

Lecture 7

GUI Applications

Announcements for This Lecture

The Exam

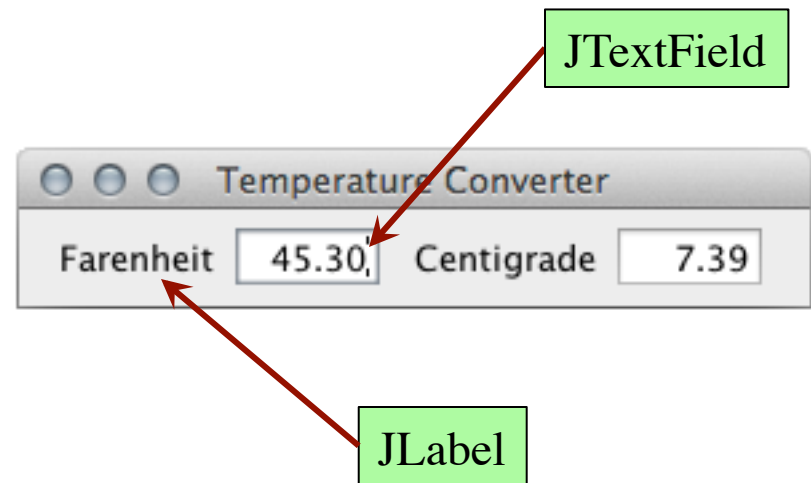
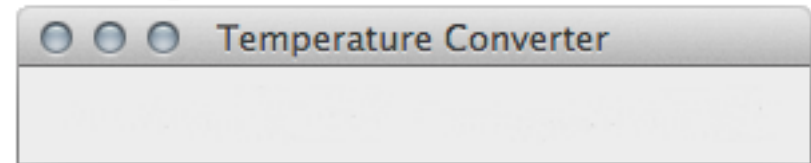
- There is no Exam!

Assignment 3

- Get started on JMan!
 - Want first attempt next Wed
 - MUST submit something
 - Will grade before Fall Break
- Work until 85% correct
 - Do not need a perfect
 - But do not get infinite retries
 - Only three retries after first
 - Retry deadlines posted later

The Limitations of JFrame

- JFrame is just a Window
 - Can resize it
 - Can close it
 - Not much else
- To do more, you need **GUI components**
 - Items inside a JFrame
 - Ex: Buttons, Text Boxes
- Two main Java packages
 - `java.awt`: “old GUI”
 - `javax.swing`: “Swing GUI”



AWT vs. Swing

Abstract Window Toolkit

- Uses the standard interface
 - Mac looks like Mac
 - Windows like Windows
- Violates Java “portability”
 - **Demo:** AWTFile.java
- Very rarely used today
 - Handling input is messy
 - But superclass of Swing classes, so have to include

Swing API

- Codename that “stuck”
- Has pluggable look & feel
 - Mac can look like Windows
 - Default same on all platforms
 - Demo: SwingFile.java
- Now the default component collection in Java
 - Very easy to use
 - Programmers like uniformity

Swing Components

JButton: a pushbutton that can be clicked by mouse

JCheckbox: can be on (true) or off (false)

JComboBox: a popup menu of user choices

JLabel: a text label

JList: scrolling list of user-chooseable items

JScrollbar: a scroll bar

JTextField: allows editing of a single line of text

JTextArea: multiline region for displaying and editing text

JPanel: used for containing and grouping components

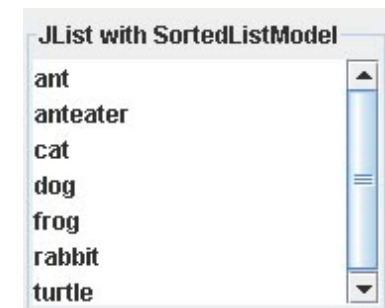
JDialog: window used for user input

JFrame: top-level window with frame and border

...



