Introduction to Graphical User Interfaces (GUIs)

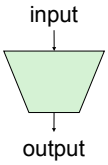
Lecture 10
CS2110 – Fall 2008

Announcements

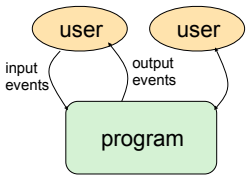
- A3 is up, due Friday, Oct 10
- Prelim 1 scheduled for Oct 16
  - if you have a conflict, let us know now

Interactive Programs

- "Classic" view of computer programs: transform inputs to outputs, stop



- Event-driven programs: interactive, long-running
  - Servers interact with clients
  - Applications interact with user(s)



GUI Motivation

- Interacting with a program
  - Program-Driven = Proactive
    - Statements execute in sequential, predetermined order
    - Typically use keyboard or file I/O, but program determines when that happens
    - Usually single-threaded
  - Event-Driven = Reactive
    - Program waits for user input to activate certain statements
    - Typically uses a GUI (Graphical User Interface)
    - Often multi-threaded
- Design...Which to pick?
  - Program called by another program?
  - Program used at command line?
  - Program interacts often with user?
  - Program used in window environment?
- How does Java do GUIs?

Java Support for Building GUIs

- Java Foundation Classes
  - Classes for building GUIs
  - Major components
    - awt and swing
    - Pluggable look-and-feel support
    - Accessibility API
    - Java 2D API
    - Drag-and-drop Support
    - Internationalization
- Our main focus: Swing
  - Building blocks of GUIs
    - Windows & components
    - User interactions
  - Built upon the AWT (Abstract Window Toolkit)
    - Java event model

Java Foundation Classes

- Pluggable Look-and-Feel Support
  - Controls look-and-feel for particular windowing environment
  - E.g., Java, Windows, Mac
- Accessibility API
  - Supports assistive technologies such as screen readers and Braille
- Java 2D
  - Drawing
  - Includes rectangles, lines, circles, images, ...
- Drag-and-drop
  - Support for drag and drop between Java application and a native application
- Internationalization
  - Support for other languages

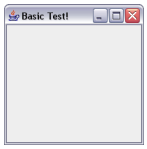
GUI Statics and GUI Dynamics

- Statics: what's drawn on the screen
  - Components
    - buttons, labels, lists, sliders, menus, ...
  - Containers: components that contain other components
    - frames, panels, dialog boxes, ...
  - Layout managers: control placement and sizing of components
- Dynamics: user interactions
  - Events
    - button-press, mouse-click, key-press, ...
  - Listeners: an object that responds to an event
  - Helper classes
    - `Graphics`, `Color`, `Font`, `FontMetrics`, `Dimension`, ...

Creating a Window

```
import javax.swing.*;

public class Basic1 {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      //create the window
      JFrame f = new JFrame("Basic Test!");
      //quit Java after closing the window
      f.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
      f.setSize(200, 200); //set size in pixels
      f.setVisible(true); //show the window
   }
}
```



Creating a Window Using a Constructor

```
import javax.swing.*;

public class Basic2 extends JFrame {

   public static void main(String[] args) {
      new Basic2();
   }

   public Basic2() {
      setTitle("Basic Test2!"); //set the title
      //quit Java after closing the window
      setDefaultCloseOperation(EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
      setSize(200, 200); //set size in pixels
      setVisible(true); //show the window
   }
}
```


A More Extensive Example

```
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.*;
import java.awt.event.*;

public class Intro extends JFrame {

   private int count = 0;
   private JButton myButton = new JButton("Push Me!");
   private JLabel label = new JLabel("Count: " + count);

   public Intro() {
      setDefaultCloseOperation(EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
      setLayout(new FlowLayout(FlowLayout.LEFT)); //set layout manager
      add(myButton); //add components
      add(label);

      myButton.addActionListener(new ActionListener() {
         public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
            count++;
            label.setText("Count: " + count);
         }
      });
      pack();
      setVisible(true);
   }

   public static void main(String[] args) {
      try {
         UIManager.setLookAndFeel(UIManager.getSystemLookAndFeelClassName());
      } catch (Exception exc) {}
      new Intro();
   }
}
```

GUI Statics

- Determine which *components* you want
- Choose a top-level *container* in which to put the components (`JFrame` is often a good choice)
- Choose a *layout manager* to determine how components are arranged
- Place the components

Components = What You See

- Visual part of an interface
- Represents something with position and size
- Can be *painted* on screen and can receive events
- Buttons, labels, lists, sliders, menus, ...

