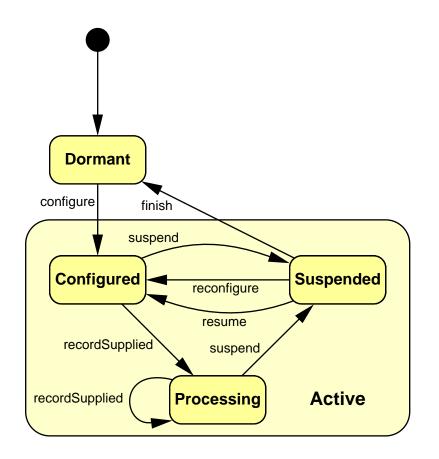


Figure 3: The life-cycle of the RecordListener interface.

and respond to any input parameters that may have been set, and thus prepare itself for recordSupplied messages.

In the course or normal processing a **RecordListener** interface can expect to receive one or more **recordSupplied** messages after it has been configured. The first of these messages will cause the instance to transition into the **processing** state, where it will remain while it receives more **recordSupplied** events.

Eventually there will be no more records to supply, either because a user defined limit has been reached or no more Records are available. When this happens the instance will receive a **suspend** message which will cause it to transition into the **suspended** state. This transition allows the instance to release and timecritical resources, e.g. database locks, so that other jobs can continue while this job is not processing records.

There are three possible transitions out of the **suspended** state, two of these transitions return the instance to a **configured** state, while one returns it to the **dormant** state. The difference between the **reconfigured** and **resume** messages, both of which cause a transition into the **configured** state, is that the first of these implies that the input parameters to the instance of **RecordListener** may have changed and that the instance should be read and respond to these new values, while the other message guarantees that none of these parameters have changed and so the instance can resume where it left off.

The other transition out of the **suspended** state is caused by a **finish** message being received. This signals that the instance is not longer in the set of classes that will be executed if or when another record loop is executed. This transition allows the instance to clean up any intermediate data it contains and, if necessary, output a summary of the processing it has done.

The instance of a **RecordListener** can expect to only be destroyed from the **dormant** state. This gives the instance one last change to cleanly shut down. However, as this transition is cause by the **finalize** Java method it should normally not be used as there is no determinist way of knowing when or if this method will be called.

The state machine shown in Figure 3 leads to the **RecordListener** interface as declared in Figure 4.

Figure 4: The RecordListener interface.

3.1.2. The other classes and interfaces

The other classes and interfaces in the org.freehep.record packages provide tools that can be used in conjunction with RecordListener interface. The following list details some of the issues these tools tackle:

- **Sequencing** This allows a set of RecordListeners to be executed sequentially.
- **Branching** This enables two sequences of **RecordListeners** to be executed independently of each other.
- **Conditional execution** This allows for preemptive termination of a sequence of **RecordListeners** when it has been decided that continued execution would be a waste of time.
- **Source interfaces** This defined the interfaces which should be implemented for sequential and interactive processing of the record loop.

3.2. The FAYE Layer

The FAYE layer implements the mechanics needed to run the Frame/Stream/Stop model on to of the generic record loop. Its responsibilities lie mainly in the area of the creation of Frames, which serve as the records in this set-up. This should not be confused with the idea of Records that are elements of the Frame itself.

This layer provides a FayeSource class which is an implementation of the record source interface that is declared in the freehep layer. This implementation contains a set of FayeStopSource objects, each of which is able to read Record data from a single source, e.g. a file, database, etc., and provide it to the FayeSource instance so that it can work out which is the next Stop that should be used to create the next Frame supplied to the analysis. The Frame itself is created using the FrameFactory interface of declared in this layer. By using a factory interface and leaving the exact implementation to be contained in the Experiment's layer, an experiment is free to choose how it wants to access data in the Frame. The created Frame is returned for use in the generic loop.

The FayeStopSource objects contained in the FayeSource are not only responsible for reading Record data from their own sources, but they are also required to supply to the FayeSource object the next Active Stop they can read and, given an Active Stop, the "earliest" Passive Stop they can read. The FayeStopSource can also act as a RecordListener so that it can can be managed by the RecordListener's life-cycle and, more importantly, its recordSupplied implementation can be used to load the Frame with the appropriate data from its source.

The single **RecordListener** implementation provided by this layer is the **FayeListener** class. This acts as a two phase listener. During the first phase, remembering that the new Frame has already been created, all the **FayeStopSource** objects get an opportunity to add their data to the Frame. The second phase then supplies this filled Frame to the analysis **RecordListener** implementations.

3.3. The Experiment (IceCube) Layer

The Experiment's layer allows an experiment to specialize this framework to it own situation. In this paper we will use the IceCube experiment as the example experiment. The main aim of the specialization is to enable the inclusion of the experiments own Streams into the frameworks and handle the dispatch of the Frames to the correct methods. Figure 5 shows the standard way of implementing this. The IceCubeListener class defines methods for each of the standard Streams in the experiment. The IceCubePlugin class bring together the generic RecordListener interface and experiment specific one and handles the dispatch of the Frames to the right method by using an instance of the IceCubeSupport class. This class, in turn, implements its recordSupplied method as a large switch statement that matches the Stream which caused the Frame to be supplied to the matching method in the IceCubeListener interface.

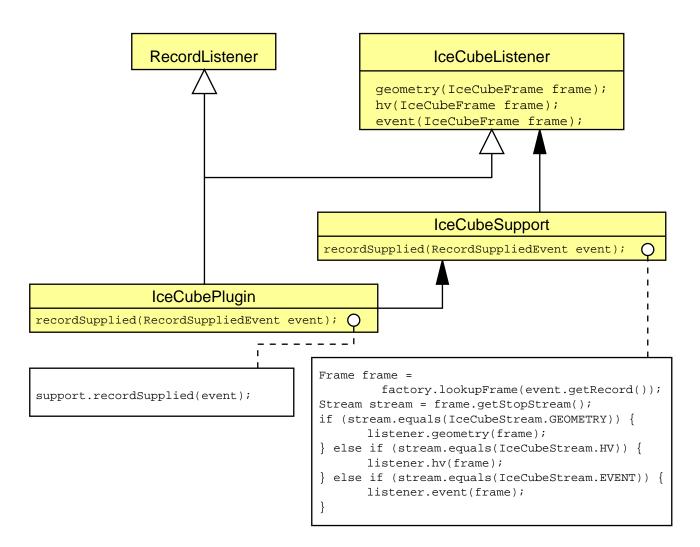


Figure 5: The organization of classes in the Experiment's layer.

4. Summary

The Frame/Stream/Stop model provides a flexible framework in which to develop H.E.P. analyses. This has been demonstrated by its C++ implementation at CLEO.

The Java implementation of this model is based on a **freehep** foundation, which means that it can easily be used elsewhere, for example as part of JAS3 [3].

An experiment only needs to specialize around half a dozen classes to tailor this framework to it own situation.

References

- CHEP '97 Berlin, "Design and Implementation of the CLEO III Data Analysis Model", C.D.Jones, et al., Parallel talk A380
- [2] http://java.freehep.org
- [3] http://jas.freehep.org