Buttons



List

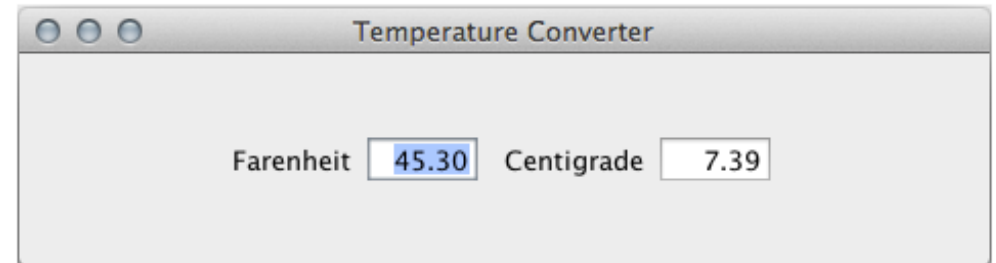
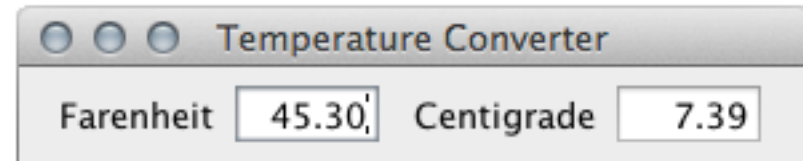


Slider

Main Challenges in GUI Applications

Layout

- Arranging items the screen
 - Java has many components
 - But where do they go?
- **Challenge:** Resizing
 - Want components to “behave nicely” as you resize
 - Change size of components
 - Change padding in between
- LayoutManagers do both



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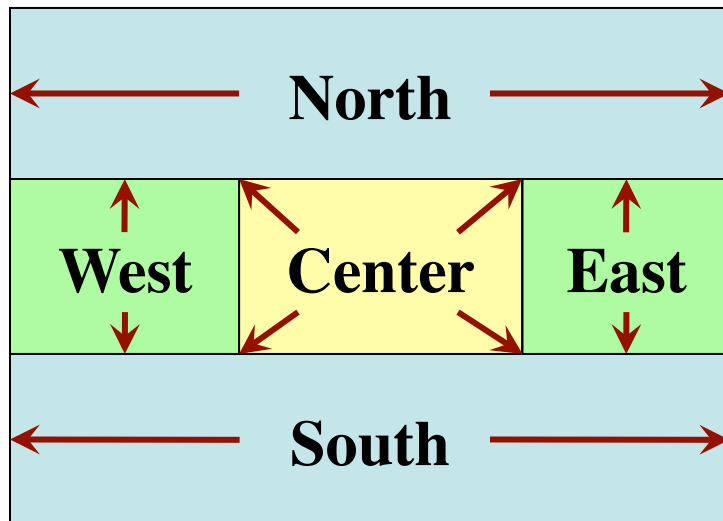
Input Handling

- Many types of input
 - button pushed
 - text typed
 - mouse clicked ...
- Want app to react to input
 - Otherwise GUI looks pretty, but does nothing
- **Main focus of GUI code**

There are a Lot of Different Layouts

BorderLayout

- Container has 5 directions
 - When add, specify direction
 - **Demo:** TestBorder.java



FlowLayout

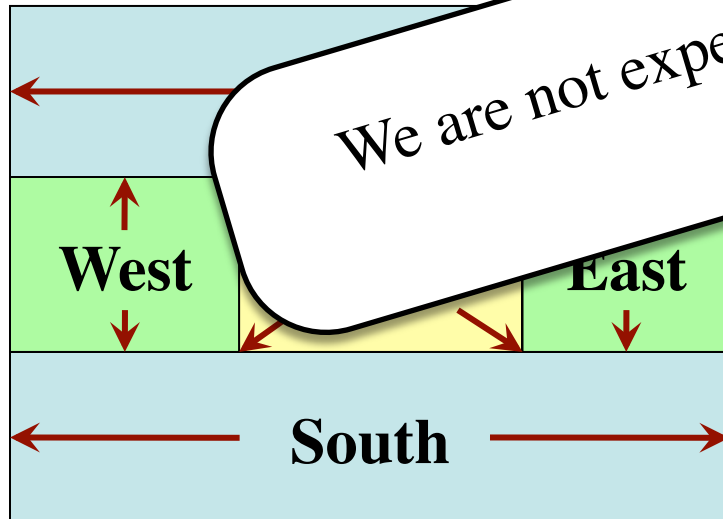
- Use a left-to-right “flow”
 - If row fills, start on next row
 - **Demo:** TestFlow.java