Component Examples

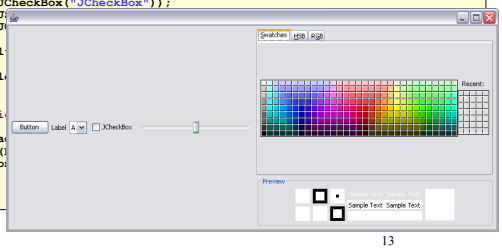
```
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.*;

public class ComponentExamples extends JFrame {

   public ComponentExamples() {
      setLayout(new FlowLayout(FlowLayout.LEFT));
      add(new JButton("Button"));
      add(new JLabel("Label"));
      add(new JComboBox(new String[] { "A", "B", "C" }));
      add(new JCheckBox("JCheckBox"));
      add(new J
      add(new J

      setDefaul
      pack();
      setVisibl
   }

   public stati
      try {
         UIMana
      } catch (
      new Compo
   }
}
```



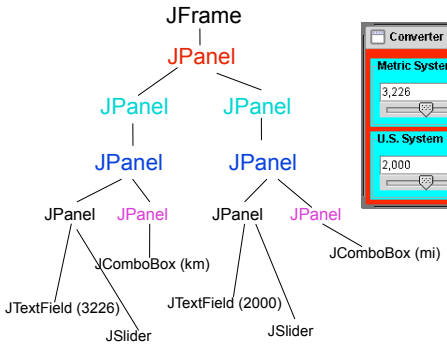
More Components

- **`JFileChooser`**: allows choosing a file
- **`JLabel`**: a simple text label
- **`JTextArea`**: editable text
- **`JTextField`**: editable text (one line)
- **`JScrollBar`**: a scrollbar
- **`JPopupMenu`**: a pop-up menu
- **`JProgressBar`**: a progress bar
- Lots more!

Containers

- A container is a *component* that
  - Can hold other components
  - Has a *layout manager*
- Heavyweight vs. lightweight
  - A *heavyweight* component interacts directly with the host system
  - **`JWindow`**, **`JFrame`**, and **`JDialog`** are heavyweight
  - Except for these top-level containers, Swing components are almost all lightweight
    - **`JPanel`** is lightweight
- There are three basic *top-level* containers
  - **`JWindow`**: top-level window with no border
  - **`JFrame`**: top-level window with border and (optional) menu bar
  - **`JDialog`**: used for dialog windows
- Another important container
  - **`JPanel`**: used mostly to organize objects within other containers

A Component Tree



Layout Managers

- A layout manager controls placement and sizing of components in a container
  - If you do not specify a layout manager, the container will use a default:
    - **`JPanel`** default = **`FlowLayout`**
    - **`JFrame`** default = **`BorderLayout`**
- Five common layout managers: **`BorderLayout`**, **`BoxLayout`**, **`FlowLayout`**, **`GridBagLayout`**, **`GridLayout`**
- General syntax

```
container.setLayout(new LayoutMan());
```

- Examples:

```
JPanel p1 =
   new JPanel(new BorderLayout());

JPanel p2 = new JPanel();
p2.setLayout(new BorderLayout());
```


Some Example Layout Managers

- **`FlowLayout`**
  - Components placed from left to right in order added
  - When a row is filled, a new row is started
  - Lines can be centered, left-justified or right-justified (see **`FlowLayout`** constructor)
  - See also **`BoxLayout`**
- **`GridLayout`**
  - Components are placed in grid pattern
  - number of rows & columns specified in constructor
  - Grid is filled left-to-right, then top-to-bottom
- **`BorderLayout`**
  - Divides window into five areas: North, South, East, West, Center
- Adding components
  - **`FlowLayout`** and **`GridLayout`** use **`container.add(component)`**
  - **`BorderLayout`** uses **`container.add(component, index)`** where **`index`** is one of
    - **`BorderLayout.NORTH`**
    - **`BorderLayout.SOUTH`**
    - **`BorderLayout.EAST`**
    - **`BorderLayout.WEST`**
    - **`BorderLayout.CENTER`**

