Lecture 13: Graphical User Interfaces (Static)
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?
GUI Definition

Graphical User Interface: a type of user interface that allows users to interact with programs through manipulation of graphical elements as opposed to text-based interfaces.
“Houdini” GUI

http://www.creativeobserver.com/img/276_houdini_9.1_screenshot_lg.jpg
“Minority Report” GUI

Java Support for Building GUls

• Java Foundation Classes
  – Classes for building GUls
  – 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 GUls
  – 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
    - E.g. buttons, labels, lists, sliders, menus, ...
  - Containers
    - components that contain other components
    - E.g. frames, panels, dialog boxes, ...
  - Layout managers
    - control placement and sizing of components

- **Dynamics:** user interactions
  - Events
    - E.g. button-press, mouse-click, key-press, ...
  - Listeners
    - an object that responds to an event
  - Helper classes
    - E.g. Graphics, Color, Font, FontMetrics, Dimension, ...
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
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
    }
}
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, ...
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 JSlider(0, 100));
        add(new JColorChooser());
        setDefaultCloseOperation(EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
        pack();
        setVisible(true);
    }

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        try {
            UIManager.setLookAndFeel(UIManager.getSystemLookAndFeelClassName());
        } catch (Exception exc) {
        }
        new ComponentExamples();
    }
}
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!
Pssst: Progress bar joke...

I'm just outside town, so I should be there in fifteen minutes.

 Actually, it's looking more like six days.

 No, wait, thirty seconds.

The author of the Windows file copy dialog visits some friends.

http://xkcd.com/612/
Java 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

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

public class Statics1 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        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);
    }
}
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.*;

public class Statics2 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        new S2GUI();
    }
}

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_CLOSE);
        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);
    }
}
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 MyPanel());
        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()))/((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 replace 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