There are a Lot of Different Layouts

BorderLayout

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 - When add, specify direction
 - **Demo:** TestBorder.java



FlowLayout

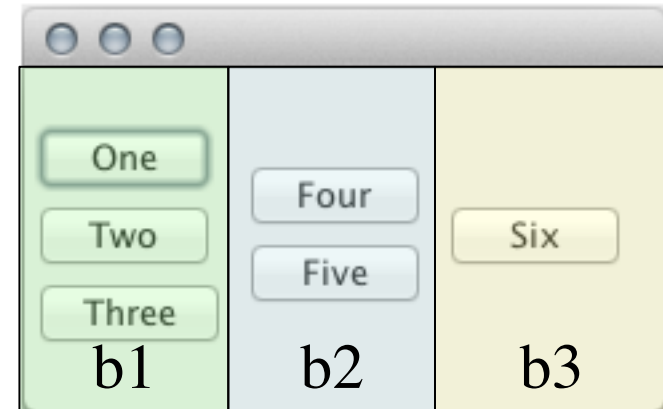
- Use a left-to-right “flow”
 - ...next row
 - ...va

We are not expecting you to master this.



BoxLayout: The Best for Beginners

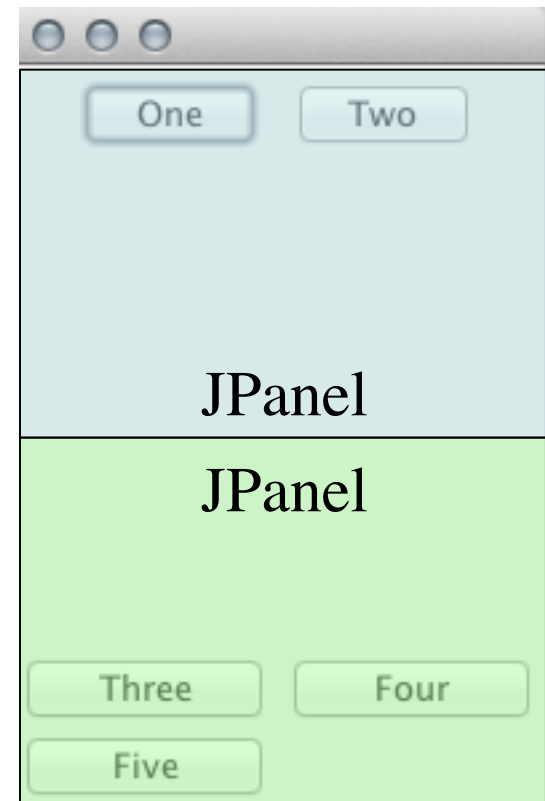
- **BoxLayout**
 - Arranges components in line
 - No wrap (like FlowLayout)
 - Either horizontal/vertical
- **Box: JPanel w/ BorderLayout**
 - `Box b1 = new Box(BoxLayout.Y_AXIS);`
 - Makes layout quick
- **Demo: BoxGrouping.java**



- **Nested boxes**
 - Three vertical boxes
 - Inside horizontal box

Nesting Layouts

- Want more interesting layouts
 - **Idea:** nest layouts in each other
 - Can get fine padding control
- Useful class: JPanel
 - Invisible component
 - Container for other components
 - Can take a LayoutManager
- **Demo:** PanelGrouping.java



Main Challenges in GUI Applications

Layout

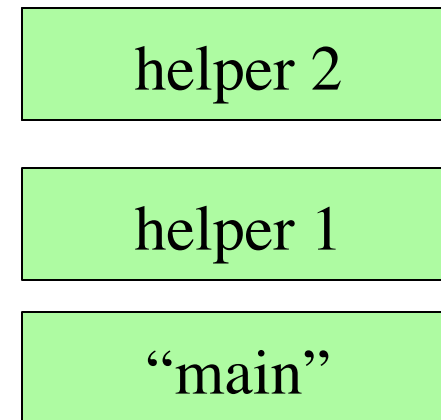
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Traditional Programming