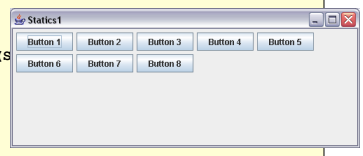
`FlowLayout` Example

```
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.*;

public class Statics1 {
   public static void main(S
      new S1GUI();
   }
}

class S1GUI {
   private JFrame f;

   public S1GUI() {
      f = new JFrame("Statics1");
      f.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
      f.setSize(500, 200);
      f.setLayout(new FlowLayout(FlowLayout.LEFT));
      for (int b = 1; b < 9; b++)
         f.add(new JButton("Button " + b));
      f.setVisible(true);
   }
}
```



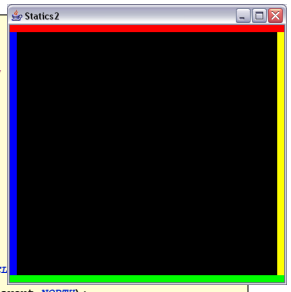
`BorderLayout` Example

```
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.*;

public class Statics2 {
   public static void main(String[] args) { new
}

class ColoredJPanel extends JPanel {
   Color color;
   ColoredJPanel(Color color) {
      this.color = color;
   }
   public void paintComponent(Graphics g) {
      g.setColor(color);
      g.fillRect(0, 0, 400, 400);
   }
}

class S2GUI extends JFrame {
   public S2GUI() {
      setTitle("Statics2");
      setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CL
      setSize(400, 400);
      add(new ColoredJPanel(Color.RED), BorderLayout.NORTH);
      add(new ColoredJPanel(Color.GREEN), BorderLayout.SOUTH);
      add(new ColoredJPanel(Color.BLUE), BorderLayout.WEST);
      add(new ColoredJPanel(Color.YELLOW), BorderLayout.EAST);
      add(new ColoredJPanel(Color.BLACK), BorderLayout.CENTER);
      setVisible(true);
   }
}
```



`GridLayout` Example

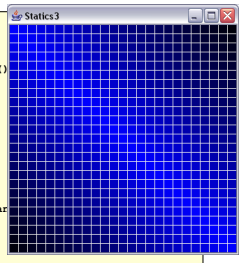
```
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.*;

public class Statics3 {
   public static void main(String[] args) { new S3GUI()
}

class S3GUI extends JFrame {
   static final int DIM = 25;
   static final int SIZE = 12;
   static final int GAP = 1;

   public S3GUI() {
      setTitle("Statics3");
      setDefaultCloseOperation(EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
      setLayout(new GridLayout(DIM, DIM, GAP, GAP));
      for (int i = 0; i < DIM * DIM; i++) add(new MyPar
      pack();
      setVisible(true);
   }

   class MyPanel extends JPanel {
      MyPanel() { setPreferredSize(new Dimension(SIZE, SIZE)); }
      public void paintComponent(Graphics g) {
         float gradient =
            1f - ((float)Math.abs(getX() - getY()))/(float)((SIZE + GAP) * DIM);
         g.setColor(new Color(0f, 0f, gradient));
         g.fillRect(0, 0, getWidth(), getHeight());
      }
   }
}
```



More Layout Managers

- **`CardLayout`**
  - Tabbed index card look from Windows
- **`GridBagLayout`**
  - Most versatile, but complicated
- Custom
  - Can define your own layout manager
  - But best to try Java's layout managers first...
- Null
  - No layout manager
  - Programmer must specify absolute locations
  - Provides great control, but can be dangerous because of platform dependency

AWT and Swing

- AWT
  - Initial GUI toolkit for Java
  - Provided a "Java" look and feel
  - Basic API: **`java.awt.*`**
- Swing
  - More recent (since Java 1.2) GUI toolkit
  - Added functionality (new components)
  - Supports look and feel for various platforms (Windows, Mac)
  - Basic API: **`javax.swing.*`**
- Did Swing replaced AWT?
  - Not quite: both use the AWT event model

Code Examples

- **`Intro.java`**
  - Button & counter
- **`Basic1.java`**
  - Create a window
- **`Basic2.java`**
  - Create a window using a constructor
- **`Calculator.java`**
  - Shows use of `JOptionPane` to produce standard dialogs
- **`ComponentExamples.java`**
  - Sample components
- **`Statics1.java`**
  - `FlowLayout` example
- **`Statics2.java`**
  - `BorderLayout` example
- **`Statics3.java`**
  - `GridLayout` example
- **`LayoutDemo.java`**
  - Multiple layouts