Re: Problem applying generics to my code. Is there a better solution?

Source: http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Java/comp.lang.java.programmer/2007−04/msg00562.html

- *From*: "Daniel Pitts" <googlegroupie@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
- *Date*: 5 Apr 2007 14:55:28 −0700

On Apr 5, 1:50 am, "Chris Uppal" <chris.up...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
THIS.org> wrote:

> Daniel Pitts wrote:
>
> > Anytime that you find yourself using a chain of "instanceof" checks on
> > classes which you control, its time to look into using polymorphism
> > instead... You're particular problem may be best solved through a
> > Visitor pattern.
>
> Small point, but "Visitor pattern" is an application of the broadly useful
> technique of double−dispatch (which can be called a pattern too, if you like,
> though it isn't often seen that way). In this case, I think, your suggestion
> would be better seen as a direct application of double−dispatch, rather than an
> application of Visitor −− and a better name could be found for the visit()
> method (exposing what it /does/ rather than what feature of "Visitor" it
> reflects).
>
> A suggestion for the OP. Design and implement this stuff without using
> generics at all, then go back and put in the necessary generic declarations.
> Double dispatch −− or whatever −− is part of the /semantics/ of your system,
> whereas generics are just a way of telling the typechecker what rules correct
> applications of those semantics will follow. So unless generics make the
> design/code easier to articulate in the first place (which I doubt in this
> particular case), trying to keep the typechecker happy at the same time as
> trying to think through the actual object interactions will be
> counter−productive.
>
> −− chris

Thanks Chris, I hadn't heard of the double dispatch pattern before,
and it is what I've demonstrated.

On Apr 5, 12:04 am, "Lucas" <lscha...@xxxxxxxxx> wrote:

public static <T, P> Distribution<P> conjugate(List<T> data,
Distribution<T> likelihood, Distribution<P> prior)

Fro, the perspective of enforcing mathematical corr