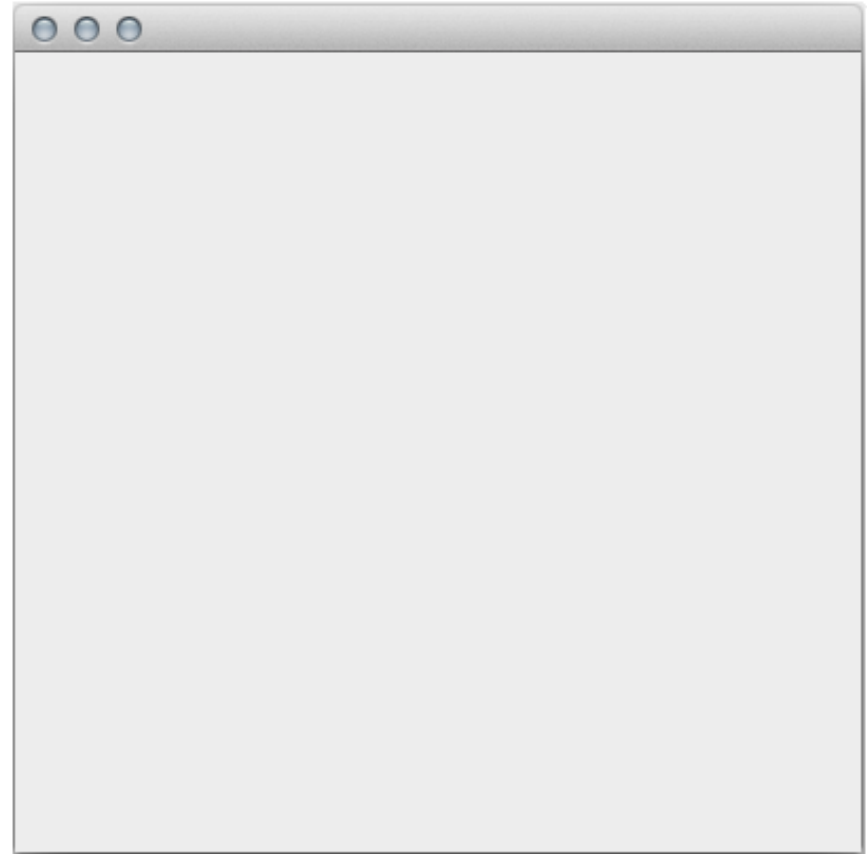
- Have a “main” method
 - Call in Interactions pane
 - Call in JUnit test
 - ...somewhere else?
- Other methods are helper methods to “main” one
- Big reason for DrJava
 - Usually only one “main”
 - Interactions pane allows all methods to be “main”



Program ends when
“main” is done

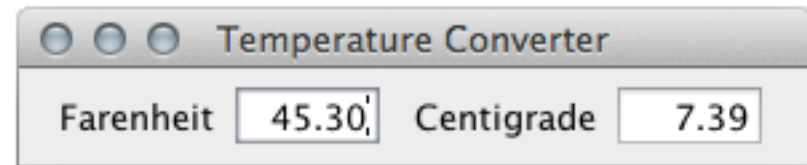
JFrame is Different

- Compile Demo.java
- Type in Interactions pane:
 - Demo.createFrame()
- What happens?
 - Method completes
(Interactions pane is free)
 - But the program still runs
(JFrame is present)
- Close window to stop



The Event Loop

- Instantiating a JFrame creates an “event loop”
 - Runs until window closed
 - Body checks for user input
 - Input generates “events”
- Events are objects
 - Hold input information
 - Mouse location clicked
 - Key typed
- But what to do with events?



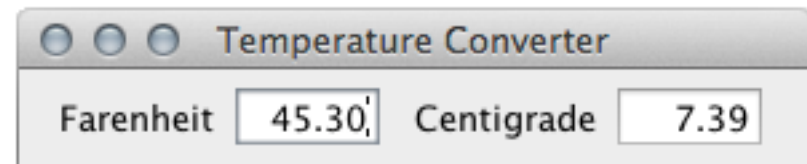
↓ Starts

```
while ( JFrame is showing ) {  
    Check for user input;  
    Generate event for input;  
    ????  
    ????  
}
```

Java provides this loop.
You do not write it.

Listeners

- A **Listener** is a class with methods to respond to input
 - Handles buttons in JMan
 - Each method is a GUI button
 - Support other types of input
- Program **registers** Listeners with an event type
 - Event loop finds a Listener for the current event type
 - Calls a Listener method
 - Event is passed as argument

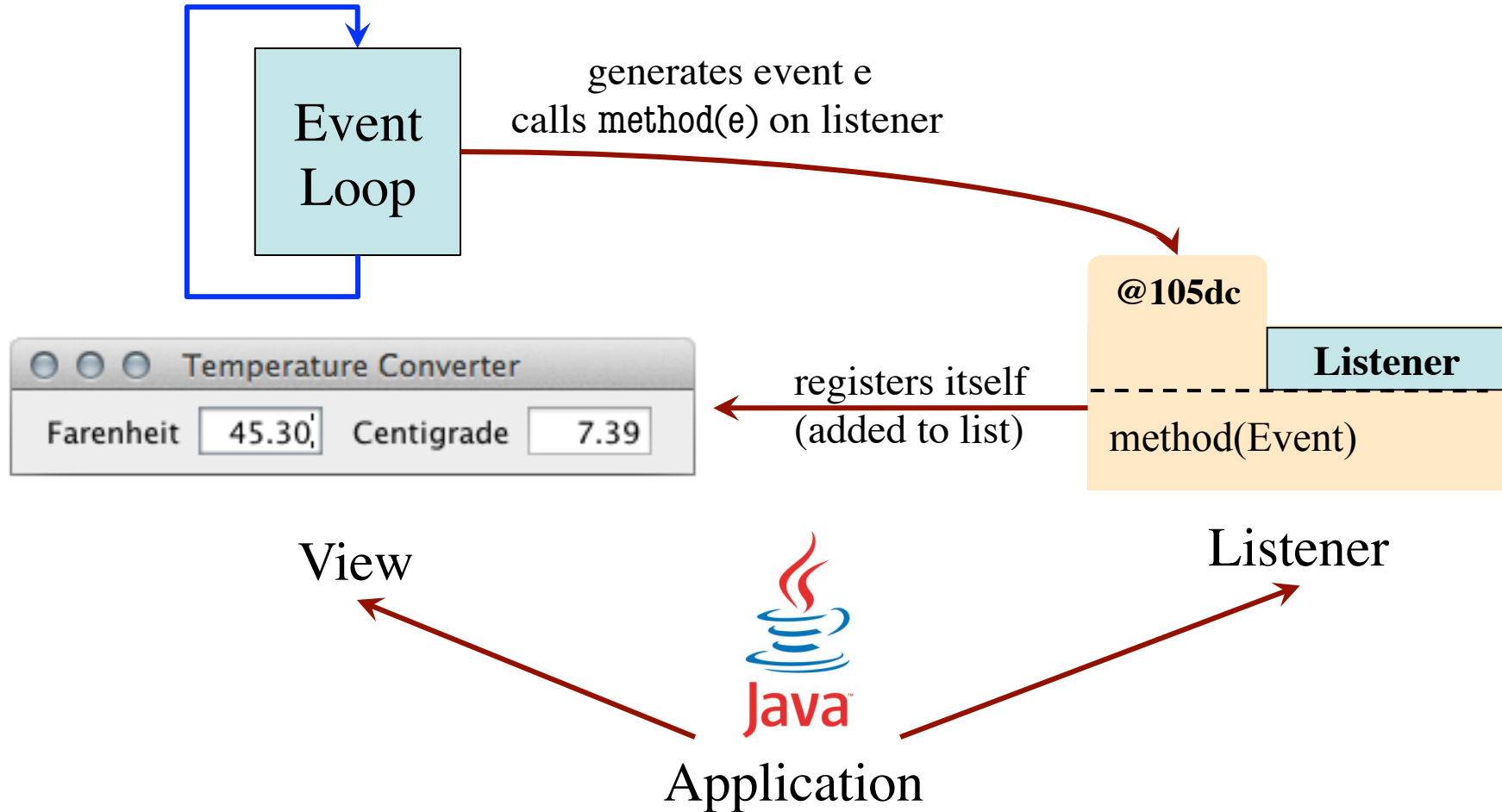


Starts

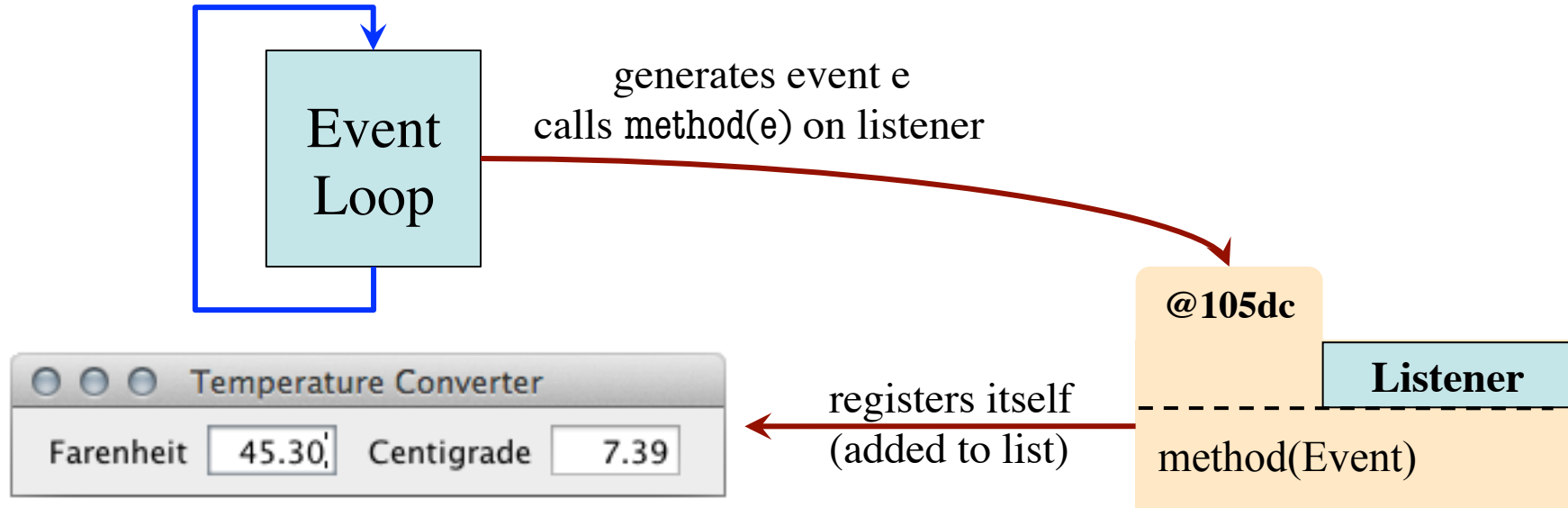
```
while ( JFrame is showing ) {  
    Check for user input;  
    Generate event for input;  
    Find a Listener for this event;  
    Call a method in this Listener;  
}
```

Java provides this loop.
You do not write it.

Event-Driven Programming



Event-Driven Programming



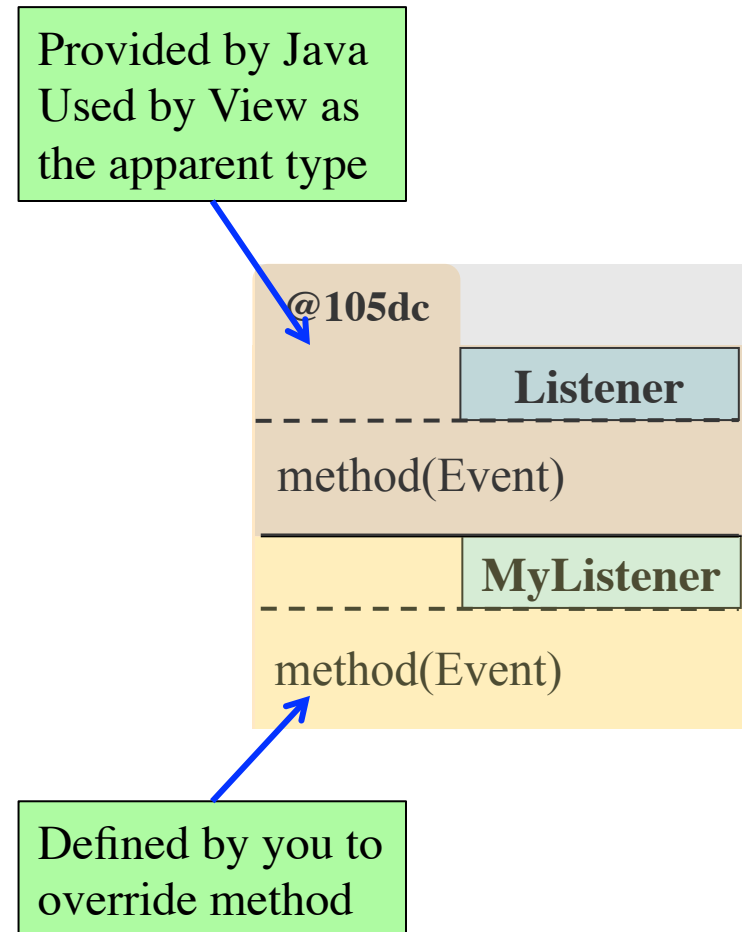
View

- JFrame has to know
 - Type of the Listener
 - Name of the method
- You did not write JFrame!

Listener

Solution: Apparent Types

- Java provides a Listener type
 - Has the method already in it
 - Subclass this as your own class
 - Override method for your usage
- View uses the Listener type
 - Allows it to call the method
 - Uses your version of method (bottom-up rule)
- Designed to be overridden...



Abstract Classes: Made to be Overridden

- Abstract method
 - Has the method header
 - But does not have body!
 - Example: Piece.java
- Why do this?
 - Will use Piece for the apparent type (variable)
 - But Piece will never be the real type of anything
- Artifact of static typing

```
public class Piece {  
    ...  
    // Abstract  
    public abstract void  
        act(JManBoard board);  
}
```

```
public class JMan {  
    ...  
    // IMPLEMENTATION  
    public void act(JManBoard board) {  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

Listeners are actually Interfaces

- Like an abstract class
 - But **all methods** abstract!
 - And cannot have fields
- What is the difference?
 - Don't **extend** an interface
 - You **implement** one
- What the heck????
 - Major topic in CS 2110
 - Not needed for JMan
 - We did this for you

```
public interface A {  
    public void doIt(); // Abstract  
}  
  
public class B implements A {  
    public void doIt() {  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

Listeners and Events in Java

In packages:

- javax.swing.event
- java.awt.event

Events

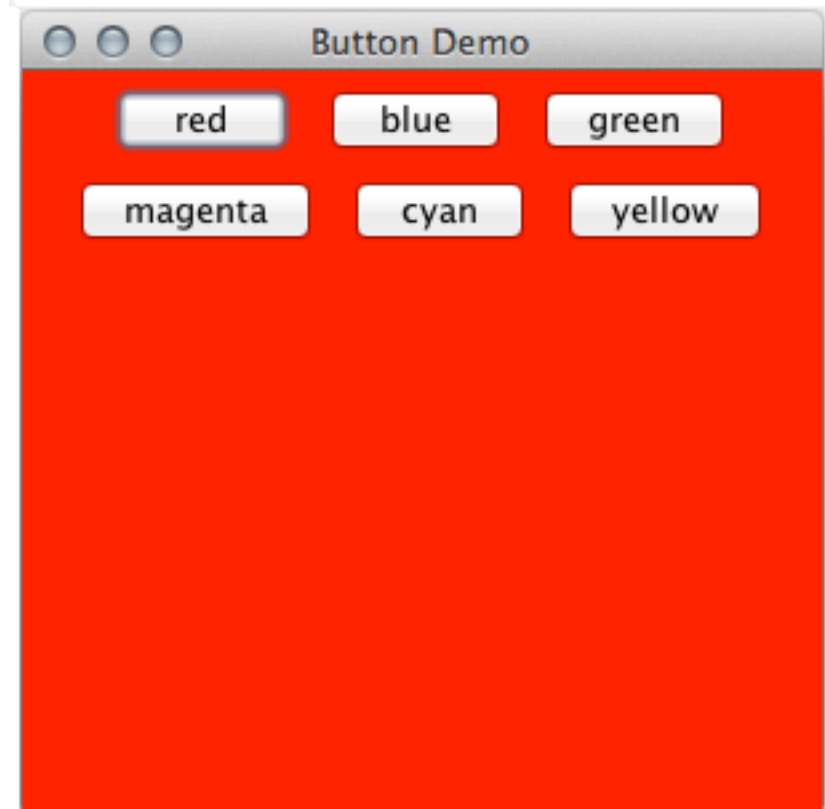
- **ActionEvent**
 - User clicks a button
 - User hits return in text field
- **MouseEvent**
 - User clicks the mouse
 - User moves the mouse
- **KeyEvent**
 - User presses a key
 - User releases a key

Listeners

- **ActionListener**
 - actionPerformed(ActionEvent)
- **MouseListener**
 - mouseClicked(MouseEvent)
 - mouseEntered(MouseEvent)
- **MouseMotionListener**
 - mouseDragged(MouseEvent)
- **KeyListener**
 - keyPressed(KeyEvent)

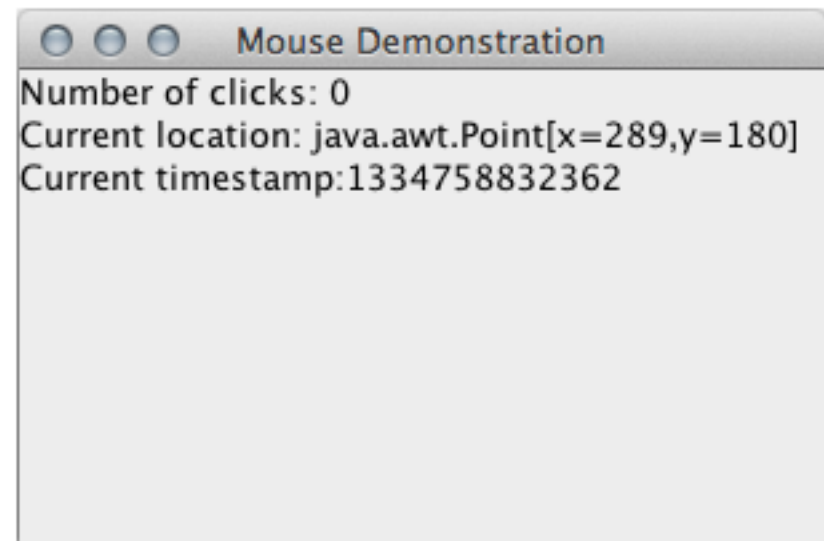
Example: Button Events

- Button generates `ActionEvent`
- Handle with `ActionListener`
 - `actionPerformed(e)`
 - Parameter contain button info
- Implement as separate class
 - A *controller* class
 - `ButtonDemoView.java`
 - `ButtonDemoListener.java`
- `view.addActionListener(l)`
 - Registers the listener
 - Done at start-up



Example: MouseEvents

- **MouseListener**: simple events
 - Ex: Mouse clicked
 - Stuff that is not updated at “animation frame rate”
- **MouseMotionListener**: High speed movement
 - Updated 20-30x second
 - Can slow down program!
- **Demonstration**:
 - `MouseDemoView.java`
 - `MouseDemoListener.java`
 - `MotionDemoListener.java`



Example: KeyEvent

- Only if input has **focus**
- Motivation:
 - Which text fields gets key?
 - One with the cursor!
 - This is **setting focus**
- Text fields do automatically
 - Others require `requestFocus()`
- Demonstration:
 - `KeyDemoView.java`
 - `KeyDemoListener.java`

